

it was necessary to build a railway out to them. We decided to do that and began last summer to build that railway. We have now spent over \$500,000 on it. It is being laid with 85 pound rails. The ordinary rails here are 75 pounds. The ordinary freight cars, the best of them, will carry 20 to 30 tons. Ours carry 55 to 60. Sixty-five tons is a heavy locomotive down here in the yard. Ours are 110 tons. All up in Algoma; away up there in the back-woods! But when we had provided all these facilities to get this ore out to the harbor at Michipicoten I thought we had come to the completion of the cycle; because I knew the lake was covered with ships. I thought all we had to do was to send down to Mr. Rockefeller and tell him we wanted to charter some of his ships. When I communicated with the ship-brokers they replied, "Not so, we have more iron ore, grain, copper and timber coming out of Lake Superior this year than all the ships on the lakes can handle." Gentlemen, we were up a stump! (Laughter).

AND
NOW
SHIPS

After a little reflection I went out to the machine shop, to our master mechanic, and said, "Munro, we have been repairing ships here now for these American and Canadian owners for four or five years. Do you know the best type of ship for carrying ore on Lake Superior?" He smiled benignantly, and said he thought he did. I asked him if he would like a vacation in Europe this winter. He said he thought he would. Then I went to Captain Foote, the commodore of our little fleet. I asked him if he was not the best navigator on Lake Superior. He said he thought he was. I asked him if he thought he was equal to these English sharps over there in a trade of ships. He said he thought he was. So I started these two gentlemen to England, and they are coming over on the opening of navigation, with four steamers of the latest English model, triple expansion engines, largest carrying capacity compatible with getting through the locks, carrying 2,500 tons, and on the opening of navigation we shall be carrying ore from Michipicoten in our own Canadian ships. (Applause). Well, gentlemen, I do not know whether you are tired with this long recital. (No, no, go on). But it is a never ending source of delight and pleasure and gratification to me. I am wholly and entirely absorbed in it, and I assure you that there is not a man of common sense who can come up and view what has been accomplished there without being inspired with an admiration and esteem for the resources of Canada which will make him a better citizen; he will cease to feel that he is dependent upon some other country or some other people's money for his daily bread. If, in my judgment, the inhabitants of Southern Ontario would insist upon such a development up there as logical and scientific attention to its resources requires, the value of your pine forests will be an insignificant item in your resources. I thank you, gentlemen, for your attention. (Continued applause).