

the peer of any representative of the Electioneer family, while Minor Heir represents the best line of the Mambrino family, that coming through Mambrino King (with a Wilkes cross) and a cross to Harold through the female line.—Horse World.

THE CHILIAN NITRATE FIELDS

In view of the fact that even now there exists an erroneous impression as to the length of life of these deposits, the recent report of the Chilean Government's Inspector of Nitrate Propaganda, Senor Alejandro Bertrand, on this subject is interesting and instructive.

In his report the Inspector says: "I could from the first have contradicted the rumors to the effect that the beds in question would be exhausted in the near future, for in 1892, when I held the office of fiscal delegate at Iquique, I made an estimate of the land which had been explored and sampled up to date, arriving at a minimum total of 140 million tons. Of this 140 million tons, 20 million have been exported during the period of 15 years, which have since elapsed, so that there still remained at least 120 million tons in the beds explored up to that period. While, as a matter of fact, during these 15 years, not only have numerous fresh beds been discovered, but it has been ascertained that the extent of those previously known is much larger than that set forth in the above-mentioned estimate. My Government, in response to my urgent request for official figures, has just sent me a specially drawn up report furnished by their delegate in the nitrate district, on the extent of the beds which have not yet been worked.

These are accessible by rail, have been thoroughly explored, and for the most part their extent estimated; it is therefore an easy matter to approximately determine the nitrate they will yield, thus arriving at a minimum stock on which commerce will undoubtedly be able to rely. By adding to this stock the figures resulting from the explorations and operations of boring, which are being continually carried out, and deducting the figures exported in proportion, we shall be able to prepare every year an inventory of the minimum quantity of nitrate on which we can rely in the future.

The surface of the fields containing nitrate in the lands of private companies in the Province of Tarapaca cover an area of 59 square kilometres, each of which is estimated to yield an average of 90,000 tons. If, however, we reduce this estimate by one-third, thus bringing it to 60,000 tons, the contents of these fields would still be in round numbers 28 million tons of nitrate.

The lots of fiscal grounds measured, bored, and estimated in the Province of Tarapaca cover an acre of 29 kilometres, containing 6 million tons of nitrate, or more than 100,000 tons per kilometre, which proves our figure of 60,000 tons per kilometre for the private grounds to be very moderate.

In the Province of Antofagasta, 3,780 square kilometres of land have been measured, but our information respecting their contents up to the present time only extends to about 1,000 square kilometres, and would warrant our taking a minimum of 64,000 tons per kilometre. We, however, reduce these figures to 50,000 tons, which leave us in round numbers, a total quantity of 186 million tons of nitrate for the fields of Antofagasta. Thus we get these figures:

	Million Tons.
Province of Tarapaca—private owners.....	28
Province of Tarapaca—fiscal land	6
Province of Antofagasta.....	186
Total.....	220

We can, therefore, assume the nitrate industry of a minimum stock of 220 million tons.

No allowance whatever is made for



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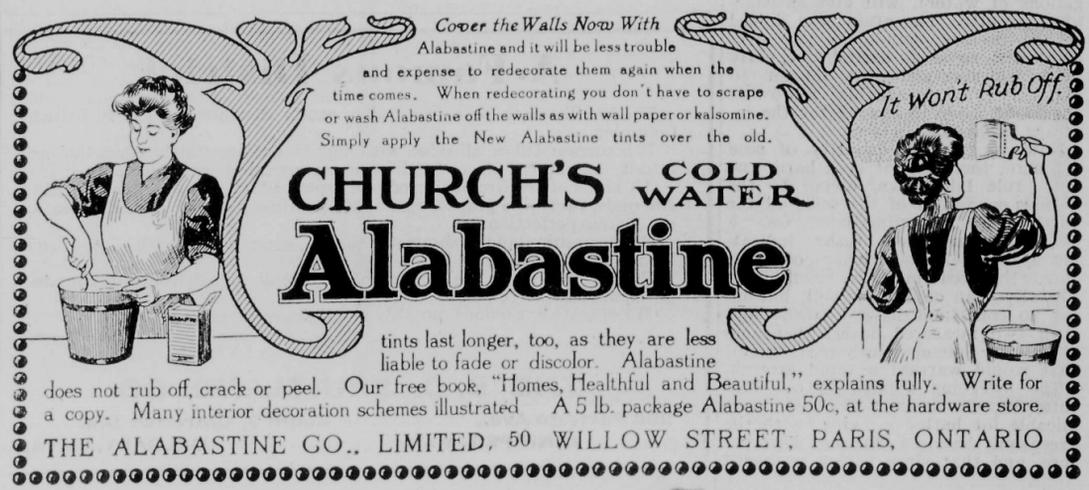
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