

summer warning them to do two things: first, to withdraw from possible extraction of ore in that area four hundred to five hundred million tons; that is, take it out of circulation, prevent it from being used. In his letter he recommended that because of the necessity of having high-grade ore in vast quantity if and when the United States should ever again require it for defence. Second, he recommended that their own vast low-grade ores be put to work. He suggested that the United States government—and I am going to suggest the same thing to this government later—bring the best engineers, geologists and scientists together to develop the finest technique for processing low-grade ores, so that they would be able to retain their present great Mesabi and Vermilion iron ore ranges, or at least a portion of them.

What I have given has been facts. Canada has a chance because here we, too, have splendid low-grade iron ore deposits. We have the vast low-grade iron ore deposits in Algoma to which I referred a moment ago. We have vast low-grade iron ore deposits on Taxada island and on the island of Vancouver. Out there they also have water power, hydro power. If they had high-grade iron ore to mix with the low-grade ore, along with the hydro power, it would mean the erection of a steel industry in British Columbia, to which I shall refer later on.

That brings me to the next point. Where is the high-grade ore in Ontario? At this point I wish to say that I personally am not interested in the remotest possible way in any mine or in any ore. I speak from a world of experience in the study of iron and steel. I speak as a Canadian with a heart filled full of hope that the time will come when Canada, particularly in this century, will take her place in the sun by being a great producer of both iron ore and steel.

My hon. friend whom I see across the aisle, the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. McIvor), knows that what I am saying is true. I spent a lot of time at Steep Rock in the Atikokan area. I was there during the wet season. When one goes into an iron mine he must be prepared to get not only his clothes but his boots fairly well marked up. However, that made no difference. When I go out on a survey I want to see the last part of it; I want to see all there is about it. I made a thorough survey while at Steep Rock.

I had the good fortune while there to meet representatives of the R.F.C. in Washington and other engineers. They were capable, brilliant men and I had the good fortune to be able to discuss with them the value of this ore and its probable tonnage. I am convinced that

there is a large tonnage there, not because of anything that I could see but for three principal reasons. First, I do not believe the United States government would have allowed the R.F.C. to invest \$5,000,000 in that iron ore mine without sending engineers there, which they did, to make a thorough investigation as to the possible and probable tonnage. They are too clever for that. Their men must have reported back that the evidence obtained from the diamond drill cores, which are still there to be seen by anyone who cares to go there, was such that it would warrant the R.F.C. lending \$5,000,000 in Canada to proceed with the production of ore in the Atikokan area. That is pretty strong evidence.

But there are two more pieces of strong evidence. The second is the fact that the Ontario government, through the hydro electric power commission, which commission has a number of eminent and brilliant engineers, put up \$2,500,000 in order to provide more electric power at Alexandra falls on the Nipigon river and wire it for a distance of 150 miles west to the Atikokan area. That is another reason why I am convinced that there must be a lot of ore there.

Mr. Speaker, I can hardly hear myself speak and I am talking rather loudly. I am really trying to present something to this house. If hon. members are interested at all in the advance of their own country; if they are at all interested in what will put this country ahead and increase our production of iron ore and steel, as has been demonstrated in the United States, I hope they will listen and take an interest in what I am saying. Perhaps they will become more interested in this and help to bring about further development.

I should like to digress for a moment and refer to what two other great countries are doing along the lines of what I am urging should be done in this country. I am going to take a trip to India to see the great works of the Tata iron and steel company at Jamshedpur. That is undoubtedly one of the greatest iron and steel producing plants in Asia. It has turned out a lot of iron and steel and has captured for that part of the world much of the iron and steel business. During the late war it did a wonderful job in producing iron and steel.

Then our friends the Russians are doing likewise. They are developing a tremendous iron and steel industry. Unless we Canadians wake up and develop our own iron and steel industry in a big way we may be buying our requirements from India or Russia or elsewhere when we should be producing them at home.