

ONTARIO.

What river and bay form the greater part of the northern boundary of Ontario? What river forms the eastern boundary? Part of what province lies west of the Ottawa River? What lakes and rivers form the southern boundary? What country forms part of the southern boundary? Where is Lake Nipissing? What large island is in the north of Lake Huron? What large bay is east of Lake Huron? What peninsula is in the north of Lake Ontario?

The province of Ontario may be divided into two parts: NORTHERN ONTARIO, north of Lakes Superior, Huron, and Nipissing; and SOUTHERN ONTARIO, the remainder of the province. The latter is the settled part of Ontario and contains nearly all the population.

27. Northern Ontario.

This consists mainly of the southern part of the Laurentian plateau described in a former lesson and is divided into the four districts: *Rainy River*, *Thunder Bay*, *Algoma*, and *Nipissing*. Find these on the map.

The northern slope of this plateau towards James Bay contains about one-half of the entire province. This region has only been slightly explored but is known to contain very valuable resources in its fish, lumber, peat, and minerals. One of the most remarkable features of Northern Ontario is the endless number and variety of its lakes. There are hundreds of thousands of them varying in size from a hundred miles or more in length to tiny rock basins. They are supposed to have been eroded or ground out by the glaciers which covered the northern part of this continent ages ago. As these lakes occur in groups or chains, they afford a means of travelling by canoe in almost every direction, this being, indeed, the only way by which the interior of the country can be penetrated.

The climate of Northern Ontario is subject to extremes of temperature, that is, it is very cold in winter and sometimes very hot in summer. The

rainfall and snowfall are so abundant that nearly the whole region is covered with valuable forests.

MINERALS.—Northern Ontario is noted for its mineral wealth. In the Rainy River District gold has been discovered in large quantities. The gold is not found in the beds of streams as it is in most countries but it is found in hard rocks mostly in the form of small specks of *free* gold, that is, gold not mixed with other substances such as sulphur, copper, etc. This rock is crushed to powder in stamp mills. Water is then run over it carrying off the lighter rock powder but leaving behind the heavier gold.



Nickel Mine—Sudbury.

Gold has also been found in Algoma District on the north shores of Lakes Superior and Huron.

Where is *Sudbury*? Near this place in Algoma District are found the most extensive deposits of *nickel* in the world. Before these were discovered most of the nickel used in the world was obtained from New Caledonia, an island in the Southern Pacific Ocean belonging to France. Find this island on the map of the world. This metal is used for plating articles made of steel and its use prevents them from rusting. It also improves their appearance on account of the high polish which can be given to the nickel. It has been found lately that a small quantity of nickel mixed with steel greatly increases its strength and hardness. This nickel-steel is largely used by the United States Government as armor for battle ships.

Copper is obtained from the same ore as the nickel. The ore is *smelted* and the copper and nickel run together, forming what is called a *matte*. This mixture of copper and nickel is sent to the United States to be *refined* or separated from impurities.



Voyaging by Canoe in Northern Ontario.



Canal Locks.

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