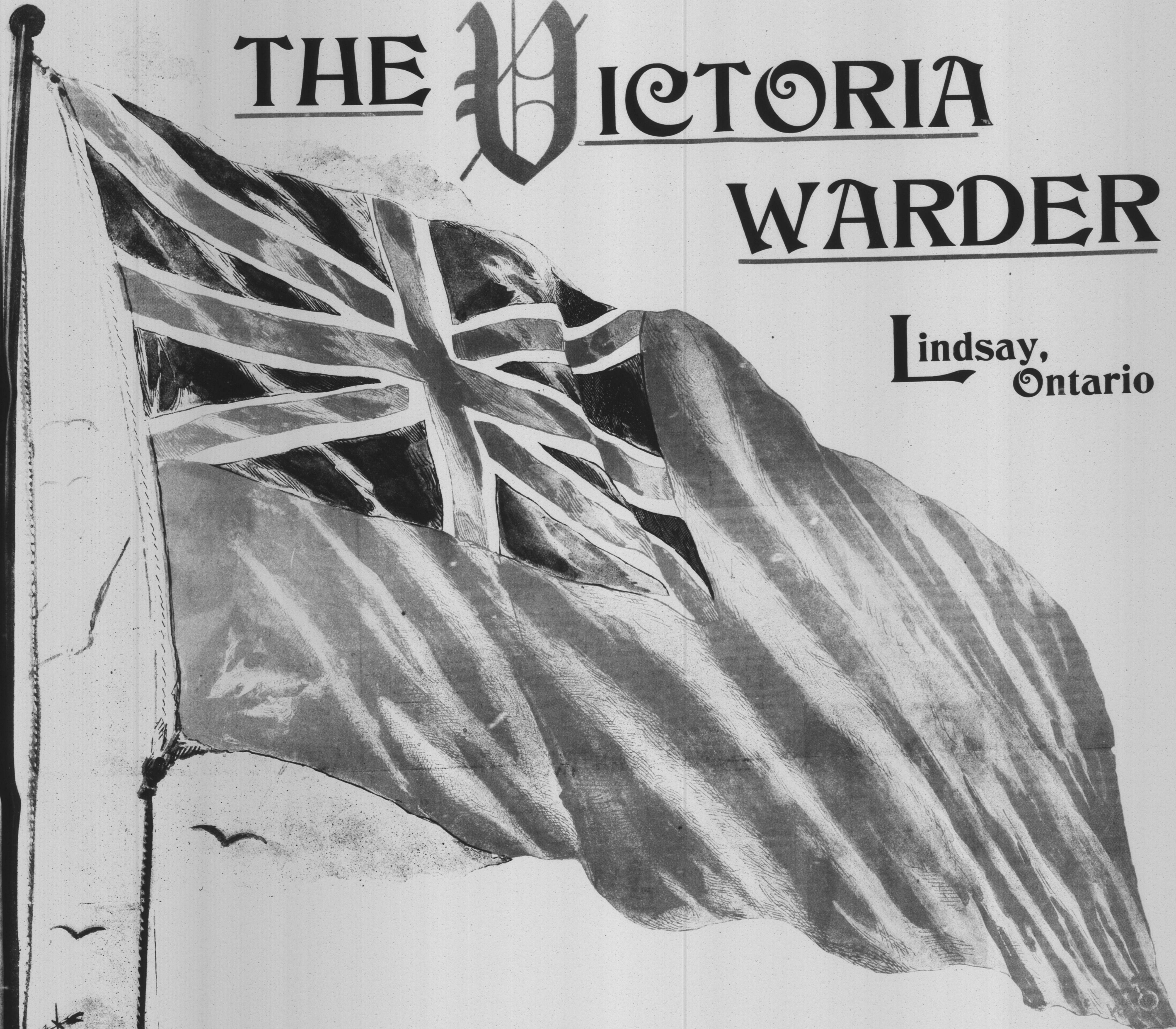


SUPPLEMENT TO

THE VICTORIA WARDER

Lindsay, Ontario



North Victoria

Special Number

With the Compliments of

Sam. Hughes

The Trent Valley Canal

A Great Engineering Feat.
Its Inception and Progress.

The Trent canal runs from the plain about 300 years ago, to the Bay Georgian Bay through the chain of lakes and rivers traversed by Cham-

iginally proposed by the Imperial Government about the year 1820 as the most suitable for a colonization and military route. Mr. J. N. Baird was sent out to make a survey and report of the route from Lake Ontario at Trenton to Waubashere on Georgian Bay, which he did. As a consequence several dams and locks were built at certain points, which rendered navigable the longest possible stretches. For instance, a dam was built at Frankford, and a lock and dam at Chisholm's. This made a stretch of navigation about twenty

miles to Meyersburg. A dam was built at Heely's Falls, and a dam and lock at Hastings, and a dam and lock at Peterborough. This gave a navigable stretch of about sixty miles to the town of Peterborough.

Locks and dams were also built at Bobcaygeon and Lindsay, which made a navigable stretch from Buckhorn to Port Perry and Fenelon Falls, a distance of about sixty-five miles.

These works were built about the year 1840. Enough money was voted by the Imperial Government to com-

plete a continuous line of navigation from Trenton to Balsam Lake, but when the Mackenzie rebellion broke out the Government of Canada took the money that was granted by the Imperial Government to build this canal to quell the rebellion, and thus the work was stopped for the lack of money.

Shortly after this time a number of residents about the Niagara peninsula, who were particularly strong with the Government of the day, induced the Govern-

the route to the West, and to build the Welland canal instead.

As the country along the line of the Trent canal was sparsely settled, there was no one to counteract this influence with the Government, so the route to the West was located by the Welland instead of by the much safer and more suitable one by the Trent river.

A company was formed in the year 1874, with Mossom Boyd, of Bobcaygeon, as president, to build the canal, but the Government would not let a private company control this work.

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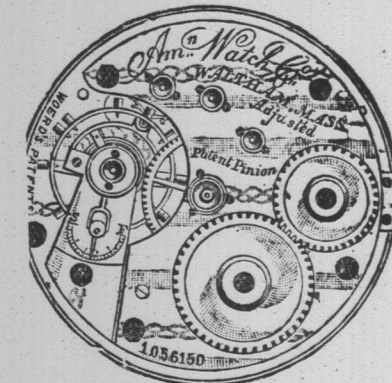
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May 1896, 1896-21-2.