

in its raw or unmanufactured state. The effect of the policy adopted by the sister Province had been to encourage American monopolies doing business in Canada and to discourage the development of a native industry in the Province of Quebec. As illustrating his point, Mr. Smith stated that the International Paper Company alone owned 2,000,000 acres, or 3.125 square miles, of the finest spruce-bearing land in the Province, and last year 60 per cent. of the raw spruce required to manufacture the news print used by the newspapers of the United States had been cut from the Quebec limits. The news print used by the United States last year was valued at thirty millions of dollars, and the speaker argued that the users of news print across the line would be compelled to come to Canada for their manufactured paper if the Province of Quebec would close the raw material door, which is now open. Directing his remarks to Hon. Mr. Whitney for a moment or two, Mr. Smith urged the Premier to consider the wisdom of arranging a conference between his Government and that of the Province of Quebec on this very important subject.

The Settlers' Standpoint.

The Soo representative then put up a strong plea for the settlers in what he called "the great north country." Turning to the financial statement that had been laid upon his desk, he observed that the Province had received last year from woods and forests alone the enormous sum of \$2,064,663.91, and on the opposite side of the same page he noticed that the miserable sum of \$178,313.02 had been expended on colonization roads. They would never succeed in developing the empire in the north on a paltry sum of \$200,000 a year, and, furthermore, the people up there would never rest under such injustice. The country was being milked at the rate of two millions a year, and 10 per cent. of that amount was sent back to develop three-fourths of the area of this great Province. For the development of that country \$1,652,120 had been spent during the past twelve years, and yet some people wondered why it was that the people of new Ontario were dissatisfied with the treatment they had received at the hands of the Ontario Government. "Why," said Mr. Smith, "the Indians receive more in annuities than the industrious, hard-working white settlers receive for their colonization roads and bridges." All they asked for was common justice, and the speaker thought that at least 50 per cent. of the revenues derived by the Province from new Ontario should be sent back for the development of that country. In view of the statement made by the Provincial Treasurer, he was hopeful that this would be done in the future.

A Very Unwise Prophet.

The Soo guarantee, which caused such a hubbub in the House and throughout the Province two years ago, was then discussed by the member for the Soo, and he characterized the measure as one of the most beneficial acts of legislation that had ever been placed upon the statute books of the Province. Mr. Smith recalled the prediction of the present Premier that the \$2,000,000 might as well have been thrown into Lake Superior or Toronto Bay, and the statement of the present Provincial Secretary that the guarantee meant a tax of one dollar a head on every man, woman and child in the Province. In the light of the magnificent results which followed this legislation, he thought that the Premier and his colleagues would now admit that they were guilty of very grave errors of judgment two years ago. The speaker then went on to explain that through the late Government's guarantee of the two million dollar loan to the Soo industries, which comprised eleven subsidiary companies, reorganization had been made attainable, and became operative on June 30, 1904. During the twenty months' operations, or to the first of this month (March), the Helen Mine has produced 340,569 tons of hematite iron ore, upon which was realized \$851,422.

The blast furnaces at the Soo have manufactured 150,303 tons of pig iron.

The Algoma Steel Company has manufactured 200,000 tons of steel rails, and sold them for \$6,400,000, with orders in advance for ten months' output.

The pulp mill has manufactured 43,000 tons of pulp, which sold for \$688,000.

The lumber sales from the company's sawmill aggregated \$381,718.

Coal used, about 120,641 tons.

Coke used about 144,818 tons.

Charcoal manufactured and used, 26,934 tons.

Men employed in various works, 4,000.

Average wages paid since reorganization, \$150,000 per month, or for 20 months \$3,000,000.

Average freight paid per month, \$120,000, or \$2,400,000, representing from 700 to 900 cars raw material under load daily.

Mr. Smith concluded his address by inviting the Premier and his colleagues to visit new Ontario during the coming summer.

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