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The Economic Importance of This Great North Land

Prize Winning Essay by Miss Kathleen Dobie, of Thessalon High School, in the Contest Under the Auspices of the Ontario Mining Association.

in The Advance to the prize-winners ounces respectively, showing that inin the Essay Contest conducted by dustry is again on the up-grade. Ont. It is interesting to note that has resulted in the discovery of large ated at seventy million dollars, inof a family of miners, her great-grand- mines which were once thought to be and distribution. father, Samuel Lobb, coming from worked out. tling at Bruce Mines, Ontario. Miss District are again working at great Dobie's father is a well-known civil er than pre-war capacity, following a thousand horse power this year to as our slogan, "Northward the Star engineer employed in the Land Sur-period of depression, after the war. vey Dept. of the Ontario Government. Over-production, owing to war requir- thousand horse power at Nipigon, and do our best towards developing in very clever essay which gives much being in a bad way for several years, interesting and suggestive inform- following the end of the war, and the horse power. Other additions by vari- courage and tenacity of purpose of ation relative to the great North consequent loss of markets for war ous companies are contemplated.

THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF NORTHERN ONTARIO. (By Kathleen Dobie).

ance of its tremendous possibilities. and war material of various kinds.

Manitoba, far larger than Great tion last year of over seventeen mil-Britain, right in the heart of Canada, lion dollars, so that the establishment liability rather than an asset.

The economic development of this means much to the whole of Canada. vast area really commenced with the The Sudbury nickel belt produces over construction of the Canadian Pacific eighty per cent. of the world's nickel Railway, which was completed from supply, and Mr. A. G. Burrows, Geocoast to coast in 1885. Since then, logist for the Department of Mines there has been a steadily increasing Ontario, and one of the greatest development, depending upon mines, authorities on Ontario Mining, stat- tioned. Here in Ontario is an area forests, soil, waterpowers, etc., that ed recently that, "The nickel depos-

The story of the development of far as succeeding generations are conthe nickel industry is too long to be cerned, they may be considered to be told here, but it is an intensely inter- inexhaustible." esting story of difficulties overcome, Now what does all this mean? Are of fertile land; that there are vast and it is particularly interesting to these developments making for a us to-day because it was the first big general prosperity or is this vast success in the development of the wealth merely going into the hands of mineral resources of Northern On- a favored few? tario. It was the first real tangible Of the total production of the gold step in the establishing of that vast and silver mines for 1924, the amount ever-growing series of mining enter- of \$8,489,043 was paid in dividends. prises, which bids fair to become the It is estimated that approximately very foundation of the economic \$24,000,000 was paid out for wages, structure, not only of Northern On- \$15,000,000 for mining supplies and tario, but of the Dominion of Canada. improvements of various kinds, and

As a result of the optimistic re- \$4,000,000 for sundry other expenses. ports brought back by exploring par- These figures are approximate, as ties, which the Ontario Government complete records are difficult to obhad sent into Northern Ontario in tain but they are believed to be sub-1900, the government decided that a stantially correct. The City of Timrailway, to be known as the Temiska- mins has a population of about 15,000 ming and Northern Ontario Railway, inhabitants entirely dependent on the should be built from North Bay to mining industry, and all through the reach the farming settlement which North there are prosperous modern was struggling to establish itself on towns and villages growing up around the fertile lands north of Lake Temis- the various mining camps. The re-

During the construction of this rail- ural products, bigger business for way in 1903, a spectacular discovery wholesale houses and manufacturers, of silver was made. This developed more traffic for railways and so on, into the world-famous Cobalt camp are too obvious to require going inwhich has produced an average to in detail. amount of two tons of pure silver There are other mining possibilievery working day since shipping first ties of greater importance. The broad belt of rocks, to which the started.

sults, in better markets for agricult-

tin. There are literally dozens of

It is surely not too much to say

that the Hon. Chas. McCrea, Minis-

within the truth when he stated re-

Canadian Institute of Mining and

we are only on the threshold of a per-

ada stand out before the whole world

in the forefront of the mining indus-

No story of economic development

host of others are known far and wide

The immediate success of the sil- name pre-Cambrian has been applied, ver mines at Cobalt, coupled, as it and which produces the great bulk was, with a veritable outpouring of of the world's supply of metals, wealth, appealed to the imagination stretches across Northern Ontario, of the adventurous, and the result from Quebec to Manitoba, and far was the development of a race of beyond on either side. It reaches hardy, intelligent prospectors, fami- from the Great Lakes to within a hunliar with Northern Ontario conditions, dred miles of James and Hudson Bay. who penetrated farther and farther Immense areas of these rocks have into the pathless wilderness, discover- never even been seen by an intellied the immensely important gold de- gent prospector, and scattered posits at Porcupine and Kirkland throughout are large areas where Lake, the silver deposits at Gowganda geological conditions are known to be and South Lorrain, as well as in- similiar to those where such rich renumerable discoveries in other locali- wards have been won by the persisties, where the possibilities of further tent attacks of the pick and shovel. development are as yet uncertain, Northern Ontario contains practically but where the chances of success are all the metallic minerals but coal and very great.

Some idea of the phenomenal growth localities, such as Lake of the Woods, of the mining industry may be ob- Mine Centre, Goudreau, Sturgeon tained by reading the report of pro- Lake, to mention only a few, where duction recently issued by the On- indications exist of deposits of gold tario Department of Mines for 1924. ore in payable quantities. In 1924 the total gold production

was \$25,669,262. In 1923 the total gold production ter of Mines for Ontario, was well

was \$20,136,287.

In 1911 the total gold production cently, at the annual meeting of the was \$42,627. The total value of all metals pro- Metallurgy, held in Ottawa, "My

duced in Ontario up to the end of well considered view is that, great as 1924 was \$770,505,000. Dividends has been the progress of mining in Ontario during the last twenty years, and bonuses to the end of 1924 are as iod that will make Ontario and Can-

Cobalt and South Lorrain, \$97,983,-

Porcupine, \$40,17-,830. Kirkland Lake, \$2,312,375. Total, \$140,468,025.

These figures are stupendous in in Northern Ontario would be comthemselves, but they take on an ad- plete without some reference to her ded importance when we realize that unrivalled facilities for entertaining the development of new properties, the tourist and lover of outdoor sport. and increasing production of the older There are myriads of lakes and rivers, ones, indicate that substantial yearly full of fish, and thousands of square increases will occur for many miles of primeval forest, the home of years to come. It becomes increas- the moose, the deer, the bear, the wolf ingly evident that the gold de- and other game animals. Such names posits of Ontario will continue to as great a depth as it is physically pos- Woods, Minaki, Mississaugi, and a sible to work them.

The silver production for Northern and there are literally hundreds of Ontario reached its maximum in 1911 other places, where facilities for huntwith 31,507,791 ounces. This de- ing and fishing are of the very best. creased to 8,261,931 ounces in 1921 It is now possible to travel by on account of the working out of the motor from Toronto to Sault Ste. rich deposits so easily reached at first. Marie, over a first-class motor road. The production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1923 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for 1925 and 1924 and every year sees a great increase commencement to the production for the pr

Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, and to than twenty years ago. Cochrane.

ding the High School at Thessalon, of the geology of the Cobalt deposits invested in hydraulic plants is estim-

purposes, but persistent efforts and research have resulted in the discov- lie energy are, of course, the pulp and which rest our present prosperity and ery of new uses for nickel, the result paper mills and the great mining inbeing such a stimulation of the de- dustry. At the present moment, mand that the mines are again work- power development at the mining For many years following Confeder- ing full blast, and the probability is camps is a little in advance of the ation, Northern Ontario occupied a that they will continue to do so, as demand, owing to the recent complevery unimjortant position in the pub- the market is more stable than when tion of large power plants by the Hollic estimation, due, largely, to ignor- it depended largely upon armor plate linger Mines and the Northern Canada Power Company, but is is expec-Here was an area of 330,000 square The nickel-copper mines of the ted that the rapid growth of the minmiles, stretching from Quebec to Sudbury district had a total produc- ing industry will soon require this

The total capacity of the far-famed which was looked upon almost as a of this industry on a basis, not only Chippawa Canal, at Niagara, is six hundred thousand horse power. of stability, but of annual increase, Northern Ontario now produces hydraulic energy equal to two-thirds of this, and the amount is increasing Throughout this article, the Dis-

trict of Patricia has hardly been menof 150,000 square miles, having its of Sudbury are so large that, so frontage of six hundred miles on James and Hudson Bay, and it is practically unknown. This much we do know: That there are great areas forests of timber, suitable for pulp-

in the number of American tourists powers; and that probably half its who go over this route. Construc- total area is underlain with pretion is now under way for a first class Cambrian rocks. How many Cobalts motor road from North Bay to Cobalt and Hollingers are there hidden away passing beautiful Lake Timagami and in those Northern jungles? Patricia extending on to the gold fields at is to-day where Porcupine was less

In this article there has been given A fair standard by which to mea- a summary of what we have in Northsure the economic importance of any ren Ontario, and, also, some indication section of the country is the amount of our hopes. Enough has been said of hydro-electric energy it uses. A to show that the section, which was statement prepared by the Domin- once considered the gap which would Some weeks ago reference was made was 10,753,413 ounces and 9,922,332 ion Water Power Branch at Ottawa, separate the East from the West, is in response to an inquiry for this in- rapidly becoming the bridge that will formation, shows that the total connect them. Nowhere will the the Ontario Mining Association. The Not only have rich silver deposits hydraulic development in Northern younger generation find greater opporfirst prize was won by Miss Kathleen been opened up in South Lorrain and Ontario up to the present is 400,975 tunities, and, as for the capitalist. Dobie, a 15 year-old young lady atten- at Gowganda, but increased knowledge horse power and that the total capital nowhere will be more certain of

We hear too much of the danger we Miss Dobie is the fourth generation quantities of silver remaining in cluding investment in transmission run of being overshadowed and absorbed by our mighty neighbours to the In addition to the above, the On- south of us. Let us, instead, turn Cornwall, England, in 1845 and set- The nickel mines in the Sudbury tario Hydro Electric Power Commis- our faces towards the north, for it is sion is expected to add twenty-five there our destiny lies. Let us take their present installation of fifty of Empire takes its way," and let us Below will be found Miss Dobie's ments, resulted in the industry the Wahnapitae Power Company is this, our own land, a civilization that adding an additional seven thousand will be a worthy monument to the those hardy pioneers, who did so much The largeest consumers of hydrau- to lay the broad foundation upon our hopes for the future.

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To the hewer and blazer of trails."



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