

OTTAWA, November 1, 1915.

Sir GEORGE E. FOSTER, K.C.M.G.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce,
Ottawa, Canada.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith "Canada the Country of the Twentieth Century," a description of the Dominion of Canada prepared according to instructions for the purpose of giving business men who have never visited the Dominion a comprehensive but epitomized review of its agricultural, forest, and mineral resources, its industrial and commercial development and its geographical relation to the markets of the world.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

WATSON GRIFFIN.

REFERENCE.

For summary of contents, general index and location of maps in this volume, see page 255 and following pages.

CANADA THE COUNTRY OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

GENERAL INDEX

NOTE.—General manufactures are indexed together in the sub-index "Manufactures of Canada"; food manufactures are indexed together in the sub-index "Farm Products and Food Manufactures"; wood manufactures are indexed together in the sub-index "Forest Products and Wood Manufactures"; each of these sub-indexes forming part of the general index.

Abbreviations: Alb., Alberta; B.C., British Columbia; C.B., Cape Breton Island; Man., Manitoba; N.B., New Brunswick; N.S., Nova Scotia; Ont., Ontario; Que. or P.Q., Quebec Province; Sask., Saskatchewan.

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Granite creek, the Columbia Coal and Coke Company is endeavouring to open up a colliery; there are some very promising outcrops, etc., high up in Granite creek and Collins gulch, but the long tunnel which the company is driving to cut the coal at depth has not, as yet, been successful in cutting workable coal. Mr. Camsell, of the Geological Survey, estimates this basin to have an area of about five square miles. The Nicola Valley coal field is situated to the south of Nicola lake in the Kamloops district of British Columbia. Although not as extensive as the Crowsnest field, or the Vancouver island field, it is yet of great economic importance. It stands mid-way between them, hence the coal of the Nicola valley is manifestly destined to find a market in a considerable part of central British Columbia. In the northern interior there is another prospective field which attracts great interest at present, owing to its proximity to the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, which is being constructed through this district. This is the Telkwa Valley field, in the northern part of British Columbia. Some of these areas are of considerable extent, and several have been proved to contain coal of good quality and in beds of workable thickness. The character of the coal varies from a bituminous to a semi-anthracite. About 140 miles by trail north from Hazelton near the head-waters of the west fork of the Skeena river, is another coal field of great promise, known as the Groundhog coal field. This coal is anthracite or semi-anthracite in character. From present indications and developments it would seem that this coal field would prove to be one of the most important developments that the province has seen for many years. The field is, as yet, only slightly developed, and, if but a fraction of its present promise is fulfilled, it is bound to have a wonderfully stimulative effect upon the future of the province. The centre of this field lies approximately in $56^{\circ} 45'$ north latitude, $128^{\circ} 15'$ west longitude. It was first discovered in 1903, though its full extent was not at that time recognized. More recent explorations have shown the field to extend in a northwesterly direction about 75 miles, and to have a width in places of about 30 miles. The rocks in which the coal occurs have been classed as of cretaceous age. Vancouver island has been the seat of a coal mining industry since 1836, which in recent years has not only supplied a local demand, but has been largely exported, to the state of California. The Vancouver island fields, now being exploited are situated on the east coast of the island. These coal measures may be naturally divided into two distinct fields, separated by a gap of 12 miles of crystalline rocks in the district of Nanoose. The northern area is the Comox field, and the southern one the Nanaimo field. Another field, until recently quite undeveloped, exists in the vicinity of Suquamish, about 125 miles to the north. Seven collieries are now in operation in the district, and the production in 1913 was 927,880 tons. The coals of the various seams, although each has its own individual characteristics, are, as a whole, much alike, and furnish a bituminous coal of fair grade, the amount of fixed carbon in the best quality ranging from 50 to 60 per cent, and the percentage of ash from 5 to 10 per cent. The most striking feature of the seams is their great variability in thickness and character. The thickness varies from a few inches to over 30 feet, sometimes within a lateral distance of less than 100 feet. Coal is also found in the Queen Charlotte islands, the most important coal-bearing

area known in this group of islands being that found in a development of cretaceous rocks on Graham island, the most northerly island of the group. In this field, coal outcrops have been located in several places between the Skidegate channel and Yakoun lake in the interior of the island. In the Peace River valley extensive coal fields are located and partly prospected, but these are as yet far from transportation. Near Bear lake and river tributaries of the Fraser river near its most northerly head, and near the located line of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, a coal area is being developed which, according to recent reports has considerable promise and, being near the railway, assumes importance."

IRON ORE AND LIMESTONE.

On the mainland of British Columbia iron ore deposits have been reported at many points, including among others Kamloops, Kitchener, Bulk Run and Bermis, but no development work has been done, and there is no information available regarding the extent and character of the deposits. On both the east and west coasts of Vancouver island and on the smaller islands between Vancouver island and the mainland there are many deposits of iron ore, some of which are merely pockets, but according to a report made by Mr. Einar Lindeman, for the Mines Branch, Department of Mines, there are deposits of magnetite which appear to be of economic importance in the following localities: In the valley of the Gordon river, a few miles from Port San Juan, on the west coast; at several places in the vicinity of Barclay sound, on the west coast; at Head bay, Nootka sound, on the west coast; at Klaanch river, a few miles from Alert bay, on the northeast coast; in the vicinity of the Quinsam river, a tributary of the Campbell river which flows into the gulf of Georgia; and on Texada island between Vancouver island and the mainland. All these deposits are high in iron, very low in phosphorus and rather high in sulphur, but the sulphur could be roasted out. There are very large supplies of good limestone both on Texada island and Vancouver island, while none of these iron deposits is far distant from the coal mines of Vancouver island.

OTHER MINERALS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

From 1862 to 1913, inclusive, British Columbia produced 6,742,798 ounces of fine gold. The production in 1913 was 297,459 ounces of fine gold. Prior to 1890 nearly all the gold was taken out by placer miners. The Fraser river, Cariboo, Quesnel and Cassiar districts were in turn famous for their gold production. There is still quite a large production of gold from the placer and hydraulic operations in the Cariboo, Quesnel, Omineca and Atlin districts, but in recent years lode mining has been responsible for the greater part of the output. The most productive gold mine is at Hedley, in the Similkameen district. There are a number of gold mines in operation in the Nelson district, at Paulson and Long lake, on Bridge river, on Princess Royal island, Moresby island, and on Taku arm, Atlin lake. Nearly all the copper ores of the province are auriferous, and many of them contain a combination of gold, silver and copper. The output of silver in 1913 was 3,312,343 ounces, while the

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