

have great timber reserves on our Labrador territory and in Newfoundland — enough to supply two or three more great newsprint paper-mills, or artificial silk or cellulose mills. As for minerals, it is not even half the story to say that we have, at Bell Island, the world's largest iron-ore reserves, which will become increasingly valuable as the Lake Superior reserves shrink in volume; that we have, at Buchans, the world's richest lead-zinc-copper-gold mine. Our whole island is known to be valuably mineralised, and even as this is written a small army of trained geologists from various universities of the United States are scouring the island in an organised beginning at measurement and survey. Expert opinion inclines strongly to the belief that it is the mineral resources of Labrador, rather than its forest wealth, that will make our vast dependency, so much bigger than ourselves, a source of great wealth in the years to come.

We have the resources to make us one of the greatest small nations of the earth. Sportsmen and seekers of the quaint and unusual in countries have begun to discover Newfoundland in the past half dozen years. Jealously they keep their knowledge to themselves, lest others too learn their secret and come. Capitalists will discover our vast heritage of natural wealth, and their capital will pour in upon Newfoundland and Labrador to exploit these resources, make great profits for themselves, and bring enduring prosperity to Newfoundlanders. We were on the trembling edge of a breath-taking mineral boom just as the world depression plunged capitalists into the depths of pessimism and passivity. We depended a little too much upon the enterprise and "push" of pioneering capitalists of the outside world to develop our mineral resources. Now we have set ourselves, by the help of these groups of officially directed geological survey parties, to the task of learning what we used formerly to leave it to the others to learn; the actual facts about our mineral wealth. Soon we shall be in a position to tell the outside world in exact terms just what we have got in the mineral line.

Newfoundland is in the happy position of

being able to say that the starting of two or three sizable new industries, employing eight or ten thousand men would, at one blow, end unemployment in the island; circulate enough wages to make the people self-supporting; end all need for dole or relief; enable the government to balance its budget; give the Newfoundland Railway, which has just declared its first operating surplus, a fat operating profit indeed.

Two or three new industries! It sounds easy, and it ought to be easy. We have the resources: the existence of the great Harmsworth newsprint paper mill at Grand Falls and of the even greater International Power and Paper Company newsprint paper mill on the Humber prove that papermaking in Newfoundland is not only possible, but capable of more economical production than elsewhere this side of the Atlantic Ocean. The existence of the two great mines operating at Bell Island and Buchans proves that mining can be successfully and profitably conducted in Newfoundland.

In a book which I wrote in 1932 I ventured to make several prophecies about Newfoundland. One of these had to do with air travel to and from the colony. That particular prophecy is at this moment so near to fulfilment (I refer, of course, to the great Imperial Airways transatlantic airline now being arranged, with Cobb's Camp, Newfoundland, as the great connecting link) that I make this further prophecy with greater assurance than that with which those others were made — namely, Newfoundland, within the next half-dozen years, will have blossomed forth as a mining country whose importance will challenge the attention of the world. We shall be the third largest producer of newsprint paper in the world. We shall not have an unemployed man, but will need new immigrants. Our fisheries will have been completely transformed and made vastly more important and profitable by the introduction of considerable sums of new capital.

In other words, our country's onward march to industrial importance and prosperity, interrupted by the economic deluge which settled upon us and the world in 1929 and 1930, will be resumed with increased