

"ON TO THE BAY"

At the regular meeting of the Cochrane Board of Trade on Wednesday, November 6th, the following resolution, moved by Mayor Carter and seconded by A. T. H. Taylor was unanimously carried:

WHEREAS during the past four years of war the avowed aggressive settlement policy of the Ontario Government for Northern Ontario has, of necessity, been greatly curtailed owing to the rigid retrenchment demanded in all expenditures outside actual war needs,

AND WHEREAS, with final victory definitely assured and practically in sight, the return of peace will terminate the anxious hours of single minded endeavors for war purposes and once more permit the prosecution of peaceful development of Canada's wonderful resources which cannot help but direct to Ontario's vast heritage of the North a more purposeful effort to awaken the great potentialities which Northern Ontario presents in the pursuit of a comprehensive policy of dealing with the forest lands and in opening up and comfortably settling new townships,

AND WHEREAS one of the greatest tasks of the reconstruction period will be the problem of industrial and economic adjustment following the disbandment of the army and the cessation of war industries, requiring the providing of profitable employment for the great numbers of unemployed when these war industries close their doors and for an army of half a million which, in disbanding, will have to be returned to civil occupation with the least possible economic disturbance, thereby giving a great impetus to the development of Canada's basic industries of which the iron and steel industry will be among the foremost,

AND WHEREAS the Belcher Islands iron deposits in James Bay, running in to hundreds of millions of tons, will be, according to best authorities, in active demand within the near future, besides which other deposits of iron and other minerals in the far North, particularly gypsum, fire and pottery clay, and the large deposits of lignite and anthracite, with their valuable nitrogen contents as well as by-products, are only awaiting to be made accessible for development,

AND WHEREAS the accession of the valuable fisheries in James Bay and Hudson Bay would supply the Province with cheap sea food and afford opportunity for commercial exploitation of the valuable by-products of the fishery industry,

AND WHEREAS, on best authority, it has been shown that for 200 miles North of Cochrane the claybelt extends with the same dense growth of spruce and jack pine as around Cochrane, the Broadback river being practically the limit of the belt in which the timber, in places small, is nevertheless well fitted for pulp wood, while for a distance of 100 miles the land falls rapidly towards the sea, causing plenty of falls and rapids, generating unlimited water-powers, thus indicating the enormous possibilities for pulp and paper industries, besides which, all this vast territory

shows great possibilities for agricultural development, the climatic conditions around James Bay being, in fact, more favorable to crops than those around Cochrane at the present time,

AND WHEREAS it is an acknowledged fact that a large percentage of the men employed in railroad construction through new territory will remain as pioneers of the country which they are opening up, all experience in such new construction having hitherto shown that sub-conscious fascination of new territory made accessible through railroad construction, takes such a hold on the workers along the line that it keeps them attached to such new fields of endeavor, thereby creating the foundation of healthy settlements,

AND WHEREAS as far back as 1911 the necessity of extending the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway from Cochrane to James Bay, as the cardinal part of a great policy of development of this Northern part of the Province of Ontario was generally recognized as a benefit not only to the people of the North but to the entire Province, and in particular was endorsed and fully concurred in by the Toronto Board of Trade and the Ontario Associated Boards of Trade as well as by an influential portion of the press throughout Ontario, the Ontario Associated Boards of Trade passing at that time a resolution strongly urging upon the Government the immediate construction of the extension of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway while the Government, following the expressed wish of the people started the survey of the proposed extension which survey has since been practically completed and actual work was expected to have started in the Fall of 1914, when the war interfered.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Trade go on record as strongly urging the Ontario Government to have the extension of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, from Cochrane to James Bay, be made a part of the programme of industrial and economic adjustment after the war, which would give the opportunity of keeping that part of the army, now composing the railway corps in France, mobilized after their return to Canada, thereby allowing a gradual absorption of this military unit into civil occupations,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Premier of Ontario, Sir William H. Hearst and His Honorable colleagues, of the Cabinet, and that copies also be forwarded to the individual members of the Ontario Legislature to Mr. J. L. Englehart, Chairman of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, to the Toronto Board of Trade, to the Ontario Associated Boards of Trade and to the daily press of the Province, requesting their endorsement and active support.