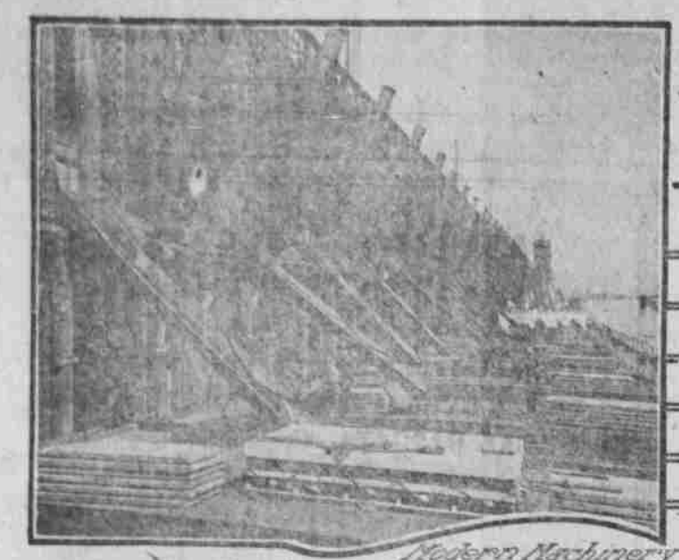
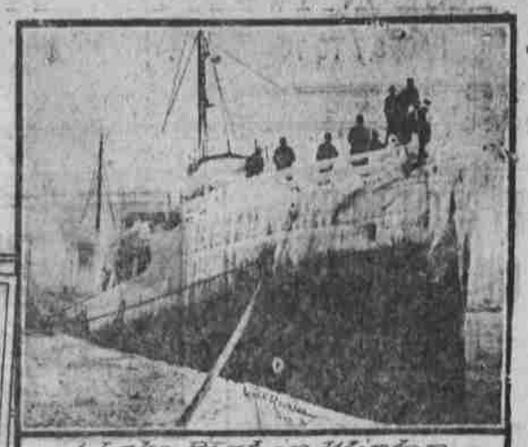
Marvelous Iron Ore Industry of the Great Lakes



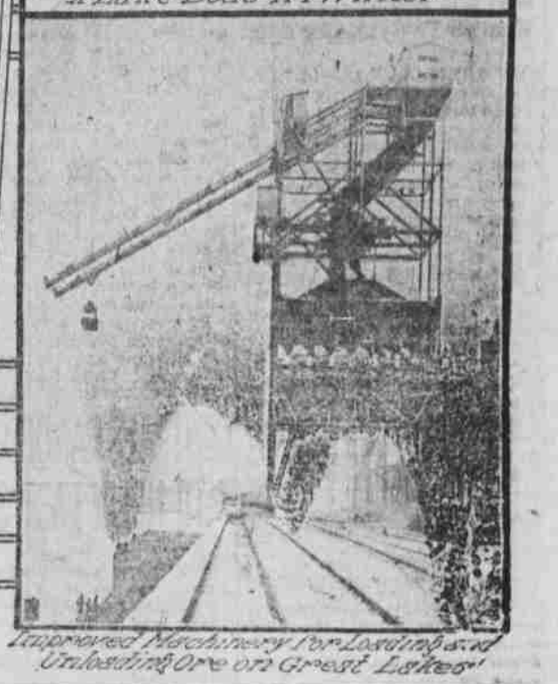
Modern Machinery Loads a Vessel in a Few Hours—Note the Numerous Delivery Chutes

A Minnesota Mine



A Lake Boat in Winter

Loading a Whaleback



Improved Machinery for Loading and Unloading Ore on Great Lakes

Towns Moved In Search of the Mineral — Millions of Tons of Ore Moved Yearly—Cold Facts Which Read Like Fiction.

HIBBING, Minnesota, called the "richest village in the world" is being moved. This is not literally true but probably no town ever made such history as Hibbing is making today. One-third of the original town, in all sixteen city blocks, is being cleared of buildings so that mining companies may have access to valuable ore deposits they wish to uncover and make use of. It is a sort of world wonder—this spirit of the future—which will swing a large part of a village out of its path and create a new section. It is a story in which over twenty millions of dollars figure as barely covering the cost of expansion work in the new town and this will not begin to represent the money expended when the work is finished.

It is all a part of the story of the great iron industry of the United States. Few persons realize at what a white heat this is carried on or how vital our ore mines are to the prosperity of the world. Production on the Mesabi, Cayuna, and Vermilion ranges of Minnesota have at times run as high as 70,000,000 tons and vessel shipments have passed 62,000,000 tons in a season.

The Lake Superior Region

While we have about twenty-four states that produce much iron ore the palm must be given to the Lake Superior region, and the Minnesota in particular, which furnishes about three-fifths or sixty per cent. of the millions of tons which the United States contributes to the world. Michigan follows with twenty per cent. The great iron mines of the Lake Superior region, the immense coal carriers, the ore railroads, ore docks, exploration work and the army of employees necessary to dig and ship this ore are all parts of the development of the past fifty years.

The steel towns where ore is converted into finished projects are as interesting as the "range towns." Many have become familiar to outsiders. Others are newer. We had no sooner become acquainted with the enterprising town of Gary, Illinois, where even the school system is of such note that other towns sent commissioners to investigate and in some instances adopt their plans, than a new steel town sprung up in Minnesota. The Minnesota Steel Company's plant, installed at an outlay of many million dollars has been in active operation for several years, converting ore into pig iron and other iron products at the rate of one thousand tons per day, or three hundred thousand annually. This amount equals the total production of all the furnaces in the United States forty years ago.

Huge Ore Ships

Morgan Park was built to save the shipment of ore but it by no means disposes of all the ore mined in the Lake Superior region and in summer and fall there is no let up in the steady going and coming of ore boats on the Great Lakes for nine long months. Nor are these boats small fleets of unorganized vessels. One company owns over one hundred and fifty ore boats which ply the Great Lakes from the time navigation opens in the spring until ice blocks the rivers in the fall. October comes and everyone watches and wonders to see how late the ore boats can run. Then comes November and speculation runs rife as to whether it will be an open or closed season. Snow, ice and sleet come and a few ore boats with intrepid captains start out and finally the harbors are closed, the wind is too chill, the lakes are angry, the connecting rivers are full of ice and reluctantly the shipment by water known as until it breaks in the spring. Then, the process begins all over again.

thans carry ore down to the Eastern furnaces at small cost. An ore boat in the slips at Duluth, Two Harbors, Escanaba and other ore region docks is filled in a few hours and ready to start on its journey east and south. Huge shovels or "clams mouths" lift the ore from cars—in some cases chutes are used instead—and the ore rains down into the open hatches. As soon as the hold is filled—and the hold of a modern ore carrier has a capacity of from ten thousand to fourteen thousand tons—the hatches are battened down, the deck cleaned and the Captain starts to guide his boat out to the open. So improved is the machinery that an ore boat can be managed by eighteen to twenty men.

At the receiving port the process is just as expeditious. The huge scoops take the ore from the boat's hold, raise it in the air and dump it into waiting cars. One scoop can take five tons at a time and in a few hours the boat is unloaded, the hatches are closed, the deck is cleaned and the Captain is turning the boat toward the loading port where he will get his next consignment. Everything is systematized to such a degree that one man sits at his desk and orders boats hither and thither and knows the position of each boat at a given hour.

The "Soo" Locks

It is such constant white heat business that even men who are accustomed to seeing things done in a hurry are astounded at the expeditious way in which ore is handled. It is the ore business that has hastened the improvements on the Great Lakes. The huge ore boats required the deepening of rivers, dredging of channels and other improvements. The fourth great government lock, the largest of the "Soo" locks which connects the upper and lower levels of Lake Superior and Lake Huron, will be the largest ship transfer in the world and the other "Soo" locks work night and day.

Partly Owned By State

An interesting feature in connection with the ore mines of Minnesota is that many of them are owned by the state and every year the permanent school, university and trust funds receive from this source by way of royalties about seven million dollars. Acts of Congress in 1857 and later granted the state certain lands some of which later proved to be in the ore belt. But these lands are only about a ninth of the ore lands from which revenues are derived. The other eight ninths are owned by private individuals and corporations which reap large profits. The shipments from the Minnesota mines exceed 45,000,000 tons yearly. Large as this amount is it was only a part of the output of the whole Lake Superior region. The whole industry is of such recent and rapid growth that it sounds like a fairy tale but instead it is a record of cold facts. Probably one hundred and twenty-five thousand people in Minnesota are dependent on the ore mines for a livelihood. Michigan can point to almost as many. The importance of these mines cannot be gauged in words.

AMONG THE MOVIE STARS

Marjorie Daw and Rod O'Malley in "Bob Hampton of Placer"

Doug Breaks His Hand

Jimmy Aubrey in "The Blizzard"

Mae Busch

May Allison and Wyndham Standing in "The Marriage of William Ashe"

Pauline Starke and Harry Myers in "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court"

Elsie Ferguson

Bob Hampton of Placer"—"The Marriage of William Ashe"—Doug Breaks His Hand—Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court—"The Blizzard"

BOB HAMPTON, of Placer," is a spectacular adaptation of the Randall Parrish novel of the same title. The story deals with frontier life in Montana immediately after the Civil War, when the Sioux uprising startled the country. The dramatic tale of "Bob Hampton," a quiet, mysterious character of the frontier who finally becomes the hero of his community when he gets a message through to General Custer during the historical "Last Stand" against the Sioux, is said to offer one of the most striking screen vehicles ever portrayed.

In reproducing "Custer's Last Fight" and other spectacular effects the entire company was taken to Glacier Park, Montana, and Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

May Allison

As the impulsive daughter of British nobility, who tires of a convent's staidness and thirsts for freedom and brilliant society life, charming May Allison, the dazzling southern beauty, has a role surpassing all her preceding performances for dramatic power and dash. She plays the part of mettlesome Lady Kitty Bristol, who has fled her cloistered world and married William Ashe, Secretary for Home Affairs. In a series of drawings shown only to her husband, she satirizes members of the British Cabinet. But when society, or rather the society that counts, inflicts some slights on her, she is piqued and retaliates. Lady Kitty publishes the book of caricatures, which threatens her husband's political career—and causes a scandal. Not satisfied with the damage, she appears at a lawn party as Lady Godiva, riding on a white horse and wearing nothing but her hair—and causes the furore of furores. Then disgusted, she runs to the rooms of—but this the climax of this exciting picture, which is more thrilling even than the famous novel by Mrs. Humphrey Ward from which it was taken.

Doug Has A Mishap

"Good morning little playmate," said Douglas Fairbanks, as he held up his broken hand for inspection. Doug received this injury when he tried to jump through a window as one of the stunts in his newest picture play "The Nut." "I was just proving I am," said Fairbanks, when asked about the mishap. In addition to breaking the third metacarpal bone of the left hand in this fall, the athletic star also wrenched his back and strained his neck, all of which the doctor says will keep him out of pictures for five weeks.

A Connecticut Yankee

"A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," Mark Twain's acknowledged masterpiece of humorous satire, has been translated to the screen without sacrificing one jot of the message Twain conveyed in words. It possesses in visual form every thrilling moment, every laugh-provoking incident and all the rollicking fun created by the genius of the author.

More than this, its riotous jollity is thrown against a background of medieval grandeur and barbaric pomp so elaborate as to present one of the most impressive spectacles ever presented on the screen.

Mark Twain teaches while he tickles. Nothing could be funnier than the adventures the young Yankee encounters and his sudden introduction of flivvers, motorcycles, telephones, dynamite, and sundry other factors.

Mae Busch

Mae Busch was born in Australia. Her father was the director of the Melbourne Symphony orchestra. His mother was an opera singer. At the age of eight she was shipped to America addressed to St. Elizabeth's Convent in Madison, N. J., to be educated. When she left there at the age of sixteen it was to become leading lady with Fatty Fay, in "Over the River." In diving off a forty foot pier she was so severely injured that she was laid up for eighteen months and almost crippled for life. She vowed she never would do comedies again. She met Erich Von Stroheim and he recognized her dramatic ability and promised to write parts for her in his productions. Her first appearance was in "The Devil's Pass Key," in which she was a vamp, and carried off a large share of the honors.

In "Foolish Wives," she has another vamp part that of the Russian Princess Vera.

Elsie Ferguson

"Sacred and Profane Love," in which Elsie Ferguson plays the stellar role, is based on Arnold Bennett's novel, "The Book of Carlotta." Miss Ferguson will be seen as Carlotta Peel. On her twenty-first birthday Carlotta goes alone to hear Diaz, the great pianist play, and afterwards meets the musician and accepts his invitation to accompany him to his hotel apartment where he promises to play for her alone. The girl falls under the spell of Diaz and his music and does not return home until next morning, when she finds that her aunt has died during the night.

Carlotta becomes a famous author and is courted by Frank Ispenlove, whose pursuit of her to the Riviera makes it appear that they left England together, a fact which results in the suicide of Ispenlove's wife. Ispenlove, a weak man, blames Carlotta and shoots himself in her bed room.

The profound injustice of this drives Carlotta to years of wandering. Finally in Paris she meets with Diaz, her first love, now a hopeless absinthe fiend. She saves him and finally he becomes the great musician he was when they first met.

Jimmy Aubrey

Jimmy Aubrey, comedy star emerged from the filming of his latest two-reel laughmaker, "The Blizzard," with a bad case of pneumonia. All the scenes of the entire production were shot in the snow and "Jimmy" spent most of his time in a nightie and bare feet. He sneezed merrily through it all to film the screamingly funny situation of a chap who awakens to find the blizzard in his room as well as outside.

He is now well on the road to recovery and is preparing to begin work on his current comedy.