

Trunk Pacific Ry., Winnipeg, born at Barking, Essex, Eng., Oct. 2, 1868.

K. Stewart, Assistant Superintendent, New Glasgow Division, Maritime District, Canadian National Rys., New Glasgow, N.S., born at Little River, N.S., Oct. 21, 1868.

C. E. Stockdill, Assistant to Vice President, Western Lines, C.P.R., Winnipeg, born at London, Ont., Oct. 25, 1881.

D. A. Story, ex-Freight Traffic Manager, Canadian Government Railways, Moncton, N.B., born at Halifax, N.S., Oct. 26, 1853.

E. N. Todd, General Foreign Freight Agent, Eastern Lines, C.P.R., Montreal, born at Huntingdon, Que., Oct. 17, 1879.

J. H. Valteau, Secretary-Treasurer, Thousand Islands Ry. and Oshawa Ry.,

Gananoque, Ont., born at Selby, Ont., Oct. 14, 1889.

J. A. Vallerand, Superintendent and General Freight and Passenger Agent, Roberval - Saguenay Ry., Chicoutimi, Que., born at Quebec, Que., Oct. 21, 1878.

R. Walton, Division Master Mechanic, Farnham Division, Quebec District, C.P.R., Farnham, Que., born at Peterborough, Ont., Oct. 16, 1880.

D. C. Coleman's Address at Calgary Industrial Congress.

D. C. Coleman, Vice President, Western Lines, C.P.R., gave the following address at the Industrial Congress held at Calgary, Alta., recently: "The balance of the world has just narrowly escaped subjugation by one nation of only seventy million people. The frightful struggle necessary to thwart the designs of this comparatively small minority was not due to any inherent mental or moral superiority in the German race as compared with others or to its martial qualities or its admittedly fine military organization, but to the development of industry on scientific lines and to the close association of the best brains of the country in the regions of finance and commerce. If the German had kept his too ready sword in its scabbard and had turned his head away from alluring visions of political power, it is altogether probable that within a few years he would have attained a dominating position in the trade and commerce of the world. When we remember how ruthless and cruel he has proved himself to be, it is fortunate for us that he chose to risk his all on an attempted rush through a bloody short cut to power and threw away the advantages which he had legitimately won by his ant-like industry, his genius for stealing the best ideas of other people and applying them to practical purposes, and his primary in the field of scientific research. In the United States and Canada we complacently thought that having no ruling caste; our best talents were devoted to business, and we flattered ourselves that we had a genius for organization; but we were too self-centered, our vision never bridged the seas, and in industry as in politics, we trusted to happy bursts of inspiration rather than to hard thinking or to wearying and consuming research. With the German, business was a study and an obsession, with us it was a game—a game which we played with the utmost spirit and with ambition and necessity holding our coats on the sidelines—but still a game.

"Having wrecked the German's dream of world-empire, it would be well for us, while the bully is still nursing his bruised, and broken head, to reflect on the factors and elements in his national life which made him so formidable, and which indeed carried him to the very threshold of victory. Having found and studied these, we should, without subscribing to or adopting his abhorrent principle of an infallible and omnipotent state, endeavor to work into the fabric and spirit of our own political and industrial organization some of the passion for successful achievement which made the Germans a nation of workers, united in the resolve that in all branches of activity they should lead the world. This very necessary examination and other similar investigation and the application of the lessons drawn therefrom serve as a justification for this congress, and the consideration of the best way in

which to develop our own resources should be influenced very greatly by the experience of other countries, where such development has been attended by conspicuous success.

"That the period of reconstruction through which we are passing is a difficult and trying one, we are all prepared to admit. The experience of the past does not help us in every particular. It has always been hard for mankind to settle down to a rational way of doing things after the convulsions brought



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about by a great war. At such times the quack with a panacea for all social and economic ills invariably has an innings, for the excited and the overwrought are easily persuaded to try fantastic remedies. And who among us is not just now suffering from the effects of overstrain? Our special danger is when fitful and irregular gusts of passion and prejudice are reflected in legislation and executive action. In former times, when governments were less immediately responsive to public clamor, there was time for deliberation and a proper weighing of issues before a decision was taken. This fact is not advanced as an argument against our present more democratic system of government, which marks a great advance on any other system or process which man has devised, but it does indicate a real danger. The voice of the people may be the voice of God, but if so it is the voice of all the people, not that of a strident and clam-

orous faction, and that voice must express the considered view of the people. The wild ravings of a man in a delirium of pain should not and are not accepted as conveying his settled and normal aspirations and opinions, and in the same way the desires and aspirations of a people cannot always be deduced from the cries of a faction, temporarily unsettled by the acute pains caused by a sudden change from war to peace, and worked on and exploited by charlatans and adventurers. Under a democratic system of government, such as we have, those in authority are required to keep in step with public opinion, but they should not be forced to compromise with their principles in order that they may conform to every passing current of passion and prejudice, and they should be given time and opportunity to master problems as they arise, and thus be in a position to suggest to us a permanent and consistent policy.

"The cry in this country and in other democratic countries seems to be for a government which is continually doing something, and that something must be striking and novel and preferably in the direction of restriction and paternalism. There is a pathetic belief that a profusion of legislation and government interference with normal processes in business and social life and with personal liberty in some way or other leads us along the road to freedom and happiness. Such intervention, if the truth be known, takes us in an altogether different direction. The opinion may be ventured that many of the difficulties we are now encountering are the direct result of fussy and unnecessary interference by governments with commercial enterprises and with the normal action of the law of supply and demand. A certain amount of interference was probably necessary during a state of war, and was brought about by the war, but some of it can be attributed to a panicky weakening in the face of clamor for drastic action to remedy some evil which seemed to call for correction. What is needed is free and open competition with proper protection of the public against combinations which are designed to stifle that competition. A government monopoly is not usually the best remedy. We may judge what government monopoly means, by the results of government control and operation of railways in the United States. These results have been a greatly increased cost of the transportation which is sold to the public, accompanied by an inconsiderate, discourteous and much inferior service.

"We know that every man who speaks up against further experiments in the direction of government control and ownership is at once dubbed a reactionary. But is he a reactionary? No. The reactionary is the man who would place us under the heel of a bureaucracy—the man who favors state socialism. In