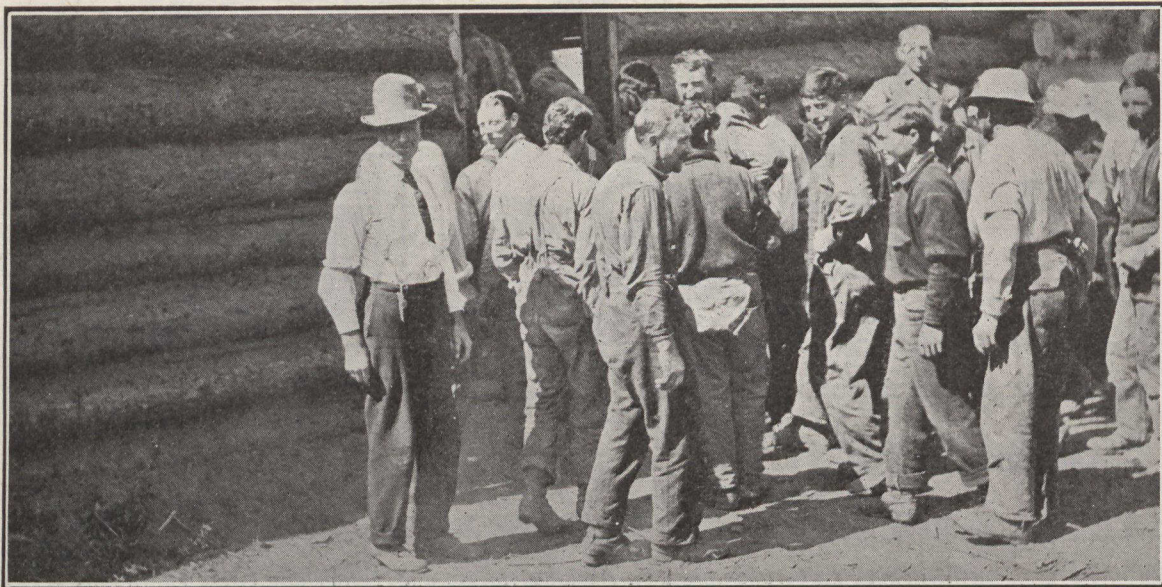




"CHUCK-TIME" AT MILE 288, B.C., ON THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.

R. J. Williams, of Manitoba College, was Camp Instructor at Mile 288. Other Schools at Miles 83, 136, 141, 142, 146, 156, 160, 164, 186, 232 and 233 were Conducted by Men from Every University in Canada West of Quebec City.

Canadianizing the Immigrant

A Picture of a Real, Sensible Missionary Work that is Going on in the Lumber, Railway and Mining Camps of this Country Without Reference to the Church or Formal Religion

By ALFRED FITZPATRICK

MS. ELLIOTT (*Varsity*) acted as "straw boss" with Austrian navvies on the Weyburn west extension of the C. P. R. and taught the younger men of the gang. When confronted with an empty school car in the evenings he strolled into the bunk-house, good-humouredly routed out the sleepers, and taking a couple of men by the arm, ordered the others to follow.

Once a month pay night interfered with D. R. McDougall's classes of Austrians, Russians, Bulgarians, Roumanians and Greeks at the Dominion Coal Co.'s mines at New Aberdeen, C.B. Common beer was the trouble. One night McDougall went into a cabin where the beer devotees were playing cards and showed them a new sleight of hand trick. They all rose and followed him to the night class.

THE greatest problem before this country is, how to incorporate into our national life the tremendous tide of foreign immigrants coming into Canada. In 1911-12, 82,406 foreigners came to Canada. Of this number, apart from those who sought employment in the cities, approximately forty thousand engaged in temporary labour on our frontier. At the lowest estimate these immigrants will remit \$100 each every season to their families in the old land. This means four million dollars is sent out of the country annually. If these men were placed on the land and this sum spent on providing temporary quarters for them, four million dollars would be kept in Canada and forty thousand settlers with their families added to the permanent population every year. There is no wild-cat promoter outside of prison walls who would even dare to promise as good returns as such an investment offers to Canada.

The first railway construction work in Canada was done mainly by Canadian and British labour. The conditions in which the men were asked to work drove the self-respecting Canadians out of the camps. At the present time ninety-five per cent. of the men engaged in railway construction are foreigners, while the British and Canadian-born are being rapidly displaced in the lumbering and mining camps as well. Our best effort should be made to meet these men at their work on the frontier rather than when, after they are battered about from camp to camp and saloon to saloon, they are compelled by sheer force of circumstances to drift back to the city or return to their native land. If the conditions of labour are made what in all reason they should be, on the homestead and in the frontier camp, the city's slums will soon become depopulated and our immigrants will remain and become intelligent citizens of our young country.

The Reading Camp Association has always urged the Provincial Departments of Education to extend their public school systems to include the needs of

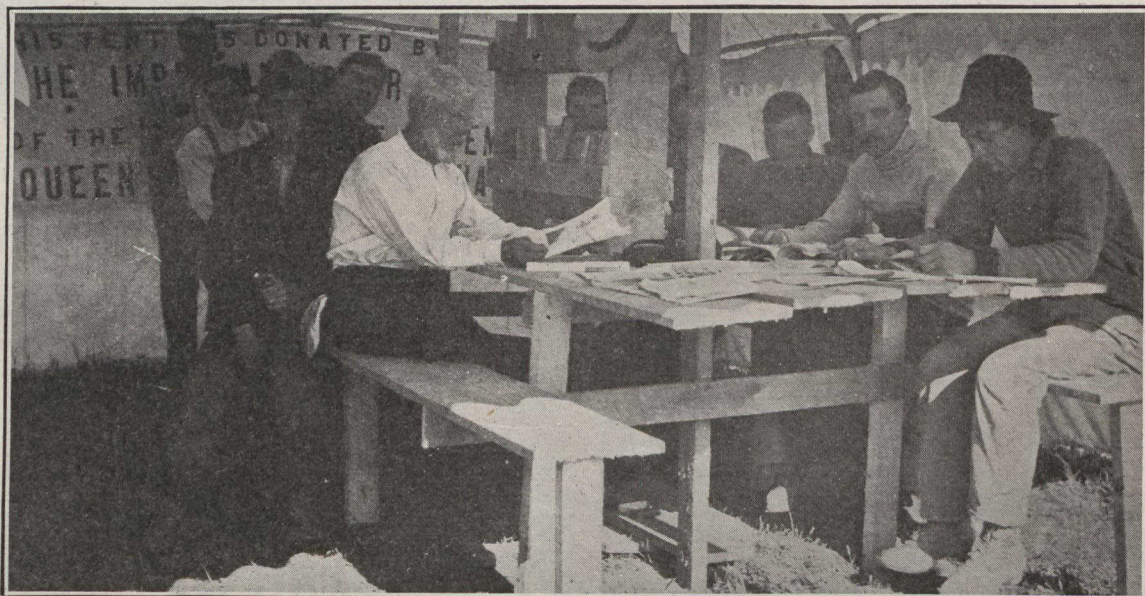
our Canadian hinterland. Its object is to carry the benefits, not only of primary and secondary, but of university education to the frontier camps and homesteads. Its teachers don the sweater, mackinaw and shoepacks of the frontiersman and at the first sound of the gong, long before day, fit themselves in all kinds of weather for clearing a right of way, building a camp, descending with the other workmen into the deepest mine, or in lumber camps "falling," bucking or skidding. The camp instructors are blazing a trail that promises to lead to a new



PLAYING POKER ON THE SUPPLY BOX.
Gang on a Fraser River Scow has a Friendly Game of Poker on one of the Typewriter Boxes Packed with Camp School Supplies.

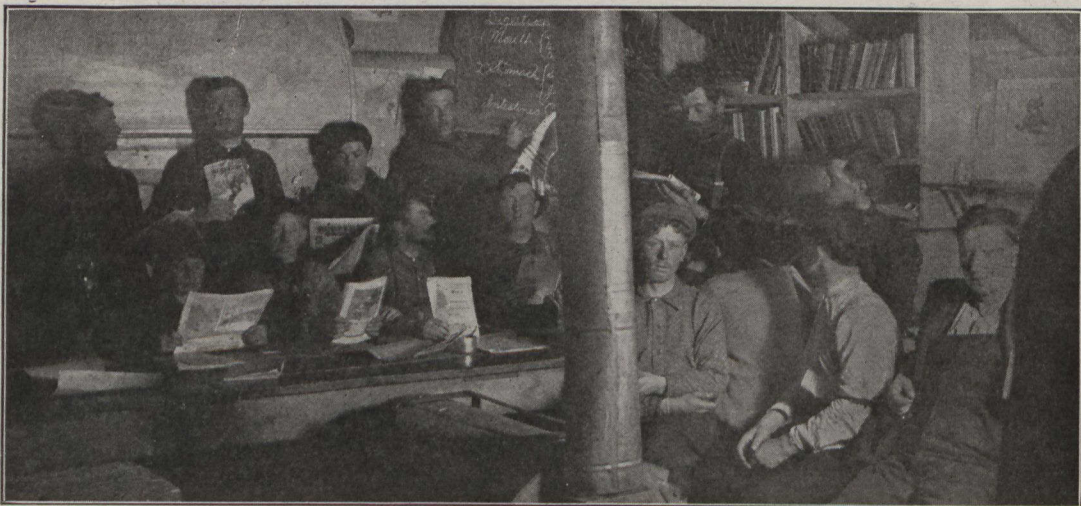
Canada. The importance of their task cannot be emphasized too strongly. If they went into the camps as ordinary teachers without assuming responsibility for any other duties, the undertaking might well be considered Herculean. When it is remembered that they are expected to go to the modern towers of Babel, bring order out of the chaos of babbling tongues to mollify the foremen, reconcile the labourers to their work and hold out the olive branch of common understanding in the near future by means of the magic wand of the English language, some conception of the magnitude of the project will be grasped.

In addition to this, what seems to many an impossible scheme, the instructors take upon their shoulders the self-same work as the men themselves. This is no child's play and only those who have an unselfish purpose in life can measure up to it. The instructors are chosen with greater care than are the missionaries of any church or the teachers of a public or high school. Qualifications that fit a man for teaching school are inadequate for the camp instructor. He is asked not only to present



WOMEN'S WORK IN THE CAMPS.

This is a Tent Donated to the Reading Camp Association by the Queen's Own Rifles Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire.



THE STUDY OF GASTRONOMY.

This Cant-hook Brigade, in the Georgian Bay Lumber Co.'s Camp at Nine-Mile Siding, Ont., is Getting a Lesson on the Digestive System.