

For these reasons, there is no cause for fear that the city population of the West will soon become top-heavy for that of the farming districts. There is, as a plain matter of fact, room for thousands to locate in the West to engage in industrial work. There is room for the investment of millions of dollars of capital to establish and build up industries that shall make goods to be furnished to consumers who wait at the very shipping platform to take over factory products to their uses.

Canada's First Aim

Leaving all political bias out of the question, it must be admitted that the policy of self-development is a healthy one. Without any intention, or disposition, to shut herself off from other nations, Canada may well place the development of her own resources above all else. Industrial progress, like charity, should begin at home, and there is no clearer call to duty sounded to the people of Canada to-day than the building up of great industries for supplying the home market. Canada as a whole should make it her chiefest aim to bring the output of manufactured goods up to the demand in quantity and variety, as nearly as may be. It is not to be expected that we shall be able to make all the goods we require, nor is it desirable that any nation shall be completely self-contained in respect of its demand and supply. But there is such an immense gulf between what Canada makes and what Canada uses, that measures for bridging that gulf should be adopted of a character in keeping with the task to be performed.

Undoubtedly the West affords the largest field for local industrial growth. Here the people have been too busy farming and building cities and towns to give proper attention to manufacturers, but the great and insistent demand for manufactured goods has made its impression on the business mind. Men engaged in the building and in trade come directly in contact with the fact that they must go from one thousand to several thousand miles to get the things they need to carry on their business, and they see how the manufacture of these things close at hand would cheapen cost and help to strengthen the country commercially as well as industrially. They see how the gathering of great masses of wage earners will build up the home market for farm products and how increased agricultural activity will react for the prosperity of industrial classes. Sentiment for a greater Canada, the spirit of home development, is in the air, but it rests upon the solid substance of practical business and is backed by the compelling power of a real need.

Myriad Millions of Acres Free

Free land or cheap land is pretty well exhausted in the United States, and South America makes its appeal for settlers chiefly to the people of Southern Europe. Canada, on the contrary, has millions of acres of free land and other millions of acres of cheap land. Its form of government, while making the strongest appeal, perhaps, to the Anglo-Saxon, is yet attractive to men of all nations. The incomparable summer weather and the cold, bracing winters of Canada, attract and hold the strong individual and, all points considered, Canada has first