

\$850,000,000), without receiving a single kopeck for investment. The strikes and the continual rise of prices are becoming complicated with each other, and as a result a very great part of the population is going from the cities to the country.

"The distribution of the land has been realized; but the organizations which were supposed to carry it out took no part in it; the distribution was performed in a simple manner and by force. The boldest have taken the most, the less bold have taken less, but the majority have received nothing. This distribution of the land has not resulted as it was expected in the suppression of private property, but in the cutting into extremely small bits of the entire land. The disbanded army has returned to the interior and the soldiers have become brigands."

Not long ago the Bolshevik organ, "Izvestia," stated that economic aid was not wanted if it would lead to a

re-entrance of Russia into war with Germany. Apart from this, however, assistance would be permitted and even welcomed. It is evident, therefore, that the slightest move in the direction of coercion will result in the enmity of the Bolshevik government. How long that government will last is a different question, but there are signs already of disruption. The Czecho-Slovak forces have control of the Vladivostock region and of the eastern end of the trans-Siberian railway. As this element appears to be the most favorable to the Allies, their control of the road is important, especially in view of the danger of communication with Russia being entirely cut off by Germans and Finns seizing the road to Archangel.

Mr. Wilgress, who was formerly located as Canadian trade commissioner at Omsk, in the interior, is now in Vladivostock. The latter, therefore, appears to be the best centre for Canadian trade at present.

CITY OF TORONTO BOND ISSUE

City of Toronto 5 per cent. serial gold bonds, due 1919-1947, are being offered by a syndicate, headed by Dominion Securities Corporation, A. E. Ames and Company and Wood, Gundy and Company. They are offered at a 6 per cent. basis.

NEW ROAD WANTED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Imperial Oil Company, of Port Moody, B.C., recently waited upon Premier Oliver at Victoria, requesting that a road be built to their refining plant in Port Moody. Two miles of road, costing about \$10,000, would be required. The deputation pointed out that the company pays \$30,000 a year in provincial taxes, and that at present its 250 employees have to make the trip by boat. The premier promised that the subject would have the consideration of the government.

FOR DISABLED OFFICERS

Nine disabled British army officers will arrive in New York soon to engage in the cultivation of orchard lands under the auspices of the Imperial Association for Assisting Disabled Naval and Military Officers, it has been announced. The Imperial Association is making a general effort in the United States to find places for men whose health will not stand the English climate, and a British officer who owns a large orchard in the state of Washington has placed a part of it at the disposal of his injured countrymen.—Reconstruction, July, 1918.

EXPORTS OF MANGANESE ORE

Permission has been granted by the Dominion government for the export of manganese ore to the United States. Formerly the ore could be exported under license, but it was practically impossible to secure a license. For a considerable time there has been some of the ore ready for shipment near the mines in British Columbia, and the provincial government approached Ottawa upon the subject, with the result that the necessary permit will be immediately issued and export shipments authorized. The limit set is 5,000 tons.

The Canadian General Electric Company, Limited, has opened a branch office and warehouse at 27 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal.

As part of Montreal's programme of reducing expenses, the city's legal department has come in for its share of criticism. This department, which cost \$58,450 in 1913, now costs \$74,600. Included in the payroll is a chief attorney at \$15,000 per year, an attorney at \$6,500 per year, and a number of other attorneys at \$5,000 per year, in addition to the clerical staff.

UNITED STATES TELEGRAPHERS TO STRIKE

July 8th has been set as the date for a strike of the Western Union telegraphers, according to Mr. S. J. Konenkamp, president of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America. Mr. Konenkamp predicted that 25,000 of the operators would be involved.

NICKEL PLANT AT PORT COLBORNE

The nickel plant of the International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited, which has been under construction at Port Colborne, Ont., for almost two years past, was opened on Monday, the 1st instant. It is expected that from 20 to 24 million pounds of refined nickel and 12 million pounds of copper will be produced annually. The plant is also so constructed that the output could be increased four times.

QUEBEC TO HAVE TRADE COMMISSIONER

The Quebec board of trade is planning to employ an expert trade commissioner to promote the city's industries. A finance committee of the board if trade has been named to take charge of raising the money required for this purpose. The industrial committee has appointed several sub-committees to look after special questions regarding the commerce of the city.

A commissioner of this kind has been employed by the city of Three Rivers and new industries with a payroll totalling \$30,000 per month are attributed to his efforts.

PRIZES OFFERED FOR VICTORY LOAN POSTERS

At a meeting of the Victory Loan Publicity Committee, held in Ottawa on Friday, the 6th instant, it was decided to offer a number of prizes to Canadian artists for designs of posters to be used in the next war loan campaign. The prizes will be donated by prominent citizens. For the best prize a \$1,000 Victory bond is offered, for the second best a \$500 bond, and for the third, bonds to the value of \$250. All other posters accepted by the committee will be paid for with \$100 bonds. Mr. R. A. Stephenson, 26 King Street East, Toronto, is in charge, and designs must be received not later than July 25th.

The aggregate value of the building permits of Vancouver for the half-year just closed was \$665,855. During the first six months of 1917 they totalled only \$323,894. Permits for June this year show a considerable increase over June of last year, the past month's total being \$50,300, while for June, 1917, the permits issued amounted to \$44,555.