

## ALL HE HAS TO SHOW.

r [After 30,000 miles of travel and an absence of many months from Canada, Hon. Geo. E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, has reported that his search for wider markets in the Orient has been in vain. As acting Premier he has been discussing Reciprocity in words and ideals. For full particulars see press reports of Mr. Foster's speech at Canadian Club Dinner in New York on November 11.
cause such investigations would make public conditions, which the Government preferred to keep secret. Serious charges are made as to waste of Government stores at Port Nelson and as to inadequate and grossly unsatisfactory accommodations for the men. Officials and construction laborers on the terminals at Port Nelson have returned by the score disgusted with conditions. At last reports only some 110 men were left at the port to continue the work of development.
The Ottawa Citizen, Conservative, editorially sums up the situation as follows:
"Beach-combers, recruited in political machine fashion are sent up as labourers, only to return by the next boat. Skilled help is appointed through political pressure. Contracts for material pass through the political machine. Over all the lack of information and system, no one is responsible for anything."

## ADMINISTRATIVE INEFFICIENCY

T$T^{H E}$ past summer's tale of loss, inefficiency and mismanagement in connection with the construction of the Hudson Bay Railway under the joint responsibility of Messrs. Cochrane, Rogers and Hazen, is appalling. Owing to non-provision for lightering or unloading of supply ships, sent up to the Bay this summer, cargoes, carried thousands of miles have had to be brought back again to Sydney or Halifax. The loss through one profitless trip alone, that of the chartered steamer, Alcazar, is estimated at over $\$ 60,000$. The steamer carried $1,500,000$ feet of lumber from Port Arthur, Texas, to Port Nelson, waited outside the port for four months without being able to unload and then returned to Sydney with cargo still in the hold, although the deckload had been thrown overboard before leaving Port Nelson. A similar experience befell the chartered steamer Alette, which was wrecked on the return voyage and may with cargo prove a total loss. The steamer Cereanse was wrecked off Port Nelson in September and her captain on return to Halifax last month intimated that laxity of goveri, ment officials charged with assisting navigation was responsible for the wreck. He declared his belief that there would be no Governmental investigation, be-

Col. the Hon. Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia and Defence, has signallized his retuin to Canada, after two months study of European micitarism, by purchasing for $\$ 136,000$ from the New Brunswick Government a new militia training area and by proposing to take over the site of the provincial normal school at Ottawa as a site for a new drill hall. Col. Sam is an unconscious humourist. He sees nothing incongruous or impolitic in the idea of replacing the best situated and handsomest public school building in the Capital with a drill hall. Apparently the education of the Canadian youth is to be on new lines and drill halls are to take the place of schools.


