

without the members of the House of Commons and the members of the Cabinet visiting the country and acquainting themselves with its conditions and needs? If it were the same kind of country as Ontario or any of our Eastern Provinces, there would be nothing in my argument; but when it is a placer and quartz mining country, about which you can learn nothing in any other part of Canada, surely it is necessary to go to the mines and understand the needs of the country.

What I say is not for the purpose of attacking the Government, but I want to awaken all Canadian public men. Although the Opposition has choke-damped the Houses of Parliament at Ottawa for years with scandals in connection with the country, followed by Royal Commissions of Investigation, which always showed that there was nothing in the scandals, not one single member of the Opposition in the Parliament of Canada has up to date visited this Yukon country, a country larger than almost any other Province in Canada.

Now, with regard to the newspapers of Canada. I produce here one of the Dawson daily papers. We have three daily papers in Dawson, filled from edge to edge with all possible despatches concerning every item of news that occurs in Canada every day; and there is also a weekly paper, besides some small magazines and leaflets.

Although those papers, with the greatest enterprise and industry, are filled with news from all over Canada, there is not a paper in Canada to-day which contains any news from the Yukon. Seattle papers, as well as those of Tacoma and San Francisco are filled with news from the Yukon. It has been their specialty for years. But our Canadian papers contain nothing whatever with regard to that district.

Seattle newspapers and other American newspapers, especially of New York, are represented by scores of reporters and artists, and have been from 1897; while no Canadian newspaper has ever had a responsible correspondent or an

artist, or any one in the country to give them information with regard to that country.

I say our public men are at fault, and our newspapers are at fault. And again I want to say that the manufacturers, and those represented in the trade of the country, have been far more at fault than anybody else. What house of any consequence has sent agents to the Yukon to solicit trade or to seek to understand the trade question there? What house of any consequence in Canada can show an advertisement in the *Dawson Daily News*, or in any daily newspaper in the Klondyke? Those papers are full day after day with advertisements from Seattle and all the cities of the United States, and scarcely in any paper in Dawson, even to-day, after it has contributed so much to the welfare of Canada, and so much to the production of Canada at any rate, can such a thing as a Canadian advertisement be found in 1902?

The great business in the furnishing trade of the Yukon is, of course, the outfitting of the prospector. In the early days that was the greatest business. The prospectors who came to the country claimed that they could not be properly outfitted on the Canadian coast. The Canadians did not understand the needs of the prospector as the Americans did in those cities of the United States, where they had had much more experience in mining matters than had been gained in Canada.

To put it in a rather simple way, the prospector, you remember, goes far away from the centres of population, and travels one hundred and fifty or two hundred miles into the wilderness, and he must not only have the staples of existence, flour to make his flapjacks, the bacon that he requires from time to time, and the tea, but he must have his small and inexpensive luxuries. All the pleasures that enter into the hard existence in those remote points in the wilderness (if he has any pleasures) are very gross and material indeed, and are not to be mentioned in such a select assemblage; but if the miner does enjoy anything it is some luxury, some