

Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, superintendent of agricultural and horticultural societies for Ontario, the other day cited a striking instance. A man from near Wiarton, Ontario, went to him and said that, having heard of the demand for vegetables in cities, and thinking that perhaps the raising of them might pay him better than the ordinary farm crops, he decided to put in an acre of cabbages, with the object of selling them in Toronto. He did so, raising 10,000 head of cabbage. When he came to Toronto and asked the wholesale men what they would pay for his fifteen tons of cabbages they offered \$5 a ton, f.o.b. in Toronto. That was \$75 for his carload of cabbages, or about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cents a head. At this time, in the grocery stores of Toronto, cabbages were selling retail at 15 cents a head.

In order to transport his cabbages to Toronto the Wiarton man would have to charter a car, costing him \$42, leaving him \$33. He figured that the manure at 25 cents a load, labor necessary, spraying, etc., would increase his charges so that, after selling his cabbages, he would actually be thirty-five dollars out of pocket.

Hundreds of barrels of apples rotted on the ground in Ontario last year, while others were selling in the cities at high prices. Many similar instances could doubtless be instanced.

Is too much attention being paid to teaching the farmer how to grow and increase his crops, rather than showing him how to market profitably what he does grow?

### FIFTEEN MILLIONS CAPITAL

It will not be surprising if the investor who has only a few thousand dollars to put in bonds, finds it somewhat difficult to comprehend the large capitalization of the Canadian Coal and Coke Company. The capital, we believe, is \$15,000,000, \$4,000,000 being preferred stock and \$11,000,000 common. Is such capital really necessary for the coal and lumber developments proposed by this company?

### TIME FOR ADJUSTMENT

The suggestion that the Dominion government should loan Alberta \$10,000,000 to relieve the financial stringency is out of place. This is the time to pay off a few debts rather than create new ones. We have not had a period of economic adjustment since 1908, and can with advantage take a little financial stringency medicine.

### CAPITAL AND LABOR

From January 1st, 1900, to December 31st, 1912, there were 1,319 labor strikes in Canada, in which 319,880 men figured, at a total estimated cost to the country of \$18,000,000, based on the conservative estimate that the average value of a working day is \$2.

During the twelve years nine million working days were lost owing to strikes, or an average of three-quarters of a million days per year for the period under review. These figures are embodied in a report by officials of the Labor Department at Ottawa, giving the important facts and figures on strikes and lockouts. Though there were 319,880 men involved, many of these men may have been involved in strikes or lockouts more than once during the period in question.

The figures make a striking appeal to capital and labor to adopt more modern and sane methods in dealing with their disputes.

### INSANITY

Some grim facts are contained in the latest report upon the Ontario hospitals for the insane. There were 1,247 admissions during the past year, of which 653 were male and 594 female. Of the total, 849 were Canadian born, the remainder hailing from a large number of other countries. It is difficult to draw deductions from the statistics showing the occupation of those admitted. For instance, it might be reasoned that lack of education, having some effect, direct or indirect, on the state of sanity, would account for the fact that 200 laborers became inmates of Ontario's insane institutions. On the other hand, no less than 436 governesses, teachers, students, housekeepers, nurses, etc., were admitted. Mechanics at outdoor vocations, who became inmates, numbered 89, and those at sedentary occupations, 66. Professional men, such as clergy, doctors, lawyers, architects, civil engineers, etc., numbered 20. Insanity made greater inroads into commercial spheres, no less than 88 bankers, merchants, accountants, clerks, salesmen, etc., seeking refuge in the asylum. One might reasonably suppose that agricultural and pastoral pursuits would help to rebuff tendencies to insanity, yet 160 farmers, gardeners, stock men, etc., succumbed. Domestic service accounted for 92 and those with no occupation numbered 66. Miners, marine engineers, railway employees and seamen totalled only 19.

What were the causes of these 1,247 cases of insanity? They may be divided into three broad classes, moral, physical and hereditary. The first accounted for 268 cases, the second for 456, and the third for 523. Of the cases due to moral causes, the largest number, 137, were due to mental strain, worry and overwork, while 66 were due to adverse conditions, such as business troubles and loss of friends. Religious excitement accounted for 17, fright and nervous shock for 22, and love affairs for 26. In the physical class, senility was responsible for 122 cases and alcoholism for 70. The remainder in this class were due to a long list of causes.

The medical superintendents who contribute the facts and figures to this latest blue book do not take the opportunity of recording the many conclusions at which they must have arrived during the course of their duties. Those conclusions would undoubtedly be of service to men and women living in this age of insane rapidity.

### SMALL CHANGE

Horne-Payne will not do it again.

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Sir Thomas Shaughnessy is rapidly becoming Canada's prize press agent.

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Wall Street financial papers are bubbling with good news of Canada these days.

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One of the few London loan oversubscriptions of the season was hung on Winnipeg.

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Apparently the only way to get those visiting British M.P.'s to talk is to say "Mr. Speaker."

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Moose Jaw should not talk so hard about the stringency or people will cease to ask "What's in a name?"

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Will the directors of the Kaministiquia Power Company please introduce a by-law to change the company's name?