

the teamster, the axeman, the river driver—they all get small pay. True, the lumber industry, like the farm industry, during the past few years has been holding on by its teeth. But those who do this productive work do not get for their labour a return that is adequate even in these hard times. The fisherman is in the same plight. Both on the Atlantic and the Pacific coast he faces the hazards of stormy seas by day and by night, and he gets a mere pittance for his labour. I do think that until world economy changes and the primary producer gets a fair share of the wealth he produces we shall never have peace; instead, we shall have Bolshevism, Socialism, Communism and every other ism. I hope that eventually the pressure exerted by all those who feel that the under dog is not getting a fair show will bring about such a peaceful revolution as will ensure to every man an adequate reward for the work he does. That, however, can only come about by a change of spirit in man. Until that change is brought about, certainly the millennium will never be realized, and the people in this or any other land will never be satisfied.

As I have already stated, there is no doubt that we are already on the upward path of recovery. I was very much pleased to see in *The Journal* this morning this dispatch from Calgary:

An extra \$1,000,000 a week is flowing into the pocket of Canada's farmers after three lean years in the live stock industry. John Burns, Alberta cattle breeder, and Managing Director of Burns & Company, packers, said to-day, "The increased revenue is coming from the sale of hogs."

The price of wheat, the great crop upon which Canada very largely depends for her prosperity, is not high, but it is improving. The price of beef unfortunately is very low. Cattle men in the West and in the Maritimes have had a losing proposition for some years. I have a lot of beef cattle on hand at the present time. We have continued in business in the hope that by our example we might keep the beef industry alive until the return of better times. In past years we have made money in this industry, and I have no doubt that we shall again make profits in the years to come. Hay is another farm product showing an upturn in price. Last year in the Maritime Provinces pressed hay was selling at \$3 a ton—a loss to the farmer; but this year loose hay has been selling very freely at \$6 and \$7 a ton. This price does not mean a profit to the farmer, but at least he can get out of it a living wage for himself and his help. In Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick potato growing is a very important industry. Prices have

dropped to a very low point, and those farmers who unfortunately put their whole acreage in potatoes are in very serious financial straits. During the past two years they have not made enough to pay for their fertilizers. Prices are not quite as bad as last year, but they have not yet reached a paying basis.

May I read an extract from a letter I have received from our Saint John office to-day?

Business conditions generally here seem to be vastly improved. I have been told this morning that every dock in Saint John harbour, including the new wharves recently completed, is now in use. I notice C.P.R. car loadings are up forty per cent, and that the C.N.R. are doing equally well.

That is excellent news.

Another good indication of business conditions is the telephone business. I have been interested in the business all my life. For the past three years we have steadily lost ground, our subscribers in New Brunswick dropping off at the rate of two or three thousand a year, so that the number of telephones in use in the province has shrunk eighteen and a half per cent of the total. Our long distance calls went down, down, down. We began to see a little improvement in November; in December we stopped losing ground; in January we had an increase of nearly fourteen per cent in long distance calls, which is a clear indication of increased business activity in the whole territory. I know of no better index of general business than the use of the long distance wires. This improvement pleased me very much, not only from a personal standpoint, but from the standpoint of business conditions generally.

Another indication of returning prosperity is the improved price of lumber. I think there can be no question that this is directly due to the Empire trade pacts. It is only fair to give a Government credit when credit is due—and it is due in this case. In the Maritime Provinces the price of lumber is not on what might be called a paying basis; it about covers the cost of operation and stumpage; but, even so, it is an improvement on the prices that had been prevailing for a number of years past. In British Columbia lumber prices are better than they have been for many years, and the quantity shipped is greater than ever before. The same thing applies to Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, though not to so great an extent. There is not as much long lumber being manufactured there as fifteen or twenty years ago, but a great deal more is being manufactured to-day than there was last year or the year before. In addition, the old cut has been cleaned up, and this year there is an