

Atlin camp was killed the moment the law was passed; and if the alien law had been applied in the Yukon, the Yukon would have been strangled at its very birth.

The United States nation has, with its Swedes and Germans, hardy men of great industry, furnished the grandest class of miners that the world can produce. We have found them in the Yukon leading the way. In the early days of Cassiar it was impossible at times to get enough British subjects to fill a jury. In the Yukon, in my own department, I have had to use the same jurors over and over again, owing to the difficulty in getting sufficient British subjects. While the English and the Canadian show no aptitude for mining (whether it is abhorrence to working underground or not, I do not know), the French Canadian in the Yukon has shown himself an excellent miner, and to-day very closely contests the belt with the Swede, the Norwegian, the Scandinavian and the hardy Norseman that we have in that country.

The only excuse that can be given for allowing a country to be exploited in this way, allowing the gold to be dug from the bowels of the earth and carried off to a foreign country by foreigners, is that it develops Canadian trade, and that is the point upon which I wish to address the Canadian Club. Because persons interested in Canadian trade have not put forward sufficient energy to gain that trade in the Yukon, I am here to-day to say a few words.

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It is true that in the beginning of the country the Canadians had no share in the trade at all; but during the last few years their interest in the trade has very considerably increased. Vancouver has become a large shipping point. Victoria is shipping to some extent. The Northwest Territories are shipping to some extent, and you will often be told, and I have no doubt that you have been told, that the Canadian trade with the Yukon is so grown that to-day we

control sixty per cent. of the trade. That is true in a sense, but it is not true in the sense in which I desire to have the matter understood by my fellow-Canadian people.

It is true that the Canadian middleman is used much more than he was, and that the buyers in the Yukon to-day buy through middlemen, and in that way all these figures go to the Canadian trade. But the Canadian manufacturer is not by any means getting the trade of the country to the extent which those figures would seem to indicate.

To come down to details I might say that my object in discussing this point is simply to urge that one or two things should be done; that is, either that the Government should be prevailed upon to appoint somebody out of the trade, conversant with the manufacturing and with all the manufactured products of Canada, who will go to the Yukon and acquaint himself with the needs of the country, and then visit all the factories in Canada, and in that way help to increase the area and volume of Canadian trade with that country; or that the Manufacturers' Association, which I see is now devoting itself largely to education in the matter of manufacturing and trade, should take that matter up. Certainly the Government has had a great deal to do in connection with that country for several years past, and has carried on its shoulders much more than it should have attempted to carry.

With regard to the trade itself, I may say that it has been disappointing to us all up in that country from the very beginning, to notice the very slight interest which seems to have been taken by Canadians in the country. To begin in highest circles, let me tell you that but one Minister in the Government of Canada has ever visited that country as yet—the Minister of the Interior. I believe three members of Parliament, two from British Columbia and one from Nova Scotia, have visited the Yukon. Now, is it possible, gentlemen, that a new country can be successfully governed