



BAGS OF COBALT SILVER WAITING TO BE SHIPPED

and the length of time the new Government remains in office seems to depend upon the attitude they adopt toward the colonies and imperialism. This is agreeable news, especially from Mr. Walker, who is one of the keenest and shrewdest judges of commercial and financial conditions in Canadian affairs.

LABOR IN CANADA

PROBABLY never before have such satisfactory conditions prevailed in the Canadian labor world. And the outlook appears exceptionally bright. In giving our reasons for this stand we would lay emphasis upon the effects of the open season, which has permitted work in out-of-door occupations to be continued to an unusually late period. Notwithstanding this the volume of work in sight is larger than ever. The movement of the Western crops has given employment to large numbers of men, and the increased activity in the mining and lumbering camps has had a stimulating effect upon the labor market. This is true in an even greater degree of the extensive operations in railway construction now in progress. The general buoyancy of trade and the good crop returns have resulted in largely increased orders to manufacturing concerns, with a corresponding demand for labor and good wages. There are certain trades which are also always affected adversely by the approach of winter, but there are others, of course, which feel the benefit of the coming hard weather. *The Labor Gazette* says that "the activity of industry and labor was, on the whole, evenly distributed throughout Canada, but was most pronounced in Ontario and the western Provinces, British Columbia alone excepted, on account of the setting in of the rainy season."

ENGLISH IMMIGRATION

"One hundred thousand British immigrants will probably come to Canada next year, and I hope to see the day when the total immigration into this coun-

try will reach 250,000 annually," said Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Dominion Immigration Agent in Great Britain, who is visiting this country. He also stated that they were now meeting with considerable competition from Australian immigration agents, who were using very roseate literature, including the report of the Royal Commission of Western Australia, a publication which was grossly unfair to this country, and represented their Province as possessed of all the facilities for settlers achieving success in life, while Canada was hampered by many serious drawbacks. Regarding the Salvation Army immigration work, he said: "I am very much interested in their undertakings. It is the biggest feature in immigration outside of the Government that England has ever seen. They carry on their work on business and philanthropic principles, and will completely change for the better the current of thousands of lives." "There has been some complaint of England being drained of her agricultural workmen," said the interviewer. "Yes, but there is absolutely nothing in this. We could take half a million every year for twenty years, and it would not materially affect the general labor market. I attended Lord Tennyson's committee meeting, dealing with Rider Haggard's scheme, and the opinion was strongly expressed that this emigration was a means of relieving the distress in great Britain. There is too much of the paternal feeling in England. Much help is given, and a certain class comes to depend on this and becomes a regular charge on the country. By coming out here they have to shift for themselves, which is often just what they need." Regarding the charge that undesirable immigrants were sent out, Mr. Preston said that there were very few cases of this with the regular booking agents. A great many cases had been investigated and the charge proved groundless."

THE TEMISKAMING RAILWAY PAYS

THE earnings of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, the Ontario Government's railway, continue to increase, to the great comfort and peace