

burden sweating under the loads they had to carry through portages, while all the silver of Cobalt lay a few inches beneath their feet.

The natural resources remaining to us consist for the most part of mines. It is our duty to develop mining engineers, for mining engineering is the coming profession for Canadians. By uniting our forces and getting our federal and provincial governments to co-operate, we can perform useful work for Canada.

During the economic depression, it is youth that has suffered most, for our young people lost not only the opportunity to earn their living, but also the opportunity to learn how to earn it. The youth of the country are the mainstay of the nation. Their moral, social and professional rehabilitation is a matter of primary importance. The numerous graduates of technical and engineering schools in our provinces should be the main factors of our social restoration.

Economic education is technical education considered on all its sides. The public authorities should make our mineral resources known and provide scientific instruction suited to the needs of the mining industry.

This country is not too badly endowed in the matter of technical schools. But are they sufficiently well equipped? Have they the indispensable laboratories?

The British North America Act of 1867 places education under the specific and exclusive jurisdiction of the provinces. The Federal Government may, however, co-operate with the provinces with a view to promoting technical education. We need competent technical men if we are to develop our natural resources in a rational manner.

Allow me to say a few words about the mining industry of the province of Quebec.

The present economic situation of that province presents numerous and evident signs of returning prosperity. The gold production of Quebec in 1936 reached 26 millions of dollars, representing an increase of 7 millions over 1935. Silver, asbestos and building materials have also shown a notable improvement. Needless to say, such a flourishing industry deserves every encouragement.

The honourable the Minister of Mines has warned us against unreasoned speculation. Drastic laws are to be enacted for the protection both of the public and of the operators. In times of prosperity, yielding to over-confidence and excessive optimism, people are inclined to embark upon new undertakings, to invest money in all sorts of construction enterprises, to speculate on margin, that is, with borrowed money, to abuse the easy credit facilities available in such periods, to

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spend beyond their means or income, to discount the future beyond all reasonable limits, and then, when the least unfavourable development occurs, the least slowing down of the economic machine, our ephemeral undertakings crumble like houses of cards, leaving behind them nothing but ruin, desolation and misery. It is well that voices should be raised to warn against this danger and recall the elementary principles of prudence and moderation to those who might be tempted to forget or ignore them.

I should fail in my duty were I to neglect this opportunity of thanking the honourable the Minister of Mines of the province of Quebec for the speech he delivered on April 5 before the Canadian Club.

We should hasten to accept this heritage of our subsoil.

The mining legislation of our province should receive the best attention of the provincial authorities and be framed so as to discourage exploiters, but not to discourage honest people, and so as to close our mining fields to Communistic propaganda. Our mining regions should be centres of order and progress, wherein it may be possible to ensure the survival of our race and of social peace.

In the House of Commons, and last year in this House, I drew the attention of my honourable colleagues to the problem of repatriation. To-day hundreds of thousands of Canadians are employed in factories south of the boundary line. As soon as a new immigration campaign is undertaken, we should vigorously prosecute the work of repatriation. When our economic situation makes it possible, we should take measures to encourage the return of those Canadians who will be happy to develop our mining industry.

Now, a word about the natural wealth of the district of Gaspé.

The Gaspé Peninsula, overlooking the sea, whose peaks are covered with the finest species of timber, whose plateau is eminently suited to cattle raising, whose subsoil contains mineral resources which have remained too little known, awaits only the development of this abundance of wealth.

I have sought to inform myself regarding the needs of this beautiful region whose waters, both sea and river, abound in the most sought-after varieties of fish, of this region blessed with a good arable soil and vast forests and inhabited by a population of which Canada may well be proud.

The numerous varieties of fish that the people of Gaspé can take from the sea, as well as from their rivers, are a source of wealth of which they have not yet fully availed themselves, but which is capable of