The Colonist.

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THE SCARCITY OF LABOR.

In another column there appears an article taken from Industrial Canada, the official publication of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. The opinion expressed there is one unfavorable to the labor unions, in which the latter are accused of selfishness in rendering the importation of skilled workmen difficult, and of discouraging the system of apprenticeship. The case against the labor unions is put in its strongest light. This view, while more or less correct, is not a fair view, especially as expressed by the organ of an employers' association.

When it comes to a question of selfishness, any association organized for the purpose of the protection and the promotion of the interests of its members is necessarily selfish. The object of the Manufacturers' Association is selfish. Therefore, there is little advantage in placing the dispute upon a basis which is more or less common.

It must not be forgotten, either, that the restrictions which have been placed upon immigration are the result of a policy on the part of large employers in past years which was not in the interest of organized labor. There was a disposition on the part of the former, for the purpose of securing cheaper labor, to hold out unwarranted inducements to labor, skiled and unskilled, in other countries to come to Canada. It was not an uncommon thing to find that citizens had been brought to this country on representations that were subsequently discovered to be misleading. The repetition of that kind of thing, together with the laws passed in the United States, led to the present condition of affairs.

Such laws are wrong in spirit, and principle, and are responsible for the scarcity of labor from which we are suffering at the present time; but they are not wholly to be laid at the doors of labor unions. The selfishness of the manufacturer, as well as of the labor union, which react against each other in creating friction and antagonism, is to share the blame. The interests of capital and labor, as has been said a million times, ought to be mutual and common.

On the contrary, they have drifted into two opposing camps which even abounding prosperity cannot apparently reconcile. What one advocates affecting the labor situation, the other is almost sure to oppose. Their differences have become factional.

However, between the two organized elements there is the great mass of the people, whose interests are affected whenever the industrial situation is disturbed by one or the other. The consumer pays the piper no matter who plays, and therefore, he is entitled to consideration. Generally speaking, the consumer, who is, as a rule, a producer in some line as well, is satisfied that economic conditions shall be adjusted so that all may live and let live. The best for the prosperity of the whole reflects in its final analysis beneficially upon each individual of the community. But when the economic structure becomes over-balanced, this large body suffers. The present situation is one which presses upon every member of the community who buys or whose interests depend upon securing an adequate supply of labor. The laborer himself feels the pinch in the increased cost of the goods which he purchases. The artificial restrictions placed about the labor market are making it impossible to carry on ordinary industry in order to supply the demand created by present prosperous conditions, and to take advantage of the opportunities which they afford.

We propose to discuss later on some of the fallacies which surround the proposition that a Chinese wall around the labor market is good for the man who labors.

THE CONSUMING CLASS.

Friday in discussing the labor question it was pointed out that between two organized classes, in the war of capital and labor, there was a large class always liable to be injured, though it had no particular quarrel with either of these wings of society. When labor is high or scarce, the consuming class pays. When the capitalist restricts the output and raises the price of products, the consuming class pays. When strikes are on and traffic and regular business are disturbed, the same class is the one most inconvenienced. The large army of the consumers is the element of society that neither the organized manufacturers nor the organized labor men take into consideration. Therefore, laws which limit the supply of labor for legitimate purposes work a hardship equally with laws which raise the price of the manufactured article. Since the article of yesterday was written, Public Opinion has come to hand through the mail. It contains an extract from the Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury which is exceedingly apropos, entitled "The Hard Case of the Middle Classes." If one were to substitute "consuming class" for "middle class," the application of our argument could scarcely be better. Of course, reference in the following quotation must be had to conditions obtaining in Great Britain, which are somewhat different to those in this country:

"Society is not now built like an old three-decker. Above the sedate middle station there is a vast superimposed layer of vulgar rich, and between the moderately well-off professional and merchant class there is a still greater series of strata, which lie uncomfortably upon, or are mixed up with, the laboring multitude. The skilled worker is financially much better off than a large section of the community which affects a style of living of higher respectability and affected gentility. This class of people of small income is very heavily taxed—taxed, indeed, out of all proportion to its taxable capacity. Its members are very largely persons who are punished by the state and municipal taxing authorities for their praiseworthy ambition to live in decent houses, to dress themselves and their children well, and to lead thrifty, virtuous, estimable lives. And it is true that this class is largely exploited between capital and labor. Economically it belongs to neither. Capital is far beyond its reach; it cannot dig, to beg it is ashamed. In the modern phrase, it is not organized, and is incapable of organization. Politically, despite the franchise, it is declared to be voiceless. If in the middle class we embrace all that part of society whose members are neither skilled workers, nor laborers, nor aristocrats, we have a class which for mere numbers must be very formidable, though probably not in the majority. The middle class was never anything like so numerous before. But, numbers notwithstanding, it has lost its controling voice in the nation's affairs, its influence is waning, its moral weight is on the decline. The reason for this is that it has bartered its high ideals for the make-belief of modern life. Sweeping accusations are invariably unjust, and we question whether the middle class of today is a whit more tainted with the vices of snobbery and aplish gentility than it was in the days of Thackeray and Dickens, or at any previous period. On the other hand, it may be, as some of its critics assert, that the middle class of England has fallen behind in that form of advancement which consists in the assimilation of new ideals and conceptions. While the skilled worker has, probably through force of circumstance, been imbibing new ideas and increasing his economic and political influence, the middle class has expended its strength in the pursuit of individual promotion, and has clung to social conventions and habits of thought, especially in the realm of intellect, which are obsolete or obsolescent. The whole class is tarred with the brush of Philistinism."

PROF. GOLDWIN SMITH AND IMPERIAL TRADE PREFERENCE.

Prof. Goldwin Smith has written a letter to the London Tribune in which he says that Chamberlain's special policy for commercial union of the Empire has no visible support in Canada. Now, Goldwin Smith is an admirable man in many ways. He is highly respected for his personal qualities as well as for the honesty with which he expresses his views. He is a man in many respects, of which Canada is proud. As a writer of pure English and as a student of history, he has no superior and few equals in the British Empire; but he has never been an exact exponent of public opinion in this country. He has never at any time truly interpreted the spirit of Canadians, and, for the reason that he started in Canada with a preconceived theory about what our future relations ought to be, and he has stuck to it with a tenacity that is worthy of all admiration.

Chamberlain's proposal is fundamentally opposed to his, hence the opinion expressed in the Tribune. Chamberlain is pro-Empire and Goldwin Smith is pro-American. One has visions of the possibilities of an united Empire, bound together not only by ties of sentiment, but by bonds of commercial interest. The other is hampered by the theory of geographical contiguity, whereby he is compelled to conclude that the destiny of Canada and the United States must be one and the same.

As to what is or what is not the feeling of Canada in respect to the policy of Mr. Chamberlain, we might all claim to be equally competent to express an opinion. Mr. Goldwin Smith, from his position of social exclusiveness, so to speak, is perhaps less competent, even if he were not biassed, than the ordinary man of the world who reads the papers and keeps two eyes open, to judge of what popular feeling is. Therefore, we have no hesitation in saying that Prof. Goldwin Smith is not advising the British people correctly when he tells them that Chamberlain's policy has no visible support in Canada. At all times when, and in every place where, representative bodies have had an opportunity to give voice to their sentiments, that policy has been endorsed and approved. It is true that there is a strong French nationality in Canada that "doesn't share British dreams," but French Canada is not all of Canada, and even among French Canadians there are many loyal supporters of the principles of commercial preference and imperialism.

AGRICULTURE IN THE SKEENA.

Mr. Clifford, member for Skeena, handed t he Colonist Friday a sample bunch of well-developed wheat heads, grown at Hazelton. These were cut on the 25th of July in Dr. Inch's garden. The importance of this consists in the fact that fall wheat can be grown and ripened where formerly it was considered impossible owing to the summer frosts. Some of the wheat was ripe when Mr. Clifford left, and he informs us that the wheat grains were hard, plump and altogether well-developed. Up to the time that he left Hazelton, there had been no summer frosts.

Mr. Clifford, who is familiar with the Skeena district, and especially the portion of it through which the Grand Trunk Pacific will reach the coast, has formed a high opinion of the fruit capabilities of at least a portion of it. This extends for about 20 miles from Kitsilas canyon down the river, about ten miles on each side. One of the settlers there planted several years ago a variety of fruit trees, and has had most excellent results. The apples, cherries, pears and other fruits grown, Mr. Clifford declares to be equal to the best in the province. This section of the country is absolutely free from summer frosts, and for this reason, gives great promise from a horticultural point of view. Seeing that the northern country generally is subject to summer frosts, the immunity of this section bids fair to make it a fruit centre for the whole. There is a considerable area of land in it adapted for fruit growing, and it is easily cleared. There are about thirty settlers already located, who are hewing out homes for themselves.

Referring to the subject of summer frosts, it has been the experience of older parts of Canada that as soon as the lands were extensively cultivated, summer frosts became a thing of the past. This has been demonstrated in many parts of Quebec, Ontario and also in the Northwest. In the pioneer days, many of the settlers were discouraged by the loss of their crops, where now this is practically unknown. It is, of course, too soon to speak with any degree of confidence as to the conditions which will obtain, say, ten or fifteen years from now in the Northern interior, but, whether the frosts shall be wholly eliminated or not, it is quite reasonable to suppose that their severity will be greatly modified.

The reports Mr. Clifford brings from the Skeena are of the most encouraging character. There are some ninety settlers now in the Bulkley valley, a number in the Kispyox, quite a few along the Skeena, and the new town of Aldermere is the centre of a mining population numbering about 150. Good mineral strikes are being made, and altogether the country gives promise of important developments, not only from a mining point of view, but from an agricultural as well. It is altogether likely that a much larger area of land will be available for cultivation than has been popularly supposed to exist. This applies to the whole section of country tributary to the proposed Grand Trunk Pacific railway from Prince Rupert to the eastern boundary line of the province.

"VENI, VIDI, VICI."

Caesar came to Britain, he saw, and he conquered. That was his proud boast about the time he wrote that all Gaul was divided into three parts. The Washington correspondents came to the West, they saw and were conquered. That is the difference between Caesar and those who attempted to follow his example in later times. This at all events is the difference which they themselves admit, and there was only one of Caesar and there were ten of the correspondents. The fact shows how much easier it was to do business 55 B. C. than in the year of our Lord 1906, notwithstanding all our modern facilities. But then the Washington newspapermen were in receipt of many hospitalities and thus becoming enervated were easy victims. Caesar resisted all temptations by the way and triumphed. He refused to accept banquets, until he could command them. Free transportation and parlor cars had no attractions for him. Caesar could be luxurious, but it was in his own way and at his own expense. He believed in the simple life while on the warpath. The Washington correspondents had hardly set foot upon Canadian territory before they surrendered to the wiles of the people. The man who manoeuvred their capture was Geo. Ham, of the C. P. R., whose smile is said to be irresistible. He led them in silken chains though province after province clear to the Pacific coast. We are informed that wherever they went they were received with open arms. Wherever they went they were cordially received by the people. They were given dinners and banquets. They were made particularly welcome in the Mormon settlements, and greeted with processions and brass bands. It was one long ovation throughout the Dominion. Though it was a state of captivity, it was pleasant captivity. Before Geo. Ham released them at North Bay to permit them to return to their own country, he made them sign documents exonerating him, the C. P. R., and Canadians generally from all blame in connection with their detention in this country, thus avoiding international hostilities on their account. Incidentally, they individually, we shall not say under duress, gave expression to their sentiments towards this country and told in a general way what their impressions were. There was a singular unanimity among them on one point and that was that Canada was a revelation to them. They confessed that when they started out they had but a faint notion of the kind of country it was and what it contained. They testified to the fact that their countrymen were in much on the same state of blissful ignorance as to Canada as that in which they themselves had been. We can quite realize that this testimony was voluntary on their part. One or two of these statements will be quite interesting as specimens.

D. H. MacAdam, of the St. Louis Republic, wrote:

"Amazing is the word to express the impression created upon the mind of the American who is given the opportunity to see the length and breadth of Canada, its people and its resources. I believe it to be a fact that even a fairly well informed citizen of the United States knows less of Canada, its politics, general affairs, and station in the world, than of the European powers. I will not attempt to say why this is true. But it is the case. The time has come when the United States should fully realize the possibilities of the land to our North, for such a realization mean dollars and cents to many United States citizens, and this is ever the most convincing argument in our country. * * * I fully believe that Canada offers better and more varied opportunities than are to be found anywhere in North America, and nowhere is there a greater railway feat than the construction and operation of the Canadian Pacific railway, over which we traveled many thousands miles in perfect comfort and safety."

Irving C. Norwood, of the Washington Star, testified:

"I feel very much like a modern Christopher Columbus. The original Christopher Columbus didn't do more than discover a new country, and that I have done, to my own personal satisfaction at least, during the past month. I can say, without reflecting in the least upon my own intelligence, that I had no conception of Canada, its past, its present and its glorious future, before I started out from Washington, with ten of my colleagues. We came, we saw, and we have been conquered. We all return to the States with some faint idea of what the Dominion really is and with our own individual beliefs as to what the Canada will be. And optimistic as are those beliefs, I think they are entirely justified by the facts and figures, and, more than that, by the evidence of our own eyes.

"Although I have traveled all over the wheat growing section of my own country, I can say, without disparagment, but speaking merely with frankness, that I never saw such a wheat belt as that in the Canadian West. The character of the land, the soil, the climatic conditions, all seem to invite the growing of the staff of life. In other places I have seen the resources of a great nation—mineral and otherwise—practically in a virgin state. The future of Canada is writ so plain that he who runs may read."

Jackson S. Elliott, representative of the Associated Press, Washington, D. C., among other things, said:

"The writer who undertakes to do Canada justice must divide his effort in a hundred subjects, for he soon learns that the country is broader than he had thought. Its scenery, from Atlantic to Pacific, over the Canadian Pacific railway, presents a varied panoramic expanse that cannot be found elsewhere. Its agricultural resources, yet in their infancy, are making the world gape with surprise and almost incredulity, but the wondrous yields of small grains, exploited in attractive circulars, withstand the closest personal inspection."

As we stated on a former occasion the members of the Washington press party are exceedingly representative men of their profession on the other side of the line, and it is not a difficult stretch of the imagination to believe that so-minded their impressions in the newspapers to which they belong will tend in a large measure in a wide constituency to educate their countrymen to a marked appreciation of this country, its people and its resources.

RADIUM'S PLACE IN NATURE.

We have not for some time heard much about radium. Scientists are quietly in their laboratories experimenting and formulating the results of their investigations. It will be a year or two probably before anything new or startling will be announced regarding it. The latest was associated with the experiments of Mr. Burke in his attempts to create life, whereby apparently living organisms were produced from contact of radium with inorganic matter. Mr. Burke's experiments were at least sensational and suggestive, but not convincing, and scientists, after pricking up their ears, went back to their dens. The scientific world has been in a quiescent mood since. We need not fear, however, that it is inactive. It is doing hard thinking and hard working, the results of which will be announced in due time. Popular interest in the subject of radium has been aroused lately, not by any new discoveries, but by an address of Prof. Lankester, in his presidential address before the British Association, in which he reviewed the advance of science during the last quarter of a century. This, he said, would stand out forever in human history as the period in which new chemical elements of astounding properties were revealed with extraordinary rapidity. His remarks regarding radium were exceedingly instructive, not to say suggestive. How the earth and the sun, for instance, have retained their heat through countless number of ages with apparently inappreciable diminution, though everlastingly burning, has always been inexplicable, one of the most difficult of problems to solve. Combustion, the apparent source of heat, is a definite process, with definite and rapid results. Combustion consumes and in direct ratio to its intensity. From what source does the sun receive its fuel supply, was a standing query. One theory was: Meteoric dust and stray comets and fugitive worlds, which were drawn into the vortex. If the centre of the earth is a molten mass, maintained by ignition, why does it not burn itself out, is the natural question of a child, and who of us grown up are wise enough to answer it? Does radium furnish the answer?

In the address in question it was stated that the discovery of radio activity and radium so far exceeded all others in importance that it might be accounted supreme. It was a privilege to have lived when the discovery was made. Dr. Lankester summarized the wonderful properties of radium as revealed by the late Prof. Curie and others. He dwelt particularly upon the apparent facts that a small quantity of radium diffused through the earth will maintain its temperature against all loss by radiation, while, if the sun consists of a fraction of 1 per cent. of radium, this would make good the heat annually lost by the sun.

These, he said, were tremendous facts, and upset all the calculations of physicists concerning the duration in the past and in the future of the sun's heat and the earth's surface, and the estimates of geological time based on the assumption that the material of the earth is self-cooling. Within five years it had become evident that the material was not self-cooling. On the contrary, it was self-heating, and away went the restrictions imposed by geologists and biologists, who are now willing to give, not merely a thousand million years, but as many more as are wanted.

CANADIANS IN UNITED STATES.

Notwithstanding the rush of Americans to the Canadian Middle West the number of Canadians in the United States is on the increase. At least a statement taken from the United States census between 1890 and 1900 shows that the percentage of increase of Canadians was greater that that of Swedes or of foreigners generally, exclusive of Canadians. Of course, that percentage may not have been maintained during the last six years, but for the period referred to it will be surprising to most persons. The average man who reads about the inrush of foreigners to the United States would naturally conclude that the percentage would exceed by far that from this country. Of Canadians the percentage for English Canadians was 15.8 and that of French Canadians 30.7, making the average 20.4. That of Swedes was 19.7 and of other foreigners 12.0. The high percentage from this country is, therefore, accounted for by the emigration of French-Canadians.

It is not, however, with the numbers that we are so particularly interested as the influence which these Canadians exercise in their new home and the positions which they occupy. They are found at the top, upon the authority of the New York Post, of all the professions in the United States and in many lines of trade and industry.

Canada has contributed to the great railway men of the United States one of, if not the greatest—J. J. Hill. Others are David Spencer Wegg, Percy R. Todd, and Nicholas Monsarrat, three big men in transportation business.

Then we have E. R. Gould, of New York, banker and philanthropist, who was born in Oshawa, Ont.; Bell, inventor of the telephone, and millionaire; and Edison, well-named the "wizard" on account of the fertility of his inventive genius. Erastus Wiman, once a great name in the United States, now dead, never foreswore his allegiance to Canada.

There are four native-born Canadians in Congress—Senator Gallinger, of New Hampshire, born in Cornwall, Ont.; Representative Phillips Pitt Campbell, of Kansas, Nova Scotia; Duncan E. McKinlay, of California, Orillia, Ont.; James Anthony Hughes, of West Virginia, Corunna, Ont.; and James Thompson McCleary, of Minnesota, Ingersoll, Ont. Others prominent in official circles at Washington who were born across the border are Herbert G. Squiers, ex-minister to Cuba, and Edwin C. Madden, third assistant postmaster-general.

In University circles the list of Canadian professors is a long and honored one. The best known and most distinguished, without doubt, is Jacob Gould Schurman, president of Cornell University, a native of Prince Edward Island, who was prepared at Prince of Wales College and graduated at Dalhousie, Nova Scotia. The following are as described by Mr. Hall, in the Toronto Globe.

In the west, at least, four or five college presidencies are in Canadian hands. At the head of the State University of Idaho we find a brilliant graduate of Toronto, James A. Maclean, born at Mayfair thirty-eight years ago. After a post-graduate course in Columbia University Dr. MacLean filled the chair of political science in Colorado until called to his present important position in 1900. Dr. George Bridgeman, a graduate of Victoria, presides over Hamlin, the Methodist university in Minnesota. Another prominent institution of the same denomination, Wesleyan university, in North Dakota, has a Canadian, Dr. Thomas Nicholson, at its head, while Michigan contributes to the roll of honor President Samuel Dickie, of Albion college, the well-known prohibition leader.

It would be almost impossible to find a well-regulated American college of any importance without a Canadian or two on its staff as saving salt. To name only a few of the most prominent: Harvard can show S. M. MacVane, for twenty years eminent as economist and historian, and Professor Schofield of the English department; and as director of the extension teaching of the university since 1903. Frederick H. Sykes, who was well known in Ontario as a teacher and editor of educational publications before he went south ten years ago to engage in university extension work and earn the reputation of being the most popular lecturer in that wide field; Columbia, George Rice Carpenter in English, and Frederick Woodbridge in philosophy; Johns Hopkins, among other Northerners, has in its Latin department a Queen's graduate, Harry Langford Wilson.

At Bryn Mawr, a Canadian, G. A. Barton, is professor of Biblical literature. Michigan is filled by a Lanark County man, James A. Craig, while a Toronto graduate, James Playfair McMurrich, is professor of anatomy in the same institution. Northwestern's dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Thomas Franklin Holgate, comes from Hastings County. At Chicago may be cited George Neil Stewart, head of the department of physiology. Frank R. Lillie, professor of zoology, and S. H. Clark, professor of public speaking—a subject, by the way, to which Canadian universities could profitably devote much more attention than they do. Among the O. A. C. graduates who have won distinction may be cited Thomas Shaw, professor of animal husbandry in the University of Minnesota, and H. A. Morgan, the well-known entomologist, director of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Tennessee. Colorado offers Professor Hellems, well known in Toronto, and the professor of political economy, J. E. Le Rossignol, formerly on the staff of McGill; while at Leland Stanford the able professor of Latin, Henry R. Fairclough, hails from Barrie.

The same writer states that bishops are Canada's long suit, so far as the United States is concerned. Archbishop Quigley, of Chicago, was born at Oshawa, though most of his early years were spent in the United States. Patrick William Riordan, who for over twenty years has been archbishop of San Francisco, is a New Brunswicker. The Proestant Episcopal church numbers among its leaders Bishop Niles, of New Hampshire, born across the line in Quebec; Arthur Llewellyn Williams, bishop coadjutor of Nebraska, an Owen Sound boy, and Bishop C. P. Anderson, of Chicago, a Trinity graduate. Alaska and the Philippines are, oddly enough, both under the pastoral care of Canadian bishops, Dr. Rowe and Dr. Brent. In the Methodist Episcopal church there are Bishop Berry of Buffalo, and Bishop Fowler, a Burford man, national, but cosmopolitan, presiding over Northwestern University for four years; then in China, organizing Peking and Nankin universities, and again in St. Petersburg, founding the first Methodist church of that city; or of Edmund M. Mills, whose great administrative powers were shown in his successful century thank-offering fund, which raised $21,000,000 for church purposes.

When the distinguished surgeon, Dr. Osler, was called to Oxford, his successor was Dr. Llewellyn Franklin Barker, a graduate of Toronto University. It has been estimated that there are between four and five thousand Canadians in the medical lists of the United States.

But apart from these men, who stand in the limelight, so to speak, all the large cities of the United States are filled with Canadians, who are occupying positions of trust as accountants, chief clerks, assistant managers, managers, railway officials, etc. As a rule they are placed at a premium on account of their reliability, industry and high degree of intelligence. To be a Canadian is a favorable introduction to most places of business.

Canadians are particularly well represented in all the professions. A number of them, well known, are prominent in literary and journalistic circles, and not a few have achieved distinction on the stage. It is, therefore, no mean compliment to the Dominion that in a nation of clever people her sons have achieved so much prominence.

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy has a nice sense of the fitness of things. He is sending a handsome sterling silver cup to be offered as a special prize for fruit at the Nelson fair. It is to be made of silver mined, smelted and refined in British Columbia.

The Toronto Star says that "liquid air is now being used to cool drinks, and the time will come when the hot air of discussion will boil the water for tea." In that case our city council will be more valuable than gas for cooking purposes.

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A. G. HOWARD POTTS
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SIXTY DAYS AFTER DATE I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described lands situate on Skeena River, two miles below Skeena Canyon, and adjoining J. T. Phelan's property, and beginning at a post planted and marked S. B. Johnson's initial post, thence East 80 chains, thence South 80 chains, thence West 80 chains, thence North 80 chains to the place of commencement, containing 640 acres.
Skeena Canyon, B. C., June 29, 1906.
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je30

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