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take part in an industrial development which will be second to none in the near future.

Now, if we are going to hold our own against that kind of competition it will only be by bringing our workmen up to the highest degree of efficiency, and by seeing that our industries are managed by men who are second to none in technical knowledge and training. They talk of the Yellow peril. Sir, I find no danger in the Yellow peril if you consider it under the aspect of immigration. I believe that can be dealt with by diplomacy; I believe it will be possible to keep the oriental to his own side of the Pacific, as it is in every way desirable he should be kept. The real Yellow peril, a peril that is surely coming, is that of industrial competition with the Orient, and when it does come in all its power, it will present to us the greatest problem with which this continent has yet been faced. Let me show wherein it is at our doors at this very moment. I have in my pocket a letter I received from a gentleman in San Francisco, who says that the company with which he is concerned is to-day in a position to control the imports of steel billets, from the company in China to which I have referred, and his company is arranging with that company in Hankow to secure their products, the steel billets and pig iron they are manufacturing there, and he writes to know what are the possibilities of his developing with this material a large iron and steel industry and rolling mills on our Pacific coast. His company is proposing to establish a manufacturing concern somewhere on the western slope of the United States and Canada to carry on the manufacture of steel with their products coming from this old country of China. Now what is true there is going to be true in one industry after another, and how are we to meet it? It will not be met by our shorter hours of labour. We work eight to ten hours a day in our factories, whereas the orientals are working twenty-four hours in the concern to which I have referred, they never stop even for Sundays, the Chinese New Year being the only day in which that industry closes down. Our regard for women in industry is not going to save us, our laws exempting little children from working in these industries is not going to save us. Our higher wages will not be better enable us to meet this competition. What then is going to save us? Two things, and two things alone will enable this country to face the competition with which it is destined to be brought into conflict in the far east. One of these is the extent which the future witnesses the spreading of the light of the new world over the old, spreading of the light from the lamp of knowledge, and the still brighter radiance of Christian truth and Christian influence.

Where that goes will come with it a greater regard and respect for women, a greater reverence for the little child, a greater and truer insight into the nature and dignity of manhood itself. With these things will come a shortening in the hours of labour, a lessening of the employment of women and children, and a respect for the Sunday which we observe as a day of rest, and a hundred and one other considerations which makes this our standard of living what it is among our own people. The other thing that may help us to meet this competition is the greatness of our natural resources, combined with the industrial efficiency of our own working people, and this industrial efficiency can only be brought about by the development on a general scale throughout the whole Dominion of sound technical education, carried on by the authorities whose duty it is to do it. Only by the development of this system of technical education so far as we can possibly carry it, will we be in a position to face the future with a confidence of success.

Now, Sir, perhaps I have spoken on this point at greater length than the circumstances would warrant. But I have thought that perhaps another opportunity may not occur very soon to enable me to express my views on a question which seems to me of paramount importance. It seems to me there is great need for the development of a system of technical education in Canada. This need has been demonstrated in half a dozen different ways. First of all, it has been demonstrated by comparison of conditions in this country with conditions as they are in Germany, in France, in England, in Switzerland and in the United States. It has been shown by the hon. gentleman who moved this resolution and by others who have spoken on it, how much has been done by each of these countries in the matter of promoting technical education. The hon. leader of the opposition asked, I think, in speaking of Germany, whether the work that has been carried on there had been done for the most part by the states. I think the work has been carried on by the states in Germany, for the most part. The work was started in Germany, as the member for South Wellington said this afternoon, away back early in the last century, and it has been taken up by one state after another. But the federal government in Germany has also done something to further this work. They have done nothing in the way of teaching, but they have established an institute for physical and technical research, they have an industrial museum, and they are giving financial assistance to ship-building and navigation schools. In the United States while most of the work has been carried on by the individual states, the federal government contributed land away back in 1862 for the

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purpose of aiding in the development of the agricultural and mechanical arts. They have had one or two commissions which have made inquiries into these questions, and a department of education which conducts researches along these lines. The federal government has also granted financial aid to the several states. In Great Britain there have been a large number of polytechnic schools, continuation classes, and technical schools and commercial and technical universities. All these countries are competitors of Canada, and are doing a great deal to equip their army of workers and enable them to take their part in this world wide competition. And were there no other reason why the authorities of this country should do their part in promoting the work of technical education than that our competitors are doing so that of itself would be a strong reason why much should be done. But there is another reason that was mentioned by the hon. member for South Ontario (Mr. Fowke) and the hon. member for Guysboro (Mr. Sinclair), and that is that the employers of labour in this country are crying out for skilled workmen. We all know that this demand comes from every part of the Dominion, one industry after another complaining that they have not enough skilled workmen. They allege that they have to send to other countries to get foremen, and import men skilled in certain industries. Why is this? It is not because we have not in Canada men who are capable of becoming skilled in scientific knowledge, and of carrying on any industry after the most modern scientific methods, but it is because we have not in Canada a sufficient number of institutes to enable our artisans and workmen to qualify for these high positions the number of which is daily increasing. Not only is there a desire on the part of the employers for a greater number of skilled workmen but there is also, as the hon. member for Maisonneuve, the mover of the resolution and the hon. member for Nanaimo have said, a desire on the part of the workmen themselves to avail themselves of greater opportunities of education in this direction. I think it was the hon. member for South Wellington who pointed out that not less than three-quarters of a million of dollars was spent by the workmen of this country in payments to the correspondence schools in the United States in the furthering of this work of self-education along technical lines. Where there is a desire to that extent, manifesting itself in that particular way, surely we have before us the strongest reason why the authorities, whose duty it may be to undertake this work, should undertake it to the greatest degree possible.

And, Sir, there is another reason, much akin to the one which I have already men-

tioned, and that is the need at this time for a better system of apprenticeship. Our industries are suffering in every direction because workmen do not go through the form of apprenticeship now that they went through in the olden days. It is inevitable that it should be so. In the olden days the apprentice worked with his employer in his master's shop, but to-day the employer is a large corporation and this personal relationship which formerly existed is now impossible. There is the greatest diversity of industry, and the greatest division of labour, so that the work of the ordinary mechanic comes often to be that of simply performing one particular kind of action, doing that in a monotonous, routine fashion and knowing nothing of the whole process of which his labour forms a part. That being so it seems to me there is a greater need for some system of education which will make intelligible to the man who has the work to do the part which he is performing in industrial development and that service might be performed by an extension of the system of technical education throughout the country.

There is a further feature which I think should be considered in this connection and it is the obligation which society owes to workmen to enable them to realize the best of the capacity which they have within them. This is something which we, in this day, are too apt to forget. We have all the comforts in our homes, we think of the enjoyments that we possess of one kind and another, but we fail to realize to what a considerable extent, I was going to say, the almost illimitable extent, the whole enjoyment and routine of our daily life rests upon the manner in which the great mass of men who are day labourers or ordinary mechanics discharge the duties which they are called upon to perform. Let me read an extract from the report of the Industrial Committee of the American Federation of Labour which recently held its session in the city of Toronto. It was a report brought in by a committee of the workmen composing that body in regard to this question of industrial education and the sentence or two which I shall read is deserving of the consideration not only of this House but of every man in this country:

We must never lose sight of the fact that a large majority of the working people are poor, and because of this they are forced to begin the battle of life at an early age. The need of the day is that something be done for the children of this great wage-working class.

Formerly the apprentice system offered the boy an opportunity to learn a trade and become a thoroughly trained mechanic, but of late years the scheme of specialization has supplanted the old apprenticeship system, even to extreme specialization. It ought to be recognized as a scientific truth that the higher the skill possessed by the mechanic the