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## CANADA'S NEED OF A PROPERLY ORGANIZED STATISTICS BOARD

Organization and Better Co-operation Between Government Departments Urged at Mining Institute

"To my mind," said a local mining man the other day, "one of the most important subjects dealt with at the last meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute was the references to the very pressing need for better co-operation and more intelligent effort from the different Government departments and the other agencies and associations concerned in the placing of the Dominion of Canada in its proper place in the commercial and industrial world. In his address President Cole touched on this matter, referring to Canada's position up to the present as that of a hewer of wood and a drawer of water for the United States. Of course, the secret of doing better is simply a matter of organized and intelligent effort along the right lines. Canada has the goods, to use a common expression. And Canada can deliver the goods, to use more slang. Take the matter of mines and mining, for instance. In gold, silver, nickel—but what's the use of talking! Every man that knows anything about mining knows that Canada "has the goods." All that is needed is development along right lines, and a growth of what might be called the "work-together" spirit.

"One of the chief things needed first in the right kind of organization for Canada's development is some sort of a collaboration of the statistics gathered and some kind of better system of gathering the data. But just read for yourself the condensed report of what was said by President Cole and by Mr. E. P. Mathewson along these lines. They explain the idea better than I can. You will find a fair report of what I am coming at in The Canadian Mining Journal's report of the proceedings. Just read it."

Turning to the Mining Journal, The Advance found Mr. Cole quoted as saying:—"We have enormous masses of information buried in different government departments, both Federal and Provincial, in our universities and private offices, but up to the present we have no one with power and initiative enough to make it valuable for practical purposes."

Mr. Mathewson is also reported as dwelling on the same point with much effect. "As engineers we have a duty to perform for Canada," he said in his paper on "Organization for Industrial Preparedness." "That duty," he continued "is to advise the government as to the necessity of compiling the proper statistics regarding all industries in this country. If we had done our duty a little earlier we would have been better prepared for the great struggle that is now nearing its termination. Now, however, we can redeem ourselves to a certain extent by advising the Government how to prepare for peace. Statistics should be compiled showing in detail all the important facts and figures concerning the various industries of Canada as at present existing; and at the same time these should be supplemented by additional statements setting forth the possibilities for extensions in old lines and for the beginning of enterprises along new lines. It has come to my knowledge from a very authentic source that the statistics prepared in Canada today are based on insufficient data and that one department after another in the Government takes the same data, re-hashes it and serves it up with a little different trimmings as matter originating in the particular department furnishing the report. I have been told that over 30 per cent. of the statistics published by various departments in Ottawa are absolutely copied verbatim one from the other and that the balance of the figures are merely a rearrangement of the same figures. This is not only a great waste of time and money, but it is hindering the development of Canada. I suggest, therefore that this Institute recommend

the Government to appoint a special Statistical Board from the employees of the Bureau of Mines, the Geological Survey, the Department of Labor, the Internal Revenue Department, and the Census Bureau to gather and compile the necessary data concerning all the industries of Canada, to publish yearly reports thereon, and to add to these reports each year statistics indicating possible openings for the establishment of new industries. If such a board were appointed it might require assistance for the first year or so from the members of the engineering societies of Canada. This, I believe, would be freely granted, as was done in the United States during 1916, when the entire industry of the great country was canvassed, without any cost to the American Government, and statistics prepared which were of such great value that the Government took steps to ensure that the information should hereafter be kept constantly up to date. In order to know what we can do, we must first know on what tools and on what men we can count for such work as there may be to do."

KICKING THE STOVE  
AT ONE DOLLAR A  
KICK IN COBALT

Times To-day Recall the Good Old Times When the North Was Young,—and Fresh

A jolly group of young fellows—all ages—came into Fat's restaurant the other day.

"Let's put the place on the hummer," says one.

"We'll start with kicking over the stove," laughs another.

"That reminds me," said a quiet old prospector at one of the tables, "of the days when they did such things."

"I remember," he continued, "when there was a regular fee for kicking the stove in a Cobalt shack. It was about eight years ago. There was a young fellow,—a cripple,—who had been running a blind pig for quite a time. Then he got a tip that the police were "on" and intended to "foot it,"—not to mention any names. The boys gathered at his shack as usual that night and he explained the ease to them. 'Kick the stove down, boys,' he suggested, 'and kick the furniture around,—at one dollar a kick.' And so the boys did, and he collected and got enough of a stake out of the kicking to take him out of town. And I haven't seen him since, nor heard of him," concluded the old prospector, "but those were the great times, and then it was that the North Land had the real good old kickers."

## World News in Brief

The city of Windsor is planning to raise \$100,000 for the Patriotic Fund and the Canadian Red Cross.

A mountain in British Columbia has been officially named "Lloyd George," after the British prime minister.

The Honorable Senator George Gordon, of North Bay, has been added to the board of directors of the Excelsior Life Insurance Company.

There are 30,000 cases of smallpox in Germany now, according to the figures given in an address recently delivered by a Socialist member of the Reichstag.

The British Government recently arranged for the construction of 100 merchant vessels in three standard sizes of 18,000, 5,000 and 3,000 tons respectively.

Three Toronto men were recently convicted of selling potatoes short weight, and were given sentences ranging from ten to thirty days in jail. Is this a piece of news, or a warning?

The Japanese in British Columbia are asking through their counsel, Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, to be given the right to vote at Provincial and Federal elections.

In Toronto the Good recently a lady's apartments in a fashionable house were entered by a man passing as a telephone inspector. The lady was menaced with a revolver and four rings valued at \$2,000 were taken from her by this man and an accomplice. Her wedding ring was returned to her following her piteous appeal, after all the rings had been torn from her fingers. The woman conveniently fainted, so the men had an easy "getaway."

The Australian Chambers of Commerce at a recent meeting passed a resolution to support the demand that Germany be forced to pay ton for ton in shipping for all vessels destroyed contrary to international law and usage. It was also resolved by the Chambers to resist any proposal to hand back to the Germans any of the conquered islands in the Pacific, as such a step would be opposed to the interests and safety of Australia and New Zealand.

Le Reveil, a French morning newspaper in Montreal, has been warned by the Ottawa authorities to discontinue its seditions utterances regarding National Registration, the Militia Act, and other matters in connection with Canada's part in the war. Le Devoir, Henri Bourassa's newspaper, has also been similarly warned. The fact that these newspapers have been able to talk so long in the way they have is a depressing instance of the slowness or senseless patience of the Government. It is also a deep injustice to the people so many of whom believe so much of what they see in a newspaper, and so are deceived into wrong ways of thinking and sometimes into illegal and evil acts, through the vapors of shallow-thinking and wrongly informed journals. And all in the name of "freedom" so shamefully abused.

It is officially announced that in a division of 75,000 Canadians in France, England and Belgium, only thirty cases of typhoid fever have occurred and only one death from that cause in two years and eight months.

Before the Russian Revolution, the Czar and the members of his family were said to have controlled an income of \$42,500,000 a year, or \$85 a minute. However, as there were 3,000 members in the Czar's "family" to share this amount it was not as good, or as bad, as it looked. Nevertheless it was a pretty good job to lose, as Prince Peter says, though being imprisoned will not be so serious a change for the Czar, and any danger to his life will be no novelty, for this ruler never yet enjoyed any freedom of life since his accession to the throne.

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The following is a list of work turned in and shipped to the Canadian Field Comforts Commission, Shorecliffe, England, on March 23rd.

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Miss D. Pelletier.....	2 pr. Socks
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Miss K. Powers, 1 pr. Socks, 1 Day Shirt	
Miss L. Demers.....	1 pr. Socks
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Miss K. Toner.....	6 pr. Socks
Miss F. Varey, 1 pr. Socks, 1 Day Shirt	
Miss J. Burke.....	1 pr. Socks
Miss E. Lafferty, 2 pr. Socks, 2 Day Shirts	
Miss M. McLaughlin.....	2 pr. Socks
Miss M. Blackwell.....	1 pr. Socks
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Miss E. Joyner.....	1 pr. Socks
Miss E. McLaughlin.....	2 pr. Socks
Miss M. Boyd, 1 pr. Socks, 4 Day Shirts	
Miss M. Howard.....	1 Day Shirt
Mrs. J. Laveran.....	1 pr. Socks
Mrs. Geils.....	2 pr. Socks
Mrs. W. Armitage.....	18 pr. Socks
Mrs. H. Mulheron, 4 pr. Socks, 9 Day Shirts	
Mrs. M. A. Ellis.....	12 pr. Socks
Total .96 prs. Socks, 30 Day Shirts	
Donations: Miss Taylor, 9 Handkerchiefs; Mrs. G. Varey, 6 Handkerchiefs; Mrs. T. Blackman, 6 Handkerchiefs; Mrs. H. Mulheron, Paper and soap.	

## ANOTHER GERMAN OUTRAGE

Germany has sent many of her captives to the front line of battle, according to a statement issued by the International Red Cross. The statement said that the Red Cross was endeavouring to dissuade the Germans from thus using prisoners as "battle screens."

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