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Pioneers of North Need More Support

Not Only Should the Prospectors be Given Better Backing, but Settlers Also Need More Consideration.

In an editorial article last week, The Northern Miner raises the question as to whether or not Canada has the right to call itself a nation of pioneers. The Northern Miner admits the truth of the claims as to this Dominion having wonderful resources, but it is doubtful whether the term "nation of pioneers" is warranted at the present moment. The Northern Miner editorial is well worth the study of all, not only in connection with mining development, but also in reference to the settlers and to industry in general. The Northern Miner says:—

"Canada, to hear its politicians talk about it, is a land "rich in natural resources" and likewise "a nation of pioneers." It is, admittedly, a land rich in natural resources, no thanks to the politicians. It is not now—whatever it may have been in the past—a nation of pioneers.

"The pioneers, survivors of a more heroic, a more adventurous time, are a scattered remnant of what was once a gallant army, facing in small groups the rigours of the frontier in the mining camps, the timber woods, the western prairies, the northern clay belts, the fur trade. Each province from Quebec west has its few thousands of hardy men and women who painfully push forward the work of colonization and of development.

"Unfortunately for them and for

Canada these sturdy people are at the mercy of the millions who live along the settled few hundred miles north of the American line—the millions who live in a fairer climate and a greater comfort. Unfortunately for the pioneers and for Canada they are governed under a political system which is rapidly approaching the bureaucratic in type and they struggle under a financial system which attempts to capitalize on the energy, the spirit and the initiative of the frontier breaker while denying him the reward his courage deserves.

"The most harmful and discouraging of the handicaps which our Northern pioneers have to face is the indifference of the south and the east to the problems of the north and west. There was a time when this whole country was energized by a wonderful spirit of adventure and of advance. The old pioneer spirit of the Canadian people as a whole has practically disappeared. Gone is the generation which took its financial future in its hands and pushed through the Canadian Pacific Railway. Gone in the past two decades are the men who opened the west, pushed railways into the north, cut down the spruce of the Clay Belt, opened the mines of Cobalt and Porcupine. The Canadian of today is too prone to lean on the law, hoard his money, look for his percentage. Not only does he refuse to break frontiers in person but he declines scornfully to back up in a financial way those who are willing to undertake the necessary task. The feeling which lay behind the statement of a former Ontario Minister of Education who not many years past told a Cochrane audience that if he had a dozen sons he would not send one into the north is illustrative of the support which our pioneers are getting. Not men nor money nor even sympathy comes north.

"The war has been blamed for many things. One of its evils was the introduction to the ordinary Canadian of a type of interest-bearing security which few outside of banks previously knew anything about. The country became bond-conscious. In a new country like Canada, raw and undeveloped in the main, the state of mind which the bond represents is entirely out of place. Twenty years ago when this country was humming with business and thrilling with life people thought in terms of development and not in percentages of interest. That was the time when the younger sons of Ontario flooded into the north and threw their young energy into its development. Those were the days when a raw youngster, detouring in North Bay, found five jobs in two days. The towns of the north and the west in the first decade of this century were clearing houses for labour. Everybody had money; every man had work. There was a spirit abroad in the land that insistently drove young men into the wilderness, that ripped money for new development from the sewn purses of the hoarders. Railways twisted their smoking right-of-ways through the bush, towns sprang up, farms were cleared, settlers poured in. Whole townships deserted the worn and barren east for the new land of the north and west. Then there was a thrill of hope and adventure goading on even the dullest soul.

"We are a nation of pioneers!" We are nothing of the kind. We are sitting behind a pitiful picket line of pioneers, complacently living on the fruits of the victories of twenty years ago. The battle of the outposts against the wilderness is carried on by a few hardy spirits, painfully handicapped by lack of support from the main army lying at its ease in the soft plains of the cultivated south, turning its eyes northwards only in the hope of spotting some new spoil from a battle in which they have taken no part.

"Young men can always be found to undertake any adventure that old men are willing to pay for. The young men have only their youth; the old men have only their money. When the old men think "bonds" the young men languish at home. There is no struggle, there is no advance. The towns of the south and east are full of languid youths, starved for adventure, half idle, a thin heritage, a poor foundation for a new generation.

"Does Canada think it can afford to sit back and live on its past victories against the wilderness? Are Canadians to become effete before they ever become really prosperous? Is this the way to build an enduring nation?"



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 Wash the painful part well with warm water; then rub in plenty of Minard's and you'll feel better!

MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

"Canada is richly endowed with a wealth of natural resources!" cries the politician. Of what use are natural resources without development? Our woods and streams, our far-flung northern prairies, our glorious mineral north were of far more use to the Indians than they are to us unless we exploit them. Are Canadians to man a mercenary army, hired by foreign capitalists, who can see the opportunity where our national financiers cannot? Canada has money to export to Brazil, to Mexico, to Spain; has she none then for her own development?"

In the above editorial The Northern Miner appears to prove that Canada is no longer entitled to the name, "a nation of pioneers." The editorial itself in almost every line admits the presence in Canada of the potential pioneers that would make this country a veritable "nation of pioneers," and develop the vast resources of the land. The trouble is not that the new generation in Canada lacks the love of adventure, of struggle, of gallantry and courage to do the difficult work of the pioneer. The young men—yes, and the young women—are all ready for the battle of pioneering, but they can no more uncover the hidden wealth of Canada without the aid of capital than Christopher Columbus could have discovered this continent without ships.

The Northern Miner is inclined to blame the capitalist for not risking his money in developing the country. After the present money men made their stake it was too often turned to the safe and sure "bond" purchase. The Northern Miner suggests. That has not been so much the trouble as the idea of "sure things" and "big money." If all the capital given in recent years to the mining brokers for investment had been actually spent in mine development, there would have been enough capital available to-day to keep the North Land more than humming, and a whole lot of the investors, large and small, now in the doldrums, would be sitting pretty on the top of the world. The stock market held out the hope of big money in a short time. The prospector was prone to admit the risk, though the returns possible made the danger of loss worth while to those who had adventurous blood in their veins. The lure of easy money has done more to hold back development of the wealth of the country by sidetracking money to purely speculative ends than has any other single force. Also, if there were less of the Beauharnois type of high financing, there would be more money for legitimate investment of money where the returns would be in some proportion to the risks and the talent required. The trouble is not so much that capital has lost its courage or the spirit of adventure, as that money men are too often swayed by the spirit of grasp. The situation will right itself when some of the moneyed men learn what it is all about.

In considering the editorial from The Northern Miner, it should not be forgotten that the ideas offered apply only to the mining industry or to commercial or industrial matters. The settlers, who are also true pioneers are not receiving the attention and help that is their due. Directly or indirectly the settlers should be given a help along in their work of pioneering. Every dollar given the prospector or the pioneer will be money well invested. Even if the individual loses a dollar in a mining venture, he can know that business and the country in general have the dollar, so it is not lost.

Baron Friedlander Exposes the Soviet

Says that Help Given by Canadian and United States Experts will Prove Injury to Their Own Countries.

Last week The Advance published an article by the Earl of Denbigh in regard to the world menace of the Soviet from the military standpoint. A mining man, Baron P. M. Friedlander, of South Africa, who was in Montreal some days ago, gave similar information in regard to the military danger and he proceeded also to show that there were other serious dangers for all the other nations of the world from the plots of the Russian communists.

The standing army of Russia consists of one and a half million men, and the reserves of four and a half million; the soldiers, mostly peasant boys, are well clad, fed and mounted; they are taught Communism during the period of service, so that when they return to their villages they will become apostles of Communism, so claims Baron Friedlander who arrived at Montreal on the steamer, Laurentic, and who later went on to Alaska, where he has mining interests he wished to inspect.

With a long-standing knowledge of Russia where he has spent, in all, some 22 years, and where he has taken part in the development of lead mines, Baron Friedlander is an avowed opponent of the system of government which has taken root in the vast Slavic realm, with its variety of types of people. His outspoken criticisms have the advantage of coming from personal experience, and were given after his landing from the White Star liner, consisting mainly of a survey of events during and following the revolution.

Workmen, senators and congressmen from the United States who visit Russia are taken to some model hospital, prison or other public institution, and, unable to speak the language, they have guides who see that they do not stray from the beaten path. Like Senator Wheeler they return to the United States full of recommendations that the Communists be recognized. Mr. Sinclair and Secretary Fall visited Russia in 1923 and actually promised Russia recognition from America and obtained an oil concession in Sakhalin Island. It came to nothing, as all concessions granted are simply a bluff to get their mines equipped; and, as in the case of the Lena gold fields, which were confiscated as soon as they were ready to start work seriously, considerable money, American and British, has been lost. The Communists in the Lena case agreed to arbitrate at first, but when the arbitrators met in London, there was no arbitrator from Russia. The arbitrators present valued the Lena goldfields, which included iron and copper mines also, as \$65,000,000. In these words Baron Friedlander passed judgment on the efforts to make investments in the land of the Soviets pay.

Referring to the large concessions which were given to Mr. Harriman for mining manganese in the Caucasus, where over \$13,000,000 was spent, he declared that in July last there was an outcry from American manganese mine owners, employing nearly 200,000 miners, directly and indirectly. They said that manganese was shipped to the U.S.A. from the well-equipped Harriman mines. Americans could not compete against Soviet products and there is a possibility of the bulk of the miners being thrown out of work.

But what is done in this field is done elsewhere, the baron contends. "In Afghanistan, Iraq and Arabia Russians undersell American and English cotton manufacturers. At home in Moscow a queue of women composed of hundreds, standing waiting to get calico at exorbitant prices. Russian butter in London can be bought at below half a dollar a pound, but in Moscow, a pound, 10 percent less than the American or English, costs as much as \$4.90. Everything possible is exported abroad to have the necessary cash for propaganda," he stated.

"There is a jargon of voices over here, as elsewhere, about Russia. Dr. Murray Butler, head of Columbia University asks his fellow-countrymen to give time to the Communists, and if the experiment of 140 million people can produce better men, then we will have all the better world. He forgets that 140 million persons are being experimented upon by ruthless terrorists," states the South African mine owner, and adds that "time is all the Communists ask."

The help given to Russia by American experts will act like a boomerang on Americans, is the claim of Baron Friedlander. "They are offered and accepted positions as technical advisors. Ford is putting up an immense plant for cars and tractors and, possibly airplanes, in Nizhni Novgorod. Railway presidents are invited to advise on railways. I think it was Mr. Budd, of the Northern Pacific, with a staff of engineers, who visited Russia a few months ago for that purpose. Mr. Bell, another American, has been invited to solve the problem of how to feed the masses in the concentration camps of forced labour. In several years, thus, they hope to be able to ruin capitalist countries," he said.

Discussing the international obligations of Russia, which have not been recognized since the Revolution, Baron Friedlander estimated the debt to Great Britain after the war in the neighbourhood of \$800,000,000, with that of France still more.

Recalling the days of the war, he said that in 1915 he went to Moscow from the United States, and was summoned by the Zemski Soyuz, or county union, in order to erect lead smelters on his mine near Vladivostok, which Russia needed badly and imported from Broken Hill Mine, Australia, via Vladivostok, at very high prices. He had several conferences, presided over by Prince Lvoff. At the end of the last conference with the prince, he said the Russian declared, "The war will be fought to a finish, not by our present rulers, but by the Russian people."

One of the aims of the Germans when the United States came into the war was to break up the eastern front and release the armies for the west. They intended to free the prisoners in Siberia (500,000 of them) and arm them. They dispatched Lenin and Trotsky from Switzerland through Germany to Petrograd, and a three billion kroner credit was opened for them in the Ashbergers bank in Stockholm. Trotsky had his agents at the front and following the decision of Kerensky to continue to fight, chaos and disorder were created among the half-starved troops, according to the narration of events by the baron.

Touching on the many events which have become material for the historian by now, the Rasputin affair, with its sinister results for all concerned, but not least for the Russian people; the counterplay of White and Red forces in eastern Russia; the use of Letts to help destroy the bourgeois aristocrats in European Russia, in which the acts of the Bolsheviks "beggar description"; all these and more the baron recalled of the stormy days in which he had played the part of an eyewitness.

Ottawa Journal:—A news item says that a ghost is reported to be haunting a disused ammonia factory in London. Spirits of ammonia must be a dreadful type of apparition.



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PROPOSE A SENATORSHIP FOR DR. ARMSTRONG, COBALT

A despatch last week from Cobalt says:—"The name of Dr. E. F. Armstrong is being boosted here as a prospective member of the Senate of Canada. A petition urging the claims of Dr. Armstrong is in circulation in the camp in this connection, and a large number of signatures already have been obtained. It is stated, Dr. Armstrong is an ex-mayor of the town, a former M.P. for South Temiskaming, and he has always been active in the interests of the Conservatives. He represented the riding in the House of Commons for one term, defeating Mac Lang in 1925, but losing out to him a year later. Dr. Armstrong has lived in Cobalt since the very early days of the camp, has taken a keen interest in the doings of the district and was commanding officer of the 159th battalion when that unit was raised for overseas service in 1916."

Ottawa Journal:—When asked her opinion about a moratorium Dora said it might be all right but personally she preferred the old-fashioned type of burial.

Suffered Stroke

Glad Now They Insisted upon Her Taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills (tonic).

"A few years ago," writes Mrs. W. J. Workman, South Mountain, Ontario, "I suffered a slight paralytic stroke which laid me up for several months. It left me in a terribly run down condition. I was advised by a friend to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I was discouraged, but my friend insisted upon my trying them, which I did. I may say that I am not now sorry, for I feel like a new person."

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