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BABY'S OWN TABLETS
 (Dr. Williams') 171

Man With Job Better Here Than in Russia
 So Says Finlander Returned to Sudbury After Visit to Soviet Russia. Admits People Used to Good Conditions Would Not Like Russia.
 A Finlander, who has lived in Sudbury for many years, but who was sent to Russia by the Finnish Organization of Canada to study conditions, has returned to Canada after a seven weeks' tour of Soviet Russia. He says he can not speak Russian and so had to depend on others for anything from or about the Russian people. This, of course, makes his trip less valuable than it would otherwise have been, and the fact that the Chekka, or police force, of Russia were of particular service in helping him along, further increases the chances that he saw and heard only what the Soviet wished. Further, he says that he went to Russia prejudiced in favour of the Soviet scheme. However, with all these facts in mind it is interesting to note some of the things that he says about the country and conditions. The Sudbury Star interviewed this gentleman, and here is the Star's story in full:
Man With Job Better Off Here Than in Russia.
 If a man has a job he is much better off in Canada than in Russia, in the opinion of John Wirta, 450 Melvin Ave., who returned recently from a seven weeks' tour of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, the official name of Russia. To the unemployed, however,

Mr. Wirta advises them to go to Russia, where there is an actual shortage of labour. If they are willing to work they may be sure of a job and fair treatment.
 "I want to be fair," Mr. Wirta told The Sudbury Star. "I studied conditions as I found them, and I am telling you, as well as my comrades, just what I found. A man used to steady work in this country, with the comforts of this country, would not like it in the Soviet Union."
 Mr. Wirta, who has lived in Canada for more than 30 years, was sent to Russia by the Finnish Organization of Canada to study conditions. He went over with a group of Finnish workers who were going to the land of the Soviets to jobs in the bush and in automobile and tractor factories. Most of his time was spent in Karelia, one of the provinces of the Soviet Union in which the language spoken is closely akin to Finnish, and in which there is a large Finnish population, but he also visited Moscow, Leningrad and Stalingrad, the great new industrial city.
 Since his return to Canada he has been addressing audiences in Sudbury and surrounding towns, last night speaking to a capacity crowd in Liberty Hall.
Says Only What He Knows
 Mr. Wirta refused to speak of what he had no personal knowledge. Asked whether living conditions are better in Russia today than before the revolution he declined to say. "I never was in Russia before the war," he said. "I can only speak of what I know myself."
 There is no starvation in Russia, he said. There is plenty of wheat, rye and vegetables, though there is a shortage of meat. Meat is rationed, a certain amount to each person. "Most of the Russians don't mind it," he said. "But Finnish people, who are large meat eaters, would like to have a little more."
 Living conditions are not comparable with those in Canada. "The food in the Soviet Union is plain, but wholesome, and people from here miss some of the luxuries they were used to. They do not like the crowded living conditions due to housing shortage. Because of these things they are not contented."
 "You would not recommend a worker with a job here to give it up and return to Russia, then," he was asked. "No," he said frankly. "If a man has a job he will be better here, but if he is unemployed, and half starving, as so many are, then I would advise him to go to Russia if he can. I have told many that."

Everybody Can Assist in Improving Conditions
 (Border Cities Star)
 Governments—Federal, Provincial and Municipal—should do everything possible to create employment on an economical scale. That is, when public works are undertaken, the powers that be should see that one hundred cents is received for every dollar spent.
 The responsibility of governments is to do as much as possible with an eye single to the value received.
 But—
 Individuals, also, must do their share. We are speaking of business men, who are in a favourable financial position. This is no time to "lie down in the traces." There are many men scattered over Canada who, if they so desired, could change a lot of dull times into good times. There is hardly a person with money in banks and stocks and bonds in vaults, but what has a need of some kind. Perhaps a new house, an addition to his home or factory, a painting job, something for the plumber to do. Even the buying of a new suit, or a piece of furniture would help a lot to create work for some man somewhere in Canada.
 Plenty of men, too, are driving old automobiles who can well afford new ones. The Border Cities workers want to build for you a new car. They (the auto workers) will in turn spend the money received for building your car for the article or articles you have to sell. After all "good times" is merely a matter of exchanging what you have to sell for something that the other fellow needs and will buy.
 Yes, individuals as well as governments have a responsibility in this depression. There must be a concerted move by everyone if we are going to get things going well again.
 Will you do your part?

Workers to be Well-Fed on the Relief Road Work
 Communist talk and literature have been suggesting all sorts of evils for the labour battalions to be used soon (it is hoped) on the work of building the Trans-Canada highway through the North. The criticisms on their face have been patently unfair and absurd, because they are so premature. Surely it is silly to fear poor food and bad shelter so long before the actual work starts. As a matter of fact at the present time there is only one real cause for criticism and that is the delay in getting the work started. The Dominion Government speedily made its decisions and arrangements; the provincial government in Ontario seemed to do the same; but though there was all summer to get ready for the actual preparations to start work at once and relieve the evil conditions all over the province in regard to unemployment, the provincial authorities have accomplished little towards an actual start except to issue statements. The work should have been under way before this. The only excuse for the delay is that special time and care is being given to providing for the safety and comfort of the men who will be on the work. Camps have been built and arrangements made for feeding the men. In referring to this feature The Toronto Mail and Empire editorially last week says:—
 "Toronto's first contingent of 1000 men to form part of the labour battalions on the trans-Canada highway are expected to leave for Northern Ontario in a few days. Apparently they will be well fed and housed. The caterers for that section between White River and the Manitoba boundary have established quarters at the head of the lakes, and presumably the bill-of-fare there will be the same for all. The Port Arthur News-Chronicle states that the caterers estimate that 10,000 men will consume in six months the following foods: 39,600 pounds of cheese; 138,600 pounds of carrots; 232,800 pounds of cabbage; 139,200 dozen eggs; 196,200 pounds of beans; 151,200 pounds of onions; 2,400,000 pounds of potatoes; 165,000 pounds of turnips; 132,000 pounds of sauerkraut. In addition carloads of bedding are being shipped from Sudbury."
 "Old-time shantymen and prospectors will rub their eyes when they see the generous and varied menu thus provided. When they were in the woods the regulation diet was pea soup, pork and beans, bread, molasses and strong tea. If their work was some distance away from the bunk-house they carried with them a lunch consisting of a hunk of cold, fat, boiled pork, slices of bread and some tea to be boiled in the open. That was their diet day after day all winter, and they thrived on it. Boys who started as road cutters developed into choppers and foremen, but they returned each autumn with glee ready for another winter's work. Old age alone drove them out of the lumber shanty. Instead of the "bedding" which is accumulating at the head of the lakes for the trans-Canada highway builders the old-time shantymen was supplied with plenty of blankets, but himself cut cedar boughs for his bed. There never was a harder, readier, healthier worker.
 "Men accustomed to city life may find it hard at first to fit themselves into the new surroundings on the trans-Canada highway. But they may be sure if they give the new outdoor life a fair trial they will quickly come to like it. Their diet will be luxurious in comparison with that on which the old shantymen thrived, and provided only that it is good, they too will thrive and put on

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Two Prices
 Asked if stories that Russia was deporting people from other countries who would not work were true, Mr. Wirta said they were not actually deporting them, but they had to pay so much for everything that they were glad to leave. There are two prices, he explained. One price is for those who are working and the other price is for those who are not working.
 The man with a job is given a coupon entitling him to get food, clothing, and whatever he requires at the co-operative stores. He is able to buy at the lower price scale. If a purchaser can not present a coupon showing he is employed at some occupation he has to pay for everything at the higher rate.
 Tourists, kulacks and any who have property and are not working for the state pay the higher scale. "I had to pay the high prices, because I had no job," he said, "and they are awfully high."
 He experienced nothing but kindness at the hands of the Chekka, or G.P.U., the so-called secret police of which terrible stories have been told. When he landed in Moscow, unable to speak the language, and without a friend, he was advised to apply to the G.P.U. He did so, and they found quarters for him, supplied him with an interpreter and gave him every assistance.
 "The G.P.U. are popular with the common people," he said. "It is only the kulacks and the property owners who fear them."
All Enthusiastic
 It was a revelation to him, the spirit that permeates everyone in the country, he said. Everyone, from the little girls to their parents, is enthusiastic about the five-year plan and about what they hope to accomplish.
 "Sometimes when I would be asking questions, and would be interrupted by some little 12 or 13-year-old girl. I would say to myself, 'What does this little girl know about such things?' but I soon found that even the children know a great deal. They study the working of the five-year plan at school and are taken through the factories, where they are given a thorough knowledge of the workings of industry."
 "The people are happy and enthusiastic, with shining faces and laughing eyes. Their heart is in the task of making the five-year plan a success. I could hardly believe it, and when I tell my comrades at work about it, they will not believe, but it is so."
Went to Learn
 Mr. Wirta admitted that he went to Russia as an admirer of the Soviet system. "My sympathies were with the workers," he said, "and you should remember that when I talk, but I went to Russia because I actually wanted to know, and I was prepared to see both the good and the bad, and to bring back a true and honest report."
 He came back with a tremendous admiration for the Soviet, for what they have accomplished and what he feels sure, they will accomplish. The five-year plan, he says, is even more successful than was hoped, and many of the details of the plan are finished now, though the five years is not yet ended.
 Mr. Wirta, speaks in a quiet, restrained voice, with none of the unrestrained language or fanatical fervour one hears

MAYBE SOMEONE SAID TO HER. "GO AND JUMP IN THE LAKE"
 The Cochrane Northland Post last week says:—"Reports of a rather unsavoury nature having come to the ears of the police regarding a certain house near Minard's Lake, Sergeant Gardner accompanied by Constables Pretorius and McCulloch paid it a visit last week. Though they failed to find anything in the house, they did get a fleeting glimpse of a scantily clad young woman who made a spectacular "get away" by jumping through the window into the lake and swimming away. (No confirmation has been received of the rumour that the Provincial Police are to be given swimming lessons in order that they will be assured of "getting their man"). While in the vicinity of the house a Cochrane taxi drove up and the police, upon investigating, found liquor in it. As a result, Ral Chabut the driver, was fined \$100 and costs in police court on Monday, for having liquor in other than his private residence, and the passenger Angus McCrea paid the usual \$10 and costs on a charge of being drunk."

NORTH BAY RESIDENT DID NOT FAVOUR MAN WITH CAR
 There are all sorts of odd situations arising from the number of the unemployed at present. There is general sympathy for those out of employment and it is really remarkable the interest and the help that the people in general is ready to give. There are, however, cases that tend to curdle the milk of human kindness. As The Advance has pointed out on many occasions care should be taken not to allow the acceptance of the idea that the thriftless or the unfair or the mean are typical of the unemployed. The vast majority of the unemployed are worthy of help, but the other kind make the most noise and catch the most attention, often with undesirable results to the decent fellows. In thinking on this feature it is well always to remember that the undeserving fellow is usually the exception. The man who gets work or relief with money in his pocket or in the bank, or with luxuries that he might dispense with, is not typical, except of the exception. One of these exceptions was referred to in the North Bay Nugget last week. It may not be as bad as it sounds, but it is the kind of incident that is liable to dissipate sympathy for the unemployed.
 The following is the paragraph from The Nugget:—"And then there's the story of the North Bay resident who, in order to do his share in alleviating the local unemployment situation, offered some casual work, in the way of digging some fence post holes, to a member of the unemployed army. At the appointment time, however, the candidate drove up to the property in a car to do the job of digging the holes and his prospective employer, noticing the vehicle, decided that anyone who could afford to drive a car was not badly in need of work, and decided to give the job to some more needy persons. At least so the story goes."

St. Mary's Journal-Argus:—The papers say bagpipes cured a Scotchman of asthma. And we always thought those things had it themselves.

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