

Should Not Lure the Unemployed to North

Need for Better Direction in Fighting Unemployment.

(An editorial from The Globe and Mail)

Years ago young Canadians flocked to the United States in search of opportunity; now their chances there are no better than at home. There are in the States millions of unemployed. Years ago also ambitious youths in Eastern Canada followed the advice "Go West, young man." So they went West to what then was a land of opportunity. They foraged for themselves; took up land, launched small business enterprises. In fact they were the men who developed the West. But now the Canadian West also has its unemployment problem.

Latterly unemployed young men in older Canada have been turning their faces toward the newer North. There had been assurances that they were needed in Northern Ontario. Men trained in the technicalities of mining are finding employment, but for the unskilled worker there seems little opportunity. Trenchantly the Northern News, Kirkland Lake, says: "The line-up at the mine gates is becoming bigger each morning, and there are more strange faces on the streets every day."

And yet here is a country only on the threshold of its development. There are roads to be built, farm land to be cleared and cultivated, a great pulpwood industry in operation, power enterprises making their way through

the country to new communities which should provide opportunity for willing young men; a vast mining industry in full swing and constantly expanding. Distances are great, and those in search of work are unable to penetrate to the more remote places, so they congregate about the larger mining centres, and "the line-up at the gates is becoming bigger each morning."

Something seems to be wrong. Knowing the situation in the North, the Northern News says these searchers for work are wandering about "just because no Government has yet seen fit to control the situation, to distribute labour, and give really truthful guidance to jobseekers." From the beginning of the depression that has been the weakness of efforts to remedy the situation—no definite plan for bringing together the worker and the job. The Purvis Employment Commission has completed a necessary work in this connection, and made a good job of it; but evidently the putting into effect of its recommendations is not yet systematically undertaken.

The problem is so complicated that progress will be slow. But if the North country does not need men, or if, needing them, there is no plan for their distribution, there at least should be official notification of the condition. Why not set up in older Canada offices—clearing houses, as it were—prepared to give definite information about labour prospects in the North? It is a species of cruelty to allow young men, on the strength of rumours of opportunity, to travel as best they may to what looks like a promised land, only to find themselves in another line-up of job-seekers.

Admittedly the situation differs from that in the Canadian West in its early

stages of development. The young men who left older Canada for the prairies were not destitute. They left home, many of them from the farms, with the definite purpose of taking up agriculture or engaging in business in a small way; and many had a little capital, enough to secure them a footing on the land or in the small urban centres. The men who seek work in the North are virtually penniless, victims of years of enforced idleness. For these the only escape from continued relief is immediate employment. They should not be lured northward by thoughtless and irresponsible assurances that they are needed.

Back to Nova Scotia for Me, Says Retiring Official

Port Arthur, Ont., May 11.—"Back to the Maritimes to smell the good salt air," is the idea of a perfect retirement to James J. Burke who recently retired on pension from the Canadian National Railways here. For thirty years he was a locomotive engineer, and a holder of an unique record; in that period he never took an engine out of the terminal.

Sorting and spotting the cars around Port Arthur yards has been Mr. Burke's occupation ever since he joined the Canadian Northern Railway in 1903, as a wiper. One year later he became fireman, and on May 23, 1907, he took over his first engine for yard duty, a position he held until retirement.

He had joined the railway a year after a slashing broken cable partially crippled his left hand in an accident at Stanley. Mr. Burke, a bachelor, intends to travel extensively now he has reached the retirement age, satisfying an ambition of many years' standing.

HEY, GO EASY MISTER



Least concerned over the coming "Race of the Century" is one of the principals, Seabiscuit, which is scheduled to meet War Admiral for a \$100,000 purse at Belmont Park. Here he is at Tanforan track, just south of San Francisco, getting a new steel shoe from Joe Rohrer, who changes the plates every three weeks.

Prisoners are Well Treated at Burwash

Recreation and Food are Both of High Standard.

There are few from Timmins and district going to Burwash. In the course of the years there have been only a handful from this area who have been guests at the famous prison farm. Several of these have reported on their return that Burwash is a pretty good place, as such places go. A similar view is taken by The Sudbury Star, that paper investigating the farm following reports that prisoners were not well treated. The following is what The Star has to say on the matter:—

Are Well-Treated
Bad men and men who could not stand the test against the temptation of crime—hardened men and faces of youthful innocence. These were found at Burwash Industrial Farm among the men paying the price for breach of the laws of society, when The Sudbury Star recently visited Burwash, following complaints of prisoners that they were mistreated at the farm.

There are at present 650 inmates under sentence at Burwash, housed at three separate camps, scattered over various parts of the property. One hundred men are kept at each of camps one and five, and the remainder are at camp two, the main camp of the institution. At this camp are the main offices, the cell block and the auditorium.

A Miniature Village
The settlement itself forms a regular miniature village, with its own store for the personnel, its own post office, staff barber shop and laundry. In addition, it supplies its own flowers and vegetables in winter from a large, modern greenhouse. It supplies its own electric power, from its own powerhouse. It also has its own garage, with a competent staff of inmate mechanics. From it operates a large fleet of trucks and tractors, used in all construction work, freight hauling and transportation. The chief industry on the farm is lumbering, and the camp is equipped with a large saw-mill, planing mill and carpentry shop. These employ a large number of inmates. In addition, the inmates are taught trades which will be useful when they are released.

On arrival at Burwash, prisoners are set to work on the "bull gang," a group doing manual labor. From that position they are moved to the semi-trustee class. They enjoy almost absolute freedom, within bounds.

Deny Complaints
Complaints that there is no recreation are denied by officials. In the winter months, inmates are taught boxing by experienced instructors, and periodical boxing bouts are held. Esprit de corps is fostered by having the bouts between inmates of the different camps. While the Sudbury Star reporter was visiting Burwash, he saw a card of these bouts. In summer, baseball teams are formed among the inmates. The big day of the year comes every Dominion Day, when the annual field day is held. Prizes, usually sweaters, are given to the first-place winners.

The dormitories are clean and spacious, and supplied with all the comforts of the average college dormitory. The cell block is the newest building on the property. Completely finished in brick, it is entirely fire-proof throughout. It is mechanically ventilated.

The "Hole"
The so-called "hole" in which offending inmates are kept is a regular cell, set apart from the remaining cells. It is equipped identically to the other cells with the exception of the cot. It is well lighted and well ventilated.

The old story of going to prison and living on bread and water is not true of Burwash. The average menu for one day is as follows: Breakfast, porridge, bacon and eggs, five potatoes, tea or coffee, and bread. On Sundays, hot pancakes and syrup are added. For dinner, the men have soup, meat, potatoes, one side vegetable, green vegetables, pie or pudding, and tea. At supper, the diet is meat, potatoes, bread and butter, fruit and cake, and tea.

Own Bread, Milk
Burwash supplies all its own bread and milk. The former is made by experienced bakers, and the milk comes from the institution's own dairy. At the farm are 500 head of cattle, pigs and sheep in large numbers.

In the evenings, the inmates have access to a large library, where they can choose any type of book, or read the latest magazines. The cell block is also supplied with a loudspeaker in each corridor, controlled by a radio in the office.
Children of the personnel are not neglected, for the property is supplied with a public and continuation schools, covering school work up to second form high school. Special residences are also supplied for bachelor members of the staff, in comfortable homes tended by trustees.

Golden Gate Mill to be Started To-day—Monday

Mill of 125 to 150 tons daily capacity is scheduled to turn over at Golden Gate Mining Co., Kirkland Lake area, to-day. Initial operations will be at a rate of 50 to 70 tons, officials advise.
Vehs 495 and 403 on the 475-foot levels are being slashed to their full width, preparatory to stopping. New vein was recently intersected in the main crosscut on the 200-foot level, and will be investigated at a later date.

Sudbury Star—Niagara Falls will not adopt daylight saving time this year. It was probably too much trouble putting the falls back an hour.

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Mines are of Double Value to the Nation

Dividends but a Small Part of Benefits from Mines.

(From Globe and Mail)
It is doubtful, even in Toronto—where a skyline has been changed in ten years and activity injected into the industrial blood stream of an old stabilized community for the first time in history, all by the mining industry—if 5 per cent. of the people realized how much they owe to those who have brought the industry to the point where it is now the most important in the life of this province. Not only has it poured new wealth into the arteries of trade, but, what is just as important, it has brought a need of new optimism without parallel in the history of eastern North America and diffused it throughout all classes.

Let us illustrate by the achievements of just one great mining organization of Ontario! Declaration of a 50-cent dividend by International Nickel Co., payable June 30, involving distribution of \$7,292,013, brings total paid by that company and its predecessors up to the impressive total of \$242,001,182, or but \$7,998,818 short of a quarter billion dollars, since 1894.

When current payment has been made total distributed on common stock alone this year will be \$14,584,026, while \$966,974 has also been paid upon preferred, making total of \$15,551,000 on both classes of stock in the first six months. Last year the company distributed \$33,750,706 on both classes, or more than one-third the total amount paid in 26 years by its nearest competitor. Of last year's total, \$32,816,758 went to holders of common stock and \$1,933,948 to holders of preferred.

The nearest competitor to International Nickel is that great mine, Hollinger, which paid its initial dividend in 1912 and which, when latest distribution is made on May 20, will have brought back to its shareholders the sum of \$89,964,000. Next in line is Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co., the greatest diversified smelting-operating mining company in the British Empire, with total of \$71,617,674 paid to date; then comes Lake Shore, close on the heels of Smelters, with total of \$67,029,600 and record of having paid the largest single dividends in the history of gold mining on the continent; and then, in order: Noranda, with \$55,501,296; Dome, \$34,899,624; Teck-Hughes, \$29,249,576; Wright Hargreaves, \$23,306,250; and McIntyre-Porcupine, \$18,544,517.

Impress as these figures are, what we wish to emphasize to a public largely thoughtless—looking upon the industry as a matter of course—is that the most important part of the production of these great mines is the far larger proportion that goes into the thousands and one necessities of a great operation and into highly paid labor.

Taking International Nickel as an example, and assuming that the proportion of its dividends to gross production has maintained a generally accepted average of around 25 per cent., it means that in the years since operations were started the company has filtered no less than three-quarters of a billion dollars into equipment, labor, freight charges, supplies and innumerable other avenues of distribution.

The writer's memory goes back to the early struggles of the company, then known as Orford Copper Company, whose president was the late H. P. McIntosh, also president of Guardian Trust Co., of Cleveland, Ohio. Something therefore is also known of the struggles and anxiety experienced by the pioneers in what has since been developed into the greatest dividend-payer of Canada, the largest producer of copper in the Dominion and the source of over 90 per cent. of the nickel of the world.

It is that point that should be kept always in mind by the public. Dividends, after all, are but a small part of accruing national benefit. Never-

theless, they do more to attract initial capital to the great undeveloped resources of this country than all other agencies put together. The man who begrudges capital a fair return for enterprise is foolish. Without it, in key instances such as mentioned, the flow of development capital, so greatly needed in a new country, would dry up to the everlasting injury of us all.

Much Interest Shown in General Electric Contest

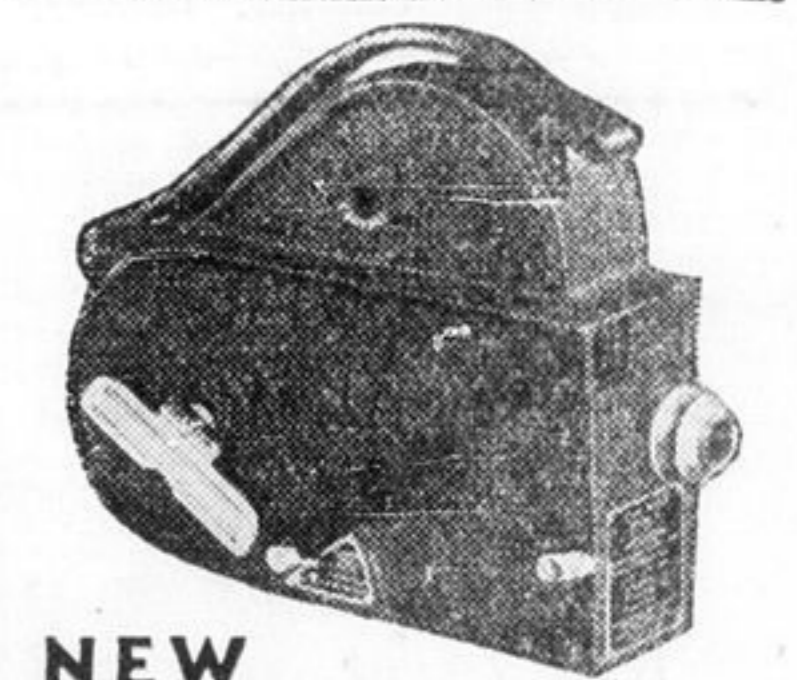
As had been anticipated, widespread interest throughout Canada was aroused in the Canadian General Electric Company's \$10,000 essay prize contest which commenced March 1 and closed April 16. Since that time the judges have been working day and night studying the many thousands of replies received, errands having been called upon to write in a hundred words or less why the electrical standard of living appeals to them. The winners, it is announced, will be revealed before the end of the present month.

"The standard of these replies has been unusually high," one of the contest officials remarked. "Many of the answers are not only well-written but they show an intelligent and thoughtful conception of the labor and time-saving advantages of electrical servants in the home. Several of the entrants have made interesting observations on the relationship between electrical equipment and appliances and the general health of the individuals in the home."

The contest, it is pointed out, was designed to create a greater public consciousness of the need of electrical servants, and regarded as a long-term investment paying dividends over a period of years in the form of a finer public appreciation of what the electrical standard of living really is.

In all, sixty-three winners will be announced in the near future. The first prize is a certificate for \$2500 to be applied on the purchase of electrical merchandise. The second and third prizes are certificates for \$1000 and \$500 respectively with other awards ranging in value from \$250 to \$50.

Carey Williams:—Half the people are trying to live on the other half.



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