

Canada's Future Financially Assured

BANKERS' PRESIDENT IS OPTIMISTIC.

Increased and Profitable Business, Local and Foreign, is Story of C. E. Neill, President Canadian Bankers Association.



A Rare Coin.

The reproduction above shows a slavery coin minted in 1833 which is one of three known to exist. It is the property of a Toronto man.

Recent bank statements are beginning to reflect the increased prosperity in Canada. Perhaps the outstanding feature is the substantial increase in current bank loans, indicating the greater volume of business. The September consolidated bank statement shows an increase of \$41,566,000 in such loans over the figures for the previous year. The statement also shows an \$8,000,000 increase in total deposits.

The steady growth in the volume of foreign trade is another indication of the basic prosperity of the country. For the twelve months ending Sept. 30, 1925, the total value of Canadian foreign trade amounted to \$1,243,000, \$2,023,025,000, and \$2,347,000. This increase is at the rate of about \$200,000,000 per year.

Healthy State of Industry.

Most of the important branches of manufacturing have been increasingly active during the past year. Pig iron production for the first ten months of the year shows a 41 per cent. increase, and the automobile output was 35 per cent. ahead of that for last year. Newspaper production is now ahead of that in the United States.

The farmer did not harvest as large crops as in 1925, but the majority of the farmers began the year in a relatively stronger position than in 1925, and the returns for this crop prove to be sufficiently large to again increase agricultural buying power. In this connection the prices for farm products are relatively higher than the average prices for other products, and this is a relationship which makes for stability in a country as largely agricultural as Canada.

Promising Mineral Outlook.

The value of the Canadian mineral output for 1925 was \$22,800,000, and the new discoveries in Northern Ontario and Quebec give promise that the returns from this source will continue to increase. The new smelter at Rouyn, Quebec, will be in operation shortly.

Huge Power Developments.

Since electric power is so closely related to both manufacturing and mining, it is a matter of satisfaction that such great progress is being made in increasing Canada's power production. The Royal Bank of Canada's electric power statistics show that the daily kilowatt hour production in 1925 is close to 20 per cent. larger than in 1925. Construction of a great electro-metallurgical plant is now under way at Arvida, in the Lake St. John district, and it is expected that the capital expenditure in this plant will exceed \$100,000,000 before the projected development is completed. The large volume of water power which is available in Ontario and Quebec promises to make Canada one of the world's leading countries in the manufacture of electro-chemical products. It is expected that investment in the installation of new turbines will be made at the rate of not less than \$60,000,000 per year for some years to come.

trict, and it is expected that the capital expenditure in this plant will exceed \$100,000,000 before the projected development is completed. The large volume of water power which is available in Ontario and Quebec promises to make Canada one of the world's leading countries in the manufacture of electro-chemical products. It is expected that investment in the installation of new turbines will be made at the rate of not less than \$60,000,000 per year for some years to come.

Foreign Capital Attracted.

The fact that there is prosperity in practically all lines of Canadian industry, including agriculture, mining, forestry and fishing, indicates that the present growth is sound, and this is attracting the attention of financiers in all parts of the world. In recent years investors from the United States have become keenly interested in Canadian resources, and they are now investing about \$200,000,000 a year in Canada. In the past few months there has been a marked increase in the interest which investors from Great Britain are taking in this market, and there have been substantially more inquiries from abroad covering long-dated conditions. Such facts indicate that the financiers in these countries are fully alive to the wealth of Canadian resources, and that they are prepared to take advantage of new opportunities as they occur. It should not be forgotten, however, that there is no real lack of capital in Canada, and there are encouraging signs that Canadians are awake to the opportunities which surround them. It is not that we deprecate foreign investment in this country; on the contrary, we are glad to have aid from every source in developing the latent wealth of the country. Those who live in Canada, however, should be most familiar with our undeveloped resources and should be most ready to take advantage of the best future of the country, we must realize that it is our duty, as well as being to our advantage, to profit by the prosperity around us and the expansion which lies just ahead, by doing our full share in this task of building a great industrial nation.



Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako, the new rulers of Japan.

From Coast to Coast

Glace Bay, N.S.—A new colliery record was made on the 14th of Dec. when the Dominion Coal Co. pits produced 19,700 tons. The day's production would have been well over 20,000 tons but for a collision between two electric locomotives, smashing up fifty boxes but leaving no casualties.

Fredericton, N.B.—Over a million Christmas trees were shipped from this province to United States markets, according to unofficial estimates based on exports of some 500 carloads averaging 2,000 trees to the car.

Quebec, Que.—The Ontario Paper Co. has completed its preliminary work at Outardes River on the north shore, with the construction of its 1,200 H.P. and the development of the lowest series of waterfalls has been developed and electricity is now available for the model town which is being built by the Ontario Paper Co. and which is known as Tschereau.

Toronto, Ont.—A mineral discovery of some importance is reported in Northern Ontario by R. S. Potter, of Matheson, to the Provincial Government. The find is declared to be copper-zinc-lead ore and may be a continuation of the rich copper belt in Quebec Province.

Winnipeg, Man.—The Provincial Government duplicated the prize won

by sixteen successful Manitoba butter-makers at the Royal Winter Show, Toronto, by presenting them each with a cheque of a similar amount. Manitoba in 1926 won twice as many prizes as were won by any other province of the Dominion.

Regina, Sask.—Thousands of dressed turkeys and chickens left Saskatchewan for the eastern provinces and the United States to supply the Christmas needs. The shipments were made mostly out of Regina and Saskatoon, and were consigned to New York, Chicago, Boston, Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and other points.

Calgary, Alta.—E. M. Bacon, of Fort Saskatchewan, Iowa, eleven years ago, and took up a quarter section of land in his present district, now owns 800 acres. Since he began in Alberta his wheat crop has averaged 40 to 50 bushels to the acre and his oats 30 to 100 bushels.

Vancouver, B.C.—Forty-three regular steamship lines operate out of the Port of Vancouver, according to the annual report of the Dept. of Marine and Fisheries. Thirteen ply to Europe; 8 to the Orient; 3 to Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii and Fiji; 7 to the Atlantic coast of Canada and the United States; 9 to Central and South America and the West Indies, and 3 to California.

Reflectors for Vehicles Given to Quebec Farmers

Quebec.—One thousand farmers in the Province of Quebec are soon going to receive unexpected gifts from the Roads Department, in the form of reflectors, which are to be fixed over and aft on vehicles propelled by animal locomotion. The Roads Department has ordered 1,000 of these reflectors as an experiment. They are so adapted that when headlights come within range of the reflectors they catch the beams. It is believed that the new reflectors will be the means of preventing a number of accidents on country roads.

"First Cast Out the Beam"—If we improve ourselves we improve others by our example.

Quebec Plans Museum on Battlefields Park

Quebec.—Plans are being prepared for the erection of a building in Battlefields Park to serve as the repository of the archives of the province and also as a Provincial Museum. Wilfrid Lacroix is the architect, and the plans will be submitted to the Provincial Government for approval in the near future. It is estimated that the cost would be about half a million dollars, and should the plans be accepted, work will commence next spring.

A printer's problem: To eliminate the "punc" from ordinary punctuation. Is there a more harrowing job than that of the farmer?

FIFTY YEARS' PROGRESS IN CANADA

One-half century ago both Canada and the United States were mainly agricultural and their respective populations bore a very similar ratio to their respective areas of improved land. For every thousand acres of improved land Canada had 205 persons and the United States, as now, possessed a much smaller settled area, but apparently was, if anything, slightly the more intensively developed country of the two. For a given area of improved land Canada had more population—whether engaged in agriculture or in manufacturing, mining, lumbering, fishing, trade and other pursuits.

To-day the situation is strikingly different. Both countries have in the meantime enjoyed great agricultural and great industrial growth, but their relative intensity of development has been entirely changed. The latest returns show that Canada, instead of having more persons in proportion to the area of improved land, has now not much more than half as many as the United States. In the last fifty years the number of the country's inhabitants per thousand acres of improved land has increased in the United States, but in Canada has declined by over 40 per cent.

The full expansion of this change involves many factors but hinges mainly on the fact that during the last generation the major share of American growth has been along manufacturing, mining and other intensive lines, while Canadian growth, featured by the immense spreading out of Western settlement, has been more largely extensive.

This trend of Canadian development has probably approached its extreme. For fifty years the ratio of population to the extent of improved land has been falling almost continuously. It has already fallen much lower than it ever dropped in the

United States. The number of persons in Canada, per thousand acres of improved land, has declined from 212 in 1871 to 124 in 1921, the year of latest returns. The similar trend in the United States was arrested at the low point of 176 and, since about 1890, the tendency there has been sharply upward as a result of great intensive development in the form of manufacturing, mining and other industrial pursuits.

The turning-point for Canada cannot be far away. The country has enjoyed a remarkable reversal of extensive growth during the last two or three decades with the result that, judged on the basis of number of population in proportion to extent of improved agricultural land, the Dominion is to-day less intensively developed than it was fifty or sixty years ago.

It is a notable fact that if the Dominion were to-day as highly or intensively developed as it was over its smaller area of settlement fifty years ago, its present population would stand at more than 10,000,000, instead of rather less than 10,000,000.

The rapid expansion of settlement over vast prairie regions, where every labor-saving implement and by a high acreage of working land per man, has reduced to an unprecedentedly low figure the number of persons in Canada per thousand acres of other unit of improved land.

According to the Resources Service the Dominion now appears to be exceptionally ripe for a long upward trend in intensity of development. This present position in regard to intensity of development is one of the most significant points in the whole range of factors shaping Canada's outlook, and is perhaps the most suggestive of all in affording some idea of the possibilities of future Canadian growth.

Homes Urgently Needed.

The great need just now is for good-hearted people throughout the province to open their hearts and homes to the homeless child. The following letter, sent by Mr. Kelso, Director of Child Welfare Work, to L. Putnam, Supt. of Women's Institutes, should be taken up by all interested in real philanthropy:

Dear Mr. Putnam,—I cannot speak too highly of the splendid assistance given by the members of the Women's Institutes in equipping and supporting the various children's shelters of the province. I hear frequently from my representatives of the substantial gifts made and the encouragement that naturally follows from this generous remembrance.

If I might make a suggestion it would be this: that presidents and secretaries of these local Institutes act as home-finders, for however good the shelter may be, it is only a shelter, and our earnest desire is to see every child firmly established in some good family. At the present time we have nearly two hundred children waiting for someone to claim them, and it seems too bad they should have to remain in storage for a year or two with so many comfortable homes in our province that might be gladened by their presence. Our motto is: Every child a real home; a child in every home. Yours sincerely, J. J. Kelso.

Prize Winner.

The children were playing a stinging game in which each was to sing that he some little bird that no one else would think of. Little Charles thought he had a good one, and when it came his turn he sang:

"I'm a little scarecrow,
I'm a little scarecrow!"

When a man aims at nothing he seldom misses his target.

Poland—The Key Nation of Europe

"Poland is the key of the European edifice," said Napoleon I. over a hundred years ago, and J. D. Whelpley, writing in Current History, reaches the same conclusion. He says: "The foreign relations of Poland are of more than passing interest and concern to other nations, for if they are good, the general peace and security of Europe are practically assured. If Poland should engage in a war, either of an offensive or defensive character, other countries in Europe would of necessity become involved, and when the disturbance would end, or how it would end, no one familiar with the deep flowing currents of international politics to-day would dare predict. On the eastern boundary of Western Europe a united and prosperous Poland presents a stalwart front toward the advance of communism. Divided and weak, her territory would become the western boundary of Eastern Europe under the influence of subversive doctrines. It is to the moral, political and material interests of the whole world that Poland should be sufficiently successful in the carrying out of her plans for reconstruction to prevent disturbances from within and to maintain her position in the international councils."

There is no urban industry that can boast of any such spectacular increase in per capita output, as far as I am aware. The plain fact is, that the Canadian farmer evidently stands at the very top of world agriculture in point of efficiency, and, while we are on the subject, I might further point out that in the sphere of economy of management, hours of work and intensity of application, he can unquestionably teach the urban dweller very valuable lessons indeed. The farmer appreciates deeply an intelligent interest in his problems by all and sundry. But he is weary of unintelligent criticism. While there is always room for improvement, Canadian agriculture is evidently very efficient.

DOUBLE THE OUTPUT.

Canada is not, however, producing a sufficient volume of agricultural products for export to sustain and furnish full time employment to our urban population. This is where the economic shoe pinches rather than in the matter of farm inefficiency. In other words, we want more farmers rather than better farmers. It will be found difficult to materially improve the very high standard of Canadian agriculture.

London Building Sites Exceed New York Value

London.—Building sites in principal London business quarters tend to fetch steadily rising prices slightly in excess of values of similar New York property, according to reports of recent Fifth Avenue sales. Since 1923 the estimated gross value of real estate in the city "proper" has increased by about \$10,000,000. In streets near the Bank of England and the Stock Exchange, office property realizes to-day from \$70 to \$100 a square foot, as compared with the average price of \$60 a year ago. In the Bond Street section of the fashionable retail district property values average in the neighborhood of \$50 a square foot, but in many other parts of London sales of land for building purposes are very common at about \$10 a square foot.

After Five Years' Silence.

After being deaf and dumb for five years as the result of a boxing accident, a London man has recovered both hearing and speech in an amazing manner.

While in hospital for the treatment of a deeply-embedded splinter in his finger, it was found necessary to give him an anaesthetic. On regaining consciousness, the patient exclaimed to an attendant who touched him that he was "All right."

In some mysterious manner either the anaesthetic or the shock of the operation had restored both speech and hearing.

Symphony.

We hear,
If we attend, a singing in the sky;
But feel no fear,
Knowing that God is always nigh,
And none pass by,
Except His sons, who cannot bring
Things of evil, since they sing.
—Helen Hunt Jackson.

Colors Birds Don't See.
It is reported that birds are color blind to blues and violets.

Proud Position of Canadian Agriculture.

BY C. W. PETERSON.

Canadian farmers receive, from time to time, a great deal of gratuitous advice from their city cousins in the virtue of studying efficiency in their calling and discarding old-fashioned methods. Sometimes there is a veiled hint to the effect that he is spending too much time in his automobile and otherwise neglecting his farm. Undoubtedly, some farmers are extravagant and probably are not working as hard as they should and their poor financial returns can generally be attributed to neglect of their business. At any rate, the implication is, that the Canadian farmer is not "tending his hitting" as closely as his city brother, who is represented as the indefatigable "go-getter," who counts that day lost upon which he is unable to add one more touch to the perfection of his business or industrial machine.

THE U. S. RECORD.

Secretary Jardine, of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, said recently that during the past fifty years the number of persons engaged in farming in that country has increased eighty per cent, while the output of farm produce has increased 300 per cent. Notwithstanding all that is said concerning the opportunity to improve income by better methods of farming, a contemporary south of the line points out that the stubborn fact still remains that the American farmer has increased in efficiency, and, what is more, he produces larger quantities of agricultural products per person than any farmer in the world.

A CHALLENGE FROM CANADA.

What about the Canadian farmer? In 1870 we had two and a third million people engaged in agriculture, with an annual production of 242 million dollars. In 1925 we had a rural population of about 4,700,000 with a production of 1,455 million dollars, and that was a low crop year. Our increase of production in 55 years is 600 per cent, with an increase in rural population of approximately 100 per cent. Our system of agriculture is almost precisely the same as in the United States with value of production per man enormously in favor of the latter on account of higher prices. The Canadian farmer has apparently beaten even the United States increased grass rural production record hollow!

THE FARMER'S POSITION.

There is no urban industry that can boast of any such spectacular increase in per capita output, as far as I am aware. The plain fact is, that the Canadian farmer evidently stands at the very top of world agriculture in point of efficiency, and, while we are on the subject, I might further point out that in the sphere of economy of management, hours of work and intensity of application, he can unquestionably teach the urban dweller very valuable lessons indeed. The farmer appreciates deeply an intelligent interest in his problems by all and sundry. But he is weary of unintelligent criticism. While there is always room for improvement, Canadian agriculture is evidently very efficient.

DOUBLE THE OUTPUT.

Canada is not, however, producing a sufficient volume of agricultural products for export to sustain and furnish full time employment to our urban population. This is where the economic shoe pinches rather than in the matter of farm inefficiency. In other words, we want more farmers rather than better farmers. It will be found difficult to materially improve the very high standard of Canadian agriculture.

Many Languages Used in the Holy City

London.—Telephone users in Jerusalem can ask for their numbers in eleven languages and the exchanges will put them through.

Writing in the monthly Telegraph and Telephone Journal, L. M. Smith, superintendent of telephones in Palestine, says: "Palestine has, in addition to the three official languages—English, Hebrew and Arabic—several other languages in common use, such as French, German, Spanish, Greek, Italian, Russian, Armenian and Rumanian."

"This is a formidable list, but a caller in any of these languages can be served without much trouble in the Jerusalem exchange, where each of the telephonists speaks at least three languages well and can deal with simple demands for numbers passed in five or six different tongues."

An Odd But Simple Puzzle.

One of the party suddenly asked: "Can anybody put one of his hands in such a position that his other hand can't touch it?" Of course, everyone in the room tried at once, and there is generally a great deal of fun at the clumsy attempts. The position is to clasp an elbow with one of the hands.

Turkish women are becoming lawyers and doctors.

The dispute over the control of Tangier in Morocco finds Spain and Italy on one side and France and England on the other. "Mussolini picturesquely calls it another revolt of the proletariat against the middle-classes—Spain and Italy are the proletarians among the nations, France and England the prosperous and wealthy bourgeoisie."

CLOCK MADE IN HAMILTON SHOWS TIME IN 26 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

Hamilton.—A report from Berlin, Germany, of a clock in a large railway terminal there which showed simultaneously the time in a dozen different countries of the world caused no wonderment to John Duncan, 250 Prospect Street, this city. He has a clock, made by his own hands, which shows simultaneously the time in 26 different centres of the world.

Mr. Duncan worked off and on at his clock for 20 years, and completed it about one year ago. The clock is encased in a frame 14 inches square.

The names of the various countries shown on the clock are stationary and do not revolve with the outside disc. Hence, these names are never upside down. One half of the disc is white and the other half black, to signify night and day. The disc makes one revolution every 24 hours.

Among the 26 centres or countries whose time is shown by the clock are: Rio de Janeiro, Iceland, Lisbon, New Zealand, Melbourne, Tokio, Pekin, Rome, London, India, and other places. The clock requires winding every four days.



WORLD'S FIRST MAGAZINE FOR THE BLIND GOES TO PRESS. Introduced by its blind inventor into Los Angeles several months ago, it has proven so popular that it is enlarged to 60 pages for national circulation. "The Braille Mirror" became possible as a result of the invention of special presses and stereotypes by J. Robert Atkinson, its publisher. Atkinson, stricken with blindness at 35 years of age, had no previous experience in the mechanical line when he began his invention. The magazine covers a wide range and enables blind people to read advertisements for the first time in their lives.