

BACK TO THE LAND FOR ALL FOREIGNERS

**Most Immigrants Were Owners
of or Workers Upon Land
in Own Country**

OUT-OF-WORKS IN CITIES

**Western Development Now Nil;
Must Give These People
a Chance**

From a Staff Reporter.

Ottawa, May 26.—Mr. G. N. Barnes, Labor M.P. for Glasgow, who has just arrived here with Mr. W. Wyndham of the Board of Trade, to see what can be done to secure men in Canada for the manufacture of shells in Great Britain, addressed to-day the big deputation of Eastern and Western Mayors who are here to interview the Government regarding unemployment.

Mr. Barnes said that the factories and works where shells are being made in Great Britain required 28,000 more men. The class of mechanics required are boiler-makers, sheet metal workers, fitters and turners. Men are needed who are skilled in assembling machinery.

Messrs. Barnes and Wyndham propose to visit all the larger industrial centres to see what men can be secured. It is understood, however, that the authorities here will urge the advisability of retaining the men in this country since there is already a scarcity of skilled mechanics for the manufacture of shells.

After a long session this morning the representatives of various municipalities who are here to interview the Government on the unemployed problem agreed on the following recommendations which will be submitted to Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues to-day.

What the Resolution Says.

"That the Dominion Government inaugurate a 'Back-to-the-Land' policy by which unemployed agriculturalists will be allotted forty acres of land each, provided with implements and maintained until self sustaining, when repayments

of monies advanced will be re-

paid.

"That all public works projected be proceeded with at once. That in future immigration be restricted to the agricultural class, and that those who arrive in Canada be directed to the occupation for which experience-fits them.

"That the Federal Government consult with the Provincial Governments and arrive at some scheme of co-operation in building permanent highways.

"That every effort be made to increase our foreign markets and thus create an outlet for the product of Canadian labor.

"That a national labor bureau be established with industrial exchanges in the various centres to regulate the supply of labor.

"That some immediate action be taken to provide relief for the unemployed at once."

Money Grants Side-tracked.

The question of money grants to cities to provide for unemployed did not meet with much support, nor did the proposition that the Government loan money to municipalities.

Eastern cities were not favorable to this, as they claimed they could secure money in the world's markets, and that to appeal to the Government would be a bad advertisement.

Mayor Mooney, of Port Arthur, claimed that all the unemployed in the Twin Cities was due to presence of alien enemies.

If the Government would maintain these, those cities would need no other assistance.

Foreigners Avoid the Farm.

Mayor Waugh, Winnipeg, presented the memorial of the delegates from the various cities of Canada to the Government at noon. Outside of the prosecution of the war to a successful issue, he said, the representatives believed that the question of unemployment was the most vital issue. The ten years of feverish building had ceased and the result was a condition that was very acute. Sixty-five per cent. of immigration had not gone on the land. In Winnipeg, of the foreign unemployed 88 per cent. had been owners of land or farm laborers in the country of their origin. In Saskatchewan, out of 51,000 immigrants from European countries in the past few years, only 16,000 went on the land. These men were in the cities and out of employment, becoming demoralized and losing those characteristics that make for good citizens.

Mr. Waugh said he could only speak for the West. During the past ten years—the constructive period of the West—they had allured to Canada from Europe many intending settlers. He found no fault with bringing them here; there was now no further railway construction and there were now no new works in the big cities. Last year in Winnipeg there were \$13,000,000 in building permits; this year so far there was practically none.

The immigrants who came to this country were still largely looking to the cities to provide for them.