

UNEMPLOYMENT BAD IN COAST PROVINCE

Mines and Mills Closed Allow- ing Thousands to Seek New Jobs

NOT SO BAD ON PRAIRIE

Many "Workless" Are Alien Enemies Who Will be Fed by Government

From a Staff Correspondent.

Winnipeg, Nov. 25.—A comprehensive report on unemployment and labor conditions in western Canada has been received by the Department of Labor from J. D. McNIVEN and H. S. Hood, Fair Wage Officers in the west. Mr. McNiven investigated conditions in British Columbia and Alberta, while Mr. Hood investigated the situation in the chief cities of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The report shows that while there is a great deal of unemployment in the west, conditions are no worse in Western Canada than in the east. Many of the unemployed also are Austrians and Germans, and as they will be cared for by the Dominion Government this will tend to alleviate the situation. Conditions are probably worse in British Columbia and Alberta owing to the fact that the mines and mills are either closed down or running half time.

Mine Production 30 Per Cent. Less.

It is estimated that half the eight to nine thousand miners employed in the Alberta coal mines are either not working or working short time. Production will be fully thirty per cent. less. The same conditions are reported as existing in the metal mines of British Columbia.

It is estimated that 3,000 are out of work in Winnipeg. Of these 2,500 are unskilled laborers, and many of these alien enemies. Six hundred members of building trade and 500 clerks and stenographers are (estimated) out of work.

In Winnipeg, as well as most of the western cities, there is little unemployment amongst women, and domestic servants are in as big a demand as ever.

Thousands Idle at Coast.

Mr. Hood reports 800 to 900 unemployed in both Saskatoon and Moose Jaw. Most of these are mem-

bers of the building trades and mechanics, with considerable unskilled laborers,⁶ mostly Austrians. In Regina there is reported, 1,500 out of work. Of the 600 unskilled laborers, 450 are Austrians and Germans.

Edmonton is estimated at having 4,000 unemployed and Calgary in the neighborhood of 6,000. The number of unemployed in Vancouver is placed at 8,000, Victoria 3,000, and Nanaimo 600.