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MONEY TO LOAN
On Real Estate.
APPLY TO **D. M'LEOD VINCE**
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CANADIAN FLOUR IN JAPAN.
An Ottawa Baker at the Osaka International Exhibition.

No kingdom on the face of the earth, in either ancient or modern times, has forged ahead more rapidly than Japan, not only in civilization in its commonly accepted sense but industrially in its fullest commercial meaning. A quarter of a century ago Japan was practically known as four large and many small islands off the north-eastern coast of China, where people employed their time in growing tea, inlaying trays, and deftly embroidering silken garments with golden threads. Today Japan is an empire worthy of the name, comprising an area of 162,655 square miles, with a population of 44,000,000 (forty-four millions) of people. The adoption of western manners and customs, the abolition of the feudal system under which the country was governed by a few lords, the conversion of an absolute into a limited monarchy as the result of the 1863 revolution, and the introduction in 1890 of a popularly elected parliament, have raised the empire of Nihon from a petty sovereignty to be one of the powers of the world which has now to be reckoned with in all matters of difference between the Occident and the Orient. Japan has a national debt of \$257,000,000.

While not more than one-sixth of its area is cultivable, the soil is very productive where it can be utilised at all, and there it teems with every variety of agricultural produce. Tobacco, tea, potatoes, rice, and wheat are all grown; its floral kingdom is rich, beautiful, and varied; but its fruits though abundant are for the most part of poor quality. Japan has 2,652 miles of privately owned railways and 768 miles of government lines, on which last year a net profit in the aggregate was made of \$3,734,885.

Japan possesses an army of 300,000 men, and her war with China cost about \$225,000,000, of which \$80,000,000 was repaid by indemnity. She has a well equipped navy manned by 19,000 men, and her mercantile marine is worthy of her progress.

During the last fiscal year Japan exported to the United Kingdom copper, curios, drugs, jute, silk (raw and manufactured), and straw plaits to the value of \$1,494,764, while during the same period her imports from the old country in alkali, arms, carriages, cotton, yarn, cotton goods, machinery, metals, ships, and ship machinery, and woollens reached the value of \$8,649,101.

During the same period Canada exported to Japan only \$188,683 worth of goods, while she imported therefrom materials to the value of \$1,620,868. But this is in process of change.

Four years ago the Hon. Mr. Nosse, now Consul-General for Japan in British North America, with headquarters at Montreal, was despatched to Canada by his government for the purpose of advocating the federal government disallowance of certain legislation passed by the Province of British Columbia prohibiting the admission of Japanese into Canada. Mr. Nosse's successful intervention was followed by the natural desire on the part of his government to cultivate international trading relations between Canada and Japan, and the latest outcome of his diplomatic mission has been the decision of the Hon. Sydney Fisher, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, to co-operate with the government of Japan in furthering the success of an international exhibition to be held in 1903 in the kingdom of the Mikado, by the furnishing of a section illustrative of almost everything grown or produced in Canada. Mr. William Hutchison, Exhibition Commissioner of the Canadian Government, will be in charge, and one of the main features of the Canadian exhibits will be the making on the spot of bread from Canadian flour, by Mr. Jameson, an Ottawa expert baker, who is calculated to prove an expert demonstrator.

Canadian flour of the sort that will be exhibited contains by actual analysis about one-tenth more of albumenoids than the best quality of Hungarian flour; and the albumenoids or gluten being more tenacious yield a dough which rises better and holds its position in the baked loaf. When this is seen the demonstration in Japan will be followed as elsewhere by a demand for Canadian flour in that country far in excess of the paltry \$8,410 worth exported last year. From Canadian flour bakers can make not only the best quality of bread but likewise the largest quantity per barrel. Three independent tests made by first-class bakers with strong Canadian flour have given the following results. Each using 100 pounds of flour, they obtained respectively 140, 152, and 151 pounds of bread. Adulteration of Canadian flour by Indian corn flour or any cheaper inferior substances is entirely unknown, and for sweetness, whiteness, and strength this flour is unsurpassed.

In the matter of the exports of wheat, flour, cheese, butter, apples, lumber of all kinds, fish and fish products, carriages, raw and manufactured cottons and woollens, Canada is Japan's natural next door neighbour, controlling the whole "red line" route from east to west, and from the motherland to the furthest confines of the Pacific. Less than three weeks will transfer cargo from the Atlantic board to Yokohama wharf, and the

Canadian Government system of cold storage both on the railway cars and the steamships, renders the transportation of such perishable articles as butter, cheese, fruits, and meats as safe and as easy as the carrying of the roughest perishable lumber.

What Japan requires in the way of imports Canada is prepared to supply on the most mutually advantageous terms; and when Canada comes to the assistance of Japan with a brotherly readiness as has been the case, the least that Japan can do is to reciprocate by bestowing her commercial patronage where she has not sought in vain for fraternal acknowledgment. She knocked at the door of this Dominion and it was instantly opened wide for her reception; we have on sale what she requires, and that of the very best quality, and Japan will now have an opportunity of practically manifesting her appreciation of our generosity by placing her orders where she did not hesitate to place her application for favors.

Osaka, the site of the proposed Exhibition, is an active manufacturing city, its principal exports being tea and silk; and it is the chief commercial centre of Japan, containing a population of 476,271. It is what is commonly termed a "show" city, its principal sights comprising the castles, the Tennoji temple and pagoda, the mint, the arsenal, the Hongwanji temple, the Haku Butsu or commercial bazaar, the theatres, and a multiplicity of curio shops. The Haku Butsu will be open at night, and, condensing all the shops and factories of the town in that one place, the Canadian and other visitors may review industrial Osaka by electric light. The labyrinthine bazaar is the delight of the natives, and it is the joy of every visitor to follow its tortuous mazes without a thought of fatigue. Each city in the Mikado's kingdom possesses a large bazaar under Government control where goods marked in plain figures are sold for a small commission. There the useful and the useless, the necessities and the luxuries of life, the newest inventions, antiques, curios, and whatnot unobtainable elsewhere invite the inspection of the visitor and tempt a purchase if only as a souvenir typical of the land of the chrysanthemum. The richest silk fabrics loom and band can produce are here to be found in abundance, and the tourist who wishes an hotel conducted on the "European plan" will discover such accommodation of Jiatai's Osaka hotel, which is pleasantly situated on an island.

Osaka is most delightfully located, and has not inaptly been termed "The Venice of Japan," for it possesses no fewer than 300 bridges. Formerly Osaka was a military capital for Japan, and within its castle walls much of its history has been made, for therein were played the final acts of the Shogunate, and with the surrender of 1868 the Restoration began.

W. H. COARD.

The Labor Problem.

When the coal-miners stated their case before the arbitration commission last month, and the operators made their reply, the differences which must be harmonized or compromised were set forth. The demands for an increase in wages and for a shorter working-day, for a new basis of measuring coal, and for an agreement with the United Mine Workers of America as to wages and hours were all declared unreasonable by the coal companies; and the companies denied the jurisdiction of the commission over their relations with the United Mine Workers. They said further that this labor union was "incapable of making a binding contract," as it was unincorporated.

The arbitration commission has been taking the testimony of men familiar with the conditions of the coal trade, in order to enable it to form an independent judgement on the justice of the demands of the miners and on the pertinence of the reply of the operators.

Important as is the settlement of this case, the demand which has grown out of it for the incorporation of labor unions is more important still. A law permitting such incorporation was passed by Congress in 1886. The national Democratic convention in 1884 had, in the interest of labor, declared that such a statute ought to be enacted.

In a report of the commissioner of labor, published a few years ago, it was shown that Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska and Wyoming had similar laws. Yet few labor organizations have taken advantage of the state or national incorporation laws. Their leaders say that they keep their contracts without legal compulsion, and that the advocates of incorporation desire to "mule or outlaw our unions." One of these leaders intimated at a recent national labor convention that the courts would not treat the unions fairly if they were incorporated.

Thus, growing out of the joining of the issues in a single labor trouble, we have the alignment of the advocates and opponents of labor incorporation. The disagreement between them cannot be settled so quickly as that between the coal-miners and operators, for a long and slow process of education must precede it—education which the employers need as much as the employed.

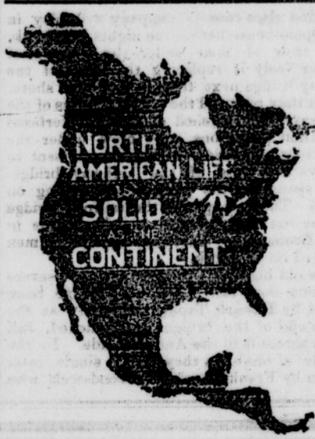
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