

EDUCATION OF THE INDIAN CHILDREN

THIS PROVINCE MOST INTERESTING FIELD

Reports of Superintendents and Inspectors on the Work Being Accomplished

In the annual report of the Indian department, Duncan C. Scott, superintendent of Indian education, has a lengthy report on the progress of the Dominion's care of its native wards.

The province of British Columbia is one of the most interesting fields in the work of Indian education in the Dominion, and at the same time the difficulties to be met with are even greater than in the other provinces.

The Indians have been from the earliest times a people of the most advanced white population, which in the west caused the complete disappearance of the buffalo, did not occasion any serious change in their mode of food-supply.

The industrial and boarding schools, which are referred to throughout the agency reports following, and which work so fully under the reports of the principals, are well conducted and efficient institutions, and the career of the ex-pupils on leaving them has been admirable in every respect.

In the Dominion there are 324 Indian schools, of which 251 are day schools, 54 boarding schools, and 19 industrial schools. Of these 51 are under the care of the Roman Catholic church, 93 are of the Anglican church, 45 are of the Methodist church, 15 are of the Presbyterian church, and 2 are looked after by the Salvation Army.

I visited Kuper Island industrial school (Roman Catholic) on December 19, 1911. Rev. D. Klassen, the principal in charge. This institution comprises a number of buildings, all disconnected, the boys being much in need of repairs, and the girls' school overcrowded.

The girls' school is in a somewhat better state of repair, but is much too small for the number of pupils at present in attendance. In the two dormitories there is a very unsatisfactory arrangement for very bad odor was present for a distance from the building. The water-closets of the girls' school were in good order, but

the drain pipes leading to the sea had been taken up on account of their getting continually blocked with garbage.

The only method of ventilating the building is by means of leaving the windows open to permit of a supply of fresh air.

There are about 70 acres of land in connection with the institution, 40 of which are under cultivation, from which good crops of vegetables, fruits and hay are obtained.

A good gymnasium has been erected for the boys, and the girls practice dumb-bell and Indian club exercises.

As it would take a large amount of money to make necessary alterations and repairs to these buildings, it would be much more desirable to build a new modern school, with accommodation for 90 or 100 pupils.

My visit to Nanaimo day school (Methodist) was on February 8, 1911. Rev. W. J. Knott is the principal. The number of pupils on the roll was 14 boys and 4 girls, the average attendance being about 9.

Those pupils who attend regularly are making good progress. There has been no sickness among the children during the year worth speaking of.

The building is in a good state of repair, and the sanitary conditions are good. The water-closets having been built during the year.

As the principal informed me that there should be a better average attendance of pupils, I held a meeting of the parents of the school, at which I obtained promises from the parents that they would see that all the children of school age on the reserve attended the school regularly in attendance.

The chief of the Nanaimo band reported to me that there were 10 children on the Nanaimo River reserve whose parents wished them to attend school at Nanaimo, being about six miles by road.

I visited Quamichan day school (Methodist), which is situated on the Quamichan reserve, on February 10, 1911. The teacher is Mr. E. J. Bowden. There are 14 children on the roll—8 boys and 6 girls.

The building is in a good state of repair, capable of holding about 45 pupils. The ceiling is high and the ventilation good; but there are no water-closets.

I visited Quamichan day school (Roman Catholic) the same day. The school is situated on the Clemeclanuz Indian reserve, and Miss Louisa is the teacher. She was only appointed on February 1, having been the place of Miss Fruenro.

The school is in a good state of repair, capable of holding about 45 pupils. The ceiling is high and the ventilation good; but there are no water-closets.

I girl. During the last quarter the attendance has been poor, but the average during the present quarter shows a marked improvement.

The health of the children throughout the year is reported to have been good, but at the time of my visit a few were suffering from colds.

Alert Bay industrial school (Church of England) I visited on October 17, 1911. The school has a fine location, being situated close to the wharf of Alert Bay, on Cormorant Island.

At the time of my visit both the principal, A. W. Corker, and his assistants were absent, pending the meeting of the board, and the school was in charge of Mrs. Corker, the matron.

Mr. Corker reported that the children were making fair progress in their studies, and that the general health of the pupils had been good during the year.

The school appears to meet with all requirements so far as sanitation is concerned, but I did not measure up the dormitories and class-rooms to see whether they met the requirements that apply to boarding schools in the matter of air space, etc.

There is a competent trade instructor teaching the boys carpentry and general handwork. There is generally a fair supply of water, which is pumped from a well into tanks.

Alert Bay day school (Church of England) I visited next day. The school building is new, only having been built quite recently, and is in charge of Miss Harris. The pupils were reported to be making good progress in their studies, and their health had been very fair during the year.

I visited Alberni boarding school on January 20, 1911. The principal is H. B. Currie, who has had charge of the school for about one year. There are 48 pupils on the roll—22 boys and 26 girls.

The principal reported that all the pupils were making good progress in their studies, and that the health of the children during the past year had been very good.

The building is ventilated with a number of ventilators in the dormitories and class-rooms for the purpose of taking the foul air off the floors, and the windows are kept open to allow of a plentiful supply of fresh air.

At the time of my visit the boys' dormitory was somewhat crowded, but by placing four of the pupils in another room, which was vacant, this objection will be overcome.

Besides their regular studies the boys are instructed in farming and gardening, and the girls are taught cooking, sewing and general housework.

There is a plentiful supply of good water on the premises; and there is also good drainage. The school is situated on high ground on the banks of the Soanah river.

About 17 acres of land have been reclaimed a short distance back of the school, and the principal expects to put at least two acres of this under cultivation during the coming summer.

The boys are instructed in the rudimentary principles of house-building, and during the year will be given instruction in gardening.

I visited Clayoquot industrial school (Roman Catholic) on January 24, 1911. The principal is Rev. P. Maurus, O.S.B. This is a very fine institution and is in a first-class state of repair.

The building is situated on high ground, and there is good drainage. There is also a plentiful supply of pure water, which is obtained from a mountain stream.

About four acres of ground are used for garden purposes, upon which are grown all the vegetables used at the school with the exception of potatoes.

So far as fire protection is concerned the school is well equipped with all the necessary appliances, which are always kept in place.

I visited Clayoquot day school (Roman Catholic) the following day. The principal is Rev. P. Maurus, O.S.B. Joseph Schindler, he only recently having been appointed as teacher.

There are 29 pupils on the roll—16 boys and 13 girls. On the day of my visit there were 22 children in attendance at the school, which was a very creditable showing.

The teacher has inaugurated the system of giving prizes for punctuality, and this has greatly assisted in increasing the average attendance.

As it was night-time when I arrived at Uchuelat, I was unable to visit Uchuelat (Presbyterian) school, without the loss of much time, the boat only calling at that place once a week.

The main building is heated by means of hot air, and the class-room, which is away from the main building, is heated by a stove.

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COMMANDER ROSE AND NAVAL SERVICE

HOW TO CREATE A MARINE POPULATION

From Which to Draw Recruits for the Canadian Navy—Instructive Speech

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in drawing attention now, and it was with the greatest pleasure that I heard a strong statement and a suggestion on the subject from the Hon. Mr. McBride at the Navy League meeting here a short time ago.

That statement will, I am sure, have started a lot of people thinking, over the matter who never considered it before, and the Navy League, a most patriotic and apparently popular organization, strongly supported here in British Columbia, will, I feel certain, keep the matter to the fore in men's minds and every one who, even though he is not a sailor, takes an active part in the life of the community, will be encouraged to reap the harvest of these British waters, to populate the country with a race such as has done all the great things which the seafaring people of England have done, to circulate the earnings of their labor in this their own land, and from whom the men for the naval defence of the coast may be drawn, will be doing just as much for his country and for the Empire as the man who has supported any of the great measures which have gone before, and which have built or are building the country and preparing it for the great destinies it has to fulfil.

Will you forgive me if I quote somewhat at length from Captain Mahan, who has done so much to educate the world on the importance of the navy? The analogy which I wish to bring out seems to me very striking and words of my own would not impress it upon you with half the force that his well chosen ones do.

Speaking of the extent of territory, he says: "It is a source of strength or weakness according to the population in large or small. A familiar instance is found in the American continent. Had the South a population as numerous as it was warlike, and a navy commensurate with its other resources as a sea power, the great extent of its sea coast, and the numerous inlets, would have been a source of great strength."

The United States justly prided themselves on the blockade of the whole Southern coast. It was a great feat; but it would have been an impossible feat had the Southern been more numerous, and a nation of seamen. What was shown was not how such a blockade was possible in the face of a population not only unused to the sea, but scanty in numbers. The plan, under the circumstances, could not have been carried out in the face of a real navy. Scattered unsupported along the coast, the United States ships kept their places singly or in small groups, but so that such a blockade was possible in the face of a population not only unused to the sea, but scanty in numbers.

But when arises the natural question how about manning them? I think you will find that question will be settled with the arrival of the ships, and I want to-night to bring to you men of British Columbia a matter which seriously affects that question. On the shores of Eastern Canada is a large seafaring population. From amongst the seafaring population of Canada men and boys will be found just as ready and willing to protect the property and the honor of the Empire as the men of the sea are the men and boys from the coasts of Great Britain. The coast provinces are where Canada looks for her seamen for the navy, and the Dominion does not look there in vain.

But how about the West? Gentlemen, I ask you not to blame the navy, because the men from the West are not numerous, and it is the duty of the country's prestige, to protect its property on the high seas, and to uphold its Empire's honor on the water.

delegates, Mayor Lee, of New Westminster delivered the address of welcome.

Following this speech-making the credentials committee submitted their report and at the conclusion of this secretary of the association, read his report.

There is considerable disappointment felt over the fact that Hon. W. J. Bowser will not be present at the convention. Mr. Bowser this morning wired to the chairman of the convention:

"Impossible for me to leave Victoria this week, as I am the only minister left."

Premier McBride, on arising to address the convention, was received with great applause. He said that the members of the party had worked hard in the recent elections and had scored a brilliant victory. Speaking of the matters which are awaiting settlement between the province and the Dominion, Mr. McBride said that he was fully assured that satisfactory arrangements in respect to all these matters would be made as soon as possible. The people are anxious to see the Dominion and the province on this point. The special measures in which they were interested would be attended to at Ottawa at their satisfaction. At the same time it was for their benefit that they should remember that the needs of other parts of the Dominion had also to be looked after. The Dominion government, however, would see to it that every satisfaction was given to British Columbia and in arriving at a solution of outstanding matters they would be aided by the splendid pliancy which the province had sent to Ottawa to support the new Conservative premier, Mr. R. L. Borden.

Premier McBride closed with a reference to the great prosperity which the city of New Westminster had attained despite disasters by fire and flood in its earlier days. The city, he said, gave every indication of becoming a magnificent center of commercial life and he was sure that in the achievement of that ambition the city would be aided by the good wishes not only of the delegates to the convention but of all the citizens of the province.

According to Census Director Powell the value of all livestock in the United States in 1910 was \$1,836,000,000, compared with \$2,075,000,000 in 1909.

These

PROFESSION

ADVANCEMENTS: David H. Block, per month; extra line per month.

ARCHITECTS: W. D. H. ROCHFORD, 47, Camberton Block; J. M. WARREN, 47, Camberton Block; J. M. WARREN, 47, Camberton Block.

CHIROPRACTIC: MRS. CAMPBELL, 67, Patterson street.

CONSULTING: W. G. WINTERBURN, next examination, 515 Bastin street, 1331.

COMMERICAL: VICTORIA BUSINESS, Fort street, 270; Commercial subjects, instruction by capable teachers. Students time, Satisfaction.

DENT: DR. LEWIS HALL, 14, Fort street, corner; DR. W. F. FRASER, 14, Fort street, 9:30 a. m. to 12 p. m.

FLORISTS: SEE THE NEW FLOWERS, Yates street, Florists a specialty.

HAIR DRESSING: MRS. M. STANNER, 107, 727 Fort street.

LANDSCAPE: C. PEDERSEN, landscape gardener; tree pruning, 47, Fort street, 1248.

LAND SURVEYING: GREEN BROS., BUTCHERS, Dominion; GORE & McGRIGOR, Land Surveyors and Engineers, 23, Langford street, 2nd floor; LEGAL: C. W. BRADSHAW, Chambers, Bastion; MURPHY, FISHER & BERTON, Patent Office and Stationery, 14, Fort street; MEDICAL: MRS. EARSMAN, medical massage, 1798; MINERAL: CHARLES BROOKS, E. Ketchers, 11, 11th street; ARTIST'S SOLO VIEWS, 11, 11th street; MANDOLIN, 11, 11th street; BANO, expert tailor, 11, 11th street; MUSIC: Piano and Music, 11, 11th street; PHOTOGRAPHY: WILFRED GIBSON, Yates street, Phone 1111; PIANO: C. P. COX, piano and music, 11, 11th street; PUBLIC STEEL: MISS E. O'ROURKE, engraver, 415 Pender; SHORT: SHORTHAND, The System, (Pitman's) 3 months by express, 11, 11th street; COURT CARTBOOD, 11, 11th street; VICTORIA, No. 11, 11th street; A. O. F. COURT, No. 11, 11th street; READ THE O...

EXPLOSION KILLS THIRTY-THREE HUNDRED OTHERS SUSTAIN INJURIES

Fire Adds to Horrors of Disaster in Oil Cake Mills

Liverpool, Nov. 24.—Thirty-three workers are known to have been killed and upward of 100 others injured by a boiler explosion to-day at the oil cake mills of J. Bebbly & Sons.

The force of the explosion was so terrific that the roof of the mill was blown off, while the walls split and crumbled. An outburst of flames followed.

Nearly 400 workers were engaged in the building. The bodies of those in or near the boiler room were horribly mangled, some of them being thrown into the streets together with bricks and debris.

Men could be seen at every window frantically appealing for assistance with the fire raging behind them.

The fire department was early on the scene and many of the men were rescued. Many of those brought down were of the order which they had been through.

A number of those taken to the hospital were suffering from shocking injuries, and many of them have lost their hair and clothes.

Forty-five Japanese sailors drowned.

Tokio, Nov. 24.—The Japanese destroyer Harusame, founded off Shima province in a storm to-day perished, with the crew of sixty perished.

CONSERVATIVES AT NEW WESTMINSTER

Provincial Convention Opened—Premier McBride on Ottawa Mission

New Westminster, Nov. 24.—With the drop of Chairman Mackay's gavel, which opened the fifth annual convention of the British Columbia Conservative Association in New Westminster this morning, comes the beginning of a political session which has been looked forward to with great interest.

The expectations of an important session have recently been growing, received justification this evening. The ambassador of Russia and Austro-Hungary went to the Porte where the cabinet of the two governments had received a notification from Italy that she was about to blockade the Dardanelles.

The fine of the C. P. R. steamer Princess Adelaide of \$300,000, which has been lowered at all of the four previous conventions held by this association.

While the credentials committee was busy examining the credentials of the

BLOCKADE OF DARDANELLES

London, Nov. 24.—The Times publishes the following special dispatch dated Constantinople, Nov. 23.

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