

Publishing Office:
1100 Bute Street, Vancouver, B. C.
Telephone:
Seymour 6048



D. A. CHALMERS
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For Community Service—Social, Educational, Literary and Religious; but Independent of Party, Sect or Faction
"BE BRITISH" COLUMBIANS!

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University Featuring Number

6

A Challenge to Vancouver—and its Hinterland

Sometimes local patriotism affecting certain lines of Social Service may best be stirred by the International Leader of Thought, the man of a world-wide vision. To a comparatively small group, Dr. Mott the other evening gave an address in Spencer's dining room, Vancouver, which might, under other circumstances, have reflected creditably on the social and intellectual life of this community had an Auditorium similar in size to the McEwan Hall, Edinburgh, or even the Albert Hall, London, been crowded to hear him. The address was a masterly review of conditions as at present evolving, nationally and internationally around the basin of the Pacific Ocean. It was of that analytic and comprehensive nature which is possible only from such a traveller and student. An outline, if not a summary of it might be given in this Magazine, only, according to a dictum which we believe it is good for us all to seek to practise, the most important "application" or improvement of any powerful exposition is the one which "begins at home".

When he had completed his arresting resume of the Pacific situation, Dr. Mott made a pointed reference to the Vancouver Y. M. C. A. By comparison with other cities, many of which no doubt are likely to be much less outstanding in the era of evolution in world service that is upon us, the building and equipment of the Y. M. C. A. of Vancouver city are deplorably inadequate; and as Dr. Mott himself indicated, he would not be a friend if he were not frank in facing the situation. When we interpret aright the spirit and worthy purpose of the man, we cannot but trust that the hope he expressed about what would be accomplished within the next year or two, will be more than realised.

May a BRITISH COLUMBIA Magazine Help?

There is no need to go into the history of the Vancouver Y. M. C. A., nor are we now concerned in any detail with what befell a former enterprise. All mortals make mistakes of judgment; and, whatever else is said, we believe it is generally recognized that the time and circumstances of the venture were peculiarly trying.

What we are exercised about chiefly is the situation TO-DAY, and what may or should be done to meet it. Some men may be interested in the Y. M. C. A. because of personal benefits received from it in their youth or later. Those whose boyhood's lot may not have given them such rare opportunities and privileges affecting the exercise of body and mind, may be the more ready to recognise the practically inestimable worth of these to manhood in the making. For clean sport, and healthful physical and mental exercises under conditions and associations which stir and stimulate the best in human nature, form an asset which in most cases is likely to be more valuable to the growing soul than an inherited monetary fortune.

Even in a commercial age—and a time in which mere money-making is too often taken as the gauge of "a successful man"—observation and experience alike will lead people of all creeds and connections to admit the outstanding social worth of an Institution whose field of unrestricted undenominational, social service, makes for healthfulness in body, mind and spirit.

Then, so far as Vancouver's "HINTERLAND" is concerned, there is the bearing on this question of the Terminal city becoming increasingly a city of business service for young men from all quarters of British Columbia, if not also of Alberta and farther afield, or, may we say, farther a-prairie. Were it only for the associations inseparable from the "Y", Vancouver city, in the not-distant future, should have a building and equipment scarcely second to any, in order to care fully for the needs of such young men who may be temporary or permanent residents at the Coast Mainland.

HOW CAN WE SERVE?

Service is a hard-worked word in these days, but years ago, when the former management was wrestling with the problems of the past, we questioned if this Magazine might not be of some use. We do not remember if the matter was put in any formal way then, but now, influenced by the challenge underlying Dr. Mott's words, and inspired by that ambition towards real community service which has fostered this Magazine's life for fifteen years, we are disposed to offer

to serve the Vancouver Y. M. C. A. through its Executive in any way they and the management of this Magazine may decide is practicable. Our idea would be not merely to keep in the forefront the clamant need for a Y. M. C. A. building suitable for such a city as Vancouver, but in some reasonable measure to help build up a fund that will make such an Institution a reality.

Why this University-Featuring Number

The Ideal is ever ahead of us. This issue was made necessary, in supplement of a former one, because while some "copy" was welcomed early, there was unavoidable delay in getting in other contributions which were held essential towards a fairly complete survey of the University departments.

As it is, we go to press without waiting for an "Impression" to be included of one Dean. As Dean Coleman, however, is one who is widely known, not only in connection with his official position, but for his social service in other ways, such as his popular chairmanship ability, his power of literary expression (in prose and verse alike), and his genuinely genial personality, we have the less regret regarding the omission. Similarly, a repeatedly-promised reference to the work of the University Librarian did not come to hand in time for insertion in this issue.

To all who have co-operated in the work of producing this number we tender our sincere thanks, and we trust that they, with us, may find that it is held by others to be of some community service.

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