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POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Mail Service Branch.
Ottawa, 22nd September, 1910.
G. C. Anderson, Superintendent

New Westminster

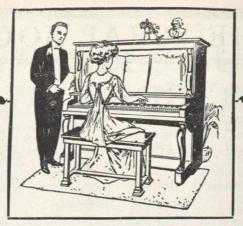
By F. E. BROPHY.

THE Fraser River city whose name carries one back to the banks of the River Thames, within sound of Big Ben and Mr. Lloyd George, is noted for two things, one, an edible, and the other a sport. For the sake of the person who is not good at riddles, the an-swer is canned salmon and lacrosse, one from the water and the other from the land. Now in the same fashion as Pharaoh's daughter is reputed to have taken a little prophet from rushes on the bank, even so doth the New Westminster lacrosse team, while the spectators, when not watching the process, divert them-selves by observing their neighbours net profit from the river. Accordingly, the Eastern critic (and who ever saw an Easterner in the West that wasn't a critic) writes home that the banks find their floating liabilities easily liquidated, and while they admit that scales are a good omen in this place and especially in the hands of justice, they declare that the chief wealth of the settlement lies in fish and game, sockeye and "Salmonbelly."

If the author of these whimsical oddities and quaint arabesques of thought could get away with them without detection, he would be moved to observe that he has resided in the lacrosse capital of the Western hemisphere for a considerable period (considerable is a chosen word, for all periods are such on the local press of this community. The press press of this community. The press itself is periodic and to insure that periodicity is a pressing affair). As a citizen, I say, of this capital, I feel that any word that should fall from my lips, would be of more value than if they fell from the lips of an Outlander or a manufacturer of largeses. lander or a manufacturer of lacrosse sticks.

Montreal sportsmen from the St. Lawrence full of ardour and confidence, but when they reached the Fraser and crossed sticks on two separate occasions with the "Salmonbellies," they found their "Salmonbellies," they found their supply of these abstract qualities were insufficient. Later in the season from Donald Smith's pocket borson from Donald Smith's pocket bor-ough came forth another band of coureurs-de-bois, adepts we are told by the public prints of the copper country, at fishing and hunting, like their progenitors, the heroes of the Long Sault, and like them mighty in battle, uncheckable in their mad career, and matchless in shooting, for they had the savoir faire in aiming and putting the ball to its goal. Fleet, and putting the ball to its goal. Fleet, too, of foot and, whether in the forest or in the clearing, ever on the qui vive for the signal of the approach of the enemy. Caring less for the trophy than for the exhiliration of the chase, these spirited descendants of the jeuness dore of Versailles and Fontainbleau, astonished the aborigines with their fleetness and daring. And, says the hisness and daring. And, says the historian, "they left their gore in the scarce trodden wilderness, far from the haunts of Strathcona and the easeful homes of Mount Royal. They came and they departed, but they carried not with them the thing they sought, which the men of that country continue to hold, hidden now in some fastness among the Douglas firs or again in such spots as could not be come at."

A man once said to the writer: "How do you account for the prowess of your men in the national sport?" He was a French-Canadian, and I replied: "Esprit de corps." I continued (my French is syllabic), "Our men live in the same syllabic), "Our men live in the same syllabic), "Our men live in the same syllabic." town which is about 12,000 population. Several of them are brothers.
All are friends. Most of them have gone to school together. They have



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