

by "God Save the King"; a musical testimony to the fact that St. Johns is no longer a merely French town—though there has always been an element of British in the place.

St. Johns has almost a minimum of labour troubles. So with St. Hyacinthe, Three Rivers, Sherbrooke, and a dozen other little towns with big industries, many of them in the zone of water powers, but like St. Johns, dependent upon coal. The church is uniformly opposed to strikes that decrease the earnings of employees. And St. Johns owes a good deal to the steady influence of the church. There is not enough water power to give any particular advantage. The cost of living is lower, largely on account of low rents, the absence of spendthrift amusements, and simpler tastes among the people. The actual cost of provisions is higher than in towns more remote from Montreal.

As in most of these small places, there is a strong community feeling not found in a big city. When there is a band concert in the park the whole town is there. When there are aquatic sports on the Richelieu, citizens all turn out. There is a flourishing yacht club. Situated in a lovely farm valley on a splendid river, St. Johns has not the wild, rugged character of some of the water-power towns in the rock country down the St. Lawrence. It more resembles St. Hyacinthe. Only twenty miles from the border, it is well acquainted with the American idea represented in such mammoth dimensions by the Singer industry. But it is a quiet, orderly, busy little community, whose main difficulty of late has been the comparative scarcity of labour.

The recent arrival of the Cluett-Peabody interests, for the first time manufacturing in Canada, has accentuated the American element and has helped to give the town a really permanent industrial character. Most of the labour in that industry is supplied by women, many of them French. Nearly all of the employees of the Singer industries are men, of whom only a percentage are French, and some of whom are among the original employees with the firm when it started in Montreal. The manager is himself a Canadian, born in Montreal. He is a keen, level-headed man, who in a quiet way takes a very deep interest in the town and the welfare of the citizens. The interest begins with his own employees, who work under the most improved conditions of light, air and cleanliness. The Singer foundry is almost as clean as a parlor. The machine shops and the assembling rooms and the power-house are cleaner than the foundry. Even the boiler-house is clean enough to be a reading room. And since the arrival of this big industry with the one that followed it, St. Johns, on the beautiful Richelieu, has become a type of town not found outside of Quebec; in many respects more humanly interesting than Ontario towns, and in variety of industries much ahead of places in the water-power areas kept up by but one or two big new industries.

Reinstatement of Dolan

(Concluded from page 16.)

a glance made him start, and tearing it open, he read:

"Dear Mike,—I was travelling on No. 1 the other night, but was asleep when we passed through Butze, and did not know of your heroism till next day. Father tells me the Supt. is giving you back your old job, and I am so glad. Yours only,

"HAZEL."

And after he had read this many times and turned it fondly in his hands, Dolan picked up the official letter and read the contents.

It was from the superintendent, laconic, curt, official, but it made his heart glad:

"Dolan,
"Operator, Butze:

"Am sending your relief to-morrow. Kindly report to me as soon as possible after his arrival. You will resume duties as chief train despatcher at Edmonton.

"H. H. DENNIS, Supt."



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