

hold upon the people when some of the leaders and members of the churches proclaim themselves as superior to the Master, the Head of the Body of the Church?

The Prohibitionists proclaim that they will not tolerate the sale of stimulants under government control as that would mean putting tainted money into the hands of the government. Well! Would not money obtained through a sensible and benevolent control be much cleaner than the huge sums that our own and nearly all civilized governments have obtained, and are obtaining, from excise and customs duties on alcohol without any control, other than financial, being exercised?

It is to be hoped that the Prohibition Party will introduce into their propaganda a little more reason and consistency and sound common sense. If they will do so they will have behind them the weight of opinion of the great body of the citizens, and something real and tangible may result and some progress may be made in the cause of genuine temperance.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

Since this article was written the Government at Victoria, at the instigation of the Prohibitionists, have introduced a bill to amend the Prohibition Act.

The principal features of the amending act are—that Physicians are restricted in providing stimulants to a maximum of eight ounces at any one time, and cannot order a repetition of any liquor prescription within twenty-four hours.

On the other hand the maximum quantity of flavoring extract that may be sold to the general public is fixed at four ounces—the equivalent in alcoholic content of eight ounces of good whiskey, but as this can be handled by any grocer, druggist or general store, there is really no restriction on the number of times a day this amount may be purchased.

Thus, a citizen who requires and wishes to use a safe, wholesome stimulant can only do so at great expense and under severe restrictions.

The man who is content to use alcohol in any form that is procurable, whether it is made from raw grain, from diseased potatoes, from waste sulphite liquor, or from coke-oven gas, can get all of such alcohol he wishes disguised as flavoring extract.

## The Attractions and Resources of British Columbia

(III.—Mining: By Mr. Nichol Thompson)

NOTE: In supplement of the two articles by Mr. Sovereign on the Canadian National Playground of British Columbia, the following notes of an address given by Mr. Thompson to the Vancouver Kiwanis Club are published in full as they may fittingly be given prominence in a series of articles under the above title.

As Mr. Thompson suggested to that Club of Service and Co-operation, a campaign to encourage investment in legitimate mining would be timely. We hope the circulation of such articles as the following among friends inside and outside British Columbia will tend to that end.—(Ed. B. C. M.)

#### INTRODUCTORY

British Columbia has a total area of about 380,000 square miles of which about 260,000 square miles is practically unexplored.

Four ranges of mountains traverse the entire length of the Province.

The mountain ranges are part of the great Corderilleran system of mountains which extends from Cape Horn north through South America, Mexico, Western United States of America, British Columbia, the Yukon and part of Western Alberta. In Canada it has a length of approximately 1,600 miles and a width of fully 400 miles, or approximately 700,000 square miles, and fully half of this area is within the province of British Columbia.

Gold, platinum, and other precious metals are distributed over the province. Gold is found in almost every river of importance, while in the major portion of the mountain area explored, veins of gold, copper, silver, lead, zinc, molybdenite, antimony and iron ores. In addition there are large deposits of building stone such as granite, sandstone and marble as well as a great variety of fire and other clays suitable for brick and pottery, and last but perhaps not least, large deposits of hydro-magnesite, magnesium sulphate and sulphate of soda. While the existence of reservoirs of petroleum and natural gas has not been proven outside of a few individual promoters, there is very little doubt but that in a short time, northern British Columbia in the Peace River District especially, will be proven to be perhaps the largest oil area on the continent.

So far the Western United States is recognized as one

of the greatest mining regions of the known world. From this U. S. territory, approximately 1,400 miles, is produced annually approximately \$500,000,000 of mineral wealth. Development and geological conditions warrant the assumption that in Canada this mineral belt will be equally as productive of great wealth. This Corderilleran mineral belt in British Columbia is approximately 700 miles long by 400 miles wide, from which the total annual mineral production is approximately \$30,000,000.

In the year 1886 there was produced in Canada minerals having a total value of \$10,222,000 equivalent to a per capita value of \$2.23, while in 1913, the value of the mineral production had reached \$145,634,000 or a per capita value of \$18.77. These figures are significant and show considerable progress. Nevertheless development has been slow, being delayed by lack of business interest and smelting and manufacturing facilities.

#### Mining Facts in Figures.

No. 1. The total mineral production of British Columbia from 1852 to 1918 inclusive is \$637,353,581 made up as follows:

Placer Gold .....	\$ 75,436,103
Load Gold .....	97,121,786
Silver .....	46,839,631
Lead .....	42,294,251
Copper .....	145,741,069
Zinc .....	13,278,058
Coal and Coke .....	187,147,652
Building Stone, Bricks, etc. ....	23,843,272
Miscellaneous Minerals .....	651,759
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	\$637,353,581

The production per annum during the ten years from 1909 to 1918 was:

1909 .....	\$24,443,025
1910 .....	26,377,066
1911 .....	23,499,072
1912 .....	32,440,800
1913 .....	30,296,398
1914 .....	26,388,825
1915 .....	29,447,508