

over without adverting to a significant sign of the times. There is evidence that Victoria will soon possess a list of artists, who will excel in landscape painting. This is a departure that will be eagerly welcomed, for where in the world could more inspiring grandeur in natural scenery be presented than in the immediate environments of Victoria. Here at our very door, lie pictures, which, if faithfully portrayed on canvass, would bring fame and wealth to fortunate genius.

Our exhibition was a tame affair, if potentialities are taken into consideration. This is essentially a country of great resources in mineral, fish and lumber. Efforts should be made to have a display of these great provincial roads to wealth. Victoria is the metropolis, and we should strive to focus as many industries as possible in our midst, and prove that our business men are alive to every condition affecting provincial prosperity. I heard with great satisfaction that the Board of Trade intend introducing plans, whereby we shall have a permanent exhibition in our city of mineral, fish and lumber.

This is a creditable undertaking, and I am sure that every progressive citizen will hail with delight and gratitude this laudable move. The Board of Trade has ever been foremost in initiating measures for our benefit, and this latest project only exemplifies the usefulness and sound sense of the business men, who constitute the members of this enlightened, wide-awake institution. I want to see this city awaken from its protracted lethargy and put on a spurt of activity. Our interests are no doubt affected by external depression, but there is much we can do right now to better our condition, and make life worth the living. Come, people, bestir yourselves. Don't sit idly by, and put the blame on the City Council. The fault lies in your own slumbering selves. If the municipal body does not show a spirit in touch with your demands, there is a way of putting in men who will carry out your wishes. This city is too antiquated. We must have paved streets. Don't say you are going to have them. Get right down to work, and insist on having them now. The water that the city is selling you is foul and impure as can be. See that that \$150,000 brings something in return, and is not wasted. The city paid for certain chemical analyses of our water. Why aren't the reports of these specialists published? Prick yourselves into something like attention to all our wants. Before dropping this subject, I wish to point out something that may be considered chimerical by moss-backs, but which really presents no difficulty, and could be carried out to a happy consummation, if anything like energy were shown. The plan I have in view is briefly this: In the

centre of the city, in some position of ready access, an entire block of land should be expropriated, and a handsome structure erected to serve as a permanent exhibition of our resources, with sufficient accommodation for a large city library. The present library is a shame and disgrace. Space should also be provided for hanging the best pictures by local artists. The grounds surrounding the building should be beautified with walks and fountains. If a large concert hall or theatre were run in connection with the other attractions, it would not be long before, with prudent management, the enterprise would be revenue-producing. The more conservative of this tortoise-paced community will scoff at the idea, but nothing should be too large or elegant for us. We should aim at the very topmost pinnacle of civic achievement and development.

To the Editor of THE HOME JOURNAL.

SIR—I would like to know if there is any redress for a woman who has been subjected to gross indignities by a druggist in the performance of his ordinary duties. I am the unfortunate person, and if you require further particulars, I shall be pleased to enter into more elaborate details. Yours Truly AIMEE.

Newspapers, as a general rule, do not give publicity to communications not accompanied with the name of the writer, as happens to be the fact in the case of the above, for the reason that the sincerity of the correspondent is at least open to suspicion. But as "Aimee's" complaint amounts to almost a public grievance, an exception is made in her case. I would fain believe that the druggist of whom "Aimee" complains is not a resident of this city, but as the envelope in which her letter is enclosed bears the postmark "Victoria," there can be little doubt as to the abode of the human viper.

In the ordinary course of their duties, repeated opportunities are afforded apothecaries and apothecaries' clerks of discussing subjects with their customers not generally regarded as appropriate topics of drawing-room conversation. The confidence of the wife and the daughter are therefore frequently confided in their druggist, and to the honor of the profession, be it said, that the case is rare indeed where this confidence has been betrayed. Professional secrecy applies with equal force to the lawyer, the priest, the doctor, and the editor. Would the priest reveal the secrets of the confessional? Would the editor disclose the name of a correspondent? A thousand times, no! However, I would infer that the above complaint is not a betrayal of confidence, but rather a case in which a druggist has taken an unwarranted liberty of speech with some female customer.

For this there certainly should be some

redress, and if "Aimee" will communicate with this office she will be placed in a position to prosecute the creature, who apparently descends to base practices in order to satiate the cravings of his lascivious heart. I trust my correspondent will enlighten me further, so that a thorough investigation may be at once instituted.

There is a movement on foot to organize a Canadian club. Victoria cannot be said to be badly supplied with clubs already, there being the Union Club, the Pacific Club and another, I believe, the Bad-man-ton Club. The qualifications required to become a member of the new club will be birth in any of the now confederated provinces of the Dominion before or since confederation. The principal object of the new club, as near as I can learn, will be the development of a Canadian national sentiment. It is not, I am told, the intention nor the desire of the gentlemen interesting themselves in the formation of the new club to do anything that would create a suspicion in the minds of the most patriotic subjects of Her Majesty the Queen that they will be any the less lovers of British institutions than they are now. Any movement that will have for its object the development of a Canadian national sentiment will receive the unqualified assistance of THE HOME JOURNAL. It is the duty of every Canadian to do his share in making this grand Dominion worthy of the position which it should occupy as an important factor in the greatest empire upon which the sun ever shone. Perhaps the qualifications as stated above are a little too close. There are many who were not fortunate enough to have been born in British North America, but who are yet patriotic Canadians. To my mind, it would be wise to make an exception in such cases.

The citizens of Vancouver decided the other day, by their votes at the polls to own their own electric lighting plant. But how will the thing work? Will the electric lighting department, as has been the case in Victoria, regulate the lighting by the rule of thumb, or something equally as reliable, and continue to give lights when they are not wanted, and when the darkness is such as can be felt, neglect to afford the necessary illumination? Let us pray, as doubtless do the people of Vancouver, "Lighten our darkness."

Vancouver Island coal, now that the U. S. duty has been removed, is being sold in the Sound cities, where it meets with an excellent demand, owing to its superior quality, in considerable quantities. According to the Seattle papers, it is sold for \$1 per ton less than it can b