

# Pacific Coast Rest-Home for Far-Eastern Travellers

A Question for B. C. Homes of All Denominations: Should We Initiate a Building Fund?  
Asked "Without Prejudice": YOUR Answer May Influence Decision.

Is the time ripe for asking readers of this magazine to join with it, not in a premium competition, but in a new form of practical social service? In that connection an idea has come to us which we believe is worth putting before subscribers new and old.

The China Inland Mission has a hostel in Vancouver City and those interested in that institution know that twice recently it has had to change its quarters. That fact together with the knowledge that numerous inquiries have been made concerning a place of residence by travellers to and from the Far East, have suggested to the editor of this magazine not only the desirability of a permanent building, but raised the larger question as to why such a residence should not be built and managed undenominationally.

Whatever our individual views concerning "Evangelical Religion" may be, we may all have to learn that the scriptural injunction which the venerable Hudson Taylor emphasized in his life-work, involves one of the first lessons in life—"HAVE FAITH IN GOD." It is curious to note how "religious" some people can be without giving much evidence of possessing such faith.

## Practical Christian Service.

Consistently with our ideals of service, we should like to

have this magazine associated for all time, not only with social and educational work influencing literature and life, but with practical Christian service; and we wonder if members of all the churches would care to co-operate with the **British Columbia Monthly** in raising a fund for the erection of such an undenominational Rest-Home?

## Suggested Plan—Does It Commend Itself to You?

Here is a plan which occurred to us as worthy of submission to earnest folk of all denominations. Prior to the present enlargement, our subscription rate was \$1.50 for one year, and \$2.50 for two years. We do not wish to increase that rate if that can be avoided, and, at all events, shall not do so during the remainder of 1919.

Supposing that on new subscriptions marked "Rest-Home Department" and sent in to us directly within the next three months by individual persons or organizations interested, we undertake to credit fifty cents on each yearly, and \$1 on each two-yearly subscription to a fund to be devoted exclusively to such a Rest Home in Vancouver, would readers, new and old, commend such action?

## Who Will Offer a Site?

If, after the plan is published, some one approving of the proposal offers land as a site for such a building, we shall accept that as a challenge to the **British Columbia Monthly** to go ahead in raising a fund for the erection of the hostel itself.

## "East is East and West is West"

Whatever denominational and other publications may be issued in Eastern Canada, we have, in these eight years, demonstrated that there is a place and a service for such a monthly magazine in the Canadian West.

Perhaps we should add at once that, if the above proposal is taken up, we would not wish any new subscribers to be listed "JUST to help the Rest Home Fund." We are satisfied that when all earnest citizens know of the **British Columbia Monthly** and its field of service, they will, in any case, have the magazine in their homes.

## In Circulation QUALITY Counts Too.

It may be as well to meet a certain obvious line of criticism. Many people think that the main claim to business consideration by a publication lies in the SIZE of its circulation. Of course that applies largely to newspapers and hence their adoption of premium competitions, etc. But even when a magazine aims to be national in its scope and influence, the increased cost per thousand of production has to be considered and in Western Canada in recent years there was one notable instance of a publication committing suicide by securing a larger temporary circulation through premiums than it could maintain.

Especially under present conditions, therefore, when any publisher might use such a saving clause as "Printers' Prices Permitting," this magazine continues as much concerned about the quality as the quantity of its circulation, and does not wish in that respect, any more than in others, to undertake more than it can reasonably hope to overtake.

Independently, too, in connection with the present enlargement of the **British Columbia Monthly**, we have plans under way for a considerable increase in circulation in a direct business way through capable agents.

In the circumstances, therefore, if the "Rest-Home" proposal commends itself as readily as it may to folk actively interested in this section of the magazine, we may have to put a limit to the number of subscriptions which we would consider accepting under the "Rest-Home Dept."

Meantime we shall be glad to have the views of readers and friends.

R. L. & W. continued on page 35.)



Rev. A. H. Sovereign, M.A., B.D.

We believe that the large Sunday School at St. Mark's may be taken as at once an indication and proof of the Rector's interest in Child Welfare, but his concern in that subject is not confined to his own congregation. He is a member of the Child Welfare Association and Chaplain to the combined Cadet Corps of Vancouver.

From conversations with him we have gathered that Mr. Sovereign's hobby is mountain climbing. We believe acquaintances, no less than personal friends, will agree that it is no flattery but due compliment to say that Mr. Sovereign is one who impresses people as a man of unaffected sincerity and geniality. Friendliness and goodwill seem native to his character.

The Rector of St. Mark's, himself a good public speaker, is often in demand as a judge at the more prominent debating contests.