

ng with the swift and relentless fury of the law.

Mr. Rowen was sceptical, but everybody assured him that Bertie had undoubtedly been marched off he consented to go and Eva insisted on going, too. It was the least she could do in reparation. On the way she had appalling visions of the hard bench, drunken criminals, bread and water, the treadmill, oakum picking, degradation and penal servitude; and it was she who had given the order which had brought it all on!

They drove in a hansom to the dingy police station. A policeman said, yes, there was a young gent who had been brought in that afternoon. For forgery, he thought; but on looking up a large book he found it was only for loitering. When he remembered; yes, of course, the sergeant had declined to take the charge and had simply detained the man pending inquiries at the house he was alleged to

have annoyed. Eva shuddered at hearing Bertie coldly referred to as "the man." Then she heard voices from the next room. Somebody—was it Bertie—yes, it was Bertie—cried "Misery!" Somebody else with a brutal laugh said "Double you!" Horror! was this some torture! She clung to her father. "Misery on that hand!" said the other voice—the brutal one, with a fiendish chuckle. Was it thumb screws? "I'll tell 'im you're 'ere, sir," said the policeman. He opened the door and looked into the room where Bertie in an armchair with a cigar in his mouth was playing pinochle with the sergeant.

"Somebody to see you, sir." "Right," said Bertie and came out. "Hullo! Eva!" "Bertie!" She rushed into his arms. "Darling, how you must have suffered!" He sighed. "It's all over now, dear, let us forgive and forget; I was not altogether without blame myself."

The Doukhobors.

By W. Everard Edmonds.

Of all the various races that have settled in Canada, over none has so much controversy been waged as over the peaceful Doukhobors. Persecuted in Russia on account of their refusal to conform to the civil laws of the empire, or to serve in the army, they were brought out to Canada in special ships supplied by the Dominion government through the efforts of interested philanthropists and members of the Society of Friends. This migration of 12,000 sturdy settlers to the Canadian North-west attracted the attention of the whole world; and during the decade that has elapsed since then, these people have been more than once in the public eye. Associated as they have always been with the late

Count Tolstoy, their occasional religious vagaries and pilgrimages have been partly explained by that last tragic pilgrimage of the Master, which ended in death and disaster.

On coming to the West, the Doukhobors settled in village communities mostly in north-eastern Saskatchewan. There, they soon came into contact with the Dominion authorities on account of their peculiar marriage laws and their failure to carry out their homestead regulations. From the first the government has shown infinite patience in dealing with these peculiar people, and at last this patience is being rewarded. True, it was only the other day that three Doukhobors were sentenced for bigamy; but the case was an exceptional one, and the Crown dealt with them leniently. Those men desired to leave the colony and take farms of their own, but their wives would not accompany them. The remedy for this, to the Doukhobor minds, was to take new wives. These people will learn in time that the Canadian law cannot be trifled with, and for that reason the people of Canada are not inclined to be too severe with these grown-up children.

Despite all that has been said in disparagement of the Doukhobors, there is much to be said in their favor. They are very industrious, frugal and, though unprogressive, are still very good farmers. They have taken a number of large contracts for railroad construction work, and have done well financially.

From the very first, the Doukhobors have been largely guided by one man, who may be regarded as the business-mind of the community. This is Peter Verigin, the uncrowned king of this peculiar people, and undoubtedly one of the shrewdest business men in Canada to-day. Verigin has seen life in all its various phases and his ripe experience has been of untold value to his people. Three years ago this shrewd financier, realizing that his people would be happier in a milder climate than Saskatchewan afforded, bought 3,000 acres in British Columbia at the junction of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers, twenty-six miles from the town of Nelson. This settlement now has a population of 1400, and 2000 Doukhobors will go there from Saskatchewan this summer.

The price paid for these Waterloo lands in British Columbia was \$140,000, and with the improvements that have been made during the past three years, the present property is worth fully half a million. Nearly 40,000 trees have been planted, and this number will be doubled this summer. In addition to the trees, large quantities of grape-vines have been set out, besides such small fruits as strawberries, raspberries and currants.

The Doukhobors have now thirty large houses at Waterloo, and each house has pipe connection with the source of water supply. They have one reservoir almost completed, which will cost in the neighborhood of \$60,000; another already completed, built of solid concrete at an expense of \$10,000; while work has been

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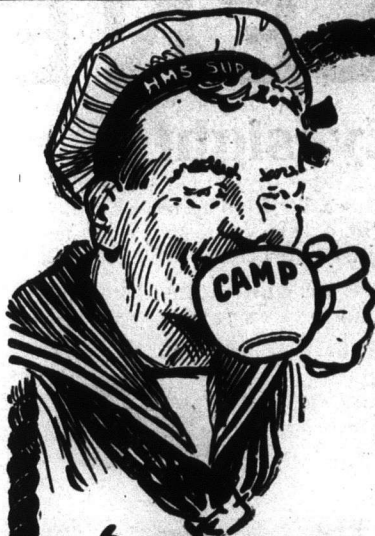
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