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Peculiarities

THERE are several districts claiming to be the garden of Canada, but the Niagara peninsula has a historic claim to the picturesque phrase. "Grapes galore" is the welcome cry this year and carloads of this local-option fruit are being sent daily to the cities of the West, even as far as Vancouver itself.

* *

There is a wonderful Jap runner out in Vancouver who has offered to race Shrubbs. The scene of competition is not stated but it will probably be from Vancouver to Yokohama.

* *

A New York preacher solemnly assures the public that Mr. John D. Rockefeller feels the weight of his obligation in the Standard Oil Company and considers himself a trustee for Providence. It would be well if the oil magnate could also feel the weight of the Landis fine.

* *

They're having lots of oratory in the West. With Mr. Kipling saying to Winnipeg—"Bless me, how you've grown!" and Senator Cox assuring Alberta that the crops are all right, for Sir Wilfrid has said so, and Mr. R. L. Borden going to and fro and making promises as rosy as a Saskatchewan sunset, the capitals of the West are hearing more eloquence than any other part of the country.

* *

Editors have frequently taken to the woods, but the Editor of the Edmonton "Journal" takes to the tall timber of October for purely hygienic and aesthetic reasons and comes back, to write such glowing leading articles on the lovely autumn they are having out along the Saskatchewan, that the mere Easterner wishes it were not such a long wet walk to Alberta.

* *

At a meeting held in Victoria, B.C., to consider the formation of an Asiatic Exclusion League, two speakers, Canon Beauland and Mr. Crease, who opposed the majority, were interrupted and hissed down in un-British fashion. Let Victoria keep out Japs, Hindus or any other Oriental she dislikes. But she really shouldn't refuse to listen to gentlemen who "differ."

* *

We have a "really, truly" grievance at last. Hon. L. P. Brodeur, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, makes the distressing statement that Canada is to have the largest and most powerful ice breaker in the world. Just as we are beginning to recover from the advertisement Mr. Kipling gave the country as a snow specialist, one of our own household, who has experienced all the genial influence of Sir Wilfrid's sunny ways, sets out to prove that we have a winter, after all. The Hon. Louis Philippe might have found better employment in Europe than buying ice breakers.


* *

Dr. Beattie Nesbitt was nice and quiet in the registrar's office in Toronto for many happy moons. Then all of a sudden he fluttered a Gravenhurst audience by talking darkly of some Ontario politician who acts as Rockefeller's "boy," and gets deals put through for those poverty-stricken people of the Kerosene Trust. The civic power plant had been inaugurated in the Muskoka town and the Doctor succeeded in throwing Standard Oil on the troubled waters. It is being rumoured that Mr. Peter Ryan wrote the Doctor's speech but Mr. Whitney calls it twaddle.

* *

The good old days in the "gods" are sadly changed. The Freshies and Sophs of Montreal have given pledges of proper behaviour, without which promise they would not be admitted to the theatre. They have solemnly affirmed that they will try to remember to be gentlemen and have promised not to throw anything whatsoever in the theatre. Also the Toronto Sophs have

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