

The Use of Inter-Empire Communication

People who go to distant parts of the Empire to make their homes usually retain a more or less active interest in the country or district in which their earlier years were spent. The measure and constancy of their concern depends to some extent on the correspondence exchanged and the regular or irregular manner in which they are kept informed regarding affairs in their original county or homeland.

With the lapse of time letters are liable to pass at longer intervals, and the weekly newspaper to come in batches of twos and threes, and sometimes they cease altogether. Now and again a more mindful relative or friend will send a newspaper containing the thrice-welcome *verbatim* report of a speech of a prominent orator or statesman; but very often newspaper and magazine mail is as rarely received as letters.

In earlier times with fewer mails, it was perhaps inevitable that interest should wane with the years, and that, as a consequence, the emigrant often revisited the home of his youth to find but few acquainted with his history ready to welcome him. It is rather surprising to find that many Canadians whose parents or grand parents came from somewhere in England, Scotland or Ireland have often vague notions of the location of the county wherein was the home of their ancestors.

But there is not the same excuse for lack of knowledge and of interchange nowadays. In all cases, too, whatever fault or neglect is involved may be attached to the emigrant as much as to the friends left behind; for without exchange of communications in some regular way common interests naturally decrease and ultimately cease.

Fostering Inter-Empire Exchange: Special Option

While no papers or magazines can take the place of personal and family letters, it is equally true that the *regular* receipt of even a periodical from a friend may evidence thoughtful attention and help to sustain common interests. To foster such a course so far as the use of this Magazine is concerned, and also to encourage inter-Empire exchange in periodicals, we shall from this date allow our regular subscribers to add (for fifty cents—two shillings—per year) to our mailing list friends resident anywhere within the British Empire. In each case under the date of renewal printed beside the name on the covering envelope will be noted "Concurrent with, &c.", and *the subscriber adding the name* will be responsible for the continuance—or discontinuance—of the subscription from year to year.

By giving this option at a minimum rate we believe this Magazine may be of real and increasing, if modest, service in sustaining the interests and strengthening the bonds of Empire.