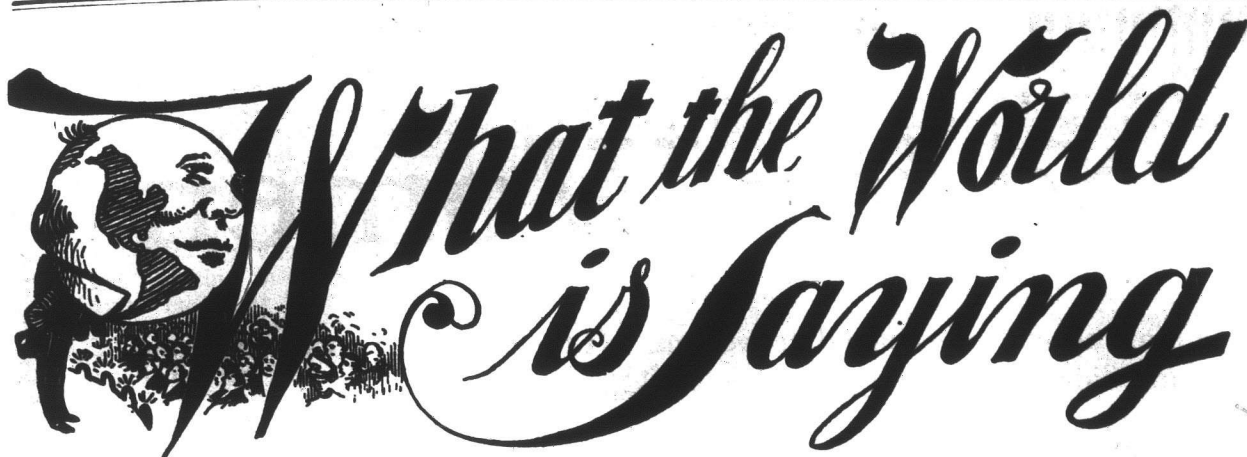




The Wealth of the West.

Prof. Shaw of St. Paul went on a tour through the West with the Agricultural editors. His review of the trip contains many interesting things, some of which the Prince Albert Advocate quotes: "Professor Shaw's assertion that the first foot of soil in the three provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta is worth more than all the mines in the mountains from Alaska to Mexico, and more than all the forests from the United States boundary to the Arctic Sea, vast as these are. The value of this great national heritage is not to be measured in acres, imposing as are the figures of acreage of prairie loam, resting upon a sub soil only second in value to the loam itself, because it is of just the character to make the most in conjunction with our climate of the fertility of the loam. "One acre of average soil in the Northwest," says Professor Shaw, "is worth more than twenty acres of average soil along the Atlantic seaboard."

The New Provinces.

For the last two or three months the new Provinces have loomed big in the public eye and information regarding them has been welcomed throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion. We quote some figures from the Wetaskiwin Times which intending settlers will appreciate.

The area of Alberta as a Province, according to official figures, is 353,965 square miles; of this, 250,653 square miles is land and 3,312 square miles water. The estimated population on January 31st, 1905, was 173,043, the population, according to the census of 1901, being 72,924. The increase of homesteaders since the census is given at 80,749 and the other increases are estimated at 20,000, and the total population up to January of this year was 173,042. But hundreds have been added to the population of the Province since last January, making the estimated population on Sept. 1st, 250,000.

The land area of the new Province of Saskatchewan, according to official figures, is 243,192 square miles; the water area, 6,929; the total 250,119. The population, according to the census of 1901, was 92,231; the estimated population on January 30, 1905 was 244,913.

Trust in the Doctor or Trust in the Lord?

A case has occurred in Ontario in which a child has died while its parents were "trusting in the Lord" and keeping the doctors at bay. Why calling a doctor should seem to some people to cast doubt upon the wisdom and ability of Providence can only be an evidence of the loose thinking which goes with such teaching. Says the Toronto News:

"Why do they not refuse food on the ground that the Deity is able to keep them alive without it, and that, if He does not do so, it is proof that He wants them to die? The one case would be quite as logical as the other. Every man who uses a bridge to cross a river, instead of walking on the water is expressing a similar doubt of the ability and willingness of God to see him safely across. Still it is doubtful whether the community is justified in compelling a man who thinks that he will get well without a doctor to call one in. The next step would be for the majority of the community to prescribe by law the school of physicians in which they believe. Thus an allopathic majority might forbid the calling in of a homeopath. In the case of a child the matter is different; but still it is a delicate thing to interfere with a parent's care of his own child. Some people think that the feeding of a child on certain foods is tantamount to killing it; and yet we must generally permit a parent to set his own table."

A Pen Picture of Rockefeller.

Miss Ida Tarbell has suddenly loomed up as the one authority on John D. Rockefeller and his business methods. With a purpose stern and implacable she has thrown a white light upon

every quality of his complex character. Her latest move is a pen picture of the millionaire's physique.

"The impression he makes on one who sees him for the first time is overwhelming. Brought face to face with Mr. Rockefeller unexpectedly, and not knowing him, the writer's immediate thought was, 'This is the oldest man in the world—a living mummy.' But there is no sense of feebleness with the sense of age; indeed, there is one of terrific power. The disease which in the last three or four years has swept Mr. Rockefeller's head bare of hair, stripped away even eyelashes and eyebrows, has revealed all the strength of his great head. Mr. Rockefeller is a big man, not over tall, but large, with powerful shoulders, and a neck like that of a bull. The head is wide and deep and disproportionately high, with curious bumps made more conspicuous by the tightly drawn, dry, naked skin. The interest of the big face lies in the eyes and mouth. Eyes more useful for a man of Mr. Rockefeller's practices could hardly be conceived. They are small and intent and steady, and they are as expressionless as a wall. They see everything and reveal nothing. It is not a shifty eye—not a cruel or leering one. It is something vastly more to be feared—a blank eye, looking through and through things, and telling nothing of what they found on the way."

Money Making Mormonism.

This continent has always been prolific in the making of new religions. Religion-making is generally a profitable occupation; the prophets of new faiths seldom die of poverty. This has been true of Mormonism. The British Weekly gives an interesting account of the inner working of this remarkable sect.

"The Mormon Church was 'founded seventy-five years ago by a wanton boy.' Since then the heads of the church and their chief lieutenants have been able, in one way or another, to amass millions for themselves. Scattered throughout Utah, the strong hold of Mormonism, are immense warehouses built by the church authorities for the reception of the 'tithings,' or the contributions of the faithful. This ten per cent. of the year's gains is regularly paid, sometimes in money, but oftener in farm products, cattle or goods. In former years the Mormon Church spent millions in building the great temple in Salt Lake City, and smaller ones in other places. That work was completed ten years ago. The faithful among the Latter Day Saints believe that the enormous revenues of the church are now being spent in sending missionaries throughout the world, and in fighting political battles; but they have no way of being certain, as the heads of the church are not required to give an account of the money that passes through their hands. Millions could be pocketed, and there would be no questions asked."

President Harper on the Small College.

Along with the recognized advantages belonging to a large institution, it is well understood that some of the undoubted advantages of a small college are in danger of being lost. In order, if possible, to combine some of these benefits which are found in a small college with the resources and cosmopolitanism of a great institution, it is intended that, beginning with the next autumn quarter, the junior colleges shall be divided into small colleges." So states Dr. Harper. Hitherto he has been regarded as the Apostle of the big University, and it is refreshing to know that so great an educational authority has come to realize the benefits of the small college. The remarks of Dr. Harper have drawn the fire of another authority in practical educational matters, Wm. Jennings Bryan, who recently said:

"This confession coming from so high a source ought to convince parents of the wisdom of allowing their children to secure the earlier part (at least) of their college training at the smaller and nearer institutions. The small college furnishes education at a lower cost than the larger institution; it keeps the boy nearer home, thus enabling him to visit home and his parents to visit him; it brings the teacher and student closer together and gives the student the benefit of the teacher's ideals. The small college, if under Christian influences, also gives more attention to ethical culture."

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