

British Columbia

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Dear reader, don't take this as a joke; this condition has existed here for some time, but let us continue our journey and see the country for ourselves just as it is

The Fisheries and Orientals

After you are fixed up a second time you are more determined than ever to secure a position. You apply at the offices of the fish canneries. These canneries during the fishing season employ hundreds of men. You are shown into the office of the great I Am, but the great I Am has all the men he needs and dismisses you as if he were the lord of creation or the Kaiser. At all the other fishery offices you have no better luck, all of them have all the men they need, but they are wise enough not to tell you what sort of men they employ. You learn that there are several canneries within 30 miles of Vancouver, on Lulu Island. You board the Inter-urban train bound for Steveston where there are many big canneries. Soon the city is left behind, and you are in the open country; you cross the bridge that connects the mainland with Lulu Island, and here you behold a most charming country. Fine houses, small but excellent, extend to the right and left, the country is low and level. Not many years ago the island was partly covered by the sea, very few trees are to be seen. This little

island colony within an hour's ride of Vancouver is one of the most prosperous places in British Columbia.

Finally you arrive at Steveston. I do not know how this place got its name, but I am sure it has been mis-named, it should be called Little Tokyo, Kobe or Pekin. For more than a mile along the water front the houses are built on high tressles and packed close together, greasy and battered and wretched in appearance. Hundreds of Orientals live in these houses; while the houses look miserable the occupants are well-to-do. Hundreds of boats, big and small, ready for the fishing grounds, lay along the sandy beach. All the principal stores are owned by Orientals, you only hear two languages spoken, the chatter of the swarthy man and the cry of the sea gulls.

You walk into the cannery and meet the boss. He is not inclined to be very communicative. Undoubtedly he is carrying out the instructions of his superiors, but he tells you straight from the shoulder that he cannot give you a job of any kind, he has all the help he needs. "What sort of help do you employ?" you ask. "Oh, Japs and Chinamen," he replies, and all the while he is edging away. "Do you employ any white help?" "No, except a very few." "Are there any other canneries here?" "Certainly, but they employ the same kind of help as we do." By this time you wish you were back in Bonnie

Scotland, Old Ontario or Montana, or wherever you hailed from.

Buying a Farm

Then somebody suggests that you should take up fruit farming, where you can be your own boss; nothing like being independent. You set out for the Fraser Valley, the most beautiful and richest part of British Columbia; orchards bearing rich fruits, berries in abundance, the lands are fertile and productive, convenient to the towns and railroads; an ideal place in which to live. Truly you are glad to get away from the city, country life is real life, fresh air, beautiful sunshine, here you have all you desire. Alas! alas! you are as far from your goal as ever. Sixty per cent. of this fertile land you have seen is owned by Orientals, you can't get a look in here, John and Jim know the value of good land and neither coaxing nor money will entice them to dispose of it.

In an article of this sort it is impossible to cover the whole field, but at least it will give you an idea of how things stand.

If you only watch the boats arriving from the Far West and see the number of Orientals that disembark you would be astonished. On, on they come, just as they invaded Southern California. I will leave the rest to the fair imagination of the reader, and let him ask himself the question, "What will British Columbia look like twenty years hence?"

Poultry Profit

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mended and cement costs less to-day than plank floors. The birds do well on them, even little chicks come to no harm in the large brooder house plant at the college, therefore, the use of cement floors in poultry houses is strongly commended for use in our western climate.

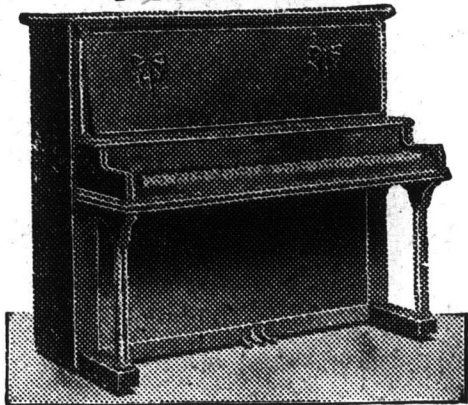
One of the most popular cars in the Better Farming train sent out on a five weeks tour through Saskatchewan was the poultry section, where experts under Prof. Baker, Saskatoon, showed how poultry should be kept to make a profit. Hens, turkeys, ducks and geese were all there for demonstration purposes. Trap nests and many other modern devices were shown. Incubators and brooders in operation, a growing patch of sprouted oats for use in winter. An interesting section of the car was where the candling eggs process was explained and demonstrated and the new law regarding egg selling made clear to the retail merchants by a representative of the Government of Saskatchewan, department of agriculture.

The clear-headed planner has his mind on his business; the worrying failure has his business on his mind.

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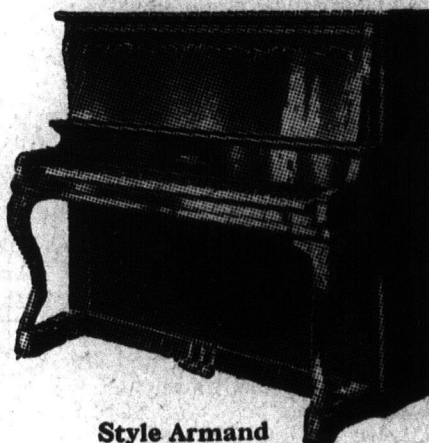
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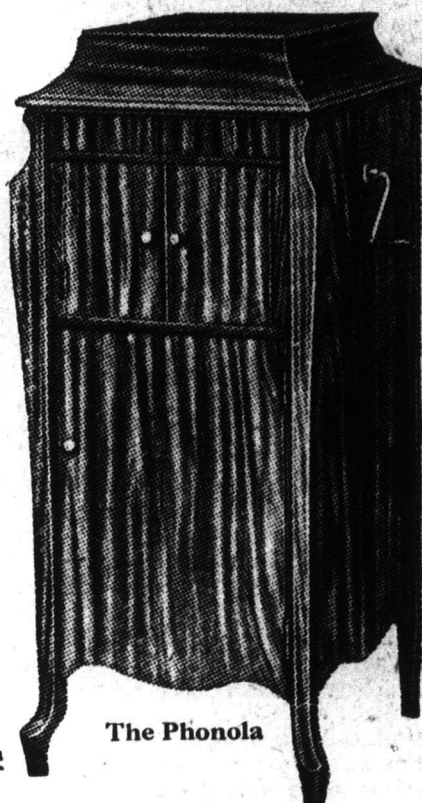
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