

## Impressions of Great Britain

By Members of Vancouver Board of Trade Delegation

(I.—By W. E. Payne, Secretary and Organizer.)

For one to attempt to make extended observations concerning the recently-concluded trip of the Vancouver Board of Trade Delegation to Great Britain, would be more than futile, but a few impressions might be noted.

The first outstanding feature of the whole visit was the wonderfully wholehearted hospitality of the British people. This impression seems to have dominated all others. Coming as we did, in the position of voluntary emissaries without any official standing except that of our own organization, it was indeed gratifying to us to find that our visit was received in such a spontaneous manner.

The "Old Country," as we in the Dominion love to call it, is renowned for this characteristic but even in our wildest expectations we never imagined anything like what actually took place. From our first arrival at Southampton, when we were met by leading members of the Board of Trade of that progressive city, to our reception in London by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the London Chamber of Commerce and the British Empire Exhibition Association, our experience was a most gratifying one. Then there was what may be called our triumphant tour, which began at Bristol, with its wonderful Avonmouth Dock Scheme, in which Bristolians are rivaling the newer countries overseas in optimistic progressiveness.

Among other places visited were Historic Bath, with its recuperative atmosphere and Old World charm; bustling and hustling Leicester, full of life and energy—demonstrating the fact that Industry reigns supreme, and willing that the whole world should know it. Staid and business-like Birmingham, full of wealth and dynamic activity, and not losing sight of prospective overseas customers; Northampton, with its wonderful Shoe industries, ever-expanding. With that place we have recollections of a wonderful drive to the historic home of the Spencers, Velthorpe House. Then we went back to Liverpool, the great starting and jumping off Port of the world's commerce and the home of one of the world's greatest benefactors, Lord Leverhulme. Next we had a lovely weekend at Edinburgh, the pride of the North; with glimpses of Holyrood—the Castle, and a never-to-be-forgotten Civic welcome by the Lord Provost. Then down the line we went to "Canny" Newcastle, one of the world's greatest fabricating centres.

In the list there also falls to be noted: Hull, with its great North Sea; Shipping Manchester, and its miracle—the Ship Canal. Sheffield—what need be said of Sheffield that is not already known in every home in the civilized world? Nottingham, and its century old industries of lace and hosiery were visited and then we went back to London, where our experiences were crowned with the supreme honour of a command appearance before His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales.

The greatest Empire the world has ever seen! Supplement this impression with the memories of luncheons and dinners by Chambers of Commerce and City Corporations and multitudinous other expressions of hospitality, and you have some idea of a trip and a tour that will keep a grateful delegation "reminiscing" for the rest of their natural lives.

As to results—it is too early to speak, but one thing has certainly been accomplished: a greater feeling of co-operation has been developed between the Dominion of Canada and Great Britain. The British business man has at last realized that it is his bounden duty to assist to the fullest extent in the development of the Empire overseas; and that the links of Empire, although never stronger than they are today, are

forged still stronger by commercial links within our great Empire.

Canada needs assistance; by getting the co-operation of the brains of the Old Country in the great task that lies ahead of her, and by judicious investment of both men and money, a condition of prosperity beneficial to Canada and the Empire can be ultimately brought about.

The Delegation returned thoroughly satisfied that the objects for which the trip was organized have been accomplished. It only remains for us all to follow up the good work and lose no opportunity of developing our Country and Empire for the benefit of this generation and those who shall follow us.

### RECONSTRUCTION

Reconstruction will come  
When the Spindles will hum  
And each one his work will find.  
The false, the effete,  
And all things obsolete  
The world will be leaving behind.  
The old that is true  
Will be ever made new  
By the magic wand of the mind.  
From the surge and the urge  
Something good will emerge  
To hearten and bless mankind.

—Edwin E. Kinney.

### YOUR LAST WISH

If you were asked to express what might be your last wish for your Home and friends what would it be? No matter how big your "assets," we believe, if you have learned true values, and that life's first business is

#### TO BUILD CHARACTER

through service, your wish would take some such form as this: That, with this life's necessities assured, your family and friends might be given to

#### SEE LIFE IN TRUE PROPORTION

With "Beyond" wisely considered, we all recognise that the character we each build is more important than the houses, or lands, or money "owned" for a few years by any growing souls.

This Magazine, established in 1911, is being built for lasting service in the Canadian West. Therefore we ask YOU, as a Leader in your Line of business, to co-operate with us NOW by using advertising space, and so help us to

#### PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST IN COMMUNITY

#### SERVICE

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