

there when most wanted. The warning horn of a motor car was sounded behind, but not with that nerve-trying distracting, and peremptory sharpness all too common. The driver and sole occupant of the car (a New Westminster business man—we learned later) pulled up, and, by a sign, invited the wayfarer to join him.

In the interesting conversation which followed we gleaned that this gentleman makes a habit, when on business journeys, of inviting those he meets on the road to share his conveyance, and that without distinction of class.

When a man shows such a fine spirit no excuse is needed for introducing serious subjects, or asking—Do you happen to have a church connection? The reply given was quite in keeping with the Samaritan action, and revealed a soul seeking to practice the golden rule.

#### WORKING AND SMOKING AMONG LEGAL LIGHTS

That Western Canada is "free and easy" in many ways as compared with older homelands goes without saying, but there are times and ways in which this freedom seems to detract somewhat from the dignity of proceedings. One need not be an anti-smoker to hold that smoking and some kinds of legal or kindred business seem incongruous.

Smoking, with its real or imagined soothing effect on nerves and brain, may help a man towards the thinking out of a problem or to the finding of a former decision applicable to a case on hand, but any body of men constituting a court appear more comfortable than dignified when everyone concerned in the proceedings is found nursing a pipe or negotiating a cigar.

Had a stranger looked into what might in legal circles elsewhere be called a "Reference" or Arbitration Court held in the Board of Trade room recently, he might have been amused to notice that every person in the room, excepting the legal representative (who happened to be a well-known Knight-at-law) addressing the "Court" or referee, and the female shorthand writer, was giving some attention to either a pipe or cigar.

The man out west will ask "Why not?" We would not attempt an answer, but at the same time hardly think that it should be open to the jester to suggest that such weighty things begin, continue and end in smoke; much less that they shall "dissolve, and like an insubstantial pageant faded, leave not a wrack behind!"

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