

Herbert Sanders, Mus. Doc., McGill, F.R.C.O.

L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

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("Express and Star," Wolverhampton,
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purpose, and there is in addition a com-
plete staff of professors for the civil
subjects which form such an import-
ant part of the College course. Medical
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Whilst the College is organized on a
strictly military basis the cadets receive
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subjects essential to a sound modern
education.

The course includes a thorough
grounding in Mathematics, Civil En-
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try, French and English.

The strict discipline maintained at
the College is one of the most valuable
features of the course, and, in addition,
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drills and outdoor exercises of all kinds,
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condition.

Commissions in all branches of the
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veyor to be equivalent to a university
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The length of the course is three
years, in three terms of 9½ months
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Secretary of the Militia Council, Ottawa,
Ont.; or to the Commandant, Royal
Military College, Kingston, Ont.

H.Q. 94-5. 9-09.

Making Canadian Pianos

(Concluded from page 21.)

grow the quality of wool necessary to
make the felt used in piano hammers,
nor if we could would our climate and
water allow of the proper manufacture
of that felt, nor of the felt for the soft
pedal. The leather that enters into the
action must be imported. The wire for
the strings must come from abroad. The
ivory for the keys must first pass
through Antwerp, though we do some-
times use celluloid on the cheaper makes.
Our natural woods are excellent bases
for the cases, but the veneers of ma-
hogany, rosewood, walnut, etc., do not
grow on our trees.

So you begin to see where some of
the cost on a piano comes in. Labor
alone takes a big slice. Raw material
is increasing in values. Import duty
has to be paid on many items. Machin-
ery has to be thrown on the scrap heap
to make room for newer inventions.
Long time has to be given to the dealers,
who in turn give it to you, and the
manufacturer is fortunate if he can pay
a dividend of five per cent. on his in-
vestment.

There are some four hundred piano
dealers in the Dominion who make an
exclusive business of handling pianos
and organs. The majority of these are
by no means large dealers. Many of
the manufacturers have branch houses
all over the country, each branch being
constituted a dealer. Some of these
branch houses are in co-partnership with
the manufacturers. Toronto has some
very fine piano warehouses, as has also
Montreal, and many of the smaller
cities have creditable music houses. In
many cases the building they occupy
has accommodation for teachers of voice,
piano and violin, making the house the
musical rendezvous of the community.

Now as to player-pianos. You re-
member the musical dinner-waggon you
had to wheel to the piano and carefully
adjust with set screw and silent curses.
Then when you were ready you perched
yourself on the piano seat and pumped
like mad to keep up the wind pressure
in the fortissimo passages and prevent
the roll "jamming" with too much wind
in the pianissimo. When you pedalled
slowly to get a diminuendo effect the
"wind" would give out with a wheeze.
Note the distinction between piano-
player and player-piano. The piano-
player was the wheeled box you hitched
on to any or sundry piano. The player-
piano is a piano in which is incorporated
the pneumatic mechanism suitable for
that particular piano. To-day nearly
twenty per cent. of all pianos made in
Canada are player-pianos.

A growing industry is the manufactur-
ing of player-music. The first mechan-
ical playing device was made to operate
fifty-eight notes; then sixty-five; but,
now the modern manufacturer makes
nothing but the eighty-eight note player-
piano which takes in the whole key-
board. Of course we imported the
player rolls, until the demand made it
profitable to manufacture here. There
is one English company and one Cana-
dian firm making player rolls in To-
ronto, while a United States house has
a distributing depot in the same city.

Band Instruments

WITH the ever increasing tide of im-
migration from all parts of the
world the small goods trade, which in-
cludes band instruments, stringed in-
struments, accordions, etc., etc., has
profited to a great extent. The new
towns and cities of the West have been
filled up with adventurous spirits, Great
Britain being the home of many of them.
As every village and hamlet of the old
land has some musical organization or
other the newcomers emulate conditions
that they knew at home, immediately
start to organize a band, an orchestra,
and, of course, a choir, or choirs, which
latter often evolve themselves into a
choral society.

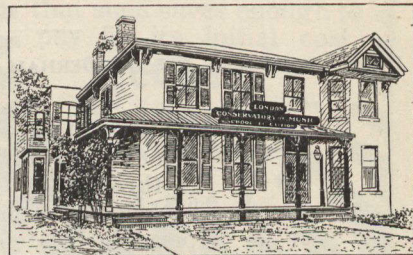
While we import band instruments
from England, France, Germany and
Austria, very little comes in from the
United States. The leading makers are
English and French. We manufacture
to some extent here in Canada. Stringed
instruments for the most part come from
Germany, as do most of the smaller in-
struments. Several Canadian houses
make an exclusive business of band and
orchestral instruments and music, and
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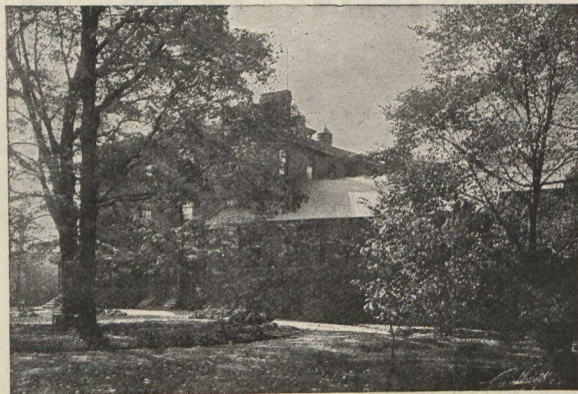
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