



The Canadian Building at the Seattle Exposition.

The Great Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition

Impressions of an Epworth Leaguer Gathered at Seattle—Fourth Article.

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SEATTLE is not a city set on a hill—it is a city set on a series of hills; indeed, it has literally carved its way into the solid mountain side and graded itself in a series of terraces. The otherwise weariness of rectangular monotony is relieved by a series of hills and terraces very similar to those in the city of Quebec. Seattle, however, has seriously set itself the task of regrading its streets and wearing away its hills by hydraulic sprays; in the distant future, perhaps, the traveller will find Seattle rising from the Sound on a gentle slope; but to-day he must walk up and down steep hills, which play havoc with the horses in the winter. Apart from this feature, Seattle is a delightful city, in a delightful situation scarcely approached on the whole continent and reminding one, as one crosses the ferry, of New York as approached from the Jersey shore. This comparison may prove to be prophetic, for Seattle is striving hard to become the New York of the Pacific coast.

Perhaps the average man does not fully realise that the gateway to the Orient has been the battleground of commercial nations for centuries. Columbus did not intend to discover America but far Cathay and India by a new and better route. Frobisher and Humphrey Gilbert became famous in pursuit of the north-east passage to the Celestial Empire, and now the commercial battleground on America's sunset coastline is between Vancouver, Seattle, Portland and San Francisco for the coveted title of Oriental Gateway, or "the Commercial Gateway to the Orient."

This leads one to the Exposition.

Primarily and ostensibly the Exposition was inaugurated to supplement the Portland Fair in relation to Alaska, Yukon and the Pacific Northwest. It was considered by many Northwesters that their country had not had adequate representation at the Lewis-Clark fair. Ostensibly and primarily this may have been the reason for the

Exposition, but incidentally Seattle knew the value of advertisement and of attracting crowds as a genuine factor in growth; and from the four points of the compass they are pouring in and in, with increasing volume, learning more of Seattle's potentiality and desire to be the gateway of the nations who would trade with the spicy East.

And the impressions these crowds will gather of Seattle and the Exposition—what of that?

In a phrase or two one may dismiss Seattle, for the Exposition is the prime factor in this article.



The Central Court showing Cascades and Group of Main Buildings

Seattle, then, has laid itself out to be more than polite; the people anticipate your questions, they instinctively divine you are a stranger seeking information and ask you what specific point you wish to reach. Then follows voluntary facts about the city, its growth and germ possibilities. If the stranger anticipated a sort of cowboy ethics he has been disappointed; Seattle is Boston on the Pacific.

The Exhibition is built on property belonging to the university, and it is dry, absolutely dry; not

a drop of intoxicating drink of any kind is sold within the confines of the Exposition. Many well-meaning people held up their hands and prophesied failure, but the more extreme of the knights of temperance kept to their guns and won the day. As a result the Exposition is indeed, in many respects, an object lesson. It is the cleanest exhibition that the writer remembers to have attended on the North American continent, and objectionable features are reduced to a minimum.

The buildings are chiefly in the French and Spanish style of architecture. The walks are broad and splendidly paved, and each thoroughfare is flanked with such a profusion of flowers as could only grow in a mild, equable climate. A few months ago, where the Exposition new stands was a bush-covered tract of land; now it is a veritable garden by day, and night looks down on a fairy palace, with rainbow-coloured waters changing their hues at every turn.

I have already pointed out the underlying purpose of the Exposition, and the way this purpose has been carried out in relation to the United States Alaskan-Yukon territory is well worthy of emulation.

Practically every country in the world is represented in the Exposition, but it would be impossible to give even a categorical statement of the leading exhibits, therefore I must pass on, disregarding the huge irrelevancy of statistical statements, to the more salient features.

Many of the European countries have been content to be represented by mere dry goods stores; an excuse for certain companies to sell trinkets and art ware is their only excuse for cumbering the ground.

But the United States has done much better. All born Canadians are, of course, *per se*, natives of the British Empire, and all United States citi-

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