

WESTMINSTER REVIEW

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PUBLISHED IN VANCOUVER, B. C.

SUPPORTING SOCIAL BETTERMENT, EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS, AND RELIGIOUS
LIFE. INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS.

Vol. XII.

DECEMBER, 1917

No. 4

Editorial

THE HALIFAX DISASTER

Though Halifax is as far, if not farther, by land from Vancouver as it is by sea from Britain, all Canadians, even in this Farthest West, will now realize as never before that the most gigantic conflict of the ages in which our Empire is involved may touch Canada at home ere victory is won. The effects of the appalling catastrophe at Halifax have indeed, for the time being, overshadowed the news from all fronts of the great war. And well they may: without any such warnings as are inseparable from war conditions, in a moment thousands were swept across the Borderland. The circumstances were such as to touch even the most callous who retain the power of reflective thought.

..... PLAYING AT POLITICS—OR FIGHTING THE FOE?

"Independent in politics," the **Westminster Review** in ordinary times believes in "putting the **man** before the party." But under the unprecedented conditions in which the Dominion election is being held there is one issue before the people before which all others together become secondary. If the Union Government is not returned at this critical juncture so as to ensure an uninterrupted supply of reinforcements for the Canadian troops at the Front, Canada will appear in a most unenviable light before the Empire and her Allies, and, what is more humiliating, in the eyes of her own citizen soldiers overseas she shall be disgraced. In the circumstances we look for a large majority declaring themselves for a Union Government,—not because this man or that is or is not to be connected with it, but because the winning of the war is the Empire's—and Canada's—first business.

CHINESE GAMBLING IN VANCOUVER CITY

In recent weeks several Bodies and some public men and ministers have called attention through the press or otherwise to the gambling conditions tolerated in the Chinese quarter of Vancouver city. The instigation or support of some course or action that will remedy the evil is even more important than advertising it by denunciation, and we happen to know that the session of the Presbyterian Independent Chinese Mission, (which has several Chinese Associate members), early last month not only passed a resolution on the subject, but directed the Moderator to approach the Mayor and Chief Constable regarding the taking of practical measures.

Advertising this and kindred evils from the platform and pulpit, and in the press is one way of stirring public interest and activity towards their eradication; and is in every way to be commended so long as it is not timed so as to put on the alert or evasive defensive the powers behind such evils. Quiet work in strengthening the moral