

## The Poetry Contest--Prize Award

We regret that the decision in this contest has been so long delayed, but, apart from other considerations affecting the time of this announcement, the judges had real difficulty in selecting the prize poem, and an order of merit. The number of original poems entered in the competition was well into double figures, and while most were sent in from British Columbia, the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were also represented. Many of the poems were of a high standard.

For the information of competitors we may note that the entries were sub-

mitted (marked by number, without names) to outstanding literary men—well known for their active interest in all that affects the welfare of this community—intellectually and otherwise.

In our next issue we hope to find space for a few of the "highly commended" poems (to whose writers book prizes shall be sent); but meantime we reprint the poem to the writer of which the money prize of \$25 is being awarded. As one judge wrote: "The best is, I think, 'To a Poet: A.C.D.' 'The note of love and sympathy raises is above the ordinary level.' . . .

Through suggestion in the initials used, many of our readers will hardly need to be told that the poet referred to is Annie Charlotte Dalton, knowledge of whose prolonged illness has exercised the sympathetic concern of her many friends in Western Canadian literary circles. These friends, and others acquainted with Mrs. Dalton through her writings, will be pleased to know that—from inquiry made before putting this Magazine to press—we are assured that the poet is now steadily convalescing.



Annie Charlotte Dalton

### To a Poet--A. C. D.

By J. Kilby Rorison

I think the Lord, perceiving all the riot  
Of our harsh noondays, made your pathway quiet,  
That you might hear the music of the spheres,  
Strains too elusive for our duller ears.  
He made you pluck a plume from Fancy's Wing,  
Breathed in your ear, a precious, sacred thing,  
Murmured a secret the first poet heard,  
The power, the might, the magic of the Word!

Oh! brave, bright smile, on laughter-loving lips,  
Lips that were made for merry jests and quips!  
The wistful look in your sweet eyes doth bring  
A mist of tears—for you, no wild birds sing!  
Yet you are blessed, not for you the fret  
Of futile things that oft our minds beset.  
God's own Beloved! When He set you apart  
He left a bird a-singing in your heart.

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### A Year-End Message to our Readers

As time and space are limited, please accept outline statements:

(1) Thanks to all subscribers who—in various ways—have shown living interest in this Magazine: that is far better than sending bouquets—afterwards.

(2) Because of delay, all renewal dates are being changed, and credit given.

(3) Please observe B.C.M. advertisers, and buy their goods, or do business with them: they are the practical "community servants" whose co-operation ensures this Magazine's continuance in service.

Inspired by Addison's service through the "Spectator" in a former generation, the editor and publisher of the B. C. M. dared to believe that, (notwithstanding changed conditions, and the tons of printers' ink shed on this continent), there is still opportunity for stimulating and influential social and literary work through a Magazine service for the homes and community in this part of the British Empire.

To let Citizens know of such work, costs money—even if they subscribe for one or two years. So that it is surely not unreasonable to ask any loyal Canadian joining our list to send us a single postcard intimation—if his or her interest in

such work falls below the continued investment of one dollar a year or two dollars for three years—when paid in advance.

Printers and postage must be paid—whether or not publishers are. Notwithstanding the selfishness of human nature, we are optimistic enough to believe that when honest folk know the facts, they will be fair.

We have no wish to give offence; but that the obligations of this Magazine may be met, necessitates our receiving payment without delay of moneys overdue to us.

If the subscriber to whom this Magazine is addressed is in arrears with subscription, the date of renewal will be noted as .....19....., and the amount

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**Get ready for a good "New Year's"**

**By clearing off the Old's arrears.**