

NOTES and QUESTIONS
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veyed "news" or articles having the studied purpose in them of damaging the British Empire. In this connection he made a statement reflecting on the Vancouver newspapers, which, we should like to believe, can not be justified.

AT ALL EVENTS, as Mr. Maguire said "the papers won't print what I am saying," the B. C. M. is disposed to issue a friendly challenge to Mr. Maguire to "state the facts" concerning the various points he made.

A GRAPHIC PICTURE OF CONDITIONS IN GERMANY as he found them was one of several noteworthy features of Mr. Maguire's address. Of Ireland, too, he spoke with feeling, and the interest and insight of one who is himself an Irishman. Whether or not his hearers agreed with his views, they could not well be other than interested in his impressions. We would not, however, like to think that his prophecy about Ireland would prove true, namely, that Britain would need to return ere long to restore order there.

THE VISIT OF LORD SHAW OF DUNFERMLINE to Western Canada was one of interest to others besides lawyers and Scotsmen—judging by the columns of space given by the local newspapers to his addresses. The attention of the dailies was at once a compliment to Lord Shaw's legal prominence in the Empire, and a demonstration that the Vancouver press is on the alert to help to link up inter-Empire interests.

"IF YOU WILL GO A LITTLE SLOWER, we will get on a little faster," said Lord Shaw (then a K. C. at the Scottish Supreme Court, "Court of Session," Edinburgh) to a garrulous witness, more rapid than clear in speech. Such incidents remain in the memory of one who in the late "nineties" was an official shorthand writer on duty there. As a counsel Lord Shaw was then one among not a few outstanding members of the Scottish Bar, several of whom have reached the Bench.

THE RECEPTION GIVEN THE EMINENT LAWYER at the public meeting of the Law Society, in the Hotel Vancouver, must have been gratifying to Scottish-born Canadians. It is regrettable, however, that in this Perennial Port of Canada we have as yet no better auditorium than the Ball Room of the Hotel. Lord Shaw was recognized as a clear and deliberate speaker, and even if his delivery be less strong in these later years, he should be well heard in any reasonably satisfactory hall.

AS A FELLOW COUNTRYMAN ventured to tell him, he was "gey lang" in that evening address, but doubtless, he faced a big task in making an address suitable at once for the general public and his brethren of the Canadian Bar. Though, as in the case of most legal men who rise in office, political preferment, following party work, has no doubt been a contributing cause of Lord Shaw's promotion. It was clear from various allusions in his address that he is a man with living literary, no less than legal, interests. Shakespeare, Burns, Tennyson, and Browning were each in turn suggested by phraseology or apt quotation.

LORD SHAW'S ADDRESS AT THE LUNCHEON given in his honour, in the Glencoe Lodge, by the Vancouver Scottish Society, was one wherein, perhaps, he was heard in his happiest and most characteristic vein. This speech, largely if not entirely extemporaneous, was of the type that tests reporting, and no local paper, in the paragraph mention made, did it justice.

DR. MacBETH'S "ROMANCE OF WESTERN CANADA" evidently appealed to Lord Shaw. With enterprising thoughtfulness and a capacity for publicity which would have made him a leader in that line had the law and then the prophets not claimed him professionally, Mr. MacBeth presented Lord Shaw with a copy of his book. The result was not only an appreciative letter of acknowledgment (a copy of which we may publish), but Lord Shaw was evidently so pleased with the work that in his supplementary address to the Vancouver Canadian Club he introduced a complimentary reference to Mr. MacBeth and his work.

SUCH SPEEDY RECOGNITION and favourable judgment of the work of one of our senior Western writers, especially by one who may be something of a judge in literature, as well as an authority in law, are welcome. At the same time it is well to emphasize, as Lord Shaw himself, indeed did, that the Canadian West is rich in writers whose work should receive increased attention at home and more publicity abroad—throughout the Empire at least.

TOWARDS THAT SERVICE, circulation and commendation of the "Romance" should help, not merely for its own worth, but because of the light and reflection it casts on the development of life and literature in Western Canada.

PERHAPS THE WRITER OF THESE NOTES can make such comment without being misunderstood, when he adds that, because of his own valuation of "The Romance of Western Canada," he believes he has probably circulated throughout the Empire more autographed copies of that work than any other person—except the author.

BECAUSE OF SPACE LIMITATIONS, and for other reasons, meantime, these notes have to be cut off abruptly; but it is timely to close with a Lloyd George story this month.

LLOYD GEORGE was once interrupted by a vehement lady in the gallery, who pointing a scornful finger at him, exclaimed: "If I were your wife, I'd give you poison!"

The speaker of the evening paused a moment, looked up at the lady, and quietly replied: "Madame, if I were your husband, I'd take it!"

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