

EDITORIAL ECHOES

"CIVILIZATIONS do not always fall before the attack of invading armies; sometimes they fall before the peaceful penetration of alien peoples coming through nation's gates as workers."—James J. Davis.

This truth is just beginning to sink into the minds of the people of Canada and the United States. We are just awakening to the fact that for a generation, as a result of our foolish policy of indiscriminate welcome to all sorts and conditions of alien people regardless of their fitness for citizenship, we have set in motion forces that threaten to destroy our civilization.

True, the modern invaders do not come, like the alien hordes of old, on horseback, fantastically clad and brandishing glittering swords. But they come with their minds filled with all sorts of strange social and political ideas, with their bodies infested with vermin, their blood often tainted by racial instincts that bear an unalterable enmity to the spirit and purposes of our national life.

Anyone who doubts the truth of this statement need only examine the membership roles of the communist and anarchist groups in the United States and the registers of the public penitentiaries and insane institutions. The disproportionately high percentage of alien stock members and inmates in these quarters will settle the doubts of the most skeptical on this point.

The plain truth is that certain European governments for a generation have practiced the official policy of unloading their degenerates and undesirables upon Canada and the United States as emigrants. The leaders of the old world privately admit the fact. Said the President of the republic of Central Europe: "We are willing to let you have our immigrants—the old, the infirm and the rubbish!" Said the ex-Prime Minister of another great state of Southern Europe: "Remember gentlemen, that we cannot afford to let you have any of our good peasants. You may have our political malcontents, but not our good people."

It is amazingly true that sentimentalists still demand liberal immigration as a means of helping relieve human congestion in European countries. "We have got to take care of Europe," they say. They close their eyes to the bigger fact; that the time is here when we have got to take care of ourselves. We have a right and a duty to bar any group of aliens who do not fit in with our scheme of life.

DECLARING that for the past fifteen years the Home Bank of Canada had subsisted by means of fraud and that the government inspection of banks is a farce, "The Hook," Vancouver's weekly paper, is publishing a complete expose of the Home Bank's history since its inception, from the pen of Mr. E. R. C. Clarkson, the interim liquidator.

According to Mr. Clarkson the books of the concern reveal that as far back as 1908 the bank made large advances against Chicago and Milwaukee railway bonds which failed to pay interest and rapidly depreciated in value until they were worth only about twenty per cent of their par value. Instead of writing off the depreciation the bank continued to show these securities at their full value, and credited the interest on the balance sheet as if fully paid. Ultimately the bank advanced \$720,000 to A. C. Frost and Co., purporting to be on the security of B. C. timber limits, the Frost firm in turn paying \$312,000 back to the bank for the purchase of the depreciated securities at full value. Advances to the firm of A. C. Frost and Co., large loans to Sir Henry Pellatt and the Pellatt companies are dealt with in detail. Sir Henry, it is said, secured \$418,000 on notes to carry out a real estate speculation, giving \$325,000 for the property which he turned over to one of his companies for \$1,205,000, receiving \$600,000 in stock, a mortgage of \$200,000 on the property and \$400,000 in notes which he discounted. Further revelations in regard to the causes of the bank's failure are promised. "The Hook" says that the banks are of little use in western Canada for development work, as their function is to collect deposits for loaning in Eastern Canada, New York and foreign countries, and that the public is entitled to the fullest guarantee that they are safe repositories for savings.

INTEREST over the appointment of the forthcoming Commission to enquire into charges made by the McRae party against Hon. W. Sloan and others is quickened by an intimation that the enquiry will open at Victoria before the end of January. Delay is over the naming of a judge by the Ottawa authorities to act as Commissioner.

Speaking in Vancouver recently, Mr. W. J. Bowser, who is also named by the McRae party as having profited from the P.G.E. promotion, declared that Sir Charles Tupper, K.C., Mr. E. P. Davis, K.C. and L. G. McPhillips, K.C. had secured sixty laymen to sign the accusation against himself, but had refrained from attaching their own names. "Nobody knew better than these men, the responsibility assumed by those signing the resolution," said Mr. Bowser, who asserted that the signatories laid themselves open to a charge of criminal libel or civil damages, if the Commission vindicates him from the charge.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

Percy Bean sold two Ford cars this week.

Mrs. Robt. Winstanley and Mrs. Wm. Fowler, both of Michel, were in the city this week.

The winning numbers in the Pythian Sisters' drawing were: 1st, 468; 2nd, 220 and 3rd, 49.

Geo. Heafford, who is spending a few days in Spokane, was robbed of his bank roll the other day. Geo. wired for money.

Louis Demore, a well known Fernie boy, has joined the mechanic forces of the American Aviation Corp and is sailing on the 20th for Honolulu.

Mrs. D. F. Markland journeyed to Michel on Sunday night to organize a Women's Auxiliary in connection with the Michel Branch of the G. W. V. A.

Work on the Elk River waterworks project, near Fairy Creek bridge, is at a standstill until the Contractors and the City authorities reach an understanding.

M. J. Costello, of Seattle, Assistant Traffic Manager of the G.N. and J. F. Poppers, General Agent at Spokane, were guests of the Rotary Club on Thursday of this week.

Esther Rebekah Lodge will hold a whist drive and dance on Thursday, January 31st in the I.O.O.F. Hall. Cards from 8 to 10.30. Dancing from 11 to 2. Refreshments. Admission 50c. Whitehouse Orchestra.

Alf. Dragon was up in the police court on Tuesday charged with having unsealed liquor on the premises at his pool room. It was the second offence and he was fined \$200 and costs.

Mayor Henderson was booked to leave the city yesterday for Ottawa on Home Bank business, but different arrangements have been made and he will not leave until the House is in session, about February 17th.

If the archbishop of this diocese decides to forbid dancing to Catholics in Montreal district they will have brought this privation on themselves by the abuses they have permitted, the Rev. Gerald McShane told his congregation at St. Patrick's church. The evil was not all in the dancing, but in the manner of dancing. There were those who danced every dance modestly, and others who could not dance any dance without being indecent, he said.

SNOWSHOE PARTY DINES OUT

Last Sunday evening the first snowshoe party of the season made a trip into the mountains east of town. The party was a fairly large one, consisting as it did of eighteen persons: Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. Moses, Mrs. Mott, Mrs. Ellie, the three Misses Kirkpatrick, Miss Maud Hogan, Miss Grace Logie, Misses Walker and Williams, of the hospital staff, Prof. Beddome, the pathfinder, Mr. Pepper, Dr. Garner and his dog Mack, Mr. Walker and Mr. Brand.

The party went across the hills a distance of two and a half miles to the Tuxis Boys' cabin. We say "two and a half miles" with some trepidation, as some of the ladies insisted that it was a good four miles from Fernie. But that is neither here nor there; the travelling was excellent and the eating at the cabin (where Jack Puckey officiated as host) was beyond criticism. The doctor furnished the beans.

"BAD MAN" ON SCREEN AFTER 3 YEARS ON STAGE

Holbrook Blinn, star of Edwin Carrewe's "The Bad Man," a First National picture which comes to the Orpheum Theatre beginning Wednesday of next week, is the original "bad man" of both stage and screen.

Blinn, up to the time of the release of "The Bad Man," was the only actor who had ever played the role. This is a unique achievement in itself, because seldom is a stage actor as good in the films as he is on the stage and vice versa.

Blinn began playing the role back in 1920 when the play was first presented in New York City. For three years without cessation he played the role of "Pancho Lopez" before Broadway audiences. Then he followed this with a short tour of the country, playing in all the principal cities, returning to Chicago for a solid year. This was followed by another tour which ended in Los Angeles.

During the making of the film in Hollywood, Blinn was also appearing the stage version of the play at a local theatre. For nearly a month the only clothes he wore were his "stage" clothes. He would don them in the morning for his film scenes and keep them on all day, appearing at the theatre in the evening in the same make-up.

"The Bad Man" was adapted from the play by Porter Emerson Browne by John Lynch. Sol Polito was the

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You can get rid of Rheumatism. You can be free of pain—of swollen hands and feet—of aching arms, legs and back.

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ALEX. MUNRO, Lorne, Ont.
50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At dealers or from Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

photographer and Wallace Fox assisted Carewe in directing it.

Others in the cast besides Holbrook Blinn are Enid Bennett, Jack Mulhall and Walter McGrail.

CHRIST CHURCH

Jan 20th, 1924. 2nd Sunday after Epiphany—

8.30 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11 a.m.—Morning Prayer: "The Nazarenes and Their Greatest Citizen."

7.30 p.m.—Even Song: "The House of Destiny."

2.30 p.m.—Sunday School.

3 p.m.—Divine Service at Coal Creek.

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One Show
Saturday
Nights 7 p.m.
Two Shows



Saturday
Matinee
at 2:30

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JAN. 18 & 19

GLORIA SWANSON

"BLUEBEARD'S 8TH WIFE"

You'll see Gloria Swanson in her best in this French comedy-drama of a girl who learned on her wedding night that she had married a twentieth century Bluebeard—with seven divorced wives. Here without doubt is the top-notch of all Swanson pictures. If you miss it, you'll be sorry.

Charles Hutchinson in "Speed"

Comedy

MONDAY & TUESDAY, JAN. 21 & 22

PRISCILLA DEAN

"THE FLAME OF LIFE"

The greatest and most powerful vehicle in which Priscilla Dean has yet been starred. With a story that draws big primitive truths close to the heart of everyone. An evening's entertainment, the lessons of which will be with you always. You must see it!

2 Reel Comedy "Spring Fever"

Scenic

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, JAN. 23 & 24

HOLBROOK BLINN

"THE BAD MAN"

Broadway went crazy over "The Bad Man." For months and months the big show ran at \$5.00 a seat. The picture version, with the original star, has twice the humor and dramatic thrill. It's yours at picture prices. Cast includes Enid Bennett, Jack Mulhall and Harry Myers.

2 Reel Comedy "Extra, Extra"

Fox News

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, TWO SHOWS AT 7 and 9

THURSDAY NIGHT, ONE SHOW ONLY AT 7.30

ADMISSION — ADULTS 50c — CHILDREN 25c

ISIS THEATRE Saturday, Jan. 19

MABEL JULIENE SCOTT

"THE POWER OF A LIE"

WILLIAM DUNCAN and EDITH JOHNSON in "THE STEEL TRAIL"

Buddy Messinger in "Dad's Boy"

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION Fernie Local Centre

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Will Commence With

FIRST LECTURE

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Lectures and Instructions Free. Students are Expected to Provide Themselves with Instruction Book and Bandage

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