

## What Canadian Editors Think

### HOMES ON THE LAND.

(*London Advertiser.*)

THE increase of urban population is far more marked in European countries and the United States than it is in Canada. Here we have a country at the threshold of its development. In reaching out for immigration our government naturally seeks for agriculturists, to bring the vast acres of the west under cultivation. The result is that the large majority of those who annually come to Canada from Great Britain and the continent, and practically all those who for several years have been coming over in thousands from the Western States, go on the land. In the older provinces, the growth of rural population is, of course, far less rapid. Many of the farmers of Ontario and the eastern provinces find it difficult to keep their sons on the soil. To these young men city life is a strong attraction. A large proportion of the students at the universities and colleges are youths who have left the farm. Ontario's rural population has also suffered from the migration to the Canadian West, and to a less extent from farmers who have acquired a competence moving to the cities to spend their declining years.

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### WHAT IS A FREE PORT?

(*Vancouver World.*)

"MAKE Vancouver a free port." For a few days the voice of The World was as the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Men heard and passed on—passed on to find that there was something insistent about this free port idea—passed on to come back and ask questions. And they certainly asked questions—all kinds of questions. Thus it came about that every second man was inquiring, "What is a free port?" Thus it also came about that everybody was telling everybody else all he did not know about it. A free port is just making the business part of the city one huge bonded warehouse and factory where trade and industry can be carried on free from customs interference.

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### "GOD SAVE THE KING" AND ROAST BEEF.

(*Victoria Colonist.*)

DISCUSSION as to the authorship of the music of "God Save the King" has been revived by a Swiss writer, who claims that it originated in that country in 1602. There seems good reason to believe that the melody in various forms is even older than this, although George Carey, who sang it at a dinner given in honour of Admiral Vernon in 1739, announced that both the words and music were his own. It is now used not only in the British possessions and the United States as a national anthem, but has been adopted in Denmark and Prussia and is sung with some changes of detail all over Continental Europe. It is the world's greatest song.

The sons of Britain who live at home are paying dear for their national dish. Beef, which was already very high, has advanced two cents a pound in London. Even at the present high figures it is said that retailers are doing business at a loss, preferring to do so rather than lose their customers, and taking their chances of profits on other meats, which remain at normal figures. The cause of the high price of beef is the shortage in the United States, which country is now drawing largely upon Canada for its supply. There has been a steady decrease in the exports of beef from that country to the United Kingdom,

and there seems to be no very good prospect that the surplus production of the United States will ever again be sufficient to supply the demands of Europe. The consequence is that there is a strong agitation in England for the removal of the embargo upon Canadian cattle.

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### HOT WEATHER READING.

(*Prince Albert Advocate.*)

THE old stereopticon or magic lantern of our youthful days was the forerunner of the up-to-date cinematograph, biograph and for which we use the generalising phrase moving pictures. And these moving pictures have become a part of our national life. The field they cover is most tremendous and the world is being searched by talented artists for new themes which are featured by the moving picture shows. Every variety of life is touched upon and these creations are appealing to the eye and full of good moral and heart interest. The men who have built up the picture show business are real benefactors—they have given the race new impetus, and they are daily teaching men, women and children the world wonders, nature beauties and filling their minds with higher ideals. The pictures are a tonic to the jaded man or woman after their daily toil and the price makes this form of entertainment able to be seen by all. The picture men are doing a great good work. They kill care and bring rest and recreation to many a wearied one. And the men who kill care are public benefactors.

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### THE U. S. AND THE OTHERS.

(*Victoria Times.*)

A MODEST American scribe says it is the United States against the world in the Olympic games. If that is the case, the world seems to be getting a trifle the better thus far of its better half. And the little bit of the world known as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland has won more points than "all the rest." But of course the meet is young yet. The events in which the Americans expect to sweep the board have not come off.

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### CONSOLATION TO MOTHERS.

(*Winnipeg Telegram.*)

NOW comes a well-known New York physician who says that milk is no good anyway, and that "all the tinkering with icing, boiling, medicating, sterilizing, certifying, building marble halls for cow stalls, wearing of white clothes and milking in fresh gloves," has not moved nature to change her laws, and that a cow's milk is still not fit for anything but a cow's calf. He claims that feeding a baby upon cow's milk is cruelly wrong, no matter what precautions are taken, and that many fully grown persons cannot take even the slight amount of milk in tea and coffee without being poisoned. Thus do our fancies flee. If this sort of "discovery" and development of science goes on much longer, there will be only one safe course open, which will be to join the Douks and live in peace and plenty upon the fruit of the earth.

In the meantime, the good old-fashioned mothers who bring up their babies in the good old-fashioned way, have the satisfaction of knowing that up to date there has not arisen a faddist who would give the youngster instead onion tea and walnuts. This, however, is an omission that can be corrected in time. All that is needed is someone to lead the movement and supply the statistics.

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### A TIMELY BOOK

The ancient fortress City of Quebec this year celebrates the 300th anniversary of its founding by Champlain. A very interesting and tasteful souvenir is the book—

## OLD QUEBEC, the CITY of CHAMPLAIN

By Miss Emily P. Weaver

Author of "A Canadian History for Boys and Girls," and illustrated  
by Miss Annie E. Weaver. Paper, 50c net. Cloth, 75c net.

In the Mail and Empire, Katherine Hale writes: "Miss Weaver has evidently deeply loved and studied Quebec, and her little volume is one that must charm and delight, not only the traveller who has been, or will go to Quebec, but the student of history who needs to look back through all the centuries to find his Quebec of to-day. I do not remember having read before such brief, spiritual and suggestive sketches as those of Samuel de Champlain, the founder of Quebec, and Montcalm, its brave defender, while nowhere has the famous battle of the Plains of Abraham been more vividly set forth. A word must be said for the illustrations, which greatly enhance the value of 'Old Quebec.'"

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