

Publishing Office:  
1100 Bute Street, Vancouver, B.C.  
Telephone:  
Seymour 6048



D. A. CHALMERS  
Managing Editor and Publisher  
With an Advisory Editorial  
Committee of Literary  
Men and Women

*The Twentieth Century Spectator of Britain's Farthest West*  
*For Community Service—Social, Educational, Literary and Religious; but Independent of Party, Sect or Faction*  
**"BE BRITISH" COLUMBIANS!**

VOL. XXIII.

OCTOBER, 1924

No. 3

## EDITORIAL NOTES

**"ANOTHER HOLD-UP AT THE CITY HALL."**  
"Cheque for \$25.00 enclosed; but the quotation indicates the way we feel about it. Hope Mayor Owen and the powers-that-be will devise some more reasonable treatment in this matter before another year. Yours, at-the-pistol-point." That's the form of note one citizen sent with his cheque to License Inspector Jones, at Vancouver City Hall, and no doubt many other folks felt the same way about it. If "taxation without representation" is objectionable, the imposition of License Fees—to say nothing of the increase of the minimum from \$10 to \$25—without the least regard to the size of the turnover, or the profit and loss in a business, does not say much for the sense of the "fitness of things" held by the "imposers."

**"THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE QUIET LIFE":** Does he ever get it? When we learned of his return visit to the E. P. Ranch at the other side of the Rockies, we surmised that he had again come over to get away from all the functions and formalities more or less inseparable from his position; and as on a former occasion, we would be disposed to urge that he, as "Lord Renfrew" be allowed to taste the joys of that real restfulness in the country that some humans are thankful to have, even for a week-end at a time. But no, his lively Lordship—if one may dare, with due respect, to refer to him so—could not resist the lure of the Pacific Coastland! And hence we hear he had a happy, and we trust wholesome and healthful time in Vancouver, Victoria and vicinity. . . . Hence also, such a contribution in verse—referring to him—as appears on page ten ("A Modern Oenone").

**BRITISH COLUMBIANS,** naturally would be gratified if it came to "Lord Renfrew" to secure an estate of some kind at the Pacific Coast; and that apart from the fact that some of us believe this country may one day become A CENTRE of the British Empire—if not THE centre!

In that latter connection we venture to suggest that the numerous "Community Service" Clubs, originating for the most part in the United States, but permeating Canada too, might do some really big community service—merging into World Service—if they got behind a movement that would make for fuller co-operation between the United States and Canada—as representing the British Empire, or as we would prefer to express it, the British or English-speaking Commonwealth of Nations.

"FANTASTIC IDEA!" some may exclaim; and yet, as interchange—in ideas, in business, in friendly and social relationships—becomes more and more common with the years, we see no reason why, instead

of hinting at, much less being anxious about, any kind of absorption of Canada by her neighbor to the south—who has got a big start in population of course—there should not come about an association or combination in government that would prove for the benefit of both countries. It would be an ideal "return" on the British and Canadian "investment" of citizens in the United States if, as one sequel to their so largely reported "peaceful penetration," a generation of "Americans" should arise, who would—without any loss of dignity or independence—acknowledge once more, in more than a figurative way, connection with "the Old Homestead," or, in other words, with a family difference forgotten—resume, for larger ends of world service, the position of "daughter in the Mother's House," while remaining as much as ever, and as each "nation" within the British Commonwealth must ultimately be—"Mistress in her own."

**The STILL-UNSOLVED CASE OF JANET K. SMITH** challenges further comment. It is not merely a question of "local gossip"—which, most people understand, is often based on foolish fancies or ill-founded assumptions. The finding of the jury at the second inquest would, itself, naturally keep the public asking—who did it, and how did it happen—and when?

**THE THEORY OF UNINTENTIONAL KILLING** suggested in this column the other month was, of course, influenced by the writer's unqualified acceptance of certain evidence given at that second inquest. Assuming Janet Smith met her death that Saturday forenoon, as the evidence of Mr. and Mrs. Baker—and that of the Chinese servant and others—clearly

### An Urgent Word to Readers

Hundreds of notification cards have been sent out this month. For record's sake we earnestly urge each subscriber to—

#### Return that Card—Please

As mentioned elsewhere, we are planning expansion in all departments. By undelayed attention to the detail of your subscription, you will enable us the sooner to give practical expression to that—

**Real forward movement  
For Lasting Community Service**