

**TOWN-PLANNING BILL:** A bill has now been prepared and the Government has consented to make it law at the next session of parliament. The long fight for this necessary legislation is about ended, and I am confident that the Government will bring same into effect.

**GREATER VANCOUVER:** Considerable progress has been made during the past year in the development of the idea of an amalgamation of the adjacent municipalities with the City of Vancouver. This year will see South Vancouver taken into the City, and it should not be long before some at least of the other Municipalities also decide to join in.

**PACIFIC GREAT EASTERN EXCURSION:** A very successful excursion of the members of the Board was made over the line of the P. G. E. Railway, and to those Members who had never made the trip, the tour was a distinct revelation. The citizens of the various sections visited vied with each other in making our trip both interesting and instructive. It is proposed to visit central British Columbia this summer with a large party of members, covering the territory from Prince Rupert to Prince George and returning by Cariboo.

**NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH SEAS EXHIBITION:** Through the courtesy of the Hon. Downie Stewart, Minister of Industries and Commerce of New Zealand, your Board has been invited to send six delegates to the above Exhibition. The New Zealand Government on the arrival of the representatives, will act as hosts on a six weeks visit through the North and South Islands. The invitation has been accepted, and full particulars can be secured from the Secretary.

**CAPILANO CANYON:** It is with great pleasure that I am able to report that through the generosity and public-spiritedness of the British Columbia Electric Railway Co. and their President, Mr. George Kidd, this wonderful beauty spot has been handed over to this Board to be held by us in trust for the people of Greater Vancouver for all time. The property consists of approximately 150 acres, and covers and protects both canyons and the intervening river. Our thanks are also due to the Municipality of the District of North Vancouver, who have declared as a Park area a portion of adjoining land belonging to them which was required to complete the protection of one portion of the Park. A trust fund has been provided by your members and a committee of management has been appointed to administer the trust.

**INDUSTRIAL BUREAU:** Your Council has felt for some time that there is a great need in our City for a central bureau where reliable information could be obtained and circulated for the purpose of assisting in the establishment and development of new industries. With this end in view we approached the City Council for assistance and found them very sympathetic to our proposals and thoroughly alive to the value of the proposition, and I feel confident that in a very short time we will be able to report the establishment of this very essential bureau, with financial aid from the City Council.

Your Board during the year had the pleasure of entertaining amongst others, President E. W. Beatty, Vice-President D. C. Coleman, and a party of Directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway; Mr. D. R. Clarke and a party of visiting officials of the Bank of Montreal; the Honourable H. A. McKeown, K. C., Chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, and Mr. Frank Oliver of the same Board; Mr. J. A. P. Edgecombe, of the Department of Overseas Trade of Great Britain; Mr. A. O. Dawson, President of the Montreal Board

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Mr. W. E. PAYNE,  
Secretary, Vancouver Board of Trade

"Only those who have worked closely with him have any conception of the value of his services, or of the amount of work which he performs in the interest of the Board and of the City of Vancouver."

That quotation, taken from the President's report, hardly needs to be supplemented, but it may be timely to incorporate here a few facts gleaned by us concerning Secretary Payne. "W.E." came from Newcastle-on-Tyne, in the Grammar School of which he had his initial education. His business training was begun with Joicy & Co., coal operators (Lord Joicy's firm), and continued with Sir Charles Parsons & Co., turbine manufacturers. He came to Vancouver in 1909, and joined the Board of Trade as an assistant under the Secretaryship of the late Mr. William Skene. In 1912, Mr. W. A. Blair succeeded Mr. Skene, but when Mr. Blair, in 1918, went to London, Mr. Payne was appointed secretary.

Though still in the prime of young manhood—he looks about 35, and it is surprising to learn that he can claim to have entered the "forties"—there is reason to believe that, with his fifteen years of continuous connection with the Board, he is, in point of years of service, the senior among Canadian Board of Trade secretaries.

In comparing notes with him as to how British Columbia came to be his second homeland, we learned that an uncle of Mr. Payne's, a mining engineer, who visited Britain, conveyed such an impression of Canada to "W.E.", that he forthwith made plans to follow the familiar advice "Go West!"

The BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY does not approve of flattery, but believes in passing on due compliments when men are here to receive them. We therefore take this opportunity of adding that Mr. Payne is not only, as his portrait suggests, more than "presentable" in appearance, but is one of those good-natured men who are never too busy to be friendly and obliging in intercourse with their fellows.

Crowded with details of secretarial work—as all really active secretaries must be—Mr. Payne is fortunate in having for his right-hand men, Messrs. Herbert Beeman and W. G. Welsford, who, with their assistants, radiate the goodwill and extend the willing service characteristic of the Board's busy office. Mr. Beeman, as readers of this Magazine may remember, is one of those men who, from minutes of meetings and other business cares, finds relief and recreation in literature, and his own ventures in verse and prose alike are notable for their humour.

As will have been noticed from the daily press, Mr. Payne will, this month, accompany the new President of the Board of Trade, Mr. A. M. Dollar, to Ottawa, where they will act as representatives of Vancouver Board in connection with various questions of interest to Western Canada.

(D.A.C.)