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# PEOPLE AND PLACES

A POLITICAL EXTRAVAGANZA.

R. MEDILL McCORMICK of Chicago is an American publicist of note who dreams still that pipe dream of long ago that Canada will be forced out of business by his country and compelled by fate to become part of the United States. He has been recently making a tour of the Dominion, taking a look at some of Canada's mushroom towns and sizing up the twentieth century prospects. The other day, taking a run out of Toronto, he found himself at Ottawa. Mr. McCormick gave an interview. He talked annexation. The first thing he said was that Canada did not want to lose her identity in that of the United States. Then, he added politely that the United States did not want to lose her identity in that of Canada. However, when Canada grew up to be two-fifths as big as the United States, she would be sure to be absorbed by the United States.

Proceeding by easy stages, Mr. McCormick began a consideration of the capital city of his vast visionary state. One of his audience, minding his manners, suggested Washington. The Chicago publisher thought of the White House and the wide, free streets, but only smiled. "Ottawa?" No reply. "Toronto," hazarded someone. "Ah," gasped Mr. McCormick, "I don't see why Toronto would not make just as good a capital of the new nation as Washington is of the United States. I like Toronto. Except for the E. R.' on the post boxes, and a few little things like that, you might think you were in one of the large American cities. I don't see why it wouldn't make as good a capital as Washington."

So small a matter might have been adjusted long ago. It would be a mere trifle to change "E. R." to "U. S." on the mail boxes. It is of no interest to Mr. McCormick that Canadian people are studying an election campaign in Great Britain, from three to five thousand miles away, with much more interest and knowledge than they ever displayed in a United States election right next door. He forgets that we are building a Canadian navy — in imagination at least. He seems quite oblivious of the fact that the border between

Surely Canada has been footballed about by the two great English-speaking powers, one her mother, the other an elder sister. But we have grown a little too fast and seriously of late to regard such pow-wowings as these of Mr. McCormick as anything but idle extravaganza.

#### A CITY OF SUNDAY SLEEP.

A NOTHER newspaper man has been taking a rise out of London, Ont. Mr. Edmund Vance Cook of Cleveland, Ohio, has been visiting the inland city of Ontario and records some of his impressions in the Cleveland press. The Canadian Sunday in London struck Mr. Cook all of a heap. He pens

The Canadian Sunday in London struck Mr. Cook all of a heap. He pens his experiences thus:

"Picture the American guest at the Tecumseh House, rolling over in bed, fumbling to the phone and yawning, 'Sen' me up mornin' paper.' The bellboy brings stationery, of course. 'What's this?' demands the guest. 'I want mornin' paper.' The bellboy vanishes and returns with more stationery, blackedged. 'Yessir. Mournin' paper, sir.' The guest says a word or two and the bewildered boy tries again, and yet again, bringing him everything from flypaper to sandpaper. 'Newspaper!' roars the guest, in black-face caps. 'Morning newspaper!' The boy drops his jaw. Noospaper? On the Sawbath? And in Lunnon? Man! Man! And has no one warned you to flee from the wrath to come? The visitor goes out into the silent streets. Everything is shut up so tight he marvels that the churches are permitted to do a side-door business. It is Sunday in London! A cemetery is a carnival to it."

#### THE CALL OF THE WILD.

THE CALL OF THE WILD.

R EV. FATHER HUSSON of Edmonton is the man who superintends the missionaries of his church; those who, coming into the wigwams along the Mackenzie basin by the crackling campfires, tell the loafing hunters through the gloom of the Arctic nights the "old, old story." The high priest to the Indians is affectionately called the "patriarch of the North" by the Edmonton people. None have a better claim to this title than this kindly old man, whose beard has grown white with thirty-five years of toil among the lonely at the fringe of civilisation. At sixty years of age, Father Husson steps up the street with the vigour of a popular young curate, just out of college. The other day he returned to the Edmonton monastery after a fifteen-hundred-mile jaunt to Fort Chipewyan. He hit the trail last May en tour of the mission stations. Before it was time to start home, he had preached at twelve of them; also he had taken a run out into the outlying districts of the parishes to size up the prevalent economic conditions. Father Husson reports that the Redmen worried many moons when the hunting was so poor last winter. Not a few chiefs growled without their dinners, and disease made sleepless nights in the lodges. Winter comes once more and with it missionary problems. Father Husson will make a flying trip to Montreal and book a few supplies; then the "Patriarch of the North" will again bury himself in the unknown.

\* \* \*

M R. S. E. LANG of the Manitoba Normal School has written a rather severe review of Emerson Hough's book "The Sowing," which beginning as a serial in the Canada West monthly dealt with the problems of British emigration to Canada. He criticises Mr. Hough's methods while agreeing with the main points of his doctrine. He says in conclusion:

"Let us turn our attention to those members of our own Canadian community who because they do not fit into their present environment, are gradually descending in the social scale."

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