

## Editorial

### TOO MANY MEETINGS — THE BLESSINGS OF THE BAN

PERHAPS only those whose business or duty it is to try to keep in touch with public affairs know how many meetings are being held from week to week, and how much they would trench on time and energy even had people no other work to do.

To such citizens the recent ban against public meetings, because of the spread of the influenza epidemic, was a blessing in disguise.

It may be questioned if there is not in these times too much talking, public speaking and "organizing." Probably better progress would be made in many directions in Church and State and Society alike, if more time were given to thought and action and less to excessive and prolonged oral exercises.

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### "SOCIAL WELFARE" AND SOCIAL SERVICE

In recent months a notable step was taken by the Social Service Council of Canada in arranging for the publication in Toronto of a monthly periodical to advocate its interests.

The editor-in-chief of "Social Welfare," as the new journal is called, is that strong and forceful personality, Rev. Dr. J. G. Shearer, and the first issues have given evidence that the social and moral questions and conditions, which are the main concern of this council of federated bodies, are to be dealt with trenchantly and fearlessly.

Dr. Shearer was in Vancouver the other week and addressed the "annual meeting" of the Provincial Social Service Council, which,

through some omission or misarrangement, was only called together hurriedly by telephone. It seems that the Provincial Social Service Council has been severely handicapped through lack of a salaried secretary. The extent of the Province must also be a difficulty when it comes to arranging for united action. But no difficulties or conditions should be permitted to allow Social Service Councils to lapse into a comatose state. For the credit of British Columbia we trust that the new Provincial Council will take steps to make the organization more than ever a living force for service in the community.

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### WHAT'S WRONG WITH VANCOUVER SOCIAL SERVICE COUNCIL?

Reference to the Dominion and Provincial Social Service Councils recalls the unsatisfactory state of Vancouver City Social Service Council as revealed at the last two annual meetings. As the annual meeting of that body must be about due again, some practical "social service" may be done by publishing the following notes, which were written but "held over" at the time. The information given of the attendance, etc., at the meetings may be the more useful inasmuch as newspaper reports of such meetings too often give nothing but the formal and sometimes it seems pre-arranged nominations and elections of officers.

The question, What's wrong with Vancouver Social Service Council? might have been suggested to anyone attending the "annual meetings" of 1917 and 1918. Undenominational in its religious connection, set on much in the way of social service,