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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!

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## NOTES and QUESTIONS

"BUILD THE UNIVERSITY"—even if you have to get another B. C. government to do it!

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AT WESTMINSTER HALL, the B. C. Presbyterian Theological College, Vancouver, too many good things were crowded into the closing function, but Dr. A. E. Mitchell, with wisdom all too rare, refrained from delivering his address to a gathering already patience-taxed. We have all the more satisfaction in publishing it ("The Church and the New Day") in this issue.

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DR. R. G. MACBETH also shortened his address, but in his summary of it he "rose to the occasion." To anyone really interested in religious and other literature, the question that must have presented itself when it was announced that the honorary degree of "D.D." was to be conferred on Rev. R. G. MacBeth, by Westminster Hall, was not "Why?" but rather "Why have not other colleges with which Mr. MacBeth has been connected—Princeton, and especially Manitoba—conferred such a degree upon him years ago?"

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THOUGH HE HAS BEEN A FREQUENT CONTRIBUTOR to the pages of this Magazine, and is a literary friend of its editor, we hold no brief for Dr. MacBeth. But surely literary worth and service should have no secondary place in the educational and national life.

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AS AN INDEPENDENT CANADIAN MAGAZINE, therefore, with literary interests, we feel warranted in asking: "What is regulating or influencing the conferring of LL.D. degrees in the other 'Seats of Learning,' in the East and West, as well as D.D. degrees in the theological colleges in the central provinces—sometimes referred to as the 'Middle West'?"

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IF SUCH BOOKS AS DR. MACBETH'S "Our Task in Canada" left the religious institutions of his own church in Canada without excuse for delaying the degree, the spirit and the purpose and lasting service to the Dominion demonstrated through such a book as "The Romance of Western Canada" should have made any university proud to be the first to recognize the writer of it by enrolling his name on their honorary list of "Doctors."

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PARENTHETICALLY, IT SHOULD BE NOTED that, just because Dr. MacBeth's writings are so well known, it was regrettable that so much time was used in "presenting him" for the degree at the Westminster Hall function. Five minutes' time should have been long enough in which to "present" any man there, and, in a complimentary sense, even less might have served for a reference to him. Citizens generally and church people, and ministers particularly, with

any pretense to interest in our own country's life and literature, who are still unacquainted with "The Romance of Western Canada," simply ought to be ashamed of themselves.

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NOR WAS IT NECESSARY, candour compels us to add, for the oratorically-gifted gentleman who introduced or presented Mr. MacBeth, to make light comparatively of novel-writing work. Reviewing and compiling, or compiling into book form reviews of the work of others, may require different capacity from that involved in original literary work. But each case—and book—must be judged on its own merits. Even a novel may so portray human life and character as to influence a community or country in ways not secondary to that exercised through the work of other writers, teachers or preachers.

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TO INFLUENCE THE THOUGHT LIFE beneficially is the great end, and a newspaper or magazine article—to say nothing of a magazine containing contributions affecting various phases of the community life—may be of lasting service in that direction.

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REFERRING TO DEGREES, there is need to protest, on the other hand, against the practice, which is so common in the United States, of calling almost every clergyman "Doctor." In Canada, and the Canadian West particularly, we are in danger of taking questionable as well as good things from across the line, and that is one custom that we can well avoid.

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IN THE PROFESSION OF MEDICINE a similar confusion seems to be permitted by the habit of calling dentists (or "Doctors of Dental Surgery") "Doctor" too, so that the question is often necessary—Is the "Doctor" a medical man or a dentist? Of other "Doctor" practitioners (various) we need not write. But even the foot-dresser is dubbed a "doctor" here!

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REV. GABRIEL R. MAGUIRE, often called "Doctor," but an F. R. G. S., may impress some folk as something of a sensational preacher, who, like many others, may not get enough time for review preparation in his study; but when it comes to civic or national questions, Mr. Maguire, who is a clear and forceful speaker at any time, is also a fearless one. His address, given at the Kiwanis Club, and repeated in his own (First Baptist) church, on his experiences in Europe, and particularly in Germany, provided food for thought. At the Kiwanis luncheon address Mr. Maguire spoke strongly on the subject of the press, and, without circumlocution, roundly condemned newspapers which accepted Hearst-influenced or pur-

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