

## A Challenge to The Provincial Government

At a recent interview with an Hon. Minister of the department of the Provincial Government, the statement was made that the Government desired the people to work for themselves, not to be looking to the Government to do it for them, and then with this object in view legislation has been passed enabling unorganised districts to handle light, water, sewerage, etc. With this idea no one can quarrel for in it lies the very essence of all truly democratic government, to de-centralize must be of greater advantage than centralization.

To have local needs and requirements handled by local men, who are familiar with the situation, must be of greater advantage than by an official twenty or fifty miles away, who has probably never visited the place and whose only knowledge is from reports and maps.

There is also another phase of the question which deserves consideration, B.C. needs and will need, more and more, for her legislature, men who have had some administrative training and we know no better place to start than in the home village or town. One of the world's most prominent politicians commenced public life as a town councillor, rising to Mayor in his native city, and some of his best work was done during those years, that city to day receives the benefit of his foresight, and is one of the world's best and most up-to-date managed organizations.

Referring again to the statement of the Hon. Minister, which we believe to be perfectly genuine, and as expressing the determined view of the present government, but which we would like put to a test by suggesting that legislature be prepared for the coming session, to create a Local Government Board, with powers of control over municipal activities, and the organization throughout the Province of rural or town councils. One of the clauses of the Bill would declare places like Sidney, Salt Spring Island, and others, with a population of say 500 or more, towns qualified to elect their own councils.

There are many details that need consideration and development, which are not beyond the powers of the Executive. But we believe that legislature along these lines would be a big step in the right direction, would be democratic and of material benefit to the community.

We consider the present system of procedure by petition, cumbersome, expensive and undemocratic, and not by any means calculated to promote a healthy public spirit.

## SIDNEY WAR BOND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Up to \$1,600

The amount of the War Bonds purchased at the Merchants Bank, Sidney, up to Wednesday morning, came to \$1,600, an appreciable rise on last week, but more can yet be done by Sidney residents to bring the provincial total up.

## AN INTERESTING SOUVENIR

Mr. Frank W. Sproule, of the Experimental Farm, sends us an envelope which enclosed a letter addressed to him from Donegal, Ireland. The letter was recovered from the Royal Mail Steamer Leinster after she had been submerged, and shows evident signs of having been immersed in sea water.

## BANKS WILL HELP SMALL INVESTORS

It is announced that in order to encourage investors to participate in the 1918 Victory Loan, the Banks will lend subscribers, on the probable certainty of repayment within the year, up to 90 per cent. of the amount of the investment in the Loan. The rate of interest charged by the banks is 5 1/2 per cent.

This should have the effect of greatly stimulating the flow of money now the big drive has opened. Many people who were anxious to do their bit towards supporting the boys at the front were unfortunately restricted as to the amount they had available for investment, having immediate or future obligations which called for their ready capital. It is such as these that the Banks are ready to help. On reasonable security these intending investors may receive the cash from the Bank at the same rate of interest the Dominion Government pays for the entire 1918 Victory Loan. They may reduce their obligations to the Banks monthly or quarterly.

The Banks will also accept from small investors for safe keeping without charge the interim securities and later the bonds themselves up to a reasonable amount, for the term of one year.

## SAANICH CO-OPERATIVE BODY

The Saanich Farmers' Co-operative Association has been incorporated under the Provincial Agricultural Act. The Association has a capital of \$5,000 and its head office is at Saanichton.

## The New Schools for North Saanich

The new schools which are being erected on the centre road for the North Saanich district are fast nearing completion by the well-known local contractors Norris, Wilkinson, Neeves & Ward.

The school trustees are to be complemented on choosing so charming a spot and their foresight in purchasing such a large plot of land which covers 10 acres, and will afford ample room for recreation grounds.

It is the intention of the trustees at some future date to have gardens for the children as the land is very fertile, they also intend having Tennis, Cricket, Baseball and Football grounds.

It will be a great boon for the majority of the children as it is more central. The school is beautifully situated, as from the upper winnows is a fine view of the town of Sidney, with James and Sidney Islands in the distance and to the right Mount Newton.

It is an imposing structure of two stories and is being supervised by the Government Educational Department. All the material used in the construction of the building is of the best obtainable as required by the Government. On the ground floor are two large well-lighted rooms with concrete floors which would be suitable for Manual Training and Domestic Science, also a room which is wholly taken up by the heating apparatus. Above are two good sized class rooms, three sides of which are fitted with blackboards and book cases, the fourth side is taken up by a long range of windows, which affords plenty of light and good ventilation and which is very essential for the health of the children. Each class room has a cloak room attached, fitted with a lavatory basin.

The school when completed will accommodate one hundred scholars and is so constructed that an addition can easily be built on when necessary according to the growth of the district.

## GOODBY-EE

The sisters and nurses had just finished dinner, and many of them moved over to the railing where the long road from the camps to the base town passes the hospital. It was a nightly event but it never quite lost its thrill. The dark road lined by tall poplars, the band gradually approaching, and behind it the swinging lines of sturdy men, only dimly seen in the darkness, except a man's face was momentarily shown up as he lit a cigarette. Draft after draft they came, with splendid swing, one old song merging in

## SUNDAY SCHOOLS OF CANADA

UNITE TO HELP

## VICTORY LOAN

BY

## WAR MEMORIAL



ONE MILLION SCHOLARS!  
ONE MILLION DOLLARS!

A million Sunday Scholars and members of the Young People's Associations of the Anglican, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist and Congregational Churches are co-operating on a plan which has the three-fold purpose of helping to boost the Victory Loan Over the Top; assisting the Churches to extend their mission work, and commemorating the heroism of church members who have fallen at the Front.

"Every School at least one bond" is the cry that will help to carry the 1918 Victory Loan to the Sunday Schools' million dollar objective. Above is a reproduction of the shield to be presented to each Sunday School subscribing a bond.

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UP-TO-DATE

## SHOES

Make it a point to call on

**Watson's Shoe  
Store**

635 YATES ST. VICTORIA

Make our Store your headquarters  
while in town

## PORTLAND ISLAND NEWS

The Portland Island and Development Co. shipped two fine beeves to Sidney, on Wednesday last, weighing 527 lbs and 500 lbs respectively.

## Do Not Shout Into The Telephone

Speak with your lips close to the mouthpiece; that is the whole secret of successful telephoning. There is no need of voice force when you talk into the telephone. Speak in an ordinary tone and every word is heard distinctly.

**B.C. TELEPHONE  
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HIGH-GRADE BUTTER AND FRESH EGGS A SPECIALTY  
SHAMROCK HAMS, BACON & LARD ALWAYS ON HAND

Inspection Invited Stores at Sidney and Saanichton

## Shirts---Pajamas Nightshirts

Warm, Comfortable, Non-irritating, Dependable Undergarments every one, and priced at a minimum

## SHIRTS--

Of Pure Wool Scotch Flannel, at \$5.00  
Jaeger Taffeta Shirts, with soft double cuffs, \$7.50  
Of Ceylon Flannel, rifle wrists, double cuffs, \$2.50 and \$2.75  
Union Taffeta Shirts at \$4.00

## PAJAMAS--

Of Flannelette, per suit, \$3.25, \$3.00, \$2.50 and \$2.25  
Of Ceylon Flannel, per suit, \$7.50, \$4.50, \$3.75 and \$3.50  
Of Heavy Flannel, at \$5.00

## NIGHTSHIRTS--

Of White Flannelette, at \$1.25  
Of Heavy Colored Flannelette, \$2.00, \$1.75 and \$1.50

GLOVE SCRIP  
We issue it to any amount

SOCKS  
Jaeger all wool, \$1.00

We pay charges on parcels to all points  
In ordering by mail send chest and waist measurements

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