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**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**MONTHLY**  
The Magazine of The Canadian West  
Devoted to COMMUNITY SERVICE FEARLESS FAIR & FREE

**D. A. CHALMERS**  
Managing Editor and Publisher.  
With an Advisory Editorial  
Committee of Literary Men  
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

VANCOUVER BOARD OF TRADE is to be congratulated on the recent function arranged in connection with Premier Oliver's return from Ottawa. Citizens of all parties and of none who heard the Premier's speech on the freight rates case, would agree that "Honest John" surpassed himself, and that by his one hour's address that night he won the supplementary name of "Fighting John," with which Mr. Chris. Spencer christened him. We understand Mr. Oliver is a prohibitionist, but if only he would recognize that he is a young enough man to learn not to mix these singulars and plurals!

THE NEED FOR A NEW SOCIAL ORDER was suggested by the revelation at a church Synod the other month that some South Vancouver official had actually granted a permit for begging to one or more members of the unemployed.

A DRAMATIC INCIDENT OCCURRED AT THAT CHURCH COURT when an "Unemployed" deputation mentioned that permit, and a woman representative revealed the destitution of her family. Different types of character were at once evidenced in the ministry. A Peter-like preacher exclaimed to the effect: "We have been hearing about brotherly love; here's an opportunity of practising it. I'll give this woman \$5.00. Now, who will do likewise?" Another member "prepared a resolution" to submit to the meeting, and still others suggested that things be done "decently and in order."

The practical man was maybe a bit hasty, but it was an occasion for practical christianity. The only criticism that might be offered is that it is seldom right, and almost never wise, to say to any neighbor, "I'll give this; will you do the same?" Under present social conditions men's incomes vary so much that what means heavy sacrifice in one case, may be like a drop from a stream to another.

THE TREATMENT OF THE B. C. E. R. COMPANY is a matter of vital interest to this Province. The public conscience and big corporations would make a good subject for discussion or debate. It is amazing how righteously indignant some people become about a suggestion that a corporation be allowed to make 6%, though the same persons would probably hold themselves ill-treated if they did not get a full 8% on any first mortgages they hold. As usual, there may be arguments on both sides; but citizens generally would do well to remember that the prosperity of the West is largely bound up with our treatment of British capital.

MORE OPEN OR DOUBLE-DECKED CARS would be welcome, but all improvements mean more capital, and it is necessary that the powers-that-be (pro tem) and the people as a whole should treat this public-service company at least as fairly as they would an individual person or private firm.

THE KIWANIS CLUB DID WELL to start the rose garden in Stanley Park, but we believe that some members who contributed to the original fund would rather have seen the scheme of "beautification" begun in one of the West-end streets.

BEAUTIFY BURRARD would have made a good slogan. Can it be true, as alleged, that the property owners in that street were the real objectors to that thoroughfare having shrubs and flowers put in its central boulevard—on the ground that it would interfere with the street becoming a business one? If so, it was clearly a case of short-sightedness. In the interests of the city as a whole the oversight should be remedied.

B. C. MANUFACTURERS and the B. C. ART LEAGUE are to be congratulated on the recent opening of the fine building in Granville Street.

IF THE PURVEYORS' DEPARTMENT in the B. C. Manufacturers' Building undertake to supply luncheons according to the sample given to Vancouver Kiwanis Club, the place will soon get a reputation second to none. With so many club luncheons held every week, it should be possible to provide satisfying luncheons for business men at from 50c to 75c.

THE BOX OF SAMPLES GIVEN AWAY was an extra which reflected well on the enterprise of the firms involved, but we believe the Kiwanis attendance was bigger than the supply of boxes.

UNHAPPILY THE PURPOSE OF INSPECTION of the Manufacturers' Building by the Kiwanians was thwarted through the programme being unusually prolonged—instead of shortened, as originally intended. One man took twenty-two minutes for one announcement, which might better have been put into five minutes. The speaker of the day (President Cunningham of the Manufacturers' Association) set a good example in a short speech. Kiwanian President George Cunningham and Secretary Harry Nobbs were absent at the International Convention, and the vice-president was too tolerant. In addition to an excellent lunch, the inspection gives another reason for an early return visit.

THE B. C. BRANCH OF THE CANADIAN AUTHORS' association missed an opportunity of entertaining when "Ralph Connor" (Rev. Dr. Gordon, of Winnipeg), and President Falconer were in Vancouver. We understand Dr. Gordon made clear at the Presbyterian Synod that he was a minister first and a novelist "on the side." Some folk may allege that one or more of his later books suggest that.

DR. GORDON'S ADDRESSES AT THE SYNOD MEETINGS in Vancouver were worthy of the Moderator of a big Church. He also spoke effectively at the Canadian Club, but at rather extended length for a luncheon address. It was unfortunate that the company at that function was kept waiting about fifteen minutes at the start. Shall "the minister" or "the novelist" be called "the late So-and-so?"

VANCOUVER CANADIAN CLUB does not lose its premier position in the community, no matter how many community service clubs are formed—and there seems to be no end to them. It is a reasonable assumption that the prestige of the Canadian Club is partly due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Dunlop, the secretary. Club presidents come and go, but Mr. Dunlop gives the impression that he is "always on the job."