

Canada United.

Each Province Praise the Educational Value of "The Book of Knowledge"—It Should be in Every School and Library.

LETTERS OF APPROVAL FROM Province of Nova Scotia Department of Technical Education. The Grollier Society of London, Toronto, Ont.

Gentlemen:—In response to your request for my opinion of the worth of the BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE for children, I can truthfully state that I think it is the best collection of information and illustrations for young people from the age of 5 years upwards that I have yet seen.

It is difficult for most adults to judge the efficacy of any publication in other ways than the interest which is created in the child himself. My children have had access to several books and sets of books which were desired to make the same appeal as the BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE, but my children have turned to the BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE many times where they would consult other publications only once.

Yours truly,
F. H. SEXTON, Director.

Province of Ontario Department of Education.

The Grollier Society of London, Toronto, Ont.

Gentlemen:—

I have ordered The Book of Knowledge for my Travelling Libraries. I have also recommended it at various Library Institute Meetings throughout the country, and also to the officers of several separate libraries who have written to me in reference to it. I think it is admirably suitable for the purpose for which it has been compiled and am glad to add my testimony as to its value for the Juvenile Department of any library, or for any other class of readers.

Yours very truly,

WALTER R. NURSEN,

Inspector of Public Libraries.

Qu'Appelle (Sask.) High and Public School.

To Whom it may concern:

The Book of Knowledge published by The Grollier Society of London is one of the best school library books that I have had the privilege of examining. It is such because of its breadth of subject-matter written in simple language and its natural attractiveness for the reader.

The Book of Knowledge tells of the Past and discovers the Present. History, biography, fiction, poetry, fable and science are considered. The works of Nature and of Man are compressed into twenty volumes of good type on good paper.

The Book of Knowledge is a library in itself.
R. M. JORDON.

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

The Grollier Society of London.

Dear Sirs:—

The Child's Book of Knowledge has been in my possession for several weeks and I have no hesitation in stating that it is in my opinion the most useful reference work published in the language. I deem it, moreover, an educational work superior in its possibilities to any practical school that has yet come under my personal notice. All others have in a most significant manner failed to interest the child mind in the important fundamentals of knowledge. What better service can any institution render mankind than vitalizing the interest of the children? This Book of Knowledge does. I hope it will have the widest possible circulation.

Yours very truly,

S. E. GREENWAY, Director.

Board of School Trustees of South Vancouver.

Members of the South Vancouver School Board, Lord Selkirk School.

Dear Sirs:—

In accordance with instructions received at the January Meeting of the South Vancouver Teachers' Association I tender to you the thanks of the Association for supplying the various Schools with the "Book of Knowledge".

The teachers find these books of great assistance to them in their work.

Yours respectfully,

(Sgd.) ERA L. DOMONEY, Secy.
I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a letter received from the South Vancouver Teachers' Association.
WM. KIRKLAND, Secretary.

Saskatchewan Provincial Normal School, Regina.

The Grollier Society of London.

Dear Sirs:—

I take pleasure in testifying to the excellent qualities of the Book of Knowledge. We recommend it to our students for school library purposes; and in Normal School work we find our students referring continually to it, particularly for material for lessons in primary language and literature.

I should like to see a copy of this set of books in every school library in Saskatchewan.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN S. HUFF,

Assistant Principal.

(If you desire particulars about The Book of Knowledge, write to MR. M. D. DAWSON, Balmain Place, St. John's, who will be here for a few more weeks.)

MARGINAL NOTES

By Commentator.

THE WAR.

Until the opening of the gigantic struggle in Belgium, France and Italy, which approaches now hourly and which is fraught with the destinies of nations for generations to come, the main attention of the world will continue to be centred upon the extraordinary and not unimportant events in the East. There, indeed, it is almost as difficult to understand what is passing at the moment as to prophesy what will happen next. That Germany has manipulated the situation for the past year greatly to her own advantage can be granted. It is instructive and not a little ironic to recall Brusiloff's enthusiastic words as far back as July, 1916, "The war is already won; the end is only a question of time." Even while he was speaking, treason and intrigue were busy behind him, and began the first step in the wretched process, which has brought Russia an abject suppliant to the feet of the foe she might long since have conquered, when they paralyzed his arm as it was raised to deal a second smashing blow against the routed and demoralized Austrians. It was the first signal success of German intrigue, but the successes have been almost unbroken since. Now, as the last chapter of the miserable story, having refrained from force against an enemy who was still formidable, she uses it relentlessly when she knows that anarchy and demoralization have done their work and no serious resistance is to be feared. She has won by guile what she could not gain by force of arms. The Bolshevik, having brought about the ruin of their country, may wage a war of sorts against the foes they see at last in their true light, but it will consist only in talking and retreating. Romania, surrounded by false allies and powerful enemies, is comparatively helpless and will probably suffer much the same humiliation as the Russia that betrayed her. In the far east a new development is imminent, and both Japan and China are likely to become more important factors in the war. The situation is a delicate one, but quick and vigorous action seems to be the best manner of handling it. At the moment of writing the other Allies appear to have given Japan carte blanche to take whatever steps may be necessary to protect the huge stores of supplies at Vladivostok. Whether or not Siberia becomes another theatre of war and whether it will lead to the closer military as well as naval participation of our eastern ally remains yet to be seen.

A GREAT LOSS.

John Redmond's must be added to the tale of lives cut off before they could see the fruition and reward of their devoted work. It was a cruel fate which removed him just at this time from a scene which was certain before long to demand the aid of his experience, judgment and above all leadership. Since the war intervened to avert what might have been a calamity in Ireland, the bitterness of the days of Redmond's real ascendancy has been forgotten, and his most inveterate enemies can look back and

comparing those days with these present, perceive how moderate after all and how just were most of his views. It is only creditable to the man and to his true followers that they have of late lost much of their old prestige and power, because they have failed to please both of two irreconcilable extremes and have held true to the principles and politics which they espoused from the first. But the Irish Convention has done much, even if it has failed to do the impossible utmost, and it is certain that when the war was over, or even before then, and the Irish question had to be tackled in earnest and brooked no longer delay, John Redmond would have once more found his place and have played a leading part in the difficult task of settlement. It is not now but in the near and, it is only too likely, stormy future that his loss will be most keenly felt.

THE SEAL FISHERY.

Probably the authorities and ship-owners are using the best wisdom in removing all restrictions upon the killing of seals this year and making the voyage a short one. This will ensure the quick return of the steamers and at the same time permit the securing of the largest possible loads. Under the exceptional circumstances this course is undoubtedly justified, though I presume it will be recognised that it is itself exceptional and will not make a precedent for the abandonment of prohibitions which in ordinary times are most salutary.

The Advocate, as might have been expected, is beating the drum loudly now that the sealers are in town, with particular emphasis on the matter of the sale of the men's seals. It is difficult to see what there is to make so much fuss about. The iniquitous clause which the owners are accused of inserting in the agreement merely provided that the owners were to have the first refusal of the men's seals, and then only if they bade as high as anyone else. The Advocate says, "If an owner of a steamer was given the sole right to purchase the men's share, provided as much was paid as others offered, the result would be a combination of the few owners to set a price, for no one would bid, for seals they knew were unobtainable." Why unobtainable? Such an intending purchaser would need merely to offer a cent more than the owners to dissolve the clause objected to and to obtain the seals; while in the unlikely event of both bidding the same, I can see nothing inequitable in the owners, in whose ships the men were enabled to prosecute the fishery, having the preference. In any case it is clear that the men cannot possibly be prejudiced by such a clause. If Mr. Coaker, for instance, who affects so much concern for the sealers, thought the price offered by the owners inadequate, he would only need to bid it up until it reached the desired figure, in order to ensure to the men the best possible price. If the owners omit the clause, as I understand they have consented to do, the sole effect will be that they must bid a cent more than the highest outside bidder instead of the same amount. A profound difference!

As a matter of fact, however, it looks very much as if the Advocate desired less to adjust this trifling matter, which it misrepresents, than to follow its old tactics of sowing distrust and dissension between the owners and the men, picturing the former, if not as actually dishonest, at least as attempting to overreach and outwit the latter, when nothing of the sort can be said. I need not notice its inflated efforts to represent Mr. Coaker and the F.P.U. as the guardian angels of the sealers, ever solicitous of their interests—the matter is too stale. The same thing will happen this year as last. By reason of war conditions the men will get a good price for their seals, for which Mr. Coaker will claim all the credit, when, as last year, he will have nothing whatever to do with it. This is not, as Calchas states, insulting the intelligence of the fishermen: it is assuming that they have no intelligence at all.

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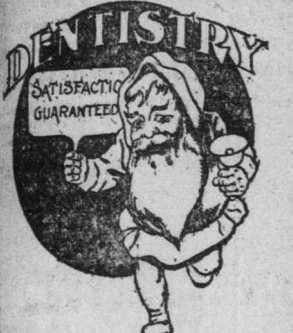
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U. S. POWER, D.D.S. (Graduate of Philadelphia Dental College, Graduate of Philadelphia College of Oral Surgery and Philadelphia General Hospital.)

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