

A number are from various parts of the Old Country, from which they have come to enjoy the freedom of the Pacific coast, where social functions are not so exacting and where they can pass their days comparatively unmolested. Many of them are from the "higher classes," and well educated.

Allow me to say the theory of ignorance in the West becomes an exploded notion to one who has had an opportunity to gain acquaintance with the people of B. C. I would stake the intelligence and education of the people of this district against that of any rural community of Eastern Canada, or urban, either, omitting professors and others par excellence. Each island has a school under a competent teacher, where almost all the children are receiving a good common school education.

Quite a number of the people have come from eastern parts of Canada; a good many of the farmers are of this class. Again, some live by fishing, and, in fact, nearly all the laboring men who can get away spend July and August in the salmon fisheries on the Fraser.

There are a number of half-breeds. Those whom I have met seem very friendly, and I have received repeated acts of kindness from them. Judging from personal experience I must say that within their dark skins is many a heart that would put to shame some of their fairer-skinned brothers.

A great many Japs are here most of the time. On Mayne they have a place where the bosses keep them when they have no work to do. They are a great menace to the laboring men of the West; one has only to live here a short time to realize that the people of British Columbia have many reasons justifying them in their demands for the exclusion of Orientals—from the laborers' standpoint most of all. And the laborers deserve first consideration in any land.

We have a preaching station on each of the islands, two on Galiano. The field was opened some seven years ago, and has been sustained more or less regularly ever since.

Pender is the strongest section of the field. The most of the people there are Scotch Presbyterians—a western Zorra—although a few belong to other denominations, a number to none. Nearly all attend our services more or less regularly. The attendance averages about thirty, sometimes reaching forty or more. We have a Sabbath school, with an attendance of from fifteen to eighteen, of which Mr. A. H. Menzies, brother of Dr. Menzies of Honan, is superintendent. On Thursday evenings we have a prayer meeting from house to house with an attendance which is fair but not what it should be or would be if more realized the blessings to be derived from meeting to study God's word and hold united communion with our Father in Heaven.

On Mayne we have an attendance averag-

ing about twenty. A good many here are Anglicans, and some of them will not attend any other than their own service, if they attend anywhere. We have a "Sunday School" here on Friday afternoon at the close of the day school, for which most of the children stay. On Sabbath I cannot get from one station to another except just in time for service; moreover there are more of the children who stay than would come on Sabbath.

On Galiano, at the southern end, the attendance is about the same as on Mayne. At Retreat Cove, at the other end of Galiano, we have service every fortnight on Tuesday evening. This requires a very interesting ten or twelve mile walk. The trail, with many a crook and bend, stone and mud hole, hill and hollow, meanders through the tall and stately spruces and intrusive ferns.

At the three main stations we have service every Sunday, Pender in the morning, Mayne and Galiano alternately afternoon and evening.

We have some loyal helpers in our work, but the number is not what it should be. By loyalty I mean not merely singing "I am a soldier of the Cross," but buckling on the armour and being a soldier. It is one thing to wear the uniform and another to join the charge. We want Christian workers, but oh! we want Christian livers, who, when the devil comes as an angel of light or a demon of darkness, will never falter. It is not our faithfulness in keeping our talents, but in using them that the Master commends.

But one who is true in these western districts deserves credit, which credit God will not fail to give. There are not the props and outward supports that exist in the thickly populated, older sections of the East, and there are more undermining and ensnaring influences and he who does stand must stand upon the Solid Rock which will never fall; no matter how the billows of life may rage, he shall never be moved.

A number are studying the S. S. lessons, through the agency of the Home Class Department. The people of the mission have subscribed some towards the Century Fund, but all have not yet named the amount they will give. It will not be very large but the mission is going to do what it can to show its sympathy with the work of the Church and appreciation for the help it receives.

W. FOSS.

"He who cannot find time to consult his Bible will one day find that he has time to be sick; he who has no time to pray must find time to die; he who can find no time to reflect is most likely to find time to sin; he who cannot find time for repentance will find an eternity in which repentance will be of no avail; he who cannot find time to work for others may find an eternity in which to suffer for himself."—Hannah More.