British Columbia Monthly

(Continuing "Westminster Review," Vancouver)

VOLUME XIV

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VANCOUVER, B. C., DECEMBER, 1918

No. 3

THE SOCIAL, LITERARY AND RELIGIOUS MAGAZINE OF THE CANADIAN WEST

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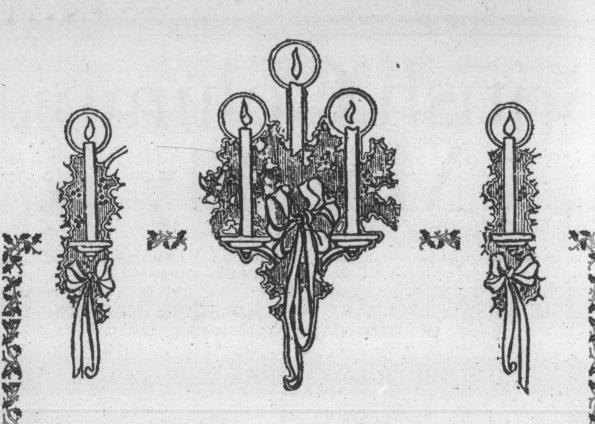
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In Church and State alike, and socially, "avoid argument" is good advice concerning several subjects. But sensible folk give thought and attention to serious subjects that need no argument. To most people LIFE INSURANCE is such a subject.

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(Continuing Westminster Review, Vancouver)

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VOLUME XIV

VANCOUVER, B. C., DECEMBER, 1918

No. 3

The Season's Greetings to All Our Readers

Notes of the Month

There seems to be no doubt that Lloyd George will go back with the backing of the large majority of the British voters. At least, that is what the political prophets are saying. But even the most cocksure of them confess that until the votes are counted (we write this before this has been completed) there is an element of uncertainty with regard to the women's vote.

So far as experience guides us with regard to elections in which the feminine vote has been polled, it has made no great difference in the personnel of the government or municipal authorities voted for. There is room for a treatise on the reasons for this. There is no question more interesting to the thoughtful observer than the interrogation, How will the women use the vote now they have got it?

That Lloyd George was the man of the hour during some of the greatest difficulties through which the Allies passed, most people, with the exception of his detractors, will grant. But those detractors are now busy with criticisms which seem both ungrateful and uncalled for. Lloyd George is more than a mere emergency-man. An American writer who recently interviewed him says: "I may liken his mind to a dynamo attached to a universal joint. To whomever or whatever subject he addresses himself, he gives an absolute attention, a characteristic of men who combine large powers with perfect courtesy."

In these days when Royalties are being scrapped, the figure of King Albert of Belgium stands out as a pleasing con-

trast to most of the other monarchs. His coming to his own again has been a feature of the past month. Without relying on any of the glitter and show of royalty, thoroughly democratic, sharing in the trials and sufferings of his own people, he will return to a throne more firmly established than ever.

And, notwithstanding the irresponsible chatter of a number of ultra-radicals, need we fear that the throne of Britain will be overturned at present? King George has done well. He and the Queen have also shared in the trials and anxieties of their people. They have walked a path which, while not spectacular, has been lighted by the lamp of duty. There have not been many monarchs whose lives have been so constantly marked by the homely virtues. The "smart" people are disposed to complain of them for this.

Some Canadian money and effort has been put into Mexican enterprises. The money has been lost and the effort withdrawn in face of unsettled conditions. In this regard it is interesting to observe that Mexico has been reduced to a semblance of respect for American and Canadian lives and property. Indeed, Mexico at the present time is "singing rather small." The reason is that German influence has waned, and a great respect for the policing power of the United States has taken its place.

Will English be the language of the great Peace Conference? On the European continent a knowledge of English is deemed a part of a liberal education. At least six times as many Frenchmen,

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THE BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY

Germans or Italians speak English as Englishmen speak any of the languages of these nationalities. Lloyd George does not speak French. Premier Clemenceau lived in the United States and speaks English perfectly. President Wilson is not practised in debating grave questions in French, and would prefer English. Sir Robert Borden speaks French, but the other Dominion premiers do not.

Apparently there will be plenty of subjects for debate when the British Columbia Legislature meets for its next session. What may be called the Findlay fiasco will doubtless be well ventilated. The Point Grey Industrial School and its administration will also afford speakers a text. The P. G. E. Railway will be a thorny topic, while we may be sure that the claims of the returned soldiers will be debated with a vigor which will indicate that cabinet position is no bed of roses.

This time last year, Vancouver had many farmer visitors from Saskatchewan. They are not so numerous this year, but they are able to hold their own because they did not spend all the money they made in 1917. The year 1917 was very dry, and this year was dry, too, so there was but little moisture in the ground to give the grain a start. Then, as a crowning misfortune, there was a heavy frost on July 23rd, this month having hitherto been counted as the one month in the year that was free from frost. Some large farmers never took their binders out.

In strong contrast to Albert of Belgium, William the Poltroon awaits his fate in Holland. His defection was no doubt a bitter pill for his misguided people. Among the minor indications of the selfishness of his character were the plentiful stores that were found at Pots-

dam. For though he and his military clique were confident of victory in a few months, Herr Hohenzollern took no chances. For an emperor, William was a first-class grocer.

Here, as elsewhere, irresponsible agitators are endeavoring to make trouble. They are talking Bolshevikism with considerable energy, and a part of the labor element is listening to them openmouthed. Meanwhile the trouble at the Coughlan shipyards has been an object lesson as to the disabilities inflicted on labor by hot-headed and injudicious leaders. It is no secret that many of the shipyard workers are tired of the tyranny of those who demand their obedience.

If we are to have here a reconstruction or a series of reconstructions that will overturn previous ideas, well and good so long as law and order are observed. The majority must rule, but it must not tyrannize, nor must it resort to violence. Neither here nor in the United States will mob rule or mob force be permitted. There are many more Canadians who are determined opponents of Bolshevikism than promoters of it, and if it comes to a "show-down" this will be abundantly manifest.

The experiment of appointing a commissioner to disentangle the coil of South Vancouver affairs instead of leaving them in the hands of a municipal council has in some measure justified itself. Commissioner Gillespie's administration has been guided by sound sense, and his effectiveness may be gauged by the opposition to his methods that has shown itself in certain quarters. The feeling is growing that the only way to run a municipality or a province is to conduct the same as if they were the business of a private corporation.

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"Out of the dying Now, into the yet to be;
Into the great Unknown enwreathed in mists of Time,
Moments behind, as leaves stripped from a Winter's tree,
As stones rolled into the depths by the tread of a mountain climb.
Yet there is Light ahead; enough for a man to know,
Not what the journey shall bring, or whether the end is near—
The pointing of the dial, the path that he must go;
Enough to guide the footsteps on the hill of the coming year.
Onward; but not alone—the world is not for one—
Each man helping the rest, in one great army of life—
Blessings come back to the giver, and actions kindly done
Uplift the shadows around, and yield us strength for the strife."
—E. Cooper Willis.

Editorial

THE NEW CRISIS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Various Voices in Vancouver:

"Well, if ever there was justification for the emphatic use of the

to the action!"

"Don't despair!"

"An emotional Methodist, without much foundation."

"This country is on the b-m! Elsewhere this would have been the talk of a generation"

"The vices of a young country are here." . .

"Another reflection on B. C. . . . What we want first and fore-most is clean government." . . .

"I voted for Prohibition because I felt that there must be a readjustment." . . .

Don't blame the Government: the Government is just as good or as bad—as the people deserves. The people get the kind of Government they want." . .

"But what can we do-when ninety-nine out of a hundred people are apt to shrug their shoulders and say of this thing, and of mere patronage jobs-'After all, it's none of my business'

"Yes, friend, it is your business—our business; it is the business of every citizen worthy of the name, or who wishes to be worthy of the name BRITISH Columbian."

. . . If there is not lawful authority in Vancouver or Victoria to achieve that end, let the authority be got, and let not legal 'technicalities' stand in the way of common-sense interpretation of Law and Justice."—British Columbia Monthly, November, 1918.

. . . British Columbia has much need of effective bodies, other than its Government for the time being, who will fairly represent and fearlessly set forth the facts affecting community conditions."—Editorial, November British Columbia Monthly, suggesting a "Citizens' Welfare Society."

Findlay's folly has come as a shock to many people, but when the sequel (as so far revealed) is studied, his fall is the least surprising thing about the whole affair. Feelings of strong condemnation towards him as an individual who betrayed a great trust, are soon qualified by reflections on the fallibility of human nature. Next, questionings come as to whether he was not "more sinned against than sinning" in being put, comparatively young and untried, in a position of such unique personal responsibility, open to great temptations, and without safeguards.

Whatever passed behind the scenes

prior to Mr. Findlay's appointment as Commissioner, it seems reasonable to assume that, so far as the Prohibition Party's support went, it was inspired primarily by regard for his work for the Prohibition Cause. But in the case of that government appointment knowledge of the man's character was the first essential, just as in the case of another much-criticised commissionership appointment of recent date, the character of the man's knowledge and experience is an equally important question relative to his fitness for the post. There are some things no party "patronage committee" can give to a man.

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Unhappily, observant people must hold that even connection with a Prohibition Party is no proof of a man's probity, no guarantee that he is influenced by merely humanitarian considerations, or that his motives are above suspicion. It is sometimes alleged that there are men whose connection with the Church itself is inspired by the "respectability" of its association, and, so far as business methods and practical interest in ideals are revealed or demonstrated to the world by some Churchmen, there often seems too much occasion for the gibe.

FINDLAY AND FINDLAY'S APPOINT-MENT AS TYPES

But taking Findlay as a type, it may be of use to ask: Why was he appointed to that Commissionership, on what basis of experience and real or fancied knowledge of his character? If "Real Estate" and that highsounding term, "Financial Agency" work tends to develop any thing more than another in men, surely it is a desire to make money easily and quickly. For the on-goings - and off-takings-of Real Estate "boosters" and "boomers" of former years, British Columbia is now suffering in reputation, and paying in high rents and otherwise; and the moral fibre of too many of its citizens has been weakened by the unhealthy ambition to get "easy money."

Was experience along such lines, supplemented by seemingly ceaseless activity in work in the Prohibition campaign, the main basis of Findlay's recommendation for the Commissionership? Probably when the facts are more fully disclosed it will be found that the Prohibition Party Executive and leaders must share with the Government, or the Government's Ministers, the respon-

sibility for the appointment. Enough has already come out to suggest that —as seems to happen here with so many public positions—it was a case of appointment by influence, whereby personal and party wire-pulling were considered first, and practical experience or proved character fitness second.

Surely this Farthest West has men, not without business training and capacity, who are known to have ideals and principles which enable them to value money as well as social and political power in true proportion—men who cannot be bribed or bought. Notwithstanding that devil's lie that "every man has his price," we believe there are such men, and that they are the human hope of the world.

Why should not such men be considered in such cases? Perhaps the answer is that such men cannot be seen or heard because of the party politicians and their followings. Publicity and place-hunters seem to attach themselves to all "Movements," and that despicable creature, the political "heeler," is likely to be with us so long as mere party politicians and "patronage committees" are allowed to obtain or usurp the higher places in the public service. The political arena, indeed, often provides the pitiful spectacle of sharp men playing "a game" in places where patriots should be giving themselves to the service of their fellowmen through the State.

But that "Voice" speaks truly: "The people get the kind of Government they deserve!"

"DAMN YOUR LAW—GIVE US JUSTICE!" —(Rev. Professor Jordan)

In a memorable address, delivered in Vancouver some years ago (of

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which a representative of the British Columbia Monthly took a verbatim note), Rev. Professor Jordan, of Queen's University, referred to the tendency in some quarters to have cases in the Law Courts turned aside on mere "technicalities," and he said that if such a practice were persisted in, the people would rise and say: "Damn your law—give us Justice!"

The initial treatment of the Findlay case might easily inspire such a feeling in the minds of all independently-thinking, sensible citizens—apart from their attitude to Prohibition or to any Politician or

Political Party. Under British law it is the privilege of the accused to have choice of counsel, and to secure the services of the best he can pay for or his friends can arrange to get for him. It may be nobody's business if remarkable coincidences happen in that connection, but independent observers do well to note the facts. But whatever habits may be developed or developing in this "wild and woolly West," it is not the British custom to dillydally with law-breakers, or so to ignore conditions involving a gigantic public scandal as to let a culprit evade larger issues by pleading guilty to a minor matter, and then get off with a fine—and with himself at the same time! The judge in this case did his duty to the limit, as directed by the particular law of the land under which the charge was made. But a schoolboy intelligence must have recognized before Findlay's trial that the maximum fine under that form of charge was an absurdity so far as meeting the case was concerned—provided that thereby the "hub" of the alleged "whiskey ring" or wheel were straightway to be allowed to roll across the international boundary line.

Were all the Agencies of Justice asleep as to the meaning of Findlay's dismissal, subsequent arrest at the "boundary line," and ultimate admission of guilt? Was a new law or "Order-in-Council," or some other piece of inexcusable "red-tape" necessary to keep Findlay in the country—simply because some officials (how many—one or more?) thought fit, or arranged, to let him have a speedy trial under a charge that permitted only a maximum fine of a thousand dollars, and then allowed him to take himself off, Heaven—and who else?—knows where!

Such laxity in legal procedure may pass unchallenged in some parts, but it is not in accordance with British ideas of justice, and it is for the citizens of *British* Columbia to say emphatically that it is not to be tolerated. There have been more than enough things of that sort in the past.

This is not a question of Party politics. It is a matter affecting the dispensing of elementary Justice in this province, and if those who are responsible for the procedure—and lack of it—in the Findlay case excuse themselves only on the ground of legal "technicalities," they ought to give place to men who are not likely to let such legal technicalities outrun the exercise of common-sense measures for preventing the escape of criminals who bring the whole community into disrepute.

Then, certain gentlemen of the Prohibition Party were reported to have called upon Mr. Findlay prior to his trial. To show friendly concern when a man is in difficulties is a commendable course, creditable alike to head and heart, and in any

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case, probably some of the callers thought the arrested man had been trapped, or even conspired against; but it would be interesting to know if any of these gentlemen got Findlay's confidence, and whether he was advised, if he were guilty, to take the first right step by making a clean breast of all he knew?

Findlay's voluntary statement that he was alone in the affair is itself reasonable ground for assuming that he was but a party—and probably a greatly tempted one—in the nefarious trade. Disclosure of the facts might generate more pity than blame for him, and possibly more anger against others. A manlier course is still open to Findlay, and who knows but he may take it? For him to return voluntarily now to help to "clear things up" might be held to half atone for his error, great as it was.

Meantime, we trust there are enough citizens of British stock in British Columbia (Canadian-born and British-born together) to give and gather voice sufficiently strong to demand and insist that public scandals of this kind be probed to the bottom—no matter who may be involved, politically or otherwise. Governments and politicians come and go—and sometimes they go quickly and unexpectedly—but the reputation of a country remains.

Perhaps there are still men on both sides of politics, whether or not they are known to "patronage committees." who would almost sooner sell their souls than go against their Party or its representatives. But we would fain believe that the larger mass of the citizens of British Columbia are ready to rise against such procedure. Otherwise it may fairly be questioned if the meaning

of the conflict of ideals which was at the root of the world-war has yet begun to dawn on the majority in this Farthest West.

Some of the "Voices" quoted at the beginning of this article must be heeded. He was a man of position and of considerable experience in public life who emphasized that a country gets as good a government as it deserves. British Columbia must "wake up"!

The citizens of British Columbia, working-men, returned soldiers, the "denominations," people of all Catholic and Protestant, to whom Church connection implies principle and a continual humanitarian effort upwards through belief in spiritual forces greater than themselves, must rouse them to their rights and powers. It is no mere party question of Liberal or Conservative, Labour or Socialist, or of who shall lead or hold office. Let us hope the hour will bring the man—and the men!

Let the cry be, Clean Government, Capable Government, the excision of legal "technicalities" in dealing with men and matters interfering with the public weal: a cleaning-up so far as gambling dens are concerned, under whatever guise or nomenclature they lurk, from the openly-flaunted cigarstand type and the busy "clubs," like open shops, in the Chinese quarters, right up to the high hotels, if any such are involved. Clean Government at any cost! Men and parties pass: the nation remains!

No, British Columbia will not then, in short time, become a sort of Sunday-school community, much less an earthly paradise. Evil cannot be entirely stamped out of the corporate life so long as it is inherent in the individual. But by united effort and action of loyal citizens such evils

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"Yes, friend," we repeat with that other voice, "it is your business—our business; it is the business of every citizen worthy of the name, or who wishes to be worthy of the name BRITISH Columbian!"

Since the foregoing was passed to the printer events have moved quickly. A Commissioner has been appointed to investigate into the alleged irregularities, and, following telephone conversation with the Attorney-General, Mr. W. C. Findlay has returned to Vancouver. So far Mr. Findlay has declined to give evidence before the Investigating Commissioner, and he is being held for contempt.

SHORTER SATURDAY HOURS FOR SHOPKEEPERS

When men are their own masters in business, there can be no limit set to the hours they can devote to one department or another affecting its development. That is true whether people are inspired merely by a desire for monetary gain, or prompted primarily by principles and ideals of service affecting social, intellectual and spiritual progress.

But anyone who has had experience of the daily round in shop or factory or office knows how tiresome and trying to health five and a half days' confinement can be, even when there is no call to put in night-work.

As has been noted in former years, we are of those who believe that the work-a-day world will yet arrange to get along comfortably with a five-day week of manual or mental labour for employees, and that the sixth day will come to be generally observed as

one for physical and mental rest and recreation, just as the seventh ought to be free for contemplation and meditation concerning the "Why, Whence, Whither?" of Life.

We commend as a step in the right direction the petition of the shopkeepers asking that stores be closed at six o'clock on Saturdays. Late shopping is mostly a matter of habit. Probably the few men or firms who think that by closing their premises at six o'clock on Saturdays they would miss the trade of loggers and others from the country, will be against the suggested change. But under ordinary circumstances the keeping open of stores till six in the evening should give ample opportunity for all shopping. At such seasons as Christmas and New Year it appears that the shopkeepers unhesitatingly give up their half-holiday because of the full days—which most other workers get as a matter of course. During these times they also, under present arrangements, keep open for business many more evenings than "the public" would hold necessary—if the latter had to put in the long days and experience the physical and mental exhaustion that follow therefrom. But that is a matter for future attention.

Meantime, if six o'clock closing on Saturdays is introduced, some merchants may, for a week or two, find a reduction in their average week's income; but the matter would gradually adjust itself. Ultimately, there would not be less shopping or less business done, but probably more—inasmuch as the general standard of health of the employees would improve with better working hours and with more week-end rest.

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MORE ABOUT THE SKID ROAD AT THE EXHIBITION

Time and space alike prevent many communications being treated as they merit, but a letter received this month contains "information" which should be passed on. The writer refers to the notice in last issue dealing with the Skid Road at the Vancouver Exhibition, and adds:

"A year ago, when at the exhibition, I was attracted by the boys and girls trying for certain prizes, and remarked on the few which were won. On examination of the scheme I found that it was next to impossible for anyone to get a prize. For instance, six dice were used, and if you got the numbers of 12 or less, or 36 or more, you got a prize. Figure it out. It means you must shake six twos at one time, or six sixes, which is practically an impossibility, or about one chance in two or three weeks of shaking.

"You refer to the matter as gambling. It was not. It was a sure thing, and no one had a chance for his money. It was a shame that boys and girls who did not see through the skin game put up their money, with the approbation of the management.

"There is no excuse that they did not know. . . I looked this year particularly, and found more of these schemes than ever, and though I spent several hours watching them, never once did I see a prize won. So sure were some of the people operating them that they would not even look at the number, simply saying that 'You should try again.'

"I remonstrated with some of the operators, but was told to get along and give a man a chance. As I knew they were backed by the management, I saw nothing could be done.

"We all like to take a chance, perhaps, but when there is no chance at all, and the people in authority support the rogues, plain stealing is too weak a word to apply. The thieves are bad enough, but the management who permit them are much worse."

We commend this correspondent's report to the consideration of all who have anything to do with authorising or supporting Vancouver Exhibition, and also to the Civic Bureau of Vancouver Board of Trade, and through it to the whole board. Surely this is another case for cleaning-up by British Columbia citizens!

A CHILD'S HAND

The clasp of a baby hand, trustful, clinging, warm;

So small, so light a touch to raise so wild a storm

Within my heart, of bitter, unavailing tears,

To rend in twain, with ease, the veil that years

Had drawn across my grief. Time was, when such a touch was mine;

But Thou, O God, thought best to make it Thine.

I was not worthy, or perchance, forgetting Thee, I loved too well.

Mine but the part to bow the head; it were not wise to dwell

On the dread impotence—to lift the soul in useless fight

Of bitterness and agony against Thy awful might.

One boon I crave of Thee, O Lord, who asked of me so much:

Beyond the grave hold Thou for me once more that clinging touch.

—LAURA REES-THOMAS,

Vancouver.

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The Famous Riel Rebellion

By Rev. R. G. MacBeth, M.A.

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N the annals of our western courts of law quite the most famous case that has ever come up for trial is that of Louis Riel. This we say with confidence, because the noted leader of two rebellions was a national figure and because the remarkable array of legal talent led to a battle of giants skilled in all the shield and swordplay of dialectic argument. The echoes of the trial were heard for years in political conflicts all over Canada, turning the course of many an election, and are still furnishing material for use in some of the provinces of the Dominion.

Riel first saw the light of day on the Red River, across from the present city of Winnipeg. He was a born agitator, because his father, "the Miller of the Seine," so called because he had a mill on the little stream that falls into the Red River at this point, was a man of fiery disposition who assailed the ruling powers of his day with fiercely eloquent invective. So it was that his son, who came back to the Red River country from a short course at the Laval University about the time that the Dominion of Canada was starting to annex the West, found an opportunity for leadership and agitation. There were no railways, telegraphs, or even regular mails then between the East and the West, and in consequence the West only heard in a vague way that their country had been purchased by Canada in that year of grace 1869. Nobody seemed to know whether the rights of the few settlers then in the West would be respected by the incoming regime, and so Louis Riel the younger, with magnetic and passionate speech, told his French half-breed compatriots that they might lose even the lands upon which they had built their homes. He had a good deal to justify the position he took, and his inflammatory addresses set the fire of rebellion flaming on western plains. After many months it was suppressed, and Riel escaped across the line, whence he came back in 1884 to lead another rebellion in the Saskatchewan country, where the same class of people was dissatisfied over land surveys and other disturbing factors which were changing the old customs of the plainsmen and buffalo hunters. In this rebellion Riel called on the Indians for aid, and thus committed perhaps his gravest crime. It took some months, some fighting and the loss of many lives to suppress the second rebellion. And when Riel's stronghold at Batoche had been taken, the rebel, captured by two scouts, was eventually brought to trial at Regina on a charge of high treason, laid for precautionary reasons by Chief of Police Stewart, of the city of Hamilton, in Ontario. If the charge was proven the death sentence would in the ordinary course have to follow, and it soon became known that his friends throughout Canada, especially in Quebec, would put up a desperate fight for the life of the rebel chief. The gravamen of the charge was, of course, that Riel, being a subject of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, had incited rebellion against her authority, contrary to the statutes in such cases made and provided, and "against the peace of our said Lady the Queen, her crown and dignity." Friends and compatriots, chiefly

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in Quebec, provided two of the most brilliant young lawyers of that province to help local barristers in their defence of Riel. These two were Mr. F. X. Lemieux and Mr. Charles Fitzpatrick, both of whom became very prominent in the public life of the country, the latter being now Lieutenant-Governor of the province on the St. Lawrence. The Dominion government saw the necessity for securing strong men to face such a combination, and so they arranged that in addition to the deputy minister of justice and the local barristers, Mr. B. B. Osler and Mr. Christopher Robinson, the famous Toronto lawyers, should act for the Crown. It soon became known that the defence to be set up for the rebel leader was that of insanity or incapability of distinguishing between right and wrong.

I recall the four noted lawyers in the case. As a law student at that time I took some special interest in the trial for that reason, and also because it had fallen to my lot to be in uniform with the force that suppressed the rebellion. Hence I can see the figures of this remarkable legal quartette.

Christopher Robinson, slender and somewhat delicate looking, with the "pale cast of thought" upon his face, was undoubtedly the foremost allround lawyer of his day. His voice was not strong, and he lacked the force and passion necessary to the orator. So he did not attempt oratory. His forte was not before a jury, but before courts of appeal, where his marvellous knowledge of law and acquaintance with precedents made their distinct impression on judicial minds. The table before him at Riel's trial was loaded with law books, to which he referred with an

almost uncanny precision. He was specially qualified to deal with questions of constitutional law.

B. B. Osler, one of a very famous family, which includes the noted physician, was a somewhat powerfully built man, with lofty forehead and a striking face. His voice was clear and he had great power in the examination of witnesses and in appeal to a jury. With a cool and assured style he made his address, with occasional gleams of humor and sarcasm breaking through here and there. He was a hard hitter, but never gave a foul blow.

Lemieux was characteristically dark and good-looking, as a French-Canadian should be, I suppose. He claimed his right to address the court in French, and even though one could not follow closely he would be impressed by that brilliant oratory and force which the Quebec men have so often exemplified.

Fitzpatrick was tall and fair, and made a remarkable fight for the prisoner. Eloquent and pathetic, argumentative and forceful by turns, he showed complete mastery of his case to a degree almost surprising in one as young as he was at that time.

Riel was tried at Regina before Judge or Stipendiary Magistrate Hugh Richardson and a jury of six, selected after much challenging by the defence. Lemieux and Fitzpatrick took exception to the jurisdiction of the court and desired that Riel should be removed and tried by a court of competent jurisdiction either in Ontario or British Columbia. This objection was over-ruled and the trial proceeded.

There was no difficulty in establishing the general charge of treason that had been laid. The facts of the rebellion were not disputed. But the

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in establishof treason facts of the d. But the fight came on the question of Riel's The leading alienist Canada, Dr. Daniel Clark, of Toronto, was strongly inclined to think that Riel was not of sound mind, and Dr. Roy, of Beauport Asylum, in Quebec, in which Riel had spent some months, expressed the belief that Riel was suffering from megalomania—a sort of Kaiseristic disposition to think that he was some great one. Other doctors claimed that the rebel leader was quite sane in matters that were within the scope of his knowledge, and they rather scored when they were able to show by evidence that Riel at one stage would have accepted a sum of money for himself from the government and left the country.

A curious part of the case was that where the evidence showed how Riel had during the rebellion broken with the Roman Catholic Church, of which he had been a devout member and in whose fold he later on closed his stormy life. In this connection nearly all the alienist doctors said that Riel showed marked peculiarity. But one of the doctors said that barring "purely religious questions having relation to what might be called divine mysteries," Riel was a responsible being. They all agreed

that he had hallucinations on political and religious questions, but that he could distinguish between right and wrong. Even at this date, laymen reading over the evidence would have difficulty in deciding on the point of sanity.

But the facts were established, and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy. Riel then received the death sentence, but execution was stayed till his lawyers appealed to the full court at Winnipeg and then to the Privy Council in England on the question of the jurisdiction of the Regina court. In both cases they failed in their appeal, and despite efforts to secure his pardon, the rebel leader was executed for the crime of high treason. His body was given to his relatives for burial, and I remember witnessing his tremendously impressive funeral in the famous old cathedral of St. Boniface, outside which his dust reposes under the plain headstone on which is written the one word, "Riel."

Thus passed one of the strange and almost mysterious figures in western history. His place in the record is not yet wholly fixed, but he made much stir in his day, and generation.

"Therefore I trust, although to outward sense
Both true and false seem shaken; I will hold
With newer light my reverence for the old,
And calmly wait the births of Providence.
No gain is lost; the clear-eyed saints look down
Untroubled on the wreck of schemes and creeds;
Love yet remains, its rosary of good deeds
Counting in task-field and o'er peopled town:
Truth has charmed life! The Inward Word survives,
And day by day its revelation brings;
Faith, Hope and Charity, whatsoever things
Which cannot be shaken, stand.—Still holy lives
Reveal the Christ of whom the letter told,
And the New Gospel verifies the Old."
—WHITTIER.

Leaves From a Transport Secretary's Log-Book

By Capt. (Rev.) P. C. Reed

OUTWARD BOUND

I T was mid-Atlantic. The prow of the transport was headed for England and the war. In the soft glow of the evening twilight the men were sitting on the floor of the troop deck listening to the gramophone perched on an upturned pickle tub. The "Y" Secretary stood in their

midst enjoying the scene.

"Why can't we have a sing?" suddenly demanded one of the men.

"That's better than canned music."

"There's a Long, Long Trail A-winding," came the instant response, and at once they were off.

"Smile, Smile, Smile," "For Me and My Gal," "Good Luck to the Boys of the Allies," "Keep the Home Fires Burning," and other favorites followed in quick succession.

One by one the singers rose to their feet and gathered around the Secretary, who was beating time for the improvised numbers.

"Now for a solo," suggested the Secretary. "Come on, you, there!" cried one man to his pal, lying at ease in a hammock. The man addressed slid easily to the deck and sang, "The Best Place is Home." "Memories! Memories!" and "M-o-t-h-e-r" followed, and noting the impression produced upon the hearers, the Secretary remarked:

"Boys, before I go to the next deck to show some pictures, I should like to say a few words." "Go ahead, Captain!" came the hearty response. Briefly the speaker outlined "things that may be left behind" on going to war. Memories of home and mother should not be left behind. "Can memories of God and Christ be left behind?" was a question put, to which came the manifold and hearty response, "No, sir!"

Encouraged by the reply, the Secretary invited these men who had not already done so to make the great decision then and there, and offered, if they desired it, to register all such decisions in his notebook. There was a brief pause for thought. Then one man said: "Put down my name, sir." "And mine!" "And mine!" "And mine!" came from others.

Name after name was written down, and after praying, "Father, we thank Thee. Help them," the Secretary passed on to the next deck. That night in his cabin, in a glow of joy unspeakable, he counted 103 names in his book.

On another occasion, on the darkened troop deck, following a programme of music and sports, the stereopticon, operated by a young Jewish corporal, showed the "Life of Christ" on the screen. Seated, kneeling, standing, hanging on to beams, packed into every conceivable vantage point, Protestants, Jews and Catholics watched the picture. From his seat on the floor in the midst of the men the Secretary spoke of the Wonderful Life, and as the last view was withdrawn he made a simple appeal for decisions.

"Will you make Him your choice tonight, men?" was the direct question. Again there was a pause for intense heart-searching. And again the low-spoken but earnest "I will, sir." "Put my name down, sir." Leaning forward so that the beam from

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your choice direct quespause for And again est "I will, sir." Leanbeam from the lantern fell upon the open page of his notebook, the Secretary wrote down the names of 74 men who had signified their purpose of following the peerless Christ.

HOMEWARD BOUND

Again the scene was mid-Atlantic, no more restless than were the hundreds of men on board the transport headed for Canada and home. Wounds, scars, crutches, and the general air of grim seriousness that marked the company of returning men spoke only too clearly of the hell they had recently left. Yet, after three days out, the undying boy in the heart of each lifted his head, and home and loved ones gradually assumed more definite shape. Yes, they were happy, if for the most part reserved in the expression of their joy. There was lacking the buoyancy that distinguished their brothers on the way to the war, and there was far less readiness to respond to the religious appeal. Yet, for many of them, the thunders of war had not stilled the "still, small voice," and that these returning men cherished thoughts of God in their hearts the following incident shows:

During the first days of the trip the Y. M. C. A. programme of music, games and lectures was appreciated and enjoyed. Then came Sunday. The morning parade services were participated in heartily. In the evening the Secretary appeared on deck with his portable organ. Hymn sheets were distributed. Seeing this, the men raised a shout: "Come on, fellows! It's a sing-song!"

In a few seconds the entire available deck space was filled so much that the Secretary had barely room to beat time. The boys clambered on the winches and rat-lines, and wherever there was foot or hand-hold. On

the upper deck crowded soldiers' wives and children. Organist, flutist and cornetist stood to attention.

"Now, are we all set? All right! What will be the first number? Number eleven, is it? 'Where is My Wandering Boy Tonight?' Very good. Now, one—two—three—sing!"

And sing they did! It was mostly singing—but such singing! "Lead, Kindly Light," "Nearer, My God, to Thee," "Fight the Good Fight," "Yield Not to Temptation," and "Rock of Ages" were the favorites. Brief but earnest talks were given by a Methodist, a Baptist and a Presbyterian minister, each garbed in the uniform of a private. There were short prayers, too, and three of these soldiers of King George gave themselves that night to the service of the King of Kings. Each night there were more conversions, for the men would not be satisfied with that one Sunday evening service, and requested one every night.

The six o'clock sing-song was the most popular feature on the ship. It mattered not if the decks were wet, or if the chill wind whistled, the crowd was on hand to sing, listen, think, pray and decide.

REGARDING RESULTS?

Who can tell? Only God knows what that voyage will yet mean to Canadian homes, and to social and business life. Results! Listen to these words, overheard on the troop deck one night between a soldier and his pals after "Lights out":

"Well, if God spares me to set my foot in Canada again I am going to be a different man!" said one. "Why not begin now?" was the answer. "That's what I mean. What about yourself, Bill?" "Oh, I decided that before the meeting broke up on deck.

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Yes, and if the meetings keep on there will be lots more fellows hit the same trail."

Results! Hear the words of one of the married men: "I haven't been such a bad character, but I'm going

to do better. Tell the Secretary to keep on with the meetings. We need them. They do us good."

We leave the rest with God—and with common-sense Canadian Christians.

The Boys' Industrial School Revelation

By E. W. Wright

A BOUT two months ago there came the first intimation that all was not well with the management of the Boys' Industrial School. Evidently, upon information received, Hon. J. W. de B. Farris and Mrs. Ralph Smith visited the school and found the reports substantially correct—boys, for certain offences, were punished with solitary confinement and a bread-and-water diet. Mr. Farris immediately issued instructions that the bread-and-water diet should cease.

Since then there have been published the findings of the grand jury, and the whole city appears to be inexpressibly shocked at the appalling state of affairs. Not only do the buildings seem to be in disrepair, ill-lighted, ill-ventilated and altogether antiquated, but the teaching staff is sadly inadequate for the needs of such a school.

Apart from these things, that which cries out for remedy is the management of the school. Inefficiency, brutality and refined cruelty would appear to be rampant. Some people wondered why boys tried to escape. If the allegations as to treatment be true, there is no longer need to wonder. They have only to read of the methods of correction administered. Boys at the age of eleven and thirteen are not

hardened criminals, but the punishment of solitary confinement as meted out to two lads mentioned by the grand jury would tend to make them so.

Naturally, it is not the cream of our boyhood which is sent to the Industrial School, therefore a large amount of misbehaviour can be expected. No doubt the school in question gets its full share of difficult cases, but the capacity for handling the situation seems to have been lacking.

It is useless to argue that ninety or ninety-five per cent. of the boys "make good." They would probably "make good" in any case. What is wanted is the reformation of the other five or ten per cent. It is they who need the extra care and guidance of a man kind and sympathetic and yet withal "a good disciplinarian," which phrase has a vastly different meaning from that which seems to have appealed to the management of the Industrial School.

The time for a change is overdue. What is the government going to do about it? The Attorney-General abolished the bread-and-water diet. Why did he not also abolish solitary confinement? He again refers to the delinquencies of the late government in that they used the money in the treasury to build expensive peniten-

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tiaries instead of up-to-date industrial schools. The public knows a good deal about the shortcomings of the late government, and for that reason, presumably, returned the present one. So far as it is carrying on in the same manner, to that degree is it just as culpable. Surely two years is sufficient time in which to make some show of good faith. Money has been found for other

things not half so vital as this, and, indeed, it would cost little to make a great difference in the efficiency and general management of the school.

The government may fairly be expected to take immediate measures to rectify these evils, and in the building of the proposed cottage homes we feel assured that a solution, in great part, will be found to the present problem.

Notes and Comments

By Rev. R. G. MacBeth, M.A.

THE UNIVERSITY

A S the days pass and opinions are heard from far and near, the greatness of the loss sustained by this Province and its University in the passing of President Wesbrook is being more profoundly realised. Everyone who knew him deeply regretted his death, but even his close friends had hardly realised the large place he held in the hearts and the lives of all who are interested in the University. Coming at a period when the collapse of real estate inflation and the opening of the war utterly upset all the arrangements made for expenditure in connection with the buildings to house the University worthily, Dr. Wesbrook in a most courageous and capable way set himself to meet the changed situation. That he succeeded is amply evidenced by the way in which he won the highest respect of the Board of Governors as well as the esteem and affection of faculty and students alike. He was a man of brilliant gifts, wide scholarship, gentle manners and modest, gentlemanly bearing. The suggestion made by Mrs. Farris in a singularly able paper on "The University" given here recently, that the Province should erect University buildings at Point Grey in commemoration of the men who had fallen in the service of the country, ought to appeal to the whole University constituency, and the further suggestion that the first worthy building should be called Wesbrook Hall will find an echo in all our hearts. The first President of the University, for his own and for his work's sake, richly deserves this monument.

POLICE AND CHILDREN

One of the most unique entertainments in Vancouver is the annual Christmas tree for poor children held at Police Headquarters and conducted by the blue-coated stalwarts who are watchmen over the safety of the city. Nothing could be a finer demonstration of the fact that the police properly regard themselves as the protectors of children, and not, as some foolish people think, their persecutors. To see these giants at play with the little ones and entering into the joyous spirit of the occasion in the dispensing of the gifts they

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had provided out of their comparatively small incomes, is to give great confidence in the men who patrol our streets. For the hearts of men who love children are in the right place.

JAMES STARK

A gallant but gentle and optimistic spirit was that of the late James Stark, who passed away suddenly last month and whose funeral was attended by a large concourse of the leading people of Vancouver. Strong in his devotion to British institutions, it was characteristic of him that as a lad he served his country in repelling the Fenian invasion of Canada. After much persevering and conscientious labor as a merchant through varying periods

of business depression and prosperity, he accumulated a competency, only to see most of it swept away in a concern to which he had entrusted it. But he never gave way to despondency. To meet him on the street, always smiling and bright, was a good tonic for the passer-by. He could say:

"I hold that it is no man's to despair, But in the teeth of clenched antagonisms

To follow up the worthiest"

and his dauntless courage was good to see. Deeply devoted to his church, his was perhaps one of the most familiar figures in the congregation to which he belonged. We need more of such men.

The Relation of the Church to Capital and Labour

II. NOTES FROM DISCUSSION

"PUT RELIGION INTO POLITICS"

D. B., "political and social, as truly as in the religious, the individual Christian, as a Christian and because a Christian, has a part to play and a duty to perform. But the Church in her organized capacity can only exercise a wise influence on social problems by being true to her Master and striving to carry on His work as He saw it, and as He committed it to her charge. She is to seek the reformation of society through the regeneration of individuals."

Is the attitude of the Church to Capital and Labour in accordance

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with the views held by the critic or onlooker, which is aloofness? Do the followers of Christ accept their obligations as true witnesses for the Master in the social and business realm, or are they satisfied to be just silent members of the community?

Religion finds its inspiration in the worship of God, but it finds its expression not only in the worship of God, but in love to man. There are many classes, as well as individuals, who do not get a square deal. Those engaged in industrial or business life often suffer serious injustice in being made to work long hours or for less than a living wage, or in unhealthy or dangerous conditions. Religion requires us as Christians to secure justice for these workers, and for this

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purpose to put our religion into politics. An eminent French writer—Gustave Herve—says Capitalism is the head of the body politic (of which Labour is the hands and feet), and as such is more important, because it plans, organizes and develops.

We hear much about the relation of the pulpit to social problems. But this surely is beginning at the wrong end. When the average man comes to realize his whole duty as a citizen, not simply as a member of the Church, then the social problems will be placed in a fair way of speedy solution.

The Church's influence is becoming a great factor in the labour world, as the ideals set forth by it are permeating the minds both of employer and employee.

The day is not far distant when every great business enterprise will be on a profit-sharing basis, and then the feeling of brotherhood will exist and bring about true harmony.

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

W. R. D. maintained that the relation of the Church to Capital and Labour must be mainly a subjective one; that is, she must rely chiefly on evangelism in the belief that, as the power of the gospel grips the heart of capitalist and worker alike, it will eventually so transform their minds as to adjust, if not to obviate, labour problems by making it more easy for both to do the right and more difficult to do the wrong.

It is the tendency of us all to wish that spiritual disease, which is at the root of industrial wrong, may be cured by palliatives and never by the surgeon's knife. It is the duty of the Church to disregard this objection; for the real power which could make

a proud, sensual Felix tremble is the only power to reach the worldly millionaire and the blatant socialist and all the good industrial people between these extremes.

A DIFFICULTY IN "DRAWING THE LINE"

There is difficulty in drawing the line between Capitalist and Labourer, said W. W. F. For instance, a comparatively poor man may save enough to buy a lot and build a house on it. In the building of the house this poor man might be considered a Capitalist. Another man, comparatively rich, may work hard for the community and State, and he must undoubtedly be classed as a Labourer.

The Church ought to have a message to the individual, and in so far as it brought the gospel of Jesus Christ to the man it would influence the mass. History has shown that where the Church endeavored to reach the individual through the mass it lost prestige—lost prestige because it became a political factor.

The Church must stand out against the rich who become more wealthy through the sweat and blood of their fellowmen; and also against Labour, if Labour means organized unions who have shown a disregard for treaties and look on written agreements as "scraps of paper."

EQUALITY—AND "THE BALANCE OF POWER"

A. M. W. traced briefly the long struggle of the Church for the emancipation of mankind through its various vicissitudes to the final abolition of slavery and the recognition of the right of all people to the blessings of free education, with the

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organization of resistance to industrial oppression, with manhood suffrage and a voice in the administration of the nation's affairs. Now all men are equal in the sight of the law, and labour has become the subject of barter, and probably the balance of power is in the hands of the workers. It is not to be marvelled at that the consciousness of new power may bring about too great a swing of the pendulum, and that liberty may turn to licence and advantages taken by those who would pervert the newly won privileges of the working classes to selfish ends.

We see in these later days strikes fomented and encouraged by agitators, advocates of certain spurious forms of so-called socialism, and

other false guides.

Christianity (this speaker held), having accomplished freedom for all people, may now leave the secular matters, such as the price of labour and other incidents of employment, to be dealt with by the persons concerned. She finds her enemies increased, but sees before her a plain duty of bringing the light of the great principles of mutual love and charity before the people for their guidance.

"IF THE PRINCIPLES OF JESUS WERE ACCEPTED"—

Dealing with the attitude of the Church to this whole question, W. H. S. began by discussing the social spirit and the attitude of the Old Testament legislation—all making for a real democracy, although

the idea was not fully unfolded on account of the political institutions of the times.

The life and teaching of Jesus had ushered in a new era when all artificial and all wrong attitudes were exposed and all men stood before God according to privilege and responsibility. The conception of the Kingdom of God as the central principle was set forth in its emphasis upon social justice, co-operation and demand for real service. If Jesus' principles were accepted in their spirit and method by Capital and Labour, there would soon be a final settlement of existing difficulties.

THE PROBLEMS OF THE ECONOMIC WORLD

The problems of the economic world were but the problems created by selfishness, greed, and lack of brotherly sympathy. Recent movements were full of promise. It is becoming evident that only when each factor recognizes the necessity for cordial co-operation on the part of the others can the highest success be attained. Capital and Labour must be reconciled as brethren before either can do satisfactory service to humanity. The modern tendency is strongly toward a basis which is much more social than our present order. Socialism finds its argument in the tyranny of existing conditions in the face of humanitarian realities. Whatever form of solution society may adopt, it will undoubtedly be in harmony with the fundamental principles of an enduring brotherhood.

(From the King's High Way)

Leave it to God to spread the leaven.

Each evil thing you check or slay

Lifts all the world one step to heaven.

"And pray! For prayer doth much avail
To lift the world to nobler things;
Pray, work, and live as unto Him,
The Lord of Lords, and King of Kings!"
—JOHN OXENHAM.

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The Book World

A NOTABLE PUBLISHING SERVICE

By D. A. Chalmers

A T a time when there is occasion for considerable criticism of conditions reflecting unhappily upon the province, it is gratifying to find work that merits independent commendation.

British Columbia recently made a notable step forward in the publishing business, with the first issue of a Directory covering the whole province. Wrigley's is the name, and the first edition, as printed and bound in red by the Sun Job Presses, is an attractive and creditable book of its kind. We understand the Directory is to be revised up to date and issued every year, and it is sure to be of inestimable value to many businesses because of the detailed information it contains.

Perhaps only those who have practical experience of the printing and publishing business, and the wealth of minute detail requiring attention to ensure the successful overtaking of such work, will fully appreciate the industry of Mr. Wrigley and his staff, which has gone to the preparation of this book.

The British Columbia Monthly is under no obligation to refer to the work unless in so far as it is interested in any public or business service that tends to promote the progress of the province. No doubt the Wrigley Company hope to make their Directory "a good business proposition"—which it deserves to be. Meantime it may fairly be assumed that the initial work of this first edition has involved very considerable outlay, as well as much wearisome detailed work—a fair re-



[Gibson, Photo.

ROY F. WRIGLEY

turn for which the publishers must look to the future to provide.

Judging the Wrigley Company's interest in British Columbia by their work, the case has seemed to us a fitting one in which to obtain some particulars of the chief-of-staff of the new publishing house.

Mr. Roy F. Wrigley, the editor and manager of the company, it still a young man, as he was born in Wallaceburg, Ontario, in 1885. Now that he has come to the front in the publishing business in Vancouver, it is interesting to know that "he comes of a stock which has long been connected with publishing interests, his father, Mr. George Wrigley, having,

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THE BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY

with others, owned and published the Farmers' Sun of Toronto, which was afterwards purchased by Dr. Goldwin Smith. Two brothers are also engaged in the publishing business, Weston Wrigley, in Toronto, and S. Edward Wrigley, at the Canadian Base, France."

Mr. Wrigley was "educated at the public schools of London and Toronto, and his early training was supplemented by a business course, followed by a course in commercial law in Toronto. He began his business life on the staff of The Toronto World, and in 1905 came west as far as Winnipeg to join the Free Press staff there. Later he became connected with the Henderson Directory Company as salesman in Winnipeg, his special work being to establish new directories in various cities on the prairies, such as Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Regina, etc."

He came to the Pacific Coast in 1909. "He remained with the wellknown Henderson publishing firm for some years, and then purchased the interests of the Hotel Red Book Co., Ltd. That venture, owing to his unfailing energy, was successful. He also published the Canadian Storage and Transfer Directory, and in that same connection he was instrumental in organizing the warehousing and cartage interests of the Dominion into the Canadian Warehousemen's Association, and has acted as secretary since its organization. The association includes the representative firms engaged in the business

throughout Canada, and is affiliated with the British and American organizations."

Regarding the British Columbia Directory, it is noteworthy to learn that "it occupied a staff of twenty persons for more than ten months. The proofs of the new publication proved extremely useful in connection with the Victory Loan, as proofs, advance sheets and manuscripts were loaned to the organizers to facilitate their work."

"Over two thousand towns, villages and settlements are listed in the book, and over four thousand geographical points. It contains no less than 1,035 different classifications." It is therefore reasonable to conclude that the Directory has come to stay, and is likely to be increasingly valued and used from year to year.

Mr. Wrigley is a Rotarian, a member of the Canadian Club, Board of Trade, Manufacturers' Association of B. C., and Vancouver Auto Club, and the work of his company may be reckoned a good practical application of the Rotarian service principle.

It may be some years yet before the increase in the population of British Columbia justifies the establishment at the West Coast of a regular publishing house for general literature. Meantime, observant people in British Columbia, whose patriotism begins at home, will welcome and commend the enterprise of such men as Mr. Wrigley, and support the publishing service of his firm.

"If this great world of joy and pain Revolve in one sure track; If freedom set will rise again And virtue flown come back; Woe to the purblind crew who fill The heart with each day's care; Nor gain, from past or future, skill To bear and to forbear."

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Victoria and Vancouver Island Readers, Note: Also Visitors from Vancouver City and the Mainland

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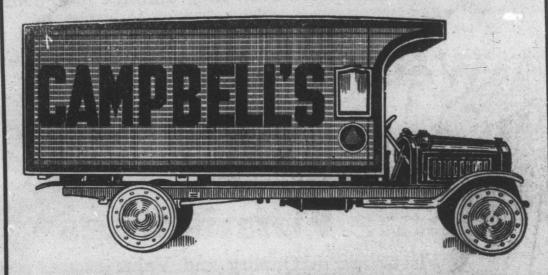
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