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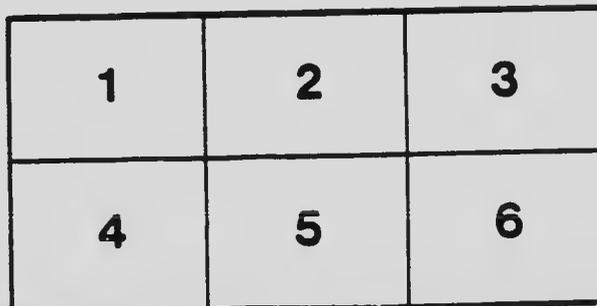
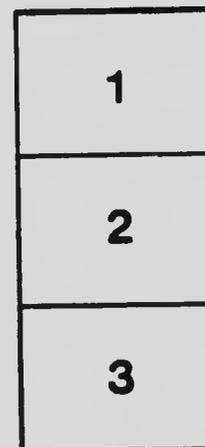
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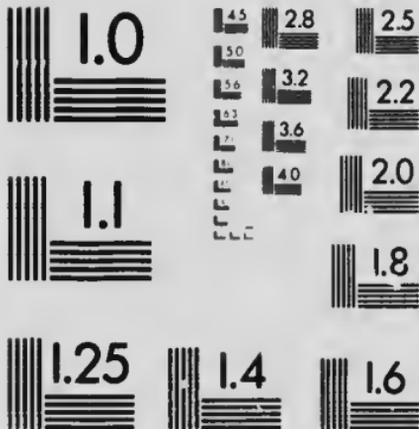
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1911:
~~1909~~

From Harold Lighthall.

The Canadian Handicrafts Guild

586 ST. CATHERINE ST. WEST, MONTREAL

Under the distinguished Patronage of Their Royal
Highnesses The Duke & Duchess of Connaught



CUPID AT TOP OF THE WORLD
By W. B. Bruce, Toronto

AIM OF THE GUILD

To encourage, revive and develop handicrafts and
home art industries throughout the Dominion

COPYRIGHT

Our Handicrafts Shop

586 ST. CATHERINE STREET WEST

MANAGER, MISS C. A. STEEN

BASKETRY
BEAD WORK
LEATHER WORK
EMBROIDERIES
CATALOGNES
HOMESPUNS

PORTIÈRES
COUVREPIEDS
MOTOR RUGS
LINENS
TABLE COVERS
BLANKETS

TWEEDS
CEINTURES FLÈCHÉES
LACE
POTTERY
METAL WORK
FURNITURE, ETC.



The Handicrafts of

Indian French English Scotch Irish
Italian Doukhobor Scandinavian
and Syrian Canadians



OBJECTS



THE CANADIAN HANDICRAFTS GUILD was organized to encourage, retain, revive and develop Handicrafts and Home Art Industries throughout the Dominion, and to prevent deterioration in hand work.

To preserve knowledge and skill possessed by new settlers; to aid new-comers during the trying early days of their settlement in a new country by providing them with a market for good hand-work, giving them an extra source of income, and thereby increasing contentment in their homes and at the same time augmenting the assets of the Dominion.

To encourage industry and thrift in the homes of the people, making their work appreciable and profitable by means of exhibitions of the products of their skill.

To educate the public to the value of good hand-work by holding and taking part in exhibitions at home and abroad, and by other means found desirable.

To send out teachers and supervisors among the workers to keep up the standard of excellence.

To keep records which shall prevent the extinction of any arts or crafts.

Work & Its Management

THE CANADIAN HANDICRAFTS GUILD is an association of ladies and gentlemen throughout Canada, who become members upon the payment of an annual subscription of one dollar. It is under the control of a *General Committee* elected at the Annual Meeting. This Committee meets quarterly to determine all matters



relating to general policy: it elects the Executive Committee, the Life Members, Hon. Council and Council Members.

The *Executive Committee* meets to receive reports of standing Committees, and acts as may be necessary to carry on the work of the Guild.

The standing Committees are as follows: *Finance, Editing and Library, Technical, Extension, Lectures and Entertainment.*

The work of the *Finance, Editing and Library, and Lectures and Entertainment Committees* requires no explanation, though it may be said that several courses of lectures have been given with gratifying results.

The work of the *Extension Committee* is carried on largely by correspondence; its members are scat-

tered throughout the Dominion, and through their instrumentality the Guild is able to come into touch with many who would otherwise be beyond their reach.

The work of the *Technical Committee* relates to methods of workmanship and their artistic application. This Committee is responsible for the standard of excellence of work sold, for the appointment of Judges for prize competitions, and also acts for the



Guild at provincial exhibitions or county fairs. Letters of advice and criticism are written and designs and other information sent to those who otherwise would be unable to obtain guidance in their work. Classes also are held to retain characteristic work. The classifying and labelling of articles for the permanent collection of specimens of handicrafts, the collecting of designs, recipes and general information, experimenting, testing, classifying and filing for reference, are also undertaken by this Committee.

Our Handicrafts Shop

OUR HANDICRAFTS SHOP is the depot for the receipt, sale and distribution of the crafts encouraged by the Guild. Branch Shops and Agencies are organized as opportunity offers. The first of these was opened at Little Metis in 1909



and subsequently, as the success of the venture became apparent, several more were started. Those at Chester, N. S., Yarmouth, N. S., North Hatley, P. Q., Hamilton, Gananoque, Cobourg and Ottawa, Ont., Edmonton, Alta., and Vancouver and Victoria, B. C., have proved of increasing benefit to the workers.

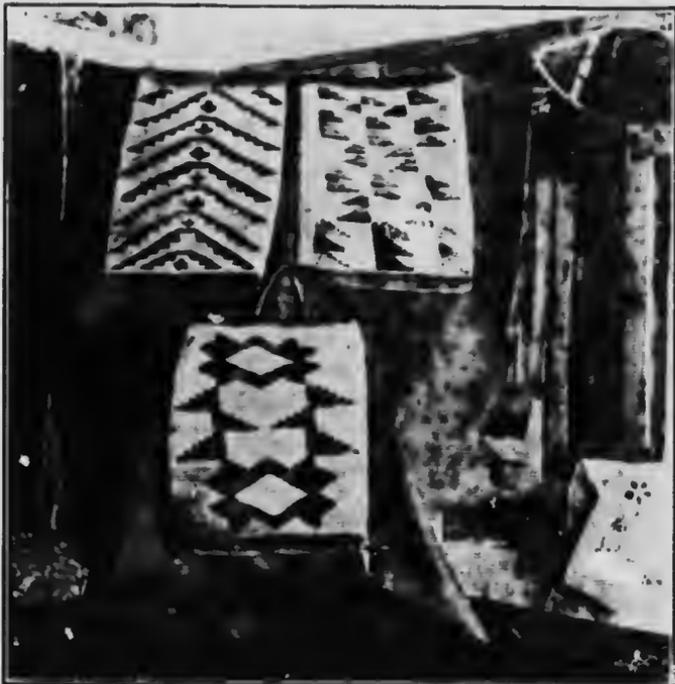
In these "Shops" the object is not to make money, but to put money in the hands of the workers. At the same time it is the aim of the Guild to make each shop self-supporting as this is most important if the Guild is to be of real value to the country.

Branches of the Guild have now been formed in Edmonton, Alta., Summerside, P. E. I., and Ottawa.

These are doing excellent work for their respective districts. Other Branches are in process of formation.

Two Societies have become affiliated with the Guild; the Canadian Society of Applied Art (of Toronto) and the Woman's Art Society of Montreal, thereby showing appreciation of the efforts being made to develop the minor arts.

The Lady Strathcona Capital Fund for Our Handicrafts Shop, Montreal, now amounts to \$5,000.00. It is explained by its name and is used for the



purchase of stock. This sum was raised partly by the generous donation of \$1,000.00 from the Hon. President, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, and partly by subscriptions. It has made progress possible in the past, but so rapid has been the growth of the work that to carry out successfully the schemes that now lie before the Committee, treble the sum could be advantageously expended. With the exception of the secretarial work and that done by the small staff of three persons in "Our Handicrafts Shop," the entire operations of the Guild are carried out by volunteers.

Exhibitions

SINCE 1905 over one hundred Exhibitions have been sent out from "Our Handicrafts Shop." By means of these, Canadian Handicrafts have been made known in the Dominion, the Motherland, the United States and abroad. The beauty and use of Canadian Crafts, hitherto unappreciated, because unseen, are now recognized.

Through the Summer Exhibitions at fashionable resorts, the same end has been attained. Sales have been increased to the benefit of the craftsmen and women, but also to the increased expense of the Guild, which bears the additional charges of freight and travelling expenses without being able to raise prices in proportion. Educational Exhibits are sent to county fairs to arouse the ambition and cultivate the taste of workers who, in many instances, are brought into communication with the Guild and are thus encouraged to produce better work.

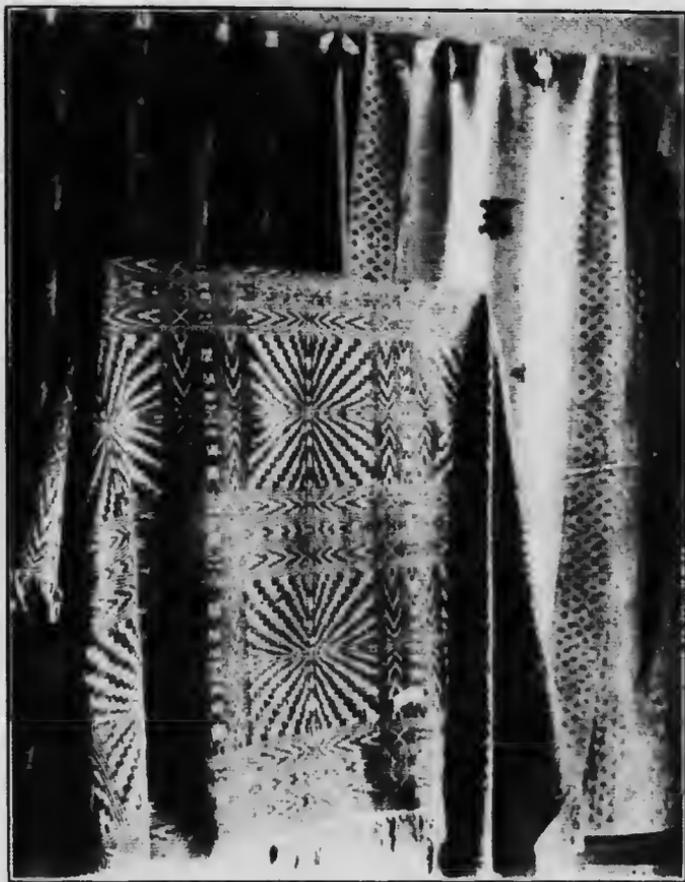
For some years past the Dominion Government, realizing the importance of supporting an organization which furthers the interests of Craftsmen and women, and also seeing an advantage to Canada in showing that it has an artistic as well as a material side, has invited the co-operation of the Guild and has, by making a small grant for the purpose, made it possible to send a creditable exhibit to be displayed in the Canadian Pavilion at such exhibitions as the *Dublin International*, *The Franco-British*, *The Festival of Empire*, etc. On these occasions the Royal Family has evinced a marked interest and pleasure in the beautiful things shown. This has resulted most favourably for Canadian Craftsmen and has brought them into some repute across the Atlantic.

At the request of Lady Grey a collection, representing work of the women of Canada, was sent to the Australian Exhibition of Women's work, held in the autumn of 1907, where it elicited most favorable

comment from the Australian press. A direct outcome of this exhibit was a correspondence between the Guild and those who desired to foster thrift and industry in the commonwealth, and an energetic Committee is now carrying on a similar work in Australia.

The Guild has also taken part in a great number of provincial exhibitions and county fairs from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Sometimes sales exhibits are sent, and sometimes they take the form of educational exhibits. Both have shown satisfactory results. Quite frequently the Guild has supplied Judges in the *Cottage Industries* department at these exhibitions, and its co-operation has met with appreciation and has been invited on subsequent occasions.

A list of exhibitions sent out will be found at the end of this pamphlet.



Sources of Revenue

FROM the time of its foundation until quite recently the Canadian Handicrafts Guild was, with the exception of the exhibition grants, entirely dependent on the subscriptions of members, casual donations, and such funds as could be raised by special efforts, lectures, etc. It seems almost incredible that a *business* could be carried on under these conditions. It was, indeed, only by the exercise of strict economy that it was possible and because the aim of the Guild was *not* that of money-making. But the educational side of the work suffered through lack of means. However, in 1910, the Dominion Government once more showed its appreciation of the work being carried on by making a small grant for the educational and promotive work. Again volunteers were called for to make tours of inspection, and again members of the Guild were found who possessed the necessary knowledge and who were willing to devote more time to the interests of the Dominion and its craftsmen.

The first trip was undertaken by Miss M. M. Phillips who visited Western Canada as far as Victoria, giving lectures and inspecting colonies of workers and even individual workers where possible. Miss Katherine Campbell visited Eastern Canada, going as far as Prince Edward Island. Both these tours aroused great interest and resulted in numerous new members for the Guild, many of whom are to-day helping to develop the various crafts of their Provinces. Two very active Branches of the Guild are also the outcome of these tours, in such widely separated places as Summerside, P. E. I., and Edmonton, Alta. Both are doing excellent work among old and new settlers.

A third tour was made by Mrs. H. Bottomley, who visited settlements of foreigners in Manitoba and who conducted a successful exhibit at Winnipeg.

Even with the Government grant none of these tours would have been possible had it not been for the generosity and courtesy of the Canadian Pacific, the Canadian Northern, and the Intercolonial, all of which railways have done their utmost to aid the Guild to improve conditions for cottage craftsmen throughout the Dominion.



As a result of the Guild's efforts, some \$30,000.00 has been paid to workers from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia. This sum represents money that would not have found its way into the hands of the Craftsmen throughout the country had it not been for the Guild.

Those who are familiar with the conditions of life in farming districts will realize the importance of ready cash coming into the home life, even in com-

paratively small amounts. Any work which tends to keep intelligent young men and women contented on the farms by supplying them with an interesting means of earning extra money through the exercise and development of their own individual taste and skill in spare hours, is beyond question not only a benefit to the individual workers but also to the country at large.

The Guild has aided Dr. Grenfell in his practical Mission work by becoming a distributing centre for the industrial work in his Labrador school, and otherwise encouraging the workers.

Mission schools in British Columbia and the N. W. Territories have also availed themselves of the opportunities offered by the Guild.

Prize Competitions

THE objects of the Guild have been furthered from time to time by prize competitions. These have been held almost annually since 1903 (before the Guild secured its charter), and have proved a valuable means of information as to the progress of the work in the different Provinces.

Prizes have been awarded as follows:—

- WEAVING** Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island.
- DYEING** Prince Edward Island.
- LACEMAKING** Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- BASKETRY** Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.
- METALWORK** Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan.
- LEATHERWORK** Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and British Columbia.
- EMBROIDERY** Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Mackenzie River District.
- KNITTING** Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.
- RUGMAKING** Quebec, Prince Edward Island.
- SEWING** Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and Ontario.
- BOOKBINDING** Ontario.
- POTTERY** Ontario and Quebec.

Kinds of Work Encouraged by the Guild

As the Dominion is becoming the home of settlers from many nations, the crafts encouraged by the Guild are varied. Historical and racial, as well as individual characteristics, are preserved, while at the same time the endeavour is made to adapt skill to present demand, so ensuring better sale for the work produced.

The Indian and Eskimo work is difficult to promote, owing among many other conditions, to the fact that the best workers are the most inaccessible; the influence of civilization unfortunately tending rather to deteriorate than to elevate native taste and skill.

The baskets made by Indians of the Pacific Coast are extremely fine in form, color and workmanship. The designs are symbolic and most intricate, some baskets taking months to make. Porcupine-quill and bead embroidery also show the great skill and patience of the Indian women as well as considerable ingenuity.

Eskimo carvings of great beauty have come to the Guild, and it is felt that the art of those northern tribes should not be allowed to perish.

Canadian homespuns and tweeds woven by English, Scotch, Irish and French Canadians are becoming well-known for durability and beauty of texture.

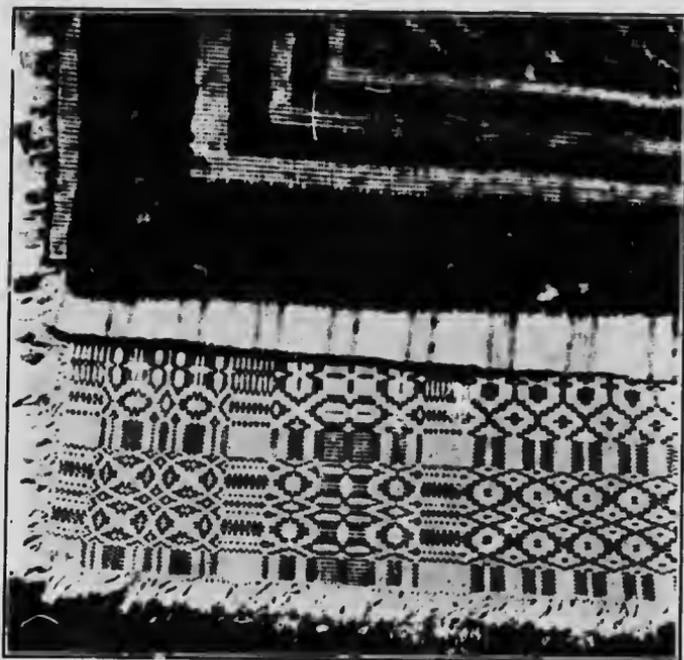
In the characteristic tufted weaves of the French Canadian may be found quaint designs decorating portieres and couvrepieds, showing the influence of L'Ancien Régime in the Fleur de lis of the Church, in the conventional figure of the Blessed Virgin Mary; of Nature in the fir tree and snow crystals.

These things come in artistic shades of blues, greens, browns, etc. Many of them are permanent colors extracted by the women from the plants sur-

rounding them—a work so well-known to their grandmothers.

The catalogue of rag carpets in their variety and excellence illustrate the growth of the handicrafts revival.

The Ceinture Flechée, the long sash of many colors, that every voyageur bound round him, is still being made. Any one who has fingered the hard close texture will not be surprised to hear that a weaver can rarely do more than four inches a day.



The beautiful embroideries and linens of the European peasantry are also becoming well known, as the Guild has helped to adapt this work and skill to the needs of the public.

Lace makers have been discovered in every part of the Dominion, and many different kinds of lace are being made: English thread, Honiton, Irish Crochet, Carrickmacross, Limerick, Rose Point, Italian Point and various Russian laces.

In all this work it must be remembered, that the Guild is encouraging not factory products but home industries, which are limited by the conditions of

home life with its artistic advantages and commercial disadvantages.

A valuable set of slides has been collected illustrating the different crafts being carried on in Canada. A lecture has been prepared to go with these slides. In this way the work of the Guild can be readily explained to any newly interested people throughout the country.

Those who are in sympathy with this work can aid it by becoming members no matter where they live, for the Guild is a national organization—of no party, no creed, and no caste—its policy is one of development, its hope to see the fame of Canadian Craftsmen spread abroad.

List of Exhibitions Sent Out by our Handicrafts Shop, 1902-1911

1902

Montreal Branch W.A.A.C.
Little Metis.
(Result Tadousac)
Sherbrooke Eastern Town-
ships Exhibition.
London Fair, Ont.
Toronto National Council.

1903

*Women's Institute, London,
Eng.*
*New Bond Street Society of
Artists, London, Eng.*
Little Metis.
Gananoque, Ont.
Toronto Fair.
Toronto W.A.A.C.
Ottawa W.A.A.C.
Winnipeg W.A.A.C.
Desbarats, Ont.

1904

Toronto W.A.A.C.
Halifax, N. S.
St. Louis Fair, U. S. A.
Halifax Fair.
Sherbrooke Eastern Town-
ships Exhibition.
New Glasgow Fair.
Desbarats, Ont.
Peterboro Fair.
Toronto Fair.
Winnipeg W.A.A.C.
Made in Canada Charity
Fair, Brockville, Ont.
Toronto W.A.A.C.
Arts & Crafts Society,
Toronto.
Berlin, Germany.

1905

Handicrafts Exhibition,
Art Gallery, Montreal.
*Home Arts and Industries,
London, Eng.*
Lady Bruce, London, Eng.
Desbarats, Ont.
Lady Allan, Cacouna, P.Q.
North Hatley, P. Q.
Morrisburg Fair, Ont.
London Fair, Ont.
Sherbrooke Fair, P. Q.
Ottawa, Ont.
Halifax, N. S.
Winchester Fair, Ont.
Goderich, Ont.
Prescott Fair, Ont.
Paris Fair, Ont.
Collingwood Fair, Ont.
Renfrew Fair, Ont.
Bowmanville Fair, Ont.
Made in Canada Exhi-
bition, Ottawa, Ont.
St. John, N. B.
Arts & Crafts, Toronto,
Ont.
Christmas Bazaar, Corn-
wall, Ont.

1906

London, Eng.
Handicrafts Exhibition,
Ottawa, Ont.
Norwich, Conn. U. S. A.
Chatham, Ont.
Niagara Falls, Ont.
*Boston Arts & Crafts,
Boston, U. S. A.*
St. Catharines, Ont.
Metis, P. Q.
Gananoque, Ont.

List of Exhibitions, 1902-1911—Continued

1906—Continued

North Hatley, P. Q.
 St. John, N. B.
 Sherbrooke, P. Q.
 Winchester, Ont.
 St. Hyacinthe, P. Q.
 Huntingdon, P. Q., Div. A.
 Huntingdon, P. Q., Div. B.
 Prescott, Ont.
 St. Louis de Gonzague, P. Q.
 Richmond, P. Q.
 Halifax, N. S.
 Renfrew, Ont.
 Goderich, Ont.
 Brantford, Ont.

1907

Handicrafts Exhibition,
 Art Gallery, Montreal,
 P. Q.
 Hervey Institute Bazaar,
 Montreal, P. Q.
International Exhibition,
Dublin, Ireland.
 Society Applied Art,
 Toronto, Ont.
 Metis, P. Q.
Australian Exhibition of
Women's Work, Mel-
bourne, Aus.
 Banff, Alta.
 North Hatley, P. Q.
 Eastern Townships Exhibi-
 tion, Sherbrooke, P. Q.
 Lachute Fair, P. Q.
 Kingston, Ont.
 Ottawa, Ont.
Boston Arts & Crafts,
Boston, U. S. A.

1908

Franco-British Exhibition,
London, Eng.
Marchioness of Donegal,
London, Eng.
 Quebec, during Tercenten-
 ary.

1908—Continued

Chester, N. S.
 Society Applied Art,
 Toronto, Ont.
 Hamilton, Ont.
 North Hatley, P. Q.
Messrs. Waring & Gilbow,
London, Eng.

1909

International Exhibition,
London, Eng.
Boston Arts & Crafts,
Boston, U. S. A.
Two at Woodstock Inn, Ft.
U. S. A.
 Lyric Hall Shop Sale,
 Montreal, P. Q.
 Hamilton, Ont.

1910

Agency, Hamilton, Ont.
 Edmonton, Alta.
 Cobourg, Ont.
 North Hatley, P. Q.
 Toronto, Ont.
 Summerside, P. E. I.
 Vancouver, B. C.
 Boys' Sunshine Club, Arena,
 Montreal, P. Q.

1911

Summerside, P. E. I.
 North Bay, Ont.
Crystal Palace Exhibition,
London, Eng.
Weybridge, Surrey, Eng.
 Cobourg, Ont.
 Yarmouth, N. S.
 Gananoque, Ont.
 Chester, N. S.
 North Hatley, P. Q.
 Edmonton, Alta.
 Winnipeg, Man.
 Ottawa, Ont.



