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No. 6

The Attractions and Resources of B.C.

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THE MAGAZINE OF THE CANADIAN WEST

Promoting

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"BE BRITISH," COLUMBIANS!

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HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY TO CELEBRATE 250th ANNIVERSARY WITH PAGEANT.

With enterprise becoming such an old established and nation-serving institution, the Hudson's Bay Company in Vancouver, in common with other points in Western Canada, is preparing to celebrate its 250th anniversary in May next by the organization of a public pageant which should go far to indicate to twentieth century citizens the historical pioneering conditions under which the company has developed from 1670 to 1920.

The Company's representatives are zealously doing their part. At the same time we learn that a Community Committee has been formed and that their duties will include the inclusion and oversight of historical and educational floats and other interesting features. Vancouver City, neighbouring municipalities and other organizations are co-operating, and we understand that nearly forty bodies have already undertaken to join the pageant. It is probable that the territory to the south, including such cities as Seattle, Portland and Spokane, will also be represented.

If the plans of the organizers are realized, the pageant should be, in some measure, a pictorial reproduction of "the Romance of Western Canada" or of the still greater "North West Territories," and of the big company's outstanding part in it throughout the past three centuries. The inventions of the present day will be utilized to perpetuate the production as a moving picture of the pageant will be taken. An up-to-date suggestion will be given to the celebration by the appearance of a Flying Corps above the city while the pageant is in progress.

With commendable regard for education as well as entertainment, the company is arranging to supplement the film of the procession by one showing the fur-bearing animals; and all loyal western Canadians will be interested to know that contracts have already been arranged for showing these pictures in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States, and that inquiries are being made about it from many other quarters.

As the business growth of the Hudson's Bay Company has been inseparably associated with far-reaching service in the development of Canada, it is fitting that on such an occasion interest should be manifested in the celebration by citizens generally and that practical recognition and support should be given to the pageant through a representative committee including the Mayor of Vancouver.

Attention may here be called to Mr. MacBeth's article on the anniversary, which came to hand after this paragraph was passed for the printer.

The Prohibition Muddle in British Columbia

As Viewed by "The Man on the Street."

(By P. McA. Carrick)

In the discussion of all matters of public interest it is usually the case that it is the two extremes of view that get all the attention. The great intermediate body of opinion is, as a general rule, inarticulate.

Just recently the Prohibition Party in B. C. have held a conference and made their views and intentions known to everyone concerned. The opposition, if we may call the Moderation Party by that name, have also had an inning and announced their remedy for the ills we suffer from.

The time is therefore opportune for the "Man on the Street" to have his little say on the matter if it is only by a word inserted edgewise.

The present situation, to say the least, is absolutely intolerable. No matter how Prohibition leaders may cloud and camouflage the issue, we are worse off than before Prohibition, so-called was introduced. We have done away with the Bar, which is so much to the good. I don't think there are ten per cent of the population of B. C. who have any desire for a return to the old conditions in that respect. That is the one entry on the credit side of the ledger. What of the debit side?

We have an absolutely unrestricted sale of alcohol which is not fit for use as a beverage and which is nothing less than slow poison; and not very slow at that, as many cases in the coroner's court have proved.

Why is it that the Prohibition leaders have never made any suggestion of measures that would really control the sale of commercial alcohol, camouflaged as flavoring extracts or medicinal preparations?

Is it not a fact that this weakness in the Prohibition Act was pointed out to them more than two years ago and measures then suggested which would have put an end to the scandalous conditions existing?

Why have these suggestions been ignored? We can only conclude that it was because somebody's ox would have been gored.

At the present time the sale of so-called ginger extract alone in Vancouver is enormous. The Prohibitionists propose to put an end to this by restricting the quantity to be sold at one time to 2½ ozs. Would they be surprised to know that it hardly ever sold now in quantities over 1½ ozs?

Consider what 2½ ozs. of this so-called extract means.

Flavoring extracts should be made with alcohol of not less than 90 per cent strength. 2½ ozs. of 90 per cent alcohol means roughly 4 ozs. of proof spirit. An average high grade Scotch whiskey is about 25 degrees under proof, so four ounces of proof spirit is equal in alcoholic value to 5 ozs. or one imperial gill of good whiskey. I don't think that even the most confirmed drunkard would want any more than a gill of whiskey for one drink, and as there is no restriction on the number of times a day he may purchase his 2½ ozs. of extract, we can see what a joke their proposed restriction proves to be.

It is quite possible, indeed quite easy, to extract all the soluble matter in 1 lb. of Ginger Root with 1 lb. of 90 per cent Alcohol. An extract so prepared could not be used as a beverage and would have a very much higher value for all legitimate purposes. By fixing such a standard for extract of Ginger the Government would be conferring a great boon on all legitimate users of the extract and would do away with the necessity for much of the alcohol that is at present wasted or used for a nefarious purpose.

The proportion of Ginger Extractive present in the extracts now on the market is so small as to be no hindrance to their being used for beverage purposes, in fact they are wrongly described as extracts,—they are simply flavored alcohol.

This applies equally to lemon and all other extracts on the market.

Extracts prepared from essential oils should contain not less than 12½ per cent of the straight oils or an equivalent of turpeneless oil. Such extracts like a valoid Ginger extract could not be used as beverages and would be much more economical for legitimate users.

The situation regarding so-called medicinal preparations is equally intolerable. There are many nostrums on the market that would never have had an existence but for the incidence of Prohibition, and they have no other real excuse for their existence. Their real medicinal value is non est. They are simply camouflaged commercial alcohol and they are being used in enormous quantities.

Then there is the question of illicit distillation. There is no use blinking the fact that illicitly distilled spirit is being extensively sold. The Prohibitionists propose to put an end to this by employing the Mounted Police. Are they aware that in Ireland, where there has never been Prohibition and where the rewards for illicit distillation are meagre compared with what they are here—and with all the organization of excise officers and Royal Irish Constabulary—it has been found impossible to put a stop to it? What chance is there to suppress the traffic in British Columbia with its enormous area so thinly populated?

If the numbers of the Mounted Police were increased to equal half the number of the population of the Province they could not be blamed although they failed to stop the evil.

Any man who is familiar with the conditions necessary for the manufacture of spirits suitable for human consumption—the complicated apparatus and skillful manipulation required—would sooner see such spirit in free use than have even the smallest quantity of the vile poison produced by the moonshiner get into the hands of the public. Ninety per cent of the evils that arose from the use or abuse of alcohol under the old conditions were due to the want of efficient control and to the amount of deleterious liquors that were sold.

If the Prohibitionists have the cause of real temperance at heart, they will get away from the fanatical and impossible methods which they now favor, and suggest or endorse some method whereby properly controlled provision of stimulants, that are useful and harmless when used in moderation, can be effected. Let them go as far as they wish in punishing or controlling the drunkard but leave the average citizen some degree of personal freedom.

The theory that the man who uses stimulants is a bad citizen is an untenable one.

The theory that the use of stimulants is incompatible with true Christian life is still more untenable.

"Wine maketh glad the heart of man." Is making glad the heart of man a wrong thing to do?

Does the Prohibition fanatic ever stop to consider that in his wholesale condemnation of the use of stimulants he is exercising the function of a reproofing mentor to the Great Master and Head of the Body of the Christian Church?

When, in the simplest manner possible, the "Man who was without sin" inaugurated that institution which has become the most universal, the most solemn, and the most heart-thrilling of all institutions, divine or human, He gave to His disciples Wine. Some of the fanatics of today have turned that great institution into a sham and a mockery and on every occasion on which they "do this in remembrance of Him," they practically tell their Saviour that He Himself was a sinner because He gave to His disciples wine. Is it astonishing that the churches are losing their

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hold upon the people when some of the leaders and members of the churches proclaim themselves as superior to the Master, the Head of the Body of the Church?

The Prohibitionists proclaim that they will not tolerate the sale of stimulants under government control as that would mean putting tainted money into the hands of the government. Well! Would not money obtained through a sensible and benevolent control be much cleaner than the huge sums that our own and nearly all civilized governments have obtained, and are obtaining, from excise and customs duties on alcohol without any control, other than financial, being exercised?

It is to be hoped that the Prohibition Party will introduce into their propaganda a little more reason and consistency and sound common sense. If they will do so they will have behind them the weight of opinion of the great body of the citizens, and something real and tangible may result and some progress may be made in the cause of genuine temperance.

POSTSCRIPT.

Since this article was written the Government at Victoria, at the instigation of the Prohibitionists, have introduced a bill to amend the Prohibition Act.

The principal features of the amending act are—that Physicians are restricted in providing stimulants to a maximum of eight ounces at any one time, and cannot order a repetition of any liquor prescription within twenty-four hours.

On the other hand the maximum quantity of flavoring extract that may be sold to the general public is fixed at four ounces—the equivalent in alcoholic content of eight ounces of good whiskey, but as this can be handled by any grocer, druggist or general store, there is really no restriction on the number of times a day this amount may be purchased.

Thus, a citizen who requires and wishes to use a safe, wholesome stimulant can only do so at great expense and under severe restrictions.

The man who is content to use alcohol in any form that is procurable, whether it is made from raw grain, from diseased potatoes, from waste sulphite liquor, or from coke-oven gas, can get all of such alcohol he wishes disguised as flavoring extract.

The Attractions and Resources of British Columbia

(III.—Mining: By Mr. Nichol Thompson)

NOTE: In supplement of the two articles by Mr. Sovereign on the Canadian National Playground of British Columbia, the following notes of an address given by Mr. Thompson to the Vancouver Kiwanis Club are published in full as they may fittingly be given prominence in a series of articles under the above title.

As Mr. Thompson suggested to that Club of Service and Co-operation, a campaign to encourage investment in legitimate mining would be timely. We hope the circulation of such articles as the following among friends inside and outside British Columbia will tend to that end.—(Ed. B. C. M.)

INTRODUCTORY

British Columbia has a total area of about 380,000 square miles of which about 260,000 square miles is practically unexplored.

Four ranges of mountains traverse the entire length of the Province.

The mountain ranges are part of the great Corderilleran system of mountains which extends from Cape Horn north through South America, Mexico, Western United States of America, British Columbia, the Yukon and part of Western Alberta. In Canada it has a length of approximately 1,600 miles and a width of fully 400 miles, or approximately 700,000 square miles, and fully half of this area is within the province of British Columbia.

Gold, platinum, and other precious metals are distributed over the province. Gold is found in almost every river of importance, while in the major portion of the mountain area explored, veins of gold, copper, silver, lead, zinc, molybdenite, antimony and iron ores. In addition there are large deposits of building stone such as granite, sandstone and marble as well as a great variety of fire and other clays suitable for brick and pottery, and last but perhaps not least, large deposits of hydro-magnesite, magnesium sulphate and sulphate of soda. While the existence of reservoirs of petroleum and natural gas has not been proven outside of a few individual promoters, there is very little doubt but that in a short time, northern British Columbia in the Peace River District especially, will be proven to be perhaps the largest oil area on the continent.

So far the Western United States is recognized as one

of the greatest mining regions of the known world. From this U. S. territory, approximately 1,400 miles, is produced annually approximately \$500,000,000 of mineral wealth. Development and geological conditions warrant the assumption that in Canada this mineral belt will be equally as productive of great wealth. This Corderilleran mineral belt in British Columbia is approximately 700 miles long by 400 miles wide, from which the total annual mineral production is approximately \$30,000,000.

In the year 1886 there was produced in Canada minerals having a total value of \$10,222,000 equivalent to a per capita value of \$2.23, while in 1913, the value of the mineral production had reached \$145,634,000 or a per capita value of \$18.77. These figures are significant and show considerable progress. Nevertheless development has been slow, being delayed by lack of business interest and smelting and manufacturing facilities.

Mining Facts in Figures.

No. 1. The total mineral production of British Columbia from 1852 to 1918 inclusive is \$637,353,581 made up as follows:

Placer Gold	\$ 75,436,103
Load Gold	97,121,786
Silver	46,839,631
Lead	42,294,251
Copper	145,741,069
Zinc	13,278,058
Coal and Coke	187,147,652
Building Stone, Bricks, etc.	23,843,272
Miscellaneous Minerals	651,759
	<hr/>
	\$637,353,581

The production per annum during the ten years from 1909 to 1918 was:

1909	\$24,443,025
1910	26,377,066
1911	23,499,072
1912	32,440,800
1913	30,296,398
1914	26,388,325
1915	29,447,508

1916	42,290,462
1917	37,010,392
1918	41,782,474

The returns for the present year to date are not available except through the Provincial Minerologist but judging from present mining activity, the returns for 1919 should exceed even 1916 or should be approximately \$50,000,000.

Details in kind of production per annum, 1916-7-8.

1916	Customary Measure	Quantity	Value
Gold Placer	ozs.	29,025	\$ 580,500
" lode	"	221,932	4,587,334
Silver	"	3,301,923	2,059,739
Lead	lbs.	48,727,516	3,007,462
Copper	"	65,379,364	17,784,494
Zinc	"	37,168,980	4,043,985
Coal	T.2240lbs.	2,084,093	7,294,325
Coke	"	267,725	
Miscellaneous Products			1,326,273
			<hr/> \$42,290,462 <hr/>

1917	Customary Measure	Quantity	Value
Gold placer	ozs.	24,800	\$ 496,000
" lode	"	114,523	2,367,190
Silver	"	2,929,216	2,265,749
Lead	lbs.	37,307,465	2,951,020
Copper	"	59,007,565	16,038,256
Zinc	"	41,848,513	3,166,259
Coal	T.2240lbs.	2,149,975	7,524,913
Coke	"	159,905	959,430
Miscellaneous Products			1,241,575
			<hr/> \$37,010,392 <hr/>

1918	Customary Measure	Quantity	Value
Gold placer	ozs.	16,000	\$ 320,000
" lode	"	164,674	3,403,812
Silver	"	3,498,172	3,215,870
Lead	lbs.	43,899,661	2,928,107
Copper	"	61,483,754	15,143,449
Zinc	"	41,772,916	2,899,040
Coal	T.2240lbs.	2,302,245	11,511,225
Coke	"	188,967	1,322,769
Miscellaneous Products			1,038,202
			<hr/> \$41,782,474 <hr/>

Granby Company Enterprising.

As has been often stated British Columbia possesses some of the largest copper producing mines in the world. There are the famous Rossland Mines known as the Centre Star, War Eagle and Le Roi. For over twenty years the Granby Mine at Phoenix was a great producer and the smelter at Grand Forks was one of the largest on the continent. Unfortunately Phoenix is about worked out of straight smelting ore and the smelter is closed down pending the discovery of further supplies of smelting ore, or the establishment of a plant for concentrating the low grade ores, of which there is an abundance. The Granby Company, however, are not quitters and so with the energy and foresight which has characterized the management, bought from Mr. Rodgers, what was then known as the Hidden Creek Mine on Observatory Inlet, and have established at Anyox a larger and more modern smelter than that at Grand Forks. Anyox is on the coast some 30 miles north of Prince Rupert and about sixty miles from Stewart, the distributing point for the wonderful mines which are being opened up in that district.

Progress at Trail.

The ores of the Rossland Camp are smelted at the Canadian Consolidated Company's Smelter at Trail. I wonder how many men interested in this subject have seen the plant at Trail. Here they not only smelt copper, silver-lead and zinc ores, but they refine gold, copper-silver, lead and zinc, and also make their own acid. They are increasing their copper refinery from 25 to 50 tons per day and also contemplate putting down a rolling mill for manufacturing copper rods and sheets. The Canada Copper Corporation who were originally the B. C. Copper Company, operating at Greenwood, have developed that wonderful camp on Copper mountain near Princeton, and have built a mill capable of handling over 2,000 tons of ore per day. They are building a railway spur from the Kettle Valley Road at Princeton, some 25 miles out to the mine at Copper Mountain. The concentrating mill is completed at Allenby, about five miles out from Princeton.

Britannia Mines.

To come nearer home we have at our front door, twenty-one miles from Vancouver, the wonderful Britannia Mines with ore reserves blocked out to last for 100 years, with a modern mill equipped with all the latest improvements for saving low grade values and capable of handling two thousand tons per day at present with provision for increasing that to four thousand. The Britannia ore, unfortunately, is not a self-fluxing ore and so their concentrates are shipped to Tacoma.

These are the three principal copper producing properties.

There is a smelter at Ladysmith on Vancouver Island but it has not been operated for some years, though I understand it may be opened up again. Time will not permit me to mention individually the many paying silver, lead and zinc properties in the Slocan. The present high price of silver having brought many of these old mines back to life, good profits are being made on properties now which years ago could not be made to pay. Oil separation and other improved methods of handling silver lead ores carrying zinc have stimulated mining in the Slocan and many good properties are being developed there.

The principal free gold producing properties in the Province are the Nickel Plate Mine at Hedley owned by the Hedley Gold Mining Company and the Belmont Surf Inlet Mines, owned and operated by the Tonopah Development Company.

The Work at Hedley.

At Hedley they have a forty stamp mill running night and day as well as the Ball and Pebble Mills. They recover their gold by the cyanide process and their bullion is bought by the Government Mint through the Assay Office here in Vancouver. This company has been operating for some years and has large bodies of high grade gold ore blocked out. The Surf Inlet Company have not yet put in a cyanide plant and so their concentrates are shipped to Tacoma and for ten months of their fiscal year ending December 31st, 1918, their operating profit was \$323,242.60.

The Pioneer Mine in the Lillooet which was owned and operated by Vancouver men for years, has been recently bonded by the Canada Development Co., of Toronto, and we may expect successful development in the near future. Development work on the Nugget in the Sheep Creek District near Nelson has recently opened up large bodies of rich ore, so that we may soon expect to see the mill operating again there. The Engineer Mine in the Atlin District is also a rich producer of high grade gold ore.

To these already producing mines we may expect many additions this coming summer from the Salmon Arm and Hazelton Districts, so that it is reasonable to anticipate that within the next five years the mineral production in B. C. will approximate \$100,000,000.

What is noted has special reference to the metalliferous ores of the Province, but we have an asset in our coal deposits, which one of these days will play even a more prominent

part in the industrial life of this province than that of her metalliferous ores.

13 p.c. of World's Coal in Alberta and B. C.

The British Empire possesses one quarter of the world's coal, 70 p.c. of which is in Canada, and British Columbia is credited with an actual and possible reserve of 72,074,940 tons, and 13 p.c. of the world's coal is in the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia. Vancouver Island alone is credited with a probable coal reserve of seven billion tons of the highest grade bituminous coal, and the Crow's Nest with a probable four billion tons and the Nicola Valley, Coalmont and Princeton coal fields with twenty three billions tons. As a domestic and steam coal the Coalmont coal has few equals on the American Continent. It is of high calorific value and low in moisture and ash.

The Comox Coal on Vancouver Island, as a steam coal, is almost equal to Welsh Steam Coal and is also a good coking coal. The Nicola Valley Coal is a high-grade lignite and while some of the seams produce a fair domestic and steam coal, it is probably the richest by-product coal in the world, and from tests which the writer made in England of the Nicola Valley coal some of the seams were shown to contain as much as 2 p.c. nitrogen, and as high as 42 gallons of oil per ton, and from 20 to 40 lbs. Sulphate Ammonia.

Smokeless Fuel Possible.

The report further stated that with a modern process of low temperature distillation, a high grade smokeless fuel could be manufactured from this Nicola Valley Coal, and the value of the by-products recovered in the process would be approximately \$9.00 per ton plus the coke, or smokeless fuel which would be 70 p.c. of the coal.

Vancouver is paying out at the present time about \$7,000 per day for gasoline. The following figures will be of interest and cause B.C.M. readers to think a little more of the natural resources of British Columbia.

Speaking of the shortage of petrol during the war, Mr. F. D. Marshall, President of the Gas Engineers, London, gave a concrete instance of the average results of two extreme types of coal, which had been subjected to low temperature carbonization on a commercial scale, one a poor coal classed as colliery refuse worth about fifty cents per ton—the second a high grade Scotch Canal coal rich in oils and worth about \$5.00 per ton.

Remarkable Results Obtained.

Based on carbonizing these coals at the rate of only 200 tons per day or 72,000 tons per year, they obtained on the average of the two, the following results:

Motor Spirit (Petrol)	260,000 gals.
Light Oils	588,000 "
Middle Oils	1,126,000 "
Bitumen	8,000 tons.
Sulphate Ammonia	526 "

In addition to this, 44,000 tons of smokeless fuel or coke practically gratis, as the yield of spirits, oils and ammonia pays for the cost of the raw coal, plus the cost of carbonizing, etc. The value of spirits, oils and sulphate alone at the prevailing prices would be over \$200,000, but besides these the 44,000 tons of coke, if further gasified, will yield (in addition to the 526 tons of ammonia obtained by the preliminary carbonization of the coal) a further quantity of 1,047 tons of sulphate of ammonia, making a total yield from the original coal of 1,573 tons of sulphate. In this second process each ton of coke will yield on the average 121,000 feet of power gas, and every 70 cubic feet of this gas when consumed in a good gas engine, will develop what is termed one brake horse power. So that from 44,000 tons of coke which we obtain gratis, 75,000,000 brake horsepower, on the aggregate for one year, which would equal approximately 7,000 brake horse power per day free of cost.

If we were to deal with our coal rationally we would take from it all the valuable volatile matter it contains in the form of spirits, oils and tar acids, and turn the resultant pure carbon or coke into power. That is the only sane way to deal with this natural standard asset, instead of "as we do now" allowing it to escape in huge volumes of black smoke, poisoning the atmosphere, destroying vegetation, and seriously affecting the health of the people.

The total amount of coal mined in the province in 1918 was 2,578,724 tons of which there was used for making coke 276,479 tons, leaving a net production of coal used as such of 2,302,245 tons.

The Present Large Waste in Coal Consumption.

Vancouver City consumes about 200,000 tons of coal per annum, at a cost of approximately \$1,500,000. This quantity of coal contains about 2,000,000,000 B.T.U's of heat but by the present method of burning coal, only about 20 p.c. of the heat is effective, the balance is wasted.

If this 200,000 tons of coal was carbonized say by the Mond process, sufficient producer gas would be made to supply all the industries with power, and all the residences with gas for cooking. As an instance, in Staffordshire in England, the Mond Gas Company supply several hundred manufacturing firms with producer gas with complete success. The gas is piped 110 miles and sold to the consumer at .03 cents per 1,000 cubic feet.

Carbonize Coal for Industrial Progress.

What is being done elsewhere can be done here. The principle of carbonizing coal should be adopted to supply cheap fuel for manufacturing and domestic purposes, that the Province may advance as an industrial centre. It will then be possible to supply a coke to smelt our iron and other ores at less than half the cost today, and householders and manufacturers with gas at a reasonable price per thousand and the farmer with a fertilizer that will keep his land producing.

The Future of B. C.

The future of this province depends entirely on what we ourselves determine to make it. So far as the mining industry is concerned, it should continue to prosper. The established producers are generally in good shape to continue production even at lower metal prices, and under more settled conditions much new development should take place. British Columbia has very large areas of undeveloped and unprospected mineral lands, and under post-war conditions there should be considerable accession to the ranks of prospectors. As citizens we should see that capital is available for the purpose of assisting these prospectors and for the legitimate development of prospects which have the earmarks of becoming mines.

Transportation.

Transportation facilities and difficulties from mines to smelter, etc., are problems which retard very seriously the development of mining properties in the Province. As a rule prospectors or owners of prospects have to make their own trails, as the government won't spend any money on trails or roads until the properties have been fairly proved, and even then will provide only half the cost, and many good prospects have been abandoned on this account. It is a matter of regret that the efforts of the lesser mining companies have met with so little success and insufficient capital has had much to do with the failure of many of these properties. At the same time, it must be conceded that many of these properties would have developed into large and successful mining concerns had smelter and transportation facilities been more favorable.

The Smelter Question and Small Companies.

The smelter question is a very serious one all over the Province. As smelter conditions exist today only mining

companies owning smelters or reduction plants can hope to meet with any degree of success. It is just as essential for a prospector or small company to have their ores transported and smelted as cheaply as the larger companies treat their own ores, yet experience shows that the small capitalist who tries to develop a mining property (as many have done) finds himself "up against" a very difficult proposition.

Means must be found to encourage the operations of the resident small mining companies, or the greater part of our mineral wealth will flow into such cities as New York.

Losses By Exportation.

During 1915, zinc ores to the value of \$636,204 was exported from this province. This ore when refined by American Companies was sold to the Allies for the sum of \$5,270,000. By this transaction the province lost approximately \$4,633,796.

In the same year (1915) 102,000,000 lbs. of copper was exported from Canada. 56,918,405 lbs of this amount was produced in British Columbia. This copper, after being refined in American Refineries was sold to the Allies for approximately \$41,000,000.

These two instances alone surely show the utter folly on our part of not having every pound of our metals refined and manufactured into the finished product in the province.

Suggested Remedies: More Government Interest and Private

Investment in Resources.

In the interests of the Empire and as a matter of self-preservation, the remedy in the writer's opinion, lies, first in the Imperial, Dominion and Provincial Governments becoming more interested in mining, smelting, refining and marketing of the ores of the country and encouraging in every

way possible the efforts of small companies engaged in mining.

Secondly, the business interests in B. C., the wholesale and retail merchant, and men with surplus capital, should take a greater interest in the legitimate mining in our own province instead of sinking their savings in fictitious oil leases in Texas and other foreign countries.

What is and "What Might Have Been."

Over twenty million dollars are invested in automobiles in Vancouver alone, and every man, woman and child in this city is paying seven cents per day for gasoline, all of which is imported instead of being produced, as I have suggested from our own coal. 70 p.c. of this capital invested in autos is unproductive and stands idle by the curbstone from 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. What a different province we would have if even say half of this twenty million had been invested in an iron works turning out from our own iron ore and coal the steel plates for the vessels which our shipyards are compelled to import, and pay \$15 to \$20 railway freight to land here.

A nation cannot become really strong or self-reliant if the greater part of its mineral wealth is allowed to go out of the country in the raw or un-manufactured state, and its mineral development done by outside capital. Spain and Mexico are concrete examples of the folly of such a policy. Moreover it is unfair to our own people and especially to the young and rising generation, inasmuch as by far the greater numbers of the managers and technical men employed at the coal and metalliferous mines and smelters are men from across the boundary line. This of course arises from the fact that the majority of our mines and smelters are owned and operated by U. S. capital.



Picture of the NEW GROCERY STORE of
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 Who after nearly Thirty Years of Business Service in one Locality, have moved to more
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"Old Webster"

(By John M. Ewing, North Vancouver, B.C.)

Some years ago I ran across old Webster for the first time. He was a unique specimen of the genus homo, and if he had been an observant man, he would probably have possessed a first hand knowledge of North America, unequalled by any man alive. He was engaged in an endless journey which had, at one time or other, taken him through every little town and settlement on the continent, and the information he did not have would have filled any number of books on geography and local politics. The Wandering Jew could have given him no points on travel; indeed it is hard to believe that the venerable Israelite, even with his handicap of some two thousand years, had accomplished as much as old Webster.

Yet Webster was not in the least conceited about it. He had no greater grasp of ancient history than he had of its modern substitute, and that little bit of Hebrew bragging would probably have left him cold. In appearance he was rather like his famous counterpart, being very decrepit and wrinkled, and seeming to be a hundred and fifty years old at least. As a matter of fact he was only about eighty-five, but he had kept no record of his age, and was, doubtless, a trifle mixed. He was always very tired, and was always very anxious to push on. No place could contain him long: he would poke around in a queer, bird-like manner, and would then linger only as long as was physically necessary.

He had some odd notions too. He regarded himself as being of full vigor and at the prime of life. No work was so heavy but that he was quite willing to undertake it; and even when the weakness of age left him helpless, he would speak hopefully about his little trouble being all right on the morrow. Naturally, the odd jobs he got in odd corners were adjusted to his strength, and with a few coins in his frayed pocket, he would cheerfully set forth again.

At no period had he been a big man, but he must have been a wiry one, for how many men reach four score years and five, without graduating into an armchair and chimney corner? The top of his head was bald, but around the fringes were scanty locks of long white hair. Neither haircutting nor shaving—I had almost added washing—were much in his line, so that his straggling beard and whiskers mingled freely together. His face was as a hundred storms had left it, but his eyes were undimmed and bore a constant look of inquiry—like a terrier with one ear cocked up.

I hardly care to enter into the details of his wardrobe, it feels too much like taking a liberty. There was no one to patch and refurbish him in any case, and his own mind was set on another matter.

There stands the outer man, old, shrivelled, travelworn, and unsavory, the simple butt of a thousand pitying jests; yet who, knowing this, will say that he knows the man within!

I first met him at a wayside inn in Minnesota. He was standing on the sidewalk, looking ruefully at a small coin in his hand, and his odd figure somehow touched me. The weather was in one of its worst moods, and before I was quite aware of my action, I had taken old Webster by the arm and deposited him within the vestibule. The look with which he greeted me was entirely one of surprise, so that in self-defence I asked him to dine with me, pleading the loneliness of an utter stranger in the place. The speech found him immediately sympathetic, and it was not till later in the evening that I found he had just himself arrived on foot from the nearest point.

He was very reticent about his own affairs, and occasion-

ally his mind would wander, but throughout the evening I was drawn more and more to the simplicity and genuine kindness of his childlike heart. We parted at an early hour, and I went to bed wondering how such an innocent being was permitted to live amid the intensive worldly-wisdom of North America—but after all, who would have been poltroon enough to hurt one whom God had so thoroughly disarmed!

In the morning we breakfasted together and he insisted upon carrying my bag when I set off upon my round of business visits. It was his method of payment, and although the hoary ancient, plodding at my side excited no little ribaldry in the course of the day, I could not but respect his fragile independence.

Not for one or two years did we meet again, and this time we rubbed shoulders in a B. C. lumber camp. My doctor had ordered me to go in for an active outdoor life, and as my finances were not strong enough to support me as a gentleman, I took to the woods with an axe on my shoulder, and a whistle on my lip. I had been at my new life perhaps half a dozen months, when the familiar figure reappeared. Old Webster wanted a job as a cant-hook-man, teamster or whatever occupation chanced to be vacant. He was installed as temporary cookee, and was perfectly satisfied. It was but natural that the evenings found us together, and as we got intimate, I began to make some remarkable discoveries. He had received me as an old friend, and even upon the first day we were on familiar terms. Each evening he opened out a little more, and at last, bit by bit, he told me his quaint story.

The story itself could be told in about ten words: he had lost his wife a few months after the birth of their one child, a daughter, and he had brought up the girl as best he might until she reached womanhood. I suppose he didn't do it particularly well, but he undoubtedly expended a wealth of love in the doing; however, when Mary reached years of indiscretion, she found herself irresistibly attracted away from home, and suddenly disappeared. Since that day he had been looking for her. He assured me, with a kindly moisture in his eye, that she needed her father's protecting arm, and he did not doubt that she was eagerly awaiting him, if he could but find her.

It was merely the irony of fate that Old Webster's arm would scarcely have protected a fly against a spider; that was just one of the incidentals which are woven about every human situation. It was also an absolute non-essential that Mary had been gone some forty-five years, and should, by this time, either have subdued the world, or been tucked under it. To him, she was a young girl with ruddy complexion and fair ringlets, wayward perhaps, but mainly in need of a steady hand and a father's sympathy.

The lumber camp knew the old man for perhaps a fortnight at a time; then the urge mastered him and he girt up his loins and departed. I watched him go with a sinking of heart, for in those few days I had learned to love his simple personality and to admire the utter unselfishness of his gentle nature. It was useless to offer him any help for he was conscious of no need; surely a meal here and there, and a shed in which to lay his head, would not be denied him.

Several months passed, and I partly forgot Old Webster in the activities of my work, but I was destined to meet him once more, before he passed out for ever. A telegram called me to Vancouver, to attend to some property transactions in which I was interested, and as I came up into the big waiting-room of the C. P. R. depot, I saw the familiar figure occupying a pitifully small portion of one of the long wooden

seats. The bustle of the big building seemed to have overcome one who was used to more retired and less populous places, and he appeared ill at ease and a trifle terrified. My face was the one oasis in a desert of strangers, and he turned to me with such a comical relief that my heart was sore for him. We sat together on the wooden seat, and I did my best to cheer him up.

Coincidence is probably the strangest thing in a strange world; no amount of investigation into the laws of probability will change that. We have here an example of it. Old Webster and I had inquired after one another's health, and were entering upon more general topics when I noticed a change in his face and attitude. He was looking over my shoulder in an eager unbelieving way, with a slight flush upon his seamed cheeks, and a nervous rigidity in his frame. I naturally glanced round in the direction of his gaze and beheld a handsome lady, dressed in fine raiment, who was carrying a white woolly dog upon her arm, and was evidently making her dignified way to a waiting car. Behind her came a demure Japanese in a livery, weighted down upon each side by a heavy leather valise. The lady was well past the meridian of life, but was amazingly well preserved, with delicately colored cheeks and fair ringlets—it was nicely done too, a specimen of the art which almost conceals itself.

To my pained surprise Old Webster groped his way to a standing position and tottered directly into the line of march. A sort of drunken rapture had suffused his whole body, tearing his accustomed reserve to shreds, and giving him the appearance of an agitated little mummy. Only one word escaped him—what it was I do not know, but I judge it to have been his daughter's name. For the space of half a dozen heartbeats the grand dame was petrified, a real color crimsoned her cheeks, and her free hand went to the blond curls. She swept him up and down, from his lamentable boots to his decayed hat, with an eye which momentarily became calmer, then, with a look of ineffable scorn she resumed her progress, and passed through the entrance.

I got Old Webster a room in a near by hotel and saw to his bodily comfort as best I might, his mental state being entirely beyond any help of mine. I left him in the care of the landlord's wife, a motherly sympathetic woman, and went sadly forth to attend to my insignificant business.

Next morning I returned at an early hour and was received by the landlady with ominous quietness. Old Webster's ruling passion had made itself felt for the last time, and he had passed out. The quest was over.

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

Two centuries and a half seems a long period of time in a new land where people who are still living think they can recall, and in reality do recall most of the events that actually make up the history of a country. It is possible that one could put up a strong argument in favor of the contention that the real history of a country begins with the date of its colonization. Before that is the era of the nomadic man whether he be the original possessor of the soil or the pathfinder and explorer who is entering on untried regions. But the nomadic man is necessary to a country's development for without the pathfinder how could the colonist, with his family find their way. Thus it is that though actual settlement in Western Canada is not much over a century old, we must go back nearly three centuries to the men who opened the country with the prows of their wooden-walled vessels.

The North West Passage.

There is a famous painting where an old man in seaman's uniform, decorated with testimonies to his valorous life in the invincible navy, is studying a map of the North American Continent. In his presence is a sturdy lad scarcely old enough to grasp it all but who realizes that some great thought and purpose are playing strongly in the mind of the veteran. And as his hand is clenched upon the table where the map rests the old man is represented as saying: "It must be done and England should do it." The reference was to what was called "The North West Passage" expectation. It was hoped by men of that day nearly three hundred years ago, that a passage by water would be discovered through the American continent to the Pacific or Western Sea and thus open the watery way to the far Orient. And it was in the hope that he might find the way to the Orient that the gallant Henry Hudson discovered the Bay which still bears his name and that gave appellation to the famous Fur Company which began to trade on its shores two hundred and fifty years ago.

The Power of Character.

That a court favorite, a soldier of fortune like Prince Rupert with a handful of associates should get a monopolistic charter which gave them practically unlimited control over half a continent seems in our present age not only indefeasible but unthinkable. Such a highly monopolistic system has in it untold potentialities of trouble for those who come under its power. But the uniformly high character of the Hudson's Bay Company's employees in the great spaces of the North West redeemed an undoubtedly dangerous system of government from evil and turned it into a benevolent paternalism. It was the triumph of the power of the individual personality making itself felt in the presence of an otherwise autocratic or bureaucratic system. And it demonstrates that a bad system worked out by good men is better than a good system worked out by bad men. Some may work out on paper what seems an ideal social order, but it will go to pieces unless it is worked out by men of high character. Or, in other words, we cannot have a better world until we have better people and we cannot have better people without religion. It is a remarkable fact that the early explorers and traders were men of strong religious conviction. In two hundred years, with abundant opportunity in remote outposts, of appropriating costly furs for their own use there was never such a case known amongst the employees of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Chaplain Service.

It is quite well known that, in keeping with the suggestion of the Company's charter, the employees at settled posts
(Continued on page 10)

Is Your House A "Home"?

By D. A. CHALMERS.

This is the true nature of home — it is the place of Peace; the shelter, not only from all injury, but from all terror, doubt, and division. In so far as it is not this, it is not home; so far as the anxieties of the outer life penetrate into it, and the inconsistently-minded, unknown, unloved, or hostile society of the outer world is allowed by either husband or wife to cross the threshold, it ceases to be home; it is then only a part of that outer world which you have roofed over, and lighted fire in. But so far as it is a sacred place, a vestal temple, a temple of the hearth watched over by Household Gods, before whose faces none may come but those whom they can receive with love,—so far as it is this, and roof and fire are types only of a nobler shade and light,—shade as of the rock in a weary land, and light as of the Pharos in the stormy sea;—so far it vindicates the name, and fulfils the praise, of Home.

—Sesame and Lilies.

The question is asked with reference to the real meaning of the word "Home".

The **British Columbia Monthly** seeks to be "the Magazine of the Canadian West" for the Homes of the People. Its interests concern the Social, Educational, Literary and Religious life, and it also believes in wholesome entertainment and recreation.

For nearly nine years the Managing Editor—convinced that this Farthest West part of the Empire should not need to wait on the East, the Old Country, the United States or anywhere else for a leading monthly Magazine devoted to the less ephemeral phases of journalism and the best in Literature and Life, and yet untied to party, sect or faction,—has sought to publish and develop such a periodical.

Some of the leading business men and firms in the West have given practical evidence, by advertising, that they believe in such ideals of service; and we are confident many more will be with us when we arrange, as we are now doing, for assistants to acquaint them with the publication. We are also planning to make the B. C. M. a Magazine in which Eastern Canada — which may one day become B. C.'s "hinterland"—and other parts, may meet the West in business service.

A Challenge to All Loyal Western HOMES

We have needed no question of exorbitant "exchange" to prompt us to advocate a "Begin at Home" or "Buy in B.C. and Canada" campaign. For years we have sought to impress upon our readers the common sense and common fairness of practising such precepts.

Sometimes we hear it alleged that the bulk of the population of Western Canada is so much absorbed in mere dollar-hunting or dollar-accumulating by buying and selling, that they are hopeless heathen in regard to literary values affecting social and personal progress.

"Big" or "Little" Business Men?

We do, indeed, occasionally meet keen business men who may be "big" or "little" according to the viewpoint or the standard of values applied—whose attitude suggests that they will have to cross the boundary line to the Beyond before they will realize, as all must sooner or later that what counts most in life is not the bigness of a man's business, or his buildings or his

bank account, but his soul-growth through community service and absorption of the "Great Thoughts" of greater souls, and kinship and harmony with the "Over-soul" Himself.

Be Loyal to the West.

It is our desire to make the B. C. M. a Magazine of "Community Service" in every phase of life, but it cannot as fully represent BRITISH COLUMBIA as it should without the loyal co-operation of the people of the Province and of our neighbouring "hinterland."

Let Us Get Acquainted.

As the population increases we hope ultimately to produce a Magazine of the Canadian West that will compare favourably in bulk and letterpress—as it may already in quality—with periodicals published anywhere on this Continent. But with our present Western population, we can only make headway towards that end if our BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN, and particularly THE HOMES OF OUR CITIZENS, ARE LOYAL TO THEIR OWN COMMUNITY.

Our Part: What of Yours?

Our regular subscription rate is \$1.75 for one year or \$3.00 for two years. But to leave the office of EVERY BUSINESS and PROFESSIONAL MAN, and especially every HOME in British Columbia worthy of the name, without excuse for ignorance of this Magazine, we have decided that during April, May, and June, 1920, any resident in the West may enter as a subscriber for ONE YEAR ONLY, at a "Get-Acquainted" rate of ONE DOLLAR.

Please Welcome Our Boys.

In that connection, we are at the same time planning to train and use in such B.C.M. Community Service, a group of enterprising boys. These lads, while being impressed with the ideals of service of this Magazine, will also be given the fullest possible return for their work.

We ask present readers on whom these representatives may call to welcome and assist them in any way in their power.

To enable readers to add their friends directly to our lists at the special dollar rate for one year, we note the following form:

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Concerning Girls

By Daisy Walker.

THE ANSWER OF CANADIAN GIRLS.

The challenge to Canadian girls in this New Day comes, as we have seen, in a three-fold call—the new position won by women, the sacrifice in the war and the call from the future. What shall the answer be? It also is three-fold.

I.—Consecration.

"My life is small but the times are great," and such times call for consecration. We may consecrate ourselves to an Ideal or a Person. Lucretia, the Roman matron, consecrated her life to Purity; Monica, the mother of Augustine, consecrated her life to the ideal of a noble motherhood; Joan of Arc to the cause of Freedom for her beloved France; Florence Nightingale to the call of service to wounded and dying men. No girl's life can be truly great unless it is consecrated to some high ideal.

"Try, the very trying will suffice,
The aim, if reached or not,
Makes great the life."

"'Tis not what man does which exalts him,
But what man would do."

What is your aim in life? Have you an aim or are you just drifting? As each day opens, think of the very joy of living, the opportunities which open and close as the hours pass. Look up at the stars and wonder; look at the flowers and dream. Love the hills with their call to solitude and meditation; ask for the valleys with their human souls and action. To live, to love, to labour—this is life's symphony.

But I would suggest a higher ideal still—a Christian ideal. To love God, to love His neighbour and to walk in the steps of the lowly Nazarene; this is life's highest ideal, for this includes not only a consecration to an ideal but to a Person, who is the Incarnation of the ideal. Consecration to the Christian ideal of winsome womanhood and to the Divine Man of Galilee—that is the first answer to the Call.

II.—Preparation.

Having chosen an ideal, the next step would be to prepare for a life to be lived with such an aim. The Greek Athletes would train for months to achieve the supremacy in the ancient Olympic games. Surely a preparation and training are even more necessary for "the game of life" where the reward is more than a crown of wild olive.

A special Physical Training is necessary. In the Victorian era a girl was thought of as a frail, delicate "hot-house plant" to be kept from every breath of wind. But a more sturdy and more rugged type of girlhood is finding her place in our national life—a girlhood in which tennis, golf, mountain-climbing, basketball, and every kind of outdoor and in-door game is adding to her development and moulding her into a stronger, nobler and happier woman. I am sorry for the girl of today in whose life there is no real, definite physical training.

Nor can we neglect the training of the intellect. If women are to stand side by side with men in the making of a new Canada, they must have well-trained, logical, keen minds. This cannot be gained in a day by some magic touch, but months and years of training are required. Each girl should aim at a Matriculation standing and if possible a year or two at a University.

There is still another phase of a girl's life which must be developed and trained—the spiritual. Neither can this be reached in a day. Character stands supreme in the individual, and as the industrial and social life of the world becomes more intricate and involved, the greater the strain

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY

and temptation through which girlhood must pass. Each girl should know and love those things which lead to God—her Bible, her Church and her prayers. Each girl should know and love and serve the Christ of the ages. Then she will not be afraid to leave the secluded and guarded harbour of home and friends and turn her boat seaward, where the winds are strong and the waves are high.

III.—Service.

With a noble, consecrated purpose, with body, mind and soul trained for life, the girl goes forth to serve. Service is the supreme answer to the supreme call. Selfishness and self-seeking can have no place in the highest characters. Canada calls to her daughters to make Canada a better land and this alone can be done through lives of sacrifice and self denial. Thus do we become lamp-lighters along the road which leads to righteousness and truth and God.

(Contributed by Rev. A. H. Sovereign, being the second part of the address given at the Girls' Conferences.)

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S ANNIVERSARY.

(Continued from page 8)

were not only anxious to deal honorably with the native tribes but to bring before them the sanctions of the Christian religion. And many of these traders held services on the Lord's Day to which the Indians were invited. Men like the famous Robert Campbell, the discoverer of the Yukon River, whom I knew well in his later years, always kept their Bibles at hand. It is recalled concerning Campbell that he related to his son the story of a thrilling day of danger when he found such comfort in the words spoken to Joshua: "Be not afraid nor dismayed for the Lord thy God is with the whithersoever thou goest," that his enemies said: "He is talking to the Great Spirit in the Book he reads," and they withdrew in awe and left the great explorer in peace. And when the missionaries began to come the homes of the Hudson's Bay men were often their headquarters. Factors like the noted "Archie" McDonald of Fort Qu'Appelle and many others befriended and helped many a young student missionary in the field. At a still earlier date the Company brought out chaplains to the different parts of the country.

Men of Science.

It is not as generally known as it should be that a great many of the old Hudson's Bay employees were men of wide information and that they made notable contributions to scientific knowledge. They were, as a rule, great readers, and the long winter nights in the north were turned to good account. They took the best papers and periodicals even though they only got them at long intervals. So that when these men came to civilization on "the outside" they proved themselves to be thoroughly posted in what was going on in the world. In addition they studied and gathered specimens of the flora and fauna, the bird and animal life of the wild. There was no centre then in what is now Canada where the results of these investigations could be gathered. But I have seen in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, the capital of the United States, large collections of great value sent by such factors of the Company as Roderick McFarlane, Bernard R. Ross and many others. So these men made their contributions to the records of the country in the early days. And when the Canadian Government took over their wide domain in 1870 the Hudson's Bay men from their knowledge of the country and the Indians became the chief assistants of the Government officials and the Mounted Police in the work of making treaties with the various tribes whose former means of livelihood in buffalo herds were to vanish before the incoming settler. On every ground we ought to fall in with the suggestion of the British Government and celebrate with enthusiasm the anniversary of the famous organization whose eye is still undimmed and whose strength is not abated by two centuries and a half of strenuous life.

FROM A WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW

MOTION PICTURES AND THEIR INFLUENCE UPON CHILDREN

(By Emily Wright).

There is no denying the fact that motion-pictures have become a part of our every day life. The industry has assumed such enormous proportions in the United States and Great Britain, hampered, hitherto, by five years of war, intends, now, to make a fair bid for its share in the world's market.

The Rev. Dean Tucker is reported to have expressed his opinion which is, indeed, shared by many—that Canada is becoming Americanized owing to the fact that, almost exclusively, American pictures are being exhibited. However that may be it is very certain that, at present, if we are to have moving pictures at all, they must of necessity be American. Surely familiarity with the American screen will not breed disloyalty to our country!

To us the idea probably seems far-fetched, but we women were not reared in an American movie-picture atmosphere. The rising generation, with immature thoughts and unformed minds ever ready to be subtly worked upon, is being brought directly under the influence of the American silver-sheet. Who can tell what the result may be? Whether or not Mr. Tucker is right, it is best for us to plant early and firmly the seeds of loyalty within our children's hearts.

But of vastly more importance than the problematical question of Americanizing Canada is the influence, mental and moral, which the plays exhibited are having upon our children. The motion-picture theatre is the cheapest and handiest form of entertainment that we have, and it has an enormous fascination for the youngsters; but women are too ready to send their children to these shows, irrespective of the kind of play being presented. True, it is exceedingly difficult to choose the picture which we would take or send them to see, for most unexpectedly and in the simplest plays, unwholesome scenes—so far as children are concerned—are introduced.

Although the Senate of America is endeavoring to pass a bill to eliminate the "villain" from motion-pictures, D. W. Griffith, king of producers, says that it cannot be done—we must have the villain. And we think that as long as the composition of human nature remains what it is, we shall have the "villain" and the "vampire" within our midst. But there are different kinds and different degrees of villainy. We may have a secret admiration for the old-fashioned "gentleman of the road," but if, within the precincts of the home, we were to meet the same gentleman, who, with his perverted magnetic personality, would destroy its sacredness, our hearts would recoil from him in horror.

Experience with the world has taught us of these things, but we women were "very old" as children go, before we knew of anything of the kind. It is not a case of "when she was a girl she never did so," the fact remains with us that our children are learning of these things at a very tender age.

When the lady in the picture leaves her husband, in a high temper, for her country home the picture then shows the interior of her drawing room and discloses to our view a man, in the act of kissing her, it comes with somewhat of a shock to hear the sweet little girl of eight exclaiming triumphantly, "I knew she would have a man with her." It may probably mean nothing to the child, yet, on the other hand, her head is becoming filled with the sordid things of life—and who knows what form her thoughts may take? The question, assuredly a vital one to mothers, is: would we

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rather keep our children in ignorance of these matters a little while longer?

Why should there not be more picture plays produced especially for children? More of those old fairy tales that they, and grown-ups too, love so much? We were positively thrilled when we saw the tale of the "Seven Swans." We did not think we would be, until we were going through the exciting experience of seeing seven swans (which were to turn into seven brothers at the crucial point in the story), hastily "sailing" so majestically, through the placid waters—but, oh! would they be in time to save Marguerite Clark from a most dreadful fate? The children—hundreds of them—cried excitedly: "hurry up, oh, do!"—"they won't be in time!"—"yes, they will!" We began to wonder, too, if they would. We got worked up to a frightful pitch of excitement. What a blessed relief it was when we realised that they were in time—only just! And a hysterical lump came into the throat when the children, wholly abandoning themselves to the joy of the moment, cheered vociferously and applauded with genuine glee.

Why cannot we have more of such pictures? Are exhibitors, distributors and producers afraid that they will not pay? Some producers say they are giving us what we want. Others say that we do not know what we want, and they might as well make up our minds for us. Are they correct? Do we know what we want? And, if so, are we getting it? If we really desire plays for children, women will have to organize—not merely pass resolutions—and go after them. Public opinion must be strong enough on the subject to warrant their production.

And now the Government seeks to cure the Prohibition situation by limiting the amount a physician can prescribe. What fools we mortals be.—The Wayside Philosopher.



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The Wayside Philosopher.

ABRACADABRA

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NOTES ON TWO POEMS ON "DEATH"

Recently a learned divine sought to justify Whittier's use of the following reference to death:

"When on my day of life the night is falling
And in the winds from unsunned spaces blown,
I hear far voices out of darkness calling
My feet to paths unknown."

Lyte, he urged, used similar language in his great hymn "Abide with me."

Let us analyze the situations. Is it not true that Lyte, who was ill unto death, fixes his mind on the physical night descending to close the day. It may be that he sees some likeness in the fact that as eve closes the day so death closes the "day of life" as it is so often unwisely called. But the darkness that deepens is not the darkness of benumbing sense as some would have us believe. Had sense so failed from whence the ability to write or think much less to express the glowing truths of that beautiful hymn? The deepening darkness is not in his brain, his soul, but on the fading landscape. Rather as his thoughts turn again to himself, there is the realization that in the physical helplessness so soon to overtake him, there is a "helper of the helpless" who is all sufficient.

Lyte passes on in his train of thought till he contrasts the night now fallen around him with death, and then his soul kindles, not at the resemblance, but the contrast. In the physical world the pall of black darkness has settled at best only broken by the moon and stars. No promise of a bright day soon to dawn. In the path of his life he had looked for night, for "sweet forgetfulness and dreamless sleep" it may be. Instead he realizes he has but found the light. The darkness, instead of closing down over his life and shutting out the bright blessings of life which God so freely showers upon all, is broken and shattered with a glorious light such as he ne'er had dreamed of. "Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee."

With this glorious truth burning into his enraptured soul he can sing and one can almost hear the triumphant voice of that final peal.

"In life, in death, (no longer a dreaded darkness) Lord abide with me."

What a glorious contrast to Whittier's picture of a strained ear listening for dim voices from out a shadowy cloud that fills with blackness all around, a dark veil, in constantly increasing darkness shutting out what has been the pleasant light of life. The very winds that breathe upon him from the unknown spirit land whence his feet are turning blown from "unsunned spaces." Well for Whittier that he had a faith which while it could not see God's radiance beaming in a fuller glory around him, could yet believe that somehow, somewhere, through a God beyond whose loving care he could not drift he would reach to where the happier isles of the blest "lift their fringed palms in air."

Gaze on Whittier's picture and on Lyte's, then ask which is the most fitting tribute to a God of life and love. Which tells the truest story of the preparation made by God for man in that life eternal, of which the Bible gives us the pen picture and all Light and Life and Love are the world wide, world filling, and eternal illustrations.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

Carson asks Ulster to accept the present Home Rule Bill. Is this a patriotic endeavour to help solve Ireland's problems or only a political move to intensify Nationalist and Sinn Fein opposition to the measure? Who can tell? If the for-

mer, it is a noble act whether it succeeds or fails. If the latter, it is but another terrible illustration of the awful "playing politics" that has been referred to in these columns before.

THE FORWARD MOVEMENT.

Now that the returns are available, we have the fact announced that the churches have succeeded in a great movement practically without the aid of the wealthier class of church members. The large contributions were few. It was the widow's mite and the cheerful givings of the many little ones (from the standpoint of riches) that did the deed. If this means that the church will be freed to a large extent from its fear to alienate the sympathies and support of its rich adherents by plain speaking and by manly denunciations of the evils with which the wealthier classes were cursing our political and commercial and social circles, it will be welcome indeed.

THE PROHIBITION MOVEMENT.

"Save me from my friends" should be the cry of Prohibition at this time. "Whom the Gods destroy they first make mad" is fittingly illustrated in the course of an Executive which proposes mischievous amendments to the Prohibition Act, and a Convention that, in the face of a very powerful reaction against Prohibition now taking place in British Columbia is asking that a "Bone Dry" referendum be held in the Province.

Blindly tearing ahead to change the Act, reckless of consequences, regardless of a lack of enforcement of existing provisions that would be laughable if it were not so gravely serious in its consequences to organized society in the Province, heedless of a fountain head of crime and disorder in a Government profiteering in the traffic they seek to stop, the Prohibitionists had, perhaps, better rein in their steeds and consider well where they are at.

Let the Moderationists sneer and ask if Prohibitionists have the courage of their convictions. They have but they claim also, to have horse sense and some respect for the moral issues in the liquor question.

Prohibitionists know that they will see the day when people generally will not have two ounces, let alone two quarts, in their houses when, perhaps, no one will be permitted to have liquor except for strictly medicinal or commercial or manufacturing use. They also know there is a time and place for all things. There is a time for active strenuous labour, a time for watchful waiting, a time for prayerful steady holding of the ground gained till the next forward movement can be taken.

Whatever may be in place and keeping at this time, certainly the amendment seeking to restrict the amount of liquor a man may keep in his home is not such. Why throw on an administration, so inefficient that it cannot prevent carloads being brought in and sold,—not in private dwellings but largely in the business section of Vancouver, to take one instance,—the added burden of seeking to enforce a provision, wholly, uncalled for at this stage of our liquor traffic fight.

Is the repression of bootlegging so sought? Granted! Let us then compel every importer to register the amount imported, each holder the quantity held. Let the possession of two quarts, or more, be prima facie evidence of liquor selling. Have both provisions if you will. But do not alienate hundreds of prohibitionists, to say nothing of those outside prohibition ranks, who wish a fair game and will support prohibition in all fair measures, by a measure which can only be founded in the most intolerant bigotry or in a desire to overthrow the prohibition movement and turn back the clock to darker days.

The bar has gone. All decent people rejoice. Let the prohibitionists now give decent people the opportunity to follow them in a clean, hard manly fight for law enforcement rather than tilting at a windmill by advocating either a bone dry referendum or the vicious amendment recently presented to legislature.

Educational Men and Matters

THE STATUS OF THE TEACHER.

Thomas Allardyce Brough

Fifty years ago, when France lay crushed and bleeding at the feet of Germany, despoiled of two of her fairest provinces, and condemned to pay an indemnity sufficient, it was hoped, to cripple her for at least a generation, her clear-sighted leaders ascribed her defeat not to the Prussian soldier, but to the Prussian schoolmaster.

To this fact Prussian statesmen were not blind, and with renewed zeal and enthusiasm they proceeded to perfect the educational systems in the new German empire, welding them into one vast machine by which they hoped to achieve world domination in industry, commerce and government.

How nearly they succeeded we all know, and shudder to contemplate, and the lesson bids fair to endure. One result is that the school and the schoolmaster throughout the English-speaking world have been brought into a prominence unique in their history. The educational conference at Winnipeg in October last, attended by fifteen hundred delegates chosen from the Dominion's best and ablest citizens, was without doubt the most momentous gathering that has taken place in Canada since Confederation. Many of the leaders were not directly associated with the work of teaching, but all were of one mind in the emphasis they placed on the necessity for greatly increased remuneration of teachers, and also for according them adequate recognition as private persons and as citizens.

That in general the teacher of today does not receive the public recognition merited by his character, intelligence and training is patent to every thoughtful observer. And when we remember the number of men holding leading places in the other professions, in business and in public life, who served their apprenticeship as teachers, we are forced to conclude that the community suffers a loss not easily measured when outside of the schoolroom it relegates the schoolmaster to an obscure corner by thinking and acting out the thought that he is "only a teacher."

But in spite of all I have seen and heard and read, I am convinced that the public in general has not wilfully sinned in denying the teacher the recognition he deserves: it has been, I am persuaded, a sin of omission rather than a sin of commission. In the past the schoolmaster in Canada has been content to work for a scanty living wage, and the public has not seen it a duty to force him to accept more. In the next place the exacting nature of the teacher's duties, and the devotion with which the faithful and conscientious teacher has carried them out, has left him little time or energy for exercising leadership in social or public life. And, further, there has been a feeling on the part of many—an entirely mistaken feeling—that one who spends so much of his time in associating with immature minds must needs lack the mental maturity and robustness supposed to be the sure attribute of every business man.

The remedies are apparent, and for the sake of the children, the community and the state—not primarily for the sake of the teacher—they must be applied. The first of these is the giving of such remuneration to the person who makes teaching his life work as will save him from undue anxiety regarding his old age, and will enable him to associate on something like equal terms with the physician, the lawyer and the business man. Public esteem for the teacher will assuredly rise with the increased price paid for his services. And increased income will afford him increas-

ed freedom in exercising the public spirit that is at present cramped in him by his narrow means.

In the next place the teacher himself must be led to see that he cannot attain his maximum efficiency if he spends all his nights as well as all his days on the details of classroom work. By such a course the mistakenly conscientious teacher becomes in time not a man, nor a true educator, but a mere pedagogue, unconsciously imparting to his pupils an inadequate and distorted view of life. To be the best type of teacher in the classroom he must know at first hand nature and books and his fellowman. The great Teacher knew and loved the lilies of the field; His heart throbbed at the fall of the sparrow; His wearied spirit drank in the silence and solitude and grandeur of the mountains; the choicest literature of the world had become part and parcel of His inmost being; He served an apprenticeship of many years in the carpenter shop of Nazareth; He companioned daily with the fishermen of the Galilean lake; He ate and drank with publicans and sinners; He stood unmoved in the presence of rabbi and high priest and Roman governor. Multitudes hung on His words: but His daily care for the three most fruitful years of His life was His class of twelve humble disciples. Through these He saved and transformed a bankrupt and perishing world. Through these He has become the strength and stay and inspiration of humanity unto the ages of the ages.

Remembering this great example, and realizing his high calling, the teacher will not shrink from assuming responsibility and leadership in the advancement of education—apart from his daily teaching:—in the work of the church and all other societies designed to promote social and moral and spiritual welfare: in the promotion of industry and trade: in the management of associations dealing with municipal and provincial and Dominion politics. And through work and association with all sorts and conditions of men he can scarcely fail to be accorded his proper status in the community, and he should at the same time attain maximum efficiency in his own peculiar field as a true teacher, one who shall inspire the coming generation with such ideals as shall carry humanity one step further in its upward evolution.

Vancouver, 11:10 p. m., January 23, 1920.

Dame Nature took our dwelling up
And shook it like a rat;
She gr-r-r-d us rudely wide awake,
And then she gave another shake,
And let it go at that.

—H. Beeman.

Nature has placed nothing so high that virtue cannot reach it.

Give Service and Get Service

When you say "Hello?" when you answer the telephone, do you realize that you are impeding your telephone service? The person calling invariably asks who is speaking, and you give the information you might have given in the first place. When you answer the telephone why not give your name or the name of your firm and department in the first instance? Then you would be getting service and giving service.

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Concerning Boys

By Herbert Fiddes

HINTS ON CAMPS AND CAMPING.

With the approach of the warmer weather many minds will be turned to the possibility and probability of holding a camp.

It is hard to imagine anything more productive of clean healthy amusement, and good-fellowship than a camp. Whether the camp be under an organized club, or a private concern there are many things the amateur should know, and it is with the idea of being of some practical assistance that these lines are being written.

There should be a responsible leader in all camps for boys, one whom the boys will obey cheerfully.

Starting A Camp.

It is not usually advisable to start a camp in an afternoon or evening; it is better to start in the morning. This will dispense with the necessity of an advance party, and if the camp is being run by a large club, the benefit will be apparent the first night, in having a quiet camp. If a camp is started late in the afternoon or evening, the boys are not tired and not the least inclined to sleep, and discipline becomes difficult to maintain.

Camp Site.

The location of a camp is a very important item. It should be on a site that is high and dry; if possible near a river or lake suitable for swimming, but in close proximity to a good supply of water both for washing and drinking.

Equipment and Stores.

In addition to food and fuel, it is advisable that every boy should have a mattress. A large sack filled with straw, or dry grass will be found suitable. Where possible every boy should also bring a waterproof sheet.

In addition to water buckets for cooking purposes, fire pails should be kept conveniently handy, and should ALWAYS be filled with water.

Lanterns, clock, spades, axes, scrubbing brushes, dish cloths, are things easily overlooked.

Commissariat.

A good cook is a most important requisite, especially where the boys are young.

The following is about the portion per boy per day of some of the staple foods:

Cheese, 1 oz. per boy; butter, 1 oz. per boy; Jam 2 oz. per boy; bread, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 lb per boy; potatoes, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb per boy; uncooked meat, $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ lb according to age of boy; tea, $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.; sugar for tea or coffee, 1 oz.

The Cook House should be placed in a sheltered spot, and should have a cover capable of keeping off rain and sun.

It is worth remembering, if the cook is not a professional, that soft water, when possible, should be used for cooking. Hard water takes longer to boil than soft water; it renders vegetables hard. In boiling it makes fresh meat tough.

Fatigues.

The camp, if large, should be divided into squads, each under a responsible head and should be allotted certain days for duty.

Sanitation.

It is of utmost importance that the camp be kept scrupulously clean. Milk and food should on no account be allowed to be thrown on the ground or around the camp.

All meat should be protected from flies.

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It is well to burn all rubbish as far as possible.

All blankets should be aired for at least an hour each day, and tent curtains rolled up, and tents thoroughly cleaned.

Health.

The health of the boys must be most carefully watched.

The leader in charge of the camp should personally see that every boy is comfortable before going to sleep, and that no boy "turns in" with wet stockings or damp clothing.

The boys should be encouraged to take a laxative when necessary before retiring, in order to ensure health.

Any increase of coughing at night, or toothache in the morning, should be carefully inquired into. It is usually caused by dampness.

There should always be someone on hand who can administer first aid.

A Medical Kit for the treatment of sprains, bruises, toothache, sore throat, burns and headaches, colds, coughs, constipation, diarrhoea and similar minor ailments common to boys, should always be at hand.

Kit.

It is a good idea to make every boy bring his own kit, including knife, fork and spoon, towels, extra socks, brush and comb, blankets, soap, dishes, etc.

PERSONAL SNAP-SHOTS No. 2.

Among the workers upon whom the limelight of publicity seldom shines, is MR. H. M. BURNS of West Vancouver. A man of genial disposition his personality especially fits him for work amongst the boys. He never forgets he was once a boy, and still enjoys the mischievous pranks of boyhood. By nature he is very sympathetic and approachable, and is a ready friend. He has some original and confirmed ideas regarding boys and their work, and these sometimes make the unsympathetic or apathetic "take notice," but "H. M." invariably wins his point, because he is sincere.

HAVE A PURPOSE.

Nothing is more essential to success in any sphere of life than to have a definite purpose. Too many boys start out in life lured by the glitter of the job with "big money." They shift from position to position, chasing the will-o-the-wisp called Dollars, only to find at the age of 20 or 22 that they have been stationary when they thought they were progressing. Others who were content to follow the slower and less glittering course have left them behind. It is worth remembering that it is the "goal" that counts. Better to work hard for a few years at a low salary, and learn a profession or trade, and have a future ahead of you, than to start with a spurt and then "mark time." If at the start there is drudgery and the road seems congested remember there's plenty of room at the top.

SPEAKING WITH OUR FEET.

Don't be ridiculous, did someone say? Oh yes, but a boy can speak with his feet. Yes, I know we speak with our mouths, and that dumb people speak with their hands, but it is also possible to speak with one's feet.

When you hear a footstep on the verandah, have you not often said "Oh, here comes Daddy?" How do you know? You know his footsteps. He speaks with his feet.

A boy playing football speaks with his feet. He tells us he is quick, alert, and full of boyish life.

You remember the story of "Treasure Island." People knew when the old sailor was coming down the street. He spoke with his wooden leg.

Some boys tell the world they are lazy by their feet. When they are asked to do their chores they drag their feet

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY

and shuffle along unwillingly. No words are necessary to tell us they are lazy, disobedient and selfish.

Other boys speak with their feet and tell the world they are careless. Their boots are always dirty.

There are boys, however, who tell the world they are quick, obedient and careful. There is no hesitation in their step.

What is the message from your feet?

TEMPERANCE IN ALL THINGS.

While it is true many energetic workers amongst boys fail because of lack of organization, it seems to the writer that there is today a tendency to overdo "organization" and in many cases offer a machinery, so complicated and elaborate, that it will ultimately defeat its own ends.

While "Efficiency" should be the key-note, "Simplicity" should be its companion. Very few men today have time to devote many hours to Boys' Work, and however desirable "Training" may be, a sincere love for boys, and a fair share of "common-sense," are of more value than any training that can be obtained from books. There would be less crying for Boys' Workers today if the work was not encircled by wire entanglements, in having to learn this, that, and the other thing. While an ardent supporter of Boys' Work and everything pertaining to boys' welfare, the writer contends that a man owes a duty to his home, and he can't be out every night.

However commendable and beneficial Boys' Organizations, whether Church or otherwise, may be, a Boy's Real Training Ground should be THE HOME, and his Trainers his Father and Mother.

Who does the best his circumstance allows,
Does well, acts nobly; angels could do no more.

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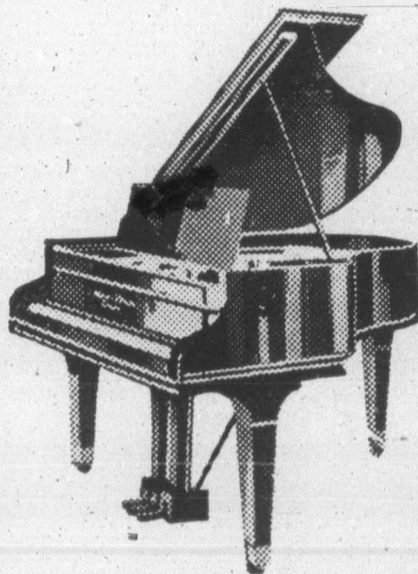
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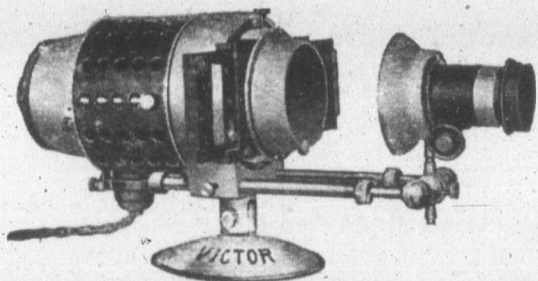
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