

# Conservation

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FEBRUARY, 1914

NO. 2

## Social Service Congress at Ottawa

Coming Convention on White Slavery  
and other Vital Human Problems

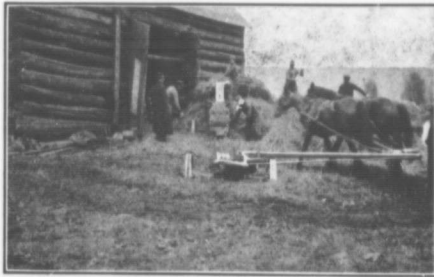
On the 3rd, 4th and 5th of March, an important national convention will be held at Ottawa, for the Promotion of Social Reform. It will be held under the auspices of the Social Service Council of Canada and the National Committee for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic and will have the distinguished patronage of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught. Upwards of 500 delegates, embracing representatives from nearly all religious denominations and associations interested in social reform work, are expected to attend. Distinguished speakers from all over America will be present to deliver addresses.

The following subjects, all of which are of vital interest, will be considered during the three days of the convention: the weekly rest day and national well being; the value of the social survey; the problem of the city; the church and industrial life; child welfare; the problem of the country; the white slave traffic; the international treaty for the suppression of the white slave traffic; immigration, gambling, political purity; temperance and prohibition; the federation of the churches and other bodies for social uplift; international peace; the care of defectives; the care of criminals, etc.

A congress such as this may be described as a conservation congress of the highest kind, for, as Hon. Mr. Sifton said at the last annual meeting of the Commission of Conservation, "in the last resort the highest degree of conservation depends upon the efficiency of the human unit."

Experiments in the use of aspen poplar for shingles show that the shingles do not check in seasoning, and that they turn water satisfactorily, but that they are too easily broken in handling.

Dr. B. E. Fernow, Dean, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto, and Bristow Adams, of the U.S. Forest Service, have just been elected president and secretary, respectively, of the Society of American Foresters, the largest organization and, with the exception of the Canadian Society of Forest Engineers, the only association of professional foresters in the western hemisphere.



(Cut No. 21)

Baling straw for shipping away from the farm. This is a practice that should be discouraged. With every ton of straw goes humus and plant food which is needed in the soil to maintain fertility. Weed seeds cannot be cleaned from straw and are carried and distributed far and wide.



(Cut No. 22)

O. A. C. barley, 52 bushels per acre, on the farm of Jas. Sutherland, Namao, Alta., who is doing illustration work for the Commission of Conservation. A good yield as a result of sowing good seed which was carefully selected, well cleaned and the crop well cared for.

## TO NEWSPAPERMEN

To further public interest in conservation subjects, the Commission will lend to Canadian journals the cuts used in this bulletin. Cuts may be obtained in either fine or coarse screen, and stereotype mats will be furnished to those who have the mechanical equipment necessary for their use.

As there are only a limited number of these cuts, delays are sometimes unavoidable, but orders will always be filled as soon as possible after receipt of application. It is requested that cuts be made use of at the earliest possible date, and returned (O. H. M. S.) promptly, together with a copy of the publication in which the illustration appears.

When ordering, please fill out and forward us this coupon:

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## Safety First on Railways

Accidents in Connection with Train  
Operation Not Including Train  
Accidents

These may be briefly summarized as being due to: coupling or uncoupling cars, switching, coming in contact with overhead or side structures, falling from, or being struck by cars or engines. With the exception of the elimination of structures of insufficient clearance, the best the employer can do is to keep the appliances in proper condition. Carelessness is the vital and all important factor in causing accidents. The most deadly practice of all is that of adjusting couplers by hand or foot, just as the cars are coming together. Negligence, carelessness and forgetfulness are broad and general terms, and it is extremely difficult to get down to the definite and concrete in dealing with accidents.

Although it is perhaps callous to consider the matter of safety from a mercenary point of view, yet that phase of the matter should be considered. If an old and experienced employee is injured, he must necessarily be replaced by a man not so well trained nor so competent to fill his position. In addition to this change, railway companies frequently have to pay an indemnity under the workmen's compensation laws so generally in force. On the other hand, the employee will also suffer a financial loss, for even if the workman's injuries are trivial, he must still, owing to his injuries, lose time and a certain amount of pay.

The making of rules will not prevent men from taking foolish and unnecessary risks. These men know the danger and uselessness of many practices in which they indulge, but yet foolishness and ridiculous traditions of railroad service, that a railroad man must be willing to "take a chance" result in many accidents. If this idea can be overcome, and if the employee can be convinced that his standing will be gauged by his carefulness in avoiding danger, a great stride will be made toward reducing accidents.

—W. L. C.

Oils distilled from the needles of spruce and fir trees are being used to scent petroleum floor oils which are sometimes objectionable on account of their odour.

## Housing Immigrant Workers

### Careful Town-Planning Needed to Check Growth of Slums.

"In the matter of immigration, we (in Canada) are in the position of a person who has invited guests and, when they arrive at her house, says to them: 'I am very sorry, we have no room for you, but if you will pitch a tent on the lawn until I prepare a guest room, I shall be delighted to have you.' We are in the position of inviting people to come to Canada for whom there is no provision of homes." In these words Mrs. Plumpre, Secretary of the National Council of Women, satirised the treatment meted out in Canada to our immigrant workers.

The sting of this indictment lies in its truth, as demonstrated by the accompanying illustrations and the facts cited below. It is futile to argue that these immigrants should look after themselves. We cannot expect them to lay sewers and plan streets, nor to refuse to live in unsanitary houses when the only alternative is to do without shelter entirely. Forethought by those responsible for the oversight of growing towns, is always needed; it is particularly needful in a country where communities are expanding from hamlet to town and from town to city within a decade. Our civic fathers, Boards of Trade, etc., do devote much forethought to the growth of our cities, but not often of the right kind. The rapidity of the expansion is the only thing considered. To induce industries to locate in their cities, they grant bonuses, tax exemptions, free land sites, and various other gifts and privileges to manufacturers, railroad companies and others, but give no attention to the poor workers who are to work in the factories and shops, and who will become the future citizens.

The accompanying data as to the congestion in the foreign quarters of some of our Canadian cities were collected by Mr. Bryce M. Stewart, M.A., under the auspices of the Canadian Presbyterian Board of Social and Moral Reform. The figures and diagrams speak for themselves and need no comment.

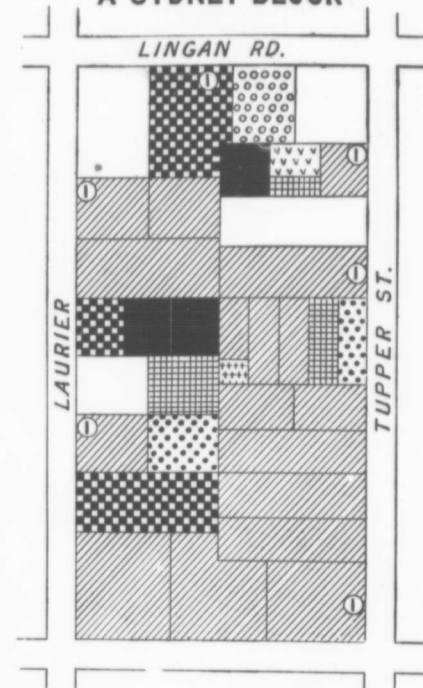
The forests of Corsica, the little island upon which Napoleon was born, are managed by the French government. They produce lumber, firewood, and turpentine, and all parts of the tree are far more closely utilized than in America.

There are nearly six thousand professional foresters in Germany who are associated with various technical societies.

## TESTING OF CANADIAN WOODS

Because of the importance of this subject to all classes of wood users, the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior is about to undertake an exhaustive series of tests at McGill University. Beginning with a few of the more important of the commercial species, every kind of wood in the country will be tested for its strength in various ways, and for different conditions of growth and moisture content. At present the only information we have on this subject is based upon tests of wood grown in the United States; many of which were grown under entirely different conditions to those found in our own country.—*The Canadian Engineer.*

## A SYDNEY BLOCK



	Italians	172		Poles	22
	Austrians	22		Coloured	8
	Hungarians	11		British	15
	Spaniards	4		Russians	3
① Store				Total	257

Commission of Conservation  
(Courtesy, Canadian Political Science Assoc.)

(Cut No. 24)

37 Families.	
Married men	36
Married women	36
Widow with family	1
Single woman	1
Girls	46
Boys	44
Men boarders	173
<b>Total</b>	<b>337</b>
41 houses occupied, containing	132 rooms and
207 beds.	
5 stores in three houses.	
1 vacant house.	
2 separate stores.	
19 houses have a newspaper in the language of the occupants.	

5 houses have a newspaper in English.  
34 of the households are owners.  
No bath.  
18 houses had water taps. Three wells were also used.  
3 of the water taps were frozen.  
There were no inside toilets.  
25 householders stated they had no removal of garbage.  
20 cows, 5 horses and a few hundred fowl were housed in the block.  
Rents ranged from \$6.00 per month for a one-story house of two rooms, to \$13.00 and \$14.00 per month for a two-story house of five rooms.  
Wages: \$2.00 and \$2.25 per ten-hour day in the foundry, 22½, 25 and 30 cents an hour in the elevators.

## Laws on Plumbing are Chaotic

"In the Dominion of Canada we have no recognized universal standards regarding sanitary plumbing and ventilation, but are governed by a multiplicity of laws and by-laws, adopted by the governing bodies of our cities and towns and enforced according to their own interpretation." With these words, Mr. John W. Bruce, General Organizer of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters, prefaced an address at the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission of Conservation on the subject of the present chaotic state of sanitary law in Canada, and the need for its unification.

In the course of his address, Mr. Bruce emphasized the importance of sanitary plumbing in its relation to public health. He compared Montreal, with a death rate of 20 per thousand, with Toronto, which has a death-rate of 12.8, and attributed the difference in large part, to the more lax enforcement of sanitary regulations in the former. In many hotels, he said, there were not enough conveniences, neither were they kept properly clean. In apartment houses, conservation of space was such an important item that ventilation was sadly neglected. He blamed speculative building for the unsatisfactory conditions in many private houses. The speculative builder considered outside appearance more than proper sanitation. Inspection was very necessary in workmen's houses, as these men were less able to protect themselves against the negligence of unscrupulous builders.

A great need, very much overlooked in Canada, was public comfort stations. These should be erected not merely in parks and pleasure resorts, but in the busiest portions of our cities, where the need was greatest. As it was, hotels and public buildings had to bear a burden that the cities themselves should shoulder, with the result that the conveniences in these places were sadly overtaxed. Sanitary drinking fountains should also be provided at public expense.

In conclusion, Mr. Bruce pointed out that satisfactory conditions would never obtain so long as each city or town had its own regulations. Plumbers traveling from one place to another had to familiarize themselves with new laws, and sometimes to pass new examinations in every place. Moreover, dwellers in rural districts, beyond the reach of urban influence, were not protected by any legal standard. The solution, he believed, could only be found in a Dominion law, setting up a uniform standard from coast to coast, leaving each municipality free to supplement such standard by by-laws designed to secure adaptation to special local conditions.

## Closer Utilization of Timber

Waste Inevitable Unless Material Will Pay Cost of Production

Popular opinion holds the lumberman responsible for the wastage of 50 to 75 per cent of the timber which he handles, this waste consisting of high stumps, broken trees, logs and uncut timber left in the woods, and of sawdust, slabs, edgings and trimmings at the mills. The lumberman maintains that he saves as much material as he can at a profit, and that he should not be charged with wilful waste when he refuses to handle material which cannot be sold for at least the cost of production.

Conditions which make possible closer utilization in logging and manufacturing are:

1. Ready markets.
2. Cheap transportation.
3. Character of timber.
4. Efficient management.
5. Proper equipment.

The labour costs in handling waste material are often prohibitive. The present low price of stumpage makes it more profitable for the manufacturers of many small wooden articles to buy logs, and entire timber tracts, than to manufacture from the waste of lumbering operations.

Many by-product plants require such large investments and an assurance of a long-time supply of material that their erection is possible only in connection with very large lumbering operations. The conditions surrounding many small operations are such that close utilization is impossible.

Material is saved only as it is valuable. Closeness of timber utilization is in direct proportion to stumpage values. In some large and favorably situated Eastern lumbering operations, high timber values and good markets for a wide variety of products permit the utilization of practically all waste. In many Pacific Coast operations where standing timber of low value is abundant, and sawing capacity is in excess of market demand, much waste is at present unavoidable.

Over-production of lumber and other wood products is a prolific cause of forest waste. Over-production results from unlimited competition in the exploitation of forest resources.

Educating the consumer to the use of grades and sizes of material now rejected will accomplish much in decreasing forest waste. The consumer has the final say in the disposition of the products of the manufacturer. This is not a condition peculiar to lumbering alone, but applies to the market for all manufactured and agricultural products. A market for forest products equal to that in Germany would result in as close timber utilization in Canada as exists in Germany.

## Some Important Resolutions

Passed at the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission of Conservation

### Forests

The Governments of Ontario and Quebec should be urged to undertake a systematic classification of land in the Clay Belt in advance of settlement, in order to have settlement properly directed.

A strong effort should be made to secure co-operation between the Dominion Government and the Province of Ontario, to solve the problem of protection and recuperation of the Trent watershed.

The Commission reiterates its opinion that in the forest services of the Dominion and provincial governments, more than in any other service, the appointments should be based on capability and experience, such as may be secured by civil service examinations.

### Fisheries

RESOLVED that we urge upon the Department of Marine and Fisheries the advisability of a standardization of barrels and packages for pickled fish, oysters and other fisheries' products.

RESOLVED that we urge upon the Department of Marine and Fisheries the advisability of instituting an inquiry regarding the practice of other countries in branding or stumping packages to indicate the quality of the fish contained therein, and if possible of devising some practicable means in connection with our fisheries, of indicating on the packages the quality of the contents.

### Wild Birds

WHEREAS the Commission of Conservation heartily approves the efforts now being made for the preservation of North American migrating birds, some of which are seriously threatened with extinction, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Provincial Governments of Canada be urged to solicit the good offices of the Dominion Government in obtaining the negotiation of a convention for a treaty between

Great Britain and the United States, for the purpose of securing more effective protection for the birds which pass from one country to the other.

### Lands

THAT the Committee be authorized to arrange for the formation of a Neighbourhood Improvement Association in connection with each group of farms on which an agricultural survey was conducted in 1913.

### Public Health

THAT this Commission, having in view the large amount of technical information required for the use of those interested in questions of Housing and Town Planning, and believing that the same should be properly collected and made easily obtainable for all parts of Canada, arrange at once for the elaboration of the information now on hand and provide for its extension along the most practical lines.

THAT this Commission, believing that the National Council of Women affords a most opportune medium in which to propagate the many questions of Public Health and thereby bring this portion of its work directly into the homes of Canada, take every opportunity to avail itself of the offer made by its Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Plumpton.

### Waters and Water-Powers

RESOLVED that all possible information respecting the waters in Canada, connected directly or indirectly with boundary waters, should be collected and digested.

RESOLVED that as accurate data respecting the flow of streams is absolutely necessary in developing water-powers, all existing information respecting gauge readings, measurements of stream flow and other cognate data in the possession of the Dominion Governments, the Provincial Governments, corporations and individuals should be collated and published.

## Methods of Realizing City Plans

"The realization of a city plan must come through three distinct methods, each complementary to the others. Much can be accomplished through the voluntary action of individuals, inspired by the ideals of the plan and impelled by the force of public sentiment. Indeed many of the aims of city planning are attainable only if such a spirit of idealism is widely in the community. The second method is by compulsion, by means of the police power, a force which is of

the utmost value in dealing with recalcitrant citizens, but which can under no circumstances do more than fix a minimum standard already outstripped by the ideals of the community. The third and most conspicuous method is through the expenditure of public funds raised by taxation, for the acquirement of lands and rights in land and for the construction of public improvements."—Frederick G. Olmstead, Chairman of Executive Committee, Chicago City-Planning Congress (1913).

## Illustration Farm Results

After-harvest Cultivation Pays Handsomely — Co-operative Marketing of Apples Tried

The following is a continuation of a letter begun in our last issue, from Mr. Will C. Barrie, of Mount Pleasant farm, Galt, Ont., showing some of the splendid results obtained on one of the Commission's Illustration Farms:—

### Oats

"I am very pleased to say that the after-harvest cultivation has given good results, with both the grain and roots.

"We cut and threshed separately two plots of oats of four acres each. The first plot was ploughed in August, was cultivated occasionally during the autumn, and ploughed late in the fall. The other plot was left in sod and also ploughed late in the fall. We weighed the grain from the two plots and found that the cultivated plot gave a yield of 180 bushels, and the uncultivated plot a yield of only 120 bushels.

"A difference of 60 bushels at 50c. a bushel shows a gain of \$30.00. Counting the cost of cultivating at \$4.00 an acre, it would mean a total cost of \$16.00 for the plot, and that amount deducted from the \$30.00, shows a gain of \$14.00, or \$3.50 per acre.

"As the soil on the plot that was cultivated is in a much finer condition and almost free from weeds, I believe that next year, the difference in the profit from the two plots, if worked alike, will be almost as great.

### Sugar Beets

"We have a little over 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres of sugar beets, 64 rows in all, 28 rows on the land that had been cultivated after harvest, and 36 on spring-ploughed land. The whole field received a dressing of manure during the winter. The cheque from the sugar factory showed a weight of 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons, and a return of \$108.80.

"We weighed the beets as we took them up and found that the 28 rows on the cultivated plot produced 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons and the 36 rows produced 9 tons of clean beets. After measuring the plots and figuring up the weights, we found that the cultivated plot was producing sugar beets at the rate of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons per acre, and the spring-ploughed plot at the rate of 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons per acre. The difference would be 5,733 lbs., which at \$5.63 per ton (being the price we received), would show a gain of \$16.03 per acre, in favour of the after-harvest cultivation.

### Mangolds

"We had three plots of mangolds, each plot being a little over an acre in area. In taking them

Continued on page 8

## Illustration Farm Results

(Continued from page 7)

up, we found that the *Tankard Cream Sugar Mangold* produced about 100 bushels more than either the Giant Red or the Yellow Globe.

## Corn

"We planted the Wisconsin No. 7 at the same time that we planted the White Cap, Yellow Dent, and the Leaming. It made a more rapid growth and at the time of cutting, was more mature than the others. We weighed the corn from a certain number of rows from each plot, but, unfortunately, I have mislaid the figures, but remember that the load from the Wisconsin No. 7 plot was the heaviest. Some of our neighbours who were trying it for the first time were well pleased and intend sowing it again.

## Clover Seed

"We have not threshed our clover seed, but will let you know the result as soon as we have. We weighed the clover and there was just about six tons.

"One farmer near here threshed two loads with his threshing machine and got seven bushels. As he just used the cylinder, the same as when threshing grain, he quite likely has as much clover in his chaff and straw as he has in the bin.

## Shipping of Apples

"To-morrow we are going to ship our apples, which are being handled by the Fruit Growers' Association. As this is the first association of its kind in the country, we are very much interested in it and are hoping that it will prove a success. When the apples have all been shipped, I shall be able to let you know what prices we have received and how it compares with the old way of peddling apples around town in barrel lots.

"Hoping that you will be able to make use of these few notes, I remain, Respectfully yours, (Sgd.)—Will C. Barrie."

## NATIONAL TOWN-PLANNING CONGRESS

In June next a National Housing and Town-planning Congress will be held in the city of Toronto. The Commission of Conservation will act as host to the Congress and has secured a generous appropriation from the Dominion Government for that purpose. A special committee of the Commission has been appointed to present a report to the delegates at the Congress, and to draft housing and town-planning legislation which may be recommended as a model to the provincial legislatures. Although the B.N.A. Act placed public health under the Federal Government, it was, later, transferred to the provinces, and hence any federal department can only act in an advisory capacity.

## ANIMALS IN DOMINION PARKS

The Dominion Buffalo Park at Wainwright, Alberta, now contains 1,477 buffalo, 45 elk, 60 mule deer, and 4 antelope. There were 243 buffalo calves born in the Park during 1913.

In the Rocky Mountains Park at Banff, are 81 buffalo, 23 moose, 21 elk, 10 mule deer, 3 mountain sheep and 7 Persian sheep.

In the Elk Island Park, Lamont,

Alberta, there are 41 elk, 81 buffalo, 29 moose, and 52 mule deer.

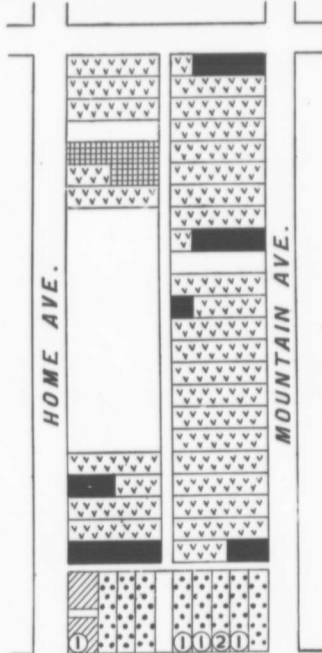
The Parks Branch, which has charge of all Dominion Parks, reports that the buffalo are thriving admirably under these, their natural conditions, and are rapidly increasing in numbers. Game birds are also increasing rapidly, owing to the protection given by the Park authorities.

## SEED SELECTION

Only two and one-half per cent of the 1,000 farmers visited by the agriculturists of the Commission of Conservation in 1913, in connection with the Agricultural Survey were found to be following a systematic selection of seed grain. Fifty-eight per cent keep the best part of the field or crop for seed but often go little towards specially cleaning the seed.

Now is the time to start the fanning-mill. In communities where there are no good fanning mills, it would pay handsomely if the farmers would club together and purchase a mill suitable for grading the seed grain.—F. C. N.

## A FORT WILLIAM BLOCK



▽ ▽ ▽ ▽ ▽	Ruthenians 282	■	Poles 27
▣ ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣	Bulgarians 14	▨	Italians 9
○ ○ ○ ○ ○	Slovaks 5		Total 337
①	Store	②	Pool Room

Commission of Conservation  
(Courtesy, Canadian Political Science Assoc.)

27 Families.		(Out No. 85)	
Married men .....	94	Double houses .....	4
Married women .....	94	Five-family houses .....	1
Children .....	70	Three-family houses .....	0
Widows .....	1	One-family houses (2 shares) .....	4
Single women .....	1	One-family houses, with stores .....	4
Single men .....	4	Houses occupied .....	19
Boarders .....	180	Houses vacant .....	6
Total .....	257	Total .....	25

Here wages are lower than in the West, and fewer immigrant families own their houses. In this block two-thirds of the families rented. In one of the blocks surveyed in Fort William, Ont., two-thirds were owners. The average rent paid by the 15 families was \$11.54 per month. The houses were of many varieties.

There were 144 rooms and 11 inside toilets. Nearly all had water connection. The average number of persons per house was 18.5, and an average of 9 in each apartment.

## New Provisions in Petroleum and Gas Regulations

By Order in Council, January 14th, 1914, the following new provisions have been inserted in the Dominion petroleum and natural gas regulations:

1. No application for a lease shall be accepted or recorded unless it is accompanied by the full amount of the rental for the first year, viz: 25 cents per acre.
2. Provision is made for the consolidation of operations and expenditure on a group of leases where more than one have been acquired by assignment or otherwise, provided that such consolidation shall only apply to the second and third years of the term of the lease, and shall comprise only such leases as may, at that time, be included in such consolidation. The group shall not exceed an area of 20 square miles, nor shall the locations be separated from each other by more than two miles.

3. Provisions are made with regard to preventing access of water to the oil-bearing formation and that all reasonable precautions be taken to guard against the waste of natural gas.

4. Any company acquiring leases shall at all times be and remain a British company, registered in Great Britain or Canada; the Chairman and a majority of the directors shall, at all times, be British subjects and the Company shall not at any time, become directly or indirectly, controlled by foreigners or by a foreign corporation.

5. The Minister may at any time, if considered necessary by the Government of Canada, assume absolute possession and control of any location, together with plant, equipment, etc.

6. If oil in paying quantities is discovered, the lessee shall work the wells uninterruptedly in accordance with the provision of these regulations and to the satisfaction of the Minister so long as the wells yield oil in paying quantities.—W. J. D.