SATURDAY CHINOOK

VANCOUVER BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA

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EDITORIAL OPINIONS

**"The truth at all times firmly stands
And shall from age to age endure."**

OPEN UP THE LAND!

A GREAT French dramatist sketched the surprise of a man who found "he had all his life being talking prose without knowing it."

Yes! He was surprised at THIS simple fact. How different from the average British Columbian who, although poor for money, dunned for big debts, tortured for small ones, finds that he has been robbed, swindled, exploited, without apparently, any surprise. And he continues to be robbed, swindled, exploited, oppressed, without his equanimity being disturbed!

And why express surprise at this? We are getting used to it, we are as if to the manner born. It is becoming chronic, and we shall adapt ourselves to our environments just as the duck has become web-footed to adapt it to water or certain reptiles have taken the color of the ground they burrow in.

"I must be pigeon-livered and lack gall to make oppression bitter," says Hamlet, with self-reproach that he has not "done something" to punish his "lecherous, treacherous, kindless damned" rascal of an uncle. Is not the average British Columbian also "pigeon-livered?" Does he not lack manly courage, if he can without his equanimity being disturbed, hear how alien enemies have got hold of millions of acres of British Columbia's timber lands, hundreds of thousands of acres of fertile agricultural land, how parasites, "bums," foreigners and paunch-bellied ex-bartenders have scattered the taxpayers' hard-earned money with both hands. While he, the poor, meek, suffering taxpayer is paying with bloody sweat for a thirty-foot lot, for a lumber bill, bearing interest, for a hardware bill, bearing interest——?

Lucky is he if he is able with bloody sweat to earn the money, more than likely he is looking, with hungry belly, for a job! How sweet to read that $50 was handed as "consolation" to a Siwash because the dinner the Siwash had just enjoyed at the Prime Minister's house was "not quite satisfactory!" How different were the Nanaimo miners treated when the conditions under which they worked were "not satisfactory," when their lives were imperilled? Was any "consolation" offered to them, on the contrary, "we will starve them into submission," said the man, whose duty it was to protect them. How it reminds one of the tyrant of old, out hunting, who met a little procession.

"What have you got there?"

"A dead man, sire."

"What killed him?"

"Starvation, sire."

"Ride on—and blow the horn."

British Columbians have been starving for the land which German alien enemies have been holding to the tune of millions of acres!

True economists are aroused to the needs of conserving to the people facilities which will allow real farmers access to the land and prevent a monopoly in its holding.

"The fundamental wrong lies in our system which encourages the monopolization of the land upon which we all must live and from which comes all the wealth which is necessary to sustain human life.

"So long as vast areas of land in this country are held out of use by speculators we shall be confronted by the problems of poverty and unemployment. The object of speculators in holding this land is to reap where they have not sown. They know that every increase in population and that the expenditure of public money in public improvements will add to the value of their land, therefore, they forestall the bona fide settler and demand a large slice of unearned increment before they will make way for the wealth producers.

"If the government would have an honest land policy it would do the greatest thing toward solving the problem of poverty."

The present condition of affairs, the revelations about German speculators ownings and "Songhees" Matson's dealings are enough to make the very stones on the land cry out in indignation.

DEBAUCHING THE SONGHEES INDIANS

REVELATIONS in connection with the purchase of the Songhees Indian reservation by J. S. H. Matson, acting for the Provincial Government, have shocked the community.

In his efforts to beguile the Indian chiefs, Matson even went so far as to entertain them at the home of Sir Richard McBride. In the McBride family dining-room the chiefs were dined.

The evidence of the missionaries whose lives have been spent in work among the Indians of this coast is to the effect that in corrupting the Songhees tribe, "fire water" was used freely. Matson financed an orgy which brought about the death of several members of the tribe.

Matson claimed in his evidence that of the huge sum used in putting the deal over, thirty thousand dollars passed into the treasury of the NEWS-ADVERTISER. From that paper Matson claimed he had borrowed such a sum to finance the deal and was merely paying it back.

Possibly the committee investigating the notorious piece of skullduggery might find a trace of the mysterious thirty thousand if they were allowed to trace up all contributions to the machine campaign funds.

MR. BOWSER, AS ATTORNEY-GENERAL, SANCTIONED THE DEBAUCHING OF THE INDIANS AND THE MURDER OF MEMBERS OF THE TRIBE WITH POLLUTED WHISKEY. NOW HE IS OUT FOR THE PROHIBITION VOTE.

"WHOM THE GODS DESTROY THEY FIRST MAKE MAD"

SURELY the Hon. W. J. Bowser, Prime Minister of British Columbia, hung his head in shame when one of his followers arose in the House last week and in a drunken maudlin attacked the churchmen of the province and used lewd and blasphemous language.

Mr. Bowser is personally free from the drink habit and his private life offers a model which any young man might follow and make few mistakes. Though this is true, in public life he does not hesitate to associate with toughs and rogues and share in their crimes and their swags. He has behind him within the sacred portals of parliament a number of bad characters—men who would never be allowed to get over the doorstep of the Bowser home.

"FOR GOD'S SAKE STAY NEUTRAL"

VANCOUVER recently sent a contingent of young men to Kingston, Ontario, where they have joined the Queen's University Battery.

According to an eastern paper, while the men were changing trains at Toronto, they received the following telegram:

"Imperial Palace, Berlin, by Marconi.—'For Cods sake stay neutral.'—(Signed) Wilhelm."

Some of the young men in the contingent—and they are the sons of some of Vancouver's best families—are as follows: F. R. Baxter, F. G. K. Brown, A. W. Ball, R. Drost, A. A. Easson, J. Greer, A. G. Hiker, W. R. McAfee, D. McGeer, H. A. Milburn, J. Pitcairn, H. H. Rankin, C. H. Shimmen, G. E. Thompson, J. G. Wilson, A. S. Duncan, A. N. Murray, W. H. McInnes, all of Vancouver, and J. Dick, C. A. Wright, D. Hamilton and W. S. Elliott, Regina. They are all anxious to share in the parade up Main Street, Berlin.

THE NEWS-ADVERTISER published Wednesday an apology to Rev. A. E. Cooke, at the request of Mr. Cooke's legal adviser, for having slandered him in connection with the crisis squabble.

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FOR GOD'S SAKE don't leave the party." According to the PROVINCE and NEWS-ADVERTISER these were the words of Mr. Pat Maitland, used in an exhortation to the young Conservatives some days ago. Not very nice language for a preacher's son.

* * *

MR. NELSON, editor of the WORLD, has been busy fixing up a cabinet for Mr. Brewster. What Mr. Brewster needs more than a cabinet at the present time is the assistance of a vigilance committee.

* * *

THE EDITOR of the NEWS-ADVERTISER would like to have Moses B. Cotsworth's opinion of Mr. J. W. Weart. Mr. Moses B. Cotsworth's opinion of the editor of the News-Ad. would be of more interest.

* * *

FURTHER INJURIES have been heaped upon that partner of Premier Bowser who ran for councillor in West Vancouver and did not get a single vote. It now seems that the Bowser candidate's opponent saw fit to enter a slander action against him for $5,000. The much defeated candidate settled out of court.

* * *

THE WEST VANCOUVER snow-under was an evil sign.

PROHIBITION by Politics; dam COMPENSATION

The Morals of Cowardice

WHEN the premier, the Hon. W. J. Bowser, called the attention of the electors of Vancouver to the many virtues of Mr. Tisdall, his Minister of Public Works, and the various benefits they had received through the magnanimity of the Provincial Conservative party, he made particular reference to the Municipal Liquor Act, which he said would be known as the Bowser Act. He was evidently very proud of that act and he promised to bring down some amendments at the present legislative session, which would improve and make it super-excellent. He did not believe at that time in defeat and thought he could escape coming to any real decision regarding a referendum on the somewhat thorny problem of prohibition. Defeat in Vancouver chastened him and in endeavoring to estimate the causes of that defeat he gave a great deal of credit to prohibition, which is not the first time in the course of his career, the premier has failed to diagnose public sentiment. But having written down prohibition as a Tisdall liability, he promptly decided to make it a Flumerfelt asset. He promised the prohibitionists that he would bring down legislation at this session which would give them all they asked and enable the people at the coming general election to decide by referendum whether they would accept the act he would draw up. To his chagrin the election in Victoria proved that prohibition had nothing whatever to do with his downfall, Mr. Flumerfelt being defeated by a comparatively larger vote than Mr. Tisdall. The premier had however proved himself a moral coward. What he had refused before, he had assented to the moment he had met with opposition. He was not concerned with the wrongs or rights of prohibition, he was merely anxious to placate a particularly aggressive section of the electorate which knew precisely what it wanted and was determined to exact its demands without compromise. He was ready to pay the price of cowardice at the expense of his morals.

Playing for Position

So much for the reliance which can be placed on the attitude of the premier towards such policies as may add to the prosperity of British Columbia. He has proved himself a political opportunist of the first water. His arrogant assumption of infallibility was obviously founded on nothing but impudence. He believed he could force his party in the legislature to accept a bill embodying everything for which the prohibitionists contended, by lashing it into acquiescence with the knout of fear, which had proved such an excellent instrument when applied to his own shoulders. The Liberals had already answered the demand of the prohibitionists by accepting the principle of a referendum at the general election which, if favorable to prohibition, would be drafted into legislation at the next session of the legislature if the Liberals were returned to power. Mr. Bowser thought he could do better than the Liberals because not only could he promise legislation but he could actually draft a bill and pass it at the present session, thus giving the prohibitionists immediate satisfaction and a battle cry at the coming election. He hoped that by so doing he would obtain the solid support of the prohibitionists at the election, as they would not care to chance voting Liberal when by so doing they might risk the safety of the child they had nurtured so carefully. He considered it probable that Messrs. Brewster and Macdonald, if they as the Liberal representatives supported his prohibition bill, would lose the vote of the opponents of prohibition, and if they did not support it would be cast off by the prohibitionists. He did not like the plunge into the cold waters of prohibition without even the protection of compensation, but he preferred that to standing naked on the brink shivering in the chilling breeze of adversity. The electorate had stripped him of his pretensions; he thought that he might at least cover his shame with water.

The Political Football

Thus the whole question of prohibition has been flung into the mud of party politics by the trickery of Mr. Bowser. The prohibitionists are not to blame. They perfectly honestly desired a straight issue clear of politics and their original request that the referendum should be taken at some other time than a general election was a convincing proof of this effort. But unfortunately they have been completely bamboozled by Mr. Bowser, and it is perfectly clear that he believes he can cut their support from any Liberal candidate if only he can get Messrs. Brewster or Macdonald to criticise his bill. If they accept his bill without a murmur he is no worse off than before, because if the anti-prohibitionists perceive that both parties are committed to the same bill, they are more likely to vote on a party basis. What is known as the liquor interest is more likely in that case to support the premier as it will have no hope whatever from the Liberals and has some experience in the past of the manner in which the so-called superb Bowser act is administered. Moreover there is a general sentiment that all reformers are Liberals and that therefore prohibition is a liberal policy. As a matter of fact it is nothing of the kind. Strictly speaking it is supposed to interfere with the liberty of the subject, which is a fetish of Liberalism. The pity of it all is that instead of a clear cut issue, entirely free from party politics, an endeavor is being made to cover the sins of the past with a mantle of morality drawn from the cupboard of prohibition.

Prohibition and the Alternative

But aside from the political field prohibition offers an extremely interesting study in character. To the man who thinks for himself and votes accordingly, it presents no great difficulty. If he believes that the elimination of alcohol as a liquid for human consumption is a good thing for the majority, and he is certain to believe that if he himself does not care to drink any fermented liquor, then he will vote for prohibition. Even if he himself likes a little stimulating liquid now and again, he is quite willing to deprive himself of that stimulant if by so doing he can rid his community of the saloon as "run" under the Bowser act. Generally speaking his vote for prohibition is a vote against the saloon, not against beer or wine. If the premier had shown the slightest sign of statesmanship he would have anticipated the wave of prohibition and now, instead of floundering in the breakers, would be navigating the clear waters of a new act founded on the experience of other countries, which would have abolished the bar and substituted properly run cafes where people could drink what they pleased under proper conditions. The prohibitionists might not have liked it but properly advocated and properly drawn up, such an act would have had the support of all those who do not rush to extremes, and who do not believe that legislation will force sobriety on a community. The experience of other countries gives plenty of groundwork on which to base a proper reform of the liquor traffic in British Columbia, which as carried on under present circumstances is hardly above the level of a new and somewhat easy going mining community. The well-tried and most successful Gothenburg system, which in Great Britain is acclimatized under the name of the Public House Trust, of which Earl Grey is chairman, is an excellent and profitable example of what can be accomplished by reform and education, rather than by legislation, which unfortunately has never proved satisfactory. The Swedish commission which visited the United States to inquire into temperance legislation at once dismissed prohibition as archaic.

Logic and Extremes

There are naturally in every movement two extremes. In prohibition there is the extremist who believes that drunkenness can be obliterated by depriving the whole community of any place where intoxicants are sold. He will not listen to the voice of reason, nor will he learn by experience. To him it is sufficient that liquor is a cause of much evil and that the evil will disappear if the cause is removed. To be logical of course he should apply that same argument to everything. Women are made attractive and, in many cases, extremly fascinating, by their external decorations. Now it will be acknowledged that woman is the real source of all our troubles, because if it were not for her we should not be here to get intoxicated by her presence. We might possibly still be passing a somewhat dull and profitless existence in the Garden of Eden, but under those circumstances we should most probably be very fond of fermented grape juice as were our ancestors who dwelt in the region of the Euphrates. Presumably the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates are not quite so palatable as those to which we are accustomed in British Columbia. However, accepting woman as the logical sequence of Adam being hipped, we have to face the obvious fact that she adorns herself according to her taste. She does not deprive herself of the pleasure of standing at the counter of a dry goods emporium and discussing with another member of her sex the stinginess of mere man which deprives her of a second new spring hat. On the contrary she takes the hat and the stinginess as a matter of course. Not all women are entirely good any more than all liquor is entirely bad. But would the most rabid moral reformer attempt to do away with a dry goods emporium because some man of his acquaintance had fallen a victim to the charms of a woman and had spent all his money over the counter of the said emporium in order to deck the fair form of his fancy?

Hypocrisy and Sincerity

Gambling in real estate is an evil. Yet how many people in Vancouver could raise their hands to heaven and say they never gambled in real estate, but only made legitimate investments. Presumably if because their weak brethren had gambled, the government determined to confiscate all real estate, they would desire some compensation for their investments. Or there is the other form of gambling by playing cards. Thousands of people play cards and do not gamble, but there are some who are inveterate gamblers. Supposing the government were to pass a law prohibiting all card playing and confiscating all cards. It is all very well to argue that gambling does not have the same effect as drinking, but a great many lives have been wrecked by gambling in real estate, or stocks, and some of the men who have encouraged that form of gambling are leading reform movements such as prohibition. A great many people who are very excellent citizens strongly object to such persons, who are far greater criminals than any man who keeps a saloon, determining the moral standards of a community. The curious thing is that hypocrites of this kind are able to impose themselves on such reform movements, and their co-operation is apparently welcomed by men whose sole desire is to do good to the community.

Publicity or Secrecy

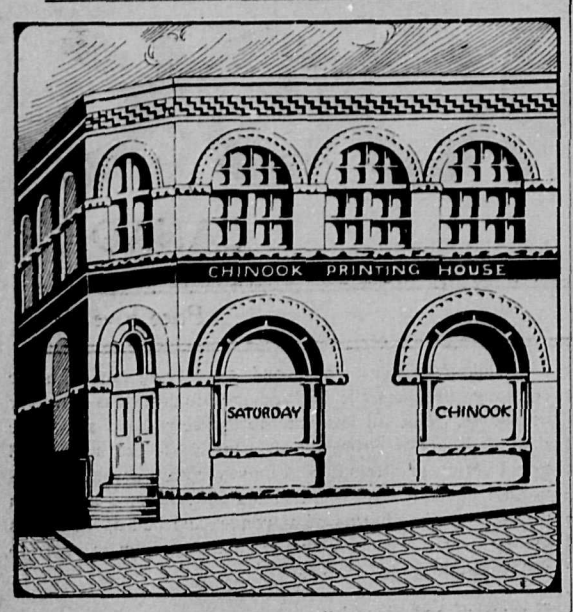
The foregoing are legitimate examples of the absurd extremes to which a certain line of reasoning may be carried. The theatre used to be considered the gate to hell by some people, and no doubt given bad conditions and a succession of scandals there might be quite a movement started to shut up all places of amusement. But the certain consequence of such a policy would be to drive all entertainments out of sight. They would become secret indulgences and it is the secrecy of intemperance which has to be feared. That is the real danger of all attempts to legislate communities into forcible temperance. At first the results are excellent, the police courts show a great falling off in cases, there is no drunkenness visible in the streets. Those who have been in the habit of taking a slight stimulant now and again find themselves much better without it. There is a general tendency to give prohibition a fair trial. But after a few months "blind pigs" make their appearance. A little later police records show an increase in the drug evil. All sorts of stimulants begin to be sold under various names. And almost invariably the whole problem becomes a political football which constantly agitates the community, creates insecurity and violent swings of the pendulum from one extreme to the other.

The Other Extreme

At the other extreme is the thick and thin supporter of the saloon who believes every man has a right to get drunk if he pleases and that saloons are a necessary part of the social structure. It is admittedly, however, a very minor and entirely negligible portion of the community that argues on such lines. The so-called "liquor interests" are usually stigmatised by the extreme prohibitionists as being utterly opposed to temperance because their money is invested in the liquor business. Moreover it is an indisputable fact that liquor and politics have been very closely allied in the past, for the simple reason that all governments have been largely dependent on the liquor traffic for revenue. From the purely business point of view it is often argued that prohibition, as it must deprive the community of a certain annual and most dependable revenue, is not good business. On the other hand the prohibitionists claim that the increased efficiency of the community through abstention from liquor makes up for the loss of revenue. The first argument is obviously true but it is weak, because it is easy to point out that the community as a whole is quite willing to sacrifice some of its revenue towards the general advancement of humanity, assuming of course that drink is a terrible evil which can only be eliminated by that sacrifice. The second argument is founded chiefly on the support given the prohibition movement by some of the "captains of industry" who find their employees capable of more and better work if they do not get drunk. It is only necessary to add that these "captains of industry" are hardly ever total abstainers themselves. A great many most inaccurate and misleading examples are given of the improvement in the efficiency of workers under prohibition, when as a matter of fact such a thing as complete prohibition does not exist.

Regulated or Unregulated?

This may seem a somewhat startling statement but, nevertheless, it is true. Prohibition exists but is not enforced in some states of the Union, but prohibition does not exist in Canada and that is the reason why recently in the Federal Parliament Mr. H. H. Stevens moved a resolution requesting legislation for national prohibition. This request is based on the same foundation as what is known as the Hobson Act in the United States, which President Wilson, ex-President Taft, Senator Root and many others oppose on the ground that prohibition is really a state matter or better still, a question for municipalities to decide under what is known as local option. The extreme prohibitionists support a nation-wide system of prohibition, but ther is not much chance of it coming into being for the reason that under the state system generally in being, the people are allowed to import liquor from other states. Therefore, prohibition is not prohibition in its strict sense. There are thousands of men who will vote for prohibition in their state if it will abolish the bar, but those same men will vote against national prohibition, because under such a system they could not import liquor from other parts of the country. Under the Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan laws, the people of those provinces can import liquor in cases from British



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Columbia. The same method is to be followed in British Columbia. Anyone who can pay the price can mail an order to Calgary for a case of whiskey or beer and get as drunk as he pleases on it. No doubt there will be a means of limiting the quantity in any one house, which will open the privacy of a residence to the search of the police, but there will be nothing to prevent A sending to Calgary for a dozen bottles of whiskey and selling half a dozen at cost, or possibly at a profit, to B next door. The whole trade, instead of being regulated, will become unregulated. That is the experience of every state in the Union. It is reasonable to suppose that there will be some attempt to guard against this certainty by legislation. But it is perfectly obvious that any legislation which allows the individual the liberty of importation and endeavors to prevent that individual "giving" a bottle or two to a friend, will be interference of the most drastic kind with the liberty of the individual. Spies will exist everywhere. There would probably spring up the professional informer who would be paid by those interested for such convictions as he could secure. Blackmail of the very worst kind would flourish.

Compensation

It is believed that the prohibitionists demand that there shall be no compensation paid to those who have invested money in the liquor business. The demand presumably is based on the well-founded argument that no compensation would be paid to the owner of property used for an immoral purpose if that house is closed by the police. The prohibitionists claim that the liquor trade is immoral, but that is exactly where the ordinary man, who quite sincerely desires to reform the Bowser Act, disagrees with the prohibitionist. He is quite willing to support prohibition if he is allowed to import case goods for his own personal consumption, but he does not agree that a brewery, a distillery, or a hotel which sells liquor is an immoral undertaking. But the prohibitionist is under present circumstances liable to lose his case if he does not vociferously insist on non-compensation. He is fully aware that compensation will kill prohibition in British Columbia because the people cannot really afford to pay compensation to all the hotels, which have come into existence under the Bowser Act, let alone the breweries and distilleries, as well as the wholesale and retail liquor dealers. No government with any pretensions to business could contemplate such a thing at this time and no legislation which provided proper compensation would pass if it were properly debated because the people are not in favor of prohibition IF IT COSTS THEM ANYTHING. They may have lost sight of the general loss of revenue or be willing to face extra taxation to make up for that annual revenue which amounts for Vancouver alone to $91,410.00, and for the Provincial Treasury to $102,617.96, but if they are faced with the necessity of borrowing several hundreds of thousands of dollars to compensate the hotel investor—said hotels having been called into existence far above any real demand for same, simply under the clauses of the Bowser Act—prohibition stands in danger of being defeated by referendum at the general election.

The Government and the Liquor Trade

It is possible that Mr. Bowser in an expiring effort to catch the anti-prohibition vote will try and arrange for some form of compensation. The prohibitionist usually argues that by giving the liquor trade plenty of notice, that is allowing so many months to pass before prohibition becomes effective, after it is passed, the investor in the liquor business has ample time to withdraw his investment. He might just as well say that by insisting on all women wearing one style of dress made out of one material for economy's sake, and giving a "dry goods" emporium plenty of notice, he is compensating the manufacturers of dress goods as well as those shopkeepers who have large stocks on hand. If a person quite legitimately has invested his money in hotel property, which hotel was built under the protection of the Bowser Act, because only hotels could have a bar, the value of his investment is practically destroyed if the hotel is not allowed to sell liqour, which undoubtedly provided a large part of the revenue of the hotel. At any rate it will be difficult to estimate the loss in value by taking the liquor privileges away from the hotels under present circumstances. It may be easy in the case of a wholesale and retail liquor dealer to estimate his loss based on the average profits of the last three or four years, but unless compensation is paid there must be a dead loss of a very considerable sum invested under the protection of the government. For that is exactly what it comes to. If the government refuses compensation under pressure of the prohibitionists, it is betraying a trust. The government has been sharing the profits of the liquor interests for years. The people have received the benefit of the revenue derived from licenses. The highest form of morality, such as guides the prohibitionists, cannot afford to steal. Yet that is exactly what no compensation amounts to. The money was invested for a consideration. To argue that no compensation was given to the slave owners when slavery was abolished is not only drawing a wrong parallel but betraying an ignorance of history. The individual may put forward many and excellent reasons for not giving compensation but it is not the individual that pays but the government, and the government usually is bound to pay compensation. The prohibitionist may have much truth on his side when he argues against compensation, but the government has none whatever. That is a point which needs emphasizing. The government is not the individual.

War and Prohibition

There has been a great deal of capital made out of the present war and the efforts made in Russia, France and Great Britain to stop excessive drinking. It is an excellent illustration of a sentimental and emotional appeal based on a complete misunderstanding of the liquor problem in the countries mentioned. No mention is made of Germany, generally looked on as the most efficient of all the belligerents, because Germany has not attempted to stop the people drinking beer. For economic reasons she has curtailed the output of breweries and distilleries, as she must feed her pigs, the forage of which under ordinary circumstances is largely imported from Russia.

Russia has prohibited the manufacture and sale of vodka. There was no question of compensation as it was a government monopoly, but large quantities of wine and beer are being consumed and alas! there is Kumusha, and Khanzae—the latter being made from wood alcohol, pepper and other spices—which have both become very popular, and which are manufactured illicitly everywhere.

France, before the war, was debating the prohibition of absinthe and the legislation passed after the war began had been determined on beforehand. She paid compensation to the manufacturers of absinthe. The soldiers of France are supplied with a special wine, probably an excellent and cheap claret, which is the national beverage. No one would think of attempting to legislate for prohibition in France.

Great Britain has for years been debating the question of temperance. Mr. Lloyd George's campaign is fresh in the memory of all. It did not result in any very specific legislation except against "treating," which rather appealed to the sense of humor of most people, but it did make people more temperate and call attention to the great progress made under Earl Grey's scheme to which reference has already been made. The soldiers at the front are all allowed rum in the trenches, and are trusted when not in the firing line not to get drunk. Character rather than legislation is relied on.

The Independent View

The foregoing deals quite frankly with the present situation in British Columbia of prohibition, as it appeals to the independent man. It is not an attempt to make out a case against prohibition, but it gives facts which cannot be refuted. The writer is perfectly well aware of the terrific correspondence which has permeated the columns of the newspapers, both for and against prohibition. It is a subject which lends itself to all kinds of argument and analysis. Most of the prohibition side of the correspondence has been over the signature of a certain gentleman whose activities as manager of the defunct British Canadian Securities Company, the notorious subsidiary real estate company of the Dominion Trust, would in any other place disqualify him as a leading reformer. There is no need to be personal but the association of one or two of the most prominent prohibitionists with the movement does it a great deal of harm, as nobody is convinced of their sincerity, but looks for the business, political or financial interest. There are other well-known men connected with the movement whose sincerity and honesty of purpose is above all question. Moreover throughout both Canada and the United States there is passing one of the great periodical waves of temperance reform which usually takes the form of prohibition. That so many states or provinces have gone, what is called "dry" is well known, but it is a poor argument, because not only does the law vary in a great many states, but the per capita consumption of liquor in the United States shows a steady increase in the last fourteen years despite prohibition. This article has carefully refrained from going into details, because they tend to confuse issues and the sole purpose of discussing the problem has been to deal with it from the ordinary commonsense point of view. No prohibitionist who is fair-minded can surely object to anything herein. He must allow that there is a point of view which may not agree with too hasty a conclusion on the subject. It is not a personal point of view but one generally held by what has been termed the silent vote.

The General Sentiment

According to general sentiment, or what may be termed the froth of public opinion, prohibition will carry at the coming general election. Manitoba having voted in favor of the Macdonald act by a two to one majority, the prohibitionists deem victory assured. The manner in which the city of Winnipeg voted against the saloon was conclusive evidence that both the urban and rural communities were agreed on abolishing the bar. In that sentiment, as the writer has already said, a vast majority of the people of British Columbia will heartily acquiesce. But the actual legislation proposed may be open to considerable criticism when it appears, and on that legislation may depend the result of the referendum. In that respect, therefore, the writer considers the prohibitionists blundered when they allowed Premier Bowser to put forward legislation at this session. It is absolutely impossible for any government to press forward hasty legislation on such an important subject, which at the same time can be considered good legislation. No independent member in the legislature should be afraid of criticising such legislation. The people of British Columbia do not desire to be stampeded into an ill-considered policy. They would doubtless have voted for prohibition on the general issue, but they may not do so now. It would be a thousand pities if the Liberals and Conservatives, who do really think for themselves, and who are not slaves to their party, played politics on this issue merely because they believe the prohibitionists hold the balance of power and will throw their vote solidly regardless of all else, to only those politicians who endorse their legislation. Let these members remember that the electorate as a whole will vote solidly for the man who shows himself independent and able to criticise. He may be an ardent advocate of temperance and yet not believe in prohibition as proposed.

Watch the Legislature

It is not at all clear what the legislation will be. That some people will vote for or against prohibition without any regard for the form of the legislation is certain. But the Liberals will lose ground if they endorse any legislation which is not just, and they may rest assured that the great majority of the people in British Columbia will respect them far more if they speak out boldly and are not afraid. There are a great many active prohibitionists who are not agreed on the question. They have been obliged to play politics to a certain extent. But outside the official prohibition party there is a very large and well-founded sentiment for liquor reform. The great mistake made by the liquor interests was in not bringing forward some proposals for complete reform long ago. It must be admitted, however, that they would be terribly handicapped in so doing as their sincerity would be very much doubted and the ardent advocates of prohibition would at once look for a nigger on the fence. That is the weakness of the ardent advocate. He presumes no one is sincere but himself. However there the whole question rests at present. It is most interesting and well worth discussing. There has been no real lead given to those who desire reformation and not prohibition, and they have, therefore, felt that prohibition was better than nothing. For that reason, the community should be very grateful for the energetic efforts of the sincere prohibitionists. They have brought the issue to public attention as nothing else could do and it is only by so doing that reforms can be brought about. The writer believes British Columbia had and still has, a magnificent opportunity to lead the way to permanent and stable liquor reform by the adoption of the proven experience of Sweden and other countries, which have rejected prohibition and adopted sane and intelligent legislation suitable to their conditions.

Sweeping and Garnishing

It is exactly these conditons to which attention should be directed. The saloons as "run" today are an absolute degradation to any city. There is no place to sit down, and a man has to stand against the bar and drink while he talks. The fact that so many bedrooms are attached to the bar simply allows a man to get drunk if he so desires and be put to bed on the premises. Many of the saloons are dark, ill ventilated, and what they sell as liquor is better left to the imagination. Vancouver is a peculiar city, in that it has a very large floating population which drifts in and out according to its work and has no permanent home. It is positively criminal to allow this very excellent material to drift aimlessly from saloon to saloon. There should be some large halls or cafes properly lighted, and ventilated, where newspapers and magazines, draughts, dominoes, chess, etc., can be played. Meals and drinks coffee, tea, cocoa, beer or light wines could be served. Music should be allowed. Properly conducted, and it is possible to conduct such places quite properly, such cafes would be a godsend to these men. They would not get drunk, they would behave themselves just as decently as the most serious-minded person in the most carefully conducted tea-room. Ultimately there must be something of the kind here. Prohibition which will prevent such men getting a glass of beer, but will not prevent the permanent resident who can afford it getting as much whiskey as he can imbibe, on the mail order system, will not be a success in the long run. A little thought and a little knowledge of the real conditions will convince most people who are not extremists, of this. You can sweep and garnish your city with prohibition, but you will not change human nature by law. Only by education and a steady advance can real good be accomplished. If the writer proves wrong, so much the better—but watch your drug stores, your so-called "soft drink," and soda fountains, and above all, the trade in morphine, cocaine and other "dope" if prohibition, which is only prohibition for the poor man and the floating population referred to, passes. Drugs are devils seven times worse than the original sin of drink.

P.S.—The Doherty Bill

Since the foregoing was written the bill introduced by the Hon. C. Doherty into the Federal House providing that the importation of liquor from one prohibition state to the other will be illegal makes the question of compensation for breweries and distilleries so much the more acute. The bill will also prevent the importation of liquor from any other state or country and thus make provincial prohibition a fact and not a farce. Under such circumstances the people will know what they are voting for. Prohibition will be complete. The most interesting feature of the Hon. C. Doherty's bill is, however, this. If it passes the Federal House the people of the prohibition provinces will have voted for something quite different to what they will be getting. In other words the Federal parliament will be testing the sincerity of their attitude. The people voted to abolish the saloons but import liquor under the mail order system. Will they ask for a repeal of the law for which they have voted under the plea that they voted under a misapprehension? Will the Federal legislation invalidate the Provincial legislation already passed? It is a very interesting point and well worth consideration. By passing the Doherty bill the Conservative government can claim that they have enforced prohibition. If the bill does not pass they can still claim to have shown their good faith in the matter.

—CRITICUS.

(Editor's Note.—"Criticus" was asked to write an article upon prohibition which would be free from the bias which sometimes may be found in the writings of men who are actively participating in the fight against the liquor traffic. The result has been that he has given us an article which fairly sets forth the views of a vast number of those citizens who believe John Barleycorn to be a menace to society. We publish it with a desire to be only fair to all parties interested in the present campaign. While we do not withdraw one inch from our original position as supporters of prohibition, we feel that the most good can be done for the great reform movement by encouraging public discussion of all phases of the question).

What Other Papers Say

PROFITEERING AND THE WAR

Tens of thousands of women are knitting in order to help the State in the war.

Children are giving their pennies and wage-earners by the tens of thousands are contributing every week to the war what they can ill spare from their pay envelopes.

And what are some of the bigger fellows doing? Canadian Finance tells us something of their operations:

Nova Scotia steel demonstrated the fact that war profits exist "in the flesh" as well as on paper. The company's net balance from the year's operations was $1,453,143, compared with a deficit of $620,420 in 1914. The 1915 balance represents 19.4 per cent. on the increased common stock total of $7,500,000. Contrary to the opinion held in some quarters of the "street," the matter of a resumption of the dividends on the common stock was not discussed by the directors at this stage. "Scotia's" young subsidiary ,Eastern Car, earned $359,746 during the year, and carried forward $225,460 after the payment of bond interest, and all arrears and current preferred dividends. "Scotia's" prospects for 1916 are cerainly not to be painted in any sombre hue.

Another "war bride" — Canadian Foundries and Forgings, Ltd.—presented a strong statement. There was carried forward to the credit of profit and loss account as a result of the year's operations the tidy sum of $630,772. This represents 64 per cent. on the company's common stock of $960,000. This is exclusive of the 10 per cent. dividend declared prior to the annual meeting. The fact that only a statement of assets and liabilities was published suggested considerable "covering up" of profits. Canadian Finance understands that the total amount written off for depreciation would represent another 40 or 50 per cent. on the common stock. There has been practically no market for this stock since the wild advance which carried it up to 243 last November.

Carriage Factories Ltd., another war stock, showed 15.3 per cent, earned on the common stock. The directors decided to discontinue the payment of the preferred dividend which was resumed last year. The "street" regards this as a funny performance. The item "bank loans, etc., $758,357," probably had something very directly to do with the passing of the preferred dividend.

The Toronto Star says that, "At the annual meeting of the Gore District Mutual Fire Insurance Company the directors voted the entire profits of the year's business, amounting to $50,000, to the Patriotic Fund. On the same day Canada Foundries and Forgings, Limited, held its annual meting at Brockville and showed a profit of over $700,000 for the year. The sum of $25,000 was voted to the Patriotic Fund.

"The two companies made their profits in different ways. As the Ottawa Citizen points out, the insurance company made its profits in ordinary business. The other company made its huge profits out of war munitions, and the president reported that as regards the future, it may be stated that orders on hand are sufficient to keep all your plants operating day and night for months to come.

"Yet with these huge profits already earned and with further large profits in full view, the company which is making its money out of the war contributed only one-thirtieth of its profits to the Patriotic Fund, while the Galt Insurance Company, which is making nothing out of the war, gave all its profits.

It is strange, indeed, to reflect upon the men and women toiling and prepared to give the last cent they can spare towards the war, and also to think the thoughts of our soldiers who have sacrificed and are prepared to sacrifice life itself, and then look upon the darker picture of the [illegible] mind you, in their own estimation —who are out for the stuff, making their tens and hundreds of thousands and millions. They contribute some money, of course. But even a burglar would part with a small part of his gains, if folks would say nothing about the rest. Canada is not yet in earnest on the war question. If our men in parliament were thoroughly aroused this profiteering business would soon cease. There is none of it in Australia. Why should Canada lag behind the other Dominions and old Britain herself?—Winnipeg Tribune.

* * *

POSSESS LITTLE FAITH AND NO INTELLIGENCE

Canadians have been prone to boast of Canada's banks and the strength of those institutions ,yet the banks are not only useless but a handicap to the man who would develop the natural resources of this great undeveloped country. A man with a $1000 stock of merchandise and insignificant business ability, may in normal times, get easy credit in our banks, but if a man of very good business talent and technical knowledge were to apply for a few thousand dollars to open a million dollar mining prospect he would be treated by the banks as a "nut."

If a Canadian wants money to develop a mining claim in B. C. he has got to go to the small banks of the U. S. The result is that U. S. capital is in entire control of nearly all the mining in British Columbia.

This timidity of our financial institutions may be partly accounted for by the example of the Mining Department of the B. C. government. This bureau is strong on "boost" literature for the mineral wealth of B. C., but it does not believe in doing anything practical to encourage development. Apparently the Mining Department has no faith in the mining industry, and having no faith itself it cannot put faith in others.

Referring to the mining officials of B. C. as a "department" is a misnomer. There is really no mining department, merely a few salary-drawing incumbents who are so "conservative" that they are utterly devoid of ideas or the courage to take up a suggestion made by some one else. This province is sadly in need of a little talent and some energy at the head of affairs.—Omineca Miner.

* * *

PAPER GOING UP

Within the last month the News has received half a dozen notifications of increases in wholesale prices of paper stock—all of course due to conditions brought on by the war. Where it will end no one can tell, as all quotations are subject to change without notice. Increases already run from ten to twenty per cent. Those requiring stationery or printing of any kind should stock up at once for a year if possible before our inevitable increase in prices takes effect.—Trail News.

Have You a House to Rent

We are having numerous enquiries for six and seven room modern houses in the West End and Kitsilano. Our Rental Department is at your service.

LIST YOUR HOUSES WITH US

North West Trust Company, Limited

509 Richards Street Seymour 7467

Municipal Bonds

There is a demand for superior Municipal Bonds because they can be readily marketed, so your money is not tied up. Yet they pay the investor well and are a preferred investment suitable for the most cautious investor.

Write our Bond Dept. for further particulars and latest list.

Canadian Financiers Trust Company

Head Office, 839 Hastings Street West, Vancouver, B.C.
Patrick Donnelly.....General Manager

Your Goods will be Safe from Fire Stored with Campbell

The new, modern "Security Fireproof Warehouse" is built of reinforced concrete, and is divided into sections of heavy fire walls. If by remotest possibility goods should catch fire, THE FIRE IS POSITIVELY PREVENTED FROM SPREADING. The building is equipped with the latest automatic sprinkler system. So immune is this building from fire that fire insurance may be written on goods at the remarkably low rate of 33 cents per $100 per year. Free storage estimates gladly given.

Campbell Storage Company

OFFICE: 857 BEATTY STREET Phone Seymour 7360

How About Advertising In the Telephone Directory

Did you see that letter in the daily papers from a satisfied advertiser in the telephone directory?

He declared there was no other medium like it, and has contracted for his space for two years ahead.

If you advertise, consider the directory, which gives you city and country circulation, in the home and the office—in short, it covers the whole Lower Mainland thoroughly and completely.

B.C. TELEPHONE CO. LTD.

Those Who Run May Read

The Dominion Glazed Cement Pipe Co.'s machine-made Sewer Pipe, put under test by **The Robt. W. Hunt Co., Ltd.**, a pipe, 10 inches internal diameter, being subjected to two days' drying in an oven, then immersed in water for 24 hours. Result—

Weight before immersion.....105½ pounds
Weight after immersion.....106 pounds

Difference equals ½-pound of water, or .48 of 1 per cent.

CRUSHING TEST

On the same pipe after being subjected to the above—crushed at 29,200 pounds.

DOMINION GLAZED CEMENT PIPE CO., LTD.

Office: Dominion Building, Vancouver, B.C. Phone Sey. 8286

Champion & White

Best South Wellington Coal

DELIVERED NORTH OF 25TH AVENUE

Lump $6.50 **Nut $5.50**

PHONE 9570 1083 MAIN STREET

FINANCIAL PAGE

REPORT ON COST OF LIVING

Last week we had some things to say about Royal Commissions. This week we are permitted to chronicle the gist of a report just presented by the Commission appointed by the Dominion Government to enquire into the cost of living.

The board of inquiry was composed of John McDougald, C.M.G., chairman; Dr. C. C. James, C.M.G.; R. H. Coats; J. U. Vincent and T. J. Lynton, secretary.

The report is said to cover two thousand pages of useful and interesting statistics, and information, which has been gathered from various reliable sources. These will, no doubt, prove valuable in the future. The summary of the report, however, does not bring to light many new reasons for the high cost of living. The report says in part:

"The advanced prices in Canada have been largely increased through manifold forms of extravagance and wastage, public and private, individual and social."

Another contributing cause given is the loss "through expenditure on a rising scale for luxuries and through wasteful methods in the household."

This finding is no doubt true. Many good people have learned this by experience; but what of the unlimited wastage and extravagance which has been practised by Provincial and Federal Governments, municipal authorities and other public bodies? The huge sums pilfered, squandered and handed out by one means and another to party workers and favorites, have come out of the pockets of the public, and this we maintain has contributed largely to the rising cost of living, and the causes given by the Commissioners are but a trifle compared thereto. The report also notes the withdrawal of the population from the land, as restricting the supply of and increasing the cost of commodities. This appears to us to be a fact, and it must apear to everyone that Canada as a whole must greatly increase its rural population and thereby production before the cost of living can be materially reduced.

TRUST COMPANIES ACT

The following companies are reported as complying with the Act by deleting trust powers:

Canyon City Lumber Co., Ltd.
Howe Sound Power Co., Ltd.
The Manitoba Loan and Investment Agency, Ltd.
Cramer Investment Co., Ltd.
Western Canada City Properties, Ltd.

CANADAIAN BANKS EXTEND CREDIT

It is reported from the East that the Canadian banks have acted on the suggestion of the Minister of Finance, and have extended to the British Government a credit of $50,000,000 to $100,000,000 upon exchequer notes. As a direct result of this action on the part of the banks, orders for $100,000.00 of munitions and army supplies may be placed in Canada.

WANTED—A TITLE

This week we are able to present to our readers a real "gem" in the form of a letter from the lucid pen of one, Jay M. Jackson, publisher of a Real Estate Directory in Kansas city. Call it what you will. It's very entertaining. We quote in part as follows:

"You have overlooked sending me your subscription and copy for your advertisement. Hundreds and thousands of orders have been pouring in from all over the country. I am greatly disapointed in not receiving yours.

"Now, I do not want to go to press until I receive your subscription, as it will be two years before this directory is again revised, and these two years are certain to be the most profitable and prosperous period the real estate men have ever known. This great activity has already started in many districts and will soon spread throughout the country. Banks and trust companies are loaded down with money, and this money will seek an outlet. Real estate always has been and always will be the best investment for the conservative investor.

"You want your share of this business and I want you to have it. This Directory will place you in touch with same. This list includes over one hundred thousand of the best real estate men in America. They will cooperate with you. They have buyers for what you have for sale. Our loan companies have plenty of money to make all real estate loans.

MY PROPOSITION TO YOU IS THE GREATEST POSSIBLE TO MAKE.

I am determined to have you associated with us, your friends who recommend you, are most anxious to have you with us.

Send me an order, I will then start the type-setting machines, and presses, putting an army of printers and proof readers at work and soon send you the best National Directory ever compiled.

"With kind personal regards to you I am,

"Very respectfully,
"JAY M. JACKSON.

"P.S.—Enclose your check with order and I will stamp your name on front cover of Directory in Gold Leaf."

Read it again to get the full benefit.

JINGLE POT COAL

Always Mined by Union White Labor

Coast Lumber & Fuel Co., Ltd.

Phone Fair. 2500 Phone High. 226 Phone Fraser 41

Northern Securities Limited

Established 1906

529 PENDER STREET WEST Seymour 1574

FINANCIAL AGENTS. ESTATE MANAGERS

FOR EXCHANGE
A BEAUTIFUL SUBURBAN HOME

Situated on 2 acres of highly improved land with shrubs and small fruits. Stable and Garage; House 10 rooms and modern throughout. Will take West End house in exchange.

B. GEO. HANSULD - - - - - - - Manager

THE VERNON FEED CO.

MOUNT PLEASANT, COLLINGWOOD and SO. VANCOUVER

DEALERS IN

Poultry Supplies, Hay, Grain and Feed

CHICK FEED
LAWN SEED
FERTILIZER
SEED POTATOES
DOG BISCUITS
CANARY SEED
PIGEON FEED

PHONES: Fairmont 186—878 Fraser 175 and Collingwood 153

MR. A. S. MATTHEW
Manager, Guardian Casualty and Guaranty Company

In this issue we publish the Financial Statement of the Guardian Casualty and Guaranty Company, for the year ending December 31st, 1915. The head office for Canada is situated at 414 Pender Street West, Vancouver, with A. S. Matthew and Company as General Managers.

Under the provisions of the British Columbia Insurance Act, the Company has deposited with the Provincial Government $25,000.00 in securities. The Premium income for the past year, according to the Statement, was over one million dollars, and the report of the Superintendent of Insurance of the Company's home State, as noted in the statement, is a favorable one. All losses are paid from the local office; and amongst the many British Columbia firms whose business the Company handles are: The Vancouver Lumber Co., Messrs. Armstrong, Morrison & Co., Brunette Saw Mills, Hastings Shingle Co., Small & Bucklin Mills, Victoria Lumber Co., etc.

Mr. Matthew has had a wide experience in the Insurance field. He is a member of the International Association of Casualty and Surety Underwriters, and is considered an able underwriter in this class of insurance.

Canadian Casualty and Guaranty Company

Statement for the Year Ending December 31st, 1915

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Loans Secured by First Mortgages	$338,488.76	Capital Stock	$300,000.00
Stocks and Bonds	11,887.50	Commission Due on Uncollected Premiums	84,625.22
Collateral Loans	7,802.10	Reserve for Losses	203,458.94
Real Estate owned by Company	3,511.09	Extra Voluntary Reserve for Losses	50,000.00
Cash in Bank and on Hand	328,636.51	Reserve for Re-Insurance	142,423.49
Uncollected Premiums not over 90 days old	336,075.18	Reserve for Taxes	19,134.84
Accrued Interest	9,421.62	Accounts Payable	6,057.55
Due for Re-insurance	1,957.27	Surplus	232,079.99
	$1,037,780.03		$1,037,780.03

Assets to Policy Holders — Capital, Surplus and Reserves - - - - - - - - - $927,962.42

Premium Income for 1915 - - - - - $1,001,102.00

Insurance Commissioner James of the State of Utah reports on the company as follows:—"The company was found to be doing a large business in twenty-two States, and is in a most excellent financial condition."

General Managers:

A. S. MATTHEW & COMPANY

414 PENDER STREET WEST VANCOUVER, B. C.

Vancouver Women's Work for Women

This is to be a silk season in the world of fabrics.

Heretofore, with a few exceptions, the evening gown, and demi-formal costume, alone were made of lustrous fabrics. Now, however, these fabrics are to be tailored; and suits of silk will be seen quite as much as suits of cloth. This appears to be only one of fashion's whims, but really it is because so many of the foreign woollen and worsted factories are closed through the war, thus crippling the supply of woollens. We must, therefore, turn to the silk and a very nice idea for spring, too.

Stripes, checks, dots and all sorts of patterns are shown in taffeta, and the brocades so stately recall Colonial days.

The dainty flowered crepes are so suitable for summer frocks. For waists Georgette, Pierette, crepes, and the indestructible voiles in large and fancy stripes are shown.

FUDGE CAKE

One cup sugar, two tablespoons cocoa, one-fourth cup butter, one egg, two teaspoons baking powder, one half cup milk, one and one-half cup flour, pinch of salt, one teaspoon vanilla, one fourth cup boiling water.

Cream, butter, sugar and egg together, add cocoa, vanilla and salt. Mix well. Add milk, then flour and baking powder, sifted together. Add boiling water, heating the mixture till it becomes light. Pour in butter pans and bake in hot oven. A nice filling is made with one-third package of dates chopped fine with two tablespoons of brown sugar and enough water to keep from burning. Boil until dates are soft and spread between the cakes while it is warm. Use a butter icing and the cakes are most delicious.

OUR WORK BAG

How many can remember their grandmother's old rag rugs. Never a scrap of the new frocks but was hooked or braided into rugs for the floor. For years they were never seen at all and now they have come back just as popular as ever.

A piece of canvas sacking, a good strong steel hook and the ragbag is all one needs. I have seen a good hook made from an old steel table fork, filed down to the required size. Legs of old stockings make a good border and old pieces of white cotton can be dyed to some of the softest colors for pattern. Care must be taken in the hooking to keep the work even and well clipped. It is really a simple and fascinating work.

GRANDMA'S STORY

"Please will you tell us another story, Grandma," coaxed Jimmie and Jack. "We liked that story about the foxes."

"All right, dearies," said Grandma; "I'll tell you about the funny pig we had when I was a little girl.

"We children were very fond of the pig and called him 'Pokey,' because he was always poking his nose everywhere looking for us if we were out of his sight.

"You children know the rhyme about Mary's lamb and how he followed her to school. Well, Pokey was just as fond of going to school as ever Mary's lamb was.

"Father always fed Pokey just as we were starting to school, so we could run away without him following us, but we never got very far away before we would hear him coming down the road. He would be running just as fast as his little short legs would carry him and squealing as loud as ever a little pig can squeal. My sister used to say he was scolding us for not waiting for him..

"To tell the truth, at first we didn't like him going to school with us for some of the bigger girls and boys teased us. However the teacher never minded as Pokey always behaved very well. Unlike Mary's lamb he never attempted to enter the school, but was quite content to wait outside until we came out. At first he would go to sleep and snore like all pigs do. Then all the pupils would laugh. My, but we would be ashamed and wish Pokey had stayed at home.

By and bye, however, as Pokey insisted on going with us, we all became quite used to him, and never minded him at all. Teacher used to say Pokey was one of her very best pupils for he never was late and when any one spoke to him he always grunted very politely and never answered rudely, and that was something which couldn't be said about all of her pupils."

PANTAGES THEATRE

Miss Rosie Lloyd, another of the clever Lloyd family, a sister of Marie and Alice, will be the big feature at Pantages Theatre, starting Monday. This is Miss Rosie's first visit to the coast. She is a nice-looking girl, wears pretty costumes, has a good voice and a great selection of English songs. A Holiday in Dixie land is a cyclonic burst of mirth and melody, consisting of six girls and four men, who are colored people. A real novelty piano and singing act will be presented by Volant, with the assistance of a piano that flies through the air. There will be three other acts on this all star programme.

Miss Rosie Lloyd at Pantages next week

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Surrey Women's Institute met Tuesday, March 7th, in the Municipal Hall, Cloverdale, Mrs. Whiteley, president, in the chair. There was an attendance of 34. The most important question before the meeting was the patriotic work to be taken up for the year. In 1915 the Institute contributed between $50 and $60 in cash for patriotic purposes, besides articles for the Red Cross and furs for Italian soldiers. In January 1916 an entertainment was given by the members which resulted in a sum of $42.75 for the Canadian Patriotic Fund; it was now decided to adopt a prisoner of war for the balance of the year at the cost of $5 a month and also to send a donation of $10 to the Belgian Relief Fund.

The Surrey Women's Institute held very successful flower shows in 1913 and 1914; last year no show was held, but it was now decided to do so for the present year. The date has not yet been fixed.

The results of the canvassing contest were then announced and were very gratifying, especially when it is remembered that the neighboring communities of Hazlemere, Tyne head and Strawberry Hill all have flourishing W. I.'s of their own. The membership on the books of Surrey W. I. now stands at 158, three times greater than any previous year.

Mrs. Kirk, president of Strawberry Hill W. I., who was present, spoke a few words.

Mrs. E. T. Wade gave an instructive paper on "Growing Vegetables," and Mrs. Croft a talk on "An English Cathedral," illustrating her address with photos. Refreshments were then served and after singing the National Anthem the Institute adjourned to April 4th.

ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

The large audience that congregated in the above church last Friday night, March 17th, were no doubt expecting a fine musical treat, and few could go away saying that they were disappointed, for this fine body of singers numbering over fifty voices certainly gave a splendid account of themselves, and showed that much time had been spent in rehearsal.

It is quite a daring feat for a choir of singers to give a concert programme consisting of choruses and part songs entirely unaccompanied. However, questionable as this arrangement is, generally speaking, most choirs, and in fact, most audiences, prefer accompaniment, with some kind of instrument, yet it must be said that the choir at Friday's concert showed great skill in their unaccompanied renderings. Of course, the credit of training is Mr. L. R. Bridgman's, and he must have been at great trouble to get such fine tone production.

This choir has nicely balanced numbers, and the sopranos in particular are rich, not only in point of numbers, but the voices are above the average.

In the opening chorus, "Lullaby of Life," while the time was a little erratic, it was otherwise very well rendered. One might go to a good many concerts before they would hear as good a rendering of Gounod's "By Babylon's Wave." One of the difficulties here was to keep up to pitch, yet this was done in spite of the fact that there was no accompaniment. The "Divine Lullaby" was also well done. The last chorus was "The Hundred Pipers." Will Mr. Bridgman take a hint from the critic, who is Scotch, that in again singing this song, get the choir to say "Wi' a Hunder Pipers." This is a very common error to say "Hundred," and unfortunately it is printed so in many of the song copies.

A quartette of ladies sang "Mendelssohn's "Spring Has Come." It had a very pleasing effect, and again showed that Mr. Bridgman has reason to be proud of the quality of the voices he has in his choir.

The 72nd Highlanders Quartette, Messrs. Hall Bros., Lloyd and Mackie were good, and had to respond to several encores.

Miss Gladys Cochrane who sang two numbers has a fine voice, and while her choice of solos, and an encore, was good, one could not help thinking that her selection did not show off her vocal sualities to advantage.

Miss Duthie's solo was well received, and we should have heard this young lady in another number.

Mr. Harold Nelson Shaw gave two recitations, with his usual good taste.

Mr. Bridgman is to be congratulated on giving a splendid concert.

—J. W. LECKIE.

Electricity at Home Brings Real Comfort

Wiring a house for Electric Service no longer presents the problem of the past. It can be done without confusion or dirt — without the slightest damage to walls, ceilings or decorations.

Electric Service and the bright glow of electric lights—on or off at the turn of a switch—add so much to the cheer of your home. Every household task may be performed better by electricity.

B.C. Electric

Vancouver North Vancouver Eburne

"Safe Milk for the Babies"---
That Means TURNER'S MILK

So a milk that is safe for the declicate systems of the wee tiny folks is surely safe and wholesome too for all members of the family. We do not condemn milk supplied by other dairies, but this we do say:

THERE IS NO BETTER MILK SOLD IN VANCOUVER THAN TURNER'S MILK

because the highest authorities and the best judges in British Columbia pronounce TURNER'S MILK "BEST BY TEST."

ORDER YOUR SUPPLY TODAY
PHONE FAIR. 597 AND OUR DRIVER WILL CALL

TURNER'S DAIRY

SEVENTEENTH AVENUE AND ONTARIO STREET

The Scenic Highway Across the Continent

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

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The Popular Route to the—
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HAWAII
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Up-to-date Train Service Between Vancouver and the East.
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122 HASTINGS STREET W.

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The Ladies' Agency
DOMESTIC, EDUCATIONAL AND BUSINESS OPENINGS
20-22 LEIGH SPENCER BLDG. VANCOUVER, B.C.
Also at 526 Sayward Bldg., Victoria, B.C.

Established 1893 Refined Service
CENTER & HANNA LIMITED
New Location, 1049 Georgia Street, opposite new Y M C A
Largest of Columbarium and Receiving Vaults
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FAITH and WORKS

The law forbids the sale of liquor and cigarettes to minors, but it does not restrain newspapers from going into respectable homes and soliciting the patronage of the boys and girls with flaring and alluring advertisements.

Careful firesides must rely, therefore, upon newspapers that voluntarily banish liquor and cigarettes, those great enemies of youthful strength and purity, from their columns.

In the campaign for saloonless state it is vital that the forces of temperance cast the entire weight of their influence against the wets.

Their subscription order for a newspaper is a vote for or against liquor, according as the advertising columns of that newspaper are for or against liquor.

The Saturday Chinook is against the selling and distributing of liquor and cigarettes to minors through its advertising columns.

For true temperance should begin at home and with the Home Newspaper.

Delivered at your door for 10 cents a month. Phone Seymour 470.

The Saturday Chinook

Phone Highland 137

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VANCOUVER - B.C.

Medical : Surgical : Maternity

Rates from $15.00 per week

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WEEK OF MARCH 27, 1916

Rosie Lloyd

CHARMING ENGLISH COMEDIENNE

Three times daily, 2.45, 7.15, 9.15
Matinee, 15c; Night, 15c & 25c

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MacDONALD & HAY
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WATCHMAKER

10,000 WATCHES and CLOCKS wanted to clean and repair at the factory, 438 RICHARDS STREET.

MONEY TO LOAN

MONEY LOANED, DIAMONDS, Jewelry, etc. A quiet, respectable, reliable place to borrow money. Old gold bought. Established 1905. Star Loan Co., 812 Hastings West.

STOVE REPAIRS

DON'T THROW YOUR OLD Stove away. We handle castings and repairs to fit any stove or range.—FRANKS, 44 Water Street.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK

Thursday, March 16.—The Dutch steamer, Tubantia, bound from Rotterdam to Buenos Ayres, with many passengers and a crew of 300, sunk in the North Sea near the Noordhinder Light. Was it a submarine or a mine?

* * *

French artillery officers state that the German dead lie in great heaps on the Verdun front. The third battle which began last Tuesday, has so far failed to develop.

* * *

Mr. J. S. H. Matson tells the public accounts committee at Victoria how he "earned" his commission of $75,000 on the sale of the Songhees reserve. *Despite his seeming frankness* his loss of memory regarding important particulars is really a subject for a separate inquiry—medical, not political. The method by which he "earned" the money remains a secret. It is evidently too valuable to disclose.

* * *

Despite the fact that the German Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann Hollweg, told the Diet of the German states that any discussion of foreign affairs was "beyond their competence" the members of the Diet insisted on attacking the administration. Seemingly the Diet desires more information regarding the operations of the German fleet. How absurd. Don't they know it is sweeping the North Sea and the British fleet is skulking in harbor. Any well primed neutral could tell them that.

* * *

British forces under General Smuts operating in East Africa, captured Moshi and push on to Arusha. N.B. Arusha is at the head of a railway half way between the Victoria Nyanza and the coast town of Usamabara. Moshi is just north of Arusha on the eastern slopes of the Kilimanjaro range. The Chinook will supply maps at $10 each.

* * *

Admiral von Tirpitz retires. The Germans do not like it. They feel retirement in the air, though they are used to it on the canal.

* * *

It is announced that the camp at Vernon will be opened again this summer. Vernon ministers please note and be discreet.

* * *

It is said that the Mexicans resent the American invasion of their territory even though they hope to get rid of Villa thereby. Revolution of the Movie Men when not allowed to accompany troops.

* * *

Friday, March 17.—Holland is very angry over the sinking of the Tubantia. She was torpedoed without warning by a submarine. The Germans say it was a British submarine which sunk the ship in order to get Germany into trouble. Poor Germany. She seems to be blamed for everything. Strafe the Dutch.

* * *

It is said that Lord Montagu of Beaulieu will be apointed director of the British air service and receive a seat in the cabinet. They'll have to tie him down, otherwise he will be constantly rising.

* * *

The Imperial coalition government on a vote for adjournment, only received a majority of six. Most of the members decided to go on talking.

* * *

The Germans made five desperate successive attacks against Vaux, all of which were repulsed with terrible slaughter. "Paris vaut une masse," as Henry of Valois said.

* * *

The resignation of von Tirpitz is much discussed. He is said to have quarrelled with the Kaiser, who sent him the order of the House of Hohenzollern. Bismarck received the same honor. It is suspected that the order is a Prussian jack-boot set in diamonds. The Admiral murmured as he left his office "Apres moi la deluge." As the Germans are not on speaking terms with the French just now no one understood what he meant.

* * *

The Vancouver Trades and Labor Council decides to keep out of politics in future. Presumably they do not like to play with pitch.

* * *

Mr. J. P. Brown, a much-wanted gentleman in Saskatchewan, started from Texas for Regina under arrest. He is said to be billed for the principal part in the Saskatchewan Bribe drama. Bob Rogers, Canada's favorite actor, is cast for the villain of the piece.

* * *

The Russians are moving on the Bessarabian front. The hibernating season is over.

* * *

Brazil has seized all German ships interned in her ports. Surely this does not entail another declaration of war by Germany. Why not make a blanket declaration to cover every emergency.

* * *

Saturday, March 18.—Dr. Liebknecht, the German socialist, was howled down for denouncing militarism on the floor of the Reichstag. Presumably he would have been shot if he had upheld it on the battlefields of Verdun.

* * *

Talk of peace breaks out again. Peace is something in the nature of a boil on the German body politic.

Holland appealed to the United States regarding the sinking of the Tubantia. President Wilson is reported to have referred the matter to his stenographer, form 16.

* * *

Sunday, March 19.—Day of Rest. No disturbance caused by the News-Advertiser punishing the views of John R. Balderdash. It left them out—with everything else of interest.

* * *

Monday, March 20.—Allied airmen raid Zeebrugge. It is said the Germans have complained to the United States, stating that if this sort of thing continues their submarines will not be safe in that haven.

* * *

The great battle of Verdun seems about over and has resulted in a wonderful victory for the French. They have put more Germans out of action than in any single action of the war.

* * *

Hon. C. J. Doherty introduces a bill into the Federal House to prohibit the importation of intoxicating liquor into any province that has voted for prohibition. Consternation in such provinces which went dry on the understanding that they could be as wet as they liked through the mails.

* * *

Attempt on the life of Premier Radoslavoff of Bulgaria. These are strenuous times for most premiers.

* * *

Problem of recruiting again to the fore in Great Britain. That is natural when the numbers fall behind.

* * *

Hush—Major-General Sam Hughes arrives in England. Everybody of note goes to ground. Freedom of Falmouth conferred on the gallant Sir Sam—presumably on condition that he does not talk.

* * *

Monetary alliance between the Allies is projected. The Chinook believes in that and earnestly requests subscriptions.

* * *

Villa is said to be bounded on the south-east and west by Carranza troops and on the north by the Americans. He always was even when the American troops were not in Mexico.

Four German aeroplanes raid the Kentish coast. Nine people killed and thirty-one injured.

* * *

Tuesday, March 21.—Three German destroyers chased into Zeebrugge by British torpedo boats. 200 people killed and 350 wounded by Allied air raid yesterday.

* * *

Austrian troops retire from the southern bank of the Dniester in Galicia and Russians cross that river. This may lead to important developments. Czernowitz will probably be evacuated.

* * *

The Russians capture Ispahan in Persia. The Turks complain that the Russians are all over Asia Minor.

* * *

Wednesday March 22. — General Pershing leading the American troops in Mexico is said to be close to Villa. All wires are cut, however, and despite the most optimistic reports there is a distinct feeling of anxiety.

* * *

More hints from Germany that she would like peace. Her terms are becoming less and less grandiloquent. Germany is unforunately for her in the apple asking for just one bite, the position of the small boy without and on being refused asking for the core. "There ain't going to be no core" was the reply and that is the reply of the Allies to Germany. "There ain't going to be no terms" until the military power of Prussia is utterly destroyed.

* * *

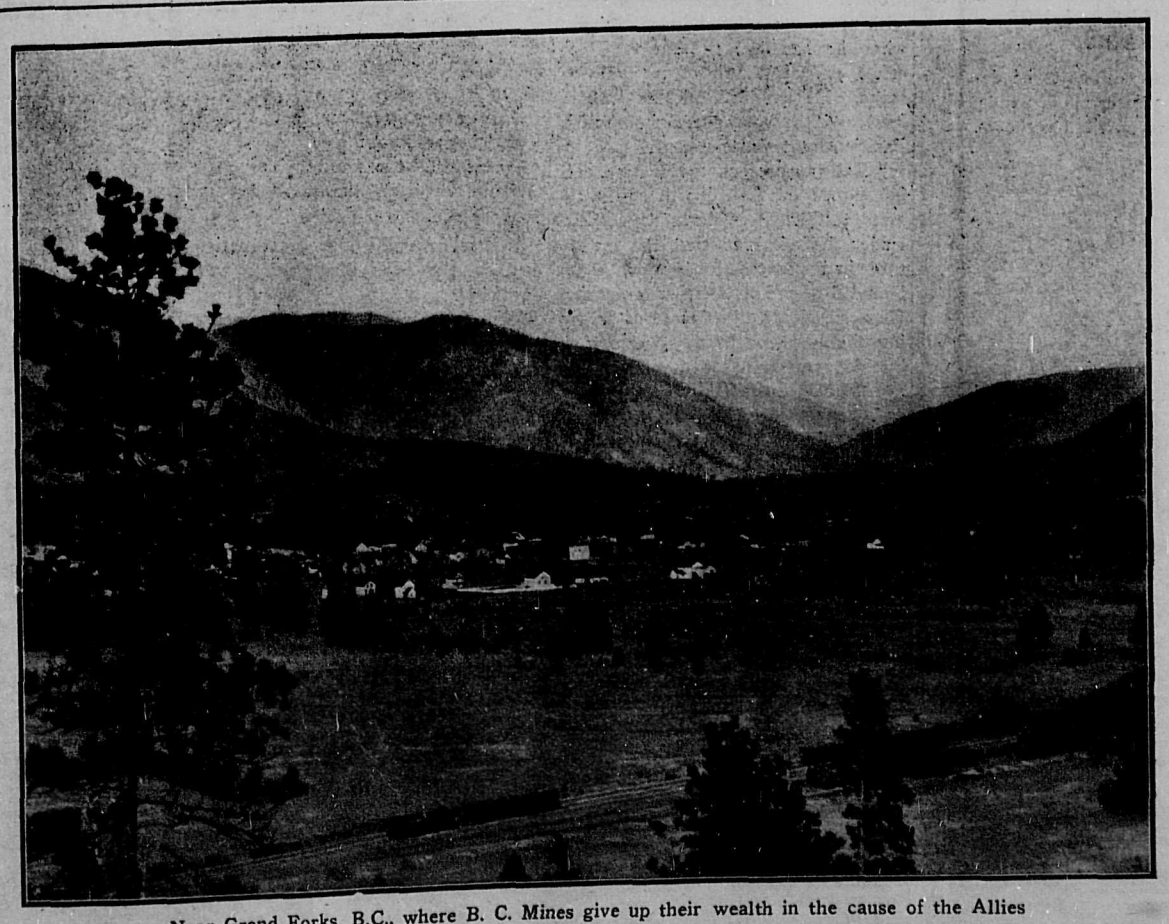
Heavy storm in the middle west of the United States does much damage. The weather as a subject even in Vancouver dare not be mentioned in these notes.

Sir Sam Hughes in London agreed to be interviewed. What is the exact difference between an agreement and a demand?

* * *

The Italian government states that it will publish reports on the massacres in Serbia. It is plain that the Austrians and Bulgarians determined to wipe the nation out of existence. Over 700,000 people are said to have been killed.

Moonlight on Penticton Beach—Aquatic Club in foreground



Near Grand Forks, B.C., where B. C. Mines give up their wealth in the cause of the Allies

THE "CRITICUS" ARTICLES

The third article on current affairs by CRITICUS appears in this issue.

The first two articles were entitled:

1. The Attorney-General's Dilemma.
2. Our Business Government.

The issues of the CHINOOK containing these articles are already out of print.

It is important that orders for the CHINOOK, which will print a regular article by CRITICUS should be given at once.

The articles are absolutely independent of any political or other organization. They give the point of view of the man in the street.

LEGAL NOTICES

LAND ACT
Form No. 11.

FORM OF NOTICE

Vancouver Land District, District of Coast Range 2.

TAKE NOTICE that William P. Marchant of Victoria, B.C., occupation Clerk, intends to apply for permission to lease the following described lands:—

Commencing at a post planted on the North-west shore of Schooner Passage, Rivers Inlet, distant about three-quarters of a mile in a Northerly direction from the north end of Pendleton Island; thence 40 chains north; thence 40 chains east; thence south to shore of Schooner Passage; thence following the shore-line to place of commencement.

WILLIAM P. MARCHANT,
Name of Applicant (in full).
December 22, 1915.
J. G. Johnston, Agent.

VANCOUVER LAND DISTRICT
RICHMOND

TAKE NOTICE that JOHN PERCY HOOPER, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

Commencing at a post planted at the South-West corner of Section Three (3), Range Six (6) West, Block Three (3) North, Group One (1), New Westminster District; thence North eighty (80) chains; thence East eighty (80) chains; thence South eighty (80) chains; thence West eighty (80) chains to point of commencement, containing 640 acres, more or less.

(Signed) JOHN PERCY HOOPER.

Located the Twenty-ninth day of December, 1915.

February 25, 1916.

VANCOUVER LAND DISTRICT
RICHMOND

TAKE NOTICE that JOHN PERCY HOOPER, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

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(Signed) JOHN PERCY HOOPER.

Located the Twenty-ninth day of December, 1915.

February 25, 1916.

VANCOUVER LAND DISTRICT
RICHMOND

TAKE NOTICE that JOHN PERCY HOOPER, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

Commencing at a post planted at the South-West corner of Section Twenty-five (25), Range Seven (7) West, Block Four (4) North, Group One (1), New Westminster District; thence North eighty (80) chains; thence East eighty (80) chains; thence South eighty (80) chains; thence West eighty (80) chains, to point of commencement, containing 640 acres, more or less.

(Signed) JOHN PERCY HOOPER.

Located the Twenty-ninth day of December, 1915.

February 25, 1916.

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TAKE NOTICE that JOHN PERCY HOOPER, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

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(Signed) JOHN PERCY HOOPER.

Located the Twenty-ninth day of December, 1915.

February 25, 1916.

VANCOUVER LAND DISTRICT
RICHMOND

TAKE NOTICE that JOHN MASON LACEY, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

Commencing at a post planted at the South(West corner of Section Twenty(seven (27), Range Six (6) West, Block Four (4) North, Group One (1), New Westminster District; thence North eighty (80) chains; thence West eighty (80) chains; thence South eighty (80) chains; thence East eighty (80) chains to point of commencement, containing 640 acres, more or less.

(Signed) JOHN MASON LACEY.

Located the Sixth day of January, 1916.

March 2nd, 1916.

VANCOUVER LAND DISTRICT
RICHMOND

TAKE NOTICE that JOHN MASON LACEY, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

Commencing at a post planted at the South-West corner of Section Twenty-seven (27), Range Six (6) West, Block Four (4) North, Group One (1) New Westminster District; thence North eighty (80) chains; thence East eighty (80) chains; thence South eighty (80) chains; thence West eighty (80) chains to point of commencement, containing 640 acres, more or less.

(Signed) JOHN MASON LACEY.

Located the Sixth day of January, 1916.

March 2nd, 1916.

VANCOUVER LAND DISTRICT
RICHMOND

TAKE NOTICE that JOHN MASON LACEY, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

Commencing at a post planted at the North-West corner of Section Twenty-one (21), Range Six (6) West, Block Four (4) North, Group One (1) New Westminster District; thence North eighty (80) chains; thence East eighty (80) chains; thence South eighty (80) chains; thence West eighty (80) chains to point of commencement, containing 640 acres, more or less.

(Signed) JOHN MASON LACEY.

Located the Sixth day of January, 1916.

March 2nd, 1916.

VANCOUVER LAND DISTRICT
RICHMOND

TAKE NOTICE that JOHN MASON LACEY, Broker, of the City of Vancouver, B. C., intends to apply for permission to prospect for Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas under the following described lands:

Comemncing at a post planted at the South-East corner of Section Fifteen (15), Range Six (6) West, Block Four (4) North, Group One (1) New Westminster District; thence North eighty (80) chains; thence West eighty (80) chains; thence South eighty (80) chains; thence East eighty (80) chains to point of commencement, containing 640 acres, more or less.

(Signed) JOHN MASON LACEY.

Located the Sixth day of January, 1916.

March 2nd, 1916.

RENNIE'S SEEDS
HEADQUARTERS FOR SEEDS, PLANTS, BULBS AND SHRUBS
SEYMOUR 8550
WM. RENNIE Co., Limited
1138 HOMER ST. - - VANCOUVER

$15 Blue Serge Spring Suits

FOUR SMART SPRING MODELS TO SELECT FROM. Fine, soft texture blue serge, guaranteed fast color.

PLENTY OF THEM, GENTLEMEN,—in spite of a great shortage in Men's Clothing fabrics existing today all over the world.

The same low price, $15 for a mighty good suit, regardless of this great shortage caused by war—regardless of a sharp advance in prices all over this continent.

WM. DICK LTD.

Two Money - Back Stores
Full of Spring Wearables for Men
33 and 47 HASTINGS EAST

Two Dollars a Year

In the past the SATURDAY CHINOOK has gone out at One Dollar per year. War conditions make it necessary to increase the subscription rate from this date forward to Two Dollars per year, delivered to your home any place in the Province of British Columbia or the Dominion of Canada.

THE PUBLISHERS.

Trimmed Sailors at the Popular Price of $5.00

OUR **$5.00** HAT has been a particular feature of our millinery department for many seasons, but this season's values put into insignificance the offers of previous years. The hats are copies of imported models—many of them are made in our own millinery department, and are becomingly trimmed with flowers and large ribbon bows—others are New York hats. Choice of large and small shapes, of hemp, tagel, and satin and straw combination. You'll get your Spring Hat here, of course?

—New Millinery Department, Second Floor

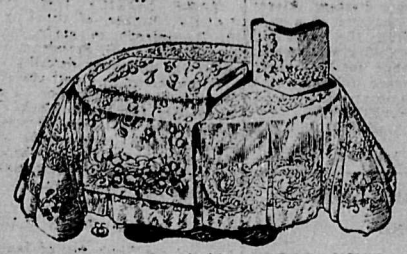
These Splendid Suits For Boys for $5.95

—As smart a lot of suits as one would wish to see—and it's only because we bought them at a bargain that we can sell them for this small price. Made in Norfolk style, with bloomer knickers in sizes to fit boys of 8 to 16 years. Choice of plain brown, and brown and black check tweeds. They are strong and particularly adaptable for school wear.

Suit **$5.95**

Damask Sets

AT LESS THAN BEFORE THE WAR PRICES — THAT MEANS LESS THAN WHOLESALE COST TODAY



—This offer should literally cram our staple department—the value is unheard of, and it would pay jobbers and storekeepers to buy them to sell again. We bought them at a ridiculously low price—and as we buy so we sell. The set comprises a table cloth and 12 napkins to match. Guaranteed pure Irish linen, grass bleached, and mostly double damask. If your linen stock is getting depleted, stock up now—it will be many years before you get a linen buying oportunity like this again. Three size cloths to choose from—2x2 yards, 2x2 1-2 yards and 2x3 yards—at these price reductions:

$13.00 Sets for .. **$8.50**	$14.00 Sets for .. **$9.00**
$15.00 Sets for .. **$10.00**	$17.00 Sets for .. **$11.00**
$18.00 Sets for .. **$12.00**	$19.50 Sets for .. **$12.50**
$21.00 Sets for .. **$13.50**	$30.00 Sets for .. **$19.50**
$37.00 Sets for .. **$24.50**	$39.00 Sets for .. **$26.00**

Officers and Men are Making

THIS STORE HEADQUARTERS FOR THEIR FURNISHINGS

—we have what they need, in qualities to be depended upon and quantities to meet all demands. And our prices are right, as this partial list shows.

MILITARY SHIRTS
—in correct regulation, at $1.50 to **$3.75**

PUTTEES
Fox's spiral, regulation; per pair **$2.25**

HANDKERCHIEFS
Khaki colored, in mercerized and silk, with hemstitched borders. Prices from 2 for 25c to, each **$1.00**

KHAKI TIES
four-in-hand style, in a variety of silk and knitted effects. Each **75¢**

KHAKI BRACES
—with elastic web, in Police and Tex end styles, 75c and ... **50¢**

SOX
—of military wool, in grey and khaki, at 35c to ..... **75¢**

The Hudson's Bay Company
INCORPORATED 1670
HERBERT E. BURBIDGE STORES COMMISSIONER

From Behind the Speaker's Chair In the Local Legislature

Wednesday, March 15.—Formal assent to the bill extending the life of the present parliament to June 1, unless sooner dissolved, was given by the Lieutenant Governor, and the excitement over a technicality has cooled down. Members seemed visibly relieved and took their places almost light-heartedly. The debate on the address was continued by Messrs. Watson of Vancouver of Vancouver and Lucas of Yale. The former referred somewhat feelingly to the "massacre" in Vancouver and said that anyone who went into politics got all they deserved. As a chemist he should have an acute mind for analysis, but most people consider that a good many people get much more than they deserve. Mr. J. S. Matson, for instance. Mr. Watson also hoped the Dominion Trust matter was now dead—perhaps—but was it not Shakespeare who said that "the evil men do lives after them." After repeating a good portion of the old, old tale regarding the railways, he gave place to Mr. Lucas, who spoke on the industrial development of the province in the past. He lived from the years 1901 to 1911. Presumably he anticipates his political death in 19166. The house yawned. No progress.

* * *

Thursday, March 16.—Private Bill to amend Vancouver charter introduced and read for first time. Dr. McGuire in speaking on the address, endeavored to practise dentistry on the opposition by drawing their teeth on the prohibition question. He found fault with a conversation Mr. Macdonald, the Liberal member for Vancouver had with a newspaper representative. No sensible man can discover that Mr. Macdonald said anything more than that if parliament was not legally sitting and passed prohibition, the liquor men would naturally bring an action to show the bill was illegal. Out of this sensible and natural remark the Conservatives are trying to insinuate that there is an agreement between the Liberals and the liquor interests and Dr. McGuire's idea is to extract it painlessly. Mr. Forster of Columbia, who followed, was, as usual, most impartial. He is really the only independent member in the house. He railed at the Conservatives for not inaugurating a land policy and the Liberals for their supposed share in the "Crisis of B. C.," and asked for constructive and not destructive work.

Mr. W. R. McLean of Nelson followed with the usual review of conditions and came out in favor of building wooden ships for the lumber trade. As he apparently farms near Nelson, he is naturally qualified to know what is necessary for the shipping industry. He suggested himself as a good minister of agriculture, stating that he "looked like a farmer." That certainly should be some recommendation to a business government. He was against prohibition as archaic. Nothing done.

* * *

Friday, March 17.—Mr. William Manson reviewed conditions. These constant reviews are one of the penalties of politics. When will the members realise that reviewing conditions of previous years is not getting on with the business of the province. Mr. Mackenzie of Delta tilted at Mr. Oliver, who is not a member of the house but who, Mr. Mackenzie avers, is the power behind the Liberal throne. Mr. William Hunter of Slocan spoke on mining conditions and at last, to the general relief, the premier moved the adjournment. Nothing done.

* * *

Monday, March 20.—The Legislature unanimously agreed to the request of Mr. Macdonald for a select committee to inquire into the purchase of the Kitsilano Reserve. Something sensible done at last. In connection with the resolution, Premier Bowser said that he courted the fullest inquiry.

In resuming the debate on the address, Mr. L. W. Shatford, of Similkameen, urged that the mining industry should be encouraged and suggested the installation of government owned assay offices, and that the province be divided into mining districts in charge of competent engineers. He also urged that the trans-provincial highway be proceeded with. Mr. Shatford seems to be a practical person. In closing he briefly stated his reasons for supporting the government, which was nice of him.

The Premier then made a long speech in defence of himself as the government, but made no announcements of policy. He said he was disappointed in Vancouver. Presumably the disappointment is quite mutual. He paid a tribute to Sir Richard McBride and declared that the government was now inviting tenders for $1,000,000 to start operations with the Agricultural Credits Bill, which indicates that Mr. Lorne Campbell"s trip to the east failed in its main objective. He also said that later on he proposed to make an announcement with regard to shipbuilding—probably when he has decided that te Flumerfelt proposals are of no political value, He quibbled over te sum issued and the sum guaranteed to the Pacific Great Eastern and Peace River Railway project, saying that only $18,000,000 was issued, although in answer to Mr. Brewster, the Liberal leader, he admitted that the legislature had granted $30,000,000, which included the Peace River extension. He accused Mr. Macdonald of "showing the way out to the liquor men" by his assertion that the house was not legally qualified to do business and thus proved his determination to drag prohibition into the political arena. The house does not seem to expect any better of the Premier than this sort of thing. It is extraordinary that Mr. Bowser still thinks idiocy is argument. He stated that the Liberals had been "knocking" the province, presumably because they criticised the administration, but admitted that the government had been prodigal in some respects. If that is so, he can hardly expect the electors to kill the fatted calf over his accession to the leadership. "Let us have courage to face the future" he concluded, "and all will be well." Very likely it will be if Mr. Bowser will kindly get down to business. Business done. Select committee appointed to investigate the Kitsilano deal.

Tuesday, March 21.—The Hon. Lorne Campbell, Minister of Mines, made his first speech as a minister. He had just come back from the east where he was sent by Mr. Bowser, evidently to see whether he could get any money at the six per cent which Mr. Bowser is so fond of quoting. He seems to have failed as otherwise the electorate may be sure such a success (sic) would have been loudly proclaimed as proving the stability of the province and the excellent credit it enjoyed under the aegis of Mr. Bowser. Mr. Lorne Campbell proved immediately that he found it extremely difficult to raise any money for any purpose in the east. He blamed this condition on the Liberals presumably for having criticised the Conservative administration for its extravagance, and asked for detailed accounts. It is a most extraordinary thing that a man of Mr. Lorne Campbell's presumed business capabilities cannot see that this accusation is a boomerang of a very dangerous type. If this criticism was not well founded it would be very easy for the government to prove it to those interested in investing money here. Moreover it is well known to evry business man that the failure of the Dominion Trust Co. and the whole attitude of Mr. Bowser on that occasion threw the credit of British Columbia to the winds in the east and in the United Kingdom. The government is trying to throw dust in the eyes of the electorate by continually harping on the "knocking" to which the province has been subjected. The very worst advertisement for the province would be the return of Premier Bowser to power as it would show that the electorate had as little sense of its responsibilities to the investor as he himself proved in his speech on the Dominion Trust failure. It is the premier himself who has "knocked" the province and no one else.

Mr. Lorne Campbell laid most necessary emphasis on the necessity of increasing the production of our metals, especially zinc and lead. But he did not boldly state that capital will come to help increase that production if it is assured of proper protection. He knows it is the politicians pandering to the vote of every passing interest which have ruined the country, and it was believed he was big enough and independent enough to say so. The credit of the province has been strained to the utmost by the reckless railway legislation of which so many members seem so proud. What the investor desires to perceive is a real determination on the part of the province to become business like and economical and not to run to the east begging for money on every possible occasion. As a business man's speech Mr. Campbell was most disappointing. He might have expected to lead not follow the well-worn trail. Thus passes another "durned dull week."

"WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE!"

Men Dupes Ever! Women Ever Frivolous!!

Yes! I see you have started to read this column. That head to it has caught your eye. If I had started by telling you the first line was by Shakespeare, and that my desire was "to interest you in Shakespeare," you would have turned to another page to read about "Spring Clothes" or "the movies."

But I do want to interest you in Shakespeare. We are about to commemorate the Three Hundredth Anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

The anniversary of his birth—and Saint George's Day—for by a wonderful juxtaposition of dates all these events can be commemorated together.

Here are two other facts which should interest you!

Cervantes, the author of Don Quixote, died on the same day as Shakespeare.

Michael Angelo, the great artist, died in the year Shakespeare was born!!

Vancouver will have a Shakespeare commemoration.

Will you not have one for yourself? You want to and ask "How shall I go about it?"

First—Read Shakespeare! If you do not know Shakespeare you do not know Human Nature! You have starved your imagination!! Starved your soul!!! And the soul must be fed as well as the body.

Do you remember what the poet wrote?

If you of worldly wealth
Should be bereft,
And but two loaves of bread
Be all that you have left.
Why then sell—one
And with the dole
Buy Hyacinths
To feed your soul.

Yes! your emotions, your imagination must be fed.

As Solomon says: "I have been fascinated with awe into the mind of Macbeth, groaned with discarded Wolsey and faced the night with puzzled Hamlet.

And now—"in the sere and yellow leaf"—when I have to live mostly on memories, what would I do without the Philosophy of Jacques, the bright badinage of Mercutio, the woes of Lear, the glimpse of Heaven in the sonnets?

Have you a Shakespeare?

"No!"

"What, no Shakespeare!"

Books are cheap now. Good paper, clear print, good printing—a book is a work of art. My first Shakespeare, bought over fifty years ago, cost 25 cents. I ate bread and apples and saved my lunch to buy it. The print was small and blurred, the paper thin, the book wretched, but I read it until it dropped to pieces and I've thanked God for that book of Shakespeare every day of my life!

Last Sunday I heard a man, well-dressed, apparently educated, say—by inference—that Shakespeare was "not a book fit to read on Sunday!

Portia's speech on "Mercy" not fit for Sunday!

Old Adam's words on temperance—not fit for Sunday!!

The lessons in honest government, civic purity and pride, patriotism and humanity not fit for Sunday!!!

Shakespeare, the great poet of Humanity, not fit for Sunday!!!

What Hypocrisy! What crass ignorance!!

Read Homer, Dante, Shakespeare. They are fit to read on Sunday—in Heaven — and Heaven will not be Heaven to me if I do not meet them there.

But as Hamlet says: "Something too much of this!"

But do let me interest you in Shakespeare.

Write to Mr. Norman Hawkins, secretary of the Shakespeare Committee, Pacific Building, Vancouver.

Go into the competition with Shakespearian essays.

Go to the Shakespearian lectures.

Patronize the Shakespearian plays.

Send a packet of flower seeds for the Shakespearian garden.

DO SOMETHING to remember the Tercentenary by—You will want to if—You only READ Shakespeare.

—FELIX PENNE.

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