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NATIONAL SERVICE AS A MEANS OF PRODUCTION

WHAT IS COMING

IN a series of articles in The Saturday Evening Post, Mr. H. G. Wells has been indulging in philosophical reflections as to "what is coming" after the war. Mr. Wells, being a writer who has attained much prominence as an analyst of character, as well as an imaginative dreamer whose dreams have come so near to realisation as to turn them into prophecies which have been fulfilled, is well qualified to reflect on what is coming. His reflections, however, are seemingly governed by his reputation. He fears rigidity lest at any time in the future he be pinned down to something he has written and left struggling to reconcile what has happened with his present conception of what is going to happen. That is the worst of a reputaiton. It destroys initiative and decision. It is the smoked glasses of speculation. It clouds rather than clears the vision. In brief, Mr. Wells seems to have written these articles with his eye on the public and the publishers. Presumably they will be published as a book and Mr. Wells has been fettered by their binding. They may be used some years hence as evidence against him when next he indulges in philosophic reflection. If they destroy his reputation as a prophet they may also destroy his popularity, though, truth to tell, Mr. Wells is probably little concerned wtih that.

THE RETURNING SOLDIERS

Thus the articles leave the reader unsatisfied. One or two of them stir the imagination and indicate a more definite conclusion to a train of thought than occurs in most of them. In a sense they are vague and possibly they could be nothing else. It is impossible to state with any certainty "what is coming" after the war. A great deal depends on the length of the war and its final results, that is, the final territorial changes the war will make. But ignoring such uncertainties, there is one certainty on which we can reckon without prophesying and for which we ought to make proper provision. The men who have joined the army for the war will return to civilian life, and the longer the war the greater number of men who will finally return, expecting employment. In British Columbia the legislature has at last, under the pressure of circumstances, tried to combine some new land legislation with provision for the returned soldiers. It is, like so much of Mr. Bowser's legislation, hurried on for the purpose of the elections. It is an attempt to make use of the Agricultural Credits Bill as a bolster for the totally discredited policy of pre-emptions. Any criticism of the bill will be called unpatriotic, as the pre-emptions have been set aside for returned soldiers. It shows every sign of the confusion which always exist in the mind of the Minister of Lands, Mr. Ross, and the chicanery which stamps all the work of the Premier. This article, however, will not deal with what is known as The Homesteading Bill, for before it is possible to consider that bill from a business like point of view, it is necessary to consider "what is coming" after the war, especially what is coming to the general foundations of our social existence. A writer without reputation is not trammelled like Mr. Wells. He can indulge his fancy. Yet in dealing with our "social existence" in this article, the writer refers chiefly to the question of work and employment which is, after all, the underpinning of the whole social problem.

WHAT HAS COME?

Any consideration of "what is coming" must be based on what is already apparent. By the end of the war it is probable that in Canada alone some 400,000 men will have been actively employed in the army itself. They will have utterly changed their point of view. They will have learnt the value of discipline, of initiative, of organisation, and efficiency. Military life will have educated them in a very different manner to any education they have received heretofore. They will be accustomed to obey, but they will also be accustomed to responsibility and independence. Hundreds of them will have fought their way up through the ranks, thousands of them will have commanded men as non-commissioned officers. For months at a time they will have lived in the immediate presence of death. Now what sort of effect will their experience have on their outlook when they return? How will they regard their former acquaintances and surroundings? Undoubtedly a very large number have been fed and clothed better than ever before. In Great Britain especially will this be the case, and we have to consider to a considerable extent the probable 6,000,000 men in Great Britain who from first to last will have answered their country's call. The problem is this. Here at a time of stress and tribulation with the whole of our future peace and happiness and all our past history at stake, we suddenly ask the most virile portion of our population to transform themselves into a totally different sphere, and adopt a totally different manner of life. Is it not certain that when they return to civil life they will demand that we transform ourselves and our mode of thought and not PROCEED TO LEGISLATE FOR THE FUTURE IN PRECISELY THE SAME COMPLACENT WAY WE HAVE LEGISLATED IN THE PAST?

LACK OF PERCEPTION

This, I think, will be admitted. The war has not changed the outlook of thousands upon thousands of people who have never been out of Canada, or the United States, and who have deemed themselves more or less isolated from the rest of the world by the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. These people, and among them are a very large proportion of those who take a great interest in parochial, municipal and provincial politics, do not realise and apparently do not desire to realise the changes the war is making. They have been accustomed to a certain mode of thought either in their churches, their lodges, their unions or among their acquaintances. Their minds have been tuned for so long to the minds of men who think as they think that they cannot conceive of the change which has been wrought in the minds of those who have experienced the war themselves or who at any rate have sufficient imagination to realise something of the war's revolutionary aspects. Just imagine some of the men from the front sitting and listening to the reading by Mr. Ross in the local legislature of his ideas regarding a land policy which will provide 160 acres of land for every soldeir who returns from the war. The fatuousness of the proposal has probably never occurred to the Minister of Lands, but it would immediately occur to the man from the front. He will be tremendously practical when he returns. He will not want promises, but performance. He will not want to be treated as a popular charity, but as a sensible human being. Nor, above all, will he desire to be isolated. He may like the "out-of-doors," but he will have developed the social instinct extremely strongly. He will be a gregarious not a solitary individual.

THE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE

Or again, imagine the man who has been a member of one or other of the unions and has enlisted and become a member of the great new fraternity of those who have served their country. He returns to civil life and perchance to his union. He will note at once that his old comrades have not changed in the least, that the leaders are still filled with their own importance and a desire for office; that innovations are distrusted and that the same conception of the relations between capital and labor still prevail. He will probably also find his late employer inclined to be patronising, and expecting him to settle back to his job under exactly the same conditions as before. He will find his church still jogging along on the same lines; the same old cry for moral reform from exactly the same type of people as before; in a word, that while he has changed and everyone with whom he has been associated for the past few months has changed, those who have stayed at home have not changed and never can change until they are choked off their prejudices by some such convulsion as he himself has experienced. That is why some publicists believe that revolution may follow the war, not in one but several countries in Europe. That also is why such men as Mr. Wells are trying to make people think. If we are going to remain opportunists and Micawber-like, always wait for something to turn up before we show any signs of common sense, we may anticipate most troublous and uncomfortable times during the process of settlement after the war. For the essential difference between those who have served their country and those who have stayed at home is this. The former have learnt instinctively to think of others before themselves, while the latter are still sunk to the axles in the slough of their own petty interests.

THE WORKERS AND THE STATE

What we really have to consider when discussing "what is coming" to our social existence after the war is this. Germany for a considerable number of years has led the world in legislation for the improvement of working class conditions. The News-Advertiser last week splashed across its front page "The New Workmen's Compensation Act is the Best in the World," or words to that effect. Presumably the author of that piece of legislation claims it as the best in the world, quite oblivious of the fact that he put forward a similar claim for a similar act during the last session. He believes the act as now drawn with the support and advice of the astute Mr. J. H. McVety of the Trades and Labor Council and two other commissioners, will secure him the labor vote. The experience of Germany with such legislation is not only very large but very complicated. The acts have been amended several times but are now generally admitted to be "the best in the world." But Germany long ago recognised that if she intended to dominate the commercial world she must make her workmen not only efficient but more or less content. What Germany did not recognise was that if you educate the people, as she educated them, for the purpose of creating wealth and power for the state, eventually they will think that they, after all, constitute the state and are capable of ruling. No country in the world was so far advanced as Germany in socialistic legislation, because Germany's rulers saw that the inevitable outcome of Socialism was to centre all power in the state. "L'etat c'est moi" said Louis XIVth—and his words have often been echoed by William IInd of Germany.

GERMANY'S MILITARY AUTOCRACY

It was conscription in Germany which helped her for so long to maintain discipline and order throughout the state and to instil into her people that orderliness and method which has so distinguished her commercial as well as her military development. Under the circumstances the rulers of Germany invariably depended finally upon the army. The army stood not only between Germany and the world, but between Germany's rulers and people. However far these rulers advanced social legislation they were absolutely determined that the advance must not entail any loss of personal power. No popular movement of any kind must presume to assume popular control. The whole contest between the Social-Democratic party and the Emperor was for control. Democracy was fighting autocracy, but autocracy was using all the weapons of democracy. Because Germany has run amuck, obsessed with the idea of world domination, all that was admirable in German methods is not destroyed. We must learn to recognise the dividing line between the practice which was the basis of Germany's success and the theory which was the basis of her madness. Directly she attempted to turn that theory into practice she failed. That is why so many believe that the tragedy of Germany is greater even than that of the nations she has temporarily crushed. She has earned the hatred and contempt of the whole world outside Germany. Her really wonderful organisation has been turned against herself as a destructive agency. Her creed of "the state can do no wrong" has plunged her into abysmal depths of infamy and warped the whole genius of her people.

OUR FUNDAMENTAL WEAKNESS

There is a great deal of difference between the state serving the people and the people serving the state. Find the balance between the two and you will probably discover the best form of government. All history and thus all experience teaches that under the autocratic rule of a strong monarch and a clever minister, a state becomes wealthy and powerful, respected and prosperous. Under a democracy, that is the rule of the people, it graduallly decays. Athens, Venice, Rome, Holland, have all been excellent examples of this historic rule. Today the spread of education and the enormous extension of the press has altered matters considerably. The newspapers, rightly considered, should hold the balance between the people and the state. In former days such men as Richelieu, Cromwell, Pericles, Napoleon, and even Bismarck, did not have to pay very much attention to the press. They made the people serve the state and in their own persons they made the state serve the people. In a democracy, such as we have in Canada, the state is only too anxious to serve the people through one party or the other, but there is no attempt made by the people to serve the state. Therein lies our fundamental weakness. As long as the state or government serves our individual purpose or interest, we support it or ignore it according to our taste. The moment it does not serve us we try to get rid of it. This is not only an individual but a general trait. The Yellow Knights of Columbus, The Blue Ladies of Gretna, The Amalgamated Brotherhood of Baize Stretchers, The Associated Fraternity of Undertakers The Anti-Theatrical League, The Melancholy Sunday Alliance—all have their own petty interests which are to them far greater than those of the whole state. Politicians must pander to as many fads of such interests as possible in order to obtain their support. Not one of these interests considers they have a duty first to the state. It is not until war comes and threatens them that they unite in a common danger.

NATIONAL SERVICE FOR LABOR

Now supposing that instead of every able-bodied man being made to serve the state for two or three years as a soldier or conscript, every able-bodied man from 19 to 22 was made to serve the state as a laborer. For two or three years every citizen of Canada would work for Canada on precisely the same terms as he fights for her today. He would be paid for his work, housed, fed and clothed by the government. But the government recognising that to turn the whole manhood of the state into two or three years of unproductive labor was inefficient and wasteful, would TURN THE MANHOOD OF THE STATE TO PRODUCTIVE WORK. This form of National Service would be conducted under precisely the same conditions as military service is elsewhere. Such work would entail physical training as well as very effective and much needed lessons in discipline and understanding of one's fellow men. Such a system would form a permanent army of labor which would act like a sponge in preventing any unemployment. The regular army, together with those serving their period of national service, would undertake all government work, which at present is left to private enterprise, seemingly entirely financed by the government. The men in that army could be taught how to shoot straight and their work would fit them for most work in the field in case of defence. But they would form a real citizen army, an army that is essentially a peace army and which in all probability would be entirely paying its way by its own productive work.

NATIONAL UNPREPAREDNESS

Under peaceful circumstances neither in Canada nor the United States is there an army of any kind worthy of the name. The problem of preparedness in the United States is being met by exactly the form of opposition noted in a preceding paragraph. Each state wishes to preserve its own little army. It desires not to have a national army but a series of separate state armies under separate state control and separate state commands, none of which would be efficient, none trained, none of any use in war time, because there had been no co-ordination in peace. Why? Simply because the interests of various politicians in various states demand that the money paid out for the army should be of benefit to the state. There is no sense of service to the nation, no attempt to get the best system of national defence. Secretary Garrison resigns and President Wilson changes his mind about the system he had previously endorsed and now holds to the state principle because there is an election in sight. He asks a notorious pacifist like Newton D. Baker to become secretary for war, thus trying to pander to the peace at any price parties and at the same time gain the confidence of those politicians who place the interests of their state far above those of the country. That is an excellent example of how democracy works. The rule of the people invariably means the rule of the demagogue. Those who make the most noise attract the most attention. You cannot mention rational defence or common sense preparedness without being accused of militarism. "I did not raise my son to be a soldier" becomes the sacred hymn of a nation's motherhood. All idea of the son being a citizen of the state is cast aside for fear lest that son may have to sacrifice his life for the state instead of the state eternally pandering to his material ease and comfort.

A PATHETIC SPECTACLE

That is why some system of national service is imperative to a nation. The Republic of France is perhaps the greatest democracy in the world, but at the back of the republic is the citizen army. Every man in France serves and the impression left by service lasts all through life. But there is no training of any kind in the democracies of Great Britain, the United States and Canada. Australia and New Zealand, surely among the most advanced democracies of the day, have adopted national service with magnificent results. The people of Australia recognized that they could not make laws against other nations without endangering their own safety. Therefore they came to the common sense conclusion that if democracy desires to make laws it must also take the responsibility of protecting those laws. Was there ever in this world a more pathetic spectacle than the United States with its 100,000,000 inhabitants, its war-incentive Monroe doctrine, and its helpless army and navy. The response to President Wilson's appeal for 20,000 volunteers for Mexico resulted in ten days in adding 1269 men to the ranks of the army. Yet politicians in the United States talk about keeping Europe out of the western hemisphere; grandiloquently proclaim the day when the "Stars and Stripes shall wave from the North Pole to Panama"; and in Congress speak as if every nation in the world were inferior to the great American nation. Meanwhile a common-place bandit like Villa walks into a military camp and "shoots it up." Surely the melancholy spectacle which the United States presents to an astonished world is sufficient proof of the utter want of common sense exhibited by a "great and free democracy." Is Canada going to learn her lesson in time from this spectacle or is she going to drift back to what she was before the war? Judging by the attitude of a good many of our legislators, politicians, ward-heelers and societies for the promulgation of hysteria among a rather muddled democracy, Canada will drift along as before. But fortunately Canada has made her sacrifice and learnt the lesson of service to the state, and the men who return from the war will not allow Canada to drift into her old backwaters.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Let us once and for all get out of our heads that national service is a crime. But let us get into our heads the idea of making national service productive. The politicians will be afraid to handle an issue of this kind as they fear the result of the labor vote and assume that labor would fight to the last gasp against the introduction of national service on the lines suggested. But the politicians are so used to their own little associations and ward circles that they look on the unions as finally representative of labor. The unions are just as much honeycombed with intrigue and politics by the leaders of unionism as any other body in the country. Their primary purpose is to monopolize labor so that the supply if possible is never quite up to the demand in particular trades. Thus if at any time they want anything they can force their desires on the employers. The employers cannot blame the unions. The latter have had to fight for every privilege they have ever gained and their only weapon has been the refusal to work or to allow others to work. Perhaps the war will serve to change these conditions somewhat. The greater portion of the returned soldiers will not be handled by the unions, but by the government. If the unions had been able, temporarily at least, to forget their own interests, they might have thrown themselves heart and soul into this problem and long ago determined on some course by which they would have co-operated with all employers throughout the Dominion, so that every labor temple would have been the equivalent of a Labor Exchange. They would not have waited, any more than the government should have waited, for outside enterprise to suggest labor bureaus and a general co-ordination of all enterprises engaged in the problem of finding employment for the men who return from the war. To the honor of the unions let it be said that they have nobly risen to their responsibilities as far as their own members are concerned, but they might have gone further and initiated a system of distribution of labor throughout the Dominion which would have made a magnificent basis on which to construct a permanent policy of employment.

ABSURD OF COURSE—BUT YET!

It is of the utmost importance to the economic health of the whole community that as far as possible there should be no unemployment. Conditions in Canada are such that at certain seasons of the year there is more work than labor, and at other seasons more labor than work. The advantage of approaching this problem from the point of view of National Service is this. Large bodies

A Vancouver Man Who is a National Figure

JOHN MACKAY was not born in Zorra nor in the County of Bruce. Though starting out into the world with these two great handicaps, he persevered and became a great man in the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

He was born near Kintore, Oxford County, Ont., a short distance from the base line between East Nissouri and West Zorra, on the east Nissouri side, hence near enough to catch much of the spirit of the Zorras. Then at twelve years of age they moved him to Lucknow, Bruce County.

In East Nissuori there were many non-Presbyterians and probably this fact may have had a bearing on the removal of the Mackay family. One Hielan' man had said of East Nissouri that "There are three kinds of people there—the Lord's people, the Devil's people and those Days." The Days were many in numbers, a family progressive in business and active in politics, were not of Covenanter stock, and consequently regarded with suspicion by certain of the more old-fashioned pioneers from Sutherlandshire.

At seventeen years of age John Mackay was the teacher at Holyrood School, at Holyrood, Ont. There were eighty pupils on the roll and

Rev. Prin. John Mackay, B.A., D.D.

the young school master was paid a salary of $375 a year.

He taught at Holyrood for two years and when his health broke down he went home to Lucknow for a short period. He went to Detroit when he recovered his health and worked in the coal trade for two years. He worked his way through Toronto University. He worked his way through Glasgow University. In 1902 he came to the Crescent Street Presbyterian Church in Montreal, one of the six largest Presbyterian Churches in Canada. He preached there for seven years. Then he came to Vancouver, founded Westminster Hall, the local Presbyterian College. He is at present Principal of Westminster Hall, President of the organization which owns Langarra and Braemar Schools in Vancouver, and is Moderator of the Synod of British Columbia. Rev. John Mackay, D.D., is an orator and writer. Few men in Canada have a wider personal influence. His father and mother were immigrants from Sutherlandshire nearly a hundred years ago. They helped to silve the land problem in Ontario and many other problems. They came to Canada to get away from over-lordism and tyranny. Is it any wonder that Westminster Hall man should have a word to say occasionally about the enemies of democracy when they show their heads either inside or outside of the gates of the Empire?

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of men would be available in different centres for distribution to where there was work. There would be a regular standing army of workers which would form the nucleus of the whole system. At certain periods this army might be extremely small as drafts were made upon it by private enterprise. But at the same time there would be the two or three year service brigades who would be reserved for national work. It is a curious fact that thousands of men will willingly risk their lives to kill other men or conquer territory, but would laugh at the idea of serving a short period of their existence in an army whose main purpose was constructive. They will volunteer to spend months in a muddy trench in Flanders, but would think it extraordinary to volunteer to build a highway through British Columbia. Yet the war has brought about a change which is bound to revolutionize conditions. In Great Britain today there is a huge army of voluntary workers not in private employment, but the employment of the state. Their total earnings are enormous. "What is to come" out of this entirely new condition? You cannot dismantle your factories and turn the workers out on to the street. You can only gradually turn them to other and more productive work. Here, however, you have the basis of National Service.

UNSKILLED LABOR

It is no use to dismiss the problem which has thus arisen by the easy route of the nationalisation of industry. We have apparently taken many long strides along the road to such a result but immediately we direct the energies of these new voluntary workers into productive channels, we introduce the element of competition between national and private enterprise. The market problems of supply and demand cannot be entirely regulated and the prices of manufactured articles are regulated by supply and demand. The millenium as depicted by Edward Bellamy in "Looking Backward" is not yet, but there is an immense amount of national productive enterprise which should gradually absorb the surplus labor of what may be called industrial competitive enterprise and stabilise the demand and supply of labor. There is skilled and unskilled labor and it is to the problem of unskilled labor particular attention should be directed. If all unskilled labor is constantly employed there will be very little skilled labor unemployed. The proulem is really only touched on here. No attempt is made to work it out to any logical conclusion. The need of the day is for men calmly to sit down and think out the possibilities of the future, basing their reasoning not on the prejudices of the past but on what is happening today. It will not do to generalize. Each phase of the situation must be examined, each different kind of labor carefully scheduled. It is in this kind of reasoning that Germany has led the way and made many practical experiments.

A MAGNIFICENT OPPORTUNITY

The men who have served Canada at the front are naturally not going to be satisfied with the old conditions. We cannot expect them, after experiencing the tremendous stimulant of organized effort, to calmly acquiesce in the old haphazard methods. Canada has an extraordinary opportunity to lead the way on this hemisphere and by so doing to increase her population and wealth at a very great rate. We are accustomed to follow the lines of least resistance and worry ourselves with all kinds of fads and fancies imported from the United States, which is the happy hunting ground of quackery. This war has put us years ahead of our great neighbor in the possibilities of adapting ourselves to "what is coming." Our labor unions and our various associations for various purposes were never before so united on one object, nor so unselfishly looking to the good of the state. The war has made us pull together, it would be a thousand pities if peace were to pull us apart once more. The men who will return to us from the war, added to the thousands of people who are quite likely to emigrate to Canada after the war, should form a nucleus on which we can all combine. If we can solve our labor problem through some such method as has been suggested, there will be a tremendous influx of people and capital from the United States.

WATERED MILK

There is only one way of tackling this problem of "what is coming" after the war. The Dominion government should consult with each Provincial government and discover exactly what can and cannot be done. Presumably if matters are left as they are the employers are expected to take back the men who have enlisted regardless altogether of circumstances which may then exist, or whether the returned men will be fit or even willing to accept the old life. These men have seen a vision, they have had the scales torn from their eyes, and have faced life nakedly. They cannot be expected to be content with the old life. They will come back to a land popularly supposed to be flowing with milk and honey and find the milk watered because a bacteriologist has persuaded some association that pure mlik is liable to bring on fatty degeneration, and the stickiness taken out of the honey because some children have spoilt their clothes while eating it. They will find the whole tendency of modern legislation towards protecting this or that person from this or that temptation. They will find the real wealth of the land and the productive power of the people remain atrophied simply because this or that legislature cannot borrow more money to carry on public work and private enterprise will not invest because it never knows what legislation may be discovered necessary to the salvation of the people.

BREAK NEW GROUND

It is no use crying out that this or that suggestion is socialistic or futile. We have to abandon our line of thought and seriously consider whether we are going. Are we to cling to our old beliefs and our old prejudices which have proved their weakness when we have the opportunity, if only we had the will, to break entirely new ground. Canada of all nations is most favored because she has such an enormous variety of resources and a variable climate. Here on the Pacific Coast we flatter ourselves we are virile and all that is summed up by "western." Judging by our actions we are no more progressive than the east. Anyone with foresight or imagination can glimpse some of the vast possibilities which have become practicable through the war, and think how to deal with them. But when we turn to the legislature the people despair. The whole issue at Victoria is simply whether a petty little party politician can keep himself in office by pandering to every interest which comes along with some new demand. There is not the slightest indication of statesmanship or determination to provide for the future on proper lines. It should take weeks and months of hard concentrated work to lay the foundations of any policy on which we can build our future. Instead first one bill and then another is rushed through the legislature as a proof of "business." We have to begin at the beginning. We have to ask what gave Germany her strength and would have given her the domination of the world—if she had not gone to war. It was her attention to detail and her recognition of the fact that a nation to be prosperous cannot afford to waste its material resources, either human or natural. One of the first things for which we have to legislate is the elimination of human waste. Once that is accomplished we have to concentrate on the development of our natural resources. National service should not be confined to militarism. It should embrace productive work as well as thought.

—CRITICUS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS

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

HOLDING UP THE RETAIL MERCHANTS

THE agitation for a compulsory half-holiday for clerks is going merrily forward. Citizens do not seem to realize that if this measure is put into effect a sad blow will be struck to the business life of the city.

While it would appear that a weekly half-holiday would be desirable from the standpoint of employers and employees, it does not seem the right thing that the privilege of settling upon the date of the half-holiday should not be left to the people directly concerned.

Anyone who has made the most superficial investigation of the situation knows that Saturday afternoon, in the city of Vancouver at least, has become the biggest buying day in the week. Among the daily newspapers Friday is the big day for the retail advertisers. They spend hundreds of thousands of dollars every month putting forward special advertisements every Friday of wares which are to be offered on Saturday afternoon.

There is a merchant on Hastings Street who employs eight clerks the year around. Last Friday these eight clerks took in a total of $85.00. The following afternoon the same eight clerks took in over $600.00. This may be taken as a typical case. Saturday is the big day for the retailer and the retailers and the consumers have been educated up to the habit of doing most of their buying during the hours the agitators would be pleased to have the stores darkened.

Saturday afternoon is the buying day for the out-of-town trade. Visitors from the smaller centres up country, from the Fraser Valley, from points on Vancouver Island, come to Vancouver for the week-end. It is the most convenient time for them. They come each week-end in large numbers and there coming has meant the keeping alive of a good many retail institutions in this city during good and bad times. We are a city, not in anywise self-supporting. We are dependent absolutely upon the outside. It would scarcely be good business to place upon the statute books any legislation calculated to cut Vancouver off from the outside communities. There is no doubt but that Saturday closing would be a splendid institution for Eaton and Company of Winnipeg and Toronto. It would be a good thing for the mail order houses. For these outside institutions may do business every day in the week that railways, post offices and express companies keep open.

The tourist who strikes Vancouver on a Saturday afternoon and finds the stores closed will think that he has come to a city of the dead. He will likely take the first train out. If he is an American he will head directly for Seattle and the change of garments Canadian laws prohibit him from buying in Vancouver on Saturday afternoon.

The weekly half-holiday proposal might well be left in the hands of the merchants and their employees for settlement. The British way has proved satisfactory. In the old country they have their weekly half-holiday but no Prussian rule is made that it shall be on any one afternoon. This matter is settled by the parties interested and the half-holidays are distributed over the week among the trades in such a manner that every business is closed a half day during the week—the day most suitable to the particular trade interested.

It would seem that if the clerks are well advised they will co-operate with the heads of the firms and turn a deaf ear to political tricksters who apparently have created the Saturday afternoon boon as a commodity to trade for votes. Such co-operation upon the question of the half-holiday might result in more and better business for the retail trade of Vancouver, and more and better positions for intelligent and efficient clerks.

THE WOES OF THE MOVIE MEN

BRITISH COLUMBIA, from the point of view of the moving picture producer and the moving picture exhibitor, is the Jonah among the Provinces and States.

We have here a censorship of motion pictures more strict than anything of the kind which exists over the North American film. The moving picture censor has complete control over the motion picture industry in this Province. He has caused exhibitors tremendous losses and has robbed the public of the pleasure of viewing many an artistic production.

So severe did the local Caesar's censorship become that the producers down New York way thought it would be a good idea to teach some of the people of British Columbia a lesson. They therefore held a meeting and decided that each house should release 500 feet of film each week which would set forth scenes and stories calculated to hold British Columbia up to the ridicule of the world.

This was rather a severe threat and had it been carried into effect the damage that would have been done this province would have been incalculable. Because the motion picture business of America has a world-wide circulation.

The producers had a scheme whereby they would show for instance a picture, entitled, "Street Scene in Vancouver." There would be set forth after this caption a scene showing a farmer stuck with a team of horses in a mud hole in front of a rickety building which would be marked "City Hall."

Another picture would claim to set forth "Fine Building Lots at Port Mann." This picture would show some of the famous industrial scenery in that sub-division which went to the unwary at a thousand a front foot.

We do not know what the picture producers said to the British Columbia authorities. But we do know that since the plan was first printed the censorship has relaxed somewhat.

Now the Government has a new way of getting after owners of picture houses. They are granting close corporation privileges to the moving picture machine operators and centralizing all power formerly held by the municipalities in a department of the Government at Victoria. In fact every phase of the motion picture business has been brought, like the whiskey trade, under the order-in-council.

In time the motion picture trade in this Province will be released from bondage. In the meantime if the government is making any changes in the act, it might be well to incorporate some of the ideas which have been applied in other communities. Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba have a joint censorship at Winnipeg. This cuts down the cost of administration and saves the picture exhibitors time and money. They have a board at Winnipeg and the ruling of this body is seldom questioned by the picture people.

FREE TRADE LEAGUE FOR WESTERN CANADA

"EVERY tax ought to be so contributed as both to take out and keep out of the pockets of the people as little as possible over and above what it brings into the public treasury"—this from Adam Smith in the "Wealth of Nations." This summing up of the whole free trade platform has been accepted as the motto of a new organization which has come into existence at Winnipeg.

A movement is on foot to hold a convention at an early date, at some central point, for the permanent organization of a Free Trade League. A provisional organization has been effected in Winnipeg, for the purpose of carrying out the necessary preliminary work to holding the convention. Very considerable work will have to be done in the direction of publicity and detail before the proposed convention can be held. The first thing undertaken by the provisional committee was to consult with leading free traders throughout the West by correspondence. The result of this correspondence has been most gratifying. In almost every instance enthusiastic replies have been received offering co-operation and assistance in every way possible. The belief has been generally expressed that the time is more than ripe for the organization of a great movement for trade freedom. As an indication of the general favor with which the proposal has been received it may be stated that about $1,000 has been voluntarily subscribed, practically without solicitation or publicity effort.

In the provisional organization a special effort has been made to select a committee who would give their time and attention to the work of the league, rather than to select more widely-known names. The local committee in charge of the preliminary work is composed of experienced workers, who will give their time unstintingly to the cause of reform.

Following are the names of the provisional advisory board and local committee: Dr. Michael Clark, M.P., Red Deer, Alberta; Alex. Macdonald, wholesale merchant, Winnipeg, honary presidents; D. W. Buchanan, president; E. J. Fream, Calgary, vice-president for Alberta; C. A. Dunning, Regina, vice-president for Saskatchewan; R. C. Henders, Culross, vice-president for Manitoba; Hugh Mackenzie, treasurer; S. J. Farmer, secretary; F. M. Black, Geo. Lane, R. J. Deachman, A. J. Samis, Geo. H. Ross, Calgary, Alta; Hon. Chas. Stewart, Edmonton, Alta; H. W. Wood, Carstairs, Alta; G. P. Smith, M.L.A., Camrose, Alta; Hon. Geo. Langley, Wm. Trant, Regina; J. B. Musselman, Dr. W. H. Wardell, Moose Jaw; Cecil St. John, Minnedosa; W. R. Wood, M.L.A., Franklin; John Williams, M.L.A., Melita; L. St. George Stubbs, Birtle; F. J. Dixon, M.L.A.; R. L. Richardson, A. W. Puttee, Roderick McKenzie, Horace Westwood, D.D., Geo. F. Chipman, T. D. Robinson, J. W. Dafoe, Prof. F. S. Jacobs, E. D. Martin, W. S. Archibald, W. D. Bayley, J. S. Woodsworth, M. T. McKittrick, A. V. Thomas, Prof. S. G. Bland, D.D., John J. Moncrieff, Wm. Moffatt, D. E. Peddie, W. D. Price, John W. Ward, J. R. Murray, R. M. Mobius, A. E. Darbey, Winnipeg.

A temporary office has been opened at 406 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg, where further information desired may be secured. The committee are anxious to hear at once from men and women in all parts of the country who are in sympathy with the movement and who wish to become members or are willing to assist by soliciting members, securing subscriptions to the funds of the League, distributing literature, etc. The membership fee has been placed at $1.00 for the present. Those who can afford to give more may contribute accordingly. A large fund will be required to do really effective work. Address Free Trade League of Canada, 406 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg.

BETTER STEAL THE ENTIRE RAILWAY

CHARGED with stealing five cents from the Edmonton street arilway company, a man tried once, was again remanded, owing to the illness of the prosecutor. We would strongly advise this unfortunate individual when starting on his next thieving expedition to steal a gold mine, timber limit, or even a few million acres of choice land and thereby get "Sir" hitched on to his name. —Frontier Signal, Grand Prairie, Peace River.

IT IS ONLY natural that munition contractors should be expected to shell out.

* * *

IF WINTER CONTINUES to linger much longer in the lap of Spring, it would be quite justifiable to use a pin.

* * *

IN A FEW HOURS the Easter lid will be on all over the continent.

* * *

IT'S AN OFF DAY when General Villa's name does not appear in the casualty list.

SATURDAY CHINOOK

BREEZES OF INDIGNATION AND INFORMATION

THE PROPRIETOR OF a gallon of gasoline can look at the price of a box of early strawberries without blinking.

* * *

PRUNING THE CIVIC estimates is a popular pastime with the City Aldermen at present. Grafting will follow in due season.

* * *

ANY OLD RAKE can be used in the garden of love, but you require a hoe to plant potatoes.

* * *

IN THE SPRING an old man's fancy lightly turns to the place where he can get his lawn mower sharpened for two bits.

* * *

THIS IS THE open season for the war correspondents to forecast the terms of peace.

* * *

THOUSANDS OF NAMES on the local voters' lists have been objected to by the political party workers. Perhaps "My Lady doth protest too much."

* * *

LENT IS SPENT.

* * *

IT IS ALL RIGHT to consider the lilies of the valley, but the florists insist on a consideration for Easter lilies.

* * *

THE PROPOSED SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY for clerks would be popular with employers if it carried with it cessation of overhead expenses and relief from all business worries.

* * *

MR. BOWSER'S BENEVOLENCE in making it possible for a preacher to enter the legislature is explained in the result of the recent South Vancouver Conservative nomination held at Central Park. The Rev. Mr. Boulton is called upon to carry the banner of the party in South Vancouver.

* * *

WHAT IS THE attitude of the Rev. Mr. Boulton to his brethren who are fighting for justice over the publication of the "Crisis" pamphlet? Can Mr. Boulton support Bowser and be loyal to his fellow ministers of the Lower Mainland?

* * *

THE "OMINECA HERALD," the tribune of the people of the North Country, is about to commence a series of articles on the Land Question.

* * *

THE LITTLE "HERALD" has more grit and fearlessness to the square inch than any other paper large or small published in British Columbia.

* * *

THE EDITOR OF the HERALD is particularly interested in the land question, because every day he sees people pulling up stakes in that great rich northland and heading out of the country for the prairies.

* * *

"OUR FUTURE HOPE, the very existence of this paper is bound up in the settlement of the land," says the HERALD. True enough, the hope not only of New Hazleton but of every community in British Columbia is equally affected.

* * *

A THOUSAND MEN have gone to Saskatchewan to work within the past week we are told by one of the newspapers.

* * *

WE REMEMBER THAT the Liberals were accused of decrying the Province when, during the bye-election, they stated that men "were avoiding British Columbia." Some one is decrying the Province, and he is the head of the government which refuses to stir a hand to endeavor to make it possible for industrious men, heads of families, to make a living for their families without trekking every summer two thousand miles to the prairies.

* * *

WE OBSERVE THAT the Edmonton and Dunvegan Railway, the P. G. E. of Alberta, has now gone to Ottawa for a subsidy from the Federal Government. They have been kindly treated by the Liberal government of Alberta in the way of subsidies.

* * *

FROM THE WAY the news is running it would appear that a young man starting out in life would do well to take up either Government dredging, railway contracting, or gun buying for the Government.

* * *

THERE IS MORE money to be made out of gun buying for the Canadian Government than out of gun running for the Mexican Government.

* * *

A MOVEMENT IS on foot to get Pink McKelvie, the light weight amateur champion of the DAILY PROVINCE, to run for mayor next year.

* * *

TO BE CONSISTENTLY successful as a jitney driver one must cultivate the charms of the good politician—lift your hats to the dames and give the gentlemen lots of courtesy. Give them all lots of courtesy. It doesn't cost much and is as valuable in the jitney business as gasoline.

* * *

THE HEAD PRINTER says that the only consolation is that on the next hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's death it will not be necessary to set up the "copy" of Felix Penne.

* * *

"THEY DO TAKE MY life if they do take the means whereby I live," wailed the licensed brotherhood on the Three Hundredth Anniversary of the bard.

* * *

AND, BY THE WAY, Shakespeare, if all reports be true, was not strong for prohibition.

* * *

A PRAIRIE FARMER said the other day, "It can rain in B. C. with fewer preliminaries than anywhere else I have ever been in."

* * *

MR. BOWSER'S PROPOSAL regarding lands for soldiers is causing a terrible fuss in the North Country.

* * *

SOME OF THE people of Vancouver will remember how highly South African veterans valued their script. One man gave up a quarter section in the best part of Burnaby for $25.00.

RENTAL LIST

We are having a number of calls for five and seven room houses, in different parts of the City. We shall be glad to have your listings. No charge unless results obtained. See our Rental Department.

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FINANCIAL PAGE

CHANCES DOUBTFUL FOR DOMINION TRUST DEPOSITORS

Although the Dominion Trust Company has been in liquidation for a year and a half, the unfortunate depositors have as yet made little headway in their fight to be ranked as creditors. The depositors of the Company are not really depositors in the eyes of the law, as the Dominion Trust Company had been for some months previous to suspending payment, receiving deposits without charter powers to do so.

Mr. E. P. Davis, K.C., has, however, endeavored to have them admitted as creditors in the liquidation, upon the interpretation of the contract printed in their pass books. These effects have met with a severe jolt this week, however, before the Court of Appeal, where a decision was given that the depositors must give security for costs before they can proceed with their test cases in connection with their movement to be placed on the list as creditors. The Provincial Government has come to their assistance by retaining Mr. Davis to fight their cause, and unless the Government comes to their assistance now by guaranteeing the costs of the liquidator in opposing the claims, it is doubtful whether or not they can carry on the fight.

The depositors are said to number about five thousand, most of whom are unable to contribue towards the costs in question. The amount of costs in the contemplated action would possibly amount to $10,000, which would naturally be assessed against the depositors should their test cases fail.

The Government holds bonds for $250,000 given by the Dominion Trust Company for the due performances of trusts, but this money cannot be distributed until the point at issue is settled. Altogether, the chances of the depositors are not very encouraging.

* * *

BRITISH COLUMBIA BOND SALES

The Province will have an estimated deficit this year of about $4,500,000, and in all probability a loan to cover this amount will be made in due course. The Province recently received a very satisfactory figure for its agricultural credit bonds and a favorable market no doubt awaits the coming issue.

The complete statement of the loans effected by British Columbia since Confederation is as below. The loans since 1874 total $24,915,126. Of this amount loans to the extent of $4,191,980 have matured and been retired. The loans outstanding at the present time amount to $21,153,146. The sinking fund accumulated amounts to $2,563,428, leaving the net debt at $18,589,718.

* * *

WHAT WAR IS COSTING CANADA

Canada's war appropriation for the coming fiscal year totals $250,000,000. The objects for which this sum is to be voted are outlined as follows:

(a) The defence and security of Canada.

(b) The conduct of naval or military operations in or beyond Canada.

(c) Promoting the continuance of trade, industry and business communications, whether by means of insurance or indemnity against war risks or otherwise.

A year ago the appropriation asked from parliament was $100,000,000. Canada's army is now 290,000 men and still growing at the rate of about 1,000 a day. It has been estimated that it costs $1,000 a year to maintain a soldier.

* * *

THE FUSES

One cannot wonder that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the opposition generally are dissatisfied with a Royal Commission as a medium for the fuse investigation. This dissatisfaction is shared by many Conservatives who think beyond mere party lines, and by independent voters who are becoming more numerous and heartily sick of the pilfering and patronage business, federal and provincial. Royal Commissions, no matter how substantial their personnel, have in the aggregate proved farcical. They take voluminous evidence. But by the time their report is filed, half a dozen brand new scandals have arrived and those under investigation by the royal commission have either died, disappeared or been sent to a political refuge.

Sir Robert Borden should take a much stronger stand on this fuse and shell business. The citizens ask for that. They feel that something is wrong. The government must clean house, even if the loss of a cabinet minister is involved. Otherwise, the country will help the government to clean house and in a way which may prove surprising to the premier and his supporters.—Monetary Times.

THE GARDEN IN APRIL

The sunshine and gentle showers of April lure the gardener to fresh efforts, and no task is too arduous in view of the results which will accrue. One of the pleasantest of duties is the selection of flowers for summer blooming. Consideration should be given both to those that flourish best in the sunshine, and those that prefer the shade of dull corners. Nearly all the gay spring blossoms such as white arabis, yellow alyssum, silene (pink and white), pansies, aubretia, snapdragons, and dianthus respond to the warm rays of the sun. Then there is the bewildering array of stocks, asters, gladioli, the double blue lobelia, "Kathleen Mallard," sapphire and azure delphiniums, yellow and scarlet gaillardia, all the linaria, marigolds, coreopsis, and sunny eschscholtzia. Petunias are most prolific plants, hardy, and their bloom is both brilliant and abundant. Then there is the sun-loving portulaca, with its pink, scarlet, orange, and white marguerite-like flowers, which make a charming edging.

For growing in shady corners, choose giant ferns, Solomon's seal, yellow musk, mimulus in crimson, spotted and golden yellow, love-lies-bleeding, periwinkle, and tobacco plants. The latter have a delicious fragrance, and are very prolific bloomers.

Tea and hybrid tea-scented roses should be pruned in early April to ensure safety. The Scottish briar roses do not need pruning, excepting during the first spring after planting, and this rule applies to that section known as the Penzance hybrid sweetbriars. Polyantha roses need only to have the centre of the little dwarf bushes kept open and dead stems cut away from time to time. All pruning should be done with a knife or secateurs made for the purpose, and only a clean wound should be allowed. Jagged wood and torn bark at the end of the stem is productive of much harm to the bushes thus mutilated.

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TAKE NOTICE of the intention of Malcolm, Summers and Ford Limited to apply to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies for the change of the name of the Company to "Summers and Ford Limited."

Dated at Vancouver, this 8th day of April, A. D. 1916.

R. S. FORD, Secretary.
Mercantile Building, Vancouver, B.C.

Production and Thrift

"CANADA from her abundance can help supply the Empire's needs, and this must be a comforting thought for those upon whom the heavy burden of directing the Empire's affairs has been laid. Gain or no gain the course before the farmers of Canada is as clear as it was last year—they must produce abundantly in order to meet the demands that may be made and I believe this to be especially true in regard to live stock, the world's supply of which must be particularly affected in this vast struggle. Stress and strain may yet be in store for us all before this tragic conflict is over, but not one of us doubts the issue, and Canadians will do their duty in the highest sense of that great word."—*HON. MARTIN BURRELL, Minister of Agriculture.*

"MODERN war is made by resources, by money, by foodstuffs, as well as by men and by munitions. While war is our first business, it is the imperative duty of every man in Canada to produce all that he can, to work doubly hard while our soldiers are in the trenches, in order that the resources of the country may not only be conserved, but increased, for the great struggle that lies before us. *'Work and Save'* is a good motto for War-time."—*SIR THOMAS WHITE, Minister of Finance.*

THE CALL OF EMPIRE COMES AGAIN IN 1916

TO CANADIAN FARMERS, DAIRYMEN, FRUIT GROWERS, GARDENERS

WHAT IS NEEDED? THESE IN PARTICULAR—

WHEAT, OATS, HAY,
BEEF, PORK, BACON,
CHEESE, EGGS, BUTTER, POULTRY,
CANNED FRUITS, FRUIT JAMS,
SUGAR, HONEY, WOOL, FLAX FIBRE,
BEANS, PEAS, DRIED VEGETABLES

We must feed ourselves, feed our soldiers, and help feed the Allies. The need is greater in 1916 than it was in 1915. The difficulties are greater, the task is heavier, the need is more urgent, the call to patriotism is louder—therefore be thrifty and produce to the limit.

"THE AGRICULTURAL WAR BOOK FOR 1916" is now in the press. To be had from The Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA 2

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

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Compensation—

SOME SPECIFIC CASES

In order that the general public may understand to a slight degree the position in which the owners of licensed premises will be placed, should a prohibition referendum, without provision for compensation, be carried at the polls, two specific cases are here given.

Mr. S. Sutor, Proprietor of the Empress Hotel, Chilliwack.

Mr. Sutor purchased this hotel in 1912, paying $52,000 for the business and property. To carry through the sale he was obliged to borrow $20,000 on first mortgage, the money being secured from Belgium by Waghorn, Gwynn & Co. A second mortgage for $8000 was also rendered necessary. In the last four years Mr. Sutor has expended over $8000 in order to keep his hotel up to a high standard. Should a prohibition referendum without compensation carry, the entire life-savings of Mr. Sutor will be totally lost and the security of the mortgagees seriously threatened.

Mr. Wm. Dowling, Proprietor of the Miller Hotel, Ymir.

Mr. Dowling purchased this hotel six years ago, the place being then a country hotel property which fully met the public demands. Shortly after, on the demand of the authorities, he made improvements at a cost of $1000. The next year he was obliged to make extensive alterations, on the demand of the authorities, to make the bedrooms a few inches larger. The following year additional demands were made which meant an expenditure of $1500. To finance these improvements, the owner was compelled to borrow the money. If he is now put out of business, to use his own words, "I am ruined."

The above cases are not isolated instances as similar stories, differing only as to detail, could be given again and again.

The reader is asked to place himself in the position of Mr. Sutor, Mr. Dowling, or others similarly placed, and ask himself the question as to whether it is fair for the government to submit legislation which would put him out of business, without making some provision for compensation.

Pacific and Great Eastern Rly. and Province of B.C.

* * * * * * * * *

British Columbia Financial TIMES Comes to Defence of Messrs. Foley, Welch and Stewart, dwelling at great length on the Need of Railways to the Province and the "Disadvantage" labored by owners. "Help a poor blind man" is the argument now.

* * * * * * * * *

Of the many arguments which have been put up in favor of allowing Messrs. Foley, Welch and Stewart free entrance to the British Columbia strong room, an article appearing in a recent issue of the British Columbia Financial TIMES is probably the most interesting. In it the writer handles the case for the contractors in a masterly manner and presents material which will be interesting to the citizens generally.

That Messrs. Foley, Welch and Stewart *individually have gone on* a covenant to complete the road is a point which the writer in the financial paper claims to be important. He says that in all their enterprises, Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann always drew the line at going personally behind any of their promotions.

The writer blames the war for much of Foley, Welch and Stewart's alleged financial trouble and also failure of the real estate market at Squamish, D'arcy and other points on the new line of Railway.

Both these misfortunes have not—though this is not pointed out—interfered with the firm of Foley, Welch and Stewart going ahead with immense ship-building projects in the United States, as announced recently in the newspapers, while the grade of the P. G. E. is disintegrating under the spring rains of British Columbia.

The following is the article from the British Columbia Financial TIMES:

The necessity and reasonablenss of the Province of British Columbia giving aid to the Pacific Gerat Eastern Railway for the completion of its line become manifest when the present position and the future of this great North and South transportation undertaking is fully considered.

To date the railway is completed from Squamish, at the head of Howe Sound, to Clinton, and this part of the line is in operation. From Clinton to Fort George, where it taps the Grand Trunk Pacific, only grading has been completed. It thus begins at tide water and ends nowhere.

According to a detailed statement of expenditures printed elsewhere in this issue and vouched for by officials of the railway company, the Pacific Great Eastern has spent to December 31, 1915, $28,292,398, of which the Government has suppleid, through the sale by the railway company of its Provincially guaranteed bonds, $19,385,120, leaving a net balance of cash supplied by the contractors of $8,907,278.

To finish building the railway from Clinton to Fort George, thus enabling the railway to handle transcontinental freight, it is estimated by the Provincial Government engineers, a cash outlay of about $6,500,000 will be required.

With about $23,000,000 of securities outstanding, bearing 4 1-2 per cent. interest or pledged, the Pacific Great Eastern is paying fixed charges of $1,000,000 per year. This interest charge must be met although, because of its inability to connect with Fort George, it is unable to handle the considerable revenue producing freight both to and from Vancouver through this connection with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Furthermore, it is the unfortunate experience of graded lines that have not been laid with rails and ballasted to sustain a very heavy loss because of depreciation through washouts and other disintegrating effects to roadbed. The railway company estimates that if no rails are laid on the graded line from Clinton to Fort George this year the loss involved will be about $1,000,000. Thus, by way of interest and depreciation, the company will suffer a loss of $8,000,000 this year and this also means the serious delay of a year in preparedness to take advantage of the after war conditions, which, it is confidently expected, will initiate a tide of westward immigration from Europe of which British Columbia will get its share.

The demand from some sources for investigation of expenditures on the railway by the Government, before the Government should extend aid to the company, is made without an understanding of the facts. An investigation perhaps should be undertaken at an early date if for no other purpose than to satisfy public opinion as to value being received for the work done. But this investigation can be carried on concurrently with the prosecution of construction. The company invites an examination of the work done by any responsible railway engineer who could in view of an expenditure of only $18,000,000 arrive at a very close estimate as to whether value has been received from the expenditure.

But the question of value being received is really more important to the owners than to the Province.

The principle back of the construction of the Pacific Great Eastern is different from that of the construction of the Canadian Northern Pacific. In the latter case the covenant of only the Canadian Northern Railway is held. Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann are not personally held on that covenant. But in the case of the Pacific Great Eastern the members of the firm of Foley, Welch & Stewart are individually liable on their personal covenants for the completion of the road. If, for instance, Foley, Welch & Stewart sold their interest to another company or firm, they each would be liable under the covenant for the completion of the road, unless relieved by an act of the Legislature of British Columbia. The Province of British Columbia certainly appears to have given itself ample protection in this undertaking. By lending the railway company money for immediate construction, the liability of Foley, Welch & Stewart is *not affected and recourse can be had* as easily six months or a year hence as at present and can be as easily enforced. The Province is losing nothing in proceeding with construction pending an investigation, but in fact is saving $2,000,000, the loss of which would be borne by the railway or the Government. Someone will have to pay for this loss. If, however, in the opinion of the Government, the investigation should prove wasteful and extravagant work on the part of the contractor, the Government could then take the same action as was open to it if the work had been suspended—with this advantage, however, that *the unnecessary loss involved in the* suspension of work would be saved.

But the crux of the matter lies in a different direction. Mr. Patrick Welch is the general contractor for the railway. He is on the covenant with the Government along with the other members of Foley, Welch & Stewart, and on completion of the railway will be one of the owners of it with the other members of Foley, Welch & Stewart. An examination of detailed statement of expenditures presented shows that to December 31, 1915, the contractor, or Foley, Welch & Stewart spent nearly nine million dollars more than received *from the proceeds of bond sales.* Thus it is evident that the railway cannot be constructed for the amount of the guarantee, namely $42,000 per mile. The balance must be made up out of the pockets of Foley, Welch & Stewart. Is it not therefore plain that so-called profits for construction is a misnomer? P. Welch, as a contractor, makes a profit on construction by subcontracting for less than the amount of the whole contract. P. Welch, as an owner, in reality makes a saving by that much so-called profit to himself and that of his co-partners on his covenant with the Government, and reduces his liabilities as an owner by that much less weight of securities or loans upon the railway company and upon which he must pay interest.

The direct interest, therefore, of Mr. P. Welch, as well as the interest of the Province, is to keep the cost of construction as low as possible. By consulting the table of expenditures it will be noted that there is an item of Sub-contractors' Losses amounting to $1,085,969. It would thus appear that either some of the sub-contractors did not know the extent of the work they tendered on or that P. Welch drove too hard a bargain. At any rate, he had to come to their assistance or take over the finishing of these various sub-contracts. A good part of the cost of finishing this work is represented in the above item.

If, as is shown, it is to the direct interest of Foley, Welch and Stewart to save as much as possible, it still may be charged that they are efficient and therefore extravagant. The history of this firm for a quarter of a century does not bear out this contention. Most of the money they have made has been made in railway construction and these men have built more mileage in the Dominion than any other contractors. They have been identified with the heavy construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Canadian Northern and the Canadian Pacific railways, and on none of these contracts, or other great public works which they have built, has it been stated that they lost considerable sums of money. They certainly have the widest experience, the greatest knowledge of this class of construction, a strong organization and tremendous equipment for economically handling of such an undertaking. Added to this they are very responsible men. They have carried through every work they have ever undertaken and they have been associated with some of the greatest public works in the Dominion. The very large Canadian Pacific work, the Rogers Pass Tunnel, was given to this firm on the basis of cost and percentage. While ability and efficiency might not be the only consideration in giving this huge work to this firm, it seems reasonable to suppose that they were the chief. Extravagance in construction can never be charged against Foley, Welch & Stewart.

In weighing the situation of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, due regard must be given to the gravity of the conditions brought about by the war. New public works undertakings have found it practically impossible to surmount these conditions. The war has had an almost paralysing effect upon the operations of this company. It had invested over two million dollars in land from which in the ordinary course of business it would have had an immediate and commensurate return and which would have provided a fund for financing the main undertaking. As the situation exists today, the company has not disposed of one foot of land nor obtained the least return upon any of the capital expended by it. Everything has been disbursement up to the present time without a dollar coming back. The limit of the company's resources in this respect has now been reached. With several millions invested in the enterprise, the company can expect no relief in the ordinary course of business until after the termination of the war. Government assistance in the shape of a loan at the present time is therefore not only necessary but completely justifiable under the circumstances, and must be forthcoming if the work of building this North and South arterial line is not to come to a standstill and be for the present abandoned.

The serious handicap under which the company is laboring through war conditions is illustrated by conditions which preceded the outbreak of the war. Due to the fact that a railway always enhances the value of the land it serves with transportation, it has been the experience of railways in course of construction to defray in considerable measure the cost of construction by the proceeds of the sale of railway lands and townsites. The Canadian Northern Railway, through the sale of its lands in Montreal, defrayed the cost of its expensive tunnel and terminals in that city. In a similar manner, the Grand Trunk Pacific paid for the cost of its terminals at Prince Rupert out of the sale of that townsite, and from the sale of its townsites through the prairie provinces it was enabled to finance its construction for the amount required over the Dominion Government guarantee. Consider the extent to which the development of the Canadian Pacific Railway has promoted from the proceeds of its land sales. But the Pacific Great Eastern, on the contrary, has its large outlay upon lands for terminals and townsite purposes absolutely tied up, so that this company has been deprived of the use, not only of the original capital, but of the anticipated profits upon which it largely relied as it was entitled to do for construction purposes.

The Pacific Great Eastern Railway possesses greater significance to the future development of Birtish Columbia than that of any railway now traversing this Province. This great North and South transportation project taps more virgin territory and opens up larger possibilities for development than either of the two transcontinentals recently completed. It brings the greater portion of the mineral area of the Province, a large block of timber, and most of the future agricultural area, into direct tributory relations with the Lower Mainland of British Columbia which contains and will always contain the bulk of the population of this Province. In the future of this road the majority of our population have a mighty stake. Just a glance at the map of British Columbia will make this evident to anyone. Indeed this shows the Pacific Great Eastern as the stem of a system of branch lines that will have to be built in the future as the press of population will crowd in on the areas that will have been settled a decade since by the building of this strategic and arterial main line. The significance also of this line to the people of British Columbia when extended to the great Peace River district is patent when it is considered that the last large great body of undeveloped agricultural land in this Province lies in that district, capable, it is said, of as extensive a cultivation as any in the Dominion. The Province of Alberta is spending vast sums of money during the war to make this territory tributary to her main commercial centres, while the natural outlet is the Pacific Coast of British Columbia.

In view of what is mentioned above, it would seem that the only way out of the present situation is for the Government of British Columbia to make a loan at as early a date as possible in order that no time be lost in finishing this railway. Money may now be obtained at a rate in the neighborhood of six per cent., whereas a sale of the guaranteed securities of the railway company would be effected at so great a discount as to be considered a sacrifice rather than a sale. In this the Government would undoubtedly be acting in the best interests of the Province both for its present and future welfare.

PACIFIC GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY

Detailed Statement Showing Total Expenditure to December 31, 1915, on Pacific Great Eastern Undertaking

Location Engineering		$ 198,293.82
Construction Engineering		593,974.84
Right-of-Way and Station Grounds		1,226,132.32
Grading		12,294,197.27
Tunnels		296,723.21
Bridges, Trestles and Culverts		2,639,501.28
Ties		396,765.48
Rails		1,152,294.96
Frogs and Switches		24,406.45
Track Fastenings and other Material		257,352.71
Ballast		1,046.44
Tracklaying and Surfacing		370,962.51
Fencing		1,767.82
Crossings and Signs		1,537.79
Station Buildings and Fixtures		615.38
Shops, Engine Houses and Turn Tables		11,439.80
Water Stations		2,596.74
Fuel Stations		590.66
Dock and Wharf Property		3,642.71
Law Expense		3,346.25
Stationery and Printing		8,565.03
Insurance		555.80
Discounts on Securities issued		463,876.48
Interest, Commissions and Exchange—		
Interest on Debenture Stock issued	$1,519,976.12	
Interest on Union Bank of Canada Loan	225,766.97	
Interest, P. Welch and Development Co.	10,212.31	
Commissions, Exchange, Etc.	470,546.49	
		2,226,501.89
Howe Sound and Northern Section		193,068.62
General Expenses, Executive, Accounting, etc.		129,456.35
Expenditure on Peace River Extension		33,441.42
Foley, Welch & Stewart—		
Cash and Supplies for work & Development Co.	$2,417,280.52	
Equipment Furnished	426,022.26	
Interest Paid on Advances	238,691.28	
		3,081,994.0
P. Welch, Contractor—		
Buildings, Water Tanks, etc., not estimated	$ 150,000.00	
Rails purchased but not delivered	111,514.92	
Telegraph Lines	50,000.00	
Wagon Road for Construction Purposes	137,588.24	
Rolling Stock for Railway	670,160.68	
Cash and Supplies for Operating Line	480,106.71	
Sawmill	40,000.00	
Various Buildings; Wharves, Seton Lake	25,000.00	
Boats, Scows and Launch	17,250.00	
Equipment and Horses	100,000.00	
Supplies on hand	100,000.00	
P. Welch Advance to Development Co.	794,000.00	
Subcontractors' Losses	1,085,969.38	
		3,761,589.93
		$29,376,238.02
Less:		
Value of Right-of-Way through Development Co. lands	$ 858,073.00	
Interest Union Bank Loan paid by F., W. & S.	225,766.97	
		1,083,839.97
Total		$28,292,398.05
Total paid in Estimates by Minister of Finance	$18,246,305.84	
Paid, per Statement Dec. 22, to Minister of Finance	1,138,813.83	
		19,385,119.67
Balance		$ 8,907,278.38

Vancouver Women's Work for Women

THE NEW PETTICOAT

With the return of the circular petticoat it becomes well worth while to make these garments at home. So long as a kilted or pleated frill was necessary on an underskirt to make it at all fashionable, this task seemed one that could not very readily be carried out in professional style by an amateur, and it was more satisfactiry to buy these skirts ready-made. With a good pattern and a remnant of silk bought at hte sales it is quite an easy matter to produce a very dainty skirt, in the new style, with a circular flounce edged with a ruche of the silk or a piping of contrasting silk or satin.

* * *

YOUR WHITE SILK BLOUSE

White silk is ever a popular material for fashioning blouses, and there's nothing looks smarter if properly laundered than the simple silk shirts so much in vogue today, but care must be taken in the washing of them. Here is a good method, and one that preserves the lovely gloss of the silk. After washing well with soap, rinse in lukewarm water to which has been added methylated spirits in the proportion of one small tablespoonful to a quart of water. Wring, shake well, and roll up the blouse in a clean cloth. Iron in a short time, and you'll be delighted with the result.

* * *

A FEW DON'TS

Don't put saucepans away till they are thoroughly dry.

Don't allow grease to burn on the outside of your frying-pan. Wash it every time it is used.

Don't allow the dishcloth to become wet from day to day. It will become sour and musty.

Don't drain vegetables into the sink. It causes an unpleasant odor.

Don't keep the dampers open when you are not using the fire. It burns the coal more quickly.

Don't stand brooms in the corner resting on their ends. Hang them up by the handle, or turn them upside down.

Don't throw away any pieces of bread. Put them aside, dry, roll and save for croquettes, etc.

Don't keep flour in a damp place. Keep it in tins, if possible, in the kitchen. Damp flour makes heavy musty cakes and bread.

* * *

EASTER EGGS

Easter eggs can be made good to eat, or in the form of a pretty case, may be filled with some nice surprise. The foundation of the eggs can be of sugar, cake mixture, or pastry, or the ymay be just ordinary eggs, colored or painted, and served in the usual way, or hard-boiled for eating cold.

Almond Paste Eggs.—Ingredients: 8 ozs. of sweet cooking almonds, 3-4 lb. castor sugar, two egg yolks and white of one egg, one teaspoonful orange-flower water.

This mixture requires boiling, and it will turn out much lighter in shade than the marzipan. In consequence it will take coloring better. It will keep any length of time. Put the almonds in a small saucepan with half a pint of water and bring to the boil. Remove from fire, strain off water, and skin the nuts, dropping each one, as it is cleaned, into cold water, to keep them from getting discolored. Next mince or chop them very finely, and pound thoroughly, adding the orange-flower water. Put the almonds, sugar, and egg into an enamel or earthenware saucepan, and stir over a gentle heat till reduced to a paste. Cook about half an hour slowly, and towards end of this time, drop a little of the mixture into a cup of very cold water. Pinch it with the finger and thumb, and if it holds together in a soft mass, the paste will be cooked, even if it is a little under the given period. When ready, turn on to a sugared pastry board, let cool a little, and knead with the fingers, and break in eight or ten pieces. The quantity will make about this number of rather small eggs. The paste may be made any color, and special colorings may be bought at a good confectioners. After coloring the lumps, mould each into egg shapes, as in previous recipe.

Saffron will give a good yellow; cochineal, red, or any shade of pink. Cocoa mixed with the sugar makes a nice rich brown. An excellent green can be made in the followng manner: Pick a pound of spinach, throwing away all the stalks and ribs. Put in a saucepan with a little salt. Cover securely and boil twelve minutes. Strain a few times through muslin, and it will be ready for use, or it will keep some time in a bottle. The quantity of coloring to use will, of course, depend on the depth of the tint required.

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

PEARL WHITE,
Appearing in the "Iron Claw" at Pantages Next Week

GRANDMA'S STORY

"I want a big chocolate egg for Easter," said Jack. "Yes, I want a whole lot of little chocolate chickens, too," said wee Jimmie. "Did you ever have chocolate chickens and eggs when you were a little girl, Grandma?"

"No, my dears," Grandma replied; "Chocolate wasn't so plentiful when I was a little girl. But we had plenty of colored eggs.

"I remember my mother waking us early on Easter Sunday morning and telling us to hurry and get dressed for she was sure the Easter Bunny had brought us some very nice eggs.

"My little sister Maggie and I had to hunt all over before we found them down under the old yellow rose bush in the corner of the garden. How very happy we were to be sure. We thought nothing could be more beautiful than that nest of brightly colored eggs. Every color in the rainbow was there.

"But all of the Easter fun wasn't nearly over for when father came in from the barn he said: 'You girlies had better run out to the barn and see what you can find.'

"We hurried out just as fast as we could run for we knew it would be something pretty good. Father always loved to give us surprises.

"What do you suppose we found? A whole nest full of young chickens all away down under an old grey, biddy hen.

"Biddy had chosen Easter Sunday to bring her wee chickens out. They were so soft and pretty, all in their yellow down and making such a noise, all peeping as loud as they could, as if to say, 'We want to go out of this old nest and see the world, for haven't we such nice new Easter dresses?'

"Maggie and I were very proud of our Easter chicks, and father said we might raise them for ourselves. So my dears, although we didn't have chocolate eggs, we had live chickens and I am sure that was quite as good."

Guardian 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 - - - - - - - - - Over $1,000,000.00
PREMIUM INCOME - - - - - - Over $1,000,000.00
Deposit with the Government of British Columbia - $25,000.00

REPORT OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONER:—

"The Guardian Casualty and Guaranty Company is doing a large business in twenty-two states and is in a most excellent financial condition."

General Managers - A. S. MATHEW & CO.
414 Pender St. West, Vancouver, B. C.

PANTAGES THEATRE

Possibly if not the greatest musical success that has ever been presented on the vaudeville platform in this city will be the star attraction at the Pantages Theatre next week. "The Junior Review of 1915" have a capable role of twenty artists who are past masters in the art of fun-making. The beauty chorus have good voices and show the great training they have received to make the act one of the top-notchers.

Howard, a Scotch ventriloquist, has a good line of jokes and a skit, "The Dentist Shop." Clayton and Lennie, the Happy Chappie and the English Johnnie, make quite a hit. Naomi, the dancing violinist, will be well remembered for her many charming dances and music. Claire and Atwood, pair of comiques, in a laughable turn, "Bump the Bumps."

Watch for the second episode of the "Iron Claw."

BIRTH NOTICE

Born to Mr. and Mrs. George M. Murray, 355 19th Ave. West, April 19th, a son.

THE ELIZABETHAN STAGE

The Shakespeare plays which will be given at the Empress theatre during th eweek, April 24-29, will, to a large extent, illustrate the evolution of the drama. On the Monday night there will be a Shakespearean masque consisting of dances, songs, recitals and tableaux which will show how Shakespeare and Ben Johnson lifted dramatic entertainment from the coarse dramatic sketches which followed upon the morality and miracle plays given by the church. And yet such actors as Richard Tarleton and others of his period had keen humor and much ability. The masque will be played by a number of the most talented artistes in the city and on the succeeding nights given in true Shakespearean style on a stage modelled on the lines of the old Harvard stage will be presented Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, The Merchant of Venice, and Julius Caesar. These plays will be an education.

EMPRESS

Under the auspices and patronage of the Shakespeare Tercentenary Celebration Committee and the University Woman's Club

HAROLD NELSON

(H. N. Shaw, B. A.)
in

SHAKESPEAREAN PLAYS

HAMLET ..... April 25-27
MERCHANT OF VENICE ..... April 26-29
ROMEO AND JULIET ..... April 28
SATURDAY MATINEE ..... JULIUS CAESAR

PRICES—
Saturday Matinee, 25c. Evenings, 25c, 50c, 75c.

EMPRESS THEATRE

HAROLD NELSON SHAW, Stage Director
Under the auspices of the Shakespeare Tercentenary Celebration Committee

SHAKESPEAREAN MASQUE
Shakespearean dances, music, tableaux and recitations.
MONDAY, APRIL 24. Prices—25c, 50c, 75c, $1.00

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

Harold Nelson, Shakespearean Player

Easter Attractions at the Big Store

Special Showing of
Easter Accessories 75c

Ladies' Crepe de Chine Ties
—with pointed ends, in plain shades, together with shaded, check and floral designs, very special, values, each **75c**

Veilings of the Better Kind
—pure silk quality, in the new season's shades. We have given a whole section over to the display of these—just inside the Seymour street entrance. Colors include champagne, grey, Joffre blue, cerise and white, etc., to sell at per yard **75c**

New Belts for Easter
—in the season's latest styles, made of fine quality suede with self colored buckle, also in a number of black and white effects, each **75c**

Beautiful New Neckwear at 75c
—never were the styles so bewitching—the assortment includes collar and cuff sets, lace collars, etc., see them on tables in the neckwear aisle, each **75c**

New Easter Handkerchiefs 75c
—of lace, madeira, and Irish embroidered with linen centre, for Easter gifts in the handkerchief section at, each **75c**

New Voile Flouncings
—remarkable values rushed through from St. Gall for Easter selling—fifteen designs to choose from, in a 45-inch width. Special, per yard **98c**

Ask to See Them. —Main Floor, New Store

Nothing Quite So Nice for Easter Wear as these Tub Silk Waists at $7.00
—They are the very acme of beauty and style, so fashioned that they fit perfectly. The front and back are made of wide striped tub silk, and the collar, cuffs and sleeves are of white habutai. They wash beautifully. The stripes are in black, pink and sky. Excellent value indeed at **$7.00**
—Second Floor.

Dainty Little Infants Bonnets for Easter
—the latest modes from fashion's source at
45c to $2.25
Shown in shadow and guipure lace, trimmed with rosettes of silk ribbon and edging of lace. Silk lined.
OTHERS are made of silk poplin and China silk, in Dutch style, with nicely embroidered front and fancy braid and ribbon trimmings.
STILL OTHERS are of fine lawn, with tucks or allover embroidered and finished with bows of ribbon and edging of lace ..... **45c to $2.25**
—Second Floor.

The Millinery Salon Announce New Arrivals in Millinery for Easter Wear

—Our large second floor millinery department—equipped with every device for making millinery buying a pleasure—stands ready to serve your every Spring and Easter millinery want.

Our stocks are complete in every respect, but the centre of attraction is the trimmed hat section. Here are hundreds and hundreds of new and striking hats, which daily are attracting the favorable comment of discriminating shoppers both as regards style and price

Because of our unequalled buying organization, we are able to offer hats of unusually pleasing style at very moderate pricings. We feature street and dress hats of the finest braids and straws, together with the popular sports hats at from **$5.00, $7.50 TO $12.50**
Let us show you? —Second Floor, Granville Street.

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

--Top Class --Bottom Prices

DICK'S SPRING SUITS

$15 - $18 - $20 - $25 - $30 - $35

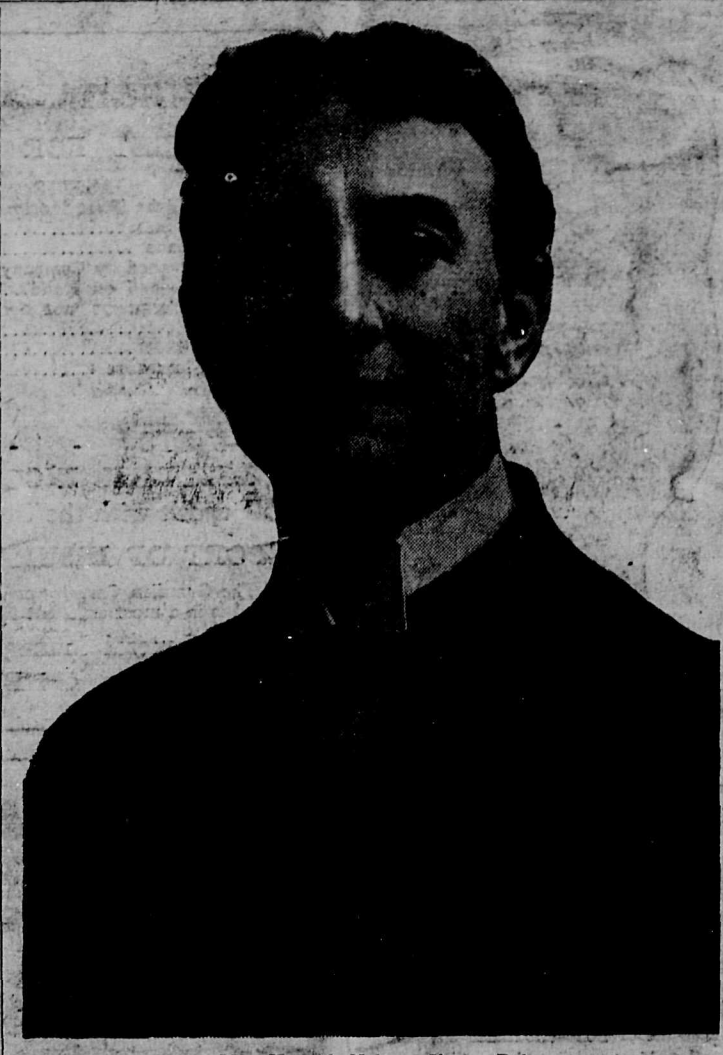
What's YOUR'S—at each price they're GOOD—for that price—good as can be found—perhaps better than a lot you've looked at.

WM. DICK LTD.

Two Money - Back Stores

Full of Spring Wearables for Men

33 and 47 HASTINGS EAST



Mr. Harold Nelson Shaw, B.A.

"Never touched by human hands"

CREAM

20c pint

We have made arrangements for a big supply of CREAM for our customers during the summer months. This is good, thick, wholesome CREAM for dessert and other table uses. We are going to sell our cream at a price that will place it in the homes of all our customers. Up till now good cream has sold at 30c. a pint. Commencing tomorrow our prices will be:

20¢ a pint
10¢ half-pint
5¢ quarter-pint

Delivered daily as required with SOU-VAN MILK in sterilized bottles—clean, rich and fresh.

Phone Fair. 2624 and order a bottle of this superior product.

South Vancouver Milk Co.

Twenty-ninth and Fraser

PANTAGES

UNEQUALLED VAUDEVILLE

Phone Seymour 3406

WEEK OF APRIL 24th

The Junior Review of 1915

Presented by

Twenty Capable Artists

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

MRS. J. F. BURSILL STRICKEN

The following extract from a Woolwich, London, paper has reached Vancouver: "Many will regret to hear of the serious illness of Mrs. J. F. Bursill, mother of Mr. Philip Bursill of the Woolwich Library. Mrs. Bursill accompanied her husband to Canada a few years ago. Owing to bad health she returned to London for a time, but the war has prevented her return to Vancouver. Mrs. Bursill has worked hard nursing the returned soldiers, to whom she much endeared herself, and over work and the sorrow of the war completely broke her down. A paralytic stroke leaves little hope of her recovery. Many in Vancouver will hear this news with regret, and we extend our sympathy to Mr. J. Francis Bursill over the sorrow this news will cause him."

MR. HAROLD NELSON SHAW, B.A., A DISTINGUISHED VANCOUVER ARTIST

Mr. Shaw, who is known throughout Canada as "Harold Nelson," is one of Vancouver's leading dramatic artists. Mr. Shaw is presenting all next week at the Empress Theatre the plays of Shakespeare, which will have as an introduction Monday evening a Shakespearean Masque, a pot-pourri of songs, choruses and dances all associated with the works of Shakespeare, which should delight citizens of all classes and artistic likings. Mr. Shaw is the only Canadian-born interpreter of Shakespeare's works and in presenting Shakespeare repertoire in this city to mark the Three Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of the great bard, he has in mind chiefly the great educational value to the younger generation of Vancouver of the production of such a programme. Mr. Shaw has supporting him a company of artists all of whom are Vancouver residents, and the Empress during next week should be filled every night that fitting encouragement should be given public-spirited, artistic ladies and gentlemen.

SHAKESPEAREAN MASQUE AT THE EMPRESS

Next week is Shakespeare Week and Vancouver is going to distinguish herself among Canadian cities by fittingly celebrating the Three Hundredth Anniversary of the great poet and dramatist.

Mr. Harold Nelson Shaw, a local artist who stands with peers as an interpreter of Shakespeare, is presenting a week of Shakespeare plays at the Empress Theatre, beginning Monday. He has just announced the programme for the masque, Monday evening.

Some of the artists who will take part in the Masque are: Miss Janie Tattersall, Miss Mollie Lee, Mrs. J. D. McNeill, Miss Ethel Beswick, Mr. and Mrs. Chambers, Mlle. Blanche Nadou, Mr. Nelson, Stella Fraser, Madame Belates-Barbes, Mrs. Harold Douglas, Mr. Dingman.

Among the pupils of Mme. Belates-Barbes will appear the following in artistic dances: Miss Josephine Mangold, Miss Amy Kirkpatrick, Master R. Stewart and Misses Mangold and Jardine, Miss A. Smith, Miss Jean Adams, Miss Adelaide Smith, Master Jack Macaulay, Miss M. Macaulay, R. Thompson, J. Adams, E. Macintosh, G. Anderson, L. Faucett and D. Rogers.

Among Miss Mollie Lee's pupils will appear the following in Shakespearean dances: Constance Deflin, Margaret Fewster, Winnifred Turnnr, Marian Smith, Donald Smith, Swarts Avery, Gwendoline Smith, Stuart Southon.

There will be a bay minuet in which Jean Grieve and Jessie Fewster will appear. Other dancers will be Dorothy and Phyllis Fewster, Louise Avery, Eileen Baker, Ruth Baker, Winnifred Turner, Marian Smith and Margaret Fewster.

The allegorical dance, "The Studies and Triumps of Genius" will be given by pupils of King Edward High School—Miss Grace Robertson, leader, and the following assistants, Eva Martin, Florence Turner, Grace Nicholson, Lydia Coates, Vera Dennison, Marjory Elder, Aleen Gladwin, Joy Evans, Violet Copeland.

Mr. Harold Nelson Shaw has gone deeply into the question of musical features for the Masque and has presented a programme of Shakespearean music the like of which has never before been presented anywhere in the Dominion of Canada. There are songs from all the great plays of Shakespeare, and these Mr. Shaw has arranged in a manner which reflects creditably upon him.

Mr. Shaw will arrange the allegorical dance, the "Studies and Triumphs of Genius," and the tableaux, "Seven Ages of Man" from "As You Like It."

Tips for Spring Gardeners

Be sure to put in plenty of cabbage. Remember the old saying: "Two heads are better than one."

Radishes are more easily raised than either moustaches or money.

By all means have a melon patch. Many mothers have successfully raised their babies on melons.

Many policemen plant beets and sleep on them. A soft seed bed is the most comfortable.

SUITS WORTH WHILE

FOR EASTER

This week we have placed in stock a number of lines of Young Men's Suits which are the best values we have shown this season. We start our price range at **$15.00, $18.00, $20.00, $22.50, $25.00** and up.

"20TH CENTURY BRAND"

Garments have no superior in Canada. Styles to fit the Short, the Tall, Lean or Stout. Also Regular and Natural.

Prices from $20.00 to $35.00

GET YOUR EASTER HAT HERE

Some high-class makers are represented, such as Christy, Borsalino, Stetson and Malory. The shapes are up-to-date and the shades are Pearl, Slate, Green, Fawn and Blue.

Prices from $2.50 to $5.00

EASTER SHIRTS AND NECKWEAR

We are now showing the very latest designs in Negligee Shirts, some with soft collars and cuffs, others with starched cuffs. Prices from **$1.25** up.

Cluett's new Collar, Ashby, is now in stock. **2** for **25¢.**

Neckwear in all the new shades, Romas Stripes, plain shades in Irish Poplins, also Wash Ties.

HOLEPROOF HOSIERY

in all the Summer Shades are here. Prices range from **25¢** per pair up. A guarantee goes with every box.

OUR BOYS' DEPARTMENT

We have just placed in stock a large consignment of Boys' Suits and Hats for the Easter trade. We have catered for the boys' trade longer than any other firm in the West, having just entered on our 27th year. Bring the boys along and have them stylishly and comfortably clothed.

CLUBB & STEWART, LIMITED

315 HASTINGS STREET WEST Telephone Seymour 702

POULTRY

RHODE ISLAND REDS, BUFF ORPingtons, Black Minorcas, $1 per setting. J. Proud, 814 Twenty-eighth avenue east. Phone Fair. 635L.

BARRED ROCKS, WHITE CORNISH Games; eggs $5 per setting. W. Stonehouse, licensed judge. 110 Dufferin street west.

EGGS FROM MY WINNING BUFF Orpingtons, $2.00 per setting. Barred Rocks, White Wyandottes, White Leghorns, $1.00 per 15. Stock for sale. Incubator; Airedale pup. Crowther, 1175 Twenty-fourth avenue east, Vancouver.

POULTRYMEN — MEET YOUR friends at Harry Stevens, 910 Granville street.

SQUABS FOR SALE—MATED PAIRS various breeds, 856 Homer street.

HATCHING EGGS FROM BARRON-Cyphers strain, S. C. White Leghorns, splendid layers; utility stock, $1.00 per setting. 656 Twenty-fifth avenue east. Phone Fair. 141X.

WILSON FEED CO., 148 ALEXANder—We specialize in chicken feed, egg producer and disinfectants. Get our prices. Phone Sey. 3563.

250 EGG STRAIN WHITE LEGhorns, $1.50 per setting; fertility guaranteed. White Leghorn eggs, pen No. 2, 75c. Forsythe & Sparks, Selkirk street, between 64-65, Eburne. Take Oak St. car.

ONE PEN BUFF ORPINGTONS, IMported from England; prize winners; 46 White Leghorns, all pullets, two cockerels; 296 egg strain guaranteed. Eggs for hatching. Orpingtons, $2.00 per setting; Leghorns, $1.75 per setting. B. Kelly, 2091 Chesterfield avenue, North Vancouver 690.

HATCHING EGGS FROM PLYmouth and Leghorn cross, White Orpington and Leghorn, 75c per setting. 212 Twentythird west, N. Vancouver.

EGGS FROM RHODE ISLAND REDS, Golden Wyandottes and Light Brahmas, $1.00 per setting; Dark Cornish Game, $2.00 per setting. Mrs. Ling, 2325 Quebec street. Phone Fair. 1972g.

BLACK ORPINGTONS, COOK'S strain, $2.00 per setting; prize winners. Regal strain White Wyandottes, eggs, $1.50 per setting. J. M. Whyte, Lynn Valley. Phone 530R1.

WHITE ORPINGTONS, KELLESTra's strain, 196 egg strain, hatching eggs, $1.50 per setting. Houlden, Lynn Valley. Phone 530R1.

Price & Dorrell

DEALERS IN LIVE AND DRESSED poultry, pigeons, pet stock, eggs for hatching, baby chicks, new laid eggs. City Market, Vancouver. Phone Fair. 1472.

Beaconsfield Poultry Farm

EGGS FIR HATCHING FROM THE following breeds bred for eggs and standard requirements—White Leghorns, White Wyandottes, White Orpingtons, Buff Orpingtons, Black Minorcas, Pekin and Runner ducks, $1.50 per 15; $10 per 100. J. Price, Beaconsfield, B. C.

SETTING EGGS, GRAND STOCK—Blue Andalusians, Partridge Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, $1.50. Stanley Dorrell, 1771 Vanness street, Cedar Cottage.

CHAMPION HEARSON'S INCUBAtors andbrooders. Send for catalogue and prices. O'Loane, Kiely & Co., Ltd., 37-43 Alexander street, Vancouver. Phone Sey. 2841.

FOR SALE—WHITE INDIAN RUNnerduck eggs from prize birds; $1 per dozen. S. Ransom, Fern road, Jubilee station, B. C.

CANADIAN PRODUCE CO., VANcouver—Highest prices paid for local new laid eggs.

HATCHING EGGS AND BABY chicks—Barred Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, Black Minorcas, White Leghorns; utility and exhibition. 330 Dufferin street east.

ANY BREED OF BREEDING ROOSters, cockerels, pullets, rabbits, pigeons. Pioneer Poultry Market, 2208 Granville. Fair. 1998.

APPLECREST POULTRY RANCH—booking orders now—Baby chicks, hatching eggs, Barron strain, Leghorns, Barred Rocks, Black Minorcas, Peking ducks; highest class utility stock. Corner Kingsway and Victoria, South Vancouver.

HATCHING EGGS FOR SALE—From pure breed Black Minorca chickens; $1.25 per setting; from prize stock; inspection invited. Ed Morris, 1362 Howe street. Phone Sey. 4536.

SETINGS FOR PURE BRED SINGLE Comb White and Brown Leghorns, $1 per setting. Black Orpington, $2 per setting. F. Newton, 1013 Davie street. Phone Sey. 3700.

WHITE WYANDOTTE EGGS FOR hatching, $1.25 per setting; laying strain. 863 Fifty-third avenue east, South Bancouver. A. Anthony.

AGENT FOR GEO. BONBY CAPONizing instruments. Caponizing done by appointment. W. C. Jenkins, 570 64th Ave. east.

FOR SALE—ONE PEN, BLUE ANdalusians. Eggs for hatching from prize winning stock, $1.50 per setting and up. T. Somerville, 2125 Princess St., off Earls Road, Britcola P. O.

BLACK AND WHITE ROSE-COMB Bantams, Black, Buff, White Cochin and Golden Seabright Bantams. Stock for sale. 36 15th Ave., east. J. G. Poole.

WE ARE B. C. DISTRIBUTORS FOR "Pittsburg Perfect" Electrically Welded Fencing. Write us for catalogue and prices. A. I. Johnson & Co., 844 Cambie St., Vancouver.

LIVESTOCK

ALL KINDS OF GOATS FOR SALE cheap. 1136 Twenty-second avenue east. Phone Fairmont 2574L.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN barn building or barn equipment see Louden's goods at 43 Pender west, Vancouver.

REAR 975 MAIN ST.—LIGHT AND heavy horses of all kinds for sale cheap. Harness and wagons, buggies at reasonable prices. W. J. Kenty.

800 TONS OF ALBERTA HAY FOR sale in car or ton lots. See me before buying. Western Feed Store, 910 Main St.

FOR SALE—ALL KINDS OF LIGHT and heavy horses, single and double harness of all kinds. Horse or cow feed, 40c per sack. Good hay, $16 per ton. E. Atkinson, 325, rear, Hastings street east.

FLORISTS

CUT AND POT FLOWERS—OPPOsite Cemetery, Bodwell road. Saturdays and Sundays. Miss. Leigh Spencer. Phone your orders. Fairmont 2623.

BUY YOUR FLOWERS, PLANTS and garden necessities from Brown Bros., 48 Hastings street east.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Buckley Valley

160 ACRES, S. E. 1-4 Sec. 5, Ts. 7, AT bargain. Terms. Box A1 Globe.

Beattie Street

FOR SALE CHEAP—IMPROVED property, between Robson and Georgia; terms reasonable. Box A2 Globe.

Seymour Street

FOR SALE, BARGAIN—NEAR 1000 block; 25 ft. improved; make offer. Box A3 Globe.

FOR SALE OR RENT—FIVE-ROOM bungalow; beautifully laid out garden; modern. Houlden, Lynn Valley. Phone 530R1.

1000 ACRES IN WHATCOM COUNTY Wash., U. S. A., in large or small tracts. For sale cheap. Address P. O. Box 1244.

FOR SALE—COTTAGE AND ONE acre on Tram line. Price, $1,200. C. Gray, 430 Robson St.

HOUSES WANTED

WANTED—TO RENT OR MANAGE Lodging or rooming house; central location; furnished; must be up-to-date. Thrall-Australian Rooms, 776 Seymour street.

APARTMENTS

LOVAT HOUSE (OPPOSITE ELYSIum Hitel), 1152 Seaton street. Nice comfortable rooms; steam heated breakfast if required; terms very moderate. Phone Sey. 8852O.

HOUSES FOR SALE

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—HOUSE modern, seven rooms, 1841 Stephens street; cost $5,800; no reasonable offer refused. G. B., this office.

BUSINESS CARDS

W. P. WHITE, CEMETERY GARdener. Phone Sey. 2609. Wm. Watt, Prop. plots seeded. 5050 Fraser tsreet. Phone Fraser 173L1.

BANKRUPT STOCK OF WHITworth & Stuart, taken over by Bertram Marble and Granite Works at a fraction of its cost. Stock will go at snap prices while it lasts. Cor. Fraser and Thirty-fourth avenue. Fairmont 911 or Highland 1391L.

TO THE HORSESHOE TAILORS—75 left-over suits for sale at prices from $4 and up. 325 Columbia avenue.

LONDON MUFFIN CO.—MAKERS of old London crumpets; muffins and crumpets fresh daily. 516 Smythe street.

ROOMS AND BOARD

BOARD AND ROOM—HOME COOKing; good location. 1637 William St.

ROOM AND BOARD IN PRIVATE family; reasonable; good home. 1537 William street.

SITUATIONS WANTED FEMALE

WANTED—DAY WORK, TWO OR three days a week. Mrs. McFarlane, 2036 Triumph street.

ACREAGE

FOR SALE OR RENT, EASY terms, 80 acres, Langley, quarter cleared; possession immediately. 366 Nineteenth Ave. West.