

The Western Call

Published in the Interests of Greater Vancouver and the Western People

Volume VI.

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1915.

5 Cents Per Copy.

No. 51.

AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTIONS ACT

CREDIT should be given the Government for the following amendment to the Dominion Elections Act:

"Every employer shall on polling day give to every voter in his employ at least one additional hour for voting other than the noon hour, and shall make no deduction in the pay of such employees nor impose or exact any penalty from any employee by reason of absence during such hour.

"This section shall apply to railway companies and to the Government Railways and their employees, with the exception of employees engaged in the running of trains and to whom such time cannot be given without interfering with the manning of the trains."

This is a greater movement than appears on the face of it. When in the past employers have had in their employ a body of men opposed in politics to their employer, there has been such a rush of work that there could be no leave granted to such employees to go and vote. How many elections have been swung in this way it is hard to say. There have been instances where a simple accident on a railway line has called a train load of workers to be sent so far away that their presence at the polls would be impossible.

Again, there has been the question of the hour, or half a day's pay. Many a laborer earning enough only to provide the barest necessities for his family, and often not that, has hesitated to penalize the family to the extent of taking half a day or even an hour off, and so has lost his vote.

This amendment gives the needed time and cuts out the loss to the employed for the extra hour.

DEPORTATION OF THE ALIEN

AT the present moment this seems to be the only thing to do. But at the same time we are making serious trouble for the provinces of the Dominion in the near future.

The greatest need of the Dominion of Canada is men.

Notwithstanding the fact that we are now in the stress of the hardest kind of times, and that unemployment is the burden of the hour, perhaps of the year, it should not be forgotten that we need men in the Dominion and shall soon need them as we have never needed them before.

The crops on the prairie are now being put in rapidly. The area being sown is great. Now the sowing does not require many men on the fields because the work of the spring has been largely done in the machine shops. Farming as practiced on the Canadian plains is largely done in the great agricultural machine factories. A good team and one man, with the aid of up-to-date machines will sow a great deal of grain.

Especially will one power outfit with its comet-tail of seeders, harrows, rollers, and so on, put in an enormous area of crop.

This calls for practically no extra men. The time thereafter until the grain is ripe for the cutting calls for no extra help.

But for the harvest; that is where the "Canned labor" of the factories is not so efficient in this country. In the south there is the combined grain header and plowing machine which sweeps the harvest off the plains. But with our climatic conditions this is not possible. Men must handle our crops and the required number must be great.

Following the handling of the crop, if it is the Divine will that it should be a full one, there will be a sudden demand for labor on the transportation lines, in the elevators, mills, and everywhere, where the current of the grain movement reaches.

Nor is this all. With an average grain crop and with prices where they are, and are likely to be, there will be a sudden revival of activity on every hand and in every line.

Then where are the men. The Englishman has gone in large numbers in answer to the call for men at home, either in the ranks or in the shops.

Canadian youths are away with the troops. The French and Russian has gone to his colors. The alien enemy has been interned. Other neutral aliens have been deported or have gone of their own will to seek employment.

Well, then, where are we to find the men this fall for the greater return of activity.

Therefore, we say again that there should be a mobilization of the resources of the country to find profitable employment for the unemployed to tide over the months until the demand arrives.

When that demand comes, if the men have all gone we may see the grain rotting on our prairies for the want of men to harvest it while Canada suffers for want of the money it should bring, and Europe starves for the want of the grain.

Still, the demand for instant relief is such that there appears to be no other course. Mr. Stevens is aware of this matter, but he has no other way open than to meet the need of the hour as best it can be met, hence the action towards deporting the alien unemployed.

TAX SALES

YES, said one who has spent his best days in the service of the community as a business man, I have fallen on evil times. Business is dead. Debts are not to be collected. I have a lot of property but it cannot be sold. I owe for taxes about four per cent. of the assessed value, but I cannot find the money to pay these taxes. I shall have to see it all go. In fairness, the municipalities might sell enough of my land to pay the taxes, but they will not do this, they will sell it all away from me, and in my declining days I shall be left bare. What I and those dependent upon me will be able to do I do not know.

What is to be said of the bottomless pit of dishonor into which a community has fallen when such a complaint as this can be made by any possible means and in any degree be true.

Is it not the case with a multitude, however?

What is the use of moratorium law when such an abuse of all justice is perpetrated in the name of the community and by its elected representatives.

And what is the matter with you, reader, that your voice is silent regarding this outrageous practice?

CANADA'S PATRIOTS

CANADA'S "Roll of Honor" steadily grows and each name added to the list means saddened hearts and vacant firesides, but the bitterness of our grief at the loss of loved ones is tempered by the glory of their death and the justice of our cause.

Our hearts and our minds will not be vexed with visions of ghastly depredations—ruined homes and desecrated churches—outraged innocents and murdered non-combatants.

Our men have sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom and in vindication of a smaller and weaker nation—to restore, as far as possible, an outraged people to their rights.

While we mourn the loss, we still float our "Jack" at the head of the mast, and will proudly press forward to even greater sacrifices for the cause.

CANADIAN WHEAT

THE Canadian wheat crop for the years 1910-1911 to 1914-1915 yielded as follows in column headed "Yield." Exports during years as are shown in column marked "Exports." Remaining for use in Canada has been marked "Home Consumption."

	Yield	Exports	Home Consumption
1910-11	132,049,000	59,777,000	72,272,000
1911-12	230,924,000	81,603,000	14,932,000
1912-13	224,159,000	113,690,000	110,469,000
1913-14	231,717,000	142,574,000	89,148,000
1914-15	161,280,000	86,180,000	75,100,000

The total yield for the five years has been slightly less than one billion bushels.

The total exports have been just the same amount less than half a billion bushels.

We are, therefore, faced with the fact that the wheat exported from Canada has equalled almost exactly the amount retained for food for seed, and for wastage.

Now there are eight millions of people in Canada, and if it has taken half the wheat raised in Canada to supply the needs of the eight millions, we have not gone much further than feeding that number abroad with flour.

There is this difference, however. All the wheat shipped abroad is for human food. A considerable part of that kept at home is used for seed and the unmerchantable wheat such as frozen grain is used for feeding poultry and other live stock.

It is certain that for some time to come the amount used for home consumption will not be increased. Immigration is at the moment at a standstill. Therefore every bushel of grain increased will be exported and will yield a net gain in gold or its equivalent to the country.

While the price is so high and the need of the European countries so great, therefore there should be every effort made to increase the grain output.

The money coming to the country in payment for the wheat crop is not money loaned to the country which must be repaid. It is clear gain and remains with the country.

If, therefore, forty per cent. is added to the grain area this year it will not have to be divided between home consumption and export, but except seed, the whole of the increase will be available for export and should yield a dollar a bushel net profit.

Therefore, with the average of last year and forty per cent. increased area there should be a hundred millions extra crop. With the average yield of 1913-14 there should be a hundred and twenty-five million bushels extra.

There is great prosperity in the grain crop for Canada and the best patriotism is to increase the crop.

The United States had for export purposes after supplying her domestic needs about 357,000,000 bushels in 1914-15 or a little more than one-third of her supply.

By increasing the crop of Canada fifty per cent. more we should have reached the level of the United States in exports of this commodity. And even that is not saying much. The United States is feeding a hundred million at home, and we are feeding eight millions.

This kind of fact should cause us urban Canadians to hear a still small voice such as the Hebrew prophet heard "What doest thou here?" It would be better to be raising food for the world on the great plains than it is waiting the turn of the speculative tide in the cities.

There is much in the "back to the land" cry if intelligence directs the movement.

RAILWAY TERMINALS

THE unmitigated impudence of a certain class of soul-less corporations is well illustrated in the request of the Great Northern Railway in asking for an extension of a year in which to carry out the terms of its agreement with the city in regard to the False Creek terminals.

The Great Northern agreed to build certain works including a large depot, to cost in all \$5,000,000. In return for this they got the bed of False Creek to the extent of about 160 acres.

This journal opposed the agreement in 1910 and pointed to the likelihood of just such a contingency as has now actually arisen. We were laughed to scorn then but we now demand that the city council insist on the terms of the agreement being observed.

TRADE WITH CHINA

SINCE the outbreak of war considerable interest has been evidenced in the possibility of trade with China.

It will be remembered that for many years we have imported large quantities of toys and fancy goods from Germany. This trade is now entirely cut off and already quite a large number of samples have been received from China for next Christmas trade, and in this line alone we have an opportunity to develop quite a large business. We will also become a medium of distribution to eastern Canada, instead of being, as in the past, at the extreme western end of a great eastern territory.

Vancouver is now faced with many opportunities for the extension of its trade, such as has never occurred before, and our business men should get busy and take full advantage of it.

NEWS PAPER TRADE IN FAR EAST

SINCE the war interfered with the European paper trade, inquiries have come to Japan from all over the east for paper, especially for printing news paper. The first export orders were from Hong Kong, followed by Tientsin, Shanghai, and the Yangtze ports. More recently orders have been received from Bombay, Calcutta, and Manila. About 1,000,000 pounds is the present monthly export, and according to the Mainichi (Osaka), Siberia and Australia are the only markets in these longitudes not taking Japanese paper. Tientsin is the largest consumer, taking about half the China imports. Inquiries are being received from China for qualities of paper other than news paper, but the news trade is believed to be the most promising one, and as the foreign demand increases more rapidly than the Japanese, the Japan Chronicle believes that Japan will be quite capable of capturing the whole of the oriental trade, and even of holding on to it in the face of the restoration of competition which will be seen when the war ends. The Chronicle adds that "Japanese news printings are confessedly poor stuff, but it is hoped to hold the market by the low price."

A DANGEROUS SPOT

Attention should be paid, before some great accident forces it, to the dangerous corner at the north end of Granville street bridge. There is not a more confused corner in the city, and the traffic there is great. The swing of the bridge from the straight line of Granville street. The emerging into the street of the traffic that comes up from the Kitsilano car station and from Pacific avenue, the dividing of the traffic not by a square turn, but by a fan-shaped movement in going north, makes it bad. The pedestrian is always in danger there.

To make the matter worse there is an absence of light. The corner is so dark that the driver of an auto can often scarcely see a pedestrian in his way, especially if it be a little foggy.

There should be an extra light of the strongest power there at once.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S WAR NEWS

ANOTHER critical time has passed in Flanders.

How critical the time was, will more and more be known as the days go by. It is now appearing that the preparation for this attack had been very carefully made by the German headquarters staff.

False reports had been sent out ahead of time as to the movements of German troops. It is not likely that these reports in any way deceived the Allies' leaders, but that they did deceive the war correspondents seems clear. Great secrecy also was observed until the attack came. Then with the novel method of the gases the attack was made in force.

At the same time the German fleet appeared upon the North sea. Not in the zone which would invite the attack of the British, but in a position which would have enabled them to run down the Dutch coast to Belgium, and thus make a dash to assist the left flank of their troops had they succeeded in reaching Calais, as the British fleet has again and again assisted the allies' line in Belgium.

In this way their fleet would hope to get a footing in the harbours of Northern France, and perhaps would have under the circumstances violated Dutch neutrality and taken possession of the Scheldt.

The bizarre scheme of the Kaiser lacked only one thing of greatness, and that was the successful carrying out of it in the face of the allied troops and of the navy.

More heavy fighting will be experienced there is no doubt. But having failed in the rush for which such careful and secret plans had been laid, there is not much apparent chance that the deliberate plan can be carried through.

The announcement on the part of Germany that she would be glad to buy four years' food supplies seems to indicate that she realizes that there is a period of time ahead when she will offer stubborn resistance behind her defenses.

But it is doubtful if Germany has not taught the world the lesson of how to destroy defenses too well to be able herself to find refuge behind them.

In the meantime it is going to require all the strength the allies can bring to bear upon them to carry the war to a successful end.

FUMES OF THE PIT

GERMANY apparently has brought forward another method of the kingdom of darkness, namely, some of the fumes of the pit.

We do not wonder that the surprised French troops ran from such a conjunction. We are also glad to find that they rallied and that the Canadian boys proved the saying "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." There is no joke intended. The attempt was a dastardly one, but it will be repeated, and there is not any method, perhaps, which will not be resorted to to break through the ring of steel which is fencing Germany.

This brings up the question how far will the enemy go in these tactics. There are deadly drugs which might be scattered with still greater effects and there are bacilli cultures of virulent diseases.

We hope for humanity's sake that there are not among the foe leaders who would go to such a length as that, however.

RECKLESS AND FOOLISH DRIVING

Is it not time that the city council ceased to treat the Chief and Deputy Fire Chief as "pets" and insisted that they have some slight respect for human life.

The sitting mayor and some aldermen have for years molly-coddled the Chief and his men because of the vote to be secured, but it is time such tactics were ended. We are proud of our firemen, and the efficiency of the department, but human life should be respected, and if common sense will not teach the Chief (and he seems to have none when running an auto) then the responsibility rests on the council. Let them now act.

CONTRABAND OF WAR

A BRITISH PROCLAMATION dated March 11 declares the following articles to be absolute contraband of war in addition to those set out in the Proclamation of December 23: Raw wool tops and noils; woollen and worsted yarns; tin, chloride of tin, and tin ore; castor oil; paraffin wax; copper iodide; lubricants; hides of cattle, buffaloes, and horses; skins of calves, pigs, sheep, goats, and deer; leather (undressed or dressed) suitable for saddlery and harness; military boots or military clothing; ammonia and its salts (simple or compound); liquid ammonia, urea, aniline, and their compounds.

The Proclamation also declares tanning substances of all kinds, including extracts for use in tanning, to be conditional contraband, and states that the terms "foodstuffs" and "feeding stuffs for animals" (previously mentioned in the list of conditional contraband) are considered to include oleaginous seeds, nuts, and kernels (and cakes and meals made therefrom), as well as animal and vegetable oils and fats, other than linseed oil, suitable for use in the manufacture of margarine.

MONARCHS OF THE NORTH

In more ways than one the far North of Canada has been greatly misunderstood. For a long time it was supposed to be a region of utter desolation, where nothing grew. As a matter of fact, however, even that region known as the Arctic Barrens, though treeless, is covered richly every summer with grasses and gaily colored mosses, a riotous wealth of wild flowers and miles of berry bushes. Because of this, the North is full of animal life. Over the plains of the so-called Barrens, through the woods to the west and south, up and down the rivers, hither and thither as they please in a country that is still their own, roam a multitude of wild folk; bear, wolf, ermine, beaver, red and silver fox, otter, lynx, fisher, marten, mink, rabbit, moose, musk-ox, caribou, buffalo. It is the favorite haunt, too, of myriad birds and wild fowl; and the streams are full of fish. Instead of deadness in the north there is abounding life, and its wonderful variety is now coming to be better appreciated.

Out of all this abundance of northern wild folk there may be chosen as most typical and most important two animals, without which human life in the sub-Arctic would hardly be possible. They are the musk-ox and the caribou, both dwellers on the plains. A third, the wild buffalo of the wood country, ranks with them in kingly importance, though his numbers are very much smaller. These three noble animals are the Lords of the North.

The musk-ox reigns in the territory highest up on the map.

He is truly polar in his home and habits, ranging over the Arctic islands as far north as latitude 3, though chiefly along the Arctic mainland coast. The farthest south that musk-oxen have been known to come is about half way down the Hudson Bay coast, and they have never gone west of the Mackenzie river. Their home is in the Barrens and beyond. In the real Arctic country the animal king and emblem, one might suppose, would be the polar bear, but the musk-ox is equally polar and much more useful, and therefore is qualified to take precedence over the bear.

This very important northerner is a large, thick-set animal that looks clumsy, but really isn't. It has a massive head and neck and short legs; its horns are about twenty-five inches long and curve down, and it can boast of only an inch or two of tail. An average male animal measures a little more than seven feet from nose to tail, stands fifty inches high and weighs about 575 lbs. He wears a heavy coat of long, black hair that, streaming in the breeze, gives him a more savage appearance than properly belongs to him. Under the hair is a thick growth of wool, so soft that it can be made into gloves and other wearing apparel. As to his legs, though they are short, they are nimble, even taking him up rocky slopes and over rough surfaces with ease.

The king of the North ranges over the grass-strewn prairies of the mainland and the less promising fields of several Arctic islands in bands of usually twenty-five or thirty. Some of the island oxen stay in their polar

haunts the year round, but most of the mainland herds come far enough south to winter in the wooded country. Their food is grass, saxifrage plants and dwarf willows, which they get in winter by digging through the snow with their hoofs. The sub-Arctic prairies give rich pasturage of just the kind they like, and even the supposedly desolate islands to the north have their fertile spots.

Upon this food the musk-oxen thrive and fatten, and thus qualify for their greatest use in life, to be themselves a food supply for man. Their flesh makes excellent beef. When in good condition it is sweet and tender and very nourishing, but in the autumn it has a strong flavor of musk, which has given the animal its name. To the Eskimos, however, its musk flavor is quite unobjectionable.

Besides its food value, the musk-ox is prized for its skin, which makes good material for clothing and bedding in a country where such things must be thick and warm. A musk-ox robe, if secured from a well-kept animal, is a choice piece of fur goods, and a few hundred pelts are brought down from the north each year and made into sleigh-robes for use in Canada and the United States. In the New York Zoological Park are six live musk-oxen that were captured on Melville Island, in the Arctic Ocean. They are the first brought successfully to a temperate climate.

The far-north ranges of the musk-ox are shared by the second of the animal trio, the caribou. Individually, this is a smaller animal, but in numbers very much greater. It grazes on the nearer of the Arctic Islands, along the mainland and over the Barrens, in close neighborhood to the musk-ox; but in addition to this area it covers the plains of the Peace river country, the Yukon valleys and the wooded lands of the Athabasca and Mackenzie territories. There is a difference chiefly in size, between the caribou of these latter districts and those of the sub-Arctic, but both species belong to the great deer family that in one branch or another populates so large a part of the upper half of America. The big antlered reindeer of the far north is in many ways king of his kind.

There are millions, probably, of these woodland and prairie caribou. Like the musk-oxen, they break up into small bands for most of the year, except when on the move, when they mass, as by some mysterious instinct, into monster herds of several thousand. A migration of caribou

from north to south, or back, is a memorable sight. With only a few hours' rest at night, they march steadily on in continuous bands, and without deviation from their course, swimming lakes and rivers and taking up their trail on the other side as precisely as though by compass. A prospector spent sixty days a few winters ago at the head of one of the Yukon rivers, and every day of his stay a procession of a thousand or more reindeer went past southbound in sight of his cabin. A Mounted Police report from the Mackenzie river country tells much the same story:

"We were delayed on Artillery Lake by large numbers of deer crossing at various points. We must have seen between 20,000 and 40,000. The hills on both shores were covered with them, and at a dozen or more places solid columns of deer, four or five abreast, were swimming across, and so closely that we did not like to venture through them with our boat for fear of getting into some mix-up."

There is no such migration among the Arctic reindeer, which spend both summer and winter on the islands and along the mainland coast, though they wander about incessantly. The reindeer or caribou of the Barrens is a somewhat smaller animal than that of the woodland country as a natural effect of its harder life. Both feed upon the grass, moss and lichens with which the ground is covered.

The caribou is the main food supply of the Eskimos and a large factor in that of their neighbors, the Indians. Deer meat is good eating, and the Eskimos are accustomed to breakfast, dine and sup upon it, preferring it cooked, but often eating it semi-raw. Hunting, bringing in and dressing this game is the chief part of their daily work.

But the reindeer of the north supplies not only the Eskimo dining room, but the sewing-room. The uses to which the skin may be put are almost without limit, and the Eskimos have wonderfully adapted themselves to the only dry goods material at their command. Nearly all summer and winter clothing is made of deer-skin, and the women are so skilful in needlecraft that some of the garments they produce are really handsome. From the hides of the deer these ingenious northerners also make boots, tent-coverings, blankets and leather that finds a hundred daily uses.

Inferior to either the musk-ox or the caribou in numbers and general usefulness, but still of great interest, is the woodland buffalo, which is the only survivor in a natural state of the countless bison that once covered the western plains. The buffalo country is an area of wooded land at the extreme north of Alberta, west of Slave River. Through the forests of this region the buffalo roam in twos and threes, banding together in the winter, however, for protection against the wolves. Their total number is small, being variously estimated at from two hundred to four hundred only, and the average explorer does not even get a sight of them.

The woodland buffalo is larger than that of the prairie country, and by reason of its environment has developed a greater agility. He is nearly enough like the musk-ox of the Barrens to be a distant cousin, and his habits are somewhat the same; but he is, of course, much more akin to the prairie member of his own family, with which we have become familiar in the animal parks, or at least through pictures. His most thrilling characteristic is his ponderous head, which seems almost to dwarf the rest of his body, and with which he ploughs away the snow in search of the grass beneath, instead of pawing it away with his feet.

Canada now has a population of about fifteen hundred bison in its three animal parks in Alberta. All these are of the prairie species, and the aim of the government is as nearly as possible to reproduce for them in captivity the conditions that existed when the buffalo were supreme as the lords of the west. But the only ones of their kind now left in absolute freedom and still the kings of their own animal realm are the woodland buffalo in the North.—Onward.

Great Britain imported 24,148,833 bushels of barley in 1913 from Russia, Roumania, Turkey, Germany and Austria. From Canada she took 5,977,533 bushels or less than a fourth.

RED CROSS APPEAL TO THE FARMERS

Our country, with its allies, is waging a great war for justice, for the protection of small nations in the enjoyment of their rights, for continued and growing freedom, and for the maintenance of its pledged word of honour. Much destruction and desolation is being caused. Lives are being lost by the thousand. Canada's first contingent is now in the thick of it. Some will fall sick; many may be wounded; some will pay the last full measure of devotion to their country and its cause.

The Red Cross Society exists to succor the sick and wounded in war. It needs more money to provide more beds at hospitals in Great Britain and France; it needs more money to pay more Red Cross Nurses; it needs more money, and more things made by women, to supply to Clearing Hospitals, Base Hospitals, and Recovering Hospitals.

I appeal to farmers to send me sums from \$1 to \$50, during the first week in May. Every \$50 provides one additional hospital bed with the giver's name over it. By sending me about \$10,000, you would serve your country well, bring credit to yourselves, and make all of us very proud of you. For the sake of the wounded boys, make the gift substantial. It will be an investment towards the recovery of some Canadian soldier who stood in our stead that our cause might be upheld.

JAS. W. ROBERTSON,
Chairman.
Red Cross Society at Ottawa.

THE WESTERN CALL —WHAT IS IT?

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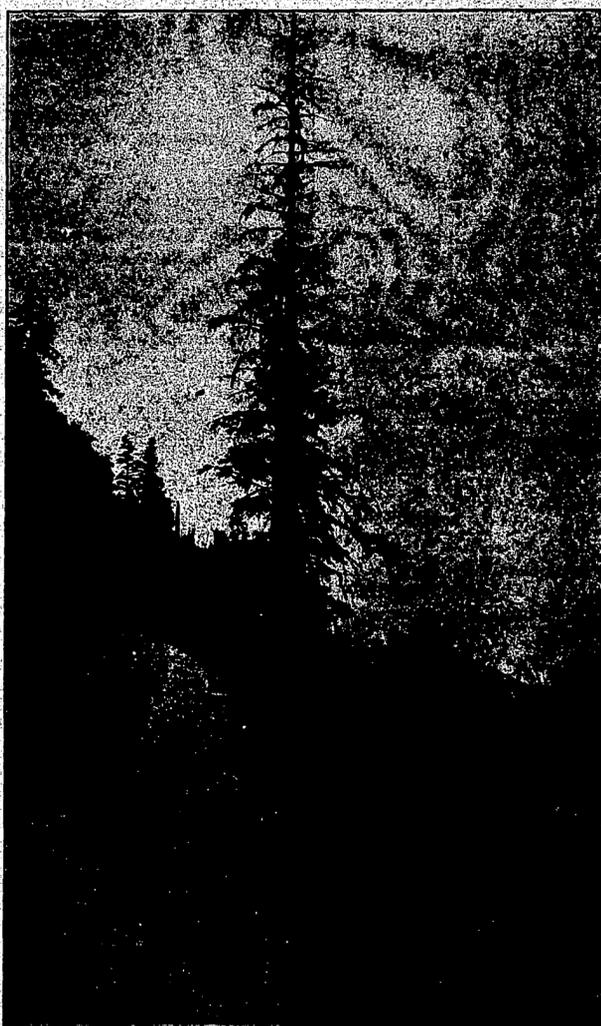
FUR FARMS WILL REPLACE TRAPPER

The majority of men who have made a study of the fur situation in Canada agree that the present method of collecting furs by trapping must soon give way to the more humane means of the "Fur Farm." Aside from the humanness of the fur farm and its lethal chamber which destroys animal life without pain and leaves the pelt uninjured, the collecting of fur-bearing animals by the trap is one of the most wasteful processes possible to conceive. And yet last year nearly two million dollars' worth of trapped furs were shipped to the London market, there to be dyed and finished in that great centre of the world's fur trade.

The inevitableness of the trapper's banishment is made clear by several facts. Fur farms, which were first "invented" on Prince Edward Island by Hon. Charles Dalton, an expert rancher, about ten years ago, have spread to all parts of Canada. There are hundreds of fur farms in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, and they have spread year by year to every other province of the Dominion. Silver foxes were dealt in exclusively for a time, but now the list of animals in captivity includes marten, mink, beaver, fox, skunk, while all branches of the fox tribe have been brought under a system of scientific breeding. The results have been in the main satisfactory, and some creditable profits have been shown after a few years' operations. Although great difficulties surround the problem of "growing" animals, problems which have nothing whatever to do with wheat or turnip crops, the methods of caging, feeding, building houses, etc., have been standardized to some extent, so that the amateur is not to-day open to the serious loss that faced him a few years back.

Thus while fur farming goes forward steadily as a big Canadian industry and will soon reach the basis of producing pelts, the trapping industry faces a most serious situation. Of course, this winter has been almost ruinous to those associated with fur production in the wilderness of Canada, because of the glut in the fur market and the refusal of the big fur companies to buy more until the excess has been taken care of in London. For that reason thousands of Indians around the Hudson's Bay Company's posts in the far north have been saved from starvation only by importing great quantities of food and clothing which were supplied by the Dominion Government. Even two or three years ago, however, the great fur trading companies, chiefly the Hudson's Bay Company and Revillon Freres, were obliged to move the centre of their operations hundreds of miles north of trapping areas which had been their monopoly for over two centuries. Realizing the grave effect of railroad building and immigration upon the old haunts of the mink and ermine and fox, an effort was made by the former concern to appropriate an entirely new region, remote the noises and disturbing effects of the newly opened agricultural region of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. So a new wilderness was invaded, extending roughly from the eastern shore of Hudson's Bay to the Mackenzie River, and as far to the north and south as the tribes and trappers could penetrate. Steamers were provided and new stations opened, everything being done with permanent occupancy in view. The expense amounted to several millions, and would not have been undertaken had not the company recognized that the fur trade in the old areas of Canada was threatened with extinction.

The enormous waste of the trapping method is well known to the trappers themselves. Animals are insecurely caught in tens of thousands of cases and work their way loose. Very often such wounded creatures die or are devoured by their enemies, and can, therefore, be counted a complete loss. The struggles in the trap often, spoil pieces of the skin and discount the selling price of the whole pelt. The revolting cruelty of the trap method must be self-evident. The trapper usually makes only two, sometimes one round per week, so that many animals are left in misery for five or six days at a time. Their efforts to preserve life are pitiful, and the stories told of are not at all exaggerated. Every trapper has met such



MARINE DRIVE, POINT GREY

instances. Knowing as they do the waste and cruelty of trapping the conservation authorities of Canada have been steadily working to encourage fur farming, and the growing success of these ventures may very easily banish the trap into the limbo of spears and arrows.—John Rosse.

GERMANS WHIP THE BRITISH PRISONERS

Geneva—George Rebsamen, a dentist of this city, has been a German prisoner for five months. In spite of the fact that he is a Swiss he was taken into custody in France and held in the Nieder Zwehren camp. Set at liberty recently he has just returned home, and reports that there were 20,000 British, French and Russian prisoners at Nieder Zwheren. He says the food is fairly good, but that the sanitary conditions are deplorable. The British received the worst treatment. Some of the camp guards are armed with heavy whips with which they strike the prisoners for slight offences.

COSTLY PROCEEDINGS OF DOMINION TRUST

In view of the magnitude of the bill of costs of the solicitors for the provisional liquidators proceedings in connection with the Dominion Trust, it is interesting to note that the estimate of expenses of the staff of the provisional liquidators would run to approximately \$2800 per month, or \$5600 for the two months during which they were employed, while the liquidation for the period would run in the neighborhood of \$2,000, making an interesting total of over \$7,000.

Added to the \$7,500 solicitors' costs, or rather to the \$6,000 odd, which was allowed by the registrar, this means that the cost of preparing the ground for the entrance of the permanent liquidator amounted to over \$13,000.

In legal circles the items in the bill of costs were freely discussed, and comments passed on the indefinite nature of many of these; the trip of Mr. Cowan to Victoria being a prominent feature of the account which received its due share of attention among the members of the profession.

Potash and wood ashes is the title of an article in the January Conservation Bulletin. The writer advises all farmers and gardeners to save all wood ashes for use as fertilizers. The war has cut off the supply of potash from Germany. Wood ashes contain a good proportion of potash as well as of other ingredients valuable to the ground. Hardwoods, particularly beech and maple, are especially rich in potash. Wood ash hasten the decay of organic matter in soils, thereby rendering more readily available the nitrogen contained therein. Where large quantities of ash are produced, as in burning old debris from a lumber tract, they bring a good price.

There is on exhibition in Paris a French army bi-plane, M.F. 123, which has 400 holes in its frame and covering where it has been hit by shrapnel, riflebullets and fragments of shells. The M. F. 123 with its intrepid commander, Captain Morris, has a record since the war began of 77 long distance reconnaissance flights over the German lines, 48 flights for ranging and 7 aerial combats.

THE ORDINARY MAN ARMS OF ENGLAND

He kept the middle of the road and did his level best,
 A simple ordinary man, in common garments dressed;
 The one ambition that he had was just to keep his brood
 Supplied with shoes and clothing warm and filled with wholesome food.
 He never made a bid for fame, nor seemed to want to roam,
 The only crowd he ever led was just the few at home.

He never whimpered at his lot, when extra burdens came,
 He never told his weariness or spoke of being lame,
 But trudged along from day to day and did the best he could,
 And seemed content if those at home his efforts understood.
 A simple, ordinary man, who faced each day of strife
 That he might give to those he loved some happiness in life.

The wishes of his wife and babes to him were stern commands,
 It kept him straining at the yoke to meet their new demands;
 He had no time for selfish play, no days to sit and rest,
 Each morning brought the ceaseless grind, each evening closed a test,
 And always as he turned away from home and shut the door,
 The pack of burdens on his back weighed just a little more.

He never sought the joys of fame, nor brilliant tried to be,
 The patch of blue above his home was all he wished to see;
 In simple toil he spent his life, the simple prizes gained,
 A back street, cozy little house where love and sweetness reigned,
 A wife, whose every word was kind and every look a smile,
 A set of happy little tots that made each care worth while.

He kept the middle of the road, and did his level best,
 He turned his back upon the east and bravely faced the west,
 And all he ever earned or owned to those he loved he gave,
 And to their joys and their desires he made himself a slave.

Seven centuries ago the royal arms of England were the "trois leopards d'or" of the Angevin kings. To-day, though the arms have been amended many times by many kings, the leopards still are there, of yellow complexion and strange shape, such as was never seen outside heraldry. They did not long remain alone to represent England's greatness, for when the Plantagenets took the title King of France, they added their silver lilies to the golden leopards, and they bloomed there till the first year of the nineteenth century, long after even the shadow of French sovereignty had passed away. The harp of Ireland, and the lion of Scotland, a noble beast, came to bear them company in the reign of James I., who did a great deal for the royal arms. Most of the things he introduced are there today, and the two supporters were his "own invention." Heraldry is a zoological garden for queer animals, and the unicorn is as strange as any, a "fabulous monster," with the body of a horse, the tail of a lion, the legs and hoofs of a stag, and a twisted horn that belongs to no animal on earth. Still, if he is only a fable, he is an ancient one. He is mentioned in the Bible many times, and the old Egyptians knew him, for they drew him on a papyrus, playing draughts, or something like it, with his old friend the lion. Not that they were always such friends, for as the old sixteenth century rhymist put it:

"The Lion and the Unicorn were fighting for the Crown,
 The Lion beat the Unicorn all round the town,
 Some gave them white bread and some gave them brown,
 Some gave them plum cake and drummed them out of town."

In other words, England and Scotland were at loggerheads until James VI. of Scotland became James I. of England, uniting the two kingdoms, and put the lion of England and the unicorn of Scotland to support the crown before them.

PATRIOTISM and PRODUCTION

"I would urge the farmers of Canada to do their share in preventing the people of Great Britain from suffering want or privation."
 HON. MARTIN BURRELL, Minister of Agriculture.

The Empire Needs Many Foods

In the past Great Britain has imported immense quantities of these staple foods from Russia, France, Belgium, Germany and Austria-Hungary as shown by the following:—

Average Imports	Years 1910-1913
Wheat.....	28,439,609 bush.
Oats.....	23,586,304 "
Barley.....	15,192,268 "
Corn.....	7,621,374 "
Peas.....	703,058 "
Beans.....	639,683 "
Potatoes.....	4,721,590 "
Onions.....	271,569 "
Meat.....	26,509,766 lbs.
Eggs.....	121,112,916 doz.
Butter and Cheese.....	91,765,233 lbs.

Millions of bushels rather than millions of acres should be Canada's aim.	Average Possible
Fall Wheat.....	20.43 52.
Spring Wheat.....	14.84 33.
Barley.....	16.15 69.
Oats.....	36.30 91.
Corn, Grain.....	70. 200.
Corn Ensilage.....	(Tons)..... 12. 19.
Peas.....	15.33 37.
Beans.....	18.79 50.
Potatoes.....	119.40 450.
Turnips.....	421.81 1000.

By "possible" is meant the actual results which have been obtained by our Experimental Farms and by many farmers. These "possibles" have been obtained under intensive cultivation methods and conditions not altogether possible on the average farm, yet they suggest the great possibilities of increased production. By greater care in the selection of seed, more thorough cultivation, fertilization, better drainage, the average could be raised by at least one-third. That in itself would add at least \$150,000,000 to the annual income of Canada from the farm. It would be a great service to the Empire, and this is the year in which to do it.

Increase Your Live Stock

Breeding stock are to-day Canada's most valuable asset. The one outstanding feature of the world's farming is that there will soon be a great shortage of meat supplies. Save your breeding stock. Plan to increase your live stock. Europe and the United States, as well as Canada, will pay higher prices for beef, mutton, and bacon in the very near future. Do not sacrifice now. Remember that live stock is the only basis for prosperous agriculture. You are farming, not speculating.

For information and bulletins write to
Canadian Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada

THE WESTERN CALL

H. H. STEVENS, M. P.
Editor-in-Chief

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

BY THE

TERMINAL CITY PRESS, LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE:

203 KINGSWAY, VANCOUVER, B. C.
Telephone: Fairmont 1140.

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TAXATION IN VANCOUVER

It is time that there was a practical review of the system of taxation in vogue in this city.

Taxes Are Too High

That is an easy thing to say, of course, but how shall the taxes be lowered? Debts have been incurred in the past, and the creditors of the city hold a first lien on the city and all that is in it.

Interest must be paid and the sinking fund monies must be provided. In addition to this there must be provided money for current expenditure.

True, all this is so.

But is there no way in sight to meet these things or part of them except through the pockets of the owners of property in this town?

If any other means have occurred to the city fathers, they have not as yet shown any active interest in it.

But are there such means? There certainly are.

Around this city there is a wealth of "white coal." There is hydro-electric power in enormous quantities, and yet the citizens of Vancouver have to pay, and the manufacturers of Vancouver have to pay enormous rates for the light and power supplied.

Take, for instance, the city of Winnipeg. It lies in a flat country. Its rivers, with one exception are sluggish, muddy streams. Yet Winnipeg has found for itself electric power and is supplying it to her citizens for about a quarter of what they had to pay under the hand of private companies. But if Winnipeg could do this in her flat location, how much more could Vancouver with her mountain torrents all around her?

Let this city take up and estimate the great cost to the people in dividends in the matter of the various public utilities, and it should be found that in them there are sources of revenue sufficient to meet the interest and sinking fund on the debts of the city.

System of Taxation

In the meantime the system of allowing improvements as they are called, to go wholly free from taxation has failed.

As is usual when a concession is made to the people in such a matter, great financial concerns immediately step in to capture the benefit.

Has it not been so in the case of Vancouver? Many storied buildings are there in evidence. These buildings have not wholly sprung from the enterprise of the owners of the ground. Great financial corporations have suggested the building and have volunteered the loan of the money to build.

The result is that business which was scattered along streets and the ground profits of which were divided among the owners of many properties, have been gathered into the area of one business lot, and the taxation upon that volume of business has been reduced from the taxation upon many lots to the taxation upon that one lot.

No remedy or compensation is possible for the many from whom that business has been taken. But their taxation is just as great as it was before.

Moreover, before that abnormal development came, many had secured property intending to build a moderate business building on it. Since that development it is clear to them that to build a modest building would be to have it unoccupied for the fashion has been to rush into the large blocks, the properties have, therefore, perforce been kept with temporary buildings or vacant.

Now, what is the effect on such properties of our system of taxes? Why, it exempts the buildings which are and taxes buildings which are not. This sounds like nonsense, but unfortunately it is true.

Take the taxes on any so-called business property which has no building or which at best has only a temporary building. Why are the taxes on these so outrageous? Because it is assumed that the property is capable of carrying a business building of a certain order, and that the city is not responsible for the non-existence of the building, therefore, the tax must be levied as though the building were there.

Is this either just or sane? Neither.

In the first instance the fact ought to be patent that the city has not in sight business to occupy an average of a building of ten stories for every business lot. So much is certain. Then it would be manifestly unjust to

tax the average lot as though there were sufficient business to yield that much for the average lot.

What, then, is the average amount of business in sight available for each building site?

Not more than would occupy three stories on each business lot.

It is even doubtful if uniform two-storey buildings on each lot would not accommodate all the business in sight for the number of lots taxed as business lots in the city are numerous.

If this be the case and the taxes are to be equally distributed then it must be on a basis of a fair distribution of business amongst the lots.

If, therefore, three stories is to be the basis of the calculation, then every lot which carries a building of more than three stories should be taxed as two lots. Every lot which carries more than twice three stories should be taxed as an additional lot for every three stories or fraction thereof. It is the business which is or should be done on a property which should pay the taxes.

PRACTICAL PATRIOTISM OF THE O. P. E.

THE orders which, according to the paragraph we herewith republish that Sir Thomas Shaughnessy has given for the immediate employment of some six thousand men, is most certainly on the right lines.

Sir Thomas has ordered that the track gangs on the prairie provinces be immediately fitted out to full strength, a step which would not ordinarily be necessary for some weeks. Employment will thus be found at once for about 3000 men.

The statement follows: "The situation with respect to employment in Western Canada has been engaging the attention of the president of the Canadian Pacific, and it has been his desire to give some relief along practical lines. He has, after full consideration, ordered that the track gangs on the prairie provinces be immediately fitted out to full strength, and has also directed that all proposed betterment work be undertaken without delay. It is expected that these orders will result in employment being found at once for an additional force of three thousand men."

This is in line with the patriotic attitude taken by Sir Thomas in October last when he directed that work which it was intended to postpone should be undertaken in order to provide employment for several thousand laborers.

There will be no grinding of the wind in the employment of these men. They will be doing work now which would have to be done later. The work will be done now, weeks earlier than it would be done under normal circumstances, and the benefit will be great.

It is also good business for the company. The work, as we have said, will have to be done later. But so will much other work. It must be remembered that there has been partial crop failure in Canada for some years now. This means that everything has been going light as to employment. But we may hope for better things this year. And then the crop area is said to be forty per cent. larger this year than it was a year ago. So that there will be the prospect that the handling of the crop will require forty per cent. more men this year than last year did, even though there should be no better average yield than last year gave. But if the average yield be full this year with the increased area there will be required double the men to handle the crop, and the associate industries which will be speeded up because of it.

Further, building is terribly behind on the prairies. Farmers are living in mud huts and their cattle are in temporary shelters. There must be great activity on these lines as soon as there is any money in sight for comfort, health, profit and every consideration will speed up the supplying of these necessities as soon as the money is to hand. A good crop assured will bring this about.

But it must also be remembered that there is not a thousand feet of surplus lumber in all the yards of the prairie. Now as soon as the demand arises, as it will arise with the assurance of returns from this year's crop, and then the camps will have to reopen and the mills to get out this supply.

Moreover, to handle all this produce and material there will have to be great augmentation of the railroad staffs in every department.

What is true of these industries is true of every other.

Where, then, are the men to be found when needed?

The foreigner will have been deported. The British and Canadian men will have gone with the contingents or will have been attracted to the old land to help out the situation there.

Sir Thomas, therefore, sees ahead a great shortage of men in Canada, and it is wise to get the work done before that shortage manifests itself.

And thereby hangs an example for the citizens who wish work to be done in this city. Men can be had this spring for what the employer can afford to pay. If the crop is good by fall there will not be men enough to do the work at any price.

The moral is that if there is work to be done now is the time.

Build while men and material are cheap. Clear land while men will be glad to work for a living wage.

And by doing the necessary work show the right patriotism such as the moment requires.

The managers of companies controlling loans in the city will do well to remember this also, and by the making of conservative loans help men to get their work done, thus giving employment and by the reasonable prices prevailing enable work to be done with a small loan which in a year would call for double.

GEORGE HERBERT MORDEN

Congratulations and best wishes to a knight of the pen. We wish the genial editor of the North Shore Press success in the race he has undertaken to run. The position of member of the provincial house would be one he should fill with credit to all concerned.

THE WORLD'S MINERAL OUTPUT

During 1912 the world's total mineral production considerably exceeded a billion sterling in value, of which coal accounted for 484 millions sterling for 1 1/4 million tons raised. The United States produced by far the most, viz. 485 million tons, Great Britain followed with 265 million tons and Germany coming third with 255 million tons. It must, however, be added that the British output was greatly reduced owing to the strike.

The total production of gold amounted to 23 million ounces, value 97 millions sterling, 61 per cent. of which was from the British Empire, a percentage to which in turn South Africa contributed 40 per cent., Australia 10 per cent., and Canada, the Gold Coast, India, New Zealand and Rhodesia together the remaining 11 per cent. The United States' share of the world's gold output amounted to 20 per cent. and that of Mexico and Russia combined to 12 per cent.

In iron, as in coal, the United States was easily first with 30 1/2 million tons, Germany with only 8 1/2 million tons being a bad second; while, curiously enough, France came next with 7 3/4 million tons, and Britain only fourth with 4 1/2 million tons. The amount of silver raised was over 7,100 tons, of which Britain's share was 1,556 tons; while in copper she contributed only 90,000 tons out of a total of over a million tons, a percentage that was even smaller in the case of petroleum, where it amounted to only one million out of 47 million tons.

In salt and lead Britain's showing was more satisfactory, amounting in the former case to 3 3/4 millions out of 18 million tons, and in the latter to 1/4 million out of 1 1/4 million tons. In zinc her share was 22 per cent. out of over a million tons, and in tin 55 per cent. of a total of 126,000 tons.

Incidentally, mining and quarrying the world over absorbed 6 1/2 million workers, of which more than a third were employed in the British Empire and a fifth in the United Kingdom proper.

AN APPEAL TO THE B. C. ELECTRIC

It would be a most acceptable boon to the patrons of the company if the B. C. Electric would clear the obstruction to the view from the front of their cars.

No one can see the streets through which they are passing. Our streets are worth seeing, and it is a pity that this pleasure is denied the passengers on the cars.

Especially is this the case, as we may expect that this summer many of the visitors to the Panama Exposition will pass this way. It might be expected that the opening of the vision at the front end of the cars would add a good percentage to the traffic using them.

As it is now, no one ever gets on the car for pleasure, only for utility.

YESTERDAY'S FIRES

The fires which took place on the two bridges on Thursday morning were sufficiently startling. It seems probable that defective electric wiring was the cause, and if so, it is a pity that the conclusion should have been jumped to that they were the work of alien enemies. We hope such aliens have common sense enough to appreciate their parole, and that there will be no foolish overt act which would involve the whole colony in trouble. We hope the time will come when by the declaration of peace they will be neighbors again.

REMARKS

On Sunday evening we attended service in a leading church in this city.

As a visitor we were interested in the proceedings. A visitor is always more critical than a regular attendant. We heard a most beautiful musical program. The prayer, three congregational hymns, the reading of a short passage of scripture, and a short address marked it from a sacred concert.

The address followed a theme, and only twice broke out into practical personal touch. One of these was a strong warning to young persons boarding, and having no other home than the bed room, against making that room a reception parlor, even though there were no other place available. The other was a strong reference to Billy Sunday. It was not altogether an attack on Billy Sunday and his methods and peculiar vocabulary. But still it had all the force of such an attack and it left rather an unsavory taste in the mouth.

A very strong passage of scripture came to our mind at that time which was this, "What has thou to do, to judge another man's servant, to his own master he standeth or falleth."

The thought would intrude itself that Billy Sunday, albeit he might not suit the palate of that particular church, could reach, and is reaching, classes that the earnest speaker of the evening is not reaching. There is nothing to say against the preacher of Sunday evening, only this, that such an attack, if it was meant for that, did not belong to his theme and was wholly gratuitous.

For the rest the service was very refreshing from a certain standpoint, and was an excellent entertainment for the Sabbath evening.

The man on the street, however, has still a good, old-fashioned faith in the evangelistic service which calls conscious sinners to public decision for and acknowledgement of the Saviour.

Not every man is an evangelist even though he be a good preacher. Billy Sunday seems to be, as far as he lifts men, even though for many the lifting be temporary, we bid him speed.

T. E. Julien, in a letter on "The Unemployed," in Thursday's News-Advertiser, takes the city to task for having insisted that the railroads should be built with white labor.

He assumes that it was the desire of Mr. Bowser that the work should have been done by Asiatics, and assures us that if it had been done by Asiatics the lines would have been completed with the money available.

Further he assumes that because the city insisted on the employment of white labor that therefore the city should support them.

Mr. Bowser may thank Mr. Julien for representing him as a patron of Asiatic labor, but we doubt it.

We also doubt if Mr. Bowser ever imagined that the city should be penalized for supporting a white province.

Admiralty, Whitehall, Apr. 17th, 1915.

From Lord Fisher, of Kilverstone.

First Sea Lord of the Admiralty.

Dear Mr. Ellis.—Thanks for your "War Warblings of a British Tar." They are splendid.

Allow me to congratulate you upon your ability to sing of the sea and of the strong feeling of patriotism shown in your lyrics, typical of the British navy.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) FISHER.

W. A. Ellis, Esq.,
Vancouver, B. C.

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From our Vancouver Kipling

WELL DONE!

I.
Mourn for the loved ones lost, but just remember
With you the nation mourns for those who died,
And yet this common grief is quite forgotten,
Lost in the ocean of our common pride.
What nobler death could we have wished our
loved ones,
Than that they die upholding honor's cause,
Glorious, full blooded, lustful, and for Britain
And in defence of all our sacred laws.

II.
Cold as they lay the world is bending o'er them
Theirs is the sacrifice—she has gained thereby,
Canada, to-day cries out the countless thousands
Shows very plainly how her sons can die.
Weep not, sad hearts, for time will surely show
you,
What freedom gains by sacrifice like this,
Time, kindly time, will throw her mantle o'er
you,
Turn nights of sadness into days of bliss.

W. A. ELLIS.

SOME DIFFERENCES

Here and there amongst our dairymen are such splendid results attained that one can only be astonished at the complacency with which other so-called dairymen continue to be content with the pitifully small average yields of milk per cow. Why do the huge differences exist? Just a few miles from here is one of those poor herds, six cows with an average of only 3,338 pounds of milk; the highest yield only 4,000 pounds. In contrast to that, two good herds in western Ontario indicate the possibilities for the man whose eyes are open to what milk records have to teach. One herd of 12 grades average 10,657 pounds of milk and 317 pounds of fat; the second herd of 22 grades averaged 10,542 pounds of milk and 350 pounds of fat. These marvellous differences in herd yields drive home hard facts. Men differ in their methods of feeding and handling cows, feeds differ in value, cows differ considerably in their inherent capacity as milk producers, they are not all cast in the same mould. In the above two good herds

the constant use of milk records has proved an excellent lever in raising the production. Cow testing pays.

LAND CLEARING OPERATIONS COMMENCED

Victoria, B. C., Apr. 30th—Reports received by the Hon. W. R. Ross, minister of lands, show that there has been a greatly increased activity in clearing land on the east side of Vancouver Island during the past winter, and that this work is continuing at the present time. The clearing has been extensive and has been very thorough; not mere slashing, but clearing with the object of raising crops. It is obvious that the settlers are busily engaged in the preliminaries of increased production, and the indications generally are most encouraging.

In Korea, skilled laborers receive twenty-five cents a day and unskilled laborers from twelve to fifteen cents. Yet the Korean jubilee fund reached one hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars.

POSTAL LAWS OF CANADA

Under the Post Office Act, Section 65, the Postmaster General has the exclusive privilege of receiving, collecting, conveying and delivering letters within Canada.

Bills and accounts whether in open or sealed envelopes, as well as circulars or other printed matter enclosed in envelopes sealed or ready to be sealed, are "Letters" within the meaning of the Post Office Act.

There is a penalty under Section 136 of the Post Office Act which may amount to \$20.00 for each letter unlawfully carried.

It has been brought to the attention of the Post Office Department that some business firms desiring to avoid paying the War Tax which became effective on the 15th April, propose making arrangements for the delivery of accounts, bills, other than the Post Office, contrary to the Postal Act, and a warning is hereby given that the Post Office Department intends to insist that the law shall be rigidly lived up to, and will in no circumstances allow these parties to avoid paying the one cent tax which has been imposed for war purposes.

All letters conveyed, received, collected, sent or delivered in contravention of the Post Office Act will be seized and necessary steps immediately taken for the prosecution of offenders in all cases where the law has been contravened.

THE OUTLOOK FOR GERMANY

Germany will fight to the bitter end against decisive defeat if for no other reason than that the whole financial system is now dependent on relief from external sources. Her financial policy has all along been based on the belief that whatever the monetary difficulties and the extent of commercial liabilities, a successful war would redress the balance and provide the additional capital necessary for further industrial and trade expansion. That hope, if it ever had any real basis, has already been destroyed. Germany is no longer fighting for world domination, but to avoid disastrous defeat, which in her case means far more than submission to superior arms. Germany is in the situation of a gambler who is facing both immediate ruin and the forfeiture of all that the future held.

The German people, enmeshed in the coils of a paternalistic government, do not understand the situation into which they have been brought. They are living to-day in what is practically a huge experiment in state socialism. The government in order to obtain temporary relief has resorted to devices that experience has shown to be not only futile but prolific in even greater evils than those it was purposed to remove. Unless Germany can liquidate her paper currency and obligations by levies drawn from enemy countries, her outlook is dark indeed. Germany by her conduct of the war is already a pariah among civilized nations. Defeat will leave her in worse plight than any country has ever been. But to that pass Germany must be brought if a new and better Europe is to be created. —Winnipeg Telegram.

B. C. TIMBER EXHIBIT

The campaign directed by the Hon. W. R. Ross, Minister of lands, in order to educate the consumer in district markets concerning the qualities and adaptability of British Columbia woods, has been advanced another step, the first consignment of the permanent exhibits, to be stationed at important trade centres throughout the world, having been already dispatched.

Each exhibit is of a comprehensive character, showing the principal woods of the Province in both natural and finished states, displaying the various styles of manufactured material for which each species is adapted. Accompanying the exhibit are photographs intended to convey an idea of the extent of the great lumbering industry, and showing the course of the log from the forest to mill and loading wharf. In addition, information is supplied by means of printed cards, concerning the Douglas fir, cedar, hemlock and spruce.

The eight sets already forwarded will be on view at five trade centres in the United Kingdom, namely, London, Birmingham, Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow, also at Paris, Shanghai and Yokohama, in the case of the respective Canadian Trade Commissioners, and cannot fail to attract the attention of importers.

There will shortly be sent out the balance of the exhibits, sixteen in number, destined for sixteen points in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the East and West Coasts of America, and Eastern Canada.

"Caravanning" is a popular way to spend one's vacation days in England, and huge wagons are fitted up and rented to those who enjoy the gipsy way of living. In these great wagons one can ride by day and sleep by night. A more luxurious form of travel will be afforded by the automobiles now being constructed. The seat backs and cushions of the cars can be shifted, in order to supply the tourists with comfortable beds and render them independent of the poor accommodation of country inns.

Dr. Mildred Scott describes a boat-race at the Feast of the Dragons in China. It was in a large pond outside the walls of Chaoyang. "These races," she says, "are the only occasions when the Chinese really 'let go' of themselves and yell with excitement. They certainly were good 'fans' that afternoon as their long boats, manned by eight pairs of oarsmen, a steersman and a gong man, went shooting off at the gunshot, very swift dragons indeed. Everyone near the road, though, took time to stare at the foreigner, even if the boats were on the home stretch." Doctor Scott is a missionary in Chaoyang.

The University of Wisconsin is particularly closely in touch with the life of the people in its constituency. Two of its latest moves are a correspondence course for Health Officers, and a Public Speaking course for business and professional men. In the later course, training is given in the preparation and delivery of speeches, and assistance in the working up of any special subject.

FEATURE FILMS AT BROADWAY THEATRE

Manager Gow Arranges for Paramount Pictures During Coming Months—No Increase in Prices — Annetta Kellerman Coming Second Week in May.

Manager Gow, of the Broadway theatre, has arranged for feature photo plays at his cosy little house that are only shown at the highest priced houses in the city before appearing here, so that there is no necessity of going down town to a show when you can get the best on the "Hill," and save car fare in doing so. He has arranged for the appearance of the five reel Paramount "Behind the Scenes" with the little star of flandom, Mary Pickford. This is a fascinating play that contrasts the drama of life with the glamor of the foot lights. This feature will only be shown on Wednesday and Thursday nights next week. This is only the first of this series.

Monday and Tuesday, May 10-11, Annette Kellerman will be shown in "Neptune's Daughter." This is the famous picture produced by Capt. Leslie Peacocke, many of the scenes being taken in Cuba, where a special trip was made by the full cast of the production.

On Monday night a mixed bill with a good percentage of comedy will be shown, including "Under the Table," a ridiculous L-Ko farce, also a couple of western dramas for good measure. The usual weekly drawing will be held on Tuesday night at 8.30. Four prizes and you must be present to win.

Last, but not least, the "Master Key" fans will be regaled with the final episode of this interesting serial. The hero and heroine marry, the villain dies by his own hand, and the sole remaining member of the band of conspirators repents of her sins. Just like all good melodrama should end. The closing scenes are very effective and you cannot afford to miss the last instalment of one of the most successful film stories ever produced.

"The Black Box," by that popular writer, E. Phillips Oppenheim, and produced by the Universal Company, will commence Friday and Saturday, May 14-15, following chapters following the same days on succeeding weeks.

A man recently discharged from Sing Sing prison has been employed at the Ford automobile factory in Detroit, in accordance with the policy which Henry Ford announced a few weeks ago. Mr. Ford proposes to live up to his principles, and the outcome of his experiment in rehabilitating fallen men will be seriously watched by all friends of human redemption.

"ROUGH ON RATS" clears out rats, mice, etc. Don't die in the house. 15c and 25c at drug and country stores.

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STYOPHS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS

Coal mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre. Not more than 2569 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of \$5, which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of 5 cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary for the working of the mine at the rate of \$10.00 an acre.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. W. CORY, Deputy Minister of the Interior. N. B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

Chicago claims the largest moving electric sign in the world. It is fifty feet high and one hundred and forty feet long, and it can be seen for a mile along the lake front.

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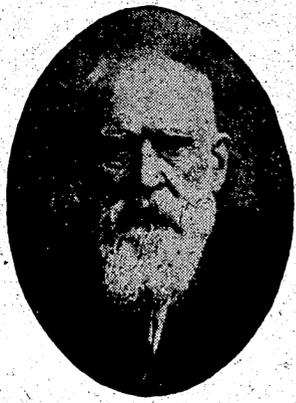
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From "The Old-Timer" Edited by Helix Penne



PIONEER OF PIONEERS

A Notable Absentee from the Pioneers' Banquet

(By Noel Robinson)

It has been suggested to me by the Editor that this opening number of "The Old-Timer" would be incomplete if it had no reference to one of the two first white men—excepting Captain Vancouver and his merry men many years before—to land on Burrard Inlet, Mr. Walter Moberly. His companion, who long since passed to the Great Beyond, has his name kept green by Burnaby. Walter Moberly was present exactly a year ago as one of the guests of honor at the Pioneers' Banquet. He and Mr. Cambie and Mr. Abbott, three white-haired pioneers, constituted a notable triumvirate at the head table and each had a few words to say about the "dear dead days beyond recall." Today the man who, more than any other, explored the wild interior of this splendid province, blazing the trail for those who were to follow, lies seriously ill in the Vancouver General Hospital, and the sympathy of the great body of the pioneers of this province, and not only of the Vancouver pioneers, goes out to him in the pain he is suffering.

During the several months of his sojourn at the General Hospital, where he has received every attention, and where until quite recently, when the illness which has attacked his throat has made talking a strain, his consistent cheerfulness and reminiscent talk has made him a wonderfully interesting patient to visit. Mr. Moberly has maintained the keenest interest in affairs of the day. He has had a host of visitors, the most frequent being his old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wade and Mrs. Chrimes, their daughter, at whose house he has been a welcome guest every week for many years past, and his visitors have included many notable pioneers in this province, and not a few new-timers who have learned of the services which he has rendered to the province long before any of them came here. During this enforced rest at the hospital he has done a lot of reading and covered a wide field, books upon the present great war and books of travel and exploration occupying a lot of his attention. And he has written many letters. His eyesight has been as clear, his handwriting nearly as firm and his intellect as keen as ever. And now that he has much pain to bear, it is the duty of all who have known and admired this explorer and trail-maker, this man, who more, perhaps, than any other, made possible the bringing of the Canadian Pacific railway to Vancouver, to visit and help to cheer him up.

"Rocks and Rivers of B. C."

There are just two other matters I would like to refer to here. The one has reference to Mr. Moberly's work

and the other has reference to his family. Quite recently he sent to England to a sister for a book, of which he is the author, a copy of which he could not get out here, entitled "The Rocks and Rivers of British Columbia." This book, which is racyly written and accompanied by a map of B. C., drawn by himself, was published in the early eighties, and contains, couched in different language many of the adventures and explorations described in our little book entitled "Blazing the Trail through the Rockies," published quite recently. I cannot resist quoting the modest preface which Mr. Moberly wrote thirty years ago to "The Rocks and Rivers of British Columbia." It strikes a patriotic note and is worth quoting.

"The gradual development of the Dominion of Canada by a comparatively small and scattered population and the gigantic work undertaken by that population to consolidate and build up a nation worthy of the grand old British Empire, together with the important geographical position British Columbia occupies in Confederation, has led me to write a few pages describing in part some events that occurred when British Columbia was a Crown Colony, and more recently a portion of the Dominion of Canada, with both of which periods I was, to some extent, personally acquainted. The warm interest always taken by you in this province, and my own early acquaintance with you here, induces me to dedicate my small and imperfect work to you." Mr. Moberly then dedicates it to Major-General Richard Clement Moody, Royal Engineers, who was Colonel Moody when he came out to B. C. in '58 in command of the Royal Engineers, that body of men which did so much to help to lay the foundations of this province, and many of whom have bequeathed worthy children who are following the fine traditions set them by their parents.

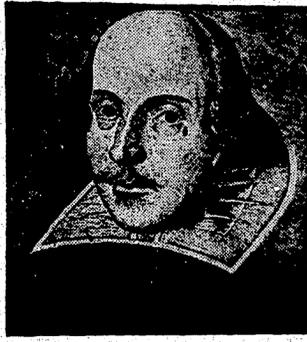
An Astonishing Pioneer Family

I would close this reference to Walter Moberly with a word about the Moberly family. We in British Columbia are proud of such stalwart pioneers—to name a few of the real Old Brigade—as John McLennan, H. J. Cambie, James Gillespie, Steve Tingley, Bob Stevenson, H. Abbott, Edgar Dewdney, Dr. Helmcken, Donald MacGregor, the late E. H. Alexander, and others of that breed—but, fine as these men have been and still are, individually, it is doubtful whether any one of them can lay claim to a band of brothers and sisters as remarkable for longevity and pioneer activity as the Moberly family.

The oldest member of this family is Lady Brydges, still living in Radnorshire, Wales, at the advanced age of 87, her sister, Emma Brydges Moberly, who is also resident in Radnorshire, being over 70 years of age, Arthur and Clarence Moberly both died well up in years, but four brothers still survive, George, Harry, Frank and Walter, a remarkable quartette, George, who lives at Collingwood in Eastern Canada, is 85; Harry, a farmer in Saskatchewan, is 81; Frank, who lives at Gravenhurst, Barrie, near the Moberly's early home, is 79; and Walter, is 83. Of these brothers, three have been explorers, surveyors and civil engineers, Frank, Harry and Walter, most of their work having been done in the wilds of British Columbia, and Harry and Frank have had nearly as varied and remarkable careers as their brother Walter. I shall not be breaking a confidence if I refer to a letter received by Walter Moberly from Harry Moberly last week, written in that wonderfully clear hand which

three of the four brothers still retain, because in the course thereof, the latter states:

"Those d—d Germans are still holding out wonderfully and doing a lot of harm. My son Walter is enlisting and so may George. They are both dead shots and good riders and have both been under fire in the Boer war, one with the Strathconas, and the other with the Cape Mounted Police." The Moberly blood speaks there—the grandfather of those boys fought under Wellington in the Napoleonic wars. Then there is just this half-sad touch, "Fanny writes me that George is very feeble, and you and I are on the down grade and will soon have to employ Charon." We all hope that it may be long before the surviving members of this remarkable family have to employ the grim boatman to ferry them across the dark river, but when they do, they will not cease to be, for their works will remain after them, and they will leave many fragrant memories behind.



SHAKESPEARE—"An Old Timer"

It was a happy thought to select April the 23rd—the birthday of Shakespeare—for the annual banquet of the "Vancouver Pioneers' Association."

Shakespeare, although he died comparatively young, had the heart of an "Old Timer." At Stratford-on-Avon, where he was born and where he died, he took an interest in the town's welfare. He loved old places, old tales, old memories; he praised old age "frosty but kindly." Vancouver honours herself in honoring his memory.

THE FELLING OF THE FOREST

"Old Timers who have seen the glorious trees depart to make way for 'skyscrapers and stores' will appreciate the following lines by John Mortimer:

But slowly did the work advance; to tell
How, thrown with skill, the forest monarchs
fell.

To me were pleasant—prone and parallel;
This way and that, their huge boughs inter-
laced.

Tier over tier for great bonfires placed,
With terrible descent; but fearless all
We laid them low and climbed each sway-
ing wall.

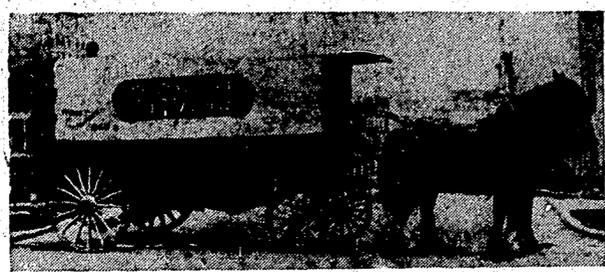
To cut the higher trunks and boughs, and lay
Compact for burning at some future day—
And listening now I hear those bonfires roar,
And see great sheets of flame that sky-
ward soar,

Triumphant beacons of thy future, great,
Oh, Canada! our dearly loved estate.

Thus fared the noblest of our forest trees,
Whose branches mingled, bending in the
breeze

For broad, unmeasured leagues on every side,
All green and glorious in their summer's
pride!

The home of rustling wings and nimble feet,
The Red Man's shelter, and the deer's re-
treat.



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SPORTING COMMENT

Boss Johnson, the Victoria net guardian, is looking after the interests of the Victoria amateurs in the coast league this summer.

It will soon be time for Con Jones to announce his team for this year. It is to be hoped that he is successful in landing Lalonde and the Fitzgerald brothers for his team.

The 47th battalion at New Westminster is in the field with a lacrosse team. Probably taking Charlie Querrie's suggestion re hand grenade brigade for service at the front.

Dot Crookall, the old Maple leaf star, will be seen in a Vancouver jersey this season, according to Con Crookall is one of the most effective home men in the game, and with Lalonde, and Fitzgerald, should be a tower of strength to Vancouver.

The rival teams in the amateur lacrosse league of B. C. are getting down to hard practice for the opening of the season two weeks hence. Dad Trnbull, the veteran of lacrosse in New Westminster, is behind the Fraser River amateurs, and Dad says the championship is his this year. Well, Dad said that same thing last season, but Vancouver still has the edge on the other two teams. The brand of lacrosse played by the amateurs, is, in our opinion considerably ahead of that displayed by the professionals in recent years, and if the teams still keep up the good article there is small chance for it being supplanted by the professional artists.

Vancouver ball team is getting off to a good start in the race for the pennant this year, and every game seems to indicate that Bob Brown has been fortunate

in again picking up a bunch of youngsters who will make good in the game in this league. Last week on the home lot the champions won the series from Victoria, and so far this week are doing well in Seattle. It is sometimes hard just to figure out how a team will shape up in a series. Playing every day is a tedious and nerve-racking job, and the Beavers are certainly deserving of gilt-edged support this season. Times, undoubtedly are hard, but real fans will stay with the team to the best of their ability throughout the season. And, let us remind Madager Brown, in this respect, that a few gratis days all around would be a good thing for the encouragement of the fans.

Con Jones holds the whip just now in the professional league. He wants the champions to put up a bond that they will appear throughout the entire season. We are not anxious to stir up old troubles, but it must be remembered that it has been the Vancouver patronage that has given the professionals a look-in out here. And in this respect, it is with regret that we have to remind the Salmonbellies that on more than one occasion they disappointed the Vancouver public. We believe Jones is perfectly right in his demands. He has to guarantee his players a certain stipend, that stipend he can get only by the returns of the box office, which in turn can only be had when the teams play the game. Mr. Westminster, it is certainly up to you to come through with the desired bond. Con Jones, we understand, is prepared to come through with a similar bond on behalf of the Vancouver club. And when all is said and done, during Con's regime as magnate Vancouver enjoyed her best in the professional game.

CORRESPONDENCE

1549 Hastings St.,
April 27, 1915.

Editor Western Call:

Dear Sir,—I am a property owner in the city of Vancouver and I am in arrears of taxes for the years 1913 and 1914, and I am unable to meet those taxes at present, and I consider it an outrage to have a tax sale these hard times. I wish to become a member of your proposed organization.

Yours respectfully,
WM. PEDDER.

736 Granville St.,
April 27, 1915.

Editor Western Call:

Dear Sir,—In your last issue of the Call I find some printed remarks regarding the proposed Tax Sale. There is a point I think that should not be lost sight of by the owners of property that have paid their taxes. For instance, a lot that is assessed for, say seven hundred dollars (\$700) that was sold two or three years ago for say one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be in arrears forty (\$40) or fifty dollars (\$50). Should the tax sale go on and the lot be sold for taxes the purchasers will be in a position to sell for very much less than the assessed value. Consequently, all the lots that are sold for taxes will have to be out of the way before the owner of a lot that has paid his taxes promptly will be able to dispose of his property, and will, consequently suffer to a very large extent. Indeed, would it not be better to deal with these tax sale lots much as they do in some parts of Minnesota. There, for instance, after three years have elapsed and the taxes are not paid the lot is sold to the city, and the delinquent is charged 12 per cent. per annum from the date forward, and the future taxes if unpaid are added together with all unpaid taxes, bringing in 12 per cent, all being a first charge on the property until such time as the arrears equal one quarter of the assessed value, then sell it to the highest bidder. If a man cannot pay his taxes this year it is unlikely he can pay it in a year, thereby losing his lot and at the same time ruining the real estate market for a number of years until all tax sale lots are out of the way. By a procedure as above the city or municipality would be the gainer of 6 per cent., as money can be borrowed by them at 6 per cent. or less, and the security to the party loaning the money would be much better than loaning on a high assessed value. Besides it looks bad to sell property for taxes and the knowledge that a tax sale is pending has a tendency to stop real estate deals until it is over. I firmly believe if no tax sale was in the air that real estate would quickly pick up and many sales would be made.

A. M. BEATTIE.

An exchange reports that one hundred young Quakers from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge have constituted an ambulance corps. This has been sent to aid the wounded Serbs. It is maintained by the entire body of "Friends" in Great Britain.

NAVIGABLE WATERS PROTECTION ACT

Notice is hereby given that the Vancouver Harbour Commissioners have deposited with the Minister of Public Works for the Dominion of Canada, as required by Section 7, Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes of Canada plans and descriptions of a bulkhead and all to be built and constructed in False Creek, Vancouver, B. C., and that duplicates of said plan and description have been deposited with the Registrar of Deeds at the Land Registry Office, Vancouver, B. C.

And take notice that at the expiration of one month from the date hereof the Vancouver Harbour Commissioners will apply to the Governor-in-Council of the Dominion of Canada for approval of said plans and for permission to build and construct said bulkhead, and all.

The description by metes and bounds of the site of said bulkheads and all is as follows:

All and singular, that certain parcel or tract of land and land covered with water, situate, lying and being in the Province of British Columbia, in the District of New Westminster, in the City of Vancouver, and being composed of a portion of the bed of False Creek, in the public harbour of Vancouver, and generally known as the Granville Street Mud Flats; and which may be more particularly known and described as follows, that is to say:

Beginning at a point on the centre line of the new Granville Street Bridge, said point being two hundred (200) feet distant from the centre of the spring span, measured south thirty-eight degrees fifty minutes west (S. 38 deg. 50 min. W.) along said centre line of bridge; thence south forty-one degrees east (S. 41 deg. 00 min. E.) one thousand and forty (1040) feet more or less to the point of intersection with a line drawn parallel to and seven hundred and forty-nine and one-tenth (749.1) feet distant from the west boundary of Birch Street, measured easterly at right angles thereto; thence south along said parallel line, four hundred and seventy-six (476.0) feet more or less to the point of intersection with a line drawn parallel to and two hundred feet distant from the headline between Spruce and Birch Streets, approved by the Vancouver Harbour Commissioners on April 22nd, 1914, said distance being measured north at right angles thereto; thence west six hundred and ninety-six and five-tenths (696.5) feet more or less; thence north sixty degrees thirty-one minutes west (N. 60 deg. 31 min. W.) five hundred and sixty-four and two-tenths (564.2) feet more or less; thence north forty-one degrees thirty-two minutes west (41 deg. 32 min. W.) four hundred and nine and one-tenth (409.1) feet more or less; thence north twenty-seven degrees eighteen minutes west (N. 27 deg. 18 min. W.) five hundred and twenty-two and two-tenths (522.2) feet, the last four above described courses being all ways parallel to and two hundred (200) feet distant from the headline between Spruce Street and First Ave. approved by the Vancouver Harbour Commissioners on April 22nd, 1914, the said distance being measured at right angles thereto; thence north twelve degrees two minutes east (N. 12 deg. 02 min. E.) five hundred and seventy (570) feet; thence north fifty degrees twenty-nine minutes east (N. 50 deg. 29 min. E.) one hundred and ninety and four-tenths (190.4) feet, thence north eighty-seven degrees east (N. 87 deg. 00 min. E.) three hundred and thirty-one (331.0) feet more or less to the point of intersection with the first above described course produced north forty-one degrees west (N. 41 deg. 00 min. W.) thence south forty-one degrees east (S. 41 deg. 00 min. E.) along the said first described course produced six hundred and forty (640) feet more or less to the point of beginning; containing an area of forty-one and eight-tenths (41.8) acres, more or less, as shown on plans referred to.

Dated at Vancouver, B. C., this 28th day of April, A.D., 1915.

W. D. HARVIE,
Secretary.

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We are offering choice varieties of our one year old apple tree stock at Ten Dollars per 100; two and three year old stock reduced accordingly. Our other fruit tree stock and general nursery stock we give 30 per cent. off catalogue price, allowed in additional stock. Cash to accompany order.

In our stock of over \$100,000 we have everything you want to make your orchards greater and your gardens more beautiful. Catalogues mailed free on application.

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The Mt. Pleasant Hardware
Phone Fair. 447 2337 Main Street

SPRINGTIME, LOWER FRASER VALLEY

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Rev. Newton Powell has received a unanimous call to St. Paul's church, Avenue road, Toronto.

Rev. Dr. Crummy has accepted the important and onerous duty of Principal of Wesley College, Winnipeg.

Rev. Mr. Bradshaw, of Sixth Avenue Methodist church, will shortly go east to take up pastoral work in another field.

The 30th anniversary of the First Presbyterian church will be celebrated on Tuesday, 11th May. Dr. E. D. McLaren and Dr. G. C. Pidgeon are the speakers for the evening, and a splendid musical program is being arranged.

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian choir, under the direction of Mr. L. R. Bridgman, F.T.C.M., gave a splendid concert in St. Matthew's church, Garden Drive, last evening. Rev. A. Macauley, pastor of the church, occupied the chair, and a large turnout heard with appreciation the efforts of the visitors. Afterwards the choir and their friends were

entertained and served with refreshments by the ladies of the church.

The Presbytery of Westminster meets in St. Stephen's Presbyterian church, New Westminster, on May 4th.

Rev. J. H. White, of Eburne, moderator of the New Westminster presbytery, has accepted the position of chaplain of the 54th battalion, which is being mobilized in the Kootenay district.

Dr. Coy will shortly move into his former residence, cor. 11th and Main, and with that in view has had the decorators busy for some time brushing up the interior and exterior of his home. Dr. Murray, former occupant, has moved to the 500 block, 12th avenue east.

MT. PLEASANT Y.P.S.O.E.

The regular meeting on Monday evening last was in the hands of the Missionary Committee on the subject "Christ's Work in the Mission Field." Some very interesting papers were read on

Livingstone, Geddie, Chalmers and several others by the various members of the committee.

The topic for next Monday is "The Joys of Christian Life," and will be taken by Miss Edna Gow and Miss Anna Beattie.

Owing to the damage to the Connaught bridge yesterday by fire, the B. C. Electric will not be able to operate its Oak Street line running from Eburne to Hastings and Cambie streets on its regular route. The transportation officials of the company have decided to establish the Vancouver terminus of this line at Granville street and Fourth avenue until the bridge is repaired. The cars will proceed along Broadway and Granville Street. The corner of Fourth Avenue and Granville street was selected as the terminus as it gives opportunity to transfer to a number of lines coming into the centre of the city.

CAMPBELL-McDONALD

A quiet wedding took place at 8 o'clock last evening in First Presbyterian church, when Miss Annie Balfour McDonald and Mr. Donald Campbell, both of Mount Pleasant, were united in marriage by Rev. R. G. MacBeth. The bride was attended by Miss Agnes B. Hall, while Mr. Duncan Campbell assisted the groom. A large number of friends were present to witness the ceremony. The young couple will make their home at 124 Webber Avenue, South Vancouver, where their many friends will wish them joy abundant in the days to come.

"THE CREATION" AT CHALMERS CHURCH

A grand concert will be given in Chalmers Presbyterian church, corner 12th Avenue and Hemlock streets, on Thursday, May 6th, at 8.15 p.m., when the Western Triple Choir, under the leadership of Mr. George Taggart, will render Haydn's great oratorio, "The Creation." The following will be the soloists: Miss Eileen Gilley, soprano; Mr. John Graham, tenor; Mr. Fred Taggart, bass. A short miscellaneous program will follow the rendering of the oratorio. Mr. H. Barlow will act as accompanist. Admission, free. Silver collection.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

Mount Pleasant Methodist church held a grand Sunday School anniversary rally on Sunday last. The event took the form of a whole day's program, and was largely attended and thoroughly enjoyed all through. The main body of the church was utilized for the occasion, and was patriotically draped throughout, the choir for the services being composed almost entirely of children. The morning service was conducted by Rev. Dr. Sipprell, pastor, and he gave a most inspiring and patriotic address. In the afternoon Rev. I. W. Williamson, general secretary of the B. C. Sunday School Association, was the speaker, and Mr. Williamson enthused the large turnout with his splendid and timely remarks. In the evening Rev. T. Albert Moore, of Toronto, secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, preached, and the church was filled to the doors for the occasion. All through the splendid arrangements were carried out without a hitch, largely due to the untiring and efficient leadership of Mr. Pinehin, superintendent of the school. Mount Pleasant Methodist has the largest Sunday school in the province, and is one of the most aggressive in its methods. Its faithful and devoted band of workers are achieving notable success in their work, and led by Dr. Sipprell, much real good is being accomplished in this community. We congratulate them on their services of last Sunday.

FIRE DESTROYS RESIDENCE

Last evening about 8 o'clock fire broke out in the residence of Mr. James Duncan, 1323 Broadway East, and with the high wind blowing soon gutted the building beyond repair. How it started is unknown, as the family are away from home at the present time, only Mr. Duncan, Jr., being at home. The firemen responded promptly and had a nasty job subduing the conflagration, the building being badly gutted. The loss is covered by insurance to the extent of \$2,000.

THE CRISIS IN B. C.

A meeting was held last evening in Hamilton Hall to discuss the above problem. The meeting was called by the ministerial association and was addressed by Rev. A. E. Cooke and Rev. Dr. G. C. Pidgeon, the main point taken by both speakers being a condemnation of the land policy of the present government.

Some grave accusations were made and these, the rev. gentlemen claim to be able to substantiate. A large turnout was recorded, and those present seemed to be deeply interested in the references made.

WOMEN'S FORUM

A public meeting will be held under the auspices of the Women's Forum in the Oddfellows' Hall, Main street, on Wednesday, May 5th, at 2.00 p.m.

The women voters of the ward and all other women interested in civic matters, are requested to attend. Several prominent public speakers will be present to address the meeting of civic matters of interest to women. Mr. R. A. Fraser, from the B. C. Consumers' League, will speak on the objects of this organization, and the advantages to be gained by buying "Made in B. C." goods.

It is the purpose of the Forum to organize a branch in Ward five in order to bring the women of this ward in closer touch with the workings of the organization.

CONNAUGHT BRIDGE BURNED

During the early hours of yesterday morning fire was noticed emanating from the lower portions of Connaught bridge, the big new span across False creek. An exceedingly high wind was blowing at the time, and it took only a short while for the blaze to become serious. The fire system of the city was speedily summoned and the task was indeed a difficult one. The framework of the bridge was burning fiercely by this time, and the brigade were up against a very difficult problem. Holes had to be cut in the flooring of the bridge before any water could be put on the blaze, and with the exceedingly high wind blowing at the time, this was a trying experience. However, the firemen eventually were successful and the fire was gotten under control, but not before serious damage had been done. Two spans of Vancouver's splendid bridge today are a mass of twisted steel and are lying on the bed of the creek, loss to the extent of between \$60,000 and \$100,000 has been sustained to the city, without insurance, and the traffic across the bridge will for some months, be stopped. The cause of the fire is at present unknown, but it is a serious loss to the city. Steps to repair the structure will be taken immediately.

The first woman to use a sewing machine died the other day at Winsted, in Connecticut, at the age of eighty-six, says The Youth's Companion. She was Miss Elizabeth Kilbourn, who in the fifties was a teacher in a private school at New Hartford. When Elias Howe was experimenting with his invention, he asked Miss Kilbourn to help him, first to use the new machine.

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"Under the Table," L-Ko farce with Hank Mann. It will curl you up with laughter.

Tuesday—

The Whirling Disk, featuring Cleo Madison. Drawing, 8.30 p.m. sharp.

Wednesday and Thursday—

Mary Pickford (the Darling of Them All), in "Behind the Scenes," 5 Parts; Universal Weekly; Latest War News.

Friday and Saturday—

"The Master Key," Final Episode. "The Death of Simon Legree," burlesque on "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

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LAYMEN'S MISSIONARY MOVEMENT MEETING

A large audience was present under the above auspices in St. Andrew's church last Sunday afternoon to hear Dr. O. R. Avison, of Korea, speak. He gave an interesting talk on his work there, enumerating many local incidents in connection with the life of that people. When Dr. Avison went there 22 years ago there were no mission stations. Since then, however, under the guidance of the Christian movement there have been 250,000 of the natives converted to the Christian faith, and are actively engaged in promoting the cause. Dr. Avison has established a medical college there, and has had a large number of native graduates in medicine.

Alberta lacrosse officials have announced their intention to keep out of the C. A. A. U. Hard luck for the latter. Calgary will have to dig up some real lacrosse players before they will be an acquisition to any body. With reference to the Mann cup, which Calgary is so anxious to annex, they have very little chance unless the courts step in and hand it over to the Alberta team. Sure it is, they could never win it with the bunch that represented them here last season.

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