

# THE B. C. TEACHER


*Official Organ of the B. C. Teachers' Federation*

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Published on the 15th of each month, except July and August, by the  
B. C. Teachers' Federation.  
614.616 Credit Foncier Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Annual Subscription - - - \$1.50      Federation Members - - - \$1.00  
Printed by Wrigley  Printing Company, Limited

VOL. IX., NO. 9

MAY, 1930

VANCOUVER, B. C.

## Editorial

### The Convention and Annual Meeting

ON all sides we hear the opinion freely expressed that our Convention this year was the best that we have ever held. Many letters of appreciation have been received, amongst the writers being the Minister of Education, the Superintendent of Education, Provincial Inspectors, Normal School Instructors, as well as many teachers.

The programme was carried out most smoothly, and there was a magnificent spirit plainly in evidence throughout the whole Convention. Everyone was anxious to co-operate, and the combined efforts of so many enthusiasts brought unbounded success. The attendance was a record one. The Annual Meeting was extremely gratifying—the business all being completed before luncheon.

The June issue of the Magazine will contain a full account of the meeting, together with the resolutions passed.

### To Enrolled Members

May we ask all enrolled members who have not yet forwarded their fees for the present year to do so at the earliest possible moment, in order that their names may be listed among the Paid-up Membership in the June issue of the Magazine.

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## In Memoriam

MISS LOUISE deWOLFE MOORE

IN the recent passing of Miss Louise deWolfe Moore the teaching profession of British Columbia lost one of its most outstanding members, and the Federation of Teachers lost its staunchest and most loyal supporters.



Miss Moore entered upon her work as a teacher after a very successful career in business, for which she was well qualified, not only by thorough training but also by the possession of a charming and lovable personality. Endowed with a remarkably keen intellect, and exhibiting at all times an abundance of dynamic energy which invariably crowned her efforts with conspicuous success, yet in a unique way she had combined with her very evident abilities a natural grace and culture which were sensed immediately by all who were privileged to meet her.

It is not surprising that she was so greatly beloved by her pupils, to whom she was indeed a "guide, philosopher and friend," nor that she was held in such high esteem by her colleagues.

Miss Moore's teaching service was all rendered in the Commercial Department of the Victoria High School, and her loss will be felt very keenly, not only in her own department, but also in the life of the school generally, for she was very prominently associated with all of the activities of the institution. Particularly was this so in the musical realm, for she was a very accomplished musician and had held several positions as organist of various churches. It was natural, therefore, for her to take a special interest in music as related to the students, and her foundational work in this connection has already been productive of excellent results.

Miss Moore at all times showed a most practical interest in the work of the Federation, and was always ready and willing to undertake any task which would assist in its development. She always had a very clear vision of the fundamental place which teachers' organizations must occupy in the minds and hearts of the members of the profession if teaching is to reach the high ideals she always held out as its final goal, towards which she herself was constantly striving to bring it.

To the members of her family who are left to survive her we tender our heartfelt and sincere sympathy.

## *A Suggestive Purchase List*

THIS is the season of the year when many teachers are seeking titles for their new book purchases. Below is a suggestive list on American Indians. These should prove valuable additions to your school library and aid somewhat in the task of selecting interesting material for elementary school grades:

- Logie—"Canadian Wonder Tales"—Row Peterson & Co.
- Judd—"Wigwam Stories"—Ginn & Co. Athenaeum Press.
- Brereton—"How Canada Was Won"—Blackie & Son.
- Moon—"Lost Indian Magic" (Ill.)—F. A. Stokes.
- Holbrook—"Book of Nature Myths" (Ill.)—Houghton Mifflin Co.
- Brown, A. F. and Bell, Jas. M.—"Tales of the Red Children"—Appleton & Co.
- Deming, E. W.—"Little Indian Folk" (Ill.)—Stokes.
- Deming, E. W.—"Little Red People" (Ill.)—Stokes.
- Deming, E. W.—"Wigwam Children"—Stokes. (Color-plates and black and white illustrations).
- Belle Wiley—"Mewanee, The Little Indian Boy"—Silver, Burdett & Co.
- Grinnell, G. B.—"When Buffalo Ran"—Stokes.
- Johnston, E. P.—"Legends of Vancouver" (Ill.)—McClelland & Stewart.
- French, D. G.—"Famous Canadian Stories"—McClelland & Stewart.
- French, D. G.—"More Famous Canadian Stories"—McClelland & Stewart.
- Sweetser, K. D.—"Book of Indian Braves" (Ill.)—Harper Bros.
- Schultz, J. W.—"Sinopah the Indian Boy"—Houghton Mifflin Co.
- Schultz, J. W.—"Plumed Snake Medicine"—Houghton Mifflin Co.
- Moon, Grace—"Chi-Wee and Loki"—Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc.
- Moon, Grace—"Chi-Wee and Loki"—Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc.
- Gregor, E. R.—"Running Fox"—Appleton & Co.
- Orison, Robbins—"A Boy of Old Quebec"—Lothrop Lee & Co.
- Larned—"American Indian Fairy Tales"—Volland, P. F. & Co.
- "Indian Stories Re-told From St. Nicholas" (Ill.)
- Dickie, D. J.—"All About Indians" Canadian History Readers. (Ill.)—Dents.
- Johnston, Sir Harry—"Pioneers in Canada"—Blackie & Son, Ltd.
- Rolt-Wheeler, Francis—"The Aztec Hunters," a story of a Mexican Indian boy—Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Co.

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## A Vocational Guidance Service

By H. L. MANZER, Principal, Langley High School

**P**ERCHANCE you are one of those unfortunates who have spent years of their lives, starved their families and beggared their thoughts all to consummate some great plan, complete a unique invention, write or compose some long-cherished ideal in literature or music, only to find that the world has gone a lap ahead of them in the interval, and now has no need for the dear child of their labor and intellect.

If you be such, then will you readily drop a tear in sympathy for the poor student who has spent years in tiresome study, his father's boardings, his mother's oft-repeated prayers and a million sacrifices, all to attain qualifications for a position that he learns, too late, either does not exist at all or has already been filled by some one before him.

To that student what a pitiful waste of energy, what blasted hopes, what futile planning and effort it all seems! He has sustained a bitter disillusionment hard to live down at his time of life. Hence, in desperation of disappointment, and a desire to do at least *SOMETHING* toward his own support, that his parents may be free to grind the grist wherewith to educate the next in succession, he accepts the first job that offers.

Oftentimes this job is one with small pay, no future, and while perhaps interesting enough in its way to one of less ambition, yet is totally incompatible with the training and tastes of our young student compelled by economic pressure to enter upon it. Hence, while thus engaged he constantly feels the task is beneath his abilities, and so in time becomes the bored, dissatisfied clock-watcher instead of the keen, ambitious worker in a self-chosen field that his parents and the state have paid good cash to fit him for.

And the devil grins behind his hand. "Another misfit in this hodge-podge world! Another living resentful epitaph to maladministration and lack of efficiency in economic organization."

Disregarding the direct expense to the student and his parents of time and money, it costs the state alone approximately sixty dollars per capita annually for elementary and high school education, according to the late Putman and Wier Survey. It is safe to say, it costs somewhat more for university training. Multiply, then, this per capita figure by the thousands of young people being educated each year and the product is enormous.

The question naturally arises: "Is the state clipping as many coupons from this annual investment as it might?" Would not a few additional thousands of dollars and a little more judicious foresight and scheming expended by the state in an endeavor to place a larger number of these "school-leaving" young people where they naturally and happily belong net an even greater yield in coupons of national contentment and prosperity?

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Indeed, we might well take a leaf from Henry Ford's estimable book on this vital matter. The Literary Digest (March issue) states that he plans to spend the colossal sum of one hundred million dollars to build trade schools for the young men throughout the United States. The Literary Digest quotes Mr. Ford as having said in explanation of his grand purpose:

"I want to do all in my power to help young men of America to fit themselves into the world. Society owes it to young people to educate them for **useful citizenship**.

When students come out of school at eighteen or so, people **should want them**. They should be **in demand** and not find themselves shifting aimlessly, without a definite purpose in life.

"The reason why we have so much crime and racketeering is because schools do not show our young men how to fit into the world."

Kindly note: Mr. Ford stresses not only "fitting for" but "fitting into" the world, and he seems to lay the whole onus of both onto the schools. The schools have been shouldering the single load of "fitting for" a good many years now, in some instances well, in others poorly. But they cannot assume this additional load of "fitting into" as well, unless they receive that additional sympathy and aid from the state that I will set forth a little later on.

With further reference to the "fitting for" process, it may be truthfully said that a few of our leading town and city schools now make a worth-while effort to analyze the new student's capabilities and complexes with a view to starting him on a course of training that will best equip him to function successfully in that channel of industry most in sympathy with his particular "ites" and "exes."

This, I believe, is called "Vocational Guidance." And a fine sounding expression it is too, charged with the best of intentions. But alack! It does not go far enough. Whether or not the student, in the end, will be able to land the job his optimistic advisor points him toward, "that advisor cannot say, the Superintendent of Education cannot say, even the Premier cannot say" (as the comic song goes).

What is the sense in directing the weary traveller to the best hotel if you are uncertain about his ability to obtain lodging when he gets there? Better to put him up at a more humble hostelry nearby and save him his taxi fare.

Equally pointless then is it to chase a boy over a tedious and expensive course to equip him for a position that will not exist when he is ready to fill it.

It is not the purpose of this article to point the carping finger of criticism at educational administration in this or any country. A great deal of time, mental effort and money is being freely sunk into the problem. But, notwithstanding, up to date there has been a lack of sufficient attention directed toward devising a surer and speedier system of fitting workers into those walks of industrial life consistent with that expensive "fitting for" training the state

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has been at such pains to supply. And the absence of such a system entails a very grave national weakness and leakage in any country where it exists.

Hence, it is reasonably certain that zealous educationalists and statesmen, although perhaps hitherto precluded by press of other great problems from perceiving and solving this one, will the more readily therefore lend a sympathetic ear toward any suggested method of remedy in this case, no matter how humble the origin. (Was it not the lowly mouse who gnawed until he freed the lion, when all the latter's strength availed him naught? So the fable runs).

In the Langley High School we run Vocational Guidance talks once a week as an extra in Grades IX. and X. No time in Grade XI.) The students are very enthusiastic about these and gladly swell the Federal revenue by flooding the mails with letters to industrial firms, hospitals, departmental stores and so on, requesting information regarding chances for employment, qualities required, wages paid, rate of promotion, and, in short, everything that will give them a more intelligent outlook toward "fitting into" the workaday life of the country.

Most of the replies received are sympathetic, full to the point, and indicate a pleasant surprise on the part of the writer that any one so remote from mundane affairs as a student should evince any interest in the personnel and work of a business. Others, again, are somewhat brief, and plainly reflect a "please don't bore me with such school fads. Don't you know I'm a very tired and over-worked business man?" attitude from the author.

However, even this small crusade for industrial statistics has revealed these two rather important facts: First, that the part of the teaching profession now carried on by teachers of first and second class certificates is overcrowded. Second, the supply of nurses now exceeds the demand.

But, taking it by and large, this method of amassing sufficient and reliable data regarding future employment for students, dependent as it is upon the goodwill and tolerance of those firms canvassed, as well as the limited efforts of our small body of collectors, has not proven a banner-waving success.

Assuming this article has adequately established these facts: That more attention must be paid to the "fitting in" as well as the "fitting for" process on behalf of our young people; that the success of this depends upon the accumulation and classification of sufficient and proper industrial statistics; that the schools themselves have neither the time nor the machinery for obtaining these statistics; then, what is to prevent the Department of Education, Labor or Finance from gleaning, through their many easy channels, this data and passing it on in condensed and graphical form to the schools? Here in the hands of the principal or vocational advisor it would prove a very effective aid in successfully starting the boy or girl on a path that would, at no future time, prove to be a blind alley.

This data should not only cover all the well-known professions,

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trades and crafts now in vogue for some years, but should deal as adequately as possible with those in the embryo stage at present. It is surprising how many girls are interested in the newer possibilities of radio entertainments and announcing, as well as the older and more lowly callings, such as millinery and manicuring. Boys also display an insatiable appetite for information regarding radiography, as well as for the ancient favorites, aviation and auto mechanics.

This data should be so condensed and classified that it would show at a glance the following facts about any trade or calling:

- (1) Number of workers employed annually.
- (2) Number of workers that could be employed annually (if qualified).
- (3) Number of workers out of employment annually.
- (4) Approximate annual increase in workers needed (if any).
- (5) Chief qualifications necessary as to age, health, education.
- (6) Initial, maximum and average salaries paid.
- (7) Average annual increments in salaries paid.
- (8) Rate and conditions of promotion.

With this fund of information on tap at all times, assuming it to be reliable and kept up to date, the principal or vocational guidance officer has a much greater chance to successfully advise the initial student, or the one desiring or compelled to stop school in the middle of his course, than at present under the "I guess and I've heard" haphazard system.

Did I hear someone with knell-like voice shouting: "But the cost?" Truly then, as Paidagogos so aptly predicts, a post mortem will reveal the mill-rate engraved on that person's heart. Would that were all. But not so. It is the colossal fear of this same mill-rate that today acts like a steel band about the heart of the nation, slowly but surely squeezing her to death.

But all levity aside, the direct expense of such Vocational Guidance Service, if fearlessly and sanely administered, would be trivial in comparison to the direct benefits it would undoubtedly confer. In 1925 the late Mr. T. B. P. then Finance Minister of Canada, applied the pruning knife freely to taxation, thereby directly lopping off many thousands of dollars from the national revenue. But that farsighted act, by thus liberating money for industrial growth and development, indirectly returned to the exchequer of Canada a thousandfold more than it took out. (MacLean's Magazine, March 15, 1930).

A young life properly "fitted into" the niche of industry to which it naturally belongs wears soon into an integral and smoothly functioning cog of industrial and social progress. It requires no adjusting, no oiling, no refining. Improperly "fitted into," as is often the case, with the haphazard system now in vogue, this young life becomes a clashing gear, a loose bolt, that soon must drop into the discard of unemployment. Or worse still, it threatens and impedes industrial and social progress, and thereby the peace of mind and the well-being of the whole national life.

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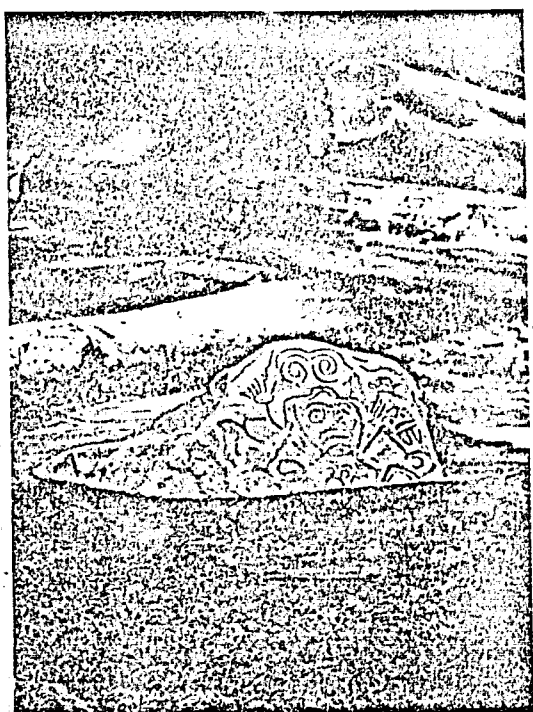
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## Historic Spots in B.C.

### The Petroglyph at Elcho Harbour, B. C.

By CHARLES HILL-TOUT, F.R.C.S., F.R.A.I., Etc.

The petroglyph pictured on this page is particularly interesting in that it was one of the chief bits of evidence which helped prove the location of the Indian village referred to by Alexander Mackenzie in his "Voyages." The location of this village was important in the search for the rock which marked the end of Mackenzie's overland journey, the discovery of which was described in an earlier article in this magazine. The following account of the origin and meaning of these early records of mankind was written for us by a well-known local authority.



PETROGLYPH AT ELCHO HARBOUR, B. C.

**R**OCK carvings and rock paintings are common the world over among primitive peoples. It is their method of recording unusual events or incidents in their lives.

The British Columbia Indians, in common with the natives of other parts of America, made use, in former times, of this kind of writing. The illustration accompanying this article is an interesting example of the petroglyph. Another good example may be seen in Stanley Park, nearby where the totem-poles have been erected. Many others of a like

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kind, as well as numerous examples of rock-painting, are known to us today. Some of these, such as those left upon the walls and rocks of Spanish and French caves by the Cro-Magnons, date back 25,000 to 30,000 years ago.

Unfortunately, we have been able to glean but little of the significance of these primitive forms of writing. This is due in large measure to the highly symbolical character of the signs or figures used in these records. If we lack the key to the symbolism of the characters or signs employed, it is almost impossible to decipher or interpret them. It is true there are certain obvious conventions which obtain in this form of writing the world over. One such of these, for example, is where an animal is pictured as falling over or lying on its back. This signifies everywhere that it has been wounded or killed. Such a convention is common in hunters' records. Another is seen in a well-known rock-painting which commemorates a prehistoric battle in Scandinavia. The fight took place at the margin of the sea—the invaders are shown fleeing to their boats, and one of the landsmen is shown many times bigger than any of the other figures. He is seen brandishing a mighty spear. This magnification, or excessive size, is a common and widespread convention in pictographic writing, and signifies in this instance that the landsmen were victorious over the invaders and drove them back into the sea with great slaughter.

With regard to the petroglyphs and rock-paintings of British Columbia, it would seem that most of them, according to the statements gathered from the Indians by the writer, are records of hunters or of medicine men and totem seekers. The example here shown suggests that it belongs to this latter class. The face seen in the centre might very well represent the countenance of the totem or guardian spirit of the recorder. But these petroglyphs and paintings have an interest for the paleographer quite apart from any significance they may possess. They represent in themselves the earliest forms of writing. All the independent system of alphabetic writing we know began in this way.

The hieroglyphics of the Egyptians, of the Babylonians and Assyrians, of the Hittites and Minoans, the Chinese and Japanese, the Aztecs and the Mayas of Central America all had their origin in picture writings of this kind. It is because of this that these rock carvings and pictographs are so interesting to the epigraphist. He sees in them the source from which our own alphabetic symbols were drawn.

We know fairly well the history of these symbols. They came to us through the Romans. The Romans borrowed them from the Greeks, and the Greeks got them from the Phoenicians. Up to the beginning of this century it was commonly thought the Phoenicians had borrowed their alphabetic symbols from the Egyptians. Recent research makes this now somewhat doubtful. Two other origins have been claimed for them, and the question of their true source is far from being satisfactorily settled at the present time.

Sir Arthur Evans, the discoverer of the ancient Minoan civilization on the island of Crete, claims a Minoan origin for them, while Dr. Flinders-Petrie, of the British School of Archaeology in Egypt, put forward the

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claim that "signs" such as the ancient potters around the Mediterranean settlements used for marking their individual wares are the true and original source from which the Phoenicians derived their alphabet.

The evidence offered in support of any one of these three possible sources seems plausible and convincing till we have given consideration to that offered by the advocates of the other two. When we have done this we find ourselves in a quandary, and do not know where we stand or which claim to accept. Perhaps some day the question may be settled for us satisfactorily by some new discovery.

#### G. A. FERGUSON MEMORIAL FUND

Previously acknowledged .....	\$ 904.78
Interest to November 30th, 1929.....	\$13.06
High School Teachers' Association of the Lower Mainland .....	82.16      95.22
	<hr/> \$1,000.00

#### FACES

IT IS a common saying  
That no two human faces are alike,  
And no doubt the saying is true;  
But what strikes me most about the faces of the people that I meet  
Is that they are so much alike.

Many are tired-looking and furrowed with lines, not of thought, but  
of care,  
And though a thoughtful face may inspire,  
A tired face only saddens me.  
Many others look merely bored,  
As if their owners, having sat partly through the show that we call  
life,  
Regret that they cannot go to the box-office and get their money  
back.

But I thank Heaven that there are some faces  
That shine with an inner light of humour and understanding and  
sympathy.  
And these brighten my day  
Like the smile of the sun  
On the May morning;  
For they confirm a suspicion I have always held,  
That, in spite of appearances,  
Life is really worth while.

—From a collection of poems by H. J. T. COLEMAN,  
published by The Ryerson Press.

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## Sketches of Canadian Authors

By M. C. COWIE, *Aberdeen School, Vancouver, B. C.*

### Francis Dickie

FRANCIS DICKIE was born in Winnipeg, the son of a Manitoba pioneer well-known as a political speaker. When the boy finished his High School course he became a railway surveyor, and also tried his hand as a lumberman. Next he became a newspaper man, and then took up the work he had always desired—he turned story-writer and novelist. As a matter of fact, he merely returned to his first love, as he had begun writing at the somewhat early age of six years, and at eleven had written seven books. He even managed to get himself paid for these works—which at once puts him in a class by himself, as few authors can make such a claim for their first attempts. He received five cents from his father for each page that had no mistakes, "but," he says mournfully, "right from the beginning writing wasn't a paying proposition."

Mr. Dickie has spent the last year or two travelling in Europe and Northern Africa, spending a good deal of time in Paris. (Sketches of places and people he has encountered have appeared in a Winnipeg periodical). His home is at Heriot Bay, B. C. He wanted to live where there were trees, where beauty could surround him, but he was not in a position to spend much money—he didn't have it! Finally, he purchased an abandoned cannery and fifteen acres of land covered with fir, cedar and hemlock. Out of this he and his wife constructed "The Firs." It is a very beautiful little estate, which, on one occasion, was so near destruction by a forest fire that Mr. Dickie hoped for nothing more than to save the cats and the dog—and perhaps a single armful of books from among his eighteen hundred volumes—in addition to the lives of himself and his wife. A fortunate bit of freakishness on the part of the approaching horror spared "The Firs."

Mr. Dickie is very fond of animals, and has more than once used his pen on behalf of the voiceless creatures who cannot themselves appeal for help or mercy. He was accustomed to write in the open air, and often worked with his dog at his feet and a favorite cat on his knee. Engrossed in his work, he often failed to hear his wife's call to lunch, but if he did not arise in a reasonable time pussy would climb on the writing board across the chair, and kindly but firmly interfere with his pen until he relinquished it.

Mr. Dickie's first novel of note was "The Master Breed," a tale of the Arctic. It has many of the usual faults of a young writer's early work, but is a promising piece of writing at that. "The Mystery of the Straits" showed more mature workmanship. (It also shows that the author knows his British Columbia), but a collection of stories entitled "Uminguk of the Barrens," is the best of his pub-

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lished work so far. This book, which is made up of animal stories, is an excellent one for school libraries.

We may hope for great things from Mr. Dickie when he returns with the widened outlook and deeper experience his recent travels must bring him.

#### Archibald Macmechan

ARCHIBALD MACMECHAN was born in Berlin, Ontario, though it has changed its name since that day. In any case, he did not devote his talents to the university of his native province, but to Dalhousie, where he has been professor for many years. His wide learning and his skill in sharing with his students make him a very valuable aid to the Nova Scotian institution. However, he has done some work for which the whole of Canada should be grateful. We have been painfully indifferent in the matter of preserving records and legends, and in no part of our country's story is this more noticeable than in the history of our sea-faring. And yet we have a noble heritage there—and to the sea we must turn for so many of the absolute necessities of our lives that it is odd, especially here in a seaport town, that so little attention is given to the inspiring tales of our ships and their crews. Practically nothing has been done to keep these stories for posterity on the Pacific Coast; but at least two men, the Scotch-born Frederick William Wallace, and Archibald Macmechan, have done something to save Nova Scotian stories. And the tales they tell are fuller of romance than any novel—and rouse pride in the heroic deeds that sailors from the land of the Maple Leaf have done and are doing, with few to sing their praises. When will some British Columbia writer collect the stories of the West Coast—the tales of the "Tuscan Prince," the "Carelmapu," the old "Ronald Kerr," the "Princess May," whose history is as exciting as any sea-story ever written? And there are hundreds of others, a mine of romance for some author, and yet they are being permitted to pass into oblivion? Is the Pacific Coast less proud of her heritage of the sea than is the Atlantic?

Of Professor Macmechan's work, it is only necessary to say that it is of the highest standard as regards workmanship. His poetry is not as fluent as his prose, but some of it is full of vitality and earnestness. A few sonnets bear the impress of the classic studies to which their author has given so much time; more ballads and descriptive poems tell the tales of great deeds of the past. The chap-book, "Three Sea Songs," for example, containing the "Ballad of the 'Rover,'" the "Ballad of 'La Tribune'" and "Off Coronel, Nov. 1, 1914,"—not so long past, that last—give excellent proof of his ability in this line.

Several of the professor's books are collections of accounts of stirring incidents in which Nova Scotians bore a leading part, or which took place in that province. One, entitled "Old Province

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Tales," is full of fascinating things. "A Ransomer of Montcalm's" "At The Harbor Mouth" (the story of the unknown plucky lad who alone, of all who watched her go to her fate, had courage to row out amidst the breakers to the help of the wrecked "Tribune"), "The 'Saladin' Pirates," "The 'Lennie' Mutiny," and "The Saga of Rudder Churchili," are enough to stir the most sluggish blood.

A tiny volume in the King's Treasures edition, called "Sagas of the Seas," is also full of good things. Three or four stories deserve special mention—"The 'Teazer' Light" (we have so few ghost stories in Canada that it is a pity to neglect any of them—and a ghost ship is particularly thrilling, at least to the sea-lover), "The Captain's Boat," and "An Able Seaman"—and perhaps the last in the book, "The Luck of the Grilse," is the best, because the nearest in point of time, to ourselves, and we know so pitifully little of the magnificent things done by our own men on the sea during the war.

"There Go the Ships" has always seemed to me to be the most fascinating of all Professor Macmechan's writings. It is "a feast of fat things." The amazing account of the doings of a privateer "On the Spanish Main," the story of the first life-saving station in Canada, as told in "A Beacon Light," the tale of the heroic "First Mate," the weird but truth-stamped yarn, "A Vision of the Night," "Jury-rig," and many other stories of gallant deeds at sea, ought to be in every library in every seaport in Canada. That queer tale of the captain of the "Arlington" and the vision, dream, or what you like, that was yet strong enough to make the hard-headed Bluenose skipper change his course in the face of the poorly concealed dismay of his officers, and the extraordinary result the following night when the "Arlington" almost rammed the sinking "Countess of Dufferin," coming just in time to save her helpless crew—that story alone would make the book worth-while—and saving it from being forgotten puts Professor Macmechan among those whom Canadians should honor.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
SUMMER SESSION 1930

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## Geography---Forecasting Weather

By E. B. SHEARMAN

*This address was given over Radio C.N.R.T., as part of the Vancouver Schools Principals' Association Programs. The articles by Prof. Black and Prof. Hill-Tout, in last month's issue, were also part of these programs.*

WHEN you open your daily paper, there is one regular feature to be found more or less prominently displayed, and that is the weather forecast. It has been suggested that a brief description of the method of issuing these would be of interest to many British Columbia teachers.

Weather plays an important part in all our lives, and this has been so down through all the ages. How must the primitive man have regarded all the manifestations of weather changes, and is it strange that superstition crept in? With growing intelligence came proverbs concerning the weather, these being handed down with additions from generation to generation. Many of these still survive and are believed in today. Some, it is true, are founded on observation and are scientifically correct, but the most absurd have the largest following. How many there are who still believe in the legend of St. Swithins' Day and the ground-hog, but the belief in the moon and its influence on weather changes seems to hold first place in the popular affection. The moon is a dead body and cannot influence our weather in the slightest degree; its attraction affects our tides, but that is all. The almanac, forecast for a year in advance, seems to be losing its one time popularity. Birds and animals have a place in weather lore, and even the household cat is given credit as a forecaster of weather changes.

Weather forecasts are essential to everyone, and, according to the experience of all civilized nations, the best and most reliable are those based on modern meteorological methods. A forecast is the result of an immense organization, requiring the co-operation of hundreds of observers who use all the modern methods of communication, telegraph, telephone and wireless, to get their information to the forecaster as rapidly as possible and enable him to produce the "Weather Map."

While the study of weather dates back to a very early stage of our civilization, the present methods are of comparative recent times. The invention of the barometer in 1643 by Torrichelli, an Italian, led to a marked advance in the study, but it was not until the middle of the 19th century that the value of simultaneous observations of the weather was realized; then several countries put forward proposals to install a network of observing stations.

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Our Dominion Meteorological Service developed from the Magnetic Observatory established in Toronto by the Royal Engineers about the year 1839. Thirty years later Professor Kingston organized a corps of volunteer observers, and in 1871 a telegraphic service on a small scale was established, which also exchanged reports with the United States Signal Service. Operating under the Department of Marine and Fisheries with the central office in Toronto, it has as director that eminent Canadian scientist, Dr. J. Patterson. Weather records are kept at nearly 1000 points in our Dominion, from the Arctic circle to the international boundary and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. At the majority of the observing stations the work is performed gratuitously; the mass of climatic information obtained and utilized for the benefit of the country is furnished by voluntary observers, their reports consisting of precipitation and temperature, and some of precipitation only. It is, however, from the reports of the first class telegraph stations that the forecasts are made.

Completely surrounding our globe there exists a layer of air, the atmosphere which partakes of its rotatory motion. The mutual rotation of the layer of air with that of the globe would remain constant at all points were it not for the occurrence of local changes in temperature, pressure, humidity, and, therefore, in density, thus producing winds.

The actual height of the atmosphere is not yet known, but, from the observations of meteors which become luminous when entering the atmosphere, it must be at least 100 miles high and possibly more, but it is in the lower level, about 6 to 7 miles above the earth, that the process of condensation and evaporation takes place.

The consideration of the pressure of the atmosphere is the most important of all the meteorological elements, because all the rest of the features of weather, wind, temperature, humidity, clouds and rain depend on its changes.

Our weather depends largely upon the passage of high and low areas of pressure across our province, and it is the probable paths that these will follow from the moment of their first appearance that the forecaster has to take into consideration in issuing his daily forecast. Oscillating north and south, according to the season, there is in the temperature zone a great storm belt; though the storm tracks are not fixed, there are certain broad belts which they travel more frequently than elsewhere. There is the North Pacific type which enters our northern coast and swings southward to the southern plains, then east or north-east, leaving by the Atlantic seaboard. Another type crosses British Columbia well to the north, and, looping south and south-east through Alberta, crosses the Great Lakes to the St. Lawrence, and so to the Atlantic.

Out in the Great Pacific Ocean there are extensive high and low areas, sometimes called Centres of Action, because they do not migrate like the travelling highs and lows that cause the alternations of weather that we experience from day to day. They are the parent systems out of which come many of the storm areas that cross the North American continent, and as these shift their centres a little

to the north or south, they change the character and the line of movement of the storms and cool waves that come to us. One of these is situated in the North Pacific, and is known as the Aleutian Low. If this shifts its centre to the south and east, our winter precipitation is high.

In part, our shortage of rain during last fall was due to an unusual distribution of pressure; it being remarkably high off the western coast and Western Canada, the cyclones of the North Pacific were unable to penetrate this barrier, and so bring to us our average rainfall. It was not until this barrier gave way that pressure readjustment came and with it our average rainfall in December.

The direction of our storms is, in general, from west to east. Many of them come in from the Pacific with little or no warning, thus placing the forecaster on the Pacific Coast at a great disadvantage. Since the advent of wireless this situation has been relieved somewhat by an arrangement with the ships to send in daily weather messages, but the greater part of the ocean remains unreported as the ships follow the usual trade tracks.

There are three forecast stations in Canada—Toronto, Winnipeg and Victoria,—where the forecasts for British Columbia are issued from the Gonzales Heights Observatory under the supervision of Mr. F. Napier Denison. A forecaster thinks in maps, so that before a forecast is issued a weather map must be made, and for this purpose he has a blank outline map ready for filling in. Promptly at 5 a.m. and 5 p.m., Pacific Standard time, observers from one end of Canada to the other send in their reports to the forecast stations. This message consists of the barometric pressure reduced to sea level, maximum or minimum temperature, the state of the weather, cloudy, clear, raining, etc., the force and direction of the wind, with the amount of precipitation, if any. This is sent in code and requires from 3 to 4 words. As weather has no respect for international boundaries, there is an arrangement with the United States Bureau whereby all reports are exchanged—we use the same code and report at the same time. This arrangement is mutually beneficial, as neither service could function properly without the other. As soon as the reports are received they are at once decoded and the pressure, temperature, wind and all details noted on the map at the point where the observation was made. If the message came from a ship at sea, the name of the ship, latitude and longitude are registered.

When all the messages have been entered on the map, the points having equal pressure are connected by lines, called isobars. When this is done there appears a well-defined series of circles, not always regular, for they may be oblong or wedge shaped. These are the highs and lows as indicated by the pressure. Similar temperature readings are also connected and are known as the isotherms.

The forecaster now has before him a map picture of the weather prevailing over the whole country, and finds that the conditions conform with what might be expected with the highs and lows, and must decide the probable path and the rate of travel of these areas, for



they usually travel faster in winter than they do in summer. The highs are found to be centres of dry, cool and settled weather, the lows unsettled and cloudy with precipitation.

With the information of the weather prevailing, he assumes that the conditions are favorable for the storm to continue on its path and to affect the district for which he is forecasting during the next 24 hours. He notes the formation of the areas and the distance between the high and low, as the shorter the distance the stronger the wind, this being termed the gradient, and if this is found to be very steep, winds of destructive velocity would be indicated, as he issues a storm warning for the benefit of shipping. When the forecast is issued it is made available to the public through many channels, the press, radio, bulletins, etc. They are usually issued for 36 hours, and this may be extended to several days when the conditions appear to be fairly settled. A highly satisfactory percentage of these are verified, but a forecast may fail for several reasons: storms may be deflected from their path by a stronger central developing, or he may find it necessary to forecast from slow moving areas, which, at times, become practically stagnant.

The behaviour of the ordinary household aneroid often proves a puzzle to its owner. When the barometer was first invented, it was found that during stormy periods the pressure was low and high with fine and settled weather. Certain legends were placed on the dial, and are used up to the present time, fair, change, stormy, etc., but forecasting is not so simple, as a high reading is not necessarily a sign of fine weather, nor a low of stormy. The important point is whether it is rising or falling, and this cannot be ascertained by a single reading. When the forecaster looks at his map, he sees not one barometer but many of them.

One of the questions often asked of the Weather Bureau is the reason why private thermometers disagree so radically with the Weather Bureau instruments—this point comes up especially during periods of extreme weather. Thermometers used by the Bureau are the best that can be procured, and correct at all points of the scale. A good thermometer has the degrees engraved on the tube; when it is only on the back plate, it often becomes loose in the clips and may read many degrees too high or low. In some thermometers the bore is much finer than the diameter of a hair; it looks larger on account of the magnifying lens front. This bore, in an inferior instrument, is uneven, thus giving too high a reading at one point and too low at another. The private thermometer may be a good instrument, but is not exposed properly. Weather Bureau instruments are exposed in an instrument shelter, which is simply a latticed box on legs, slightly less than 5 feet above the ground level. Being latticed, it permits of free ventilation; keeping out sunlight and rain, it records the true temperature of the air. The private thermometer may have been placed where it was affected by the heat of a building or the bulb becomes wet and thus reading too low. Thermometers containing colored alcohol will also give too low a reading if part of it evaporates into the upper part of the tube.

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Let everyone observe the weather more intelligently, for there are many signs for him who will read. If you even study the clouds you will be well rewarded, for they have their tale to tell of coming changes. You will find it a beautiful study as well, for they are often called the "mountains of fairyland."

Time will not permit me to dwell longer on this age-old subject of the weather, but a closer study will reward the student with a greater appreciation of nature and the beautiful world about us.

Harry Charlesworth, Esq.,  
General Secretary,  
B. C. Teachers' Federation,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Victoria, B. C., 24th March, 1930.

Dear Sir:

The enclosed Goodwill Message from the school children in England has been forwarded to the Minister of Education. Perhaps you might be favorable to printing it in "The B. C. Teacher," and requesting that it be read to all the children in the province on May 18th, Goodwill Day.

Yours very truly,  
S. J. WILLIS,  
Superintendent of Education.

### *Goodwill Message, 1930, from School Children in England*

Again we children of England send out to the children of every other land a joyous greeting of goodwill and happiness.

We want to thank the children who have sent us messages, and tell them how much we are looking forward to the coming of another message. We hope next year we shall hear also from children who have not sent out a message yet.

As yet we do not know you as we hope to do when the exchange of many more goodwill greetings between us has drawn us nearer to each other. We are separated by land and sea and cannot see each other, but we can read in books a little of the story of your country and your people. We can read some of the tales told by your own writers, tales that you love and that we enjoy when they are put into a language that we understand. Sometimes we can hear your music as it comes to us on wireless waves straight from your own land.

In this way we can come a little into your life, and our thoughts can travel freely from land to land, and on each Goodwill Day strengthen the thought of a world family of children to which we all belong.

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## *The English-speaking Union--- Its Origin and the Objectives*

*By A. E. JOHNS, Secretary, London, Eng.*

IT IS a commonplace that goodfellowship between the English-speaking peoples is the foundation-stone of the future of the world, its peace, security and progress. On that point all classes and creeds are agreed. Yet the need for a world-wide agency actively promoting a closer friendship and understanding between the peoples of the British Commonwealth of Nations and the United States undoubtedly exists. The disruptive influences which are constantly at work can only be defeated by the individual Briton, Canadian, Australian, New Zealander, South African, Newfoundlander and citizen of the United States getting to know one another better and appreciating each other's qualities; by emphasizing on every possible occasion their common heritage in language, laws, traditions and ideals, and the great part they have to play in the reconstruction of the world on lines of orderly progress.

It was with these objects—"To draw together in the bond of comradeship the English-speaking peoples of the world"—working through the individual on every side of the seven seas, that the English-Speaking Union was formed in 1918 by Mr. John Evelyn Wrench and a group of friends representing the United States, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Australia and the British West Indies. The society aims at no formal alliances, it has nothing to do with governments. It is simply an attempt, non-sectarian, non-political, non-partisan, to promote, by every means in its power, goodfellowship between the British and American peoples. Membership is open to citizens of the British Commonwealth of Nations and of the United States of America, and to men and women alike. Since its founding, the movement has become, in a few years, a world-wide organization, acting through two main agencies, the English-Speaking Union of the British Empire and the English-Speaking Union of the United States.

The English-Speaking Union of the British Empire has a membership of nearly 12,000 and has its headquarters in London at Dartmouth House, 37 Charles Street, Berkeley Square, W. 1. Its president is Lord Balfour, and Lord Reading is the chairman of the Executive Committee. Dartmouth House is the first of the chain of club-houses round the world which the original founders of the English-Speaking Union visualized. To members in Great Britain it offers most of the facilities of a first-class club, with dining room, reception rooms and bedrooms, and information and travel bureau.

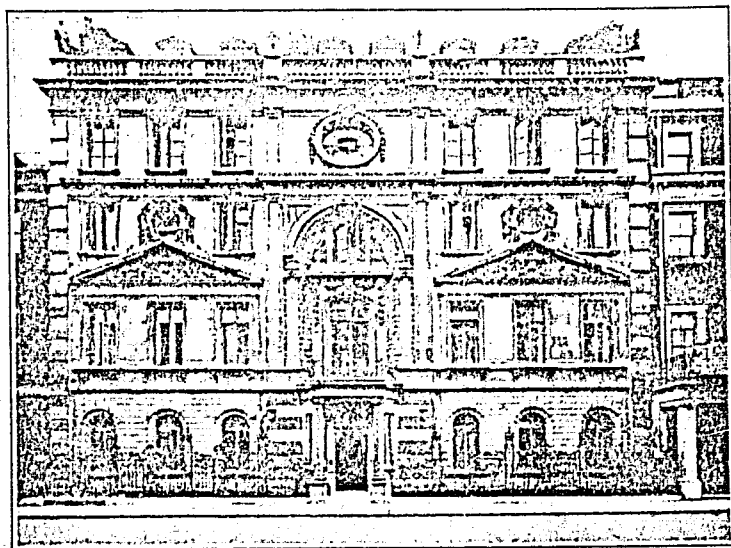
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To visiting members from Overseas it is no less their own—a personal possession. There are branches of the organization in Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, Southampton, Chester, Edinburgh, Manchester, Norwich, Exeter, Bath, Winchester and Cardiff, while Overseas there are flourishing branches in Australia at Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide, and a headquarters executive branch at Wellington in New Zealand.

The English-Speaking Union of the United States is an autonomous society, parallel and independent, officered by American citizens only, formulating its own policy and conducting its own affairs under the presidency of the Hon. John W. Davis, formerly American Ambassador to the Court of St. James. Since the establishment of its headquarters at 19 West 44th street, New York, the movement has



DARTMOUTH HOUSE, HOME OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION,  
LONDON, ENGLAND.

spread right across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, until there are now 40 branches in existence with a total membership of over 19,000.

There is the closest possible co-operation between the sister societies, and fresh vitality and vigor is every day being infused into the movement by personal intercourse between individual members. Letters of introduction are being given every week to British members visiting various parts of the United States. Canadians, Australians, New Zealanders are constantly being welcomed in American cities. American travelers are being hospitably entertained in Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide or Wellington. In the summer of 1929

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over eight thousand American and Dominions visitors were received at Dartmouth House, and it can be safely said that not one of those visitors went away without some personal expression of kind and friendly interest.

The value and influence of personal intercourse was early realized, and the Common Interests Committee in London, since its inception by the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton in 1920, is successfully carrying out its plans for drawing the peoples of the British Empire and the United States of America into closer understanding through their common interests in work and play. Believing that a common interest is a natural bond of understanding between two peoples, the committee exists to place visiting members in touch with British members interested in the same subject, and offers them special facilities for seeing what is likely to be of most interest to them in British life. Thus, professors and students are helped to obtain access to original documents and material required in the pursuit of their studies. Members of horticultural societies are enabled to visit some of the loveliest gardens in England, Scotland or Ireland, sometimes large estates, sometimes little cottage gardens. Social workers are placed in touch with settlements, juvenile courts and welfare centres. Craft workers are given introductions to British members working in embroidery, enamelling, illuminating, leather work, pottery, etc. Arrangements are made for architects and interior decorators to visit interesting houses of the period in which they are specially interested, whether they be old Tudor Manor houses, Jacobean or Georgian mansions, or workmen's cottages in the most modern garden-city estate. Common Interests Committees have also been established in the United States at Washington, Chicago and San Francisco, in Melbourne, Australia, and in other centres.

The link between the world-wide membership of the English-Speaking Union is the monthly magazine, "The Landmark." Published by the British society, it consists of 96 pages and upwards, fully illustrated, and is sent every month to each subscribing member of the sister-societies throughout the world. Its contributors include many of the outstanding figures in British-American life, and it should, in years to come, hold an unique position in international journalism—that of a British-American magazine determined to discuss in a frank and open manner the common problems of the English-speaking peoples.

The success of an organization like the English-Speaking Union very largely depends on the broadness of its base, and more and more attention is being devoted every year to the purely educational aspect of the work by the Education Committee, under the chairmanship of Professor Winifred Cullis, co-operating with the Education Committee in New York. Believing that a teacher is one of the best conductors of knowledge, and so of understanding, between two nations, the committee has set itself the task of stimulating interest in British-American affairs among all grades of teachers—university, secondary and elementary—both men and women.

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The committee is a strong one, with representatives officially appointed to it by the following organizations: The Association of Assistant Masters; the Association of Assistant Mistresses; the Association of Directors and Secretaries for Education; the Association of Head Masters; the Association of Head Mistresses; the Association of Head Mistresses of Recognized Private Schools; the Association of Teachers of Domestic Subjects; the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions; the Association of University Women Teachers; the Association of Women Science Teachers; the British Federation of University Women; the Educational Institute of Scotland; the Headmasters' Conference; the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools; the Independent Schools Association; the



LONG DRAWING ROOM, DARTMOUTH HOUSE.

Parents' National Educational Union; the National Special Schools Union; and the National Union of Teachers.

One of the most important activities of the committee is the arrangement of the interchange of salaried appointments between schoolmasters or school mistresses in British and American schools, between teachers in special schools, and between lecturers in domestic science, training colleges, etc. These "exchanges" last for one year, and enable the teachers to gain practical experience of the working of the educational system of the country they are visiting.

In furtherance of their policy of encouraging British teachers to visit the United States of America, the committee each year offers scholarships to women teachers. The Walter Hines Page Scholarships enable the holders to spend their summer vacations in America as the guests of the English-Speaking Union of the United States;

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while two scholarships, kindly placed at the disposal of the committee by the Chautauqua Institution, enable two teachers every year to attend the great six weeks' Summer School at Chautauqua in the State of New York, after which the holders visit Canada, staying at Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec.

While these teachers are in America, the committee in England has the pleasure of welcoming special American visitors on similar lines and throughout the year, American and Dominion teachers wishing to study British educational methods are placed in touch with universities, schools and training colleges.

With such a record in the past, the future can be faced with unabated confidence, and the English-Speaking Union will continue to pledge itself to promote, by every means in its power, a good understanding between the peoples of the British Commonwealth of Nations and the United States of America, believing that the peace of the world and the progress of mankind can be largely helped by the unity in purpose of the English-Speaking democracies.

The present membership of the English-Speaking Union in Canada is counted only in hundreds, and we look confidently to the time when it will be measured in thousands. The annual subscription in Canada is five dollars, and includes "The Landmark" and full branch facilities in the United States and Great Britain as well as one month's use of Dartmouth House when in London. Enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, The English-Speaking Union, Dartmouth House, 37 Charles Street, Berkeley Square, London, W. 1.

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## *The Teachers' Bookshelf*

By W. M. ARMSTRONG

### SOME RECENT WORTHWHILE BOOKS

**Lord Durham, Governor of Canada.** A new biography by Chester W. New, Professor of History, McMaster University, Toronto. Oxford University Press.

**Mahatma Gandhi's Ideas,** C. F. Andrews. Allen and Unwin, London. 12s. 6d. net.

**The New Universe,** Baker Brownell. New York. \$4.00. Bertrand Russell says its scope is amazing. Edwin Slosson says that it is a most sweeping survey of modern views.

**Explorers, Soldiers and Statesmen,** W. J. Karr, D. Paed. J. M. Dent & Sons., Ltd., Toronto. \$1.50. History through biography from Columbus to Borden.

**The Fundamentals of Human Motivation,** Leonard T. Troland, Ph.D., New York. \$5.00. A thorough explanation of the effects of heredity and environment on conduct.

**A New History of Great Britain,** R. B. Mowart. Oxford University Press. \$1.90. A just and independent handling of the subject, well illustrated. A work of dispassionate judgment.

**Modern Materialism and Emergent Evolution,** Wm. McDougall, Professor of Psychology, Duke University. Van Nostrand Co., New York. \$2.75. This account settles once and for all the old conflict between science and religion, by proving the impossibility of explaining purposive mental action on a physical or mechanical basis.

**Psychophysiology,** Troland, New York. \$4.00. A work that covers much of the work of Freud, Jung and Jastrow. It deals with fascinating details, with the mechanism of sense perception, etc.

**The Story of Canada,** by George Wrong, Chester Martin, Walter N. Sage. The Ryerson Press.

WITH all the furore at present going on over the desirability of textbooks that are Canadian-written and Canadian-printed, this volume would demand careful attention, even although it had not certain unusual merits of its own. It does, however, possess qualities which give it a distinct advantage over the Canadian histories with which teachers and pupils have previously wrestled and agonized.

In the first place, it is, as indicated above, the work not of one man but of three. And in each case, the author has devoted years of research study to the particular section of the Dominion upon which he writes. Thus, the French period and the building up of

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Eastern Canada have been dealt with by Dr. George M. Wrong, for many years head of the department of history in the University of Toronto, and whose many books upon that subject are a household word throughout Canada. Manitoba and the Middle West are in the hands of Professor Chester Martin of the University of Manitoba, and the romantic history of the Pacific Coast and the upbuilding of British Columbia have been written by Dr. Walter N. Sage of the University of British Columbia, who, since his coming to this province, has, by indefatigable patience and investigation, become the recognized authority both as a lecturer and writer upon this subject.

Apart from the fact that each section is thus treated by an author who is an enthusiast in that special field, no previous textbook has devoted anything like so extensive and properly proportionate a space to Canada west of the Great Lakes.

Again, throughout the entire volume, the human interest and the adventurous and romantic elements with which Canadian history is so richly dowered have been particularly brought out. So audacious, indeed, has this triple band of authors become—considering the long dessicated tradition of Canadian history textbooks—that they have occasionally ventured to allude to some humorous side of life, or to those little quips and cranks which make even Canadian statesmen human.

The textbook at present authorized for high schools of B. C. contains considerably more detailed information upon precise dates and matters of political import—that is, it makes a better reference book, although I consider this new one would be much superior for class-room use. McArthur's History has a thorough index, which, unfortunately, the Story of Canada lacks. It has, too, a number of illustrative maps, while the book under consideration gives only the entertaining fly-leaf pictorial charts. Professor McArthur (of Queens University) adds also a valuable summary of Canadian Literature and Art, which is not included in The Story of Canada.

Still, each section of this new book appends a reading list of what has been published in reference works, in poetry or in historical fiction upon that period.

The abundant line-drawings by C. W. Jeffreys throughout The Story of Canada give the book a more attractive appearance than any previous textbook of this nature has possessed, and are also very valuable from the point of information upon costumes and manners.

The light-minded and irreverent high school student is likely to derive a certain joy from this volume unintended by its authors. Who could resist a text which began and ended all Wrong, was partly penned by a Bird, and dealt most Sage-ly with our own fair province. —A. Ermatinger Fraser (Vancouver Sunday Province).

**Courageous Companions**, by Finger, Charles Joseph. 304 pages. Ill. woodcuts. Longmans. \$3.00.

**THIS** is a splendid adventure story of the boy Osberne who shipped with Magellan upon the first voyage around the world. The

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descriptions of the sea, of storms, the feeling of lack of knowledge in those brave days, the lack of food, the terror of unknown and often imagined dangers give the reader a consistent vicarious experience because of the vigor with which the book is written.

Charles J. Finger has had an existence almost as romantic as that of his hero, and actually sailed over the route which he has Osborne take. The book won the juvenile fiction prize of \$2000.00 offered by Longmans, Green and Company, and is as fine a story of the sea as it has been our good fortune to enjoy for many a long day.—M.E.C.

**The Complete Playcraft Book**, by Beard, Patten. Ill. photographs and diagrams. Stokes. \$2.50.

**IT** WOULD be difficult to imagine a more delightful book for the boy or girl who loves to make things. Especially in a rural school would this very complete work be a boon, for it contains clear, simple directions for the making of innumerable toys and games, using such easily available materials as nuts, fruits, vegetables, pebbles, cardboard boxes, buttons and bits of bright colored paper. The tools required are of the simplest also, a pencil, crayons or paints, ruler, pair of scissors, paste pot and a set of willing fingers sufficing for the most elaborate effects. Full plans for a goodly number of parties to be given indoors or out, according to the season, are included, and a jolly little verse closes each chapter.—M. E. Colman.

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## *Cronstadt and St. Petersburg before the Revolution*

By THOMAS H. DODSON

OUR steamer had arrived just before sundown with just sufficient time to enter the fortified harbor and make our moorings. After sunset no ships were allowed to either enter or leave, neither were they allowed to come inside or to depart before sunrise. This was Cronstadt and Russia's Royal Navy Yard as well as the port of commerce for St. Petersburg.

At that time, because of shallow water between Cronstadt and what is now known as Leningrad, deep water borne commerce was discharged into smaller steamers on arrival at the former port and carried the last twenty-one miles of the sea journey for distribution by railway to final destinations from the latter. During the coldest months of winter a railway was built on the ice, and foreign sea borne commerce, imports, as well as exports, was moved between these places by freight train.

The island of Cronstadt, for two hundred years, had stood sentry as an almost impregnable fortification commanding the mouth of the Neva. Its defence works were built entirely of granite, and where its weakest exposures to attack would have been most vulnerable, these walls of granite were twenty-four feet in thickness. Today, as a fortress, it would be considered obsolete. It was founded by Peter the Great, and, because of his foresight, St. Petersburg slept secure behind its ever watchful shield during many an international crisis. In those days its people were devout, and churches, schools, public and official buildings of the admiralty staff were orderly, substantial and scrupulously clean.

Even the smallest store had its "Ikon" prominently placed, and no patron on entering the place would think of commencing to purchase before making obeisance to these replicas of the large symbol of belief to be found in all Orthodox Greek Churches. In many of these churches are, or were, to be found by the visitor specimens of carpentry by Peter the Great himself, and one of the show places of Cronstadt is the house in which Peter the Great lived. Everywhere one is reminded of the great monarch who did so much to start Russia on the way to world power and dominion, until its name was written big over two continents and it had grown to be a real menace to Britain's hold on India. Here was Peter the Great Park, where fine naval bands played during the summer evenings and Cronstadt's elite, civilian and naval, foregathered to cool off and enjoy the music. For two roubles, at that time about the equivalent of a Canadian dollar, one could hire a "drosky" and be driven around all the prin-

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cipal sights, excepting, of course, key defence works, which all countries bar to the tourist who might be likely to spy. The big drawback to these drosky drives was that the streets were all paved with cobble stones, and after a few minutes of it the tourist became obsessed with the idea that before the drive was finished he would rattle himself loose and come utterly and completely apart.

On clear days could be seen quite distinctly the summer palace of the Czar at Peterhof, another town founded by Peter the Great. We did not visit the place but were told that the palace was surrounded by a most beautiful park and terraced gardens modelled after the plan of Versailles.

At a very early hour after darkness, even for summer, and earlier still for winter, it was amazing how quickly the streets became deserted and all stores closed. The rattle of the drosky died away, and in the stillness that followed only the measured tread of the "bazuka," stepping his beat, with fixed bayonet, each side his sentry box could be heard. All lights and fires on the shipping at its moorings at this given hour by law must be extinguished, and fines were levied on offending ships whose blinkered ports allowed the slightest suspicion of light to leak through. Navy police patrolled the harbor throughout the night in row-boats, a precaution which was made absolutely necessary because of the enormous supplies of explosive material stored in the depot magazines.

So rigidly were these port rules and regulations enforced that beyond fixed hours after dark it was impossible to move about the town without being challenged by sentries, no two of which were ever out of sight of each other. One evening, the writer, all forgetful of the fleeting nature of time and filled with more than ordinary interest in, and curiosity about the things around him, abruptly awakened to the fact that it was past midnight and that he was faced with the walk alone from the town through Peter the Great Park to the boat landing and back to the ship by rowboat. It was a beautiful night, the air crisp with the bite of Autumn's first frosts of a Russian winter. Finding the gate at the town end still open, I decided to make the short cut through the park, only to find the gate at the other end locked for the night and myself challenged by a sentry. He poked his bayonet through the iron fence until its point pressed against the second button of my overcoat, too perilously near the heart for comfort. I looked at the play of the brilliant moonlight on the blade for a moment, and wondered whether the man was really serious or funny. But "dobra, dobra, Johnny" came reassuringly through the bars, and, in fairly good English, this good natured but faithful sentry told me to return through the park by the way I had come and back to him by the road, and he would have a boat waiting.

Sure enough, my boatman was on hand, a husky looking fellow with a sheepskin cap pulled over his ears, a long ragged pelisse reaching to his knees and tied round the waist with a piece of rope, more for added warmth than swank, and sacking tied around his legs and

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feet, looking far from the guide, philosopher and friend in need at that late hour of the night, and in a strange country.

Seeing me hesitate, and probably reading my thoughts, he smiled reassuringly, stroked most lovingly a bumper crop of matted beard, and told me the fare was fifty kopeks, not C.O.D., but cash with the goods—he had been cheated too often. Sailors, he explained, had frequently hired his boat, and, on reaching the ship's side, seized the "jacob's ladder" and pushed the boat off without paying. I paid my fifty kopeks with the goods and within fifteen minutes was delivered at my steamer without damage in consignment.

The following day I related my experience to the British Consul, and this fatherly gentleman warned me that my safest plan was to nose around Cronstadt in daylight only.

Passports were easily obtained, and fairly comfortable steamers carried passengers between Cronstadt and St. Petersburg, so that for five roubles return fare the tourist could visit this interesting city. And with the help of the obliging and ubiquitous drosky driver, who could be hired anytime and anywhere, it was possible during the short stay of a few days to see most of the places of passing, as well as historic interest, and to the student of humanity and historic association an opportunity not to be lost.

On the way up the island studded mouth of the Neva we passed the "Standart," the smart steam yacht of the Czar of all the Russians on its way to His Majesty's summer palace at Peterhof.

Most of the city seemed to have been built on the left bank of the Neva, the rest of it spread over several islands which formed a sort of delta at the river's mouth.

Amongst the principal and most imposing buildings, those housing the admiralty stand out easily first in the memory. From this point three really fine avenues reach out, the well known Nevsky Prospect taking the palm. Along the river one was shown the winter palace of the Czar, the palaces of the Grand Dukes, and the equally palatial residences of wealthy merchant princes and some of Russia's oldest families.

St. Isaac's Cathedral, built in the form of a Greek Cross, with its gilded cupolas and wonderfully fine columns of rare stone, together with its equally magnificent interior, excites the admiration and interest of the visitor.

Banks, universities, charities and modern utilities abound. The drosky driver rattles along Senate Square and points out a statue of Peter the Great. Then on to Palace Square with its Alexander Column, a great monolith of red granite topped by the figure of an angel. St. Petersburg also has its parade ground, the Field of Mars.

In front of the palaces stood an imposing monument of Catherine the Second.

Shopping on Nevsky Prospect was a real pleasure, and the visitor met civility and kindness everywhere. Many of the shops on this avenue at that time were easily equal to similar stores in Paris, London and New York. Perhaps not so big and ostentatious, but they certainly lost nothing by comparison from the point of view of

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sumptuous fittings and furnishings, and the display and arrangement of merchandise.

To those who remember the city about this time, one of these extremely obliging shopping places—a fur store—is a never to be forgotten memory.

As one entered the spacious vestibule one passed two magnificent preserved specimens of the Russian bear standing on their hind legs and holding most invitingly and alluringly in their extended fore-paws a tray, from which the shoppers, both men and women, helped themselves to cigarettes, which they lighted before proceeding to their leisurely shopping. No hustle to fix up one patron and on to the next as though shopping was never intended to be a pleasure either to the seller or the buyer in retail stores. I have seen fur stores in many of the world's big cities, but never such a wonderful display of rich and rare furs as here.

As our steamer was leaving Cronstadt on the homeward journey her bowsprit fouled and broke away one of the stays of Russia's big turret warships, Peter the Great. Her decks were only about three feet out of water, and her whole appearance filled one with uneasy wonder as to how long she would stay afloat in a heavy sea. The port officer who brought aboard to our captain the account of five hundred roubles for damage to the warship's rigging told us she had never been to sea and never would be. One of the designers who built her, so the story went, in a jocular mood at the launching, gave out that he knew where to put a shot that would sink her in a few minutes.

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## Newspaper "Story" in America

By SIR JOHN ADAMS

**E**VEN the plain man in America is perfectly familiar with the newspaper use of the term "story." It can hardly be called technical, since it is in the mouth of everybody. None is so ignorant of the ways of the press as not to know that by story is meant not necessarily a narrative in the good-natured, easy-going sense of the nursery, but an account of anything that has happened or can happen. An inquest, a fire, a controversy, a conference, an epidemic, a rumor of any kind, all provide stories for the newspaper man. But while everybody is familiar with the press use of the term, not all realize what underlies it, and what changes have taken place in the process by which the materials are worked up into a story for the public to read. The tired business man—the T. B. M. of familiar American conversation—is sometimes blamed for the new developments, but the whole fault does not lie at his door. The convenience of sub-editors has at least as much to do with the changes as has the wearied reader's desire for news in the shortest and least fatiguing form.

If the thing could be done, the hurried reader would insist on the news being so briefly expressed that it could be limited to the headlines. This would no doubt be a great saving of time for both readers and writers. But even the most violent hustlers admit that the headlines cannot stand alone. Sometimes, indeed, it is difficult enough to understand the headings as they stand, even with the aid of the text underneath them. Still, the letterpress is regarded as something to be kept within as narrow bounds as possible. There are no doubt occasions when the needs of the paper call for abundant letterpress: the art of padding is by no means lost, nor is there any suggestion that it has ceased to be highly esteemed and skilfully practised in newspaper offices. But in general the need for condensation is more urgent than the need for expansion. The true state of the case may be represented by saying that what is wanted is a means of balancing the two demands so as to meet whatever needs may arise. What is needed, in fact, is a greater degree of elasticity than is to be found in the ordinary articles written for the press.

The sub-editor suffers tortures from the rigidity of contributions that, from their construction, must go into the paper as they stand. He realizes that an ordinary well-written article has a beginning, middle and end, and that disastrous results follow when he is forced to cut any one of the three. Sometimes an introduction may be excised without any serious disadvantage, but the sub-editor knows that he cannot depend on even this complaisance in an ordinary contribution written under old-fashioned conditions. He cannot afford to take chances, so he insists on his articles being prepared for him in

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such a way as to enable him to cut them up to suit the needs of the moment. The collective wisdom of the vast body of sub-editors in the United States has evolved a style of story that exactly meets their needs. It is produced on what may be called the sausage plan: for the story, as sent in to the newspaper, must allow itself to be cut up into whatever sections the harried sub-editor may require. As the pork-butcher has the roll of stuffed meat before him, and is ready to cut off as much or as little as his customer may desire, not otherwise does the sub-editor sit at his desk and slice off from the story submitted just that length that will fit conveniently into the available gap in the page.

Obviously, this art of sausagery does not come by nature. A writer who has a story to tell usually wants to tell it in a more or less artistic way. He feels that it should form a whole, and cannot be cut up into lengths to suit the needs of the newspaper make-up man. The teachers of English in the high schools and universities spend a good deal of time in dinning into the minds of their pupils the need for this artistic unity: they maintain that an article should be an organism developed in such a way as to show an underlying spirit permeating the whole, a spirit that shall be all in the whole and all in every part. When budding journalists suggest this view to the practising newspaper man, they are told to "forget it." But the artistic heresy is often so firmly established in the young mind that American pressmen do not content themselves with waiting till the experience of actual work on a paper knocks all this nonsense out of the beginner's mind. They insist on the sausage method of writing being taught in all the classes in journalism at the schools and universities of the country.

The first principle instilled is to put the whole story into the first paragraph. Students are told that in the first few lines, and, if possible in the first sentence, answers should be provided to the questions **what? where? when? how?** and—if it is within the range of human capacity—**why?** Once this has been accomplished, details can be supplied in succeeding paragraphs, each paragraph being of less importance than the one that precedes it.

To the sub-editor this arrangement is soothing. Every story that comes in presents itself as a sausage, amenable to sectional treatment. If there happens to be a good deal of space to be filled, the story may actually go in as it stands. The chances are, however, that only a part can find a place. With luck, two-thirds of the whole may find room, and the sub-editor may with perfect confidence slice off the final third, knowing that out of the whole it is the least important part, and that in any case the remaining two-thirds will contain the essence of the whole matter. Not infrequently there is space for only the first paragraph, and the sub-editor thrusts it into the paper with as much confidence as if he were inserting the whole. The scheme is very merciful on the grey matter in the sub-editorial brain.

It cannot be denied that the method has some advantages, even on

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the literary side. It is good for young writers to make them get the essentials into one paragraph. If the matter stopped there, and no paragraphs followed, something like praise might be given to the scheme as a whole. But while the young journalist is being trained to conciseness so far as his first paragraphs are concerned, he is inoculated into the art of padding in what follows. To be sure, if he acquires skill in elaborating paragraphs in the exact order of their importance to the whole, and always retains the whole in his mind as the ideal dominating his writing and marking the goal towards which he is working, he may acquire a style of great power. Unfortunately, there are two circumstances that work against this adoption of a high ideal.

In the first place, the number of times that the whole story gets printed is exceedingly small. The normal daily experience of the reporter is that less than half of each story is printed. Accordingly, he gets careless about the endings of his stories, since the usual fate of these endings is the waste-paper basket. In the second place, even in the case of those stories that do achieve completion in print, the final parts are seldom read at all, and when they are read they are treated disrespectfully and perused cursorily. The busy man, in whose interests the stories are kept short, very naturally catches on quickly to the sausage scheme, knows that the endings of stories are of no consequence, and acts accordingly. The trouble lies in the tail, and the more that appendage can be shortened, the better for all concerned.

Relief may come from a different direction altogether. The papers appear to be getting a little uneasy about material gathered from without and presented wholesale in sausage form. To meet the difficulties of the situation there seems to be a tendency to extend the process known as "writing up." Division of labor is applied with some vigor, and the production of stories is being shared between those who gather the material and those who work it up into suitable form for publication. Of the two groups, that which does the writing up inside the office appears to subtend a bigger angle in the sub-editorial mind than does the other. The outside people are diminishing in importance, as is perhaps indicated by the somewhat contemptuous name applied to them in the vigorous slang of the newspaper office. "Leg men" are those who go about outside and gather as much material as they can, and bring it for the inside men to write up. The leg men play the part of jackal to the lion of the writers-up.

The leg men, as mere information gatherers, need not trouble themselves about the degree of elaboration suited to the particular story, the materials for which they bring in. The responsibility rests with the writers-up, and will probably be better met in the future. For the inside men are, on the whole, of a higher grade of journalism than the old story-writers, and are therefore better able to evaluate and manipulate the raw material supplied. Besides, being on the premises all the time, they are in a better position to get

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early intimation of the space available, and are thus better able to regulate their lengths.

A new danger, however, appears to be inherent in this division of labor. The actual writers of stories are being debarred from contact with what they have to write about. The leg men have to play the part of eyes for the actual writers-up, and the chances of inaccuracy are thus greatly increased, to say nothing of the loss of vivacity. Of the two, inaccuracy is much the more serious danger, for lack of vivacity is not one of the defects usually charged against writers-up. It is a very common complaint that the American newspapers manipulate the news in favor of politicians, propagandists and big business. The statement is often supported by reference to the inaccuracy of news reports: the implication being that this inaccuracy is deliberate. Those in the inner circles of journalism now tell us that a great deal of this inaccuracy is the direct result of the separation between the man who is actually on the spot and the man who does the writing up. We are glad to accept this welcome assurance about the source of error, but we naturally wonder whether it is beyond the wit of man to secure the advantages of division of labor, without this high price in resulting inaccuracy. The practical problem is the correlation between the leg men and the writers-up; and here surely the telephone and other mechanical appliances are providing ever-increasing facilities for verification and correction. As things stand, the inside man can ask questions of the leg man who is still on the spot, and so get clear the facts of the case they are to write up. Skill and experience should do the rest, without waiting for that, perhaps not very distant, day when the outside man will be in a position to connect up his inside colleague with a distance kinema that will enable the writer-up to see with his own eyes the actual incidents that are providing the material for his story.



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## League of Nations' News

### The Development of International Law

IF THE world is to live at peace, the relations of states must be governed by a comprehensive, stable, precise and universally accepted system of law. The League of Nations has taken a big step in this direction by summoning the first World Conference to codify international law. This Conference met at The Hague on March 13th. Some 45 states are represented at the Conference, including not only most members of the League but Brazil, Egypt, Iceland, Mexico, Turkey, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, and the United States of America. This Conference has been carefully prepared during the last few years by an expert committee, and is to be the first of a series of such conferences.

\* \* \* \*

### The League and International Law

To understand the nature and importance of its work, it is necessary to glance at the League's relation to international law. The Covenant is itself a new basis for international law for the members of the League, that is for the overwhelming majority of civilized states, since by Article 20 it is accepted as abrogating all obligations or understandings between members of the League inconsistent with its terms, and as forbidding any future engagements not in conformity with its provisions. The League of Nations has set the international lawyers a puzzle, for, whereas all are agreed that it is a new subject or person in international law, jurists differ as to its nature, some contending that it is an association of states of a peculiar type and others that it is a special form of confederation. But the very existence of an organized society of nations and of a common constitution to which all the members of the Society can refer as the basis for their international relations has given greater body and firmness to international law, for *ubi societas ibi jus est*.

The functioning of the League has contributed enormously to the development of international law. One of the great services which the League has rendered has been, through its technical organizations and general conferences, to establish a machinery through which states find it easier to establish fixed rules governing their mutual relations, by means of international agreements doing justice both to the technical (economic, commercial, sanitary, etc.) and to the political interests involved. In its 10 years of existence the League has been responsible for the adoption of some 20 multi-lateral conventions covering many aspects of international relations and accepted by so many states as to make them approximate to world law in their respective fields. Speedier ratification and wider

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adoption of these conventions is another task on which the League is engaged that has a direct bearing on the development of international law.

An equally important contribution has been made through setting up the Permanent Court of International Justice and the acceptance by a widening number of states of its compulsory jurisdiction. The conception at what are justifiable disputes is being steadily enlarged, as states begin to realize that they are members of an organized society capable of dispensing justice and granting protection, and as through the precedents of the Court and the activities of the League international law is steadily being developed and clarified.

#### **Progressive Codification of International Law**

The work on codification is regarded by the League as supplementary to these developments and must be seen against this background. The object of the work is progressively and gradually to develop and consolidate written law governing the relations between states: in preparation for the first conference a committee composed of distinguished jurists representing the main forms of civilization and the principal legal systems of the world submitted to governments and consulted law associates on a list of subjects which they thought suitable for consideration. After studying the replies three points were proposed for action at the first Codification Conference, namely, nationality, territorial waters and the responsibility of states for damage caused in their territory to the persons or property of foreigners.

The injustice caused to women by the conflict of laws concerning the acquisition or loss of nationality through marriage is too well known to need comment, and the delegations to the Conference include a strong proportion of women, while a special Women's Congress has been summoned at The Hague to watch over the proceedings. Other conflicts result in dual or no nationality, rival claims to the allegiance of a citizen or his children, etc.

Several historical conflicts and many lively incidents in connection with the smuggling of alcohol have arisen out of differences of view on the extent of territorial waters and the way in which the 3-mile limit or whatever the extent may be is measured. There are also differences of view as to the scope of jurisdiction in and about such waters.

The responsibility of states arising out of the confiscation of foreign property or injury done to foreign persons within their territory also raises burning issues, which in times past have frequently been the cause of violent conflicts.

The work on codification has only begun and whether or not the first Conference succeeds in adopting conventions on all three points of its agenda, the work is sure to go on and its results will be of great and cumulative importance in ordering the peaceful relations of states.

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#### Death of Lord Balfour

The death of Lord Balfour removes one who, by his great experience and personal authority, contributed to the vital task of laying the foundations of the League of Nations. He was the British representative on the Council and the Assembly during the first years of the League of Nations, and in his message of condolence to the British Foreign Secretary, the President of the Council, M. Zaleski, said that Lord Balfour guided and inspired the League's work by his brilliant intellect and his immense experience of great affairs, by his distinguished personality and by his unflinching devotion to the cause of peace and international co-operation.

The President, in conveying to the British Government and to the people of Great Britain the Council's sympathy and regret, added that he was convinced that future generations would regard Lord Balfour's work for the League, accomplished after he had passed his seventieth year, as not the least distinguished part of his career: "It is certain that he will ever be gratefully remembered by all who believe in the League of Nations and in the maintenance of world peace."

Lord Balfour was British representative at the early Council meetings in the first year of the League in 1920 and led the British delegation at the First Assembly. His collaboration in this capacity continued till 1923, so that the League had the great advantage of his experience and influence during the critical formative years. This was an incalculable asset which can best be appreciated by those who saw the resource and fertility of mind which he brought to what was then a new experiment in international relations.

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Frost, Elsie.....	Vancouver T.A.	Macpherson, Mrs. Edna E.....	N.V.C.T.A.
		McPherson, Sheila.....	Vancouver T.A.
Gee, William H.....	Victoria T.A.	McRae, F. Mildred.....	Nanaimo D.T.A.
Gibb, Margaret.....	Nanaimo T.A.		
Goodyear, Evelyn M.....	N.V.C.T.A.		



Martin, Charlotte M.....	Victoria T.A.	Richards, Jennie M.....	Unattached
Mercer, Winifred M.....	Fee allowed	Richmond, Beatrice.....	Chilliwack T.A.
Millar, Eva L.....	Vancouver T.A.	Roberts, Jessie C.....	Victoria T.A.
Mitchell, Margaret.....	Thompson Valley T.A.	Roberts, Jean G.....	Victoria T.A.
Mitchell, Mary M.....	Port Moody T.A.	Rogers, Victoria E.....	Nanaimo D.T.A.
Michie, Alice C.....	Vancouver T.A.	Ross, Joseph.....	Victoria T.A.
Moncrieff, Dorothy L.....	Courtenay T.A.	Routley, Percy C.....	Victoria T.A.
Moody, Ethel M.....	Trail T.A.	Rumsby, Annie M.....	Nanaimo D.T.A.
Moody, Margaret H.....	Vancouver T.A.	Russell, Helen R.....	Burnaby T.A.
Moore, Bertha.....	Burnaby T.A.	Schroeder, Thelma P.....	Victoria T.A.
Moore, Helen M. C.....	Normal Graduate	Severs, Olive.....	Esquimalt T.A.
Morrison, A. B.....	H.S.T.A.L.M.	Sim, Mary D.....	Prince Rupert T.A.
Muir, Robert A.....	J.H.S.T.A.	Simpson, Ellen M.....	Victoria T.A.
Mulcahy, Kathleen.....	Esquimalt T.A.	Smith, Charles D.....	H.S.T.A.L.M.
Muncy, William H.....	Victoria T.A.	Smith, Hilda M.....	N.W.T.A.
Myers, Harry E.....	Unattached	Smith, Muriel E.....	Vancouver T.A.
Nebitt, William J.....	Vancouver T.A.	Smith, Robert Lea.....	Vancouver T.A.
Noble, Louise M.....	Victoria T.A.	Somerville, John G.....	Nanaimo D.T.A.
O'Neil, Margaret.....	Vancouver T.A.	Stafford, Harold D.....	Unattached
Palmer, Lillian M. P.....	Prince Rupert T.A.	Stevenson, Allan M.....	Dewdney T.A.
Parfitt, Ivor.....	J.H.S.T.A.	Stewart, Margaret F.....	Victoria T.A.
Parfitt, Percy D.....	Victoria T.A.	Taylor, Minnie.....	Vancouver T.A.
Peacock, Dorothy D.....	Langley T.A.	Tegart, Emily B.....	Unattached
Pearson, H. L. O.....	N.V.C.T.A.	Thompson, A. Brian.....	Unattached
Perry, Alice J.....	Vancouver T.A.	Todd, Miss Margaret N.....	Unattached
Petrie, Jean E.....	Vancouver T.A.	Towell, Albert S.....	Nanaimo D.T.A.
Plenderleith, William A.....	Victoria T.A.	Treadgold, Frances M.....	O.V.T.A.
Polson, Jean.....	Victoria T.A.	Tuckey, Vivian E.....	N.W.T.A.
Pratt, Gladys O.....	Burnaby T.A.	Vrooman, M. Elizabeth.....	T.V.T.A.
Pullinger, Percy E.....	Burnaby T.A.	Walker, Maurice.....	Unattached
Quigley, Arthur V.....	J.H.S.T.A.	Walker, Victoria M.....	Esquimalt T.A.
Ramsay, Margaret.....	Port Moody T.A.	Washington, Norma R.....	Vancouver T.A.
Reay, Alice M.....	Nanaimo D.T.A.	Whitworth, Marjorie.....	Vancouver T.A.
Regan, Olivia.....	Vancouver T.A.	Wilkinson, F. Amie.....	Vancouver T.A.
Reid, M. Lillian.....	Thompson Valley T.A.	Willing, Donella M.....	Esquimalt T.A.
Reycraft, Helen K.....	Vancouver T.A.	Wily, M. L.....	Associate Member
		Woodworth, Victor.....	Chilliwack T.A.
		Yielding, Rose.....	Vancouver T.A.

### Corrections for May Magazine

#### Paid-up Members:

Clark, Margaret L.....  
 Kania, Mary E.....  
 MacArthur, Lena.....  
 Margison, Frederick T.....  
 May, Emily E.....  
 Sauder, Norman.....  
 Stout, Phyllis.....  
 Thorp, Dorothy E. McB.....

#### Enrolled Members:

Crowley, Terrence.....  
 Cunningham, Rita M.....  
 Irwin, Everett J.....  
 Thompson, Mary M.....

#### Should Be

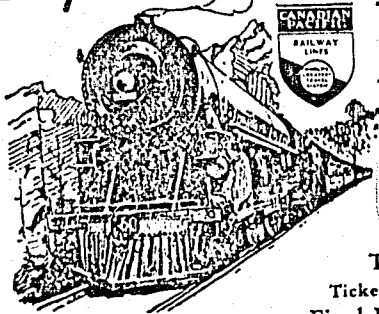
Clark, Kathleen L..... Nicola Valley T.A.  
 Kania, Mary E..... Vancouver T.A.  
 MacArthur, Rena..... Vancouver T.A.  
 Marriage, Frederick T..... O.V.T.A.  
 May, Emily L..... Unattached  
 Sauder, Marion..... Vancouver T.A.  
 Stout, Phyllis..... Vancouver T.A.  
 Thorp, Dorothy E. McB..... Burnaby T.A.

Crowley, Terrence..... Kelowna  
 Cunningham, Rita M..... Nanaimo  
 Irwin, Everett J..... Vancouver  
 Thomson, Mary M..... Chilliwack

MAY, 1930

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# Our Forests and Their Preservation

**A**LTHOUGH farming, fishing and mining continue each year to add to the value of their output, lumbering is still the main industry in British Columbia, and, so far as can be seen at present, it will remain so for a good many years.

Forest depletion, both here and elsewhere, is one of the most pressing questions of today, and it will become more urgent with the world's increasing demands for lumber. In British Columbia this fact is recognized, and the government has inaugurated a reforestation programme which will go a long way towards solving our particular problem. Every year forest areas are set aside for scientific management, where logging will be so controlled as to prevent the cuts exceeding the natural rate of growth. In other areas replanting is being done on an extensive scale, and here and there (at Aleza Lake, for instance) inferior species are being removed and replaced by others of greater commercial value.

That programme will go a long way, but not all the way. The superficial observer is too apt to deplore the depletion from logging while ignoring the appalling waste from forest fires. They are too apt to take the sentimental or aesthetic viewpoint, and forget that the forest growth is a crop which regularly grows ripe for harvesting, and which, like any other crop, will go to waste if it is allowed to become over-mature. The trees which are logged and turned into lumber are simply fulfilling Nature's plan to supply the world with that indispensable commodity; the wasted trees are those which are burned.

As a matter of fact, the logging operator of today is not nearly so prodigal as his predecessor. The ruthless methods of the past are indeed of the past. The modern logger looks to the future. His operations are on a very much larger scale, it is true, but there are so many other ways in which capital can profitably be employed that no money could be found for a business that was doomed soon to perish for lack of raw material. And so your modern logger takes a very matter-of-fact and practical interest in conservation.

"We are going ahead on the assumption that the whole timber industry will be on a new basis in another generation," says the Chief Forester, Mr. P. Z. Caverhill. The really big trees, hundreds of years old, will disappear except in those areas which have been set aside by the government to preserve the virgin timber intact; but their places will be taken by a new and vigorous growth, forty to fifty years old, and by planning to cut timber at that age the foundations will be laid for a supply that will be perpetual.

All plans for conservation and reforestation, however, hinge, to a great extent, on the elimination of the forest fire, and when one reflects that quite seventy-five per cent. of our fire loss is man-caused and preventable, the problem becomes less a problem and more a matter of ordinary commonsense. Pressure of public opinion has gone far to suppress carelessness in other directions, and there is no more reprehensible form than carelessness with fire. There is our real problem, and its solution lies very largely in the hands of the general public. \* \* \* \*

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## International Educational Conference

TO THE best knowledge of those present the first international convention of teachers from Washington and British Columbia to be yet held took place on April 5th in Oroville, Washington. About equal numbers of Canadian and American teachers to the extent of nearly two hundred attended the convention, which was held in the grade school.

The idea was originated by Superintendent E. B. Grinnell, of Okonagan, Wash., and was carried to completion with the assistance of the Okanagan Valley Teachers' Association. Teachers from as far north as Armstrong were in attendance. When it is considered that this entailed a drive of over 150 miles, some idea of the contagious enthusiasm of which the Okanagan Valley is capable can be obtained. The executive of the O. V. T. A. wish to thank, through the medium of the "B. C. Teacher," the fine response of the teachers in the Valley to the invitation.

Mr. A. R. Lord, Provincial Inspector of Schools at Kelowna, gave a very interesting talk on the Provincial System of School Organization. He was able to give a number of sidelights on the B. C. system which were, perhaps, as much of interest to the Canadian teachers as to the American. Several comparisons and contrasts were drawn between the Canadian and American methods of organization.

The conference was fortunate in having an address by Dr. N. D. Showalter, State Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Showalter delivered an inspiring talk on international friendship and educational advances in the last hundred years.

A very able address on Public Health Work was given by Mrs. J. Earl Thompson. Mrs. Thompson is field secretary of the Washington Tuberculosis League, and demonstrated her ability in focusing the attention of the audience on the intense and pressing need of more health work in the schools, and made a special point of its necessity in the high schools, where little effort of "carry-on" work is made.

The B. C. Teachers were pleased to welcome Mr. T. R. Hall, who is temporarily at the Vancouver Normal. Mr. Hall's address on "Educational Objectives" was enthusiastically received as a real contribution to the success of the conference.

A delightful no-host luncheon was prepared by the Oroville Parent Teachers' Association. Superintendent O. T. Peterson, of Brew-

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THE B. C. TEACHER

ster, proved to be an able toastmaster. Music was supplied by the Oroville Glee Club.

An excellent exhibit of school work decorated the walls of the auditorium. Of special interest was the display by the Penticton schools which had won the first prize at the Oroville Fair last October.

Thanks are due to the customs officials on both sides of the "line" for their courtesy and for the very slight delay occasioned in crossing the boundary.

There was every indication that this conference would be but the first of many such to be held in the future.

## Address Health Books

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