

# SASKATCHEWAN PLACE FOR YOUNG MEN

### Exceptional Opportunities Wait on Enterprise—Preachers, Doctors, Lawyers and Teachers in Great Demand at Present.

Regina, Saskatchewan. This is not a young country—geologists seem to think that it has been here for several thousand years—but it is the country of the young. Is there any place in the world where you have such a chance as it has here? I am not speaking in the rhetoric of a man of the immigration agent, or after the fashion of the real estate agent pointing out the possibilities of investments, but merely comparing the relative advantages of the young in the same class, the same walk of life, the same circumstances, here and in the East.

It is not only the young man whose possibilities are increased, whose limitations are lifted from him, when he reaches the country where men are a good and not a surplus. The child, too, finds that he will not find in the East unless he be singularly fortunate or tolerably rich. He will find an intense public spirit urging for his thorough education, the entire community making the greatest sacrifices to provide him with schools, his right to a considerable amount of freedom from productive toil universally recognized, and himself made part of the juvenile community filled with the brightest, the freest, the most daring enthusiasm for its future and its country. In fact from the date when he ceases to be nourished chiefly on milk—a costly luxury on the prairie—to the date when he begins to find that his grey hairs are not as good a recommendation for attention as they would be in Ontario and Quebec, the Albertan or Saskatchewan faces life with a better chance and a finer determination than anywhere else in Canada. To the grey-headed man it is perhaps not a small consolation to know that his children or his grandchildren are enjoying the advantages which no longer apply to himself.

### SCHOOL HOUSE THE CENTRE.

The schools of Alberta and Saskatchewan seem to be the object of an almost religious cult. Towns which three years ago were but vacant spots in a vast prairie, and which to-day consist chiefly of half-finished houses and implement depots, invariably centre around an immense modern school house, designed in accordance with the latest pedagogical principles of the Central States or Eastern Canada, towering above every other feature of the landscape, and throwing utterly into the shade the modest tentative edifices of the Presbyterian or Anglican church—only a few of which have as yet been replaced by newer and more stately structures.

The heavy expenditure incurred by the towns and villages for these buildings is wholly voluntary and wholly unaided, the provincial grants being confined to assistance towards maintenance. Apparently these municipalities have concluded, not unreasonably, that an adequate school building is a better public asset for the inducing of settlement than asphalt streets, or showy town halls, or subsidized manufactures—to which, it may be noted, they have at present little temptation.

There is some complaint among the ratepayers of these districts, on the ground that as they already pay part of the cost of their own schools they should not be taxed on the same basis as the districts which have no schools at all; but the obvious answer is that they themselves derive the whole benefit not only of the money they put in, but also of that which is paid by the school-less sections. The net return this year from the supplementary revenue tax was about \$320,000, of which the elementary schools got \$280,000—those in the rural districts alone getting \$260,000. The school maintaining rural districts on the other hand contributed only \$110,000, or about a

third of the total fund. All grants are based on the amount of work done in the school, except that of a sum of \$14,000 to be distributed among rural districts in operation for the first time.

Both in Alberta and in Saskatchewan the number of new school districts formed last year was most gratifying. Not the slightest trouble is found in getting the English-speaking settlers to incur the sacrifices involved in school-establishments, and organizing agents are employed among the foreign element to explain the advantages of organization for school purposes—apparently with good results.

### SOON BECOME BRITISH.

A striking feature in settlements which are predominantly foreign is the extremely Canadian, almost British air which prevades the gatherings of children. They speak English without a trace of foreign accent.

Their games are the traditional games of the Anglo-Saxon child on this continent. The youngsters themselves are distinguished by an alertness, a vivacity which may be partly a result of the climate, but is certainly an encouraging contrast with the heavy stolidity of most of the foreign children in city centres. In Wetaskiwin, a strongly Scandinavian settlement, the children whom we saw disporting in the grounds at playtime were children with whom no Canadian youngster of whatever class need have felt in the least misapprehension.

One reason for the favorable attitude of the farmer here towards education is doubtless to be found in the fact that in specialized and largely mechanical farming, such as is carried on in the prairie country, there is less need of the services of the children at home. In the East the economic effectiveness of the family depends, or did not long ago, very largely on the amount of work that could be got out of the youngsters with the result that the farmers had the strongest reasons for not wishing too much time spent on mere learning.

In the farming of this country becomes more mixed that condition will arise to some degree here, but the tone already set, the instinct for education already implanted, should be able to withstand any attack. Besides which, the West is very rich, and will not for many years have to get down and scratch for a livelihood as did the farmers of some eastern districts.

### YOUNG MAN'S COUNTRY.

As for the young man, one almost trembles at the extent of his power in this amazing country. At Edmonton, the Attorney-General, the Deputy Attorney-General, and the chief of the office staff of that department have an aggregate age of less than one hundred years. The majority of the successful workers in the professions, in politics, in social life, left the eastern colleges with the classes of 1895 to 1900. In British Columbia I met a judge who, when I knew him in Toronto in 1906, was a student in a law office.

The reason for this condition is plain enough, and though the East hardly recognizes it, the demand for young men and the opportunities to rise, are as great to-day, and will be to-morrow, as they were when these men came out here. The country is rapidly receiving population; but the population is largely uneducated, unaccustomed to Canadian institutions and Canadian public life, unsupplied with professional leaders in either politics, medicine, law or divinity. In all these branches, but particularly in politics, law and education, and in some parts of the country also in practical science, the Canadian has an enormous advantage over every other competitor, and there are many competitors. There are no old competitors at all, and no one has to wait for the senior to die before he gets recognition. The few elderly men in the country have been busied with too many things in their long life here in the raw days to be specialized in any one subject like the young arrival; their chief economic value appears to be that of lending prestige to an association in which the work is done largely by younger men.

### CAPITAL IN THE MAKING.

The potential value of the West is being rapidly turned into real, income-earning value. When that process has been completed, it will be found, as usual, that an immense amount of the capital wealth thus created has passed into the hands of men who had little claim to it save that they were on the spot and had the faith to see what was coming and the energy to possess themselves of it.

At the present time both parties are exceedingly hard up for good public speakers. There is a vast amount of educating work to be done among the new voters, and the party which does it first will have a long pull over its rival. The Liberal party has so far possessed itself of the majority of the new electorate less by persuasion than by the effectiveness of its organization and the personal qualities of its men. Just as in this one Province, by the way,

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The PEDLAR People

# THE OLD "VICTORY"

### Thoughts Inspired by Visit to Nelson's Famous Flagship.

(Written for The Post.)

As you look at her from the shore, the old line of battle-ship looms up large as she rides on the placid waters of Portsmouth harbor, but as you stand there and look at her if you happen to be a "history worm", all the memories with which the old ship is connected, will readily come to your mind. The only way to see the Victory properly is to go aboard of her, so you find a waterman, who has been watching you, perhaps in expectation of a job, and you are rowed over to the Victory. Outside she looks wonderfully well preserved, but she is bespattered with canvas and very diligently and largely doctored in that and other ways. Still, she is the same ship that flew Nelson's flag at Trafalgar, and is to-day very nearly the same ship as she was in 1805.

As you row along her side and pass under her counter, and look up at the massive timbers, you feel, after deducting the scuttles which the modern hand has cut in her sides for ventilating the deck where the cockpit is, that this is the veritable line of battle-ship upon which Nelson was wounded to death, and in whose gloomy hold he died. As you mount the starboard gangway ladder, your reverential enthusiasm will be somewhat dampened for a moment by a very polite marine pointing to a framed notice, and requesting you to read that before you go any further. You will find by reading the notice that you are cautioned in very strong terms not to dream of seeing the man who showed you over the ship, under pain of causing the ship to be SERIOUSLY PUNISHED.

Naturally, you will be thinking of Lord Nelson and not of fees, and to be bothered with such cautions seems rather out of place. As you climb into the upper deck you notice a brass plate on the deck just before the mizzen mast. You will read the inscription on that plate with feelings that you cannot express. Hundreds and thousands of British subjects know what that plate signifies—the spot where Nelson fell. To read the inscription is to bring up the whole picture of that breathless, thrilling time. The deck is wonderfully white now indeed; the guns which once lined the outworks are gone; there is nothing to suggest the tremendous conflict out that square of brass upon the deck, but, having read the words upon it, it is impossible to turn the eye forward without thinking of the slanting those massive outworks waited, the heave of dead and dying, the crowds of half-dazed men, black with gun powder, looking at the guns, the marines with the flint muskets at their shoulders, the storm of powder smoke hanging among and over the vessels with the glancing of fire upon it, and the roar of artillery slinging through it.

### Lindsay Trainman Met With Sad Accident Last Saturday.

Evening Post of Nov. 16.

This morning, about ten o'clock, as a freight was being shunted on the G.T.R. at Lorneville, a rather serious accident occurred. It seems that Fred Wheeler, aged 22, one of the brakemen, passed too close to the moving cars, and in some way was caught by the boxes on the trucks of one of the cars and dragged a couple of hundred yards on his back. He was very close to the wheels, and his leg was so badly injured that it was thought better to amputate. He also suffered some severe bruises and cuts about the head and back. He was conveyed to Ross Hospital, town, where he will receive proper care.

The injured man's home is in Hastings. He has been running out of Lindsay for a couple of years, and is boarded at Mr. Jos. Wilson's, Core dealer J. C. Shorey, town, was in charge of the train when the accident occurred.

### TO KEEP LINOLEUM AND HARD WOOD FLOORS CLEAN.

The following will be found an excellent way to keep shop floors and halls clean and bright:

Mix down with water, to which has been added one tablespoonful of ammonia to a pint of water, let dry and apply imported floor dressing, rubbing in with the regular floor brush or reservoir until an even polish is obtained. After the day's traffic is over simply brush up the mud and dirt with a floor brush. The above treatment used once a week will keep any shop floor clean and the shop free from dust.

### NELSON'S LAST SIGNAL.

"England expects every man will do his duty," which was answered by a cheer by the two lines, one headed by Collingwood and the other by Nelson in the "Victory", as they bore down on the combined fleets of Spain and France. But all under the after deck is gutted. Where cabins stood is now all space. The cockpit is narrowed and deformed by bulkheads, the sacred spot where Nelson died is now a cabin with a scuttle. They hold court-marials on board this ship, and use her in that way, but I suppose hundreds must have felt that such a relic as this ought to have been left intact, and put aside, so to speak, for inspection only, and while her timbers could be made to hold together, preserved as religiously as the crown jewels in the tower or the monuments in Westminster Abbey. There is only a few of the original guns left, for the truth is that officials get so used to seeing objects that the main body of the people regard as sacred for the memory of the patriotism and heroism they hope to perpetuate, that they lose their reverence and deal with them as common things, without sentimental interest.

As you stand in the cabin that once formed the cockpit, it will naturally occur to your mind the sound of agony that place once witnessed—Nelson wounded unto death, breathlessly waiting for news of how the battle went, the groans of the dying, and the thunder of

### THE GUNS OUTSIDE.

As you stand musing there, perhaps the modern iron-clads at "Spithead" will commence thundering away in a salute to some distinguished visitor, or in honor of the Lords of the Admiralty, who have arrived at Portsmouth. The guns make lots of noise, and the thunder of them penetrating to this cockpit give some color to your thoughts, as it will be enough to make you fancy that they are still pounding away on deck; that instead of being in Portsmouth Harbor, you are in Trafalgar Bay with the "Bucentaure" and the "Spithead."

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