



CO-OPERATION NEEDED.

THE mail order king with his dark shadow is the one FORCE that is keeping the farmer and the home merchant apart. This is the one big THUNDER cloud on our country life. This SHADOW of the BIG CITY is killing our COMMUNITY growth. This Giant monopoly works NIGHT and day to keep us APART. He knows that once WE GET TOGETHER HIS business is doomed. Where, then, do WE stand? WHAT shall WE do? Remain in the GRIP of the GIANT? Rest CONTENT under the DARK shadow? Rather, let us break up the monopoly and the shadow by the SUNLIGHT of co-operation. LET'S GET TOGETHER and scatter that GLOOM.

The "Community Builder" idea is endorsed and approved of, by, among others, the following well-known and reputable business concerns:

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TOP OF THE WORLD FINANCIAL MATTERS

Nature's Skyscraper That Towers High Above All Others.

THE GIANT MOUNT EVEREST.

This Still Unconquered Peak is in a Wild Country That is Extremely Difficult to Traverse and Has So Far Defied the Surveyors of India.

For many years the East Indian government has prohibited any attempt at the ascent of Mount Everest. As long ago as 1902 six European Alpinists set out for India to view the world from the top of its highest mountain. But the virgin snows of Everest could not have cooled their ardor half so rapidly as did the cold water with which the Indian government soused them.

The nearest approach of a railroad toward Mount Everest is about 100 miles away. To the north of this railroad terminal is a succession of parallel ranges of the Himalayas separated by deep valleys. It is one of the most difficult countries in the world to traverse, and no white man has ever crossed it.

The surveyors of India have never been nearer than eighty miles from Mount Everest. Some of the valleys are peopled by a few wild tribes who fiercely resent the intrusion of any strangers. The whole country lies in Nepal, which while still an independent state strictly forbade any person to go north among these mountains, and since Nepal came under the suzerainty of India the prohibition has been continued, for obvious reasons, by the Indian government.

When the ascent of Mount Everest is finally made it will probably be on the side of Tibet, whose southern boundary is not far from the mountain, but by her agreement with China the Indian government is bound to keep explorers from crossing into Tibet from India. Permission was refused to Sven Hedin to cross the border on his last great expedition, when he finally crossed from Ladakh.

Some interesting facts about Mount Everest may not generally be known. Many persons have wondered how the determination of the height of Mount Everest could be so exact that its elevation is fixed at precisely 29,002 feet. It happened in this way: In 1849 and 1850 six trigonometrical determinations of the height of the mountain were obtained by the Indian survey at six different stations, all south of the mountain. The height of 29,002 feet assigned to Mount Everest was the mean of the six different values for the height just obtained.

But the geographical survey of India informed the world in 1908 that Mount Everest is higher than it was computed to be by those six trigonometrical determinations. It reported that between 1881 and 1902 six other determinations of the height of the mountain were made at five stations, all excepting one being nearer to the mountain than the previous surveys. These six new determinations gave a mean value of 29,141 feet after correction for refraction. According, therefore, to our present information, Mount Everest is 139 feet higher than it was earlier computed to be.

Why is it, then, that this latest result of the scientific computation of the height of Mount Everest has not yet appeared in books and maps? It is because the Indian survey is not convinced that the final determination has been reached. It says that the height, 29,141 feet, is a more reliable result than 29,002 feet, but the more recent determination is still probably too small. It desires to acquire more thorough knowledge of the problems of refraction and of the effects of deviations of gravity upon trigonometrical work before announcing the final determination of the elevation of the world's highest mountain. Meanwhile it will retain on its maps the first determination of 29,002 feet.

This decision certainly commended itself. It would be more vexatious than useful to change the figures now and then in order to add or subtract a few feet as the latest determination of the mountain's height. It is better to wait until refinement of scientific method yields the closest approximation possible. This is the suggestion of the Indian survey, and all map-makers have apparently adopted it.

As the Times Change.

In the sixties the customary proposal was, "Will you be mine?" Very faintly signs are showing that men will yet say, "May I be yours?" It will take time, for the possessive, the dominating instinct in man, is still strong, and long may it live, for that is the vigor of the race. Only we do not want that instinct to carry man away, any more than we want a well bred horse to clench its teeth upon the bit and bolt—W. L. George in Atlantic.

An Essay on Man.

What a chimeric, then, is man! What a novelty, what a monster, what a chaos, what a subject of contradiction, what a prodigy! A judge of all things, a feeble worm of the earth, depository of the truth, cloven of uncertainty and error, the glory and the shame of the universe.

Children think not of the past nor of what is to come, but enjoy the present time, which few of us do.—La Fontaine.

The devil will always meet you and me more than half way.

Enforced self-denial always follows waste and extravagance. You and I ought to pay more attention to resolves than regrets. Your chief concern should be what you say, not what others say.

SOME STRIKING FIGURES OF GROWTH REPORTED.

Assets of This Great Institution Now Exceed 96 Million Dollars, an Increase of Over Ten Millions in the Year.

The annual statement of the Merchants Bank of Canada for the year ended April 29, affords a striking evidence both of the confidence reposed in the bank by its ever-growing clientele and of the increasing wealth and inclination to save in the community at large. The balance-sheet now accounts for no less than \$96,361,363 of assets, an increase of more than ten millions in the year, and of thirteen millions in the two years since April 1914, and this increase is wholly due to the very rapid growth of the deposits and note circulation of the bank. Interest-bearing deposits are higher by five million dollars, non-interest deposits by four and a half millions and circulation by more than a million.

Against these increased liabilities to the public the bank holds unprecedented reserves of liquid assets. Its cash and equivalent-to-cash items exceed 20 millions, added to which there are more than 20 millions of gilt-edged securities and call loans, bringing the total liquid reserve up to \$40,960,486, as compared with \$32,086,572 in 1915 and \$24,922,404 in 1914 (before the war). The bank now holds over five millions of Canadian government and municipal securities, of which more than four millions were acquired during the year, along with five million of railway and other securities and nearly eight millions of call loans all of which constitute not only a very good security of revenue, but a very good source of revenue. Commercial loans are nearly a million and a half greater than a year ago, but are still a long way from the pre-war figure. Profits for the year were in consequence considerably below the rate of two years ago, but they amply sufficed for the payment of the regular dividend, and contingency appropriations. The Directors and the General Manager have succeeded in keeping the bank in a position of great strength.

Fifty Per Cent. Bonus? Montreal June 9.—In several Montreal brokerage offices the gossip is heard that a stock bonus of fifty per cent. is coming on Scotia. No authority is mentioned, so that the story is not regarded as of any effect in the present movement, although a distribution of some character is generally anticipated.

Made Handsome Profit. New York, June 9.—While other syndicates of recent origin have not fared so well as most of those which brought out the new things last year, a quick profit was reported to the members of the United Motors Syndicate. Members got their stock at \$3, and the syndicate managers disposed of it at \$2, leaving a net profit of 7 points to the participants. The profits came quickly moreover thanks to large purchases on the part of the Durant party and its followers. Other syndicates which have not been so fortunate, found a rather heavy market for their wares on the Stock Exchange and the Curb. On the Exchange short sales of the undistributed stocks were so numerous that the selling gave the appearance of a bear party operating against them.

Good Men Not Used

London Mail "Our Army in Flanders and France is encumbered with a great number of troops who take little or no part in the fighting. They are orderlies, officers' servants, grooms, men connected with the medical and supply departments, and so on. In some cases their duties are relics of the days when war was an animated picnic. In others their work could just as well be done by men who are past the military age or who have been wounded and can no longer stand the tremendous strain of trench warfare. What will win this war is the number of men with rifles in their hands who can be put to the business of killing Germans. It was for that purpose they enlisted. It is for that purpose that the able-bodied men should be employed.

I always favor the man or woman who can take comfort in comforting others. Sometimes by curbing our curiosity we discourage trouble.

STANDARD BANK OF CANADA HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO SOLDIERS, ATTENTION! Our Savings Bank provides a suitable and convenient place for your surplus funds. A joint account is specially adapted for those going overseas. Apply to KINGSTON BRANCH, H. E. Richardson, Manager.

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