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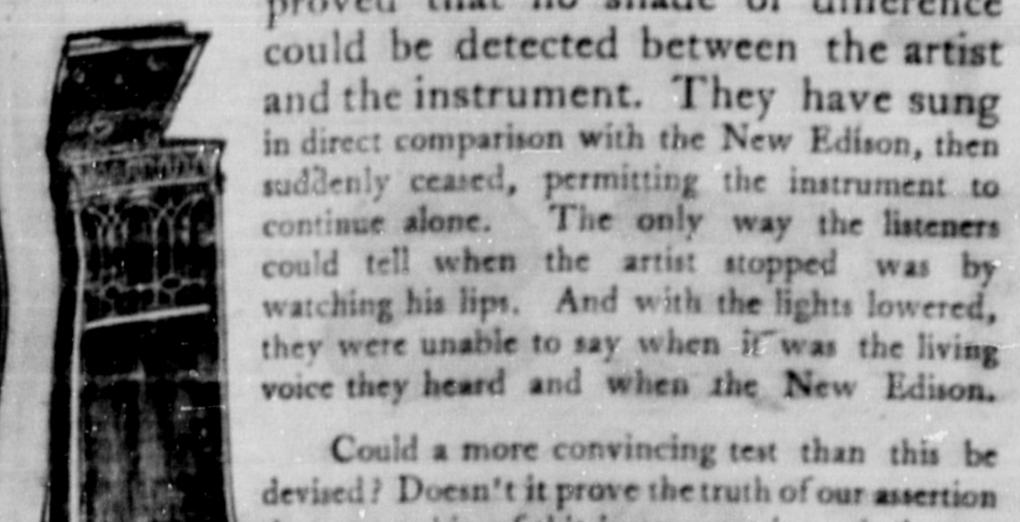
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MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

Hon. E. D. Barrow Corrects Dis torted Impressions Abroad Regarding Work of the Settlement Board.

Partly in reply to A. E. Howse, of Nicola, who indulged in a good deal of criticism of the Government of British Columbia during the course of his address before the Boards of Trade Concention in Vancouver and partly to correct an extraordinary impression which appears to be gaining ground in relation to land settlement operations and soldier; settlement in particular, the Hon. E. D. Barrow says:

"There are those who apparently possess the idea of discrediting the operations of the Land Settlement Board, either intentionally or unintentionally, or through But she left her fairy garments ignorance of the facts. That is to say, by the circulation of misleading statements as to climatic and soil conditions as well as transportation facilities, there has got abroad a very distorted impression of the true facts of the

that the Bulkley and Nechaco valley land settlement areas are located along the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Bailway and are already sparsely settled by a very fine progressive class of farmers. They are prosperous, in spite of SKEENA LAND DISTRICT-DISTRICT OF the lack of proper marketing facilities owing to the want of sufficient combined production to of their produce.

o lands at "the back of beyond" Mr. Barrow points out that the disadvantages now experienced by the prosperous farmers of the commencement, containing 40 acres more localities named will be aided by or less. the settlement of returned soldiers among them, who will very naturally share in the general community plans that will then be possible.

The Real Cause. Mr. Barrow emphasizes further that just because the story of the non-resident owner and his nonproducing lands is an old one it loses none of its truth, and that the reason these very lands had not been settled earlier was not on account of natural disadvantages, but merely owing to the fact that all the land within the boundaries of these unsettled areas were held by the class of owners mentioned. "The settlement of these 50,000 acres," continued the Minister, "is the commencement of a land settlement policy which eventually will bring into production hundreds of thousands of acres in the interior where conditions generally favor mixed farming. Large areas in other parts of the province which require irrigation and still others where it is necessary to dyke and drain will be dealt with. There are also logged off lands which will be made available for settle-

Fine Opportunities.

Mr. Barrow considers that opportunities for settlers in British Columbia are second to none in any other province of the Dominion. "Some returned soldiers and other prospective farmers seem to think that unless they can get in on these first areas," he proceeded, "they will probably have to accept something inferior. I want to assure them that there will be an abundance of land available for several years to come. The areas still to be handled will offer equal opportunities to those desiring to go into mixed farming, live stock raising, or fruit growing."

Intelligent Allocation.

In determining the size of the holdings sufficient consideration has been given to ensure the settler the necessary scope as an incentive to his energy and ambition and the certainty that the returns from his endeavor will enable him to conform to a standard of living that will be conducive to good citizenship.

The result aimed at, he says, is not altogether with a view to the production of any particular food commodity, at the lowest possible cost, but that a given area of land should support the greatest number of workmen under the most favorable conditions

AUTUMN LEAVES

Denald A. Fraser, author of the book of poems "Pebbles and Shells," has a poem in the October number of Contemporary Verse, his subject being "Autumn Leaves." Mr. Fraser is a British Columbia school teacher. Many of his verses are published in the big periodicals and his name is becoming widely known. He is also editor of The Public School Magazine of Victoria. The poem follows:

Summer danced in golden gar;ments;

Winter spied her at her play; Forward sprang and tried to catch

Like the light she flashed away. Winter cried to Autumn, "Clutch

Hold her in your iron clasp;" Autumn fingers fast were numb-

But her; vesture he did grasp. Summer wrenched herself to free-

Spite of Autumn's stern commands.

Golden tatters in his hands.

past was all wrong. The scheme whereby a man was allowed to settle where he pleased was neither in the interest of the individual or of the community. It resulted, says Mr. Barrow, in Mr. Barrow went on to explain imposing inhuman hardships on women and in denying children their right to a proper; education.

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> JOHN MCLARTY MACMILLAN. Dated June 20th 1918.

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less than 2 years, and has made propor-

num and records same each year. Failsame will operate as forfeiture. Title cannot be obtained on these claims in less than 5 years, with improvements of and cultivated, and residence of at

Pre-emptor holding Crown Grant may record another pre-emption, if he reland in conjunction with his farm, without actual occupation, provided statutory improvements made and residence maintained on Crown granted

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