Sale Parks

SEATTLE IS LAST WORD IN REARING OF MODERN CITY

Both Business and Residential Sections Are Marked With Distinction

am tempted to characterize seattle as a metropolis de luxe, but at any rate it stands for the last word in city building. In both its business and residential sections it bears a distinction that I find hard to hit in words. The bigness of its city ideals, the scope of its harbor achievements and its industrial aims, fill one with amazement—especially when contrasted with the want of these things which one finds in many lackadaisical communities.

There are only a few cities in the world that have such a wealth of native trees and vegetation, and here in Seattle the skilful hand of the landscape engineer has added a charm that is irresistible. For miles

and miles the parkway streets wind around the slopes of the hills overlooking, in places, both Puget Sound and the lakes.

A resident of Seattle said to me on my recent trip that the people of that city were obsessed with home building. The settlings were so beautiful that even the men with the smaller incomes were continually tempted to invest more money than such man in the average city usually put into homes. But he added that this idealism of itself had paid out financially. Very few home builders in Seattle failed to see the thing through, and the enhanced value of property far more than offsets the original cost.

The hills of Seattle are linked forever with R. H. Thomson. Steep as the hills are to-day, they are all accessible by motor and street car, although in places the trolley gives way to the cable. But in my years in Seattle there were hills so precipitous that to get up them one had almost to climb like an ape.

Thomson was city engineer. He was more than an engineer; he was a dreamer of city dreams. I suppose he might have gone on merely digging sewers and laying out streets as most city engineers do; but he had the dream habit, and his visions of the future Seattle were so incredibly big that he was not taken seriously. But he kept on dreaming and kept kept on submitting his impossible plans to the city council, until finally those city fathers themselves began to dream. Then they turned Thomson loose upon those inaccessible hills that stood in the way of city development. He took great streams of water up there and built long slulceways through the air lover Seattle, and he washed those hills into Puget Sound. This was the famous Seattle ergrade, which was done between 1906 and 1909. It was the most daring job any city ever undertook. Yet when it was finished and the streets graded and paved, it was worth millions and millions of dollars to Seattle.

The Seattle Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Club is a consolidation of civic bodies, and typifes a concentration of effort. Each member, and th

there is a members' council, made up of men from every branch of the work.

The industrial bureau has made a complete analysis of existing industries, and a thorough inquiry into the elements of possible industrial growth. It must be manifest to anyone who studies city development that cities do not just happen. It is a fine piece of industrial and civic engineering to build a well rounded and beautiful community, and the skilful conduct of this work is developing a new profession in America—that of civic organization and a co-ordination of the powers that make a modern city. In fact, city building is a great new business in which some of the best brains in the world are engaged.

I doubt if there is one man in Seattle who would want the town to go back to liquor. Up to the time when the present war law went into effect, individuals could ship in specified quantities; but to-day Seattle is bone dry, and has in its pockets I million dollars a month that it formerly spent for alcoholic drinks.

It is curious that many of the former saloons have been turned into candy and ice cream establishments, using the identical fixtures.

into candy and ice cream establish-ments, using the identical fixtures. One place visited was run by the same owners, who had quite forgot-ten their opposition to the Prohibi-tion Law.

ten their opposition to the Prohibition Law.

Seattle seems to have neglected no branch of municipal thinking. I found some of the largest and most attractive city owned markets I have ever seen. One night I had a dinner on the glass inclosed veranda of a public market, high on a bluff, overlooking Puget Sound. This restaurant, I presume, is a concession, but the choicest of all foods were available and the prices were astonishingly low. It is interesting to study the advanced ideas you see out there in such profusion.—Edward Mott Woolley in McClure's Magazine.

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