

ON THE WAY TO THE GREAT PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION

What Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Have Been Seeing En Route-Colorado Springs, Pike's Peak-A Storm Above the Clouds-Iowa and Colorado and Their Great Agricultural Development.

Colorado Springs, May 11, 1915.
Editor Ontario:
I promised to write you and I don't know when I shall have a better chance, for this is Sunday and we are visiting at this fine hotel in the prettiest small city I have ever seen, Colorado Springs.

As I write you, I can lift my eyes and directly in front of me is the wonderful Pike's Peak at the very foot of which is this city. Twice during the past week Mrs. Sinclair and I have been higher than this high peak and once we could look down upon it, although Pike's Peak is said to be the highest point reached by railway.

"The Top of the World."

On Friday last we took a trip out of De ver to the "Top of the World" known as the Moffat Lip, and so far as I know the wonder of the world as an engineering feat. We went up by the steam railway, through the most wonderful Mountain Canyons, where at times we had in full view of us 200 miles of snow covered mountains and in our climb we went up to 11,660 feet into the land of eternal snow. The climb up is just a succession of sharp curves, high grades and thirty-two tunnels. The morning being fine the trip promised much for us and for the fifty miles it was delightful, the sun shining in the mountain sides and filling the canyons with reflected beauty. Never had I seen anything so beautiful as this trip was at times, and so it continued until we were above the clouds and then some one said it smells like a storm and in a few minutes it struck us. Only those who have seen a mountain storm above the clouds can imagine how dreadful it is. From the most beautiful sunshine and summer heat we passed in a few minutes into the worst storm I ever saw in all my life. Our train stood still for nearly two hours and our position was exactly 11,660 feet above the sea, in fact we were on the top of the earth in the centre of the Rocky Mountains. During the time we waited you could not see through the car windows and no one dared to go outside. In a few hours time we had all the kinds of weather you will experience in the good old Hastings County, during the 365 days of the year 1915. There was no one feature lacking from beautiful sunshine to the worst kind of a blizzard. Then it cleared and we experienced the delights of beautiful sunshine after an awful storm.

I can hardly describe the sensations that came to me as at times the storm would cause our car to tremble and shake as if it would go over and then when it cleared the change was even greater for then there were mountains of snow and snow only, made glistening with the brightness of a Summer Sun. My face was burned just as if I had spent a July day on the Bay of Quinte, "and caught no fish."

When we returned to Denver in the evening, the people said there must have been a storm above the clouds, for the weather had changed from 90 degrees of heat to a real cool evening when one needed an overcoat.

Yes, we had been above the clouds where there was perpetual snow and the world below us knew nothing of our storm.

Now, my dear sir, this letter is not all what I intended it should be and while I could write for days telling you the wonders of the past week, the places I have visited and the things I have seen, still I doubt if anything would interest you more than an account of my observations as I passed through Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, and Colorado, and this is what I intended to write you when I started this letter, but you

see how I have been side tracked by a severe storm.

Iowa, the Farmer's Joy.
Now just a page or two on Iowa and northern Colorado, and as a start let me say that Iowa would be the joy of the average farmer's heart. I can't think it possible to duplicate Iowa. We travelled for hundreds of miles and never saw a hill but only the finest and richest rolling land I have ever seen. The fields were very large, although the farms are like our own about 160 acres each. The early grain looked well and gave the land the appearance of a great velvet carpet of beautiful green. And beside the green fields there were the great fields of the richest soil just in readiness for the corn planting, now sowing as I supposed but planted in hills. More than half the land is given over to corn growing and every field looked like a great garden ready for planting, the soil being rich black loam and is held at about \$150.00 per acre. This explains why so many of the best farmers, with their sons, are flocking into our north-west, for a man with three sons, all of whom wished to be farmers, would require \$72,000 to set them up in business, to say nothing of stock, implements, etc. Of late late years the farmers have gone very extensively into silos, building great cement structures, some times as many as four about one barn. Prior to this they burned the stalks after the corn had been gathered, and in some places we saw great fires at night where the farmers were burning last years corn stalks. Notwithstanding all the prosperity of Iowa, it is one of the few states that has gone behind in its population during the past two years, for the reason I have given you, the high price of land. The high state of development of Iowa is no doubt due to the fact that at Eames they have an Agricultural College with an attendance of 3540 students last year and they expect over 4000 this year, every county in the state being represented with from 9 to 420 students, with a larger percentage of Prebyterians than any other denomination, great hopes for the future of good farming, etc.

I might just add that there was an entire absence of trees in Iowa, very few cattle, with here and there a few Holsteins. The farm horses seemed of a very superior quality, while the machinery was just ordinary, the work being done about as we do it in the Bay of Quinte district.

Nebraska we passed through mostly in the night and what I saw by day did not impress me at all, the western and southern part being barren indeed.

Colorado the Prosperous.

Now, as for Colorado, this state has been a revelation to me at every point. We think of it as a mining state and, while it possesses some wonderfully rich Gold mines, hundred of which we saw yesterday on our trip to Cripple Creek, the greatest Gold Mining centre in the world, so say the Yankees, and great as they no doubt are, these mines only produced one-third as much as the farms of Colorado last year. The mines producing \$50,000,000 and the farms over \$150,000,000. This will surprise you no doubt and even more so when you realize that ten years ago millions of acres of land worth \$150 per acre today could then be purchased for \$2.00 per acre. The great change was brought about by the enterprise of a few men who realized the possibilities of irrigation. Until now the whole state for hundreds of miles from the mountains is a great network of irrigation, canals and ditches and from a great barren desert, Colorado has become a great garden and with only 10 per cent. of the possible land taken up. Northern Colorado has become the greatest Beet Sugar growing state in the Union, California now taking second place, and here we find no less than twenty great sugar refineries, turning out thousands of tons daily and giving employment to thousands of men. These Companies own much land, but grow no beets, this being left to the farmers, many of whom have large acreage of beets and they in turn farm out the growing of the beets to Japs and Mexicans.

Beet-growing is very profitable and accounts for the great advance in land values. Considering that a few years ago it was a great sand

waste one is made to realize that "Little drops of water mixed with grains of sand make a mighty difference in the price of land."

Now I must close as Mrs. Sinclair is waiting for me and we must get ready to leave here tonight for the Grand Canyon of Arizona, our next stop over.

Have had a delightful Sunday, been real good, went to Sunday School and the honor thrust upon me of addressing the school. Heard a splendid sermon by the Rev. Dr. Garvin, a very able man, in which he made many pleasing references, from my view point, to the Great War. This country is with us and every paper speaks out straight from the shoulder.

Now good-bye for the present. The enclosed booklet will give you some idea of this little city.

Respectfully yours,
D. V. SINCLAIR.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY WHERE OUR BOYS ARE FIGHTING

Gunner Felstead Writes Another Very Interesting and Valuable Descriptive Letter From the Battle-Front in Flanders.

Mr. Wm. Craig, Lingham St., has received another very interesting letter from his friend, Gunner H. W. Felstead, which he has kindly handed us for publication.

Belgium,
May 6th, 1915.

Dear Bill:
Just a line or so in answer to your most welcome letter received here yesterday with a parcel of papers. I am afraid I cannot give you a lot of news this time as all that happened since I wrote last is the Huns are still using Gas, and still trying to get back Hill 60. They did partially succeed yesterday and have suffered very heavily for their attempt last night. What I can't understand is why our people don't pay them back in their own coin and play gas on them, or use the French stuff called Turpentine. I think myself we should be quite justified in using it. We are having a glorious spell of weather here now, it is nice and warm, in fact it is too warm at times, and it is quite a change now to what it was a couple of months ago, and the country around this part is ever so much prettier than it was in France, for all we could see there was low, flat fields all over, while here there are gentle swells of green pasturage and corn, new green of course. There are acres of ground laid waste. At one time this part has been a great country for hops, but they are now all growing wild. All we can see is the plants springing out of the ground trying vainly to grow, and wherever we go we can see large shell holes in the ground. In places near the firing line big houses and the fields that surround them are pitted with shell holes, some of them are 8 feet deep and quite 15 feet across. The bombardment of the town still continues and we have come in for our share of German shell. A few days ago the Germans had an aeroplane up observing for them and they commenced to shell us, and were sending us 8 inch shell to get on with when we got one of our airmen up and chased him, which put an end to their firing. That Gas they are using knocks our men over wholesale. No

No German Hands on Hydro System

Commissioner P. W. Ellis Says No Cases Have Been Reported.

"So far as we know there are no Germans or Austrians on the staff of the Toronto Hydro Electric Commission," said Mr. J. W. Ellis, one of the commissioners, when asked if the matter of employees of enemy birth would be brought up at the meeting of the commission today.

"Our general manager was instructed some time ago to see that there were no Germans or Austrians in the employ of the commission," continued Mr. Ellis. "He reported that so far as he could discover there were none, nor have further investigations shown that there are any. Of course, our staff is a very large one, and it is just possible that some may have been overlooked. Unless there have been some cases of German or Austrians who are in the employ of the commission unknown to us and whose presence on the staff has been brought to light by some outsider, the commission will not take any further action, except to reiterate its instructions to the general manager to take every means to make sure that there are no Germans or Austrians on our staff."

The matter of spies, which is becoming a very vexed one, will be taken up at the meeting today. Several communications have been addressed to the Board of Control in this connection, and no action has been taken. "It may be necessary to take some further steps to get into touch with the Board and secure their attention to his important matter," said Mr. Ellis.

Princess Irene Lost With 328 While in Dock.

LONDON, May 28.—All the crew of 250 men of the British steamer Princess Irene, except one man, and in addition seventy-eight dockers who were at work on board the steamer, lost their lives yesterday when the vessel was blown up by an explosion on board in Sheerness harbor. The steamer was in the government service.

The Admiralty in confirming the explosion on board the Princess Irene says that 78 workmen must have perished in the disaster.

The statement of the Admiralty says: The Princess Irene was accidentally blown up in Sheerness harbor this morning. So far as is yet known only one survivor was picked up. Three men belonging to the ship were not on board at the time of the disaster.

"Several men belonging to vessels lying close to the Princess Irene were wounded by falling splinters." The steamer Princess Irene which was built last year for the Canadian Pacific Columbia coast service, and was taken over by the Admiralty at the commencement of the war, was accidentally destroyed by an explosion while at anchor at Sheerness, where she was undergoing repairs. All her crew, numbering about 250 except one seaman, and, besides, 78 dockers who were aboard at the time, lost their lives.

Lindsay Grant of \$250.

The town council of Lindsay has voted \$250 to the 39th Battalion Regimental Fund. Lieuts. Hopkins and Edwards of the 39th addressed the Lindsay Council.

APPETITE OF YOUTH QUICKLY RESTORED

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Stopped the Car.

(From Friday's Daily.)
As the result of a phone call from Mr. A. J. Hendricks, Frankford, this morning, a Regal car, driven by two men from Frankford, was stopped in town by the Belleville police and detained for the arrival of Mr. Hendricks. The two men had ridden off in the car without permission.

GERMAN SAILORS GO INSANE.

Enforced idleness drives Teutons mad—One declared he was Emperor William and started directing a Rattle.

New York, May 28.—Several of the German sailors on board the North German Lloyd and Hamburg American steamships which have been docked at Hoboken since the beginning of the war, have become mentally unbalanced and have been placed in the Hudson County Jail in that city. Three of the sailors became so violent that it was necessary to take them from the German steamships and place them under observation.

One of the men from the Barbarossa of the North German Lloyd Line, on returning from a trip ashore, asserted that he was Emperor William, and issued orders directing a battle in France. Afterward a blacksmith on board the Vaterland threatened to sink that steamship because she would not carry him back to Germany. Yesterday a steward of the Barbarossa was sent to jail after becoming too violent.

Dr. George King, the country physician, attributed their strained mental condition in part to enforced idleness, melancholia and homesickness.

CANADIAN LOSSES REPORTED SEVERE.

OTTAWA, May 28.—The casualties in the battle north of Ypres, which lasted from May 22 to May 24 and in which the Canadians fought brilliantly, have begun to arrive at the military department. These indicate that the Canadian losses were very heavy.

In the lists received so far the names of 26 officers appear. Seven were killed and 19 wounded. The 8th Battalion had one captain and one lieutenant killed and three lieutenants wounded; the 16th had one lieutenant killed and one major, one captain and one lieutenant wounded; the 10th had one captain and three lieutenants killed and two captains and two lieutenants wounded; the Strathcona Horse had four lieutenants wounded; the 13th, two lieutenants wounded; the 14th, one lieutenant wounded; the 15th one captain wounded and the 7th one captain wounded.

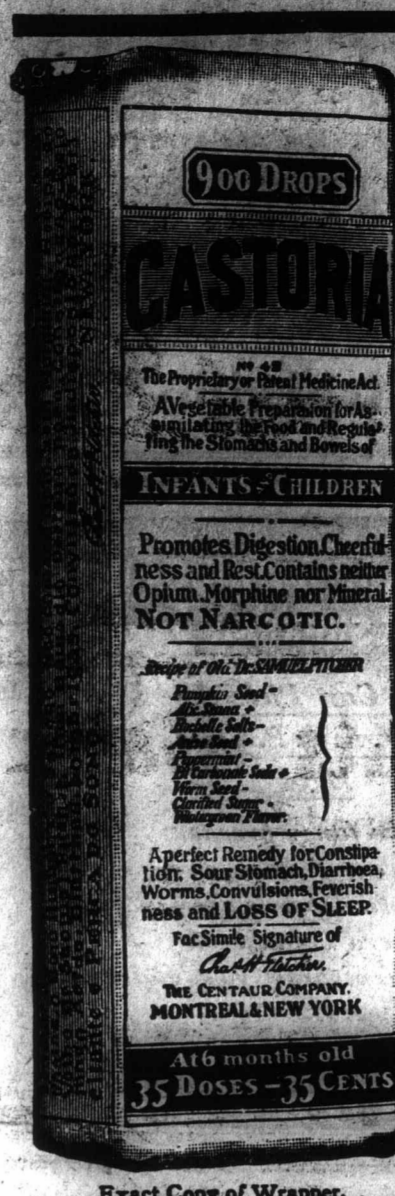
RECENT LOSSES OF TURKS MUCH LARGER THAN 3,000

LONDON, May 28.—A statement given out last night by the official press bureau says that the losses of the Turks in the recent fighting at the Dardanelles is considerably heavier than had been supposed. The statement was in the form of a report from Major-Gen. William R. Birdwood, transmitted from Cairo. It follows:

"Today Gen. Birdwood reports that during the suspension of fighting, in order that the Turks may bury their dead, much larger losses than the 3,000 dead already reported came to light. Two areas in front of one of our sections, where heavy punishment to the enemy had not been previously reported, were covered with the dead. Four hundred corpses were counted in an area 80 yards by 400 yards.

"Turkish burying parties worked quietly and quickly. They were all supplied with cotton wool prepared with some solution to deaden the stench—a most necessary precaution. Over 1200 Turkish rifles were picked up on our side of the dividing line during the suspension of hostilities.

Mr. W. D. L. Hardie, Mayor of Lethbridge is in the city today.



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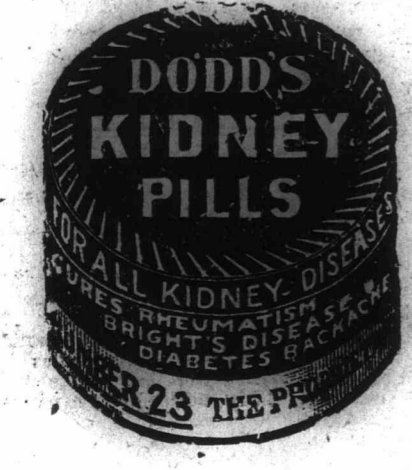
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