

The Royal Mounted Go to War

By Francis J. Dickie



Let Us Hope This Baby Won't Reach The Poison

106 children were reported poisoned in the last three years by arsenical fly destroyers. And this is but a fraction of the actual number. Arsenical fly poisoning and cholera infantum symptoms are almost exactly the same. Diagnosis is difficult. And first aid in arsenic poisoning must be quick.

Don't subject your children to this danger. Use the non-poisonous fly catcher

TANGLEFOOT



safe, sure and efficient, which catches the fly and embalms its body and the deadly germs it carries in a coat of disinfecting varnish.

Government Issues Warning

Earnest A. Sweet, Passed Assistant Surgeon in the United States Public Health Service, makes the following statement in Supplement No. 29 to the Public Health Report: "Of other fly poisons mentioned, mention should be made, merely for a purpose of condemnation, of those composed of arsenic. Fatal cases of poisoning of children through the use of such compounds are far too frequent, and owing to the resemblance of arsenical poisoning to summer diarrhea and cholera infantum, it is believed that the cases reported do not, by any means, comprise the total. Arsenical fly-destroying devices must be rated as extremely dangerous and should never be used, even if other measures are not at hand."

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THE O. & W. THUM COMPANY
Walkerville, Ont.
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WITH the first day of March, 1917, the Province of Alberta took over its own policing, a duty hitherto handled for forty-three years by the Royal North West Mounted Police. This action was also taken by the Province of Saskatchewan a few days previously. The assuming by the provinces of their own policing is due to a special war measure act passed a few weeks previously authorizing the mobilizing of the Mounted Police as a military unit for military duty. This act met with considerable opposition from ranchers, various agricultural societies and other bodies in the two great Prairie Provinces where the Mounted Police have rendered valuable service; but the protests of these were overruled and the Mounted Police from the two provinces some six hundred and fifty in number are now on a war footing.

Whether this marks the passing for all time of the Mounted Police from these particular provinces, it is doubtful at this time to say. But it seems altogether likely. Both provinces are rapidly becoming settled and once the provinces have assumed this work for themselves they will likely be loath to suffer a further re-organization after the war, which would be necessary should the Royal Mounted once more assume duties.

Battleford were other important posts built in the next five years.

In 1882 the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway brought a large inrush of foreigners to build the line and many criminals who follow railway operations. To cope with these the Mounted Police was increased to a thousand men.

For many years now the Mounted Police have been alive and ever present topic for fiction; but owing to most of the writers of these tales being unfamiliar with the country, the police rules, etc., few of these stories have done justice to the force. The fact remains, however, that hundreds of the experiences of constables outrival the best work of imaginative literature.

Once, when some Canadian Indians strayed across on to American territory near the Alberta border in search of game, they were rounded up by a whole detachment of United States cavalry, who escorted them to the border line and camped there. One of the American cavalry men was despatched to the nearest post to inform the police of the straying Indians and request a strong detachment of the police to come and get them. Two days later the cavalryman returned, accompanied by one lone policeman.



Regina Barracks, Mounted Police.



Training the Horse for Police Duty.

The strength of the force, according to the official blue book report for 1916, numbered 750 on the first day of January, 1917. The majority of this number were situated in Alberta and Saskatchewan. The balance at scattered posts in Mackenzie and Hudson Bay territory, at which points the Mounted Police—there mounted in name only—will likely remain for many years to come.

The force was founded in 1873. At that time the new West was just being opened up. The monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company had ceased in 1869, and the country taken over through purchase by the Dominion Government. Following the passing of the territory from the hands of the Company, a horde of evil doers swept in from the States to prey upon the Indians. To combat these men and maintain law and order in a land of about a half million square miles, Sir John A. Macdonald took the matter up to the Commons recommending that a force be formed that should "be efficient without gold lace." This famous epigram stuck to the force for many years. In May, 1873, the bill authorizing the force was passed and three hundred men mobilized at Toronto, under Lieut.-Col. French. They travelled by train to the end of steel into the Northwest, then Fargo, N.D. From here they marched eight hundred miles to the foot of the Rockies and established a post at Fort Macleod. Fort Edmonton. Pile-of-Bones (now Regina headquarters), Calgary and

"Where's your detachment?" the cavalry commander asked.

"Detachment! Why, I'm the detachment," replied the policeman. And such was the control the Mounted Police had that he took his band of Indians, numbering several hundred, back, unaided and without any trouble.

The Mounted Police in pioneering the West established a record for fair dealings with the Indians and the settlement of Alberta by them was marked with no such bloodshed as marked similar times in the United States and even Eastern Canada where terrible enmity arose between the red men and the white invaders. If for nothing else, the Mounted Police will always deserve a famous place in Canada's Hall of Fame.

The most notable events in the history was the taking of Almighty Voice, a remarkable Indian. For cattle stealing he was arrested by the Duck Lake patrol, but escaped. In the subsequent chase he shot and killed Sergeant Colbroke. This occurred in 1894. Though diligently searched for, it was not until April, 1896, that a patrol cornered him on the side of a steep butte. Almighty Voice was accompanied by two companions and there, in their protected shelter on the butte's steep side, they held the police off for many days, killing four officers of the force and the postmaster from Duck Lake. A nine-pound gun was finally brought out from Regina and the outlaws

shelled out from their position. All were killed.

Many other exciting incidents fill the pages of the police history from 1873 to 1917. The Fonberg episode, in which a crazed homesteader held off a posse for several days and killed one of the force before he was taken, took place near Edmonton, Alberta, in 1913. In the winter of 1910-11 an overland patrol of police going from MacPherson to Dawson took the wrong divide and wandered for weeks utterly lost. The patrol, consisting of Inspector Fitzgerald, Constables Carter, Kinney and Taylor, soon consumed their provisions, then their dogs, and were finally reduced to cooking their mocassins and bits of fur robes, getting a little sustenance from the soup. All, however, perished miserably.

The most recent striking case of Mounted Police work was the arrest after two years' hunting of the two Eskimo murderers of the missionary priests, Father Rouvier and Leroux. These two men were killed by Eskimos in the vicinity of Great Bear Lake, in 1914. The murderers were captured by Inspector Phillips, of MacPherson. The striking part of the hunt was that the chase ended upon an iceberg where the Eskimos had taken refuge. They are now on the way to Regina for trial, a trip of 2,300 miles on foot and 500 by rail.

The rule of the Mounted Police has always been to "get your man," and for forty-three years the force has stood as one of the most generally efficient and incorruptible of police bodies. Whether they return to the provinces after the war or not is hard to say.

But in the farther northern territories detachments of them will likely continue to do duty for many years yet to come. And even though the force does pass, it will remain long in the memory of the people of the Dominion.

War Activities of Johnny Canuck's Mothers, Sisters and Sweethearts

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they flooded the market and had to can some of them to save waste, and these were early vegetables, too!

Equally efficient to meet the demands of war at home and the front have Canadian women been. Vast sums of money have they helped to collect. By ingenuity of resource and novel plan they have kept the money floating into ever needy and ever emptying coffers. Hospital staffs in strange lands they have manned with expert nurses. Throughout a vast stretch of territory comprising more than half of Canada's total of 3,729,665 square miles they have won the right to vote. Men's places in the office and the counting house they have assumed calmly, and efficiently performed the duties required. The liquor traffic has felt their might, and in half of the whole Dominion the open bars have been swept away. Suffering soldiers and foreign non-combatants have been rushed colossal mountains of food and clothing supplies. Fresh fruit, they have canned in thousands of quarts for the fighters at the front. And at home, eternally vigilant, always alert to fight, they have beaten food combines and driven prices down. Even into the great factories, where comes the things of death, they have gone and worked and become experts in the art of munition making.

In no single thing have they failed; no single call have they left unanswered. Greatly they have striven and greatly achieved.

Her Answer

By Elizabeth L. Gould

My kitty tries to tell the truth,"
Said little Norah Gray,
"But she came near forgetting it
Three times this very day.
I asked her, 'Tell me, kitty dear,
Who made your basket-bed?'
And just as plain as plain could be,
'Me-you!' that kitty said.

I shook my finger at her. 'Now,
Who has dress that's blue,
With narrow ruffles running round?'
I asked. She said, 'Me-you!'
'And Who's been scratched like
everything,

And spit at, too, beside?'
I asked, and I was 'stomished when
'Me-you!' that kitty cried!"