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NAME "MANITOBA" IS EXPLAINED IN TWO WAYS

Manitoba is so euphonic a name that its use was extended from the lake to which it was first applied to that of the province created 13th May, 1870. Manitoba, however, was not the name by which the lake was first known to white men. Its discoverers and explorers were the LaVerendryes, father and son, in 1738 and 1739. The name applied by LaVerendrye in his journal for 1738-39 is Lac des Prairies or in English, Lake of the Prairies. Other early names are Prairie Lake, Meadow Lake, Lake of the Meadows, also Assiniboine Lake in various forms of the term the reference being to the Assiniboine Indians who dwelt on its shores. On the map accompanying Alexander Mackenzie's voyages, published in London in 1801 the lake is called Manitoba. Numerous other forms of the word Manitoba are met with. The name is explained in two ways. The explanation generally accepted de-

river it from Cree manito-wapow or the Ojibway manito-baw meaning the strait of the manito or spirit. According to this explanation the name was first applied to an island in the narrows. H. Y. Hind, of Toronto, in his narrative of "The Canadian Red River Exploring Expedition of 1857-8," says: "the origin of this superstition in relation to Manitoba island is due to the sounds produced by the waves as they beat upon the beach at the foot of the cliffs near its northern extremity. During the night time when a gentle breeze is blowing from the north, the various sounds heard on the island are quite sufficient to strike awe into the minds of the superstitious Indians." This explanation is "narrated" in by Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, who writes in the report of the Geological Survey for 1890 that the limestone in a beach on the island "is very compact and resonant and when the waves beat against this beach and throw these rebounding pebbles one on another, the roaring sound will undoubtedly be produced which has given rise to the superstition among the Indians."

Lake of the Prairie.

La Verendrye, as noted above, called the lake Lake of the Prairie, and there are those who think that this is the meaning of the Indian name. Abbe Dugas is a strong supporter of the latter definition and in his book "The Canadian West" published in Montreal in 1896 upholds this view. After arguing on the point of language he concludes: "The Indians who dwelt on the shores of Lake Manitoba and the banks of the Assiniboine at the time of its discovery were Assiniboines whose language resembles that of the Sioux. There were the tribes Matatoba, Hic toba, Ti toba. This termination toba in their language signifies 'prairie' and mine means 'water.'

Mine ota means 'yellow water,' mine apolla, 'water town.' Mine toba means 'water or lake of the prairie.' The English successors to the French pronounced 'mine' as if 'my ni' and hence Manitoba."

The above information is summarized in the 18th Report of the Geographic Board of Canada recently published, which gives the meaning of many Canadian place-names.

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Too Polite.

A small boy came to school one day with dirty hands.

"Tommy," the teacher said to him, "I wish you wouldn't come to school with such dirty hands. What would you say if I came to school with dust and ink all over my fingers?"

"I wouldn't say anything," answered the child, promptly. "I'd be too polite."

Oh! Those Printers!

A newspaper which printed a description of a beautiful wedding once made the unfortunate error of stating that: "the roses were pink." The editor of course gave directions that correction be made in the next issue but with the sweetest of intentions and the deepest of regrets this is how the phrase, as corrected, appeared: "The noses were pink."

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