

MISS HAZEL KESSLER



Left to right: Miss Hazel Kessler, her manager, G. A. Harrison, and Miss Rachel Grimshaw, all of Winnipeg, as she appeared when taking part in the Canadian championships at St. Helen's Island.

Prisoners Should Support Families

SYDNEY, N.S., March 25.—Before sentencing twelve men convicted on charges in connection with the rioting at New Aberdeen, Cape Breton, in January, when a store of the Dominion Coal Company was looted and \$80,000 worth of damage done, Mr. Justice Benjamin Russell, of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, made the following comment upon the penal system of Canada:

For many years a few ardent advocates of prison reform have been endeavoring to obtain public recognition of the necessity for some changes in our methods of prison administration, but the voice has been as a voice crying in a wilderness of indifference and selfish unconcern. It is obvious to you as it is to every judge who has pronounced sentence upon a criminal who is the breadwinner of a family, that the punishment falls more heavily upon the innocent wife and children than it does upon the actual criminal himself. This is a matter to which reference is made in the very excellent report of a committee appointed by the last and outgoing administration at Ottawa. I have never been able to see any good reason why a prisoner, simply because he is imprisoned within the walls of a penitentiary, should cease to be responsible for the upkeep of his family; and there is no good reason in ordinary times why he should not be compelled to provide for them. I believe that the great question, and indeed the only question, that presents itself in this connection—the only thing that prevents the introduction of a system under which the criminal might be made to support his family—is the objection made by organized labor.

The difficulty lies in the objection that has been made to the proposal that prison labor should be permitted to come into competition with the industry of the free laborer. The representatives of the people in our legislatures have naturally been deterred from enacting the necessary legislation by the fear of the vote of organized labor. Wait Whitman, in one of his poems, speaks of the "undeadly of elected men." I have been able to understand this statement. If he had spoken of the quality of elected persons, I should have been better able to appreciate his words. I am speaking with a sense of conviction on this subject, having, in more than one sphere, experienced the feelings of an elected person myself, and I will not pretend to have been any more free from the temptation to side-track a difficult proposition than the average elected person. But I wish to show from the report to which I have already referred that there need be no cause for "undeadly" in this case; that there is no reason in the organization to the proposal that the convicted prisoners should be allowed in the penitentiary—and compelled in the penitentiary—to do some remunerative labor by means of which he can be made to contribute to the support of his wife and children. This very able report of the Committee appointed by the Minister of Justice in the late administration to advise upon the revision of penitentiary regulations and the amendment of the Penitentiary Act contains the following paragraph:

The Penitentiary Act has since 1835 directed that convicts be kept at "hard labor." This is not now being done for the simple reason that, the contract system, having most properly been abolished, no useful work can be provided in sufficient quantities except at penitentiaries situated in the construction. Humanitarian opinion very properly denounces the sterner policy, which, had as it undoubtedly is, is perhaps better than complete idleness for any man; it will not often kill him or render him mentally unbalanced, as such idleness and confinement certainly will.

Instead, therefore, of a penitentiary sentence developing the habit of idleness, it develops either that of idleness, or, more probably, the much more dangerous habit of going through the motions of work without effecting any results. In the penitentiaries there is a convict population of nearly two thousand. They cost almost a million dollars a year to maintain and guard, although properly employed, the convicts could not only make the penitentiaries self-sustaining, but earn something beyond. That they should not have a chance to do so is due not so much to intentional cruelty as to traditional prejudice, against which every penitentiary official inveighs. The results are not only a serious waste of public money, but also a menace to society, since the worst of habits inculcated in those who have once failed in their social obligations, but who, practically without exception, the States must, as the sentence expires, release to follow as free men the habits they have learned in prison. Of 920 convicts on March 31, 1920, 395 were under the age of twenty years and 425 more under twenty-five, so that these evil habits are being developed by the state among its younger and more easily influenced citizens almost, it would seem, in order that they might become chronic centres of social infection.

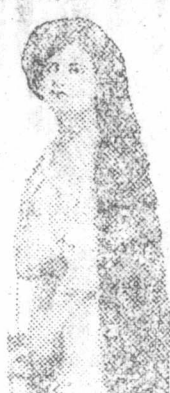
It is sometimes suggested that to correct this condition will adversely affect the free worker. Leaving aside the question of the degree to which his chance of happiness is diminished by the possibility that his brother, his son, or his brother may become, by evil chance, the direct or indirect victim of this pernicious system, this suggestion cannot be supported. The whole number of skilled and unskilled manual workers in Canada is about 1,500,000, and it is sheer nonsense to imagine that, even in times of widespread unemployment the organization of the penitentiaries so as to productively employ their 2,000 convicts would perceptibly affect general conditions. The Committee, therefore, most emphatically recommends statutory provision to provide productive labor for all convicts. Such provision need not extend to any work except for what is known as "state use" and can in Canada, not extend any compulsory toward the Federal Service, but the evidence taken by the Committee has satisfied it that manufacturers within this limitation will afford much more than ample scope for all the industry and activity which the penitentiaries can put forth.

I call particular attention to the statement in this paragraph that the whole number of skilled and unskilled manual workers in Canada is about 1,500,000, while the number of convicted men in all penitentiaries amounts to only 2,000—that is to say the convict labor of two persons would come into conflict with the free labor of 1,500—or in other words the competition occasioned by the proposed employment of convicts in remunerative labor would amount to not even one per cent, but only one-seventh of one per cent. The Committee are, therefore, amply justified in speaking of such competition as an absolutely negligible consideration; and I cannot conceive that any body of workmen, in view of such a fact, can be so selfish, or regardless of the interests of their neighbors and so callous, as to be cruel to the unfortunate dependents of the prisoner who is serving a term in the penitentiary, as to object to the proposal that the convict should be at liberty, and under compulsion to contribute to the support of his wife and children.

I have made no reference in these remarks to the moral effect of such employment upon the prisoner himself. The Committee in the following

GIRLS! GROW THICK LONG, HEAVY HAIR WITH "DANDERINE"

Buy a 35-cent bottle of "Danderine." One application ends all dandruff, stops itching and falling hair, and in a few moments you have doubled the beauty of your hair. It will appear a mass so soft, lustrous, and easy to do up. But what will please you most will be after a few weeks use, when you see new hair—fine and downy at first—yes—really new hair growing all over the scalp. "Danderine" is to the hair what fresh showers of rain and sunshine are to vegetation. It goes right to the roots, invigorates and strengthens them. This delightful, stimulating tonic helps thin, lifeless, faded hair to grow long, thick, heavy and luxuriant.



more dangerous habit of going through the motions of work without effecting any results. In the penitentiaries there is a convict population of nearly two thousand. They cost almost a million dollars a year to maintain and guard, although properly employed, the convicts could not only make the penitentiaries self-sustaining, but earn something beyond. That they should not have a chance to do so is due not so much to intentional cruelty as to traditional prejudice, against which every penitentiary official inveighs. The results are not only a serious waste of public money, but also a menace to society, since the worst of habits inculcated in those who have once failed in their social obligations, but who, practically without exception, the States must, as the sentence expires, release to follow as free men the habits they have learned in prison. Of 920 convicts on March 31, 1920, 395 were under the age of twenty years and 425 more under twenty-five, so that these evil habits are being developed by the state among its younger and more easily influenced citizens almost, it would seem, in order that they might become chronic centres of social infection.

OBITUARY

JOHN WILLIAM DAWE

(To the Editor) Dear Sir.—Please allow me space to record in the columns of your widely circulated journal, the death of our beloved friend, John William Dawe, of this place. Though quite a young man he had been in declining health for a number of years, until quite recently when it became manifest that the sands of life were trickling out, and on the evening of the 21st inst. it pleased the Almighty God to call the sufferer to His mercy. During the prolonged illness, deceased bore his affliction with peaceful resignation. He was thirty-four years old and both popular and amiable. In the C. of E. Cemetery on the 23rd surrounded by sorrowing relatives and friends, and the members of the L.O. A. in full regalia, with whom deceased was fraternized, the ashes were lowered in the ground. A wife, two children, father, mother, two sisters and one brother survive him. May our Heavenly Father allay the anguish of their grief and leave them only the cherished memory of the dear departed.

E. STANLEY HARVEY.

Hopewell, March 25th, 1922.

WHAT A RACE!

There were murmurs aboard a certain merchantman when word spread among the crew that the ship would not, after all, put in at the next port of call, but merely drop the mail into a small boat and go on. The ship had not put into a port for many weeks.

The disappointment was too much for one seaman, who leaped into the sea and started to swim for the visible shore.

The captain ordered a member of the crew to go after him and bring him back before he reached land. An excited look-out kept all on deck posted, regarding the progress of the race. "He's gaining! He's gaining! Two hundred yards! Hundred yards! Fifty yards! In a dozen strokes he'll have him! Five more strokes! A yard to go—Great Scott!"

"What is it? What is it?" asked the skipper.

"Great Scott, sir! he's passed him!"

We are always prepared to supply Bill Heads, Letter Heads and Envelopes at short notice. Union Publishing Company, Ltd.

section of the report referred to the proposal that the convict himself should be remunerated for his work but I do not feel justified in enlarging upon this suggestion beyond the consideration which has been so deeply impressed upon my mind by the experience of this term of court and by contemplation of the consequences which must necessarily follow from the punishment which are presently about to be awarded.

Dr. Richer Dead



A well known Montreal doctor who died at St. Agatha.



Viscount Lascelles, the bridegroom, and Sir Victor Mackenzie.

NOTICE!

We have recently enlarged our premises and equipped it with up to date machinery, enabling us to do a much greater range of work than heretofore.

If you have any engine-trouble, phone or give us a call—examine our facilities for repair work. We repair all kinds of machinery and engines, be the latter internal combustion or steam, and if necessary reborer cylinders and fitting new pistons.

Do not throw away broken parts before seeing us, as they can be made as good as new by Expert Acetylene Welding Process.

In conjunction with our Blacksmith Shop and Brass Foundry, we are in a position to undertake practically anything in the machinery repair line.

GEORGE SNOW,

PHONE 866.

27 SPRINGDALE ST.

Wall Board & Roofing

Just arrived per S. S. "Bornholm" another shipment of

JAPROID PRODUCTS

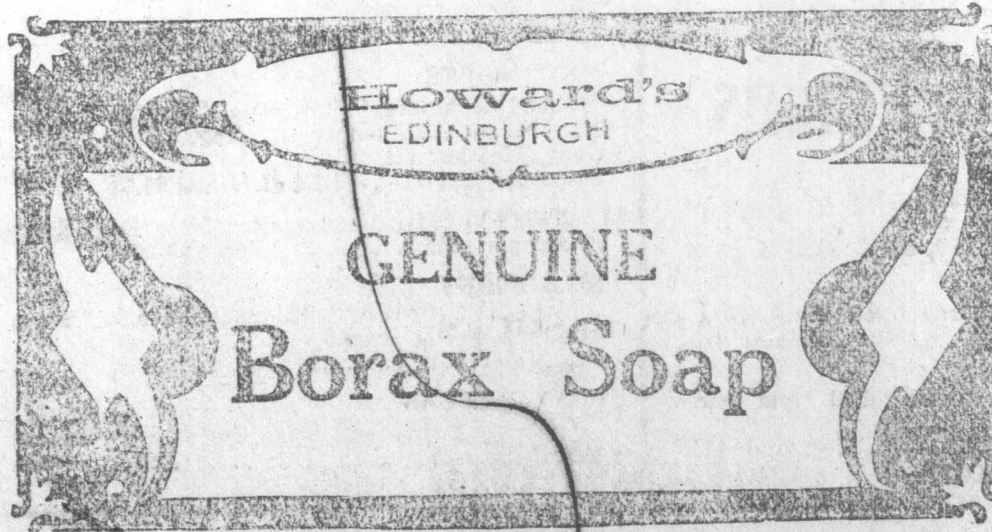
PLASTERGON WALL BOARD (The "Quality Board")
CORRUGATED RUBBER ROOFING
PLAIN SLATE SURFACED ROOFING
IMPRINTED SLATE SURFACED ROOFING
HEAVY MICA SURFACED ROOFING
JAPROID 1 PLY FELT
Superior Quality, Lowest Prices.

HORWOOD LUMBER CO., LTD.

(BUILDERS' SUPPLIES DEPT.)

Advertise in the Advocate

Try A Cake of



Best, and Cheapest on the Market For Sale by All Leading Grocers

NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS, CO. New York.

We buy COD OIL, SEAL OIL, POT-HEAD OIL.

OFFICE: SMYTH BUILDING, CORNER WATER STREET and BECKS COVE, ST. JOHN'S.

Phone 1167 P.O. Box 402 A. EBSARY, Manager for N.P.C.

Time to Think of Your Fall and Winter Needs.

Price is Important

We have marked down our entire stock of MEN'S & BOYS' SUITS, OVERCOATS, PANTS, SHIRTS AND OVERALLS regardless of cost, to meet existing conditions.

You are sure of getting the best of satisfaction in wear and workmanship and better value for your money, when you buy clothing made by our skilled workers.

Custom Tailoring a Specialty

NEWFOUNDLAND CLOTHING CO., Limited

231-233-235 DUCKWORTH ST.

Padded Comfort

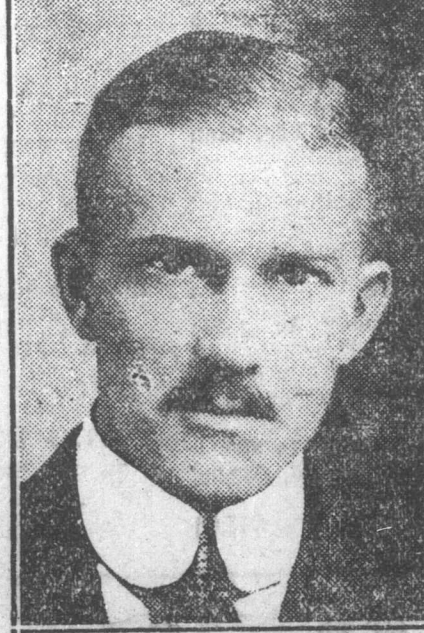
Spring days are tiring, evenings you want to "go way back and sit down" in some comfortable chair built for real relaxation.

Just such chairs and lounges are our special attraction this week. Splendidly comfortable, well padded, and richly upholstered in soft toned Tapestries, Silks, Velours, etc.

Get our "mark-down" prices on all upholstered goods.

U. S. Picture & Portrait Co. Water Street, St. John's

R. L. Jupp



The all-round man of the St. Ann's hockey team. His team is putting a lot of confidence in him tonight when they hook up with the Nationals in the City League finale.

ECZEMA

You are an experiment in when you use Dr. Chase's Ointment for Eczema and Skin Irritations. It relieves at once and gradually heals the skin. Sample box Dr. Chase's Ointment free. You mention this paper and send no money. Postage, see a box, all dealers or Dr. Chase, Boston, U.S.A.