

Here and There

Manitoba is perhaps the most marrying province in Canada. For instance, in Ontario, there were 24,871 marriages in 1921, a rate of 8.5 per 1,000, while in Manitoba it was 2.7 per 1,000 of its 610,000 population.

Eastbound steamship travel from Canadian ports via Canadian Pacific steamships is heavier at the present time than for several years past at this season, a recent report declares. Bookings in some instances have run as high as 70 per cent increase over those of last winter.

According to a recent official compilation, out of every 100 people in Canada 51 live on farms. The 70,000 farms in Canada represent a gross worth of \$700,000,000 or about \$10,000 per farm, and produce an annual revenue of nearly \$1,500,000, an average income per farm of \$2,000 yearly.

From the opening of the crop year, September 1st, to the official closing of navigation, December 12th, the Canadian Pacific Railway reported the heaviest marketing of grain since the inception of the road. Cars loaded by the company also created a record for the season, having numbered 116,232. Grain marketed topped the 200,000,000 bushel mark.

Thirty-seven per cent of all automobiles in Canada are owned by farmers. Ownership of the balance, according to recent statistics, is made up as follows: business men and brokers, 16 per cent; salesmen and travellers, 16 per cent; professional men, 8 per cent; laborers, 4 per cent; contractors and livery men, 3 per cent each, and miscellaneous and no occupation stated, 15 per cent.

When the Canadian Pacific liner "Empress of Canada" left New York on January 30th for her great round-the-world cruise, she was the first Canadian vessel ever to commence such a voyage carrying a regular bookstall in the charge of experienced attendants in addition to a free library. The stock includes many excellent recent books on travel, which will enable passengers to prepare themselves for the foreign lands they will visit, as well as a large number of novels by the best-known authors.

Of the total wheat exported from Canada in November, amounting to 64,196,903 bushels, by far the greater proportion went to the United Kingdom, which took 43,815,391 bushels. The United States was second largest importer of Canadian wheat, taking 9,010,142 bushels. Italy came next, taking 4,013,152 bushels, and Greece next, with 2,068,489 bushels. The exports of Canadian wheat to France during this period amounted to 1,328,368 bushels and to Belgium 1,075,216 bushels. Those to Germany totalled 129,320 bushels.

In the keenest competition, embracing entries from all important agricultural districts of the North American continent, Alberta farmers won 43 prizes at the recent international stock and grain show at Chicago. Two grand championships—wheat, Major G. H. L. Strange and oats, J. W. Biglands—went to the province. Major Strange was also first with white field peas and Nunemaker Brothers, of Brooks, first with red clover seed. Major Strange's success is especially remarkable as he has only been a farmer four years.

The latest statements of the earnings and expenses of the Canadian Pacific Railway show that the strong position of that organization has been well maintained, and that a steady improvement has been achieved, in spite of the difficulties of the past few years. The figures for December show gross earnings of \$19,136,674, working expenses of \$16,180,644, and a net profit of \$2,956,127, an increase of \$491,322 over that of December, 1922. The 1923 totals show gross earnings of \$195,837,089, working expenses of \$158,358,079 and a net profit of \$37,479,010, an increase of \$1,177,319 over the total earnings of the road in 1922. Net earnings for this year were the highest since 1917 and gross earnings the highest since 1920.

SCREEN GOSSIP

During the filming of scenes for "Pied Piper Malone," Thomas Meighan's latest picture, Mr. Meighan and a company of Paramount players narrowly escaped serious injury in a near riot in New York's Chinatown. A band of Chinese swooped down on the picture company just after a scene had been taken with Meighan and Cyrl Ring and began to tear the Mandarin clothes from the Chinese extras who were working in the picture. Milk bottles, lamps, bricks and vegetables were thrown, forcing Meighan, Alfred E. Green, his director, cameramen and actors to cover while the police quelled the rioters. The scene which caused all the trouble was a simple one, showing the two men presumably walking in a street in Shanghai, China, but it seems that the Chinese in Chinatown have an objection to being photographed. They also have a protest against motion picture companies that have shown Chinese in the act of smoking opium.

Edwin Carewe and his star company from the United States, is now completing the exterior scenes of "A Son of the Sahara" at Touggourt, Algeria. The Carewe company sailed some time ago to film this desert picture for First National in the Sahara. The preliminary scenes were taken at Biskra, on the desert and after ten days of work the company moved to Touggourt, one hundred and fifty miles south, which is the terminus of the railroad line that runs through Algeria, south from Algiers. This is the outpost of the French occupied area and is practically surrounded by desert sands. Many of the more spectacular scenes of the production will be filmed here.

ROYAL YEAST CAKES

Good home-made bread is the finest food on earth—the one food that everybody eats—that everybody likes—and that agrees with everybody.



All the forces of nature seem to be at the service of the resourceful film producer, but it is seldom that so many natural phenomena are introduced into one picture as is the case with "Man of the North", a recent film shown in London. Earthquake, rain, thunder and lightning, the eruption of a huge volcano, boiling geysers flinging mud, water, and steam high into the air, roaring river and foaming waterfall, the dropping of a meteor from the sky—all these and other wild and awe-inspiring spectacles are to be found in one or other instalment of this play.

Mrs. Elinor Glyn has been getting in some shafts at the United States producers, whom she accuses of not turning out films up to a standard suitable for an intelligent public. "The public," she says, "wants the truth in love, romance, and adventure, and is sick to death of the nonsense presented today on many of the films." She contends that the public is highly intelligent. So long as moving pictures are produced cleanly and intelligently producers will prosper, but if they persist in turning out films not up to that standard there will be many more bankruptcies in the film industry.

In a recent interview, Hope Hampton, who has always been credited with a keen sense of humor, is quoted as saying: "The most fascinating occupation in the world is that of a motion picture critic. So if you hear of me being engaged as a movie critic, know that it is not just a lark, but a serious wish to succeed as one. The hours are so short and the pay is so big, not to speak of the glory that I hope some day to have my ambition realized."

The most married man of Universal City, Hoot Gibson, happy husband and father of a family, has again been married, this time to Josie Sedgwick, leading lady of his latest production, "Courtin' Calamity". This makes the 20th time in the last two years he has faced the minister for film purposes.

A moving picture critic in a London paper says: "I have written often enough of the supremacy of the Continental film over the machine-made American article. But it looks as if even the doughty German had better keep forging ahead if he is to keep in front of the British studios."

George Melford says that newspaper offices are at the present moment filled with future screen writers. "Stories written by newspaper people are terse, simple, and are correctly written as to grammar and theme."

Josephine Lovett will do the continuity for "Romeo and Juliet," the Gish-Barthelmus picture to be made in Italy. The old Italian legend, as well as the Shakespearean version, will be drawn on for the story.

Clara Bow, new Preferred star, leads the list of baby stars for 1924 selected by the members of the Wampus Club. Last year Ethel Shannon, another Preferred player, headed the Wampus list.

NEW RECORD IN AUSTRALIAN RACE WON BY STUDEBAKER

Special-Six Cuts Over Sixteen Hours Off Best Previous Time Between Fremantle and Sydney, Australia

Speeding across desert wastes, mountainous roads and rugged mainland, a Studebaker Special-Six touring car has just established a new record in a thrilling race against time from Fremantle to Sydney, Australia.

The car was driven by John Burton, a veteran Australian motorist. It went through the gruelling grind of 2,889 miles in five days, 21 hours and 45 minutes. This is 16 hours and 12 minutes faster than the previous record of 6 days, 13 hours and 57 minutes. In addition, Burton drove the Studebaker through to a new record in his race, by clipping off considerable time between Fremantle, Adelaide and Melbourne. The Special-Six negotiated the entire 2,889 miles under extremely severe conditions and came through in perfect running order.

This new Australian record of Studebaker comes on the heels of new marks recently established by stock model Studebaker cars in the Syrian desert and in the Union of South Africa.

TREASURE TROVE

A True Story of Buried Gold (By A. E. O'Leary.)

In a lonely retired hamlet in the northern part of Kent County N. B., there lives a grizzled veteran of the soil. A face lined by exposure to the elements of the rigorous climate in which he has lived, hair whitened by years of arduous toil, summer suns and winter's chill blasts, Charlie has lived to a great age, and his children have grown up to manhood and womanhood and left the humble surroundings of their youth for other scenes. The old man and his kindly old helpmate are still to be found struggling for an existence in their own simple abode. Tilling the meagre farm, catching what fish are necessary for their humble table, and meeting and gossiping with chance peddlars and fishing parties who may happen that way during the summer months.

There is an old legend, embellished by time and often rehearsed with bated breath and new trimmings that the famous pirate Captain Kidd, visited La Riviere de Portage and there buried enormous treasure. Old Simon, who has long since been gathered to his fathers, was, at the time of our story, living close by Charlie's and in sympathy with every feature of the lost treasure legend. Simon and Charlie often rehearsed to the writer the story of the "long boat"; how their forefathers saw the bold buccaners come ashore in full piratical regalia, cutless, crimson sash, red fez, the toute ensemble of the old time rover of the Spanish main. They came in daylight to spy out a hiding place, and under cover of a dark and stormy night, they again landed to conceal "pieces of eight, sacred vessels of gold and ropes of pearls."

These simple old men knew that the treasure was there. Charlie had dreams of gold. He was troubled with these nightmares of buried fortunes and one day confided to the hero of our tale, "Dicko", that the treasure was revealed to him, in a dream, as concealed under his own house. Would Dicko make the search? Dicko would.

Now, Dicko was the owner of a fishing establishment near by and possessed by a sense of humor and unlimited supply of energy and a reckless abandon just necessary for an enterprise as arduous and humorous as would be the delving for buried treasure under Charlie's house. On one of Dicko's visits to the Shire-town of Kent, he confided in a kindred spirit as irresponsible as himself, and one who worked in a general store, the story of the buried treasure and the necessary equipment was revealed to him, in a dream, as "She's dere, Dicko! I'm very sure she's dere!" old Charlie insisted, to all of which Dicko agreed. Now the kindred spirit whom Dicko consulted, took in three other young spirits equally devilish, and a gathering so formidable devised ways and means that for subtle ingenuity could hardly be surpassed.

The necessary equipment was thoroughly planned and discussed. A pot! An old time copper kettle must be acquired. Ingots of gold, jewelry, precious stones, strings of pearls, brooches, all must be in regle. Moulds were made in which leaden ingots were run and "KIDD" in large glaring letters appeared on each brick. These were all carefully glued to dazzle the eye, carefully, solicitously wrapped in old tarpaulin, tar smeared and sanded. Empty tin tea sample boxes were all beautifully lined with lack velvet and stuffed with cheap jewelry, rings, strings of imitation pearls, sparkling rhine stones and gewgaws of many shades and shapes. These, in turn were subjected to the same process of camouflage as were the other items. When all complete, the treasure was stored in the old copper pot, tarpaulin, sand and hieroglyphics added, and all made ready for a descent on old Charlie. One item was lacking, a mineral rod? One happy member of the conspiracy suggested a cornet (whether 1B flat or 2nd B flat the harmony would be complete) and a cornet in its case was taken along as a mineral rod. Some fireworks were necessary to dispose of Captain Kidd and his cut throat crew; but trifles such as these were mere bagatelles to this enterprising company of treasure seekers.

Well, to get on with my tale. One fine day in mid summer, Dicko and the aforesaid "kindred spirits" sailed away in a fishing boat for Riviere de Portage.

After an eventful trip of twenty miles the galleon arrived at the mouth of the river. There a council was held. Deeds such as this must need be done under favorable conditions, and darkness, solitude and inclement weather were necessary adjuncts to the success of such an enterprise. It was decided to proceed on foot to the scene and there notify the occupants of the dwelling that the time had arrived for making the search. The Zodiacal light illuminated the Goats! The moon was on the decline and the tide would be falling at midnight!

It proved a perfect night for warlocks and witches, ghostly thrills, drizzling rain, a fitting night for stalking the ghost of the much maligned Captain William Kidd. Arrangements having been successfully completed that the family should leave the house at midnight, the treasure seekers left for the boat, there to await the solemn hour.

At about 11:30 our adventurers ascended the river in a skiff, and under cover of the night, accentuated by rain and fog, they succeeded in conveying the treasure to the house. After the departure of the inmates the pot of gold was taken to the cellar where, with the aid of a lantern and a crow-bar, a large stone was dislodged, and the impression of the pot left in the excavation.

Then followed the laying of the ghosts. The ousting of the infernal spirits with many weird complaints. The cornet was used in the cellar to much advantage. Although shown to Charlie during the day as a mineral rod, it played a splendid solo in the cellar. Such groans and lamentations no decent disembodied mortal could ever hear. These dismal sounds below were splendidly exemplified above by Dicko, who made capital use of the lantern and fire-works. From Charlie's description of hydra-headed men and flame-enwrapped figures which he swears he saw-leave the premises, there was no doubting the minds of our heroes that the exorcism had been complete. What a night!

Now, to get away with the swag! A few jewels more or less mattered little

to these lucky mortals—but the proof, man, the proof!

To a small bridge which spans the stream below the house, the two ghouls carried their loot, and there "at the dead of night with the lantern dimly burning" they summoned Charlie, Simon, and the neighbors to see what the search had revealed. Whipping out a Bowie knife with all the adandon of a John Silver, Dicko dashed the time-worn, moth-eaten tarpaulin covering the pot, and exposed to the startled gaze of the shivering spectators a vision of untold wealth. Ah! How to get away with the pot? A fight? That was the idea, and a fight over the spoils ensued without delay. Threats were made, knives were brandished, and in the confusion and uproar a confederate, James A., who was fishing at the Beach when taken in the plot, stole the pot and made off in the darkness. In consequence of this find, Charlie dug for himself a perfectly good cellar. He never found the balance of the treasure. Does he believe the genuineness of that find? Ask him—and you will hear the longest, most lurid and inflammatory vituperation of "Gros At" and Dicko that you have ever had the pleasure of listening to. They earned it.

THE FOUNDATION

(Clarence Mansfield Lindsay, in Forbes Magazine.)

It's doing, the little things day by day. That gets you the big things by and by! It's doing the tasks along the way. That teaches you the when and where and why!

For the man today with a famous name Was once a novice the same as you; And when he started his climb to fame, He did whatever he had to do!

It's better the little hills first to climb, Before you tackle the mountain height; It's better to plod and learn for a time, Before you spread your wings for flight! For there's never a man has won success, Without a sure foundation laid; And brains and labor won't count unless You learn, from the bottom up, your trade!

To reduce the coal bill, when adding the fuel to a good bed of live coal in a furnace, cover one side only. The next time put coal on the other side. In this way the heat from the live coal tends to make coke of the fresh fuel by consuming the gas and smoke. Less draft is needed and less of the fuel goes to waste in gas and smoke, so there is less gas and dirt in the cellar or furnace room and in the house by way of registers. If large lumps of coal are used a good way is to scatter "slack" over them. The slack tends to hold the fire longer and the lump coal will prevent the slack from forming clinkers.

The two purposes of a country newspaper are to make money and to serve the community. Making money is put first, for the paper that is not making money cannot serve the community; it is bound to be a poor down-at-the-heels affair. You owe it to your community to make your paper make money.

Minard's Liniment for Headache.

We must get out into the free thinking world and show that religion is the most mind-stirring thing to which man can turn.

Chimney fires are liable to occur at this time of the year, and a handful of sulphur thrown into the stove or furnace at the outset is sure to check the fire and prevent damage.

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Vol. XLIII.

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