

ing through thriving plantations of many varieties of trees that were being tested out, I went to bed, having supped not wisely but too well on the excellent cooking of the ranch Chink.

The ranch house had been painted the previous week and the intelligent artisan had shut the windows down on wet paint and none of them would open; so I was warned to fasten the screen door opening on to the verandah and leave the inside door open—which I did.

In the night I wakened suddenly—what was that?—a long, low hiss, followed by a faint rattle! Instantly my mind flew to rattlesnakes and I was sure one was coming into the room. Trembling, I found the matches on the stand beside my bed, lit the lamp and saw with relief that my slippers were on the stand by the lamp. Very cautiously I held the lamp down to the floor and peered in all directions. No sign of Mr. Snake, but the hissing continued; in fact it was worse. Still cautiously, I got out of bed and threw the light in every corner, and now, fully awake, realized that the hissing was the wind through the wire door, and going toward it found that it was unlatched—the cause of the rattle. Much relieved, I went back to bed, paraphrasing the Fakenham Ghost and saying, "Perhaps some other goblin (or snake) tales were just as true."

In the morning, Sunday, we had many jolly stories of the old cowboy days as we discussed the Chink's delicious pancakes, but I never cheeped about my snake story; it would have given too good a handle for jollying. Since then I have learned that at the midnight hour rattlers are just as liable to be asleep as ordinary mortals.

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A Convert to Canadian Ways

It was near the end of a long, hard day of alternate driving and scrambling under barb wire fences into wheat fields, and we were on the return stretch to Moose Jaw. My driver, silent for the moment, was the blatant western American type, and had talked all day long, until with the ring of his strident, cocksure voice in my ears, I thought not a little regretfully of the ex-R.N.W.M. policeman who had driven me on the