

CURRENT TOPICS.

The new world of the twentieth century in Canada's fertile northland on the Arctic slope, the Canadian prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta have nearly reached the 100,000,000 bushel mark of annual wheat production...

Moreover, there is indisputable evidence of enormous wealth in petroleum, which in coming out as it has done through centuries has caused these strange deposits. In the vicinity of the tar sands, along the Athabasca, also are extensive deposits of salt, where it can be taken from the surface in great masses, pure white. Along the banks of the lower Macdonald for many miles are great areas of burning coal.

Statistics deal directly with facts, but the facts may be differently interpreted, and probably there will be much diversity in the reasoning on the statistics of suicide that are presented by George Kennan in an article in McClure's Magazine.

Mr. Kennan finds that suicide is especially prevalent between the fifty-fifth and fifty-fifth parallels of north latitude, the number within these parallels being 172 to the million, and the largest number outside being ninety-three to the million.

The suicide rate is always reduced by any great and absorbing public calamity or excitement. This is universally true of wars, but was just as marked in connection with the destruction of San Francisco. The suicidal impulse increases rapidly from childhood to old age.

By a comparison of the north of Ireland with the south of Ireland, and the Protestant cantons of Switzerland with its Catholic cantons, Mr. Kennan shows that suicides are much more common among Protestants than Catholics.

THE CANADIAN ORDER OF FORESTERS

THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION OF HIGH COURT.

The Most Prosperous Year for the Order in Its History.—A Large Delegation in Attendance.

The twenty-ninth annual session of the High Court of the Canadian Order of Foresters opened in the city of Niagara Falls on June 9, 1908, with a large number in attendance, including High Court officers and delegates representing subordinate courts of every Province of the Dominion.

The increase in the insurance reserve of the order during the year amounted to \$251,818.42. On January 1st, 1907, the amount on hand in this branch was \$2,174,872.45, and at the close of the year \$2,426,690.87.

The Sick and Funeral Benefit Department is also in a flourishing condition. During the year no less a sum than \$134,418.44, covering 5,939 claims, was paid in this branch.

The report of Geo. Faulkner, High Secretary, covering the general work of the society, was next in order, and showed in detail the large volume of business transacted through the head office at Brantford.

The amount of insurance premiums received during the year was \$755,916.20, which with the interest on insurance account made the total receipts in this branch \$665,149.96.

There were 400 death claims paid, amounting to \$433,331.54, leaving the sum of \$231,818.42 to carry to the reserve fund, which at the close of the year was \$2,426,690.87.

The report of Robert Elliott, High Treasurer, showed the funds of the order to be in a most satisfactory condition. The receipts in the several funds were:—Insurance, \$665,149.96; sick and funeral benefit fund, \$153,849.82; general fund, \$91,669.93; total receipts, \$910,669.71.

The surplus insurance funds are invested as follows:—Municipal and school debentures, \$2,187,329.50; Dominion of Canada stock, 150,000.00; Deposits in chartered banks, 20,000.00; Current accounts in chartered banks, 69,351.28.

The total assets of the order amounted to \$2,587,037.70, and its liabilities \$26,976.08. Assets over liabilities, \$2,560,061.62.

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DON'T EAT WHITE MEN.

Preference of Pacific Cannibals Based on Superstition.

It was only recently that news came out of the western Pacific of the killing of a missionary on one of the islands to be the funeral baked meat of a cannibal feast.

Private advices from the official charged with the investigation of the murder comment upon the probability that the missionary had been killed by cannibals.

The charge of eating white men seems very hard to down. Even now, when every one should know better, it is by no means unusual to find the statement that in the Hawaiian Islands, the late Capt. Cook, to find they were not cannibals at all.

In the western Pacific, where cannibalism is constantly practiced except under the immediate eye of white men, it is not surprising that the bodies of white men are eaten by the natives.

"During my long residence in these islands," he writes, "I have not yet been able to establish to my satisfaction a single case in which white men, though butchered, have actually been eaten by the Melanesians."

The late King Ford of the Shorthorn Islands told me in answer to my question the not particularly flattering reason "Spirit being all white man no good!" In general one receives the reply that the white man as meat does not taste good.

FRANKNESS WITH DAUGHTERS. Plying at hide-and-seek with our daughters is such a mistake. We cannot blind ourselves to the fact that she is changing daily, that every day adds to her development.

ON THE FARM

RAPE AS A FORAGE CROP.

Pastures will, in many districts, be short this year, owing to failure of the clover seeding last year, and the stock being turned out earlier this spring than usual, because of the shortage of feed in the barns.

It is well to keep it free from the robbery of moisture weeds. Rape may be sown any time in June or July, and, in good soil, well prepared, in a favorable season, will be fit for pasture in six to eight weeks.

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THE DAIRY COW A WONDERFUL CREATURE.

Building up a dairy herd is not so easy as a man who has not the things ready to his hands. It is this representative of the great American class of farmers, who is earning his bread in the sweat of his face, who can ill afford to make mistakes.

There is a broad look in that last sentence, which if the farmer will take it, will help wonderfully in indicating to him how he should treat his cows.

SAVE THE BOYS.

Boys should be taught, at least by the time they are sent to school, something of the nature of the body, of the temptations they will have to face, and of the fearful consequences to body and soul of yielding to them.

Fashion Hints.

FADS AND FANCIES.

This is a day and a season of coats. Bows of lace now have a touch of cobweb embroidery.

The turn over collar is as fashionable as ever with a shirt waist or shirt waist suit, but it does not belong to the jumper.

The guimpe for summer dress will be pretty made of embroidered batiste or swiss, or of sheer lawn with a lace finish.

Driving gloves of gray suede and soft brown leather are useful. The leather palm is stitched to prevent the reins from wearing out the gloves.

The college colors in stripes have disappeared and a ribbon the width of the collar has a plain foundation with the colors woven in a design not unlike those seen in Japanese matting.

There seems to be a good many mistakes about the materials used for guimpes. They are made of silks, chin crawn lawn or cambric, or a mixture of such enormous dimensions that the brims look dwarfish in comparison with them.

Most of the firms are now showing inexpensive, but pretty waistcoats of coarse colored linen, bound with braid or a contrasting linen, and these are so nice for morning wear, with a tailory hat to match, just as the brocade waistcoat and flowery hat are pretty for the afternoon.

Net frocks are delightfully cool and attractive. Suitable women have made a practice of always having one white cotton net frock for summer wear.

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GALL-STONES.

An attack of gall-stone colic in its severest form is one of the most painful affections which humanity is ever called upon to endure.

The pain is due to the passage of a gall-stone through the bile duct toward the intestine, and varies from a mere discomfort to intense agony, according to the size of the stone.

If the attack continues a long time, it is accompanied by vomiting and signs of collapse—pined features, cold, clammy sweat, extreme restlessness, pallor or blueness of the skin, hiccough, rapid and feeble pulse, and chill.

The sufferer should keep as quiet as possible, lying on the back with hips elevated. Sometimes a firm bandage encircling the abdomen affords great relief.

The bowels should be freely moved, preferably by an injection. Hot cloths laid over the region of the liver are usually grateful, and sometimes a hot bath acts well by relieving the spasm.

Money talks, but it is not heard in heaven, save when it speaks through lips which it has stirred to grateful love.

OLD ACQUAINTANCE.

"Hello, Rummell, I hear your watch has been stolen?" "Yes, but the thief has already been arrested. Only fancy, the stupid fellow took it to the pawnshop! There it was at once recognized as mine, and the thief was locked up."

Advertisement for TRISCUIT, a Shredded Wheat wafer. Includes an illustration of a Conboy Carriage and text describing the product's benefits and availability.