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P. J. McEWEN Watford Sec.-Treasurer essary to go over to the hotel in the there used to be any highway or any hotel) and carry in rye whiskey in demijohns (two dollars a gallon it

# Stephen Leacock

#### ROUGHING IT IN THE BUSH My Plans for Moose Hunting in the Canadian Wilderness.

Every year there comes a season when all those who have a manly streak in them like to get out into the bush and rough it for a week thing in the evening we might just or two of hunting and fishing. For myself, I never feel that an autumn has been well spent unless I can get out after the moose. And when I go I like to go right into the bush and "rough it"—get clear away from civilization, out in the open, and take fatigue or hardship just as

as well skip on our evening clother as we could chuck them off the minute we get back.

George thinks it might not be a bad idea,-just as a way of saving all our energy for getting after the moose,-to dine each evening at the hotel itself. He knew some men who did that last year and they told him So next year I am making all my plans to get away for a couple of weeks of moose hunting along with George's idea is that we could come my brother George and my friend in each night with our moose,-



WE COULD DINE AT THE HOTEL. THEN BEAT IT BACK INTO THE BUSH AND FETCH IN THE MOOSE"

Tom Gass. We generally go together, and such a number as the case might because we are all of us men who like the rough stuff and are tough enough to stand the hardship of living in the open. The place we go to is right in the heart of the primitive Canadian forest, among the timber, broken with lakes as still as glass, just the very ground for moose

We have a kind of a lodgeup there It's just a rough place that we put up three of us, the year before last built out of tamarack\_ logs faced with a broad axe.

Only a plain place, as I say, but good enough to rough it in. We have one big room with a stone fireplace and bedrooms round the sides, with a wide veranda, properly screened, all along the front. The veranda has a row of upright tamaracks for its posts and doesn't look altogether bad.

Reduced to George's Car In the back we have quarters there our man sleeps. We had an ice

fellows hunting moose all day. The place, nowadays, is not hard to get at. The government has just built a colonization highway, quite all right for motors, that happens to go within a hundred yards of our

We can get the railway for a hundred miles, and the highway for forty, and the last hundred yards we can walk. But next season we are going to cut out the railway and go whole way from the city in George's car with our kit with us.

George has one of those great big cars with a roof and thick glass sides. Personally none of the three of us would prefer to ride in a luxurious darned thing like that. Tom says that as far as he is concerned he'd much sooner go into the bush over a rough trail in a buckboard, and for my own a team of oxen would be more

the kind of thing that I'd wish. A Big Frame Nuisance.

However the car is there, so we ty (sisters) and that's really younger might as well use the thing especially than we care for, but with young as the provincial government has girls like that,—practically hous, built the fool highway right into the Rv taking the big car also outfit that we need but we can also, if we like, shove in a couple of small trunks with a few clothes. This may be necessary as it seems that somebody has gone and slapped a great and of course we want to give her big frame hotel right there in the good time as well; in fact I think I wilderness, not more than half a mile from the place we go to.

The hotel we find a regular nuisance. It gave us the advantage of One thing we are all agreed upon electric light for our lodge (a thing in the arrangement of our hunting none of us care about), but it means trip, is in not making along anything more fuss about clothes. Clothes of to drink. Drinking spoils a trip of course, don't really matter when a that sort. We all remember how in fellow is roughing it in the bush, but the old days we'd go out into a Tom says that we might find it neccamp in the bush (I mean before W. G. WILLOUGHBY, Manager and Tom says that we might find it nec-

be either bringing them with us or burying them where they die,change our things, slide over to the hotel and get dinner and then beat it back into the bush by moonlight and fetch in the moose

Homelike and Plain

It seems they have a regular two dollar table d'hote dinner at the -just rough stuff of course but hote,after all, as we all admit, we don't propose to go out into the wilds to pamper ourselves with high feeding a plain hotel meal in a home-like style at two dollars a plate is better than cooking up a lot of rich stuff over a camp fire.

If we do dine at the hotel we could take our choice each evening between going back into the bush by moon-light to fetch in the dead moose from the different caches where we had hidden them, or sticking round the hotel itself for a while. It seems that there is dancing here. Nowadays such a lot of women and girls get the open air craze for the life in the bush that these big wilderness hotels are crowded with them.

Faced With a Duty There is something about living in the open that attracts modern women and they like to get right away from everybody and every-

thing; and of course hotels of this type in the open are nowadays always well closed in with screens so that there are no flies or anything of that sort. So it seems that there is dancing at the hotel every evening-noth-

ing on a large scale or pretentious, -just an ordinary hardwood floor they may wax it a little for all l know, and some sort of plain, rough Italian orchestra that they fetch up from the city. Not that any of us care for dancing. It's a thing that personally we wouldn't bother with But it happens that there are a couple of young girls that Tom knows that are going to be staying at the hotel and of course naturally

he wants to give them a good time They are only eighteen and twenbe there we may as well put in an appearance at the hotel and see that they are having a good time. Their mother is going to be with them too, will lend her my moose rifle and let

her go out and shoot a moose. We Make an Agreement was) and sit around the camp fire drinking it in the evenings.

But there's nothing in it. We all agree that the law being what it is, it is better to stick to it. It makes a

fellow feel better. So we shall carry nothing in. I don't say that one might not have a flask or something in one's pocket in the car; but only as a precaution against accident or cold. And when we get to our lodge we all feel that we are a darned sight better without it.

If It Is Cold-Or Hot If we should need anything,—though it isn't likely,—there are still three cases of old Scotch whis-key, kicking around the lodge somewhere; I think they are around in a little cement cellar with a locked door that we had made so as to use it for butter or anything of that sort. Anyway there are three possibly four, or maybe five, case of Scotch there and if we should for any reason want it, there it is. But we are hardly likely to touch it,unless we hit a cold snap, or a wet -then we might; or if we spell; strike hot dry weather.

Tom says he thinks there are couple of cases of champagne still in the cellar; some stuff that one of us must have shot in there just before prohibition came in. But we'll use it. When a man is out moose hunting from dawn to dusk he hasn't much use for champagne,

not till he gets home anyway. The only thing that Tom says the champagne might come in useful for would be if we cared to ask the two kids over to some sort of dinner; it would be just a rough kind of camp dinner (we could hardly ask their mother to it) but we think we could manage it. The man we keep there used to be a butler in England, or something of the sort, and he could manage some kind of a rough meal where champagne might fit in.

Boycotted by Moose only one trouble about our plans for our fall camp that bothers us just a little. The moose are getting cussed scarce about that place. There used so they say, to be any quantity of them. There's an old settler up there that our man buys all our cream from who says that he remembers when the moose were so thick that they would come up and drink whiskey out of his dipper. But somehow they seem to have quit the

Last year we sent our man out again and again to look for them and he never saw any. Three years ago a boy that works at the hotel said he saw a moose in the cow pasture back of the hotel and there were tracks of a moose seen last year at the place not ten miles from the hotel where it had come to drink. But apart from these two exceptions the moose hunting has been poor.

Still what does it matter? What just as I have described it. If any we want is the life, the rough life moose comes to our lodge we'll shoot him, or tell the butler to.

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Chicago Express, 17....12.40 p.m.
Detroit Express, 83.....6.51 p.m. G.E.McTAGGART, Agent, Watford.

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