

PLAYERS' FLAT.

St. John's Women's Idea Has Spread Across the Continent.

In the brain of a woman, Miss Peter, of St. John, N.B., the idea of play for the public and, primarily, play with supervision had its beginning. And charity beginning at home, this charitable Miss Peter, whose fame exists in her schemes to benefit children for the most part, began in St. John, her home city, to wrestle with that Public Opinion which scorns "the untidied thing."

With what success the originator labored the reader is partially informed by the accompanying views. By doing so, until now there is of that multiple-headed body of workers, the Local Council of Women, and plans took shape. Today these shapes are substantially represented by six much patronized, thoroughly equipped and well-supervised playgrounds in St. John.

From its maritime source the playgrounds have spread with amazing speed. Miss Peter enlisted the interest of a city of size throughout this wide Dominion where the supervised play has yet to prove its value.

The Ottawa Playgrounds Association, launched in February, has been most praise-worthy instrumental in bringing into existence in the capital several playgrounds. A lecture by Dr. Hodgetts helped, which presented the most regrettable statement, supported by truth-telling pictures, of conditions of children's play in Canadian cities—the crowded districts. The Ottawa playgrounds which will counteract such features are equipped with a competent staff of supervisors.

In Toronto, the famous "Boys' Dominion" serves to example that supervised play has become to that city an integral part of municipal and educational interest. Numerous playgrounds, ably operated, supply a long-felt need in the various districts and better safeguard "small fry" than the curfew—better, a long shot.

In Hamilton, according to the year's report of the local Playgrounds Association, they had, during the two and a half months the playgrounds were open, an attendance of forty thousand children ranging all the way from one to fourteen years of age. The which intimation hints the hold of "healthful play" on the tender imagination.

Swimming baths are a popular feature of sport at the London playgrounds, and under the conduct of Sheriff Cameron excellent training is given in aquatic. The value of the same swimming classes is felt when the present and the former toll of the Thames in victims, mostly youthful, are contrasted. The London playgrounds are particularly attractive, shaded as they are, with fine old trees.

Winnipeg specializes in play, under adequate supervision, as a masterpiece for the healthier, happier citizenship of the future. Inevitably that citizenship will be healthy, will be happy, for naturalness is the law of such an outcome. And playing is nature.

Edmonton was recently declared to be in favor of a system of organized play in connection with schools. Exception was taken by one trustee, to importing an American supervisor. Not a valid objection really.

For the first time, this very summer, Victoria opened its playgrounds—an alluring and adequate park system, the plan of an English landscape architect. Skilled supervisors are in attendance and children flock to the rendezvous already.

\$250 Watch For a Dollar.

A farm hand named C. W. Lawson, was sent to Simcoe by the officials of the Ontario Government Bureau in Toronto.

It so happened that the conductor of the train found Lawson was a dollar short on his legal fare, and as he had not the money, the conductor threatened to put him off at Hamilton. Lawson, in desperation, offered the man his gold watch, worth every cent of \$250, as security, but the conductor refused it.

However, a man having the appearance of a mechanic, stepped in, and took the watch in exchange for the dollar fare. Lawson gave the man his own name, and an address to which to return the watch and get the dollar, but he never asked the mechanic what his name was, or where he lived.

Lawson has seen neither man nor watch since, and now he wants to know how to get it back.

Perhaps the mechanic has forgotten the address, which is the office of the Ontario Government Bureau, Toronto.

A Connee Story.

Many good stories have been told of the late James Connee. After a short time in the Ontario Legislature, he became one of the front benchers of the Liberal party, and he was often called upon to take up the battle in the House over some Government measure. He developed into a splendid speaker though his lack of college education often led him into mispronunciations, which threw the House into spasms of laughter. For instance, during the famous Gamey session, Mr. Connee worked off something like this:

He was defending the high court judge, who sat on that celebrated case, and declared that some of the observations of the Opposition were libellous accusations against the judiciary of the country. That phrase will live long in the memory of the members of the Legislature.

May Have More Coal.

Millions of tons may be added to the coal resources of Nova Scotia if the possibility of error in the location of the famous Fraser Mountain fault in the Pictou coal beds, as suggested by eminent geologists of the party now touring the Maritime Provinces and who visited there recently, turns out to be correct.

Geologically the Pictou coal fields are amongst the most interesting in the world, and the feature which has aroused possibly the chief interest is the conglomerate upthrow which cut this bed in two.

FOR HOT WEATHER.

A Historical Catechism Suitable For the Dog Days.

Now that vacations are on and thousands of people are prowling about in places they have never seen before, a great many questions are being asked and answered about Canadian history and geography that never occur to any man at his desk down town. It's a good thing, not only physically, but mentally, to trace in this idle kind of fashion the scenes of the journeys made by great explorers, old battlefields, camps of Indians, old churches, ancient monuments, anything that freshens up a man's interest in his country. It's a same time allowing for a few absurdities in the answers, such as may be noticed in the following:

"Children, why is Dominion Day?"

Bright American youth: "Please to celebrate the Independence of Canada."

"Who was George Etienne Cartier, whose memorial is to be erected in Montreal?"

Please, his first name was Jacques."

"Who discovered Montreal?"

"Sir William Van Horne."

"How did the Mackenzie River get its name?"

"From Sir William Mackenzie."

"Who headed the Rebellion against the Family Compact in Canada?"

"Louis Riel. The Tories wanted to drive out the half-breeds."

"Who named Vancouver Island?"

"It was named after the city of Vancouver."

"How did Ottawa become the Capital of Canada?"

"Because Sir John Macdonald assembled the first Parliament there."

"Who is the Premier of Canada?"

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier. But Mr. Borden is taking his place for a while, because Sir Wilfrid wanted time to start a Canadian navy."

"Who made Ontario such a vast province?"

"Sir James Whitney."

"Where is the Quebec bridge?"

"Please, ma'am—there isn't any."

—Canadian Courier.

Ontario Catching Up.

British immigrants to the number of 40,996 have settled in Ontario during the first six months of this year, as compared with 26,429 for the same period last year. Add to this the fact that beyond placing them with the farmers, who were only too anxious to obtain their services, it was not necessary to render any assistance. Most of those now coming out are well supplied with money.

Ten thousand new arrivals from the British Isles came to Ontario during June, 4,000 more than have ever before come to this province during that month.

Supt. Birmingham made the surprising statement that as many domestic as farm laborers are now coming in, or close on half the entire immigration. The number coming never before exceeded ten per cent.

Only about 25 per cent, now coming are farm laborers, the remainder being wives and children coming to meet heads of families and men who know a trade.

"That the total British immigration to this province will exceed the 75,000 mark this year is now assured, and the prospects are bright that we will have a grand total of 100,000, which would be double that of last year's record," said Supt. Birmingham.

Rich In Rich Men.

The Parliament of Canada is rich in rich men. Without looking too far into the future, it may be said that there are in the Senate and House of Commons, rich men to burn. They are about equally divided between the two parties. In the Senate there are Sir Leman Jones, Hon. George Cox, Hon. W. C. Edwards, Hon. Raoul Dandurand and a number of others all in or near the millionaire class. In the Commons there are Sir Edmund Osler, Sir Rodolphe Forget, F. B. McCarry, Hon. A. E. Kemp, Hon. Geo. Perley, who have millions, and E. M. Tobin, J. A. M. Aikins, W. A. Charlton, J. J. Carriek, and others whose doors are protected by many ciphers from the wolves. There are few really poor men in the House, but there are many who do not regard the sessional indemnity as an unimportant addition to the annual income.

High Price For Honey.

High prices for Ontario honey is the forecast sent out by the Beekeepers Association in a bulletin to the trade. The average yield of honey this year is 63 pounds per colony, the largest crop being from the southwestern counties. The bulletin states that the failure of honey this year in the eastern part of the province and in Quebec will be responsible for big prices. The berry shortage and the apple failure are also cited as contributing causes.

Where there is a crop, however, the quality is reported to be extra good.

Lowe's Presents.

Lieut. Harold G. Lowe, R.N.R., who was the fifth officer on the Titanic when she sank, and who sent Mr. Bruce Ismay back from the lifeboats when he attempted to go off the sinking liner, cleared from Montreal the other day with the Dominion Line freighter Cornishman for Bristol. His cabin contains 30 gold watches, sea glasses, sextants and other nautical instruments presented to him after the disaster by people whom he saved. These were all engraved.

Could Exchange Views.

The language question in the party of European geologists who have been touring Canada was a hard one, but it was finally solved. It was discovered that all the Russians, Hungarians, Austrians and Norwegians spoke German, and a Teuton representative interpreted for them. For some time, difficulty was experienced with the Italians, but Dr. Miller had the happy thought that French-Canadians and they had common Latin origin, and he set a French-Canadian to interpret. The system worked passably well.

FIRES OFTEN A BOON

NORTH ONTARIO CONFLAGRATIONS HELP SETTLE S.

If He Can Keep His House and Barns From Flames the Pioneer In the Clay Belt Frequently Profits By the Destruction of the Brush and Small Timber Which Burdens His Fields.

Forest fires, which have swept through Northern Ontario for the past two weeks as a result of two months' dry weather with scarcely any rainfall, are commonly considered to be a detriment to the country, whereas, without discounting the loss sustained when the fire crept from the bush to the scattered settlements, the fire is a real benefit, clearing up land for settlers, who otherwise would be forced to spend huge sums of money in making the clearings which are now almost ready for the plow following the burn, says The Toronto Star Weekly.

Answering a question as to his loss in the recent fire which swept through the township in which he was located on his pioneer farm, a Temiskaming settler answered: "My loss of cabin, stables, etc., amounts to about \$800, but at the same time I got a \$1,000 barn and have now more than half of my 160 acre farm ready for the plow."

The settler, in having his home out of the virgin bush of the north country, does not face the same difficulties as confronted his forefathers in Old Ontario many years ago. Instead of a heavy bush with large trees to be cut down, the Temiskaming farmer rejoices in the small birch, spruce, and balsam, easily cut, burned, and stumped. Slashings are made in the early part of the year, and usually remain for an entire year until thoroughly dry. At the favorable moment a match is touched to them, and with a favorable wind blowing the slashing is reduced to ashes, leaving only a few scattered logs and stumps which sit above the burned ground.

It is usually incidents of this nature which cause the forest fires which annually are given more than ordinary space in the large papers and make it appear as if the north country was one of smoke and fire—a detriment to the settler.

While the fires this year have been greater than previous years, with the exception of the conflagration of July, 1911, when a Porcupine camp and the town of Cochrane were razed to the ground with tremendous loss of life, they have all accomplished more for the north country farmer, and the number who have left their old in the flames have been few and far between.

With a small clearing around his home, under crop, a fire is easily checked, and with steady watch by the settler for falling sparks on his wooden buildings, a loss of buildings can be easily averted in most cases. Where the settler, new to the ways of the north, allows his slashing of bush to remain unburned or uncut up to his doors, the fire makes easy work with the buildings, which burn like so much tinder.

The cost of clearing is the north country varies as to conditions. A settler endeavoring to clear an acre of land from the virgin bush has an undertaking on his hands which will cost \$100 an acre if not more. With a burned slashing this may be reduced to almost \$5 an acre, and scores of instances are to be found, following last year's fire, where with a single horse, two men could easily clean an acre a day of all rubbish left unburned on their farm. The stumps merely sit on top of the fire-swept ground, and a horse can pull the half-burned roots easily, while the few logs and unburned rubbish are piled waiting another fire, and the ground is ready for the plow.

The bush fires do not confine themselves entirely to the stumps and slashings, but go further, and eat into the ground to an extent of from four to six inches, burning off the humus, the decomposed animal and plant life, which forms the top coating of the northern soil. With the burning of the humus is consumed considerable of the nitrogen supply, which at its best is slightly deficient in northern soils, and this supply is almost entirely dependent on the humus. This necessitates the settler to sow clover, alfalfa, or some other leguminous crop for the first year, so that the plow in the fall can turn under the year's crop, and thus assist the ground to regain the amount of nitrogen required for plant life lost by the burning.

From Latchford, on the south, to James Bay, on the north, very little of the woods has withstood the fire felled at some time or another, and old Indian legends tell of a fire which swept the north country about 100 years ago, the like of which has never been known since. At that time, according to the stories handed down to the present generation by their forefathers, a big fire, hundreds of miles in width, swept from the Rainy River country across Northern Ontario, and Quebec, destroying untold millions of dollars worth of timber and driving all animals of the forests to the lakes and rivers for safety. Present-day bush fires are nothing compared with this great conflagration, the particulars of which seem so meagre.

While the northern crops this year have been somewhat blighted, due to the scarcity of the usual warm summer rains, so essential to plant growth, and the ferocity of the fires, the crop will only be slightly lower than last year's crop, and, in addition, more land will be cleared and put under cultivation during the next year than has been known in a single season in the north country's history.

Assisting the Dairies.

Through its staff of thirty-four instructors the Agricultural Department has improved the standard of dairying, and over one hundred thousand dollars was put last year in improving cheese factories and creameries.

MOXON MISSIONERS.

They Solved For the Time the Problem of Bad Roads.

Moncton, N.B., has rediscovered the function of shortleaves as a social improver. The Moncton Commercial Club has a mission, and a practical way of carrying it out. It has a constitution which sets forth the following objects:

"To boost Moncton in every legitimate way. Socially, to serve as a 'get-together' organization. To advertise Moncton and attend to enquiries concerning the city's resources and opportunities. To give moral support to industries located in the city. To speak well of the city and citizens generally, and where good cannot be said to say nothing bad. To educate the citizens to appreciate more fully the opportunities and advantages of Moncton and the surrounding territory."

A club of original ideas, this body of men has practically outdone itself in the few short months of its life. On a day of the past month it demonstrated the efficiency of shortleaves. The road question was a vexed one in Maritime Canada long before the present pilots of the several provincial craft occupied cradles. The revenues have always been inadequate to cope with conditions. In power and out of power, political parties have wasted good breath, and have filled tons of pages, ancient the "merits" and "demerits" of the maritime highways.

A few days ago the members of the Moncton Commercial Club, backed by a general co-operation on the part of citizens of Shediac, set out to settle the question in the simplest possible way—by doing the work themselves.

That stretch of highway from the Railway City to the Westmorland seaside resort was selected for the initial operation; and from a "bad road" was converted into, not only a passable thoroughfare, but a smooth trunk highway.

The mayor of Moncton and the Mayor of Shediac shouldered to shoulder; the president of the Moncton Board of Trade shovelled the material loosened by the pick of a member of the New Brunswick Legislature; doctors and lawyers, merchants and brokers, civil engineers and journeymen, "the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker" one—and all sank party differences and petty carping in one grand scheme to supplement the revenues of the province with willing hands. Some one hundred and fifty in all answered the call for "first aid."

It wasn't a really great event; but it made history. A pertinent moral was pointed on that sunny June day on the Shediac road—an example for the road-user, who in the past has elected to sit perched on a stump, a correct imitation of Rodin's "The Thinker," mulling over the shortcomings of this Government and that, when all the while a few shovelfuls of earth and an occasional stone, judiciously applied, would have remedied, to a nicety, the subject of his ruminations.

Advice To New-Comers.

Mr. Fred. Bateman, of Ottawa, has been making an analysis of the behavior of Englishmen in Canada, and he sends the following fruits of his research to a London journal by way of advice to intending immigrants:

Don't make up your mind to go back too quickly. Wait a bit.

Don't try to teach the Canadian what he doesn't know about his own country. You'll only make a mess of it.

Don't act on the assumption that, being an Englishman, you are the salt of the earth, which, perhaps, explains why in Canada he is so often in a pickle.

Don't think, much less suggest, that you have conferred a favor upon Canada by coming to the country. They could just manage to get along without your assistance.

Don't forget that everyone doesn't take up your own valuation.

Don't, if you are a man, forget to be manly.

Don't grumble, and again don't grumble. Two can play at that game. "Warranted all bristles" is a fine trade-mark for a good brush, but not for a brand-new immigrant. Some people would grumble even in Heaven—if they got there.

Don't forget that you are a citizen of the new country as soon as you enter, or that it is as "great" a country as you could wish for.

Don't become a little miser. There are other things in life besides money and real estate.

The Bishop's Story.

Here is a story told by the Bishop of London. When he was in Toronto recently a member of one of his audiences told him that he had heard him speak fourteen years before in London, and remembered only one thing he said.

"He told me that fourteen years ago," said the Bishop, "I related the story of an old woman who fell from a three story window in the East-end, struck her head, and was picked up dead."

"He added that I had said I went to her neighbor and remarked: 'I am afraid Mrs. Jones was not prepared,' and that I had received this reply: 'Oh, yes; I know she was, because she passed my window in her fall I heard her say, "Now for a bump!"'"

Half a Ton of Cops.

Calgary has added 1,150 pounds of policemen to her civic resources. The six latest men to wear Calgary police uniforms are the biggest recruits yet taken into the force. They average 191.23 pounds to the man, the heaviest weighing 203 pounds, while the baby of the group is a mere stripling of 177 pounds.

Africa's Treasures.

Up to the close of last year, South Africa has produced gold worth \$1,579,715,000 and diamonds worth \$777,000,000.

Self Praise.

When you sing your own praises you are apt to pitch the tune too high.



DEPARTMENT OF MINES

"Coal Mines Regulation Act"

Notice is hereby given that the following constitute the Board of Examiners for the Corbin Colliery during the year 1914:

Appointed by the Owners—Harry Massey.

Alternates—David Brown, James Quinn.

Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council—David Brown.

Elected by the Miners—J. Kirkosky. Alternates—Fred Oliver, Richard Garbutt.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the Secretary of the Board, Mr. David Brown, Corbin, B.C.

Note—Alternates act as Members of the Board in the absence of those regularly appointed or elected to act thereon.

Dated the 30th day of December, 1913
RICHARD McBRIDE,
Minister of Mines.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES

"Coal Mines Regulation Act"

Notice is hereby given that the following constitute the Board of Examiners for the Hosmer Colliery during the year 1914:

Appointed by the Owners—James Maltman.

Alternates—Alex. D. McAllan, William Rankin.

Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council—Samuel Richards.

Elected by the Miners—John Loskoski.

Alternates—Mike Jasbee, J. D. Mialeik.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the Secretary of the Board, Mr. Samuel Richards, Hosmer, B.C.

Note—Alternates act as Members of the Board in the absence of those regularly appointed or elected to act thereon.

Dated the 30th day of December, 1913
RICHARD McBRIDE,
Minister of Mines.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES

"Coal Mines Regulation Act"

Notice is hereby given that the following constitute the Board of Examiners for the Michel Collieries during the year 1914:

Appointed by the Owners—William Robinson.

Alternates—Thomas Cunliffe, W. Whitehouse.

Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council—R. L. Spruston.

Elected by the Miners—James Mercer.

Alternates—John Price, Michael D. McLean.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the Secretary of the Board, Mr. R. L. Spruston, Michel, B.C.

Note—Alternates act as Members of the Board in the absence of those regularly appointed or elected to act thereon.

Dated the 30th day of December, 1913
RICHARD McBRIDE,
Minister of Mines.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES

"Coal Mines Regulation Act"

Notice is hereby given that the following constitute the Board of Examiners for the Coal Creek Collieries during the year 1914:

Appointed by the Owners—David Martin.

Alternates—William Wilson, William Lancaster.

Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council—James M. Stewart.

Elected by the Miners—William A. Hunter.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the Secretary of the Board, Mr. James M. Stewart, Coal Creek, B.C.

Note—Alternates act as Members of the Board in the absence of those regularly appointed or elected to act thereon.

Dated the 30th day of December, 1913
RICHARD McBRIDE,
Minister of Mines.

FERNIE LAND DISTRICT

District of South East Kootenay

Take Notice that May Blake, of Seattle, Washington, occupation stenographer, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:

Commencing at a post planted at the N. E. corner of Lot 8726, G. 1, thence 7.52 chains south, thence 64.4 chains east, thence 3.46 chains north, thence 35.85 chains west, thence 4.05 chains north, thence west to point of commencement.

May Blake,

Name of Applicant.

I. Newton Dally, Agent.

Date, October 17th, 1913. N14

FERNIE LAND DISTRICT

District of South East Kootenay

Take Notice that Q. A. Myers, of Corbin, B.C., occupation guide and timberman, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:

Commencing at a post planted at the N. E. corner of Lot 11951, thence North 14 chains, thence west about 26 chains to the East boundary of Lot 7136, thence South 14 chains, thence East to point of commencement and containing about 26 acres more or less.

Quincy A. Myers,

Name of Applicant.

Date, October 15th, 1913. N14

To
The Kootenay River Land Company, Spokane, Wash.

Take Notice that by order of His Honour Judge Thompson, dated the 22nd day of December, 1913, it was ordered that the Writ of Summons heretofore mentioned be served upon you, The Kootenay River Land Company, by publication in the Fernie Free Press newspaper, for a period of three (3) consecutive issues, and that such publication be held to be due service of the said Writ of Summons upon you the said Kootenay River Land Company, and that you, the said Kootenay River Land Company, do have eight (8) days from the date of the last publication of the said advertisement within which to enter appearance to the said Writ of Summons.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 1913.

A. Macneil,

Solicitor for the Plaintiff hereunder mentioned.

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia between:

Peter Backs

Plaintiff,

and

The Earl of Ranfurly and Dudley Alexander, The Kootenay River Land Company and the Baynes Lake Land Company, Limited.