

The London Column

London, England.—It is notorious that the most famous stories in the World's history are never complete. We never have known, and never shall know now, how Harold, the last of the Saxon Kings, one of the noblest characters of the Anglo-Saxon Race, really perished, or where he lies buried. We never knew, and never shall, what caused either the Great Fire, or the Great Plague, of London. The sea holds from us for ever the fate of the brave Grenvilles, half-brothers of Sir Walter Raleigh, who passed from our ken in the direction of the North West Passage.

Talking of Sir Walter Raleigh, there is another historical tale ancient and gentle which most people do not know in all its details. The tale runs that Walter Raleigh put his cloak down in a mud puddle for Queen Elizabeth to walk over, so that she should not soil her satin shoes. Additional glory is always popularly supposed to illumine this chivalrous act because Walter was at the time a poor Devonshire squire, without another smart cloak to put on.

But the future Sir Walter was a very far seeing man, and would not have dreamed of ruining his only good cloak. The simple truth of the matter is that his cloak was made of sound English Blue Beaver, and the ornamentation was English too, with the result that the whole garment could be—and was—washed through like new.

The weaving of cloth is one of the oldest and one of the foremost of English industries, and five hundred years ago, the English weavers were as famous for their scrupulous workmanship and the excellence of their products as they are today.

For man's attire the fashionable and the fastidious of the whole World have always looked to the Northern Isles for guidance and the best. Today indeed, they enjoy a greater popularity than ever. And Canada in particular is interested—for a very good reason.

That science which professors and learned men term Economics is responsible for many highly curious and surprising phenomena, one of which is, that different countries, alike highly prosperous and with all they want, may yet have vastly different prices for different articles and commodities. How this happens, never mind—sufficient that it is so. Another principle of economics, which really is almost instinctive with everybody, is, all other things being equal, to buy in the cheapest market.

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Guarding the Home.

Written for the Western Home Monthly by J. O. Shroyer.

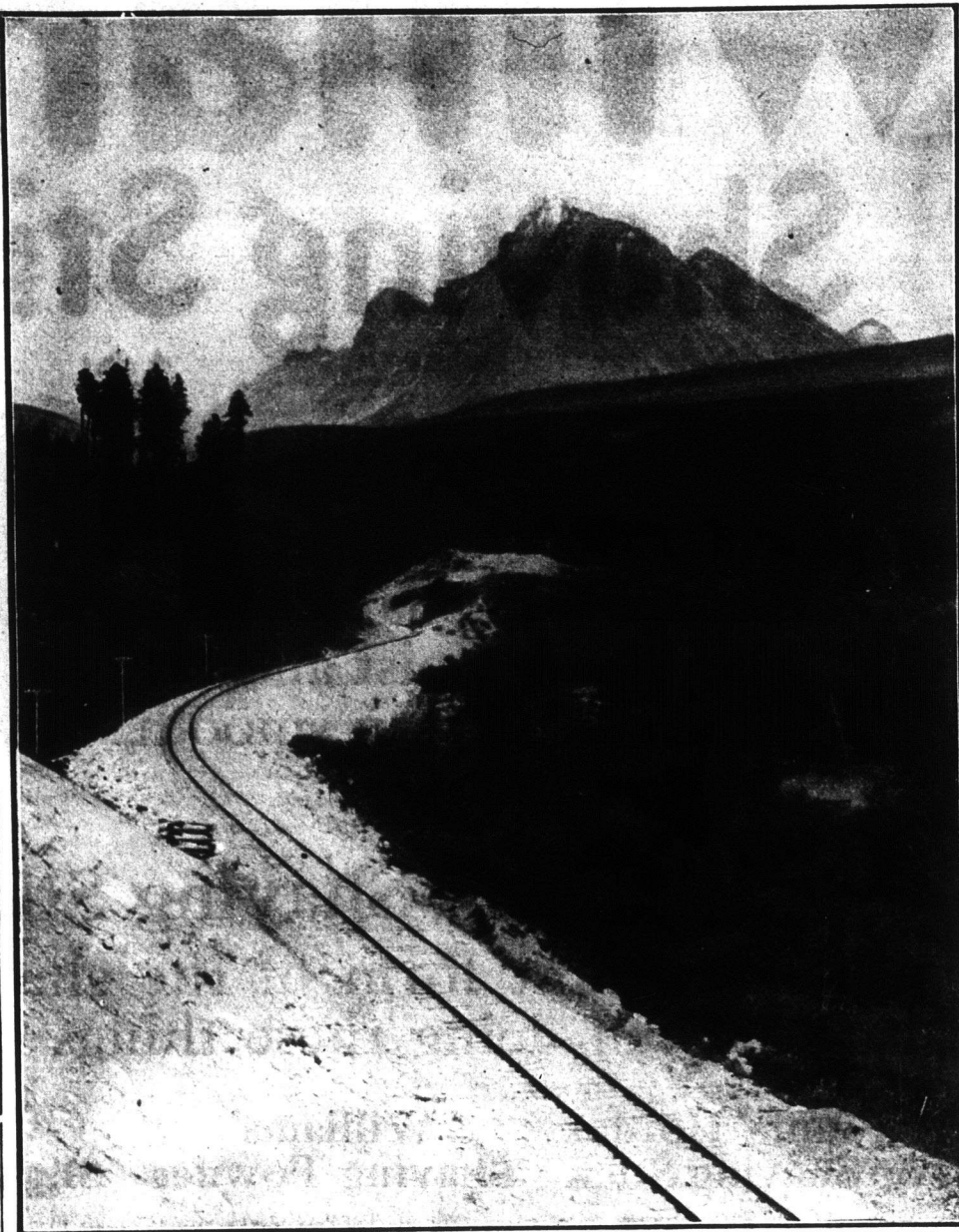
We Canadians are very busy building up homes on the farms of a grand empire. We find a rich soil, and are not worried with the encumbering forests that often beset the earlier settler of the more eastern country. We find a wide horizon around us. Our acquaintances are not limited to the "clearing," as was often the case where dense forests shut out the outer world.

We are yet in the stage when a good, warm house, built even in the plainest of architecture, is considered in good form, but it will not be long until we shall see large commodious homes with all the modern improvements, built upon the great grain farms of Saskatchewan and Alberta, as well as the east.

Most farmers are now busy paying for the land and improvements. Once

in the final establishment of a home. We live in a land where the mixture of races is most unusual. Austrians from south-east Europe, where customs vary greatly from other civilized lands, English from motherland, with most conservative notions and with a regard for clannishness predominating largely, Scotch, with the staid brusqueness of their native heather, Germans from the land of Emperor William, Danes, Swedish, Russian and American immigrants all land in a cosmopolitan conglomeration, each with the ideals of his own land.

All this mixture is thrown into the hopper of Canadian nationalism, and we are expecting to grind out one of the finest nations the world has ever seen. Did you ever stop to think that there is a very peculiar fact in connection



Mt. Fitzwilliam, Alberta.

these are out of the way, the modern barn and house will come in for attention.

Telephone lines will connect neighbors and towns with our farms and heating plants be established that will make every nook of the home comfortable in the stormiest weather. Then the long darkness of the Canadian winter nights will be illuminated by gas and electric lights, and we shall begin to live in real comfort.

\$500 ought to put in the phone, heat and light, and make for comfort, to a wonderful degree. Less than 1,000 bushels of wheat. The phone is almost a necessity already, the bigger operations of the farm demand to a larger degree the immediate touch with the merits of trade. If an implement breaks we can order a new piece, a neighbor just passed on the way to town can be headed off in the village by a storekeeper, and bring us back some needed article, the doctor can be called without the long miles of riding; even on a new and unpaid for farm, the owner can afford a phone and ought to meet the first efforts to establish it, with most hearty approval.

But there are other things necessary

with Canadian history? We have never had a war worth calling for the name? No great Indian disturbances even. Nothing whatever, paralleling the United States record of blood and sorrow.

This mixture of the nations of the world, are assembling with a record for peace that has been won by no other country.

Every man and woman seems content to set forward in the establishment of their own home, permitting their neighbor to perform his work in his own way. The slow plodding oxen of the settler on one side of the road, take it as a matter of course to see the swifter walking five or six horse team pulling a gang plow on the other and the horses scarcely lift their eyes as the most modern ten gang steam or gasoline plow throws a wide swath of black at the other end of their own furrows.

Every one is used to these wonderful contrasts, and comment is hardly expressed. Then there is another phase to the home building question. Each family of nations has its own code of morals and manners, and out of all this mixture we are going to construct the

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