



FREDERICK NIVEN.

An English novelist who is now in Montreal on his way West to collect impressions for new stories. His contribution in the last Canadian Bookman, "At Camp Barnet," was much appreciated by critics throughout Canada.

That there is every prospect of an immense apple crop in Ontario this year is the opinion of the agricultural committee in the Federal house.

A lady from Hoboken asks us if we think she should let her husband gamble in cheap oil stocks. Our verdict is, if a man living in New Jersey can't find anything better to do with his money nowadays he isn't worth saving.

The lumber drives on the Bartholomew stream, a branch of the Miramichi river, have been brought out safely in record time. Included were six million feet of logs for the Nashwaak Pulp and Paper Co. to be manufactured at Blackville and two million feet for the Nelson mill of the Fraser Companies, Limited.

Records compiled by the National Fire Protection Association show that of 21,392 fires which occurred in sprinklered buildings between 1897 and 1919, 20,439 were practically or entirely held in check. During the five year period between 1914 and 1919 the average loss per fire in hotels and lodging houses not protected by sprinkler systems was \$21,390, 85 persons were killed and 75 injured. During the same period the average loss per fire under sprinklers was \$547, and there were no casualties. These facts were referred to by A. J. Mylrea of Toronto in a recent address given by him at the annual convention of the Canadian National Safety League.

Word has been received in Toronto that a syndicate of Winnipeg business men intend erecting a wall-board factory at Selkirk, Man., and that construction will start at once. It is reported that an enormous quantity of straw, which is now burned, will be used in the industry.

Six services will be operated during the present season by the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services, viz., Quebec-Liverpool, Montreal-Liverpool, Montreal-Glasgow, Montreal-Havre-London, Montreal-Southampton-Antwerp, and Montreal-Avonmouth. Five steamers are operating from Vancouver on the Pacific coast which will shortly be augmented by the addition of the "Empress of Canada" and the "Mattawa."

The Mann Axe and Tool Co., of St. Stephen, N. B. intend increasing the capacity of their plant, and the Mann Axe Co. has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$200,000 with head offices here. The company is authorized to take over any tool business and to manufacture axes and edged tools.

Mr. J. O. Hyndman, a prominent insurance man of Charlottetown, recently instituted a prize essay competition for the school children of Prince Edward Island, the age limit being sixteen years. The subject for them to write upon was: "Life Insurance—Its Service to the Home and Its Value to the World." Mr. Hyndman offered the prizes out of his own pocket, first prize \$25.00, second, \$15.00, third, \$5.00, and fourth \$5.00. Essays were not to exceed 2,000 words in length, and had to be sent in not later than May 15th. The essays should be not only interesting but useful, as they will reflect the ideas of the parents at home on the subject of life insurance, and may therefore present some new lines of thought for the men in the business to consider.

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MONTREAL TORONTO HALIFAX

Fishermen of St. John, N.B., report that there were extraordinary runs of gaspereaux during the week with a drop in the prices realized to less than half. It is estimated that the weir of Belyea Brothers took nearly 100,000 gaspereaux in one night and 60,000 the following evening. Boat fishermen working with drift nets took from 1,000 to 3,000 on a tide.

Lampman, Sask.—That the coal deposit here is one of the best of its kind in the world, and one of the greatest assets of the province, is the opinion of the investigators who recently made an examination of the location. They estimated that there are 32,000,000 tons of coal in the two and three quarter sections of land on which the coal is located.

The usually sober pages of the Railway Age are enlivened in a recent issue by this anecdote from a correspondent who writes about getting the top speed out of trains consistent with safety:

"A Swede went into a liquor store (previous to July 1, 1919) and asked the clerk if he had any squirrel whiskey. The clerk said 'No,' but that he had some Old Crow; to which the Swede replied: 'Yumpin yiminy, aye don't want to fly, aye yust want to yump around a leetle.'"

Howard S. Ross, K.C.

Eugene R. Angers

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