

The Wizard of The West

Written for The Western Home Monthly by C. W. Higgins



BABY HUTT.

"Owes his life to Virol."

Ottawa,
Nov. 23, 1916.

I should like to testify the benefit of VIROL. Our baby boy when born and up till he was one month old was healthy, then he began to fail, nothing would agree with stomach or bowels. We did everything possible, but he kept getting worse, till at last we were advised to try Virol. He was then 8½ months old and only weighed 9½ lbs., we could scarcely handle him. In 10 days we saw a vast improvement, and in 3 months he sat up alone. He is now 18 months old, has 12 teeth, weighs 32 lbs., and never has been sick for one hour since we gave him Virol. I am sure we owe little Jack's life to Virol only.

MRS. H. S. HUTT,
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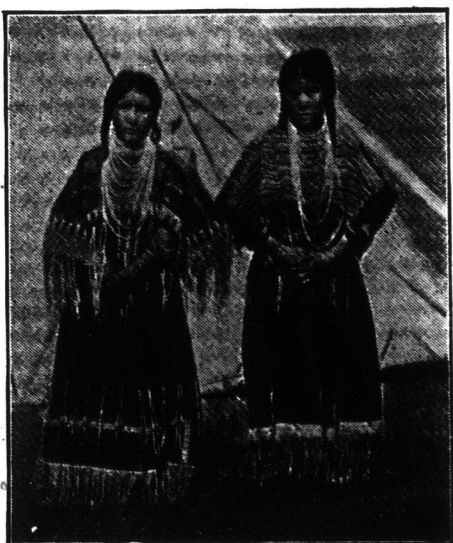


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SOMEONE is tired, worn and harassed with the transient cares of a business or professional life. Someone feels the need of something which somehow cannot be expressed in cold and unsympathetic language. Someone is compelled to acknowledge at last that the incessant strain of the "Trivial round, the common task," is at last telling its inevitable tale of an enfeebled physical condition and, unable to recuperate with the same old-time alacrity, threatens to collapse altogether. Someone is compelled to acknowledge that the "accumulation of days" spent on the tip-toe of financial or commercial excitement, days spent in the pursuit of the "fitting ephemeral" are rapidly telling, if they have not already told their eloquent and unmistakable tale. Someone is determined at last to fly from scenes of excitement wherein the heart and mind



Sarcee Squaws

are under incessant strain, and indulge in a much-needed holiday; a complete abstinence from all the cares, anxieties and excitements of life. City life and its endless worries, its relentless demands and its inevitable exactions has played ducks and drakes with that which used to be considered, and rightly so, an iron constitution; with nerves of steel and a mind possessed with all the characteristics of judgment and lucidity. But city life can never hope to repair the ravages of her cruel artificiality.

When artificiality fails, Nature steps in. When the contaminations of the crowded city are endeavoring to prove that the span of man's life is two score and ten, instead of three score and ten, Nature is to be found urgently becoming with a pleading hand to her havens of rest, refuge and recuperation, where she whispers strange tales of four and even five score years as man's allotted time.

The hardest thing of which to convince a man is the truth. The veriest romance he will embrace and hold fast like the simplest child; but the truth he seems to want to disbelieve. So constantly are we reminded of this fact that we have endeavored to solve the reason. We think that man has a natural repugnance to the truth because it shows him up in his true colors, without flattery, without commendation. Truth is the basis of everything worth while, and so long as we shut our eyes to truth, its virtues and its blessings, so long will we deprive ourselves of the best that the world has to offer.

The race of life is getting faster and more arduous every day. Commerce and finance are exacting greater toll every hour, and the toll taken is human lives, human constitutions and human energy. Human wrecks are to be found to-day as never before. We are told, in some of the big cities of this continent, that a man is old at forty and worthy of little else than a back seat at fifty. In a measure, there is a lot of truth in the assertion, for we have seen men enfeebled in mind and broken in body at an age when they should be at their very best. The greed for gold, the lust of ambition, the desire to excel and surpass their fellows have undermined an iron

constitution and, to-day, they are physical as well as mental wrecks.

When artificiality fails, Nature steps in, and nowhere in the whole world is Nature so prodigally generous to her creatures as right here in Western Canada. Artificiality impairs and pulls-down the human edifice; Nature repairs and re-builds it. The big city with its teeming throng of self-seekers warps the character and distorts the mental vision, but Nature, in Canada's Western Wonderland, straightens out the tangled skein and returns the human derelicts, strengthened in mind, body — yes, and estate.

The Canadian National Railways—we do not propose to enlarge upon the creature-comfort provided by this most enterprising and highly popular system, as all this will be delightfully revealed to the intending traveller—has the proud and unique distinction of burrowing its way through some of the most forbidding fastnesses and gorgeous valley-lands that the mind of man can conceive. As the girdle of steel passes westward from the almost unending prairie-lands of the productive West, change after change takes place, revelation after revelation. It is here that Nature is at her best. It is here that Nature dispenses her miraculous cures, without the aid of either quack or professional physician. Nature is her own physician, and has the happiest knack of accomplishing the most phenomenal results, in the most pleasing and desirable manner possible.

The silent bush, through which the Indian or blazed trail turns; the tranquil tree-fringed lake teeming with fish that would gladden the heart of the sportive angler; the serenity and impressiveness, the glory and the beauty of it all, the fascination of the campfire at night, are some of the features connected with this gorgeous land which, hard to portray in print, nevertheless, in reality, possess such an overpowering influence on the mind and body as to send the sojourner back fortified in mind and body and equipped with renewed strength for the demands of the city.

Dwellers on this continent, especially those who acknowledge Canada to be



Medlang Lake

their home, are indeed fortunate beyond words in the possession of such a rendezvous as this illimitable stretch of incomparable land, with the "Wizard of the West" ever in attendance. This Western Wizard has the happiest knack of diagnosing the ailments of humanity, and with one touch of his magic wand, effecting the most magical cures.

There is no life, no holiday, no recreation, so delightful as that which is possessed of a romany flavor. The freedom, the laxity from restraint, and the unconventionality of life in this Western Wonderland, bound, circumvented and influenced by the majesty of the towering mountains, will perform more effective and permanent cures on jaded humanity than all the physic ever dispensed.

Who can ever forget, or ever desire to forget, the incomparable delights of a

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