

OUR LETTER BOX

Olds, Alberta, Oct. 6, 1924
 Editor, Guide-Advocate—
 We wish to thank the committee of "Watford Old Boys Reunion" for the nicely designed membership badge forwarded to us a short time ago. It gave us much pleasure to read from time to time all the letters from those who were "Going Home"; also the copies of the Guide-Advocate containing a full account of the great home coming, also the fine letters written by absent members, one in particular appealed to me, that of R. A. Minnelly of Dumbell, Sask., recounting the school days in No. 5, Warwick, 2nd line north. Some of my correspondents have described the beautiful memorial services at the cemetery on Sunday and the enjoyable program the following week. We scattered members enjoyed it almost as much and in our mind's eye saw all the kindly faces of other days.

What a fine sum was realized for the Memorial Fund! It is good to know that in all the rejoicing, those who made the supreme sacrifice for us all have not been forgotten. Next July, Calgary plans to celebrate her jubilee in the form of a great "Old timer's parade, stampee and fair"; that will be an opportunity for Eastern visitors to see something of this great West as it was and is. A great many Americans are already planning on attending, and Eastern Canadians should not fail to come too. The early scenes are fast passing away in the West and it has become an agricultural country with fine barns, silos, and around the farm house are being planted all kinds of small fruits, strawberries, currants, raspberries, and now some plums and crabapple trees have been reaped in the Olds district this season and over the greater portion of Alberta. The trying times after the war, also the aftermath of the great boom are now passing away and a more wholesome period of substantial progress is now gradually setting in. The lesson has been learned in the West as elsewhere that the "get rich quick" idea is only a gamble. But they who come to Alberta cannot but be impressed with the great possibilities of the wealth of our natural resources, rich agricultural lands, underneath mineral

coal, oil, tar sands, the northern wilds full of fur-bearing animals and to the west of the Province the great Rocky Mountain water power flowing in every river and mountain stream, enough electrical power going to waste to drive all the machinery in Canada, only waiting to be harnessed, and set to work manufacturing the vast natural products.

Just a word in closing about our own efforts. My husband is engaged in mixed farming specializing in pure bred draft horses, Percheon and Clyde, dual purpose cattle Red Poles of the Jean DeLuluth type, very little known in Eastern Canada, but well known in the U. S. A. and England. The bacon hog also flourishes on our farm to the number of 300 or so this season. We are enlarging our facilities in this class of stock and hope in another year to raise double that number. Eastern farmers naturally think this must entail a great deal of hand labour, not so with our methods. They are first pastured in one fenced field in the early summer, then turned into a field of oats or rye and finally put in a large corral with self feeders and a plentiful supply of water in troughs, they thus finish themselves for market.

If any of the Old Boys and Girls of Watford and vicinity wish to know more of this part of Alberta, we will answer any questions, or better still come and see it for yourselves. The door of the Samis Home, in the Samis District just north of Olds will always be open to welcome you.

MRS. A. W. SAMIS
 (Isabell Shields, formerly of Warwick.)

Editor's Note:—We thank you, Mrs. Samis, for all your kind words on Old Home Week, for all the interesting information you give us "stay-at-homers" back East about the banner province of the prairies. We hope some day to see the length and breadth of our great West from the head of the lakes to the Coast, but until that time comes, we appreciate the interesting letters forwarded us from time to time by our valued subscribers.

Would it not be interesting to have a Letter Box as a steady feature? May we ask all our readers who are far away from the old home town to write to our Letter Box—teach us a little geography

about your new home and give us a few pen pictures for our minds' eye of your scenery, your climate, your progress and all other information with which you may be able to enlighten us.



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W. M. S. CONVENTION

The annual Convention of the Strathroy District of the W. M. S. was held on Wednesday, Oct. 15, 1924, in the Methodist Church, Mt. Brydges. Mrs. Okell presided with Miss Erma Linton as secretary-treasurer.

Following Miss Linton's report and the reports of the various auxiliaries, Mission circles and bands, an interesting as well as instructive afternoon's programme was given consisting of a devotional half hour led by Mrs. Papineau of Strathroy, an acrostic on Stewardship by Mrs. Stuart of Petrolia and a drill on the blue book by Miss Mather of Melbourne.

Mrs. W. B. Smith superintendent of this district for a number of years was also re-elected with Mrs. Steadman also of Petrolia as assistant, Miss Linton was again elected secretary-treasurer.

The ladies of the Church served a very bountiful tea and Mrs. Parnaby welcomed the visitors to Mt. Brydges.

The evening session opened by a half hour of song and prayer. Miss Churchill of Petrolia, read her prize essay and was rewarded with a book, presented by Mrs. Okell.

Miss Lola Clark, lately returned missionary, told of the work in Japan. The following were some of the outstanding points in her address, that being a missionary was not a sacrifice but a privilege; that we should study the oriental as well as our own standpoint before excluding the Japanese from British Columbia; that the only superiority we have over the Jap is not one of race or color, but that which our under knowledge of Christ gives us; that the Japs are watching the outcome of the plebiscite vote in our provinces, a vote which if it carries will not make Canada more christian; that the American films are put before the Japanese as examples of our homes whereas they are but caricatures of them; lastly that we should love one another as I have loved you.

In the absence of Mrs. Gordon Wright, Mrs. Calder of London, reviewed some of the points of the coming plebiscite. One point was this, that the liquor interests would not be bringing on this plebiscite if the O. T. A. were not fulfilling at least a part of its mission.

The meeting closed by singing a hymn and a prayer by one of the visiting ministers.

FOR SALE—Ladies' new style paneled visiting cards at The Guide-Advocate. Phone your orders.

On The Trail Of The Moose

Have you followed the trail of the lordly moose through the flaming forests of the north and heard him call from the barrens or tracked the fleet-footed deer over newly-fallen snow, with the keen wind in your face while the trees cracked in the frost and the whole forest seemed vibrant with life? If you have you know the real joy of the Canadian autumn, which is never found on the city's streets nor in pulsing marts of commerce, but only in the clean open spaces and the fragrant silent woods.

Now that the leaves are turning crimson and gold you will begin to dream of the little hunting camp in the north woods, of sparkling dewy dawns, tramps through the fallen leaves, blasting camp fires, wondrous autumn nights and the bed of balsam boughs, for there is no tonic in all the world for a tired brain and a weary soul like a hunting trip in the Northern wilds.

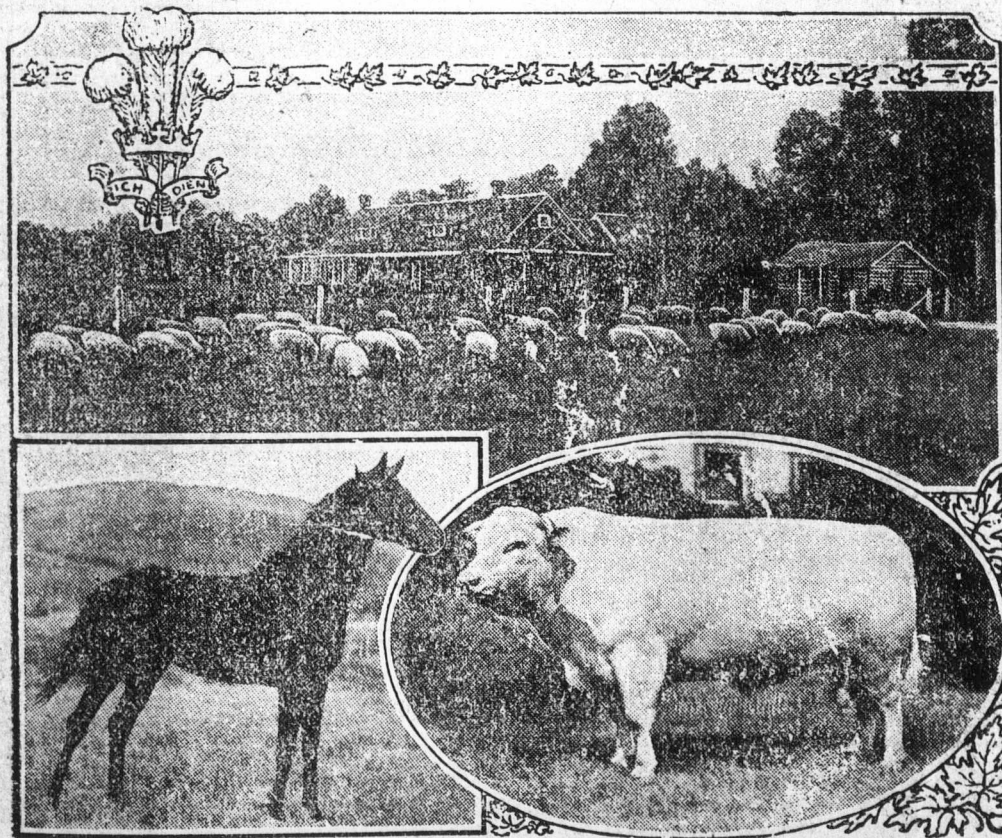
Canadian National Railways tap the choicest of the solitary hunting districts of Northern Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces and if you are going off on a hunt this year go to the nearest ticket office and procure a copy of "Hunting in Canada" which contains full information as to the various districts, accommodation and guides. Then pack up your rifle, sweater and togs and be off. o17-24-31

An Oil of Merit.—Dr. Thomas' Eclectic Oil is not a jumble of medicinal substances thrown together and pushed by advertising, but the result of the careful investigation of the healing qualities of certain oils as applied to the human body. It is a rare combination and it won and kept public favor from the first. A trial of it will carry conviction to any who doubt its power to repair and heal. m

The Commercial Hotel, Wardsville, was totally destroyed by fire early Saturday morning.

The indications of worms are restlessness, grinding of the teeth, picking of the nose, extreme peevishness, often convulsions. Under these conditions one of the best remedies that can be got is Miller's Worm Powders. They will attack the worms as soon as administered and they pass away in the evacuations. A little sufferer will be immediately eased and a return of the attack will not be likely. m

E. P. Ranch Improving Western Stock



(Top)—The Prince of Wales' best grass cutters are here seen at work on his ranch at High River, Alta. They are a famous herd and include many prize winners.
 (Left)—"Will Somers," a famous race-horse belonging to His Majesty the King, and loaned to the Prince of Wales, who is keeping him on his ranch at High River to improve the equine stock of Alberta.
 (Right)—"King of the Fairies"—a senior and grand champion Short Horn bull imported and owned by the Prince of Wales and one of the many fine animals on the Prince's Ranch at High River on the Calgary-Lethbridge branch of the Canadian Pacific.

The way to approach the E.P. ranch is from Calgary to High River, 40 miles south, on the Canadian Pacific Railway. From High River one has to drive southwest a distance of 35 miles through one of the richest grain-growing and stock-raising countries in North America. In the distance the jagged peaks of the Rockies dip the clouds and below, well-wooded, are the foothills. The road cuts through the centre of the "Bar-U" ranch and about one mile and a half from the limits of the "Bar-U" the low rambling bungalow where the Prince is now living is seen through a pretty glen. It is a homelike looking place typical of many a rancher's home in "Sunny Alberta." Here his Royal Highness goes "back to the land."

The Prince of Wales has never ceased to exhibit a keen interest in his ranch, and fresh indications are periodically given of the importance he attaches to it and the work it is doing. After purchasing the ranch, and before returning to England, the Prince made arrangements for the shipment of some of the best stock in the British Isles to the Canadian West. Thoroughbred horses came from the Royal stall, Shorthorns from the King's farm, Shropshire sheep from the Duke of West-

minster's estate, and hardy Dartmoor ponies from the Devon Moors, a type of animal previously unknown in Canada. From time to time since then fresh additions of the most excellent stock have been made. The work still continues.

In an area such as Western Canada, which has for years devoted itself to the elevation of the quality of livestock and has become internationally famous for the superior type of its horses and cattle, importations must be of an outstanding distinctiveness to be worthy of special note, but this the E.P. Ranch has effected. At Alberta provincial exhibitions the animals from High River are attractive features.

In its brief history, the E.P. Ranch has come to play an important part in the Western Canadian live-stock industry, and it has done not a little in the development of a more sympathetic understanding for Canadian agriculture in the British Isles. Its establishment was an indication of the importance attached to agriculture in the Dominions of the Empire its continuance and promotion an encouragement to the western live-stock industry, faith in the future, and a stimulus to the attainment of perfection in breeding.

Historic Site at Friendly Cove, B.C.



The historic past of the Nootka section of the West Coast was recalled recently when Lieutenant-Governor Walter C. Nichol, of British Columbia, unveiled and dedicated a monument commemorating the explorations of these great English navigators, Captain Cook and Captain Vancouver.

The monument was built under the auspices of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada which is placing similar memorials across the Dominion on sites hallowed by interesting chapters of Canadian history. A large party travelled on the Canadian Pacific S.S. Princess Maquinna for the ceremony and left the steamer at the cannery wharf, boarding launches for the short run to Friendly Cove. The party included Lieutenant-Governor Nichol, H. J. S. Muskett, his secretary, Judge Howay and Mr. Forsyth, Dr. C. S. Newcombe, the well-known historical authority who wrote the "Circumnavigation of Vancouver Island," Prof. W. N. Sage of the University of British Columbia, Mrs. R. B. McMicking, representing the I.O.D.E., Mrs. and Miss Howay, Thomas Deasy, late Indian agent for the Queen Charlotte agency and a pioneer of 1859, Dr. David Donald, Mrs. Cave-Browne-Cave, and Professor Macmillan Brown, chancellor of the University of New Zealand. Dr. Macmillan Brown is one of the leading ethnologists of the Pacific, and has been spending the summer on the coast investigating the Indians and their customs.

The new monument is seven feet broad by eleven feet high, with a standard size bronze tablet bearing the following inscription: "Nootka Sound, discovered by Capt. Cook, in March, 1778. In June, 1789, Spain took possession and established and maintained a settlement until 1795. The capture of British vessels in 1789 almost led to war, which was avoided by the Nootka Convention, 1790. Vancouver and Quadra met here in August, 1792, to determine the land to be restored under the convention."

A feature of the entertainment provided those who took part in the unveiling ceremony was the Indian dancing, arranged by aborigines from Clayoquot Sound, the Whanish of the early navigators' journals.

Tentative plans are afoot for an elaborate pageant to be held at Friendly Cove, Nootka Island, in four years time to celebrate the 150th anniversary of events commemorated by the unveiling of the cairn.