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The barn and contents belonging to John A. Mellow of Comber, were destroyed by fire a week ago. Nearly all the live stock was saved but two tractors, about 57 tons of hay and 15 acres of unthreshed timothy seed were destroyed. Loss on barn \$4,000 and contents \$5,000 with only \$2,000 insurance.

**Charms of Gaspe**

ONE of the most romantic and least-known holiday regions in Canada is the Gaspe coast—somewhat remote and inaccessible for the ordinary vacationist, but for the geologist, botanist, ornithologist, historian, artist and sportsman, an unending delight. Gaspe Peninsula forms the lower lip of the mouth of the St. Lawrence. The great ocean steamers pass too far to the north to see it as they skirt the shores of Anticosti, but it is just over the horizon to the southwest. The peninsula is deeply indented on the north by Gaspe Basin and on the south by the Baie de Chaleur, and on the point jutting out between them lies the picturesque village of Perce, with the famous pierced rock and the Island of Bonaventure just off shore. Gaspe Basin is familiar to Canadians as the secret rendezvous of the great Canadian Armada of thirty-two troopships which sailed for England on October 6, 1914.

Both the Basin and the Baie de Chaleur are known as among the first landing places of Jacques Cartier in 1534, but since that time the Gaspe coast has been better known for its cod fisheries and its extraordinary geological formations. The interior of Gaspe Peninsula is an unbroken and uninhabited wilderness of spruce and pine, a magnificent view of which may be obtained from Mont Ste. Anne, behind Perce village. The Gaspe coast is fringed with a strip of fertile farm land studded with a succession of thriving fishing villages with which is associated an interesting history. Three centuries ago the adventurous fishermen of Normandy used to sail their little ships across the Atlantic attracted by the rich cod-fishing awaiting them on the "banks" off the Gaspe coast, and from spring to winter the coast was a busy place, as the fishermen dried their fish on the shingly beaches or "flakes" of spruce and salted them down for shipment to France, the Mediterranean or South America.

About the year 1760 the fisheries became so important that permanent settlements were formed along the coast, and to Charles Robin, a shrewd member of an old Jersey family, is given credit for the organization and development of the cod-fishing industry which has flourished ever since. From the efforts of Charles Robin arose the great Charles Robin-Collas Co., still known as the "C. R. C." Red granite posts with "C. R. C." cut on them still mark the boundaries of their property. Like the Hudson Bay Co., it supplied the

fishermen with domestic supplies, etc., from the general stores established in the various villages, and in return the fishermen received credit for the fish they brought in. There were about thirty such stations, with headquarters at Paspebiac, on the Chaleur side, and reaching out even as far as the Labrador. Apprentices were brought out from the Channel Islands and trained in the cod fishing and mercantile business. It is not surprising that there is still a strong Channel Island atmosphere about the Gaspe coast. Jersey willows grow thickly in the villages. Jersey and Guernsey are still "home" to many of the old and new residents, who speak the old Norman French and crisp English equally well. They bear French names, as a rule, but there are no more devoted British Imperialists in the Empire than the sturdy islanders whose proud boast is that theirs is the only part of the British Empire which has never been conquered! The little churchyards on the hillside above the villages contain tombstones (cut in Jersey or Guernsey) showing the names of successive generations of historic Channel Island families, and the marriage registers of the coast clergy read like Channel Island directories. They are proud of their ancient lineage and there is a fine flavor of the old world in their charming courtesy of speech and hospitality. Much might be written of the cod-fishing; it still flourishes, with methods little altered from those of two centuries ago. The most attractive of the villages is Perce.

The background of the village is a vast amphitheatre sweeping up to the peak of Mont Ste. Anne, from which a wonderful view may be had of the sea, the forest interior, Gaspe Basin and the Baie de Chaleur. The approach by sea at early morning or in the evening is dramatic. A few hundred yards from shore, like a colossal warship advancing bow on, arises the pierced rock, a stupendous mass of limestone 1,500 feet long and 300 feet high, with two arches still remaining. Its origin and its fossils are magnets for geologists. To painters it is a delight and a despair; no artist will ever catch the delicate, fleeting tints which change hourly from dawn to sunset. Gulls wheel screaming around its lofty crest. Sombre cormorants speed to and fro. To see the Rock emerging from fog into sunshine is a glimpse into fairyland. Two miles distant lies Bonaventure Island, once the haunt of privateers but now the peaceful sanctuary for myriads of sea-fowl. Gannets and kittiwakes rest like banks of snow upon the ledges of its precipitous cliffs; puffins and murrelets stand guard near by. Of late Canadian Government ornithologists have made valuable studies of local bird life, and far back in 1843 Sir William Logan (to whom a tablet has recently been erected in Perce) made exhaustive studies of Gaspe's remarkable geology.

**Reign of Youthful King  
Who Was Hard to Manage  
End by Bite of Pet Monkey**

**K**ING ALEXANDER of Greece, who died from the effects of a monkey bite inflicted by his favorite pet, succeeded to the throne in June, 1917, when his father, King Constantine, abdicated in response to the demand of France, Great Britain and Russia, the three powers which had guaranteed the constitutional liberties of the Greek people. Alexander was the second son of Constantine, and at the time of his accession was not quite 24 years old. His elder brother, Crown Prince George, was considered ineligible for the throne because of alleged pro-German sympathies. In any event, King Constantine nominated Alexander to succeed him. The fall of Constantine had been brought about through the agency of the French Senator, M. Jonnart, who went to Athens in June, 1917, as a representative of the three great powers, on the ground that this step would establish unity of feeling among the Greeks and greater security for the entente forces then operating in the east. Constantine had been accused of pro-German sympathies partly on account of his



**KING ALEXANDER.**  
marriage to the Princess Sophie, sister of the then Emperor William of Germany, and it also was charged that he had not acted honorably toward the Allies. Alexander, on the other hand, was reported to be free from pro-German proclivities. Constantine left Athens and took up his residence in Switzerland. Alexander took the oath of office at Athens in August, 1917, and promised to carry out the policy of his father. This was said to have shocked the entente powers. It soon was reported that he was at odds with Premier Venizelos and had refused to abandon his idea of continuing his father's program. Some doubts were raised as to the advisability of permitting him to assume the throne unless he discontinued what was characterized as an obstructive policy. Reports of lack of harmony between Alexander and Venizelos were circulated in the spring of 1920, but the Premier disposed of these in a statement in which he paid tribute to the king's patriotism. One respect in which the king and his premier were said to have been at odds was over the king's morganatic marriage to Mile. Manos, daughter of a former aide-de-camp to his father, which is said to have taken place in November, 1919. No record of the marriage was obtainable owing to the fact that it was not recorded with the metropolitan of Athens, the supreme ecclesiastic authority of Greece. The young king and his morganatic wife were childhood friends and sweethearts. Alexander asserted that he had to right to marry whomever he pleased, and took his bride to the palace in Athens. This aroused a storm of discussion which so displeased his wife that in the early part of 1920 she went with her mother and sister to live in Paris, and Alexander visited her there in the following May. It was announced that the Greek constitution did not grant him permission to enter upon the morganatic marriage, and that action by the Greek Parliament would be necessary to determine whether Mile. Manos could become Queen of Greece or remain the king's official consort. Alexander's refusal to give up his wife was said to have created

**Eggs In Berlin.**

Eggs are so scarce and expensive in Berlin that those who are so fortunate as to own hens keep them in close confinement, taking them out for an airing each day, but usually keeping them in leash for safety.

**GOWNS DO CLING**

Paris Evening Attire Has Narrow Fish-Tail Train.

**Some Skirts Are Transparent and Worn Over Short and Rather Tight Slips.**

Some of the Parisian designers, writes a Paris correspondent, are making evening gowns which cling to the form, giving something of a mermaid aspect, for in nearly all cases the evening gowns of today show narrow trains of fish-tail design. In some cases these skirts are transparent and worn over short and rather tight slips made of silver or aluminum tissues. For young girls who go in a great deal for dancing, these latest models are ideal. They are so quaint and yet so very becoming. One might suppose that the hoops, which are made of gilded or silvered wire, would interfere with one's comfort when dancing, but not at all. They are so cleverly arranged that they are almost flat front and back, while they jut out at either side. In fact, the hips are oval instead of being round. But then these are dance frocks for young girls. They look ridiculous on women who have left their youth behind. For the latter—and I am not speaking of elderly women, only of those who are no longer in the "bud" stage—we have ideal evening dresses which are bunched at the sides without being distinctly hooped. Almost all the best of these models have remarkably plain corsages. This is an important note of the present season. The skirt of this dress is almost ankle-length. "Almost, but not quite." This is the latest idea in the rue de la Paix. All through the summer the Paris dressmakers cling to the ultra



Autumn model in topaz yellow taffeta, ochre lace and purple-and-silver glaze tissue roses.

short skirt. Our smartest actresses insisted on having models of this order—they would not accept anything else. Nevertheless, those who were behind the scenes knew that the order had gone forth to add a few inches to the early winter models. I am of the opinion that we have to thank American women for this most happy change, for they have consistently advocated ankle-length dresses. In Paris we have not yet reached this exact length, but we are approaching it slowly.

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