

is vastly different to that which would exist were a Canadian corporation applying. It has suited Mr. Connors' purposes to have it made known that he is a Canadian by birth. He is, however, by his affiliations and business connections and by choice, an American citizen, resident in Buffalo. He owns the two principal newspapers, the *Courier* and the *Enquirer*, published in that city. He is also the leading man in connection with the elevator trust at Buffalo. This corporation lost hundreds of thousands of dollars last year owing to labor difficulties, and there is a prospect that these difficulties will be renewed next season. Mr. Connors and his American associates therefore looked around to see how they could ward off the attack of the longshoremen, and think if they can get a site in the Harbour of Montreal, and make a bluff at sending a portion of the trade of Buffalo to the commercial metropolis of Canada, that they will be able to bring the Buffalo dock laborers to the employers terms.

Now, no one can fairly object to Mr. Connors and his friends adopting this course provided that in so doing they do not interfere with national rights, or the legitimate business aspirations of other corporations. In enabling Mr. Connors to carry out his project the suggestion of the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal to give him the very best site, to the exclusion and detriment of other Canadian corporations, can be characterized as little short of criminal. Mr. Connors has hypnotized the Montreal Harbour Commissioners so that they do not see the peril involved in the course they propose to take. Protests have been made against their action by prominent officials of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the Grand Trunk and the Canada Atlantic Railway Company.

The latter corporation, which has its home office in Ottawa, has just completed its second season's business over the line from Parry Sound to Coteau. Nearly 15,000,000 bushels of grain, which heretofore found its way to Europe through American ports, has been diverted to Canadian routes by the energy of one man. The indomitable pluck shown by Mr. J. R. Booth has made him an object of pride to his fellow citizens, and of envy on the part of other cities. Having just completed his great railway, and with an admirable line of boats on the great lakes, Mr. Booth is anxious to secure a convenient site in the Harbour of Montreal on which to erect elevators. The grant of the suggested site to Mr. Connors and his friends will leave practically no space available for Mr. Booth or the C. P. R. and Grand Trunk. Is it right; is it fair; is it patriotic to give the cream of the Harbour accommodation of Montreal to foreigners? We think not.

Review Notes.

The Christmas number of *The Saturday Evening Post* marks a new departure in periodical literature—the first successful attempt to give for five cents, stories, articles and pictures by the same writers and artists who make the high-cost magazines.

For example, the opening story in the Christmas Post is by Rudyard Kipling, and the tale that of Private Ortheris and his dog, Garm; Joel Chandler Harris tells "Why

the Confederacy Failed," a stirring story of the Secret Service; and Ian MacLaren, Justin McCarthy, M.P., John Luther Long, M. E. M. Davis, W. C. Coup and W. S. Harwood contribute stories and articles. The verse in the number is by Edwin Markham, Frank L. Stanton, Mary E. Wilkins and Clinton Scollard.

The half-tone page headings, illustrating Christmas in History, are by Charles Louis Hinton, Frank and Joe Leyendecker, W. S. Lukens, George Gibbs, F. L. Fithian, Emlen McConnell and Harrison Fisher. The handsome colored cover is by Henry Hutt. The Christmas Post will be on all news-stands December 21.

Amongst new books that will be issued shortly "In Old France and New," by Wm. McLennan; "Beyond the Hills of Dream," by W. W. Campbell; "Lives of the Lieut-Governors of Upper Canada," by D. B. Reid, Q.C.; and "Types of Canadian Women, Past and Present," will perhaps be of most interest to Canadians. The authors are all Canadians, Mr. Wm. McLennan, a popular lawyer of Montreal, whose two novels, "Spanish John" and "The Span O'Life," the latter written in collaboration with Miss Jean McIlwraith of Hamilton, have been exceedingly well received. In his new volume, "Old France and New" he re-publishes two series of short stories which a few years ago appeared in Harper's. The series relating to Old France appeared under the collective title "As Told to His Grace." Those dealing with New France were in dialect, which occasioned some very favorable comment. Mr. McLennan is now in Italy, where, for the benefit of his health, he will spend the winter.

Miss McIlwraith whose very successful collaboration with Mr. McLennan in the "Span O' Life," together with her previous novel, the "Making of Mary" has brought her well deserved laurels will issue through Briggs a History of Canada for Young People.

I shall now, however, proceed to estimate the area within the Canadian Northwest, including the Province of Manitoba and the Provisional Districts of Assiniboia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Athabasca, which could, under favorable market conditions, be made to contribute to the world's wheat supply. Mr. A. M. Burgess, late Commissioner of Dominion Lands, fixed the area of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories fit for agricultural operations at about 390,000 square miles. I am inclined to think, however, that this calculation is far too liberal. A moderate estimate of the tract lying within the wheat belt, as defined by the Geological Surveys Branch of the Department of the Interior, would be 262,000 square miles. This includes the Peace River District where wheat has been successfully grown for years. Out of this area, 101,000 square miles are located within the semi-arid district, leaving 161,000 square miles of wheat lands under favorable climatic and soil conditions. An allowance should be made of some 25 per cent. of the total to cover lands unfit for cultivation owing to adverse topographical features, which would leave a balance of some 121,000 square miles, or 77,440,000 acres.

The Canadian Irrigation Surveys Corps has carefully measured the water supply available for the irrigation of the semi-arid district, and the supply which could readily be made available through the construction of a system of storage reservoirs on the east slope of the Rocky Mountains, and it has been found that, estimating on the basis of one second foot of water for every hundred acres (the duty of water as fixed at present) an area of 6,500,000 acres can be artificially watered within the semi-arid district. This, added to the area under humid conditions, would bring the total wheat lands of Manitoba and the Northwest up to about 84,000,000 acres.—C. W. Peterson in "Canadian Magazine."