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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1920

SOCIETY LADY CHANNEL SWIMMER



Mrs. Arthur Hamilton, doing land exercise as instructed by Charles Newman, in preparation for her attempt to swim the English Channel this month. She is here seen doing breast stroke exercise.

STATE PLAYGROUND HAS 2,000,000 ACRES

Adirondack and Catskill Parks Within Twelve Hours of 20,000,000 Persons

Equal National Preserves — Care of Vacationists Now a Vast Industry — Their Number Rapidly Growing.

(N. Y. Times.)

The people of New York State own a forest preserve which, in size and beauty, is comparable to any of the national parks. The Adirondacks and Catskill State Parks, which now aggregate approximately two million acres in extent, are as important and as interesting as any others in the broad scheme of parks and recreation centres which are being rapidly developed in all parts of the United States.

In one respect they are far more so. They are within twelve hours' journey of twenty million persons, and constitute the wildest and most beautiful region that will ever be accessible to most of them. Everywhere throughout the forest preserve region, in both Adirondack and Catskill, the use of this great vacation ground is increasing at a tremendous rate, until now the most important business of the region is that of caring for vacationists.

More money is invested in hotel and other properties, more workers are employed, more wages are paid, and the annual turnover is greater, than in the entire lumber business, which once figured as the most important activity of the mountains. State roads and auto routes are largely responsible for this increase in the number of vacationists. The wonders of the forest preserve are thus described in The Conservationist by Warwick S. Carpenter, secretary of the Conservation Commission:

World's Oldest Peaks.

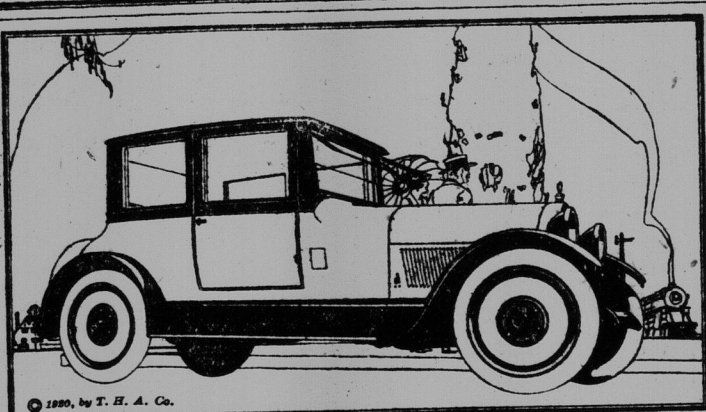
In the Adirondacks are the world's oldest mountains. Far back in the aeons of unrecorded time, beside which the longest periods of history and tradition are as fleeting moments, the great crest of the Laurentian system of rocks, the Adirondacks, thrust its peaks above the primordial ocean. They were rough and jagged—the world's first Rockies. Geologists can even now trace out their extent and locate the approximate shore line of the Appalachians and Rocky Mountains. These latter are veritable newcomers. Through all of the ages that intervened the rough peaks of the Adirondacks have eroded and rounded, mellowed by time, and covered with the finest forests of the East.

The lapse of time, however, has not destroyed the primal grandeur of the Adirondacks. One need not go to the West for rugged mountains to climb or deep passes to tread. Mt. Marcy, called by the Indians "Tahawus," the Cloud Splitter, rises 5,344 feet above sea level, high enough to cleave the clouds on all but the most perfect days. In every direction are peaks of only slightly lesser height that, taken together, constitute the finest climbing country in the East.

Immediately under the east foot of Marcy is Panther Gorge, of wild and rugged beauty. A little to the west, between Mt. Golden and Mt. McIntyre, is the deep cleft of Avalanche Pass, with the precipitous sides of the mountains rising on either hand, so that the only passage is over the water of Avalanche Lake itself. Avalanche Lake is the highest lake of any size in New York State, and in its deep mountain setting is one of the most secluded and inspiring pictures of the wilderness.

Rich in Indian Lore.

Still further west is Indian Pass, highway of the Indians in their pre-historic journeys north and south. Their superstition is said to have peopled it with staghorn giants, supernatural beings, who lived upon human flesh. If one looked upon them, he immediately turned to stone, after the manner of the snake locks. This one tradition alone, with its striking similarity to that of ancient Greece, is enough to hold the interest of any student of folk lore, as he stands on the



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old Indian trail at the summit of the Pass and looks back over one of the most beautiful scenes in the Adirondacks. The deep gorge of the Pass, the dark, sweeping, tree-covered slopes of McNaughton, Henderson and Santanoni, and immediately at hand the thousand-foot precipice of Wallace, make it a spot of singular interest and appeal, which, in common with the long chain of mountains on either side, should be carefully guarded as the heritage of every succeeding generation of citizens, and be made accessible to them to the fullest possible extent.

Further west is the lake region of the Adirondacks. Beginning with the Fulton Chain of Lakes, at the south, it swings in a long series of lakes and rivers, broken only by short carries, to the Saranac and St. Regis Lakes on the north. Through these lakes trips of more than one hundred miles can be made in guide boats or canoes, with mountain climbing trips on either side that are of only slightly lesser interest than those of the great peaks around Marcy. Throughout the entire lake region the forests are among the finest in the Adirondacks.

Come of the Wilderness.

Of all the 1,500 lakes, set within nearly 2,000 peaks, there is none more beautiful, either in the Adirondacks or elsewhere, than Lake George, which Father Isaac Jogues first saw in 1666. He was taken through it as a captive of the Iroquois, and had just run the gauntlet and endured horrible tortures. Nevertheless, the beauty of the lake so impressed him that he christened it Lac du Saint Sacrament. It has been likened to the lakes of the Swiss Alps, and called "Come of the Wilderness." In early Colonial history it was an important link in the highway of travel north and south, which include the Hudson River, Lake George, and Lake Champlain, and has thus been inseparably associated with some of the most vital and picturesque incidents in early American history. More than one hundred of its islands are part of the Chautau of the Forest Reserve.

An Sable Chautau has been called a veritable miniature of the Grand Canyon. While not state property, it is an important scenic feature of the mountains. The Catskill are younger, but none the less beautiful and interesting in their different way. There Rip Van Winkle had his long sleep and there each summer hundreds of thousands of tired city dwellers now find whatever rest and relaxation they ever get from the driving pace of city life.

In all parts of the Catskill Mountains the scenery is justly celebrated. Slide Mountain, the highest mountain in the region, raises its majestic form to an elevation of 4,204 feet, surrounded by a multitude of lesser peaks. Here are deep, cool valleys, rocky gorges and gorges, whose silence is broken only by rushing cascades or by murmur of woodland sounds. Indeed, on every side the eye is greeted by an array of scenery not surpassed throughout the state. Flat Clove, Kaaterskill and Stony Clove contain views as wonderful as any in the mountains, with forests that in many respects are comparable to those of the Adirondacks.

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

James McParlane, aged 18, had his left arm torn off in a saw mill at Chatham Head yesterday afternoon. He was rushed to the Miramichi hospital. The Canadian Pharmaceutical Association in session in Montreal, elected J. B. Tremble of Montreal president and George E. Hibbard, of Toronto, secretary. The following New Brunswick men were appointed to committee: Col. McKensie, legislation committee; A. W. Coombs, Canadian formulary; G. O. Spencer, pharmaceutical education; E. Clinton Brown, commercial interests; H. H. Woodworth, financial interests. Mystic Shriners to the number of about 200 are in session in Charlottetown. A large delegation arrived yesterday from Nova Scotia. Inquiry into the cause of the collision near the city of Quebec last Sunday morning between the steamer Tunisian and the steamer Manchester Division opened in Montreal yesterday before Dominion Week Commissioner L. A. Demers with Captain J. B. Henry and Captain M. H. Robinson as assessors. The inquiry was continued today. A boy named Burns was bitten by a jelly fish while bathing at Smith's Cove, near Digby recently. The part affected looked as though it had been severely burned.

Dr. W. Fred Park, for many years mayor and magistrate of Amherstburg, and Sam Renaud, a truckman of Amherstburg, Ont., charged with violation of the O. T. A., pleaded guilty on Wednesday and are now out on bail awaiting sentence.

Canadian trade for the first four months of the fiscal year ending on July 31 shows an increase in value amounting to \$168,480,404 over the same period in 1919. The total value of domestic

merchandise exported, however, was some \$15,000,000 less than during the four months period in 1919. John Bain has been appointed head of the publicity department of the National Liberal and Conservative party, and expired in a few minutes. The wheat crop of Manitoba this year is worth approximately \$117,500,000 to the producers. The estimated average found by the searching party.

in the province is 2,687,000 acres, giving a total estimated crop of 47,023,500 bushels. Three young girls named Bellevue became lost in the woods near East Memramcook while blueberrying on Tuesday and spent a night and nearly all the next day in the woods before being found by the searching party.

Guy Kilcup, of Sackville, was tried at Dorchester yesterday on the charge of having carnal knowledge of a girl under fourteen years of age. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary.

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