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BILL AND DAN MEET
"One spring morning early in the eighties, when the warm breath of the first 'chinook' was loosening the snow in the gorges," writes Isaac F. Marcossin in Munsey's Magazine, "two men met near the little town of Kicking Horse Lake, at the foot of the Canadian Rockies. One was big, bronzed, and bearded, an up-standing giant of a contractor, who got more work out of the 'navvies' than any other boss up and down the Canadian Pacific. 'Dan' was what they dubbed him. The other man was thin, sinewy, but with an intense and concentrating energy that had overcome fire and flood on trail and river. They called him 'Bill.'"

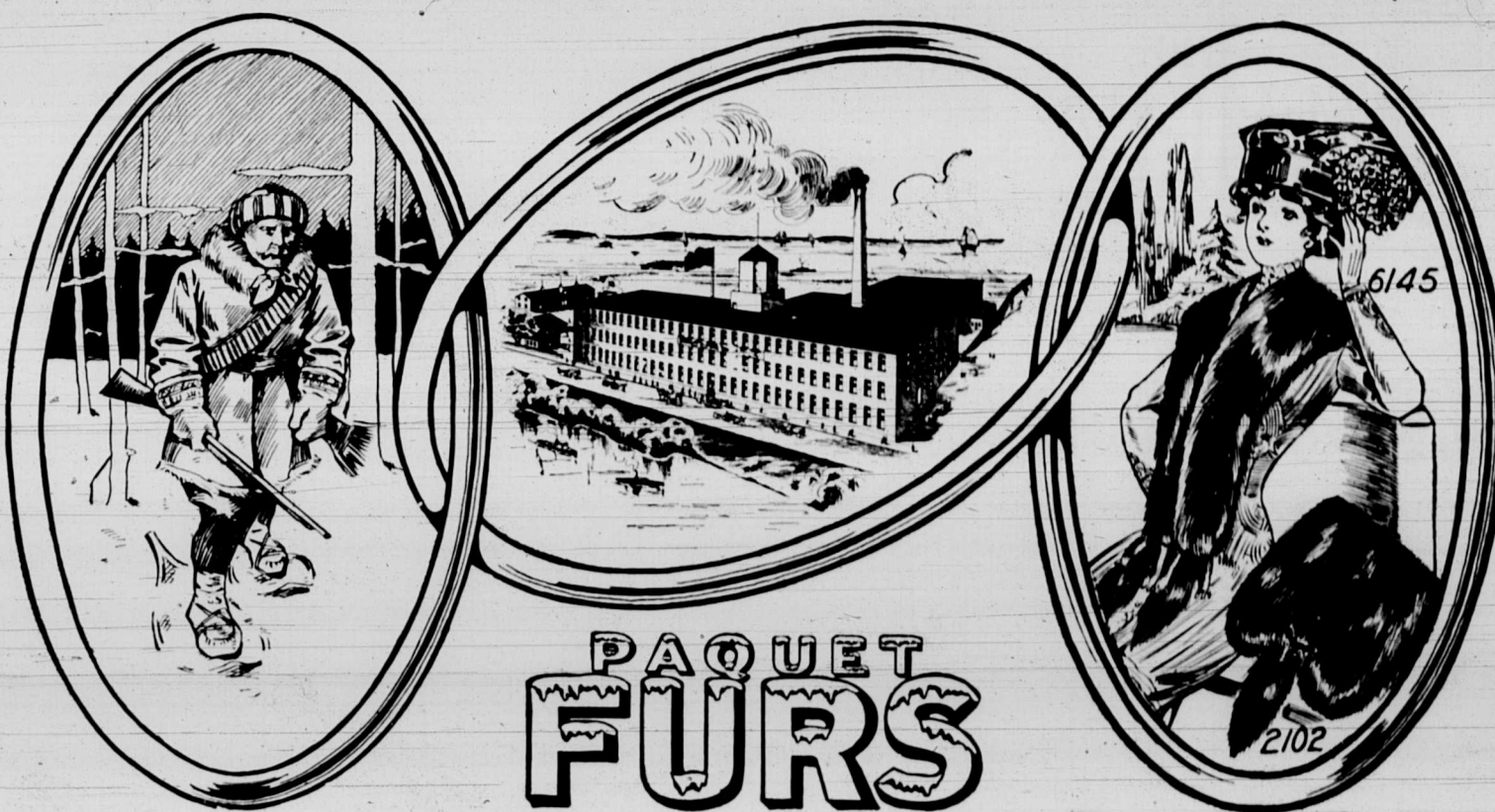
"Morning," said Bill.

"Morning," answered Dan.
"Going to town?" asked the first.
"Yes; grub is getting low," was the reply.
"Together they followed the path of the glistening new steel rails laid on tamarack ties still fresh with the forest smell. Dan had been laying sections; Bill had been setting up snow-sheds and saw-mills; both were part of the heroic but unsung force that was blazing the way of the Canadian Pacific across the backbone of Western Canada. Each had heard of the other, and now they were making swift but silent appraisal. Strength was measuring strength. It was the first meeting between William Mackenzie and Donald D. Mann.
"Out of that chance contact sprang

an alliance which has spelled empire for Canada. Today Mackenzie and Mann are the most picturesque and constructive figures in the whole Dominion. They are still builders, only they have a 'Sir' in front of their names, and an army of men behind them. Single-handed, they have built the Canadian Northern system, a performance without a precedent. What is more, they still own it, which is equally remarkable.
"They have pushed the frontier off the map; they have redeemed the Prairie Provinces; they have translated their ambitions into teeming terms of a hundred communities, from the plains to the mountains. For fourteen years they have averaged a mile of new track every day, Sundays included, and this growing grid-

iron of steel has helped to give Canada a new birth of industrial and commercial power. The time is in sight when the iron links of their lines, reaching in from sea to sea, will join to form a transcontinental system that is unique in the history of railroads.
"The story of most railroads is the story of the men who built them. Yet, by some curious freak of fate, the builder is lost in the myriad chances that usually beset the enterprise. Nowhere in the world, save in the instance presented by the Canadian Northern, has an actual constructor become the owner."

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