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FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1924

"Squibographs"

A Philadelphia paper intimates that if monkeys had votes Mr. Bryan would favor evolution.

Drugstore bandits can draw money from the cash register without the aid of mustard plasters.

None of the athletes at the Olympic games equalled the recent high jump record of the wheat market.

Cabinet changes are becoming a habit in Europe. After a brief tenure of office another Greek cabinet has fallen.

Bacon and hockages may soon be in the de luxe class. It is predicted that the price of pork will follow the flight of wheat.

Bank bandits are increasing their sphere of activity. Moscow and Cuba were given their first demonstration of aggressive finance last week.

The Brazilian Government is said to regard the insurrection in that country as a tempest in a coffee pot, with the probability that it will go up the spout.

A California city has added two professional baseball catchers to its police force. They are experts at nabbing men caught stealing and can hit hard in a pinch.

The man who owns a comfortable and well-equipped summer cottage within easy driving distance of town is surprised to learn how popular he is among a wide and thirsty lot of friends.

Having in mind the freak forms observed at bathing beaches, President Ebert of Germany was quite justified in prosecuting the artist who took a snapshot of him in his bathing suit.

Parties to divorce cases in Canadian courts have been charged with many offenses, but never with "excessive piety", which is regarded as cause for dissolving the marriage tie in Moscow.

Queen Marie of Roumania has just completed a novel, a thrilling mountain love story. The atmosphere of Roumania is charged with thrills providing ample material for tales of romance and tragedy.

Asked to name the ten best books for a honeymoon trip, a New York paper suggested: Cheque book, pocketbook, route book, hotel red book, book of cigarette papers and five books of stamps for postcards.

A wedding in high life took place in California Saturday when the ceremony was performed in an airplane. Instead of the Wedding March the pilot might have whistled "Wait Till the Clouds Roll By."

Predicts Serious Losses From Ontario Barn Fires

Present Catchy Weather Will Induce Farmers to Hasten Mowing, and Spontaneous Combustion Follows in Many Cases, Says Fire Marshal Heaton—Advises Curing in Cocks.

"Barn fire losses in Ontario during 1923 amounted to over two and a half million dollars. Present indications point to as bad a record this year, but I am satisfied that this heavy bill could be cut in two if all farmers were induced to cure their hay properly in cocks."

This is the timely warning sounded by Ontario Fire Marshal E. P. Heaton, at the beginning of the haying season in the greater part of the Province. There are many people who still scoff at spontaneous combustion, but Mr. Heaton has gathered statistics which must convince the most skeptical.

"Last year," he said, "we had our first clear case of spontaneous combustion in a barn on June 20, and between that time and July 20 there were 41 'mysterious' fires reported involving a loss of \$125,000. Investigations showed quite clearly that the fires were due to spontaneous combustion in the hay mows. This year up to the present time not a single case of spontaneous combustion has been reported."

The reason for this condition is very simple. The lack of losses to date is simply due to the lateness of the season. There has been little hay stored away yet, whereas the bulk of the crop was in the barn by the middle of June in 1923.

There has been some improvement noted in curing, according to Mr. Heaton, particularly in the alfalfa growing sections of Halton, but no general betterment is reported by his observers, who have covered 31 counties and travelled 2,000 miles through the Province in the last few months. The present catchy weather and the scarcity and high price of help will induce many farmers to make haste in haying again this year and Mr. Heaton predicts heavy losses from spontaneous combustion, particularly in those districts in Eastern Ontario where alfalfa is a comparatively new crop. "Teddors and hay loaders will be used to get the crop under cover in 24 hours," stated the Fire Marshal, "and it is certain that heavy losses will follow."

Spontaneous combustion, explained Mr. Heaton, is simply due to improperly cured hay heating up in the mow. Sometimes cured fodder in the barn is revived by snow blowing in upon it, or water coming through a leaky roof or tank. It is important that the hay is properly cured in the field, and carefully protected.

Mr. Heaton strongly advises the old way of curing, especially for our heavy clovers and alfalfa. "Put it up in cocks, and leave it for at least ten days," he says. "If possible use cheap covers for the cocks. This takes time and labor, I know, and sometimes the weather is not favorable, but is it not preferable to lose a load or two through weathering than to risk the whole crop, and barn as well?"

The heating does not usually occur before ten days after the green hay is put in the barn, and the proper point for combustion may not be reached for 40 to 60 days. This explains why the spontaneous combustion losses are as heavy during July, August and September in normal years as they are in all the rest of the months put together.

For those farmers who will not believe in spontaneous combustion, and insist on rushing the hay into the barn a few hours after cutting, Mr. Heaton urges thorough spreading of the various loads through the mow and the sprinkling of seven or eight quarts of salt over each load.

Green hay in the barn undoubtedly attracts lightning, claims Mr. Heaton, the vapor from the hay, like that from an ice house, making the building more susceptible to attack.

The observers of the Fire Marshal's office who have been travelling through the Province estimate that the total Ontario crop will run about a ton and a half per acre.

Here and There

Glass tubes filled with water are used as incubators for trout eggs at the Ontario Government Hatcheries.

Designed to prevent mildew, a Californian has invented a device which sprays wet or dry sulphur over grape vines.

More than 36 tons of food are required daily to feed hogs on a California ranch and it is distributed by means of an electric railway using side dump cars.

The light producing apparatus of the glow worm and firefly is said to be the most efficient in the world. The glow worm light is eighty times more efficient than a tungsten lamp.

Construction of a million and a half dollar factory building has commenced in Cornwall, Ont., which, when completed, will give employment to 500 hands. Artificial silk will be manufactured from pulpwood.

Crossing from Cherbourg to Quebec in 5 days 19 hours, the Canadian Pacific S.S. Empress of France created a new record for the trans-Atlantic voyage. Her average speed on the record run was 20.155 knots.

Montreal officers of the Dominion Express Company state that the strawberry shipments this year have been much heavier than heretofore. The Ontario crop ripened quickly, but was easily disposed of.

Alberta Government wolf-hunters will this season again penetrate the barren land and wage war on the timber-wolves which prey on the caribou herds. Last season the hunters killed off several hundred of the predatory beasts in the country north-east of Great Slave Lake.

Beginning in the Autumn, German express trains will be equipped with combination radio and wireless telephones, enabling the sending of wireless messages, telephoning and the giving of radio concerts while the train is travelling at a high rate of speed.

A world's record for his senior two-year old Holstein Friesian Heifer, Williamsburg Pontiac, is claimed by Dr. M. W. Locke, Williamsburg, Ont., as a result of a 30 day test showing production of 2,788.5 pounds of milk and 113.92 lbs. butter fat, equivalent to 148.8 lbs. of butter.

The official Railway Guide, in commenting on the Air service which connects with the Canadian Pacific Railway at Angliers says: "so far as we are aware this is the first instance on this continent where interchange of passenger traffic between railways and airplanes has been established."

In his address to the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, at Wembley, July 17th, E. W. Beatty, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway stated that the amounts spent on colonization by the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Canadian Government from the year 1881 totalled respectively \$67,000,000 and \$85,000,000.

During the last four years the Canadian Pacific Railway has handled some 85,000 west-bound harvesters. Last year this company inaugurated the lunch-counter car, which afforded facilities hitherto unknown, and, although perhaps not as a direct result of this innovation, over 26,000 men travelled in special trains over Canadian Pacific lines.

The unveiling of a monument to Tom Wilson, earliest guide in the Canadian Rockies featured the first day's meeting of the two hundred and six members of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies at Yoho Camp. Mr. Wilson, who was present at the ceremony and, now sixty-five years of age, resides at Enderby, B.C., discovered Lake Louise and the Yoho in 1882.

A. D. MacTier, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific eastern lines, who awarded to the McAdam team the First Aid Challenge Cup, which they won in competition with teams from North Bay, Toronto, Windsor Station and Angus, stated that since the Canadian Pacific Council of the St. John Ambulance Association was inaugurated in 1909, over twenty thousand employees of the Company have received instruction in First Aid. The last annual report of the St. John Ambulance Association referred to the Canadian Pacific as the "premier railway centre."

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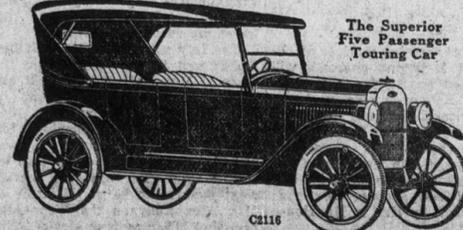
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