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### OUR MOUNTAIN HERITAGE

Canada's Alps Constitute Twenty Swisslands in One.

In estimating the assets of Alberta, Canada, one important item is nearly always omitted—its mountain region. In Eastern Canada and in the United States the Canadian mountains are supposed to lie entirely within the confines of British Columbia. Let us look at the facts. The boundary between these two provinces is defined as the continental watershed. With the swing it takes to the west, it places the largest portion of the great Columbian ice field, said to contain an area of 200 square miles within the Province of Alberta. And so on to the north.

"What does it matter, anyway?" says the "Practical" man who knows it all. "There is no mineral and no money in those mountains." Certainly there is no money at present for anybody except the railway company with brains enough to exploit the mountain centres of beauty. Look at the little republic of Switzerland, which understands the value of mountains to a nation. In 1907, the latest date on which we have authoritative figures, the income to hotel keepers from tourists was over eighty million dollars, and this is steadily increasing. Now, hotel keepers are not the only ones who benefit. The hotels have to be supplied with food and necessities; horses and carriages are in large demand, and even such a business as the curiosity and "notion" seller becomes important to a degree that is almost incomprehensible to us. The societies of guides, practically trade unions, are important corporations, handling large sums.

Canada possesses 200,000 square miles of high snow-clad ranges, unique in their scenic beauty and Alpine attractions. "Twenty Swisslands in one," is the oft-quoted remark of the celebrated mountaineer, Edward Whymper. But such comparisons, true as they may be, are really of little value. It is the difference that gives our mountains their charm, not their similarity to those of other mountains of finer outline and of greater height, but there are nowhere such lakes as Louise or O'Hara, or those in the region from whence flows the great Saskatchewan. And so long as there remains inherent in healthy human nature the love of adventure, of exploring the wilder, the more inaccessible, the more sublime, the more satisfying it. Among the giants of the snow-clad ranges men can get away from their business cares, from themselves, and obtain real recreation.

But is not mountaineering very dangerous? To that one may reply that we take greater risks than those involved in the sport every day in our crowded cities, and think nothing of them, because they are so common. A great English schoolmaster, of the end of the nineteenth century, refused to recognize lawn tennis as a school game because there was no danger connected with it, and, therefore, no discipline of character. This gives food for thought.

The exploitation of all high ranges the world over: the Alps, the Himalayas, the Caucasus, the Andes, the high Alps of New Zealand, have, in the instance, been carried out by members of Alpine clubs. The earliest, the parent and most famous of them all, is the Alpine Club of England, organized in 1857, and among its younglings is the Alpine Club of Canada. Before this was started in 1906, there were practically no Canadian mountaineers. A few American citizens, a few English people passing through on their way from India or Australia, along with a few scientists, made up the meagre roll of climbers. Now the club is well on the way to a membership of six hundred, and though started as a national organization, it has become international, with connections reaching to Great Britain, the United States, Australia, South Africa, Switzerland, Holland and Italy. With ramifications spreading throughout the vast area of Canada, the club keeps in constant touch with its members by means of local committees in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg and Toronto. A local committee has also been formed in New York, of which the committee's president and vice-president of England's Alpine Club are members.

The "Knowall" sees no sense in a club for climbing mountains. It is surprising, however, how a little knowledge of real—not assumed—facts clears the air.

### Canadian Soil in Scotland.

Few visitors to the parade ground of the historic castle of Edinburgh are aware that they stand on what is legally Canadian soil. In 1621, eight years after James VI. went to London, and the two crowns were united, the King, desirous to give an outlet to his countrymen, gave Sir William Alexander, of Menstrie, afterwards Earl of Stirling, a charter of all the country between the River St. Croix, the St. Lawrence, Newfoundland, and New England. This territory was named New Scotland. St. Croix River became the Tweed, and Cape Breton became New Galloway. This new colony for administrative purposes was by a legal fiction connected with Edinburgh. In order to raise money to help to found the colony the King instituted the Order of Baronets of Nova Scotia. This hereditary title was to be given to a gentleman of good birth, who was obliged to send a certain number of men and to pay a certain sum of money for the expenses of this plantation of New Scotland, and there were many families of the old nobility who had still some of the titles of Baronet of Nova Scotia. In 1625, immediately after the death of King James, the Order was instituted and the ceremony took place in the courtyard of Edinburgh Castle. For the purpose of the institution by royal decree the place was declared to be an integral part of the new colony. As the decree has never been annulled it still remains intact and the parade ground is legally an integral part of Nova Scotia.

### Lucky to Get That.

Pretty soon lovely woman will be seen with a towel around her head, and a poor man, will be eating hard-boiled eggs off a basket in the back woodshed.—Brantford Courier.

### CLIMBING MOUNT ROBSON.

English Mountaineer and Swiss Guide Admits It Is Too Much For Him.

The mountain climber is the only one real artist. Your aviator is not an artist—he doesn't work. The lank-haired chap who occasionally deluges editorial desks with beribboned manuscripts only imagines that his cranium is in the clouds. Really, the rustling femme charmante who strives for the high notes in the social scale approaches more to the climber.

Mr. A. L. Mumm, an Englishman, lately has been trying some high performing in the West at Yellowhead Pass out Rocky Mountain way. He has attempted to foot it up Mount Robson, whose peak pokes its head into the misty vapors seventeen thousand, five hundred feet above terra firma. That's somewhat harder than picking your way upstairs at two a.m.—plus. The mountain climber has no engine to pump him up. He just digs his heels in the mud and climbs every step of the way. And when he gets there, and looks at the ants and their mole hills! Monarch of all he surveys is your mountain climber in hackneyed phraseology. With head on the dome of heaven, he is statesman and poet rolled into one.

Mr. Mumm did not conquer Robson. He started out there in July, and for two months has been waiting for the snow to melt on the side of the monster. The slides on Robson frightened even his Swiss guide. Mumm has just returned to Edmonton and says that Robson is too much for him. He has given the project considerable of his time. Last year he and L. M. Amery, Earl Grey's journalistic friend, went out to Robson in August. They got into a snow storm and slide reminiscent of the glacial epoch. Messrs. Mumm and Amery climbed into their winter underwear and wore. Says Mumm: "I think that Robson is a peak that will never be climbed very often." Robson has been captured once. A mild, retired clergyman, Rev. A. Kinney, and a pastor, Phillips of the G.T.P. got to the top—nearly dropping their lives. The jaunt up and back took them two whole days.

Climber Mumm has done some tall work in the Alps. In the Rockies, his altitude record is eleven thousand feet made this summer on a neighboring hill of Robson's.

### A Remedy Suggested.

The two things which struck the people who came in contact with Father Vaughan while he stayed in Canada were his vigor and the very practical nature of everything he said. He seemed to be a man who could not possibly deal in abstracts, which characteristic will doubtless keep him in the public eye. While he speaks he may always be counted upon to "say something," and he has the courage of his convictions, even when they do not prove very popular. One little anecdote about him indicates that he is equally practical in his actions, and does not believe in spending his time upon futile trips or in unproductive effort.

His schedule did not allow him to stay in Canada as long as he would have liked, and his friends wished him to make some changes so as to see more of that city. He consulted Father Burke, who informed him that if he stayed in Toronto it would be necessary to curtail his visit to Niagara Falls.

"Well, I would not mind that," said Father Vaughan, "is there anything to see there except water?"

This is a sequel to this little incident, which shows that the now famous remarks about Protestantism displeased even some members of his own faith. They may have agreed with his views, but the experience of living in a community of mixed religions had taught them to use a little tact in voicing some of their convictions. One of these priests, who doubtless feared a little hard feeling in his own parish, heard the remark of the English orator concerning Niagara Falls, but he did not seem at all amused by it. He may have resented the reflection upon Ontario's chief side-show, or the Montreal speech may have been worrying him. "He would have been told that it is an excellent place for some persons to soak their heads," was his only comment.

### Kathleen Parlow's Success.

Kathleen Parlow, the brilliant Canadian violinist, has been having tremendous success on the continent says Musical Courier. At her recent appearance at the Kurhaus at Scheveningen, she met with extraordinary appreciation. The demand for admittance was so great that the prices for seats had to be extended far beyond the regular rates, but the place was crowded and the audience wildly enthusiastic. Miss Parlow is now in Norway and the press there has acclaimed her to be one of the greatest artists to visit that country. After the termination of her Norwegian tour she will return to Holland to fill some fifteen engagements, after which she will leave for the United States and Canada on a short tour.

### Poor Boys' Academy.

J. J. Kelso, who looks after neglected children in Ontario, has an idea. He is advertising for \$50,000 to carry it out. Mr. Kelso wishes to build a poor boys' academy. At present the poor boy takes a chance at the rich boys' school. That is the good poor boy. The bad poor boys are committed to the Industrial School, where they wear a uniform, and, as Mr. Kelso remarks, are placed under the stigma of the criminal. Mr. Kelso's suggestion is open to discussion. Would he mix good and bad poor boys at his academy?—Canada's Courier.

### Wouldn't Make a Big City.

Were Berlin and Waterloo to unite now, the new city thus formed would jump ahead of the smaller cities, right on the heels of Kingston and Brantford. Waterloo's returns show an increase for the year of 196, and the present population is 4,620, which, with Berlin's 14,600, leaves less than 20,000 necessary to pass the 20,000 mark. In ten years the increase of Berlin alone was 4,914, so that it is now considerably larger than were the two towns together a decade ago.

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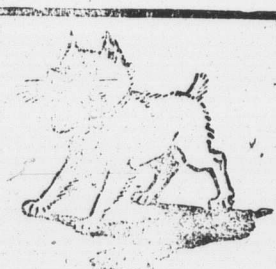
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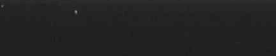
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