



THE WATCHFUL BRIDE

After the ceremony the best man handed the minister an envelope, saying "Five dollars, from the groom." One of the intimate friends of the bride and bridegroom quickly grabbed for the envelope and, taking it from the clergyman's hand, opened it. A \$2 bill was found inside.

The best man was notified, thinking a mistake had been made. The best man and bridegroom both expressed astonishment, declaring the envelope had been tampered with. Finally the bride spoke up and confessed that she had secretly abstracted \$5 from the envelope, because she thought \$5 was too much to pay for such a small service.

WITH THE PRINCE ON TWO TOURS

Press Photographer With King George's Eldest Son.

(By Ernest Brooks, the King's Photographer.)

"Which of the two tours accomplished by the Prince of Wales was the best from your point of view?" On many occasions since my return to England, this question has been asked me, and always in reply I have said, "My point of view is that of a press photographer, and, speaking as such, I have no hesitation in saying that the three months' tour in Canada was decidedly the best."

My answer has evoked no small amount of surprise, and has invariably resulted in another query being put—"Why?"

To that query I have replied, "Because in Canada I had excellent facilities for doing the work I went to accomplish. Thanks to those facilities, I obtained far better pictures than I was able to obtain on the last tour with the Prince of Wales."

Comparisons are, I know, odious, and if in the following brief statement of facts I draw comparisons between events which happened in Canada on the last tour, I trust that my friends who so nobly assisted me in Australia and New Zealand will not take offence. Facilities to the press photographer are everything, for taking his picture, of the facilities for developing his negatives, of printing from his developed plates, and of dispatching immediately his finished prints to the hundreds of newspapers and magazines who are clamoring to reproduce the pictures, and you have robbed him of his all. Give him facilities for taking the pictures, and leave it at that, you have crippled him, and handicapped him terribly. So I am afraid I was handicapped in Australia and other parts of the Empire which I visited on the last Royal tour. I do not say that I was intentionally handicapped. Far from it. I believe that those responsible for the arrangements in Australia and New Zealand were as anxious to help in the work of obtaining permanent records in picture form of the incidents of the tour as were those whom I met in Canada. What I say is that, largely owing to a lack of experience, many details, were overlooked, and owing to a variety of circumstances, I found myself working under very considerable handicap. As a press photographer it is my aim to produce the best possible results, to give to the public and to hand down to future generations "speaking" picture records of the incidents of the historic world tours of "Our Young Man." With the picture results of the Canadian tour, thanks to the splendid facilities I was afforded by the C. P. R., and all the Dominion officials, I am satisfied, and the public too, I believe, was satisfied. But, with regard to the results achieved on the last Royal tour I cannot speak with such confidence. Frankly, I am disappointed, but I have this consolation. I know the pictures obtained were the best under the circumstances. During the three months' tour with the Prince of Wales in Canada, I worked under positively ideal conditions. The C. P. R. Royal Train contained a splendidly equipped dark room, and everything was so appointed that at times one forgot one was on board a train, travelling in the far west, in imagined London studio. Never once did I have to trouble myself regarding the dispatch of my prints. Once they were ready, willing hands attended to the duty of dispatch. So smoothly did the arrangements proceed that during the whole of the Canadian tour not a single day passed but I was able each night to place in the possession of the Royal suite a complete set of the pictures which I had taken, and not once did I miss the mail with the pictures for which the press of the world was clamoring. One anticipates certain difficulties when travelling thousands of miles, difficulties are part and parcel of the press photographer's life, and they have to be overcome. But one above all else which from my point of view made the Canadian tour so thoroughly enjoyable was the conspicuous absence of the "difficulties to overcome."

To deal with my difficulties on the last tour, I must commence with the wonder-warship H. M. S. "Renown." When I got aboard her I discovered, to my horror, there was no dark room wherein I could work. Thanks to the generous assistance of the officers of the ship, I succeeded in "rigging up" a dark room in a gun support. Heavens! What a dark room it was. Built of solid steel, exposed on the outside to the glare of the tropical sun, with no possible ventilation once the door was shut, it was worse than working by the side of a furnace. How many times I was forced when in the tropics to beat a hasty retreat from my dark room, gasping for breath. I would not dare to tell, nor would I dare to disclose the number of plates which suffered in consequence of my retreat, but an even worse difficulty presented itself than the furnace-like dark room. My chemicals got warmed up to such an extent that often I did not dare use them, and I could not get a bit of ice on board the ship to bring the temperature of the fluids down to anything approaching normal. So, rather than risk spoiling scores of valuable historic negatives, I was obliged to "hold up" developing them until the weather became cooler. During the voyage I dreamed fond dreams of happier times in Australia, and anticipated the good time I would

have working in a well-equipped dark room on board the Royal Train. But alas! My dreams were rudely shattered, for on the Royal Special there was no provision for a press photographer, nor was it possible to "rig up" a dark room, since the journey through Australia was accomplished by man trains over varying railway gauges. Each State in the Commonwealth appeared to me to have adopted a different gauge, so that the rolling stock of the system was useless over another system's track. I quickly gave up all hope of being able to develop and print my own negatives during the journey and entrusted the work to others when I could find people who were ready to undertake the task.

It is a fairly easy matter to find dark rooms and operators in the large cities and towns like Melbourne and Sydney but it was by no means a small undertaking when we got "into the wilds." During the tour we seldom remained more than a couple of days in or near the smaller towns, and very naturally during our stay all business was suspended and every moment given up to a whole-hearted "joy-making." Since it was essential that I should ever have my camera ready it was obvious that I could not shut myself up in a dark room for hours, and since every other man was "joy-making" it was hardly to be conceived that the local photographer would readily forego his pleasures for the sake of developing my plates. So it came about there were endless delays in getting my pictures to the press. Often during the Australian tour I would work all day with the camera, and spend all the night shut up in the dark room of a photographer, professional or amateur, doing my best to make up for lost time. And these long nights thus spent were nights when I regarded myself as having been fortunate in securing the use of a dark room. Another difficulty which I had to overcome during the long railway journeys was that of refilling my plate carriers. Obviously a dark room is a necessity for this task, but since no dark room was often available I had to invent a substitute. By darkening my sleeping compartments as much as possible and pushing my head and shoulders beneath the bed clothes, I was able to take the exposed plates from the carriers and replace them with fresh ones. True, the work was slow, and often unsatisfactory, but I managed to keep my carriers filled during the journey. I was very nearly caught "napping" at Bridgetown when we met with the accident. We had only just left the station, the train moving at not more than ten miles an hour when the accident happened. Happily at Bridgetown I had not exposed all my plates, and I was sitting down resting before going to my sleeping compartment to change some plates when I heard a curious smashing, grinding noise. Then an attendant came running into the carriage shouting, "My God, the Prince's coach is overturned." I jumped up and to my horror saw that true enough the coach in which the Prince of Wales was riding was lying on its side. By this time the train had stopped and officials were rushing to the rear where the overturned coaches lay. To my intense joy, I heard the well-known voice of Lord Louis Mountbatten, shouting, "Where's Brooks? He must get a picture of this." I ran along with my camera and was in time to get a snap of His Lordship crawling through the window of one of the overturned coaches. In the excitement of the moment I did a most unheard-of thing. I actually exposed one plate twice and did not discover my mistake for some time afterwards. In the accident, the Prince of Wales was the coolest of anyone. He remained until the last inside the overturned coach and when he crawled out he was hugging a thermos flask and gripping an old and favorite briar pipe. His first question was to know whether anyone had been hurt, and on being assured that none had even sustained a scratch he laughed and went back to the wrecked coach to sort out his belongings while I took "snaps" to my heart's content. There was one thing both in Australia and New Zealand about the tour which to me was most noticeable and that was the extraordinary "free and easy" manner of the people. They surged round the Prince and in many places literally mobbed him, so enthusiastic were they in their welcome. In New Zealand particularly I remember the Royal train was "inspected" time and time again. No permits to approach the train were necessary, nor were permits necessary to gain entrance to the railway stations, as was the case in Canada. Some thirty or forty press photographers "commandeered" the Royal Special at Auckland and board-

A Word on Soap!

HOW DOES SOAP CLEANSE?

By the action of fats in the soap, which free the dirt from the clothes.

WHAT DOES THE VALUE OF SOAP LARGELY DEPEND UPON?

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WHAT IS THEREFORE, THE BEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL SOAP?

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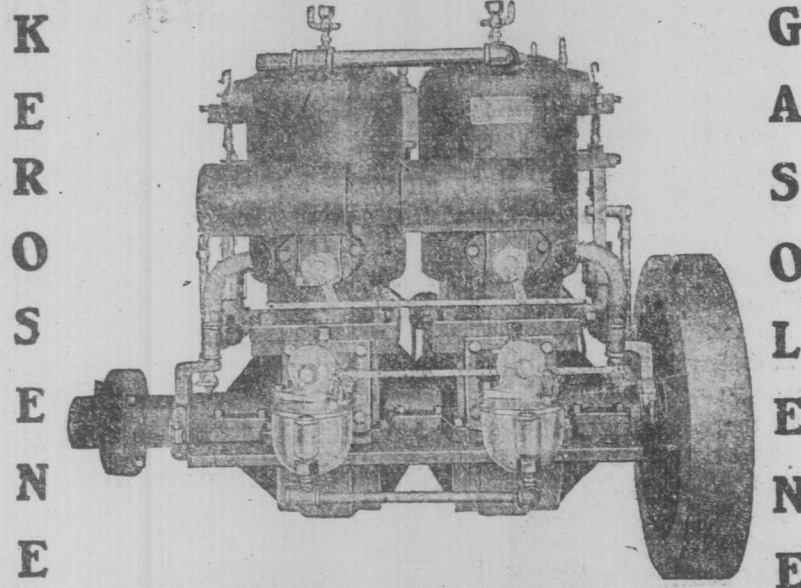
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and the crimes they committed were characteristic of young desperadoes. These included robbery with violence, the use of firearms, wounding and such like. In St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary, Quebec, the population of criminals has risen from 300 to over 500 in the last two years. Warden C. S. Melepart, of that institution, who is in Ottawa, stated that this great increase came chiefly from young men who committed daring crimes in the lower quarters of Montreal. The same condition exists in Kingston, where the increase in criminals has been about the same proportion. And Kingston now harbors some of the "toughest" criminals ever behind bars in Canada, altho it is stated in the department that the recent reports regarding jail breaking are "90 per cent." imagination.

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Population Grows In Canada's Prisons

Report Shows Big Increase In Eastern Canada — Robbery With Violence Common

OTTAWA, Dec. 17.—A big increase in prison population, especially in eastern Canada, is noted according to returns in the penitentiary branch of the department of justice. In Ontario and Quebec an increase of 80 or more per cent. since the war is noted. Discussing the subject, a high official of the branch stated that the increase in the number of inmates in the penitentiaries was chiefly due to the spread of crime among young men in their teens and early twenties.

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