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Oddities in the News.

LOVE'S LABOUR LOST — AND FOUND.

A love letter from a Rhyt girl to her sweetheart was discovered in a rook's nest, by workmen cutting the upper branches of elm-trees in a rookery in St. Colman's parish churchyard.

ALE AND HEARTY.

Mr. Robert Jocelyn, in his ninety-first year, is still working in the engineer's office at Messrs. Basse's brewery at Burton-on-Trent. He has refused the offer of a pension, declaring that he would rather work.

OMNIBUS CINEMA.

The London General Omnibus Company is sending out a specially equipped omnibus which can give free cinema shows, with equal ease, in the most brilliant sunlight or on the darkest night. The apparatus consists of a folding cavern, in the back of which the screen is set. Behind this is the projector itself, which operates from the rear instead of from the front.

THE SUPER-COW.

A Jersey cow, the property of Mr. E. Maxwell, of Montreal, has broken all Canadian records for butter production in a single year. This cow produced 1,022lb. of butter fat, equal to \$1,200lb. of butter.

ARMLESS BILLIARD PLAYER.
Major Frank H. Edwards, who had both his arms blown off below the elbow in France, has succeeded in making a forty-two break at billiards with an ordinary cue. He designed various attachments to what remained of his arms, and can now write and play golf.

Ocean Theatres.

Transatlantic theatrical troupes are likely to become prominent features of ocean travel. The French liner Le Lulleis, of the South Atlantic Company, has its own company of actors.

NERVOUS BRIDEGROOMS.
The nervousness with which bridegrooms use the pens at Dunstable (Bedes) Church is given as the reason for changing the nibs every fourth time the pens are handled.

PIT SAFETY-SPRAY.

After nine years' experience, an Aspatia (Cumberland) miner claims to have discovered a liquid which, when sprayed, will render mine explosions almost impossible and purify the air.

Mountain Under the Sea.

OCEAN PEAKS THAT RIVAL THE ALPS.

Largely owing to the operations of cable-laying and cable-repairing ships, our knowledge of the geography of the ocean bed increases every year.

Not many people know, however, that just as there are mountains on dry land, so there are mountains beneath the sea, some of them as high as the peaks in the Alps and the Andes.

One of the biggest of these submarine mountains is Laura Ethel, situated in mid-Atlantic. It is over 12,000 feet high, its summit being less than 200 feet below the surface.

So often has this mountain been explored by oceanographers, with the aid of sounding apparatus, that its characteristics are so well known as those of Ben Nevis or Snowdon, although it has never been seen.

Davy Jones's Locker.

In the same locality is another great sea mountain, Mount Chaucer, first discovered seventy years ago. Its summit is only just over 100 feet below the surface, while its height is 10,000 feet. The summit of another peak, Mount Pleasant, is only 30 ft. below the surface.

A mountain range whose peaks are named after members of the Royal Family is another little-known feature of the Atlantic bottom. Every one of its ten peaks is higher than Snowdon.

The real "Davy Jones's Locker" is to be found at the foot of the Faraday Hills, in the South Atlantic. It is estimated that at the base of the highest peak in the range, Sainthill, there is no fewer than five thousand wrecks.

Oils Declared Cure for Leprosy.

That leprosy can be effectively cured by the injection of certain oils, including cod-liver and soya bean oil, was claimed by Sir Leonard Rogers in a paper read before a recent meeting of the Royal Society of Arts, in England.

Sir Leonard declared that experiments made in various parts of the world had led physicians to the belief that the disease could be cured within the space of a few years through the use of these oils.

There would appear to be numerous cases of leprosy in London, particularly among army men who have returned from Eastern countries, which are unrecognized.

THE STAR MOVIE--Newfoundland's Leading Picture House.

TO-MORROW IS THE DAY FOR THE SHOWING OF THE BIGGEST PICTURE YET SEEN IN THIS CITY.

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SEE THE BIG BULL FIGHTS! SEE THE THRILL OF THRILLS!
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Devil's Tower a Landmark.

The Devil's tower is 32 miles by road from Moorcroft. This conspicuous mass of rock, hung up by some ancient earth cataclysm, rises 600 feet above a rounded ridge of sedimentary rocks, which itself rises 600 feet above the Belle Fourche river. It was useful to the aborigines as a landmark from which to direct their courses across the plains. Later on, the white pioneers of civilization in their exploration of the great North-west also used it as a landmark. Still later the military wars in the Sioux and Crow Indian country during the Indian wars of the last century directed their marches by the aid of this ever-present tower; for it is visible in some directions for nearly a hundred miles.—Automobile Blue Book.

National Dance of the Fijians.

The meke, or national dance of the Fijians, plays an important part in all ceremonies on the islands. As many as two hundred young natives, most gorgeously dressed, will take part in a meke, which may be described as a legend told in song and dance. Sometimes it deals with a famous tribal battle of old. The dancers carry either spears or clubs, and go through many of the movements of the battle—the stealthy approach to the enemy's lines, the hurly-burly of the combat, and then the triumphant return when the warriors are greeted by their chiefs, their sages and their women. For an hour or more, without the least interval, a meke will continue its way, every action, explaining itself, every step most precisely executed.

The leaders of the mekes are always particularly fine men, and they wear wonderful tappa robes with trains four to five yards long, which they manage with all the grace of a court lady.

There are other mekes in which men and women take part, and these tell of love, the hunting of the turtle, or other phases of native life, in which men and women join. Then there is the sit-down meke, mostly performed by women, and in which a woman's duties are depicted. For all mekes, bands of women and children supply vocal music.

The music is not melodious, but it marks the time well, the great essential. Sometimes a "Fiji piano" is used to accompany a meke. This is a thick, rounded, highly-polished piece of ebony held in the arms of one man while another, the pianist, beats it vigorously with two short heavy clubs. Easy as the playing looks, it is only an expert who can produce the proper sort of music. To the European ear it is nothing but a sharp, ear-splitting tattoo, very trying when carried on for hours without a moment's stop.

It is a strange thing that Fijian native music is so lacking in refinement, for they have a very keen ear for civilized music. As singers the Fijian men are considered by many travellers to have the finest bass voices in the world. Tenors of exceptional sweetness and fulness can also be heard, while the voices of the women can be trained with excellent results.

At the mission churches singing by native choirs can be heard which is positively wonderful. Attached to the Fijian police force in Suva is a brass band, conducted by a full-blooded Fijian, which renders perfect music. Every Sunday night, after church, this band plays in the city square and the citizens turn out to listen to it.

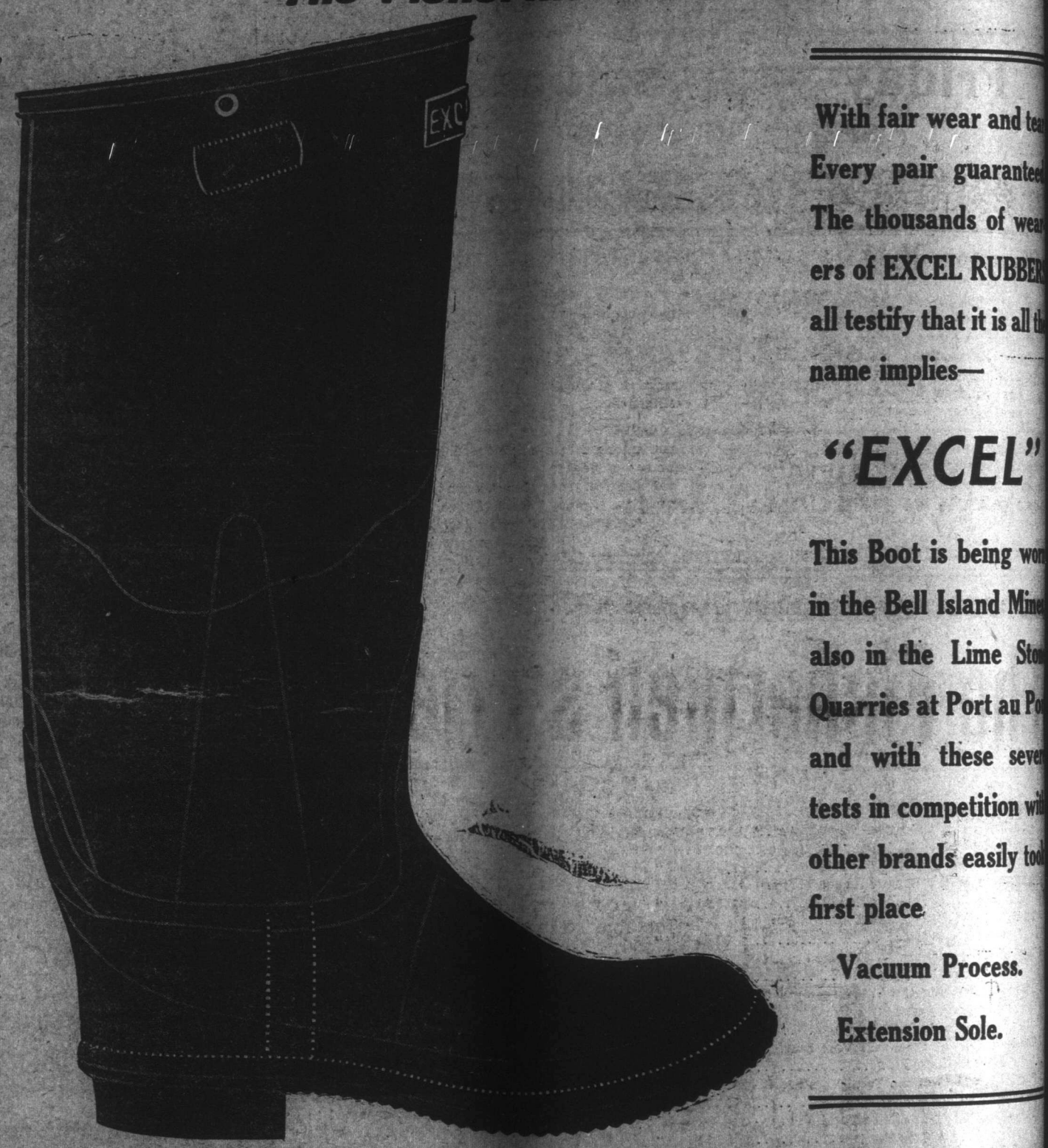
Urged to Come Back Home.

London, May 12 (Canadian Press).—A peculiar story was told in the High Court here to-day by James Carey, of Montreal, about how he and his wife came all the way back to England from Montreal because shortly after they had left England, where they had been visiting for some time, he received a wireless message from a cousin, a woman, at Bournemouth, asking him to come back. The message read:

"Return at once, urgent. Winnie." On the arrival back in England of Mr. and Mrs. Carey, they found that the urgent business was that he had forgotten to pay a couple of pounds

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which the sender of the wireless message had lent him.

Carey claimed damages from his cousin for having deceived him, as he had supposed the matter of his wife's return to England really was urgent.

He put in a claim for 120 pounds for special damages and 120 pounds for travelling expenses. The court awarded him the latter sum, with costs.

Libelling the Dead.

In France, where libels on the living are dealt with more leniently than in England, the memory of the dead is protected by law, observes an English writer. Dumas pere sustained two actions for libelling the dead in his novels. The Marquis de Prefontaine sued him for stating in "La Route de Varennes" that his grand-

father closed the doors of his house against Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette on the occasion of their flight from Paris. The court ruled that a fresh edition of the book should be published within a month showing that M. de Prefontaine actually sheltered the Royal fugitives. Dumas was also sued by the Marquis d'Espay St. Luc for insulting references to Francois de St. Luc in "La Dame de Monsoreau." In this case the Judge ruled that enough evidence was not available to clear St. Luc's reputation.

Eye-Spots on Butterflies.

The eye spots on the wings of butterflies are a puzzle to naturalists. What asked what they mean they say frankly, "We do not know." It is thought that these eye spots may have some utilitarian application. They form one of the most intricate of all natural designs.

The fact that butterflies have been captured with their eye spots pierced as if from the attacks of birds, has been used as an argument in favor of the view that they must be "protective markings," imitating eyes, because birds strike at the eyes of their victims.

But this suggestion is hardly regarded as satisfactory. Among butterflies the most striking examples of eye spots are found on the under surface of the wings.



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