

TOLL OF FIRES IS TREMENDOUS

3,000 Lives Lost and \$250,000,000 Damage in One Decade — Prevention Week Soon.

In an attempt to educate the public to the tremendous waste caused by preventable fires, the Federal government has designated the week commencing October 2 as Fire Prevention Week.

Throughout Canada a thorough educational campaign will be conducted and children in all schools will be taught to fight the fire menace.

Circulars giving figures of the fire losses in Canada during the last decade, and suggestions for fire prevention, will be sent to all schools and distributed in all communities.

Safety rules for the use of matches, lights, stoves, open fires, coal oil, electricity, gasoline, gas and tobacco, as well as suggestions for the disposal of rubbish, best means of fighting fires, and of conducting fire drills, are contained in one of the school pamphlets.

In the proclamation calling for the observation of Fire Prevention Week it is pointed out that during the past decade more than 3,000 lives have been

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lost, and insurable property valued in excess of \$250,000,000 has been destroyed by fires. In addition to this recorded waste of human life and created resources, fire annually destroys merchantable timber worth many millions of dollars, and immature forest growth of inestimable value.

Ninety per cent of this great waste could be prevented by proper precautions, it is stated. The attention of school children will be drawn to dangerous conditions existing about their own homes by a questionnaire to be filled out by every scholar.

The children will be asked whether piles of old papers are left in their garrets at home; whether inflammable rubbish is piled up in the yard; conditions of chimneys and stovepipes and other pertinent questions.

It is suggested that during Fire Prevention Week fire chiefs or other officials be asked to address the scholars in the schools, and demonstrations will be

given on the use of fire extinguishers and other apparatus. In cities children will be shown how to ring fire alarms.

SAFES EASY TO FLY TO THE POLE FROM LONDON

London, Aug. 27.—(Associated Press by Mail)—Modern airships of the German type could make the trip from London to the North Pole, a distance of 4,600 miles, within a week, says Major Richard Carr, aerial expert of the Shackleton Antarctic Expedition.

Fuel for the entire distance could be carried, and no landing need be made. "I am fully convinced that we have left far behind the old-fashioned methods, and that in future polar exploration will be done by aircraft during the summer months," Major Carr continues.

"Very few persons realize how mild the Arctic and Antarctic summers really are, and the wonderful improvement in the aircraft," Major Carr continues. Major Carr made important observations on flying conditions in the Antarctic. "During the seven weeks we were in the ice," he says, "the lowest temperature recorded was five degrees Fahrenheit and the average approximately twenty degrees. The wind average was eight to ten miles an hour, and the air and sky were wonderfully clear. So clear was the air that mirage was very frequent. We had more than 300 perfect flying hours."

Meet in Moncton.

Moncton, Sept. 14.—Officials of the Canadian National Express Company, eastern district, are meeting in Moncton today, Friday and Saturday discussing affairs in connection with the company and matters pertaining to the betterment of the service. F. N. Wiggins, general superintendent, is presiding.



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FOOD DISPLAY VIES WITH GEMS

Moscow Crowds Divide Attention Between the Two Allurements.

Moscow, Aug. 16.—(Associated Press by mail)—Diamonds and food are the chief attractions in the great open air markets of Moscow, which are running full blast this summer after several years of inactivity.

Food of all kinds is to be had in abundance, there being many varieties of vegetables and fruit, as well as butter, eggs, meat, flour and canned goods. The display reminds one of a market in the United States. The prices generally are higher than in America. The meats, fresh, dried and smoked, are heaped in enormous piles in the small stalls in front of which the Moscow housewives assemble in throngs all day long in search of their wants of the moment.

Tons of potatoes, and fresh vegetables just from the fields, are dumped into the stalls in the morning. Women of the neighborhood fill their baskets and then hurry from the market place in an endless procession which continues until late in the afternoon.

Seeing the heaps of food of all kinds, even bottled pickles from London, it is difficult for foreign visitors to realize that in various parts of Russia today the American Relief Administration alone is feeding approximately 10,000,000 persons, chiefly as a result of effects brought about by war, revolution, and the famine of last year.

In the diamond and jewelry section of the markets the dealers, chiefly women, sit in long rows displaying their wares on their fingers and about their necks. Their blouses and shirt waists serve as a background for brooches, ear rings, necklaces, tiny jeweled watches, and other articles of personal adornment which came down from the aristocracy, perhaps, through want and the "pawn shop" route.

"The diamonds are not of the best, but it is here that the largest crowds assemble, even in greater numbers than before the food stall. Some are endeavoring to sell, others are haggling over the price of a stone, a watch, or some other piece of jewelry. The brighter the sun the greater the crowd in the row where the diamonds are shown. Many of the onlookers obviously are attracted by the sparkling gems—yellow perians, and specked with carbon, but diamonds still, and good for tired, hungry eyes which for a change long for a feast of jewels as a reminder of other days."

FIVE ARMED BANDITS ROB SECLUDED HOME

Residence of St. Thomas Alderman Looted in Search for Liquor.

St. Thomas, Sept. 15.—Armed desperadoes, at least five in number, visited the residence of Alderman E. O. Boehmer, located in a secluded section of the city, and ransacked every room in the place after securing John Scott, Aid. Boehmer's aged gardener, with strips of cloth torn from a bed sheet. Mrs. Boehmer and her little nine-year-old daughter, Lolo, were carefully guarded throughout the robbers' search, which lasted until nearly seven o'clock in the morning, when they departed with Aid. Boehmer's new sedan automobile, \$20 in money, a revolver and a quantity of beer found in the cellar. The object of the visit was liquor, as Aid. Boehmer is reported to have a fairly large private stock, and this was what the robbers demanded. Aid. Boehmer was away on a business trip to New York.

Fortunately the liquor is kept in a vault-like compartment in the cellar and the robbers were unable to work the combination on the door.

While the robbers were attempting to work the combination Mrs. Boehmer was kept in the cellar. Although threatened, neither she nor her little daughter were molested.

The police believe the offence was committed by the same gang that has visited several other residences in the city and district during the past month or so. In every case the occupants were out of the city, evidence that the robbers are familiar with the city and closely in touch with the movements of the citizens.

JUMPED FROM WINDOWS TO ESCAPE INN FIRE

Ten Servants at May-November Farm in Hartsdale Routed by Early Morning Blaze.

White Plains, N. Y., Sept. 15.—Fire of mysterious origin destroyed the May-November Farm, a big country road house owned by Thomas Healy, on a high hill just off Central avenue and overlooking Hartsdale, four miles from White Plains, causing loss of \$125,000.

It is not known whether an overcharged range or an incendiary caused the fire, which spread with great rapidity, and the servants employed in the inn were forced to jump from windows. When the Hartsdale volunteer firemen received the alarm that the big inn, which was patronized by wealthy New Yorkers, was on fire, departments of Greenburg, Scarsdale and White Plains were called, but they could do little, as the inn is located on a high knoll far back from the roadway and the village fire hydrants. Mr. Healy has a private water supply, but this was insufficient to fight the flames. Water was even pumped from a lake nearby.

According to the servants the fire must have started in the kitchen. There were about ten employed by Nichols Pronouns, who was proprietor of the inn. The manager rushed down stairs to the office and managed to save a considerable sum of money from a safe. All the furniture and other furnishings were destroyed.

Adjoining the inn was a tower house where tea was served in the summer months, and this was also destroyed. The May-November Farm was built of stone to the first story, where the upper stories were of frame construction.

The kitchen, located on the first floor, where the fire is believed to have started, had been thoroughly cleaned before lights were put out for the night and employes had retired. The only fire that is known to have been left burning was in the kitchen range.

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OF INDIAN BIRTH. (Exchange) A. S. M. Hutchinson, whose new novel, "This Freedom," is being awaited with considerable interest in this country, where his previous book, "If Winter Comes," is in its 87th thousand, owns to India as the place of his birth, in common with Thackeray and Rudyard Kipling. His father held the rank of general upon his retirement, and naturally he brought up young Arthur in the expectation of having him enter the military service in India. When the critical moment of exams came Hutchinson was turned down on account of defective eyesight. The parental resolution was nothing daunted, and the young man agreed with it to the extent of taking up the study of medicine so as to enter the army medical service. It was at about this time that the future author was inoculated with the literary germ, with such ultimately happy results, and A. S. M. Hutchinson, after a period of sending out manuscripts that were mostly unwanted, decided to quit a profession that did not attract him, and break into the newspaper game in London. He succeeded so well that at the outbreak of the world war he was editor in chief of the London Daily Graphic, and the author of three excellent novels. Then he went to France, where, in spite of his conviction that he would never write another novel, the characters of "If Winter Comes" began to circulate in his busy brain, and shortly after he was demobilized the book was written. "This Freedom" is the result of two years' steady work.

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