

SOME MEN WHO HAVE MADE GOOD IN WEST

All the Progress Made is Not by Any
Means of the Boom
Order

REAL WEST UNBOOMED

One Newspaperman, Never Previously on a Farm,
Has Made \$150,000 in Eight Years Out of
Farming.

(By Guy Cathcart Pelton.)

We hear much these days of the dull west, the dead west, the disillusioned west. All the west that we hear about—that we hear about mostly at least—is the west as it is bottled up in a dozen or less cities. So much has been spoken, written, pictured, of the unemployed men, of the fall of the real estate boom, of the slump in rents and the tightness of money—that we have forgotten about the real west. The real west is in the country—not the dozen or less cities. The real west is in the unboomed.

I have just completed a tour of some two dozen Alberta agricultural districts and one district in Saskatchewan. I have talked with bank managers, interviewed homesteaders, chatted with country merchants. Let me say here that if this same trip could be taken by some of our financiers, magnates and others who only visit the cities, and they could tell what they found, the west would have a boom such as it has never had. Rather than give the names of each district in which the stories are connected, I will append at the end of this article the names of the districts visited by me. Then it will not look like a Board of Trade publicity campaign.

In one district I met a man who had been a street car conductor, first in Toronto, then in Edmonton. Five years ago he took a homestead, and all he had was a lot of ambition and a very little money—less than \$500. That was five years ago. To-day he owns over 700 acres of land, 10 horses, 200 head of cattle and his bank account shows a credit of \$7,800—the cash being this year's wheat money. His land, his stock and his equipment are all paid for.

In another district, just out of a town which in the boom days was much boomed, there is another man. In professional life he was a scribe—a poorly paid newspaper man and another kind of a newspaper man is not possible. He never farmed in his life before. He has been 8 years on the land. He is a modest man and doesn't like to talk about his own success. In those 8 years he has accumulated two sections of land, some 300 head of cattle, and Bradstreet rates him as worth \$150,000. That's better than the *Journal of Commerce* editor could do in 8 years.

In a third district there is an ex-plumber. He admits that the plumber is usually well paid, but it doesn't compare with farm life in the Canadian West. He started with \$600, and he hasn't ended up yet. His hogs bring him \$6,000 per year, and wheat last year brought him \$5,500. His farm life has lasted 6 years, and he doesn't want to go back to the city.

In a Saskatchewan village I met a bank manager who mildly intimated that he had come into farming as a side line. The week I met him he had notified the elevators at Port Arthur that they could let his 8,000 bushels of wheat go when it reached the \$1.20 mark. It reached that mark less than ten days later. That banker got five times for his side line what he got in his regular salary.

There are hundreds of farmers of the west who are making fortunes. They are making them quietly and saying little about it. Men are coming into Alberta and Saskatchewan from the Dakotas, from Iowa, the middle and western states. More would come if they could get rid of their American holdings. The little towns of Alberta are in splendid shape. I can name a dozen towns of 150 population through which the hog shipments run into \$200,000 annually, and the wheat and grain from \$400,000 to \$1,000,000 annually. The country is booming, out their ears are so deafened with the knocking and pessimism that they know it not. They are in the midst of prosperity, but their eyes are so blinded by newspaper stories of unemployed and lower city rents and unsold real estate that they see it not.

One farmer spoke in this wise, "Last week I sold one of my farms and got \$9,000 for it. To-day I brought in a carload of hogs, which will make a total of some \$4,000 worth I have sold since Christmas. I was foolish enough to let my wheat go at \$1.25. I had 10,000 bushels—nearly all 1." Then, reminded of the hard times and the wars by contact with a city man, he spoiled it all by remarking, "But I tell you, boy, this war has hit me hard. I have got considerable unsold property in Edmonton, and a couple of unsold lots in Saskatoon."

It is true that some farmers had their crops burned out. Some need Government aid to buy this year's seed. But it is also true that the west is filled with prosperous farmers. There are literally thousands of agriculturists who have in five to eight years made themselves financially independent. It is fashionable to talk hard times, so they do it and the outside world hears the grumbling and knows nothing of the brighter side.

In a five weeks' trip I met continually young men who had left the city life five or six years previously, who had been journalists, plumbers, street car conductors, bookkeepers, mechanics—and if I got their confidence I found that they were wealthy, independent men, men who were making annually from hogs and wheat and mixed farming as much money as is paid our Lieutenant-Governors, our Provincial Premiers, our Supreme Court Judges. I dare to predict that the west has only commenced—for each and every one of these successful agriculturists is advising his friends to quit the city and its troubles and get out into the open.

(The above stories, which are all true, were gathered in the following districts visited by me—North Battleford, Provost, Chauvin, Edgerton, Fort Saskatchewan, Vermilion, Vegreville, Wainwright, Camrose, Hardisty, Loughheed, Daysland, Viking and numerous small towns on the C. N. R., G. T. P., and the Edmonton-Winnipeg branch of the C. P. R.)

WEST DOME MAY RE-OPEN.

Toronto, Ont., March 11.—The directors of West Dome apparently have in contemplation the re-opening of their property.

The par value of the shares of the company is being changed from \$5 to \$1, and shareholders may get five new shares for each one they now hold.

The West Dome is capitalized at \$3,000,000 in 600,000 shares of \$5 par. It is understood that shareholders are also being offered the 251,000 one-dollar shares in the treasury, at 1½ cents a share pro rata. This, if taken up, will net the company between \$4,000 and \$5,000, sufficient to pay all debts and taxes for two years.

ABUSES OF CURRENCY AGAINST WHICH ADVERTISERS ARE WARNED

London, Eng., March 11.—The attention of the Treasury has been called to a practice which has recently come into existence of issuing advertisements, for example advertisements of music-halls, theatres, picture palaces, etc., in a form resembling currency notes.

These documents bear a very close resemblance in shape and design to genuine currency notes, and may readily be mistaken for them, and instances have actually occurred in which such documents have been passed as genuine currency notes.

As the issue of advertisements in this form has proved conducive to frauds upon the public Treasury finds it necessary to warn all parties concerned in the manufacture and issue of such documents that the practice must henceforth be discontinued and that they will feel constrained to proceed against all parties who hereafter continue either to print or to utter advertisements in this form.

The Treasury is advised that the printing or use of advertisements bearing words, figures or marks peculiar to currency notes is a felony under section 9 of the Forgery Act, 1913, punishable with penal servitude.

Further, the Treasury regards as highly objectionable the practice, to which its attention has also been called of stamping on genuine currency notes advertisements of individual firms or articles.

UNION PACIFIC COBALT MINES.

W. A. Cole has been appointed provisional liquidator of the Union Pacific Cobalt Mines, Limited, a winding-up order for which has been granted at Ottawa.

ONTARIO SECURITIES BOUGHT

Toronto, Ont., March 11.—Out of the accumulated funds at its disposal, the Workmen's Compensation Board has purchased \$500,000 of securities of Ontario municipalities.

These securities have been purchased to yield an average of 5½ per cent., and the investment has been made for the purpose of securing a better return for the money than keeping it in the bank.

Nearly \$1,000,000 has been collected by the board so far, about two-thirds of the employers of the Province deciding to pay their assessments in full at once, not wishing to take advantage of the deferred provision.

TABACCO FIRMS SURPLUS FOR DIVIDENDS DROPS TO \$2,447,904.

New York, March 11.—The report of the P. Lorillard Company for the year ended December 31, 1914, shows that the surplus for dividends was \$2,447,904, which was equal to 16.15 per cent. earned on the \$15,155,600 common stock, as compared with 21.86 per cent. earned on the same stock in 1913. The net income of the company was \$4,519,061, against \$5,377,864 in 1913, with a surplus for dividends on the common stock of \$2,447,904, as compared with \$3,283,160 in the year previous.

The surplus after dividends on the common stock was \$174,564, which, added to the previous surplus of the company, gave a total profit and loss surplus on December 31, 1914, of \$3,659,612, as compared with \$3,502,519 on December 31, 1913.

MR. BICKNELL LEFT \$410,000.

Toronto, Ont., March 11.—The will of the late James Bicknell, K.C., who was an authority on banking and commercial law, disposes of an estate of \$410,887. The estate is to be divided among the members of the family.

INTERESTING DECISION AFFECTS NIAGARA POWER COMPANY

Buffalo, N.Y., March 11.—Decision of the Up-State Public Service Commission in favor of the Niagara Light, Heat & Power Co. in the complaint of the cities Tonawanda and North Tonawanda establishes the important principle that a company cannot be compelled by the commission to endeavor to serve many patrons in a manner that must prove inadequate when it is serving a smaller number satisfactorily, despite the fact that such a refusal might appear to be discriminatory.

The cities sought the commission's assistance in compelling the company to serve gas in the two communities. On investigation it was found that such service would require between 400,000 and 500,000 cubic feet a day, while the daily output of the company's wells is only 70,000 cubic feet.

Formerly the company was able to furnish gas to a number of customers in Tonawanda, but the flow of its wells has since decreased greatly. At present the company serves gas to a small number of residents in the town of Amherst.

In regard to the discrimination complaint, Commissioner Hodson said: "There is nothing in the law which prohibits a gas company from giving to particular persons or a certain locality a preference in the matter of its service of gas and thus discriminating against other persons and other localities; and it is only when such preference is undue and unreasonable, and the discrimination is unjust, that this commission may intervene and correct such practices."

There were about 20,000,000 miles of telephone wires in the United States in 1912.

ERIE NOTES AT 99

New York, March 11.—The new one-year 5 per cent Erie notes will be offered at 99. From Underwood in a letter regarding notes states that since 1900 there has been expended on Erie Railroad system for additions and betterments including equipment more than \$100,000,000. Among the more important improvements is the double track of 490 miles of main line between New York and Chicago. During the progress of these improvements earnings have increased from approximately \$40,000,000 to \$60,000,000. He says completion of these improvements are now nearly finished and will afford a capacity sufficient for handling of traffic to yield a gross revenue of nearly \$100,000,000 per annum.

URUGUAY CONTEMPLATES LOAN.

New York, March 11.—The Government of Uruguay has under consideration the flotation of a loan in this market in the near future. It is believed that the issue will be around \$10,000,000.

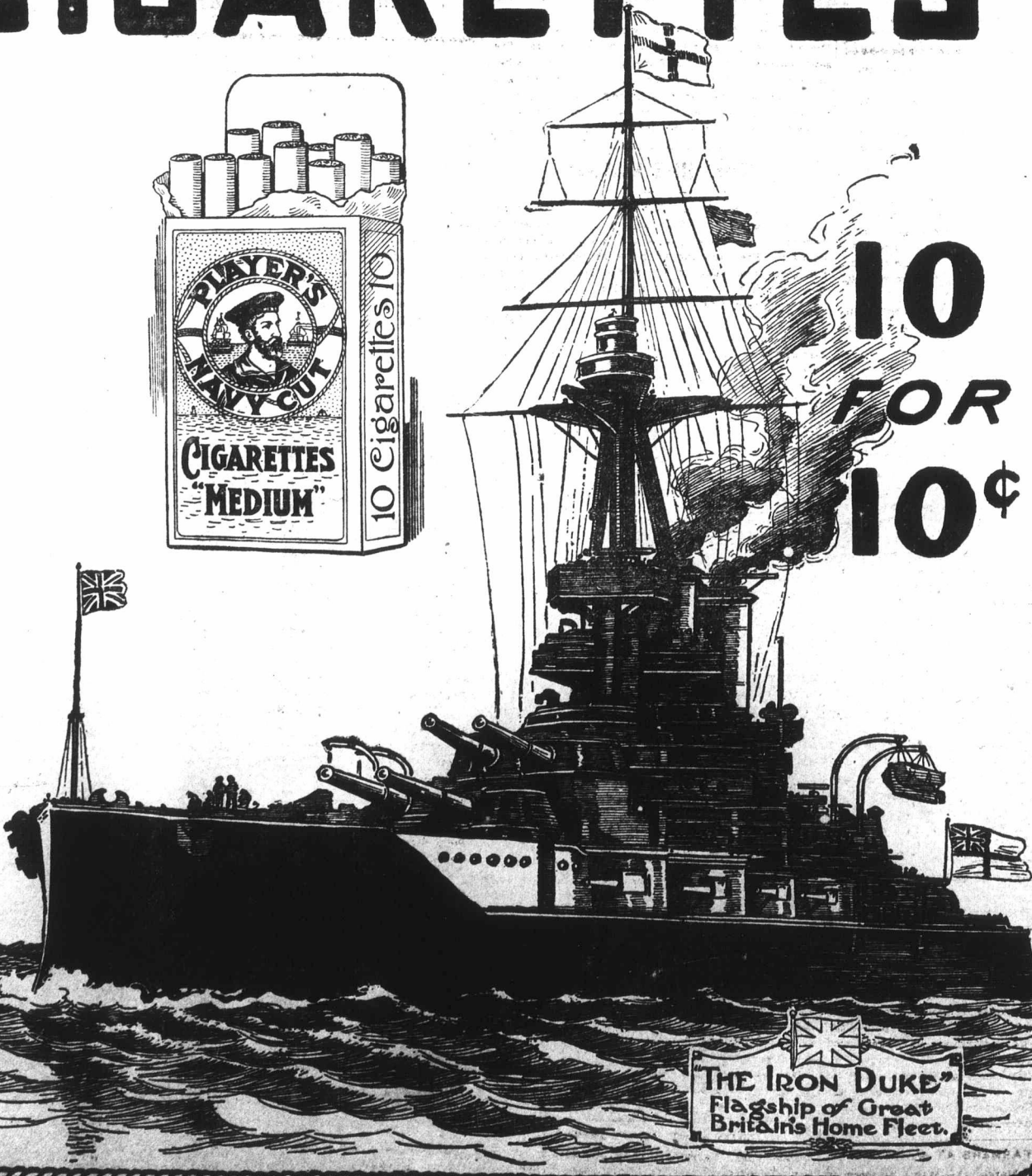
Several bankers have been approached on the subject and are understood to be favorably impressed with the terms.

Negotiations have been somewhat delayed owing to a change of administration in Uruguay on March 1st.

THE NEW ERIE NOTES.

New York, March 11.—The new \$10,000,000 Erie Railroad one-year 5 per cent. notes dated April 1st to be secured by collateral having a par value of approximately \$26,000,000 which included \$10,000,000 Erie convertible bonds of 1913 series "C"; \$8,000,000 of new refunding mortgage bonds of 2015 as soon as authorized and issued; \$2,000,000 first consolidated general lien bonds of 1906 and \$6,000,000 New York, Susquehanna and Western common stock.

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES



10
FOR
10¢

WOOL ABROAD INDICATE DISTINCTLY ADVANCE

Boston, Mass., March 11.—The wool market is rather quiet during the past few days, but there is a distinct tendency to advance in foreign goods, and cargoes from abroad and depletion of local stock.

Wool markets abroad show a tendency to advance in some instances, and above closing quotations of the last week.

Developments in the woolen goods market are satisfactory when taken into consideration. More or less taking place, as the logical result of a certain amount of improvement in the dress-spring lines, the demand with the spring increase. Tweed fabrics are advancing in some instances, and the cotton goods market shows activity and quotations in general maintained.

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OBJECT TO TAX ON E

Kingston, Jamaica, March 11.—members of the Legislative Council have with regard to the proposed tax on the Government to-day spoke of a treatment of this fruit when a similar tax was levied on the sugar.

The deputation will urge the Senate will have on the fruit industry, and a section of American politicians in measure.

NAVAL STORE M

New York, March 11.—The local market for naval stores is fair, but the change there being a fair hand for naval stores from the jobbers.

On the spot turpentine is quoted as suggested as possible in one-quarter temporary scarcity of spirits noted. Tar was quiet and steady at the kiln burned and 25 cents more for repeated at \$4. Rosins common to held at \$3.40.

The following were the prices of B \$3.45, C, D, E, F, \$3.55; G, \$3.65 to \$2.70; K, \$3.80; M, \$4.50 to \$5.05; W, \$5.15.

Savannah, Ga.—Turpentine firm receipts, 35; shipments, 33; stocks, 3. Sales none; receipts 301; shipments 423. Quote: A and B, \$2.95; C, \$3.00 and H, \$3.07½; I, \$3.12½; K, \$3.15; W, \$5.45; W, \$5.55.

Liverpool, March 11.—Turpentine common nominal.

THE PRODUCE M

A firm feeling continues to prevail in the produce market, and prices are unchanged.

Finest September creamery
Fine creamery
Seconds
Manitoba dairy
Western dairy

Nothing new has happened in round lots are being taken. Prices: Finest colored cheese
Finest white cheese
Finest Eastern cheese
Undergrades

In eggs, a fairly active trade is strictly fresh stock in the jobbing in round lots at 28c per dozen.

The tone for beans remains very continued small offerings for which demand.

One-pound pickers, car lots
Three-pound pickers
Five-pound pickers
Undergrades

The trade in potatoes shows no market in consequence is quite ample to fill all requirements. The steady with car lots of Green Mountain 50c to 52½c per bag ex-track, and way were made at 60c to 65c per

Spring wheat flour steady. Prices: First patents
Second patents
Strong clears

Winter wheat flour unchanged. Prices: Choice patents
Straight rollers

Millfeed firm. Prices per ton: Bran
Shorts
Middlings
Mouille, pure
Do, mixed

Baled hay holds steady and quiet. No. 1 hay
No. 2 extra good
No. 2 hay

STEEL CONSUMERS HESITATE TO PAY ADV

New York, March 11.—Steel consumers are little change. Steel rail orders amounted to about 32,000 tons, or about 100,000 tons of steel. So far no large car inquiry orders.

The steel corporation's incoming orders at about the same rate, which is about 30,000 tons a day. Consumers are paying the advanced prices asked by

WESTERN FARMERS AT

Moose Jaw, Sask., March 11.—The vicinity have commenced work with drag harrows. Market garden started work on the soil.