

SIMONDS

Crescent Ground One-Man Cross-Cut Saw, No. 223.

Illustration shows our Lance Tooth Crescent Ground One-Man Saw. Crescent grinding is the grinding of the saw in crescent shaped lines running parallel with the cutting edge. This gives an even thickness to the tooth edge and a gradual taper from tooth edge to back—means less set to the teeth, less kerf or width to the cut and less effort in cutting.

Simonds Canada Saw Co., Limited, St. René St. and Acorn Ave., Montreal, Que., VANCOUVER, B. C. ST. JOHN, N. B.

Jems of Evil.

The "Blaze of Glory" That Caused the Kaiser's Downfall.

Told by STUART MARTIN in Pearson's Weekly.

"I attribute the downfall of the Kaiser to the evil spell wrought by the central gem in the crown of the House of Prussia, the sinister Blaze of Glory."

This strange statement is the considered opinion of no other than the late Herr Graf Zunkelhorn, one of the most learned German antiquaries, and for many years keeper of the Prussian Jewel House. Herr Zunkelhorn has left amongst his papers a detailed history of this jewel, and of how he warned the ex-Kaiser of its sinister influence, and begged him to dispose of it even as far back as the day on which Wilhelm was crowned King of Prussia.

Zunkelhorn was constantly pained because of the refusal of the Emperor to believe that there was any influence in the gem, and whenever the jewel keeper opened up the subject he was sure to be met by ridicule. Though the jewel keeper was not in possession of the full history of the jewel at the time Wilhelm was crowned, he knew sufficient to implore his royal master to have it removed from the regalia.

His pleadings were made at Potsdam, just before the coronation ceremony, but Wilhelm scorned the traditions of the stone as if they were mere fairy tales. Finally he dismissed Zunkelhorn with the words:—"You must understand that I am crowned by the spirit of God and the will of my people. The Hohenzollerns must endure for ever. No curse of evil can harm our dynasty."

Finding that his prayers and pleadings were useless, Herr Zunkelhorn began to find out every other detail in the history of the Blaze of Glory with which he was still unacquainted.

He saw the Kaiser on state occasion wearing the crown from which the gem blazed in the very centre. To Zunkelhorn it seemed that the Kaiser had thus deliberately defied the tradition of the stone. Until the crowning of Wilhelm its position had been a secondary one. By Wilhelm's special order it had been placed in the very centre of the crown.

The difficulties which stood in the way of Herr Zunkelhorn obtaining the detailed story of the Blaze of Glory were enormous. Among dealers in precious stones it is quite common for histories of such stones to be preserved, but in the case of the Blaze of Glory there were many lapses.

It was known, for instance, that the gem had at one time been in the possession of the Queen of Sheba. Tales of the strange and wonderful gem were carried by travellers into Persia, and the greed of the nomadic king El-Hakim II was excited. He

marched into the land of the unfortunate queen and robbed her dead body of the stone after the queen had been mutilated by his soldiers.

As he carried it away the blood dripped from his hands, and it was placed by the wise men that the ancient curse of the gem would be carried on and that the king would meet with a like death.

The prophecy came true. Within a few weeks El-Hakim II was murdered in his palace by one of his subjects. The next owner was also killed, and every prince, ruler, potentate or family who had possession of it since that date met with misfortune and disaster.

These facts were all known. Herr Zunkelhorn had prepared his list of tragedies which had followed the ownership of the stone, but his list was incomplete, and had many gaps and lapses in detail.

The story of the fatal gem gained currency in certain circles among the court of the Kaiser, and two highly-placed members of the court resolved to put the stories to test. They commissioned an expert diamond dealer to undertake a journey to the East, with instructions to investigate every clue, and find the truth of the allegations, and also to discover, if possible, wherein lay the curse of the famous stone.

The expert set out on his journey. He visited every market in the Near East, pursued his investigations through Turkey, was led by the thin thread of his clues into Persia, the land of the Medes and ancient wise men who seem to be so strangely gifted with occult powers.

Ancient documents written in old tongues were unearthed. It was a tremendous labour, and it occupied several years to complete, but it was completed. It was in 1916, after the war had been in progress for nearly two years, that the expert arrived back in Berlin with his proof.

The results of the expert's investigations were considered, and were turned over to Herr Zunkelhorn. When that expert had compared the results with his own information he realized how important this seemingly harmless stone was. He managed to gain an appointment with the Kaiser for the purpose of laying before him the additional tragic details.

The interview took place at Potsdam. Herr Zunkelhorn had with him all the necessary documents with which he hoped to impress his master, but the latter from the first treated the agitation of his jewel keeper as coming from a fussy old man upset by gossip. Nevertheless, he listened while Herr Zunkelhorn gave his story.

"Majesty," said the jewel keeper, "there is no more devoted servant of

the House of Hohenzollern than I am. Have I not been jewel keeper for many years? What I have to say is said because of that devotion and loyalty to your House."

He went on to detail the story of the Blaze of Glory from the time that the gem came into the possession of the Kaiser's forefathers.

It was in the Middle Ages that the Margrave (or Marquis) de Brandenburg, whose kingdom was the nucleus from which sprang the Prussian dynasty, made one of his raids into Silesia. His soldiers plundered wherever they came to a town, and razed the houses just as the modern Germans treated Belgium and North France.

One of the captives of the Margrave was a Jewish merchant who had been making his way to the Mediterranean with a large collection of diamonds and precious stones. The loot was placed before the Margrave, who, seeing the glittering collection, selected from the loot a massive stone. It was the ill-starred Blaze of Glory.

In vain the merchant warned the Margrave that the stone had a terrible history, and was fated to bring disaster to the family who owned it. The conqueror laughed at the tale, and holding the stone aloft so that it glittered and scintillated in the sun, swore that he would make it one of his crown gems, and that he would found a great family who would ever wear it always in their crowns.

This was how the Blaze of Glory came to Prussia, stained with blood, as it had been stained throughout its long career.

It was handed down from king to king until it came into the possession of the ex-Kaiser.

"Your Majesty will remember," said Herr Zunkelhorn, "that on the day you were crowned I ventured to suggest that the jewel ought to be taken from the royal crown. I implored your Majesty to get rid of it. I gave my reasons. I said that the tradition was such that it would bring only misfortune on Prussia. Your Majesty, I have now in my hands proof that the climax of the misfortunes which this terrible gem is responsible for will take place in your Majesty's reign; it is indeed not very far distant."

"You can prove that?" cried the Kaiser excitedly.

"Yes, your Majesty. The documents are here."

"What are the proof?" demanded the Kaiser.

"Your Majesty, this stone came originally from Persia, the land of mysterious things and many secrets. If your Majesty will give me permission to take the Blaze of Glory and make certain tests with it I shall be able to give you further demonstrations. It is written in these documents that the crisis of the misfortunes caused by the Blaze of Glory will occur in the twentieth century."

"But how can you prove this?" asked the Kaiser.

"Your Majesty, the important dates will be found by holding the gem at right angles with the meridian and pointing its apex towards the north—due north. From the number of the various angles and their degrees shown in the cutting of the gem will be found the mysterious significance of the stone."

Herr Zunkelhorn was given permission to make his tests. He made the mathematical calculations according to the instructions which he had obtained, and to his consternation the dates which came out in the final answer were 1917 and 1922. It was demonstrated that between those dates would come the climax. Would the tradition hold good, or had its power been exhausted, and were the stories told of the gem merely strange coincidences and old wives' tales?

The result of the calculations were sent to the Kaiser, but once again he refused to believe that they had any special significance. His reply was that the war was being won—that indeed it was already won—by his "valiant troops," and that nothing could stop his ambition to be conqueror of Europe.

The highly-placed advisers of the Kaiser took the same view. They laughed at the fears of the jewel keeper, and the Blaze of Glory remained the central stone in the Prussian crown.

Days and weeks passed, but at last events took a turn, and disaster loomed ahead. The story of the Blaze of Glory had been forgotten in the other events of the national crisis. Only one man in Germany kept the history of the fatal stone in his mind, and that

man was Herr Zunkelhorn. When the final crash came, and the Kaiser, a beaten refugee, fled from his country that morning late in 1918, the jewel keeper was one of those who was present at the final farewell.

"Had he taken my advice many years ago," said Herr Zunkelhorn, to one of the officials, "he would still have been on the throne. It was the fatal Blaze of Glory which brought the downfall of the Hohenzollerns, just as it has brought misfortune and evil to every owner it has had since it came out of Persia so many centuries ago."

It was not until after the Kaiser had gone into exile that the German people began to realize that the central gem of the crown had indeed a sinister influence, and it is still pointed out by those who see it in his new place of abode in Berlin as the diamond which caused the overthrow of the Hohenzollern dynasty.

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Certainly off the Beaten Path.

(By MORRIS ACKERMAN.)

If you are looking for a rough-and-ready place to fish and hunt try Labrador.

Labrador is a narrow strip of land across the Straits of Belle Isle from the north shore of Newfoundland. It extends from Blanc Sablon to Hudson Strait, about 700 miles.

I made the trip up from St. John's, Newfoundland, on the "Meigle." The boat makes about fifty stops between Battle Harbor and Hopedale. From Hopedale a smaller steamer takes you as far north as ice will permit.

There are no docks. The ship anchors off the numerous ports and passengers go ashore by the Meigle's mail boat.

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The white natives, "Inyerees," live mostly from Rigolet south.

The Eskimos predominate north from that point to Hudson Strait.

Lots of Fishing.

Indian tribes stick to the interior and largely follow the caribou.

With the exception of the coast little is known of Labrador.

One thing is sure—the salmon and sea trout fishing, particularly from Rigolet south, is of the best.

Ducks, geese and waterfowl are to be had along the Labrador coast in limitless numbers. It is the breeding ground of the Canada goose, as is Newfoundland.

Labrador cannot be recommended as a carbon country. However, like Newfoundland, there are parts where "summer deer" do not migrate.

One of these is about 15 miles from Cartwright, where the Hudson's Bay Company maintains a trading post, selling ordinary grub and supplies.

I covered considerable country around Sandwich Bay and went into the Goose country up North River.

The natives fish and hunt only for food and thought me foolish to shoot birds on the wing.

However, I recommend Labrador to anglers and hunters going into Newfoundland, as a side trip. One day out of St. John's you will be in daily sight of icebergs. At various ports of call you can jig from the side of the ship for codfish.

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WHAT A LUMP OF COAL IS. "What we know as a lump of coal," the speaker declared, "is simply an incomprehensibly large number of electrical particles clustering together. If these particles could be liberated and controlled, they would provide vastly more power than would be needed to run all the machinery that man could ever devise."

Professor Rutherford, "succeeded in arranging a collision between the central portions of two atoms. The result was the transmutation of these atoms into entirely different forms of matter. "The possibility of much transmutation on any scale is an enormous importance. If the amount of hydrogen which goes to constitute a table-spoonful of water were transmuted into helium, the energy liberated would be 200,000 kilowatt hours—one-seventh of the total amount of electricity used in London in a day for lighting and power services."

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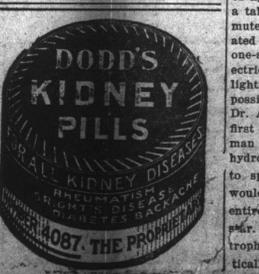
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