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man and that accounts for his being so late. I've no doubt he'll make Devine's before dawn, though. A good thing he was going there, anyway!

"It was kind of him to take my parcels on," said Madge. "Oh, thank heaven those dogs threw me out just where they did!"

"They must have caught a glimpse of 'The Windigo.' Well—he was real after all."

The girl leaned her head against the old hermit's shoulder.

"Poor uncle," she murmured, softly. "And you say he'll get better?"

"Not a doubt of it. I know of a number of like cases. Won't this be a happy Christmas for your father, though!"

"For us all! You'll spend it with us at the post, won't you?"

And underneath the parka Macpherson's hand sought Madge's mitted one as he softly said: "Well, rather."

The Country School as a Community Centre

By Robert J. C. Stead

Nations are built in the public schools. The ideals set up by the school teacher remain very largely the ideals of the pupil throughout life, and his conception of patriotism will be what he has been taught during his school years. It is not too much to say that the present world war is due to a difference of ideals fostered by different systems of education.



British official photograph showing a pathetic scene on the La Basse front. A handsome horse, the mount of a British officer, is standing at the edge of a dug-out, where the British officer has gone, never to return. An unfamiliar hand will lead him away from the scene of his master's death. The horse has a grieved look. Many animals have been known to pine away in sorrow for their masters.

Great as is the importance of the public school in old and well established countries, this importance is even greater in the new lands which are being called upon to assimilate populations from the more congested countries. It is worthy of note that in Western Canada, which may be cited as a case in point of a country which is called upon to assimilate a population of many races, some of the most strenuous political and constitutional fights have hinged upon the systems of public education. These fights, however, were not without their purpose, and out of them has arisen a public school policy well calculated to meet the needs of a new and rapidly growing country. In such a country the public school has to take on functions not usually associated with it in the older and more densely settled communities. The prairie schoolhouse is not merely a centre of education; it is also the religious and social centre of the district. During the week days the school teacher furnishes education to the children of the neighborhood, but on Sunday the missionary holds his services, which all attend regardless of creed or nationality, and on week nights the building is used for meetings of farmers, for the various community societies, for the Red Cross or Patriotic Club, and for purely social events such as debates, concerts and dances. To facilitate the latter, it may be noted that many country schoolhouses use removable desks which the

willing hands of the farmer's boys quickly dispose of whenever there is a dance in prospect.

Another phase of community work associated with the rural school which has been coming into prominence during the last few years, is the supply of books to settlers in the district. This work is encouraged and assisted by the central department of education, which provides catalogues of books suitable for such purposes, the actual selection being left to the teacher. The number of books allotted to a school district is based on the report of the inspector of schools. In the Province of Alberta, although this school library movement is only in its infancy, no less than 110,000 books were supplied for this purpose last year at a cost of some \$30,000. Educationists of the province look forward to the time when every school district will be a library centre, giving to the settlers the facilities now afforded to residents of cities and towns through their public libraries. The prosperity which has almost overwhelmed rural Alberta in the last two years, when farmers have been reaping enormous crops and selling them at the highest figures in history, promises to contribute still further to the importance of the rural school as a social centre. With every farmer driving his own automobile, the opportunities for social gatherings are greatly increased, and the country school is the natural meeting place.

A New Heart

An anecdote published many years ago of the Indian chief Teedyuscung, king of the Delawares, is too valuable to be lost. "One evening he was sitting at the fireside of a friend. Both of them were silently looking at the fire, indulging their own reflections. At length the silence was broken by the friend, who said: 'I will tell thee what I have been thinking of. I have been thinking of a rule delivered by the author of the Christian religion, which, from its excellence, we call the Golden Rule.' 'Stop,' said Teedyuscung; 'don't praise it to me, but rather tell me what it is, and let me think for myself. I do not wish you to tell me of its excellence, tell me what it is.' 'It is for one man to do to another as he would have the other do to him.' 'That's impossible. It cannot be done,' Teedyuscung immediately replied. Silence again ensued. Teedyuscung lighted his pipe, and walked about the room. In about a quarter of an hour he came to his friend with smiling countenance, and taking the pipe from his mouth, said: 'Brother, I have been thoughtful of what you told me. If the Great Spirit that made man would give him a new heart, he could do as you say, but not else.' Thus the Indian found the only means by which man can fulfil his social duties."

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I want every sufferer from any form of rheumatic trouble to try this marvelous healing power. Don't send a cent; simply mail your name and address and I will send it free to try. After you have used it and it has proven itself to be a long-looked-for means of curing your rheumatism, you may send the price of it, one dollar, but, understand, I do not want your money unless you are perfectly satisfied to send it. Isn't that fair? Why suffer any longer when positive relief is thus offered you free? Don't delay. Write today. MARK H. JACKSON, No. 868C Gurney Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y.

Mr. Jackson is responsible. Above statement true.—Pub.



SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST LAND REGULATIONS

The sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter-section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. Applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency for the District. Entry by proxy may be made at any Dominion Lands Agency (but not Sub-Agency), on certain conditions.

Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres, on certain conditions. A habitable house is required except where residence is performed in the vicinity.

In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre.

Duties—Six months' residence in each of three years after earning homestead patent; also 50 acres extra cultivation. Pre-emption patent may be obtained as soon as homestead patent, on certain conditions.

A settler who has exhausted his homestead right may take a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$3.00 per acre. Duties—must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate 50 acres and erect a house worth \$300.00.

The area of cultivation is subject to reduction in case of rough scrubby or stony land. Live stock may be substituted for cultivation under certain conditions.

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