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THE WESTERN HOME MONTHLY

Western Canada's Representative Home Magazine, Illustrated.

THE TWO from now until January 1st, 1909

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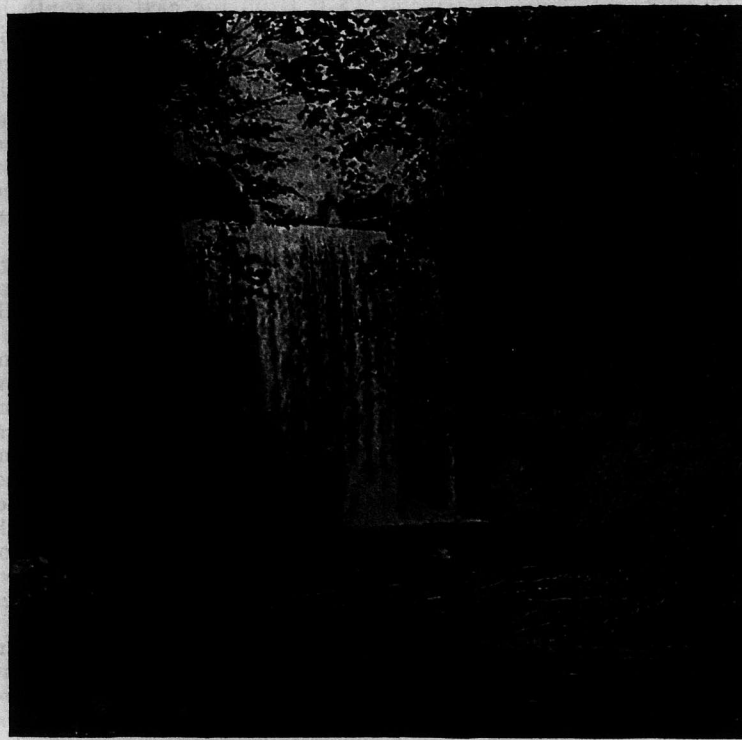
West Along the Canadian Northern.

A trip west over the Canadian Northern is well worth the time and expense. This region is noted, not only for its scenic beauty, but also for its rich and varied historical associations. Over a large portion of the distance between Port Arthur and Atikokan the road follows the valleys of the Kaministiquia and Mattawin rivers. These are in every sense mountain streams. Rapids and cataracts are succeeded by quiet,

and entirely out of the question for children. For them a summer at Fort Frances or Mine Centre would be a joy forever. Here all the comforts of modern life can be obtained if desired, while at the same time the attractions of the wilderness, of woods and waters are ever present and within easy reach.

Twenty Thousand Islands.

Lines of steamers run from Fort Frances to the various points of interest on Rainy Lake, Rainy River and Lake of the Woods. These lakes have no counterparts on the face of the earth. They are an interminable labyrinth of wooded islands. The Lake of the Woods was named by the voyageurs, Lac des Iles. It is estimated that the two lakes embrace 20,000 islands. And these are connected by one of the most beautiful rivers on the continent.



Minnehaha Falls.

mirror-like pools that reflect the rugged bluffs along the banks. Along the summit of the great divide, the height of land, the road skirts a number of beautiful rock-girt lakes, like basins of water along the ridge-pole of the continent. Near the head of the Mattawin river the route passes the portage at the foot of Lake

What the Adirondacks and the Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence are to New York and New England, this International Park region and the Lakes of Ten Thousand Islands will be to Chicago and the West. Before the lapse of many years cottages and castles will adorn these islands and summer homes will line the beautiful terraces along Rainy River.



Indians on Rainy Lake

Shebandowan. Here the road crosses and re-crosses the old Dawson trail, along which, thirty-four years ago, toiled the Royal troops under Col. Wolseley on their memorable expedition to the

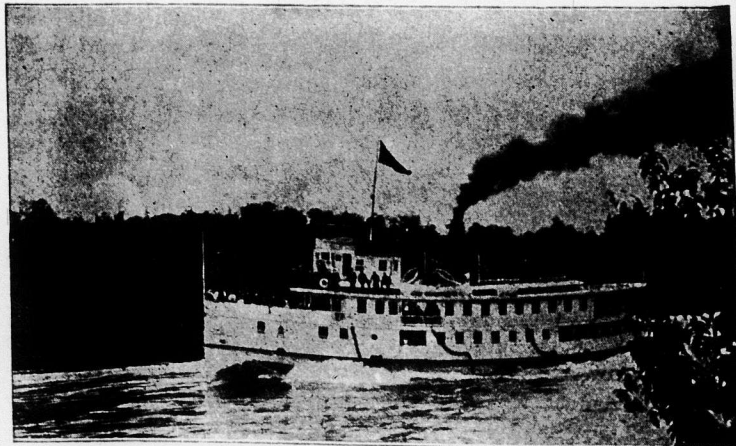
Red River settlement for the purpose of crushing Louis Riel and his first rebellion.

The country lying between Port Arthur and Fort Frances is as yet rather new to attract the summer tourist, unless he wants to rough it in search of health and genuine recreation. Should that be his object, a canoe, a guide, a tent and provisions will afford entertainment for weeks. He can paddle and camp for days and months and never cross his path or repeat a mile of his trail.

Such jaunts are, however, too strenuous for the average tourist, and quite impossible for most women

Of this whole region Fort Frances is the natural centre. From here already you can take a steamer to Kenora at the northern extremity of the Lake of the Woods, or through a labyrinth of bays and gulfs and between all manner of capes and promontories, peninsulas and islands to Northwest Bay, where an Indian settlement gives an added interest, or at least an added color, to the scenery. Another steamer plies between Fort Frances and Mine Centre on the upper waters of the Seine River. This route is even more picturesque than that to Northwest Bay, if such a thing be possible.

An interesting excursion can be taken up the south shore of Rainy Lake over what is called the American route to Hunter's Island. This is the longest of the Rainy Lake routes and covers ground of much historical interest. It follows the boundary line to Kettle Falls. This was the route of the old fur-traders from the day of La Ver-



Ss. Kenora in Sault Rapids, Rainy River.