

INTO THE LONELY NORTH Six Sisters Sacrifice Their Lives for the Betterment of Indian Children.

Six sisters of the religious order of the Grey Nuns left Winnipeg last Saturday for Prince Albert, from which city they will commence the journey of three hundred miles or more north through the wilderness to the Isle a la Crosse. They will journey through the snow, over prairies, across lakes, along the smooth surface of numerous rivers for eight days, until they reach the Indian reserve in the heart of the great forest of northern Saskatchewan. There they will remain in complete isolation for as many years as their superior may direct, devoting their lives to the Indian children in the hope of bettering their condition.

One of the sisters stated that the journey from Prince Albert north would be made with horses for some distance, but that dogs would be used for a portion of the trip. For a few nights, houses would be available at night, but for the rest of the journey it would be necessary to sleep in the open. The home on the reserve was on an island, in the heart of the bush, and the sisters were alone with the Indian population. The difficulty in maintaining the school in the north arose from the fact that there was nothing there which the sisters could do to sustain themselves. For this reason the work which had been conducted for forty years had been given up, although there were a hundred children in the school. The sisters had been urged to return and they were now going back, but they were still uncertain how the mission could be maintained.

At the present time the population of the mission at Isle a la Crosse is 1,100 nomadic Indians, 800 Montagnais and 300 half-breeds and Crees. Rev. Father Robert, O.M.I., is in charge and he is assisted in his work by two priests and four brothers. The territory covered is about 140 miles.

The Grey Nuns will resume the conduct of the school which they had transferred to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyons. The latter left last summer, a new building, 100 feet long, placed in an old spot, 30 miles from the old institution of the order of St. Boniface.

The last surveyors have not yet come within one hundred miles of the mission, but prospectors have been there and the discovery of mines or the opening up of the Hudson Bay for the transportation of pulp wood and lumber from the head of the Churchill river may send population in that direction.

UNFAIR DISCRIMINATION

The board of railway commissioners gave unanimous judgment January 11 in the matter of the application of the Western Associated Press against the Canadian Pacific railway and the G.N.W. telegraph company. The judgment is in favor of the Western Associated Press with respect to the most important matter submitted to the board, that is, the question of discrimination in the handling of telegraph matter in western Canada.

The case submitted by the western publishers to the board showed that the Canadian Pacific railway handled its own news service to points west of Winnipeg for a mere fraction of the charge levied on similar matter sent by the Western Associated Press to its clients. The judgment of the railway commission declares this practice illegal, and calls upon the Canadian Pacific railway to prepare and put into effect by February 1 a schedule for the transmission of news which will apply equally to the matter handled by the Canadian Pacific railway itself and to the Western Associated Press service.

With regard to the other point at issue, the request by the Western Associated Press that matter addressed to it should be carried at press rates, the decision of the board is favorable to the telegraph companies.

ESTIMATE OF 1909 CROP

The wheat crop of Canada last year is estimated by the census and statistics branch of the department of agriculture to be 166,744,900 bushels, an increase of 54,310,000 bushels over 1908. The average yield per acre was 21.51 bushels as compared with 17 bushels in the previous year. The average price was \$4 4-5 cents as compared with \$1 1-10 cents, and the total value was \$141,320,000 as

compared with \$91,228,000 in 1908. The estimate places the wheat yield of the prairie provinces for last year at 147,482,000 bushels, an increase of 55,029,000 bushels.

CENTENNIAL POSTPONED ONE YEAR

The board of directors of the proposed Selkirk centennial presented a report to the shareholders last week on the work accomplished to date in the way of preparing for the proposed exhibition. After recounting the work done in the organization and election of officers, the report, which was presented by D.C. Cameron, president, recounted the estimated receipts and expenditures which furnished the basis on which the executive was working. It was finally decided, after a brief discussion, that the year 1912 did not permit sufficient time in which to properly organize for so large an undertaking, and the year 1913 was named as better suited.

DR. STEWART'S ITINERARY

Dr. D. A. Stewart, superintendent of the Sanatorium at Ninette, leaves Winnipeg on Wednesday, December 14, to lecture on tuberculosis in the towns of the central and south-western districts of Manitoba. During December a part of the north-western portion of the province was covered and sixteen towns visited. Considerable interest was aroused in the problems presented by tuberculosis and the various phases of the disease and its treatment were made more graphic by the use of a stereopticon. Arrangements have been and are being made for lectures during January at the following towns: Miami, Wed., Jan. 12; Roland, Thurs., Jan. 13; Carman, Fri., Jan. 14; Rathwell, Sat., Jan. 15; Treherne, Mon., Jan. 17; Holland, Tues., Jan. 18; Cypress River, Wed., Jan. 19;

GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING

The memorandum prepared by the Elevator Committee for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association is in the hands of the Manitoba Government. They will consider the plan of the Grain Growers' very carefully, and will then be prepared to meet with the Elevator Committee, with the purpose of drafting a Bill to come before the Legislature when it meets next month.

Glenboro, Thurs., Jan. 20; Wawanesa, Fri., Jan. 21; Souris, Man., Jan. 24; Hartney, Tues., Jan. 25; Melita, Wed., Jan. 26; Napinka, Thurs., Jan. 27; Waskada, Fri., Jan. 28.

BRITISH GIRL SCOUTS

General Baden-Powell, whose "boy scouts" now muster no fewer than 300,000 throughout Great Britain, has founded a girls' branch of the corps, which he thinks will develop into a useful training body for the existing voluntary aid organizations, formed to provide nurses in case of war.

The general has issued a girls' guide, laying down the course of training for the feminine scouts. Their duties will include tracking, to find wounded; signalling, to send messages for bringing the ambulance to the spot; first aid, to bandage wounds temporarily; transportation of wounded; cooking; nursing, and convalescent nursing.

The girl scouts will wear a smart uniform, based on the ordinary play dress of young English girls—blue skirts, jersey and Tam 'o Shanter, with the addition of a cape hung on the back, gauntlet gloves, and a belt, holding simple surgical appliances.

HE WISHED TO DIE

Clad in a cotton nightgown, which only half covered his frozen limbs, the dead body of M. Fairburn was found lying on the ice under the Broadway Bridge, Winnipeg, Friday afternoon. He had perished from exposure.

The man had been a patient at the Winnipeg general hospital suffering from self-inflicted wounds in his throat, and made his escape from that institution at four o'clock Friday morning while the nurse in charge of the public ward which he occupied was away on an errand to the kitchen. He had walked through the frozen streets barefooted a distance of two miles.

MARATHON TO SOUTH POLE England, France and United States Entered.

A race for the south pole with England, France and United States all struggling to reach the goal from different sides of the earth, is now promised as the result of an announcement, January 6, that an American Antarctic expedition is under way under the auspices of the National Geographic Society of Washington.

Never before was there such an international fight for Antarctic fame. Until Peary planted the Stars and Stripes at the north pole, this country had never been regarded as a probable rival in the search for the earth's southernmost point. The danger, however, that American hands will raise the same flag at the south pole which already waves at the north pole is now acknowledged by Britishers, is adding to their desire to get to the southern goal with all possible speed.

France's Expedition

France already is reported somewhere within the Antarctic zone by Dr. Jean Charcot, who sailed south from Rio de Janeiro on October 22, 1908. Nothing has been heard from him since April 17 last when his wife received a letter from Deception Island, England is about to send two expeditions. It has been announced in London that the British government stands ready to advance \$100,000 for the expedition to be commanded by Captain R. C. Scott, a veteran Antarctic traveller. Lieutenant Ernest O. Shackleton, who reached the most southern point on January 9 last, is also preparing to head a party which will follow Captain Scott.

It also appears that three of Peary's most efficient men will be leaders in the search for the earth's southern pole. They are Captain Robert Bartlett who sailed the Roosevelt to Cape Sheridan and who commanded the sup-

man. He was only discovered when the place was opened to take out some vegetables. He had not suffered in any way except that he did not find raw vegetables very palatable articles of food.

PERISHED IN THE BLIZZARD

P. H. Doyle, an old time farmer near Bethune, Sask., and recently living with his nephews at Stony Beach, Sask., left Bethune last Friday afternoon during the storm and has not been heard of since. His horse with cutter attached turned up during the night at Len Smith's house, some five miles from Bethune. The cutter was empty looking as if it had been overturned. Some parties have been out looking for the missing man and phone messages have been sent to nearby villages without result. The Mounted Police have been advised. It is feared that Mr. Doyle has perished on the prairie. He came west from Owen Sound, Ont.

FINED FOR SMUGGLING WHEAT

Mike Heltinzel, a Saskatchewan farmer, was arraigned before Judge Amidon in the United States court at Fargo, Jan. 7, charged with smuggling grain across the boundary. Heltinzel was arrested by United States customs agent Foulkes, of St. Paul, for smuggling 37 bushels of flax. It was represented to him that if he pleaded guilty an effort would be made to have the fine equal to the value of the grain and the duty on the same. Accordingly, he pleaded guilty, but Judge Amidon fined him \$56.75, saying that he did not suppose that special representatives of the treasury department could arrest farmers for smuggling and then enter into a semi-arrangement concerning their fines and costs. He said that hereafter parties caught smuggling grain from Canada may have to go to jail, besides being fined.

H. I. Bolley, of Fargo, N.D., a well-known United States authority on seed grain, is in Ottawa this week, studying the methods of the Canadian government regarding the seed grain selection, propagation and distribution.

A dozen safe blowings and many large and mysterious burglaries and holdups have occurred recently in Vancouver. One gang of four has been convicted and sentenced to twenty-seven years in the aggregate, but the robberies still continue.

The first step has been taken towards the consolidation of the Snowflake schools, Manitoba, by the closing of the old Snowflake school three miles east of town, and putting two teams on the road to carry the pupils of that school to attend the town school.

The citizens of San Francisco have ratified plans for the municipal street railroad in the United States. The project was submitted to them in the shape of two bond issues aggregating \$2,000,000 to build about eight miles of conduit electric road through the centre of the city.

The farms of the United States, with their buildings, implements and stock are estimated to be worth almost \$30,000,000,000. This is 44 per cent. more than in 1900. No such increase in agricultural values was before known in the history of the world in any country.

Good Clydesdale horses are in fair demand in the west, and Messrs. Thomas Usher and Andrew Graham, of Dufferin Municipality, Man., have recently made importations of over 30 pedigreed Clyde mares and young stallions from Scotland. Joseph Jickling, of Carman, Man., paid Mr. Usher \$1,000 for a finely matched pair of young fillies, and they will likely be heard from later in the show rings.

Albert Simmons, a well-to-do farmer of the Battleford district, became suddenly insane in a C.N.R. train on Friday when nearing Winnipeg. He was travelling with his wife, en route to his old home near Birmingham, England. He imagined that he was an airship inventor and that he had perfected a ship that would cross the Atlantic in an hour. With a sharp knife he cut the window blinds and curtains in the car to make sails for his aerial craft. He was taken in charge when the train arrived here on Friday.