# "Lifer" Pomeroy As The Man From Mars

## How the Press Viewed the Advent of Pomeroy After 53 Years in Prison

The Man From Mars it might have been who sat in the rear seat of the closed car. His face was pressed against the glass as he gazed with awe at wonders he had heard of, but never seen. A train roared by, high in the air above his head. In the street a machine was digging, apparently by itself. Strange vehicles, like the one in which he was riding, dashed by, but there were no horses hitched to them. There were refreshments —an amber-colored fluid with a sharp, pleasant taste, and a brittle cone filled with a cold, soft stuff. Then came the greatest wonder of all. The party stopped by an open field where stood an outlandish contraption. It was not unlike a boat in shape, but broad wings extended from its sides. The machine began to roar. It rushed along the ground. It soared into the air and flew away. It was all strange, new, wonderful to the man who had never encountered such every-day objects as elevated trains, steam-shovels, automobiles, ginger - ale, ice - cream cones, and airplanes. It was frightening too, and the "Man from Mars" longed to be back in his home of half a century, even though that home was a prison cell.

For this "Man from Mars" had lived on this earth for seventy years. But for fifty-three of them he has been a prisoner. He is Jesse Pomeroy, America's most famous lifer, the man the world passed by, as the Minneapolis Tribune aptly calls him. In 1876, when he was seventeen years old, he was sent to prison for life for murder. For forty years or more he was in solitary confinement. The whole span of more than half a century has been spent, save for one brief period, in the Massachusetts State Prison at Charlestown, near Boston. Recently, very much against his will, he was transferred to the State prison farm at Bridgewater, because of his age. The transfer required a forty-mile automobile ride for him, lasting less than two hours. It was his first glimpse of the world since his incarceration; and the wonders he saw during this brief period have served to show us graphically how much has happened in human progress in half a century. When Pomeroy entered prison, says the St. Louis Globe Democrat, commenting on a Boston editorial:

The country seethed over the Custer massacre. Mayor Samuel C. Robb of Boston was engaged in a campaign for stricter enforcement of the liquor laws, and a view down Tremont Street was a view of "muddy streets, horse-cars, oil-lamps, two-story shacks. Riding to the hospital in an auto, for the first time in his life, he saw traffic as unfamiliar in its horseless units as its volume is astonishing, crossed bridges such as he never dreamed of, caught sight on distant waters of craft whose size amazes. The Herald thus enumerates wonders of whose universal use only whispers can have come to Jesse in his cell: radio, electric light, elevators, airplanes, improved paving materials, telephones, motor-vehicles, electric-cars, elevated and subway cars, motion-pictures, vacuum-cleaners, electric toasters, wrist-watches, rotary printing-presses, steam-heating and other new methods of heating, fountainpens, safetyrazors, steam-shovels, steam-rollers.

The list might be extended. We have fought two wars in this time, Japan has fought three and won all, and Russia has fought several with final upheaval in the very bases of its society. Many political and even religious view-points have veered almost to reversal. The Panama Canal has ben built and the Prussianism that had its beginning just before 1876 has been overthrown.

Pomeroy did not want to leave Charlestown which, during his long imprisonment, had come to seem like home to him. Even though a better life, in the country, awaited him, he was dissatisfied, peevish, almost surly, when the time came for him to start, according to Charles Drury in the Boston Herald, where we read further:

Deprived of the privileges of being considered "famous" and permitted to accept little favors from visitors, and to occasionally take a little flyer in the stock market, Pomeroy was listed at the farm as just "notorious," and told that he will live out the remainder of his life as an ordinary convict-transferee.

He lost his crown as the most widely talked-about, written-around and gazed-upon life prisoner when he stepped through the portals of the State prison at Charlestown and into an automibile in which he was whisked away to Bridgewater where he was received as "just another transferee," booked and taken down the long corridor to the infirmary, from which he will never be released except by death.

He left the prison as he entered it fifty-three years ago, surly, not because he was going into the State prison, but because he was being taken away from it, and against his wishes and will.

Yet for nearly two hours the murderer gazed upon a new world, on wonders of creation of which he knew only from pictures and magazie and newspaper stories. He rode for the first time along the broad highways of Massachusetts in an automobile. The only other automobile ride he ever had was a short one around the prison yard several years ago.

He saw an elevated train go rushing past; turned to gaze at the wonders of a steam-shovel and a steam road-roller; became frightened in the mazes of traffic he never dreamed he would see, much less pass through; and asked, childlike, where horses had gone to, from the roads.

When his car reached Randolph, Joe O'Brien ran into a drug-store and bought three vanilla ice-cream cones and three bottles of ginger-ale. He tendered a cone to Pomeroy, who declined it, but he took the proffered ginger-ale. He said it tasted "fine." He said he had had ice-cream, but never saw it in a cone before; then he munched it and enjoyed it.

One stop was in front of a newspaper office. A huge bulletin board, with red and blue letters announced that Pomeroy had been transferred, and the bulletin described him as 'Boy Slayer." Though he had lost the sight of one eye and the sight of the other is dimmed, he read the bulletin, and asked why so much should be made of so little an affair, and why the world persisted in calling him slayer.

Ahead, obscuring the road, was a dense cloud. Then it cleared a little and the transfer officers told Pomeroy it was the dust raised by an airplane which just landed at the Brockton airport. Billie Robinson slowed down to avoid the dust. The plane roared and lifted, and Pomeroy saw the big ship rise gracefully and sail away. "I've seen them things in the air from the prison, but I never saw one get started," he said, as he watched it disappear.

# Dense Smoke Pall Hides Sun in West

## Scores of Forest Fires Burning in Widely Scattered Areas

## Many Square Miles of Timber Lands Falling Prey to Flames

Winnipeg.—A smoke pall so dense that at times it blotted out the sun, hung over a large area of northwestern Ontario, particularly in the Kenora district and Manitoba recently. The conditions of scores of forest fires, large and small, that caused the blanket of smoke, was considered unchanged though it was feared a light breeze, which sprang up about dusk, might accentuate the danger.

Reports that the town of Redditt, Ont., on the main line of the Canadian National Railways, was in serious danger were refuted when a dispatch from Kenora stated that Redditt was now free from the forest fire menace. Only capable fire-fighting saved the railway division point. There was believed to be no truth in the report that trains were forced to wait several hours before proeeding through the town.

Regarded as the most serious in the history of the province, forest blazes in Manitoba assumed gravely dangerout proportions.

The Swan River area, adjacent to the large Duck-Porcupine National Forest, saw the flames that broke out make such rapid advances that it was feared the enormous district, constituting the provinc's largest part, would fall prey. In the Rennie district a dozen smal bush fires made such headway over the week-end that the flames were sweeping an area of many square miels. Rennie village was menaced and forest rangers and homesteaders rushed from Winnipeg, making a brave attempt to check the flames.

Conditions at Winnipeg Beach were improved. Fires threatened to destroy the summer resort but the flames were put under control.

Winnipeg was shadowed by an overhanging smoke pall.

### Situation Serious

Kalispel, Mont.—Fires continued to spread through the forests of northwestern Montana and northern Idaho The great half-moon fire, which hundreds of men were fighting, made its way toward the top of the Continental Divide in Glacier National Park

Mapor E W. Elley, district forester, who has characterized the situation in the forests as nothing short of a catastrophe, held a conference with other forest officials and decided upon a general reorganization of the crews.

### Camps Wiped Out

Nelson, B.C. — Seventeen C.P.R. construction camps were believed to have been wiped out by flames which suddenly swept form Kootenay Lake, near here, aolng a wide fire front, while scores of railway workers fled to high ground before them.

No one was trapped, reports added

"You say you have a brilliant idea for making a fortune?"

'Sure thing; I'm going to open a barber shop for men."

EMPIRE'S GREAT SCOUT JAMBOREE

Canadian Boy Scouts, dressed as snake charmers, having some fun at Arrow Park, England, where world scouts gathered for the jamboree.

# Canadian Salmon Prices Advance

## Excessive Demand in Europe Takes All Available Supplies

Quebec.—Due to the excessive demand for Canadian salmon from Europe, the price of the product from the North Shore, Gaspe and Saguenay has gone up, while it is almost impossble to obtain it here, according to J. H. DeRome, manager of the Quebec Harbor Commission cold storage plant, and inventor of a new method of freezing salmon.

"When fish was frozen the old way, as in former years, there was practically no European demand, as the fish could not e kept sufficiently fresh to ensure acceptance on arrival, and if large quantities were processed for the local market, there was not sufficient demand for them. In many cases several years ago, we have had as many as 1,500 oxes of salmon spoiled on account of their being no demand for them," declared Mr. DeRome, in discussing the situation.

"Now, with the demand far exceeding the supply, advantageous prices, in excess of local ones, and with future markets assured, fish exporters are naturally shipping all they can to Europe.

"The last shipment to be made from Quebec will be loaded some time soon, and will be around 25,000 pounds. Next yeas there will be an even greater demand for Canadian salmon, for Germany will be on the market."

With the salmon market for the season almost over, attention will focus from next week on, on the eel market, and as Quebec ships around 1,000,000 pounds of eels each year, there will be considerable activity around the Island of Orleans, from Levis to Lotbiniere and all around the Quebec district. Germany takes the bulk of the Quebec eel catch.

A film actress who has been married four times is about to be wed again, and one of her divorced husbands is acting as best man. But surely what the lady really needs is a referee to keep the score.

# Cancer Hospital To Open in London

## Four of Great Radium Specialists to Take Charge

London.—Mount Vermont Hospital at North Wood, Middlesex is being reorganized as a special cancer hospital and research station with accommodation for 250 patients.

Four of the greatest radium specialists—Dr. Donaldson, Mr. Stanford Cade, Lady Barret and Mr. Keynes will take charge. An order has already been placed for 160 platinum needles containing from one-half to three milligrammes each of radium. Notable results are expected.

Three unemployed miners having emigrated to South Africa, and not being successful in obtaining employment, decided to journey up country, where, far away from civilization, they came across an explorers' depot, fairly well stocked with food. After a few days, when the stores had become exhausted, and all three fed up, yet very hungry, one of their number decided to go in search of food, with the avowed determination to bring back something to eat even if it were a lion. He had not searched far when he encountered a lion, which was also in search of food. The lion at once bounded toward the man, who turned and sped as rapidly as humanly possible toward the hut. On nearing the hut door, which was open, he stumbled and fell, too precipitately for the lion to recover, which bounded into the hut. When the man picked himself up, he quickly pulled the hut door to, and shouted to his mates inside, "Here you are! Skin that whilst I fetch another."

General Escobar has been named by the rebels provisional President of Mexico, which means, we take it provided he can get it.

The backless gown is due for a summer stand, we are told. With the sleeves gone, the front excised, and the skirt doing a fade-out, it won't be long before those two cute little shoulder straps will have nothing to hold on to.

# Health of Earl Causes Anxiety

## Preparations for Birthday Celebrations for Lord Harewood Dimmed

London.—Considerable anxiety was manifested recently over the health of the Earl of Harewood, 83-year-old father-in-law of Princess Mary, which dimmed the preparation for the joint celebration of the birthdays of the oldest and youngest male members of the house of Harewood.

Plans had been made for the Earl and Gerald Lascelles, youngest son of Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles, who is5 years old to celebrate together. The illness of the Earl in his home at Harewood House, near Leeds, however, has interfered with the plans. Debility due to extreme age is given as the cause of the Earl's indisposition.

The Earl and his lively mischievous grandson are the best of pals. The Earl and Countess of Harewood always make a great fuss over George and Gerald Lascelles when the youngsters visit Harewood House in Leeds. The Harewood residence has been a guest house of Kings and Queens since it was built over a century and a half ago. The ruins of Harewood Castle are included in the grounds. The Earl owns almost 30,000 acres.

Grandfathe. and grandson form a combination of one of England's wealthiest elderly Peers and a most vacicious and interesting youngster. Gerald is a regular boy, interested in everything he sees, with just enough fire in his eyes to make him completely lovable. At the age of five his smile has already become well known in England and the Dominions. He is a great favorite with the King and Queen.

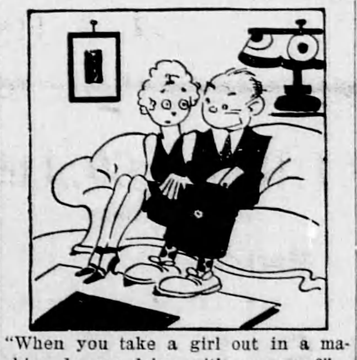
Much of the Harewood family wealth came from sugar plantations in Barbados. The family has been connected with the industry since the beginning of the eighteenth century.

## Barrier Blown Up In Welland Canal

Port Colborne, Ont.—The final blast of the barrier between the present and the new Welland ship canals at Ramey's Bend was fired recently.

The shot was composed of several tons of dynamite and was quite spectacular. A huge wave was flung up and washed high over the banks, while debris of all sorts was hurled onto the Humberstone-Welland highway.

Many high tension wire poles, from which the wires had been removed in anticipation, were bent over, while one was thrown 15 yards across the road. Men cleared the thoroughfare at once, so that traffic was not materially hampered for more than an hour.



"When you take a girl out in a machine do you drive with one arm?"

"When I take a girl out I hire a cab."

The traveler was on his way east but he had gotten no further than the fever-and-ague district of a Southern State. As the train jerked to a stop at one particularly desolate town he put his head out of the window and called to a native propped against a post: "Tell me, what do you call this dried-up, dreary, ornery, low-down place?" "That's near enough, stranger," was the melancholy answer. "Just let it go at that."

DISTANT AND DARK SCOUTS AT JAMBOREE

Indian Boy Scouts with some of their curious instruments at Camp Birkenhead, England.

# Premier Ferguson Asks Co-operation

## Importance of Agriculture in Affairs of Canada Emphasized

## SPEAKS AT TORONTO

## New C.N.R. Oil-Electric Locomotive Makes Fast Run from Montreal

Toronto.—Premier G. H. Ferguson, of Ontario, emphasized the importance agriculture plays in the affairs of the country in an address at the Canadian National Exhibition directors' luncheon recently. He said that the automotive industry would have had still further progress this summer if Western Canada farmers had more money available to expend on cars.

"The manufacturers' organization," he said, "is a wonderful force in Canada. You do not get the co-operation of agriculture and wonder why. It is because you do not co-operate with it. You have the organization the publicity methods, all the features necessary to co-operate with the unorganized farming communities. If the Manufacturers' Association changed its name to something more useful, say an industrial association, and brought in an agricultural branch and recognized agriculture, we would get some great results."

Appeals for the development of inter-Empire trade were made in addresses by Sir Stanley Bois, of the Rubber Association, Lieut.-Col. J. H. Levey, Commissioner for British West Africa, and J. O. Outerbridge, secretary of the Trade Development Board of Bermuda, at a luncheon tendered by the council of the Toronto Board of Trade to commissioners of British Empire Exhibits at the Canadian National Exhibition.

### West African Market

Col. Levey said that a potential market of 25,000,000 people in British West Africa, who are fast becoming educated to western standards, should be taken advantage of by Canada.

Mr. Outerbridge said travel between Canada and Bermuda had increased considerably since last February when, extra steamships.. had.. been placed in service between the two countries.

Sir Stanley informed his audience that Great Britain produces approximately 80 per cent. of the world's supply of rubber, the bulk of which is used by the United States.

### Oil-Electric Engine

Opening of the new automotive building; arrival of "oil-electric locomotive No. 9,000 of the Canadian National Railways" and another record breaking atendance marked the third day of the Canadian National Exhibition.

The electric locomotive left the Bonaventure station, Montreal, pulling the second section of the International Limited at 11.30 Daylight Saving Time Monday morning.

The engine ,the biggest of its kind in the world, accelerated rapidly as it left the yards and gained a running speed that varied between sixty and seventy-five miles an hour over the 324 mile run ,averaging more than fifty-five miles an hour.

Arriving at Toronto at 7.10 (Eastern Standard Time) the special train was switched to a track leading to the Canadian National Exhibition grounds, where all aboard were received as guests for the grand stand performance for the evening, after being welcomed by Mayor McBride of Toronto and President Bradshaw of the Exhibition.

Premier Ferguson officiated at the opening ceremonies of the new building. He predicted that good highways would be built in the near future from one end of the province to the other and that all people of Ontario would be able to enjoy benefits of improved transportation.

A network of highways had been developed in Ontario he said, but this was not enough. "We must push this transportation system to the remote sections of the country. We give everyone who makes his home in the province equal opportunities. The man who chooses to make his home in the remote sections of Ontario is surely entitled to the same privilege of economical social prosperity that the man in the more populated area has."

The arrival of the C.N.R. oil-electric locomotive was greeted by a large crowd, eager to see Canada's contribution to improved railway transportation facilities.

### Health Program

Hon. Dr. Forbes Godfrey Ontario Minister of Health, opened the health program at the headquarter's booth of the National Council of Women of Canada. Referring to the council, he said: "This little group is the keystone and foundation of the whole Canadian. National. Exhibition. It we did not have health, where would we be. Without health there is no happiness."

He said he was pleased at the growth of a "health attitude" among Canadians, and pointed out that when Premier Ferguson announced $1,000,000 for a research foundation, citizens responded by contributing $2,000,000 toward the work.

Dr. Helen MacMurchy, Ottawa, Department of National Health, spoke on maternal mortality.

In dealing with neglected children the aim should be to influence the heart rather than the intellect.