Reindeer Ranches Proving Successful

Canadian Government Optimistic Over New Industry of the North

By William Bleasdell Cameron

Three thousand reindeer, the property of the Dominion Government are, at the present time, being piloted across the 1,000-mile stretch that separates Western Alaska and the Mackenzie River delta, in Northern Canada. If all goes well the goal will be reached by the fall of 1931, and with it will end the first stage in the launching of an ambitious project. Will the venture succeed? Its sponsors say "Yes," and if they are right an enterprise fraught with possibilities of tremendous expansion will have made an auspicious start. A similar step, taken nearly 40 years ago at the instance of Dr. Sheldon Jackson, an official of the United States Government, has been the seed of a development so remarkable, and an industry of such magnitude, that it surpasses mining in importance, and is exceeded only in value of output by one other commercial enterprise in the territory of Alaska—its fisheries.

For centuries the reindeer, as a source of food, has been the mainstay of Northern Europe and Asia. The American Government, having acquired Alaska and with it responsibility for the wellbeing of its considerable native population, cast about for a means of ensuring an adequate and dependable food supply. Seals and walruses, fish and game, were well enough as far as they went, but existing resources were uncertain. At times they were insufficient, if not unobtainable. Something, the authorities decided, must be done to remedy this condition.

Dr. Jackson studied the situation and concluded that the European reindeer, if adaptable to the country, would solve the problem of providing an ample, always available means of subsistence for the Eskimo of the character of which they were accustomed. Caribou, a wild species of the reindeer, roved the country in enormous herds. If they throve—as they had done for as far back as the records ran—why not their man-controlled cousin? Dr. Jackson believed the domesticated branch of the family would, and convinced the Government it was worth while to settle the point. He went to Lapland to procure the material for his purpose and returned with 1,200 reindeer and a number of Lapp herders to instruct the Eskimos in their care.

The four-footed immigrants fitted into their new environment as if born to it. They flourished on the rich natural fodder everywhere abundant, and their number has increased from the original 1,200 until there are today in Alaska almost 1,000,000 reindeer.

The reindeer is also a dairy-purpose animal. In Labrador, where there are a small number, Dr. Grenfell has testified to their many valuable properties, including with the statement that "the fresh milk of the does has supplied us with what is a vital necessity and one obtainable in Labrador in no other way, while the excellent and easily-made cheese afford a means of storing the nutriment in a palatable and assimilable form without any outlay for a preserving plant."

Carcasses dress round 150 pounds and have a value with the by-products of about $30. The skins provide the Eskimos with clothing and are converted by United States manufacturers into gloves, moccasins and other leather goods. Knife-handles and novelties are made from the horns. The hair, extremely buoyant, makes excellent filling for life preservers, and there has arisen a demand for the long neck-turfs for use in making artificial baits by purveyors of fishing tackle. It is estimated that Alaska has pasturage for 4,000,000 reindeer and that this figure will be reached by 1937.

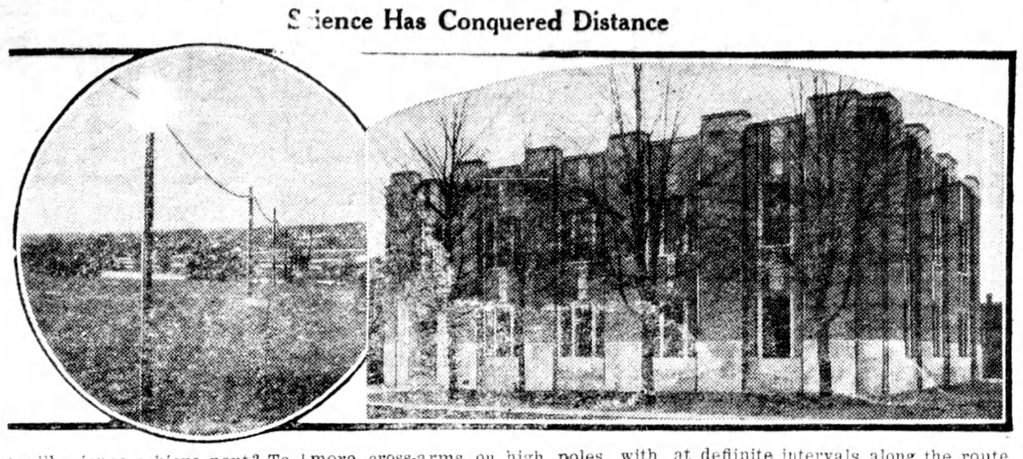
The Dominion Government of Canada two or three years ago employed the Porsild brothers—Danes born and brought up in Greenland—to make a survey of Canada's so-called Barren Grounds with the view of determining their suitability or otherwise for reindeer ranching. The brothers made a careful investigation and their report was so favorable that an immediate start was made. They were sent to Alaska to obtain the stock necessary for the experiment, and they purchased the herd of 3,000 animals now being driven along the Arctic coast to the territory east of the Mackenzie. With aeroplanes ahead to direct the course and to find the choicest pasturage, and reindeer in sleds hauling the camp equipage, the caravan left Alaska in the early summer and is now wintering somewhere between Point Barrow and Aklavik. As soon after the fawning season next spring as the young are able to travel, the trek will be resumed, and by the autumn the herd should be established upon its permanent feeding grounds in the vicinity of Kittigazuit.

How much of the Barren Grounds may be suited to reindeer grazing has yet to be ascertained—the Porsilds, within the limited time at their disposal, could cover only a corner of them—but in the opinion of Ralph Lomen, a pioneer in the industry in the Alaskan field, as quoted some time ago, "There is room in the Northern tundra of Canada for 12,000,000 reindeer and such a herd would be worth $50,000,000. Canada, if she started now in a modest way, could have such a herd in 50 years." Fifty years is a long time, but meanwhile Canada might be content with a less number.

The Government had substantial grounds, even before the Porsild investigation, for believing that the reindeer would find themselves as much at home on Canada's Arctic prairies as in Alaska; that enquiry, though expected to confirm such belief, was undertaken as a measure of prudence. The strongest guarantee lay in the fact that for as far back as anything was known of the Barren Grounds, they had supported immense herds of wild caribou that had arranged their sweeping expanses, coupled with the reports of explorers as to the character and extent of the vegetation found upon them. The reindeer, as has been said, is a close relative of the caribou, and if the latter flourished there it was reasonable to conclude that the reindeer would do likewise. These wild herds have been photographed at such close range that "wild" seems a misnomer, and many have seen pictures—veritable forests of horns over a living sea. A recent Government report gives their number as having been estimated at 30,000,000. Warburton Pike, an early adventurer upon the Barren Grounds, tells of standing for hours at a stretch with the caribou streaming past on either hand, so near that he was able to pick out those in primest condition for slaughter. This herd was six days in passing his camp, and he remarks that he could not believe the buffalo on the plains in the period of their greatest abundance were more numerous than were the caribou at that day on the Barren Grounds.

The cost of raising reindeer is trifling, estimated at $1 per head. A handful of herders will look after a herd of several thousand, merely circling them at intervals to prevent them from straying. They are rounded up three times a year—in February to collect and segregate the breeding stock; in June to mark the fawns, and in October to mark out and slaughter the animals intended for market.

Science Has Conquered Distance



What will science achieve next? Today, in building long distance telephone lines along main routes between big centres of population, the Bell Telephone Company uses cables containing a hundred or more pairs of wires. These tiny wires enclosed in lead-sheathed cables replace the older type of open wire so familiar along highways. Instead of a half-dozen or more cross-arms on high poles, with their gleaming miles of copper wire, the present-day method is to use a somewhat smaller pole with the cable suspended from a strong messenger wire.

For long talks, carried on by means of wire in long distance cable, the electric current carrying the waves set up by your voice, must be revived at definite intervals along the route.

Repeater stations, such as the one at London, Ont., illustrated above, are being erected at several points in Ontario and Quebec. The apparatus housed in these repeater stations serves to strengthen the voice currents on their journey, so that one may now talk by telephone for practically any distance.

Owl Laffs

You can swat an insect pest when it goes to buzzing around you, but the law protects a human pest and you have to stand for it buzzing around you until it leaves you of its own accord.

The Philosopher

I saw him sitting in his door,
Trembling, as old men do.
His house was old, his barn was old,
And still his eyes seemed new.

His eyes had seen three times my years,
And kept a twinkle still;
Tho' they had looked at birth and death
And three graves on a hill.

"Let me sit down with you," I said,
"And you will make me wise.
Tell me, what is it keeps the joy
Still shining in your eyes?"

Then, like an old-time orator,
Impressively he rose,
"I make the most of all that comes;
The least of all that goes."

Archibald believes the reason some girls desire to get married in airplanes is because their ego has them convinced no man on earth is good enough for them.

Farmer (very angrily) — "What're comin' home with your milk pail empty fer? Didn't the old cow give anything?"

His Son—"Yep. Nine quarts and a kick."

A certain hostess is highly indignant over the society editor's description of her too coarse luncheon.

Lawyer—"Mr. Peck, your wife has been arrested and is being held incommunicado. But the police chief is easy, and a little money——"

Henry Peck—"Fine, fine, and tell him that there's $10 for him for every day he can keep her that way."

Some folks are too good to be true and too cheap to be good.

Client (just acquitted on burglary charge)—"Well, good-by. I'll drop in on you some time."

Lawyer—"All right, but make it in the day time, please."

Your chances of borrowing money on securities is far better than trying to borrow it on nerve.

Foreman — "Now, Murphy, what about carrying some more bricks?"

Murphy—"I ain's feelin' well, guvnor—I'm tremblin' all over."

Foreman—"Well, then, get busy with the sieve."

Internal Revenue

Little Willie is a funny
And eccentric little waif—
Swallowed all his sister's money,
Said that he was playing safe.

Charles—"And you are absolutely sure that you love me?"

Irene—"Heavens! Do you think I'd be sitting here letting you bore me like this if I didn't?"

Sincerity is more important than genius or talent.

Father—"Isn't that young man rather fast?"

Daughter—"Yes, Daddy, but I don't think he'll get away."

The newest fad of choosing a dog to match the complexion ought to popularize the bull. To the ladies a charming man is one who makes them think they are. A grouch should never be nursed lest it soon grow so strong that it will run off all one's friends. We'd like to suggest a few prizes for those who refrain from writing poems and such. You can't work in a bank and bring home samples. Somebody has observed that the way to tell a family is poor is by the children all having their tonsils.

The general strike merely seeks to apply to the community at large the methods of the highwayman of old and the gangster of today—Lord Hailsham.

The people never give up their liberties but under some delusion.—Edmund Burke.

Kind words never die; if they did, perhaps they would be more appreciated.

Seawood As Food Fancied By Indians

Other Peoples in Canada and Elsewhere Use It for Food Purposes

Among the foodstuffs taken from the sea the Indians on the coast of British Columbia put seaweed as worth adding to the menu of an epicurean.

In earlier years seaweed was "money" among British Columbia Indians in the sense that it was used, to a limited extent, as a medium of barter between tribes in the northern interior part of the province and other tribes living along the coast. This barter has now practically disappeared; but if seaweed is no longer money it remains in use as an article of Indian food.

For food purposes, especially among the Indians of the northern coast of British Columbia, the seaweed is pressed and partially dried, and in this form it will apparently remain in a satisfactory condition for a considerable length of time. Part of its value from the dietary standpoint is doubtless due to its content of iodine, an element which research has shown to be valuable as preventive of such diseases as goitre.

Incidentally, it may be noted that sea fish also contain a considerable percentage of iodine, and this is one of the reasons why doctors and dietitians recommend frequent inclusion of fish foods in the household menu.

As a matter of fact, of course, certain seaweeds are eaten by other people besides Indians. For instance numbers of people in Canada and elsewhere like dried dulse, a variety of seaweed, and in 1929 Canadian producers marketed over 100,000 pounds of this marine product and received for it over $10,600.

On the Atlantic coast of Canada some use has been made of seaweed, in combination with fish offal, in producing fish meal, which is a valuable stock food. So far there has been no commercial utilization of seaweeds on the Pacific coast of the Dominion.

Stoneless Peach May Yet Be Realized

Fresno, Cal.—This spring may see the sprouts that will be the forerunner of the seedless peach that was the late Luther Burbank's dream of his later years.

William H. Henderson, the youth whom Burbank took in charge as his protege, on his place just southeast of here has planted abnormally small peach seeds, the discovery and gift of a Fresno well driller.

The gift pits are about the size of a cherry stone. From it Henderson hopes to develop eventually the peach that was the object of many plant experiments by Burbank.

Henderson already has many new plant developments to his credit. Among them are several varieties of the hibiscus that will live in a temperate climate. One is of the flaming red color that gave the tropical plant its name, the flaming hibiscus. Another is orchid and a third is a subdued, velvety red.

Henderson alreay was pushing development of some stoneless plums he had grown when he was given the diminutive peach stones.

Error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.—Thomas Jefferson.

"What lovely tea"
You hear that wherever Red Rose is served. Why not serve it yourself?
RED ROSE TEA
"is GOOD tea" 246
2 CHOICE BLENDS—Red Label & Orange Pekoe

Kennedy & Menton
421 College St., Toronto
Harley-Davidson Distributors
Write at once for our bargain list of used motorcycles. Terms arranged.

STOCKS UNLISTED BONDS
ELGIN 4135
B. T. RIORDAN & CO. LTD.
C.P.R. BLDG. TORONTO

NO SNOW ON THE BOARDWALK
HOTEL STRAND
Atlantic City, New Jersey
Sends Greetings to its Many Friends in Canada.
We are quoting such a very low American Plan rate that you will find it cheaper to stay at the "Homelike Strand" than staying at home.
Write us so we may quote them to you—so you will know the exact cost before leaving.
Music—Salt Sea Baths—Complimentary Tea Daily, 4 to 5 p.m.—We will personally see to your comfort.
T. E. LANDOW, Mgr.
H. BRADFORD RICHMOND, Prop.

Listed and Unlisted Stocks Bought - Sold - Quoted
Thos. B. Kenny & Co.
Members:
Dominion Stock Exchange
45 Richmond St. W., Toronto
Orders Executed on all Exchanges

Popular Piano Playing
Twenty lesson course by famous roll recording artist. Lessons mailed singly. Personal assistance with each lesson. PIANISTS! Join the popular song hits of the month club. Book of J. L. C. hot arrangements obtainable for $2. Write:
J. LAWRENCE COOK,
SONG SERVICE STUDIOS,
361½ Clinton St., Toronto, Ont.

for NEURALGIA
A good application of Minard's, according to directions, just "hits the spot". You'll find that you get wonderful relief!
MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

Classified Advertising

YARN
FOR MACHINE OR HANDKNITTING, "All Wool," Silk and Wool, "Old Tyme," all colors, 75c lb. up. Samples free. Stocking & Yarn Mills, Dept. T, Orillia, Ont.

BABY CHICKS.
A-1 BABY CHICKS—IN SIX VARIETIES, 10c and up. Catalogue. A. H. Switzer, Granton, Ontario.

AN OFFER TO EVERY INVENTOR. List of wanted inventions and full information sent free. The Ramsay Company, World Patent Attorneys, 273 Bank Street, Ottawa, Canada.

Earn $15.00 a Month
In addition to Lodging, Food, Uniforms, Laundry and Text Books
WHILE STUDYING NURSING at the
BUFFALO CITY HOSPITAL
462 Grider St., Buffalo, N.Y.

that sluggish feeling
Put yourself right with nature by chewing Feen-a-mint. Works mildly but effectively in small doses. Modern — safe — scientific For the family.
Feen-a-mint

FOR CONSTIPATION

FREE TRIAL OFFER OF KRUSCHEN
If you have never tried Kruschen—try it now at our expense. We have distributed a great many special "GIANT" packages which make it easy for you to prove our claim for yourself. Ask your druggist for the new "GIANT" 75c. Package.
This consists of our regular 75c. bottle together with a separate trial bottle—sufficient for about one week. Open the trial bottle first, put it to the test, and then, if not entirely convinced that Kruschen does everything we claim it to do, the regular bottle is still as good as new. Take it back. Your druggist is authorised to return your 75c. immediately and without question. You have tried Kruschen free, at our expense. What could be fairer? Manufactured by E. Griffiths Hughes, Ltd., Manchester, Eng. (Estab. 1756). Importers: McGillivray Bros., Ltd., Toronto.

USES PINKHAM MEDICINES

Praises Vegetable Compound, Blood Medicine and Liver Pills

Birchtown, Quebec—"I live 13 miles from town on a farm, with all my home duties and churning to attend to. At the Change of Life I became nervous and run-down. The Vegetable Compound helped my whole system. My nerves are better, my appetite is good and I am able to do my work. I have also taken the Blood Medicine and the Liver Pills and they helped me. I will answer letters from women asking about your medicines." MRS. RICHARD CHARLTON, Birchtown, Quebec.

If baby has COLIC

A CRY in the night. Colic! No cause for alarm if Castoria is handy. This pure vegetable preparation brings quick comfort, and can never harm. It is the sensible thing when children are ailing. Whether it's the stomach, or the little bowels; colic or constipation; or diarrhea. When tiny tongues are coated, or the breath is bad. Whenever there's need of gentle regulation. Children love the taste of Castoria, and its mildness makes it safe for frequent use.

And a more liberal dose of Castoria is always better for growing children than strong medicine meant only for adult use.

Fletcher's CASTORIA

SOUR STOMACH

JUST a tasteless dose of Phillips' Milk of Magnesia in water. That is an alkali, effective, yet harmless. It has been the standard anti-acid for 50 years among physicians everywhere. One spoonful will neutralize at once many times its volume in acid. It is the right way, the quick, pleasant and efficient way to kill the excess acid. The stomach becomes sweet, the pain departs. You are happy again in five minutes.

Don't depend on crude methods. Employ the best way yet evolved in all the years of searching. That is Phillips' Milk of Magnesia.

Be sure to get the genuine Phillips' Milk of Magnesia prescribed by physicians for 50 years in correcting excess acids.

Remember—the genuine is always a liquid. It cannot be made in tablet form. Look for the name Phillips'. It is always on the wrapper for your protection. Drugstores everywhere have the 50c bottles.

Made in Canada