

WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO-DAY?

We shall do so much in the years to come. But what have we done to-day? We shall give our gold in a princely sum. But what did we give to-day? We shall lift the heart and dry the tear. We shall plant a hope in the place of fear. We shall speak the words of love and cheer. But what did we speak to-day? We shall be so kind in the after-while. But what have we been to-day? We shall bring each lonely soul a smile. But what have we brought today? We shall give to trulli a grander birth. And to steadfast faith a deeper worth. We shall feed the hungry souls of earth. But who have we fed to-day? We shall reap such joys in the by-and-by. But what have we sown to-day? We shall build us mansions in the sky. But what have we built to-day? The sweet in idle dreams to hark. But here and now do we do our task. Yes, this is the thing our souls must ask. "What have we done to-day?" Nixon Waterman.

Twenty Years Ago

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, February 10th, 1921. News has reached Acton that on January 28th, John McCogquodale, formerly of Speyside, had died at his place at Niska, Man. There will be a hockey match between Acton and the G.T.R. team, of Toronto, on Saturday night, under the auspices of the I.O.D.E. Mr. Louis Starkman has purchased from Mrs. John Arthurs, Toronto, the property now occupied by himself and T. E. Gibbons, shoe repairer. Mr. Starkman intends remodelling the building in the spring. Dr. E. J. Nelson has purchased the medical practice, laboratory outfit, residence and property belonging to the estate of the late Dr. Thos. Gray. Mr. Alex. Joe was elected President of the Esqueping Agricultural Society at the annual meeting. Despite the unfavorable weather, the financial statement was highly satisfactory. The auditorium of the Town Hall was filled to capacity when the children of St. Alban's Choir presented "The Metaphysical White Cat." The play was a great success and all the actors deserve much praise. BORN HEMSTREET—At Grace Hospital, Winnipeg, on Sunday, January 23rd, 1921, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hemstreet, a daughter.

WAR 25 Years Ago

Germans Massed Men and Guns Before Verdun for Attack on Famous Fortress. Preparations for the great German attack on Verdun, French fortress on the River Meuse, were speeded up 25 years ago in the First Great War. The actual battle continued intermittently until June, 1916, and ended in victory for French arms and glory for Gen. Henri Philippe Petain, now Marshal and Chief of State of the Vichy government. During the early part of February the army of the German Crown Prince concentrated artillery in the area opposite Verdun. Guns were brought from the Eastern Front and the interior of Germany and crack divisions were rested in preparation for the drive. Feint attacks began in January and these were followed by terrific artillery bombardments all along the line South of the Somme, between Fricourt and Domperrot. The German obtained a measure of success, but the gains were made only with heavy losses of men. The Fokker Plane. Great activity in the air heralded the start of the Fokker attack. A new type named after the designer, Anthony Fokker, made its appearance. Allied lines were shelled and the Germans made the point attack for the Fokker lines of transport in the Verdun sector. The Fokker was lighted to lose heavy all of British and French lives before the end of the war. Great activity on the Eastern Front was at the southern end along the Dunster Line, where the Russians inflicted heavy casualties on the opposing German and Austrian troops. Further north on the front there was little change in the positions of the respective armies.

SWEET CAPORAL Caporetto THE PUREST FORM IN WHICH TOBACCO CAN BE SMOKED.

Would Transform Treeless Plain and Barren Hill

Canada's Forest Experts Turn Out Hybrids to Match Rigorous Conditions of Canada's Varied Climate

By JAMES MCCOOK Canadian Press Staff Writer

Ottawa, February 5th (C.P.)—Canada's dream of trees in abundance, growing vigorously—in spite of drought, dust and cold, is nearer realization. Working towards a selection of trees which will survive conditions of hill and prairie climates, Canadian scientists have developed hybrids from the crossing of varieties. These hybrids give promise of being able to look after themselves in the various areas throughout the Dominion.

Experiments involve all common native and introduced spruce and pine trees found on the prairies as well as varieties of poplars. Hybrid seed has been produced and in some cases this seed had produced actual hybrid trees.

Tree selection to meet certain climatic conditions does not concern the West alone. Dr. L. P. V. Johnson, forest geneticist of the National Research Council, told The Canadian Press important progress was being made in development of trees to meet different natural elements from coast to coast. Working in conjunction with the research council are the Dominion Forestry Service, the Department of Agriculture and various Provincial agencies.

Wide Variety

Dr. Johnson, whose family home was a farm at Stavely, Alta., said that prairie weather and soil conditions presented no insuperable obstacle to free growth of trees. At experimental stations like that at Indian Head, Sask., a wide variety of trees flourished. They had more care than the farmer could afford to give his own shelter belt, but to science they represented what might be possible in the future under average farm conditions when types were blended to remove weaknesses and retain favorable characteristics.

"From trees like those at Indian Head spruces, pines and birch trees we believe we can develop other varieties, capable of thriving with almost no attention on prairie soil," respectively of comparatively suitable for the West—already exist. The native white spruce and Colorado spruce were hardy and drought resistant. The sturdy carragana and Russian olive were counted among hedge trees able to withstand prairie conditions.

The jackpine, which flourished in Eastern Canada even in poor soil, had been fairly successful on the prairies, except where its roots going straight down in the soil encountered hard subsoil which could not be penetrated. Scotch pine also had shown promise on the prairies.

Asiatic Species

Among deciduous trees, balsam, poplar, willows, trembling aspens, cottonwood and Manitoba maple were familiar in the West, but Dr. Johnson noted that while such trees would thrive in the protected bluffs along streams, they could not be called "native" to the unsheltered prairie and their lives were often short. Russian poplar and Chinese elm were examples of introduced species which had done well on the plains.

The hard ash and elm were often appreciated because they developed slowly while poplars deteriorated in about thirty years. White spruce was well-adapted to the prairies in some respects and the Colorado spruce has a white-blue needle, and this color in itself is a drought-resisting characteristic, as a light-colored object will absorb less of the sun's rays, hence there is less moisture usage.

BIGGER AND DARKER

Washington (C.P.)—After studying lay members of the National Academy of Sciences, Curator Alex. Huxley, of the Smithsonian Institute, said he found intellectuals who already have made their mark in the bigger and broader skulls, lower cheek bones and darker hair.

RAVE OWLS EYES

London (C.P.)—With flare bombs and intricate electric control the Royal Air Force can now take photographs from considerable heights on the blackout nights.

OLD CROCKS WANTED

Manchester (C.P.)—Just leave worn-out motor cars where they are, suggests an announcement in the papers, and the British Red Cross and St. John organizations will pick them up for the Funds.

TURNED THE CORNER

London (C.P.)—Vernon Bartlett, M.P., speaking at an Overseas League luncheon, said he believed the turn of the year was the turn of the war and that Britain was now on the road to victory.



FRIENDLY INTRODUCTION!

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Newspapers, including THE FREE PRESS, go into the homes because they are invited. They contain news, friendly news about people you know. People you meet often, the local organizations, not only of Acton but of the district adjoining. News about the municipal affairs of town, townships and county. It's this friendly introduction into the homes.

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The number of pages and the features THE FREE PRESS contains each week is dependent on the advertising patronage accorded. Its service to the community is interwoven with the service the community makes of its presence here. It can reflect no bigger a community than the community really is.

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The Acton Free Press IN ACTON SINCE 1867