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ment of Interior, Bureau of Education

**LINE OF FRIENDSHIP MAY
MARK TRADE ROUTE**
Hearings in a dozen cities of both
countries by the United States and
Canadian Joint Commission to consider
connecting the St. Lawrence river and
the Great Lakes by a canal system
awakened a new interest in the nearly
4,000 miles of border that separates
this country from its neighbor to the
north.

The boundary between the two great
English-speaking countries of America,
giving them joint ownership of some
of the greatest lakes in the world, as
well as a river of prime importance,
holds possibilities for development
overlooked by many of the citizen-
stockholders on both sides of the line.
The single scheme now under discus-
sion for the construction of canals to
handle ocean-going ships foreshadows
a work that would rival in magnitude
and importance even the epoch-making
engineering feats at Panama. With
huge canals connecting the waters of
the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence,
ships capable of negotiating any
weather could sail with the ore, coal
and grain of the western United
States and Canada, directly to any
port of the Seven seas.

Discussion by the two countries of
the feasibility of engaging jointly
in the development of their border
waters is in contrast with some of the
stormy incidents in which the bound-
ary has figured. Known in recent
years as "the border without forts,"
and come at last to be regarded as a
line of amity and friendship, it is per-
haps not generally realized now that
until the cumulative efforts of years
resulted not long ago in the settlement
of some long-standing disputes, the
United States-Canadian boundary was
the source of almost continual misun-
derstanding. Many times there were
unpleasant incidents, twice the coun-
tries were on the verge of war, and for
well over a hundred years after the
close of the Revolutionary war diplo-
mats, commissioners, and even neutral
kings and emperors acting as arbiters
were kept busy trying to straighten
out the many snarls into which a
border line can become tangled.

Much of the trouble in regard to the
boundary resulted from ignorance of
the geography of the country on the
part of the early negotiators. The
St. Croix river which the earliest
treaty stated should form the eastern
line of Maine at the very starting point
of the international boundary was not
satisfactorily identified at first, and
this caused friction for some years.

A second geographical error—the as-
sumption that the Lake of the Woods
drained into Lake Superior—is respon-
sible for the rather indefinite bound-
ary of small lakes and brooks be-
tween the two large lakes. The be-
lief that the Mississippi river had its
source in Canada, and field notes in
accordance with that belief, brought
about the existence of a tract of land
of a hundred square miles, cut off on
a peninsula on the northern shore of
the Lake of the Woods, practically sur-
rounded by Canadian territory and
many miles across the water from other
land of the United States.

In connection with still another
United States-Canadian boundary—
that between southern Alaska and
British Columbia—a mistaken impres-
sion of early Russian traders has given
the United States a boundary run-
ning helter-skelter over foothills and
ridges when it was believed to follow
a mountain watershed, a logical geo-
graphical boundary.

**KIPLING SETTING NOW
NEWS BACKGROUND**
The Simla Hills of Kipling fame and
the interesting Punjab country again
were brought to public attention this
year by reports of riots among nations
who had been aroused by the rumored
destruction of the golden temple of
Amritsar, a principal city of this pro-
vince.

Punjab is a Persian word meaning
"five waters," and refers to an area
in India, about the size of Oregon, be-
tween the Jhelam and the Sutlej,
drained by three intermediate streams.
These rivers empty into the Indus,
which forms the western boundary of
the state.

Situated at the northwest gateway
of India, the Punjab has for ages been
the Belgium of most of the military
expeditions from the west and the trail
of many migrations. For this reason
its peoples—Mohammedans, Sikhs,
Hindu Jats, Kashmiris and Rajputs,
all belonging to the tall, fair Indo-
Aryan stock—are not so sluggish in
temperament and ways of living as
those in other parts of the country,
and many of them manifest a martial
spirit upon small provocation. Eng-
land counted them among her most
valued soldiers on the western front.
The vast plain of the Punjab is
about one thousand feet above sea
level and on the north runs into the
"Abode of Snow," the Himalaya moun-
tains. At the southwestern end of the
watershed stands Simla, and from
it the mountains drop rapidly to the
foothills and then to the plain. Jakko,
the deodar-clad hill of Kipling's stor-

tes, is immediately within view, tow-
ering a thousand feet above Simla.
Here in this town, 7,000 feet above
the level of the sea, in early April,
when the heat of the great Punjab
plain reaches 120 degrees, most of the
Europeans in India gather and around
the summer home of the viceroy of
India the social life revolves. Within
a 25-mile radius from Simla is the
Chor, upon whose peak, 12,000 feet
high, a snow cap is worn until well
into May. Farther to the west the
higher peaks range from 16,000 to
22,000 feet.

**A MAGIC ISLAND OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN**
Amid the trials of coal scarcity,
H. C. of L. and politics, it may be
restful to read of a place where breez-
es blow cool, but seldom too hot or
too cold, and the scenery is magic;
where people are peaceable and honest,
and there are no profiteers; where
the women are pretty, charming and
easily entertained, and life moves
along with a song!

There is such a spot. Ten hours
out from continental Spain on a fairly
fast and quite comfortable steamer
lies a little archipelago—the Balearic
Islands, whose largest island, called
Mallorca, or Majorca, is perhaps the
most enchanting corner, one of the
most interesting and pleasing, as well
as one of the most forgotten islands
of the Mediterranean. The following
account of its attractions is summa-
rized from the description of an eye
witness, Col. Ernesto de March y de
Garcia-Mesa, Spanish army.

A great painter and writer called
it the "island of calm," for there ev-
eryone moves, rests, talks, walks and
conducts his courtships as if the day
had 48 hours, the mile about 16,000
feet, and the span of human life 700
years; so little haste do they make in
living and enjoying life. One Mal-
lorquin of noble family is said to have
waited 45 years in determining to lead
his sweetheart to the altar, with no
protest from her, and without having
been slain in exasperation by his moth-
er-in-law.

Last summer during the latter part
of July when the thermometer in
Washington and New York stood
around 90 degrees in the shade, and
in Madrid ran to blood heat, the
breezes fanned these island folk to
the tune of 76 degrees.

Nor is this wonderful island an im-
practical place to spend a few months.
There are about 120 miles of railroads
on the island, and a system of local
roads which permit of a traveler's vis-
iting many of the chief points of in-
terest with ease and comfort.

These people who take life so leis-
urely are not lazy, shiftless or un-
pleasant in personal appearance or
manner. They are intelligent, honest,
capable of work, sober and economi-
cal. These characteristics preserved
throughout centuries of uninterrupted
peace and tranquillity have made them
peaceable, trusting, and homeloving.
The men are of medium height, strong,
and agile. They have competed bril-
liantly in many of the championship
sporting events held in Spain, and
wherever they have gone on the con-
tinent their undertakings have been
marked with success. And as for the
women, Colonel March, in writing of
them, says: "They possess the same
lovely skin as the women of North
America, features as if sculptured by
Phidias or Praxiteles, and they walk
like goddesses." But he laments in
the next breath that they know nothing
of the "joy of living," due partly
to ancestral Arabic influences, and
to the fact that their island has,
for so long, been under strict repres-
sion. He calls Mallorca "the loveliest
cage on the planet, its wonderful, in-
telligent and gracious women being
extremely bored."

And an all-important feature—the
cost of living is low in Mallorca. Who
would not be astonished to know that
he could become a member of the
"Royal Club of Regattas," fully and
comfortably equipped, for about 20
cents a month in dues? Though prices
rose here as elsewhere during the war,
the Spanish colonel says that it is the
"spot of all Europe and America,
where one could have lived the most
reasonably during these past five
years."

**EGYPT: A DIAMOND MINE
OF HISTORY**
Egypt annually supplies the world
with a precious product, an increasing
knowledge of the early life story of
the human race. In the wonderful
record of exploration which has re-
stored to us the civilization of the
great pre-classical nations, there is no
more remarkable chapter than that
which tells of the resurrection of an-
cient Egypt. A communication to the
National Geographic society by James
Baikie, says:

"The science of Egyptology, which
is slowly and patiently reconstructing
for us the ordered history of the 3,000
years before Christ, enabling us to see
the types of men, the manner of life,
the forms of government, the religious
customs and beliefs of period after
period, from the very dawn of Egypt-
ian nationality, is specifically a growth
of our own time.

"We owe the framework into which
we try to fit the facts of Egyptian his-
tory to the ancient historian, Manetho,
scattered fragments of whose history
of Egypt, dating from the reign of
Ptolemy Philadelphus, in the third cen-
tury B. C., have come down to us in
the works of various ancient authors.
He recognized 30 dynasties of Egypt-
ian monarchs, and he left lists of the
names of the kings in each of these
dynasties, together with occasional
notes upon matters of historical inter-
est: in particular reigns.

The kings of the earliest dynasties
reared no pyramids. Their tombs
were great structures mainly under-
ground. These huge homes of the
dead were filled with all sorts of ob-
jects thought necessary or useful for
the deceased king in the underworld.
"Around a monarch were buried his
slaves, who were doubtless slain at
his grave that they might accompany
and serve him in the afterlife. The
chambers of his tomb were stored with
stacks of great vases of wine and corn.



Gateway of Ptolemy Euergetes at Karnak.

with pottery dishes, splendid copper
bowls, carved ivory boxes, golden but-
tons, palettes for grinding face paint,
chairs and couches of elaborate de-
sign and decoration, ivory and pottery
figurines, and plaques bearing records
of the king's valor in war or his piety
in the founding of temples.

"Here and there in this wreckage
of immemorial splendors, a little touch
helps us to realize that these dim his-
toric figures were real men, who loved
and sorrowed as men do still. Close
to Mena's second tomb at Abydos lies
that of his daughter Bener-ab—"Sweet-
heart," as he called her—to suggest
how love and death went side by side
then as now.

"The furniture of the tombs reveals
an amazing proficiency in the arts and
crafts. Ebony chests inlaid with ivory;
stools with ivory feet carved in the
shape of bulls' legs; vessels cut and
ground to translucent thinness, not
only out of soft alabaster, but out of
an iron-hard stone like diorite; finely
wrought copper ewers, all tell us that
the Egyptian of the earliest dynastic
period was no rude barbarian, but a
highly civilized craftsman. Perhaps
the faintest and most convincing evi-
dence of his skill is given by the brace-
lets which were found encircling the
skeleton arm of the queen of King Zer,
of the first dynasty."

**THE EVOLUTION OF FIRE
FIGHTING**

The passing of the fire horses from
Manhattan island and the installation
of a high-pressure water system in
Boston to eliminate even the fire en-
gine are further steps in the stage of
progress from the romantic days of
the picturesque old hand tubs. Older
folk may remember when citizens
tricked themselves out in red shirts
and glazed caps and carried torches
in the front of a procession, or formed
part of the bodyguard of the gallant
old tub as it paraded the streets on a
gala occasion. Then passion for fire
fighting ran to a high pitch and ar-
guments were waged about the merits of
particular engines. Today the throbs
of a motor-driven engine are taking
the place of those heart throbs. The
horses that might have clattered from
their stalls, glided beneath their har-
ness, and raced gloriously through the
drizzly, night-darkened streets before
the fire-spitting demon, are drawing
farm wagons or plowing the field.

In by-gone days communities were
dependent upon volunteers, and men
from all social ranks gave valuable
time to qualify for the service.
Fire fighting in some sort of organ-
ized form is ancient. Machines for
throwing water from a distance were
known, according to our first clear evi-
dence, in the second century before
Christ. Heron of Alexandria, 200
years before the Christian era, in an
old manuscript which has escaped de-
struction, described a hydraulic ma-
chine used in Egypt during the time
of the Ptolemies. It was composed of
two brass cylinders resting on a wood-
en base with pistons fitted into them—
in its principles practically like our
present engine. Like most other
knowledge, this was lost in the dark
ages which followed.

The Romans had squads of men
to carry water in "hamae," or light
vases, to the scene of an outbreak
where it was projected onto the fire
by those in charge of the "siphones"
or hand pumps. The precise nature
of this instrument has not been deter-
mined, but from specimens found in
excavations it must have been much
like the old-fashioned syringe used by
gardeners. These large organizations
of men gave the Roman authorities
trouble by their turbulence. Trajan,
the Roman emperor, and Pliny, at that
time one of his governors, had long
and serious correspondence over the
advisability of organizing fire depart-
ments in the cities under Pliny's juris-
diction, leading to the conclusion that
such groups would attain sufficient
strength to be a menace to the gov-
ernment.

Mention is made of the medieval
use of forcing pumps on fire engines
at Augsburg in 1518. England and
the countries of the continent were
using hand squirts and syringes at
this time. America took her ideas
from the English.

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