

DISCOVER TRACES OF OLD GOLD RUSH

FAR IN FROZEN NORTH

McMillan Expedition Finds in Baffin Land Remnants of Frobisher's Voyage 300 Years Ago

gotten gold rush of 350 years ago, gotten gold rush of 350 years ago, which came to naught, but in which Queen Elizabeth and many of England's wealthy noblemen were involved, have been found in the frozen north by the Rawson-MacMillan Arctic Expedition of Field Museum.

William Duncan Strong, anthropologist of the expedition and a member of the staff at Field Museum of Natural History, in a report made public by the director of the museum today, tells how the explorers have come upon the ruins of the house, the mining pits, and the improvised shipyard of Sir Martin Frobisher, who, between 1576 and 1578, led three expeditions, two for gold, into the forbidding regions of Labrador and Baffin Land. Digging in the ruins, Dr. Strong has unearthed fragments of brick, plaster, coal and porcelain, products which he states undoubtedly were brought over from England, and are indisputable proof that the ruins are of European, and not native Eskimo, habitations.

Story of Frobisher

The story of Frobisher, recalled by the museum expedition's findings, is one of the most romantic in the history of quests for riches in far parts of the earth. Frobisher, with the financial assistance of a few friends, sailed from England in July, 1576, in search of a northwest passage to Cathay and India. He had two tiny vessels, the "Gabriel" and the "Michael," and 35 men. Arriving in Labrador, they proceeded up the coast to what is now Frobisher Bay in Baffin Land. Five of the men were captured by natives and never seen again. Failing to find the passage they sought, the expedition returned to England, bringing some specimens of what the sailors called "black earth." Soon a rumor spread that this black earth was gold ore. Frobisher himself is thought to have believed it.

In the excitement that ensued, another expedition was formed. Queen Elizabeth loaned the "Aid," a large naval vessel, to Frobisher, and gave him £1,000 to finance the quest. Men of prominence in the court also invested in the hope of recovering large fortunes. In July, 1577, Frobisher, with the "Aid," and the two vessels he had previously, and 120 men, sailed again. Mining equipment was carried, and miners and refiners were included among the men. The following autumn the expedition returned to England with 200 tons of the "ore." While assaying, delayed in various ways, was going on, excitement mounted higher, and a third expedition was organized, with 15 ships. Plans were made to leave 100 of the men to establish a permanent settlement in the barren land, which had solemnly been taken possession of in the queen's name. The fleet sailed May 31, 1578.

Settlement Abandoned

After arrival in Frobisher Bay, dissensions arose, and the idea of the settlement was abandoned. The fifteen ships, all laden to capacity with ore, returned to England in October, only to find that the assay, since completed, had determined that the ore contained nothing but "fool's gold," or iron pyrites.

Dr. Strong reports also having investigated what were believed by some explorers to be Norse ruins in Labrador and Baffin Land, but declares all he has seen thus far are Eskimo in origin. Further search is to be made for evidences of a landing by the Vikings in the region.

Skeletons of three Labrador Eskimos from old stone graves, other contents of the graves, various specimens from ancient camp sites, and many specimens of Eskimo handiwork in bone and stone implements have been collected for the museum by Dr. Strong.

Plans New Trip

Dr. Strong is now making preparations for a trip during the coming winter which promises many thrills and adventures. While other members of the expedition are working at the scientific station established at Nain, Labrador, he will go, with a native interpreter and a team of dogs, into the interior of the icy land to mingle with and study the primitive Naskapi Indians. These tribes, of which little is known at present, are one of the most primitive, and disinclined to welcome white intruders in their midst.

AND MORE RETURNS

"What is the difference," asks an economist, "between a savings account and a checking account?" We know the answer to that. You can have more fun with a checking account.—Woman's Home Companion.

PROFESSIONAL CAUTION

The daring parachute jumper is often the first man in the party to show alarm when he discovers he has been sitting in a draft.—American Magazine.

INSURANCE COMPANIES BUY PUBLIC UTILITIES

Increase Investments in Stock of This Character During Last Four Years

Insurance companies during the past four years have increased their holdings in public utility securities by \$550,000,000, according to figures recently made public by the Department of Commerce for the period ending June 30.

With a total assets of \$10,982,000,000 on June 30, mortgages valued at \$4,806,000,000 were held by the insurance companies, an increase of \$2,131,000,000 as compared with 1923 but of this amount \$351,000,000 were farm mortgages. About 47 per cent of the mortgages held in 1923 represented farm mortgages, while on June 30, the farm obligations constituted 33 per cent of the total.

Public utility holdings have been almost tripled since June, 1923, at which time the leading insurance companies held \$281,000,000 in public utilities, as compared with \$1,754,000,000 of railroad securities. On June 30 these holdings were \$831,000,000, an increase of \$550,000,000, compared with \$2,225,000,000 in railroad securities. The present railroad holdings represent about 20 per cent of the assets of the insurance companies. In June, 1923, holdings of railroad securities represented 24 per cent of the assets.

FOOTBALL TICKETS COUNTERFEIT-PROOF

The counterfeit ticket problem which for years has harassed ticket managers of large sporting events has been solved by the football authorities at Northwestern university. The football tickets to be used at the university this fall have been made counterfeit proof.

A special made mill stock which has been prepared by the Arcus ticket company of Chicago is so constructed that two colors appear in the pasteboard. The exterior is white while the interior is red. When the gate man tears off the stub he can tell at a glance by the medium of the two color scheme whether the ticket is counterfeit.

Hand drawings of Dyche stadium and McKinlock campus appear on the face of the ticket, making an unusually attractive design.

MILLIONAIRE LIVES NOW IN \$500 HOUSE

FORMERLY WAS GOVERNOR

J. M. Parker, at One Time Head of State of Louisiana Retires To Simple Life; Walks

John M. Parker of Louisiana is out of the headlines now and enjoys tranquility. For a few months this year, called by President Coolidge to head flood relief in the stricken South, he stepped back into harness and did valiant service. The crisis past, he went quietly back to his \$500 farmhouse on a dirt road four miles from the nearest railroad station at St. Francisville, Louisiana.

There, according to an enterprising interviewer from the agricultural magazine, Farm and Fireside, he goes to bed at nine, gets up at six, takes care with his own hands of growing things, eats plain food, walks ten miles a day, sees a friend now and then, and is at peace with the world. "Seeing him on his farm it is hard to remember that he is a millionaire," remarks the interviewer. And it is probably equally difficult to recall him as one of the most rambunctious and uncompromising political scrappers in Southern public life of the past twenty years.

Ran With Roosevelt

Mr. Parker was Theodore Roosevelt's running mate and candidate for vice president in the campaign of 1916. Four years later Parker ran for governor of Louisiana as a "progressive Democrat," and won by a wide margin. During his term of office he fought the Klan tooth and nail, broke ring rule, cut political lines right and left, set up non-partisan commissions, and enforced drastic economies in public business. Lynching and crime waves were his pet abominations. He tightened the police powers of the state, speeded up the courts and was merciless in enforcement of law and order.

The magnificent new buildings of the Louisiana State university are a monument to his purposeful use of public money for practical purposes.


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