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Canadian Achievements
By Lyman B. Jackes

There are many achievements attributable to men who lived in Canada and were in the true sense Canadians. In addition to other great discoveries and accomplishments recently recorded in the press, the following originated in Canada:—

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| THE FIRST ATLANTIC STEAMBOAT | CALCIUM CARBIDE |
| THE SUBMARINE CABLE | COMMERCIAL HELIUM |
| THE TELEPHONE | STANDARD TIME |
| THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY | MARQUIS WHEAT |
| THE ELECTRIC STOVE | THE SLEEPING CAR |

Many of the readers of The Advance do not know Canada's part in these achievements. Those who have some knowledge of them will appreciate this interesting series of articles, refreshing memory and adding to a just pride in this country and its potential wealth of brains, ability and determination.

No. 5—THE ELECTRIC STOVE

Any alleged connection between the pioneer electric railway and the dainty electric stove of the modern Canadian kitchen will doubtless appear to be overdrawn. But the two conveniences are definitely connected in their origin. The electric stove is a product of Canada as the electric railway is.

Thomas Ahearn, who was born in Ottawa in 1855, was the genius who gave to the world the comforts of electric cooking. This triumph, was not of a sporadic nature, but came from years of experience attacking big jobs and bringing them to a successful conclusion.

Thomas Ahearn was born in Ottawa in 1855 and like so many other Canadians who have won fame and

The Ottawa Electric Railway commenced to operate cars in the autumn of 1891, and the critics and wiseacres shook their heads and smiled while waiting for the thermometer to dip into the sub-zero section of the scale and bring the venture to a standstill. Real cold weather did not come to Ottawa until February of 1892, and when the patrons hurried to the cars they found them pleasantly heated, but the heat was not radiating from visible stoves. Upon investigation mysterious little boxes were noted under the seats. These were the electric heaters. They were the first that were ever built, and they were made in Canada by a Canadian.

The "Electrical Banquet"

These heaters attracted considerable attention and Thomas Ahearn was approached with offers for larger heating units. In March, 1892, the Foreman's office of the Ottawa Water Works was equipped with a large electric heater which was both economical and efficient. Experts came from many cities not only in Canada but the United States to see the wonder, and the inventor decided to surprise his guests. He invited them to an "Electric Banquet." The visitors who had come to see electric heating were bidden to appear at the Windsor Hotel, Ottawa, one evening in the month of April, 1892. When they arrived they were treated to a dinner, every course of which had been cooked by electricity in an oven built for the purpose. This was the first time in the history of the world that electric cooking had been demonstrated. The oven used resembled a baker's oven, and had been provided with heating grids that could be regulated from the outside. The meal was voted a complete success and from that beginning has grown the numerous conveniences that make life easier wherever a electric lighting circuit is provided.

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Next Article—Calcium Carbide



THOMAS AHEARN of Ottawa, who gave to the world its first ideas of electric heating and cooking.

fortune, he turned to telegraphy as a means of livelihood after graduating from Ottawa University. He did not sit long before the key, however, for in 1880 he was given the management of the first telephone company that was formed in Ottawa. Two years later, in 1882, he formed a partnership with W. Y. Soper, as electrical engineers and contractors.

The firm built the long distance telephone lines from Pembroke to Quebec, and wired the Maritime Provinces for the long distance land lines of the Atlantic cables. They next connected Halifax and Vancouver with telegraph lines, and followed that work by the construction and operation of some of the first hydraulic, electric generating stations on this continent.

His Great Secret

With this marvelous result for a few years' work behind him, it is little wonder that Thomas Ahearn took the presidency of the Ottawa Electric Railway Company when it was formed in 1891. He was warned from all sides that the venture would be a failure owing to the impossibility of heating the cars and operating them in the winter. But the secret of electric heating was known only to himself. He had learned that it was possible to draw certain metals into wires which would offer a high resistance to the passage of the electric current, and turn much of that which did pass, into heat.

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The Mining Market

While the mining market for the past two months has remained very quiet with a small volume of trading, yet the stocks have held their position against forced selling orders exceptionally well, reflecting its strong technical position. We are of the opinion that the present time offers a real opportunity for the purchase of stocks and we have no doubt but what handsome profits will be realized as a result if prompt action is taken.

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GOLF IS TRULY THE ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE GAME

Golf is referred to oftentimes as the Royal Game, and the Ancient and Honourable Game. That it is entitled to such designations is proven by the following clipping once published in The Toronto Globe, and passed on by a reader last week to The Advance. This reference to Golf says:—

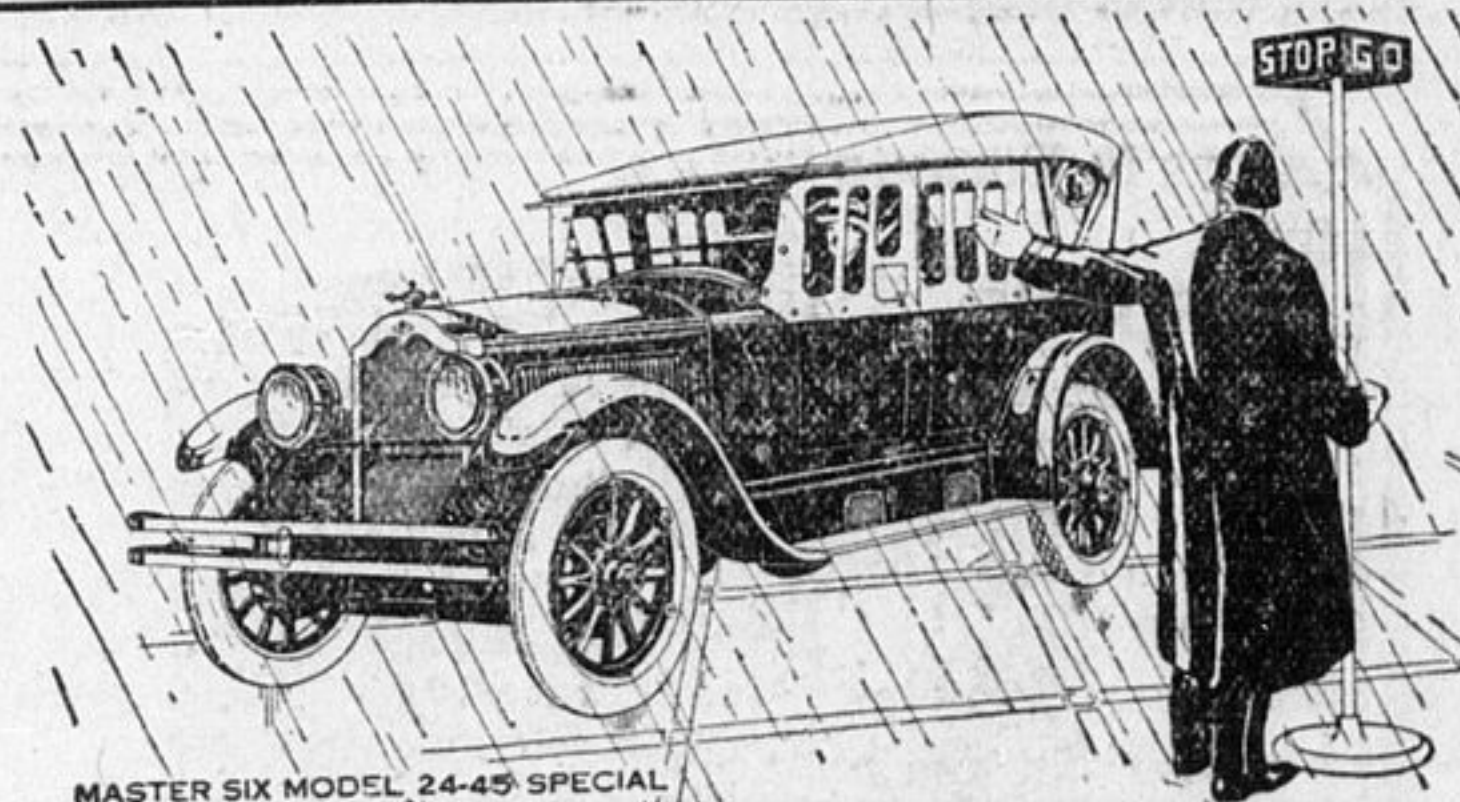
It is uncertain at what date golf was introduced into Scotland, but in 1457 its popularity had become so great as to interfere with the more important pursuit of archery.

The competition became so serious that in March of that year the Scottish Parliament "decreed and ordained that wapinshawing be holden be the lordis and baronis spirituale and temporale, four times in the zier; and that the fute-ball and golf be utterly cryit down, and nocht usit and that the bowmerkis be made at ilk paroche kirk a pair of buttis and schautin be usit ilk Sunday."

This act was evidently insufficient to curb the doughty game, as 14 years afterward it was judged necessary to pass another against "wapinshawing," and in 1491 a final and evidently angry fulmination was issued on the general subject with pains and penalties annexed.

This was the edict of James IV., and it is not a little curious to find the monarch himself setting an ill example to his commons by practice of this "unprofitable" sport, as is shown by entries in accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland (1503-1506).

According to information given to The Haileyburian last week by a man or men on the inside of things political, the vote on the Ontario Temperance Act will be taken early in September. There will be a number of questions on the Referendum ballot, and from the expression of the opinion of the voters will be framed the future policy of the Government in regard to the liquor question.



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