

### In Other Communities Taken From Our Exchanges About People of Your Acquaintance

#### HUCK FINN'S FINISH

A lot of shacks of the Huckleberry Finn type of architecture and which have been erected in various parts of the town by boys who are said to have corralled the lumber from places best known to themselves and which for the most part are equipped with furniture stated to have been gotten in the same easy manner, have proved to be such rendezvous for mischief that Chief Ferguson asked the town council on Monday night for authority to raze all shacks from the scenery. As the buildings are all on private property the council didn't think they had the jurisdiction to authorize him to proceed on such a raid, but they did instruct him to notify the owners of the land that all such buildings had to be scrapped without delay. So much petty thieving has been going on and some of which is suspected of having been planned in these shacks, that the crusade to wreck them would seem to be a timely ordinance lest any of them develop into something resembling a robbers' camp. — Watkerton Herald-Times.

#### PEMBROKE PAPERS AMALGAMATED

The plant and business of the Pembroke Observer and the Ottawa Valley Advocate were purchased day by the Pembroke Printers, Limited, publishers of the Pembroke Standard. The deal, under consideration for some time, was closed by Messrs. Alfred Logan and L. H. Logan, editors of the Pembroke Standard. By this purchase two of the oldest weekly newspapers in Ontario passed out of existence and in future will be issued under the caption, Standard-Observer.

Increasing overhead costs making production of two weeklies, even in a town as large as Pembroke, an economic impossibility, are the reasons announced for the amalgamation. The Pembroke Observer which was established in 1855, has for fifteen years been edited by Dan Jones and has always been supported by the Liberal Party. The Pembroke Standard was established in 1867 as a supporter of Conservative policies and for the past four years has been owned and edited by Messrs. A. Logan and L. H. Logan, formerly of The Canadian Echo, Warkton. The new publication will, in all probability, take an independent stand politically, and in the near future will likely be published as a semi-weekly.

#### BUILDING TOO BIG

Architects and engineers are engaged in a lively controversy as to whether the Larkin Tower will ever be built near the Times Square district of New York. The plans call for a structure 110 stories high, reaching 1208 feet from the street to the top. Engineers seem to be in agreement on one point—that it is quite possible to put up such a structure and observe all the margins of safety.

There is one objection raised that would hardly occur to a person living outside of New York and that is that there would be such a crush on subways and other forms of transportation leading to the building, that it would create a demand for further additions to such services, costing millions of dollars that would have to be financed by the city at large and not the only ones to benefit would be those who owned the building.

If the Larkin Tower is built it will stand up to dwarf all the existing skyscrapers in New York. The Woolworth tower in the lower Broadway, has held the distinction for years of being the largest building in the city, but the Larkin Tower threatens to top the Woolworth by some 500 feet.

If the building had all the available space occupied it would house thirty thousand people. That's an easy enough statement but let's localize it. That number of persons would be equal to the total population of Kincairdine, Clinton, Elmira, Goderich, Harriston, Ingersoll, Listowel, Mitchell, Palmerston, St. Marys, Seaford and Wingham.

It may be necessary in the development of great cities, to throw up such monsters, but it's an unnatural sort of existence—riding miles overhead or underground and then being hoisted 500 or 1,000 feet to the day's work.

No—let's have more smaller places—spots where the corner store survives; where a minstrel show in the town hall is a real event and where the appearance of the town band on the public park is something to anticipate.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

#### THE JOY OF KILLING

One of our country correspondents sent in an item the other day which stated that "I had the pleasure of killing a white owl." Perhaps it was right to shoot the owl, but why the "pleasure?" Quite recently there was a picture of a deer outside this office. It was taken by flashlight and showed a beautiful creature making its way through the trees. Along came a man who looked at it and said: "That picture makes my fingers itch to pull the trigger."

There are some people who never see anything beautiful in an animal. They never think that—dumb creatures though they be—it enjoys life in its own way. A ramble in the country is the more interesting and the more beautiful for

our bird and animal life. Yet the sight of a bird or animal makes some people's fingers "itch to pull a trigger." They kill for the "pleasure" of killing.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

#### THE UNITED STATES OUT-OF-DATE

The Americans are so noted for being up-to-date and for speed in business that it seems curious that they are so exceedingly slow in their legislative methods. For example, both Canada and the United States held elections this fall. Immediately the elections were over the new Government took office and within a few weeks Parliament was summoned and the new electors, fresh with a mandate from the electors, voted estimates and passed any necessary legislation.

In the United States, on the other hand, although a new Congress was elected this fall, yet the new representatives do not take office until March 4. In the meantime there will be a session of Congress, with representatives, many of whom were defeated at the polls and others retiring, legislating for the nation. Unless a special session is called the new Congress will not meet until next December, over a year after the elections. The New York Sun, commenting on the situation says:

"We are having just now a good example of the evils of a dead hand Congress. A large number of senators and representatives who were beaten at the polls in November have been functioning in Washington. Their terms do not expire until March 4. They met on December 6. The House last week took a recess until January 2, in order that members who do not live too far away might go home for Christmas. After the recess there will be only nine weeks for work. The new Congress will not meet until next December unless a special session is called by the President."

The system of not summoning a new Congress until months after the elections was doubtless established in the early days of the Republic, when methods of communication and travel were exceedingly slow. However it is a system that belongs to the old horse and buggy days. It is an anomaly to-day. The United States should get up-to-date.—London Free Press.

#### "HOW TO TRAIN A GIRL"

For a number of years, articles under the above heading ran in popular magazines and papers, being contributed by a woman well known in letters. She had a little girl of her own, and, as this child grew up, she apparently found different training from that given by her gifted mother. One day recently a girl was arrested for helping to "hold up" an old man. She "beat it" to Chicago, where she was helping to spend the loot. This girl was the daughter of the writer of those fine articles on "How to Train a Girl." The kid had been to dancing parties and to drinking parties. In fact, she had slipped shockingly right under the eye of this good woman writer. We wonder who was to blame. No, we don't wonder. The mother was to blame. She was too immersed with the work she had in hand to do the work God had given her, namely to study the young life committed to her care and bring it up as it should have been. There are a lot of women today who are doing this same thing. They spent their time in this, that and the other, while their children do as they please. When sorrow comes to their heart, they pretend they cannot understand. One thing they should understand and that is that their first duty lies at home, to the children God has given them. They can kid themselves about their public service, but they are not kidding anyone but themselves. The public sympathizes when a girl or boy goes wrong, but they also know, with unerring instinct where to lay the blame. That boy or girl did not have a fair chance in the home life. The ones to blame are father and mother who were too busy with their own affairs to find out just what their children were following.—Kincairdine Review-Reporter.

#### Greetings

Sincerely appreciating your generous patronage, we wish to extend to you and yours our best wishes and trust that the New Year will prove the Happiest and Best you have experienced.

McFadden's Drug Store  
Successors to Macfarlane & Co.  
The Rexall Store

### DESPERATE BATTLE ON FLAMING SHIP

We have received a copy of the South China Morning Post of November 18, says Toronto Mail and Empire, which gives a thrilling account of the fight for possession of the passenger ship Sunning between her officers and a gang of Chinese pirates a couple of days earlier, as cables reported at the time, the victory finally remained with the officers. At one time the pirates were in complete possession of the ship, and at another it seemed that the fire they had started on the vessel would destroy her and all on board. But in the end ten or more pirates were shot dead by the English officers, another dozen were taken as prisoners to Hong Kong, while another boat load of them was picked up by another vessel. The pirates' casualties, therefore, would appear to have been about one hundred per cent. Comment in China is to the effect that battle on the Sunning was the worst blow dealt to the pirate industry in years. It is probably too much to expect that it will be ended, for there are far too many pirates awaiting an opportunity, and the Chinese coast suits them particularly. Perhaps it is the geography of China that makes the pirates rather than any innate depravity.

#### Seize the Ship

It was four o'clock of the afternoon of the morning on which the Sunning left Amoy with some eighty passengers, that a gang of forty disguised pirates, at the signal given by a whistle, took possession of the ship. They were all armed with revolvers, and each was in a strategic position at the given instant. Resistance would have been useless. The officers were confronted with revolvers pointed at their heads in the hands of men who would use them at the slightest excuse. In a remarkably short space of time the vessel was in the hands of the pirates, the only casualties being four Chinese employees who were thrown overboard after the pirates had failed to discover a store of bullion they supposed the Sunning carried. The officers were permitted liberty of movement, but each one was accompanied by a pirate with a drawn revolver. Two of the pirates, stationed themselves on the bridge with the captain, who continued to navigate the ship under their directions. The pirates said they wanted to know when they got to Bias Bay, so that they might disembark.

#### For the Wife and Kiddies

They ransacked the ship from top to bottom, collecting all the valuables in the possession of the passengers. They worked coolly and almost leisurely, being quite confident that they had nothing to fear. They talked with the officers, who thought it wise to pretend affability, and told them that they had been planning the adventure for months, and had sunk \$3,000 in it. They said that their women folks in Bias Bay were starving, and this drove them to plot the seizure of the ship and her cargo. The two main difficulties in their way they did not seem to understand. One was that they knew nothing of navigation, and had no idea where the Captain was steering the ship. They knew Chilang Point when they saw it, but whether it was a hundred or thousand miles away they did not know. Nor were they able to keep the officers from communicating with each other, having an imperfect knowledge of English. So the officers and the one woman passenger were able to discuss the situation. They determined to make an effort to recapture the vessel upon the first opportunity. It fell to the honor of Captain J. Pringle to strike the first blow.

#### The Captain Strikes

He and the second officer, Mr. Orr were on the bridge guarded by two pirates. It was after midnight, and the Captain told them that they were

not far from Bias Bay, where the pirates confessed they had boats waiting to receive them. All were peering through the night on the lookout for Chilang Point, which the Captain said he was expecting to pick up any moment. Suddenly a point loomed up out of the night. "Chilang Point!" exclaimed the captain. For a moment the attention of the pirates was distracted and they peered forward. It was the Captain's opportunity. He seized the deep-sea sounding lead at his side and with two swift blows laid the pirates senseless on the bridge. In a moment he and the second officer left the bridge and hurried to the chart room, where two pirates had gone a short time earlier with a passenger named Lapsley. But the room was empty. Then they returned to the bridge and were soon joined by the lady passenger and the other officers, with the exception of the chief engineer, who had taken the place in a cabin under the bridge waiting for the chance the captain had found for them. So the little company proceeded to establish a fortress upon the bridge.

#### Only One Missing

It was only a few moments before the pirates had discovered what had happened and they made a rush for the bridge. They carried before them the chief engineer as a shield and he was wounded from the bridge before he was recognized. The aim of the pirates was poor and the aim of the officers was excellent for it is estimated that they picked off some ten pirates before they had enough fighting. Their next move was to set fire to the ship in the hope that the smoke would drive the defenders from the bridge if it did not consume them. For awhile the smoke hid the bridge but the wind shifted and the captain by varying his course was able to send the smoke and flames toward the pirates. Some of them were burnt alive and finally the others, who were not wounded disappeared over the side in one of the Sunning's boats. By this time the fire was burning desperately and it seemed certain that the vessel would be destroyed. To add to the horror of that night another vessel approached within a short distance but changed her course and made off without offering help. Eventually help came and the Sunning was towed into Hong Kong. All her upper works were destroyed but her cargo was intact. Of the white men and women aboard, only the passenger Lapsley was missing.

#### SEED CLEANING PLANTS

An absence of efficient seed cleaning machinery at convenient points has had a depressing effect on the production of registered seed grain in Canada. To overcome this hindrance the Cereal Division of the Experimental Farms has given close study to various types of cleaning machines and established both at the Central Farm and at the Branch Farms cleaning plants of the best types. These plants are being used, not only for the cleaning of the seed grown on the Farms but they are placed at the disposal of farmers for a fee sufficient to cover the cost of operation. This service last year at the Central Farm at Ottawa amounted to the cleaning and grading of more than 6,000 bushels of seed grown in the Ottawa district. So gratifying is the work done by these machines that a number of farmers have established for themselves and their neighbors, seed cleaning plants of similar type.

#### Safety First

Taggart was a mean old man, but he owned all the houses in the street. Regularly every month old Taggart would go on his rounds, collecting rents from these houses.

At one of them he always stopped for a minute or two because he was rather fond of the little fair-haired girl who lived there.

As he wrote out the receipt for the rent he noticed that little child's big blue eyes fixed upon him, and, delving in his pocket, he extracted a piece of candy, which, to judge by its appearance, had been there for some time.

"There," he said, "What would you do with that, girly?"

"Wash it," came the instant response.

### THE PEOPLE'S MILLS

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Maple Leaf Flour, bag, \$ 4.50	Prairie Pride Flour, bag \$ 4.25
Royal Household Flour per bag . . . . . 4.50	Feed Flour, per bag . . . . . 2.25
Majestic Flour, per bag 4.25	Crimped Oats, per ton . . . 45.00
O Canada Flour, per bag 4.25	Chopped Oats, per ton . . . 45.00
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Pastry Flour, 24 lb. bag 1.00	Screenings, per cwt. . . . . 1.50

#### Gunn's Big 60 Beef Scrap and Poultry Foods Blatchford's Calf, Pig and Poultry Feeds

We handle only the best lines and sell at reasonable prices. Get our price before you sell your wheat, as we intend buying wheat to ship.

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Phone 8, Night or Day.

JOHN MCGOWAN  
The People's Mills  
Durham, Ontario

# Full of Flavour "SALADA" TEA

So why accept exhausted bulk tea.

### FOUND FARMER HARDEST TO FOOL

Some Experiences of the Late Houdini Recounted.

Harry Houdini found farmers "harder to fool than city people" and several times the magician's tricks nearly failed when he performed them face to face with rural audiences.

"In country parts, where men themselves perform the magic of making the soil bear harvest, I've found them less gullible," he wrote in an article published by Farm and Fireside. "They know it's just a trick."

Houdini's first training in legerdemain was in the small towns, with travelling shows and later as a magician at county fairs.

As an example Houdini told of an experience in an Iowa town, where he undertook to escape from a thief-proof barn within an hour.

"Finger the locks as I would I could make no impression on them," he said. "I exhausted myself and leaned against a door section to rest for a final spurt. To my amazement the door opened and the witnesses applauded me. I bowed with

grace and went back to the farm house to dress. The farmer came into the bed room and explained that, out of pity, he had left that section of the barn door unlocked, unbolting!"

#### LEGISLATURE TO MEET FEB. 2

Ontario's seventeenth legislature will open on February 2nd next. Naturally, the Government's Central Liquor Bill will be the chief item of business, but several other important items, dealing with taxation, will be discussed. A reduction of the fee charged for motor license has already been effected by an Order-in-Council.

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Scalp Treatment  
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Shampoo, Etc.

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## JANUARY SPECIALS

- Ladies' Silk over Wool Hose, new stock, in black, sand, grey and pongee . . . . . \$1.00
- Bath Towels, new stock in Fancy Patterns, Regular 75c. line, Special, each . . . . . 49
- Large Size Flannelette Blankets, 12-4. Regular \$2.75, Special per pair . . . . . 2.39
- Ladies' Fancy Silk Scarfs, Regular \$1.75 and \$2.00, to clear . . . . . 1.39

### Grocery Specials

- Bulk Dates, Figs and Prunes, 2 lbs. . . . . 25c.
- Seedless Raisins, 2 lbs. . . . . 28c.
- Mince Meat, regular 20c. lb. . . . . 17c.
- Special . . . . . 17c.
- Bulk Sodas, Perrins, lb. . . . . 47c.
- Try a lb. of our Orange Pekoe Bulk Tea, Reg. 75c. Special price, per lb. . . . . 59c.
- Japan Tea, lb. . . . . 55c.

John McKechnie, Durham

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Men's and Boy's  
Sweaters  
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In the latest patterns. A fine garment for the cold weather and the popular sport of skating.

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Durham, Ontario



Note: Dr. columns as public print, accompanied dress Dr. Ar

During ext lation suffer chillblain.

#### Symptoms

Because poor poses one to the principle of blood flow is also. It may also affect nose and fingers, subject to the cold.

The most prodigance of the all with a burning, tion which usually est intensity at

#### How to Pre

This is not a solve. What be of little value. Considerable is plished in the by wearing wa warm, comforta ening the feet of warm water, and Epsom salts, this given a brisk n ed with talcum here near 12 in alum 1 pt. In addition to affected area ma mixture of opium and their rison narcotic is sary that a phys ical prescrip. Another remedy in some cases, and glycerine 12.

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HE

Stomach

Usually

Miss L. L. writ last week at the method diet or any good. I have described and find the remedy. "Will you kindly you would recom dition and would mend as a doctor

RE

Have had conc eating the article your letter was agine you refer. — which is you quote.

As I said in the

#### HOUSE PLAN

It is rather diff plants in condit long winter, and thus at rest, an should be gett to prevent the This applica hydrangea m ter being k Plants which are kept well water tant to see that, lates in the pot, in which the p otherwise the p plant will not h happens to sh should be water soil is becoming ously, not ever done.

Geraniums mo the window and they will get pl have them bloom ing plants, such clams, small bulbs do better

THE