

Confederation and After-- Sixty Years of Progress

FLYING IN CANADA

In this year of Jubilee Canada is reaching out with an ambitious program of aerial navigation which the most imaginative of the Fathers of Confederation never dreamed even in their wildest dreams.

Flying in Canada was born of war, and in these later days of peace the conquest of the air goes on apace. During the war flying was a young man's game, and the youth of Canada won renown with machine-guns bristling from the cockpits, propellers roaring, and bombs swaying from the under-carriages. It was grim business, but it proved the sporting blood of a young nation.

Peace came, and these young men who rode the whirl-wind returned to Canada to earn their living as civilians. But the spirit of war work survived, and in a small but seasoned organization called the Royal Canadian Air Force the traditions of aerial navigation were carried on. The young airmen, trained in war days looked to the civil departments of government for employment. They were needed, and within two or three years of the close of the war many of them were in the Royal Canadian Air Force, detecting forest fires, locating smugglers on the boundaries, and mapping out by photography the vast areas of the hinterlands.

Civil flying soon pushed its way to the front during the post-war years and the government of Canada was quick to establish the necessary code of laws for aerial navigation. The administration of these regulations was given to a branch of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and to-day the Dominion is safeguarded by a set of strict regulations regarding the licensing of all mechanics, pilots, air harbours, international flying signals, and the inspection of air craft.

The most conspicuous work done during these recent crowded years of flying history in Canada has been the survey work in which the Dominion has led the world. Other countries have put on spectacular flights of astonishing endurance, but Canada's contribution has been along sound commercial lines. In 1926, 56,000 square miles of Canadian territory were photographed and mapped with an accuracy which would have taken years and millions of dollars if done by ground work.

The year 1927 has brought a practical acknowledgement by parliament of this valuable work. Since the war Canada has never spent more than \$1,500,000 a year for air development. This year more than \$3,000,000 was voted by parliament for the Royal Canadian Air Force to be divided between military and civil flying. Cities are being encouraged to set aside land for future air harbours, technical advisers from Great Britain are visiting the Dominion to make recommendations for the future linking of the Empire by airways, and the Post Office Department is taking the initial steps towards what will be an Atlantic to Pacific air mail route.

Canada's future in the air is assured. So certain is the Canadian Government of the development to come that at the Imperial Conference of 1926, Canada pledged herself to the erection of a great mooring mast which will be one of the air ports for the vast dirigibles being built in England to cruise the world through the Empire's skyways.

EXPLORING THE ROCKIES

The exploration of the Rocky Mountain Region of Canada goes back to the famous expedition of Alexander McKenzie in 1792-93, when he travelled through Peace River Pass on his way to paint that memorable inscription on the shores of the Pacific—"Alexander Mackenzie, from Canada, by land, this 22nd of July 1793."

It might be thought that there would be very little to tell about the exploration of the Rockies after Confederation, as practically all the mountain passes had been discovered long before 1867, and such of them as Athabasca Pass had been well recognized thoroughfares of the fur trade for half a century or more. But it must be remembered that there are more to the Rockies than mountain passes. As a matter of fact, with the exception of the scientific work of the Palliser Expedition, those who went through the Rockies before Confederation were mainly concerned in getting through as quickly as possible. The mountains were simply a barrier to be got through. No one dreamed that they would one day become a great national playground, where men and women might go for rest and recreation after a strenuous year's work.

When British Columbia came into Confederation, however, one of the conditions was that the Canadian Pacific Railway should be pushed through to the Pacific at the earliest possible moment. That meant that practicable routes must be found through the mountains, and engineering parties spent several years in examining one way after another, until it was finally decided to use the Kicking Horse Pass through the main range and Rogers Pass through the Selkirk.

At a later date surveying parties were sent into the Rockies, to fix and mark the line of the international boundary, and afterwards the inter-provincial boundary between Alberta and British Columbia, to ascertain the height of the more important ranges and peaks, to explore the principal mountain valleys and to put all this information on the maps.

At the same time travellers, mountain climbers, and mountain lovers, began to make their way into the Rockies, and, in spite of the

fact that in those early days there were no great hotels at Banff, Lake Louise and Jasper, no chalets, no roads or trails, no guides, no ways of getting provisions except by carrying them in yourself from the nearest prairie town, they one and all became so enthusiastic that they returned year after year and spread abroad the glories of Rocky Mountain lakes and peaks, roaring streams and glaciers, forested slopes and alpine meadows glowing with many-colored wildflowers.

The result was that the Canadian government made a modest beginning with Rock Mountain National Park, and as the facilities there provided brought an ever-increasing stream of tourists, other parks were organized and opened, until to-day there is an almost continuous band of mountain playgrounds, from the international boundary up to the northern limits of Jasper Park.

With the establishment of the Parks, came the organization of the Canadian Alpine Club, and later the Trail Riders Club, which incidentally has resulted in the exploration of most of the Rocky Mountain region from the boundary up to Jasper not already covered by government surveyors.

EPIC OF WHEAT

Sixty years of Confederation have brought progress far exceeding the hopes of the pioneers who laid the foundations of the Dominion, and the very coping stone of this arch of achievement is "Wheat."

In celebrating the Diamond Jubilee, Canadians should recall the truly marvellous story of wheat. The three prairie provinces produce the greater bulk of the Canadian wheat crop, and almost all of the exportable surplus of about 300,000,000 bushels annually.

It is a story which proves the ability of the Canadian people to conquer the greatest obstacles, to adapt themselves to nature, and to unite science with industry.

In 1867 wheat production—and all agricultural production was confined to the central and eastern provinces—was 21,000,000 bushels, barely enough to feed the population of 3,370,000 people. The prairie west, not yet confederated, was a primitive wilderness, a summering land for Indian bands and a grazing paradise for buffalo.

Twenty years brought the west into Confederation and witnessed the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The faith of Canadians in the western plains was unshaken, but the outside world scoffed at the mad dream that sometime the prairies would yield to the plough. As late as 1881 a responsible British publication said of the prairies that it was as sensible to develop them "as to endeavor to carry out a scheme for the utilization of icebergs. The prairies are great ground for seven or eight months of the year. Men and cattle are frozen to death in numbers that would astonish and those not killed outright are often maimed for life."

Settlement proceeded slowly. Until the turn of the century Canadians themselves regarded the prairies as a ranching country. Wheat could not be grown successfully because the varieties then in existence required 120 days or more to ripen and the growing season was too short.

By 1906 wheat production had climbed to 125,000,000 bushels, mostly produced outside of the prairies. In that year Dr. C. G. Saunders, Dominion cerealist, conducted experiments he had been carrying on at the Ottawa Experimental Farm with the announcement that he had discovered a new wheat—Marquis—which yielded five bushels more per acre than any other variety and ripened in 110 days.

Clipping ten days off the growing season made the prairies the granary of the world. The era of the wheat farmer had dawned. In 1909, production mounted to 166,000,000 bushels. In 1911, it soared to 230,000,000 bushels, and in 1915 to 393,500,000 bushels. A strip two hundred miles wide across the prairie was turned from a ranching country to a wheat-growing area. In 1923 a record of production—474,000,000 bushels—was established.

However, the end was not yet. Still further northward for a distance of another two hundred miles is a wonderful meadow and lake country. The Canadian agricultural scientists, remembering the achievements of Dr. Saunders, continued their research work. A hardy early ripening wheat was brought from the Himalayas and crossed with the best domestic strains. The result was announced in 1926 by L. H. Newman, who has succeeded Dr. Saunders as Dominion Cerealist. Garnet wheat was started on its way—a wheat equal to Marquis in quality and yield, and ripening in one hundred days.

This was no unconsidered announcement. Garnet had been tested along the Hudson Bay railway and at experimental stations in the northland. It has stood the most exacting tests.

In 1926 the entire stock of Garnet, 12,000 bushels, was distributed to several thousands of farmers. The reports received leave no doubt but that it fulfills all that has been claimed for it.

With the discovery of Garnet wheat the northern limit of the wheat producing area of Canada was rolled back two hundred miles. From 1900 to 1910 the Canadian government advertised in Europe and the United States for pioneers to fill Canada's "Last Great West." Now the Dominion enters the Jubilee year of Confederation with another and equally great "Last Great West" waiting for the pioneer.

Too many drivers think they know the traffic rules because they have been breaking them for years. —Peterboro Examiner.

Read the Classified Ads. on Page 7. It will pay you.

WILL FIGHT CHANGE IN GRADING ACT

Compulsory Grading Favored by Dominion Swine Conference.—Preliminary for Select Hogs Should go to Producer.

Ontario Farmers are putting up a strenuous fight against the efforts which are being made to set aside or render ineffective the grading regulations as applied to the marketing of hogs. The situation, briefly, would appear to be that the Dominion Swine Conference held at Ottawa in April last, passed a resolution to the effect that Hog Grading at Stockyards, Abattoirs, and where necessary should be compulsory and that the information regarding the grade should be returned to the producers. The purpose of the resolution was to ensure as far as possible that the premium on select hogs should find its way into the pocket of the producer. It is contended that the proposed new regulations drafted by the Dominion Department of Agriculture do not faithfully interpret the spirit of the Dominion Swine Conference resolution and that little or no improvement in the situation can be looked for until the compulsory feature of the grading regulations is put into force and lived up to.

In a memorandum to farmers' clubs throughout the Province, Secretary J. J. Morrison of the U.F.O. calls for immediate action and urges the clubs to exert every influence towards impressing upon the Government the viewpoint of producers in regard to Hog Grading. He points out that the regulations were instituted by the Department of Agriculture many years ago for the purpose of improving the type of bacon hog, in order that it might compete on the British market, and that the regulations worked well for the time they were lived up to. More recently, however, other interests have circumvented the regulations, with the result that few farmers have been selling their hogs on a grade basis, the regulations meanwhile becoming very much of a farce.

The Farmers' Sun, editorially, in its last issue, discussing the situation says: "In the attempt to set aside or render ineffective the grading regulations as applied to the marketing of hogs, a principle is involved which cannot be allowed to go unchallenged. Time and time again has the farmer allowed other interests to ride rough-shod over him. Whether history will repeat itself in the present instance depends largely upon whether the farmer will awake in time from the lethargy which characterizes his inexplicable indifference to his own welfare, and demand that his interests be safeguarded. There is every reason to believe that officials of the Department of Agriculture are not without a large measure of sympathy for, and recognize the justice of, the farmers' demands. But unless some stronger pressure is brought to bear upon the Government to convince them that there is a province-wide demand upon the part of producers that the compulsory grading feature of the proposed new regulations be put into effect forthwith, there is every probability that once again the farmer's silence will be assumed to be indifference and as a result, when it is too late, he will find himself, one of the tag-rag and bob-tail, left to sink or swim as best he may."

DIED AT RAVENNA

Mrs. Walter Buchanan, known all over Ontario for her work in connection with blind soldiers and the Women's Institute, died Saturday at her home in Ravenna, aged 64 years. Mrs. Buchanan spoke all over the province to women's audiences and organized the fund for blind soldiers now known as the Buchanan Fund. She was a contributor to many periodicals and wrote many poems. She was born in Scotland but lived the most of her life on the farm near Ravenna. Her death was fittingly referred to on Tuesday at the County meeting of the Women's Institute, held in Knox church, Durham.

Fashion Fancies

Threads are Drawn to Make Design on Wool Crepe Frock



The two-piece dress continues to have wide popularity and the latest models are shown in smart woolen materials.

Wool crepe is used for this attractive street dress, and on the blouse the threads are drawn through hemstitching to make an unusual design. The neck is square and is banded like the cuffs and belt, with narrow ribbon caught in a bow.

The skirt is of the same material as the blouse and is pleated in front with stitching to hold the pleats in place.

FOR POULTRY BREEDING THE RETIRED FARMER

The Record of Performance for poultry is attracting the interest of many classes of citizens. Retired farmers who have spent their active years in the breeding of pure bred live stock find a pleasant and profitable hobby in the development of a poultry flock of high layers. During a tour of a number of flocks under test a most promising flock of 150 birds was found at Port Dover on a town lot, the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Penhall. Mr. Penhall before retiring from his farm had an excellent herd of Hereford cattle. Indeed, before coming to this country from England about twenty years ago Mr. Penhall had learned the art of breeding and herdsmanship, frequently competing with success at the English Royal and other large annual exhibitions. Mr. Penhall, by applying his knowledge of stock breeding to his little flock, is building up an excellent strain that is testing well in Record of Performance, in which work Mrs. Penhall takes an equally keen and helpful interest. Mr. Penhall stated that he does not propose to enlarge his plant beyond its present operation but will continue to regard the handling of his flock as a hobby, in which only the best birds will be used for breeding. He has no difficulty in selling his surplus hatching eggs and male birds for good prices as he finds the Record of Performance and registered stock is becoming more and more in demand. Mr. Penhall finds he does not have to advertise his stock, the Record of Performance and contests reports doing that for him.

In the Port Hope district an equally interested retired farmer,

Very Fine Quality "SALADA" TEA

Truly satisfying—only 43c per 1/2 lb.

Mr D. C. Peebles, was found to be engaged in building up a Record of Performance flock. Mr. Peebles some three or four years ago found it necessary to give up the strenuous work of dairy farming, commencing poultry keeping with a small flock of Leghorns secured from the neighboring Cloverland Farm. This flock, now containing about 400 birds, is being trap nested in the Record of Performance test. Mr. Peebles today has better health and bigger profits than ever before. He has a fine business in market eggs, baby chicks and breeding stock and has planned to extend his buildings to accommodate 1,000 layers. His home has a most delightful location on a good elevation sloping towards Lake Ontario, a mile or more away. It affords him great satisfaction that he is able, through the distribution of improved birds, to help the poultry industry.

CANNING FACTORIES AND THE PEACH MOTH

The Oriental Peach Moth is a very serious and destructive pest of peach orchards which is gaining a foothold in the Niagara district. In advocating certain practices, in a circular on the Oriental Peach Moth, distributed by the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, it is strongly urged on fruit canners to help in the war against this insect by taking a number of precautions. All canning factory peach containers should be thoroughly sterilized before they are returned to the fruit growers. This may be done by passing the containers slowly through a steam box on rollers subjecting them to steam under high pressure for five minutes. Unless this is done there is good reason to fear that the insect will be disseminated throughout the peach growing districts. Besides this, all canning factory peach refuse should be covered with a coating of oil immediately after it is dumped outdoors.

chicks and the record their layers were making for them.

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DURHAM BRANCH—W. A. Johnson, Manager
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What would you do if this should happen to you?

Better call in and let us show you how we can protect you against:

- Injury to other people
- Damage to property
- The destruction of your machine by fire, either on the road, in the repair shop, or in your own garage
- The theft of your machine either at home or while in the city

Our Policy protects your CAR. It makes no difference, in case of accident, who has charge of the machine—yourself, any member of your family, or any person to whom your car is entrusted—the policies we sell insure you against loss in case of accident.

Better drop in and talk it over now while the motoring season is young.

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The Chronicle Office, Durham
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JOHN MCGOWAN
The People's Mills Durham, Ontario



Scots folk in Canada and the States can well look forward with interest to renewing acquaintance with many of the delightful customs of the old country on the occasion of a Highland gathering and the playing of Scottish music to be held at September 3 to 5 to which the Scotch of Wales has given his patronage.

What more magnificent a chosen than Banff with that amphitheatre of Rocky Mountain encircling the headlong waters of the Bow and Spay Rivers. So far traders who first penetrated mountains a hundred years ago awed by the ruggedness of the land and impressed by its rugged beauty, force of circumstance and the force of adventure have brought to this Western world and only natural that they should take part again in the old and traditional tests of manly prowess which will be a feature of the gathering in addition to a wealth of Scottish music. The records of this music goes back to the of Columbia whose mission, established in the sixth century at spread its influence all over the west and west of Scotland

Belated For Science

Like the man who carried message to Garcia, whose name remember, after a glance at an encyclopedia, to have been Rowan name of Kissinger was noted at time of his heroic act and then action. It is recalled by the fact that the deed of a house named given John R. Kissinger, former private in the American army, was Kissinger who offered him to prove the theory that yellow fever was caused by a mosquito, in the opinion of Dr. Walter Reed who accepted him, it was an ample of moral courage never passed in the annals of the army of the United States. Kissinger inoculated with yellow fever he did not die. Nevertheless he never a well man thereafter, following a quest of many years to regain his health he now resides in the little home that has come to through the American Association for Medical Progress. It is true Kissinger, at the time he was offered specified that he was in need of no remuneration. But that did not absolve the American army and American public, and civilization everywhere for their debt to him. A pitiable instalment has at been paid, and we hope that the climax years of Private Kissinger are more pleasant than those which have preceded them.

Yellow Fever

Early in the seventeenth century yellow fever, so called because it turned the skin of the victim yellow, had been recognized as a disease in the West Indies, and it came to be accepted almost as a fact of nature. The mortality was high. There was no known cure. The victims were only palliatives. Some recovered and more did not. In 80 years the disease was worse than others before the American army supplied Cuba. Dr. Carlos J. Finlay a paper read before the Royal Academy of Havana, had pronounced the theory that the disease was transmitted by the bite of a mosquito. Undoubtedly this was more than a guess, but apparently Dr. Finlay had lacked the data or the industry to establish the truth of his surmise, because until 1900 there was no difference of opinion on this point. In that year it became a matter of life or death, because yellow fever broke out in the American army in Havana, and the men died like flies. The natives were dying, too. They seemed to be yellow fever to their fate, since yellow fever always been more or less common.

The Mosquito Theory
It was the plague in the Americas