

CURIOUS CUSTOMS IN SNOWBOUND LANDS

SKIMOS HAVE VARIETY OF SPORTS.

Picturesque Winter Scenes in Japan — Galleries From House to House.

Although the Eskimos have no national games, they lack neither in number nor in variety the diversions of their life. In this relation it is interesting to note the games which are played by children along the coast of Bering Sea, where, hard as it is, children can still find pastimes that them on an equal footing with those of more favored races.

Football is played with a bag stuffed with hair. "Tag" is the same game as that of the children of the East, but instead of sitting down. An amusement, which requires skill, being tossed up in a blanket. A game hide is used, and the trial is to see who can stand on his feet and be tossed into the air the most.

Small children have miniature sleds and they load with mice skins and parts of trinkets, so as to play with them. They practice archery. Some of them slide down hill, but in some the seat of a stout pair of tin trousers.

Athletics in Arctic Regions.

Arctic people are also much indulged in. A difficult feat is to walk on the ice, the legs being outside of the feet and held straight out in front, and with the ground.

They play with dolls carved out of walrus ivory which they dress up after their fashion in clothing of ermine, seal or other skins. One of their games is to kick a ball of ice or snow the size of a baseball, the object being to keep it in the air all the while without touching it with their hands.

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CANADA ASTONISHES SOUTHERN FARMERS

FIRST PRIZE AT TEXAS STATE FAIR.

Corn Growing is Successful Feature of Canadian Prairie Agriculture.

Corn grown at Kelwood, Manitoba, by John Hamilton, exhibited recently in open competition at the Texas State Fair, carried off the first championship honors, winning out against the premier exhibits of one of the first corn growing sections of the globe. If Texas previously lacked interest in Canada, their astonishment has changed the situation and Texas farmers have their eyes on the wonderful things she is capable of in the agricultural line.

In addition to running off with the first prize for a product which is generally believed to belong to bolts much further south, Canada produced other apparent anomalies in the way of prairie-grown cran apples, white cherries, and giant strawberries. Again, there was honey produced on prairie farms which brings back to memory the fact that in the honey contest at the convention of beekeepers from all over the world, held in Switzerland in 1913, the first prize went to the product of the Province of Manitoba.

These Canadian products, including the corn which was of similar kind to that which secured the world championship at the International Soil Products Exhibition at Kansas City a few years ago, were part of a Canadian exhibit which also contained grains for the growing of which the Western Provinces have achieved world-renown and secured many international honors.

The exhibit aroused considerable interest and caused genuine astonishment at the fine displays of agricultural products, many of which the holders had previously associated solely with climatic conditions to be experienced much further south. The exhibition demonstrated conclusively the extent and diversity of Canadian natural wealth along agricultural and mineral lines.

The Corn Belt's Northwest Trend. When Canada successfully secured the world's championship for wheat growing, universal interest was revived at the steady northward trend of the wheat belt. Now it would appear that the corn belt is undergoing the same process if we are to judge by the international successes of the corn product of Canadian prairie farms, and the general enthusiasm with which the growing of this grain is being taken up. In fact, the practice refused to remain in the position assigned to it by tradition and opinion unsupported by experience, and has proved its adaptability to many lines of agriculture previously conceived to be entirely outside its scope.

Do You Know That—

The name of the Empire State was first given to New York by George Washington, in his reply to an address from the New York City Common Council, in 1784.

South America has the greatest unbroken extent of level surface of any region of the globe. The plains close to the Orinoco are so flat that the motion of the rivers can scarcely be detected over an area of 200,000 square miles.

The famous "Blue Danube" waltz came to Johann Strauss one day while he was strolling in the park with his wife, and having not a scrap of paper at hand, he wrote it on the white linen collar worn by Frau Strauss, as his own linen was limp colored calico.

The favorite sport of the Siamese is fishfighting. The fighting fish are described as being long and slender, and very voracious. At the moment they are placed together in a vessel of water they dart at one another, and the lookers become so excited over the contest that they will wager anything they have at hand on the success of their favorite fish.

The heaviest timbers are oak, teak, jarrah (an Australian wood), and greenheart; the lightest are willow, poplar and spruce. The difference is enormous. A cubic foot of teak will weigh over eighty pounds, while a cubic foot of willow does not exceed thirteen pounds. Besides being one of the heaviest the African teak oak is also the strongest of all woods.

The Japanese language is taught in Australian high schools.

"Baby" incendiary bombs, which our aircraft used during the war, were so small that a Handley-Page aeroplane could carry 4,000 of them. In six weeks 85,000 of these bombs were dropped on German industrial towns.

Of British home troops, numbering 153,000, nearly 50,000 are in Ireland. The total strength of the British Army all over the world is given at 295,000.

The Canadian Chaplain Service had an authorized strength of 290 in the recent war; 426 served overseas; 106 gained awards; 6 died, and 21 were wounded in battles while discharging their duties.

HOW TO BE HEALTHY DURING THE WINTER

Many Troubles May be Avoided if the Blood is Kept Pure.

Do not let your blood get thin this winter. For people who have a tendency towards anaemia, or bloodlessness, winter is a trying season. Lack of exercise, lack of fresh air, and a restricted diet are among the things that combine to lower the tone of the body and weaken the blood.

As soon as you notice the tired feeling, lack of appetite and shortness of breath that are warning symptoms of thin blood, take a short course of treatment with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Do not wait until the color has entirely left your cheeks, until your lips are white and your eyes are dull. It is so much easier to correct thinning of the blood in the earlier stages than later. This is well illustrated in the case of Mr. B. M. Day, Newcastle Bridge, N.B., who says: "From my own experience with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills I can most heartily recommend them. Some time ago I was badly run down and my blood seemed thin and watery, accompanied by the usual symptoms of this condition. A friend recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after taking several boxes I felt like a new man."

You can procure Dr. Williams' Pink Pills through any dealer in medicine or they will be sent you by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by writing direct to The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Reading Aloud Helpful.

So wholesome is the practice of reading aloud, that medical authorities agree in pronouncing it a healthy and invigorating exercise for the mind and body. Persons whose chests are weak should read aloud at stated intervals, and to posture, articulation, and the avoidance of excess. These regular exercises of the voice may be regarded as salutary to the organs of respiration as they are agreeable in their influence on the ordinary voice.

Dependable "Big Ben." "Big Ben," the famous clock in the tower of the Houses of Parliament, London, automatically sends a signal each day to Greenwich; it rarely varies so much as a second.

Minard's Liniment for Dandruff.

Minard's Liniment for Dandruff. Osborne House, formerly Queen Victoria's residence in the Isle of Wight, was built at a cost of £200,000, from designs of the Prince Consort.

HEALTH EDUCATION BY DR. J. J. MIDDLETON

Provincial Board of Health, Ontario

Dr. Middleton will be glad to answer questions on Public Health matters through this column. Address him at the Parliament Bldgs., Toronto.

From time immemorial the treatment of the sick has relied, not unsuccessfully, on the organizing power of human sympathy. Nothing in our modern civilization is more impressive than the splendid growth and specialization of hospitals, convalescent homes, sanatoria, dispensaries, clinics, and other organizations for the application of scientific ideas to the cure of disease. The impulses of philanthropy are no less numerous and powerful to-day than in any past generation, but as civilization advances, the intensive study of disease demands more and more organization. The multitudes of minor ailments revealed in the inspection of children here at our present resources. The children's hospitals are as busy as ever, but wherever voluntary clinics for children are established they rapidly become crowded, and there is urgent need for more and more clinics all over the Province. Open-air nurseries and nursery schools are all urgently needed, for immense fields of treatment are still unoccupied. The recent report of a Medical Officer of Health for a large city in Ontario showing that thirty per cent. of children arriving at school age are physically defective, gives much food for thought. The medical and nursing supervision of the child is imperative, and the purpose of inspection and treatment is to secure that the young-

France May be World's Radio Centre.

If the French Government carries out its present plans to develop the mastery of the world's wireless telegraph service, as was indicated in the commencement of the sixteen tower station near Melun, it may be in a position to take all business from the cable companies in France, as these companies are now handling only between 40,000 and 50,000 words a day, and even then with greatest difficulty. The new wireless station near Melun is to be completed in two years and will be able to send 1,000,000 words a day. The apparatus designed will be able to send seven and receive five separate despatches simultaneously and will have a radius of 10,000 miles and the power to transmit urgent signals as far as 15,000 miles.

Thus, with Eiffel Tower reserved for official and scientific despatches, such as noonday signals; the Nantes station reserved for maritime purposes, and with both Lyons and Bordeaux handling hundreds of despatches daily for the United States and European countries, France will be in wireless contact with the uttermost points of the globe.

Handicapped.

This story is told by a certain philanthropist in the West, who is a man of big business as well and who is noted for his sympathy for the "down-and-outers." If possible, he will give any deserving applicant for work a chance to make good.

On one occasion this gentleman was approached by an individual that was but the philanthropist himself would have had him ejected from the office.

"Can't you find any work at all?" asked the good man, when he had heard the man's recital of his woes.

"I can find work all right," said the man, "plenty of it, but everybody wants references from my last employer."

"And cannot you get those references from him?"

"No, sir. You see, he's been dead for twenty-five years."

If a man can write a better book, preach a better sermon, or make a better mousetrap than his neighbor, though he build his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door.—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

White Negroes.

Early Portuguese explorers found on the west coast of Africa a number of "white Negroes" who, by reason of the peculiarity, were held in veneration by the blacks. They were, of course, albinos.

It was to describe them that the word "albino" was first coined, and since then it has been applied to human beings of all races whose lack of pigment deprives their skin, eyes and hair of normal coloration.

Albinism is assuredly one of nature's strange freaks. In former days persons so afflicted were regarded with horror and systematically shunned.

Because of their shrinking from bright light the appropos name of "cockroaches" was bestowed upon them, and it was ignorantly supposed that they were defective mentally. For the latter notion, needless to say, there was never the slightest basis of fact.

Albinos of Caucasian race have peculiarly the hair, glossy and silky, which rather resembles corn-tassel silk.

Million Surplus Women in England.

"Jackless Jills" are emigrating in considerable numbers from England in the hope of finding suitable "Pillbox Jacks" for husbands in the United States, according to Norah March, bachelor of science. Her comments on England's "marriageable women who may never marry" before the National Birth Rate Commission have been widely discussed in the British press.

Government figures show there is a surplus of a million women in England whose only hope of marrying depends on their migrating to some part of the earth where there is a more even distribution of the sexes. According to Miss March, they are doing it. She says she is receiving letters from America that are "significant of the loneliness of some men's lives."

"Women are enterprising to-day," she added. "Many are emigrating who a few years ago would have feared to take the great adventure."

Judging from an official report prepared by the Census Bureau in Washington indicating there are nearly ten million bachelors in the United States above the age of 20, there is considerable consolation in store for the English "Jills."

Queer Storage Place.

Andre Lefevre, French Minister of War, also a distinguished chemist, recently startled the Chamber of Deputies with the proposal to store the French stock of gunpowder and nitro-cellulose explosives in one of the lakes of the Pyrenees.

France has on hand about 30,000 tons of high explosives, enough to last her 300 battle days, even at the enormous rate at which powder was consumed during the war.

Explosives deteriorate with time. Chemical decomposition begins sooner or later if the mass of explosive is not kept at a safe and constant temperature. The temperature of the water of Pyrenean lakes never varies more than four or five degrees.

Hence M. Lefevre would stow France's stock of war explosives in waterproof tanks in the lakes and keep them thus for decades.

Magnesium From Sea.

New salt works established at Bergen, in Norway, will turn out as a by-product about 100 tons of metallic magnesium per year. Sea water (from which the salt is to be derived) contains four-tenths of 1 per cent. of magnesium chloride.

Increased demand for magnesium in airplane construction, with cheap electric power, makes extraction of the metal a paying proposition.

Sea water contains four cents' worth of gold to the ton, and, in quantity, twice as much silver. Copper and other metals likewise contribute their salts to the ocean in appreciable amounts—as, indeed, might be expected, inasmuch as rivers carry down to the sea all the materials of which the rocks of the land are composed, including the metals contained in them.

It is familiarly known that certain marine plants—the kelps and other seaweeds—take up iodine and potash from the sea water, concentrating those minerals in their own structure. Such plants are important commercial sources of potash and iodine.

In Spain a plant which secretes soda was being cultivated and harvested for that chemical and derived from the burning of it being called "barilla." Thus it would seem that the notion of a mineral farm is not altogether an absurdity.

WINTER HARD ON BABY

The winter season is a hard one on the baby. He is more or less confined to stuffy, badly ventilated rooms. It is so often stormy that the mother does not get him out in the fresh air as often as she should. He catches colds which rack his little system; his stomach and bowels get out of order and he becomes peevish and cross.

To guard against this the mother should keep a box of Baby's Own Tablets in the house. They regulate the stomach and bowels and break up colds. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

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Instead of a Mustard Plaster

BAUME BENGUE

will do the same work without blistering. Beware of substitutes. THE LEWIS & CLARK CO., LTD. Agents for Dr. John H. Bennett's RELIEVES PAIN

Boy Scout Notes.

Patrol Leader Frank B. Johnston, of the 64th Toronto Troop, Boy Scouts, has just been awarded the bronze medal of the Carnegie Hero Fund for saving Miss Daisy A. Hooper from drowning in Lake Seaugo. Scout Johnston was awarded the highest award The Boy Scouts Association could give him—the Bronze Cross for Gallantry—some time ago.

Le Comite American pour les Regions Devastees de la France, which conducted a large Boy Scout Training Camp at Compigne, France, last summer, will next summer conduct five similar camps for French boys. Last year The Boy Scouts Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the Belgian Scout organizations and the several Boy Scout Associations in France co-operated in this work and some 275 older boys and young men from the devastated regions of France graduated from this "Camp-ecole," as it was called. Mr. Frank C. Irwin, the Executive Secretary of the Boy Scouts Association for Ontario, represented Canada on the staff of the 1920 camp.

Charters permitting organizations to form Boy Scout troops are granted by the Provincial Council for Ontario, Headquarters, Sherbourne and Bloor Sts., Toronto. The conditions upon which charters are granted are, first, that the organization—it may be a church, a school, a community club, a parents' association or any other group of citizens—will guarantee for one year adequate leadership and facilities; second, that it will endeavor to provide an opportunity for the members of the troop to spend a week or more in a summer camp; and third, that it will conduct the troop, through a Troop Committee appointed by it, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Association. There are now nearly 250 registered Boy Scout Troops in Ontario.

"Pape's Diapiesin" Corrects Stomach.

"Pape's Diapiesin" is the quickest, surest relief for indigestion, Gases, Flatulence, Heartburn, Sourness, Fermentation or Stomach Distress caused by acidity. A few tablets give almost immediate stomach relief and shortly the stomach is corrected so you can eat favorite foods without fear. Large case costs only 60 cents at drug store. Absolutely harmless and pleasant. Millions helped annually. Largest selling stomach correcter in world.—Adv.

Algeria Suffers From Drought

"The Drinkers of Sunshine," as the Arab shepherds call themselves in their own language, are on the verge of starvation throughout Algeria, and unless wheat is imported from America may have nothing but sunshine as a steady diet during the winter. The threatening famine in Algeria is the result of a long drought. No rain has fallen for a year.

This has proved a calamity for the Arab hepherds, nomads living practically by their flocks. Seventy-five per cent. of the sheep in Algeria have died as a result of the drought, and the Arab "Drinkers of Sunshine," dreamers and philosophers, incapable of any work but that of guarding the flocks, are in dire straits.

Governor-General Abel of Algeria has left for Paris to ask the Government to arrange for the importation of wheat from America or Argentina to tide the people over the crisis.

One of the best known guides in Nova Scotia gives this testimonial of MINARD'S LINIMENT: "I have used MINARD'S LINIMENT in my home, hunting and lumber camps for years and consider it the best white liniment on the market. I find that it gives quick relief to minor ailments, such as Sprains, Bruises and all kinds of wounds. Also it is a grand remedy for coughs, colds, etc. which one has need to catch when log driving and cruising during the winter and spring months. I would not be without MINARD'S LINIMENT and cannot recommend it too highly."

(Signed) Ellison Gray, East Kemptville, N.S.

Stop that pain!

QUICK, warming, soothing, comforting relief. Gives an application of Sloan's Liniment. Just slap it on the strained, overworked muscle. Good for rheumatism, toothaches, neuralgia, etc. Restores without rubbing.

Sloan's Liniment

Only "Bayer" is Genuine

Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting genuine Aspirin at all. In every Bayer package are directions for Colds, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Earache, Toothache, Lumbago and for Pain. Handy tin boxes of twelve tablets cost few cents. Druggists also sell larger packages. Made in Canada. Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada), of Bayer Manufacture of Monocetate of Salicylic Acid.

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BITS OF HUMOR FROM HERE & THERE

A Rubber Baby. Two American women, one of whom carried an infant of surpassing ugliness, entered a London bus. A man who sat opposite them seemed fascinated by the ugliness of the baby, and could not keep his eyes off it. At length the mother, annoyed by the prolonged stare, leaned forward and said, "Rubber."

The man, unaware that this is the Yankee expression for staring, gave a sigh of relief and replied: "Thank Heaven; I thought it was real!"

Greatly Benefited. "You may have heard of me—I am Dr. Blagby," the pompous gentleman announced in the smoking compartment.

"Ah, then I have the opportunity to thank you for what you did for me," the quiet young fellow responded. "I have benefited greatly by your treatment."

"Why—were you a patient of mine?" Though, of course, I couldn't possibly remember all—

"Oh, no, not I. But my uncle was, and I was his heir."

A Splendid Bull. The climate of India is vigorously, if not quite logically, defended in Bulls and Blunders by a certain Irish colonel.

"Bad climate be hanged!" roared the irate warrior. "There's no better climate in the world; but there are a lot of young fellows who come out to India, and they eat and drink, and they drink and eat, and they die; and then they write home and say that the climate has killed them. Of course, lots of people die in India. Tell me where they don't, and I'll go and end my days there."

The man who can whistle or hum "The End of a Perfect Day" each night, and really mean it, is pretty sure to sleep soundly.

MOTHER!

"California Syrup of Figs" Child's Best Laxative

Accept "California" Syrup of Figs only—look for the name California on the package, then you are sure your child is having the best and most harmless physic for the little stomach, liver and bowels. Children love its fruity taste. Full directions on each bottle. You must say "California."

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Classified Advertisements.

THE TORONTO FREE HOSPITAL, near Western Ontario, in affiliation with Bellevue and Allis Hospitals. New Year offers: young women desirous of becoming qualified nurses a three-year course of general training; attractive residence; single rooms; for salary and other information apply Lady Superintendent, Toronto Free Hospital, Weston, Ontario.

Perfume Hunters.

There seems to be no good reason why in this country the gathering of sweet-smelling herbs and flowers for