

ONTARIO FIRS DESTROYED TO SUPPLY U.S. DEMAND FOR CHRISTMAS TREES

Over 2,500,000 Young Evergreens Taken Across Border in December Causing Irreparable Waste.

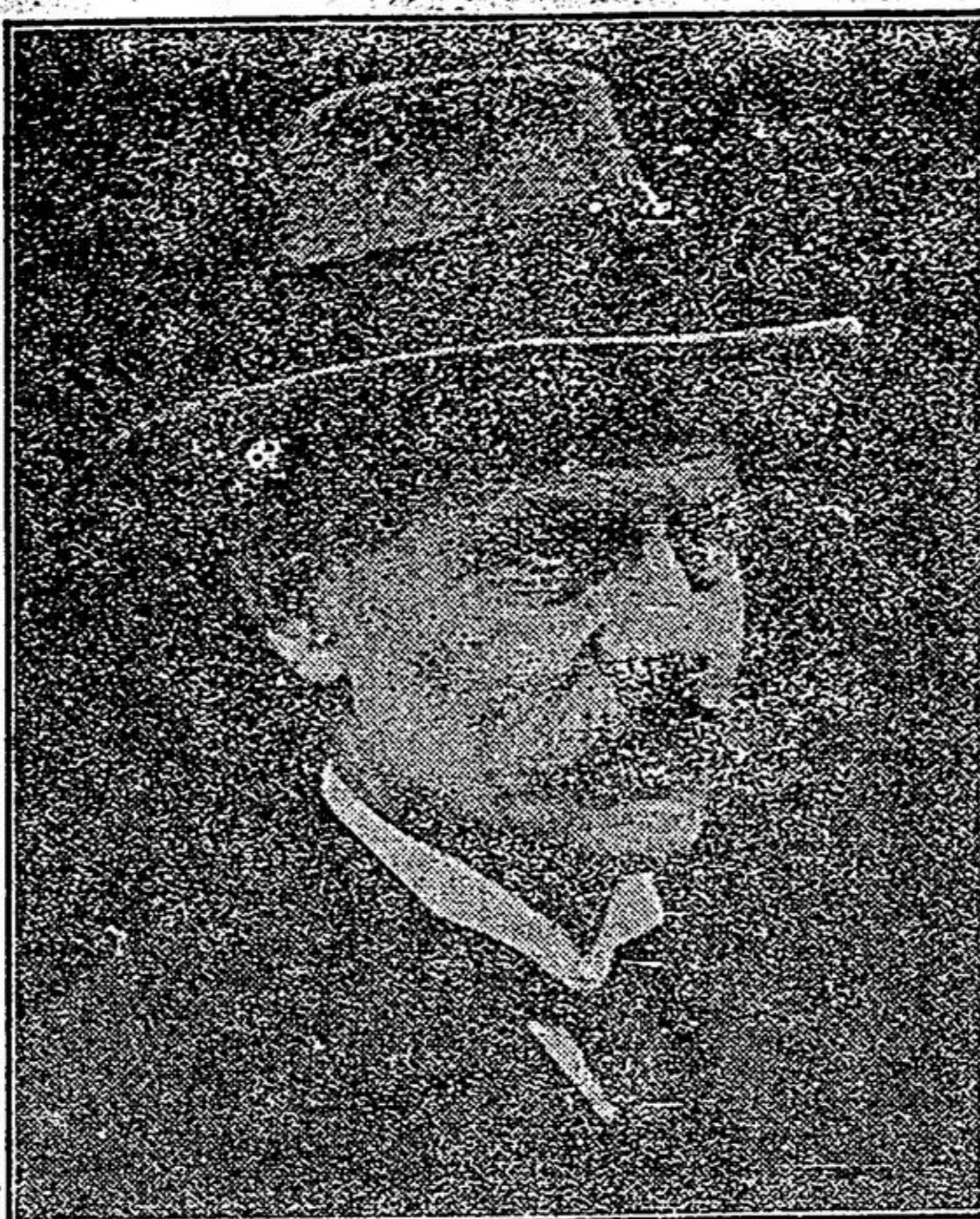
A despatch from Warton, Ont., says: Shipments made just in time for the Christmas markets in United States cities brought to a conclusion for the season an industry which has grown to amazing proportions in this province, but one which can be viewed with anything but equanimity by those who have the future well-being of the forest lands of Ontario at heart. This is the annual destruction of fir and other young trees to provide Christmas trees for the homes and institutions in the United States. In recent years the New England States supplied this demand and in a smaller measure the Province of Quebec, but the Washington Government placed an embargo both upon the cutting and the shipment of home trees for this purpose, with the result that dealers across the line turned their eyes to the apparently illimitable supplies in Ontario, the consumer willingly paying the extra charges for freight necessitated by the longer haul to the American markets.

Each fall the buyers for the American trade reach the localities selected by them and arrangements are made for the annual "cut," which usually begins early in November. This year it is computed that around five thousand railway cars, each containing on an average from five to six hundred trees, have gone across the border from Canada, the grand total of destruction being over two and a half million of young trees. These are nearly all cut below the first branches on the trunk, the result being that the stumps die and rot in the ground. Of course, all engaged in the business do not destroy the trees completely, but cut them above the first branches, but while the tree thus treated will not die, the limbs only will grow and it will never be of much commercial value after the trunk has been deformed.

Quite an agitation developed amongst the Indians on the Cape

Crocker reserve, on the Bruce Peninsula, early in the month, when instructions were received by Agent Alex. Moore from the Dominion Government forbidding further cutting of trees on the reserve, and requiring the collection of five cents on each bundle from all that had already been cut. The Indians were very indignant at the Government's action, as large sums had been made by them previously in this business, but the Agent was firm in upholding his orders, and no further depletion took place on the reserve. The forbidding of this destruction by the Indians did not, of course, apply to private lands, and the activities of the American dealers were transferred to these, and many farmers and their help had several busy weeks in trying to catch up with the demand.

Almost the entire output of the Bruce Peninsula was for the Pittsburgh market alone, and it is stated that twenty-five railway cars, with an average of six hundred trees to each car, left Warton last month for the city of Pittsburgh, these costing the dealer a total of about ten thousand dollars. Many of the trees shipped stood as high as fifteen feet, and would be retailed for as much as twenty dollars in the city mentioned. The eastern side of the Bruce Peninsula has scarcely any coniferous trees, and those on the wooded western side are required for windbreaks. A movement is at present on foot by members of the County Council to ask the Government to formulate a policy to regulate this tree-destroying menace in the future, and to insist on the protection of the young timber and the reforestation of the areas not fit for cultivation. It is understood that invitations are being sent to the Reforestation Department asking for a representative to be sent to the January session of the County Council to explain what steps the Government are prepared to take in this matter.



RAMSAY MACDONALD

Leader of the British Labor party, who may be called upon within a few weeks to form a government in Great Britain. He is a man of charm and culture, a widower with several young daughters. The loss of his wife was a severe blow to him, for she is described as a woman of rare sweetness and devotion. She was a niece of Lord Kelvin, who became deeply interested in socialism in her girlhood.

Device Will Trap Hens Who Fail to Lay Eggs

A despatch from London says: Even barnyard hens will soon have to punch time clocks if an invention now being exhibited at a London poultry show finds favor with the farmers. An ingenious Dutchman is suspecting some of his hens of loafing on the job. He has accordingly evolved a system by which, fitted on the back of each of his chickens, a leather strap is attached with a piece of colored chalk at the end.

Above the door of each trap nest he places a paper and a memorandum. The door is so constructed that the hen cannot enter the nest without making a mark on the paper. As he uses different colored chalk for each chicken, he is now jubilant at having been able to rout the unproductive hens from his flock.

The inventor alleges he has not yet discovered a way to register the fraudulent entering of nests—that is, the hen chalking up a mark without laying any eggs.

Reports of London Tower Falling Down Are Denied

A despatch from London says: "London's Tower is falling down, falling down" is the latest rhyme for London children, due to a report which has been going around the last few weeks that the historic citadel slowly is crumbling away.

But the authorities at the Tower say that the reports "are very much exaggerated." The Tower of London, they declare, is safe for another thousand years, and stories of cracks in the buildings and danger of early collapse should not be believed.

There are some gabled houses built against the inner wall of the Tower facing the Green which have broken away from the Tower wall and begun to lean forward; but experts insist that these ancient houses never were in danger of falling. Anyway, the weakness which so alarmed some of London's citizens now has been remedied and all the buildings which go to make up the Tower are being minutely examined for possible weak spots.

Big Army of Ladybirds to Fight Plant Parasites

A despatch from London says: A huge army of ladybird beetles is being mobilized at Balham to wage war on plant parasites in all parts of England next summer. Cantonments have been erected on the estate of E. Crabbe, fellow of the Entomological Society, and 500,000 ladybirds are being enlisted for the fray. They are implacable enemies of the deadly aphid which attacks rambling roses, carnations and other flowers and plants and are very pleased to eat the aphid on all occasions.

British Sergeant Revealed as Captor of Jerusalem

A despatch from London says: How Jerusalem was captured by a sergeant in the Second Battalion of the Nineteenth London Regiment—Frederick Hurcomb of Camden Town—will be revealed for the first time in the new war film "Armageddon," which deals exclusively with the fighting in the East.

In telling of his adventure Hurcomb said that on December 3, 1917, he was sent out on patrol with twelve men and a corporal with orders to go forward until fired upon. They crawled over Turkish trenches in the dark without encountering anything, but at dawn they spotted a house which the sergeant approached with a rifle in hand.

To a woman at the window he shouted "Hands up!"

But she, apparently an American, replied with "Good morning," and told him the Turks had all gone.

Presently a party of about twenty, led by the chief man of the town bearing a white flag, approached, and in broken English surrendered the city to the sergeant.



General Manager of the Port of Montreal, who points out that the construction of the last link of a waterway at Lockport, designed to connect the present end of the canal at Lockport, Ill., with LaSalle, the head of navigation on the Illinois River, will mean the illegal diversion of more water from the Great Lakes at Chicago, and will be used for the development of more power in Illinois, while reducing the levels in the lakes and St. Lawrence river to the detriment of all the Canadian ports along that route. Power is already being delivered in Illinois from the diverted water to the value of one million dollars a year.

Dominion News in Brief

Vancouver, B.C.—Excavation work on the new Dominion Government dry dock at Esquimalt has been progressing so rapidly during the past few months that the basin is almost ready for the construction works. Laying of concrete has commenced. The installation of the pumps and machinery will be started, in all probability, next summer.

Taber, Alta.—A registered seed company to be known as the Taber Seed Growers Limited, is being organized here. It will own equipment for cleaning seed, will grow seed and carry on registered seed operations and marketing generally. The cleaning plant is expected to be in operation in time to handle seed this season.

Regina, Sask.—In a preliminary report, the secretary of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association makes the following estimate of the market supply of registered and No. 1 seed: wheat, 264,014 bushels, on 12,612 acres; oats, 61,240 bushels, on 8,560 acres; barley, 17,025 bushels, on 336 acres; corn, 4,360 bushels, on 335 acres. The great bulk of this seed was produced in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Brandon, Man.—That the development of good roads in Manitoba, and particularly in the Brandon district, has made rapid strides within the past three years was emphasized when over one hundred good roads boosters gathered at Brandon for the District Association's meeting recently. Each year finds Manitoba in greater favor with the travelling public and in this respect the district surrounding Bran-

don is taking a leading part in the construction and maintenance of good highways.

Toronto, Ont.—The total value of metalliferous production for the first nine months of 1923 exceeded that during the corresponding period of 1922 by \$4,879,007, or 18 per cent, thus demonstrating the strong position which Ontario's metal mining industry occupies at the present time. The value of production for the first nine months this year was \$31,802,644, compared with \$26,923,637 in the corresponding period of the previous year. Gold production shows a slight decline. Silver, however, shows an increase of over one million ounces. The nickel-copper industry is back again on a pre-war basis.

Montreal, Que.—The Lee Puncture-Proof Tire Co. of Canada Ltd. is locating in this vicinity, where a modern manufacturing plant will be erected, having a capacity of 250 tires and 500 tubes daily. This is a branch of the Lee Tire & Rubber Co. of Conshohocken, Pa., manufacturers of puncture-proof pneumatic tires.

Sydney, N.S.—Satisfactory progress is being made in the sale of Sydney coke. The sales so far have been largely confined to the Maritime Provinces. No difficulty has been experienced in getting dealers to handle the product and these could sell more than they can get. With the new battery of ovens going, there will be a larger supply, which should come near meeting the demand. It is understood that coke will be sent to Quebec Province shortly and arrangements are now being made to handle it there.

The Week's Markets

TORONTO.
Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$1.05 1/4.
Manitoba oats—No. 3 CW, 42 1/2 c.
No. 1 extra feed, 41 1/2 c.
Manitoba barley—Nominal.
All the above, track, bay ports.
Ontario barley—61 to 65c.
American corn—No. 2 yellow, 88 1/2 c.
Buckwheat—No. 2, 69 to 72c.
Ontario rye—No. 2, 72 to 74c.
Peas—Sample, \$1.50 to \$1.55.
Millfeed—Del. Montreal freights, bags included. Bran, per ton, \$27; shorts, per ton, \$30; middlings, \$36; good feed flour, \$2.05.
Ontario wheat—No. 2 white, 92 to 94c, outside.
Ontario, No. 2 white oats—38 to 40c.
Ontario corn—Nominal.
Ontario flour—Ninety per cent. pat. in jute bags, Montreal, prompt shipment, \$4.60; Toronto basis, \$4.50, bulk seaboard, \$4.25.
Manitoba flour—1st pats. in jute sacks, \$6.10 per bbl.; 2nd pats., \$5.60.
Hay—Extra No. 2 timothy, per ton, track, Toronto, \$14.50 to \$15; No. 2, \$14.50; No. 3, \$12.50; mix, \$1, \$12.
Straw—Car lots, per ton, \$9.
Cheese—New large, 23 to 23 1/2 c.; twins, 23 1/2 to 24c; triplets, 24 to 25c; Stiltons, 25 to 26c. Old large, 28 to 30c; twins, 29 to 31c; triplets, 30 to 32c.
Butter—Finest creamery prints, 44 to 45c; No. 1 creamery, 42 to 43c; No. 2, 40 to 41c.
Eggs—Extras, fresh, in cartons, 70 to 71c; extras, storage, in cartons, 45 to 47c; extras, 43 to 44c; firsts, 37 to 38c; seconds, 29 to 30c.
Live poultry—Spring chickens, 4 lbs. and over, 28c; chickens, 3 to 4 lbs., 22c; hens, over 5 lbs., 22c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 15c; do, 3 to 4 lbs., 15c; roosters, 15c; ducklings, over 5 lbs., 19c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 18c; turkeys, young, 10 lbs. and up, 20c.
Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 4 lbs. and over, 30c; chickens, 3 to 4 lbs., 25c; hens, over 5 lbs., 28c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 24c; do, 3 to 4 lbs., 18c; roosters, 18c; ducklings, over 5 lbs., 24c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 25c; turkeys, young, 10 lbs. and up, 27c; geese, 24c.
Beans—Can. hand-picked, lb., 7c; primes, 6 1/2 c.
Maple products—Syrup, per imp. gal., \$2.50; per 5 gal. tin, \$2.40 per gal.; maple sugar, lb., 25c.
Honey—60-lb. tins, 11 to 12c per lb.; 10-lb. tins, 11 to 12c; 5-lb. tins, 12 to 13c; 2 1/2-lb. tins, 13 to 14c; comb honey, per doz., No. 1, \$3.75 to \$4; No. 2, \$3.25 to \$3.50.
Smoked meats—Hams, med., 26 to 27c; cooked hams, 37 to 38c; smoked rolls, 21 to 23c; cottage rolls, 22 to 24c; breakfast bacon, 25 to 27c; special brand breakfast bacon, 30 to 32c; backs, boneloss, 30 to 35c.
Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 50 to 70 lbs. and up, \$16.50; lightweight rolls, in barrels, \$36; heavyweight rolls, \$33.
Lard—Pure tierces, 17 1/2 to 18c; tubs, 18 to 19 1/2 c; pails, 18 1/2 to 19c; prints, 20 to 20 1/2 c; shortening tierces, 14 1/2 to 15 1/2 c; tubs, 15 to 15 1/2 c; pails, 15 1/2 to 16c; prints, 17 1/2 to 18c.
Heavy steers, choice, \$6.50 to \$7.25; butcher steers, choice, \$6 to \$6.50; do, good, \$5.50 to \$6; do, med., \$4.25 to \$5.25; do, com., \$3 to \$4; butcher heifers,



Prince Erik of Denmark, 10th son of King George, who is to marry Miss Lois Frances Booth of Ottawa, a granddaughter of the Canadian lumber king, J. R. Booth. He is a successful rancher, having a place near that of the Prince of Wales in Alberta, and Miss Booth is a girl fond of sports and outdoor life. They met seven years ago, and are reported to have fallen in love with each other immediately. She will assume his rank, and will be the first Canadian girl to become a Princess and bear the title of Royal Highness.

ers, choice, \$6 to \$6.50; do, med., \$4.25 to \$5.25; do, com., \$3 to \$4; butcher cows, choice, \$4 to \$4.25; do, med., \$3 to \$4; canners and cutters, \$1.25 to \$2.50; butcher bulls, choice, \$4 to \$4.50; do, com., \$2 to \$3; feeding steers, good, \$5 to \$5.50; do, fair, \$4 to \$4.75; stockers, good, \$4 to \$5; do, fair, \$2.50 to \$4; milkers and springers, \$80 to \$110; calves, choice, \$10.50 to \$12; do, med., \$6 to \$9.50; do, com., \$4 to \$5; do, grassers, \$2.75 to \$4; lambs, choice, \$10.50 to \$11; do, bucks, \$8.50 to \$9.50; do, com., \$7.50 to \$8.25; sheep, light ewes, good, \$5 to \$6; do, fat, heavy, \$4 to \$5; do, culls, \$2 to \$2.50; hogs, fed and watered, \$8 to \$8.25; do, selects, \$9.05.

MONTREAL.
Oats, No. 2 CW, 51 to 51 1/2 c; No. 3 CW, 48 1/2 c; extra No. 1 feed, 46 1/2 c. Flour, Man. spring wheat pats., 1sts, \$6.10; 2nds, \$5.60; strong bakers, \$5.40; winter pats., choice, \$5.55 to \$5.65. Kollod oats, bag 90 lbs., \$2.95. Bran, \$27.25. Shorts, \$30.25. Middlings, \$36.25. Moullie, \$40 to \$42. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$16 to \$18.
Cheese, finest westerns, 18 to 18 1/2 c; finest easterns, 17 1/2 to 17 3/4 c. Butter, No. 1, pasteurized, \$4 1/2 c; No. 2 creamery, \$4 1/4 c. Eggs, fresh specials, 30c; fresh extras, 60c; fresh firsts, 46c; storage extras, 39 to 40c; No. 1 stock, 34 to 35c.
Lambs, fair to med., \$9.50 to \$10; hogs, \$8.75 to \$9 for thick smooths and butcher hogs of good quality; veal calves, \$9 to \$10; grassers, \$3.25 to \$3.75.
We prize most that which has cost us most.



A Cure for Tuberculosis
Dr. Spahlinger, a young Swiss scientist, who has practically achieved a cure for tuberculosis. Through lack of funds he has never yet acquired a complete serum, but eighty per cent. of the cases treated with his incomplete serum have recovered, though they had failed to respond to any other treatment. The serum requires contributions from vaccines from twenty-two horses. Ontario is negotiating for the use of the serum.

British Peers Getting Rid of Their Estates

A despatch from London says: Income and other taxes again have proved virtually confiscatory in the cases of Baron Glanusk and the Earl of Lathom, both of whom have given up their country seats. The former has transferred his estates by deed of gift to his heir, Major the Hon. Wilfred Russell Bailey, who served in the Grenadier Guards during the war, winning the D.S.O. Lord Lathom, who has sold 4,000 acres to Mr. A. Debenham of London for about \$250,000, is now on a world tour for his health with his widowed sister, Lady Barbara Ann Seymour, whose husband was killed in the war.

Lord Glanusk, who is 59, moved to a little fishing cottage near his castle, Glanwy, two years ago, on account of the expense of keeping his house at Glanusk park open. Lord Lathom's property includes a Grecian bath and staircase.

CELEBRATE RADIIUM DISCOVERY BY CURIE

Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Notable Event is Fitly Commemorated in Paris.

A despatch from Paris says: In a cold, draughty barn on a back street of Paris twenty-five years ago Pierre and Marie Curie, poor and unknown, discovered radium. To-day that event was commemorated in a grandiose celebration at the Sorbonne, with the President of the Republic and a dozen other public dignitaries participating, and paying homage to the modest woman scientist.

But Mme. Curie did not let those who had gathered to honor her forget how they had once neglected her. She told of the barn that served as laboratory for her and her husband, of the loose planks that let in wind and rain, of the small cast iron stove that failed to warm the place even when they had fuel enough to feed it.

Mme. Curie in an austere black robe, spoke without any resentment, however, ending thus:

"The discovery of radium was made under precarious conditions, and the barn where it took place is now found romantic. But to us, these romantic elements were not advantages. They used up our strength and delayed our results. Under better conditions we might have reduced our first five years' work to two. This lesson should not be lost for the future."

Pierre Curie died in 1906 at the age of sixty-four, after his head had been crushed under the wheel of a truck in a street accident.

To Send Post Cards from the North Pole

A despatch from New York says: The North Pole expedition of Captain Roald Amundsen, discoverer of the South Pole, will take specially stamped postcards from Spitzbergen, its "hopping off place," with the aim to take them to be cancelled "at the North Pole," from where they will be sent through regular mail distribution agencies to all parts of the world. Proceeds from the cards will help defray the expedition's expenses.

IN RABBITBORO

