

ALOTTING THE GIFTS

"LIEUTS." PLUMMER AND ARNOLD HAD BUSY WINTER.

Canadian Girls Who Represented the Canadian Field Comforts Commission in London Took the Amesbury Vicarage For Their Headquarters—Over One Hundred Thousand Articles Were Received.

In a recent London Mail appears the following article by Twells Brevon "Lieut. Mary Plummer and Lieut. Joan Arnoldi."

"Throughout the winter two plucky and devoted Canadian women quartered in Amesbury's old vicarage, have toiled for months in the self-imposed task of distributing to the Canadian troops the whole of the gifts sent to the Canadian Field Comforts Commission by the people of the great Dominion for their soldiers."

"Miss Mary Plummer, daughter of Mr. J. H. Plummer, president of the Dominion Steel & Coal Co., and Miss Joan Arnoldi, daughter of Mr. Frank Arnoldi, K.C., (both of Toronto), are doing this work for the commission, for which purpose they were appointed by the Minister of Militia and Defence, each with the honorary rank of lieutenant."

"I found Lieut. Plummer and Lieut. Arnoldi up to their eyes in their preparations for the move they are making to Ashford, in Kent, more convenient to Shorncliffe, Margate and Canterbury (depots of the Canadian troops still arriving) and also for the division gone to the front itself. They were surrounded by bales, boxes, bundles, goods, enquiries, letters, labels and lists that would have hurried even the despatch department of a general store. They were unpacking, sorting, sifting, identifying, weighing, tying, re-packing, boxing, hammering up, stitching, labelling and addressing crates and bales of socks, tobacco, cakes, biscuits, chocolate, belts ('Too many belts,' murmured Lieut. Arnoldi) and other gifts. This was the order of the Canadian girls non-alphabetical for the names and regiments and individual men among thirty thousand so that each should get his parcel from the 'Homeland.' 'It is better to send gifts to units rather than individuals,' murmured Lieut. Plummer. They were writing letters of acknowledgment to donors or answers to enquiries at their average rate of fifty a day ('and we always try to make each letter personal, with a touch of the life of the men in the camps'), and they have only had, in all their winter's task, an order to assist them in the heavier work."

"The story of how they secured the occupied vicarage, the only house large enough for their work, is illustrative of the Canadian spirit: 'We went first to the churchwarden, then to the bishop, and thence to the rector. We staid again, followed the bishop to Broadstone, and found he had left the night before for London. We borrowed his library, and left a long letter for him. The bishop eventually telephoned that he would be glad to let us have the vicarage, but must consult his legal adviser. We chased the legal adviser, and caught him at 10.30 at night. The legal adviser was wrathful and maintained that the bishop could not let the vicarage. We tackled the churchwarden again, and he tacitly agreed to let us have the vicarage, but firm, and he was doubtful right. So we went then to the general of the Southern Command, saying, 'We have found the house, but you must commandeer it for us. We got the vicarage in two days.'"

"Over 10,000 articles have been received, checked, repacked and distributed by these two workers. At Christmas Amesbury platform was littered with parcels for the Canadian troops, some of them insufficiently addressed, some for camps inaccessible for delivery and the steady rain was splashing the labels. Lieutenants Plummer and Arnoldi went up to the station, collected all the goods, and got most of them delivered by Christmas Day. On Christmas Eve they went their rounds in a deluge in an open motor lorry. They were out again all Christmas Day. On some of those winter runs to the camps the foods reached the steps of their car, and always, visiting the camps, they had to wear high rubber wading boots and often the mud rose above the tops of them. 'At Christmas,' admitted cheerfully Lieutenants Plummer and Arnoldi, 'we lost our tempers and quarrelled with each other.'"

"Since the Canadian division went to France tobacco for over 1,200 men has been sent from the vicarage depot. Last week a tea-party case from headquarters requesting the immediate purchase and despatch of games, cards, and notepaper for the fifteen club rooms of the division. Lieutenants Plummer and Arnoldi went to London and procured the goods that day. The journey time between Amesbury and London is three hours."

"From all over Canada the gifts came for the Canadian troops. The Far West has been especially generous. I saw bales of socks and mufflers from Winnipeg, Regina, Vancouver and Victoria, and a big check came from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. The United States do not forget their sister Canada. Twenty-five dozens of socks arrived from the nurses of St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago. And in January a Christmas pudding arrived, addressed to Sir John French. 'Don't mention it for Heaven's sake,' said Lieut. Arnoldi. 'Suppose he reads of it and sends for it!'"

"The address henceforth will be: The Canadian Field Comforts Commission, Canadian Ordnance Stores, Ashford, Kent, Socks, plug tobacco, cocoa, condensed milk, soap tablets or money that will buy them would be more than welcome."

Some people are so ill tempered they are annoyed when forced to smile.

It takes an optimist to get more good out of a thing than there is in it.

DOING THEIR SHARE

Canadian Farmers Engaged in Greatest Seeding in History.

The farmers in Canada are now engaged upon the work of seeding the greatest acreage which has ever been given over to the production of grain in the history of the Dominion. While statistics portraying the actual increase in area will not be given until the Federal authorities at Ottawa compile in the late spring the reports from their correspondents on work done, the findings of investigations which have already been completed point clearly to the conclusion that the additions throughout the western provinces, at least, will be very considerable in extent. Officials of the Canadian Northern recently finished a survey of fall plowing along the lines of the company in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Figures which were sent in, of course, deal with C.N.R. only, but they may be taken as an indication of the manner in which the farmers west of the Great Lakes have responded to the call for a greater production of food-stuffs in Canada. Five hundred and thirty-nine agents contributed to the report in order that it would be thoroughly representative of the territory served.

Altogether, along the Canadian Northern lines in the prairie provinces the increase may be averaged at forty per cent. The figures give a total acreage plowed last fall of 6,181,376 acres. This is an increase of 1,766,108 acres over the preceding year. Figured at 21.38 bushels to the acre the flat acreage of the yield in western provinces in 1914 for wheat, oats and barley—the grain yield from fall-plowed lands along the Canadian Northern in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta would be 132,157,818.88 bushels. On the yield basis of last year the increased acreage would produce 57,759,389.04 bushels. But 1914 was an off year for grain production in the West and that average will probably be exceeded in 1915.

The largest acreage for any one station was reported from Star City, in the black loam district in Northern Saskatchewan. It was given as 110,000 and the increase over last year as 40 per cent. Nalberry, close to Star City, reported 75,000 acres. Melfort, nearly on the same line, claimed an increase of 100 per cent. Rosthern reported an increase of 300 per cent. over last year. Duck Lake's 50,000 acres, an increase of 75 per cent. To the north, Hafford, on the new line connecting the cities of Prince Albert and North Battleford, reported 72,000 acres, an area 95 per cent. greater than in 1913. To the south, in the Saskatchewan, Delisle, on the Saskatoon-Calgary line, reported 88,000 acres, which is an increase of 30 per cent. Marshall, on the main line towards the Alberta boundary, returned 50,000 acres. In Alberta, the town of Hanna reported 40,000 acres, an increase of 20 per cent. Stettler, in the central portion of the province, gave 30,000, an increase of 20 per cent. Craigmyle, close to Calgary, reported 40,000 acres, and Delia, the next station, 47,000 acres, which is an increase of 200 per cent. Two towns on the same line, closer to the Saskatchewan-Alberta line—Cereal and Chinook—reported 15,000 acres each. In the former the increase is given at 1,400 per cent, while at the latter place there was no fall plowing done in 1913.

Even in the older-settled parts of the West, there are gratifying increases. At Morris, in Manitoba, the acreage is given at 30,000, and the increase 35 per cent. At Gladstone there are 20,000 acres, which represent a 25 per cent. increase. At Spryng, in the Carman subdivision, the agent reports 40,000, which is an increase of 15 per cent. At Dunrea in the Hartney district the figures jump to 70,000, which represents an increase of 70 per cent. Kipling reports 75,000, an increase of 90 per cent. As these are the conspicuous returns only it is apparent that Canada is doing her allotted part of the task which is at present confronting the Empire.

Fire Losses Decreasing. Canada is making headway in the matter of reduction of fire losses. From reports of fires in Canada for the two months of 1915 a loss is shown of \$2,498,884 as against \$5,717,961 for the same period of 1914, or a reduction of \$3,218,177. This is the lowest fire loss for over five years.

Of the 581 fires which occurred in February, 1915, however, 364 took place in dwellings, and the majority of these originated from easily preventable causes. Defective pipes and flues are well established as the causes of the largest number of fires. Flues are defective in numerous ways, and even close inspection may not reveal a dangerous condition. Critical examination is, in most cases, impossible, as the construction is in itself faulty, and a cold spell, with forcing of the heating apparatus, finds the weak places.

A Big War Order. The largest single order for war materials on record in Canada has been let by the Russian Government to the Canadian Car & Foundry Co., of Montreal, Quebec, and Amherst, N.S.

The order is for shrapnel shells of various calibre and it is estimated that it will total in all about \$30,000,000.

This order will keep Canadian plants running night and day for one year, besides the plants to which the contract has been sublet.

Manitoba Grain. Although the area in wheat of Manitoba was nearly 225,000 acres more than the preceding year, the yield per acre is four and a half bushels lower, and the aggregate yield for the province is 10,350,000 bushels less. This deficiency is no doubt attributable to the excessive heat and light rainfall during the summer months.—Government Bulletin.

A spinner may live to congratulate herself on the number of times she didn't marry.

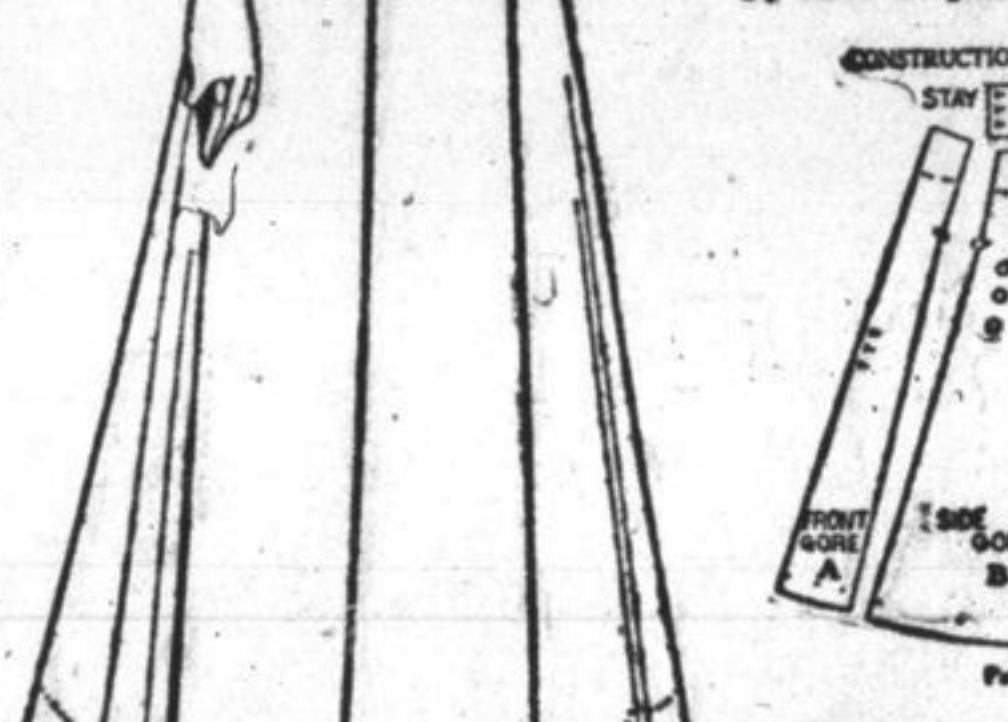
A woman doesn't mind marrying a man pretty won in years if he is otherwise pretty well off.

Easy & Practical Home Dress Making Lessons

Prepared Especially For This Newspaper by Pictorial Review

EMBROIDERED LINEN BOLERO COSTUME.

White linen of good quality, trimmed in simple effect with hand embroidery makes up this design most effectively. There are excellent linens at 25 cents a yard which lend themselves to semi-tailored effects. The costume consists of an untrimmed gored skirt, a gumpie of soft, sheer lawn and bolero of linen to match the skirt. The bolero is unlined, and the embroidery stitches used are the buttonhole (for scallops), satin dots and eyelet.



Seven-gored skirts are among the designs that are used extensively for independent wear with separate waists. The model reproduced here may be made with an inverted pleat at the center-back or with habit back. The waist-line is raised above normal, and the length may be regulated to suit the fancy of the wearer. The gores are all carefully notched so that in putting the skirt together it is easy to make the notches correspond. Close center-back seam first, leaving edges free above single large "O" perforation for placket. If desired with inverted pleat at center-back, crease on line of slit perforations and bring folded edge to center-back seam. Stitch carefully and press.

To give the waist-line proper support use stay the length and width of stay pattern or 4-inch belting, darting lower edge as perforated. Adjust to position underneath the skirt, centers even, and stitch upper edges together. A band of braid or any other trimming may be added to the bottom of the skirt. Six yards of 36-inch linen makes the dress.

Hand-embroidered linen suit for summer wear, consisting of seven-gored skirt, gumpie and bolero.

Pictorial Review Bolero Pattern No. 6158. Sizes 14 to 20 years and 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust. Price, 15 cents. Gumpie No. 6157. Sizes 14 to 20 years and 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust. Price, 10 cents. Skirt No. 6159. Sizes 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 and 36 inches waist. Price, 15 cents.

SPENT LIFE IN GRAND PRE.

Late Mrs. Borden's Family Goes Back to Sweet of 17th Century. A very sweet and kindly old lady was the late Mrs. Andrew Borden, Grand Pre, Nova Scotia, whose death at an advanced age has just been recorded. From her, Sir Robert Borden, her eminent son, inherited many of those finer qualities of heart and head which distinguish him. Always gentle and unassuming, she watched her son's rise to fame with the pride and devotion of a good mother, and he on his part, be it said to his credit, always rendered her that respect and attention which were her due.

The Premier's second Christian name, it will be remembered, is Laird. That was his mother's maiden name. She was Miss Eunice Laird and in her younger days she was one of the beauties of Grand Pre. This historic village, in which the legend of Evangeline is jealously preserved, was the home of both the Borden and the Lairds. Well might Miss Laird have played the part of the famous heroine, if all reports are to be believed. She had the charm of manner and of look that are associated with the Acadian beauty.

Andrew Borden, the Premier's father, was a solid type of citizen, and for many years was associated with his wife's brother in a general business in the quaint old village. Later in life, he became station agent on the newly-constructed Windsor & Annapolis Railway, now the Dominion Atlantic, besides which he engaged to a certain extent in farming. There was nothing outstanding about him, except perhaps that he was a well-read and intelligent man, who believed in giving his children the best possible education advantages. The late Mrs. Borden was his second wife.

There were four children in the family. Premier Borden was the eldest. Then came John William Borden, who is now paymaster-general of the Canadian militia and finance member of the Militia Council. The third child was Miss Julia Borden who has resided constantly with her mother in the old family mansion in Grand Pre. The youngest was Henry Clifford Borden, who is a lawyer practicing in Halifax. All four give evidence of the refinement and culture of the parental home.

The Borden are, of course, a very old family in Nova Scotia, the family tree extending back almost to the middle of the eighteenth century. They have for the most part lived in the neighborhood of the Basin of Minas, that beautiful country immortalized in "Evangeline" and successive generations have looked out across the marshes and the reddish tides of the wide Basin to distant Blomidon and the waters of Fundy. The family connection has become in the interval very extensive, dozens of men and women of the name residing in different parts of Nova Scotia. Possibly the best-known relative of the Premier's immediate family is Sir Frederick Borden, who is a first cousin. Then there is Dr. B. C. Borden, President of Mt. Allison University and his brother, Judge R. A. Borden, of Moncton, both of whom are second cousins of Sir Robert.—W. A. Craik in Toronto Star Weekly.

It's a poor phonograph that is ashamed of its record.



Advertisement for The Bell Telephone Co. of Canada, featuring the slogan 'It Multiplies Power.' and an illustration of a telephone booth. Text includes: 'The telephone, like the crane, multiplies power. The telephone increases personal efficiency and enlarges the volume of business by extending the field of the merchant's activity.' and 'The Bell Telephone Co. of Canada.'

Advertisement for Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne, 'The Original and Only Genuine.' It lists ailments like 'COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, DIARRHOEA, DYSENTERY & CHOLERA.' and includes an illustration of the medicine bottle.

Advertisement for BUILDERS!! Have You Tried GYPSUM WALL PLASTER? It Saves Time. P. WALSH, Barrack Street.

Advertisement for AUTO LIVERY Bibby's Garage. A-1 Auto Mechanics Agents, Dodge Bros. Phones: 201, Garage; 917, Residence.

Advertisement for NO PLACE LIKE HOME—IF YOU OWN IT. Six room brick veneer house, six room frame house, solid birch house on Clergy Street, etc.

Advertisement for HORACE F. NORMAN Real Estate and Insurance Office 177 Wellington St.

Advertisement for R. J. Reid Furniture. Iron beds, brass beds, springs, mattresses, etc. R. J. Reid, Leading Undertaker.

Large advertisement for Canada's Favorite Sugar for Three Generations. Features Redpath EXTRA GRANULATED SUGAR. Text includes: 'The Redpath "Sugar Loaf" of 1854 was the first cane sugar refined in Canada.' and 'For Sixty Years Redpath Sugar has consistently led in purity, in quality, and in the appreciation of the thousands who use it.'