AMERICANS ON THE RHINE—A KAISER SOUVENIR

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(1) A placard used along the Rhine and through the American camp.

(2) A souvenir of the Kaiser—Steel door of a dugout in Spa, now headquarters of Armistice Committee.

(3) Gen. Pershing and Admiral Benson, after calling on the President of the U. S. on board the "George Washington" at Brest.

(4) Secretary of War Baker observing artillery fire in France.

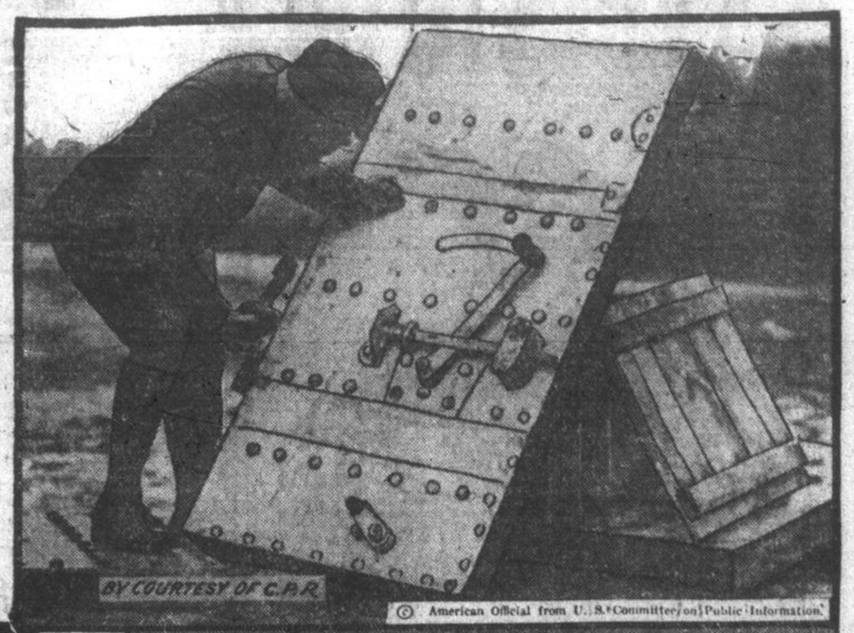
(5) Lt. Henry Clay of Forth Worth, Texas, America's daring ace.

(6) President Wilson's smile was to the French, as he and M. Poincare passed through the streets of Paris.

(7) Americans on the march to the Rhine.

(8) Gen. Pershing viewing the 42nd Division.

(9) The white flag which never before was carried to foreign lands, now flutters in France.



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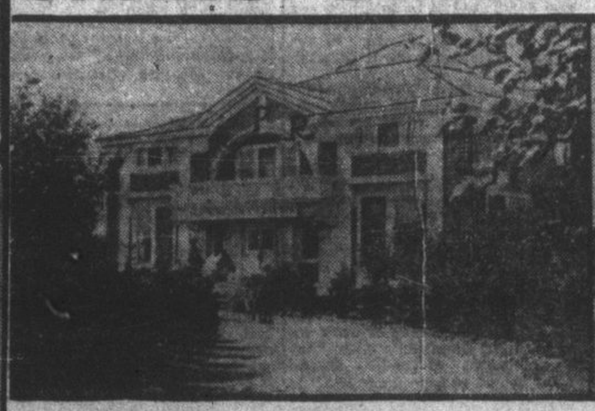
TRANSFORMING THE PRAIRIES



(1) Headquarters C. P. R. Irrigation Works, Strathmore, Alberta. All trees planted since erection of buildings.

(2) The kind of home many of the older settlers in Western Canada are building.

SELDOM does a settler in a new country find things exactly as he would like to find them. Take trees, as an illustration. It is true there are large stretches of country in different parts of the world where trees seem to be ideally interspersed. Large areas in the central parts of the Prairie Provinces of Canada are like this. Open spaces of forty to a hundred acres or more are almost surrounded by trees, affording excellent shelter for stock, and making a varied landscape. But such conditions are exceptional, though they serve to emphasize the rule. Mostly the new settler finds too many trees or practically none at all. In the former case considerable labor is required in clearing before the settler can hope for any crop. In the latter case, the settler has the advantage of being able to break his land immediately and, if he proceeds in the right manner, soon has it in a condition for producing a remunerative crop. But if he has come from a home which was surrounded by trees, he certainly misses them for a time.

A large part of the Canadian prairies comes under the second category. Nearly all of the southern to the central parts of these provinces are open prairie, ready for the plow. Except near the rivers and creeks one could motor miles and miles without seeing a tree. But a wonderful transformation is slowly taking place. If nature has left these fertile prairies practically treeless, she has not left them devoid of the elements necessary to tree growth. Trees will grow there if properly planted and cared for, just as wheat and other grains, just as alfalfa and other fodders, just as potatoes and all manner of roots and vegetables, grow—wonderfully well. And they are being grown more and more extensively every year, beautifying many a farm home and transforming the prairie landscape.

In this beautifying process, farmers are greatly encouraged by the Canadian Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway. Both are taking a keen interest in the planting of trees on the prairie farms, and encourage farmers to improve their home surroundings by distributing trees free of cost to farmers. Each maintains large nurseries where trees are grown for this purpose under prairie conditions, the government at Indian Head, Saskatchewan, and the Canadian Pacific Railway at Wolseley, Saskatchewan. Up to a few years ago both nurseries were typically open prairie. Now trees are being raised from seed on the Government's farm at Indian Head, Saskatchewan, which comprises 480 acres, in sufficient quantities as to permit a distribution of between seven and eight million young plants annually. The Canadian Pacific Railway restricts its distribution of trees to farmers in its irrigation block in Southern Alberta, and during the last six years has distributed about three hundred thousand trees to farmers in this territory. In this company's nurseries trees are also supplied for planting along the right-of-way of the railroad and in station gardens.

To obtain trees, whether from the government or the railway company, similar conditions are required to be fulfilled. Farmers must make their applications a year in advance, and must engage to prepare their land according to directions. Inspectors visit the farms from time to time to see that the land is properly prepared, and after delivery of the trees, to see that they are given proper attention in the matter of cultivation until they get thoroughly established.

Success in growing trees is being realized by farmers throughout the Canadian Prairie Provinces; and this success is very encouraging to the newcomer who at first misses the trees that were conspicuous near his old home. But he has many advantages over the pioneer who has to set to work to clear his land before he can start to farm. He can begin to farm from the moment of his occupation of the land. And when he is ready to plant trees, he can plant them wherever he desires, with the assurance that, if given a little intelligent care and attention during the first year or two, they will grow to maturity, and be as strong as trees of the forest.