

"THE THIEF OF BAGDAD"

BY AHMED ABDULLAH

Based on Douglas Fairbanks' Fantasy of the Arabian Nights, by Eton Thomas

Then the high-priest broke into a loud chant of thanksgiving:
"Ho, Devi! Ho, Doorgal! Ho, Smashana Kali! Thou hast listened to my Mantra! Thou hast accepted the sacrifice! Blessed be Thy name, O Great Mother!"
Quickly he bent over the dead. With agile, practiced fingers he opened a vein and drained a generous quantity of blood into a sacerdotal bowl. He poured it out at the feet of the idol while the worshippers prayed and chanted, and while the Prince picked up the crystal eye which had remained unbroken in spite of the fall.
He held it high.
He looked into its milky whiteness. The greatest rarity in the world, he thought triumphantly, well worth the death of a thousand young Brahmins! The treasure by the strength of which Zobeid would be his! Then, at the thought of her, he spoke her name. He addressed the crystal:
"Tell me, O magic crystal, what Zobeid is doing at this moment!"
At once the globe clouded, to become a moment later like a vivid, colored miniature that showed Zobeid on the balcony of her room, staring with starry eyes into the distance—eyes that were full of longing and love and faith.
"By Shiva!" thought the Rajah, who all his life had had an excellent con-

ceit of himself. "The Crusher of Hearts is thinking of me!"
It would have shocked him dreadfully had he been able to read the words which Zobeid's lips were forming silently:
"Ahmed! Ahmed! Soul of my soul! Oh—my Ahmed—how I wish that I could be with you—to help you—help you in your search!"
And indeed right then the Thief of Bagdad was in dire need of help.
For he was about to cross the Valley of the Monsters, the Valley of Evil Thoughts, where all the envies and jealousies and bad wishes formed in the human brain since God created Adam out of clay mixed with water and Eve from a crooked rib of Adam's body, lie in ambush for the traveler—unless there be no rancor in his soul and no envy nor malevolence in his heart.
In this valley dangers of all kinds were as thick as hair in the tail of the blue-faced Vindhya monkey. Here were slippery rocks and timber falls and jagged precipices; impetuous torrents flashing down their beds of black stone, and no path except a fugitive track through the undergrowth, hardly discernible, wiped by the poisonous breath of the jungle into a dim, smelly mire which bubbled and sucked—seemed to reach out for those who dared tread its foul solitude.

Ahmed gripped his sword and steeled his will. He walked on.
Cable-like, spiky creepers dropped low from the trees and struck his face; they opened before him with a dull, gurgling sound as he brushed them aside with fist or sword point; they closed behind him as if the jungle had stepped away for a second to let him through, leisurately, contemptuously, inevitably, to bar his way, should he attempt to return.

Darkness came suddenly. It came with black thunder clouds and the fiery, crimson, forked tongues of lightning. All about him Ahmed could hear the night cries of wild animals; the trumpeting of gigantic elephants; the howling of tigers; the hissing of cobras; and the whimpering of wild dogs coursing in packs on the tracks of their prey.
Fear dropped on him like a sodden blanket. He thought of the Prince of India, the Prince of Persia, the Prince of the Mongols. Thought of them with envy in his heart and rancor in his soul. They were strong. They were powerful. They were rich. They had thousands and thousands of armed retainers and wise men to obey their every wish, while he was alone in all the world, with nobody to lend him a helping hand.
"Allah!" he exclaimed. "How I envy them!"
And, as his lips pronounced the words, all at once the darkness was cleft in two by an immense shaft of quivering, yellow light, and he saw, square in his path, a huge monster facing him.

It towered above him like a mountain. Its shape was that of a dragon covered with green, steely scales, a swishing tail that wound up in a forest of lances, an enormous, cavernous

mouth that was armed with a treble row of dagger-sharp teeth and dripping with blood and black venom, and eight legs with claws large enough to rip an elephant to pieces as if it were a mouse and to tear a banyan tree up by the roots as if it were a small weed.
It saw Ahmed, and made for him with a great, clumsy leap, breathing a column of smoke and fire from its nostrils.
The Thief of Bagdad was about to turn tail and run away. But he reconsidered. He had no chance of escape. The dragon would overtake him at a single leap; would swallow him at a single mouthful.
All right—he said to himself—it was quite hopeless; but at least he would die fighting. So he lunged at the brute with the point of his sword; missed; leaped nimbly to one side to evade the monster's claws; lunged again, missed again, again leaped to safety.
"Hai!" he gave his guttural war cry. "Hai!" and gradually, as he fought, the envy and rancor in his heart began to pale, and there came to him a certain high, reckless, clanking courage—nor exactly a courage of despair.
Up from the ground he vaulted with both feet, striking with all his strength. The dragon grunted, doubtless surprised that this small lump of humanity should dare resist him and give battle, and receded a step.
Ahmed laughed.
"Pip!" he shouted at the brute. "Wart! Jew! Christian! Unclean and ludicrous pimple! Come here and fight!"
The envy in his heart palling more and more, he went to the attack, fighting after the time-honored manner of Arab swordsmen; bending almost double; skipping in a lithe, rapid circle; executing various gambados and measured leaps; springing forward like a



monkey and backward like a toad; beating with his sword upon the monster's tough hide so that it rattled like a drum. (To Be Continued.)

PRODUCE MARKETS

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto.
Toronto, Dec. 9.—Cattle, choice export steers, \$7.50 to \$8.25; good export steers, \$6.75 to \$7; good to choice short keeps, export feeders, \$5.50 to \$6.50; baby heaves, 630 to 850 lbs., \$7.50 to \$11.50; choice handyweight butchers' cattle, \$6.75 to \$7; good handyweight butchers', \$5 to \$6.50; medium to fair butchers, \$5 to \$5.50; choice to good 950 to 1,100 lb. feeders, \$5.25 to \$5.75; fair to good light feeders, \$4 to \$4.50; light northwest stock heifers, \$3.25 to \$4; choice fat cows, \$4.75 to \$5.25; good butcher cows, \$4 to \$4.50; medium cows, \$3.50 to \$3.75; common cows, \$3 to \$3.25; canners and cutters, \$1.75 to \$2.50; good to choice butcher bulls, \$4.25 to \$4.50; good to choice export bulls, \$4 to \$5; bologna bulls, \$2.50 to \$3.25; choice milchers and springers, each, \$75 to \$90; medium, each, \$45 to \$60; common, each, \$30 to \$40; choice spring lambs, \$13 to \$13.50; medium to good spring lambs, \$11 to \$11.50; common spring lambs, \$9 to \$10; choice yearling sheep, \$8 to \$9; cull yearling sheep, \$4.50 to \$5.50; good to choice sheep, \$6.50 to \$7.50; heavy sheep and bucks, \$4 to \$5; cull, \$3 to \$3.50; good to choice calves, \$11 to \$12; medium calves, \$8 to \$9; common calves, \$6.50 to \$7; grass calves, \$3.75; hogs, f.o.b., thick, smooth, \$8.75; do., fed and watered, \$9.25; do., weighed off cars, \$9.75.

Montreal.
Montreal, Dec. 9.—Cattle, butcher, export steers, good, \$5.75 to \$6.25; medium, \$4 to \$4.50; common, \$3 to \$3.75; butcher cows, good, \$4.50 to \$5; medium, \$3 to \$4; canners, \$1.50 to \$1.75; cutters, \$2 to \$2.25; butcher bulls, common, \$2.25 to \$2.50; good veal, \$8 to \$10; common, \$4 to \$5; grass, \$3.50 to \$4; ewes, \$4 to \$6.50; lambs, good, \$12.50 to \$13; common, \$11.25 to \$12; the standard quotation for hogs was around \$9.60 with a few sales at \$9.75 or better. Mixed lots of common quality and containing a number of lights brought \$9.50. Selects, \$10. Sows sold from \$7 to \$7.25.

Buffalo.
Buffalo, N.Y., Dec. 9.—Cattle, shipping steers, \$9.50 to \$11; butchers, \$7 to \$9.50; yearlings, \$10 to \$12.50; heifers, \$4.50 to \$5; fair to choice cows, \$2.75 to \$5.25; canners and cutters, \$1.75 to \$2.75; bulls, \$2 to \$5.25; stockers and feeders, \$4 to \$6; fresh cows and springers, active and steady, \$35 to \$120 per head.
Calves, choice, \$11.50 to \$12; fair to good, \$8.50 to \$11; culls, \$6 to \$8; heavy, \$6 to \$7; grassers, \$3 to \$5.
Hogs, heavy, \$9.25 to \$9.50; mixed, \$9.25; yorkers, \$8.50 to \$9.25; light yorkers, \$7 to \$8; pigs, \$6 to \$6.50; roughs, \$7.75; stags, \$4 to \$6.
Sheep and lambs—Lambs, \$9 to \$15.50; yearlings, \$9 to \$12.50; wethers, \$9.50 to \$10; ewes, \$9 to \$9.50; mixed sheep, \$3 to \$9.

Chicago.
Chicago, Dec. 9.—Cattle, top long yearlings, \$14.50, highest of year; few youngsters above \$13; best weighty steers, \$10.40 for 1,600-pound average; several strings grading choice, but very weighty, \$10 to \$10.25; bulk fed steer run, \$8.25 to \$10.25; most yearlings, \$9 to \$12; she-stock, 10c to 25c lower; fat kind, mostly 15c to 25c off; canners, 10c down; yearlings, 25c to 50c lower; bulk, \$8.50 to \$9; stockers and feeders, scarce; desirable kinds, firmer; spots, 25c higher.
Hogs, extreme top, \$9.75; bulk good and choice, 225 to 330-pound butchers, \$9.25 to \$9.60; 160 to 210-pound butchers, largely \$8.25 to \$9.10; bulk, 140 to 170-pound averages, \$6.50 to \$8.10; packing sows, mostly \$6.60 to \$8.50; strong weight slaughter pigs, largely \$5.50 to \$6; estimated holdover, 37,000.
Fat lambs, bulk fat natives and fed westerns, \$15 to \$15.50; top, \$15.65; choice clipped, \$12.50; fat sheep, steady; handyweight fat ewes, \$8 to \$8.50; feeding lambs, 15 to 25c higher; bulk, better grades, \$14.50 to \$15; choice sixty-pound averages, \$15.25.

GENERAL TRADE.
Montreal, Dec. 9.—Butter—Creamery, solids, 37c per lb.; prints, 38c per lb.; cooking, 30c to 31c per lb.
Lard—20-lb. prints, 19c; prints, 21c.
Eggs—Fresh special, 70c; fresh extras, 65c; storage extras, 48c; storage firsts, 44c; storage seconds, 39c.
Bacon—Windsor boneless, 25c per lb.; breakfast, 24c to 30c per lb.; smoked ham, 26c to 28c.
Dressed poultry—Mixed chickens, 30c to 32c per lb.; broilers, 35c to 45c; selected chickens, 27c to 31c; turkeys, 35c to 39c; ducks, 25c to 35c; green ducks, 30c to 35c per lb.; geese, 21c to 25c.
Dressed hogs—Fresh killed spot

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Flour—First patents, \$9.50 per 90-lb. bag; per 98-lb. bag, \$4.60; second patents, \$8.70; strong bakers, \$8.90; broken lots, in cotton half bags, \$4.50.
Milled—Bran, in box car lots, \$22.25; shorts, \$24.25; middlings, \$28.25.
Rolled oats—Standard grades, \$3.75 to \$3.85 per 90-lb. jute bag. Potatoes—N.E. Green Mts., 70c to 15c per 90 lbs.
Hay—Quebec, \$13.50 to \$14.50; No. 2 timothy, \$12.50 to \$14; delivered to Montreal, \$4.50.
Never add salt to uncooked meat as it toughens even the tenderest cuts.

New Issue

\$30,000,000 Canadian Pacific Railway Company

Twenty Year 4 1/2% Sinking Fund Secured Note Certificates

Date of Issue December 15, 1924. Date of Maturity December 15, 1944.

Principal and semi-annual interest (June 15 and December 15) payable direct to holders by cheque negotiable at par at any Branch in Canada of the Bank of Montreal. Fully registered Note Certificates will be issued in denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$10,000 and \$100,000. Redeemable in whole or in part on any interest date on six weeks prior notice at 102 and interest up to and including December 15, 1929, and at a declining premium of 1/4 of 1% during each five year period thereafter.

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Transfers may be effected at the Registrar's offices or agencies in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary and Vancouver.

Mr. E. W. Beatty, K.C., President of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, has summarized his letter of December 8, 1924, as follows:—

These Note Certificates will be direct obligations of the Railway Company and have priority over \$93,335,254 Preference Stock and \$260,000,000 Common Stock, representing an equity at present market prices of approximately \$460,000,000. The Preference Stock has received 4% dividends without interruption since its issuance in 1895. The Common Stock has paid dividends continuously since 1882, with the exception of the year 1895, the rate since 1912 having been 10% per annum.

In addition they will be secured by the assignment to the Trustee, by way of security, of all unpaid purchase money or deferred payments owing or accruing due to the Railway Company in respect of lands in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, sold or contracted to be sold by it prior to December 1, 1924. The amount due or accruing due to the Railway Company on December 1, 1924, in respect of said sales was \$66,000,000. The Railway Company will covenant to pay to the Trustee all monies, both principal and interest, less expenses and taxes paid to protect the security, received by the Railway Company in respect of the said contracts. The Railway Company covenants that it will not charge the lands in respect of which such deferred payments are or shall be due, so as to prejudice in any manner the security hereby created.

All monies received by the Trustee will be utilized for the payment of interest on these Note Certificates and thereafter as a Sinking Fund for the purchase and cancellation of these Note Certificates at the best prices obtainable up to the call price prevailing at the time of such purchase. If Note Certificates cannot be so purchased the Trustee shall redeem the Note Certificates by lot at the prevailing call price. The Railway Company will covenant that in the fourth and each succeeding year the annual amount available for the purchase of Note Certificates will be at least \$300,000.

The Note Certificates will be issued under, secured by and subject to a Trust Agreement between the Railway Company and The Royal Trust Company as Trustee.

The net earnings for the last five years, after paying all fixed charges, including interest on Consolidated Debenture Stock and all other obligations, have been as follows:—

Year ending December 31, 1919	\$31,320,868
" " " " 1920	32,844,083
" " " " 1921	33,169,867
" " " " 1922	33,545,140
" " " " 1923	34,899,409

Yearly interest on these Note Certificates amounts to \$1,350,000. The average yearly net earnings for the last five years as above set forth amount to \$33,155,873, or over 24 times annual interest requirements on these Note Certificates.

These Sinking Fund Secured Note Certificates are offered if, as and when issued and received by us, and subject to the approval of all legal details by Messrs. Meredith, Holden, Heward & Holden. Trustee Certificates in interim form or Note Certificates in definitive form will be available for delivery on or about December 30, 1924.

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| Banque d'Hochelega | The Molsoms Bank | Union Bank of Canada |
| The Standard Bank of Canada | The Sterling Bank of Canada | La Banque Provinciale du Canada |

The information contained in this advertisement is based upon official statements and statistics on which we have relied in the purchase of these Note Certificates. We do not guarantee but believe it to be correct.