



Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

Back in 1865, J. J. Healy rode from the Cypress Hills, Alberta, to the telegraph office at Helena, Montana, a distance of 340 miles, in 43 hours to give his paper, the New York Herald, a news scoop. What news? The news that Chief Sitting Bull refused to return from Alberta with his followers to the U. S. A. Reservation.

And no wonder, for the big Chief and his sub-chiefs, Sweet Bird and Spotted Eagle, had led the Sioux Indians in that terrible massacre in which General Custer and 1,200 men were completely annihilated in the battle of the Valley of the Little Big Horn River.

In condemning the U. S. authorities, Sitting Bull said: "I have no faith in Long Knives that have stained the grass with blood."

Graburn Gap, Alberta, is named for Corporal Graburn who was murdered there by Starchild, an Indian, in 1879. Incidentally, Corporal Graburn was the first casualty in the North West Mounted Police Force.

Trader Evans got quarrel with the redmen who killed his pal and stole their horses in the Cypress Hills. Evans bought a number of blankets that were infected with smallpox. These he shipped from St. Louis to the Indian country and left them beside the bank of a river. The Indians grabbed the blankets and the disease wiped out thousands of the Crees, Blackfeet, Stoney and Saracnes.

For the above strange but true facts I am indebted to Senator F. W. Gershaw, Medicine Hat, Alberta. Partridge was by Roman law punished more severely than any other kind of homicide. After being whipped the delinquents were sewed up in a leather sack with a cross dog, a rooster, a viper, and an ape, and then cast into the sea. Saloon in his laws, made more against partridge because he thought nobody should be found guilty of so unnatural a barbarity.

The following poem, written by an Indian, is a grand motto for all workers:

"Go on, go on, go on, go on, go on, go on, go on, go on, go on, go on, go on, go on."

The original poem contains several verses in very common metre, and all are exactly like this one.

Some years ago a wreck was discovered in the Bay of Biscay. A boat put out to sea, where its crew picked up a living skeleton. After receiving some nourishment the skeleton muttered in a low voice, "There is another man". The rescue boat made a second trip to the wreck, but only lifeless shriveled corpses were found.

The pea-crab makes its home in abandoned shells, which they adjust themselves to surprisingly. They will run about with their shell home on their backs. It is to this creature that "Cannibal Jack" owed his fright when he spent a night in a cemetery, and saw the skulls of dead men moving about. When they grow too large for a shell, they leave it, and seek another.

In Newport Church Cemetery, England, is a monument with a female figure reclining her head on a marble book. The stone was erected in memory of Princess Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I, who died suddenly with her head resting on the family Bible.

The pass of Glencrae, Scotland, is reached by a long, hard climb over a winding path. At the summit is a stone bearing this inscription:

"Rest And Be Thankful".

Some years back a sealed vase was discovered in a mummy-pit, by the English traveler, Wilkins, who sent it to the British Museum. One day the librarian happened to break it and, lo, out rolled a few peas as hard as stones and as wrinkled as a prune. These same peas were planted on June 4, 1844, and believe it or not, they germinated and grew into thrifty plants. They had been asleep probably since the days of Moses. The headwaters of the Missouri and Columbia Rivers have their place of birth on the side of a mountain within a few yards of each other. Yet strange to say, one flows into the Pacific while the other takes the opposite course to the Atlantic Ocean.

BERLIN — (Reuters) — Berlin's Information Office for war casualties said 120,000 Germans are known to be held in Russia as prisoners-of-war. Russia has officially said there are only 13,500. The announcement said 2,840,100 members of the former German army were killed during the Second World War while another 1,200,000 were registered as missing.

B. Of M. Report

MONTREAL, Nov. 26— A customer's provocative question, "What do you do with our two billion dollars?", introduces this year's Bank of Montreal report on the highlights of its annual statement, just published. In answering this pertinent query, the B. of M. continues the course it has pioneered in Canadian banking over the past seven years, which has been to present the meaning behind the figures of its annual statement in every day language.

The message begins by pointing out that more than half of the record-breaking total of \$2,086,000,000 now on deposit at B. of M. branches consists of the savings of private citizens. It emphasizes that these two billion dollars because of the various uses to which they are put, act as a powerful force in helping to provide a better future for every Canadian.

All of the figures dealt with are of general interest. They are accompanied by straight forward explanations, and bright little thumbnail sketches illustrate the main points. In this way, the difficulty of understanding a financial statement is overcome, and the reader can quickly form a clear idea of the part played by the bank in the economic life of the country, and of the part he himself plays by saving.

Loans Increased

Loans this year total the 1950 year-end figure of \$566 million by over \$50 million, despite "a conscientious effort to hold down non-defensive lending in co-operation with the government's anti-inflationary policy." Covering business, governmental and personal borrowing, this new record of financial assistance largely reflects the continuing growth of Canada's production.

The bank's traditionally liquid position has been maintained, with 72 per cent of its public liabilities represented by quickly available assets. Of these liquid assets, the most important is \$977,000,000 in government and other public securities. This represents a decrease of \$53 million and is largely a reflection of the corresponding increase in loans. Total resources, at \$2,201,000,000 compare well with 1950's \$2,190,000,000.

Taxes Exceed Dividends

After payment of all operating expenses, including staff salaries, cost-of-living bonuses and pension fund contributions, plus allowance for depreciation of bank premises and provision for contingencies, the B. of M. reports earnings of \$10,356,000. This represents an increase of \$819,000 over the 1950 figure, but with a rise in taxes of \$1,407,000, net earnings for 1951 are down \$588,000 from a year ago. After deduction of taxes, net earnings amount to \$5,355,000.

Federal and provincial taxes, at \$5,001,000, exceed the amount which the bank distributed in dividends. These totalled \$4,320,000, a return of 4.87 per cent on the shareholders' funds, which amount to \$88,534,000. This money which is the difference between what the bank owes its depositors and others and what it has to meet these obligations — is made up partly of funds subscribed by the shareholders and partly of earnings which have been retained in the business year by year after the payment of dividends to shareholders.

NEW LONDON W. M. S.

The Auxiliary of the W. M. S. of New London United Church held its regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Sterling MacKay on Thursday evening, November 1st. The meeting opened with the Worship Service led by Mrs. Morton Adams, assisted by Mrs. Bloyce Dunning, Mrs. Louis MacLeod and Mrs. Louis Campbell. The opening hymn was No. 511, followed by Scripture readings. The Worship Service closed by reading the last two verses of Hymn 382 as a prayer in unison. Mrs. Adams then presented a very interesting program as part of the devotional period, assisted by Mrs. Ray MacLeod and Mrs. J. M. Campbell. The dedicatory prayer for missionaries was offered by Mrs. Louis Campbell. The business period followed, conducted by the President. Minutes were read and approved and roll call answered by 14 members. Textword for the meeting was "Peace." The Secretary reported 16 calls

Unusual Entertainment

—If some passerby had satisfied his curiosity and investigated the sounds of merriment issuing from Irishtown Hall on Tuesday evening, November 20th, it might have surprised him to see that the six couples enjoying (and we mean enjoying) a lively square dance, were all of the fair sex. There were men present, it's true, but they were in the kitchen washing dishes, after a bean supper with the men, served by the men, and joy of joys, cleared up after by the men!

This delightful event was a banquet for the Ladies, sponsored by the local Farm Forum group, who also proudly displayed and used for the first time, a fine pair of folding banquet tables made by themselves. These are a welcome addition to the hall furnishings, and much appreciated by all who have helped with any or all of the half dozen suppers put on in the building during the past year.

The guests were the Irishtown Women's Institute members, wives of the Farm Forum members, and ladies or the wives of men holding hall debentures.

Mr. H. B. MacLeod was the general master of ceremonies, and Mr. Halsey Proffitt and Mr. David Campbell, Jr., acted as hosts and gallantly escorted each guest to a place card. The nicely laid tables were centred with artistically arranged bowls of fruit, and the deliciously prepared menu left nothing to be desired.

A toast to the ladies was proposed by Lt. Col. E. W. Johnstone and several other gentlemen were heard in brief remarks, all of them complimentary to the W. I. Mrs. Zelma Curley replied and moved a vote of thanks, which was sanctioned by several others including Mrs. Leigh Paynter and the president, Mrs. Kenneth MacLeod, each rising to add a few words of appreciation.

The chairman of the hall trustees then took the floor to announce that the holders of hall debentures would receive the annual payment of interest by coming forward in answer to a roll call of names. The numbers of all debentures were then placed in a hat, and four of these were drawn by Miss Mary Campbell, and the loans paid, thus decreasing the hall debt by two hundred dollars.

Musical selections were played during dinner by Messrs. David Campbell, Sr., and James Simmons, and later the new piano mingled its melody with that of violin and guitar, as Mr. and Mrs. Willard Brown and Mr. James Simmons made music to delight both the dish washers and the dancers as well as those who for this once at least were able to sit quietly relaxed, enjoying the novelty after the strenuous months of the past year, during which approximately one thousand dollars was raised by the district, through the leadership of the Women's Institute.

HONG KONG, Nov. 24—(Reuters) — At least 10,000 persons were left homeless by a fire which raged through a squatters' colony in Kowloon Wednesday. Two thousand wooden huts were destroyed.

CURIOUS ANIMAL

The natural habitat of the queer-looking Panda bear is above 10,000 feet altitude in the Himalayan mountains.

COAST DISASTER

The 1906 San Francisco earthquake cost 1,500 lives and caused an estimated \$500,000,000 property damage.

made and 13 cards and five boxes sent to sick and shut-ins also five books were read. It was decided to introduce the Temperance Course into the school and send for the prepared lessons.

The program committee then took charge and Mrs. Edward MacMurdo gave a beautiful reading entitled: "Pencenaking is Costly." Mrs. C. B. Goss also gave a reading entitled "The Lord Will Bless His People With Peace." The offering amounted to \$8.50. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Ray MacLeod and the leader will be Mrs. Bloyce Dunning. Dedicatory Prayer will be offered by Mrs. Hugh Campbell. The meeting closed with the "Lord's Prayer" in unison, after which a delicious lunch was served by the hostess.

Albany and Vicinity

Mr. Garth Wood of Albany was a visitor to Bedouque and Summerside recently.

Mr. Leslie McDonald of the Shur-Gain Company motored to Summerside recently on business.

Mr. McLeod of Canadian Packers was a business visitor on Tuesday, Nov. 20, calling at the business houses in North Tryon and Albany.

Mr. Sheldon Dixon, one of our busy general merchants, held a real bargain sale on Nov. 15th to 17th and attracted a lot of business.

Mr. Bert Thompson of North Tryon was a business visitor to Albany recently. Mr. Thompson has recently shipped a large quantity of Purple Top turnips which are his specialty.

Mr. Clayton Thomas of North Tryon recently purchased a new John Brown tractor and three-furrow plow from the firm of Crossman & Bradshaw Ltd. of Albany. Mr. Thomas plans to do custom plowing for this section of the county.

Mr. Max Cope of Albany was a visitor to Tryon and Crapaud on Tuesday, Nov. 23rd. Mr. Cope has handled a large number of capons this season and has just finished marketing some two thousand birds, some weighing as high as nine pounds.

A card party was held at the home of Mrs. E. Dawson of North Tryon on Tuesday, Nov. 20th, with a large group of players attending. All enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to another party sponsored by the North Tryon Women's Institute.

Mr. Morris Larson of Bradford has recently purchased a Cock-shutt heavy duty tractor. Mr. Larsen has hauled some big loads of seaweed, from the shores of Borden covering over five acres with a heavy coat of seaweed and rock weed. This ground is to be planted in potatoes next season.

Mr. Weldon McPadyen and Mr. Vernon Webster of Augustine Cove were recent business visitors to

North Tryon and Albany. Mr. McPadyen is one of Prince County's biggest potato growers, having some seventy acres of spuds in this season. The crop is all stored in his potato warehouse at Carleton Place.

SYDNEY, Australia—(Reuters)—Banned by restrictions from building a welfare club six years ago, a local organization now has received permission to go ahead with the job. There's a snag—the tender for the building has increased from \$23,000 to \$64,000 in six years.

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