

Old Times Recalled

The Daily Mail at the request of a large number of our citizens publishes each day a series of historical sketches dealing with local subjects and written by local historical authors. These have been read before the York and Sunbury Historical Society at various times.

THE PIRATES OF ACADIA
According to the French Archives
—By—
Mrs. Lillian M. Maxwell

The following information about the Pirates of Acadia is taken from two large volumes of French Archives in the possession of the Legislative Library of New Brunswick. These old calf-bound volumes were written by the late Dr. Robb of the University of New Brunswick who, at the expense of the Government of New Brunswick, went to Paris about 1859 and copied them from the originals.

These volumes consist of letters or reports written by the officials in Acadia to their superiors in France. The information given deals with the period between 1654 and 1715. Most of the letters were written from Port Royal. Working through the volumes the reader is struck by the numerous petty complaints of rival seigneurs regarding each other, by the neglect of France of her struggling colony of Acadia, and by the courage and ingenuity displayed by its different governors in carrying on the war with New England enemies, whilst the mother country did not think it worth while to send the amount of supplies, soldiers or ships asked for, thereby forcing the Acadian commanders to make use of the Indians of the wilderness and the pirates that frequented its waters.

To obtain the true perspective of the meaning of the word pirate in the seventeenth century, it is necessary to know that the word was not at that time used with the sense of dishonour it now carries. The conditions of entire isolation, of communication limited to the range of the eye and ear, forced every man to be a law unto himself. In this wilderness where all of necessity lived near the water, a man with a good boat was a person of substance and much in demand. Again in the seventeenth century a soldier received small pay but was expected to take booty for himself from the plunder, the same applied to the men of the ships of war.

The terms pirate, privateer, buccaneer and filibuster are used interchangeably through these archives, though a privateer was a vessel which had been commissioned by the governor to carry on war at the whim and desire of its captain and owner.

Various references are made to privateers' commissions. On the 2nd of November 1694 Governor Villebon wrote from his fort at the junction of the Nashwaak and St. John Rivers, "I gave privateers' commissions to twenty-four buccaneers of the old crew of the Sieurs Baptiste and Robienne,"

and the next summer he wrote from the same Fort Nashouac,—"On the 2nd of June a settler, the Sieur de St. Aubin came and asked me for a commission to take up arms, which I gave him." In 1710 Governor Subercase wrote from Port Royal,—"Several privateers have come this year from the Islands of America," (West Indies) They had commissions from the governors,....as soon as they came here I sent them out with orders and I shall never act otherwise as no other vessels are here and we are obliged to make use of them."

The pirates and privateers hailed from all countries,—Acadia, Upper Canada, Newfoundland, New England, the West Indies and France. In August 1694 Villebon wrote from Fort Nashouac—"On the 15th came twenty Canadians from Quebec on a piratical expedition, I received from them a letter from Count Frontenac." In 1702 DeGoutin, judge at Port Royal, wrote of "the English prisoner captured last year in January by the Sieur Grandjean of Plaisance" (in Newfoundland) "a privateer on his own account." In 1705 acting Governor Bonaventure at Port Royal wrote,—"The English pirates which cruise on our coasts for nine months in the year have prevented me getting the miserable sloop belonging to the Sieur de la Tour" (son of Charles la Tour), and "the said coast being almost deserted on account of the little safety from the pirates of Salim." (Salem). In the same year Bonaventure wrote,—"a frigate arrived from Martinique manned by buccaneers,....The buccaneers after refitting their frigate left to go and cruise off the coast near Boston. I thought I ought not to refuse them the thirty men they asked for because their crew was much weakened. Besides this I wished to enable them to resist the attack of the English guard ships. They returned after taking several prizes.

(To Be Continued)

ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS DETECT HOUSEBREAKER

London, December 20—(B.U.P.)—A new ultra violet ray test solved the identity of a thief who broke a plate-glass window and stole a bottle of whiskey. Splinters of glass found on the suspect's clothing were compared by the ultra-violet ray test with the pieces of glass which made up the broken window. They were found to be of the same make.

New York is to have a 2 percent sales tax, but the authorities have been decent about it. They are also putting up signs showing motorists how to get out of the city.

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Mrs. McNair, wife of J. B. McNair, entertained at her home yesterday in honor of her daughter, Miss Nancy McNair, who was celebrating her ninth birthday. A birthday cake centred the table; a miniature Christmas tree laden with favors, carrying out the theme of Christmas. After supper, games were enjoyed. Mrs. McNair was assisted in serving by her mother, Mrs. W. C. Crockett. Those present were: Leila MacKenzie, Vivyan Hawkins, Frances Ann Wilson, Madeline Bayley, Dorothea Claridge, Annette Murray, Barbara Golding. The house was brightly decorated with Christmas greens.

Mary Pickford was guest of honor at an authors' luncheon recently at the Sherry-Netherland, New York city. The recent publication by H. C. Kinsey of her 5,000-word book, "Why Not Try God?" furnished the occasion, and Zona Gale, novelist and playwright, invited the guests—literary editors, writers and publishers. Although "Why Not Try God?" was Miss Pickford's published book, she said she had been writing professionally since 1912 and that just now she had so many more literary projects in the making that she was thinking of taking a course in shorthand.

The Junior Branch of the Cathedral W. A. held its Christmas closing on Friday evening, Dec. 14, at 7.30 in the Cathedral Memorial Hall. Prizes were awarded to the following: Violet Young and Catharine Greer for perfect attendance for six years; Leota Love and Betty Greer for perfect at-

PERSONAL

The Misses Mary and Christine Holmes, daughters of Very Rev. J. H. A. Holmes, have arrived home to spend their Christmas holidays at the Deanery.

Miss Ruth Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Russell Evans, has returned home to spend her Christmas holidays. Miss Evans is a student at Netherwood.

Miss Marion Dolphin, a student at Netherwood, has returned to her home in Marysville to spend her holidays with her parents.

Miss Marion Hubbard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. W. Hubbard, Burton, is spending her Christmas holidays at her home. Miss Hubbard is a student at Rothesay.

Miss Nancy MacCunn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. MacCunn, is entertaining a number of her friends at a dance Christmas night at the home of her parents. About thirty or more will be present.

Mrs. George E. Ross leaves for Boston tonight to spend the Christmas season with her daughter, Mrs. H. Edward McMahon. Dr. Ross will join her on Monday next.

LIBRARY RENOVATED

The provincial legislative library has lately been undergoing some notable improvements. The walls and woodwork have been painted in buff with a touch of brown, the ensemble being very bright and attractive. Under the supervision of Miss Margaret Evans, librarian the Canadian has been placed together and together with a few attractive flower boxes, the reading room has assumed an air that is homely and inviting.

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tendance for four years; Helen Orchard, Marguerite Orchard and Lora Young for perfect attendance for three years; William Arthurs, perfect attendance for two years; Hazel Dow, Eva Langille, Kathleen Clark, Edith Ward, Lois Horncastle, Betty Langille, Mary Dow, Eleanor Rainsford, Ruth Murray, Louise Langille, Helen Young, Ethel Ward, Joyce Moffat, perfect attendance for one year. A social hour was enjoyed by all.

Brunswick Street Baptist Church B.Y.P.U. recently held its last meeting of the year and an appropriate Christmas programme was presented by a number of the stewardship commission. Miss Lillian Burpee presided and the meeting opened with the singing of Christmas carols. A paper depicting the true Christmas spirit was exceptionally well read by Miss Elizabeth Malloy. Other features on the programme included a vocal solo by Miss Dorothy MacFadden; scripture reading, by Miss Geneva Young, and prayer by Rev. Mr. Guio. At the conclusion of the meeting the young people assisted in greening the church.

AGA KHAN WINS A HUGE SUM IN RACING GAME

London, Dec. 20—(B.U.P.)—The winnings of the six leading owners during the racing season just closed aggregates \$649,080.

The Aga Khas won \$320,000. The highest amount ever won by an owner in a single season in Britain was \$328,018 by Lord Derby in 1928.

It is unusual to find such an extremely successful owner as the Prince Aga Khan without a classic winner during the season. Felicitation won the Gold Cup for him, but chiefly it was his two year-olds that triumphed.

IRON ROAD IS PUDDLE-FREE AND NON-SKID

London, Dec. 20—(B.U.P.)—Motoring tests on a cast-iron road, constructed in a section of the Agricultural Hall at Islington, were witnessed by representatives of public authorities from all parts of Britain the other day.

The road is of studded cast iron on a bed of concrete. Its makers claim that it will last for generations, because cast-iron does not corrode; that it is non-splash and puddle-free as the water drains off between the studs; and that the studs make skidding impossible.

TOLL SYSTEM RE-INTRODUCED BY GERMANS

Berlin, Dec. 20—(B.U.P.)—While every other country in the world is freeing the highway of tolls, Germany is reintroducing the toll system to provide for the cost and maintenance of the network of motor highways now under construction. The tolls will be levied largely on fast and heavy lorries in order not to discourage the private motorist by heavy tolls.

INDIA WANTS DURBAR CROWN

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 20—The Imperial State Crown of India, said to be the most magnificent diadem in the world, may be transferred from the Tower of London to the Viceroy's palace at Delhi.

Many Indians, anticipating the success of the proposed changes in their Empire's Constitution, are agitating for the transfer.

The whole cost of the crown, \$300,000, was borne by the Indian taxpayer. It contains more than 6,170 diamonds, took more than six months to make, and has only been worn once by the King, at the Delhi Durbar.

W. T. Griffin Heads Guides' Association

(Continued from page eight)

treasurer. This is Mr. Griffiths' fifth term of office.

Additional members of the executive committee were elected as follows: B. S. Moore, Andover; Willis Norrad, Boiestown; David Ogilvy, Plaster Rock, comprising those representing camp owners. Those representing non-camp owners are Phil Howard, So. Devon, Fred Edwards, Mouth of Keswick; and Elva Fairley, Boiestown. Mr. Fairley is the only new member of the committee, he having been elected in the place of Elby Hunter who has been appointed a federal fish supervisor.

At this morning's meeting twenty-five more registered bona fide guides were present. Col. H. H. Ritchie, Chief Game Warden, spoke to the members of the association and expressed his appreciation of the co-operation of the guides with his department. He requested that they use careful consideration in any resolutions regarding moose, and spoke very forcibly on the bear question.

It is the general opinion of the guides that the bear is the greatest menace to game animals, especially moose and deer. Every guide reports an alarming increase in bear in all localities. Treasurer D. W. Griffiths received letters from seventeen guides who could not attend the meeting and fifteen of them mentioned bear and the destruction attributed to them. J. Catt, fisheries supervisor, in speaking on the bear problem stated that they were a menace to the fish of the province as well as the game animals.

F. Cedric Cooper, secretary of the N. B. Fish and Game Protective Association, expressed the opinion that the two associations had practically the same views. He dispersed the prevalent idea that the Fish and Game Protective Association were seeking protection of the game for themselves and emphatically stated that his asso-



MORE SHOPPING DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Unsuccessful Death

BUCHAREST, Dec. 20—Ilja Dancu, a Rumanian counterfeiter, died a disappointed man.

When arrested he managed to swallow a quantity of alcohol and then he placed a burning match to his mouth. He died from the resultant burns, but failed to explode as he had hoped.

ciation was far from selfish in its views and attitude.

The question of dogs killing game was discussed at some length and it was agreed that some method of identifying dogs in the woods is necessary. The association supported a movement which will necessitate the tagging of dogs and in the event of a dog being found in the woods the owner will be prosecuted and the dog disposed of.

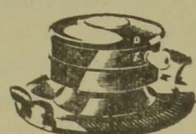
Treasurer D. W. Griffiths, presented the annual report of the Association's Activities and the financial report.

G. L. Miller, Chief Forester spoke this afternoon and impressed upon the guides the value of the forests. He expressed his appreciation for the co-operation that the guides have given his department and urged them to try to co-operate even more if it were possible.

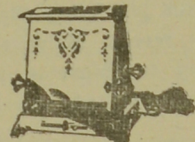
Today's session, which concludes the annual meeting, will come to a close late this afternoon.

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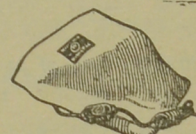
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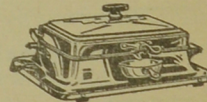
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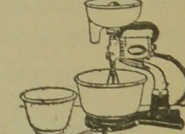
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