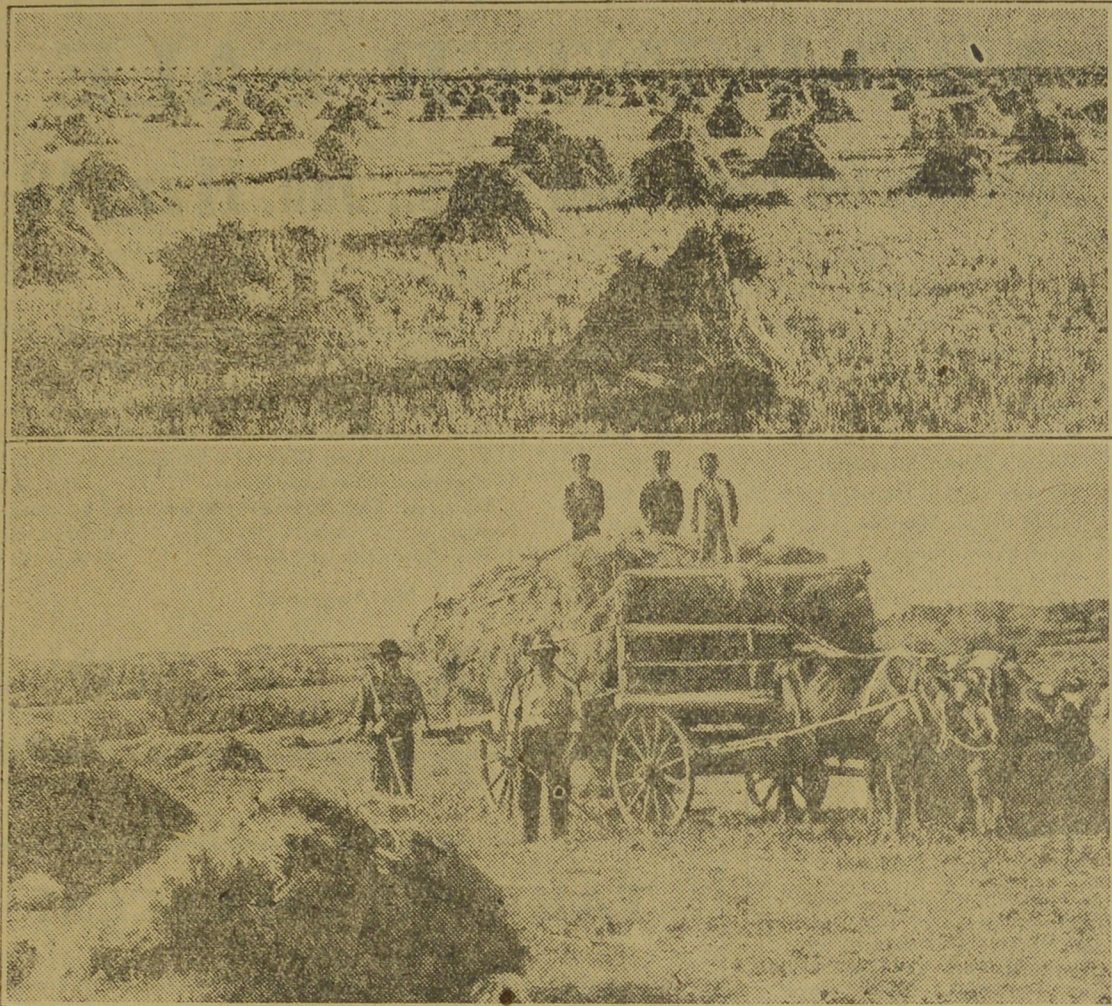


## C.P.R. Makes Grain History



In handling the Canadian banner grain harvest of 1925, the Canadian Pacific Railway has established record after record in the marketing and loading of grain so that the figures for the current year constitute a record not only for Canada but for the world.

A. Hatton, general superintendent of transportation of the system, has issued a report covering the movement of grain on Canadian Pacific western lines from August 1 up to midnight Friday, December 18. It is shown that on one day, Friday, November 20, 3,559,000 bushels of grain were marketed and on Friday, November 13, 1,994 cars containing approximately 2,921,000 bushels of grain were loaded. In the twenty-four hours of that day this represents 83 cars loaded every hour or a little more than one and one-third cars per minute.

Usually marketings and loadings take a sudden drop with the approach of the close of navigation but this year there was little diminution as the report shows loadings on December 8 at 1,425 cars.

Despite adverse weather conditions in the month

of October which retarded threshing, marketings up to December 18 on Canadian Pacific western lines totalled 160,519,000 bushels of wheat and 36,345,590 bushels of coarse grains. During the same period 118,160 cars carrying approximately 173,104,000 bushels were loaded. Of this loading, 9,000 cars went to Vancouver, and a considerable amount was absorbed by interior flour mills, but the great bulk went to the head of the lakes, Fort William and Port Arthur, passing through the Winnipeg yards, including North Transcona, the largest individual yards in the world having a capacity of 10,000 cars.

From there the movement was over a 420 mile stretch of double track line to the lake front and on this run some records were also made, the highest number of loads moved eastward in any one day being 1,640. The daily average was in numbers of four figures.

The arrangements made by the Canadian Pacific Railway for the conveyance of the crop worked smoothly and there was not a single case of car shortage justifying the provisions made in the way of up-to-date facilities and heavy freight power.

## COL. H. C. BLAIR OF TRURO, N.S. DESCRIBES THE ROARING GAME; EXCITING MATCH RECALLED

(Halifax Chronicle.)

A game played in Scotland on the ice. A very popular game, evidenced by the fact that it is uproariously engaged in by all classes of people. Peers and peasants, tradesmen, and all classes of the people, mingle together on the ice enjoying the game. Such is the definition of the game of curling in the encyclopaedia.

Now it is a game played all over the North American continent, in Switzerland, in the Maritime Alps, and other countries, as well as Scotland. Of course, it is a great leveller of ranks in the Old Country. Newer countries are more democratic. A story is told of a crowd of curlers on the way by train to a Scottish loch to engage in a bonspiel. One Scotsman looking over the draw as to the opposing rinks, said to his neighbor, a blacksmith, "I see Geordie ya are drawn to play against a Lord the Day." "A' weel," said Geordie, "mebbe I'll be the Lord afore night."

Another blacksmith, a keen curler, in his wife's opinion, was devoting too much time to the roaring game, and intimated as much to him. "Hoot woman dinna ye ken it's too cauld to do blacksmithin'?" Taking his wife out to the forge he heated a piece of steel to a white heat and struck it with his hammer. Of course the steel produced such a shower of sparks the wife was convinced her husband was truthful, and away he went to the loch.

Driving around that most beautiful loch, Linnithgow, in the summer of 1897, in company with a resident of Bo'ness, a keen curler, he said: "Ay mon, that's where we curl in winter." I inquired if they got much curling there. Well, generally four or five days each winter, but some years none at all. He thought it would be a fine thing to send a team out to Canada, but was afraid the Canadians would not be in it with curlers from a country originating the game. However since sending out several teams to this country the originators of the game have revised their opinion of the players in Canada and the United States.

Why is it that although there are an infinitely greater number of curlers in America than in Scotland, that all curling stones are manufactured in Scotland; all the best books on the history of the game have been written by Scotsmen in Scotland, and the acknowledged dictator of the rules of the game is the Royal Canadian Curling Club of Edinburgh, Scotland? The late Dr. Henry Luncar's song on the subject has never been excelled. The chief characteristic of the game have been packed into one single stanza, viz:

"There draw a shot; there lay a guard;  
And here beside him lie me;  
Now let him feel a gamester's hand;  
Now in this bosom lie, man;  
There fill the port, and block the ice;  
We sit upon tee, man;  
Now take this luvick sharp and neat;  
And make this winner flee, man."

### A Crack Curler.

Among the curlers of the present day are a number who will remember the old timers. Perhaps the greatest curler in his day in the Maritime Provinces, if not in the Dominion, was Dan. Macdonald, who died a few weeks ago. As far back as 1876 there came for itself, and Dan. Macdonald Macdonald, Dan. Sutherland, Dan. Hyslop, and Dan. Ives. That rink made a man for itself, and Dan. Macdonald was the skip. A great ring general he was, and also a great curler. He and the late John Yorston led the Pictou curlers to many a victory. They were practically invincible in their home rink and hard to beat elsewhere. Probably one of the greatest games ever played was fought in Saint John, N. B., some thirty years ago, between Pictou and the Thistles of St. John, for the McLellan Cup.

At the end of the last end played the game was a tie all around. Another end was played, the result being still a tie. A second end, and still a tie. Then a third end was played, and the excitement, already great, was brought to the straining point. When Dan. Macdonald went down to play his last stone the Thistles were lying two. Yorston's rink had finished, one up. Unless Dan. could remove the winners the game was lost. The winners were almost guarded, in fact the port was too narrow for a stone to carry through on its bottom. What was to be done? Dan. decided that he would have to take a chance with one of his celebrated wobbly shots. That meant his stone must be sent up the ice wobbling or rocking as it went. Amid breathless silence Dan. cleaned

off the bottom of his stone, flung down his broom and took up his position for the shot. He delivered the stone fairly and squarely with all his power for the narrow port. It had the proper amount of wobble, and as luck would have it, careened through the port at the proper angle and took out both St. John stones. Of course, the Pictou boys nearly went wild over the winning. Staid old John Yorston lay down on the ice and rolled from one end of the rink to the other.

The Pictou club is one of the oldest in the Dominion. One of the finest curlers in Winnipeg, Bob Dunbar, was a native of Pictou. For years he held the premier position among the curlers of that curling city.

### Made Great Strides.

Curling has made wonderful strides in Canada, and particularly in the West. Last winter a rink of Winnipeg curlers came to Ontario and Quebec and cleaned up every match played, and that easily. It was the Wood brothers' rink winners in the big Winnipeg bonspiel. The winning of the premier honors in that event alone would stamp them as the finest curlers in the world.

The long, steady cold winters of the West gives the curlers an advantage in the way of practice which the Eastern curlers do not get.

One thing I could never comprehend is the fact that Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa and several other smaller places in Central Canada cling to the use of irons in the game. The irons are much heavier and the game much slower than the granite game. Then they are practically isolated respecting inter-provincial matches. Toronto has several curling clubs, all using the granites. The game as played in Scotland is with the granite stones. In the Maritime Provinces, and all through Ontario and the West, where every town has its curling club, granites are used. So in the United States the orthodox granites are used. I believe a curling philanthropist in Montreal made the curlers of that iron city a gift of ten thousand dollars worth of granites in the hope they would conform to the rest of the curling world and cast off the heavier iron "stones."

In another article I shall have something to say about another Pictou County club which made a name for itself in the Dominion by winning the Governor-General's trophy twice at Ottawa, a feat only equalled by the celebrated Lindsay Club of Ontario.

## LOBSTER POTS NEGLECTED; TURN TO BOTTLE FISHING

New York, Jan. 7.—Because the public is willing to pay from \$50 to \$500 for the model of a ship, old salts of the North Coast, who in the summer wrest a precarious living from the sea by fishing, dipping lobsters or digging clams, are now spending their winters profitably. The high-priced models shown by the art stores are the product of the spare time of these ancient mariners.

To the untechnical eye, the miniature ships with the big price tags may look crude. In reality, the models are exact reproductions of ships that in by-gone days brought prestige to the American merchant marine. Many of them are models of clipper ships, those winged messengers that not only sailed to all the ports of the Seven Seas, but did it often in time that approximates that made in these prosaic days of steam. The painting also follows that of the old ships.

Hence, in establishing the selling price, the acute dealers not only take into consideration the hand work but the historical associations as well.

Being on maritime subjects, the discussion of lobsters might be included. Lobsters are not what they used to be. They are smaller and higher-priced. In fact, the lobster according to those who catch, buy or sell them, is fast becoming extinct. Pollution of coastal waters is the main factor in the disappearance of this crustacean. Another is prohibition. In the season when lobsters are most abundant, bottle fishing is far more profitable than hauling lobster pots. Thus many of the lobster fishermen change their occupations and carry the pots only as decoys. At any rate, the lobster fishing in this vicinity is over for the season. And in addition on the word or diggers, "clams are running bad," which is further unpleasant news for lovers of sea food.

## POTATO PRICES IN THE WEST TAKE SLUMP

Chicago, Jan. 10.—Up to date 1,374 carloads of Canadian potatoes, duty paid, have rivalled domestic potatoes. It is officially stated here and after outdoing all recent high price records, the humble potatoes are taking a graceful curve downward again, a little nearer to the ordinary pocket book level.

Fifty per cent. increase of potato shipments the last week appears to be responsible.

A report today from the Government Bureau of Agriculture Economics says that the heavier shipments this week as compared with the week previous were induced by the strong market and by more moderate weather.

According to the official report highest prices of season for potatoes came on the last day of 1925 when some Maine growers received \$4.35 a hundred pounds wholesale, at home stations against 65 cents a year ago.

### SPECIAL ATTRACTION AT GAIETY THEATRE

"We Moderns" is the photo play at the Gaiety for Monday and Tuesday featuring Colleen Moore.

The pretty Colleen is the most modern of the jazzy younger set about whom the story revolves. And the setting runs true to modernist form in that it is depicted as a wild party aboard a Zeppelin air cruiser.

It is an unusual picture from a scenic standpoint with an exceptionally well laid plot and well told story. London furnishes the background and no single thrill of excitement has been overlooked in the filming of the picture. Colleen's followers should be pleased with its action and the opportunity it affords her to display her talents.

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He never did wrong things like me  
And when mother was very small  
She was as good as good can be.

To know it makes me sorry when  
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But this I cannot understand:  
Why does it make my grandma smile?

MAXINE CHAPMAN

"All A-I-o-e!" wailed the maiden  
at the piano.  
"No wonder!" snarled the sleep  
less man next door.