

COAST TO COAST TOUR TO BE MADE BY LORD DARLING

Montreal, Que., Aug. 28—An extensive tour of Canada extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific has been arranged by the Right Hon. Lord Darling, the eminent English jurist, who has planned to see as much as possible of the Dominion during his stay in this country. During all of his travel by land in Canada the distinguished visitor will be conveyed over the lines of the Canadian National Railways and while travelling he will be accompanied by C. K. Howard, General Tourist Agent of the system.

On disembarking at Quebec on Sunday afternoon, Lord Darling will cross the river to Levis to embark on the Maritime Express proceeding eastward after transferring at Moncton the travellers will arrive at Saint John on Monday afternoon. Following the sessions of the Canadian Bar Association at Saint John, Lord Darling will leave the latter city on the morning of Saturday, September 4, on the way to Halifax. From Halifax Lord Darling will leave by the Ocean Limited on Monday morning, September 6, arriving at Bonaventure station in Mont-

real, the following morning, Tuesday and Wednesday will be spent in this city and on the night of September 8, the visitor will start on his westerly journey by the Continental Limited of the Canadian National Railways. Winnipeg will be reached on the night of September 10 and on the night of the 12th Lord Darling will set off for Jasper and two days will be devoted to the delights of the National Park. After resuming his westward journey Lord Darling will arrive in Vancouver on the morning of Sept. 17 after spending Friday in Vancouver and Saturday and part of Sunday in Victoria. Lord Darling will begin his return journey on Sept. 19. He will be in Edmonton during Sept. 21 and 22 and will spend eight hours in Winnipeg on the 23rd and will then travel by the National to Toronto arriving in the latter city on the morning of Sept. 25th. A day will be spent at Niagara Falls after which Lord Darling will return to Toronto during the 27th leaving on the night of the 28th for Ottawa. A day will be spent in the capital and Lord Darling will return to Montreal on the morning of Sept. 30, arriving at Bonaventure station at 11.50 a. m.

First Stage Hand—What's the Lady Magician so excited about.
Second Stage Hand—She can't find her vanishing cream!

ROD AND GUN.

A collection of articles of real sport in various parts of the Dominion sums up the contents of the September issue of Rod and Gun, the Canadian sport magazine, which is just published.

An interesting article on some moose experiences, principally in Eastern Canada by William J. McNulty appears followed by an amusing story of a British Columbia trip, "Poor Fish," by C. J. Broderick, Bonnycastle Dale in this latest issue deals with some experiences. "Living at Close Quarters With the Moose of Nova Scotia," J. W. Winslow writes an interesting study of the Saw Whet and Screech owls.

Fishing Notes, the regular department edited by G. P. Sladen contains several articles of diversified angling interest and C. S. Landis' Guns and Ammunition department carries a number of instructive articles for the shooter. In the contents is also a good article on the slaughter of ducks by floating oil on Hamilton Bay.

Rod and Gun is published monthly by W. J. Taylor, Limited, Woodstock, Ont.

Some gentlemen prefer blondes, and on the other hand, or arm, some prefer brunettes.

CUSTARD PIES ARE REAL IN MOVIE SLAPSTICK; THE FILM INDUSTRY CHANGES FOR BETTER

They sing about the good old days but Ford Sterling, star-comedian of the films, says that people don't know when they are well off. He, for his part, wouldn't go back to the old days of pictures for anything, writes Marjory Adams in the Boston Globe.

A little less than two years ago the papers ran a little announcement that Ford Sterling had deserted two-reel comedies in favor of being featured in full length programme pictures. At that time Sterling was well-known, primarily as a man who had weathered many a storm in Hollywood and remained in slapstick comedy from the early custard-pie days. He certainly was no star of the first magnitude, nor even approaching it.

Today Mr. Sterling has his own company in the Famous Players' studio as Astoria, Long Island. He is a very important person, indeed. Such stage stars as Gregory Kelly play minor roles in his films and are mighty pleased to get the chance.

Is it any wonder that Mr. Sterling doesn't sit around the studio begging time to turn back in his flight, even for a night. No, Mr. Sterling is satisfied with things as they are.

No Doubles as Daredevils Then.

For one thing, Mr. Sterling says that in the old days they didn't have the pleasing custom of getting doubles to do the dangerous work. In those days a poor actor had to do all the dirty work himself, and the only thing he got out of it was his hospital bills if he was injured during a premature explosion or a flivver accident that proved too realistic. Nowadays one reads in the paper that John A. Smith who was doubling for Gloria Swanson or Marion Davies or somebody else, was killed in a regrettable accident when the aforesaid Mr. Smith was umping a bridge or doing a double somersaults down a cliff. Mr. Smith's family, if he had any, which is not often, collects a nice bit of insurance or damages, and another double is secured. But the actors actually worked for their money in the days when the films were still young.

For instance, once Mr. Sterling got blown up and he was in the hospital 116 weeks. It nearly caused the company to go into bankruptcy, for Mr. Sterling was then making the large sum of \$100 a week, as the star, and the company had to pay his salary just the same. If he had been an extra he would have been lucky to get his hospital bills.

Pies Had Jelly in Them.

When I interviewed Mr. Sterling he was wearing the flashy clothes and jewelry of the leading character in "The Show-off." It is Mr. Sterling's new starring vehicle. The poor man had a headache, however, due to the incessant banging of the hammers used on the studio set.

Just when Mr. Sterling would think of a nice story to tell me the hammers would begin banging again and it would go out of his head entirely. We were yelling questions and answers at each other, so that by the time the interview was finished we were both in a state of collapse. "Do you wonder that I want to get back to Hollywood," mourned Mr. Sterling. "Out there things go more smoothly. I shall shortly have a nervous breakdown if I have to work with so much noise many more months."

Bang! Bang! Bang! It was the hammering again, so I couldn't sympathize properly. But in an interim I asked a question which I have always longed to know. "Did you get hit with real pies in the days of the pie-throwing comedies?"

Mr. Sterling brightened up a bit—happy to recollect that those days were in the dear, dim, distant past.

"The custard pies were real," he said. "We bought them from a nearby bakery, at wholesale prices. We used the cheapest custard pies in Hollywood. The baker who made his pies of the cheapest ingredients always got our trade. I think they cost 10 cents retail."

"The other pies were usually made in the studio. The pie crust was real—and made as cheaply as possible. The fillings were something else again. I don't know just what ingredients were used, but there was a kind of jelly, which made the pies stick when you got hit with one. It was a great life."

Mack Sennett Took Him From Stage. Mr. Sterling was born in LaCrosse, Wis. He went to school at various places, completing his education at the University of Notre Dame, in South Bend, Ind.

Between times, Mr. Sterling had started his theatrical career, however, by running away and joining a circus. He took the part of Keno, the Boy

Clown, and he managed to make quite a reputation.

Having commenced his theatrical career, it was not difficult for him to continue in the same fields, and Mr. Sterling was very soon playing comedy roles on the stage. He toured for several years with a repertory company, and, as did so many of the prominent actors of the stages, appeared in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" all over the country. One of his Broadway plays, in which he won commendation, was "Sidewalk Chatter."

It was on the stage that Mack Sennett saw him. Mr. Sennett was developing his extraordinary group of comedians at that time, and he immediately asked Mr. Sterling to become one of the number.

Mr. Sterling saw possibilities in the films. He accepted Mr. Sennett's offer and went to Hollywood. His first comedy made him decide that he was all wrong and that he had made a tremendous mistake in leaving Broadway.

"I thought the comedy was terrible, and I looked like a ghost," declared Sterling.

"I couldn't see how anyone could laugh at me. Just watching myself made me feel as if I were at a funeral."

Public Funny—He Isn't.

Incidentally Mr. Sterling still believes that the public must be a little strange. "I've caught a whole theatre full of people laughing at me, and there must be something wrong," he said. "I'm not really funny, you know. Each time I see myself on the screen, I realize that I'm a rotten comedian. And then the public continues laughing and I get some more fan letters. I can't understand it, and so I have given up trying."

Playing with Keystone Comedies and in his own company, Mr. Sterling gave hundreds of characterizations to the screen. He was a chief of police one week, a father the next. The third week he would be a lover—and each role was played in broad burlesque. Pretty soon the old custard-pie comedies began to lose their appeal to a surfeited theatregoing public. Audiences were "fed up" with it, according to Mr. Sterling.

Hence the desire of Mr. Sterling to do something else. He determined to be the comedy relief in dramatic films. Chester Conklin is another old-timer who has made good in this sort of work. But Mr. Sterling builded better than he knew. After playing comedy relief in such films as "He Who Gets Slapped," "The American Venus" and "Miss Brewster's Millions" he was signed to star in his own pictures of featured length.

Think Chaplin is Best.

"The whole industry has changed, said the comedian. "We've progressed in every way, particularly financially. I think the best part of the affair is that I, myself, get more money. That's the big thing, isn't it? But it does give you a thrill to know they are paying \$90,000 or so to get you the film rights to a certain picture. A few years ago no story in the world was worth \$5,000 to the film producers."

Mr. Sterling believes Charlie Chaplin is the greatest comedian on the screen, bar none. "He can be funny in every situation. He's a scream when he doesn't do a thing," said Sterling. "Harold Lloyd may be a big box-office success, but he gets by through the gags. Charlie is a genuine funny man."

Despite the years Mr. Sterling has been on the films, he is not a veteran in any sense of the word, except in experience.

The other day a matron in Oshkosh approached Mr. Sterling. "I used to think you were so funny when I was a little girl," she giggled. "When I was only five, I used to go to see you on the screen."

Mr. Sterling glanced expertly at the woman, gaged her age with accuracy, but did not call her a prevaricator as he wished he might. Instead he bowed gallantly and answered, "I am flattered, but it wasn't me you went to see; it was my father."

CAN THIS BE LOVE?

Can this be love that so exerts This pressure underneath my shirts That thrusts so strongly 'gainst my heart,

That I can feel it burn and smart? Alas, I feel it may be so, But still I do not surely know And in my mind there is a question If it is not just indigestion.

Mr. Biltmore (hiring chauffeur)—Are you a sober man?

Applicant—That depends on the salary, sir.

OPTOMETRISTS DEFEND SHADE FOR THE EYES

(Toledo Blade.)

Eastern optometrists who say the constant use of eyeshades by out-of-doors persons has harmed their eyes, are all wrong, in the opinion of Toledo members, of their profession.

"Rays of light that are necessary to produce a healthy stimulus to the eye are cut off and the eye soon loses its ability to function as nature intended," a Massachusetts optometrist is quoted in a wire dispatch.

"I don't believe there's anything to that," said O. L. Altenberg, 605 Madison avenue, president of the Toledo Academy of Optometry.

"These eyeshades are of green, and that color has a soothing effect on the eye. Nature intended that this should be so, because the trees and the grass are green."

"Red, on the other hand, irritates the human retina, and infuriates many animals. I don't think these eyeshades do a bit of harm."

Another Toledo optometrist, Robert R. Reedy, Ohio building, takes a similar view.

"Early man had a huge head of hair and bushy eyebrows," he pointed out. "The hair and brows protected his eyes from glare. Now that he has lost this abundant growth, something is necessary to take its place, and the eyeshade fits in very nicely. If the eyeshade is harmful, so is a cap, hat, or anything else with a visor."

HAVE THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT

Hollywood, Cal., Aug. 29—The old fashioned parlor with puritanical atmosphere is no place to stage a modern love scene even in a picture film.

The background for a scene embracing amorous liberties must be in sophisticated harmony not to offend picture audiences.

"Coarse, boorish love in a castle would appear ludicrous on the screen," said Charles Cadwallader, art director at the Metropolitan studios here. "A specific form of love scene in the films loses much of its suggestion when it is made secondary to a room design that is ultra-daring."

"American audiences have come to a point where they accept certain types of love as being possible only in a distinctive environment."

JAIL BREAKERS COMING EAST

Machias, Me., Aug. 26—Sheriff Cummings, who has his force of deputies assisted by the state police looking for the five prisoners who broke out of jail here by sawing the bar of a window, on Tuesday night, believes that he is on a warm trail, the men having been seen near Wesley about 25 miles from here. They are evidently headed for Canada. They came out to a roadside lunch room and bought some food.

Mrs. Howard—I want a necklace to send my niece whom I neglected at commencement time.

Jeweler's Clerk—Something in graduated pearls would be appropriate, madam.—Life.

NOTICE

TENDERS FOR SOFT COAL

Sealed tenders, marked "Tenders for Soft Coal" will be received at the Provincial Department of Public Works, Fredericton, N. B., up to and including September 1st, 1926 at 5 o'clock P. M., for supplying 765 tons of New Brunswick soft coal for the Provincial Government Buildings at Fredericton, distributed as follows:

215 tons for the Legislative Bldg.
150 tons for the Agricultural Bldg.
200 tons for the Normal School (Main)
150 tons for the Normal School (Annex)
35 tons for the Health Dept. Bldg.
15 tons for the Road Engineers Office Bldg.

The coal to be of highest quality, properly screened with screen of not less than 5/8 inch mesh, to be shipped not later than September 20th, 1926. Price must be quoted per ton on cars at Fredericton. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

D. A. STEWART,
Minister of Public Works
for New Brunswick.
Dept. of Public Works,
Fredericton, N. B.,

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