

MAPPING THE COUNTRY SIDE OF THE DOMINION A CONTRAST TO FRONTIER SURVEYING

In a new country such as Canada, where pioneering conditions have been and still are accepted as part of our national life, the surveyor stands out as one of our romantic figures. His place in the popular mind is in the vanguard of progress, along with the discoverer and explorer, the fur-trader and all those whose efforts go toward the initial development of our unopened lands. In the colonization period after Confederation he played a major part. During these formative years of our country's growth he was entrusted with the distinctly important task of subdividing the untracked expanses of Canada's West into farm units, a work which was carried out by the organization now known as the Topographical Survey, Department of the Interior. He was ever crowded by the increasing waves of settlement behind him and ever alive to the necessity of keeping ahead of them.

Occupied with such an urgent task wherein time counted for so much, he could not allow himself to be delayed in his work by attempting much beyond the actual immediate requirements. Thus it was, for instance, that he could not take time to record topographical data except in so far as the main purpose at hand was affected. That would have to wait until some more opportune time.

Pioneer Explorer.

Now that opportune time is at hand

The surveyor has not yet given up the role of pioneer explorer, indeed for many years to come he must still play that role, but some of the effort that formerly went toward surveying farms for incoming settlers can now be turned to the equally important work of providing detailed topographical maps of settled areas as a necessary element in our national development.

The collection of the field information preliminary to the issue of such maps is a work of an admittedly different order from that of land subdivision. The camp of a surveyor engaged upon such work in settled country would present a different atmosphere to that of the subdivision survey camp on the frontier. Just as the farmer in the older districts no longer wends his slow way with oxen or in prairie schooners so also the surveyor in mapping the same localities has eliminated from his camp the pack-horses or train-dogs and other features that distinctly belong to frontier surveying.

Your modern surveyor, engaged in mapping the countryside makes use of the motor car—he can speed up his work thereby—and he has found it convenient to include in his outfit such items as folding stoves, folding beds, folding tables, and folding seats. Indeed, everything that can be carried, fully folded and reduced to the ultimate

limit of its "collapsibility". Yet with all these elaborations of modern science and invention, the shelters of the survey parties still remain as mobile as the sheepskin tents of the nomad Israelites in the days of Abraham.

The Equipment.

The usual equipment of the mapping party includes a chief's tent, a cook-tent which would probably also be a dining tent, perhaps another for stores, a number of sleeping tents and an office tent. In this unit, next to the chief himself it is commonly stated that the cook is the most important personage. Certainly he possesses capabilities far beyond those of any other member of the party for rendering camp life a pleasure or the reverse.

It is the office staff, however, who have made the greatest change in converting the primitiveness of the former survey camp to its present state. Their canvas office is not the less efficient in that its folding standing desk may be homemade, and that perhaps an oblong case, somewhat resembling a coffin on legs, which carries the instruments when the camp is on the trek, may do service as a bench. As a rule two draftsmen comprise the office staff. Their duty it is to check up the work of the topographers and make the necessary computations so that when the field work is completed the actual process of compiling and plotting the finished map at Ottawa will not be delayed by unnecessary checking of field data. Their equipment usually comprises plotting machines, mathematical tables, slide rules, and other drafting appurtenances, with possibly a typewriter, a stereoscopic drawing board for use

in the interpretation of aerial photographs and a high-powered gasoline lamp, the latter an invaluable aid for working at night. There are filing racks for field notes, correspondence, and aerial photographs (a modern aid in mapping, largely developed in Canada).

When it is remembered that camp must be moved far and frequently, without undue loss of time, the necessity for an orderly and businesslike system must be apparent. And this system permeates every detail of the camp life from the disposal of refuse to the care of delicate instruments, from the cook's "roll out" at five in the morning often until the "wee sma' hours" when all calculations on the field notes for the previous day have been completed and checked.

Since we are past the days when the only knowledge considered necessary about land was the location of its boundaries, the value of these surveys can scarcely be over-estimated. The resulting maps showing topographical features, particularly in a young country such as Canada, can enter into so many phases of its development that the wonder often is that they are not used more. And though these maps may not appear to have in them much that lies beyond the realms of the matter-of-fact, the data therefor has not been gathered without interesting incidents of all kinds in the "moving accidents of flood and field."

Before grating lemons wash them in a basin of lukewarm water for the outside of a lemon is anything but clean and if put under a microscope it will be discovered to have tiny black specks on it which are the minute eggs of an insect.

WIFE ASKS BIG ALIMONY BOOST

New York, Jan. 21.—Mrs. Josephine Parke Tearle, first wife of Conway Tearle, motion picture actor, has filed notice in White Plains supreme court, asking that her alimony be increased from \$75 to \$750 a week. Tearle has been married three times and is paying alimony to two of his former wives.

MIST ON THE MOUNTAINS

(From Christian Science Monitor)
Like smoke from jeweled caldrons
At dawn the mists arise
To hide familiar mountains
Crown usual to our eyes
As if one worked in magic
With veils of mystery
To make us, by denial
Have eagerness to see.

The veils drift back in silver—
Across the vasts of air—
And we behold the mountains
We always knew were there.
But each time with new wonder
We see heights shining clear
Of mists each time discover
New cause for being there.

Whole Wheat Muffins.

- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1-2 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons sugar
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- 1 tablespoon melted butter

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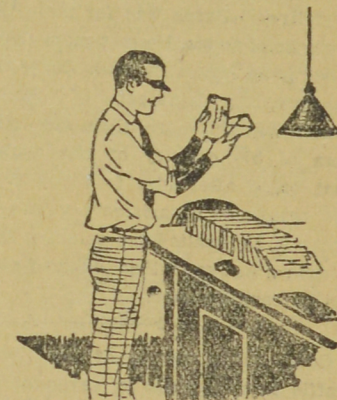
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BLUNDERS



WHY IS THIS WRONG?

One of the many annoyances that the postal service has to contend with is the receipt of bundles of carelessly sealed letters, many of which are stuck together. Since letters can be run through the cancelling machines only one at a time, all those stuck together must first be pulled apart by some postal employee. This may result in mutilation of the addresses or in placing the letters to one side until other mail has been handled.

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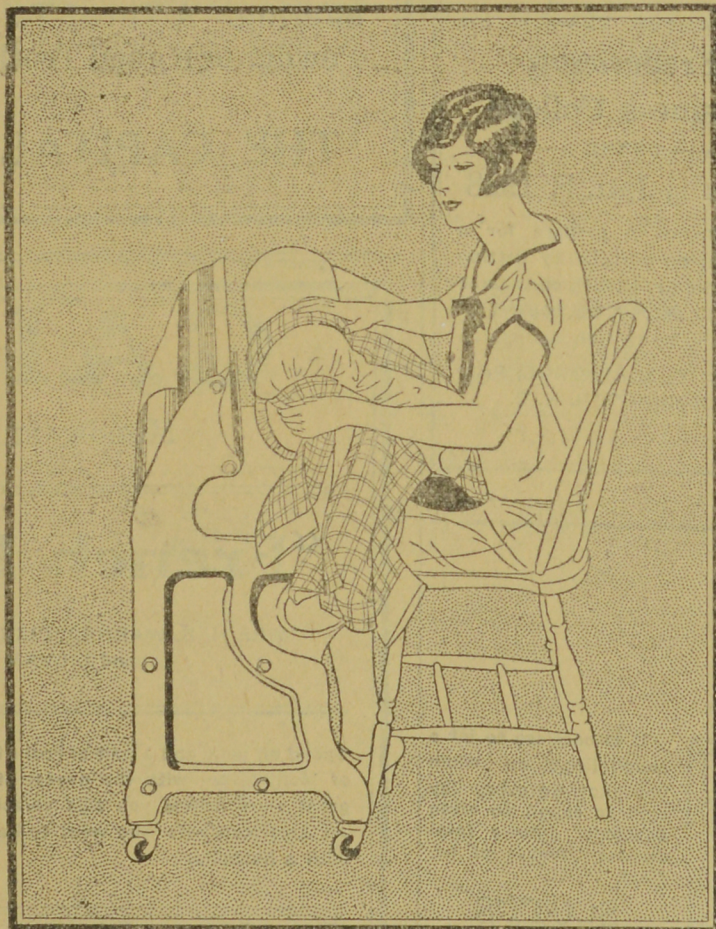
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