

## PASSION PLAY PUT ON BY CITIZENS OF QUEBEC VILLAGE OF ST. JEROME ATTRACTS THOUSANDS OF VISITORS

In a thriving Quebec town of less than 10,000 people, 500 of the population have, day after day, for the last four summers, presented a conception of the Passion that bids fair to become famous. The great presentation at Omer-Ammergau is put on every tenth year. At St. Jerome, Quebec, it is an annual event.

Played entirely by people of the town, it is also a production of a townsman, Father Jean d'Avila Ethier, vicar of the parish, but a native of Montreal.

Year after year it has attracted thousands of visitors. This summer it is proving more popular than ever.

It was feelings with of misgiving, if not, indeed, trepidation, that approach was made on a Sunday not long ago to the field on the outskirts of St. Jerome, the location of the Passion Play, says a visitor who was curious to know what could be done with such a great subject in a town of this size.

From the first there had been a question in one's mind as to the ability of residents in a comparatively small, yet thoroughly enterprising and progressive community adequately to produce a series of scenes intended to depict some of the incidents and recall the main idea of the great and sublime drama.

There was no question, however, as to the faith of these people, nor as to the sincerity of their motives; yet a stranger learning of the intention might well be pardoned for a feeling of doubt, or of even frank scepticism.

One has frequently seen trained professional actors fail in attempting to convey the message of the playwright to the audience. How then could it be expected of the inhabitants of a town, half rural, half industrial, that amongst them could be found individuals capable of taking up the task of presenting a drama regarded as far beyond the powers of accomplished artists?

But there does exist the faith that moves mountains, and in this instance it was there to animate the good people of St. Jerome, with the result that they were enabled to produce a series of remarkable tableaux and to sustain the narrative in a spirit of reverence and sincerity which made itself manifest to a large audience, and left every member of that audience deeply impressed by the atmosphere of thorough truth which prevailed.

This visitor does not assert that the production was flawless, or incapable of improvement; he does not pretend that his verdict should go for all who view the production, but he is convinced that it is really an astonishing achievement when all the factors and the environment are taken into consideration.

It is well to recall that the individuals who each decade produce the world-famous spectacle at Ober-Ammergau are simple natives and residents of the village, yet their faith and sincerity give to their loved task an atmosphere of conviction impossible of achievement by mere stagecraft not so inspired.

Rather contrary to the tradition that has been developed at Ober-Ammergau, an advocate was chosen for the role of The Divine Master, while to a good house-wife and matron of St. Jerome was entrusted the role of The Virgin. A sister of the priest-producer assumed the part of the Magdalen, and as for the other characters, their impersonators came from various walks of life. Peter, for instance, in private life is a tailor's cutter; Judas works in a meat-packing plant, while others in their working hours may be found at the bench in the factory or at the desk.

But all these individuals carried with them a most earnest desire to offer the impersonation with which they were entrusted sincerely, and that spirit overcame obstacles, and has resulted eventually in the admirable performance which may be witnessed at St. Jerome.

The religious drama prepared by Father Ethier consists of five acts and 25 tableaux. The events of the Annunciation, the Birth, and the Flight are dealt with in a prologue

consisting of three tableaux. The principal events before and after the Crucifixion are shown chiefly by well arranged groupings, along with sufficient narrative to tell the story. The producer has brought to his aid professional stage electricians, such help being really essential to obtain the proper effects in lighting.

Good taste and no small artistic skill have been displayed in the design and making of costumes. They provide a wealth of color, so that strikingly effective pictures are obtained by judicious groupings of the individuals. The triumphal entry into Jerusalem is quite a masterpiece.

Productions of the Passion Play continue each summer until the end of September, and the event is well established as a part of the summer program of communal attractions at St. Jerome.

It might be well to present a picture of the community and the people who aspired to present the Passion Play for the first time in Canada on such a scale. St. Jerome dates back to 1832, when it was a missionary post. Five years later, in 1837, it became a parish with a church. It grew gradually and, in 1881, rose to the dignity of acquiring a charter as a town. The population is less than 10,000.

The town is situated astride the North River, just 38 miles from Montreal on the Laurentian Mountains line of the Canadian National Railways, which starts from the Tunnel Terminal in the Metropolitan and continues on to Huberdeau. The North River is a picturesque stream originating in the mountains and flowing down eventually to join the Ottawa River at St. Andrew's East. It is frequently boisterous and turbulent, sometimes widening to calm, lake-like stretches, now and then tumbling over rocky ledges, and always delightful to the eye. In its tumbling downhill journey the North River turns many a wheel, and helps to generate a plentiful supply of electrical energy. At St. Jerome it develops a measure of horse-power which has attracted several important industries, thus making the place one of the leading rural communities of Quebec Province.

The inhabitants are industrious and contented, and their ambitions and aspirations centre largely in their own town. The contentment of the population and picturesqueness of the locality were factors that influenced Father Ethier, the vicar of the parish, to attempt the performance of "Le Saint de Monde"—"The Salvation of the World"—the work arranged by himself. It is a paraphrase of the Gospel narrative of The Passion.

Father Ethier is a native of this city, a priest of culture who also possesses the advantages of travel. He is also a musician of ability.

He confided his aspirations to friends in Montreal, and enlisted their sympathy and their aid. From that start he organized in St. Jerome a special society for the production of the work. From the outset the idea was received with warm approval, and the support of the pastor, Father J. A. M. Brosseau, and the ecclesiastical associates of Father Ethier. Promises of assistance were freely offered and, as subsequent events proved, as generously carried out.

The elders, the youth and even the children were quickly seized of the spirit of the project and came forward without hesitation. Some were cast for important characters, others for the lesser ones, and whole hosts of men and women, boys and girls were enrolled for the masses and the mobs of the inhabitants of the stage of Jerusalem. Their assistance further took the form of the construction of scenery and the making of costumes, the latter a stupendous item when it is realized that the participants approximate 500 people.

The production is established now; it is known to many and has been viewed by thousands, including many people from the United States who have heard of and been attracted to this unique endeavor in old Quebec.

"Does your wife open your letters?" "No not the business letters only those marked private."

## SONS NO LONGER FOLLOW FATHERS

Albany, N. Y., July 30—"Nowadays parents appear pleased to have their children follow their own choice as to professional careers," said Dr. Ethel Cornell, state psychologist in the bureau of mental measurements elaborating on the assertion she recently made that "following in dad's footsteps isn't what it used to be."

"Education of the parents has brought about the downfall of the old iron-clad family tradition whereby if the father were a lawyer, the son naturally had to become a lawyer," Dr. Cornell explained. "They have learned that children, even those of parents of superior mentality, may be limited in mental alertness and that learning cannot hasten their mental processes. Moreover, children as well as parents know today that there are fields to suit all grades of intelligence."

"Parents are not interfering as much as they used to in the life work of children," said the psychologist. "It used to mean that if a father was a lawyer, the son was expected to be one, too, regardless of his own preferences and in spite of his mental capacity and adaptability."

"Of course, there were few professions then. Other lines of work were not so attractive to young men and women. Parents were ambitious for their girls to teach school and for their boys to be lawyers or doctors or bankers."

"Parents who take interest enough to keep abreast of educational research are now able to see that while one son may be by temperament and ability well equipped to study law, another may be adapted for commercial work or one of the trades."

"It used to be that when the son didn't care for the study which prepared him for add's work, parents were often disappointed and blamed the child, often inflicting severe discipline to make him study."

"Nowadays parents appear to be pleased to have their children follow their own choice and if it leads to manual work or engineering or business, they are contented."

### PINEAPPLE SHERBET

3 cups grated fresh pineapple  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
3 cups water  
2 tablespoons lemon juice  
Ice and salt

Boil the sugar and water together 5 minutes; when cold add the pineapple which has been grated and pressed through strainer or fruit press; add the lemon juice. Put into freezer, pack with ice and salt and freeze as usual.

### TO A FRIEND

(Eleanor Hamilton)

Sometimes at night, when all the skies  
By Heaven's joy lamps are lit,  
We find a new star, and are quick  
And glad to welcome it.

And so it was with you, my dear  
When in my friendships' skies  
A new star came in view—it was  
The welcome in your eye!

### HOLSTEIN HEIFER SELLS FOR \$11,100, RECORD PRICE

Norwalk, Ia., July 30—Trinie Papoose Piebe, junior heifer owned by Hargrove and Arnold, of Norwalk, Ia., has been sold to T. B. McCawley, of Montreal, president of the Sun Life Insurance Co., for \$11,100.

The price, shattered all records since 1920, local breeders said. The sale took place at the national Ormsby sale of Holsteins at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds.

In 1926, the heifer was rated all American calf; it was all-American yearling in 1927 and won premier honors at the Sesque Centennial exposition in Philadelphia.

### ENUMERATING THE THINGS

Miss Dill—Don't think I'm as stupid as you are. I know a thing or two.  
Mr. Hollownut—You know a thing or two? What for instance?  
Miss Dill—Well you're one of them and there are several more simple like you.

## Nelson's Unlucky Love Adventure.

Writing in the London "Evening News," Max Pemberton, well-known English writer, says—  
"I read in an American journal a discussion as to which is the most beautiful city in the world; and I am not surprised that a writer names Quebec, and names it with emphasis."

We cannot wonder at the literary enthusiasm Quebec has provoked.

"The majestic appearance of Cape Diamond," says one writer . . . the fortifications the cupolas, and minarets, like those of an Eastern city, blazing and sparkling in the sun, the noble basin like a sheet of purest silver, in which might ride with safety the navies of the world, the graceful meanderings of the River St. Lawrence, the fertile valley dotted with picturesque habitant houses, the distant falls of Montmorency . . . the grim purple mountains, the barriers to the North, form a picture which it is no exaggeration to say is unsurpassed in any part of the world."

It is easy to applaud such chauvinism when one has set foot in Quebec and been received with that courtly hospitality for which its people are famous.

Naturally, romance is never far away from such a picture. There is a story told of the Lord Nelson and of one Miles Prentice, who served under Wolfe and subsequently served beer. This fellow

opened an inn to which the soldiers and sailors resorted . . . and among them in the year 1782 came the Captain Nelson, then commanding H.M.S. Albemarle, of 26 guns.

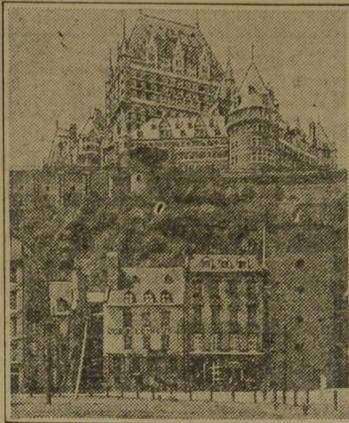
"Miles Prentice," says a writer,

the amorous captain on board his vessel."  
This seems somewhat drastic treatment, hardly likely to be popular in our time, when captains ashore to marry maids are usually welcome and other people hasten to buy confetti. But Quebec ever was and ever will be a city of the strictest proprieties.

I would add that my first visit to this incomparable height was made during the first considerable snowfall of the year. I believe some five feet of snow were down in relatively a few hours, and anything more bewitching than the whitened domes and pinnacles and the fairy-like scenes beyond the walls it is difficult to imagine.

But Quebec is the home of superb spectacles, and in the Chateau Frontenac possesses one of the most dominating hotels in the world. Here is a great hostelry like to no other one can name—majestic in the fashion of a mediaeval fortress, yet as up-to-date as any hotel in America and more comfortable than most. From its terrace a glorious panorama of river and villages and blue hills beyond is unfolded . . . and it is no surprise to hear that many thousands of Americans seek this palatial height every year and succumb to its enchantment.

"See Naples and then die!"  
Rather, see Quebec and find a new inspiration to live.



"had a niece, Miss Simpson, daughter of Sandy Simpson, whose charms so captivated the embryo Admiral that when his vessel had sailed from port he clandestinely returned for the purpose of wedding 'the maid of the inn,' which purpose was defeated by Mr. Alexander Davidson, then a Quebec merchant, who, with the assistance of his boat's crew, forcibly carried

"Do you think Liz minded that awful lawsuit she was mixed up in."  
"Why my dear I think she rather enjoyed it—I know she told me they had a grand jury."

"Mother should I marry Harold or shouldn't I?"  
"Has he got money or good looks?"  
"Both."  
"Then don't."

**HANDY TO CARRY**  
Paris—French soldiers may now choose between flat circular loaves of bread or loaves with rings in the middle, handier to carry.

## 44,000 HARVESTERS WANTED

# Canadian Pacific

## \$20.00 to Winnipeg

From Saint John and C. P. R. Stations in New Brunswick

### August 10 and 27

Passengers from East of Saint John will purchase Regular Second-Class Tickets up to Saint John.  
AUGUST 10TH First Train to leave Saint John, N. B., at 12.01 a. m. (Atlantic Time), Friday August 10th. This train will carry all passengers from East of Saint John arriving by all regular trains, Thursday August 9th. Passengers from East by regular trains, Friday 10th, will also be accommodated by Special Train from Saint John, leaving at 8.00 p. m. (Atlantic Time.)  
AUGUST 27TH Passengers leaving starting point Morning August 27th will be accommodated by special train leaving Saint John same evening.

**G. BRUCE BURPEE, District Passenger Agent, Saint John, N. B.**

# CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

## HARVESTER'S EXCURSION

44,000 REQUIRED

### FROM FREDERICTON TO WINNIPEG \$20.00

Plus half a cent a mile beyond to all points in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Edmonton, Tannis, Calgary, MacLeod and East.

SPECIAL LOW FARES RETURNING

GOING DATES AUGUST 10th. & 27th.

SPECIAL TRAIN will leave Fredericton at 6.30 A. M. August 10th. AND RUN THROUGH TO WINNIPEG WITHOUT CHANGE

Through Trains—Comfortable Colonist Cars  
SPECIAL CARS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Purchase your Ticket to WINNIPEG via CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS whether or not your destination in the West is a point on the CANADIAN NATIONAL.  
TICKETS AND ALL INFORMATION FROM TICKET AGENTS

# CITY OF FREDERICTON

## Notice of Sale of Lands

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the provisions of the City of Fredericton Assessment Act 1926, there will, for the purpose of satisfying the arrears of City taxes, for the years mentioned hereunder, made and assessed against the parties hereinafter named, unless the several sums due, together with the costs of this notice, are sooner paid, be sold at Public Auction in front of the City Hall, in the City of Fredericton, on the sixth day of October, A. D. 1928, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the lands and premises owned or occupied by the respective persons hereunder mentioned and set opposite their respective names.

Property to be Sold.	Name of Person Assessed	Arrears for Years	Total Due
Lot corner King Street and Taylor Alley, 40 ft. on King Street and 109 ft. on Alley	ROY H. McGRATH	1925-1926-1927	\$740.42 Interest 79.06
Farm on east side Maryland Hill Road, known as the Cameron Farm, containing 75 acres	ARTHUR S. TYLER	1925-1926-1927	\$221.59 Interest 27.00
Lot on east side of Church Street, near Queens Square, 55 ft. front and 50 ft. deep	GEORGE WANDLESS	1924-1925-1926-1927	\$162.90 Interest 24.98

Dated the 31st day of July, A. D. 1928.

FRED I. HAVILAND,  
City Treasurer.