

# Playing Jackstones With Diamonds In South Africa

Precious Stones are Marketed by the Ton—How Would You Like to Dig Diamonds Instead of Coal?

"Playing jackstones with diamonds!" Somehow that electrifying caption was overlooked by news reporters in 1866, when, at Hopetown, on the Orange River, the presence of diamonds in South Africa was signalled by a child, who was discovered playing with a casually picked-up gem weighing 21 1-4 carats.

At once the South African diamond fever was on. Ships lost their crews, overseas shopkeepers their clerks, police forces their "bobbies," the underworld its crooks; and perhaps the Church lost a curate, and certainly Natal lost a budding cotton planter—he had once felt drawn to of ministry in the case of an invalidish young fellow named Cecil John Rhodes. All raked up the price to get them to Griqualand's "desert of drought and diamonds."

**Precious Stones Marketed by the Ton**  
Future Kimberley was soon a scene of canvas tents, of wagons converted into huts, of prospectors sieving the diamondiferous earth, and of "kopje-wallopers"—those who bought other men's finds on speculation—hurrying to and fro among the sorting tables.

Also, there appeared the resourceful "I.D.B." (illicit diamond buyer), who co-operating with what might be described as the diamond-stealing industry, smuggled out stones in contravention to the law. Stowing gems in cigarettes, pipes, and hollow shoe-heels by no means exhausted his ingenuity. The hungry-dog trick—that is feeding a starved animal on meat containing diamonds and subsequently retrieving them by cutting him open—was much in vogue.

Under desert conditions, food was often more precious than diamonds, and baths, if you could afford the luxury, were taken in imported soda water. Despite prophecies of a brief year's life for Kimberley, the first two decades showed a production of six tons of diamonds from the Griqualand. Indeed, by 1880 the possibility of South African stones swamping the market was so apparent that Rhodes and his group formed the price and output-controlling De Beers Company.

Modern Kimberley abuts on a three mile wide circle which contains within barbed-wire barriers mines, housing 'compounds' process sheds, company stores, hospitals, public baths, and kitchens—in fact, everything necessary to the industry and its 5,000 Bantu miners.

These Bantu "boys" are voluntary recruits, who mine for six months annually, returning to their kraals with the wherewithal for meeting taxes, for buying wives and lobola (cattle dowry), or for less serious investments, such as concertinas and mouth organs. In "above ground" hours they are seen cooking their food, or purchasing at cost price at the stores, or depositing their wages with the Company's savings department. Often

these deposits represent such considerable annual aggregates as \$230,000 paid in by 12,000 miners.

Each week in the Kimberley mines some 70,000 tons of "blue ground" (hard, diamondiferous earth) are blasted out, crushed, fed into running water, rotated in steel drums, jiggled along in troughs, and washed across tablelike surfaces coated with petroleum jelly. The rotary process, by centrifugal force, separates the ground-up mass into different-sized units. The jiggling process washes away barren elements from the water-borne "concentrate" of gravel-like appearance; and, finally, the diminished residue flows across the petroleum surfaces, to which only the diamonds adhere.

Yet "diminished residue" is putting it but mildly, since these 70,000 tons of blue ground will produce only about 10 1-4 pounds of diamonds—say, a ratio of 14,000,000 to 1.

We addressed ourselves to the cleanser, who, broad blade in hand, now and then scraped off the diamondiferous petroleum and threw it into a vat of boiling water.

"Scraping off millions of dollars' worth of diamonds in this way, isn't it rather exciting?"

"Why, no," he answered unemotionally—and everyone knows what familiarity breeds—"it's about like handling mortar with a trowel."

Inside the sorting room, to which you are admitted after an eye has scrutinized you from behind a slide-back panel, men were poking diamonds through graduated holes in small screens to ascertain the stones' diameters. On one table alone lay 18,500 carats-weight of gems, worth approximately a million dollars. Feeling as dizzy as Ali Baba in the treasure cave we asked tremulously of a sorter: "Putting millions of dollars' worth of diamonds through screen holes, isn't it thrilling?"

"Oh, no," he answered, suppressing a yawn—again that familiarity complex—as he popped a one-inch diamond through the screen, "it's about like shelling peas."

Well, it's difficult to see how Kimberley could adequately have expressed its wealth production save by paving its main street with gems; but in truth it has been its fate to have created fortunes that too often flitted from South Africa to the attractions of London and Paris.

Yet there was an exception. At least one Kimberley digger could amass a fortune, yet scorn to use it in the common way. Great wealth constitutes a trust, to be administered in the wider interests of humanity—such was his view. And that he did, according to his lights, within South Africa and for the British Empire.

You may strike his trail along the twisting street—it follows the route of bygone diggers' footpaths from claim to claim—that leads you to the long-abandoned "New Rush" mine. Here is the vast, extinct crater, almost a mile around and a quarter of a mile deep, that once spewed diamonds

## MINTO NOTES

MINTO, July 30—Mrs. Clem Robb of Boston, Mass., is visiting her son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. L. Clarke, Sypher's Cove.

Mrs. Lawrence Hynde, of Three Rivers, Quebec, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Stone, Minto. Miss Beatrice Fearon has returned to Minto after spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fearon, Harcourt.

Misses Mary Colibrese, Verda Higgins and Guida Pickard have returned home after spending their vacation at Grand Lake.

Miss G. Reynolds, of Norton, is visiting at the home of Mrs. Jessie Gallagher.

E. H. Cady has returned home after visiting Upper Canada.

Mrs. David Kincade of Codys is visiting her son John, here.

An impressive memorial service arranged by fellow workmen was held on Sunday last, by placing two wreaths on the monument in the public square to commemorate the tragedy of July 28th, 1932, when two men and three children met death from poisonous gas in an unused mine shaft. Victims of the tragedy were: Thomas Gallant and Vernon Betts, miners, Allan Gaudine, Cyril and Vernon Stackade, children. The accident occurred when the boys set out to explore the bottom of the shaft by climbing down the ladder. The service was conducted by Rev. William Petchey, pastor of the United Baptist church and Rev. Father Doucette of the church of the Holy Rosary, Minto.

**Johnston—Gormley**  
Friends in New Brunswick and the Western States will be interested to learn of the pretty but quiet wedding solemnized in St. Joseph's church at Chipman on July 29th by Rev. Father Doucette, of Elja Eileen Gormley, R. N., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gormley, Minto, and Louis Joseph Johnston son of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Johnston of Moncton.

The bride was becomingly attired in navy blue ensemble with accessories to match, carrying a bouquet of American Beauty roses and maidenhair fern. The bridal couple were attended by the bride's sister Miss Kay Gormley and Mr. Henry Leger of Minto. Many friends of the bride and groom witnessed the ceremony after which the happy couple left for their honeymoon. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston will make their home in Moncton.

onds into Europe's capitals; and here too, if you've eyes to see them, swarm old-time miners' ghosts, with avid eyes and avaricious hands, sifting the earth and clawing at fortune. To-morrow, for them, the fleshpots of Paris and London! But not for him, young Rhodes, that fellow who sits so moodily apart from them. One day there shall be far-famed scholarships called so and his name shall name a people. "For a dream cometh through the multitude of business." And there he sits on his old mine bucket, dreaming.....

## When Barnes Circus People Were Killed At Canaan Station

On July 20 1930, the big Al G. Barnes Circus which is showing in Fredericton today, met with a tragic wreck near Canaan, 17 miles from Moncton. Several of the show people were killed and others were injured. Amongst those injured was Cliff McDougall, the popular advance agent who was in the city today.

The other day at Moncton when the circus people visited that city they marched to the different cemeteries where their former comrades are buried, and decorated the graves. They were headed by their own circus band.

On the occasion of the wreck George Melanson of Moncton, wrote the following memorial poem:

### ON WITH THE SHOW

It was at Canaan Station,  
In the month of July,  
That Al G. Barnes' Circus  
Was due to go by.  
When all of a sudden  
Some cars left the track,  
And many were injured,  
Five ne'er to come back.

They had just played Newcastle  
Before the mishap,  
And had loaded as usual  
And gone for their nap;  
Many sleeping inside  
On account of the rain  
Or more would have been killed  
On that ill-fated train.

Now doctors and nurses  
From Moncton did go,  
To render first aid  
To that mighty show;  
And the ones that were killed  
And those that were crushed,  
In a C. N. R. Special  
To Moncton were rushed.

But ON WITH THE SHOW.  
Regardless of cost  
And that's what they did, boys,  
Minus their loss.  
And everything billed  
Is what we did see,  
And a wonderful circus  
If you take it from me.

Now you've heard the story  
Of the Barnes Circus wreck.  
May God bless them all  
With Moncton's respect;  
And now they're returned,  
Let's go and see  
The circus that's known  
For its honesty.

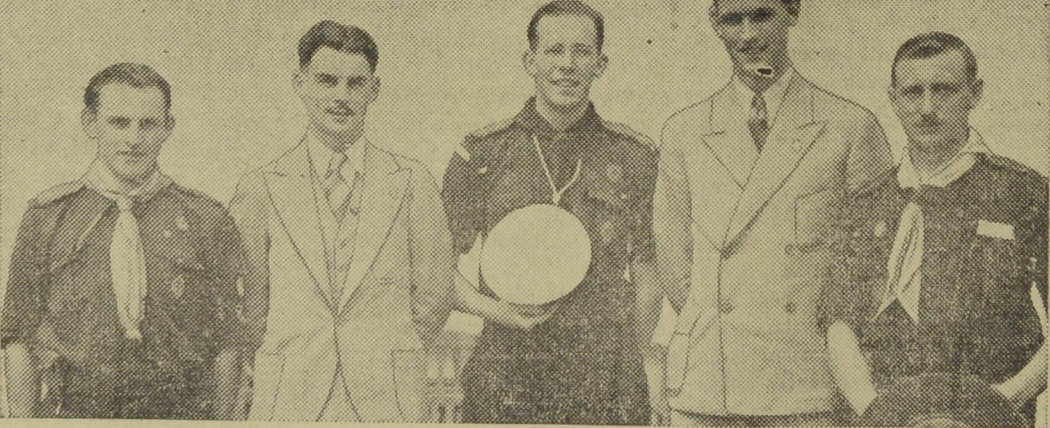
## OTTAWA IS BUSY ON BACK PAY CHEQUES

OTTAWA, August 1—Nine thousand and civil servants or Government employees throughout Canada will receive in a few days, cheques ranging from \$60 to \$300 in payment of the salary increases restored at the last session of parliament. Certain regulations have to be made out in the Civil Service Commission and approved by the Cabinet, but this will be done very soon.

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## Rovers Go A'Roving



Here are five Canadian Rover Scouts on board the Canadian Pacific liner Duchess of York, in which they sailed from Montreal to attend the World Rover Moot being held this year in Sweden. Eastern and Western Canada are represented by the five, who, left to right, are: L. P. Dominik, of Peterboro, Ont., Allan Hiron, of St. Paul, Alta., A. B. Patterson, sea scout, of Oshawa, Ont., Kingston Webber, of Edmon-

ton, and A. C. Kessler, of Saint John, N. B.  
The Canadian Rovers will form part of a British contingent of 1,500 attending the Rover Moot, or nearly half the entire number expected to attend. They will be in camp for six days at the Moot headquarters on Ingaroo Island, not far from Stockholm. Elaborate preparations have been made by the Swedish Rovers, hosts of the gathering, who are headed by the Prince Gustaf Adolf, eldest son of

the Crown Prince of Sweden. The camp will have a fire brigade, telephone system, post-office, hospital and will publish a daily newspaper in the four official languages of the Moot, English, French, German and Swedish.  
The Swedish Moot will be the second World Rover Moot. The first was held in Switzerland in 1931. Two of the five Rovers in the above picture, A. C. Kessler and Allan Hiron, attended the 1931 Moot.

## Of Interest to Women

### GOOD THINGS TO EAT

#### Summer Salad

Pare and cut rather fine 6 young radishes, 2 cucumbers, 6 scallions, 2 ripe tomatoes, 1 stalk celery, 1 green pepper. Marinate thoroughly in French dressing and keep in a cool place until ready to serve. Serve on a bed of shredded garden lettuce. Just as refreshing and healthful as possible

#### Cocoanut Macaroons

1/2 cup sweetened condensed milk  
2 cups shredded cocoanut  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
Mix sweetened milk and cocoanut together. Add vanilla if desired. Drop by spoonfuls on well-buttered pan about one inch apart. Bake in a moderate oven 350 degrees F. 10 minutes or until delicate brown. Makes two dozen.

#### Special Nut Cup Cakes

1 cup ground shelled peanuts.  
1/2 cup sweetened condensed milk  
1 egg separated  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
Shell peanuts, remove brown skins and put through a food chopper. Add ground peanuts to sweetened milk, egg yolk and baking powder. Blend thoroughly. Fold in stiffly beaten egg white. Drop by spoonfuls into small sized buttered cup cake tins and bake in moderate oven 20 minutes. Makes 12 small cup cakes.

#### Iced Coffee

The coffee to be served iced should be strong, sweetened to taste and served with a generous dab of whipped cream. Never put milk or cream into the coffee but stir in the whipped cream instead. It may be served containing cracked ice or the coffee may be chilled right next to the ice and served without ice in the glass, as preferred.

#### JAMS, JELLIES AND PICKLES

Every household should have a corner reserved in its preserve cupboard for those sweetmeats which give zest

to the ordinary meal, the unusual touch to the one prepared for a special occasion or which help so much when unexpected guests arrive.

Delectable preserves, clear sparkling jellies, and spicy pickles and relishes may be prepared with little trouble by following the instructions given in the following pages.

#### Glasses

It is not necessary to buy new glasses. Many attractive pottery or glass receptacles may be used. These need not have air tight covers as sealing may be done with paraffin. All containers should be thoroughly washed and sterilized. As the preserve is poured while hot, the glasses should be heated to prevent breaking.

#### Sealing

Melted paraffin makes a satisfactory, air tight seal for all preserves which are rich and thick and may also be used for pickles.

Melt the wax in a small saucepan having a lip from which it may be slowly poured. A small metal teapot is excellent for this purpose.

Pour the melted wax slowly over the surface of the hot contents of the glass until there is a coating about 1-8 of an inch thick. When quite cold and the wax is firmly set, it sometimes draws away from the edge of the container. To effect a perfect seal pour a small quantity of melted wax over the surface and turn the glass, while slightly tipped, so that all open spaces are sealed.

#### Flower Vases

This is the season when we usually have fresh flowers in our homes and unless we are careful we are apt to harm some of our furniture. Place a piece of waxed paper under the centerpiece upon which your vase of flowers is to be placed. Otherwise the dampness will cause the linen to stick to the woodwork of the table and ruin the finish.

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## "Lest We Forget" Is Story of Canada In the World War

The Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League and other ex-Service men's organizations are responsible for "Lest We Forget," the screen attraction at the Strand Theatre.

Veterans remembered the hundreds of thousands of feet of war film taken in France, and spurred to action by the insistent demands from Legion Branches and other ex-Service men's organizations, the film was all gathered together, and turned over to the Motion Picture Bureau in Ottawa. Two former members of the Canadian Corps have been busily engaged for over two years compiling a picture story of Canada's achievements in the Great War.

Now this stirring story is completed, under the title of "Lest We Forget," and will be seen at the Strand Theatre, Monday and Tuesday, August 5 and 6.