

GRUGED CHEERY WORD, WORE VICTORIA CROSS

(Toronto Globe)

Priest- and -Levite-like Toronto's citizenship passed by, as near to the other side as they could get. Most of them have him scarce a look, and those who did shrugged their shoulders and hurried on. For the man was unkempt in appearance and slouched along unsteadily—a seeming human derelict, gaunt, ill-fed and over-nourished with alcoholic stimulant—among the myriad busy and self-centred pedestrians who trafficked the city's down town district.

It was well into the night and the theatres were emptying. There was blitheness, laughter and light conversation on every side. Something of the quietude remained in the air. Men and women were still exchanging the glad greetings of the season. But they shrank, perhaps almost imperceptibly, from the inebriated wanderer who crowded close to the edge of the sidewalk and, ever and anon, sought to steady himself against electric clusters.

PROMPT WITH HIS "SALUTE"

Twice he almost lurched against passers-by who hastily drew their robes about them and hastened onward. And he straightened up momentarily with salute almost grotesque in its courtliness and tendered his hiccupped apologies. He was inoffensive and unobtrusive. He threaded the hurrying stream silently, a shadowy spectre, a sadly dismantled ship passing in the night.

A big, burly, ulster-coated figure unexpectedly charged him, the force of the collision sending him off the sidewalk. He staggered to the nearest post and stood uncertainly clinging to it. Here Police Sergeant Arthur Scott found him a few moments later, and spoke not unkindly to him. The officer learned that his pockets were empty, and that he had no place of abode. He counselled the way-farer to accompany him to the Court Street Police Station for the

night, owing to his condition, and in order that he should not get into trouble. The old soldier gladly consented and again saluted.

PATROL SERGEANT "SALUTED"

But it was the officer's turn to salute when the station was reached. As the veteran shivering, unbuttoned his coat to the welcome warmth of the station he was seen to be wearing upon his much-worn waistcoat the greatest of military distinctions, the Victoria Cross, the British emblem of the performance of deeds of conspicuous valor.

Then came the story, vouched for by clippings and identification papers, which he carried upon his person. In the far-away parts of the Empire, the man whose presence o Toronto's streets had been begrudged, had served his Queen, the late Victoria the Good, with honor and distinction. He had won his Cross by carrying from the battlefield, under a fusillade of shot, an officer who had had both his legs shot away. He had been cheered by his comrades commended by his officers, and honored by his Queen.

No name was given, for Sergeant Scott learned something of the man's history and his worthy family connections. But some time during the "wee sma' hours" of that night officer and soldier had a long heart-to-heart talk, and the veteran left in the morning, sober, fed and determined to breast the buffets of a work-a-day world with a new spirit of determination to be worthy of his past.

Premier Flemming's secretary of agriculture, has made the discovery that New Brunswick potatoes are diseased. Now, wouldn't that jar your mother's preserves. But there is still hope for the farmers, he is going to help Premier Flemming prepare a bill next session for the eradication of the disease.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

SIR EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., President
ALEXANDER LAIRD General Manager JOHN AIRD Assistant General Manager

CAPITAL, \$15,000,000 REST, \$12,500,000

BANKING BY MAIL

Accounts may be opened at every branch of The Canadian Bank of Commerce to be operated by mail, and will receive the same careful attention as is given to all other departments of the Bank's business. Money may be deposited or withdrawn in this way as satisfactorily as by a personal visit to the Bank.

Fredericton Branch G. W. Harrison, Manager

WORLD'S NEWS IN SHORT METRE

New York, Jan. 2.—Bank of England rate unchanged at five per cent. World's gold production decreased \$11,000,000 in 1913.

Jas. B. Forgan predicts early return of prosperity.

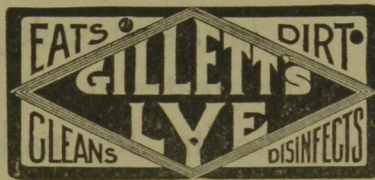
Reported in Boston that New Haven will form voluntary trust for its Boston railroad holding Company's stock in effort to separate Boston and Maine from New Haven.

Net earnings of Railroads in 1913 decreased \$37,000,000.

12 industrials advanced 52.

20 active railroads advanced 0.31.

Carnegie, Astor, Gould, and Julius Rosenwald of Sears Roebuck Company said to be interested in chain of banks across the country to obliterate loan sharks by making loans without collateral to reputable workmen and small merchants. Americans in London irregular.



RESTING PLACE OF DEAD LETTERS

Parcels Also Reach the Dead Letter Office and Their Contents Are Varied

On the dusty shelves of the Head Dead Letter Office at Ottawa there is a strange collection of articles that have gone astray in the mails. They are: One flask, five dried flowers, a tin of sardines and a sausage. A tin of sardines and a bottle of ink remained there for some time but were afterwards delivered. Five garters (it is not stated whether five pairs or five singles) came to this hospitable refuge; of these, four were delivered and one remained without a home. Seventy-three stockings came to hand, of which all but two were successfully forwarded. There were two marriage licenses, a pair of handcuffs, three bottles of liniment, one nut, nine pairs of overalls, one wig and four wills. There were nine sets of false teeth, two yeast cakes and a box of Zam-Buk.

Twenty-two authors now have return slips from the Postoffice to add to their collections from various editors; their manuscripts fell into the hands of the Dead Letter Office, but were ultimately returned to the owners. There were two warrants, four pairs of corsets, one altar cloth, one Masonic apron, three pairs of pyjamas, twenty-six corset covers, one apple, six baggage checks, a crucifix and a can of corned beef.

More parcels and post-cards come to this office than letters. In the Toronto office alone as many as twelve hundred imperfectly directed cards will come in a single day. Some of these bear no address, others have American stamps while still others are directed by absent-minded people to the correct street and number and the name of the town where they live instead of that in which their correspondent resides. Many of these find their way to the right people in the end, or are returned to the senders so you see a letter has two lives before it is really dead and cremated at the Dead Letter Office.

It is well that some of these letters never reach their destination so full are they of envy and hatred, but others are from mothers to their sons full of wise counsel, or heart-breaking entreaty.

The words on some of the cards indicate the tragedy or comedy that may arise from their failure of delivery. Says one: "I guess you will think that I have forgotten you." Perhaps he did. Another promises "more next time." One wonders if the address will be enough to ensure delivery. "I guess this card will surprise you," reads another. It never did. A card to "mother" explained at length why Ethel could not run down to the little country home that week. Who can know how "mother" may have worried. There was absolutely no address. "I don't know if you will ever get this," says another; they never did. Yet another remarks most truthfully, "I am very careless." The writer certainly was. There was no address upon the card.

Among these imperfect addresses there are many curious specimens. One card is found addressed to "Carlo Bunco, Bulgarian, Toronto." Yet another bears the name of the addressee and then a telephone number, Toronto. Another is addressed to Blank street, Ontario.

A UNIQUE POST OFFICE

A Letter Takes a Day to go From One Side to the Other

Probably no other place in North America has a post office of the unique proportions of Beebe Plain. There a simple wooden building shelters the offices of two countries. The structure is cut diagonally by the Canada line, being almost equally divided by the imaginary boundary. The northern half contains the post office of Beebe Plain, Canada, and the southern half the office of Beebe Plain, Vermont. They are separated only by a ten-foot corridor, using this passage-way and the same door in common. George H. House, postmaster, looks after the mail of the two offices. As a result of red tape in the postal regulations regarding the transfer of mails a letter mailed at the Vermont office for the Canadian office across the hall travels 200 miles before delivery. A letter posted at Beebe Plain, Vermont, for Beebe Plain, Canada, will go south on the Boston and Maine Railroad from Beebe Junction, Vermont, to White River Junction, 111 miles on the same route, and thus continues its way to Sherbrooke, Que., thirty-four miles further. There it is again transferred and returns to Beebe Plain, Canada. That is, after a ride of twenty-four hours and going 290 miles it arrives at its destination, ten feet from where it started.

Slaughter Prices

On Winter Wearables Now During Stock Taking Season. Wool Caps, 25 and 45 cts., former prices up to \$1.50. Flannelette Night Dresses, 50 to 98 cts., worth double on a cold night. Children's White Bear Sets, half price. Children's Jersey Cloth Overalls half price. Ladies' Suit, up to \$22.00, choice for \$10.00. Ladies' and Children's Coats, at prices to suit you. 20 per cent. off Flannel Waists, Silk Waists, Shawls, Clouds, Etc.

R. L. BLACK - - - York St.
"LADIES" and CHILDREN'S STORE"

Skate Grinding

BEST IN THE CITY.
SKATES REPAIRED AND PUT ON BOOTS. LET US
STORE YOUR BICYCLE FOR THE WINTER.

Wm. C. Burt F'ton. N. B.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year Is the wish of

A. A. Belmore

To our Numerous Customers and the Public
We invite all to call and examine our large
range of Clothes in all the latest shades. Fit
Workmanship and Style cannot be surpassed.
If you get your suit made by us you will be
satisfied.

WALKER BROS.,
Importing Tailors
Queen St., Fredericton, N. B.

CHRISTMAS MILLINERY

great reductions in all
trimmed hats. Special lot of
hats from \$5.00 to \$7.50 to
clear at \$2.50 and \$3.00

Children's headwear, widow's
caps, evening caps. The latest
mourning always on hand.

Miss Morgan YORK STREET

Compliments of the Season

We take this opportunity of thanking our patrons
for the generous patronage extended to us during the
past season, and wish one and all the Compliments
of the Season.

The Misses Young

476 Queen Street

Have you tried the New Confection

Delicious Crispettes

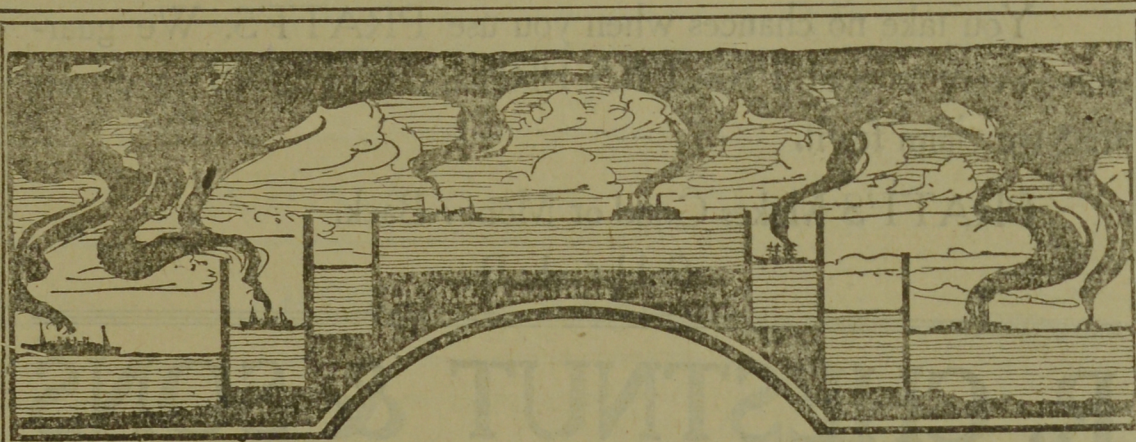
Made fresh every day. Nothing but Fresh Dairy
Butter, Honey and Sugar used in the manufact-
uring of them.

Always Crisp and Nice.

Sold by all Grocers and Confectioners.

Drop a card for Sample Order to

Enterprise Bottling Co H ONE
1911



Greater than Panama's Bridge of Water

The Panama Canal is the logical outcome of the trend of modern commerce—it is monumental evidence of the present-day need for shortening distance—for lessening time and for reducing cost of distribution between maker and consumer.

In point of distance, the Panama will bring the Pacific nearer to the Atlantic by 1,000 miles. In point of time, the sea voyage between Halifax and Vancouver will be shortened by 24 days. In point of cost, the canal will very materially lessen the expense of carrying freight between these places. But there is a stronger factor than even the Panama in shortening distances, lessening cost and saving time between manufacturer and user.

It is Advertising—

It is the quickest—
It is the most direct—
And it is the cheapest—
means of communication between the maker and user of goods.

For instance, Advertising enabled a manufacturer in Nova Scotia to carry a demand for his product

from his factory to the Pacific Coast
— in a few days
— at an insignificant cost
compared with slower and more laborious selling methods.

In one week, thousands learned of his product where it would have taken years for the news to get around without advertising.

To the Manufacturers of Canada:

You will be alert to take advantage of the Panama route for the physical transportation of your goods. Have you considered how quickly, how far, and at what small cost the Advertising Trade Route will carry demand for those goods?

If you are doing a local business talk over your advertising problems with the Advertising Department of this newspaper.

If you are doing a provincial or national business it would be well for you to have the counsel and assistance of a good advertising agency. A list of these will be furnished, without cost or obligation, by the Secretary of Canadian Press Association, Room 503, Lumsden Building, Toronto.