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INTERESTING LETTER

(Continued from Page 1)
done below. The first few nights it was pretty tough. We turned over a good many times trying to find a soft spot on those slats. Of course, we have a thick pad for mattress. It is a complete outfit—we wouldn't want to travel any other way. But takes a little time to get adjusted to a different way of living.

August 8th.—Left Mitchell 9 o'clock in morning and drove 235 miles. The country is very rolling—one is continually going up and down hill—puts one in mind of riding on the loops at Toronto Fair. We are camping to-night at Philip tourist camp—a very good camp.

August 9th.—Left Philip 9 o'clock and drove to a good camp at Rapid City, and spent the balance of the day resting. Our first Sunday out and had Philip been a good camp, we would not have broke camp. We traveled through what they term the "Bad Lands" to get to Rapid City, they were quite scenic, but utterly desolate. A fine camp at R. C., which we found three miles out of city. Fine trout brook runs beside camp.

August 10th.—Started on a sight-seeing side trip this morning NOT on our route to Yellowstone. Expect to spend three days. First we drove thru the government forest reserve, saw plenty of buffalo there, and took in the famous Needles Drive, very pretty, 3500 feet above sea level. The drive takes its name from exceedingly high rocks which stand like telephone poles, some as high as 500 feet, and the most most famous one had an eye like an needle in the top of it—the work of nature. We then declined about 3000 feet and come to a place they called "Wind Cave." Parked our car and went down into cave one-half mile and saw some wonderful sights in the rock, supposed to have been caused by hot sulphur water. The cave was two miles long, but half a mile was plenty for us, time we climbed that back up again. We then drove down to the hot springs, where we camped two days. Here we took a plunge in hot water, 90 degrees heat. Bath as long as you like for 50c, but three hours was long enough for us. On this trip we were held up for one day on account of rain. This trip was in the southwest part of South Dakota. We will now take up our main route again for Y. P. Traveled 160 miles to Gillette, Wyoming. Oil fields here and rather poor camp.

August 13th.—Traveled all day long and made 213 miles and on rough roads, over the Big Horn mountains. Very pretty scenery—saw snow in the distance on high mountain peaks. Had a 39-mile grade to climb. The first hill of the grade was 10 miles long. We are nearing Y. P. and scenery is very beautiful in the canyons. We are camping tonight in Worland, about 150 miles out of Y. P.

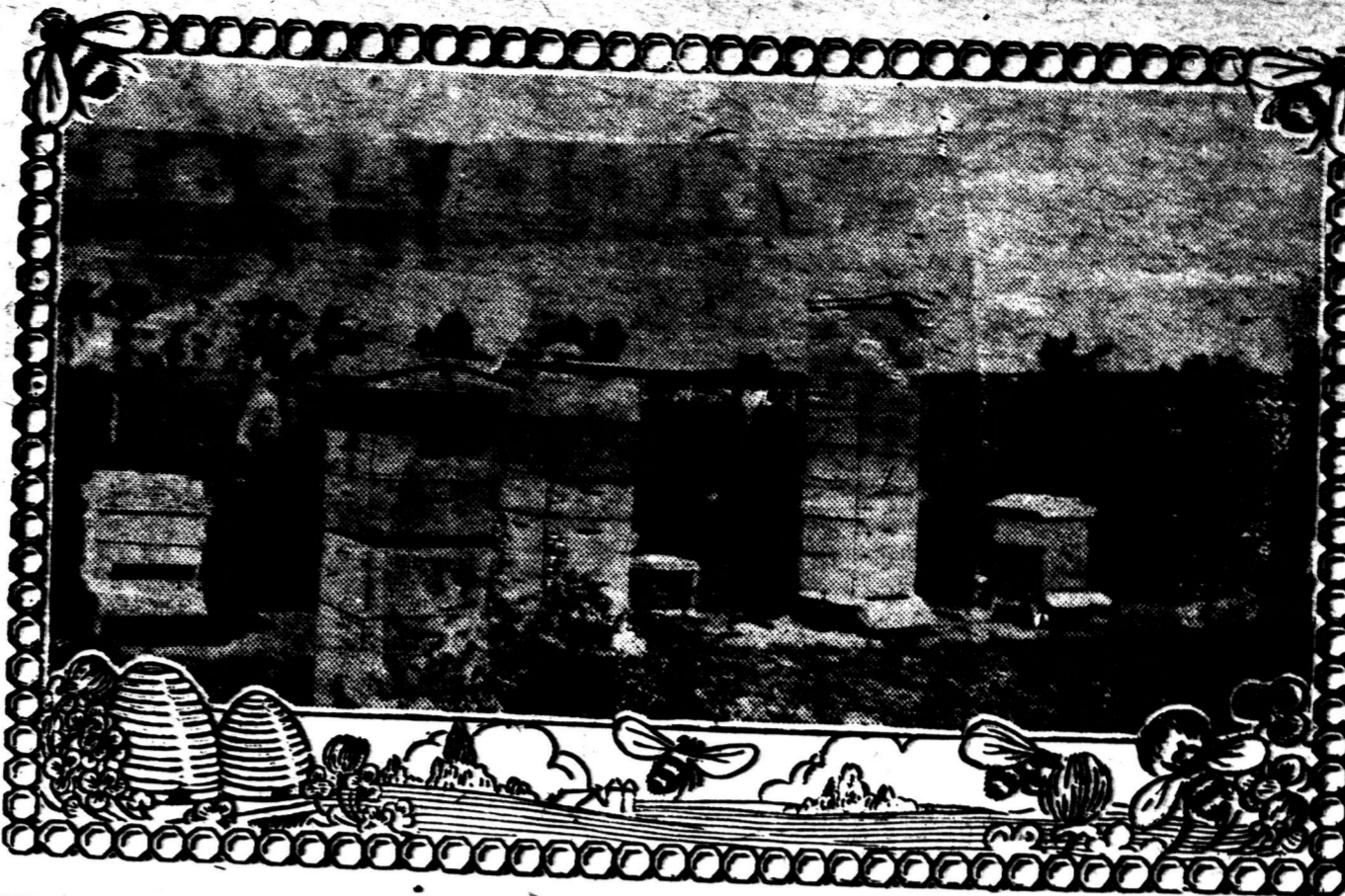
August 14th.—Left Worland about 9 o'clock morning and made Cody at about noon. Cody is the last town about 50 miles out of Y. P. on the east entrance. Leaving Cody we follow up the Shoshone Canyon, passing the Shoshone dam 328 feet high—see-

and highest in the world. The water dammed up there forming a lake and is used for irrigation and electricity. This part of our drive was exceedingly thrilling, we passed through tunnels of solid rock about every five minutes for a while. Many of the rocks at the top of the canyon which we passed were formed by nature to resemble different things like animals, people, castles—it is hard to explain this part. Very slow driving, road very crooked and very dangerous—on one side of us its 400 or 500 feet straight down and on the other side a wall of rock as high.

Hello, here we are at the gates of Yellowstone Park. Officer takes your number and \$7.50 and gives you a road map of the park. We now make a 26 mile grade, climb, where we got out of car and walked up to some snow, which is always there the year around, and had a snowball fight. Here we passed over a peculiar piece of road shaped like the figure "8", where the road crossed itself by a bridge 100 feet higher up. The end of our climb brought us to Lake Yellowstone. Seems queer for a lake to be at the top of mountains 7741 ft. high. Here we made camp, a good tourist camp, but very cold.

August 15th.—After breaking camp this morning we have a 150 mile drive ahead of us which takes in the road map of the park. All sorts of descriptions have been made of Grand Canyon of Yellowstone, made by the turbulent waters of the Yellowstone River, through depths of variously colored rocks. This canyon is declared to be the most brilliant in the world. Castellated walls slope down to the blue stream through reds and yellows and greens and browns and purples, all blended until one is bewildered if he tries to tell which is which. Beginning with two great waterfalls, known as the upper and lower, and ending where the river winds out of sight among the hills in the distance, the Yellowstone Canyon lacks nothing to complete its beauty. On the loop road, 8 miles from Macdon Junction, is the Lower Geyser Basin. Here is the large Fountain Hotel, abandoned when the "Yellow Buss" displaced the horse-drawn stage coach. Here also are the Mammoth Paint Pots, so named from their resemblance to a huge mass of bubbling dirty white paint. Prismatic Lake draws one interest by the rainbow lights displayed in the rising vapor over it when the sun shines through. Firehole River, on the bank of the musical geyser, it plays "Ove: the River." Grotto geyser has built up a most unusual group of irregular formations through which the water spurts and splashes during its period of activity. A great castle like cone its name but indicates the great age of this, the oldest geyser in the park. Giant geyser erupts 250 ft. high—higher than any other geyser in the world—but one is lucky to see it play. Its eruptions occur irregularly every six to 14 days. As one awaits the never failing pleasure of Old Faithful's eruptions he is struck by the number of cameras focused on the promissory spurts, awaiting the sudden great display, and wonders if anything is snapped more often than this beloved exhibition of nature. Hours can be spent wondering over the "Formation" exploring and enjoying the curious figures, the exquisite blending of color and the thrill of a rare land. One must explore Old Faithful Inn, too, for here is an ever ending supply of ratic curios, built into this great building

Manitoba Bees Set out to Make a Record



Who ever heard of a hive of bees that in one day gathered no less than 25 pounds of honey? If anyone doubts that the busy bee can be as busy as all that, refer him to Mr. W. D. Wright who has a large and prosperous apiary near Souris, which is in southern Manitoba on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and if anybody doubts the fertility of the Province of Manitoba or wonders if the summer suns there shine down on wide fields of glorious bloom, let him read the following which is gathered from the columns of the "Souris Plaindealer."

It was on July 31st last that the hive of bees beside which Mr. Wright stands in the above picture gathered and stored the twenty-five pounds and established a record for this continent, and perhaps for the whole world. There was no doubt about its being true, because the Provincial Department of Agriculture made the test. From July 13 to August 3, the hive stood on a scale and every evening when the bees' work was done and they had gathered around their freize to talk it over, the weight of the hive was taken. The first gain was on July 14 when 1 1/4 pounds was brought in and from that quantity the daily take varied up to 14 and 16 pounds. But on July 31 the bees got together and made a special effort just to show what they could do in the way of establishing records.

Perhaps they had just discovered that their efforts were being recorded. Anyway we can imagine that the bees were only the captains of teams, and said something like this:—

"Now, boys, the world's got its eye on you and tomorrow's the day we go over the top. Any lad that comes here with less than his full load gets into trouble and

the chap or team bringing in the biggest bag gets a wax medal with my picture on one side and his own name on the other."

And how they worked that day! They worked all the other days of the season too, because the total honey produced for the season was 436 1/2 pounds. Of course there were two or three rainy days when they stayed at home and did chores around the hive, and two or three other days when it didn't rain, but they stayed home anyway to look after the local elections or something like that. And when it was all over no doubt the queen said "Well, it's been a pretty good working season, I'll tell the world," and as always is the case the Queen was right.

Having proved her superiority as an organizer etc. it was natural that wider spheres of endeavour should call to this queen, so Mr. Wright shipped her to a big bee firm in Alabama who are sending him another queen now, ten of her daughters next spring and three two-pound packages of bees with three more of her daughters in command. The trade was worth \$35 to the Florida Apiculture. The locating, capturing and caging ready for exportation of the Wright queen was witnessed by J. W. Breakney, M.L.A., and a representative of the Plaindealer. She was indeed a very fine lady and was head of an enormous population that objected pretty strenuously to her removal, and you cannot really blame them for that.

Mr. Wright's Floradale Apiculture this year produced almost four tons of honey and he hopes that next year in particular will again show the neighborhood of Souris in the way of honey production. In the meantime our friend the queen will continue her campaign for a bigger and better honey crop.

1925 Christmas Seals

The 1925 Christmas Seals, in aid of the Muskoka and Toronto Hospitals for Consumptives, have just been issued. These handsome seals are in different designs, put up in assorted packets of 10, 25, 50 and 100. The National Sanitarium Association is in need of funds to carry on the work of its hospitals in Muskoka and at Weston. Every dollar received through the sale of Christmas Seals is used for maintenance of patients there.

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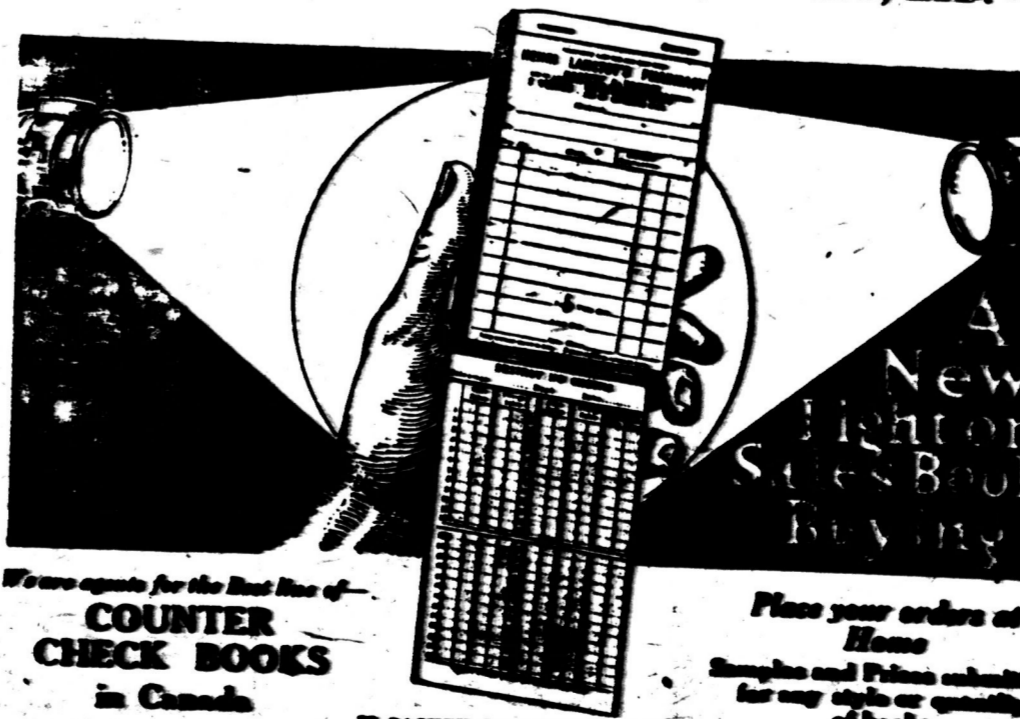
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