

Heroic Work of R.C.M.P. is Told Romance Still Lives in North

Report Tabled at Ottawa Describes Activities of Noted Force

VALUABLE DATA

Daily Life at Arctic Posts Makes Graphic Picture

Ottawa—Stories of privations cheerfully accepted as part of the day's task, of obstacles overcome that would strike the average man as insurmountable, of heroic, arduous and devoted work, make up the annual report on the activities of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police which was recently tabled in the House of Commons.

At the same time the report is a compendium of valuable and useful information, particularly in those sections of it that deal with the operations of the force in the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions. Patrols undertaken in mid-winter and extending for many hundreds of miles, over the Arctic wastes of Canada's northern islands in order to enforce the law of the Dominion among the aborigines, to apprehend white men who do not scruple to vitiate the life of the Eskimos and the Indians, to relieve suffering, to distribute food and to conduct explorations all designed towards making those regions better known, are recorded in the report in simple language. The daily life of the isolated posts—the most northerly of which is 700 miles south of the North Pole, at Bache Peninsula in Ellesmere Land—is pictured graphically.

Nursed Three Months

Outstanding is the record of the patrol consisting of Inspector T. V. S. Wunsch, Sergeant J. R. Paton, and Constable W. A. Cooper, to Liard, B.C., near the Yukon border. In January, 1927, Sergeant Paton got both hands very badly frost-bitten, and first-aid treatment lasting four hours partially restored circulation. Sergeant Paton was nursed day and night for three months until the use of his hands were almost fully restored. However, it is recorded that "in the course of treatment gangrene set in at the extremity of one little finger, and, with the patient's consent, the last joint was amputated with a razor by Inspector Wunsch, there being no doctor anywhere in the district." The report says that "our men went out of their way to render help and succour to all, from assisting an Indian mother to bring a baby into the world, to reading the Lord's prayer at burials."

Eskimos Progressive

Upon the more general aspects of the work, the report observes: "The Canadian Eskimos are progressive people. Many of them have sewing machines, gramophones and radio outfits in their houses. The ambition of the head of every family (at Aklavik) is to own a power schooner of his own, and quite a few have realized that desire already. It is possible to count as many as 25 boats with auxiliary gasoline engines in them tied up at Aklavik during the summer."

The general situation is thus discussed. "Inquiries have been made among the natives to ascertain what the marriage customs among the Eskimos are. Some rather interesting information on this subject has been gathered. It seems, according to a report from Sergeant Baker, of the Bernard Harbor detachment, that there is no definitely established ceremony of any kind. A man generally chooses a woman whom he considers suitable, and if both parties are agreeable they commence living together as man and wife.

"The man generally selects a woman who is good at making clothing, preparing food and is generally handy around the camp. The woman desires a man who is a good hunter and provider. In most cases they continue to live together, but if after a time they find that they are not suited to each other, they separate. This may be

after a few weeks, or even after a few years."

Game Licences

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police collected in excess of \$66,000 in revenues for the national treasury for the year ending September 30, 1927, the annual report discloses. In the Yukon and Northwest Territories, the force collected game licences for the Department of the Interior, and also disbursed bounties for the killing of 1,001 wolves, amounting to \$30,030. For the Department of Marine and Fisheries the Mounted Police collected a number of radio licences, and in addition fines to the amount of \$31,908.25 were taken in.

The total amount of fines imposed as a result of cases which were instituted by the police force totalled \$138,367.17; of this \$97,751.17 was paid; and \$65,000 paid through channels other than the Mounted Police.

"It is absolutely useless to proceed against smugglers by way of indictment in Halifax." This quotation forms portion of the annual report of Commissioner Starnes of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and it is employed in reference to the activities of that body in the Maritime Provinces. Commissioner Starnes, in describing the assistance given by the Mounted Police to the Department of National Revenue, says:

Smugglers Popular

"The most interesting phase of this aspect of our activities had regard to the coast line near Halifax, where during the whole year the smuggling of liquor has greatly exercised us. Our strength there was specially increased the use of a fast car was obtained, and in December, 1926, and in January and February, 1927, a series of seizures and arrests took place, the former amounting for over 400 gallons of rum and not far short of 300 cases of liquors. The smugglers were defiant as well as persistent, on one occasion attempting to run our car down in the road, and resisting arrest. However, a number of prosecutions were instituted, strongly supported by evidence. I regret to be obliged to report that these failed, the jury, in spite of convincing evidence, being unable to convict. The charges from the Bench persisting in returning verdicts of acquittal. The officer commanding in the Maritime Provinces in this connection observed:

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Over 1,000 Men

The total strength of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at September 30, 1927, stood at 1,004-all ranks, according to Col. Corthlandt Starnes, Commissioner. This is an increase in personnel of 61 over the preceding year. The number of investigations carried out was 29,955 for the period under survey.

"The two features most worthy of notice," writes the Commissioner "have been the continued increase in the personnel employed in Arctic and sub-Arctic regions, accompanied by an increase in the complexity of the duties to be discharged there."

A few years ago the vast archipelago north of Hudson Straits was visited only by explorers and a few daring traders. Now there are police posts at Port Burwell on the mainland, Pangniting, on Cumberland Gulf, Lake Harbor on southern Baffin Island, Dundas Harbor on Island, Pond's Inlet on northern North Devon Island, and Bache peninsula of central Ellesmere Island within 11 degrees of the pole. These posts are manned by 17 "Mounties" under the command of Inspector C. E. Wilcox.

All Are Volunteers

The men volunteer for these

Two Interesting Views of the Santa Clara Flood Area



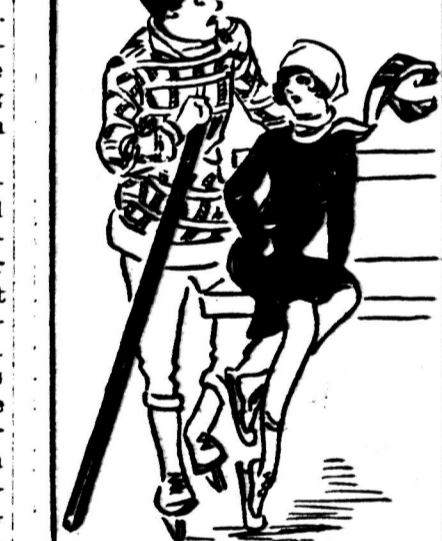
At the left is the canyon which was dammed to hold the water supply and at the right the dam after the break taken soon after the disaster and forwarded by photo telegraphy to the papers in the east.

LABOR AND RADIO

European Workers Have Association to Promote Technical and Cultural Advancement

Radioenthusiasts belonging to European labor organizations have an international association especially devoted to representing their interests in broadcasting any other matters connected with the wireless service. At a meeting recently held in Berlin, representatives of the International Federation of Trade Unions, the Socialist and Labor International and the organized labor radio amateurs of Germany, Austria, Russia, Holland and Czechoslovakia decided to form an International Federation of Professional Wireless Amateurs. Details of the organization are to be worked out by a committee, consisting of the heads of labor wireless groups in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia, for submission to a future general conference at which the proposed international will be formally launched. In the meantime this committee is to act as executive body, with headquarters in Vienna. The labor radio leagues of Belgium and Poland have also promised to adhere to the international body.

The principal aims of the organization, as summarized in the Vienna Arbeiter-zeitung, are to maintain a permanent information service among the member countries regarding all matters pertaining to the radio; to try to promote the interests of the workers in both technical and cultural ways, and to combat reactionary tendencies in broadcasting.



Gabby Gertie

And Gene Tunney For War? (From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch) Governor Fuller of Massachusetts wants the Republicans to nominate Hoover for President and Lindbergh for Vice-President. And for Secretary of the Navy Gertrude Ederle.

Her Short Suit. Wife (at breakfast)—"Our new girl is a cooking-school graduate." Hub—"She must have flunked badly in biscuits."

Queering the Game. The rain falls alike on the just and unjust, but the Seattle Times objects that too often the unjust purloins the just's umbrella.

The plesiosaurus discovered in Warwickshire whose age is estimated at between 100,000,000 and 200,000,000 years may thank its lucky stars that there were no cornerstones in those ancient days.

A holy war is reported to be raging in Arabia and parts adjacent. As we understand it, a holy war is about as holy as a civil war is civil.

Drivers Who Neglect Cars Are Classed With Criminals

Connecticut Commissioner Condemns Indifference—Emergency Calls Due to Carelessness

Robbins B. Stoeckel, Motor Vehicle Commissioner of Connecticut, whose views on safe and sane driving have attracted wide attention in the automobile world, makes the far-reaching statement in his latest bulletin that the time is coming when a man who knowingly lets his car run down will be rated as a criminal, because he is making danger for others. "The manufacturer cannot guarantee the proper maintenance of the car," says Mr. Stoeckel. "In explaining why he believes the motorist who is careless of his car should be treated as a criminal Mr. Stoeckel calls attention to the fact that criminality in jurisprudence is usually recognized as a matter of intent or neglect amounting to intent. Road Service Records. "Certainly," says the Commissioner, "if a person cannot properly keep a car which he has bought because it appeals to his standards of beauty and elegance and knowing that it is capable of abuse, he falls in his duty, and intent can be predicted." Evidence that Commissioner Stoeckel is on the right track in indicating that the owner who fails to do his duty by his car should undergo a certain measure of public penalty is furnished by a report just issued by the American Automobile Association stating that indifferent car care is responsible for more than 50 per cent. of all calls for emergency road service. This report was compiled as the result of an analysis of the emergency road service records of one of the largest motor clubs in the country. The association points out that the prime object in making the analysis is to urge upon owners the advantages of giving closer attention to certain fundamentals of automobile care. Of 25,000 calls for help recorded by the club, 25 per cent. was due to the trouble, of which more than half the total number was caused by running with tires either underinflated or overinflated. Next to the trouble came battery and ignition difficulties. "It was found," says the report, "that in a large majority of cases negligence on the part of the car owner was responsible. In very few instances could the trouble be laid to defective equipment. It generally was the case that the owner forgetting to put water in the battery at regular intervals, or his failure to notice the corrosion of terminal posts or of his indifference to keeping the generator output proportionate to the needs of his particular form of driving."

Body Armor Like Knights' Mail Planned For Bombing Flyers

British Study the Methods to Protect Exposed Crews From Attack by Faster Craft; Films of Mock Combat Reveal Vulnerability of Pilots

London.—History is about to repeat itself—with a strange difference. Those armored knights of old, mounted on chargers coated in mail, may be followed before long by armor-wearing aviators.

Plans are now under consideration for providing the crews of big long-range bombing planes with a specially-designed form of lightweight body armor.

Mock combats of the sky have been carried out between bombers and fighters in which the camera-guns elicited out films instead of pouring out streams of lead.

Such tell-tale films, indicating where bullets would have struck had they been used, reveal the vulnerability of gunners in exposed cockpits of big multi-engined bombers when attacked from above by fast-seater fighters.

As it dives upon the cumbersome bomber, the fighter affords an extraordinarily small target. The pilot is pro-

tected by the mass of metal in front of him represented by his engine. Little more of him is visible than his head projecting above the fuselage. To the gunners at their stations in the bomber's fuselage, the pilot of the descending fighter offers a far less effective target than they do to him. Their heads and shoulders are visible as he directs a stream of fire downward.

Experts believe after studying the data obtained from these tests that a well designed metal air-helmet and a special type of chain mail made as light as possible without impairing its bullet-stopping powers should not hamper to any material extent the visual range or movement of gunners, while it would ensure them a protection from bullets.

An alternative plan, involving the use of revolving turrets or shields, is not favored. It might, it is thought, prevent a gunner from spotting quickly the approach of fast-flying enemy fighters.

"beats." No one is forced into an exile beyond anything Siberia can offer, where communication with the "outside" is maintained through the annual visit of the Beothic—ice permitting—and where the only society is that of Eskimos and huskies. But time does not lie heavy on the hands of these police. Patrol work keeps them fit and active. Their reports show no trace of loneliness or dissatisfaction. On the contrary they suggest an enthusiasm that rises above every hardship and an unshakable pride in fulfilling duties that would daunt the hearts of heroes.

Staff Sergeant A. H. Joy was for two years in charge of the detachment at Bache peninsula, during which time he made several long patrols, one of them, a remarkable journey, entailing over 1300 miles of travel, across Ellesmere Island and to the Axel Heiberg, Sverdrup, King, Christian, Cornwall and Graham island. And yet his report is simple even to compare.

He begins by saying "Constable Bain and I, accompanied by Eskimos Nookapeungwak, Oodes and Ahkeoo, left the detachment early on Oct. 14," and then follows a narration of innumerable small incidents in respect to "open leads," long detours about floes, until "it became necessary for us to cross to the north side, and darkness caught us on a large icepan in the center of the floe, where we camped, surrounded by open water, until the following morning," to the obtaining of seal meat for the dogs, and to the finding "the cache of provisions and fuel made by the American aviators in 1925, which was still intact, although the rubber covering had been badly rent by the wind." On the nineteenth he reports "Only a small portion of the sun appeared above the horizon at noon, and this proved to be our last opportunity of seeing it for the year."

Cold is not the only or even the chief elemental opponent to contend with. It seems that fog and softening snows and rising temperatures are greater difficulties. Sergeant Joy's longest patrol was made during the months of March, April and May. On April 13 he reports "traveling all day through deep soft snow and often very rough ice," and on the next "the snow continued deep until we reached the cape, then the traveling improved wonderfully."

"In the afternoon we saw a herd of musk-oxen some distance inland east of the cape, also the fresh tracks of two bears, two wolves and several other animals on the ice." The following day it blew up a gale, and "the storm made it almost as dark as mid-winter, and we were unable to see more than a few feet on land or ice," until "a dense fog came over, accompanied by a breeze from the southeast, and maintained for the balance of the day." They are many similar references.

To Visit Toronto



MRS. LINDBERGH AND HER FLYING SON. Lucky Lindy's "best girl" will bring the flier with her when she comes to Toronto to receive life membership in Ontario Educational Association. If present plans mature, Mrs. Lindbergh, shown above with Lindy, who they hope will be here during Easter week.