

Ring Reminiscences

— Fights and Fighters —
(By James Fendergast)

Deep Hole Johnson

There were a great many cootheners and theorists among the old time prospectors. They were hard headed and opinionated to the extent of doing their best endeavors to prove their pet theories. One of the most determined to prove his theory was a Swede named Johnson. His claim was on Eldorado Creek near Grand Forks at the junction of Eldorado and Bonanza creeks. His great obsession was a hypothetical "second bedrock". He may have been right too, but his lengthy and arduous attempt to prove it ended with dramatic and nearly fatal consequences.

The first line of bedrock was at a depth of 25 feet. He and his partner worked for over a year digging through the frozen ground. It was frozen ground as deep as anyone had gone. They had to thaw the gravel and hoist it out of the hole with a windlass and square wooden bucket with slightly flaring sides. Imagine the patience and perseverance required to overcome the monotony. At a depth of 240 feet they went through the frozen ground and struck a fierce gush of artesian water. The water in the shaft rose so fast after the alarm was given that the man at the windlass was barely able to keep the other from being drowned. The water continued to flow out of the hole in such volume and speed that it began to wash away the foundations of several buildings at Grand Forks. —down stream about a quarter mile. The telegraph wires to Ottawa were kept hot, and the Dominion Government offered thirty thousand dollars to anyone who would plug the gusher.

A P. E. Islander, Dan Mathieson, from near Dundas, proposed the most feasible plan. He procured several lengths of six inch steel pipe in Dawson (distant 12 miles), which the Yukon Gold Co. had taken inside for hydraulic mining purposes. He lowered the pieces of pipe into the hole and joined them as they were lowered, till the bottom was reached. Then gravel and rock was dumped into the hole which eventually forced the water through the pipe. When the cap was screwed onto the top end of the pipe, the pusher was sealed. It was all done in a few days, with an outlay of little over one thousand dollars. It was quite an unexpected financial bonanza for Mr. Mathieson. He eventually promoted a mining com-

fraternity at that time, but later became archbishop of all the immense expanse of the Northwest Territories. He made several long trips overland on foot. He was quite a large and heavily built man too, which made "mushing" much harder. A musher weighing about 140 or 150 lbs. has a big advantage over a heavy man on a trail.

The rather rude and raucous word "mush" is an unholy third generation derivative of the resonant French verb "marcher" meaning let us go along (or march on or equivalent). It was used by the famous French Canadian voyageurs in driving their dog teams. It sounded like "mush-on" to English speaking Canadians, but they abbreviated still further to "mush" not to be confused with "mush" meaning porridge.

Mr. Stringer was markedly solicitous for the religious and material welfare of the natives, particu-

larly the Esquimaux in the northernmost parts. He made several visits among the Esquimaux, one of them as close to being fatal as was possible, and still remain in the land of the living. He was so interested in the Esquimaux that he adopted two big native girls into his household in Dawson. He had two or three younger children of his own. The native girls were fond of skating. Dressed in the customary female attire of white women, they looked quite passable. Discussing general topics on one occasion, he demonstrated the pride of accomplishment which it seems is primordial in all humans of any race or color. In their child-like simplicity, the Indians and Esquimaux never lose a chance to try to show their superiority over White people — and quite often they succeed — particularly at chores to which the Whites were not accustomed. The Bishop and another

SOUTH GRANVILLE W. M. S.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Granville W. M. S. was held at the home of the Misses Annie and Alexandra Keir on Tuesday evening, October 14. The president, Mrs. Hugh Corbett, presided and the meeting opened by singing Psalm 90.

Scripture reading was taken from Psalm 105. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Hugh Corbett and Mrs. Stirling Corbett and Irene Morrison followed by singing Psalm 100. Miss Mildred Corbett and Mrs. Louis Corbett were in charge of the programme.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Roll call for next month is to be answered with a verse of scripture containing the word "Remembrance", the meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Peter Morrison. George Somers and Ena Morrison will be in charge of the programme.

The meeting closed by singing Paraphrase 2, followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison. Lunch was served by the hostesses.

The nose on the famous Statue of Liberty in New York harbor is four feet, six inches long.



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Francis G. Peddie, Barrister

"We all play many parts ... but few of us ever play a role more important than that of the Good Provider. My own everyday role of lawyer constantly brings home to me the importance of providing for the future. And I know of no other way of doing it than some form of saving. Putting something by against tomorrow is the hallmark of the Good Provider ... and the good citizen."

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"Like I was tellin' the boys, the saving habit just comes natural to farmers. Not the stingy, saving for saving's sake kind, but the healthy saving for a purpose ... Take the way we save our corn stalks—chop 'em up and put 'em in the silo—then 'long about late winter, we start withdrawin' —to feed and fatten our cattle for the spring markets ... Same thing happens every day 'round the farm. It's the natural, sensible thing to do."

"In my experience everybody really wants to put something by to be able to fulfill some cherished wish later, to make life easier when our hairs get grey, or to be ready for any unforeseen but urgent need for funds.

For the average man and woman, it seems to me that Canada Savings Bonds furnish just about as convenient a method for saving as is available.

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Socrates

"Wherein lies man's happiness? ... Then, what gives freedom from worry? ... Well, what creates confidence in the future? You're tired of my questions? ... That has happened before; so let me give you an answer for a change ... the simple practice of thrift creates confidence in the future, freedom from worry and a greater degree of happiness."

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Male deer
- Refuse of grapes
- Shell for ice cream
- Medley
- A barrier
- Father (title of priest)
- Indefinite article
- East-south-east (abbr.)
- Epoch
- Disagrees
- Roman pound
- Native of Scotland
- Caked tobacco ash in a pipe
- Conjunctive
- Court
- Gaze fixedly
- Center
- Exclamation
- Diamond (slang)
- Wine receptacle
- A size of coal
- Depart
- Falter
- Old Norse works
- Web-like membrane
- Flesh of calf
- City (Algeria)
- Anglo-Saxon serf

DOWN

- Picturesque
- Unit of weight
- One's forefathers
- Web-footed birds
- Swab-like device
- A wing
- To go on horseback
- Enclosed space for livestock
- Crazes
- Comfort
- Remnant
- Couch
- Drag, as a bow
- Early American defense areas
- Utensil
- Twilled fabric
- Irish playwright
- A fruit
- Juice of plants
- Entertain royally
- God of love
- Pass a line through a block
- A firm
- Guido's high-speed note
- Moved with speed
- Man's nickname

Yesterday's Answer: 39. A firm; 43. Guido's high-speed note; 44. Moved with speed; 46. Man's nickname.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X E
L O N G F E L L O W

One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation
P D N F D N H N L U W A E T N A F X E X
P W F D N T W K K X K I — V K X S O K I

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THESE THINGS ARE BAD, BUT YOU DO NO BETTER YOURSELF. MARTIAL

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