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The Cinnamon Creek Trick

By N. H. CROWELL

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Biggs was the greenest-looking man that ever faced old Bill Williams—

and did not flinch. On the occasion when he floated into the stuffy little black coach station and draped his spruce frock across one end of Bill's

chair, that gentleman removed his visor and stared at him in his wrath.

"And who in Trophet may you be?" howled old Bill, his whiskers twitching like an angry cat.

Biggs smiled a cherubic smile and picked up one of Bill's letters with a casual air of interest.

"You don't know me, grandpa?" he remarked quizzically, as if in doubt.

"Ph! Ph! You—furn you—who—say, are you Biggs?" exploded the wrathful Bill.

"Biggs and me are the same gent, sir," responded the smiling visitor.

Williams surveyed the elongated figure with contempt rampant on his features.

"Well, you are a fooloo, ain't you? You don't look able to sling hash—let alone lightning. Know what you're up against, don't you?"

"No, and what's more, I don't give a dang."

"Well, my ducky—my little insult to civilized society—you are billed to handle that Cinnamon Creek trick, and if you're not scaped by them blood-drinking judges inside of a week, you'll have your pay."

"I can't at all bear of hearing, pa!" said Biggs.

Williams grew red, then purple and looked about to explode. At last he dashed fiercely from the room and slammed the door with a bang.

Four—six—eight long seconds ticked by and then the stiff figure of old Bill Williams flashed by. The freeman's face broke into a smile as he seized the lever.

Slizz-zz! went the brakes on the huge wheels and then, in a cloud of sand and dust, the fast-flying flat cars careened by—on the siding.

Another moment and the pile-up at the bump end of the switch on the curved. Biggs and Goff dashed through a hall of sand and brought the train to a standstill a bare hundred yards beyond.

"Fine man, Bill!" he remarked earnestly, and the recipient grunted with grim pleasure.

Biggs was sent for and left on the first train. Confronting the roll-top desk, he exhibited the blisters on his palms, shook the sand from his shoes, and stood up bravely under the friendly pats from the rich and powerful.

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The grand jury recommends that President Wilson issue a proclamation under the wheat guarantee act, fixing a selling price for all wheat now held in the United States at the price paid to the farmer, plus a reasonable carrying charge and that a similar price be fixed on flour and mill feed.

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Portland, Ore.—M. H. Houser declared there was no basis whatever for the allegations made by the Spokane grand jury. He said:

"The allegations made by the federal grand jury at Spokane are untrue. The whole thing is a misstatement and distortion of facts. The charges are ridiculous and absurd and they cannot get figures to substantiate them. They simply don't know what they are talking about."

"I have had absolutely nothing to do with the management of any of these concerns, notwithstanding what the grand jury may say to the contrary. If I were loose from the grain corporation and anxious to collect a few filthy dollars, I would not put in my time day after day with the thankless job of trying to handle the grain corporation here in the northwest."

New York.—Herbert Hoover issued a statement here defining his attitude toward the presidency. He announced that he is not a candidate for the nomination and that no one is authorized to speak for him politically. If the league of nations is made an issue in the election he says he will vote for the party that stands for the league. In response to requests that he declare allegiance to either one or the other of the great political parties, Mr. Hoover said:

"I am being urged by people in both parties to declare my allegiance to either one or the other. Those who know me, know that I am able to make up my mind when a subject is clearly defined. Consequently, until it more definitely appears what the party managers stand for, I must exercise a prerogative of American citizenship and decline to pledge my vote blindly."

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Industry Census Work Under Way. San Francisco.—The decennial industrial census of the Pacific coast district has been started by Frank L. Stanford, chief special agent of the census bureau, who opened an office here to receive mail statistics from manufacturers.

Uncle Eben. "Dar ain' no use tryin' to bury de hatchet wif some folks," said Uncle Eben, "mos' as long as dey kin keep dodgin' in de hardware store an' gettin' mo' cutlery."

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Unavoidable. Hub—Oh, don't worry about the cook's crankiness. Don't take any notice of her.

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Happiness in Cheerfulness. The mind that is cheerful in its present state will be averse to all solicitude as to the future, and will meet the bitter occurrences of life with a placid smile.—Horses.

Bells Make Splendid Music. Sweet Sounds Have Moved Many Great Writers to Record Their Tribute of Delight.

The lovely carillons of bells in Belgium towers have inspired many a poet, many an author. Rosetti, Stevenson, Thackeray, Thomas Hardy, Victor Hugo, Longfellow, Macdonald, Henry Van Dyke and others have written of the music of the carillon. The 45 bells in the tower of St. Rombold at Mechlin, or Malines, which were heard by Victor Hugo in 1845, gave birth to a poem which tradition says he wrote with his ring upon the window pane of a little inn in the middle of the night. The theme is a description of the wonderful carillon music at Malines. Another writer, William Gorman Rice, who heard the great master of bells, Josef Denyn, play on the carillon of St. Rombold, has given a splendid description of the effect of this music upon him. He says:

"Sometimes in winter, after iceles have formed, there comes a thaw, and one by one they tumble down gently at first, then bolder in a mass they come ill, like an avalanche, they crash down with a mighty roar. All of this the music suggested. It was low, it was loud, it was from one bell, it was from chords of bells, it was majestic, it was simple. And every note seemed to fall from above, from such heights that the whole land heard its beauty."

Seven Wonders of the World. Three lists are given of seven wonders. What are known as the seven wonders of the ancient world were: Pyramids of Egypt, Pharos of Egypt, hanging gardens of Babylon, temple of Diana at Ephesus, statue of Jupiter by Phidias, mausoleum of Artemis, Colossus of Rhodes. Those of the middle ages were: Coliseum of Rome, catcombs of Alexandria, great wall of China, Stonehenge, leaning tower of Pisa, porcelaine tower of Nankin, mosque of St. Sophia in Constantinople. One list of the seven wonders of the new world are: Wireless telegraph, airplane, radium, antiseptics and antibiotics, spectrum analysis, X-ray.

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SPITZBERGEN



IN 1596 two Dutchmen, Barents and Heemskirk, discovered Spitzbergen, and were immediately followed by British explorers. A British seaman—Poole—was one of these, and he was the first man to find coal in Spitzbergen, in 1804. Two notable British explorers were Fotherby and Baffin, who sailed to Spitzbergen on behalf of the well-known company of London merchants known as the Muscovy company. Carrying with them a royal warrant, they authoritatively and definitely annexed Spitzbergen in 1614 to the British crown in the name of King James VI and his successors. So it is certainly British yet by right of succession, whatever the successive heads of the British government have been or will be, since the reign of James VI of Scotland and I of Great Britain, writes Dr. William S. Bruce in Sphere.

In 1914 Britain consented to sit at a conference table, convened by other powers, at Christiania, to discuss in what way the government of Spitzbergen should be organized, because of its increasing commercial development by enterprising miners and hunters of various nationalities—British and foreign. There had been an earlier conference at which Russia, Norway, and Sweden only had sat, and at which, I understand, Britain had refused to consent to sit, or at all events definitely did not sit and did not recognize it as an internationally authoritative. But in 1914—the tercentenary of Fotherby and Baffin's British annexation—the British government, which had the ancient right and title to Spitzbergen as heirs and successors of King James, took up the very general question of holding, if a British government delegate was to sit, that every power represented there must first acknowledge that Spitzbergen was Terra Nullius, or No Man's Land, thus not forcing British rights for ward, but also refusing to admit the right of any other power present to have any right or title whatever. This conference was sitting in Christiania in July, 1914. Besides Britain, the United States, Germany, Russia, France, Holland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark were delegates, but when the war broke out the different delegates returned to their respective countries and the conference was dissolved without result, and Spitzbergen is, and remains, a Terra Nullius. This is quite definite in spite of other unauthentic statements that have recently appeared in the press.

Who Shall Rule the Island? What will next happen it is impossible to say, even by one who, like myself, has been very intimately associated with Spitzbergen for almost a quarter of a century. But certain things must happen regarding some of the powers which were represented at the conference in 1914. (1) Germany must not be allowed in future to take any part whatever in the organization of Spitzbergen in spite of her forced bargain with Russia at the Brest-Litovsk treaty. (2) Russia is surely not able to take a fully responsible position now with her disorganized government. (3) The United States has not the same interests, because her citizens have since sold their estates to Norwegians; Holland has only early historical interests, France and Denmark have no special economic interests, and Britain, Norway and Sweden remain the three specially interested parties.

Which of these three countries is able to look justly after the rights of its own subjects, as well as those of the other two nationalities who have interests? Personally, for many strong reasons, I most emphatically emphasize that the British government should be asked by the world powers at the peace conference to exercise its rights not only as heir to the British rights and titles as defined and declared by Fotherby and Baffin in 1614, but also for the protection of subjects of other nations who have some, but not exclusive, rights there. Spitzbergen will soon be recognized as the goose with the golden egg. "Let Spitzbergen develop." In Spitzbergen we find the finest coal in the world, equal to the best Welsh steam coal, in most accessible places. This is very definitely known by many others than myself and those thoroughly familiar with Spitzbergen. It was Captain Poole in 1804 who discovered coal, and it was myself who brought it home in 1808, and I had it certified as a very high class steam coal in the laboratory of a Scottish colliery; but it was the Americans, who first developed its mining on an extensive scale, in about 1905, under William Murray. It is now being more extensively worked by British, Norwegians, and Swedes.

Extensive iron ore deposits are reported by the Northern Exploration company of London. Oil deposits are known and claimed by the Scottish Spitzbergen syndicate, as well as very extensive deposits of some of the finest gypsum in the world, while there are indications of other valuable minerals, which will require skilled investigation and handling by expert mining geologists and engineers.

Furs and Fisheries. Besides minerals there are fur-bearing animals which would provide sport and fur if properly protected by the British government, and not allowed to be massacred and even extensively poisoned by northern hunters. Let these animals be bred and only legally killed with discretion, and there will be a large permanent revenue from them. Valuable foxes and reindeer still exist in considerable numbers in spite of the indiscriminate slaughter that has taken place. There are seals, whales, and porpoises. The walrus can be re-established as well as the polar bear. Fisheries, too, might also be organized, and all these animals could produce a large revenue if properly handled and properly protected by an organized and unselfish government.

Then there are the beauties and wonders of this arctic land of promise, besides these wonderful mineral and animal resources mentioned. Think of the birds, many in their millions, and many of economic value, notably the elder duck, and some very edible birds and eggs—geese, ducks, and others. One may scan acres, even miles, of purple saxifrage, like purple heather. One may wade through luxuriant beds of sulphur buttercups, and find brilliant patches of arctic poppies and other plants, thriving even at great and exposed altitudes. Many brilliantly-colored lichens etch out almost every rock, swampy bits luxuriate with the richest mosses, liverworts, and interesting algae, and pools teem with crustacean and other animal and vegetable life; even the remnants of snow are Denmark with red, yellow, green, and other colored algae known over centuries.

Spitzbergen, besides mineral, animal and plant resources, has a large series of beautiful harbors and anchorages, so what with these and the Gulf stream there is every possible facility to get there comfortably and safely. Let our shell-shock patients and other wounded heroes thoroughly recover in Spitzbergen in proper sanatoria in the healthiest climate in the world, where you can't get a cold or a fever because there are no germs—a sterile, wonderful, and translucent atmosphere suffuses this land where the sun never sets all the summer and consequently the plants never cease to grow, and where everything is more wonderful and beautiful than in any inhabited part of the world from pole to pole.

Sun Source of All Power. Power cannot come from nothing. Even a watch or clock must, sooner or later, have new power put into it. The power is put into the spring when the watch is wound up. We wind it with muscle force obtained from food. Food in turn is produced by power of the sun. So the sun, which really drives the watch, is the source of all power.

Siam's Amazon Guard. Siam is one of the few countries which boast of a corps of women police. The members of this amazon guard are all old and homely. They wear a uniform, but are not armed. Their chief duty is to act as gate keepers of the inner, or women's palace at Bangkok.

They follow any stranger who enters the palace and remain with him until he takes his departure. They see that there is no mischief made and that no one makes love to the royal wives and women. Men who have business inside the palace—doctors, architects, carpenters, electricians, etc.—enter the palace freely, but are always accompanied by some of the amazon guard. The palace has some difficulty in re-entrusting these guards, as the work is hard, the pay poor, and the qualification uncomplimentary.

Hit It Right That Time. "How the Blanks could afford to give such a grand dinner I don't understand," said Mrs. Blunderby to her guest. "It was really a most preposterous repast."—Boston Transcript.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

Cougars are reported killing deer on the north fork of Smith river, in Southern Curry county.

Smuggling liquor from Canada by airplane into Oregon is said to be the latest scheme to evade the law.

The Klamath county wool growers' association has elected officers, including E. M. Hammond, president.

A total of 298 accidents were reported to the state industrial accident commission for the week ending February 6.

Fossil is having its share of influenza, but the cases are generally mild. It is practically impossible to get nurses.

Agreeing to accept a standard breed of dairy cattle, farmers of Alsea valley have gone on record for a community improvement program.

Shut in from motor travel, Cove, Union county, has only developed three cases of contagious diseases in six months. These cases were typhoid.

A Salvation Army advisory board has been created at Eugene to investigate and report on local conditions in which the organization can be of service.

An anti-vaccination league has been formed at Marshfield, with more than 100 members, for the purpose of preventing the vaccination of school children.

After acquiring a fortune of \$10,000 shingling shoes at Eugene, Louis Polalis, a young Greek, has returned to his native land, after selling out his brother.

Preference rights will be granted soldiers by the government in filing on the Oregon & California and other forfeited land grants to be opened to settlement.

Medford has been named the headquarters of the Episcopal Church in southern Oregon with Pastor William B. Hamilton of St. Marks church as dean of the district.

C. Ray Beckley of Portland has filed application with Percy Cupper, state engineer, for the use of water from the John Day river for power development and irrigation purposes.

Preliminary steps have been taken at Heppner for the organization of a Morrow county fair association, with a capital stock of \$25,000. A tract of 32 acres near Heppner will be purchased.

The Penoyr Lumber company of Saginaw, Mich., has closed a contract for the Savage tract of timber, on the border of Jackson and Josephine counties. Removal of the timber will begin at once.

Net sales of hogs, sheep and cattle sent to the Portland stockyards by the Lane county cooperative shipping association during the year amounted to \$164,076. Sixty-four carloads of stock were shipped.

Postmasters are to be appointed in Oregon as follows: Wayne E. Elliott, Veneta, Lane county; Charles W. Sharpe, Camas Valley, Douglas county; Percy E. Allen, Elsie, Clatsop county; and Mrs. Marie W. Havill, Hoff, Clackamas county.

By agreement with the state, the Pacific Livestock company will put on the market 10,000 acres of Harney valley land, and first choice will be given soldiers and sailors. They will have 60 days in which to take up the option of settlement.

Grasshoppers cannot be classed as squirrels, noxious rodents or predatory animals under the Oregon laws, and consequently county courts are not authorized to appropriate money for their extermination, according to an opinion by Attorney-General Brown.

Poultry schools are to be established in Wasco county by the Wasco County Poultry association according to plans formulated by the executive committee. It is planned to have six schools in various parts of the county which will be instructed by prominent poultry experts.

A record price for standing timber was offered at the government sale of 10,000,000 feet of white pine on the Klamath Indian reservation, the high bidder, I. H. Larkey, bidding \$6.33 per 1000 feet, and \$2.82 per 1000 feet rental for the Kirk sawmill, where the timber will be manufactured.

Predatory animals numbering 3216 were killed by the 58 men and women employed by the United States biological survey in Idaho, Washington and Oregon during the six months ending December 31, Stanley Jewett, inspector in charge with headquarters at Pendleton, announced.

In case all the millage tax measures to be submitted to the voters of Oregon at the special election to be held on May 21 are approved, the state tax levy next December will exceed the levy made in December, 1919, by more than 100 per cent, according to state officials who have given the proposed laws careful study and consideration.

Officials of the Grants Pass irrigation district have filed with the state engineer resolutions outlining a plan of reclamation, request for certification of approximately \$400,000 in bonds voted for development work, and application for state payment of interest on these bonds. This district comprises about 8000 acres and is located in Josephine county.

Hop buyers in the Salem district have made several contracts recently whereby they agree to take the growers' product for a term of three years

at a stipulated price of 35 cents a pound. As a result of these contracts and the optimistic feeling over the future prospects of the hop industry in Marion county the acreage will be materially increased this season.

It is estimated there will be approximately \$885,460.22 of state money available for the construction of market roads in the various counties of Oregon during the year 1920, according to a report prepared by members of the state highway commission. To obtain this