

Promotion Within the Service

THE APPOINTMENT since our last issue of Messrs. J. M. Gibson and James S. Braidwood as assistant stores commissioners, of Fletcher Sparling as general manager at Calgary retail, G. A. H. Porte as manager at the new Victoria store and W. R. Ogston as acting manager of Winnipeg retail is a practical demonstration of an outstanding H.B.C. policy—"promotion within the Service."

There ought to be an inspiration for younger employees in these examples of men who have made themselves capable of the higher positions that are continually opening up in one or another of the Company's many departments and branches.

Northern Mackenzie River News

Fort Simpson—The Imperial Oil Company narrowly escaped the loss of their machines, which were lying on the snye at the back of the Fort awaiting favorable weather for their return trip to Peace River. During the night of April 22nd, the Liard river came down and piled up about four miles above the Fort. The water began to rise immediately. The aviators were aroused and hastened down to the machines with their baggage; the one machine took off nicely and landed on a small lake a few miles away and left on the following day for Peace River, where it arrived safely. The other machine was damaged in taking off and had to be pulled up on the shore. The same night the Liard river pushed right out, filling the snye with ice; the water in the Mackenzie rose eight feet.

On May 12th, Tom Griffith, with a large party of local men, including Sergeant Thorne, left with a scow for Fort Norman for the purpose of staking claims.

Extract from Fort Simpson Journal, May 29th, 1921—Mr. P. H. Godsell arrived at 9 a.m. from an inspection trip to Fort Wrigley; Mr. H. A. George and three others arrived from Peace River en route to Fort Norman, via Hay river, reports three

men having been drowned on the Hay river. The S.S. "Liard River" arrived at 9 p.m. from Spence river; owing to the exceedingly high water, following a sudden ice jamb, she was carried into the bush and almost wrecked.

Fort Simpson, June 1st.

Mr. and Mrs. Ewen arrived in a small scow from Fort Nelson on June 4th. Congratulations to them on the arrival of a son—the first white child born at Fort Nelson.

Mr. Fughl and party of eleven men left for the oil fields on June 10th, having arrived at Fort Simpson two days previously.

Mr. McLeod, manager of Fort Liard, and his wife and family arrived from Fort Liard in a small scow, with the season's returns.

On the evening of June 14th, three scows arrived, propelled by gasoline canoes. They comprised three survey parties under Drs. Norris, Williams and Hume, and contemplate working between this post and Fort Norman during the summer.

Two additional parties were left at Hay River and Providence.

A strange sight was seen at Fort Smith in June. Mr. McDermott, of the H.B.C., had a dog-team of five hitched to a five-plow cultivator, and the way that the dogs worked was a novel sight. This team travelled 4000 miles last winter and is worth \$1000.

The fishing season at Salt river is over, and many boat loads of dried fish went out to the different forts as a consequence.

The fish, weighing from three to six pounds, come, like the salmon off the B.C. coast, up the river in masses, and are caught with nets by the Indians, a lucky man catching about 1000 fish per day. As one Indian put it, "Me catch lots more easy, but squaw can't work more."

The squaws cut off the heads, open the fish, take out the insides, and cut the fish in strips. Then the fish are either dried or smoked, and furnish food for the family and dogs for the summer, until the fall catch comes in, which is frozen.

As everywhere else, the oil regulations are cussed and discussed in the north, and every one hopes for an

early change which will give those who made this country a fair chance.

The first baseball game ever played at Fort Smith ended in a victory for Major Burwash's party over the employees of the Alberta & Arctic Transportation company. The Indians have not as yet grasped the purpose of home runs and stealing bases, and one voiced his opinion as follows: "Huh! White men crazy—run around like crazy—and nobody after him at all."

Long Lake Post (Ont.) News

TREATY payment day here was July 20th, and on the 21st we held the customary canoe races in the afternoon. The weather was very favorable and everything went off in fine shape. Quite a number of Indians from Heron Bay and Mobert came up with their families to join in the fun. In the evening a dance was held in the old warehouse, which had been emptied of its contents preparatory to its being utilised as a temporary store during the removal of the general store to the station two miles distant.

John Goodwin, from Lac Seul, arrived during the month to fill the position vacated by Mr. Finlayson, who will be retiring shortly after forty-three years of faithful service with the Company.—S. A. Taylor.

Norway House Post (Man.) News

SATURDAY, July 30th, at 7.30 p.m., we heard approaching what appeared to be a number of gasoline engines, and on going outside observed in the sky, coming from the West, a large seaplane. After circling twice, she passed directly over the Fort and alighted in the lake, steering for moorings that had been prepared off Forestry Island. Mr. Fisher, chief fire ranger, who was at the Fort at the time, left immediately, taking Messrs. Talbot and Dupuis with him. We reached the plane just as the passengers were alighting and assisted in taking them off. The machine, No. G-CYBT, had made the trip from Victoria Beach to Norway House in 3 hours and 18 minutes (an average of 72 miles an hour).

Sunday, July 31st.—Went over to Forestry Island for lunch. Messrs Stevenson, Hobbs and Brockendon, passengers in the plane, visited the Fort again immediately after lunch. Returned with them to Forestry Island to witness their departure for The Pas which took place about 3.45 p.m. Major Hobbs took Mr. Fisher for a short flight this morning. The Indians here showed great interest in the machine, crowds being around all day. As far as I could observe, they seemed not the least bit scared and took the arrival of the "strange bird" with their usual stoicism.—R. A. Talbot.

Tom Ross Is Friendly

Depot Drygoods Buyer Began to Make Good with H.B.C. Back in 1889

AMONG the Company's Winnipeg Gold Medalists still "in harness," there is perhaps none who is better known or more affectionately regarded than "Tom" Ross, manager of the wholesale drygoods and stationery.



Tom Ross

Mr. Ross does not often have a disagreement with anyone, but when he does, "the fur flies," as one old timer expressed it. He speaks his mind very pertinently. Next moment, however, he's as friendly as ever. And his heart is so big that he would do anything for one. These things are characteristic of the man.

Born at Coburg, Ontario, in 1856, Mr. Ross entered the service of H.B.C. as a salesman the first of April, 1889. They say he wasn't always thinking and talking about promotion, but worked on the principle that a good man can't be kept down. Therefore he proceeded to make himself a good man.

He has enjoyed progressive promotion. In 1905 he was appointed drygoods buyer for the depot, where he has spent the whole term of his service.

Mr. Ross does big things in a quiet way. He is a prominent Mason, a leader in Sunday school work, and curling is the only sport he is known to indulge in.

Balsillie in North 26 Years

JA. BALSILLIE, H.B.C. manager at Fort Providence, and J. McDermott, post manager for the Company at Fort Smith, reached Edmonton last month from the North via McMurray and the Waterways railway, this being Mr. Balsillie's first trip out to civilization for 26 years.

Both these men were present at the trial of the Slavey Indian, Lebeau, at Fort Providence, when the latter was sentenced to be hanged for the murder of his wife and baby. The execution will take place at Fort Fitzgerald on November 1st. This is the first court which was held in the far north, and with the idea of impressing the natives with a sense of British justice, the chief of the tribe and 20 of his most responsible men were ordered to attend the trial.

Chipewyan Pioneer Dies

PPETER LOUTIT, 76, one of the oldest residents of Fort Chipewyan, Athabasca, and a real pioneer of the Northland, died on June 19th at the Fort and was buried at Edmonton. J. J. Loutit, manager of Fort Chipewyan, and Thomas Loutit, manager of Fond du Lac post, are his sons.



MONTAIGNES INDIANS of the interior of Ungava who annually trade at the H. B. C. Fur Post, Fort Chimo.

MONTREAL

H.B.C. Eastern Buying Agency News

THE following ladies' ready-to-wear buyers visited Montreal in July:

Miss Woodhead, Winnipeg retail.
Mr. Boyle, Vancouver retail.
Miss Grimason, Victoria retail.
Mr. Secord, Edmonton retail.
Mr. Salter, Calgary retail.

The following H.B.C. department store buyers visited the Eastern markets during August:

Miss A. McCheyne, Winnipeg retail.
Mr. W. R. Diamond, Winnipeg retail.
Mr. W. Ogden, Winnipeg retail.
Miss F. O'Grady, Winnipeg retail.
Mr. M. G. Higgins, Winnipeg retail.
Mr. Q. R. Scott, Winnipeg retail.
Mr. Bodel, Calgary.
Mr. H. Keith, Calgary.
Mr. Geo. Brower, Calgary.
Mr. J. J. Hayes, Calgary.
Mrs. McKay, Calgary.
Mr. Plowes, Calgary.
Miss Patton, Calgary.
Mr. A. N. MacDonald, Calgary.
Mr. Brennand, Calgary.
Miss Adams, Calgary.
Mr. Mulholland, Calgary.
Mr. A. M. Ross accompanied by Miss Gibbons and Miss Dolby.
Mr. Harvey, Edmonton.
Mr. Chasey, Edmonton.
Mr. Roberts, Edmonton.
Mr. Pallett, Edmonton.
Mr. Wm. Briggs, Edmonton.
Mr. Stapells, Edmonton.
Mr. Winslow, Vancouver.
Mr. B. M. Clark, Vancouver.
Miss J. M. Green, Vancouver.
Mr. Townsend, Vancouver.
Mr. W. J. McLaughlin, Vancouver.
Mrs. Clarke, Yorkton, Sask.

Miss Workman was in the East making millinery purchases for the Victoria store.

Mr. S. Purves, of Winnipeg wholesale, and *Mr. S. D. Wilson*, of Vancouver, buyers for the shoe department, visited us in July.

Our hearty congratulations to *Mr. Pout* on his appointment to the position of merchandise manager at Victoria. We are doubly pleased to hear this good news, as *Mr. Pout* is one of "our own"—having been connected with the E.B.A. for several years.

Mr. J. White and *Mr. George Milne*, of the London office, visited Montreal during August on their way West.