The True Imperial Spirit as Shown at a Series of Successful Picnics from Coast to Coast

All Work and No Play Makes Jack a Dull Boy!

The annual picnic has become an institution in the various district organizations of Imperial Oil Limited, and it is with much pleasure that The Review publishes this special number to chronicle the numerous gatherings of this nature which have been held during the past summer.

It will be noted that the season witnessed Imperial Oil picnics from coast to coast. Halifax, Montreal East, Toronto, Toronto, Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, Calgary, Vancouver, Loco—our correspondents in all of these centres wax eloquent concerning the success which attended the holding of gatherings at their respective points. Everywhere the monotony of the modern day was "Let joy be unconfined", and employees and their friends in large numbers daily proceeded to live up to the letter as well as the spirit of the command.

It is a matter for general congratulation that the weather man proved to be in a very happy mood on the majority of the days selected for the outings, and with the sun smiling benignantly throughout the period, the groups of merry-makers found conditions as propitious as might be for unalloyed enjoyment.

It will be noted that a splendid program of sports was provided in every instance, and while space does not permit a detailed review of the various events, we are assured that all were hotly contested.

Other picnics of a similar nature and, we trust, with a like success, are to follow elsewhere, and detailed accounts of the happenings will appear in due course.

If there is one thing more than another which these summer assemblies imparts, it is that the organization as a whole has developed to a marked degree the element of cooperation—the true Imperial spirit. It is, perhaps, easier to establish this at a holiday gathering, but it is a pleasure to record that the characteristic which was so noticeable at the picnics has been as clearly built during these "dry run" exercises.
"Let Joy be Unconfined" Motto at Sarnia

By C. J. Driscoll, Manufacturing Dept., Sarnia

The employees of the Sarnia Refinery adopted the motto "Let joy be unconfined" at their fifth annual picnic, which was held at Bayview Park, on Monday, August 6. That it was a huge success goes without saying. Once again Sarnia demonstrated its ability to go one better than the previous year, and the exemplification of team work for the previous two months, during which time the outing was in contemplation and course of preparation, resulted in it being unani-
mously voted "The Best Yet!".

The Sarnia picnic is, perhaps, unique in that it commences with a big parade which goes through the principal streets of the city to the park. There were a large number of floats on hand this year, and the quality of craftsmanship and unique nature of design brought very favorable com-
mendation. At the risk of making an invidious comparison, perhaps the writer might make special mention of the exhibits of the Car De-
partment and the Pressure Stills.

The photos reproduced on this and the next page will give the reader some idea of the character of the parade. In addition to the floats, there were present the inimitable Charlie Chaplin and a number of clowns, and the antics of these per-
formers proved a source of unending delight as well to the grown-up folk as to the kiddies.

Arrived at the picnic grounds, a splendid pro-
gram of sports was provided. These lasted throughout the entire afternoon and were carried out with old-time zest and enthusiasm. Much attention was given to the baseball contest be-
tween Sarnia and Toronto Imperial teams, which resulted in an easy victory for the locals, with a score of 10 to 2, thus shattering a tie of no less than three years' standing.

As usual, the baby show provided a great deal of interest. It was no easy task to pick a lone prize-winner from among forty to fifty youngsters, each one of whom bore an undoubted mark of distinction and rank. However, the judges, endowed with many years of practical experience and mature understanding, decided in favor of Baby Smith, whose picture is published on this page, and who, everyone must admit, is "Some Baby".

At the close of the day the picnickers went home thoroughly tired out, but more than satis-
fied with their outing, and already looking for-
ward to another big getting-together next year.
Record Time at Ioco Gathering

The third annual picnic of the Ioco Railway was held this year at Belcarra, on the North Arm of Burrard Inlet, and the day's festivities were characterized as the best on record.

The day, Friday, July 20th, was ideal for a picnic, not a cloud in the sky and breeze enough to be enjoyable. Excellent arrangements for transportation had been made, and the "Polarine" left Vancouver at 8 o'clock, calling at Burrard, bringing employees from those points. The "Royalite" and "Premier" collected the Mosquito people, and Jim Fraser with his launch picked up those from Barge. At the Ioco town wharf the barge with seating accommodation for a large crowd, was made fast to the "Polarine", and before 11 o'clock nearly 300 people were on their way. Boats ran trips practically continuously, giving opportunity to the shiftmen to spend some part of the day at Belcarra. Special thanks is due to Capt. Scott and the crew of the "Polarine," and Messrs. Belton, Gillett and Fraser, for the long day they put in, enabling so many to have a good time. The picnic grounds, which are only half an hour's run, are beautifully situated, and Mr. Gordon Jonas, the proprietor, has laid out to the best advantage and did his best to insure a good time.

During the morning and afternoon Jim Fraser ran boat trips to Lake Buntzen, where, through the courtesy of the B.C. Electric Railway, permission had been granted to visit their power plant.

There were races of all kinds, and for all sets of conditions of people, also a contest in horseshoe pitching and the perennial tug of war. In the latter a team of twelve ladies took the field against one of eight men, and when the gentler sex proved the victors enthusiasm was unbounded. The dancing pavilion is situated near the water amongst the trees, and these conditions insured dancing under the best conditions.

The homeward journey in the moonlight put the finishing touch to a day which it would be hard to surpass.

Annual Celebration at Winnipeg Beach

By C. S. Griffith, Winnipeg

Wednesday, July 18th, the day set apart for the annual picnic of the Winnipeg Staff dawned bright and clear—an ideal picnic day. As a matter of fact the weather man seemed to have a very soft spot in his heart for that day; this city held the record as the hottest spot in Canada.

Special cars were reserved on the morning train to Winnipeg Beach and the entire staff, with their families and friends, to the number of 300, left at nine o'clock, determined to make the day a success. Our agent at the Beach, Mr. R. Henderson, in conjunction with the C.P.R. Park Wardens, had made all arrangements for the Sports' grounds, necessary tables, hot water etc. On arrival at the Beach, our "Eats" were duly deposited on the tables and we all made our way to the grounds, where a program of races for young and old was run off. Fred Gallagher, our star athlete—acted as starter and had his hands full marshalling the wee tots into their places. He was ably assisted by the Sports Committee, which consisted of Messrs. C. Hay, F. T. Norris, F. D. Paterson, C. Waring and C. Wilson, while Mesdames C. S. Griffith, R. Kingsmill and J. Blackwood, as judges, seemed to enjoy their positions, especially catching the young ladies at the winning post. The novelty races provided considerable amusement for the onlookers, notably the blind-folded driving race, and the winners, Messrs. E. Costie and A. Musson, proved themselves exceptionally skilful in keeping their "horses" headed straight to the tape line.

After lunch was served, the water proved too tempting to be resisted, and a goodly number of the party donned bathing suits and enjoyed an afternoon in the lake, coming out with a keen appetite and ready for an early supper. Numerous cameras were on duty during the afternoon.

Football and baseball games were scheduled for six o'clock, but owing to the excessive heat they were called off, and with the exception of a few, who remained for the evening's dance, the party journeyed home on the early train, extremely tired, and well pleased with the day's outing.

No accidents happened to mar the pleasure of (Continued on page 12)
Regina Celebrates in Splendid Form

By W. McInnis, Regina

ALTHOUGH thunder and lightning disturbed their numbers in the early morning of Saturday, July 28th, the employees of the Regina Refinery were not to be daunted by the weather possibilities, and with a banner and bunting they boarded the train and set themselves, over three hundred strong, to Regina Beach to celebrate their eleventh annual picnic.

A few of the more adventurous of the employees of Henry Ford's preferred to utilize his obliging form of transportation, and started out by auto. Some of them went to their destination after a strenuous struggle through the surf. "Mae," after wading through several shallow ditches, gave up as a bad job and he, at least, returned home.

The crowd was met at the station by "Shirley" Topp and Ken Cook who had been on the job bright and early and had everything in readiness for the luncheon committee, the members of which were, perhaps, the most popular of the picnickers for the time being. Soon after bocce and foot-volley, announcements were made that the meal was ready and young and old alike set to and certainly did full justice to their appetites and the abundance spread.

The first event on the sports program was a badminton between the married and single ladies. Only those who witnessed the contest could appreciate the way in which the girls played the pill; the chronicle's imagination and vocabulary fail him in attempting to describe the contest, suffice it to say that the single women won.

After the first ball game, there was a splendid series of races and other events, including a heated and nigh-provoking endazade as the egg and spoon race, three-legged races, sack race, and the well-known and ever-popular tug of war. The latter, as usual, was a keenly-contested affair and was won by the team of twelve captained by Jack Craig.

Later on there was another baseball game, this time between the married and single men, won by the latter with a score of two to one, with the names of the prize-winners as follows:

3. Boys 12 and under—Alex Bertheimuehle, R. Scollin.
4. Boys 12 and under—A. King, Jack Craig.
5. Girls 15 and under—Miss Smith, Miss Whitaker.

(Continued on page 12)

September, 1923

Toronto Employees Make Merry

By P. F. Sinclair, Toronto

The annual picnic of Imperial Oil, Limited, Toronto, held in the City Exhibition Park for the first time in its history, afforded the employees a chance to see the new park and enjoy the scenery. The weather was fine and the grounds were well populated.

The picnic was opened by a band concert, and the afternoon was spent in playing games and picnicking. The judges, Messrs. P. F. Sinclair, John Finlay, Frank Hall and Miss E. M. Hurry, had the greatest difficulty arriving at a decision. During the course of the afternoon, while the Princess Street boys "pulled" the office representatives in a tug-of-war and other exciting events were taking place, scramble for the letters "P.-E.M.T.-L.C.," were held from time to time. This contest, the object of which was to gather together a complete set of letters forming the word "PREMIR," was won by "Scottie" Graham. The difficulty incident to the winning of this prize, when one considers that there was only one complete set of letters in existence, may well be imagined.

In the girls' tug-of-war, which was a most interesting and exciting event, the first, second and third places were taken by the women's, the men's, and the mixed teams, respectively. The prizes were distributed by the several winners on the lawn, by Messrs. Victor Ross and F. Wolfe. The picnickers then repaired to the Horticultural Building for supper, where tea, hot water and milk were supplied.

At eight o'clock in the evening, men, women and children wound their way to the Transportation Building which was beautifully decorated, where a very ambitious and successful cabaret dance was held. The evening's program was given a splendid send-off by a bawl, but very pleasant address by Mr. C. A. Emery, on behalf of the Directors, in...
which the speaker complimented the committee and the employees on the success of the picnic, emphasizing its great value in bringing all members of the organization together.

An orchestra, with a singing band component, was assembled for the dancing, which was interrupted regularly by vaudville skits and other entertainment.

One of the best numbers of the evening was the evergreen skit offered by a group from 56 Church Street. They stylized themselves, "The Mississippi Players—Later of the Caesar's Imperial Theatre—Petrograd," and their playlet was entitled "Service." It was well staged and made a hit with the crowd. Several other acts, including a recitation by Samuel Syl on and songs by Bobby Keys, rounded out the evening's entertainment.

The arrangements made for the convenience and pleasure of the picnickers, which were most complete, were carried out with clock-like precision, and the committee is to be heartily congratulated therewith.

The day's sport program competed in beach in front of the picnic grounds was well patronized by the hundred and twenty competitive teams of friends who enjoyed a quiet time under the shade of the trees.

A lone individual made bold to appear in a bathing costume of enthralling beauty, and then followed a veritable avalanche of swimsuits and bathers who took their place at an hour or two in the warm sun of the afternoon.

What joy can be crowded into a brief hour when the stress of business is thrown off, and that feeling left behind where the city crowds move almost mechanismaly along the warm and crowded thoroughfares?

During the day constant attacks were made upon the "Ice Cream and Sulf Drinks" stand, but the gradually increasing supply made the distribution less strenuous.

The evening meal was hardly prepared and disposed of as the good ship "Lady Evelyn" was due to take the party back to Vancouver at an early evening hour.

The homeward trip was very much enjoyed, the weather being ideal and affording much pleasure to all concerned.

The writer withers that there are no finer halls than those known in B.C., no finer children or younger folks noticed down to dancing, and by the time the city was reached many were regretting that so pleasant a day had ended to an enjoyable evening.

The writer vouches that there are no finer halls than those known in B.C., no finer children or younger folks noticed down to dancing, and by the time the city was reached many were regretting that so pleasant a day had ended to an enjoyable evening.
At Montreal East

By Campbell Hayden, Montreal Referee

The summer picnic is an institution at the Montreal East Refinery, and the fifth annual, held at the beautiful picnic grounds at Bout de Lisle on Monday, July 2nd, was a huge success carried out to the tune of sunny skies, smiles and good weather.

As was to be expected, there was a great bustle and bumbling preparations for the world-wide programs of sports. Meantime, the ice cream and hot dog stands, were a special favorite for the children, and roped enclosures for the various events, went up almost like magic.

There was a record attendance at the gathering, practically all the employees with their wives — or, in the case of the unmarried men, their sweethear — and numerous friends being present.

The employees took form and with great anticipation to this yearly gathering, and the spirit of camaraderie which is always displayed supplied volumes for the good fellowship so much in evidence in every department.

The sporting events started at eleven o'clock and continued until three in the afternoon, when a baseball game took place, the contestants being the Premier and Club of the Refinery and the Buck Club of Bout de Lisle, the former winning by a score of six to three.

Throughout the day there were games and races of all kinds, and everyone took part in the fun from the smallest of the children to the largest and fattest of the men.

Among the lucky winners, special mention might be made of Albert Lapio, the speed artist; and Manfield, the veteran winner among the married men; and Alex. Maton, the quickest fall out of the picnic. Walter Dowar of the Pressure Still Department won the long distance race, Albert Litzin the pole vault contest, and Leon Guildard made a record in high jumping. There was keen competition among the girls for the married women's race being won by Mrs. Litzin and the single ladies' event by Miss Tohmassan.

The Montreal East band furnished excellent music for the day, and in the large pavilion the dancers made merry at the light fantastic. Then an all-night dance was one, supper was served on the spacious lawn where all the throng did ample justice to a hearty meal.

In recognition of the efforts of the Picnic Committee of the Athletic Association, it was unanimously agreed that they were entitled to a hearty vote of thanks for their part in assuring the huge success of the gathering.

The day wound up with everybody happy, convinced that the picnic was the greatest success in our history and already anticipating another record-breaking event twelve months hence.

Regina Celebrates in Splendid Form
(Continued from page 6)

9. Clothes Pin Race — Miss Holman, Mrs. H. Holman.
10. Sail Driving Contest — Mrs. J. Werner, Miss Mahan.
11. Three-legged Race — Mr. and Mrs. C. Werner, Miss Mahan and Mr. Keating.
12. Square dash, ladies — Miss Philips, Miss Bagley.
15. Putting the shot — Augus Cameron, M. Bertheaume.
17. 100 yds. dash — Las, Lasserland, J. Werner.

The picnic was voted a splendid success throughout and too much credit cannot be given to all the different committees who were in charge of the arrangements. Nothing was left undone that would tend to the happiness of the marathoners, and one and all pronounced the gathering the best ever in the history of the Regina Refinery.

Annual Celebration at Winnipeg Beach
(Continued from page 3)

day, although many cases of sunburn were reported.

The program of sports with the prize winners followed:


Halifax Office Has Best Picnic Ever

On Saturday afternoon, August 4th, the first annual picnic of the Halifax Sales Office was held at Prince's Lodge, the historic hunting seat of the Duke of Kent. With the exception of one slight shower the weather left nothing to be desired, and the trip up the harbor in the good ship "Novilite" was just the beginning of an afternoon of sheer enjoyment for the whole staff.

The following program was provided by the Sports Committee and we think you will agree with us that "Day by day in every way, we're getting better and better."

Race Winner

Wheelbarrow Race: Mrs. T. O'Neill
50 yds. (Girls): Miss D. Buskhead
72 yds. (Married Men): Miss J. Woods
100 yds. (Single Men): G. Wannacott
Children's Race (Girls): Helen Dunarees
Children's Race (Boys): "Billy" Neil
Eag and Spoon (Girls): Miss M. Robertson
Three Legged Race: Miss C. Barrickett, E. Lordley
Ree Race (Men): T. O'Neill
Hop, Step and Jump (Men): F. Elliott
Hop, Step and Jump (Girl): Miss M. Fox
Tug-of-War (Girl): Miss M. Robertson's Team

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. R. M. Peidgon and Mrs. J. W. Mahon who received from the Committee a box of chocolates and a silver bar pin as mementos.

The kickoffs had their races as well as the grown-ups, and the prizes given afforded much satisfaction to the small winners. Another thing especially appreciated by the little ones (and some not so small), was the booth for the sale of ice cream and soft drinks which was in charge of Miss F. Fraser. She gave an able demonstration of two of the Company's slogans, "Co-Operation" and "Imperial Service."

By half past five interest began to centre around the dining hall and we feel that special mention should be made of the Refreshment Committee, the result of whose labor was really the crowning feature of the day. After you have read our Menu we know that further comment on this particular feature is quite unnecessary.

The menus follow:


After supper there were races and quite a number collected around the "Hoozey-Hoosie" booth. This game had been in progress between the events all afternoon and was a source of considerable enjoyment to those who tried their luck. By a quarter after eight the lighter was ready for the return trip which was made smoothly until nearly to the Halifax dock when one of the kiddies fell overboard. Thereafter the "Novilite" had been a serious accident was averted by the instant and praiseworthy action of Mr. Allan Butler, who dived over the rail and saved the little one but none the worse for his adventure except for a bad sore. More credit to our "credit man."

Eventually it was a tired but perfectly satisfied crowd who voted this year's picnic absolutely the "Best Ever!"

HALIFAX SALES OFFICE PICNIC

Left — Party staff leaving "Novilite" — Right — Winning Team of War Team.
Calgary Picnic Full of Pep

FULL of “Pep” from the start of the first race till the last prize was given out, is a fair description of the 1923 picnic of the Calgary Division of the Imperial Oil family and affiliated concerns, held at Bowness Park.

Each one of the large number of employees with their relations and friends appeared to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves, from the tiniest tot to the oldest person present.

Apart from the ladies’ races, some of the most spectacular features were the broad jumps of Mears, Hetherington and Wilde, and the sprinting of Mears, Hetherington, Millar, Teagle, Nevler and Clough. The children’s races showed what a sturdy, healthy reserve we have to draw from for our future Directors.

RESULTS OF RACES

Married men 100 yds., T. G. Clough, T. J. Millar, W. Kirkwood.
Open 100 yds., Hetherington, Nevler, Hood, Long Jump, Wilde, Hetherington.
Standing Jump, Hetherington, Wilde.
Tug of War, Won by the Warehouse.

Men’s Relay, 100 yds., won by team of Nevler, Ferguson, Thompson, Goodall.
Men’s Relay sack race, Hood, Wilde, Nevler. Married ladies 50 yds., Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. McCasey, Mrs. Dawson.
Ladies 100 yds., open, Miss Taylor, Mrs. McCasey, Mrs. Campbell.
Family Relay Race, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kirkwood; Mr. and Mrs. J. Dawson.
Three legged race, J. Bjernebo and Mrs. McCasey.
Children 10 to 12, 35 yds., G. Kirkwood, G. Dawson, E. Scott.
Boot and shoe race, 50 yds., E. Kirkwood, D. Costello.

The Sports Committee led by the ubiquitous Jerry Ferguson worked indefatigably, and their good work was carried on later by a wonderfully efficient refreshment committee of ladies.

September, 1923

The Imperial Oil Review

Successful Year at Imperoyal School

By Jessie M. Creighton, Principal

Imperoyal is the Imperial Oil, Limited, branch just across the water from the City of Halifax on the Dartmouth side. The Review herein prints the annual report of the Principal of the public school which is maintained by the Company.

THE work of Imperoyal school during the year 1922-3 has been hindered in two ways—first, by the general depression in industry which has caused the removal of a number of our best pupils from the district; second, by an epidemic of measles which has lasted from the Christmas vacation to the end of the term.

In spite of these disadvantages, however, the year has been quite a successful one.

“The general report for the year is as follows:

“In the primary room there were fifty-six pupils enrolled. Of these, sixteen dropped before the end of the year: eleven are grading from Grade II to Grade III; at the end of the half year, six moved up from Grade I to Grade II; fourteen have passed from Grade I to Grade II; four from Grade I B to Grade IA; and five from the Blackboard Class to Grade I.

“In the Intermediate Room fifty pupils were enrolled, thirteen of whom dropped out before the end of the year. Of the remainder five advanced from Grade II to Grade III at the end of the third quarter. Of twenty-two in Grade III, nineteen passed to Grade IV, three very irregular attendance remaining in the grade. Of eleven in Grade IV, ten are grading to Grade V, one indolent pupil remaining behind.

“In the Advanced Department, forty-five were enrolled, and of these eleven dropped out. Of eleven in Grade V, all have moved up to Grade VI; of eight in Grade VI, seven have passed into Grade VII; and of eight in Grade VII, five have been successful in making Grade IX; thus taking the two years’ course in one year, while three have made Grade VIII.

“Grade IX started the year with an enrollment of eight, but ended with only two pupils. These wrote the Provincial examinations and their marks will speak for themselves.

“During the year the greatest interest was taken in the Imperoyal High School Mail. Last year the preparation of material for The Mail was left largely to one or two who had a particular talent for composition, but this term everyone took part and the results showed great improvement.

“The most outstanding feature of the school year was the general raising of the standard through all the grades. The work has been of a higher class than last year, and we hope that this will continue.

“For the successful conduct and progress of the school, we have largely to thank our Board of Trustees for their whole-hearted support and re-organization. (Signed) "Jessie M. Creighton," Prin.

In forwarding Miss Creighton’s report, Mr. D. M. Allan, the Superintendent of the Halifax Refinery, states that it was read by the Principal at the closing exercises of the school, which were attended by many of the pupils’ parents and their friends, as well as by the trustees, teachers and the pupils themselves.

Mr. Allan adds that the school is highly spoken of by the Inspector of Schools of Halifax County, and that it has been conducted in a highly efficient and satisfactory manner.
Sir William Ralph Meredith
The late Chief Justice of Ontario

The death of Sir William Ralph Meredith last month recalls the fact that it was he who obtained the original charter of our company, which was issued on September 8th, 1880.

In a recent letter to one of the officers of Imperial Oil, Limited, the late Chief Justice referred to his relations with the young corporation during his practice of law and to his abiding interest in its welfare ever since.

Off to South America

Announcement is made of the following changes in the Company's staff in South America:

Mr. Arthur Eddings, who has been with the force in Colombia for the past couple of years as resident geologist, is leaving for Peru to take up the duties as resident geologist in that country, with headquarters at Negritos. During the past four months Mr. Eddings has been away on a vacation, during which time he took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Gladys Gardiner. The Review wishes the happy couple "bon voyage."

Mr. J. H. McLeod, who has been manager of the Royalite Company in the West, with headquarters at Calgary, is leaving for Negritos, Peru, to take over the post of assistant manager in charge of the drilling and producing departments. Mrs. McLeod and their two sons will accompany him.

Mr. W. J. Davidson

Whose death at Wayne, Michigan, was chronicled in The Review last month. He was born at Titusville, Pa., in 1870, and entered the oil business after graduating from high school in that city. He was in turn lessee, right of way man and tax assessor, and joined the Imperial Pipe Line Company, Limited, as superintendent at Wayne in 1913, which position he held until his death. He was a conscientious official and won the respect and love of all those with whom he came in contact.

Gasoline Alone Back to Pre-War Levels

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa makes a monthly compilation of wholesale price averages, and its "index numbers" are recognized everywhere as the most authoritative data on the fluctuations in the cost of living. The chart, compiled from these official figures, gives the comparative index numbers of a few important commodities, the periods covered being the 1913 average, 1922 average, and the averages for the months of May and June of this year. It will be noted that gasoline is the only commodity which has exhibited any important downward tendency since 1922, and that this product is now back to its pre-war level.
The Trend of the Cost of Living in Canada

The chart shows the relation of wholesale prices of some important commodities during June, 1923, to the average price level prevailing during the year 1913. It will be noted that gasoline is the only article listed which is available now at anything like the quotation of ten years ago. The graph, which is self-explanatory, is compiled from the monthly figures furnished by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa.