Montreal Weekly Witness

and Canadian Homestead.

SIXTY-SECOND YEAR. MONTREAL, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17, 1907 MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS $1.00 Post-Paid; 5c a Copy.

WILL GOVERNMENT INCREASE INTEREST?

Hon. W. S. Fielding Has Placed the Matter Before the Bankers Association.

A despatch received from Ottawa yesterday, states that the Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance, has been in communication with tht Bankers' Association in this city, regarding the request made upon the government last week by Mr. Rodolphe Forget, M.P., for an increase in the rate of interest of the Postoffice Savings' Bank from 3 to 3½ percent.

It is understood that the minister is favorable to the increase, but he is receiving strong opposition from the bankers throughout the country, who claim that it would be a serious matter if the government decided just now on such an increase. The argument is advanced that if the government were to give 3½ or 4 percent it would mean that the small depositors would immediately withdraw their savings from other banks and place them in the Post Office Savings' Bank and that such a large withdrawal might prove detrimental to the banks.

Those who favor the increase claim that all the banks would have to do would be to put up their own rate of interest, which they are well able to do, as the earnings of all the banks in Canada show this year from 16 to 20 percent profits.

IMMIGRATION PROBLEM

MR. BRUCE WALKER TAKING ACTION AGAINST LONDON BOOKING AGENT.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 16.—Mr. Bruce Walker, assistant superintendent of immigration, has notified all booking agents regarding the new regulation requiring emigrants going to Canada to have a certain amount of Canadian currency in their possession. Mr. Walker is also taking legal proceedings against a London booking agent, who, through misleading advertisements, is endeavoring to induce mechanics and other artisans to emigrate to Canada.

WOMEN MUST REMOVE HATS

DECISION OF THE REV. J. L. GORDON, OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, WINNIPEG.

Winnipeg, Dec. 1.—Last night the Rev. J. L. Gordon, of the First Congregational Church, formerly of the Bond Street Church, Toronto, insisted on every lady in his congregation removing her hat before the service began. His decision was announced last week. The church was crowded and, as the minister appeared in the pulpit, the ladies began to murmur and remove their bonnets. Four ladies wearing especially stunning creations of the Gainsborough type, refused to comply with the order and no remarks were occasioned.

RAYMOND GUILTY

FIRE CHIEF OF BLIND RIVER, SENT TO KINGSTON FOR SEVEN YEARS FOR INCENDIARISM.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Dec. 16.—The trial of George Raymond, until recently fire chief at Blind River, for incendiarism, was concluded on Saturday night, and a sentence of seven years in Kingston penitentiary was imposed. The charge against Raymond was that of setting fire to the Campbell House, on Sept. 3. Sentence was also imposed on the conviction for forgery which was rendered on Friday, Raymond having written to himself a letter signing it with the names of the two Ouelette brothers, in which he offered himself $500 to set fire to certain buildings. He was sentenced to seven years on this charge also, the sentences to run concurrently.

It is said to be the first instance in the Dominion of the enforcement of this rule.

PLATFORM GAVE WAY

WORKERS AT DAM PLUNGED INTO STREAM—ONE DROWNED.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 15.—The body of one of the victims of a serious accident which occurred at Ship Pond Lake, six miles from Ottawa (Maine), on Wednesday last, was taken through here Saturday evening. The body was that of Cammel Twynman, whose home is in Grand Rapids, Gaspé County, Quebec, and was in charge of Edward Twynman, brother of deceased, who has also been working in Maine. A man named Daigle, belonging to Robersville (N.B.), had his leg broken. At the time of the accident fourteen men were endeavoring to hoist the gates of a dam at the outlet of the lake. They were using a long piece of timber as a lever, and its jarring broke the platform of the dam, and the whole structure gave way, the escaping waters carrying all the men down stream. Every man worked for his own safety, and all but Twynman succeeded in dragging themselves ashore.

Our Annual Word to Our Readers:

THE 'WITNESS' addresses its readers as fellow-workers in the cause of good journalism, and all the causes which good journalism subserves, as without their active co-operation its fight for those 'things that are of good report' would be a failure. We leave to kind contemporaries who recently greeted a special edition of the paper to appreciate its position among newspapers. Not by easy paths can such a position be either attained or maintained. The path of duty often brings estrangements of subscribers and advertisers such as the uninitiated can hardly imagine. But the warfare that necessarily makes enemies in countless directions also makes valiant and resolute friends, of whom the 'WITNESS' has a constituency, hardly to be paralleled by any other newspaper, whose intelligence, broad-mindedness and fairmindedness would have stimulated the greatest writers and thinkers of any time, because it constitutes the moral back-bone of the country. The 'WITNESS' readers appreciate independence in it because they hold dear their own independence, and, though they often disagree with its point of view, they respect their paper—indeed they love it, as few newspapers are loved.

Besides the losses incurred through open war, a newspaper conducted in the interest of its readers must forego a large proportion of the current advertising, involving an enormous loss of revenue and it must also forego that class of circulation which can only be won by vulgarity and still more questionable reading, such as detailed reports of brutal sports and of crime, familiarity with all which is in these days proving so deteriorating to the people.

In various ways the 'WITNESS' foregoes a revenue approaching $50,000.00 annually in the interests of its readers and with the welfare of the country in mind.

With selected advertising we cannot give such a bulk and spread of paper, or be so lavish in expenditures as would be possible were all money-making means used, but we make up in quality for defect of quantity and furnish as much reading as almost any family can want in newspaper form.

Against all these material disadvantages the 'WITNESS' has had nothing to appeal to but the unswerving conscience of a more than usually highminded constituency, the like of which for virtue and robust morality and public spirit probably no other general newspaper in the world can boast.

It is common in the pulpit to pray for the newspaper press, and such a prayer is no doubt on the hearts of many as they realize more and more how much power it wields for good or evil. Such prayers are answered by the needful co-operation of all who can lend a hand to support and extend the influence of those papers that do strive after high ideals.

'STRIKE WHEN THE IRON IS HOT.'

At this time of the year people are considering what paper they will take. This is especially the case with new settlers, but it is also the case more or less with your older neighbors, for they may have reason to consider whether the paper they are taking is or is not the most informing and the best for their home. If our readers made some inquiries, they would find among their immediate friends and neighbors just such people, and as it is of the first importance what paper people read, we ask our subscribers kindly to seek any opportunity of recommending their paper for a year's trial, and such of our subscribers who will couple their recommendation with an offer of reduced rates through taking advantage of one of our clubbing offers, will do us a still greater favor.

By increasing the circulation of the 'WITNESS' its influence will be multiplied and its resources augmented. It will consequently be able to develop new features from time to time, and will at any time of national stress be better able to champion the cause of the people.

May we not ask then of each of our subscribers that he or she will study the clubbing and other announcements made elsewhere in this issue and see what they have to offer to their friends, and then, without trusting to chance opportunity, plan a definite visit before another week goes by to some one who should be a sharer in the 'WITNESS' enterprise, and a member of the ancient and honorable company of 'WITNESS' readers.

Thanking one and all for all that they have done in times past.

We beg to subscribe ourselves,

Your friends, THE PUBLISHERS.

WRECK OF THE 'KILDONA.'

Captain and Crew Arrive at St. John.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 15.—The steamer 'Kildona,' of the Thomson line, of Dundee, Scotland, struck Brazil Rock, off Cape Sable, some time early on Saturday morning, in clear weather, and is no doubt a total loss. The weather to-day is so thick with snow that the lighthouse keeper at Cape Sable, where there is a wireless station, cannot see far enough to report whether the 'Kildona' is still on the rock intact or has been broken up by the sea. The accident is partly to be accounted for by the fact that the buoy which marks Brazil Rocks was not in position.

Captain Murray, of the 'Empress of Britain,' who passed the wreck at three o'clock yesterday afternoon, and who first reported the disaster, says the buoy was not to eb seen. The 'Kildona' was many miles north of her course at this place, and had her captain seen the buoy it would have served as some warning.

The steamer was bound from London for Portland, Me. The crew were taken off by the steamer 'Louisburg' and brought to St. John. Not only is the buoy at Brazil Rock adrift, but the one at Blond Rock, another drangerous point on this coast, is also astray. The 'Lady Laurier' will go in search of them tomorrow. Brazil Rock is covered with ten feet of water at low tide, and is six miles from Bocaro lighthouse.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 16.—Captain Roberts and the crew of the wrecked Thomson liner 'Kildona,' arrived this morning on the steamer 'Louisburg.' The captain and officers wil not talk as to the cause of the accident, which appears to be a mystery, as the weather was fine when she struck and the sea was not high. The vessel will be a total loss. The C. P. R. tug 'Cruiser,' from St. John, is now at the scene.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 16.—The SS. 'Kildona' broke up last night during a storm, and all that the C. P. R. tug 'Cruiser' could find was a few pieces of floating wreckage.

Captain Roberts puts the wreck down to the Brazil buoy not being in place.

IMMIGRATION TO CANADA

GOVERNMENT MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO CURB IT.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—The government is doing its utmost to curb immigration from Great Britain during the winter season. In order to put a further check upon people coming to Canada at a time when there is a possibility of work not being forthcoming, agents in England have been instructed to notify intending emigrants that no adult will be permitted to land in Canada between now and Feb. 15 unless he has fifty dollars in his pocket. From the latter date to April 1 the amount must be twenty-five dollars. The only exception is in the case of those who are coming out to friends, and have work provided for them.

BEAUPORT ASYLUM COMPLAINTS

Quebec, Dec. 15.—It is understood that the report of the Hon. R. Roy's investigations into the Beauport Asylum complaints is to the effect that the complaints are not founded.

THE PICARD CASE

CONVICTION OF MAN, WHO SOLD PANAMA CANAL BONDS WITH TOWN LOTS ATTACHED, CONFIRMED.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—The appeal of Edouard Picard, agent at Brandon, Man., of the Provident Financial Association, was convicted in that city under the lotteries section of the Criminal Code, of selling Panama canal bonds, and a town lot with each bond. Against this, he appealed to the Appeal Court of this province, and Mr. J. A. Lamarche, K.C., of Montreal, argued the case before their Lordships last week. On Saturday they handed out their decision, confirming the conviction and dismissing the appeal. Mr. Lamarche has returned to Montreal.

ANDERSON GETS FIVE YEARS

(See also page 3.)

Sherbrooke, Que., Dec. 16.—A. H. Anderson, treasurer of the Quebec Central Railway, has been sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. A numerously signed petition for leniency of the sentence had been presented to the judge.

SALVATION ARMY APPOINTMENT.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—The Salvation Army have appointed an immigration officer in Ottawa. He is Staff Captain J. M. McGillivray. He will have oversight of the territory between Toronto and Montreal and work with the Government Immigration Department here.

WRECK OF THE 'THOMAS W. LAWSON.'

Famous Schooner Was the Largest Vessel of Her Kind in the World - A Curious Coincidence.

New York, Dec. 14.—The 'Thomas W. Lawson,' which was wrecked in Broad Sound last night, was the largest schooner and the only seven-master afloat. The 'Lawson' was launched at Quincy, Mass., in 1902, and was owned by the Coastwise Transportation Company, of Boston. When wrecked she was under charter which brought her owners a return of $78,000 a year. Thomas W. Lawson, the financier, was a part owner in the boat. It is a peculiar coincidence that the big seven-master went to her end last night—Friday, the 13th—inasmuch as that was the title of a book written by Mr. Lawson.

The schooner was 4,914 tons net register, 375 feet overall, 50 feet beam, and 23 feet draught. She was valued at $300,000.

KILLED AT HAMILTON MOUNTAIN

Hamilton, Dec. 13.—Mr. Alex. Higgins, a farmer in Barton township, was killed this morning by falling over the mountain while driving to the city. How the accident happened no person knows, but it is supposed the horse ran away. The whole outfit was found at the foot of the mountain near the reservoir this morning. The waggon was a wreck, but the horse was only slightly injured.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The Shah of Persia and his parliament are at a deadlock. The Shah has ordered the arrest of the premier, a minister, and the governor of Shiraz, and the Parliament has demanded an explanation, and refuses to rise until an answer is received.

The Pope at a secret consistory yesterday created four new cardinals.

Fierce storms raged off the French coast last week. The 'Isly' is ashore at L'Orient, the 'Padoues' is a wreck off Biarritz, and a large number of fishing craft have been lost in the English Channel.

Lord Strathcona did not sail by the 'Mauretania,' as he last week intended.

The Associated Press is officially informed that the rumor to the effect that the Hon. James Bryce, the British ambassador to the United States, is to leave the Washington embassy is absolutely untrue.

New York theatres and saloons are said to have been all close shut Sunday. In Kansas City, Mo., indictments have been returned against over 75 managers and employees of local theatres, charging them with violating the Sunday closing law.

THE CANADIAN PICTORIAL

A NEW MAGAZINE MAKES A NEW DEPARTURE.

(Toronto 'Mail and Empire.')

'If you have not yet seen the "Canadian Pictorial" there is a great pleasure in store for you. The "Canadian Pictorial" stands alone without a peer in the Dominion as the one publication whose pages constitute a continuous National Art Gallery replete with exquisite photogravures depicting Canadian life and things of moment as they happen or appear.

The "Canadian Pictorial" has no counterpart in its special field. It is the most expensively produced illustrated publication in Canada.

The "Canadian Pictorial" next to actual travel, and the ability to visit or observe places or events of extraordinary interest, supplies everything else that is possible or that is otherwise to be desired. The "Canadian Pictorial" has a beautiful artistic cover of original design, which changes with each issue.'

ANOTHER MINE DISASTER.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 16.—Seventy-five men are reported entombed in a mine explosion at Yolande, in the north-eastern part of Tuskaloosa county.

The explosion took place at 10.25, and was below the second lead. Eight men crawled out of the mine. Crowds of women and men quickly gathered around the entrance and are cheered by news that all the fans continue working. Rescue parties, it is announced, will go in at once. It is feared however, that the loss of life has been heavy.

The Yolande mines are operated by the Yolande Coal and Coke Company, of which Dr. G. B. Crow is president.

The mines are located 35 miles south of Birmingham.

CHATEAUGUAY RESULT

MR. MERCIER WINS CONSTITUENCY BY FORTY-THREE VOTES.

(See Also Page 3.)

St. Martine, Dec. 16.—The polling to fill the seat in the legislature took place to-day. All three candidates were Liberals, although M.. Honore Mercier, of Montreal, was the government nominee.

The result is as follows:—Mercier, 702; Laberge, 659, and Poissan, 316, giving Mercier a majority of 43.

NOMINATIONS

Three Rivers, Dec. 14.—The Conservatives, in convention yesterday at Becancour, selected Mr. Joseph Haon, merchant, of St. Wenceslas, as their candidate for the House of Commons in the coming election in Nicolet County.

Ottawa, Dec. 16.—J. B. T. Caron, Liberal, and ex-Mayor W. D. Morris, Independent Conservative, were nominated to-day for the representation of Ottawa in the House of Commons made vacant by the appointment of the Hon. N. A. Belcourt to the Senate. The Conservative Association of Ottawa decided some time ago not to place any candidate in the field.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—Captain T. G. Wallace, Conservative, and Dr. McLean, Liberal, were nominated this afternoon in Centre York for the vacancy in the House of Commons caused by the elevation of Mr. Archibald Campbell to the Senate.

MAYOR BURCHELL COMMITTED.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 15—Mayor David M. Burchell, former superintendent of stores for the Dominion Coal Company, was committed by the magistrate to stand trial at the next criminal session of the Supreme Court, which sits at Sydney on the third Tuesday in February. After the commitment had been read to the prisoner he replied that he had nothing to say.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Pugsley Declines to Answer an Attack on Him.

GOVERNMENT BLAMED FOR QUEBEC BRIDGE DISASTER—RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—The debate on the address occupied the House yesterday, apart from the first half hour, which was given over to questions. The feature of the sitting was an amendment moved by Mr. Joseph Armstrong, of Lambton, setting forth the desirability of the inauguration of a system of free rural mail delivery in Canada. The debate promises to continue for some time, as the Opposition have more amendments to offer. Mr. Fielding is ready to deliver his annual budget statement as soon as the address is disposed of.

Mr. G. W. Fowler, membe. for King's, N.B., made his first appearance in the House on Monday evening, and was given an enthusiastic reception by the Conservative members.

MR. PRESTON'S NEW OFFICE.

Mr. Geo. E. Foster wanted to know when Mr. W. T. R. Preston left immigration work in England, and what he has since been doing. The answer was that he is now in Yokohama, studying trade conditions, with a view to promoting Canadian trade. Since his appointment as trade commissioner on the 26th Oct., 1906, he has received $3,948.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY'S SECURITY.

The Hon. Mr. Foster asked also what securities were held by the government as security from the G. T. P. to carry out its contracts for the construction of the western section and the equipment of the whole road. In reply, the Finance Minister read a list of securities amounting in the aggregate to $5,513,200.

PATENT MEDICINE BILL.

Mr. J. G. H. Bergeron inquired whether it was the government's intention to reintroduce the bill of last session concerning drugs and patent meditines and to carry the measure through this session. The Minister of Inland Revenue replied that the matter is under consideration.

ALL-RED LINE NEGOTIATIONS.

Mr. F. D. Monk.

Mr. F. D. Monk proposed the following series of questions concerning the proposed All-Red line:—

(1) Is there any person at present in England specially accredited by Canadian Government in connection with the proposed All-Red line, to treat with the British Government, or for any other purpose in reference to said subject?

(2) Has the government received any proposal in connection with the said All-Red line? If so, what is the nature of such proposal and from whom has it been received?

(3) Has the government caused estimates to be made of the probable cost to Canada of said All-Red line?

(4) Has the government asked tenders from any one for the said All-Red line or any part thereof?

The Premier's reply was 'No' to each of the foregoing questions.

DEBATE RESUMED.

Mr. J. E. Armstrong.

Upon the resumption of the debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Jos. E. Armstrong continued the argument he had made in the House last Friday in favor of the establishment of free rural mail delivery, and concluded by offering the following amendment:—

'We desire to express our regret that more adequate reference has not been made to matters of public interest alluded to in Your Excellency's gracious speech, and that other matters of grave public concern have altogether escaped mention therein. We also desire to express our regret that Your Excellency's speech contains no allusion to the importance of inaugurating a system of rural free mail delivery, under so far as Canada's resources will permit, which our rural population may enjoy, the great advantage in that respect, which have been secured to the rural communities of other countries.'

The arguments in favor of rural mail delivery were put forward by Mr. Armstrong as follows: It would bring the post-office to the door of the great mass of the people. It would greatly benefit the business man who had connections with the rural districts. It would increase the revenue of the Post-Office Department. It would increase the circulation of newspapers and magazines. Parcel delivery among the farmers would save both the farmers and the merchants time and expense. It would give the farmers the latest market reports promptly and bring agricultural life into closer connection with the active business world. It has been elsewhere the means of improving country roads. It would increase the values of farms 25 percent, and make farm life more attractive. It was easier for one man to deliver mail to one hundred farmers than for one hundred farmers to walk or drive miles to the nearest post-office. It would check the current from country to town. It has been a great success in Great Britain, in the United States, and in European countries, practically paying for itself. Since the adoption of rural delivery in the United States there has been a decrease of $5,000,000 in the annual deficit of the Postal Department. This year, so far, there has been no deficit. The PostmasterGeneral of the United States says that rural free mail delivery in that country has not been responsible for the deficit, but rather the reverse. In the United States there has been a reduction of 12,000 post-offices in five years. The natural increase in that period under the old system would have averaged 2,500 a year, so that the real decrease is 24,500. A saving of $386,300 in the cost of mail stage routes was also effected in 1906. Free rural mail delivery assists in the distribution of weather forecasts, the courier carrying signals on his waggon. In conclusion Mr. Armstrong reminded the House that the farmers pay the bulk of the taxes, and should reap some advantages therefrom.

Mr. Armstrong maintained that free rural mail delivery was being profitably carried on in the United Stttaes. To get over the objection that it would be too costly in sparsely settled parts of Canada, the speaker proposed that we should copy the American rule, which calls for an average route of 24 miles, on which there must be at least 100 families. Of these, 85 must put up mail moxes. Districts that cannot measure up to this standard could not expect to have the privilege of house to house delivery.

The following speakers continued the debate up till half-past ten o'clock, when the debate was adjourned: Messrs. J. J. Hughes (P. E. I.), William Staples (Macdonald, Man.), Wm. Wright (Muskoka), George Smith (Oxford), Wm. Jackson (Elgin), and A. A. McLean (P.E.I.).

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—The Hon. A. B. Aylesworth was back in his place in the House yesterday afternoon and was warmly greeted by his party friends. The Minister of Justice has had a splendid rest at Clifton Springs during the last three weeks, and has to some extent recovered from the attack of deafness with which he was seized during the past autumn. His progress, however, is exceedingly slow and tedious, and it is to be feared that some time at all events will elapse before the Minister of Justice is able to take much active part in the debates of the House.

IMPERFECT RAILWAY CONNECTIONS.

The Minister of Railways stated, in reply to Mr. George Taylor, that a tentative arrangement has been made whereby the Canadian Pacific train will wait ten minutes at Brockville, when necessary, for mails and passengers from the Grand Trunk train from the west. This, however, was not enough. Unless the railways were less obstinate in trying to prevent connections between one road and another the government would have to introduce legislation to compel them to do so.

DEATH OF MR. B. B. GUNN.

Before the business of the day was proceeded with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Borden, the Conservative leader, joined in sympathetic tributes to the memory of Mr. Benjamin B. Gunn, late Conservative member for South Huron.

MR. KEMP DISCUSSES THE PUGSLEY CHARGES.

Mr. A. E. Kemp, Conservative, of East Toronto, was the first participant in the debate on the address in the afternoon, and devoted most of his time to a discussion of the charges which the Hon. William Pugsley has been making on the hustings in regard to the Conservative campaign fund in the last general election in 1904, its magnitude and the uses to which it was put. The Minister of Public Works, he said, was very bold on the stump. But let him repeat his charges on the floor of parliament. The Conservative party, he said, had absolutely nothing to hide, and courted the very fullest inquiry. They had no one to shield, high or low. Let Dr. Pugsley produce the evidence on which his statements have been made. Otherwise he stood condemned of saying what was not true. He was now at the bar of public opinion. Yet that gentleman had now sat in the House like a whipped spaniel, without opening his mouth. Dr. Pugsley had some time ago entered suit for libel against the Toronto 'World' for declaring that he (Dr. Pugsley) knew all about the Blair-Russell deal. But nothing more had been heard of the suit nor ever would.

Mr. A. E. Kemp.

When Mr. Kemp resumed his seat the Opposition did its best to tempt Dr. Pugsley into a reply, but that astute gentleman evidently preferred to bide his own time.

Dr. McIntyre, Liberal, of Strathcona, contended that the inauguration of a system of free rural mail delivery on the plan proposed by Mr. Armstrong would result in cutting western Canada out of the benefit of this service.

The West, Dr. McIntyre urged, was too thinly populated to obtain the advantage of free moral delivery, on the terms that Mr. Armstrong's plan proposed.

FINANCIAL STRINGENCY IN THE WEST.

Mr. R. S. Lake, Conservative, of Qu'Appelle followed in a speech of considerable length. Dealing with the stringency he said that in parts of Manitoba and the new provinces conditions undoubtedly were satisfactory, but that this was by no means generall y the case. There were farmers who could not sell their wheat except at ruinous rates, merchants who could not get their money, men hard up and unable to get work. At the present time only fifteen cents a bushel was being given for feed wheat of good quality. Ten days before the price was nineteen cents, so that it was gradually coming down. The great difficulty was the car shortage, when a man buys wheat he cannot tell within six or eight months when he will get it, and in the case of feed wheat this is too much of a speculaiton. In one place, 122 cars had been ordered and only five furnished between Oct. 17 and Nov. 7. If the government could induce the Canadian Pacific Railway to furnish cars enough to get the feed wheat promptly to Ontario—and at half the present freight rates—it would be benefitting the west.

Turning to the trade question, Mr. Lake claimed that taking the rate of increase in the total volume of trade, Canada is beaten by all the self-governing colonies, except by New Zealand, and including Newfoundland; while the trade of India also has increased more rapidly than that of Canada.

MR. ARMAND LAVERGNE'S POLITICAL PLATFORM.

Mr. Armand Lavergne, of Montmagny, whilst approving of the proposal in the Speech from the Throne, in favor of government control of telegraphs and telephones, regretted that the government was not prepared to go further and to declare for public ownership outright. He believed, however, hat the latter was coming day by day, and that public ownership would yet be the policy of the present Cabinet. He hoped that it was not intended in the All-Red Line proposal for Canada to merely subsidize an Imperial scheme, for that would endanger the autonomy of the Dominion. Mr. Lavergne expressed the opinion that the new Minister of Public Works, Mr. Pugsley, should be more explicit in his charges of corruption. Last year they tried to get Mr. Fowler, the member for King's, N.B., to tell what he knew, but unfortunately they were over-ruled on a technicality. He hoped that no technicality would prevent the Minister of Public Works from speaking out. If he had anything to tell, moreover, he should tell it now. If he knew anything about corruption in 'La Presse' deal, he owed it to the country to bring the facts to light.

Mr. Armand Lavergne

The speaker concluded with a reference to the ex-member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa), who, he said, had fallen in battle like a man, and whose example in the House of Commons he would try to follow.

There were again calls from the Opposition benches for Dr. Pugsley, but that gentleman only replied that his friends opposite must not be too impatient.

Other participants in the debate were Mr. G. H. MacIntyre, Liberal, of South Perth; Mr. George H. Perley, Conservative, of Argenteuil; Dr. Roche, Conservative, of Marquette, and Dr. Paquet, Conservative, of L'Islet. The last named gentleman opposed the proposal for rural mail delivery.

A vote was taken at eleven o'clock on Mr. J. E. Armstrong's free rural mail delivery resolution, resulting in the defeat of the same by 54 to 103, a government majority of 49.

Dr. Paquet, Mr. Armand Lavergne, Mr. Robitaille (Quebec), and Mr. A. Verville (Labor), all voted with the government. Apart from this, the division was on straight party lines, the policy of free rural mail delivery being one of the planks of Mr. Borden's Halifax platform.

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—The debate on the address to His Excellency in reply to the speech from the throne was concluded in the House of Commons shortly after five o'clock yesterday afternoon. The Hon Mr. Barker, Conservative (Hamilton), moved, seconded by Mr. Monk, an amendment to the 'address' regretting the omission of many matters of grave public concern from the speech from the throne, 'and especially that the allusion in Your Excellency's gracious speech to the collapse of the great bridge in course of construction across the St. Lawrence River omits any reference to the unfortunate and unbusinesslike conditions under which that great national work has been carried on. We especially deplore,' the resolution continued, 'the loss of life on that occasion and we also deplore not only the destruction and loss of millions of capital but the serious delay in a great work which forms an essential part of the National Transcontinental Railway, and we greatly regret the unbusinesslike arrangements and absence of efficient control in the public interest with regard to that work.'

A spirited debate ensued on Mr. Barker's amendment, in which the Opposition flatly declared the government responsible for the national disaster resulting from the collapse of the Quebec bridge. The Government denied any responsibility and accused its opponents of an attempt to make political capital out of a national calamity. In the course of the discussion the Quebec Bridge Company came in for some pretty rough handling by the Conservative speakers.

Mr. Barker's amendment was defeated on a straight party division, by 50 votes to 96. The government majority, therefore, was 46, which is not, however, within fourteen of what it would poll if all its followers were in their places.

MR. BARKER ATTACKS THE QUEBEC BRIDGE COMPANY

Mr. Barker went at considerable length into the history of the Dominion Government's relations with the Quebec Bridge Company. In the fall of 1903, when the government executed an agreement to guarantee bonds and indebtedness of the Quebec Bridge Company to an amount of $6,671,000, the company was absolutely stranded and bankrupt. It had previously received $220,000 subsidy toward the bridge from the Province of Quebec, $300,000 from the City of Quebec, and $374,352 from the Dominion treasury. At this time the company had only put up $65,000 of its own money towards the enterprise. Yet, with matters in this state, the government, instead of taking the enterprise into its own hands preferred to pledge the public credit to the support of the Quebec Bridge Company. The only inference one could draw from the government's course was that the ministers were dealing, as usual, with some 'middleman.' The government seemed to have neglected to follow Mr. Schreiber's request for suitable engineering advice regarding the bridge itself. If that advice had been procured the recent catastrophe would not have occurred for no responsible bridge expert would have approved, he was assured, the construction of this gigantic structure on the plan that was proposed.

Mr. S. Barker.

THE FINANCE MINISTER'S REPLY.

The Finance Minister, who replied to Mr. Barker, deprecated the introduction of this subject at the present stage of the session. The House was not yet in possession of the necessary information on which to discuss the matter intelligently. The Quebec Bridge Commission had not yet made its report. But no doubt Mr. Barker made his accusations now because to wait until the report came down might spoil the arguments on which his contentions were based. There was absolutely no justification for the reflections that Mr. Barker had made upon the directorate of the Quebec Bridge Company. The men at whom the member for Hamilton aimed his jeers were among the most honorable and upright men in the city of Quebec. They had no doubt gone into this enterprise from patriotic motives. It was true they had not money enough to carry the thing through. The work was a very costly one and they were forced to appeal to the Government for help. The latter submitted the matter to Parliament, and although in the discussion one Conservative member, Mr. F. D. Monk, had expressed disapproval of the policy proposed there was no division recorded. Liberal and Conservative members alike supported the guarantee of the Bridge Company's bonds and it was too late now for Mr. Barker to ignore this fact. In conclusion, Mr. Fielding expressed the opinion that the country at large would have no sympathy with the course Mr. Barker had seen fit to take in this matter.

MR. F. D. MONK.

Mr. F. D. Monk (Jacques Cartier), replied that in his judgment Mr. Barker was performing a useful public service in directing attention as he did thus early in the session to the responsibility of the Government for what had occurred in this matter. When the Quebec Lives had been lost in the fall of this bridge, money had been sunk, and the Government, repeated Mr. Monk, was responsible. No engineering report could alter that fact. Mr. Monk spoke with even more than his usual vigor which is saying something. He was especially emphatic in his declaration that now was the time to go into this important question. He has said part at least

SIR WILFRID LAURIER DEFENDS QUEBEC BRIDGE CO.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier regretted that Mr. Barker and Mr. Monk had seen fit to attempt to make political capital out of a national calamity. The motion condemned the government for not having taken charge of the Quebec bridge project as a national work. But if the Opposition had had no objection to the plan of co-operation with the Quebec Bridge Company which was agreed to in 1903 what right had they to object to-day. The truth was that the collapse of the Quebec bridge was an accident, entirely unforeseen, and for which the government was in no way to blame.

The Prime Minister resented the slurs that had been cast upon the members of the Quebec Bridge Company. Taking up the names of the directors, Sir Wilfrid declared that they were men of the highest character and reputation. There was no ground for the assertion Mr. Monk had made that these gentlemen attempted to plunder the public treasury in the summer of 1903. Such language was beneath the dignity of parliament.

Mr. Bergeron asked if the present directors had been connected with the undertaking since its inception.

Sir Wilfrid believed they had. The standing of these gentlemen warranted the assertion that every cent they received would be honestly expended.

Mr. Borden asked what government supervision had been given to the bridge construction.

Sir Wilfrid answered that he did not know what further supervision there could have been. The Quebec Bridge Company had its own engineer in the person of Mr. Hoare. The Phoenix Bridge Company, too, had its engineers on the job, and all were equally interested in having things well done. The plans had been drawn by an expert, and were afterwards approved by Mr. Theodore Cooper, of New York, an engineer of recognized ability and authority.

Mr. Monk inquired who Mr. Cooper was supposed to represent. Was it the Bridge Company or the government?

HON. JOHN HAGGART.

The Hon. John Haggart, ex-Minister of Railways, maintained that parliament had a perfect right to discuss this whole question, no matter how many royal commissions had been appointed to inquire into it. Moreover, the subject was dealt with in the speech from the throne, which was supposed to be under debate at the present time. The result of the recent catastrophe would be, he predicted, that instead of costing six or seven millions the bridge would cost twelve millions of dollars. The government was responsible no matter what engineer had been at fault.

On the conclusion of Mr. Haggart's argument a vote was taken, resulting in the defeat of the amendment.

PEAT FUEL.

The Hon. Mr. Templeman informed Mr. Martin (P.E.I.) that the government had been making inquiries to ascertain the quantities of peat available for fuel in Canada. An official had also been sent to Europe to study the methods of manufacturing peat fuel, whose report would be published at an early date. Mr. Martin also learned from the Minister of Mines that the government has been selecting localities for boring for coal in Prince Edward Island.

Ottawa, Dec. 13.—Session after session the House of Commons has been passing an amendment to the Railway Act of Canada providing for the protection of railway level crossings situated in the thickly settled portions of cities, towns and villages. No train, this bill declares, must pass over at any such highway crossing at a speed of more than ten miles an hour. Mr. E .A. Lancaster, Conservative member for Lincoln-Niagara, the father of this proposal, has never before got his bill through the Commons without considerable effort. Surprise struggled with pleasure in Mr. Lancaster's face yesterday as his proposal on the present occasion commended itself to the unanimous judgment of the House. The bill now goes up to the Senate, where its fate has been sealed on at least two previous occasions.

The Minister of Railways, in speaking to Mr .Lancaster's motion, admitted that the question of level crossings and their proper protection was one that would not down in Canada. tI was most important that we should be able to get our goods to market without any undue delays. But the paramount consideration must be the protection of the lives of the people. He was in sympathy with the protection of level crossings, and thought that this might well be done at the outset in the cases of crossings situated in the thickly settled portions of cities, towns and villages. The Railway Commission was being enlarged so as to enable it to take up these questions, but he was quite in sympathy with the object of the present bill, and readily assented to its passage through the House.

HOURS OF PARLIAMENTARY SITTINGS.

Mr. A. A. Wright, Liberal (South Renfrew), moved that in the interests of good legislation the rules of the House of Commons should be amended so as to provide that the hour of adjournment should (except on extraordinary occasions to be decided by the government) be fixed, when there are evening sittings, as not later than 10.30 p.m. Although Mr. Wright's proposal was not accepted off-hand by the House, it resulted in a most interesting debate, and showed the desire which exists in many breasts for a discontinuance of the bad habits of not only late sittings, but of unduly long speeches. Mr. Wright, in support of his motion, pointed to the fact that in all the countries of Europe, in the United States, and in Japan, the parliamentary sittings are held in the daytime. The practice of late night sittings was not only injurious to the health of the members and of all who follow the proceedings of the House, but it was entirely unnecessary. Both the Prime Minister and the leader of the Opposition were, as a rule, utterly exhausted by their attendance on parliament by the time the session came to a close, which is more tha nwe have a right to ask from any public man.

At the Premier's request, Mr. Wright's motion was not pressed to a vote, but having served its purpose of discussion, was withdrawn.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—The House of Commons made an excellent beginning yesterday in the passage of supply for the next fiscal year. The civil government votes, as they are called, the salary appropriations for the various departments, were first taken up, and, before the House rose at half-past ten o'clock, estimates had been passed to an amount of one million dollars. The familiar watchdogs of the Opposition were all in their accustomed places, and Mr. Bennett and Dr. Pugsley, the new Minister of Public Works, paid their respects to one another in an exceedingly acrimonious debate during the evening.

The Opposition grievances against Messrs. Preston, Jackson and Havcock were all aired before the Trade and Commerce salary votes were put through.

During the evening Mr. Pugsley, the new Minister of Public Works, rose to the defence of an official of his department who was charged by Mr. Bennett, Conservative member for Simcoe, with having embezzled between two and three thousand dollars from the treasury on an account for cab hire. Mr. Pugsley denied that there had been anything more than a mistake in this account. There certainly was nothing to justify Mr. Bennett's accusation of embezzlement.

Mr. Bennett gave a new turn to the discussion by taunting the minister with cowardice in not following up his threatened exposures of the Conservative campaign fund in the last general election. Mr. Pugsley did not feel under any obligation to defend himself. When he did deal with this interesting subject it would be at his own time and in his own way.

IN THE SENATE

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—In the Senate yesterday afternoon Senator Landry was told by the Hon. Mr. Scott that the government was aware that the Levis graving dock was too narrow to accommodate the 'Empress' and the turbine steamers now running to the St. Lawrence, and that the matter was now engaging the serious attention of the Department of Public Works.

The Hon. Mr. Scott stated, in reply to another question by Senator Landry, that the directors of the Quebec Bridge Company were the Hon. S. N. Parent, who held seventy shares of stock; Mr. R. Audette, who held fifty-seven shares; Mr. H. N. Price, fifty-two shares; Mr. Gaspar Lemoine, fifty shares; Mr. V. Boswell, fifty shares; the Hon. N. Garneau, fifty and three-quarters shares; Mr. J. B. Laliberte, twenty-seven shares; Mr. P. B. Dumoulin, ten shares; the Hon. J. Sharples, two hundred and seventy-six shares; Mr. H. A. Allan, two hundred and fifty shares, and all have paid up to the full amount of their shares. The two directors named by the government were Messrs. Laliberte and Dumoulin. No shares have been awarded to any director as the reward of his assiduity at the meetings of the board or for any service rendered the company.

Senator David gave notice of a resolution that when the question of the reform or the abolition of the Senate was taken up there should also be considered the question of the best manner by which waste of time might be prevented and the cost of legislation reduced in the other branch of parliament, and also the question of empowering the Senate to do more work at the proper time.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—In the Senate Senator Perley asked the government if they would not at once make arrangements with the railway companies west of Lake Superior, to reduce the freight charges on the inferior grades of wheat.

Senator McMullen said that if the government could do anything to move this frosted wheat it would benefit not only the men who had grown the wheat in the west, but the cattle owners of Ontario, whose feed crop had failed, and who were now being forced to sacrifice their cattle.

Senator Young said that only in parts of the west had the grain been frosted, and a good deal of the damaged wheat was dry enough to keep, and he regarded it as a safe security for advances by the banks.

DOMINION ESTIMATES

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—The Finance Minister presented to parliament yesterday afternoon estimates of the expenditures which the government will recommend for the various public services of the country during the year beginning April 1, 1908. In the aggregate they amount to $119,237,091, of which $76,871,471 comprises what might be called the ordinary expenditures and $42,365,620 the expenditures on capital account. This is an increase of $2,355,795 in the ordinary expenditures and of $396,569 in the capital expenditures over the record of the current year, and these excesses will be still further increased when the supplementary votes are brought down later in the session. Of course, not all these items will be expended, but it is clear enough that if the government is going to the country, as a great many believe it will next fall it will be with immense public works in progress all over the Dominion. It is but fair to add that very few of the estimates are for new works, but for works which already have received the sanction of parliament.

The present main estimates, as they are called, are $13,500,000 more than the main estimates presented to the House last session. Of this $4,000,000 is accounted for by the increased provincial subsidies, and the increased appropriation for the transcontinental railway commission, leaving an increase of $9,500,000 over last year's main estimates on the other public services of the country.

There is a cut of $351,600 in the capital expenditure on public works as compared with what was voted for this service last year, and a cut of $1,919,897 in the public works expenditures chargeable to income, but the chances are that these reductions will disappear when the supplementary estimates are brought

Catarrh

One of the most common of blood diseases, is much aggravated by the sudden changes of weather at this time of year. Begin treatment at once with Hood's Sarsaparilla, which effects radical and permanent cures. This great medicine has received

40,366 Testimonials

in two years, which prove its wonderful efficacy in purifying and enriching the blood. Best for all blood diseases.

Sold by druggists everywhere. 100 Doses One Dollar.

DECEMBER RENEWALS

Those whose subscriptions expire in December are urgently requested to send in renewals AT ONCE, so as to avoid the tremendous end-of-the-year rush that taxes even an increased staff to the utmost. Nothing would be lost by renewing a little before the time, as renewals invariably count from the date of former subscription. By giving this matter their prompt attention subscribers will greatly oblige

THE PUBLISHERS.

N.B.—In renewing, why not take advantage of one of the combination offers announced elsewhere in this issue?

down. The appropriation for the National Trans-Continental Railway during the coming year is $30,000,000, of which $13,000,000 is a revote. The appropriations on capital account for the Intercolonial Railway amount to $4,327,250 as compared with $4,744,495 in 1907-8. On canals the estimated capital expenditure is $2,243,820, of which $1,000,000 is for the Trent Canal. The estimated capital outlay on the canals during the current year is $2,609,246. Under the heading of capital account there is an appropriation of $238,750 for rebuilding the slope walls of the Lachine canal, $2,500 for testing cement, and $300,000 to build a wharf and basins. The appropriations chargeable to income include also $98,000 for the wall on the north side of basin No. 2, on the Lachine canal; $49,000 for the wall on the side of basin No. 2, Lachine canal; $15,000 for workshops on the Lachine canal; $18,500 for dredging in the Quebec canals, and $10,000 for re-marking boundaries, surveys, etc.

There are votes for the province of Quebec for public buildings amounting to the sum of $848,700, and for harbor improvements, etc., amounting to $716,200.

The militia estimates provide $40,000 for repairs to the walls at Quebec and for work on the dangerous cliffs in the Ancient Capital. The militia vote is $1,300,000 on capital account, the same as this year, and on consolidated fund account, $5,202,600, an increase of $341,546. The increased scale of subsidies to the provinces adds $2,309,100 to the outlay from the Dominion treasury on that account alone. The appropriation for railways and canals chargeable against the collection of revenue is $10,451,408, which is $1,470,765 more than for the current year. The estimate for railways and canals chargeable to income is $1,017,652, an increase of $269,077.

The vote for the River St. Lawrence ship channel, chargeable to capital, is $760,000, the same as in the current year. Ther is also $213,000 for St. Lawrence river new dredging plant, and $100,000 for permanent piers in Lake St. Peter and other places in the ship channel. The vote for the construction of lighthouses and aids to navigation, including apparatus, and providing suitable boats for carrying on construction work in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and elswehere in the Dominion, is $1,260,000, a decrease of $100,000 from the current year. The votes for the new Department of Mines includes $47,000 for the investigation of ore deposits and economic minerals, of the fuel values of the coals and peats of Canada, and for an examination and delimitation of the peat bogs of the Dominion. Twenty-five thousand dollars is provided as a grant to the council of the city of Winnipeg towards defraying the expenses of the visit to Canada of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. The grant for the outside service of the post-office is $355,302 larger than it was for the current year; $286,802 of this addition is for increased salaries.

CANADA ANSWERS AUSTRALIA

BY DROPPING SUBSIDY TO CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—Canadas' answer to the exclusionist trade policy of the Australian Commonwealth is announced in the dropping from the parliamentary estimates for next year of the subsidy vote of $180,000 toward the Canadian-Australian steamship service. If the Commonwealth is determined to exclude Canadian products from its markets, there is no further reason for keeping up this expensive steamship service which for many years has operated between the Australian ports and the city of Vancouver. Moreover, the bulk of the trade which Canada is now doing with Australia finds its way to the latter by way of the port of New York.

Canada exported to Australia in the nine months ending March 31, 1907, goods to an amount of $1,998,968, and received from them goods valued at $194,468.

PROHIBITION PROSPECTS.

Referring to the statistics that go to show that the number of prohibitionists has increased tenfold in the United States within the last thirty years, the 'Patrie' says: 'If, as stated, such a result was reached without propaganda, but merely by the spontaneous conviction of the people, can anyone help thinking that, in the more or less distant future, the great majority of the people of Canada, as well as of the United States, will adhere to prohibition, as is already the case for half the population of Ontario; and since, in Ontario as well as in Quebec, the zealous promoters of teetotalism are making an unceasing and active propaganda, is it not reasonable to forecast that the expected results cannot be long delayed?'

CONDUCTOR ACQUITTED.

Barrie, Ont., Dec. 12.—As a result of a collision in the Allandale yards on Sept. 28, in which a fireman called Blackburn was killed, his engineer, Henry Morris, of Hamilton, was charged at the County Court here to-day with manslaughter. Crown Attorney Cotter conducted the prosecution, and T. C. Robinette, K.C., defended Morris. The trial lasted all day and resulted in a verdict of acquittal.

LEAVES THE MINISTRY.

Belleville, Dec. 9.—The Baptists of this city will lose their present pastor on the 22nd inst., the Rev. C. H. Emerson having resigned yesterday, the resignation to take effect in two weeks. Mr. Emerson will leave the ministry and enter business life in Brantford. Who will succeed him is not yet known.

SPIRITUALISTS DECAMP.

Toronto, Dec. 9.—The four spiritualists, the Rev. Clarence and Mrs. Howland and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Rynex, who were due to appear in the sessions this morning, and stand for trial on a charge of fraud, failed to answer when their names were called this morning, and are said to have left the city. Bench warrants have been issued for their arrest.

OUR NATIONAL LIFE.

Women's Influence in Moulding Character.

EARL GREY'S INSPIRING ADDRESS TO MONTREAL LADIES.

A memorable occasion in the annals of Montreal women, and, perhaps, of Canadian womanhood generally, was the inauguration of the Women's Canadian Club of Montreal, which took place on Thursday in the assembly hall of the Royal Victoria College. The club has had a most inspiring and promising commencement. The inaugural address delivered by His Excellency the Governor-General was eloquent in its belief in a great national future, and the influential part that the women of Canada can take in its development.

His Excellency, on rising to speak, was greeted with applause. He thanked Lady Drummond for the expression, 'Unity in diversity,' a phrase which describes the policy actuating every portion of the British Empire.

Dwelling on the Imperial idea, His Excellency said: 'Now, if it is the fact that we are proud of being citizens of an empire which shines like a star—the next question which I should like to address to you, the women of Montreal, is this—what part of the brightness of this Imperial Star is generated from Montreal? Is Montreal contributing to the national character and to the influence of the empire forces which justify every one of you in feeling proud that you are a citizen of Montreal? You know better than I do what is the answer to that question. I would venture to point out to you that it rests with you, the women of Montreal, to make your city an influence for righteousness throughout Canada in the same way that the British Empire is an influence for righteousness throughout the world.' He went on to speak of the unique position of Montreal as the eastern gateway between the Old World and the New, and the great advantages of Canada. The Lady of the Snows gives more than she takes away. The winter is an asset, giving to Canada a superiority in grain, fruit, stock, and men and women, investing the people with the strenuous qualities of a kingly race. Not only does she give the saving quality of excellence, but she also secures, through the agency of her winters, time in which to think. He thought Montreal was not acting very chivalrously to 'Our Lady of the Snows' in refusing to hold the winter carnivals.

Coming back to the question as to what the women of Montreal are doing to help their city and country, His Excellency said that in every age the women have set the social standards. 'Now, some of you, ladies,' he said, 'may perhaps think in your modesty that your influence does not count, that no special duty falls on you. I tell you that the influence of each of you does count in making the character of the nation. May I say this to you without giving offence, that unless each one of you takes an interest both in the history of your country and in the future of your country, you are not doing your duty to either your country or your King.

'What can you do to help your country? Why, if you women of Montreal would shut the doors of your houses against the men who corrupt the sources of domestic, civil and national life, in the same way that you exclude from your drawing-rooms the man who cheats at cards; if you would refuse the approval of your smile to the man who hits below the belt in sport, business or politics, then the star of Montreal would shine with a brilliancy which would make its radiance felt not only over Canada, but over the United States.

'I should like to ask each one of you separately, what are you doing to add to the dignity, the beauty and the efficiency of city life? Are you, the women of Montreal, using your influence to safeguard your beautiful city from being swallowed up by the slums which have overtaken the cities of the United Kingdom and the United States? Are you, the women of Montreal, using your influence to secure for the children of your city the opportunities of growing up into good and useful citizens?

'Are you, the women of Montreal, using your influence to secure that the increasing stream of women who enter Canada through your gates, shall be switched on to rails leading to happiness, instead of those leading to misery?' His Excellency dwelt on the need of a helpful and directing hand for immigrant women, who, settling in Canada, will make an impress on the national character, wherefore it is important they should be made into good Canadian citizens as quickly as possible.

The latter part of His Excellency's address related to the three-hundredth birthday of Canada, in 1908, which it had been suggested should be celebrated by the consecration of the famous battlefields of Quebec. It is proposed to include the more important parts of the battlefields of the Plains of Abraham and St. Foye in a national park, to be called King Edward's Park. The proposal to consecrate the battlefields has met with universal approval, and it is hoped that appropriations from the federal and provincial legislatures will be obtained to enable the occasion to be celebrated fittingly. But a large additional sum would be required to put the battlefields into a condition which would satisfy the historic sentiment of all concerned. Money has to be found for the removal of the big, black, frowning jail which desecrates the spot where Wolfe gave up his life, and which is one of the first objects caught sight of on coming up the St. Lawrence, for the purchase of certain lands, for the building of a museum for historical relics, for the construction of an avenue round the battlefields, overlooking on one side the St. Lawrence and on the other the valley of the River St. Charles. This driveway would be about seven miles in length, and for historical interest and natural beauty would probably be the first driveway in the world. Earl Grey also hoped that it may be possible to erect on the point of Quebec first visible to a steamer coming up the St. Lawrence a colossal statue of the Angel of Peace, with arms outstretched, offering to clasp to her heart every new arrival from Europe. His Excellency concluded: 'Ladies, I believe it only requires determined and systematic organization to secure the million dollars or whatever sum may be required for the complete realization of these schemes, which when realized, will make Quebec into the Mecca of America. Do you not think the women of Canada in response to an appeal made to them would be only too glad to find the sum required? The privilege of contributing to a fund in honor of the three hundredth birthday of Canada, and of the sacred ground where the foundation of Greater Britain was laid, will, I am confident, appeal to thousands in all parts of the world, as well as in Canada. All that is required is some organization which will bring this privileged opportunity to the knowledge of those who will consider it an honor to be allowed to associate themselves through the medium of a dollar or a quarter, with the birthday of Canada and the battlefields of Quebec; and if this Women's Canadian Club has sufficient spirit among its members to give birth to such an organization, you will secure for yourselves a permanent place in the ranks of those whose glory it is that they have served their country and their King not only loyally but well.'

Before resuming his seat, His Excellency read the following cablegram from Sir Dighton Probyn, extra equerry to the King: 'The King commands me to telegraph his approval of the scheme of celebrating the Champlain tercentenary, and that he will be pleased to contribute a hundred guineas.' This announcement was received with applause.

PEACE SUNDAY, DEC. 22.

To the Ministers and Officials of all the Churches:

Dear Brethren,—What are we doing to establish the blessings of peace? A challenge comes to us from Australia. Dr. Charles Strong, the president of the Australian Branch of the British Peace Society, says:

'If only the Christian Church would throw its moral and religious weight into the scale for peace and arbitration war would become a barbarism of the past.'

We, the undersigned officers and directors of the Canadian Peace and Arbitration Society, unite in requesting that the churches of Canada voluntarily observe the Sunday preceding Christmas, Dec. 22, as Peace Sunday. In so doing we will co-operate with an increasing number of churches in Britain, America and Australia.

Last fall over thirty-seven thousand circulars were sent out from the central office in London asking for the observance of Peace Sunday.

The response was encouraging and very general, and from all denominations. We have not the funds or the office staff to undertake a similar work for Canada. The British society this year is appealing through the press to the churches.

Pastor Couve, of Paris, makes in a similar way a widespread appeal to French pastors. In Australia and in America the observance of 'Peace Sunday' in the Christmas season is growing. Christmas day itself is very appropriate wherever public worship is observed.

The purpose is to make the hymns, Scripture lessons, prayers and sermons for the day bear upon peace and goodwill, upon world organization, international arbitration and universal righteousness, brotherhood and peace.

We believe, and say with reasonable faith and hope, that the world can be organized for constitutional government, as great nations are now.

The portion of the earth in which we live, British North America, has enjoyed the blessings of peace since 1812—almost one hundred years. In this matter we have special cause for devout thanksgiving and earnest thanksgiving.

From the 16th to the 19th century the tides of war flowed unchecked throughout the world, but in the 19th century international arbitration was used so frequently as to be fairly established. In the 19th century also the world became 'one neighborhood.' The 20th century should make it 'one brotherhood' wherein all the nations and forces of the world shall be organized in the interests of Peace and not of War.

Any portion of the offerings on Peace Sunday entrusted to the Canadian Peace Society will be used to forward the cause. Any persons wishing literature dealing with the subject will do well to write to the Rev. A. C. Courtice, 2156 Gerrard street east, Toronto.

(Signed),

Sir William Mulock, president.
Judge Chesley, vice-pres.
Elias Rogers, vice-pres.
Charles C. VanNorman, vice-pres.
J. W. Bengough, director.
W. G. Brown, treasurer.
A. C. Courtice, secretary.
Dr. Margaret Gordon, director.
Mrs. A. M. Courtice, director.
Dr. N. Burwash, director.
Rabbi S. Jacobs, director.
Prof. Adam Shortt, director.
Prof. J. T. McCurdy, director.
Rev. Dr. Gordon, director
Albert Horton, director.
Andrew Stevenson, director.

THE LATE REV. MR. GORDONSMITH.

An impressive service in memory of the late Rev. C. E. Gordonsmith, F.S., Sc., was held in the Presbyterian Church, Demorestville, of which he was pastor. The Rev. W. Shearer, of Picton, preached from the text, 'These are they who came out of great tribulation and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.' The body was conveyed to Montreal, the funeral taking place from the residence of his eldest son. There were several ministers present, the service being conducted by the Rev. Dr. Fleck, who was assisted by the Rev. Dr. Wardrope, the Rev. Dr. J. A. Gordon, the Rev. T. Harris, the Rev. P. A. Walker, and the Rev. J. N. Tanner The chief mourners were the three sons, Charles, Arthur and Wilfred, and J. Charles Langston and W. J. Dunn, sons-in-law. The floral tributes included offerings from the congregations at Lancaster, Demorestville and Crofton, and from friends at these places and Montreal, Stratford and Belleville.

MR. BOOTH AND PROHIBITION.

He Offers Ottawa $2,000 if City Refuses to Renew Certain Liquor Licenses.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—Temperance workers have found a powerful ally in Mr. John R. Booth, the lumber millionaire, who has just offered to pay the city $2,000 if it will refuse to renew the liquor licenses west of the Victoria foundry in the immediate vicinity of his mills. He says liquor is a curse to his men, and so seriously impairs their productive capacity that he would gladly give the above sum to have the temptation removed from the path of the men, as they go to and from their work. The offer was made to Miss Cassady, city missionary, and through her to the Presbyterian Ministerial Association. The Rev. Dr. Herridge, of St. Andrew's Church, was appointed to confer with Mr. Booth, and that gentleman has unreservedly committed himself to pay the above sum to the city should the licenses be cancelled.

AN INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE

MR. W. D. MORRIS WILL NOT BE A PARTY HACK.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—Mr. W. D. Morris, twice elected Mayor of this city, has set at naught the decision of the Conservative convention of this city not to oppose Mr. J. B. T. Caron, Liberal, for the Commons.

The chief plank in his platform is a declaration to assist in 'framing and passing legislation looking towards the amelioration of the conditions affecting the wage-earners of this community. The poorest laborer or the highest paid boss foreman or other individual will receive equal attention at my hands. This, of course, includes the civil and civic service.'

Mr. Morris puts his trust in the independent electors for he says there are many people in this city who are sick and tired of cut-and-dried politics on the part of all parties, and the present appears to me to be an occasion on which they can have an opportunity of quietly recording their votes without coercion or solicitation.

SUPREME COURT

GRAND TRUNK MUST PROVIDE THIRD CLASS ACCOMMODATION AT TWO CENTS A MILE—OTHER JUDGMENTS.

Ottawa, Sept. 13.—The Supreme Court delivered decisions to-day in fifteen out of twenty of the appeals which were standing for judgment.

One of the most interesting of these is the Grand Trunk Railway vs. Robertson, which concerns the obligation of the company to provide third-class passenger accommodation over its line daily at the rate of a penny a mile. It was contended that this obligation was laid upon the company in its original charter, and a hearing of the matter by the Railway Commission some months ago resulted in the issue of an order which held the Grand Trunk still bound to sell these third class tickets at the rate specified half a century ago, of a penny a mile. Appeal was taken by the Grand Trunk to the Supreme Court, but the latter, in its judgment to-day, upholds the order of the Railway Commission for the reason given in Judge Killam's judgment.

The judgment imposes an obligation on the Grand Trunk to give a two-cents-a-mile rate between Montreal and Toronto.

YUKON MORAL CONDITIONS

DEPUTATION SEEKS ENFORCEMENT OF CRIMINAL CODE.

Ottawa, Dec. 13.—Bishop Hamilton, of Ottawa; Canon Tucker, Toronto; Dr. Cameron, Ottawa; the Rev. Dr. Chown, Toronto; Dr. A. S. Grant, Toronto, and the Rev. Dr. Shearer, of the Moral and Social Reform Department of the Presbyterian Church, waited on Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Oliver this forenoon in reference to moral and social reform in the Yukon.

A delegation waited on the government some time ago in connection with this matter.

It is an outcome of certain charges preferred by the Rev. Dr. Pringle, and to investigate which the government proposed a court of inquiry.

Col. White, representing the Mounted Police, was present.

The deputation asked for an amendment to the Criminal Code to do away with gambling as a profession in Canada.

The Premier replied that so far as he knew the clause of the Criminal Code against gambling as a business was enforced in the Yukon the same as elsewhere in Canada, but that he would have an inquiry made. The government, he added, was under as great an obligation to maintain proper moral conditions in the Yukon as it was to look after the material welfare of the country.

A WIDOW'S SUIT.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—Catherine Cunningham, wife of the late Thos. Murphy, has instituted an action in the Hull Courts against the Ottawa Electric Company for $5,000 damages for the death of her husband. Murphy was an employee of the Capital Brewing Co., and on July 20 last, was engaged in installing a pump in Fortin and Gravelles hotel, which was then under construction. In his work he received a shock from the live wires, which caused his death almost immediately.

CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLEMENT.

A. H. Anderson, Treasurer of the Quebec Central Railway, Arrested at Sherbrooke.

Sherbrooke, Que., Dec. 10.—A. H. Anderson, treasurer of the Quebec Central Railway, was arrested to-day on complaint of the general manager, Mr. Walsh, the charge being embezzlement. The company's auditor, on completing the periodical inspection of the books on Saturday, discovered a large deficit. Mr. Anderson has acknowledged to the general manager his indebtedness to the company and has elected for a summary trial, which will take place before Judge Mulvena in a few days. The accused has been a well known and trusted employee of the company for many years, and the officials feel it deeply that they should be compelled to take action against their old co-worker, who is believed to have been a victim of the recent financial troubles in the United States. The utmost sympathy is expressed for both himself and his family.

Sherbrooke, Dec. 12.—A petition for clemency in the Anderson case is being circulated and largely signed. A plea of guilty may be withdrawn and the case allowed to go on trial with a view to bringing out any extenuating circumstances in connection. The investigation does not tend to lessen the amount taken, which now stands at $85,000.

THE NOMINATIONS IN CHATEAUGUAY.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION A VITAL FACTOOR.

Three candidates have been nominated for the Chateauguay vacancy: Ald. Honore Mercier, of Montreal, Liberal; Jos. Poissant, advocate, Liberal, and Joseph M. Laberge, clerk, an Independent Liberal.

At the nomination the three candidates spoke, Ald. Mercier supporting the government in an excellent speech. Mr. J. Laberge based his claims on being a son of the county, while Mr. Poissant declared that the Liberal convention had been influenced by ministers.

The Hon. Lomer Gouin referred to the eulogistic reference that the 'Witness' had made to Ald. Mercier, and declared that the latter was the only candidate with a definite programme.

Mr. Bourassa followed on behalf of Mr. Laberge, and denounced the Hon. Mr. Weir. He also spoke in scornful tones of the royal commission inquiring into the Turgeon affair, and declared that the judges had been specially selected for the work, while the lawyers were trying to keep the truth from coming out.

The Hon. Mr. Weir replied to this speech, and said it was a pity that Mr. Bourassa, a man of so much ability, had developed into a mere common scold and slanderer.

The Hon. C. R. Devlin also gave some hard knocks to Mr. Bourassa.

The temperance question is being made a very live issue in the Chateauguay by-election campaign, and Messrs. Laberge and Poissant, who are both fighting the return of Mr. Honoré Mercier, have, in order to rally the liquor interests to their side, seized on the fact that last week Mr. Mercier frankly expressed himself as a temperance man.

In this regard news came on Wednesday that Messrs. Poissant and Laberge have individually declared that if elected the successful one will get the government to change the law in order to destroy the powers that now lies with municipalities to pass prohibitory by-laws. In the meantime each candidate is promising that if elected, he can overcome the existing law by securing club licenses to all who desire them.

Mr. Poissant was the lawyer who appeared in the interests of Mr. Hebert, the hotelkeeper who attacked the prohibitory by-law at Howick. Here and at Ormstown the liquor interests are making the campaign very hot against Mr. Mercier.

The Rev. Dr. Morison last Sunday spoke in his interests, but further help is desired.

Last week a delegation composed of the Rev. Dr. Morison, Mr. Thomas Winters, and Mr. Maw, waited upon Mr. Mercier, in order to get from him his views on the temperance question.

Mr. Mercier replied frankly that he was a temperance man and in favor of municipalities having power to pass prohibitionary by-laws.

The delegation expressed its satisfaction with Mr. Mercier's attitude.

STOCK BROKER DISCHARGED.

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 11.—Frank H. Butler, the London stock broker, who was arrested some time ago on the charge of obtaining money under false pretences from Meadows & Williams, a local firm of brokers, was this morning discharged by Judge Monck. Although they claimed that they lost over $4,000, as a result of Butler not being able to deliver stock which he had ordered them to sell, the complainants refused to prosecute.

THE CATTLE EMBARGO.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 11.—The Earl of Carrington, in the course of a speech on agricultural affairs, said that, recognizing the great risk of infection from disease he was not prepared to sanction any change in the law regarding the importation of Canadian cattle.

HOG CHOLERA IN ESSEX.

Sandwich, Ont., Dec. 10.—Hog cholera has been discovered in Essex county. Government inspectors who visited the farm of Millard Holden, in Sandwich South, found 91 hogs afflicted with the disease. In accordance with the regulation, every one of the animals was destroyed. Rigid inspection is to be maintained to prevent the spread of the disease.

MARRIAGE AND MONEY.

A Bridegroom Who Refused to Fulfil His Contract.

AGREED TO MARRY A WOMAN UNKNOWN TO HIM.

A projected matrimonial alliance which did not come off led to an action before Judge Choquet in the Enquete Court on Wednesday, when Albert Pardeinas was charged by Mrs. Paquette, of Pointe Claire, with unlawfully retaining a sum of money, lent him on condition that he would marry her daughter.

The would-be bridegroom had never seen the girl, but being in need of money he accepted the offer.

Later, however, he repented, and he stated in court on Wednesday that when he decided not to marry Mrs. Paquette's daughter he took the money back to her. He produced a receipt in court, which Judge Choquet held was in the same handwriting as that of several letters relating to the contract. He decided, however, to adjourn the case for further evidence.

BIG C.P.R. DEAL

REPORT THAT NEGOTIATIONS OPENED FOR BOSTON AND MAINE.

There is a report from Boston that the C. P. R. is negotiating for the control of the Boston & Maine Railway, which, if effective, would cut into the Grand Trunk territory and give the C. P. R. enormous facilities on the Atlantic seaboard.

No authentic confirmation can be obtained. This much, however, is learned, two offers have been made for the stock held by the New Haven road. One is from a railway (not the C. P. R.) and the other from a banking firm, which may possibly be acting for the C. P. R. The president of the latter refuses to deny or affirm the report.

KILLED SIX INFANTS

INVESTIGATION INTO DEATH OF WOMAN LEADS TO HORRIBLE DISCOVERY.

A rumor of a most serious nature comes from Quebec respecting alleged infanticide and the poisoning of a woman.

About a month ago a Mrs. Rochette died under somewhat mysterious circumstances, and an autopsy of her body having recently been made as the result of rumors following her death, it is now stated that an analysis of her digestive organs has revealed the presence of arsenic, and that the arrest of a man and a woman will immediately follow.

In connection with this case it is further stated that the woman implicated is also suspected of having buried in a field on the Charlesbourg road the bodies of six infants, which the authorities are to have exhumed without delay.

EXCHEQUER COURT

EFFECT OF JUDGMENT IN CASE OF DISPUTE BETWEEN ONTARIO AND THE DOMINION.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—The effect of the judgment given in the Exchequer Court on Saturday in the long-standing dispute between the Dominion and the province of Ontario regarding the payments of annuities, etc., to the Indians in the north-west corner of the province of Ontario, will be to hand over some $288,000 from the treasury of Ontario to the Dominion of Canada. The latter has been paying since 1873 an annuity of $5 per head to the Indian population of this district, and also a sum of $1,500 per anum towards nets and ammunition for the Indians. The judgment holds Ontario liable for a proportion of both these payments for the last thirty-four years, and also obliges the province to continue the payments in perpetuity. Thirty thousand square miles of the territory affected by Indian Treaty No. 9 belongs to the province of Ontario, and about 25,000 square miles to the district of Keewatin, which is under Federal control. The annual payments to the natives from the provincial and Dominion treasuries will correspond to the area that each controls. That is to say, instead of paying $5 a head to the Indians, as it has been paying since 1873, it will pay hereafter but $2.28 on the annuity account, and a proportion of the $1,500. The saving to the Dominion treasury on these two accounts will be between ten and twelve thousand dollars a year.

KILLED BY TRAIN.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 9.—Joseph Miles, an aged man, who had led the life of a nomad in New Brunswick for some years, was killed by a train on the C. P. R. tracks near Fredericton Junction today. He was walking the tracks, and turned off on hearing the train coming. He stumbled, however, and fell, and the engine struck his head, killing him instantly. At one time Miles owned considerable property, but lost it in unfortunate speculation.

EXILED FROM FRANCE.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 9.—Arriving on the 'Empress of Britain' to-day were 18 sisters of the Order of the Daughters of Jesus, who have been exiled from France. Most of them will go to Three Rivers, Que.

WIRELESS ON THE PACIFIC.

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 10.—Messages were exchanged to-day between the local office of the Dominion Wireless Telegraphs and the steamer 'President,' when off Point Arena, on the California coast, a distance of over 600 miles.

A $200 FINE.

Montreal Firm Prosecuted for Infringement of the Butter Act.

IMPORTANT TEST CASE DECIDED BY JUDGE PICHE.

An important test case was decided in the Police Court, by Judge Piché on Wednesday, when Mr. John Keiskider, manufacturer of 'Borino,' a substance resembling butter, was fined $200 and costs for an infringement of the Butter Act.

Mr. D. M. McPherson, a government inspector, gave evidence of having received from a city firm of provision merchants two samples of 'borino,' of which he sent one to Ottawa, to be analysed, and retained the other.

The samples were produced in court, and showed 'borino' to be a fatty substance, colored like butter, but lacking the glossy appearance of genuine butter.

Mr. MacPherson said that he visited the factory in Montreal where 'borino' is manufactured, and saw two barrels of it. He could only say it resembled butter, especially when taken out of the refrigerator. The samples given to Mr. MacPherson were not sold as butter substitute, but as 'borine.'

Mr. Aimé Valin, government analyst in Ottawa, said the sample submitted to him was a harmless substance, with a certain food value. It was composed of beef fats, cotton seed oil, a small quantity of milk, and vegetable coloring.

For the defence, Mr. Keiskider was examined, and disclaimed any intention of deceiving the public into thinking 'borino' was butter.

Several confectioners and pastry bakers were examined, and stated that they used it in baking certain cakes and biscuits, where they would otherwise have used lard. Sometimes it was used mixed with butter, where lard would have been used, but it was no good as a substitute for butter in high-class cakes where butter alone could be used.

Alderman Martin gave evidence of the use of 'borino' in the manufacture of certain biscuits, and when all the witnesses for the defence had been examined, Mr. MacFarlane asked the judge to hold that there had been no infringement, as the general public could not be deceived into purchasing 'borino' to use for the purposes for which butter was commonly used.

Judge Piché held otherwise, however, and in view of its being a test case, imposed the minimum penalty of $200 and costs.

ABDUCTION CASE

OUTCOME OF DOMESTIC INFELICITY.

North Bay, Ont., Dec. 10.—A bold abduction case caused considerable excitement here yesterday, and the police force had a hard day's work. Some months ago Mrs. Augusta Rotter left her husband, E. D. Rotter, in Chicago, owing to domestic troubles, and disappeared with her seven-year-old son, Arthur, leaving no address. The husband engaged detectives and the continent was scoured without avail for some time, but recently the American detectives traced them to North Bay. On Rotter's arrival here he solicited the assistance of Chief of Police Mitchell and found the child in the public school.

A visit to the mother was then suggested by Chief Mitchell and the two started for her apartments, but Rotter gave the policeman the slip and disappeared with the boy. Rotter was found in New Liskeard and will be taken back to North Bay. The case will be aired in the police court.

FOR ALLEGED FRAUD

RUSSELL MAY BE BROUGHT BACK FROM PARIS IN HIGHLAND MARY MINE CASE.

Toronto, Dec. 9.— There have been several adjournments in the Crown's case against Frank Law and W. Lockhart Russell for conspiracy to defraud the public in connection with the exploitation of the Highland Mary Mine, on account of the absence of Mr. Russell in Europe. Counsel for the defence, Mr. T. H. Lennox, undertook to produce Mr. Russell in Court, but to-day admitted that Russell had paid no attention to his numerous cables, and he was unable consequently to do so. The magistrate accordingly released him from his undertaking, and will ask the attorney-general to issue a warrant to bring Russell back to Toronto to stand trial.

When last heard of by his friends, Mr. Russell was in Paris, France, whither he had gone after the charge of conspiracy was laid against him. Should he remain abroad, proceedings will be taken to extradite him according to a statement by the Acting Crown Attorney.

NOMINATIONS AT THE 'SOO'

DR. R. J. GIBSON, THE LIBERAL CANDIDATE.

Sault. Ste. Marie, Ont., Dec. 9.—The Liberals of West Algoma held their convention at Bruce Mines on Saturday, the result being the naming of Dr. R. J. Gibson, of Sault Ste. Marie, by acclamation, as candidate for the House of Commons. Dr. Gibson accepted. Resolutions were passed condemning the Ontario Government for refusal to grant the timber and minerals to the pioneer settlers, and failure to construct or to secure the colonization railways projected from lake ports northward to the National Transcontinental and Canadian Pacific Railways. The failure to enact a satisfactory mining law was also condemned.

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JANUARY NUMBER READY IMMEDIATELY.

STRANDED BULGARIANS

GOVERNMENT WILL DEPORT AT LEAST SEVENTY OF THOSE STRANDED AT TORONTO.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—In other years the tide of immigration into Canada has almost ceased at this season of the year, but this fall and winter the stream has kept up to such an extent that the Minister of the Interior has had to issue orders to the Canadian immigration agents in Britain and Europe not to encourage, but, on the contrary, to use their influence to discourage the coming of settlers to Canada during the winter.

The department has already made up its mind to deport at least seventy out of the two or three hundred Bulgarian immigrants who are stranded in Toronto. If the municipal authorities at Toronto want the whole party sent back home to Bulgaria they have only to make formal request for this action and it will be done, the foreigners being returned to their home land at the expense of the steamship company which brought them out here. The Canadian Government officials had nothing whatever to do with the coming of these people to our shores. They came entirely of their own accord for the Canadian Government agents on the Continent make no appeal in that part of Europe. It is said, however, that in addition to the party of Bulgarians who are now idle in Toronto, more are coming by steamer to Halifax. When work was offered to those in Toronto as railway navvies at $1.75 per day only some of them would accept the employment and the rest are now a charge on the city.

THE OLD STORY

CHILDREN LEFT ALONE BURNED TO DEATH.

Cobalt, Ont., Dec. 12.—The house of William Hewitt, which stood on the Coniagas property, was burned to the ground late last night, and Mr. Hewitt's two baby girls, Evelyn, aged 5, and May, aged 3, were burned to death while sleeping together. Both parents were absent at the time and the origin of the fire is not known.

BARON DE L'EPINE NOT COMING.

The 'Patrie' publishes a letter addressed by Baron de l'Epine to the secretary of the Royal Commission appointed to investigate the matter of the Belgian syndicate, in which he refuses to come and give evidence in Canada.

WIFE WAS POISONED

HUSBAND WANTED AS WITNESS IN QUEBEC CASE, SEEN IN MONTREAL.

Much excitement has been created in Quebec by the discovery that Mrs. Rochette, wife of a well-to-do citizen, and former hotelkeeper, had died of poison.

A few days after her death her husband, Omar Rochette, married again, and shortly afterwards he left the city. He is now wanted as a witness in connection with the inquiry into his wife's death.

Though he left Quebec suddenly it is not known whether Mr. Rochette intended to return, but Chief McCaskill, of the provincial detectives, has learned that he was seen on Saturday last in Montreal by an old acquaintance, who spoke to him in Craig street.

Mr. Rochette explained that he intended leaving Quebec as times were hard there. It is believed that he had been several days in Montreal, but the detectives this morning did not think he was still in the city.

A CANADIAN CHOSEN.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 10.—The Rev. Walter W. McLaren, son of Mr. John McLaren, Renfrew, well-known in Kingston, and for some time in charge of the Presbyterian Church, Picton, has been appointed professor of economics in Keigijuku University, Tokio, for three years, beginning March next. Application was made to Harvard to get the Japanese college a suitable man, and Mr. McLaren was chosen.

AFFECTED WITH GLANDERS.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 10.—Six horses have been killed on the farm of F. Hawley, Enterprize, owing to glanders. The disease has been prevalent for three months, the horses being treated for distemper. There is danger of the disease, as at a public trough all the affected horses were watered. The balance of the horses at Hawley's have been quarantined.

A NONOGENARIAN.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 10.—Mrs. Ann Simmons, aged 98, died last night in the House of Industry, where she had lived since 1895. Her maiden name was Lucas, and she came to Kingston from Ireland with her parents in 1825. She was married to John Simmons, one of Kingston's first policemen. She retained all her faculties until a few months ago, when she was confined to bed. She was an Anglican.

MANSLAUGHTER CHARGED

POLLOCK DECLARES HE SHOT AT DUCK AND ICE DEFLECTED BULLET.

Campbellton, N.B., Dec. 9.—The expected happened at Sayabec, Que., last night, when James K. Pollock was arrested on a charge of causing the death of Gervais Gauthier, near that place. The arrest was made by two detectives from Quebec, who have been working on the case for several days. The arrest was made at the Red River mill of John Henderson & Co., about twelve miles from Sayabec. Pollock was taken to the jail at Rimouski, but will be brought back to Sayabec to-day, when the preliminary examination will be begun. Pollock has the sympathy of the people of Sayabec, who believe that he did not intentionally kill Gauthier. The story, as given out, is that Pollock fired at a duck, and that the bullet glanced off a piece of ice, and penetrated Gauthier's side.

SPRINGHILL MINERS

THEY REFUSE TO SIGN THREE YEARS' CONTRACT IF PILLAR MEN ARE REDUCED.

Glace Bay, N.S., Dec. 9.—This morning the P. W. A. delegates discussed the Dominion Coal Company's two wage schedules, clause by clause, for three hours, and in the afternoon they met the company and went over the clauses with them for the same length of time. The men stated that they would not sign a three-year contract, if doing so involved a reduction to pillar men. Afterwards it was announced that Mr. Duggan, the general manager, will this week send a schedule, slightly modified, of wages, to Mr. Moffatt, grand secretary of the P. W. A., and this may lead to another conference, which the men had said they would not agree to.

Mr. James Ross, president, was in town to-day, but was not present at the conference. The men are incensed over the raise in the price of coal, which will, they claim, cost them more than at any other colliery in the province.

DEAD AT 114 YEARS.

Council Bluffs, Iowa, Dec. 12.—John Busha, 114 years old, died on Tuesday night. Busha took part in the Black Hawk war in 1832. He had been blind and helpless for fifteen years.

HORSMAN COMMITTED

MUST FACE CHARGE OF WIFE MURDER.

Moncton, N.B., Dec. 9.—At the preliminary examination of Christopher A. Horsman, charged with the murder of his wife, Dr. G. A. B. Addy, of St. John, to-day reported on the autopsy he had made on the body of Mrs. Horsman. In his opinion death was due to suffocation. He found no marks of violence on the throat. The base of the skull was fractured due, he thought, to the woman falling into the well. In general, his report was favorable to the prisoner.

Moncton, N.B., Dec. 10.—The preliminary examination of Christopher A. Horsman, charged with the murder of his wife, was concluded this afternoon, and Police Magistrate Kay committed the accused for trial at the Westmorland Circuit Court, at Dorchester, the second Tuesday in January. The defence called no witnesses, and the accused pleaded 'not guilty.'

Solicitor-General Jones., in arguing for committal of the prisoner, said:—The Christian feeling in this country has been outraged as much perhaps by the funeral of this woman as by anything else. Here is a woman who has been hastened out of the world without a moment's warning, and then thrown into a grave and buried like a dog.' The prisoner, he said, should not be allowed to go before the matter was further probed.

Magistrate Kay considered there was sufficient evidence to send the case before a jury, and accordingly committed Horsman for trial.

ST. JOHN WATER FAMINE OVER

St. John, N.B., Dec. 10.—The water famine here is practically over. One of the mains was repaired late last night. The other will be finished this afternoon. There was no inconvenience to-day, except on the high levels, where the supply is short.

MASS MEETING OF LONDON CHURCHES.

London, Ont., Dec. 12.—At a mass meeting of the churches last night it was resolved that all unite in an effort to raise $50,000 to assist in the mission's movement and pledge their co-operation in the movement for the evangelization of the world

MANY VESSELS LOST.

Some 250 St. Pierre Fishermen Perish in Storm.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 10.—In the middle of October last the fishing schooner 'Jacques,' with a full cargo of fish and twenty-seven men, left the Newfoundland Banks for St. Malo, France. Ten days later fierce storms were reported by mariners coming from France, and at the time grave fears were expressed for the safety of small craft crossing the Atlantic. That these fears were well grounded is proven by the fact that no tidings of the Jacques or her crew have ever been received.

Another victim of the sea is the schooner 'Croisade,' which sailed from St. Pierre two days after the departure of the 'Jacques.' The 'Croisade' had a complement of twenty-three men, and had a valuable cargo of fish. No tidings have been heard from the vessel or crew.

This makes no less than ten vessels lost out of the St. Pierre fleet for the present year so far, in which some two hundred and fifty-one men have been lost.

CHARGED WITH THEFT

E. H. COATES, PROMOTER OF ENTERTAINMENTS FOR CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, IN TROUBLE AT TORONTO.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—E. H. Coates, a promoter of musical entertainments for charitable institutions, who recently put on 'A Japanese Honeymoon' here in aid of the Broadview Boys' Home, was in the Police Court to-day charged with theft in connection with the production. Coates had been previously allowed out on bail and left the city, but returned yesterday. He explained to the magistrate that he had to go to Buffalo on private business. It is alleged against Coates that he sold over two hundred tickets for 'A Japanese Honeymoon,' and did not turn in the proceeds. His case will be taken up to-morrow, he being allowed out on his own bail for $1,000.

E. H. Coates is well known in Montreal, he having three years ago managed a musical entertainment in the Monument National for one of the local charities. Mr. Coates on that occasion is believed to have given perfect satisfaction to the trustees of the charity referred to both artistically and financially.

LABELLE VACANCY

MR. F. A. GENDRON, M.P.P., WILL ACCEPT NOMINATION IN LIBERAL INTEREST.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—Mr. F. A. Gendron has decided to accept a nomination in the Liberal interest for the vacancy in Labelle, for the Commons, caused by the resignation of Mr. Bourassa.

Mr. C. B. Major's name had been mentioned for the honor, but it is understood that should he have persisted in his ambition he would have to encounter the opposition of the late member.

It is stated this evening that as Mr. Gendron's candidature involves his resignation from the Legislature, Mr. Bourassa will contest the riding for the Quebec House.

THE IRON BRIDGE MURDER

JUDGE EXPRESSES AMAZEMENT AT THE JURY'S VERDICT OF ACQUITTAL.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Dec. 12.—The trial of Thomas McFarlane, who is charged with the murder of William Dixon at Iron Bridge last July, by shooting him in the head with a rifle, commenced here yesterday. The two men lived together in a shack on a farm owned by McFarlane. A shot was heard by the neighbors, who investigated and found the body of Dixon on the floor and McFarlane gone. McFarlane later give himself up to Provincial Constable Graham, of Blind River, and witnesses swore that he told conflicting stories as to how Dixon died, one being that he committed suicide.

Evidence for the Crown was strong, although entirely circumstantial. Medical testimony proved conclusively that Dixon could not have been killed by his own hand, the wound causing death being in the top of the head and being apparently fired from the stove-pipe hole above Dixon when he stood in the lower room near the table.

The Case for the Crown concluded last night and the defence will commence to-day.

Sault Ste. Marie, Dec. 13.—Thos. McFarlane, who has been on trial for the murder of William Dixon by shooting, at Iron Bridge, was last night acquitted and left the court a free man. When the jury returned with their verdict at nine o'clock the judge expressed great surprise at their finding, declaring that he could not conceive how it was possible for any jury to arrive at such a verdict after the evidence which had been presented.

DECEMBER RENEWALS

Those whose subscriptions expire in December are urgently requested to send in renewals AT ONCE, so as to avoid the tremendous end-of-the-year rush that taxes even an increased staff to the utmost. Nothing would be lost by renewing a little before the time, as renewals invariably count from the date of former subscription. By giving this matter their prompt attention subscribers will greatly oblige

THE PUBLISHERS.

N.B.—In renewing, why not take advantage of one of the combination offers announced elsewhere in this issue?

NEWS OF THE PROVINCES.

ONTARIO.

A Methodist Sunday-school teacher, who is a druggist near Ottawa, has been summoned to answer the charge of selling liquor without a license.

In an accident which occurred at Belleville, on Tuesday morning, Charles D. Leavens, the eight-year-old son of Mr. H. D. Leavens, and grandson of D. D. Leavens postmaster of this city, was killed. He fell beneath the feet of horses his father was driving, and one of the calks of the horse's shoe penetrated his brain.

A Toronto despatch says that Dr. Hodgett, the secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, has issued a statement regarding smallpox in the province. He censures the municipalities for failure to take proper precautions, and says that not one percent of the cases in the last decade would have occurred had the law been properly observed. He estimates the loss to the province through smallpox in that time at $2,000,000.

A correspondent at Smith's Falls writes: While several Italians employed on the C.P.R. construction work, were returning from work, on a hand car, one of them, named Giogi, leaned over to catch his hat, which blew off, and was struck by the handle of the car and thrown upon the track. The car passed over him, killing him instantly.

Mr. Justice Riddell, J. D. O'Donoghoe, solicitor of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, and K. J. Dunstan, manager of the Bell Telephone Company, Toronto, have been appointed a board of investigation, under the Lemieux Act, to investigate the dismissal of four employees of the Toronto Street Railway Company for refusing to work on open cars.

It is expected that application will shortly be made to the Department of Labor for the appointment of a board of investigation under the Lemieux Act into the claims of some five hundred car men employed on the Grand Trunk Railway in Canada and in the United States.

Messrs. R. C. Steele, president, and J. D. Allan, ex-president, of the Toronto Board of Trade, have waited on the Prime Minister to-day asking that in the arrangement of the Railway Commission provision should be made for the appointment of at least two business men as commissioners. They asked also that the fortnightly steamship service between Canada and the British West Indies should be changed to a weekly service, so that Canada may be able to get a little more than the ten percent that she now commands of this import trade of these islands.

While lighting a stove, Mrs. J. Battersby, of Stratford, caught her night robe on fire and was so badly burnt that she died a few hours later.

Two new town sites in Northern Ontario are being surveyed, on the route of the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario line. It is proposed to call one Cochrane, after the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, and the other Matheson, after the Provincial Treasurer.

The body of Edward Klein has been found in the Irvine River between Salem and Elora. Klein had been in the employ of Thomas Cleghorn, a farmer, near Elora, had been paid his wages on Saturday, Nov. 30, since which time he had not been seen. About fifty dollars was found in the man's pocket.

According to a Toronto despatch, a woman dressed in man's clothes was discovered when 'John Ford' was arrested on a charge of drunkenness. It appears that the defendant works at a brickyard as a laborer, and always wears men's clothes. Her fellow workers were aware of her sex.

It will be remembered that the Ontario Apple Shippers Association recently made a vigorous protest against the difficulty experienced by shippers in getting refrigerator cars. The protest made to the railway companies has been followed by the issue of a circular by the Grand Trunk, the freight traffic manager of which points out that the company is giving consideration to the question of the kind of equipment best adapted to the handling of apples and other fruit during the winter season. The company is desirous of knowing what is the extent of the shipments to Europe, the United States, the North-West and other points, and what type of car would give the best results.

The Court of Appeal has affirmed the conviction of Jacob Sunfield for the murder of Radzysk. The death sentenc is appointed to be carried out on the 27th inst.

While suffering from a fit of melancholia, Thomas Richardson, a well-to-do retired farmer, living at Windsor, ended his life by taking carbolic acid. Deceased was about forty years of age, and leaves a young wife.

An escape of gas from a stove was the cause of the death of Mrs. F. Farmer, of Kingston. She awoke her husband in the morning, and succeeded in getting him to a window, where he revived from the effects of the gas. He then went for a doctor for his wife, who, however, died before he could return.

Hamilton fruit growers complained at their annual meeting of the increase in the price of baskets.

There is a dispute between the United Gas and the Provincial Gas Companies, of St. Catharines, and on Tuesday they laid their cases before the Minister of Inland Revenue. The Provincial Gas Company has a contract to supply Buffalo with gas, and the United, which draws its supply from the Provincial, and which is engaged in the distribution of gas to local consumers, desires that the Buffalo supply should be cut off in order that the requirements of the St. Catharines people may be fully met.

Four Italians have been killed at Key Harbor, on the C. N. O. R. spur line, by a piece of rock, which rolled down from the face of the cut and exploded. The accident is curious from the fact that no dynamite had been used for several days.

Maggie Staplebaum, a fifteen-year-old school girl, of Brantford, has committed suicide by taking a dose of carbolic acid. After taking it she told an older sister what she had done. Remedies were applied, but without result.

Miss Mary Rogers, 18, of London, has had a narrow escape. On Tuesday, she was operating a skiving machine at a boot factory, when her hair caught in the wheels. Before the machinery could be stopped a piece of her scalp was torn out.

By-laws authorizing the expenditure of $653,000 are to be submitted to the electors of London. The greater portion of the money is required for waterworks extension and Niagara power distribution.

Many bakers in Toronto will have to face a charge of selling underweight bread.

Mayor Coatsworth has suggested the possibility of providing municipal eating houses in Toronto.

Owing to the breaking of an axle, a freight wreck occurred on the G. T. R., about a mile west of Collins Bay. Ten cars of wheat, pork, lumber, and package freight covered the tracks from fence to fence.

The Rev. D. B. Macdonald, pastor of Haynes Avenue Presbyterian Church, St. Catharines, and brother of the editor of the Toronto 'Globe,' has been seized with a paralytic stroke.

The Toronto City Council has decided to ask the Legislature to amend the Municipal Act, so as to give married women votes at municipal elections.

Italian residents of Port Arthur have agreed to discontinue carrying concealed weapons.

Speaking at Milton, the Hon. A. G. Mackay, leader of the Ontario Opposition, expressed the view that the electors could expect an election not later than June of next year.

Mrs. R. Henderson, of Gananoque, has died from the effects of accidentally taking carbolic acid. Mrs. Henderson had been ill, and during the absence of her nurse picked up the wrong bottle.

At a meeting of the Nicholls Hospital Board, Peterborough, it was announced that the time had arrived for the disposition of the residue of the estate of the late Charlotte J. Nicholls. This includes a grant of $30,000 for a new wing, and securities which, with the present endowment of $85,000, will give the hospital an endowment fund of $200,000.

While trying the ice on the Don, at Toronto, Clarence Ellis, the six-year-old son of Wiliam J. Ellis, was drowned. With two other boys he was trying to cross on the thin ice of the river, when it broke under him and let him through.

WESTERN CANADA.

The custom of raising the national flag at the time school is opened for the day, and lowering it when the session is ended, will be in vogue at the Vancouver schools hereafter, according to an order of the school board.

Mrs. E. W. Jahn, wife of the Rev. F. H. John, German Lutheran minister at Calgary, committed suicide by hanging herself. She had been melancholy for some two years past.

Hector Lachapelle, a homesteader, has died in Saskatoon Hospital, from injuries received from a threshing machine. His hand got caught and was literally torn from the socket.

At the annual North-West Fruit Growers Convention, held in Vancouver, British Columbia won both gold medals. The competition is open to the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and the province of British Columbia.

Resolutions have been passed by the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council and the Asiatic Exclusion League, demanding the dismissal of Lieut.-Governor Dunsmuir, on the ground that as president of the Wellington Colliery Company he had signed a contract with the Canadian Nippon Company for the employment of five hundred Japanese laborers, while at the same time as governor he declined to assent to the Natal Act proposed by the Hon. W. J. Bowser and unanimously passed by the legislature for the conditional restriction of Asiatic immigration.

Winnipeg and Brandon have come to a deadlock over the next summer fair dates, both having chosen dates immediately after the Dominion Exhibition at Calgary. A conference to make satisfactory arrangements failed to come to a settlement.

Winnipeg has had endless discussions regarding an incinerator, and as to whether it fulfilled the purposes for which it was erected. The outcome has been an action against the city by the Decarie Manufacturing Company for the balance of the contract price for the plant. The city refused to pay over the balance of the money because the test committee named in the contract declared by a majority report that the plant was not satisfactory in the matter of the destruction of night soil.

Railway employees at Brandon have passed a resolution to be forwarded to the government, declaring the present Railway Act vicious, and pressing for its amendment so as to be more just and lenient to railway employees.

A Calgary correspondent states that the Hon. W. Cushing has entered into an arrangement with the civic telephone committee under which the Alberta Government agrees to charge $30 per annum on business 'phones, and $15 on house 'phones on the provincial system.

The steel laying eastward from Saskatchewan on the G. T. P. has reached a point fifty-five miles from Saskatoon.

QUEBEC.

Cleophas Lapointe, a telephone employee, has been killed at St. Helene Station, while boarding a train. He took train at Riviere du Loup, but got out at St. Helene to procure a parcel, and as the train was pulling out, he jumped for the platform of one of the cars, missed his footing, and rolling beneath the wheels had both legs cut off. He was removed to a house, but died within a short time.

The master farriers of Quebec City have decided to form an organization for trade purposes.

Former students and graduates of Laval University will apply to the legislature of the province for power to incorporate a company under the title of the Association of Past Students and Graduates of Laval University.

An investigation has been made in Quebec as to the circumstances under which the government steamer 'Montcalm' sustained her recent injuries. She will not do any ice-breaking this winter.

J. E. Lesard, a traveller, has been killed at Daveluyville station, on the I. C. R. He was walking on the ice-covered track, on his way to catch a train, when he slipped. Before he could recover a train ran over him, severing his left foot and right leg. He died the next day.

The Salvation Army in Quebec will reconstruct their builings, at a cost of about $15,000.

Judgment has been given in the case in which the Franciscans of Three Rivers asked for liberty to exhume the bodies of several members of their order, that of Frere Didace in particular, from beneath the church edifice, which formerly belonged to the monks. The church now occupied by the English congregation was at one time owned by the Recollets. In their petition for permission to exhume, the Franciscans claimed that they were the successors of the Recollets, and that several members of their order had been buried more than two hundred years ago beneath the edifice, including Frere Didace, a saintly Franciscan, who is said to have performed miracles in his lifetime, and whom the order now wants to canonize. Mr. Justice Cook ruled that the Anglican Church being the owners of the place of burial, the exhumation of the remains could not be effected without their consent.

A smash-up has occurred on the C. P. R. near Point du Lac, by which a tender and car have been demolished. A freight train, climbing the grade beyond the station, was too heavy for the engine, so the engineer left a portion of his train and returned for it later. He probably miscalculated the speed of his engine and struck the rear section of the train.

The question of the power of the Ontario Children's Aid Society in Quebec has arisen. It was generally thought if children given over to the society removed to Quebec province the society had no power. Mr. W. L. Scott, president of the society, however, has been assured by the chancellor that if a boy is in Ontario when the order is given committing him to the care of the society, should he afterwards run away into Quebec the society can force the Quebec courts to act on its behalf.

The nucleus of the Quebec Battlefields Association was formed Friday under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor General. Sir Louis Jetté, lieutenant-governor, has consented to act as president, and it is hoped that branches of the association will be formed in every section of the Dominion, so that opportunity may be given to every Canadian to contribute to Canada on her three hundredth birthday a fund for the preservation of the battlefields of the Plains of Abraham and Ste. Foye.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

A little boy was drowned in Guysboro, N.S., while playing on the ice Friday, and but for the heroism of the older sister the mother and an older boy would have gone down also.

The investigation into the shortage in the accounts of Mr. Sandell, the chamberlain of St. John, has brought out the fact that money was borrowed from Mr. D. Connell, who was given city bonds as security. The latter said he did not examine them and simply placed them in the bank.

According to a St. John despatch, an early dissolution of the local legislature with an appeal to the electors is probable in January. No official announcement has yet been made, but there are many indications that the election is coming.

At a temperance mass meeting, held in Newcastle, N.B., under the auspices of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the Rev. S. J. McArthur recommended the elimination of private profit from the liquor business by having all liquor owned by the government and sold by salaried civil servants. This would well nigh abolish the sale and individual work would do the rest.

A deputation of teachers has waited upon the Brunswick Government with a request that a pension scheme should be established, in preference to an increase of salaries.

The Dominion Iron & Steel Company, is reported to have leased the property of the New Brunswick Iron Company at Lepreaux, with a view to its immediate development on a large scale.

It is probable that farmers who sell their produce in Halifax will in future have to pay a license of $5 instead of $20.

Reports from Cape Breton shows that business in that district is on a good basis. There are no signs of a boom, but everything points to a continuance of satisfactory trade.

A report from New Glasgow, N.S., states that an employee of the Drummond Colliery named Clarke was instantly killed while at work at the bankheads. The loaded rake fell over the bank-head on to Clarke who was working on the floor below.

Alexander Mader, mate of the three-masted schooner 'Winnifred,' discharging coal at Bridgewater, met death at vessel's side. Mader was stepping from the wharf to the 'Winnifred,' when he fell into the water and was drowned.

Joseph Miles, an aged man, who has led the life of a nomad in New Brunswick, for some years, has been killed by a train on the C.P.R. tracks near Fredericton Junction.

The steamer 'Regulus' has arrived at North Sydney from Philadelphia, with two hundred tons of coal for the Dominion Iron & Steel Company, part of an order for 60,000 tons.

MONTREAL NEWS.

There are rumors of important changes in the police court section of the Court House. A special inquiry has been held into the affairs of the police court, and it is probable that sweeping changes will be made. It is declared that great laxity exists, and that certain officials have systematically neglected their duty.

The Railway Commission have this week been investigating the working and tariffs of the Canadian express companies. It was explained that the companies have a standard rate of charges, which were practically the same per mile with all the companies. These rates, however, were varied by a number of exceptions, which were provided for on certain lines of valuable goods by printed rules.

Two engineers are to be appointed by the city to meet the representatives of the Grand Trunk Railway, in order to prepare plans and report as to the best means of getting rid of the level crossings within the city limits, either by elevated or underground tracks. The city has power to contribute $2,000,000 towards the cost of abolishing the level crossings, and the Grand Trunk is ready to begin the work as soon as a scheme is agreed upon.

Dr. Barclay has resigned from the Protestant School Commissioners, owing to the verdict given against the commissioners in connection with the Hochelaga fire. He looks upon it as a censure for culpable negligence, a charge he emphatically denies. The commissioners have decided to pay all the parents of the children lost in the fire a sum of $300 for each child.

Alderman N. Lapointe has been condemned to pay $120 damages for slandering a former civic employee. The alderman complained against the plaintiff for having taken part in an election against him, and asserted that the plaintiff was absent from duty on the voting day. This was found to be incorrect, but the result was that plaintiff was dismissed. It was proved, however, that the plaintiff had used violent language against the defendant in the course of the election.

The Hon. W. A. Weir criticized trades unions at the builders' banquet and expressed the opinion that higher ability should mean higher pay.

A verdict for $3,000 damages was on Tuesday given in favor of Mrs. D. Perrault, who sued Mr. J. A. Mayor for damages for the loss of her husband, who met his death by an elevator weight falling on his head while working at the demolition of the Temple Building in May last.

At a meeting of the Junior Bar Association on Tuesday, Mr. J. L. Perron, K.C., advocated judicial reforms particularly in the direction of accelerating the hearing of cases. All the inconveniences arose in consequence of there not being a sufficient number of judges. He suggested that the province of Quebec should be divided into two judicial districts only—one for Montreal and another for Quebec.

The Railway Commissioners have been considering an application by the Grand Trunk for various improvements at St. Lambert. The company proposes to build a double track through Victoria park and also to lay out large terminal yards. A cut-off which it is proposed to build will save the present big loop with its heavy grade and curve; but the inhabitants strongly object to its construction, on the ground that it will spoil the Victoria Park district and will, by retarding building development, materially reduce the civic revenue. Many citizens asked that if an order be given permitting the construction of the cut-off, the Grand Trunk be also ordered to make up to the town any loss of revenue, and to the citizens any loss of value caused their properties, as well as provisions for necessary subways and protection to drainage.

Rates for gas in Montreal are to be lowered, but to what extent the directors of the company have not yet decided. Owing to the various fixed charges which are higher, Montreal cannot obtain the comparatively low rates which are enjoyed by Toronto.

During the past year 864 newly arrived immigrants passed through the home of the Woman's Natinoal Immigration Society. Of these 610 were English.

At the meeting of the City Council a letter was read from the Theatrical Mechanical Association, protesting against the opening of theatres on Sunday. The members who are employed at the theatres contend that their hours are already too long.

On Tuesday the Presbytery of Montreal elected the Rev. W. D. Reid, of Taylor Church, as the moderator. The meeting made a strong appeal on behalf of the Presbyterian College of Montreal. A discussion arose to the advisability of a Union Church at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, some doubting its wisdom; and ultimately it was arranged that the congregation there should be consulted.

There is to be no winter carnival this year. The railway companies are opposed to it, as likely to give a wrong impression, abroad, as to the Canadian climate, while it is also too late in the season, say the Committee, to make proper arrangements. The committee hope to provide a carnival during the winter of 1908-09.

A man named William Mannick, arrested on a charge of obtaining jewellery on false pretences, coolly walked out of the detective office, and disappeared. He took advantage of the momentary absence of a detective, and leaving his overcoat, hand-bag and $135 behind, promptly made his escape.

A Chinese laundryman has been held up and robbed of $210. He was suddenly pounced upon at night by two men, a hand clapped over his mouth, and a revolver pressed against his forehead. He was then robbed.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE.

Andrew Carnegie has added $2,000,000 to the $10,000,000 endowment fund of the Carnegie Institute, Washington.

Seven men killed and about twenty injured resulted from the collapse of a new bridge at Bloomsburg, Pa., on Tuesday. Forty men were at work on the traveller on the middle span of the structure when it collapsed. They were all thrown into the river. The collapse was caused by the rapid rise of the river, which caused some debris to strike the falsework of the bridge.

The Moroccan tribesmen who attacked the French troops on the Algerian frontier recently are said to be suing for pardon.

Admiral von Tirpitz, Secretary of the German Admiralty, is advocating reducing the life of a man-of-war from twenty-five years to twenty. He said the introduction of telescopic gun sights had considerably enlarged the effective fighting range of battleships. The Battle of Tsushima had proved that the range of large guns would have to be increased, and, consequent upon this, a greater displacement had become necessary. Germany's old warships had been built for short range fighting, and they had lost considerable in value, the admiral said, through this development. But Germany, the admiral considered, had made no mistake in postponing the construction of submarine vessels. He said that if his department had begun this work before it would have lost many millions. 'We cannot foretell,' the admiral said, 'what the status of the submarine will be five years from now.'

Mr. John Burns thinks that the colonies already enjoy their full share of advantages and that for the Mother Country to give them more would be to risk the good will of fifteen hundred million of people and a world trade of thousands of millions.

The native trouble in Natal is extending into the Orange River Colony. A few days ago the plant of the diamond mine at Vorspoed, near Kroonstad, was completely wrecked.

A little girl has been frozen to death in the Alps. The poor little one was found twenty-four hours after she was missed, dead, with her doll in her arms. She is thought to have climbed down to get the doll, where it had fallen, and been unable to get back.

The United States Treasury has accepted bids for the Panama Canal bonds to the amount of twenty-five milllion dollars. The average price of all the bids accepted is 103. Under the terms of the law and the secretary's acceptance of these bids, the allotments of bonds to individuals and institutions will be confined to small subscriptions from ten thousand down to twenty dollars. The amounts of bonds from individuals and institutions which it has been possible to accept, will, as heretofore, not be large. The remainder of the acceptances will be of national banks. The bids accepted have come from every section of the country and are mostly in small amounts.

A millionnaire brewer of St. Louis expresses himself as quite willing to have saloons closed on Sunday morning so as to permit of his customers being sober enough to get to church.

The so-called Milton Family Bible, purchased for $1,325 a short time ago by Mr. Richmond, of New York, is now believed by that gentleman to be not genuine. The autographs on the fly leaf of Milton and his wife he believes to be forgeries.

The Parliament Buildings of New Zealand have been almost wholly destroyed by fire.

In Christiania to-day the Nobel Peace prizes were presented. That for Literature was awarded to Mr. Rudyard Kipling.

Pennsylvania is suffering from serious floods. A bridge in course of construction near Mifflinville was washed away yesterday, and seven men were killed and nearly a score more injured.

Britain has notified China that she will continue to patrol the West River as long as the Chinese police boats are not given over to the control of the Customs Department, which is under the charge of Sir Robert Hart.

Boris Sarafoff, the noted revolutionary leader of Bulgaria, was, with a companion, shot dead in Sofia on Thursday.

The Socialist deputies in Belgium are planning strong opposition to the Congo Annexation Treaty, particularly to the allowance it provides for King Leopold.

Prince George of Greece and the Princess Marie Bonaparte were married in the Greek Church in Athens on Thursday.

The condition of Francois Coppee, the French writer, does not improve. It is stated that he is suffering from cancer of the tongue.

The Emperor William left England on Thursday and will visit Queen Wilhelmina on his way home.

Don Carlos is asking the Pope to help him regain the throne of Spain.

The Queen has received from the Dowager Empress of China a present of a beautiful little Chinese dog. The little creature comes of the great Chow dynasty of dogs, and has a pedigree dating back seven hundred years.

Mr. William Robertson Boggs, one of the foremost of metallurgists, has been waylaid in Mexico by men working for him and stoned to death.

A travelling salesman in Cleveland on Wednesday slipped and fell, fracturing his skull. A policeman thought he was drunk and put him in a cell, where seven hours afterwards the mistake was discovered. He was taken to the hospital, where he died.

Mrs. Longworth, the daughter of President Roosevelt, was operated on for appendicitis at the White House on Thursday. The patient's condition is declared to be excellent.

Benjamin Champney, the American landscape painter, is dead.

The woman who threw the bomb at the Governor-General of Moscow a few days ago, but did not hurt him, has been condemned to death.

France has warned the rebellious tribesmen in Morocco that all villages refusing to come to order will be burned.

France and Britain are said to be working together 'unofficially' to suppress the present system of frauds in connection with the succession duties.

Mr. Sidney Buxton, the Postmaster-General, in speaking at Boston, England, yesterday, estimated that as the result of the intellectual preference, 5,000,000 magazines, mostly of a high class, are now being sent to Canada.

The United States Pacific Squadron sailed from Old Point Comfort, Va., on Thursday. All their coal during the cruise will be taken from British collieries.

In a fire in New York to-day a man and nine horses were burned to death, and a man and woman had a narrow escape from suffocation.

A band of sixty robbers attacked and derailed the mail train running betwene hillis and Baku, Trans-Caucasia, last night near the station of Salakhia. The train was carrying a large sum of money. The train guard was beaten after a fight in which many passengers and soldiers were wounded. The band finally retreated, leaving four dead behind them. The attack was daringly conceived and carried out. Thirty yards of track on a down grade had been torn up, and the train, running at full speed, plunged its way over the ties. Both locomotives and most of the cars were ditched. The robbers, who were in hiding near by, threw eight bombs, and opened a heavy fire on the confused travellers.

A well-known New York banker condemns the bank note system of the United States as 'the result of an ingenious device of a harassed government to sell bonds.'

In his room in a hotel in Grange, N.J., last night Frederick R. Romer, an undertaker, was beaten to death, and the murderer escaped, leaving no clue.

Unusually heavy weather in mid-Atlantic, particularly between the Newfoundland banks and the English coast, has materially delayed all New York steamers this week.

The 'Empress of Ireland' took a record Christmas mail to Canada this week, there being over 4,000 sacks.

Two Chinamen were discovered in Winnipeg on Friday to have been brutally murdered. After their heads had been smashed in with an axe, their bodies were laid on their beds and fire set to the house.

MARITIME PROHIBITION ACTS

REPORT OF NEW BRUNSWICK COMMISSION.

The New Brunswick commissioners appointed to inquire into the working of the Prohibition Act in P. E. Island, and the Canada Temperance Act in several counties of New Brunswick, have issued their report.

With regard to Prince Edward Island, the Prohibition Act has resulted in a decrease in the sale of liquor at Charlottetown, in Souris and Georgetown, and has curtailed to a great extent open drunkenness, noise and rowdyism. The liquor sold in many drug stores is of bad quality. In the country districts the open sale of intoxicating liquor has been practically stopped by the Canada Temperance and Prohibition acts.

In the country districts of New Brunswick the Canada Temperance Act is fairly well enforced, and the sale of liquor to a great extent wiped out. This is not, however, generally the case in cities and towns under the act. In most cities and towns the act has been used as a means of raising civic revenue, thus virtually converting it into a license system. Spasmodic attempts, for longer or shorter periods, have been made to change this state of affairs, but the result has been in most cases to return to the revenue system. The evidence shows that in Marysville, Sussex, Woodstock, Sackville and St. George this system of fining for revenue does not prevail, and that in these five towns the act is fairly well enforced. One of the evils arising under the enforcement of this act is perjury. The evidence shows that this leads men to have less regard for the sanctity of an oath.

MR. GUNN, M.P. DEAD

CONSERVATIVE MEMBER FOR SOUTH HURON PASSES AWAY.

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—The death occurred at 9.30 o'clock to-night, at St. Luke's Hospital, of Mr. Benjamin N. B. Gunn, the Conservative member for South Huron. Mr. Gunn had not been well since the opening of the session, and early last week was removed to the hospital, suffering from acute stomach trouble. He grew worse, and Mrs. Gunn was summoned to Ottawa. At noon to-day Dr. Armstrong, of Montreal, performed an operation on Mr. Gunn. Mr. Gunn rallied from the operation, but gradually sank, and passed peacefully away at 9.30.

Although the session is only a few days old, death has removed two popular members of the House of Commons. The late Mr. Gunn entered parliament in 1904, at the general elections, having redeemed a riding which had been Liberal since Confederation. He was forty-seven years of age, and deservedly popular on both sides of the House for his genial disposition and good nature.

Mr. Benjamin B. Gunn, M.P., was born Feb. 15, 1860, at Wallacetown, Ont., where also he was educated. He married on May 24, 1886, Miss Jennie V. Jackson. He was a merchant, a man of superior intelligence and a fair speaker. He was first elected to parliament in 1904, for South Huron, and was the first Conservative to carry the constituency in a parliamentary contest.

DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED.

Monterey, Mexico, Dec. 13.—Word has reached here from Chihuahua, Mexico, that Acting-Governor Sanchez has commuted the death sentence of Dr. C. S. Harle, William Mitchell and C. T. Richardson, to twenty years in the penitentiary.

THIEVES AT COBALT.

Cobalt, Dec. 10.—Policeman John Ward arrested William Braiden while endeavoring to sell some blankets on the street. Braiden gave the policeman information and a gang of six were rounded up on Friday night. At Mile Post considerable plunder was found consisting of several quarters of beef, a quantity of canned goods, blankets, cheese, beef, cream, rifles and many other articles. It is believed the goods were stolen from mining and construction camps.

They came before Magistrate Brown yesterday and were given sentences ranging from one to twelve months.

McGILL'S NEEDS.

Two Million Dollars Said to be Required to Place University on Easy Footing.

EXPECTED THAT NEW MEDICAL BUILDING WILL BE STARTED IN THE SPRING.

An important meeting of the McGill Corporation was held on Wednesday afternoon, when the annual report of the governors, principal and fellows of the university was submitted.

According to the report, a million dollars would now no more than make good the actual loss sustained by McGill in consequence of the recent disasters, and another million is required to provide sufficient revenue to balance the existing deficits.

With regard to the financial aspect of the two fires of last April, the sums received from the insurance companies were reported as aggregating $636,000, while the cost of the new engineering building alone, with an additional story on the Workman building, adjoining, and the demolition of the burned structure, is estimated at $512,000, without equipment. It is estimated that the new medical building will cost from $500,000 to $600,000 and it is hoped that the university may be put in a position to begin work on it during the coming spring.

Before consideration had been given to any plans for the reconstruction of the old medical building, the suggestion was made that it would be in the interests of the faculty to build the new school on the vacant ground at the head of University street. Apart from other advantages, this would make it possible to secure fire-proofing throughout, and the accommodation in the part of the medical building which escaped the fire, as well as the site rendered vacant, might ultimately be made available for other purposes.

This being approved by the board of governors, when reported to Lord Strathcona, who has in recent years acquired the site in question by personal purchase, His Lordship generously presented it to the university, which, therefore, is now in possession of all the ground running up from the old medical building to Pine avenue. And it is now hoped that the new medical building will be begun next spring.

A BAD INDIAN

HIS DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED.

Winnipeg, Dec. 12.—Joseph Fiddler will not be hanged is the decree of the Government, word of which reached the city to-day.

This Indian was tried for the inhuman murder of an insane girl, a member of the same tribe, at Sandy Lake, Keewatin district, and sentenced to death by Commissioner Perry, of the Mounted Police, who, with special powers, presided as judge at the time. The death sentence was to have been carried cut on the morning of January 7. The trial took place at Norway House, and it was proved that the Indian was guilty of having, with his brother, who strangled himself to death while under imprisonment, foully murdered several members of the tribe under the ancient rites of the We-te-go. It was to stamp out this horrible practice the Dominion Government took action, and the members of the police made a long and weary trip through the northern country to effect the arrest.

An order-in-council has been passed commuting the sentence to life imprisonment, and the officer commanding the police post at Norway House has been notified to that effect. The Indian will be brought down to the penitentiary at Stony Mountain during the coming month, to live out the rest of his days behind stone walls. He is a man 60 years of age.

WINNIPEG ELECTIONS

VICTORY FOR MAYOR ASHDOWN AND RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 10.—A notable election was held in Winnipeg to-day when the 'Mayor's ticket' for retrenchment and the so-called 'Spenders' entered the lists. The Mayor, J. H. Ashdown, was elected by acclamation, and his ticket for controllers received the following vote, with W. Sanford Evans leading:

Evans	3,304
Controller J. W. Baker, re-elected	2,811
Controller Harvey, re-elected	2,737
Ex-Ald. Latimer	2,475
Controller Garson	2,094
Controller Cockburn	1,727

These two latter were defeated with W. J. Burridge, 1,128, who ran on what he called the 'People's ticket.' Neither supported him and he fell to the ground with a fairly good Methodist vote in his own constituency in the north end.

The election of aldermen was a victory for retrenchment and reform.

All the by-laws aggregating three-quarters of a million were defeated.

London, Dec. 13.—Mr. Buxton, the Postmaster-General, states he is considering the suggestion to extend the Canadian postal privileges to Newfoundland.

London, Dec. 12.—A twelve penny block of Canada 1851 stamp sold to-day for £50. It is the finest used specimen existing.

London, Dec. 12.—The Nova Scotia Government has been awarded a large silver gilt medal by the Royal Botanical Society Show for apples.

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given free as a return for a little pleasant work in introducing our publication into new homes. Some of the old favorites for which there is a perennial call, also many new ones. Something to interest everyone. No limit to the number of premiums that one person may earn, so long as the required number of NEW subscriptions at FULL REGULAR RATES are sent in.

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SOUVENIR 'INDIAN' SPOONS

Full size, heavy sterling teaspoon, handle beautifully ornamented with head of Indian and paddle. Impossible to do justice in a few words to this handsome spoon—given for FOUR NEW supscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00. Bowl may be engraved to order—any one name—without extra charge.

SOUVENIR 'PROVINCE' SPOONS

Coffee size, sterling silver, handle finished with coat of arms of the various provinces in beautifully coloured hard enamel. One of these spoons with coat of arms of one's own province, and the name of one's town or Christian name engraved on the bowl would be a life long pleasure to the owner. No extra charge for engraving any one name on the bowl. Gold or silver finish as desired. One of these sterling spoons free for TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

STERLING 'KING AND QUEEN' SPOONS

Coffee size, sterling silver souvenir spoons, handle showing head of King or head of Queen as selected.

Bowl may be engraved to order—any one name—a very pretty spoon indeed. May be had in either silver or gold finish. Free for only TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00.

STERLING SILVER TEASPOONS.

Full sized teaspoon, sterling silver, 'Diana' pattern, a stock design that may be duplicated any time, a very beautiful spoon. One spoon free for THREE NEW subscriptions to the 'Witness' at $1.00 each. The beauty of this offer is that one can add steadily to one's stock, piece by piece, first teaspoons, then forks, etc., as may be desired, and in time secure a very handsome and very valuable set of sterling silver without a cent of cash outlay, purely by a little persistent yet pleasant work.

A HANDSOME SET OF TEA SPOONS

Any housekeeper would appreciate a set of six "1847 Rogers" best plated teaspoons. They will wear for a lifetime.

One set of six spoons, packed in neat satin-lined box sent free for only FIVE NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

N.B.—Other first quality plated table ware of the same design may be added in similar way.

A FINE SET OF CARVERS FREE

No better gift to any housewife. Sheffield make; blade 8 inches long; automatic spring guard, buckhorn handles. Free for only 3 bona fide NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each, or for your own renewal at $1.00, and $1.20 in cash.

MAPLE LEAF BLOUSE SET.

As popular this year as last.

This year we offer a set of 3 pins in large or small size, as desired.

Large pins have word 'Canada' across the face; small ones have no inscription. All made of best enamel, beautifully colored.

One set either size ONLY ONE NEW subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00

GIRL'S PEN KNIFE.

Very dainty—2 1-2 inches long, slender nickel handle, no pearl to break off, two blades. Free for only one NEW subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00

FIVE INCH SCISSORS.

Just the thing for the work basket. Celebrated Boker make—good quality steel. Free for only one NEW subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00

PASSEPARTOUT OUTFIT FREE

All needed supplies (Dennison's best) for making this popular work—12 mats, 12 backs, 10 rolls colored binding, tags, rings, tube glue, tube paste and glass-cutter, with book of directions. Free for four NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness' at $1.00 each, or for your own renewal at $1.00 and $1.75 in cash. (Or three new subscriptions to 'World Wide' at $1.50 each.)

FOLDING POCKET SCISSORS.

Very handy for school use—or for the work bag. Free for only ONE NEW subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00

FIRST CLASS CAMERA FREE

Snap-shot or time. Standard make. Best on the market for the money.

No. 1. Size of picture 2 1-4 x 2 1-4 in. Free for three NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each.

One roll of films, 6 exposures, sent gratis with this camera.

No. 2. Size of picture, 2 1-4 x 3 1-4 in. Free for six bonafide NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each. Two rolls of films (each six exposures), sent gratis with this camera.

N.B.—Where desired, three NEW subscriptions to the 'Messenger' at 40 cents, may be substituted for one to the 'Weekly Witness.'

STAMP AND PAD FREE

Any boy will be charmed with this rubber stamp, with his name and address on and self-inking pad; with care should last for years. Free for two NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each.

GOLD NIBBED FOUNTAIN PEN

A very satisfactory fountain pen, guaranteed by the makers to be 14k. gold nib, well hammered, ensuring elasticity and easy writing. Usually sold at $1.75 to $2.00. Given for only two new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

SAFETY RAZOR

If you've never used one, just try it. Can't cut yourself. A novice can handle it. 'Once tried, always used.' Each razor has twelve highly tempered blades, which can be honed and stropped if desired, so they will last for years.

Free for only THREE NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

HANDSOME GOLD LOCKET AND CHAIN

One of the most admired of all our premiums. Splendid quality 14k. gold-filled, bright or dull finish; twisted rope chain and heart-shaped locket, medium size; with place for two portraits. Both locket and chain given for SIX new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

Either locket or chain alone for THREE NEW subscriptions, as above.

N.B.—For 15 cents a letter, in cash, we will have locket engraved with handsome monogram, two or three letters. Or for one additional NEW subscription to the 'Witness' at $1.00, we will engrave locket as above.

FARMERS' KNIFE

A splendid combination article, strong buckhorn handle, seven useful tools in one, besides two fine blades—Sheffield make. A knife for every practical man.

Free for only TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian homestead, at $1.00 each.

RED LETTER ART BIBLE

A handsome large type illustrated Bible, leather bound, splendidly finished in every way; 35 half-tone engravings, 32 colored illustrations, 17 maps, 4,500 questions on Bible subjects, besides the usual helps. Prophecies about Christ and words of Christ printed in red.

Free for only FIVE NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead, at $1.00 each.

BAGSTER SCHOLAR'S BIBLE

If there is a boy or girl in your home old enough to read who hasn't yet a Bible of his or her own, send in your own renewal to the 'Witness at $1.00, and include a NEW subscription (also at $1.00), from some neighbor who has not been taking the 'Witness,' and we will send you a nice Scholar's Bible, cloth bound, red edges—just the thing for home or school use.

BAGSTER TEACHER'S BIBLE

A large Bible printed in Long Primer type; index, concordance, maps, illustrations, 150 pages of valuable 'Aids to Bible Study.' This style is in very great demand for adult Bible classes, Men's Own meetings, as well as for Sunday-school teachers.

Free for only THREE NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

BIBLE BOOKS FOR THE BAIRNS

To each subscriber in a club of four or more 'Witness' subscriptions (new or renewal) at $1.00 each, we will give one dainty gift book, bound in white, in gold and colors, each book a study of one of the 'Boys of the Bible.' This is a capital offer, as publisher's price of these books is 50 cents. Books will be sent in one package in care of the remitter, who will receive one extra larger book for his trouble in sending this friendly club.

REMEMBER! All the above premium offers are for ABSOLUTELY NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each. TWO RENEWALS at $1.00 each to count as ONE NEW subscription. Further particulars cheerfully given. Sample copies, and subscription blanks freely and promptly sent on application.

Remit the correct number of subscriptions for any of the above offers. Name your premium clearly and it will be sent at once.

Address, John Dougall & Son, Publishers of the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' 'Witness' Block, Montreal.

P.S.—In any of the above offers TWO NEW yearly subscriptions to the 'Northern Messenger' at 40 cents each, and 15 cents in cash will be taken as equal to one 'Witness,' or one NEW subscription to 'World Wide,' $1.50, as equal to one 'Witness.'

WATCH FOR OTHER PREMIUMS NEXT WEEK.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

A FORECAST OF THE NEW BILL.

Toronto, Dec. 11.— The government have selected Mr. C. R. McKeown, the new member for Dufferin, to move, and Mr. A. E. Donovan, who carried the Hon. George P. Graham's old seat to second, the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The Hon. A. G. Mackay, the new leader of the Opposition, will make his first speech in the legislature as leader.

The government is preparing considerable important legislation. Prominent among this will be law reform, about which politicians have been doing much talking of late. The Hon. J. J. Foy has been quietly at work on this subject for over a year, and he is being assisted by a committee of seven judges, who are busy revising the Ontario statutes. Mr. Justice Osler is chairman of the committee, and the other judges on it are Chief Justice Meredith, Justices Anglin, Garrow, Teetzel, and Judge Snider. They are in close touch with Mr. Foy, and all important changes have the approval of the government before they are passed.

It is expected that one important change will be the abolition of the fee system to a large extent. Registrars and sheriffs and some other officials are to be paid a straight salary in accordance with their work, rather than fat fees.

Then, too, there will be important changes in the Election Act, amounting almost to a new act. As near as can be learned the changes will be with a view to making it more stringent, and also to bring it into conformity with the Dominion election law. The differences between the two at present are very confusing.

In addition there will be the Redistribution bill already foreshadowed, license legislation, prison and asylum reform and several other important matters.

At this distance it looks like three months—February, March, April—for busy and useful legislation, the month of May for final campaigning, and an appeal to the people early in June. Looking still further ahead, the new legislature will see radical changes. Of the little handful on the Liberal side, about half have either signified their intention of retiring or accepted Ottawa nominations. It is safe to say that not more than ten of the present Liberal members will appear in the next House. New men will come up to take their places. A new provincial Liberal party is being born.

POLITICS AND DRINK

ONE MAN KILLED AS RESULT OF DRUNKEN MEETING IN ALBERTA.

Calgary, Alta., Dec. 10.—A Liberal political meeting for Victoria, Alberta, constituency was held on Monday, Dec. 2, for the benefit of the Galicians. After the meeting four kegs of beer were provided at the Wostock Hotel, and nearly all got intoxicated. Two men, Iwan Palcap and Dymtro Mociporski, started to drive home, and their horses ran away. Mociporski had his arm broken and Palcap had his neck broken by the waggon tongue running into his mouth and out of his neck. He was instantly killed, and was buried on Saturday. He leaves a wife and seven small children. The Galicians in this district are very much excited. The matter has just been reported to the authorities.

POST-OFFICE ROBBED.

Fort Frances, Ont., Dec. 10.—On Sunday night the International Falls post-office was broken into. The safe was forced and $400 worth of stamps stolen. Up to the present no clue has been found as to the authors of this theft. The police on both sides of the river have been busy making inquiries.

FRUITS OF THE TRAFFIC.

Carleton Place, Ont., Dec. 12.—The remains of a man named Henry Tennant, about fifty years of age, of Lanark township, were found on the C. P. R. track near the freight shed this morning. It seems he returned from Ottawa, some time last night and from bottles found in his pocket is supposed he was under the influence of liquor and wandered on to the track His remains were taken to Leslie's undertaking establishment, awaiting the action of the coroner.

HON. H. R. EMMERSON

TO SUCCEED MR. POTTINGER AS GENERAL MANAGER OF INTERCOLONIAL.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 14.—Considerable credence is given here to a story circulated this morning that the Hon. H. R. Emmerson, former Minister of Railways and Canals, is to succeed Mr. David Pottinger, as general manager of the Intercolonial Railway, and Mr. Emmerson's place in parliament as member for Westmoreland will be filled by the Hon. C. W. Robinson, Premier of New Brunswick, who in turn will be succeeded by the Hon. H. A. McKeown, at present Attorney-General of New Brunswick, if the local government is successful at the polls.

The report of Mr. Emmerson succeeding Mr. Pottinger would appear to be based on a report in the 'Witness' some days ago, that the present general manager of the Intercolonial Railway would be offered one of the new seats on the Board of Railway Commissioners.

BYDAL FROZEN

TELEGRAPH OPERATOR MAY LOSE HIS LIFE.

Winnipeg, Dec. 10.—W. H. Murphy, telegraph operator, formerly station agent at East Selkirk, on the C.P.R., was found on the prairie near Union Point about fifteen miles out yesterday morning without overcoat or mits. He had narrowly escaped death from exposure as his hands, feet, nose and ears, were badly frozen. He was hurriedly brought to the hospital here where his hands and feet may have to be amputated, and his life is despaired of.

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—Dr. J. G. Rutherford, chief of the live stock division of the Department of Agriculture and of the canned food inspection service, has been granted six months leave of absence on account of ill-health.

HARVEST IN BRITAIN

THE FINEST KNOWN IN YEARS, SAYS MR. MACKINNON.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—Mr. W. A. Mackinnon, Canadian Trade Commissioner in Bristol, report to the Trade and Commerce Department that Great Britain has reaped the finest harvest this year that she has known in years. The yield of wheat averaged 33.97 bushels to the acre, as against an average of 31.15 bushels in the last ten years. Mr. Mackinnon announces also that Mr. Thomas Harling has been appointed at Montreal to represent the interest of the port of Bristol and to direct the attention of Canadian steamships, Canadian railways and Canadian shippers to the advantages of Bristol as a distributing centre.

QUEBEC MAYORALTY.

Quebec, Dec. 9.—Greater interest is being manifested in the coming municipal elections here than any shown for many years past. This is largely due to the fact that for the first time in several decades the election of the mayor, in virtue of the legislation of last session, is to be by popular vote instead of by aldermen. While it is probable that Mayor Garneau will be a candidate for re-election, it is almost equally certain that a determined effort will be made to induce the Hon. Mr. Taschereau, the new Minister of Public Works and Labor, to oppose him. Mr. Taschereau will be home from Europe in a few days, and is to be banqueted on his arrival.

TROPHY PRESENTED BY HIS EXCELLENCY.

Quebec, Dec. 14.—The trophy won by the Quebec Symphony Society at the Governor-General's musical and dramatical competition in Ottawa, last February, was presented to the members of the organization by His Excelelncy at the vice-regal quarters of the Citadel, yesterday afternoon. A large number of invited guests were present and on the conclusion of the presentation a reception was held by His Excellency and Lady Sybil Grey.

MR. LEMIEUX'S MISSION.

Understanding Arrived at Similar to That Between Japan and the United States.

Tokio, Dec. 10.—The Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, the Canadian Postmaster-General and Minister of Labor, who has been in Japan since the middle of November for the purpose of negotiating, if possible, a modus vivendi between Japan and Canada in regard to the immigration, will return to Canada shortly. The negotiations have been concluded without a formal agreement or exchange of memoranda, but with an understanding similar to that between Japan and the United States.

The newspapers are full of rumors about the latter. Some of the papers state that regulations will be enforced restricting the immigration from Japan of so-called student laborers. The more reliable journals are of the opinion that the adoption of Secretary Root's scheme of anticipating restricting legislation by the United States by the announcement of strict control of immigration on the part of Japan was the result of the negotiations.

As an offset to the reluctance of the United States and Canada to receive Japanese immigrants comes the news of negotiations with Brazil, which welcomes the Japanese.

Reductions have been made in the budget resolutions as affecting the navy to the amount of fifteen million dollars, and as regards other departments to the amount of five million dollars. In connection with this, it is learned that construction work at the Kure and Yokosuka dockyards is at an absolute standstill. It is stated that the outlay in the repairing of thirteen warships taken from the Russians was equivalent to the cost of three first class battleships, while the result is a preponderance of ineffective ships in the navy.

MONONGAH DISASTER

As a Result There are 300 Widows and 1,000 Fatherless Children.

Monongah, W. V., Dec. 11.—The excitement of the first few days following the terrible disaster at the Fairmont Coal Company mines here, has about subsided, and the situation has settled down into a steady systematic search bor the bodies of the victims.

Up to noon to-day 170 bodies had been brought to the surface, and with large additions to the rescuing force it is hoped to have the mines cleared very soon.

Half a dozen relief stations are now in operation and supplies of all kinds are coming in rapidly and being as quickly disbursed. The cash contributions to date total $40,000.

The relief committee estimates that there are three hundred widows and a thousand fatherless children as a result of the disaster, and destitution among them will be very great.

THE DRUCE CASE.

It is Decided Not to Rely on the Evidence of Robert C. Caldwell.

London, December 13. — Quite a sensational turn was given to the hearing of the Druce case to-day, when Mr. Atherley-Jones announced that the prosecution had decided not to rely upon the evidence given by Robert C. Caldwell, the American witness who declared, among other things, that he had arranged the mock funeral of T. C. Druce.

After the cross-examination to which Mr. Caldwell had been subjected, and the suspicions aroused thereby, Mr. Atherley-Jones said he considered it to be no longer proper to rely upon the evidence of this witness. He made this statement, counsel said, without prejudice to Mr. Caldwell.

After evidence to corroborate the statements made by previous witnesses had been taken, the case for the prosecution was closed. The defence will open on Dec. 16.

MR. ROOSEVELT

HE IS NOT A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

Washington, Dec. 11.— President Roosevelt will not be a candidate for a third term. All doubt on this point was to-night dispelled by the authoritative statement of the White House that Mr. Roosevelt still adheres to the declaration of renunciation made on the night of election three years ago. In the statement issued to-night, President Roosevelt says he has not changed, and shall not change the decision he communicated to the people in 1904. It appears that the President had been awaiting the call for the Republican national convention to afford the proper opportunity for making his position clear and unmistakable, thus leaving the field clear for Fairbanks, Taft, Cannon, Knox, Foraker and other declared or receptive candidates for the Republican nomination.

VANCOUVER UNEMPLOYED

Vancouver, Dec. 10.—Four hundred unemployed persons paraded yesterday, and a large deputation addressed the City Council last night. Mayor Bethune has received from the Provincial Bureau of Information, the statement that there is work for a hundred men at Armstrong.

THE WORLD'S WELFARE.

MARVELS IN COREA

(Rev. E. F. Hall in 'The New York Observer.')

The Coreans are taught that every Christian must become a missionary to his own people, in that he must tell the story of Christ's love to those who have never heard it. When he is examined for admission to the Church he is asked whether he has done so or not. If not, he is usually continued on the waiting list until he can give evidence of his sincerity by having proclaimed the Gospel in as far as he understands it to others who know it not. This has become a settled policy with the Corea Mission, and the Coreans so far understand it that it is one of the first things which they learn in regard to a Christian's active service. On a recent trip into the country a church-member came to me at the close of service and said:

'Pastor, when can you go over to visit a new group of Christians? About seven miles from here some believers are meeting every week and the missionary has never visited them.'

In reply to my inquiry, he said they had been meeting regularly for about two months. I asked him in regard to the beginning of the 'group.' He told me that a man from that village had heard the Gospel in Seoul, had purchased a New Testament, and had decided to believe. He gathered his family and friends together in his own home and they began worshipping.

'But,' I said, 'who leads them in their worship and teaches them the Bible?'

'Some of us go from this Church every Sabbath and every Wednesday night, and although we are ignorant and weak in the faith, we teach them the best we know how.' This is a sample of the way in which churches are springing up spontaneously all over Corea.

A year ago our Mission reported six hundred and twenty-eight meeting places where worship was regularly held. This year seven hundred and sixty-seven are reported, an increase of one hundred and thirty-nine or 22 percent. During the same time the number of adherents had increased from 44,587 to 59,787, an increase of 15,200, or 34 percent. These 'groups' have sprung up because of the direct evangelistic work of the native Christians. One of the gratifying things in connection with this phase of the work is that at the Bible training classes men have pledged themselves to spend a definite number of days during the coming year in going to heathen villages other than their own to preach the Gospel. This has resulted in the broad seed-sowing from which there has been a speedy and rich harvest.

The marvellous rapidity with which the Church in Corea has increased may be seen from the fact that in 1887 when the Lord's Supper was first administered seven Coreans partook of it. Now, twenty years later, in our Mission alone there are more than 15,000 communicants, and if the same proportion holds in the other missions working in Corea it is safe to say that there are at least 40,000 people who partake of the Lord's Supper.

The growth of the Church may be appreciated if we consider some concrete cases. When I visited the city of Pyeng Yang, four years ago, there was one Presbyterian church, with a congregation of 1,500 people. Ten years previous to that time the congregation numbered twelve. Within the past four years three churches have been set off from the parent church, and two more are about to be organized. Still the original church building is far too small to accommodate the worshippers. The plan which has been adopted in many places where the church buildings are too small has also been adopted here. The men and the women meet separately for worship, so that the large church has at one hour on the Sabbath Day a congregation of 1,500 men and at another hour a congregation of 1,500 women.

Let us consider another case. In the far north of Corea is the little village of Sun Chun with a population of three thousand people. Six years ago it was decided to open a new station at that place. There being no railway, it was a journey of three days from Pyeng Yang. There a few missionaries went and 'buried' themselves, as some people in America would say. Last year the building in which the meetings were held had become so crowded that it was found necessary to divide the congregation, the men and women meeting separately. A new church building has been erected which will seat fifteen hundred people, and it is well filled every Sabbath.

Nor is this all. From Sun Chun, as a centre, the missionaries and natives have been working a large district in which there are now one hundred and two regular meeting places, twenty-four new 'groups' having been started during the past year. The railway running north from Fusan to connect with the Trans-Siberian Railway passes through Sun Chun, and is on the direct line of travel between Japan and Paris. The 'buried' missionaries have been discovered and the Christian Church, learning of what God has wrought through their efforts during these few years, is now giving glory to him because he called that little band to separate itself from the world.

A BIBLE-STUDYING CHURCH.

The desire of the Coreans for a knowledge of the Bible becomes evident when we consider the Bible classes which are held every year. At the time of the Corean New Year, when the people take a vacation for about two weeks, it has been found an opportune time, since the native Christians have given over the heathen festivities connected with that season, to gather the men together for Bible study. The missionaries are grouped together at centres, where they have their homes, hospitals and advanced schools. From these centres each missionary works a large district, and at the time of the New Year's Bible class he invites the men of the churches under his care to come to the station for Bible training.

From small beginnings these classes have grown to such large proportions that it has been found difficult to secure enough teaching force, for instance, at Fusan two hundred men were gathered last New Year's Day; at Taiku, five hundred men; at Seoul, more than four hundred men; at Chai Ryong, six hundred men; at Pyeng Yang, a thousand men, and at Sun Chun, where the missionaries 'buried' themselves, more than thirteen hundred men came to study the Bible. Classes for women are also held during the year, and though not as large as the men's classes, number, in some cases, more than five hundred. Many other Bible study classes are also held; in fact, each church has become a Bible studying centre. As far as possible, missionaries, assisted by the native helpers, hold Bible classes in various parts of their districts, and still other classes are held by the native helpers alone.

In the territory of Pyeng Yang last year, in addition to the Bible classes conducted by the missionaries, the natives alone held 192 classes, at which the attendance approximated ten thousand. One of the first things which the Corean does when he decides to believe is to purchase a New Testament, consequently the demand for the Bible has far outrun the ability of the Bible societies to furnish copies in sufficient numbers to meet the need. Last year people had been waiting for months to purchase New Testaments, and when an edition of twenty thousand was ordered before one word was printed the entire edition had been sold, and more copies were wanted. It has been estimated that the total number of professing Christians connected with all Protestant societies working in Corea was ninety thousand last year, and that now the number has increased to approximately a hundred and fifty thousand. This means that it will be some months yet before the Bible societies can catch up with the orders, and if the number of Christians continues to increase in this ratio how the demand can be met it is hard to see.

A SELF-SUPPORTING CHURCH.

On many mission fields the attempt has been made to induce the native Christians to support their own churches and schools. The policy of 'self-support' has been adopted by our Corean mission, and it has been so successful as to have passed beyond the experimental stage. It is our policy never to give any money to a country church, either to aid in the erection of a building or to pay the running expenses. During the last year a hundred and sixty houses of worship have been erected, an increase of sixty-one percent over the number in existence a year ago. These are not American buildings, but are built after the style of the Corean houses, most of them having straw thatched roofs and mud walls. We believe that it is far better for them to erect houses of worship such as they are able to pay for, rather than to set before them a style of expensive building which would demand the use of board funds, and would create the feeling on their part that Christianity demanded material things far beyond their ability to provide.

Only in the case of large churches, built at the station centres, has it been permitted to use funds to help pay the cost of erection, and then only after each case has been decided on its merits by the annual meeting of the Mission. Such was the case in the erection of the large church at Sun Chun, when the Mission voted to allow the missionaries to secure money equal to one-third of the cost of the building from foreign sources. The building though large enough to accommodate 1,500 people was built after the Corean style of architecture, and, as is customary in Corea the people sit on the floor. During the last year the Corean churches of our Mission contributed for buildings and repairs, $15,421.60 and for church and congregational expenses $16,376.43. If we add to this amount what was paid by them for maintaining their schools and the gifts to home and foreign missions we find that the total native contributions amounted to more than $40,000, as against $27,418 the year previous.

The term 'Rice Christians' has sometimes been employed of converts to Christianity in heathen lands. What has already been stated in regard to self-support must show to anyone that this term cannot be justly applied to the Coreans. We believe that the Church will be a stronger Church if the people pay for their Gospel privileges, for we are not merely seeking to evangelize the Coreans, but to develop a self-reliant people who shall be able to manage their own Church affairs, and become in time independent of foreign support.

In this connection it may be stated further that very little literature is given to the Coreans. We believe that they will appreciate the value of the Bible and other books more, if they purchase them. At one bookstore in Seoul during the past year the Christians bought more than $550 worth. At the bookstore in Pyeng Yang the sales reached more than $1,000. People always like to help those who help themselves, and we believe that the efforts on the part of the Coreans to pay for their churches and schools is one of the strongest reasons why we should help them to do the things which they are not able to do for themselves. Our board last year gave, for the support of its work in Corea, $107,000; the Coreans contributed $40,000.

A PRAYING CHURCH.

There is not space in this article to speak of the great spiritual revival, producing wonderful ethical results in the correcting of individual lives, of which the Church in America has already learned something. It seems just to conclude that the revival was owing, in great part, to the volume of prayer which for a long time had been going up from the native Christian hearts. The following examples are characteristic of the prayer life of the Corean Church:

On a recent visit to a country church I found that the people had been meeting in the church for prayer and Bible study every night for two years; in another church they had been meeting for the same purpose for two months; in another nearby church they had caught the spirit of persistent prayer and had that day decided to meet at the church every night for prayer. A man came from a country village to my study to talk about Church matters, and in the course of our conversation he told me that the Christians were meeting together at the church every night for prayer and Bible study. I asked him how many people, and he said:

'From twenty to forty.'

'And how long have you been meeting every night?'

'Ever since the church was organized.'

'And how long is that?'

'More than ten years.'

Is it any wonder that that whole village is Christian, and that during the recent revival those people received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Similar instances can be multiplied over and again, to show that the Corean church acts on the apostolic injunction—'To pray without ceasing.'

LOG OF THE SS. 'STRATHCONA'

Dear Mr. Editor:—

By the time we reached Battle Hospital again we had a full complement, for we had picked up a boy with abdominal abscess from appendicitis, yet another orphan girl, and a man whom we needed at the Hospital. As there were several cases to be watched after operation day, it was ncessary to leave my Boston surgeon colleague while we hurried on south. This time we loaded with winter supplies, and shipped fifty barrels of whale meat for the southern dog team, to say nothing of seven dogs who kept things lively until we once more were at St. Anthony wharf.

This journey would have been a simple one, but in towing the small motor launch across the forty miles of Straits we met a strong head wind and sea, and to save her, as she filled with water, we had to run back to the Labrador coast. In some sense this seemed fortunate. For into the harbor in which we went, and which we had been unable to visit this summer owing to stress of work, we found one or two cases that needed us badly. Besides, the balance of the time till daylight left, we spent in the now baled-out launch finding some ducks for dinner, which we needed badly. I have had no personal experience of this launch before. My colleagues having always to do with their own launches, but for this coast I think there is no question that the kerosine motor is better than the gasoline. For the same amount of horse-power it seems to give us less speed than we were led to suppose they would develop. But this may be owing to the heavy class of boat we have to put the motors into, seeing that they have to do almost all open sea work. To us light river built boats would be useless. We have had three going this summer practically without interruption or anxiety to ourselves, and we can everywhere and at all times obtain the necessary fuel at a minimum cost. It has been quite unnecessary to employ engineers, and our own young fishermen have easily adapted themselves to all the work that is required, like ducklings to water.

The extra rough weather that had prevailed during the end of September had led us to fear that our long journey down the Gulf to our fourth hospital might have to be postponed altogether if October served us in the same way. We had to call with a helpless arthritic patient in the Straits of Belle Isle, and then to cross and pick up the Harrington stores on the north side, and had estimated that a fortnight would be occupied at least on this long round of five hundred miles. But the first fortnight of October fell flat calm both day and night so that the sailing vessels could scarcely move from harbor to harbor, and a clear week was saved by our turning night into day for steaming purposes. Moreover, the excellent moon offered that which is denied to mariners on this coast—the light of night for entering harbors. To our great delight we heard at Harrington that the Canadian Government have arranged for a fortnightly mail steamer in future to visit the place. This, of course, means paying an increased subsidy for the boat to go two hundred miles further west. But it means the opening up of this lower part of Quebec, and is a step on which the government is to be congratulated—a step which ought to have been taken many years ago. However, we believe it is the beginning of better things in store and we are profoundly grateful to the department. As the hospital is now ready except for the plumbing and heating, the nurse and caretaker have moved in, and our volunteer engineer, who is making the completion of this hospital his winter's work, has also gone into residence.

For some strange reason the fishery in this district has been exceptionally poor, while 100 miles east such a good fishery has not been known for thirty years. Cod in great shoals were literally rolling on the rocks and could be baled out in dip nets, much in the way described by our friend Cartwright, a hundred years ago, who states that he was afraid to put his fingers into the water for fear of the ravenous codfish which immediately tried to bite them off. The language of this pioneer seems to have been somewhat picturesque.

The good people of Harrington had partly cleared of mud, and drained, a large lake at the top of a hill above the hospital, with a view to giving them a permanent water supply. They had also hauled out their quota of winter wood, which on the erection of the hospital they promised to supply voluntarily with firing as their share towards the contributions. A most valuable share it is, and one which involves considerable labor and some sacrifice on the part of the people. For wood is by no means easy to get there, and as everywhere else, and like everything else, is rapidly retiring before the increasing population. The plot of land here had also been surveyed, and we picked up a derelict electrical engineer who was seeking board and lodging in return for what work he could do in order that he might enjoy a winter in Labrador. We were able to find him a nice little place 120 miles to the south, where they were more than glad of his services for teaching the children, and where he will no doubt obtain all the food he requires. For there are no less than two cows in this small community—the only cows in Labrador.

We were able at Foreau to make all the necessary winter preparations for the trained nurse for the winter who for six months will take up the work so ably commenced, and which has proved so obviously valuable by the volunteers from the John Hopkins' Hospital.

Our insatiable craving for dogs added five more to our team at this place. For, though the deer are to arrive before our winter work commences, these animals are so invaluable that we dare not risk being short until the deer have demonstrated their capacities.

One poor fisherman died in hospital on our last night for the year in Labrador. But all our other cases were doing well, and we left with the feeling that though we have not accomplished one-half we should have liked, we have yet been able to make arrangements to relieve many who otherwise would have had to suffer and die unaided.

Yet another series of operations waited us on our final return to St. Anthony, and even during the process a practically moribund fisherman from Conche, to the south of us, was brought in by a schooner. An immediate operation, however, saved him, and he and his brother are now rejoicing at the thought of getting home again.

A great deal of work had been done in our absence, and owing to the extreme kindness of many friends, the Guest House, the Industrial outfit; and many other valuable additions to the work which had never been dreamt of when the Settlement was commenced, are now practicable. Land had been cleared—a road cut, and our indefatigable Irish volunteer friend had stacked quite a lot of peat for the winter burning. Stoves had been erected, chimneys built, an engine purchased from an old fishing vessel, was contentedly cutting up the winter supply of wood, and all that appeared necessary before leaving for St. John's was to run into the Bay and bring out some wood cut for us last winter.

The weather still held beautifully fine, and before daylight on Monday, the 21st, we anchored, as we thought, in a harbor which our past experience justified us in considering safe in all winds. After mid-day, with some friends, I left the 'Strathcona' with a load of lumber and provisions for a winter tilt, built half way between the stations on the north and south side of the bay. Soon after 12 o'clock that same night it seemed as if we had met with hopeless disaster. A circular storm of extraordinary violence swept over this section of the coast. The 'Strathcona' was driven ashore high and dry, after bumping on a rocky point, where she would inevitably have been lost, probably with all hands, had not the captain adopted the unusual method of driving her full speed astern over the dangerous point. In the morning she lay high and dry, so that the crew could walk ashore. The ropes and spars were coated with ice as thick as a man's leg. The launch, fifteen miles away, was blown up among the bushes and sunken. A large schooner just to the north of us, with 1,400 quintals of fish on board, was smashed to pieces. A schooner anchored close to the launch was a total wreck, with everything gone, and we have already heard of several other losses. From St. Anthony we heard that our boats were beaten to pieces against the wharf, and so high was the tide driven by the force of the wind, that a bore ran in far enough to carry one boat clean over the wharf. For three days we patiently waited for assistance, eking out the supply of food that we had intended only to last for 24 hours. We were eating our biscuit when we learned from the crew of the 'Strathcona,' who came up to look for us in a borrowed trap boat, that they were in an even worse condition than we were ourselves. On Friday morning we were able to secure the friendly services of a trader, so abandoning our launch, with 17 men we set out to have yet another try to save our little steamer. The men had been at it night and day, under the guidance of the captain, who had neither been to bed nor taken off his clothes since Monday, and, indeed, all hands were fairly beaten out. Fortunately again the unexpected had happened. The wind had veered once again in the direction that had previously proved fatal—another bore had been driven up with the high roll from the sea, and the hawsers and lines hauled tight on the winch and the various arrangements of blocks and tackles had jerked the vessel into deep water once more. As I write to you, Mr. Editor, we are afloat once again and steaming on our last journey for the year. There is no water in the well, and the engines are working perfectly. We have salved the launch and are towing her hull into safety, and we have on board the largest crowd we have ever had—carrying back those who have come to help us in our hour of stress.

It is indeed with grateful hearts we shall gather to-night, and our friends at the hospital, who must be thinking we are lost, will no doubt share with us the satisfaction which we could never have had if it had all been plain sailing.

Of course, the vessel will have to be surveyed, and the repairs on the twisted and strained deck will have to be undertaken before we can be fully satisfied in setting out for another year's work in 1908. But the experiences have by no means all been thrown away. It is after all but another lesson from the voyage of life, and it is in God's mercy that he does not mete out an unending series of soft things. Adversity comes to the king in his palace as well as to the poor man in his cottage. It comes to those in safety, so called on the land, as to those in peril on the sea. To each the Great Father has some lesson to teach when these things come along. Our own impotence is a good thing for us to know. It teaches us that in the hey day of life, as well as in its eventide, there is a help and a comfort that is not our own. And he who goes through life without this knowledge misses, it seems to me, one of its most precious experiences. He is a stronger and better man for them, and will do better and truer work than he who is a carpet knight, and is artificially enabled to tread ever on a bed of roses. Our prayer at least is, not that we may escape adversities, but that we may learn to interpret them rightly.

WILFRED T. GRENFELL, C.M.G., M.D.

'WITNESS' LABRADOR FUND.

Received for the maintenance of the launch:—

'Sympathy,' Quebec	$ 5.00
Goodwin Russell, Charing Cross,	1.00
Mrs. Wm. Thompson, Nantyre, Ont.	.20
Received for the cots:—	
Sunshine Helping Club, Lorne Park Mission, Ont.	1.00
Little Helpers Great Village	.50
Previoulsy acknowledged	955.58
Total received up to Dec. 10	$993.28

Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall & Son, 'Witness' office, Montreal, indicating with the gift whether it is for launch or cots.

THE PRICE OF A BIBLE.

Many have asked questions about the price of Bibles and hymn-books. Miss Mary L. Daniels, Harpoot, Turkey, answers such questions in a letter addressed to our patrons:

'Spending Sunday in a village near us, I noticed that the men sat under the trees with nothing to read. I had a few tracts in my hand, and went up to them, saying, "Who wishes to read?" Oh, how eagerly they reached out their hands, and said, "Give me one!" The women sat in the doors and gossiped. They could not read. I sat down by them and a crowd gathered, and I read a little story from a tract in Armenian.

'We have between thirty and forty girls, most of them orphans, who are teaching in various places. This year I started a small circulating library for the teacher to use among the girls and brides. Would that I had the money to loan a few books to each girl who goes out to teach.

'Think of a village in which there is one newspaper taken. Think of a village in which there are no newspapers and no books. Can you imagine such a place? I have seen many such places. Do you wonder that the people are sad and ignorant, and think of little except their work? What have they to elevate them?

'Years ago Miss Wheeler started a circulating library in our school, but it was consumed at the time of the massacre. We now have several hundred books, but we have five hundred pupils. The day pupils can secure translations of French novels. We must put good literature into their hands and homes. Will you not help us to do this?

'Bibles are cheap, but many mothers are too poor to buy bread for their children. Can they buy Bibles and hymn-books, "The entrance of thy word giveth light." Many of our day pupils have no Bibles of their own, and some of our boarders do not own them. Often an appeal comes from a village for a Bible. Can you not help us to answer these appeals? At the time of the massacre our girls left their clothing and jewellery, but carried their Bibles when they fled.

'We need food and clothing for the poor; we need money for tuition and board; but greater than these needs is the need for money for Bibles. The price of a small Bible is 44 cents; of a reference Bible, 88 cents; of a small hymn-book, 22 cents. I can use almost any number if I have them for use in the villages, and I can use forty or fifty here in the school. Will you not help send the Word of Life to some hungry soul?—'Helping Hand.'

OUR MAIL BAG

Russell, Ont., Oct. 21, 1907.

Dear Sir,—I have taken the 'World Wide' from the very first number and am very much pleased with it, preferring it to much higher-priced eclectics that I formerly took.

Yours truly,
W. J. SUMMERLY,
School Inspector.

Jocelyn P. O.,
St. Joseph's Island, Ont.

Dear Editor,—Let me congratulate you on directing (what is a rarity in these days) a pure, clean, healthy newspaper.

R. G. FRANKLIN.

Humboldt, Sask., Oct. 14, 1907.

To the 'Northern Messenger,' Montreal, Que.:

Dear Sirs,—Your favor received, also the 'Messengers,' as stated therein, for which please accept my thanks. I think your paper is A1, and it suits the needs of the Sabbath-schools.

Enclosed you will find money order for six dollars ($6.00) to cover subscription for 30 copies for one year.

Yours very truly,
C. W. DEMPSTER,
Secretary-Treasurer Humboldt S.S.

Vermilion, Alta.

With renewal to 'Witness.'

Dear Sir,—I have taken the 'Witness' for years, and it is like the face of an old friend when it comes into our home every week.

MRS. JAMES H. FOSTER.

Copleston, Ont.

With renewal to 'Witness':

Dear Sir,—I greatly enjoy your magnificent paper and say all the good things I can about it. Wishing you success, I am yours, etc.

(REV.) J. A. SNELL.

Oakville, Ont., Oct. 18, 1907.

Messrs. John Dougall & Son, Montreal, Que.:

Dear Sir.—I herewith enclose P. O. order for $1.35 to renew my subscription to the 'Weekly Witness' and 'Canadian Pictorial' for 1908. I like both publications very much. They are always welcome to my table.

Yours in truth,
A. T. COLTER.

From N. W. Campbell, inspector of schools, Durham, Ont.:

'In my opinion no other publications are purer or more elevating in tone or more national in sentiment than yours. I shall not fail to pay a tribute to them whenever opportunity offers.'

Cupar, Sask., Nov. 8, 1907.

Messrs. John Dougall & Son, Montreal, Que.:

Dear Sirs,—I herewith enclose one dollar for 'Weekly Witness' subscription. The 'Witness' has become my national newspaper, and the weekly perusal of your excellent editorial page gives me confidence in discussing current events. I always feel that we are on sure ground when inspired by the pages of your great weekly. And naturally it becomes to the man who knows it an indispensable necessity.

Yours very truly,
JAMES McROBBIE.

Ottawa, Ont.

With renewal of 'Witness':—

Dear Sir,—I quite agree that readers of the 'Witness' are in a sense under obligation to help extend circulation of the paper, for it would be difficult otherwise to furnish so clean and instructive amount of reading. To my view the paper is invaluable and deserves unlimited patronage. Yours respectfully,

M. MACKINNON.

Smith's Falls, Ont.

Dear Sir,—Enclosed please find $1.00 for renewal of my 'Weekly Witness.'

I have been taking the good old 'Witness' pretty nearly ever since I commenced to keep house for myself, now nearly forty years, and it was taken in our house before that ever since I can mind. I enjoy reading it more and more as the years go by, and I hope and pray that your paper may be for the time to come, as it has been in the past, a mighty power for good in our beloved land and in other lands as well. Yours, etc.,

A. B. McLEAN.

From H. H. Burgess, B.A., school inspector, Owen Sound, Ont.:

'I regard 'World Wide' as one of the good Canadian publications; the articles show good literary taste and deal with up-to-date topics.'

Halifax, N.S.

With renewal:—

Dear Sir,—For many years the 'Witness' has given us satisfaction and pleasure as week by week it comes into our home. I like it more and more, for it improves as it grows older. May its good work continue.

Yours truly,
R. T. BRAINE.

Cornwall, Ont.

With renewal to 'Daily Witness':

Dear Sir,—It is a pleasure to me to say that I find no paper or magazine that I prize as I do the 'Daily Witness.' It is clean and sane. I lose no opportunity to speak well of it both in private and in public. (Rev.) S. SHELDON.

198 James street, Ottawa.

With renewal:—

Dear Sir,—I always advocate your publications, especially the 'Witness,' as I find it the best family paper in the Dominion, as it is clear and independent in its character. Yours sincerely,

D. FINDLAY.

ADMIRERS ALL

'REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT.'

Westwood, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

I enclose money order, $1.25, for renewal of my subscription, postage included, for the 'Canadian Pictorial,' with which I am very much pleased, and which I think reflects great credit on the publishers.

R. WALLACE.

[The extra 25c. sent for postage with this subscription was, of course, applied to a further extension of the subscription, as $1.00 a year INCLUDES POSTAGE TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.]

'INVALUABLE.'

Chatham, N.B., Nov. 30, 1907.

Messrs. John Dougall & Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal.

Dear Sirs,—Kindly renew my subscription to the 'Weekly Witness' and also to the 'Canadian Pictorial'; also please renew Mrs. ——— subscription to the 'Weekly Witness' and 'Canadian Pictorial,' for which I enclose postal note.

Both the 'Witness' and the magazine are invaluable.

Yours truly,
(Signed), (MRS.) JOHN ELLIS.

'SPLENDID.'

The 'Pictorial Publishing Co., 142 St. Peter street, Montreal:

Dear Sirs,—In our letter of yesterday we omitted the remittance, which we send herewith.

We have looked over the back numbers of the 'Pictorial,' and must say that they are splendid. If you keep up your present pace, you should make a name and fortune as a result of your efforts.

Wishing you success, we are, very truly yours,

THE VERNON NEWS & PRINTING COMPANY.
Lewis J. Ball, manager.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Rest and Recuperation.—To provide a restful environment without sanatorium restrictions, to enable tired humanity to recuperate naturally, to secure to the average man or woman the needed change from worry and care, and to do these at a moderate cost, is the mission of the 'The Welland,' the home of 'The St. Catharines Well.' Apply the manager St. Catharines, or any agent of the Grand Trunk Railway system.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

—ALL IN ADVANCE.—

DAILY WITNESS, $3.00.

WEEKLY WITNESS, $1.00.

WORLD WIDE, $1.50 No extra charge for delivery in Montreal or for foreign postage.

NORTHERN MESSENGER 40 cents three copies, $1.00; 88 clubs, 10 copies or more to one address at 20 cts. per subscription

DISCOUNTS AND COMMISSIONS

Three or more subscriptions to the same publication secure a discount

In the case of **Renewal** subscription 25 p.c. off the regular annual rates

In the case of **New** subscription 50 p.c. off the regular annual rates

SPECIAL CLUBBING RATES.

For two or three publications to the same address

Daily Witness, World Wide and Northern Messenger, worth $4.90 **for $3.40**

Daily Witness and World Wide, worth $4.50 **for $3.20**

Weekly Witness, World Wide and Northern Messenger, worth $2.90 **for $2.20**

Weekly Witness and World Wide worth $2.50 **for $2.00**

Weekly Witness and Northern Messenger, worth $1.40 **for $1.20**

Six months trial at half the above rates

Postage included for Canada (Montreal and suburbs excepted); Newfoundland, Great Britain, Gibraltar, Malta, New Zealand, Transvaal, Jamaica Trinidad, Bahama Islands, Barbadoes, Bermuda British Guiana, British Honduras, Ceylon, Gambia Sarawak Zanzibar, Hong Kong, and Cyprus.

U.S. Postage 50c extra for Weekly Witness to United States, Alaska, Hawaiian Islands and Phillipine Islands, Daily Witness $3.00 extra. Northern Messenger 50 cts. extra except in clubs to one address when every four copies will be fifty cents extra postage per annum.

Foreign postage extra to all countries not named in the above list, as follows: Daily Witness, $3.50 extra; Weekly Witness, $1 extra; Northern Messenger, 50 cents extra; World Wide subscription price, including postage to foreign countries only $1.50.

Samples and subscription blanks freely and promptly sent on request.

ADVERTISING RATES.

WEEKLY WITNESS.—Casual advertisements, 30c per line per insertion. 'Farms to Rent, Farms for Sale,' can be inserted for 1c a word per insertion from subscribers. The lowest rate for non-subscribers is two cents per word. When replies are to be addressed in care of the 'Witness' Office, an additional charge of twenty-five cents is made. In all cases the full price must accompany each order.

DAILY WITNESS.—10c per line per insertion. Contracts on favorable terms. 'Employment Wanted, Situations Vacant,' etc., 10c per insertion, up to 20 words. Money must accompany order, as this quotation is reckoned on a cash basis.

Births and Deaths, 25c per insertion; Marriages, 50c. These must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender. Inserted without charge for subscribers. All obituaries with poetry, 50c a line, agate measure. Money to accompany notice.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

ADDRESS — Give street and number (if necessary), post-office and province.

REMIT—By Express or Post-Office Order, or register your letter for your own protection.

Post-Office Order can be obtained at the following rates: $2.50 or under, 3c; $2.50 to $5.00, 4c; $5.00 to $10.00, 6c.

Express money orders are issued up to $2.00 for 5c; $2 to $5, 4c; $5 to $10, 6c.

U. S. Subscribers should remit by Post-Office Order, or by American Express Co., payable at Montreal.

Stamps are accepted in payment of subscriptions provided they are in perfect condition.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—When wishing to have your address changed from one post-office to another, it is necessary to give the old address as well as the new. If this is not done such change cannot be made.

Address all business communications,
JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
Publishers,
'Witness' Building, Montreal.

SAMPLE COPIES.

Any subscriber who would like to have Specimen Copies sent to friends, need only send upon a post card the name and addresses to which he would like papers sent.

PREMIUMS AND CLUBS.

New High Arm Drop-Head, Ball Bearing Sewing Machine, given to 'Witness' subscribers for $40 worth of new subscriptions to the 'Witness' at full rates.

For Sale, including the 'Daily Witness,' one year, $29.00, or including 'Weekly Witness,' one year, $27.00.

The People's Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine Doctor, for one new subscription to the 'Weekly Witness' at $1.00. For sale post-paid, to 'Witness' subscribers, 75c.

A Fountain Pen given for two new subscriptions to 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each, or three renewals at $1.00 each, or ten renewals at 80c each. The pen for sale post-paid to subscribers, $1.50.

'Weekly Witness' Club rates are: Three copies, separately addressed, $2.40; four, $3.00; ten, $7.00.

Bagster's Long Primer Bible for three subscriptions to 'Weekly Witness,' two of which must be new, or a list of six renewal subscriptions at $1.00 each, or ten subscriptions at 80 cents each. For sale to 'Witness' subscribers, $1.75.

None of the above premiums can be claimed solely on one's own subscription, new or renewal.

EXPIRING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Would each subscriber kindly look at the address tag on his paper? If the date thereon is

DECEMBER, 1907

it is time that the renewals were sent in so as to avoid losing a single copy. As renewals always date from the expiry of the old subscriptions, subscribers lose nothing by remitting a little in advance.

On Wednesday a despatch was received at the C. P. R. offices from Mr. F. T. Griffin, the company's land commissioner in Winnipeg, stating that from an exhaustive report just received from the North-West and made up by the railway and milling people he found that the crop of 1907 was valued at $20,000,000 more than that of 1906.

While the publishers of the 'Witness' exclude from its columns all financial and other advertisements which they consider calculated or intended to take advantage of or injure the reader, it must be understood that they in no way guarantee advertisements, and must leave their readers to exercise their own discretion in the way of putting faith in them. It is, of course, impossible to know much about mining advertising, which offers probably the most speculative and, therefore, the most risky of all investments. The great chances of gain are balanced by the great chances of loss, and no one should invest in a very speculative property more than he can afford to lose.

The Witness.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1907.

We read that the people of Monte Carlo consider the crime and trial of the Goolds 'entirely out of place, especially now when the fashionable season is just beginning.' The authorities of Monte Carlo have always hushed up suicides, murders and other crimes arising more or less from the gambling mania, on the same principle that the saloon-keeper gets rid of a drunken customer in short order—it 'injures the respectability of the business,' and is a sign-post pointing to what such passions lead to. The man Goold seems to have been continually in a sodden state from drink, and under the malign influence of the woman, but they are both striking examples of what Monte Carlo stands for. The keepers of that ante-chamber of hell naturally dislike the advertisement they have given it.

The Canadian Peace and Arbitration Society has issued an appeal to ministers everywhere asking them to observe Dec. 22 as peace Sunday, and preach on that day, urging the arbitration of the affairs of nations and the organization of the world. The society believes that the world can be organized for constitutional government as the great nations are now. In the promotion of a great reform it is perhaps well to adopt a startling ideal, lest the zeal of those appealed to should waste itself in common places. There is nothing new in this idea of a parliament of man. It is commonly looked on as the divine event to which the whole creation moves, when the King of kings shall reign by the universal suffrage of mankind. But that men should be organizing to organize it is a breezy conception. There is no more effective way of promoting a reform than this, of inducing all the religious teachers in the land to bend their minds to it for a week and to give the people the fruit of their thoughts. A practical way of giving efficiency to this method would be by furnishing the preachers with material out of which to construct such sermons—but that would be an expensive process unless by the co-operation of the newspapers. What is in the newspapers, however, everybody sees. It is not, therefore, ready-made material for sermons. On the other hand, it would prepare the mind of the people as well as of the minister for an intelligent facing of the great problem of Christianity. For, after all, peace on earth and the establishment of the benign sway of the Saviour is the great aim and purpose for which the Church exists. It is the purpose to which it should give, not one Sunday, but every Sunday in the year.

Mr. A. E. Kemp, Conservative member of parliament for East Toronto, and an ex-president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and the Toronto Board of Trade, has been barking like a terrier dog at Mr. Pugsley, the new Minister of Public Works. He accuses him of stultiloquence—or fool-talking. It will be remembered that Mr. Pugsley some time ago made a speech in which he charged that the Conservative party funds of 1904 had been improperly gathered and distributed, and threatened exposures. Mr. Kemp has now challenged him to make good his charges and threats. Why did he not, he was asked, when he was Attorney-General of New Brunswick prosecute those who were guilty of bribery and corruption, and why does not he speak now and expose the alleged sins of the Conservatives. In extremely ungentlemanly, if not unparliamentary, language, Mr. Kemp is reported to have loudly defied him to 'Speak now, and don't sit there like a whipped hound.' We do not expect that Mr. Pugsley will stand much of that kind of talk.

Now that our neighbors over the way have had time to read President Roosevelt's voluminous message to Congress and study its contents, an instructive conception of its popular effect may be had from editorial and correspondence comments thereon. Not only has the document been critically analyzed, but its author has been 'sized up' with the freedom and perspicacity natural to a business people who take a practical view of politics. The general concensus of opinion is that the message is needlessly verbose, some critics say it is intolerably long, that it is a compilation of the President's speeches during recess, and that, in his anxiety to preserve the continuity of his policy, he repeats himself with wearisome minuteness. Yet the general impression conveyed is described as vague and inconclusive. Admitting that Mr. Roosevelt is a candid, outspoken man, sincerely desirous of doing what he conceives to be his duty, and of making his mind concerning public questions known to the nation, the whole composition amounts to nothing more in the estimation of the critics than floating disconnected reflections. Evidently, they say, he made no attempt to systematize his ideas, or reduce them to coherency and consistency as an exposition or even an outline of an understandable policy. As one not unfriendly critic says, the impression of extreme muddle is not lessened by the President's apparent unconsciousness that he is muddled. In support of this view several papers reproduce parallel columns of extracts from the message, each of these contradicting the other. The plan of making 'deadly parallels' brings into strong, bewildering contrast the incoherency of the President's ideas regarding the regulation of trusts and combinations in trade and industry, his notions as to inheritance and income taxation, his recommendations concerning the tariff and his views with regard to property. On none of these important questions has he given a clear, definite expression of opinion. As a result the message is disappointing and ineffective, and, as if to emphasize this conclusion, a Washington despatch says there is not the slightest chance that Congress will act on any of the recommendations or suggestions contained in the message.

Some states in the adjoining republic have enacted so many laws that it is often impossible for lawyers to make out what the law is, or for judges to decide between conflicting statutes. In New Jersey, where the law-making power has been most freely and extensively exercised, a popular demand has been made to restrict the legislative output. Attention is called to the dangers arising from too much legislation whereby the law books are encumbered and the people confused. The enormous product of the legislative machine may be judged by the statement that in 1895, when the last compilation of state laws was published, there were four thousand five hundred statutes in force. Since that year about three thousand five hundred acts have been passed, many of which were repealers of previous acts, as well as revisions, amendments and codifications. Nevertheless, there are now six thousand separate acts in force, a volume of legislation so immense that, in the words of a distinguished jurist, 'it is beyond the power of the legal mind to acquire it or of the judicial mind to interpret it.' This accumulation of legislation is the vice of the federal system. We are beginning to feel its effects in the older provinces of the Dominion, not only in the multiplicity of enactments and amendments, some of which read as though they were constructed on the plan of 'The House that Jack Built,' but also in the conflict of provincial laws on several matters, especially those relating to municipalities, trading and the professions. The popular belief that legislation can do anything and everything is a fruitful source of this excess of statutory enactments. Another is the custom of promoters seeking to secure special privileges under the guise of general legislation. If some way be not discovered for putting a limit to this cumulative confusion, we will in time be in a position like that in which the people of New Jersey find themselves. The complaint in Great Britain is that much-needed legislation is neglected because parliament really cannot get time to attend to it. Few laws, however, are better than too many, and people manage to worry along under laws they understand and are accustomed to more easily than under a smothering mass of legislation.

Much is looked for from the National Council of Commerce recently established in the United States by Mr. Strauss, Minister of Commerce and Labor. This body represents about thirty organizations of business men in the larger cities, and is expected eventually to include all the leading commercial boards and chambers in the country, these becoming adjuncts to the Department of Commerce and Labor, co-operating with it in promoting the business interests of the United States abroad as well as at home. The council will meet annually or oftener if necessary in Washington, and will have a permanent advisory committee, consisting of fifteen members, to meet four times a year. In this way the government will have the advice and assistance of the business men of the country at all times when required. This scheme resembles in its main features the Dominion Board of Trade, formed about thirty years ago, which used to meet in Ottawa once a year. It existed for several years, but, as its recommendations were seldom acted upon by the government, the various boards of trade ceased to appoint delegates and it was dissolved. The council now established at Washington has been formed on the model of the Prussian Council for Economical Affairs, which has been in existence for twenty-seven years. It is composed of seventy-five members, selected for the most part from persons engaged in agriculture, manufacturing and commerce, each of these divisions being presided over by an official of the government. The duties the members discharge are those of examining and criticizing all proposed legislation affecting the economic interests of Prussia, and suggesting what the vote of the Kingdom shall be in the Federal Senate of the Empire on these matters. The government is not bound to follow these suggestions, or even to consult the council, but experience has proved the advantage to ministers of having the advice of a body of business experts on all questions affecting commerce and industry. The working of a similar institution in the United States will be watched by the business men of this country with close interest, on account of the failure of the Dominion Board of Trade and the new commercial conditions which have since arisen.

Foreign potentates have reason to know that the people of the United States do not differ much from other human beings in their liking for titles and decorations. The German Emperor had been particularly lavish in distributing favors among a people whose alliance he much desires. The order of the Red Eagle has several classes, which enable him to discriminate according to a well understood scale, from a prince to a peasant, from a nabob of the Orient to a plain citizen of a republic. All the lesser potentates of Europe, whose revenues are restricted, make a business of disposing of titles, orders, stars and crosses. Not a few Americans have in this way become the proud possessors of patents of nobility. Occasionally the decorations represent services rendered as the late Mr. Mercier became a Roman count after passing the bill for handing over the old Jesuits' estates to the disposal of the Pope. This week President Roosevelt sent to Congress a long list of officials of the government, on whom foreign crowned heads have bestowed decorations and presents, with a recommendation that they be allowed to accept them, out of respect to the powers granting them. He added a supplementary list of those to whom Congress failed to grant the desired permission on former occasions. It is hoped that Congress will deal leniently with these distinguished persons and allow them to sport honors from abroad such as their own country has no means of giving them. Something answering to aristocracy seems to be craved by many in the republic, and decorations from the hands of real live kings seem to them to mean more than such as are to be had at the hands of the Grand Sark of the Ancient and thrice Illustrious Order of Cyclops, constituting them Right Worthy and Sublime Knights and entitling them to knee breeches and to cocked hats with feathers in them.

It is always a matter of interest to Canada who shall be British ambassador to the United States. The announcement that Mr. Bryce will shortly sail for England, coupled with the report that it is by no means certain that he will return to Washington, naturally arouses speculation as to his probable successor. In explanation of these reports it is said that Mr. Bryce never contemplated a long residence in America, and had named a year as the probable limit of his stay. During his incumbency no important questions have arisen between the Republic and the Dominion. The only difficulty with which he has had to deal arose from the disturbances in connection with Japanese immigration. For obvious reasons the British Government is anxious for the maintenance of good relations between the United States and Canada with Japan, and should Mr. Bryce not return to Washington a diplomat of the highest standing, ability and experience will be needed to handle the difficult and delicate situation which might arise any day. Sir Henry Howard, British Minister at The Hague, has been mentioned as likely to succeed Mr. Bryce. He has had wide and long experience in diplomacy and has a reputation for ability. The position of the Dominion in relation to the United States and its standing in relation to the British Government have undergone modifications in recent years, which have somewhat lessened the importance to Canada of the ambassador at Washington. The Ottawa government now enjoys facilities and exercises an influence in London which it did not possess in former times, and the British government will less and less take any step likely to affect Canadian interests without consulting the authorities at Ottawa. The rising importance of politics on the Pacific and of the relations with the Orient will furnish the main questions of the future. Canada is as vitally interested in these as the United States, and may assume that the ambassador appointed to Washington will be persona grata to Canadians.

The Government of Russia has twice called the attention of the Bulgarian Government to the renewal of border raids from that country upon the Turks in Macedonia, which it looks upon as a serious menace to peace. There are about thirty raiding bands now in the field, consisting of a dozen or a score of men each, and the casualties reported are over a hundred killed and wounded, about equally divided between Mohammedans and Christians. Austria has joined Russia in bringing pressure to bear on Bulgaria for the suppression of these bands, as it is feared they are forerunners of a general insurrectionary outbreak in Macedonia in the spring. It will be remembered that there was an exodus of Greeks from Bulgaria about six months ago, owing to the animosity with which they were regarded by the Bulgarians. They went to Greece, where they were welcomed by the Crown Prince and given land for settlement. These two Christian nationalities regard each other with hatred as intense as they both regard the Turks. Each aspires to succeed to the possession of Macedonia and Constantinople when the Turks shall be driven across the Bosphorus. Austria, it is well known, wants to extend her dominion to Salonica, and thus obtain a splendid seaport for both naval and commercial purposes on the Aegean, while Russia, claiming to be the heir of the old Empire of the East, looks upon Constantinople as her legitimate heritage. These conflicting ambitions are the source of all the trouble. The game of intrigue and cross-purposes is endless. Austria and Russia do not trust each other, though there is a posibility of their coming to an agreement for the partition of the Turkish provinces in Europe if they could have the play to themselves. But German ambition conflicts with the designs or both, while Bulgaria and Greece are opposed to all three and to each other. Thus the old Eastern Question is the same insoluble problem it ever was. The Turk would have been driven out long ago but for the conflicting designs of the Christian powers. The result is a land where life and property are never safe, where murder and pillage are sporadically rampant and where Christians fight each other with the same ferocity that they attack the Turks. Thus it has been for nearly a century and the end seems as far off now as it has ever been.

UNHOLY COUNSELS.

The hotelkeepers of the State of New York recently held their annual meeting. The prevailing note in all the speeches was one of alarm at the growth of the prohibition sentiment throughout the state, in the cities as well as in the rural districts. Warning was given that the holders of liquor licenses must be prepared to meet a strong, well-organized agitation for the repeal of the license law and the enactment of a prohibitory statute, similar to the acts passed by the legislature of Georgia and other states. Without any apparent revival of the temperance crusade, parts of states, a majority of counties in several, have abolished the licensing system, and whole states have adopted strict prohibition laws. This movement may be fairly attributed to popular judgment having reached maturity of conviction with regard to the evil of intemperance. Legislative action is, therefore, in response to the popular will. This maturity of conviction carries with it the firm belief that the evil cannot be dealt with by half measures. The whole cursed thing must be stamped out in all its forms. The assembled hotelkeepers admitted that the no license sentiment had won and is winning notable victories all over the country, and there were indications that the movement would soon extend to the state of New York.

In considering the means they should adopt to combat it, emphasis was laid on the question of revenue. It was pointed out that the total receipts of the state treasury for the year ending with September, 1906, amounting to $35,596,966.92, more than one quarter, or $9,486,500.28, was collected from the liquor tax. This was the largest source of state revenue, and was in excess of the amount expended on education, which was set down at $6,165,384.50. The cost of caring for the insane, and maintaining prisons and state charities should be added to this sum, which would bring it up to about seventeen million, to which the liquor taxes contributed, as shown above, about nine and a half million. The hotel men contended that if this source of revenue were abolished direct taxes would have to be imposed to make up the deficiency, and they argued that a direct tax would be so unpopular as to lead to the defeat of the party which enacted it. The claim that prohibition would greatly lessen the cost of maintaining prisons, asylums, police forces, charities, etc., was met by the argument that this benefit would not become appreciable for a generation or more, and that present day people are not inclined to burden themselves for the good of those who may come after them. The most grotesque speech was that of a hotelman who complained that the misguided Reformers who are making the land dry, 'find nothing too sacred to deter them.' That a body of men selected by law for their worthiness should meet and calmly discuss how to counteract the effort of a people to deliver itself from its greatest curse is something as nearly allied as earth could produce to Milton's description of the counsels of the lords of Hell when assembled to discuss the best methods for frustrating the wellbeing of the human race.

THE MOTOR CAR.

'Agricola' analyzes the motive of the motor. He looks upon it as purely a toy, and as such an unmitigated nuisance which ought to be abated. There is no doubt that, as things are at present, he is very largely right. Nine-tenths of the motor cars driven are got simply because it is the passing fashion to have them, if one can possibly afford them and to go whizzing along at a terrifying speed. The driver sees no wrong in going fast where he is far enough from any other occupant of the road to bring no one into danger but his own company. In thus absolving himself he is quite mistaken. People driving horses a quarter of a mile off are in no danger of collision, but they, or their beasts, may be tremendously scared. Horses are always frightened at their first acquaintance with automobiles. Horses are, however, remarkably wise animals, and, for the most part, when thoroughly introduced to anything new, become reconciled to it. The electric cars frightened the horses at first, not because they differed from the horse cars they had long been accustomerd to, but because it seemed to them uncanny to see them moving without horses in front. That showed great intelligence on the part of the horses, as did also their acceptance afterwards of the new vehicles, once they realized that they seemed to know what they were doing. It is the same with the motor car as far as most horses are concerned. But there is one thing that frightens a horse more than an auto and that is a frightened driver. A large proportion of the scares are due to the fact that the driver, who hears the honk coming on behind him, and who does not know whether the chauffeur is an expert or a tyro, or whether he is drunk or sober, gets very nervous indeed, and his nervousness communicates itself to his horse, and there is a runaway, for which the driver of the auto takes no blame to himself at all. 'Agricola' is quite right, therefore, in saying that the motor car, in this phase, is a first class nuisance.

The question left, however, is whether it has come to stay, whether it is yet to take the place of the horse. If so, the object of civilization should be to mend it, and not to end it. It is a question we cannot yet be dogmatic in replying to. The bicycle certainly appealed to reason, and many were sure that when it ceased to be a toy, it would fully survive in the ordinary traffic of life. This expectation has been disappointed, as far as this part of the world is concerned. When the bicycle descended to the message boy, it was given up as a toy, and has largely gone out of use. It does seem, however, as though the advantages of mechanical propulsion over horse keeping would cause the former finally to triumph. Already people are finding in England that they can keep a simple motor more easily and cheaply than they can keep a horse, and ladies possess, manage and use them who could not afford to keep a horse. Our expectation is that there will be abundant work for all the motor building plants in making vehicles for practical and sober use. Assuming this, it must be admitted that the change has imposed a very difficult problem on those who make regulations for our roads.

If all high speed automobiles were under absolute governance, and if all chauffeurs were expert, considerate and sober, the problem would be largely solved. These are, however, three things that at the toy stage it is almost hopeless to look for. The charm of a toy is in its newness, and as a consequence the majority of the drivers of motors must be beginners

That is a feature that will pass away as the newness of the invention wears off. The passion for speed will take more killing, if indeed it ever can be killed. We are inclined to differ with 'Agricola,' who thinks it is not one of the elementary passions of our nature. Wherever we got it, it seems to rule us in a most senseless way. We are not really in such a hurry as we think ourselves, and if we go out for recreation it would be recreation of altogether a nobler sort to go at a rate at which we could have communion with the birds and the flowers, smell the clover and drink in the sunset. If we cannot govern speed on the unoccupied road, we can punish it as criminal where it results in mischief, and this is an obvious necessity. Let the speed be proved and let the mischief be proved, and no excuse should be taken. The other evil, that of the driver not being sober, is an almost necessary condition of the toy stage of the invention. One has exactly the same sensation on the Lachine road when fast trotters are on their way homeward. One is almost certain that the drivers are more or less exhilarated. And the same is the case with many of the motorists.

TAXING DISTRESS.

The Manitoba Government has been taxing insurance companies. There is an idea in the mind of the people that insurance companies are very rich corporations, and that they are therefore fit and proper subjects for taxation. A fire insurance company is simply a pool to which every one that has a risk from fire contributes his share, and from which those of them that lose by fire draw the amount of their loss. The question how much each should contribute is determined by the results of experience. As experience is always changing the rates are always changing. The rates have to be such as to balance not only the sum total of the losses that will occur, but there must be some margin to the good. There must be some little added to remunerate those who guarantee the payments of losses and a fair amount to pay for administration. And, what is curious, contributors need to be induced to insure and have to pay a good deal for that. In addition to all these elements which go to the determination of the amount of the premium, the Manitoba Government, like some others we know of, adds a tax. If insuring against fire were an evil thing that needed to be held in check it might be good state policy to tax it; though it might still be a question as to how far it is desirable for the state to be in partnership with public evils. If, on the other hand, it is desirable that the public should be insured and should get its insurance at as low rates as possible, then the taxing of the process is a very doubtful advantage. The question as to taxing life insurance is similar. From the nature of its business the life company has necessarily an enormous capital invested, being the accumulations of the deposits of vast numbers of policy-holders over periods averaging many years. These enormous amounts invested make the life company seem to be rolling in wealth, but the whole of it belongs to the beneficiaries of the policy-holders, generally to widows and orphans. To tax such a company is simply to add to the cost of laying up a thousand or two thousand dollars against the day of possible calamity. If this is a process to be encouraged it becomes a question whether the taxation of it is good public policy. It is not plain from the despatch whether Manitoba has taxed life companies or only fire companies. In any case, the bill seems to have hit those only whose headquarters are there, as there has been a protest on the part of these against letting outside companies do freely what the home companies are taxed for doing. The government has very naturally undertaken to correct this anomaly by taxing the stranger as well as the home enterprise. The net result will be that the Manitobans will pay as much higher premiums as will cover the tax.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

Labor organizations in Europe are now facing conditions which will sorely try their ability to regulate the labor market. For a long time past this continent afforded an open and inviting field for the surplus labor of Europe, and organized labor here has striven to lessen the tide of immigration which, it was held, had a tendency to lower wages. Now the situation has been reversed. Reports from Berlin say there are thirty-five thousand workingmen out of employment in that city and this number is increasing daily by many arrivals of workmen from America. At the same time it is stated that the prices of all the necessities of life are rising to almost famine rates, creating a state of affairs that fills the authorities and the labor unions with apprehension amounting to terror. Similar conditions are reported in Italy and Austria. It was supposed that many of those returning would bring money with them, but inquiry has shown that this is not the case in the majority of instances. The trouble is, therefore, expected to grow more acute as the winter advances. Of late we have been made aware of numbers of unemployed in Toronto and other cities of the Dominion, and advices from the United States are to the same effect, but indicative of larger proportions. All this goes to show that labor conditions are more or less similar on both continents. The recent financial disturbance was not the cause of the depression. It was only one manifestation of the underlying cause, but it greatly added to the depression. The primary cause was the comparative exhaustion of available capital. That this stringency has been greatly exaggerated by panic is proved by investigation, which has shown that there is still a great deal of capital unemployed. Loss of confidence has led to hoarding, with the result that many millions are locked up idle, which, under ordinary circumstances, would be at the disposal of the banks. Instances are common of large manufacturing concerns, perfectly solvent, employing many hands and having plenty of orders to fill, having to curtail operations because they could not obtain the usual bank accommodation. Perhaps it would not be far wrong to refer the origin of the trouble to loss of public confidence in the management of financial institutions. The effect must, however, rapidly diminish in intensity. Those who hoard must soon discover that hoarded money is not only unproductive, but in more danger than money intelligently invested, and the remarkably promising opportunities of investment which the situation has developed will gradually be discovered by the many to whom they have been hitherto an unknown country. Thieves may steal the stocking, accidents may destroy the contents of the nook and the safety vault depositor himself has to draw upon his hoard without interest. Soon the purse-strings will have to loosen and conditions will right themselves out of sheer necessity, for the resources of the earth and the products of labor are everywhere abundant.

REFORM OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Wright, Liberal member for South Renfrew, is the author of an exceedingly sensible proposal, which comes up for discussion in the House of Commons as soon as the latter has got through with its debate on the address. Mr. Wright's resolution declares it desirable in the interest of good legislation that the rules of the House should be amended so as to provide that the hour of adjournment should (excepting on extraordinary occasion to be decided by the Government) be fixed, when there are evening sittings, at not later than 10.30 p.m. This is by no means the only reform of which the Canadian Parliament stands in need. In its reckless waste of time, its hours of meeting, its indulgence in personalities, and its conduct of business generally it is about as unbusinesslike an assembly as one could well imagine. It very often happens that after five or six hours' waste of time in the afternoon the Commons is only getting down to serious business about the time that the average citizen is getting ready for bed. And yet it is stated on the best of authority that it costs thirty-seven dollars a minute to run this one branch of Parliament, to say nothing of the expenses of that other 'useless body' to use the term that has been applied recently to the Canadian Senate by one of the older members of that body.

Not only are the hours of meeting of the House of Commons unreasonable, but the length of the sessions is out of proportion to the work done. The other Parliaments of the world, with few exceptions, conduct their proceedings at more reasonable hours than our Canadian parliamentarians have ever known. Both Houses of the Austrian Reichsrath for instance sit from October to June, the Lower Chamber three and four days a week, from eleven o'clock in the forenoon to either four or five o'clock in the afternoon. The Belgian Chamber sits four days a week from 1.45 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., and occasionally from 10.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., to expedite business. The Folkething in Denmark sits from half an hour to four hours and a half, and the Landsthing about three hours. The French Chamber of Deputies usually sits from 2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. or 7 p.m., and the Senate much the same. In Germany the Session of the Reichstag usually lasts from November until May, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and the Landtag follows suit. The Hungarian House of Deputies sits from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., and the House of Magnates commences at 11 a.m. The Italian Senate sits from 3.30 p.m. until 6 p.m. or 6.30 p.m., and the Chamber of Deputies from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m., and sometimes 8 p.m. with occasional morning sittings. In Japan the Diet sits for three months each year, the House of Peers from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the House of Representatives from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. In the Netherlands the First Chamber of the States-General sits from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or 4.30 p.m. The Portuguese Cortes meet at 2 p.m. for a four hours' sitting. The session lasts about three months. Ordinary sittings of the Spanish Senate and Congress last six hours. The Swedish Rickstag usually sits from January to June with morning and evening sittings. In Switzerland the sittings of the 'Conseils' begin at 8 a.m. in summer, and at 9 a.m. in winter, and last until 1 p.m. or 1.30 p.m.

In the United States Congress a long session alternates with a short one, the latter only lasting from December till March. Both the Senate and the House of Representatives get through their work in the day time. But what need to carry the record further. There is really but one other Parliament in the world, 'the Mother of Parliaments,' as the British Houses have frequently been called, which can be cited as a precedent for the extremely bad habits which prevail at Ottawa. During a great deal of the time of our Parliament the seats of the members are but sparsely filled, and those members who are present are frequently engaged writing letters or are otherwise occupied than with the debate. The powers of endurance of ministers comes to an end and they have to relieve each other in facing the House. It is not easy to determine by what rules of debate it can be secured that, without sacrificing the rights of the people to be heard through their representatives on matters dear to any section of them, the time of the House shall not be wasted in debate. But it seems that other countries are able so to control debate as to keep it within intelligent bounds.

AN AMAZING REFUSAL.

When Mr. Sydney Buxton was appointed Postmaster-General of Great Britain, it was believed throughout the colonies that he would take the broad and imperial view of his office. This he has already done in the case of the Canadian postage. Singularly enough, however, the better postage rates have not been extended to Newfoundland, Mr. H. B. Woods, the Postmaster-General of Newfoundland, wrote to the London head office, asking that the same postal rates be given to Newfoundland as to Canada, and this is the curious reply:

'General Post-Office, London,
Oct. 28, 1907.

'Sir,—I am directed by the Postmaster-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd ultimo, in which you express the hope that the rate of postage on newspapers and periodicals sent from the United Kingdom to Newfoundland may be reduced to 1d. per pound, as was done in the case of newspapers, etc., sent from the United Kingdom to Canada.

'In reply, I am to inform you that, as Mr. Buxton has more than once publicly stated, the reduction referred to was based on the very special and peculiar position, geographical and otherwise, occupied by Canada, as the result of which British newspapers, magazines, etc., were unable to obtain a footing in Canada, their place being taken by American publications.

'So far as the Postmaster-General is aware, there are no similar circumstances in the case of Newfoundland, which is thus differentiated entirely from that of Canada. Mr. Buxton regrets, therefore, that he would not feel justified in recommending His Majesty's Government to meet your wishes by an extension of the special arrangement to which you refer.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. Babington Smith, Secretary.'

It would seem from this that the department has no official information that the conditions which determined its action with regard to Canada exist, in at least parallel degree, in Newfoundland. We should gather also that, if the department were duly apprised of this fact, this letter almost commits it to the granting of the boon asked for. It is unfortunate perhaps that Newfoundland was not included as a matter of course. Had this been done no formal question would have arisen. But as this was not done, it is easy to see that some definite reason would need to be given for asking this privilege, otherwise the granting of it would give a similar claim to every other colony. Apart from official information, the department must have known that the conditions of Newfoundland could not be very different from those of Canada. Indeed, if the object was to bring the colonists more into touch with the empire, the plea on behalf of Newfoundland would be the stronger of the two, as there is generally supposed to be more dissatisfaction in Newfoundland than there is in Canada. It is not unnatural that the Newfoundlanders look upon this as 'just another instance' of injustice to the most ancient colony.

MODERNISM.

Some light is thrown upon what the Pope means by 'Modernism,' against which he has been fulminating by a letter of Mgr. Lacroix, Bishop of Tarantaise, in France, to the clergy of his diocese, on the occasion of his resignation of his see, in doing which he has refused the usual pension, declaring that he will work for his living. Bishop Lacroix has the reputation of being a pious, sincere and able Roman Catholic prelate, whose efforts to make possible the services of the Church under the worship laws of the Republic were condemned by the Vatican and led to his resignation. Ill health is the reason he gives for taking that step, but he does not fail to reveal the fact that the real reason is that he is a loyal citizen of the Republic and a zealous supporter of the policy of Leo XIII., an attitude which made him obnoxious to Cardinal Merry del Val, who appears to be the ruling genius of the present Papal régime. Bishop Lacroix was also accused of being tainted with modernism, not that he has put forward any bold conclusions in Biblical criticism or has advocated any heterodox philosophy, for he was not given to critical studies or ever spoke or wrote on such subjects. His offence consisted in believing that the Church need not necessarily be hostile to the modern world; that Roman Catholics should not be a caste apart and opposed to the aspirations of their fellow-countrymen. He also ventured from time to time to suggest that the 'natural virtues,' such as truthfulness, honesty and fair dealing, are as important as the 'supernatural,' and that the deficiency of the natural virtues, too often remarked in persons whose external religion is conspicuous, is a scandal to outsiders.

The formal cause of offence was that he founded an association in his diocese, the poorest in France, to take over the property of the Church, and thus save it from ruin. In the letter to his clergy, Bishop Lacroix refers to the suppression of this society by the Pope as an overwhelming catastrophe. It was composed entirely of priests, and therefore did not violate any rights of the Church or any provision of the canon law. It was condemned simply because it was recognized as an 'Association Cultuelle,' within the meaning of the separation law, and the government was willing to hand over the property of the diocese to it. From all this it seems clear that Bishop Lacroix is both a good Catholic and a patriotic Frenchman. His heresy consists in his Modernism, to which he has given expression in his sermons and now more formally in the letter to his clergy. After referring to happier former times when the priest exercised a sort of pious dictatorship over his flock, who attached a blind faith to his words, the Bishop says that time has forever passed and will never return to France. The priest can no longer teach by authority only. There has come a radical change in the intellectual habits of the people. They will no longer submit to be treated as children, they insist on being treated as men. Henceforth, he declares, the priest must combine with his capacity as minister of God the prestige and the influence which are given by a good education and a solid intellectual culture, and also that straightness of character which is regarded to-day as the chief of social virtues.

To people accustomed to freedom of thought this is sound doctrine, but it is a concession to modernism, and, therefore, inadmissable. More direct and illuminating is what the Bishop writes concerning the position of the clergy in France. He shows that he does not share the illusions of those who say that the church has still a strong hold on the people. He writes:—'For long years past, perhaps for a century and a 'half, and in expiation of ancient errors 'and mistakes, the French clergy have 'been regarded as a group of pariahs in 'their own country, as a caste apart, 'impervious to all progress, to all en'lightenment from outside, hostile in 'principle to all the aspirations of their 'contemporaries. Let us tell the plain 'truth: the clergy are unpopular, and it 'is because of this unpopularity, care'fully and intentionally sustained and 'exaggerated by the enemies of Chris'tianity, that they have been dislodged 'from most of their positions and have 'experienced so many defeats.' He then points out that it is the duty of the clergy to strive to remove this formidable misunderstanding, to cultivate the intellectual classes and 'prove by their own 'example that Catholicism, intelligently 'understood, is not the enemy of any 'science or any progress.' The denunciation of these views by the ultramontane clerical press and the resignation of the Bishop who expressed them leave no other conclusion than that they belong to the order of things called modernism by the authorities at Rome, and therefore condemned as tainted with heresy. There is no prospect that the people of France will ever return to their condition in the 'happier former time' described by Bishop Lacroix, and, if the church, as seems determined, will not come to people the future of the church in France seems dark indeed. This is all the more painful to contemplate in view of the fact that, in falling away from Catholicism, large numbers not only abandon Christianity altogether, but also lose what moral moorings they had.

HEALTH.

The old adage to the effect that 'What's one man's meat is another man's poison,' is very definitely insisted on in an article on the 'Individual factor in health,' by Eustace Miles, in the 'Young Man,' in which the writer has a good deal to say of the many 'infallible systems' of diet and hygiene by which reformers are hoping to cure all the ills that flesh is heir to. As examples, he cites, first of all, 'Haphazard vegetarianism.' This system, according to Mr. Miles, has benefited many individuals, partly because there is a sense of satisfaction—and hence a tendency toward better health—when one feels that one is no longer responsible for the horrors of cattle-driving, cattle shipping and slaughtering. Besides, he holds without shadow of doubt, that flesh foods and their extracts are poisons to numbers of people, but on the other hand he could cite hundreds of cases in which this diet—of eggs, badly cooked beans and lentils and potatoes and cabbages and sloppy porridges—has led to discomfort and exhaustion. Then there is the so-called 'uric acid free' diet. This is a stricter form of vegetarianism and has had its successes, but its elements sometimes contain an excess of bulk—especially of water, starch and generally indigestible matter which often lead to fermentation, obesity and other troubles. Then there is the opposite 'Salisbury treatment,' with its diet of flesh-foods not over cooked, together with copious drinking of water. This has also served the turn of many, but in many other cases has proved injurious. The 'no breakfast' or 'light breakfast' plan is another, regarding which Mr. Miles has collected a great number of statistics. He believes that it would suit half the people in England, but on the other hand he has known cases where it has been tried for weeks and even months and has been anything but successful. The same, he thinks, may be said, not only of systems of diet but of baths, exercises and so forth. Not one of these but can show its successes, and scarcely one but hides its failures.

Mr. Miles is far from condemning the 'systems' indiscriminately, and, in fact, is inclined to think that on the whole they serve a good purpose. First of all, as he says, the 'systems' are definite, and therefore are easier to follow than the really scientific regimen which requires forethought and observation in the using. Secondly, they are dogmatic, and therefore supply the sheep-like patient with faith; for they guarantee complete health. And thirdly, they give hope, and hope is most important if there is to be a search for a better physical way. But, he continues, 'these systems are 'not suited to all; they are positively 'dangerous when undertaken rashly by 'those who need some very different 'set of rules.' Mr. Miles advises seekers after health to study the principal systems, but to study them from a new point of view, bearing in mind the individual factor in health, to hear the extremist, but not to be hypnotised by him; if a new system of diet or exercise appear necessary, to try it gradually and give up—or modify it—according to results in one's own case. Not to be afraid to try a new thing on account of ridicule, but, on the other hand, not to be a nuisance, but to try to be as like other people as is consistent with health and a clear conscience. These are no doubt counsel to people whose stomach, or what is as often the case whose imaginations are in a morbid condition. It ought to be known that the thoughts of the mind largely determine not only the appetite, but the action of the stomach. He is in best case who does not know he has a stomach, and who guides himself by the simple laws of temperance.

It is to be noted that Mr. Miles, while crediting the zealots of the various food-and-exercise systems with faith and hope, does not add that they are noted for the third apostolic grace, charity. This is but just, for theological controversy has largely given way to that between these hygienic sects, and the thunderous anathemas which they sometimes hurl at each other bring one back in mind to the ecclesiastical history of the fifteenth century. To hear a True Blue Vegetarian speak of a Salisburyite—a Salisburyite of a vegetarian, or either of the poor ignorant public, makes one wonder how anyone save the infallible can live in this terrible world, where, whatever we eat, every mouthful is sure to be fatal. Sometimes indeed the zeal of the reformer almost gives a tone to his pronouncement like that of the cardinal's curse.

'He cursed him in eating, he cursed him in drinking,
He cursed him in coughing, in sneezing, in winking:
He cursed him in sitting, in standing, in lying;
He cursed him in walking, in riding, in flying.'

and the strange thing is that no one—not yet, strangely, 'nobody seemed one penny the worse.' Though one should exercise reasonable care in the selection of his diet, there is a good deal of true hygiene as well as of religion in St. Paul's advice to his disciples when bidden to a feast, 'Whatsoever is set before you eat, asking no question for conscience sake.' The fact is that there are certain broad principles which lie at the root of nearly all the 'systems.' Among the chief are temperance in eating, abstinence from intoxicants, personal cleanliness, enough air and enough exercise. The encouragement of a cheery and hopeful disposition is of the first importance, for 'a merry heart doeth good like medicine,' and above all it must be remembered that the heart must be kept clean and sweet, for out of it 'are the issues of life.' If God is the father of all it cannot be by his desire that any are not in good health, and a realization of this should make men look elsewhere than to providence for the cause of their ailments and prove the best of faith cures.

UNIVERSITY HOOLIGANISM.

On degree day of the University College of Wales, at Aberystwyth, the students broke up the congregation and refused to attend the lecture of Sir John Cockburn. These and other acts of insubordination subsequently occupied the attention of the senate of the college for hours, with the result that a notice was posted up stating that the senate has resolved:

To close the men students' common room until further notice.

To prohibit the holding of the following college entertainments during the present session: The Christmas dramatics, Celtic Society's reception, St. David's Day celebration, the Eisteddfod, the college concert, the Literary and Debating Society's final entertainment, the college athletic sports.

To prohibit the men students from taking part in any intercollegiate matches during the session.

That the men members of students' representative council who were in office from 18 to 25 Nov., be prohibited from holding any office in connection with the students' representative council until further notice.

That the men members of the students' representative council who were in office from 18 to 25 Nov., be required to make a full apology satisfactory to the Senate, and to present it in person.

This by the students themselves and some of their friends is no doubt regarded as drastic punishment, but the deeds described are said to have been only the culmination of many acts of rowdyism. A group of these same students, for instance, saw a country wedding, composed of three couples, returning arm in arm from the ceremony. Immediately, they formed up and two by two followed in procession. To the strains of the 'Dead March' they thus travelled the whole length of the street. If 'street corner' lads had done that they would have been hooligans—without denial or defence; but being students—'it was only their fun.' There has been during the last few years a recrudescence of practical joking on the part of students involving both insubordination to the college authorities and the breaking of the common law. Not only have these incidents been breaches of good sense and good feeling, but many of them have been ruffianly and have resulted in damage to property and person—sometimes even in manslaughter. It is time that the offences of a small minority of college men were sternly suppressed. If the students of the University of Wales do not make the apology demanded by the senate, it is said that a number of them will be 'sent down.'

'WORLD WIDE.'

The following are the contents of last week's issue of 'World Wide.'

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

King Oscar of Sweden—A Beautifully Human Monarch—By Paul Harboe, in the 'Outlook,' New York.
Little Stories of Oscar II., King of Sweden—'P.T.O.,' London.
Lord Milner on Unionist Policy—The 'Morning Post,' London.
The Nullity of Mr. Balfour—The 'Nation,' London. Abridged.
The Position in India—Demands for Reform—Special Correspondence of the 'Daily Chronicle,' London.
Politics and Public Opinion in Japan—By Paul S. Reinsch, Professor of Political Science in the University of Wisconsin, in the 'Outlook,' New York.
The Comedy of Justice—By C. F. G. Masterman, in the 'Daily News,' London.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE ARTS.

'The Slade'—By W. Rothenstein, in the 'Saturday Review,' London. Abridged.
The Musical Season and the Cause of Art—The Springfield 'Republican.'
'Busoni'—By Arthur Symons in the 'Saturday Review,' London. Abridged.

CONCERNING THINGS LITERARY.

Day and Night—By Thomas Campion.
Afternoon—By Henry W. Longfellow.
Compensation—By Reginald Lucas, in the 'Westminster Gazette.'
'Loss and Gain'—By the late Sir Lewis Morris.
Francis Thompson—By Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, in the 'Academy,' London; Everard Meynell, in the 'Daily Chronicle,' London.
The New Testament as Popular Literature—The 'Nation,' London.
A Study in Puritanism—'Father and Son'—By T. P. O'Connor, in 'T.P.'s Weekly,' London.
Experiences of a 'First Reader'—Manuscripts as a Source of Unexpected Delight—By A. Reader, in the New York 'Times' Saturday Review.

HINTS OF THE PROGRESS OF KNOWLEDGE.

The Act of God—Pasteur, His Life and Work—The 'Speaker,' London.
Battle of the Microbe—'T. P.'s Weekly,' London.
The So-called Hypnotic Influence of Snakes—By Thomas C. Hutten, in the 'Scientific American.'
Fuels of the Future—'Westminster Gazette.'
Science Notes.

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LETTERS FROM READERS.

[The correspondence department is valued by some as the most interesting part of the paper. The bane of it, however, is the length to which letters are liable to grow. There is not only the fact that readers avoid what is long, but the great difficulty of finding the space necessary. We do not like to refuse a good letter on the ground of length, but it often has to be done. Some newspapers put a limit on correspondents of a hundred or two hundred words. We recognize that there are subjects occasionally that cannot be well handled in so brief a manner, but we must keep before our readers the fact that brevity is always a primary recommendation.]

CONCERNING SCHOOL-BOOKS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—The announcement that at its recent meeting the Protestant Committee decided that for the next four years the text-books in the schools under its jurisdiction will remain practically the same as at present will bring disappointment to many a struggling ratepayer, who has been hoping for relief from the burden of an unnecessary multiplicity of text-books. If about one-quarter of the books at present authorized in the Protestant schools of Quebec were struck from the list, it would be a distinct advantage to the cause of education. Why the committee should authorize two complete sets of readers is something 'no fellah can understand.' And why it should authorize two, and in some cases even three books for the same grade is a mystery similarly profound. A man sends his son to school and is required to purchase the Royal Crown Readers for him, one after another. By and by he sends his daughter, and finds that a change of teachers has occasioned a change of text-books, and now he has to purchase for her the Graduated Readers, while the Royal Crown Readers stand in good condition, but utterly useless, on the shelf. He has a similar experience with other books. He is asked to purchase Davis's Physical Geography for his son, but before his daughter reaches that subject there has been a change of teachers, and he is required to purchase Longman's Physical Geography for her. He gets one Algebra for his son and is asked to procure another for his daughter. One French book did very well for his son, but he must put it on the shelf, and obtain a different one for his daughter. If he should move from one locality to another, he is almost certain to be required to discard a number of books in good condition, and replace them by others which are not a whit better, perhaps inferior.

While no doubt the educational leaders were quite right, in their campaign a year or two ago, in seeking to impress the people in rural districts with the fact that the main reason for the inefficiency of their schools was their unwillingness to pay for education as they should, the fact should be considered by these leaders themselves, that if they would remove from the list all unnecessary text-books, the people would have more money to spend on teachers' salaries. They should also consider that the purchasing of so many books tends to discourage the ratepayers, and to lead them to feel that they must save either by engaging low-salaried teachers, or by shortening the teaching term.

If the committee authorized only one text-book, or one graded set of books, and let it stand until there was some good reason for a change, then a book could descend from one member of a family to another, and parents, even with a large family, could educate their children without feeling school books to be the burden they are at present. And if but one book were authorized in each subject in each grade, the committee could require the publisher to furnish his books at a lower cost, as the publisher would have the whole field for his sales.

The reply may be made to all this, that regulation 140 of the Protestant Committee reads: 'A revision of the authorized text-books shall be made once in every four years. Each school board shall, during the year following each revision, select from the authorized books a list of text-books for use in the municipality, naming one book, or one graded set of books for each subject in the course of study, and shall insist upon their use in the schools in the municipality to the exclusion of all others.' But is not this simply an effort on the part of learned men to throw the responsibility of deciding between rival text-books upon uneducated farmers, who do not claim to have any qualification for this work? They may consult the inspectors, it is true, but is it right for the Protestant Committee to require local boards to bear the responsibility for a work which they are not qualified to perform, and of the merits of which, when done by others, they are not in a position to judge, and which the Protestant Committee itself could easily perform? Apart from this aspect of the question, we have the serious fact that the plan is working badly, and is a practical failure. To the knowledge of the writer, many boards do not know that such a regulation exists, and others which may have heard of it have forgotten it or have neglected it, and the result is that in many rural schools, every change of teachers is liable to involve a change of text-books. Why do not the proper authorities, who could do it with a stroke of the pen, wipe out this evil, and put an end to all this confusion and needless expense? The rival books are often not of equal merit, and the question is surely deserving of consideration whether the committee's action in authorizing an inferior book, and thus putting it into the hands of the pupils, when it has a superior book at its command, can be defended on moral grounds.

The committee is composed of honorable men, but the reasons which have led them to adopt this course with respect to text-books, I confess, escapes my apprehension, and as one of the sufferers I raise my voice to protest.

HUGH C. SUTHERLAND.

Kingsbury, Que.

IS YOUR WIFE BAD TEMPERED?

Chances are, she has corns that ache like fury. Buy her a bottle of Putnam's Corn Extractor. It acts painlessly, gives instant relief, and cures every old kind of corn. Insist on getting only Putnam's.

FOR READERS' CONSIDERATION.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—As the holiday season is near, with many things to divert attention, the writer would ask your large clientele's thoughtful reading now of the paragraphs which follow:—

From the Glasgow 'Citizen' of 16th ult.: 'In the building up of many empires, agriculture has in the first instance been the cause of their rise, and its decline has run parallel with their fall.'

Then we find in the 'Times,' of London (England) recently, these remarks: 'The United States has vast natural wealth, and it has, which is still more valuable, an enterprising, energetic and hard-working population. The only thing that can possibly imperil its prosperity is that the country should fail to realize how dangerous to any community is the rule of plutocrats, utterly unscrupulous, and whose business it is to prey on legitimate industry.'

It is significant, Mr. Editor, that the influential 'Globe' newspaper, of New York, in its issue of Nov. 26, contains these remarks by its able editor: 'What defence can be made for tariff schedules whose net effect is to oppress and suppress American industry: which, if they are to be credited with making employment for fifty or a hundred thousand Americans, are to be debited with preventing the employment of a million working men?'

The best reference as to conditions brought about by excessive tariffs is that a workman's wife in Melbourne, Australia, wishing to buy boots for five children, was asked four shillings and ninepence a pair—previous price, one shilling and elevenpence—so that she could not purchase. This last incident is related in the 'Christian World' of London, of Nov. 14.

Will our manufacturers reflect on the various proofs given of oppression of consumers by excessive protection? and patriotically consider the evil results of manifestly retarding our country's progress.

D. C. BARKER.

Montreal, Dec. 10.

NAMES.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Is it not the good old English custom to use either both initials or both Christian names, as W. E. Gladstone, or William Ewart Gladstone, J. S. Mill, or John Stuart Mill? The second surname sometimes is convenient for distinction in post-office address, etc. My grandfather was Charles, my father, Charles, Senior and junior did for them. But my son being Charles, too, a second name or initial became useful. Then the second name sometimes serves to identify the distaff side of the family, as, for instance, my own case. I am the only male descendant of my maternal grandfather bearing his name, and hence sign my full name, which is not

LONG DOD DOBBIN.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—The article on 'Public speakers' published in the 'Witness,' and taken from the 'Saturday Review,' contains some preposterous assertions. For example, the students of history and eloquence will be astonished to hear that 'Of Pitt, Fox and Sheridan we know too little to say; if we were to judge by the valueless reports of their speeches they were neither orators nor debaters.' The author of this remark is quite correct in the declaration of ignorance so far as he himself is concerned, but there is abundance of good evidence as to the oratorical powers of these mighty figures and expert testimony also as to the class represented by each. For William Pitt, the elder, we have, for instance, the very clear evidence of Grattan. Pitt was an orator of the very first order. As to Sheridan, there is a consensus of contemporary opinion that his oration in the House of Commons on the Begum charge was the greatest single speech ever there delivered. Sheridan was something of a debater too, and is well defined by Macaulay as the English Hyperides. But the inaccuracy and absurdity of the statement reach a climax when we consider the case of Fox. It is one of the commonplaces of oratorical history that Fox was the supreme representative of the pure debating style. Not to know this shows lamentable ignorance of the subject. There is excellent evidence, too, of Fox's powers in his famous speech on the Westminster Scrutiny, which was well reported.

The article has the usual English fault of an outlook confined to England. It is very questionable whether Bright was 'the greatest orator of the nineteenth century,' as the writer asserts. I think Daniel Webster would prove a strong competitor before an international tribunal. In fact, 'The Reply to Hayne' is probably the greatest speech of the nineteenth century if we consider both rhetorical merit and popular influence. The subject of course is a vast one, but I felt bound to protest against the gross errors of the article referred to.

W. P. REEVE.

The Rectory, Kemptville, Ont.

AN OUT-AND-OUTER.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Once at a public dinner in New York, Henry Ward Beecher spoke in an apologizing way as to how he became a preacher. Some one hearing of this said if his father, the Rev. Lyman Beecher, were living he would have said, 'What made me put Henry into the ministry?' In my estimation for the 'Witness' I have advocated its merits at all suitable times, and did so once at a religious meeting, urging the people to support it, but after reading your note to the brief but pertinent letter of the Rev. G. W. Fisher, of Nov. 30, I decide it is not best to canonize the 'Witness' yet, for I see in that note a veritable red herring. Pray, who is Dr. Workman, and who is Dr. Shaw? Do they speak ex-cathedra? Are they the oracles of Methodism? Nay, verily, we have Wesley, Clarke, Benson and Fletcher—not all Methodist preachers truly, but all acknowledged exponents of Methodist doctrine. 'There were requirements in the Methodist discipline which had become a dead letter'—not the words of a live Methodist surely! I find no difficulty in living up to the Discipline or the Bible. The Methodist Church may backslide in toto; it may change its tenets and change its name, as it seems likely to, but the doctrines of the Methodist fathers will live, because they are founded on the Word of God. All praise to the Rev. George W. Fisher when he says, 'When I cannot do this sincerely and fully, I will tender my resignation to the Methodist Church.'

G. M. WHITNEY.

Prescott, Ont.

The note in question was simply a statement of the published expressions of Dr. Shaw and Dr. Workman on the relations of the Methodist teacher to the standards of the church.

THE MOTOR CAR.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—If the motor cars have come to stay the more's the pity. For my part I sincerely wish they would stay within the limits of the towns and cities in which their owners live. It is conceivable they might serve a useful purpose as a means of locomotion on city streets. In the country they are an unmitigated nuisance. In the city their speed can be regulated and kept within safe limits. In the country they go as their owners or drivers please, and are a constant menace to life and property. They are the cause of innumerable runaway accidents in every part of the country, and when horses are not so much frightened as to run away, the occupants of the vehicles are often very much alarmed, and not without reason either. There are every day in summer hundreds of women and old people, and other timid folk in Canada who are filled with fear and exposed to danger while driving into neighboring towns for business or pleasure, by the uncanny vehicles.

Probably a hundred people are alarmed for every serious accident that happens, but there are no doubt many accidents that are never reported in newspapers. It is only for the most part when an accident is serious, when bones are broken or a human life is lost that the matter comes to the knowledge of reporters. Many a horse is permanently injured, and many a rig smashed which never comes to the knowledge of newspaper readers. These vehicles are not in the least necessary in Canada, and can really serve no useful purpose outside of large cities and towns. When driven beyond a certain moderate rate of speed—say eight or ten miles an hour—they are necessarily a source of danger to people driving on the roads, and also to the children of families living by the roadside. As it is impossible to regulate their speed in the country, municipalities ought to be given power to prohibit their entry within the limits of their jurisdiction.

If the speed of the vehicles could be kept within safe limits and were rigorously so kept, the passion for them would speedily die a natural death. Not that the love of speed is an innate principle in human nature. I do not see any necessity to suppose that to be the case. There is, of course, a certain pleasurable sensation in being whisked through the air at the speed of a bird's flight, but that, I fancy, by no means accounts for the motor car craze. There is a rage for the motor car because it appeals to well-known and powerful passion of human nature. The desire to get, Dr. Osler says, is one of the primal passions of human nature. At all events it is one of the strongest of those passions. But the motor car is an expensive luxury. That surely could not appeal to the passion for acquisition. That is by no means so certain. A motor car must be an exceedingly good advertisement for a business or professional man. Shrewd business men will be quick to perceive the possible advantage of these vehicles in this direction. But a high rate of speed will be necessary to give value to this advertisement. Hence the temptation to go 'scorching' through the country at the rate of thirty or forty miles an hour.

But the motor car is also a novel luxury and appeals to the vulgar love of display, which is also a powerful and a common passion of human nature. It is obvious that no wise Christian man would wish to possess one of these vehicles from motives like these. The motor car ministers to the selfish and unworthy passions of human nature. It endangers the lives and property and interferes with the chief recreation of the multitudes who live in the country and produce the greater part of its wealth. Therefore we can have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that these vehicles if not prohibited, should be discouraged by the imposition of heavy taxes, which would have the effect of strictly limiting their numbers. Or if the motorists must be allowed to have their favorite amusement, let them put their hands in their pockets and build their own roads, on which they may indulge themselves to their hearts' content in the pleasures they love so well.

Mindful of the editorial warning against prolixity, I will stop here for the present.

AGRICOLA.

Manitoba, Dec. 2.

'EXTRAORDINARY PREACHING.'

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. H. J. Munro, writing on 'Extraordinary Preaching' opens up a subject on which, though much has been said of late through the columns of your paper and elsewhere, much still remains to be said. Further, it is a subject of vital importance in that it is so intimately related to our faith, which is the equivalent of belief. Our belief is the greatest possible factor in the determining of our actions: our actions in turn infallibly mould our character, and in the natural, and we might say visible, working out of God's law, character will spell destiny. Thus we draw the conclusion that the matter under discussion is one of the utmost importance.

Many of our orthodox friends deplore the fact that religious and other papers allow letters to appear in their columns discussing the 'pros' and 'cons' of the "New Theology," and of present day tendencies in the matter of religious belief and so on, but this is a mistake, for truth has never won any of its victories through concealment, and further the thinking man must feel that he has common-sense behind his faith if that faith is to be worthy of the name and exert any influence in his life.

The critical attitude of so many thinkers of to-day towards the Bible is looked upon as a matter of regret by many, as is witnessed by Mr. Munro's remarks when he says, 'I regret to see the churches falling away from the old time religion.' Right here I would take issue with him. Does he think that the past generations acquired a monopoly of all truth, and all we have to do is to take our knowledge second hand; be the 'heirs of all the ages' as it were? I say it is one of the most hopeful signs of the times that we are not willing to do this, but are endeavoring, in so far as is possible, to give a reason for the faith that is in us. It is the custom of all defenders of the 'old time religion' to assert their belief in the progress and development of that religion and at the same time hold to exactly the same ideas as their forefathers did a hundred years ago. The two things are incompatible. A process of evolution and development is at work in the spiritual as well as in the physical world, and it is impossible for the fair-minded observer, in looking back over the history of the ages, not to see this in the various religious movements of which we have knowledge. Does Mr. Munro not think that the orthodox churchman of the time of Martin Luther regretted to see the church 'falling away from the old time religion.' And who was ever opposed more bitterly than was Christ by the orthodox of his time, because as a 'theological leader' he departed from the teaching of the belief of that day. So in all honesty I would say that I believe the present unrest, and tendency to doubt that which does not accord with reason and experience, is just as much due to the working out of the Divine will and purpose as were any of our reformations or revolutions of the past.

Just a word in regard to what Mr. Munro says about the teachings of the "New Theologians." "No sin, no hell, no one is converted." Now I am not in a position to say that Mr. Munro did not hear some modern preacher say that, in exactly the way he gives it to us, but I can say most emphatically that those words give a most unfair impression of the views held by higher critics as a class. In the first place, as to 'sin' and its unreality. I think Mr. Munro is laboring under a misapprehension of the definition given by some modern theologians, that sin has no reality, being really the absence of good or righteousness. This is not very clear and a misunderstanding of it is excusable. Now though a man may believe that sin is merely the absence of good he may at the same time have a very keen sense of the ruin that that 'absence of good' is working in the world to-day. But to say that any man denies the fact of sin in the general acceptance of the term is equivalent to saying that he is not endowed with common-sense.

Secondly, as to disbelief in future punishment. The general view held by the orthodox is that this punishment is everlasting. Those who cannot hold this view do not think of it as of necessity being eternal, but look upon it as being of a curative rather than of a vengeful nature. It is simply the punishment of a loving father inflicted on his child, and, drawing on earthly experience, I think we have good warrant for holding to this view of the case.

Thirdly, as to conversion. When a man who has been travelling upon the wrong road finds out his mistake, and turns around and goes in an opposite direction, I think his position can be likened to the man who in the true sense of the term is 'converted.' It is simply a turning around and retracing one's steps. A turning from wrong to right. This is the view held by the Higher Critic and is the conversion taught by Christ when he said, 'Keep the commandments. This do and thou shalt live.'

Christ made the doing of right the prime requisite, and it is to this standard we are trying to attain. For in spite of all that may be said to the contrary we look on Christ not only as our leader and example, but as he in whom God the Father is revealing himself to his children here on earth and through whom it is His purpose to bring the world to a knowledge of all truth.

J. E. McINTOSH.

Breadalbane, Ont., Dec. 5, 1907.

JEWISH EXEGESIS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—With your kind permission, Mr. Editor, I should like to say a few words in reply to Mr. Hynes's letter of the 30th ult. He quotes too many passages of Scripture to answer them all through a public medium, so I will confine my remarks to two, the 'Paschal Lamb' and 'Isaiah i., 4, 5, 6.'

Mr. Hynes starts out with the expressions of gratitude to the Jew. I understand his gratitude rests on the fact that the Jews, through thousands of years of persecution, preserved untarnished and unchanged that grand old book, 'the Bible.' I do not think, Mr. Editor, that any gratitude is due the Jew for it. When a man possesses a jewel and he in kindness of heart gives it to a fellow man, he, I think, deserves from the recipient some token of gratitude. The Jew, however, has not parted with that jewel. While other nations have been making and remaking new versions of it, the Jew still holds to the original as handed to him at the foot of the Mount, and, not having parted with it, no gratitude is sought by him.

Mr. Hynes would have the Jew reconcile the Passover Lamb and the Lamb of Bethlehem as typifying one another. In Egypt every household killed a lamb, on Mount Calvary one Lamb sufficed. In Egypt the Lamb was eaten, the purtenance was burned to ashes, the blood was desecrated, smeared on the door-posts, walked upon and exposed to view and scorn. The Lamb of the cross took his body up again; his blood is a consecration, his memory a salvation. (I am giving the Christian version). The Lamb of Egypt was to teach the Jew that there is nothing supernatural, nothing godlike in living things; the Lamb of Calvary teaches that there is. To a Jewish mind the reconciliation of one to the other is impossible. Assuming that the destroying angel required a mark or sign to distinguish the Jew from the Egyptian, that mark would have been given the Jew prior to the visitation of the first plagues.

Does it not appear strange that the destroying angel should know the Jewish well, his water and his pot? Even the frog, the vermin, the locust, the hail and the wild beasts knew the Jewish house, their flock, their vineyard, and their field. The Jew was immune from all the nine plagues, and, at the advent of the tenth plague, that the Essence of All wisdom, the ever-seeing Eye of the Creator himself should require a mark or sign to distinguish the Jew from the idolator is unthinkable.

Mr. Hynes will ask—what of the Passover Lamb? I must now take him back with me to Egypt, where he will find the first trinity on history's record, namely, the Sun, the Moon and the Nile. The Moon controlled the tide, the Nile irrigated the soil, the Sun caused growth, hence the God of plenty in a trinity.

We also find among the lower strata of society, animals were worshipped, especially sheep, 'for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians,' Gen. xlvi., 34.

When Jacob was departing from Shechem for Bethel, he ordered his household to put away their strange gods and be clean. "Gen. 35, 2." Moses on the eve of their departure ordered the household of Israel to likewise put away their strange god that they had become accustomed to worshipping in Egypt. He ordered that the most cardinal deity, 'the lamb,' be slain, its life, the blood, be desecrated and exposed to view, the meat to be eaten, the head, legs and purtenance to be burned, nothing was to be left for the morrow, an end had to be made of this thing that was worshipped as a deity, and at the moment of their departure they eat it, with their loins girded, their shoes on their feet, their staff in their hand. The last sign was to meet them at the threshold, the blood; that not only will God not avenge the blood of the lamb, but that he would execute judgment against the gods that night, and he would pass over the blood of the lamb, 'for I will pass through the land of Egypt this night and will smite all first born (the pass-over lamb had to be first born), man and beast, and against all the gods of Egypt will I execute judgment. I am the Lord, and the blood shall be to you for a token (not only in Egypt), but in the house where you are, and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you.' Exodus, 12, 12-13.

We find the worshippers of idolatry punished by plague and those that died in the plague were twenty-and-four-thousand. (Numbers 25 x 9). Mr. Hynes quotes, 'Isaiah' 1st, 4-5-6, 'the ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib, but Israel knows not, my people do not understand.' The people worshipped the gods of their neighbors, hence this rebuke. The same rebuke holds good to-day with other nations.

In the very near future thousands of bells will send forth chimes of glad tidings, peace and good will, to the children of men, millions of tongues will proclaim it, thousands of organs will resound it. Would to God that it had a true ring in it! I do not wish to be understood as accusing all men professing Christianity and not practicing it. I take from the point of argument the people as a whole professing that faith, and behold I hear a sound mightier than the Christmas tidings of love and good will, the sound of anvils, the din of machinery in the arsenals and Navy Yards of the Christian nations, and when my mind carries me back a few years to Homestead, Pa., I hear the rattle of musketry, the groans of the dying, the shrieks of the widow, the cry of the orphan, on the one hand the more recent assassination and scandals of the Western Federation of Miners; on the other hand the scandals of the packing houses of Chicago; the mergers of railways and trusts; the life insurance companies' scandals; the recent suicides of so many bankers to the south of us, many who were pillars of the church and superintendents of Sunday schools. And what do we find nearer home—the saving of gold and the sacrificing of life on every hand; the Hochelaga School calamity and the Quebec bridge tragedy are but two of the many instances as a result of the worship of the golden calf. If Christ was to appear among us to-day, what would his first words be, but 'the ox knoweth his owner, the ass his master's crib, but Israel who professes my faith know not, my people do not understand.' Verily it is the many against the few, the strong against the weak, capital against labor, nation against nation. Would to God the chimes of glad tidings at this season had a true Christian ring in them; but when men like the late Dr. Steen, Professor Crapsey, Dr. Campbell and Dr. Workman dared, when men like Mr. MacBride come out unbridled on the platform, in the pulpit and in the press, then there is hope indeed.

The Jew, Mr. Editor, does not wish every man to become a Jew, but what he does hope for is to see every man obey the dictates of his faith. Mr. Brown would have the vineyard of the Lord planted with nothing but thistles and heather; the Jew maintains that the vineyard is the more beautiful when intermixed with the fragrance of the lily of the valley, the rose, the shamrock and the thistle.

BAR BEN ZION.

Montreal, Dec. 12, 1907.

PROFESSOR MACBRIDE AND METHODISM.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Professor MacBride has submitted a question to the Methodist Church, and, lest silence might lead some people to think no answer can be made, permit me through your paper to offer a reply, though we realize it is rather presumptuous for any person to assume to speak for either the Methodist Church or the board of governors, which acted in her behalf in the Workman case.

Professor MacBride asks what is to be gained by this action.

Well, the Professor himself has indicated one thing to be gained. At the outset he admits that the 'opponents' of Dr. Workman have proved that he diverges widely from the teachings of the Methodist Church. Very good. But that is the thing Dr. Workman does not admit. Even Professor MacBride, who is not versed in theology, can discern Dr. Workman's divergence. Then so much has been gained. A teacher who is engaged to teach the Methodist doctrines is not discharging the work for which he was employed. The teacher's services are dispensed with. The board of governors have only discharged the trust committed to them by the Methodist Church because the teacher did not, in their judgment, fulfil the trust committed to him. Integrity to trust is no small matter in this age.

But Professor MacBride evidently thinks the Methodist Church should not require such views to be taught. Well, the Methodist Church is the best judge of what she wants, and when she wishes to change her teachings there is a constitutional method by which it can be done. But so far there has not been an agitation in Methodism to ask for the revision of her confession of faith. If Methodism is throwing herself 'across the stream of progressive thought' then she has always done so, for most of these ideas for which Professor MacBride seems to contend were live questions in the day when Methodism arose, and she has met them in and out of her communion ever since. Notwithstanding this, Methodism has had a remarkable career, and by her peculiar doctrines has been a recognized moral and spiritual force in the world. When 'progressive thought' vindicates itself in a similar way and in a superior degree, Methodism will be versatile enough to borrow its teachings. For the present it needs no Index Expurgatorius, because it is a voluntary system. Every Methodist comes into the communion with a free choice, and when he so far differs from us as to want a more congenial fellowship, he just as freely goes out without excommunication or anathema, without bitterness from his erstwhile brethren, or even the loss of their respect. The same liberty is also the privilege of her ministers, as numerous instances show.

Professor MacBride's excursion into the realm of theology, however, deserves some attention. The Professor says: 'An inspection of the table of heretical opinions held by Dr. Workman, which was published by the committee who condemned him, shows that they contain nothing which is not a mere commonplace with scholars and men of science at the present day.' If he means by this that every scholar and man of science holds the same views as Dr. Workman, then the Professor is making a more sweeping assertion than he can substantiate. But perhaps he means us to turn it over and infer that he would not regard any person as a scholar or man of science who opposed those views. Fortunately the scholarship of the many great men who believe the doctrines of the orthodox church will not rise or fall upon the judgment of one man.

The Professor has not made a necessary theological distinction when he asserts that Dr. Workman was condemned for not believing in 'the inheritance of guilt through Adam.' The inheritance of guilt is not taught in the denomination in which Dr. Workman was trained, nor was it mentioned in the report of the committee. Another glance at the report will show the Professor that the committee concluded Dr. Workman did not believe in inherited depravity—which is quite a different thing.

The fact that a form of the story of Adam and Eve appears in the early Babylonian literature does not prove it to be a myth. It may yet be found to be much older than Babylonian literature, and if so, it will strengthen the credence that this story has its origin in some reality. Its place in Babylonian literature does not lessen its value as an explanation of a great fact in human experience. When the Professor tells us why this story was 'invented,' we must beg to differ from him. The phenomenon that has puzzled man most is not the struggle between the spiritual and animal natures within him,' but a war within his spiritual nature—the sense of right struggling against a deeply-rooted impulse to evil. It is that awful fact of depravity, which men who study humanity with other than biological interest know to be very real, that must have explanation. It never has been satisfactorily explained by relating it to man's animal nature. So almost all scholars in all branches of the orthodox church hold that the progenitors of the human race fell from a state of innocence to a state of sinfulness, and that depravity passes by inheritance to all their descendants. When a better explanation of the fact of depravity is found it will likely be accepted by the Christian Church. At all events it strikes us as rather extreme for any person to say with an air of finality that the story was invented at such and such a time for such and such a purpose. Even if the guess that the antiquity of the human race reaches back for forty of fifty thousand years should be certainly ascertained by physical science the only bearing it could have upon the question would be to put the problem of man's depravity back to that antiquity.

The psychological explanation for the doctrine of the virgin birth which Pro-

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fessor MacBride offers, never entered seriously into the thought of the Church, or, if it did, it is not reflected in the literature that has come down to us. It has always been recognized that belief in the incarnation involves some belief in a miraculous birth. For a pre-existent being to come into human nature there must be such a departure from the course of nature as to be miraculous. If we reject the miraculous in the introduction of the Son of God into our race, we must reject any true conception of the Incarnation. The Church has ever recognized that the virgin birth in itself does not guarantee our Saviour's freedom from depravity as a human being. But that miraculous birth was ever regarded as a divine attestation of the supernatural character of the being known as the Son of God, and a proof that miraculous power had given a second Adam to our race who, as a sinless being, could be a perfect representation of God to man and of man to God. When we find that parthenogenesis occurs in lower orders of life it is not irrational to believe that it could occur in the human species under the power and will of an immanent God, who had an exalted moral purpose, in such an event.

But the two points Professor MacBride has mentioned are not the most vital issues between Dr. Workman and the Methodist Church. It was but natural for Professor MacBride to draw aside the discussion to the positions where he could enter more legitimately as a critic, but the most serious matter is Dr. Workman's views on the Deity of our Lord and his atoning sacrifice. The Methodist people have the audacity to believe that these doctrines are essential to the Christian religion. Without these Methodism has no mission to the world.

We know the questions of the incarnation, the deity of Jesus, his atoning work and resurrection rest on the credibility of the miraculous. Some minds reject the miraculous. It was so in the first century of Christianity. It will likely be so in the last century of human history. But with the great mass of the Methodist people we find that they accept the miraculous, and they even claim to have verified his deity in finding through him the forgiveness of sins, and to have experienced a new miracle in the regeneration of their moral nature by faith in the atonement and the incoming of the Holy Spirit. It was this experience, based on these great truths, accepted by faith, which called the Methodist Church into being and alone justifies her individual place in the family of churches. The Methodist people will not allow any of their teachers to break down faith in the sublime truths which led them into light and life and joy.

When Professor MacBride suggests that the theological students of Methodism will go out to spread these new views—which, by the way, are not new in any particular—he little understands the spirit of our students. Our students have too high an ethical standard to take the wages of Methodism and undermine her cherished beliefs. They have, too, that touch of the heroic that when they get a different vision of truth and it becomes a great conviction, they will walk out of Methodism, appeal to the multitude and organize a new reformation. Whenever that occurs those who remain in the old church and the old faith will have liberality enough to admire their spirit and bid them God-speed. But we prefer to think that all of our students have so verified the miraculous in their own experience that they have a great conviction and a great message to carry to men. They know also that faith in the miraculous entered into the life of such men as Newton and Faraday and Agassiz and Sir William Dawson, men whose names will live in history for their immense contributions to human thought, and they will not be ashamed to confess the faith which helped to make these men great.

CURTIUS.

PROF. McBRIDE'S VIEWS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—It is startling news indeed to learn on the authority of Professor McBride that 'every well-read person knows that the whole story of Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden is a Babylonian Myth, with no historical foundation whatever.'

Dr. Julius Oppert, justly characterized as one of the greatest of modern Assyriologists, a few years ago criticized in the Jewish 'Chronicle,' Professor Friedrich Delitzsch's remarks on 'Babel und Bibel' in the following trenchant fashion:

'According to Professor Delitzsch everything is Babylonian. The legends of the creation, the Deluge, the institution of the Sabbath, the feasts, all came from Chaldea. The Mosaic Law is indebted for all its contents, to which the terms moral and great may be applied, to Assyria and Babylon; only the human and objectionable parts belong to Israel. Even the idea of the existence of one only God is assigned to Babylon, and all these assumptions or assertions, which are false and rest on no historic foundation, are sent forth to the world, while nearly everything that proves the contrary is ignored.'

Dr. Wace and Professor Orr are tolerably 'well read persons,' yet, oddly enough, they entirely differ from Professor MacBride. It is time that the immature students in our colleges knew that it is the modern critics who in many cases are the 'obscurantists' and 'belated survivals.' The alleged 'assured results' of the higher criticism have again and again been shown to be absurdly exaggerated, and Bishop Welldon has not hesitated to characterize the Encyclopaedia Biblica as 'that monument of learned folly.'

In the realm of theology who is more worthy to be heard than that most reverent and profound scholar, the late Bishop Westcott? Some weighty words of his are quoted by Canon Randolph, which bear impressively upon the virgin birth of our Lord. 'I tried vainly,' Westcott said, 'to read ——'s book. He seems to me to deny the virgin birth. In other words, he makes the Lord a man, one man in the race, and not the new man, in whom the race is gathered up. To put the thought in another and a technical form, he makes the Lord's personality human, which is, I think, a fatal error.'

In this connection Professor Orr's new book on the virgin birth is a masterly treatise, which cannot be too highly commended to those who desire to be 'well read' on this vitally important question. The saddest part of the so-called higher criticism is its tendency to rob the Christ of his godhead and his cross of its chief glory as God's atonement in our nature for the sin of the world.

G. OSBORNE TROOP.

St. Martin's Rectory, Dec. 7, 1907.

THE WORKMAN CONTROVERSY.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Many years ago I read an interesting allegorical book called 'The Holy War made by Shoddai upon Diabolus,' for the recovery of the town of Mansoul.' The town of Mansoul had originally belonged to Shoddai, but his enemy, Diabolus, had by means of fair speeches and false promises induced the townspeople to renounce their allegiance to their rightful sovereign, Shoddai, and accept the rule of his enemy, Diabolus. This state of things continued for some length of time, but at last Shoddai sent his son, Prince Emmanuel, with a powerful army to recover Mansoul from the rule of the usurper. Diabolus, at the head of the people of Mansoul, made a stout resistance to the besieging army, but, at length, he was forced to surrender and depart into his own country. But before capitulating he endeavored to make terms with Prince Emmanuel by which he hoped to gain the privilege of visiting the town occasionally to confer with his friends who still remained concealed in their hiding places in the dark lanes of the town of Mansoul. Prince Emmanuel refused to make any compromising terms with the usurper; consequently, he had to depart 'to inherit the parched places in a salt land, seeking rest but finding none.'

But although Diabolus was banished, there still remained many of his followers lurking in Mansoul, and one of these, named Carnal Security, managed to ingratiate himself with many of the citizens of Mansoul to such an extent that they were almost ready to forswear their allegiance to Prince Emmanuel and send an invitation to the tyrant Diabolus to return to Mansoul, which Prince Emmanuel had now left, because of their cold indifference to his benignant rule. Diabolus, seeing that things were turning in his favor, gathered a large army of Doubters and Bloodmen and came and laid siege to Mansoul and very nearly succeeded in capturing it. But the inhabitants of Mansoul having repented of their cold treatment of their rightful ruler, Prince Emmanuel, sent an embassy to the prince earnestly entreating him to return and deliver them from the assaults of the enemy, which in course of time he did, and Diabolus and his army had to raise the siege and flee for their lives, many of them being taken prisoners. Prince Emmanuel having fully re-established the sovereignty of Shoddai over the town of Mansoul, gave directions that all the Diabolonians who still lurked in Mansoul should be arrested, tried, executed or expelled from the town. And this having been done, the town was peaceful and prosperous ever afterwards.

There seems to be a lesson here which the authorities of the good old Methodist Church would do well to lay to heart, of the danger of compromising with the worldly-wise people who, having renounced the old gospel of the three R's—Ruin by the fall, Redemption by Jesus Christ, and Regeneration by the Holy Spirit—taught by the sainted Wesley, are anxious to still continue in the bosom of that orthodox church that they might be the better enabled to draw away good methodists after another gospel. Man may know the beginning of declension, but who can tell where it will end?

A word to the wise is sufficient, etc.

DAVID CURRIE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—As a lay member of the Methodist Church, I have read with much interest the various letters on the 'Workman Controversy,' and would request that you allow me space in your columns to answer briefly to the letter of Professor MacBride which appeared in your issue of the 7th inst. He says concerning Dr. Workman, "We are told he had 'magnetic power' over all his students, that indeed his pupils were unanimous in his praise." The same compliment might have been paid the noted Ingersoll who had had conferred on him by nature most admirable qualities of mind and heart which made him popular apart from his anti-religious views. This statement of Professor MacBride is no proof that the teachings of Dr. Workman were popular, but merely the man himself. The man and not the 'New Theology' was the 'magnetic power.'

Again he says, "Is it likely that the opinions of these students will be altered through the action of the Governors? When they become graduates they will carry their opinions far and wide through Canada."

I venture to predict that none of our Methodist preachers who are imbued with these teachings will ever get an opportunity of going far and wide through Canada, but that each one will be premonitorily located. Professor MacBride was right in stating that 'The graduates of the Methodist College are not sent to preach to intellectual helots, but to a people who are intelligent and wide awake.' He might have added "and capable of discerning between 'Rationalism' and 'Orthodoxy.'"

Again he states, "With regard to the inheritance of guilt through Adam, every well read person knows that the whole story of Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden is a Babylonian Myth with no historical foundation whatever."

The late lamented Sir William Dawson claimed 'that the Bible was inspired literally.' Had he been as well read as the "scholars and men of science of the present day," he would have certainly discovered his mistake.

It would be a rude awakening to the laity of the Methodist Church to learn from their newly fledged preachers that Wesley and the long list of saintly and scholarly servants of the church were so dense mentally that they did not perceive that the stories of the Bible were Myths and legends and that 'The whole Theological point of the story of the Virgin birth' has fallen to the ground.' The 'intelligent and wide awake' congregations of the Methodist Church will never submit to such teaching.

Again Professor MacBride says "When the premises are doubtful what logical force have the conclusions?" Here is his greatest mistake. The premises are as true as 'The Eternal.'

Not a single orthodox Methodist has the slightest doubts of the 'premises.'

They have, however, most decided doubts on the 'premises' of the New Theology and in Professor MacBride's own words 'What logical force have the conclusions?'

I cannot believe with the learned professor that the 'New Theology' is the child of profound scholarship or of deep piety, but rather the offspring of a conceited egotism, and I venture to assure him that the laity of the Methodist Church will be found no less pronounced against the mischievous and baneful teaching than the leaders themselves.

C. W. FORD.

Lachine, Que.

THE WORKMAN CONTROVERSY AND THE CREATION MYTH.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—By his letter, in which he vindicates the claims of reason and common sense in all matters religious, Prof. MacBride appears to have raised the question above the merely subjective and dogmatic level into the ampler region of science and history. Believing that his letter will be welcomed by many of all denominations, who would like to have a fuller justification for his statements, especially in reference to the creation myth, I venture to supplement the same in one or two particulars. I cannot assent to his physiological heresy hypothesis re the Virgin Birth on purely Semitic grounds, but space compels me to confine myself to his first point.

'The new views,' he writes, 'are streaming into Canada through the secular press more and more.' This, no doubt, is the case, and it is of high importance with a view to accelerating the process to see to it at the beginning that the true is carefully sifted from the false, the certain from the uncertain, and that the real and permanent results of science and scholarship are laid before the public as convincingly as possible, that is to say, with that degree of candor, courtesy, accuracy, discrimination and lack of exaggeration which all truth merits, and which none the less so rarely characterizes the advocacy of new truths, and the lack of which so frequently hinders their recognition and acceptance by the more religious public.

I shall endeavor to supplement my colleague's statements by proposing and answering the following questions: (1) What is a myth? (2) Is there more than one Semitic creation myth? (3) Is the story of Adam and Eve a Babylonian myth? (4) What bearing have the Tell-el-Amarna documents on the subject?

I. What, then, is the meaning of the word myth? To many earnest-minded people who have never asked themselves this question, the application of the term myth to the Biblical record gives needless offence. At the back of the mind of such an one there generally lurks the false assumption that the myth is something utterly devoid of all historical antecedents and reality. To such a one 'myth' appears to be the direct antithesis of 'truth.' But surely this is a loose, popular and unjustifiable mode of perverting the sense of a beautiful and invaluable word. For the antithesis of myth in primitive society is not 'truth,' but rather 'legend.' The legend, as it has been pointed out, is primarily concerned with outward facts, with concrete and objective things, and has a tendency to pass beyond the circumstances which gave it birth, and to assume an independence and irresponsibility of its own. But the case is very different with the myth which moves first and last in the circle of ideas, is properly concerned with the apprehension and comprehension of facts as inward realities, as subjective intuitions and verities. It is true they have a common starting point in 'the unconscious embodiments of popular feeling,' but after that they pursue divergent paths. Is, then, the creative record of Genesis a legend? Has it a primary relation to outward facts in and for themselves? Certainly not; it is rather a sublime and genuine myth since it has primary relation to inward and spiritual intuitions, ideas and verities, based upon facts of mind, no whit less real than the facts of physical science, facts so contemplated in their embodiment as to comprehend more than the facts of any isolated and individual mind, revealing as they do facts and verities completely transcending the limitations of time, place and nationality, being as acceptable to human reason to-day as they were originally: facts which in spite of the splendid achievements and interpretation of science in its manifold ramifications have nowhere found a sublimer and profounder interpretation. 'There is nothing great in the world but man, there is nothing great in man but mind.'

II. In answering the second question I shall endeavor to show what appears to have been the actual course of early Semitic history. In the infancy of the world, the world of man and not of geology, the Semites no doubt lived together in a common cradle probably for many centuries somewhere within the region of the Nejd of Central Arabia, until natural circumstances, the nature of which is now unknown to us, forced them to push out periodically migrating hordes far away to the north, north-east and south, and south west of the peninsula.

Therefore, each horde began to work out its own destiny in comparative independence of the rest, and under the pressure of its varied vicissitudes and environment gradually enlarged and modified in new directions its primeval stock of words and ideas, coming ultimately upon the stage of history as one of the four great central civilizing groups; (1) the Assyro-Babylonian; (2) the Aramaean; (3) the Canaanitish (including amongst other the Phoenicians and the Hebrews); (4) the Arabian of the north and south (the latter ultimately sending forth the Ethiopian stock), but none of these great hordes after having become fashioned into a nation, can be said to have possessed a complete monopoly of its cradle ideas and myths, each, no doubt, conserved some myths and some particular element in the same myth which others enlarged or diminished or frequently cast into oblivion. When two nations happened to retain the same myth, they had a tendency to modify it in accordance with their peculiar experiences according as the one conquered another or submitted in conquest to another. This process appears to have begun considerably more than twelve thousand years ago, and consequently even in the case of common Semitic myths, it is impossible for us to-day to state precisely what elements in a particular myth are due to separate national destiny, which are modifications due to contact with cognate or foreign nations, with its attendent chain of defeat and victory and all which that implies, and which are a survival of material common to all the original cognate Semitic hordes which they inherited from their common Semitic cradle from the days preceding the dispersion of the Semitic race from Arabia, not to speak of a still earlier probable dispersion from Africa thousands of years before the moulding in Arabia of the essential characteristics of the Semite as such. Of the nations who were most solicitous of handing on their creative myths the Assyrian-Babylonian, the Phoenicians and the Hebrews were the principal; they have given us collectively, at least, five different versions, and no doubt there were dozens more. Those of Babylonia appear to be the most detailed, and those of Israel the most sublime and spiritual.

III. Is, then, the story of the creation and of Adam and Eve and Paradise a Babylonian myth? Is this a complete account of the matter? Stated in this bald shape, I should answer without hesitation no, certainly not, for that were as good as saying the part is greater than the whole. It is most probable that there existed in different parts of the Assyro-Babylonian region alone very various and conflicting cosmological and paradisaical myths, two of such have actually come down to us which reveal astonishing discrepancies and contradictions. The Babylonian record re Paradise is not nearly so full and close when compared with that of Genesis, though the creation record is more detailed. Eduard Meyer, a brilliant German exponent of historical principles, and one of the most radical and recent investigators of Semitic, especially Hebrew origins, insists strongly upon the Phoenician influence on Hebrew myths of this class.

Between the Assyro-Babylonian, Phoenician and Hebrew forms of the same and allied myths there are conspicuous points of similarity and difference, which make it unscientific in the extreme to describe one nation's myths loosely in the terms of another. We cannot, indeed, assign the Genesis myths to any known Babylonian original. None the less there is an element of truth in the question as we shall see directly.

IV. What, then, is the bearing of the Tell-el-Amarna tablets? The Biblical myths cannot be fully explained by reference to Babylon, but the Babylonian elements they do contain are unmistakable, and these in the light of the Tell-el-Amarna discovery of 1877, we need no longer attribute to a direct borrowing from Babylonia. For these documents prove conclusively that centuries before the Hebrews had got beyond the mere migrating horde condition, before Israel had assumed his peculiar role in history, within the limits of Palestine, Assyro-Babylonian civilization and culture had spread across the whole region from Egypt to Persia. What some used to think the Hebrews borrowed directly from Babylon at the exile we know now had been ready at hand in the hearts and the homes of the Canaanite peoples for certainly more than a thousand years before the exile. Lack of space prevents me from writing further on this important discovery, or of pointing out the particular respects in which the Hebrew myths differ from and transcend those of Babylon.

Let me state in conclusion, that in writing this letter I have been actuated by no desire to attack persons, whether critics or anti-critics of this persuasion or of that, but merely to strike at errors in vindicating the claims of reason and truth. In these questions, which are of such high moment to many, there must needs be many wide divergencies of opinion, nor is this undesirable. For, as Milton happily said, 'Where there is much desire to learn, there of necessity will be much arguing, much writing, many opinions; for opinions in good men are but knowledge in the making.' In the name of progress, of science and of faith, I claim for myself, and for every loyal Canadian, in these high matters, 'the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties.'

C. A. BRODIE BROCKWELL.

Dec. 10, 1907.

The sacred bulls of the Hindus are well fed and curried like thoroughbreds several times a day. Every little hair is preserved as a precious souvenir. While the bull is having his hoofs polished a priest superintends the operation, and the spectators walk up and down in holy meditation.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

A Change is Needed.—Through the long winter one needs a change. Why go South when 'The Welland,' St. Catharines, offers an environment at moderate cost which will minister to tired nerves and worn out bodies? Try the tonic influence of 'The St. Catharines Well' and the restful influence of 'The Welland.' Apply the manager, St. Catharines, or any agent of the Grand Trunk Railway system.

BEST BY TEST.

The Combination Oil Cure for Cancer and Tumor has its imitators. Beware of them. Write to-day to the Originator for his free books. Dr. D. M. Bye, 316 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis, Ind.

You cannot possibly have a better Cocoa than

EPPS'S

A delicious drink and a sustaining food. Fragrant, nutritious and economical. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

COCOA

Sold by Grocers and Storekeepers in ½-lb. and ¼-lb Tins.

Zam-Buk

"RUB IT IN"

Zam-Buk is a unique yet perfectly natural treatment for injuries, skin diseases, burns, pains, etc. It is HEALING, SOOTHING and ANTISEPTIC. In the case of a burn, a scald, a deep ulcer or an eczema eaten surface, Zam-Buk causes new skin to grow over the part like new rows of houses erected by an expert builder. Zam-Buk is absolutely pure, made of the saps, juices and aromatic oils got from medicinal herbs, and absolutely free from all animal fat, mercury, zinc, lead or other injurious ingredients so commonly used in the making of salves. To treat ones skin trouble with this pure healing balm means speedy relief from chaps, chafings, cold sores rashes, eruptions, and all forms of skin diseases. KEEP ZAM-BUK HANDY.

Zam-Buk can be obtained from all druggists and stores at 50 cents a box or postpaid on receipt of price from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto. 3 boxes for $1.25.

Local Wholesale Depot, 144 Craig street, West.
Montreal 'Weekly Witness,' Dec. 17, 1907.

BRITISH NEWS

ENGLAND.

About a score of mammoth cotton mills are being erected in Lancashire.

The harvest in Berkshire will prove the best for twenty years past, particularly for wheat and oats.

Mr. Henry Kemble, the well-known actor, and grandson of the great tragedian, Charles Kemble, died the other day.

Burglars cut through a 'burglar-proof' door in a Peckham jeweller's shop and stole several thousand pounds' worth of jewellery.

A cab driver applied at Lambeth Police Court the other day for a summons for the recovery of twopence, the balance of a cab fare. He got it.

By the estimate of the experts of the London Water Board the population of the metropolis will reach eight millions in 1916, and sixteen millions by 1960.

The establishment at Woolwich Arsenal has now been reduced to about eight thousand, as compared with over twenty thousand in 1901.

'I am a silk manufacturer,' said a Macclesfield boy when he was asked by the magistrates what his occupation was. He earns six shillings a week as a silk factory hand.

There are more vacant houses in the East End of London to-day than there have been for twenty years. People prefer to herd together rather than be mulcted in high rents.

A man who was fined at Feltham the other day for carrying a gun without a license, was asked by the constable who stopped him what he was doing with it. He replied, 'I was going to frighten rabbits with it.'

The County Court judge, the Hon. Arthur Russell, died recently at Woking, following an operation for appendicitis. The deceased, who was forty-six, was the eldest son of the late Lord Russell of Killowen.

An imposing memorial is to be erected over the grave of Dr. Barnardo. The work has been entrusted to Mr. George Frampton, R.A., who hopes to have it completed for unveiling on 'Founder's Day' next year.

A piano for Deanhouse workhouse will be provided by Huddersfield Guardians. A Labor member, advocating the purchase, observed that the music would tend to soothe and ease the last moments of the old people.

Though unable to swim, Walter Webster, a corporation boatman, plunged with all his clothes on into the dock at Preston and held up a drowning child until a rope was thrown to him, and both were hauled to safety.

An obviously hungry prisoner, charged with a minor offence at North London Police-court, was 'sentenced' by the magistrate to be taken to the nearest coffee-house and given first a good breakfast and then his liberty.

Judge Edge said at the Clerkenwell County Court that disputes affecting the internal parts of motor-cars were becoming so frequent that he thought of taking a course of technical instruction to help him in deciding them.

His Majesty has received at Buckingham Palace the Swazi chieftains who went to England with the hope of settling a number of outstanding questions connected with tribes' funds and mode of government.

In eighty school-gardens in Surrey practical instruction in horticulture has been given to children during the past season. Nearly 3,000 separate crops were grown in the twelve gardens in connection with the continuation school centres.

Mr. Grindell Matthews, of Bexhill, claims that he can by wireless control send a torpedo from any part of the coast, control it, explode it when desired, and bring it back to its starting point if necessary. He hopes to demonstrate before Admiralty officials shortly.

Before St. Dunstan's villa, Regent's Park, London, which was built for the third Marquis of Hertford, was withdrawn from auction in London the other day, because the reserve was not reached, it was stated that the King had his first dance in the ball-room of the house.

Lieut. Henry Clutterbuck, who was promoted from orderly-room sergeant of the Coldstream Guards during the Boer war to a commission in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, has been specially promoted to a captaincy in the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment.

It is stated that a crane to be erected at Devonport Dockyard is designed to lift a hundred and sixty tons at a maximum radius of ninety-five feet, and eighty tons at a hundred and five feet, while the extreme radius for loads of thirty tons will be a hundred and twenty-eight feet. The crane, which will be tested with a load of two hundred and forty tons, will be the largest in any shipbuilding yard in the world.

It is surprising how people give to the Liverpool Cathedral in course of erection. Another anonymous donation of ten thousand pounds has been received, bringing up the grand total to £283,000. This sum, however, is only half of what is required.

The vicar of Filey, the Rev. A. N. Cooper, who is known as the 'Walking Parson,' described at Leeds the other night his walk from Filey to Pompeii. He started on April 8, and accomplished the journey of 1,800 miles there and back in six weeks.

A virulent attack of mange has broken out among the foxes in Kent and Sussex. The west Kent pack a fortnight ago killed the eighth mangy fox this season, and seven others have been found dead or dying close to Tunbridge Wells.

A purple altar cloth bearing the date 1617 has been found at the bottom of an old oak chest at St. Giles's Church, Colchester. It had evidently been used on the altar in the Lucas Chapel, and was probably hidden when the Roundheads besieged Colchester in 1648, and executed Sir Charles Lucas.

Forty poor children were given breakfacts and dinners costing 1d. to 1½d. each at Bradford. At the end of the first week the average gain in weight per child was one pound four ounces. Their average weekly gain in weight for seven weeks before the meals began was under one ounce.

John Richard Farneux, who committed suicide at Bath, left letters which showed that he was disappointed because the government ignored suggestions he had made as to airships. He left directions that his body should be covered with salt and buried in a box in a cave.

As many children in the Wood-green, London, schools looked exhausted and slept at their desks, an inquiry into their home life was instituted. It was found that 568 of them were employed in earning money out of school hours. Nearly 100 children under ten years worked not only before and after school hours, but on Saturday and Sunday as well.

Workingmen afraid to apply for small holdings in districts where one all-powerful landlord holds sway, have been invited by the Board of Agriculture to send their applications confidentially to the secretary of the Small Holdings Commissioners, stating their difficulties. In due course an official will investigate the circumstances and act as an intermediary between the local authority and the landowner concerned.

Gooseberry mildew is so widespread that the Board of Agriculture is no longer insisting on the destruction of the affected bushes. Pruning and spraying will be tried. Earl Carrington, replying to a deputation, said he could not hold out the slightest hope of compensation. The importation of gooseberry bushes from Ireland and abroad is to be stopped.

A London man, who married his deceased wife's sister in 1893, was summoned by the Lewisham Guardians, who sought an order for the maintenance of the woman, now an asylum inmate. He wrote on the summons 'I have no wife,' but the magistrate pointed out that the act was retrospective. The man stated the woman, a confirmed drunkard, deserted him ten years ago, and that he had paid £400 to keep her out of the workhouse. The magistrate ordered him to pay 10s. a week.

Six columns of the 'Times' were occupied by the judgment of the Court of Appeal in a matrimonial case where a Frenchman had married an Englishwoman in England, and afterwards had a decree of nullity of marriage declared in France at the instance of his father, whose consent had not been obtained to the marriage. It was held by the Court of Appeal that although the Englishwoman's marriage was null and void in France owing to the French Court's decision, it was perfectly valid in England. She was therefore 'wife and no wife.' The unfortunate thing was that she had married again, and her second husband now wished to get the second marriage annulled—which was done, so that she has twice contracted an invalid marriage.

The Rev. Arthur Robinson, the Plymouth Baptist minister against whom a serious charge was preferred, was honorably acquitted to the satisfaction of his many friends in the district. The case proved to be one of mistaken identity. The Mayor, Mr. J. F. Winnicott, read the finding of the magistrates as follows:—'The justices are satisfied that the prosecution has entirely failed to bring home the offence alleged, and dismiss the summons. I may say that they express their deepest sympathy with you in the terrible ordeal through which you have passed. You leave this court without a stain upon your character.' The Mayor's voice trembled for a moment with emotion as he read this finding. Loud cheers filled the court, and thousands in the Guildhall square took up the cheering and lingered long talking about the strange case.

Two well-known Suffragettes interrupted the proceedings at Bow-street when a female prisoner was being tried. One shouted from the back of the court: 'I protest against any woman being tried at this court. You have no right to try a woman according to laws made by men.' The other seconded the protest, and both of them shouted and struggled while being removed by the police. At Bow-street, hereafter, no woman will be admitted except on legitimate business.—Saucy students and sneezing Suffragettes filled the Leeds Philosophical Hall the other evening. A 'votes for women' meeting was being held when sprinkles of cayenne pepper turned the attentions of all but one of the ladies away from politics. Miss Adela Pankhurst, between sneezes, withered the offending students with a glance and said that this act of throwing pepper was a very good argument that men were in some cases inferior in intelligence to women.

SCOTLAND.

It is agreed that a sum of £10,000 is required for the combined purposes of building, maintenance, and bursaries for the proposed technical college for Aberdeen.

A census of Paisley school children which has just been completed brings out the remarkable fact that during the past eight years the number of children of school age in the area of the Burgh School Board has increased by only six.

Aberdeen Town Council has agreed to join with the councils of Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee in making representations as to the government grant allowed for police pay and clothing. The object of the representations is to secure an increase.

The question of Sunday harvesting has at length reached the courts of law. At Forfar the sheriff had an action turning upon this point to decide, and his decision was that in a year like this, Sunday harvesting could not be regarded as other than a work of stern necessity.

Her Grace of Sutherland says the condemnation by the Board of Trade of the practice of selling Lancashire tweeds as Harris has been the best thing ever done for the island industry. The demand for homespun is now greater than ever it was in the history of the trade.

A house at Insch was broken into and a sum of about £95 stolen. On making up their returns, however, the burglars seem to have come to the conclusion that this was too much to take from one victim, and the greater part of the money was accordingly deposited on the doorstep of his house.

The statuary in the Burns mausoleum at Alloway, representing the poet at the plough, has for some time been showing signs of discoloration and decay. A good many years ago the structure was enclosed with glass, with the object of preserving the marble from the action of the weather; but an eminent sculptor has advised the committee of the Burns Club, who are custodians of the mausoleum, that the exclusion of air is likely to have been the occasion of the mischief, and also to have given rise to damp, which has been a cause of trouble. Steps will, therefore, be taken to secure a free current by the removal of at least a portion of the glass screen, and the statuary will, on the advice of the gentleman referred to, be treated with a cleansing and preservative solution.

IRELAND.

Some 2,750,000 persons visited the Irish International Exhibition, which has just closed.

An Irish landowner and his aged mother were returning from mass, under police escort, when they were fired on by sympathisers with the United Irish League, and both were wounded. Their assailant escaped.

The Glasgow ship 'Fifeshire,' Captain Cadell, from Iquique, entered Queenstown harbor the other day with her flag at half-mast. The captain's wife died at sea and on his arrival the captain learned that his wife had inherited twenty thousand pounds.

Bernard Kilkeary, who was on the 'Birkenhead' at the time of the disaster to that vessel, died suddenly at his residence at Dungannon, County Tyrone, recently, at the age of eighty. He acted as sergeant-major of the drafts that were conveyed by the ill-fated troopship.

While the coffin containing the remains of Mr. Thomas Matthews, a leading Ulster Orangeman, was being lowered for burial from an upper window in East Belfast, the door and staircase being too narrow to permit the same being brought out in orthodox way, it suddenly slipped and fell on to the pavement, where a large number of mourners had assembled. One of the undertaker's men was seriously injured, and during the painful scene following, several women fainted.

THE LAST SUN DANCE

SCENES OF INDIAN SELF-TORTURE AND ENDURANCE NOW PROHIBITED.

(From the United States 'Army and Navy Journal.')

Now and again the muffled rumble of the instruments was broken by a chant from the 'musicians,' that reminded one of Dante's description of his visit to the place of lost souls. In its way, the song was as devoid of music as were the instruments, which accompanied the singers. And yet, its weird rhythm comes back to me from the distant past as a sort of doleful chant of mournful measure. An unusual commotion, and our attention was attracted to some squaws nearer us, who were attended by medicine men. They had bared their shapely brown arms, and around them above the elbow, were laid pieces of muslin. The men worked with each woman in turn. From the upper arm were cut small chunks of flesh; while the women endured and watched the operation without flinching. The pieces were then placed in the muslin, tied up like little balls, preparatory to being buried. The women had displayed their bravery, and were assured, that by the time the pieces had decayed in the ground, the wounds in their arms would be healed.

The youths had been dancing, as before, to the sun since early morning and about two o'clock in the afternoon they began to 'take their medicine.' A number of medicine men had brought rods, to the ends of which were attached by a string, some kind of fancy tackle—resembling that used by an angler to lure his finny prey. This tackle was dangled before the dancers' eyes just out of their reach. Each young man endeavored to follow it continually with his eyes, and apparently tried to catch it. And so, with heads thrown back at a break-neck angle, they followed the medicine men around and around, as they ceaselessly dangled the tackle up and down. Thus they led the dancers about, now causing them to turn one way, now another; now to whirl to the rear so quickly as to almost cause them to fall to the ground.

The evident purpose was to make the dancers so dizzy as to fall from exhaustion; thus rendering them less sensitive to pain—surely an heroic anaesthetic, if such it were. As they had already been dancing with the sunlight blinding their eyes for several hours, it was not long before they succumbed to the 'medicine.' Soon as they dropped other doctors sprang upon them, and by different fiendish methods, prepared each for his special ordeal.

Several kinds of trials had been arranged, which were considered equally severe; and before the rites began each youth had been given his choice—a grim privilege. Some were led to pens, two of which had been erected, at either side of the arena, opposite each other. They were formed by four strong posts about six feet high, firmly set in the ground at the corners of a quadrangle about four by six feet. In these quadrangles the unfortunate would-be braves were stood; and loops of the flesh on their backs and breasts, were fastened securely by thongs to the four posts. There they had to stay, until they succeeded in tearing the thongs loose by frantic lunges of their writhing bodies. Their heroic efforts as they jerked forward and backward in the effort to break free, with the terrible laceration, made a horrible and sickening sight, yet there was worse to come.

Some of the men had to walk (almost stagger really) around the ring with great buffalo skulls attached by cords to the flesh of their backs. The weight of the skulls and their hitching and dragging along the ground, had to tear the thongs loose from the flesh before the men could be relieved of their burdens, and their endurance powers be adjudged thoroughly proved. Not for a moment were they allowed to rest, and their agony must have been dreadful.

I sank back in horror. At all the hideous sights and the flowing blood, I had become very faint. My husband saw it, and immediately applied the smelling salts he had brought for an emergency. I was revived somewhat by the salts, and again began to notice the sights about me.

The first thing I beheld was a figure hanging twenty feet or more from the ground, by the flesh of its back attached by a thong to the pole in the centre of the enclosure. The blood was streaming down his body, and dripping to the ground. Several more men were being put up in the same way. They were left to hang until the flesh by which their weight was suspended, ripped free. The thongs were fastened to the pole near its top and the bodies could swing to and fro past the pole—often bumping against it. One man I saw brace his feet against the pole and shove himself away from it, swinging back and forth for several feet, like a human pendulum. At last he dropped, as they all did sooner later, and upon being revived said his 'heart was so strong,' and asked the medicine men to put him up again—which they promptly did.

I turned away from sheer weakness at the sight. More than one of the visiting women had fainted; but the Indian women watched the trials with expressions only of feverish interest. They seemed loath to lose one glimpse. In one place squatted a group of old squaws; and every few minutes they raised their voices in guttural unison, calling to the voluntary sufferers—'Ohetekha, Ohetekha, cosha metowah' (Be brave, my son, be brave). Their cries were intended to cheer the 'candidates,' or, in Indian lore, to 'make their hearts strong.' Again and again, the orchestra chanted in a sort of wail; while the tomtoms kept up their dismal reiteration.

It was marvellous how the youths endured the pain. Not a cry or murmur crossed their lips. They seemed to vie with each other in showing how much they could endure. I felt relieved when the setting sun put an end to the affair, for I had seen enough of savage customs of torture; and was indeed glad that a continuance of such performances was forever prohibited from our country.

OWLS KILLED BY OWN IMAGES.

(From the Minneapolis 'Journal.')

Hawks dashing at a bird on the ground will forget to put on their brakes in time to prevent a fatal collision with the earth, and the same result occurs when they try to overhaul a small bird in the vicinity of a wall. For barn owls there is no contrivance more perilous than an open water tank near farm buildings round which these useful birds are wont to forage for rats and mice. Seeing its own image reflected in the moon-lit water, the owl imagines, apparently, this is an acquaintance, and going, as it were, to shake hands finds a watery grave.

I knew a man who took four young jays from their nest, reared them till they could feed themselves, and had become very tame—every one of the four 'got drowned,' three while exploring the contents of open water vessels; the fourth actually managed the deed in a saucer, so intoxicated was it with the joy of bathing. Small birds are not infrequently to be found hanging dead by nest building materials, and sometimes during toilet operations they get their head and neck fatally locked between the stiff quills of their wing feathers. I wonder how many hundreds of young pheasants annually find death in the meshes of wire netting? Even though they are well able to fly over obstacles ten times its height, little pheasants are so utterly devoid of 'gumption' that they will try to jump through netting, taking not the slightest warning from the bodies of brothers and sisters who have hanged themselves thus.

Protects You From Catarrh!

Just Breathe 'Catarrhozone' and You're Insured Against Colds, Coughs, Bronchitis and Catarrh.

As the only way to reach catarrh is by inhaling medicated air, it follows that the healing balsams of Catarrhozone cannot fail to cure.

It is a purely vegetable antiseptic — soothes and heals wherever it goes.

The germ-killing vapor is inhaled at the mouth and instantly spreads through all the breathing organs.

Every trace of bronchitis and catarrh is rooted out, and such health and strength is imparted that these troubles never again return.

Catarrhozone has cured thousands, and here is quoted the experience of Mrs. James A. Tweedie, of Jay Bridge, Maine, who sent for sixteen outfits of Catarrhozone for friends in her locality. This lady gives very full particulars why she did so. Her daughter, fourteen years old, had doctored for Catarrh, obtaining no benefit, tried lots of other remedies, but all failed—recommended by a neighbor to try Catarrhozone. Instead of despairing, as she had good reason for doing, obtained Catarrhozone, and before it was done, as she states she was completely cured. No wonder she recommends it. Child had dropping in the throat, hawking, spitting; father thought she was going into consumption; could not sleep at night, and adds: 'I only wish anyone suffering from Catarrh to give it a fair trial; any druggist will enable you to do this, for they all sell it—your money back if Catarrhozone does not benefit you.'

Complete outfit is guaranteed, price $1.00; small (trial) size 25c; all dealers or N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont., and Hartford, Conn, U. S. A.

Systematic Catarrh Has But One Cure.

Lotions and Powders will Never Help Unless the Blood is Given Attention.

The way to radically and permanently cure catarrh is to cleanse the blood of the unhealthy secretions that keep the mucous membrane inflamed.

Catarrhal poison usually interferes with the stomach, kidneys and liver. These organs must be properly toned and strengthened, otherwise you feel sick all over.

To go direct to the source of the trouble—to cleanse, nourish and purify the blood—where can you find anything so potent as Dr. Hamilton's Pills?

This grand medicine regulates the eliminating organs and completely drives the virus of catarrh out of the system. Thousands of cures prove this.

Of course to clear the nose and head of mucous discharges, Dr. Hamilton recommends the use of Catarrhozone Inhaler, which, if used with his pills of Mandrake and Butternut, cures the most obstinate case of Catarrh ever known. All dealers sell Dr. Hamilton's Pills in 25-cent boxes.

READABLE PARAGRAPHS

ANNUALLY.

In the spring the young man fancies
Winter days will stay remote;
Dreams of summertime forever—
Throws away his overcoat.

In the fall the young man searcheth
For the coat he cast away,
Finds the garment in the attic
And is wearing it to-day.

Signals of Danger.—Have you lost your appetite? Have you a coated tongue? Have you an unpleasant taste in the mouth? Does your head ache and have you dizziness? If so, your stomach is out of order and you need medicine. But you do not like medicine. He that prefers sickness to medicine must suffer, but under the circumstances the wise man would procure a box of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, and speedily get himself in health, and strive to keep so.

'Young man,' hailed the walking delegate, 'do you believe in unions?' 'You bet I do,' replied the young man in the black suit and white tie. 'Glad to hear it. On your way to work, I suppose?' 'No, on my way to get married.'—Chicago 'Daily News.'

First Youth—'My papa put a mansard roof on our house.' Second Ditto (proudly)—'My papa put a mortgage on ours. First—'I don't care. I heard my papa say he was insured.' Second (still more proudly)—'Huh! I heard papa say he was insolvent.'—Baltimore 'American.'

The Most Popular Pill.—The pill is the most popular of all forms of medicine, and of pills the most popular are Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, because they do what it is asserted they can do, and are not put forward on any fictitious claims to excellence. They are compact and portable, they are easily taken, they do not nauseate nor gripe and they give relief in the most stubborn cases.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.

Little Mildred had had a nightmare, and was telling the family about it the next morning.

'When I woke up,' she said, 'I was still scared, and my heart was beating a tattoo'—

Here her elder sister interrupted. 'How could your heart beat a tattoo?' she asked, sarcastically.

'I guess it could do it on the drums of my ears, couldn't it?' demanded Mildred, indignantly.—'Youth's Companion.'

'Perfectly Trustworthy' is the character of Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. can be used with the utmost confidence that it will do what is claimed for it. is sure in its effects, as the use of it clearly demonstrate and can be relied on to drive a cold out of the system more effectively than any other medicine. Try it and be convinced that it is what it is claimed to be.

OVER DONE.

I like a pun, but please take note
I think it quite too utter
To call a farmer's blooded goat
His thorough-bred and butter.
—Nixon Waterman, in the 'Saturday Evening Post.'

'I don't think the editor read a line of my story.'

'Neither do I; I notice that his magazine comes out as usual!'—Atlanta 'Constitution.'

There can be a difference of opinion on most subjects, but there is only one opinion as to the reliability of Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator. It is safe, sure and effectual.

IN DOUBT.

In Egyptian hieroglyphics a physician is represented by a picture of a duck. Philologists are not agreed whether this means that the physician in question was looked upon as a quack, or that he was considered a favorite among the fair sex.

Two London tourists the other Sunday in the region of Tweedside, inquired of a countryman on his way to church the whereabouts of a ruined tower they wished to inspect. 'If ye had speered they would tae the kirk,' he replied. 'I wad hae telled ye, but I canna brak the Sawbath day by lettin' ye ken whaur an auld ruckle o' a hoose is.'

Are you a sufferer with corns? If you are, get a bottle of Holloway's Corn Cure. It has never been known to fail.

'Have you ever contributed any money toward the cause of higher education?'

'Indeed, yes. We use Standard Oil at our house.'—'Life.'

SCRAPERS.

Our buildings high that scrape the sky
We boast as wondrous feats:
But greater'd be, it seems to me,
Something 'twould scrape our streets.

A Wide Sphere of Usefulness.—The consumption of Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil has grown in great proportions. Notwithstanding the fact that it has now been on the market for over thirty-one years, its prosperity is as great as ever, and the demand for it in that period has very greatly increased. It is beneficial in all countries, and wherever introduced fresh supplies are constantly asked for.

There's a heap of difference between the qualities we display and the qualities we possess.—Chicago 'Record-Herald.'

Agricultural.

COMING EVENTS.

New York Poultry Show, New York, Dec. 30—Jan 4, 1908.

Eastern Ontario Fat Stock and Poultry Show, Jan. 20-24, 1908.

Boston Poultry Show, Boston, Jan. 13-18, 1908

Quebec Provincial Poultry and Pet Stock Breeding Show, Victoria Rifles' Armory Hall, Montreal, Jan. 28, 29, 30, and 31, 1908.

National Live Stock Convention, Ottawa, Feb. 5, 6, 7, 1908.

Convention of Agricultural Societies, Manitoba Agricultural College, Feb. 10-17.

Ontario Horse-breeders' Show, Toronto, Feb. 12 to 14.

Annual Convention Ontario Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, Toronto, Feb. 19 and 20.

Canadian National Horse Show, May 4-9.

CURRENT COMMENTS

No farmer can make a mistake in buying good pure-bred stock. That is, if he gives it the right care after once getting it. It will make him more money than scrub stock, or stock that simply comes from any kind of breeding.

* * *

That boy of yours is perfectly safe at the Agricultural College, and instead of coming home in the spring with his head filled with 'notions,' will, if he is any good at all, come home better able to give intelligent assistance during the summer. He is getting a training that will tell all through his life.

* * *

'Roan King,' the property of Mr. Jas. Leask, of Greenbank, Ontario, has been sold at Chicago by auction to C. Klinch & Co., at the price of twenty-four cents a pound. This magnificent shorthorn won the grand championship in the steer class at the International Live Stock Exhibition.

* * *

When through with the plough, whether for the season or for a few days, always cover the share and moldboard thoroughly with linseed oil. An old brush or cloth, a very little oil, and a minute's time, are all that you need to keep the plough free from rust. To remove when ready for work, use kerosene and rub vigorously.

* * *

The director of the Transvaal Department of Agriculture, Pretoria, South Africa, has written the Ontario Department of Agriculture for full information in regard to the origin and organization of the Ontario Agricultural College. The late Mr. Beit left a bequest for starting an agricultural college in the Transvaal amounting to about three hundred thousand pounds. The communication concludes with this statement: 'I do not think we could do better than model our institution upon the Guelph College.'

* * *

Here is an item from the Old Country which will interest dairymen: Large quantities of margarine are consumed in Great Britain, much of it imported, and those who are in this business are considerably concerned as to the passing of the Butter Act. The vendors of butter substitutes are debarred under the act from selling their products under any name relating to or connected with butter or the dairying industry, the Board of Agriculture being compelled to refuse the use of such names. Recently various names have been submitted to the Board of Agriculture similar to or resembling those under which certain butter substitutes were sold before the act came into operation. The board have refused to sanction these names in the interest of the British farming and dairying interests.

* * *

A big effort is being made by the National Poultry Organization Society, to push the poultry industry in Great Britain. Last year there was imported 2,264,893,080 eggs, sufficient to supply 64 eggs to every man, woman and child. British farmers have been largely responsible for diverting this big business into foreign hands, and the society's aim is to get it back. This is done by practical work; forty depots and branches have been established, and at these the eggs are collected, graded, tested, and stamped with a mark which guarantees their freshness, and so high is their reputation that millions more might be disposed of every year if there were sufficient depots to supply them. The financial condition of the depots in nearly all cases is very satisfactory; in some places the profits have been considerable. Canadian farmers will be wise if they avoid the policy of their British colleagues, and by extending the industry, keep it in their own hands—instead of allowing the trade to drift into foreign channels.

* * *

Prof. Day, of the Ontario Agricultural College, was on Tuesday presented with a gold watch and chain by the students, ex-students and faculty of the college, in appreciation of his efforts in instructing the students who won the bronze trophy for judging at the recent Chicago Live Stock Show. The presentation was made at the annual dinner of the Experimental Union. In connection with the victory, it may be mentioned that quite a rousing reception was given to the team when it arrived at Guelph from Chicago. President Creelman and three hundred students met the team, who on alighting from the train, were carried across the platform by their fellows. A torchlight parade was then formed and the team were driven through the town in carriages. Every student carried a lighted broom or torch. On returning to the college a banquet was held at which all the students were present. In honor of the occasion the boys had coined a new college yell, the burden of which was to the effect that the "bronze bull' had once again returned.

CROPS AND STOCK IN MARITIME PROVINCES.

Rate of Increase Not Great But it Is Constant.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—A census of farm land, field crops and live stock of the Maritime Provinces has been taken for the current year through the medium of the post-office. Schedules approved by the Governor-General-in-Council were mailed to the farmers of the three provinces with a request for returns showing the acres of land occupied, cleared, in all crops and in orchard and garden, together with acres in sixteen principal field crops and number of live stock by kinds for each farm. On the whole, the rate of increase per hundred acres of occupied land is very satisfactory. It is not large, but with only a few exceptions it is constant.

The area of land in crops in New Brunswick is 1,087,626 acres, compared with 894,795 acres in 1901. The area in orchard is 16,290, compared with 8,734. New Brunswick has 667,789 acres in hay, an increase of 119,822; 229,253 acres in oats, an increase of 42,493; 63,541 acres in buckwheat, a decrease of 9,918; 25,946 acres in spring wheat, a decrease of 636, and 2,224 acres in fall wheat, an increase of 1889.

There are 65,784 horses in New Brunswick, an increase of 9,997; 128,706 milch cows, an increase of 22,514; 130,937 other cattle, an increase of 15,999; 250,546 sheep, an increase of 69,920; 97,091 swine, an increase of 46,848, and 1,031,683 poultry, an increase of 374,250.

The area of land in all crops in Nova Scotia is 883,472 acres, an increase of 163,306 acres over 1901. The area in orchard is 54,051 acres, an increase of 21,193. There are 593,368 acres in hay, an increase of 47,437; 128,777 acres in oats, an increase of 37,853; 18,657 acres in buckwheat, an increase of 9,312; 10,234 acres in barley, an increase of 2,555; 18,537 acres in spring wheat, an increase of 2,370; and 1,882 acres in fall wheat, an increase of 1,722. The live stock returns show 63,418 horses, an increase of 8,244; 143,362 milch cows, an increase of 15,417; 198,861 other cattle, an increase of 25,104; 384,040 sheep, an increase of 106,391; 74,811 swine, an increase of 32,796; and 1,040,467 poultry, an increase of 346,803.

The area in all crops in Prince Edward Island is 504,228 acres, an increase of 57,134, and the area in orchard, 5,965 acres, an increase of 2,863. The area in hay is 220,018, an increase of 38,242; oats, 176,587 acres, an increase of 12,222, and spring wheat 35,795 acres, a decrease of 6,479. The returns of live stock show 34,363 horses, an increase of 1,005; 53,096 milch cows, a decrease of 2,598; 61,156 other cattle, an increase of 5,038; 111,202 sheep, a decrease of 13,973; 55,005 swine, an increase of 7,381, and 720,787 poultry, an increase of 152,209.

A fact to be observed in an examination of the comparative statistics of live stock is, that whereas the census of 1901 was taken at the end of winter, after reduction by slaughtre and sale of all surplus animals, the numbers of 1907 are those of the summer season and include additions to the stock of the year by natural increase. Consequently the gains in the provinces are less than they appear, and the falling off in Prince Edward Island in milch cows and sheep is larger than it appears.

SMALLER CROPS

ONTARIO HAS LIGHTER YIELDS IN THE PRINCIPAL CROPS.

Last week we gave figures showing the yield of the Ontario crops for this year. We now print a summary of the condition of those crops as on Nov. 11. The report is based on the returns of 2,000 correspondents. It shows the fall wheat yield is a little below 1906, but quite up to the average, and the general quality of the grain may be classed as good and well up to weight. The yield of spring wheat per acre is about an average, and the quality of the grain is placed as from fair to good. Reports regarding barley are on the whole favorable. There was a good yield of plump, well-colored grain, with longer and better straw than that of the other cereals.

Oats are the most important grain crop in Ontario, and this year it is poor, both as to yield and quality. The oat crop has been steadily increasing in acreage for the past nine years. This year, while the area has increased 200,000 acres over 1906, the yield has dropped to 83,524,301 bushels, nearly 25,000,000 bushels below 1906. It has the smallest yield since 1896, with only one exception, that of 1901, when the yield was 78,334,490 bushels. The peas crop is said to have been the best for years, there being an almost complete absence of the weevil which has done so much injury to the crop for several seasons.

The acreage of new fall wheat will be somewhat increased in the Lake Erie and Georgian Bay counties, but will be about the usual extent in the other parts of the province. It has an excellent start, but while green and healthy looking, as correspondents wrote, there was hardly as much top as was desirable to ensure its taking the risk of an open winter. About forty varieties are reported as being grown, Dawson's Golden Chaff still being by far the favorite.

Notwithstanding the lateness of the spring, early planted corn came through in generally fair condition. The yield per acre is not up to the average, but the acreage was larger than in the years immediately preceding. The fact that grasshoppers attacked the corn this year is regarded by some correspondents as something uncommon. Beans were fairly podded and of good quality, while buckwheat suffered from frost, but the yield and quality were good.

Clover fields kept for seed were rather thin, owing to the very trying winter, the late spring, and midsummer drought. The heads were well filled, however, and some fair yields of seed are reported, although in most cases the return will be light.

Accounts regarding the yield of potatoes vary greatly, some splendid returns being reported alongside of light yields. A statement for the province generally may be thus summarized: A good yield, the tubers being rather smaller than usual owing to drought, but with great freedom from rot compared with the experience of more recent years. Turnips suffered from drought, and the yield will be light, while mangel wurzels were from fair to good. There has been a fair yield of sugar beets.

Fruit trees, as a rule, are in good condition, except when attacked by the San Jose scale, oyster shell bark louse, tent caterpillar, and other insect enemies. Apples were not up to the average in yield, but large shipments have been made, and a surplus of winter varieties is still available. Apples are not so large in size as ordinarily, owing to the drought and the lateness of the growing season. Many complaints have been made of the codling worm, but there has been less scab than in recent years. A surplus of pears is also reported, and plums were more plentiful than was anticipated early in the season. Peaches were very scarce, but grapes gave a large yield, although in many quarters late varieties were caught by frost. Taken as a whole, the season was not up to the average as an all-round fruit year.

Except in a few favored localities pastures have been poor, and live stock were in rather thin condition for wintering, although remarkably free from disease. Horses are in good form, but are selling at reduced prices. The high cost of hay, grain, and bran, and other mill feeds, have kept most farmers from fattening the usual number of cattle and hogs. It is pointed out that the number of brood sows and little pigs sold or slaughtered this fall augurs seriously for bacon production next year. Sheep have been in excellent condition, the dry weather and short pastures suiting them much better than other stock. The silo has this year made a strong argument for its existence, and a number of new ones are being erected in various parts of the province.

Pastures failed early owing to drought, and the milk flow decreased in sympathy; but the good prices for dairy products about balanced matters, and, even with the high price of feed, milk has paid relatively better than where cattle have been raied for beef. Cheese has been regarded as a paying industry, although some factories had to close early for want of milk. Butter-making appears to be coming more into favor with the farmers. The general quality has been up to the mark, and prices have been from three to seven cents a pound better than last year's figures. Shorthorn grades are still in the majority as dairy cows, but Holsteins and their grades are rapidly gaining in popularity as milkers.

Reports regarding the condition of poultry are on the whole favorable. Eggs have commanded a good price, and have paid much better than fowl for the table. A few correspondents express the opinion that the too general use of the incubators is having a tendency to oversupply the market with chickens, and thus depress prices. The high price of grain also has forced fowl upon the market. A correspondent points out that the season was a good one for turkeys owing to the abundance of grass-hoppers. Ontario farmers are now paying more attention to poultry along the lines of selection, feeding, housing, and general care.

The honey flow this season was very light, owing to the cold and backward spring, and the summer drought, but the quality is better than that of last year's honey. In some quarters, more especially in Eastern Ontario, feeding back has been necessary. Scattered cases of foul brood have been reported, but the general health of bees is said to be good.

While a considerable number of correspondents hold that there was an adequate supply of farm labor during the working season, the greater parts of the reports speak of a scarcity, more especially of men of the right quality. While some of the immigrant help are favorably referred to, more frequently there is a remarkable outspokenness as to the unfitness of many of the Old Countrymen offering for Ontario farm labor. As to the rate of wages, correspondents are almost unanimous in declaring that it is not likely to go higher, as farmers cannot afford to pay more. Improved farm implements and the co-operation of neighbors are also helping to relieve the strain.

Give your laying birds meat scraps and green food—steamed clover and cabbage.

AGRICULTURE IN QUEBEC

A few weeks ago a well-known Ontario farmer, whose wide observation quantied him to express an opinion on the matter, said to the writer, Mr. J. C. Macdonald, B.S.A. (in the 'O. A. C. Review') that nowhere in this broad Dominion are there such opportunities for the tiller of the soil as in the Province of Quebec. Remarkable as the statement appears at first, the more it is considered, the clearer becomes the conviction that in the main it is correct. In the valley of the St. Lawrence are to be found some of the richest clay soils that in spite of repeated croppings are yet capable of yielding excellent crops. Soils quite as fertile are to be found in other provinces, which will give good returns, but are sooner exhausted. The climate, though severe, is equable, the influence of the gulf and river extending over a considerable part of the province. Proximity to markets is the third, and, perhaps the greatest factor in favor of the Quebec farmer. Montreal has been and will continue to be, the metropolis of Canada. Not only that, but the banks of the St. Lawrence will provide sites for other populous cities by reason of the fact that power is convenient and means of transportation are the very best. Quebec is rich in 'white coal,' having within her borders one-fifth of the water power of the North American continent. Manufactures mean a dense population and a consequent demand for farm products.

Agriculture in Quebec is not a growth of a single century, as in Ontario; it is the slow and steady development of several centuries. There is in it something of the stability that characterizes British farming with not a few of the resulting fruits of such conservative methods. Quebec has originated a distinctive breed of horses, and also a type of dairy cattle, both of which possess considerable merit. What other province of the Dominion has accomplished as much in this direction? In fruit-growing many new varieties of apples, plums and pears, suitable for the northern climate, have been propagated, so that the area of successful production has been extended far to the north, and eastward to the shores of the gulf. La Fameuse apple had its first home in the French settlements nearly three hundred years ago, and in its various forms is to-day unrivalled as a dessert apple. Musk melons of a special variety grown on the slope of Mount Royal, have long had a reputation with the connoisseurs of New York, and command the highest prices. So much for the advantages that have come from long-continued effort in certain directions.

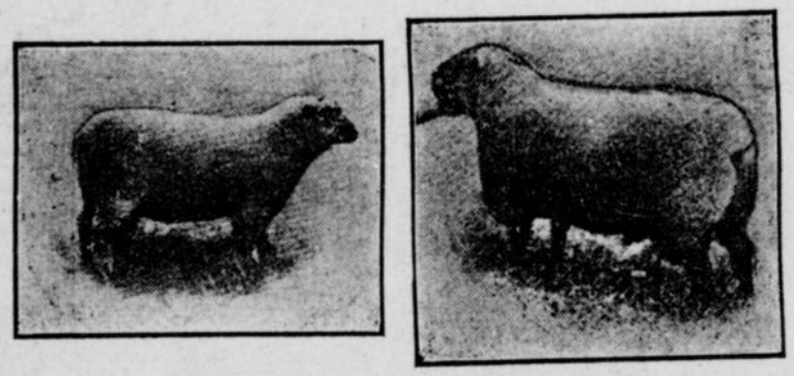
Dipping into figures, it is interesting to note that according to the census of 1901, the number of acres occupied was 14,444,175, of which about half was improved. As settlement creeps northward up the valleys of the Gatineau, the St. Maurice and the Saguenay, the area of cultivated land is expanding at the rate of about 200,000 acres each year. The French-Canadian is a successful colonizer, and will, in time, subdue much of the wilderness of Northern Quebec.

In the French districts hay is the principal crop, the product being sold to dealers for export to the United States or Great Britain. A change is coming over the province, however, and instead of draining the fertility of the farm in this way the habitant is taking up dairying. Eastern Townships butter is quoted highest on the Montreal Market, and the quality of Quebec cheese approaches nearly to that of Ontario. The sister industry of bacon production has been neglected in spite of the fact that the packing houses cannot secure sufficient supplies. Within the past two years the Dominion Department of Agriculture has made purchases of breeding hogs in Ontario and sold them by auction at different points in Quebec province. Time will show the good results of this effort.

While the governments, Dominion and Provincial, are doing much to assist the farmers, the latter are showing a readiness to help themselves through the medium of their organizations. About six hundred farmers' clubs are in active operation, each receiving a grant of from $25 to $50 from the Department of Agriculture. Eleven lecturers are employed to address the meetings of these clubs. Several dairymen's associations and a pomological society render valuable services to the industries which they represent. The province has also seventy-four county agricultural societies, and several local horticultural societies.

Great strides are being made in the establishment of pure bred herds, particularly of Ayrshires and Jerseys. Lovers of the Jersey will recall the fact that the famous St. Lambert family of Jerseys was founded over a quarter of a century ago, by Mr. R. H. Stephens, at the village of St. Lambert. Holsteins are being introduced into the province in large numbers, becoming keen rivals of the Ayrshires in the dairying districts. The Quebec branch of the Holstein Association includes many French-Canadians in its membership list, showing that the black and whites are in general favor.

Agricultural education is still in its infancy, the opening of the Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue marking the dawn of the new era. Very good work, though on a limited scale, has been done by the agricultural schools at Oka and Ste. Anne-de-la-Pocatiere, as well as by the dairy school at St. Hyacinthe. The school at Oka, though under the control of the Trappist Monks, is recognized by the government of Quebec, and receives financial aid, according to the number of pupils in attendance. On the 800 acre farm a thorough system of cultivation is carried out, a specialty being made of fruit-growing.



CHICAGO LIVE STOCK SHOW PRIZE-WINNERS.
Property of Sir George Drummond, Beaconsfield, Que.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL UNION

CO-OPERATIVE EXPERIMENTS AND SEED IMPROVEMENT.

Guelph, Dec. 9.—The twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union began in Massey Hall to-day.

The president, Mr. J. M. McCallum, was in the chair. In his address he dwelt on the benefits of the Union to the farmer. What the Live Stock Associations are to the animal husbandry man that the Union is to the field husbandry man. Some of the material benefits of the Union are: It furnishes the basis for a supply of pure seed; it demands care and precision; it cultivates care and observation, and it adds to the agricultural status of the province.

Mr. Sherrington spoke on the value of the experiments carried on by the Union, and the valuable information afforded by the systematic keeping of reports.

Professor Hutt's report of co-operative experiments with vegetables was submitted for the first time. The seeds were sent out for 1,481 experiments, one of the objects being to show the value of the vegetable garden to the home Prof. Hutt thought it should be introduced through the schools, and every inspector was communicated with. Only one inspector condemned the school garden. Over thirty schools conducted the experiments. At Guelph five hundred children have been engaged in this work. The directors of Guelph Fair offered prizes for these exhibits, and great interest was taken in the project. Much of the success of this department of the exhibition was due to this children's exhibit.

Mr. Chester Jarvis spoke strongly in favor of the school garden idea. He thought fertilizers should be taken up in connection with co-operative vegetable growing. At stores good results were being obtained with hybridization of vegetables.

Professor Harcourt, in dealing with the results of co-operative experiments with fertilizers on swampy soil, said that the object was to find out what fertilizers were particularly suited. In the majority of cases lime gave decidedly beneficial results; also potash and phosphoric acid may be used on some soils to increase the yields. It should be borne in mind that these soils differ widely in composition, in stages of decomposition of organic matter, amount of mineral matter present, etc.; that because one soil fails to respond to the use of lime of the fertilizers, it is no reason why another should not.

Mr. T. G. Raynor, of the Seed Department, Ottawa, dealt with 'The future development of the field crops competition in Ontario.' He said the field competition is the best way to encourage seed improvement. This would prevent the showing of the same grain at fairs on two or more successive years. He thought that the competition should be widened to cover hay and grass crops, as well as cereal crops. The advantage of field competitions is the method of judging, as a score card is used and the scoring is most systematic. A certain number of points are given for freedom from weeds, for freedom from other kinds and varieties of grains, for freedom from smut, for yield of grain, etc. These competitions would extend the market and encourage the holding of seed fairs. They would encourage the production of high class seed through selection.

Mr. Nicholson, ex-student, led in the discussion. His field won the prize in the field competition in 1907.

Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, superintendent of Agricultural Societies for Ontario, spoke of the necessity of science and the farmer going hand in hand. Agriculture was the greatest profession, requiring more brain power than any other. He purposed to cut Ontario into two sections, making Toronto the dividing line, and distribute the grant next year between the ten societies, expending the most money for prizes.

Guelph, Dec. 11.—In his address at yesterday's session of the Ontario Experimental and Agricultural Union, Mr. Putnam, superintendent of Farmers' Institutes for Ontario, urged that each ex-student should carry on some one line of work to a high state of perfection; also that each student should undertake some line of study and should endeavor to promote the formation of a club for study in his own locality. Each man should be in a position to apply some principle to his own locality.

Some very comprehensive reports were presented by Prof. Zavitz. He gave a detailed account of the co-operative experiments carried on by the farmers of Ontario, and showed plainly how certain varieties, especially the new varieties, are superseding others. During the professor's address many questions were asked and suggestions offered, and the large audience was very enthusiastic over the work carried on in its behalf by the experimental department.

The Hon. Nelson Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, declared that the public looked to the students of the Ontario Agricultural College to mark out the ways of agriculture in the province. Quite a change from the early days, when the Ontario Agricultural College graduate was scorned. The Department of Agriculture found the graduates excellent institute workers. He was glad that O. A. C. men were taking up work in our secondary schools. He intimated that during the next year effort would be made to extend school gardens in the province.

Prof. Hutt, who has charge of co-operative experiments in fruit growing, gave a full report, showing the varieties of each kind of fruit which were proving the most successful in various parts of the province.

In his remarks, President Creelman advocated the naming of Ontario farms. This was a special feature of Old Country farms. He thought that naming the farm would make it stand more for permanency. He thought sons would try to live up to the name of the farms of their fathers.

Mr. E. J. Zavitz, in a report of work in Forestry, said that the indications were that farmers are giving more attention to the matter of reforestry, but the area is decreasing. There are large areas in Ontario which cannot be cultivated. In South Western Ontario there is a large area of waste land. The improvement of these lands would protect adjoining lands, and would save the streams. Mr. Zavitz urged that the work in reforestry should be taken up by the Experimental Union.

Prof. C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, reviewed the introduction of the three text books in agriculture, which had been prepared in Ontario.

The reason for this is that Ontario teachers are not qualified to teach agriculture. The work of the new high school teachers is to spread throughout the whole province the class of work that is being done at Guelph.

Mr. R. S. Homer, Perth; Mr. McKenny, Mr. F. C. Hart, Mr. R. E. Mortimer and Mr. Munro, who are engaged in this high school work among farmers, described various phases of the movement, and spoke of the highly encouraging results. At first there were many discouragements, but gradually farmers were awakening to the possibilities of the work, and in many directions it was being taken up with enthusiasm.

Prof. Dean made a somewhat sensational statement at the luncheon tendered by the civic authorities to the visiting exhibitors at the winter fair. He declared that infant mortality throughout the province of Ontario was largely due to the unclean condition of the supply of milk. He emphatically stated that the condition of the average dairies in the province was conducive to the spread of infectious diseases among cows, and that the diseases were thus spread to children, twenty-five percent of whom died under one year of age as a result of being fed on impure milk.

PRODUCTION OF MILK

Speaking of the carelessness displayed by farmers in the dairy business, Mr. Dool, dairy instructor in the Ottawa district, points out that many people are losing a large amount of money every year by doing business as they are at present. I will just mention very briefly a few points whereby these conditions could be overcome: First, a great many have no provision for caring for their milk. They will work the whole year for the production of milk and when they have the milk produced they will throw it into the can which is setting on a box in the barnyard, or on a stand made of four posts with a few boards on top, and let nature look after it. They never take into consideration what that milk has cost them or what they lose by not caring for it. They never stop to think how much money they have invested in that manufacturing business which they are carrying on, namely, manufacturing of foodstuffs into milk. Secondly, we have too many small factories in this district. There is a great loss to the farmers in this way, first, by requiring so much experienced help. Now, you take in some localities where there are five or six factories almost touching each other, where one would be plenty to handle the milk that is produced, and then the distance for hauling would not be out of reason. It could be done by putting on haulers to start at the out end of route, and bring all the milk along the road, and by doing away with four or five of those factories, we would lessen the cost of manufacturing and hence the farmer would reap the benefit. Now, take half the money which is invested in those six factories and put it in one, and you will have a first class building and one equipped in first class shape, and with a first class man in this factory you will get first class satisfaction. The buyers will strive to get those cheese and will pay a higher price for them, as they will know that they will be uniform in make and first class in quality.

I do not think that a patron is exactly honest if he brings his milk in an inferior condition to that of his neighbors and then expects just as much for it as anyone else when it is not worth as much, and I would go farther and say that a cheese-maker is not strictly honest that will take first grade milk from one man and second grade milk from another and pay them the same; yet it is often done, for if you reject a man's milk he will drive to another factory and they will take in his milk, thinking that they will have another patron to help swell the output of their factory.

Now what is the result of receiving that kind of milk? It takes more milk to make a pound of cheese than it should, and who is the loser? The manufacturer may lose his one-quarter cent per pound and the patrons lose their twelve or thirteen cents, as the case may be. Now that is the result of opposition in those small factories.

In the future the Holstein breed of cattle will be the only kind which will roam in the pastures of Iowa's state institution. They will be the only breed which shall be depended upon for the supply of milk, and black and white will be the official colors so far as institution cows are concerned.

The state control came to that decision recently, though the Holstein cattle have been at two of the institutions—Glenwood and Council Bluffs—for the past two years. As soon as it can be accomplished, the motley array of red and brindle bossies will be disposed of and this institution will have a distinct breed to stick to.

POULTRY

In this page matters pertaining to poultry on the farm will be discussed from week to week. The answers to all questions that readers desire to ask will also be found here.

The page will be made as practical and helpful as it can be made, but only by the co-operation of our readers can this be If you have any trouble let us hear about it. If you have unusual success, give us the benefit of it. Let us have a plan or picture of your good poultry house, internal fixtures, or anything of interest to poultry men.

We will aim to keep the discussions along seasonable lines; but any information regarding poultry will be considered timely. We would also be glad to get any suggestions from our readers. If you want a subject discussed make it possible by 'opening the discussion.' The desire is that every reader will consider this his or her page. This is a special invitation for you to share its benefits.

POULTRY EXHIBIT AT GUELPH WINTER FAIR

(Special Correspondence 'Weekly Witness.')

Guelph, Ont., Dec. 13.

Better and more of it seems to be the motto of the poultrymen who exhibit at Guelph. This year the entries in almost every class were ahead of any previous year, and the quality is beyond anything shown before; in fact in some of the classes the birds that won could be taken away and leave a class not to be ashamed of. The room available is getting too small and larger accommodation will be welcomed by the poultrymen.

The judging of the birds in most classes should be satisfactory to utility men, the awards indicating a tendency towards that type. The utility classes had perhaps but one or two awards placed on birds lacking good conformation and apparent constitution. The fancy classes, also turkeys and water fowl, had quality as well as quantity.

In the utility classes the White Wyandottes, Barred Rocks, White Rocks and Orpingtons came in about the order named. The White Wyandotte class had more quality than ever exhibited before. The competition was keen and many superior birds did not get a place. We noticed that J. C. Martin, of Port Dover, took the cream, with first for cock, hen, cockerel and pullet, two pullets, three cockerel, as well as many other prizes.

W. Dawson, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, came a close second. We also noticed as taking prizes the name of H. Ross, C. Massey, Wright Bros., Devit & Holman, L. H. Baldwin, Miss Case, Geo. Brierly, Wm. Wilson and others. Indeed those who received a place at all were fortunate, for never, in the opinion of exhibitors has there been such an exhibit of White Wyandottes.

Barred Rocks, one of the most popular in Ontario, was well represented by a large entry list of good quality. The honors were taken mostly by Pringle, of London; I. K. Millard.

The White Rocks contained many superior birds. The quality of this class is improving rapidly; they are getting lower down, more body; the breast is being covered better, and the exhibitors of White Rocks are learning how to fit their birds better than formerly. F. Andrews, of London, took off some of the best prizes. S. Brown, of Seaforth, (with the stock bought from P. Dill) also came in for a good share, as did George Robertson, T. Rice and others. Some of the exhibitors expressed satisfaction at the work of the new judge, Mr. Schwab, and the club has requested that he be continued as judge for this class.

Buff Rocks had some good deep buff color and rock shape, Jno. Bawden (Ridgetown) and J. O. Herron (Crosshill) taking most of the prizes, the former capturing the majority.

The Orpingtons were said to be the best exhibit of the class ever shown in Canada. The blacks had some exceptionally fine specimens, and for appearance in the show coop few birds will compare with a Black Orpington. Kemp & Waterman, London, had the first and third cock; Hoffman (Ridgetown) champion female and other prizes; H. Farleigh, (Forest), first pullet; C. J. Daniels (Toronto) second hen; Aird (Montreal), Barnes (Toronto) and others also showed in the prize list.

In the White Orpingtons H. J. Moore (Hamilton) took first, second and third for pullets; first, second and third for cockerels, while F. C. Bogart took several in old stock.

The Buffs showed some good shaped and colored individuals, several would have been improved with more breast development. Among the prizewinners we noticed R. Burns (Toronto), first for pullet and hen; Hellyer (Ottawa), first and third for cock; second for cockerel, second for hen, second, third, fourth and fifth for pullet; Hoffman, first for cockerel. A. Boultbee (Toronto) second for cock; Aird, third for cockerel. J. W. Clark (Cowisville), John Bawden (Ridgetown) also took away prizes.

Rhode Island Reds seem to be gradually gaining in popularity. It is a little hard to get the color fixed, and some of the winners were lacking in shape, others in color; but with a good sensible, energetic club to look after the interests of the breed, there is no reason why a few little defects should not be remedied. The breed is becoming deservedly popular, as they exhibit many of the points sought after by utility or commercial breeders.

Some of the best prizes in the single-comb variety were taken by Wankle & Sons, Waterloo, first for cock, first for hen, second for cockerel; Woodward Poultry Farm, London, first for cockerel; J. Luscombe, Kintore, first for pullet; Hughes & Barnes, second for pullets, third for cockerels; J. E. Klagar, second for cockerel, third for hen; W. A. McMaster, Guelph, second for hen.

Amongst the Rose Combs, Hughes & Barnes, London, took first for cockerel first for pullet; S. H. Smiley, St. Thomas, second for pullet, second for hen; Wankle & Sons, first for cock, second for cockerel; Baker, Hespeled, third for cockerel, and A. W. Graham, St. Thomas, third for cockerel.

The other breeds were well represented. One of the gratifying features was the number of new exhibitors, showing that the show will continue to be one of the leading shows of the continent.

The papers read at Tuesday's session were 'Winter egg production,' by Mr. Baldwin; 'The colony house,' by Mr. F. C. Elford, and 'Rearing and fattening chickens,' by Mr. W. R. Graham. We hope to reproduce these papers in future issues.

WE WANT EGGS THIS WINTER

But are we going to get them Have we made the necessary preparation? This brings up the question as to when is the time to begin to prepare, and that is where many of us make a mistake. We think all we have to do is to have hens, a place to put them in and some feed to give them and 'eggs' is the inevitable result. This, however, some of us have learned is not the case, and the trouble is that we don't start soon enough. Just how far back it is necessary to begin is hard to say; but the farther back the better.—Back far enough that we know we have a flock that will respond to good treatment providing we know how to apply it.

Let us look at a few of the essentials that go to make up such a flock. 1. They must be from a laying strain, a strain that will respond to treatment and produce eggs in the winter time; and for best results they must be from the best individual layers of that laying strain. It is not enough that they are pure bred, there is often more difference between individuals of one breed than from representatives of different breeds. To establish a laying strain of any breed it takes at least several years, and often much longer, and even when the strain is established sufficiently to be called a 'strain,' the work is only started. Any hen can lay a few eggs in the summer time and not much credit to her, but to produce eggs out of the natural season in this country, where winters are so cold, requires an inherited tendency in the flock.

The parent stock must have been healthy, vigorous birds—no constitutional weakness to be transmitted to the present flock. A parent flock that has been affected with roup, for instance, should not be bred from. The offspring usually has a predisposition to colds, and roupy diseases. Don't keep for laying chicks that are from diseased stock, and if buying pullets be sure they come from stock that have always been healthy.

2. The pullets should be hatched in time to be well matured before cold weather comes on. Late hatched pullets very seldom make winter layers. The best months in Eastern Canada seem to be late April or May. Earlier than April brings the pullets to lay so that they sometimes go into moult before winter, which is not desirable for winter eggs.

4. The chicks must be well fed, and kept healthy. Chicks that are ill fed and stunted during any part of their development will never make the hens they otherwise would. Keep them growing and healthy. Chicks while in the brooder are sometimes troubled with bowel trouble, they often recover, but I don't think they ever make as good birds as if they had not been sick. Keep the chicks healthy by not overfeeding while young. As soon as they can get full range, give them all they can eat of hard grain, and by the time fall comes the pullets will be mature and will go into winter quarters ready for a good winter's work.

5. This winter's flock must also be kept healthy, well fed, and well housed, but these three points will be discussed next week.

Eggs and Poultry.

25 BARRED ROCK COCKERELS, SIX months old, weight 5 to 7 lbs., free range, bred from 200 egg hens, worth $5; yours for $2, or 3 for $5. C. E. WEEKS, Kelowna, B.C.

EGGS. EGGS. — PARSON'S POULTRY Tonic for Eggs. Its composition is a guarantee that it makes hens lay. It tones the whole system; increases and enriches the blood, assuring health and vigor, and gently stimulates the egg-producing organs. Best method of feeding hens for eggs printed with each package. Try it. It will surprise you. Easily given. Simply dissolve in drinking water. Per package, postpaid, 25c, 50c and $1.00. Sample free. H. B. CAMERON Lancaster, Ont.

CHOICE COCKERELS FOR SALE. — White and Golden Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds, one Black Cochin Bantam Cock, also Rouen Ducks. Write for prices. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. R. HOPE, Villier's, Ont.

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS, TOULouse, Embden and African Geese: pairs not related; $4.00; Pekin and Cayuga Ducks, $1.00 each; Homer and Tumbler Pigeons, 50c each; Squab Raisin Pigeons, $3.00, for 12. WADE & SON, Sarnia, Ont.

VALUABLE ENGLISH RECIPE FOR keeping poultry in health, and to ensure abundance of eggs. For recipe and full directions, send 10c. GEORGE A. BROWN, Creighton, Ont.

FOR SALE—30 PURE BRED TOULOUSE Geese, 20 Bronze Turkeys, 10 Pure Bred Barred Rock Cockerels, 10 Pekin Ducks, 1 Fox Terrier Puppy. P. D. SINCLAIR, Box 88 Maxville, Ont.

Canaries For Sale.

CANARIES FOR SALE, FINE SINGER or Breeding Pair; cash or on my easy payment plan. Write, WAITE, Owen Sound, Ont.

RAZOR STEEL SECRET-TEMPER CROSS-CUT SAWS FOR FARMERS

We take pleasure in offering to the public a saw manufactured of the finest quality of steel, and a temper which toughens and refines the steel, gives a keener cutting edge, and holds it longer than by any process known. A saw, to cut fast, must hold a keen, cutting edge.'

This secret process of temper is known and used only by ourselves.

These saws are elliptic ground thin back, requiring less set than any saw now made, perfect taper from tooth to back.

Now, we ask you, when you go to buy a saw, to ask for the Maple Leaf, Razor Steel, Secret Temper Saw, and if you are told that some other saw is as good, ask your merchant to let you take them both home and try them, and keep the one you like best.

Silver steel is no longer a guarantee of quality, as some of the poorest steel made is now branded silver steel. We have the sole right for the 'Razor Steel' brand.

It does not pay to buy a saw for one dollar less and lose 25 cents per day in labor. Your saw must hold a keen edge to do a large day's work.

Thousands of these saws are shipped to the United States and sold at a higher price than the best American saws.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY
SHURLY & DIETRICH,
Maple Leaf Saw Works, Galt, Ont.

MEN WANTED AT ONCE on salary and expenses. One good man in each locality with rig or capable of handling horses to advertise and introduce our guaranteed stock and poultry specialties. No experience necessary; we lay out your work for you. $25 a week and expenses. Position permanent. Write W. A. JENKINS Manufacturing Co., London, Ont

Agents Wanted.

MEN WANTED — RELIABLE MEN IN every locality throughout Canada to advertise our goods, tack up show-cards on trees, fences, bridges, and all conspicuous places; also distribute small advertising matter; commission or salary, $83 per month and expenses $4 per day; steady employment to good, reliable men; no experience necessary; write for particulars. EMPIRE MEDICINE CO., London, Ont.

MEN WANTED—WE HAVE A POSITION open for one good man in each locality, local or travelling, at $840 a year and expenses $2.50 per day, tacking up show cards, and generally advertising a New Discovery. No experience necessary. Write for particulars. SALUS MEDICINAL CO., London, Ont.

WANTED, LOCAL ORGANIZERS AND route men. Apply quick to ALFRED TYLER, Wholesale Tea Importer and Spice Grinder, London, Ont.

WANTED, NOW, RELIABLE AGENTS TO sell fruit and ornamental trees. We positively guarantee our trees to be hardy for Quebec, selling selected varieties approved by Government Experimental Farm. Trees true to name. Delivery guaranteed in good condition; exclusive territory; outfit FREE. Established over 25 years. For terms write, PELHAME NURSERY CO., Toronto, Ont.

AGENTS WANTED, TO PUSH WORLD Wide 'on special trial rate offer. Nothing nicer to canvass for. Generous commissions; it is just what intelligent people are looking for. Write for terms, samples, etc JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers Montreal.

Business Chances.

FOR SALE, IN THRIVING TOWN OF Lamont, good butcher business, creamery and grain crusher, combined; also, one hundred and ninety acres of land adjoining town, fenced, and sixty acres, broken. Will sell all or part, or half interest in all. Apply Box 102, Lamont, Alta.

NORTH-WEST WHEAT

GERMINATION TESTS OF NEW CROP AT GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES.

The following is condensed from the report of the laboratories in Winnipeg and Regina:—

MANITOBA WHEAT.

Sixteen samples of wheat were received from the southern portion of the Province of Manitoba. Although many of them show evidence of being slightly frosted, the germination tests were on the whole fairly satisfactory. Only three of the samples show a germination test of less than 70 percent in four days, two of which samples were from Minnedosa and one from Morden. Samples of wheat are now being received at the seed laboratory from the more northern districts of Manitoba.

SASKATCHEWAN WHEAT.

On the whole, it would appear from the germination tests of seed wheat that both the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan will have an abundant supply for next year's seeding, and in a few districts only will it be necessary for the farmers to bring in seed from a distance. Any wheat that has remained in store from the crop of 1906 will be preferable for seed to the 1907 crop, provided that it is equally clean.

GERMINATION TEST OF OATS.

The 1907 oat crop has suffered severely from frost and in many districts the oats are practically useless for the purpose of seeding, although they possess good value for feeding.

MANITOBA OATS.

Sixty samples of oats were received from farmers in the Province of Manitoba. They gave an average germination of 43 percent and ranged from nothing to 99 percent. It is assumed that some of the oats that gave high percentage germination were of the 1906 crop.

One hundred and two samples were received and tested from the Province of Saskatchewan. They also gave an average germination of 43 percent and ranged from nothing to 98 percent.

The percentage vitality of many of the samples of oats that have been tested could be materially increased by thorough fanning. Considering the danger of introducing new species of weeds with the importation of fresh seed oats, it may be well to consider whether it would not in many cases be advisable to sow well fanned seed that would germinate only 50 percent or 60 percent at the rate of three and a half to four bushels per acre, rather than to take the risk of importing fresh supplies with which there would also be some danger on account of lack of vitality. Oats of the 1906 crop would be preferable to most of the samples that have been received and tested of the 1907 crop.

BARLEY.

On account of being earlier in maturing, the barley crop has not suffered to the same extent as the oat crop, although it is thought to be equally susceptible to the frost. Fifteen samples of barley were received from the Province of Manitoba, which, in the uncleaned condition, gave an average germination of 54 percent.

While the results of the vitality tests that have thus far been made do not give grave cause for alarm, it is important that all available supplies of good clean seed oats and barley that were carried over from the 1906 crop, or may be obtained from this year's crop, be husbanded for next spring seeding.

Farmers may obtain accurate information as to the vitality of their oats, barley, or wheat by planting one hundred average grains in a flower pot or box of soil kept under conditions favorable to house plants. The information thus obtained will be most satisfactory to them. Until March first, germination tests of seed grain received from farmers in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta will have precedence over all other work in both the Ottawa and Calgary seed laboratories. Samples should be placed in strong cotton or paper bags, the name and address of the sender enclosed, and addressed to Seed Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, or from the Province of Alberta, to Seed Laboratory, Calgary. Samples addressed to Ottawa will be carried free by mail. Postage must be prepaid on all samples addressed to the Calgary laboratory.

GEO. H. CLARK.
Seed Commissioner, Ottawa.

DRY EARTH FOR POULTRY HOUSES.

In order to carry poultry successfully through the winter the houses must be kept dry and clean. Provision for this should be made now while dry earth can be obtained. A good plan is to clean out the house and every nest in it, thoroughly. Then get in a quantity of perfectly dry sandy earth and spread it evenly over the floor to a depth of eight inches or more and put some into the bottom of every nest box. This plan will work well whether the floor of the house is of earth or plank. It is probable that vermin and dampness cause more loss and disease among fowls than all other troubles put together. The dry sandy earth will counteract the dampness and discourage vermin for many months if properly managed.

In cleaning out the houses after you have put in the sand or earth, it will only be necessary to scrape off the droppings lightly with a fine rake, every few days, and you will have no difficulty in keeping clean poultry houses, while the health of your flocks will be greatly improved.

FARMERS' SALES AND WANTS.

ADVERTISING RATES.—Under this heading advertisements will be inserted without display at a cash-with-the-order rate of one cent a word per insertion, twenty-five cents being the minimum amount of an order for a single insertion, and forty cents the minimum amount for orders of more than one insertion. SIX consecutive prepaid insertions will be given for the price of FOUR, a number or a single letter to be counted as one word. When replies are to be addressed in care of the 'Witness' Office, an additional charge of twenty-five cents is made.

Live Stock.

LEICESTER EWES, BRED TO TORONTO First Prize Winner. Also, ewe lambs; good quality. GEO. B. ARMSTRONG, Teeswater, Ont.

FOR SALE, REGISTERED JERSEY bull, out of Pedro 17th. Hood Farm at a bargain; also, three registered Leicester Ram Lambs, out of prize-winning stock. R. W. FRANK, Kingsbury, Que.

MAPLE LODGE. — LARGE, THRIFTY Berkshires, of the bacon type, two stock boars, two boars six months old. Sows bred and ready to breed. Younger pigs of both sex, for sale, at reasonable prices, f.o.b., including reg. pedigrees. JOSEPH NAUMAN, Fisherville, Ont. Nelles Corners, G.T.R.

REGISTERED SHORTHORNS, BERKshires and Leicesters. Two bulls, eight and twenty months; extra quality; two boars and two sows, seven months; never beaten; also, prize-winning ram and ewe lambs. ISAAC READ, Ardtrea, Simcoe Co., Ontario.

FOR SALE, 3 A.J.C.C. JERSEY COWS, and 1 yearling heifer. R. JAMIESON, Perth, Ont.

BEAUTIFUL ANGORA KITTENS, ALL colors, very cheap. MRS. WARREN PEASLEE, Jefferson, Maine.

Farm and Other Lands

798 ACRES RICH LAND, FINE BUILDings, nicely located; wharf on farm; 10 acres apples. Price, $9,500. Terms, 1-3 cash. Balance, mortgage. Catalogue free. CLARK & SON, Dover, Delaware.

FARM. — $12,000 CASH WILL BUY 480 acres of good land, 175 under plough, all fenced. Good brick house. Barn, stables, granaries, good water, 6 miles, town. Address W. E. CORAM, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada.

FOR SALE, VALUABLE FARM, 95 Acres, known as Robertson Farm, Windham Township, Norfolk County; convenient to school, churches, market, station, post-office, stores, cheese factory, and telephone. Apply T. R. NELLES, Simcoe.

4 SECTIONS FIRST-CLASS PRAIRIE lands; 20 miles from Moose Jaw; price, $9.50 per acre en bloc; a splendid investment. Send for list. PEARCE, Real Estate, Moose Jaw.

FARMS FOR SALE AND TO RENT—several good farms to rent on easy terms, also improved and unimproved farms for sale on easy terms. Three or four farms for sale on half crop payments. A good opportunity for a person short of cash, but having horses and implements necessary to operate a farm, thus on easy terms become the owner. Apply to J. B. GOWANLOCK, 517 McIntyre Block, Winnipeg.

Books, Cards, &c.

POSTCARDS — BRITISH AND FOREIGN Views beautifully produced in monochrome in various art tones; 20 for 25c, postpaid. A. G. BROWN, Creighton, Ont.

POSTCARDS — SIX ASST. 1908 CALENdar Postcards, and six Xmas Eve Postals for Twenty Cents postpaid. F. J. NEWCOMB, Hopewell Hill, N.B.

YOUR NAME IN GOLD ON TWELVE beautiful Xmas and New Year postcards for 25c. NORMAN PEEL, Mfg., London, Ont.

POST CARDS. FIFTEEN HANDSOME New Year's Postals, Embossed, Jewelled, etc., only 25c. Sample Package, all kinds, only 50c. G. P. LE GRAND, New Carlisle, Que.

POSTCARDS — 20 DIFFERENT COLORed—flowers, scenery, comics, etc., 20c. A RICE, Granby, Que.

FOR SALE — THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA Britannica, ninth edition, 24 vols., and index; also oak revolving case for same; good condition; cost new $160; state offer. ERIC R. McCUTCHEON, Black Hawk, Ont.

SONG BOOK — 150 OLD TIME SONGS, with words and music, 10c. A RICE, Granby, Que.

COINS AND STAMPS. ALL NATIONS, revenues, small dealers supplied. W. H. MYERS, Gordon Bay, Ont.

FIFTEEN CHRISTMAS POSTALS, EMbossed, Jewelled, etc., only 25c. Send for big sample package, all kinds, only 50c, and double your money. G. P. LeGRAND, New Carlisle, Que.

(For late Classified Ads See Page 24.

For Sale.

BELL ORGAN, 6 OCTAVE, WALNUT Case, with handsome burl walnut panels and high back with music rack. Has 11 stops, 2 sets of reeds, 2 couplers and 2 knee swells. Mouseproof, $55. Payments $10 down and $4 monthly, without interest. GOURLAY, WINTER & LEEMING, 188 Yonge street, Toronto.

DOHERTY—6 OCTAVE PIANO CASE ORgan, with mirror top and lamp stands. Has 11 stops, 2 sets of reeds, 2 couplers and 2 knee swells. Special price $77.

KARN—PIANO CASE ORGAN, 6 Octaves, in beautiful walnut case with mirror top. Has 11 stops, 2 sets of reeds throughout, 2 couplers, 2 knee swells. Just like new. Special price $86.

BELL—PIANO CASE ORGAN, IN ELEgant walnut case, with handsome mirror top. Has 11 stops, 2 sets of reeds, etc. Cannot be told from new. Special price $88.

DOMINION—PIANO CASE ORGAN, 6 OCtaves, in rich mahogany case, with full length carved panels. Has 11 stops, 2 sets of reeds, etc. Protected mouseproof pedals. Special price $91. Payments, $10 cash and $4 monthly on any piano-case Organ; no interest. GOURLAY, WINTER & LEEMING, 188 Yonge street, Toronto.

BOILER, FIRST CLASS CONDITION, 12 ft. long, 4 ft. diameter, 30 tubes, 3 in. and 2½ in.; also 20 horse power engine. Apply BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Hartington, Ont.

BLACKSMITH SHOP FOR SALE, IN lively village; splendid business; excellent reasons for selling. C. SAUNDERS, Real Estate, etc., Burford, Ont.

WINDMILL (WHEEL and 50 FOOT GALvanized tower) complete as it stands, Brantford make, will take $75 cash before taking away. R. S. MARTIN, Hamilton, Ont.

Miscellaneous.

POCKET CAMERAS, WITH COMPLETE outfit and directions, 75c prepaid. GEORGE GRATTAN, New Glasgow, Que.

FOX AND MINK TRAPPERS—I TEACH you how to trap absolutely free (8 secrets); no fake. I buy the fur. I supply guns, traps, etc. I want 80,000 skins. Enclose stamp for price list and free methods. E. W. DOUGLASS, Stanley, N.B.

25 ENVELOPES PRINTED WITH Return name and address on corner, postpaid, 25c. Samples free. W. HOWIE, Printer, Beebe Plain, Que.

FOR ANY STORE

The right metal ceiling lessens fire-risk, beautifies any interior, is cleanly and lasts almost forever. Such a ceiling is easily put up, and costs no more than the common kinds. Learn the facts about

PEDLAR ART STEEL CEILINGS

More than 2,000 designs, suitable for every use. Side-walls in equal variety to match. Let us send you a book that tells the whole story of the ceiling that shows no seams. Address— 211

The PEDLAR People (Est'd 1861)
Oshawa Montreal Ottawa Toronto London Winnipeg

GUELPH WINTER FAIR

LIVE STOCK ENTRIES FINEST EVER SHOWN IN CANADA.

Guelph, Ont., Dec. 12.—The Winter Fair is a big success. From all parts of the Dominion visitors have come to the city to inspect the various live stock, poultry and other exhibits, to gain information as to the latest methods in agriculture, and to listen to the many excellent addresses which have been delivered on almost every branch of Canada's principal industry. The fair has been splendidly attended, and the visitors have not been slow in showing their appreciation of the fine show.

From the purely agricultural point of view, the fair is one of the best that has ever been held, the exhibits in all departments being especially attractive. According to the officials, the live stock is far in advance of anything heretofore shown in Ontario—a pretty comprehensive claim, it must be admitted, but the show is so good that one is not surprised at the praise which has been expressed.

Yesterday, in continuation of the various addresses, Prof. C. A. Zavitz dealt with the pasture crops of Ontario. His audience was especially pleased, as the matter placed before them was new to many, and was based on successful experiments conducted by Mr. Zavitz. The pasture land of Ontario has increased 10,000,000 acres in the last ten years. One-half of the cultivated lands are now in grass, but Professor Zavitz stated emphatically that the quality of grass produced is not so good as that of ten years ago. The reason lay in the fact that timothy was grown, and this grass does not make good pasture. His aim of late had been to get a good pasture the same year as the seed was sown, and his experiments had resulted successfully. He advocated sowing a mixture of thirteen bushels (51 pounds) oats, 30 pounds amber sugar cane, and seven pounds of common red clover. The seed should be sown the first week in May, and grass would be ready to pasture in six weeks. One acre would feed one ox, while under existing conditions it takes three or four.

Mr. A. G. Raynor, of Ottawa, emphasized strongly that not enough pains are taken in selecting seed potatoes. The best method is to select a good variety, and work it up to the highest possible production, and then hold it there.

The afternoon saw the largest crowd of men and also ladies ever seen at a Winter Fair in Guelph. The fact was brought home to the directors that the building must be enlarged. The lecture room would not hold ten percent of the visitors who wished to hear Mr. D. Ward King, of Missouri, the originator of the split log drag. Mr. King is a pleasing and forcible speaker, and held his large audience for over an hour. He advocated most strongly the split log drag, saying that $7 per mile a year would keep Ontario clay roads in repair. All that is needed is to use the drag so as to round the grade of the road and keep the holes filled. The drag should be used whenever there are holes, not a few times a year.

Mr. A. W. Campbell, road commissioner for Ontario, said that in the last ten years $10,000,000 had been spent on Ontario roads, and it would require $21,000,000 more to undertake the work throughout the province.

The split log drag will help on all roads where macadamizing is impossible. Drainage is absolutely necessary. This can be obtained by crowning the road and furnishing outlets for water either with open or tile drains.

DAIRY FARMING ADVANTAGES

The strong points of dairy farming are:

1. It is a manufacturing business—raw materials are not sold.
2. It keeps up the fertility of the farm.
3. Waste products are turned into valuable ones.
4. A great amount of labor is needed.
5. It may be conducted all the year round.
6. Freight charges are less according to money returned.
7. Dairy products are necessary articles of human food.

The prime materials of the dairy farmer are soil, sun, air and water.

The agents of the dairy farmer are plants and animals.

A moist climate, good pasture or soiling crops, plenty of pure air and water, good soil, and suitable markets, are needed for dairying.

When selecting a dairy farm, we should consider:

1. Its size—a large farm is not necessary. It is better to be arable and well drained.
2. Its location—near a town, railway cheese factory or creamery.
3. Its buildings—they should be neat, tasty, and suitable for dairy work.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

(We invite questions on all possible subjects of general interest, to which we shall do our best to obtain correct answers, and shall insert such queries and replies as we can make room for. This must not be used, however, as an advertising column or as an enquiry bureau for matters not of public interest. Every query must be accompanied with the name and postal address of the sender, and no notice will be taken of anonymous communications.)

GENERAL.

DAY OF THE WEEK.

A Scot.—I was born on the twenty-first of February, 1832. Please say on what day of the week it was. Ans. — Feb. 21, 1832, fell on a Tuesday.

THE NEW CHURCH ORGAN.

J.H.C.—Could you kindly tell me where I could find the words of 'The New Church Organ,' beginning: 'They've got a bran new organ.' Ans.—You will find it in 'Choice Selections No. 6,' or 'Best Selections, No. 2,' published by the Penn Publishing Company, 923 Arch street, Philadelphia.

WORKING AT HOME.

'An Out-of-Town Reader.'—Do you know of any work like copying or anything a person could do who is obliged to stay indoors a good deal during the winter? Ans. —Without knowing something of your ability, it would be impossible to advise you. As to copying, almost all such work is now done on the typewriter. Sometimes firms have circulars and envelopes addressed by hand, but the express charges on the paper both ways would leave little for the work, even if the firm considered it advisable to send the work out of town. You might try advertising, but the prospects in the line you mention are not very encouraging.

LAND SURVEYING OFFER.

Ontario Reader.—In an article in the 'Witness' mention was made of 'special inducements' offered by the Dominion Govment to young men as land surveyors. Where would one apply for further information as to the special inducements, etc.? Would a man over thirty years be too old? Ans.—The publication some weeks ago of the special inducements offered by the Department of the Interior to young men who desire to become land surveyors has already brought in numerous applications from different parts of the Dominion so that the scarcity then mentioned no longer exists to the same extent. Application should be made to G. Deville, Surveyer General, Department of the Interior, Ottawa. There is nothing to prevent a man taking up this profession who has already passed the age of thirty.

MISSION WORK IN LABRADOR.

J. McC., an Old Subscriber.—Could you kindly tell me something about the mission work in Labrador, giving a short sketch of Dr. Grenfell's work there, and say if others labored there before him. Ans.—Dr. W. T. Grenfell sailed from England in the hospital vessel 'Albert,' in 1892, in charge as the first mission doctor sent by the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. He spent three months on the coast, holding services and treating 900 sick folk. In 1893, Battle Harbor Hospital was presented by friends in St. John's, Newfoundland, and opened with a qualified nurse and doctor. The launch 'Princess May' was added to enable the ship to do more work. In 1894 Indian Harbor Hospital was opened for the summer, and Battle Harbor Hospital was kept open for the first time during the winter; friends in Canada now began to help the mission. In several cities a committee was formed to keep up interest in the mission. In 1895 the steamer 'Sir Donald,' was presented by Sir Donald A. Smith, for many years a resident in Labrador, and 1,900 sick people received treatment. Dr. Roddick, of Montreal, presented the sailing boat 'Urelia McKinnon' to the mission. A small co-operative store was started at Red Bay in the Straits of Belle Isle, 1896, to help the settlers to escape the 'truck system' of trade. There are now five such stores. The 'Sir Donald' was carried out to sea and found at a great distance frozen in, and had to be sold. In 1897 a steam launch, 'Julian Sheridan, given by a Toronto lady, replaced the 'Sir Donald.' A large mission hall was attached to Indian Harbor Hospital for the use of the fishermen; 2,000 patients were treated. In 1899 the steamer hospital 'Strathcona,' fitted with every available modern appliance, was built at Dartmouth, England, largely through the munificence of the High Commissioner. The following year the settlers on the Newfoundland shore of the Straits of Belle Isle commenced to build a hospital at St. Anthony, and the mission decided to adopt that place as a third station. In 1902 a new wing was added to Battle Harbor Hospital. Indian Harbor Hospital was also enlarged; 2,777 patients received treatment. The launch 'Julia Sheridan' was chartered by the government to suppress an outbreak of smallpox. The Newfoundland Government had granted $1,500 in the previous year to assist in the erection of the St. Anthony Hospital. In 1903 new outbuildings were added to the Indian Harbor Hospital, among other work, and in 1904 a new doctor's house was built at Battle Harbor. An orphanage was built at St. Anthony's Hospital to accommodate 15, and a building was also added for teaching loom work and general carpentering. A doctor was appointed in 1905 at the request of the people on the Canadian Labrador, with headquarters at Harrington. There are now five hospitals belonging to the Deep Sea Mission, of which Dr. Grenfell is superintendent of the Labrador work. These places are not only hospitals, but hotels to which any and everyone is expected to come in time of sickness or trouble. They come often long distances in boats in summer, and in dog sleighs in winter. The doctors cruise about in the hospital ships in summer, Dr. Grenfell being captain of the largest, and travel from place to place in dog sleighs in winter, making the hospitals, which are kept open by the nurse, their headquarters, and returning there when necessary. The other work done in Labrador before Dr. Grenfell began his mission, was by occasional evangelistic missionaries and Moravian missionaries among the Eskimos, and the Roman Catholic priest working among the Indians of the interior. A mission was carried on for many years with headquarters at Caribou Island in the Canadian Labrador which had its base of operations in Montreal. The Newfoundland Government used to send a doctor up occasionally to supply the people's needs. A complete account of Dr. Grenfell's work is given in his books 'Vikings of To-day' and 'Life and Medical Work among the Fishermen of Labrador.'

THE LITTLE LOG CABIN BY THE STREAM.

Miss A. Grace Gebbie, Howick, and Mr. N. Mander, Westmount, have kindly sent the following verses, asked for by D.A.L.:

There is a little cabin by the stream,
where I was born,
A home I never more again may see,
'Twas there the lark and robin told their loves at early morn,
And life was all a dream of joy to me.

The laughing stream went singing on its merry, joyous way,
It seemed like distant music in a dream,
The rose and lily twined their leaves, the birds sang all the day,
To glad my humble cabin by the stream.

'Tis many years ago I lived in my dear cabin home,
When youth and pleasure danced upon the lea
Those days have faded long ago, while far away I roam,
In lands that have no pleasant scenes for me.

The flowers may bloom, the birds may sing, my heart is lone and sad,
The golden sun in radiant beauty beam,
But memory turns to early days, to make the bosom glad,
The lowly cabin by the laughing stream.

Let scenes of joy come shining on, they have no charm for me,
My heart still dwells on old forgotten days:
No more I see the roses blooming on the sunny lea,
Or hear the wild birds' sweet and gentle lays,

Oh, let me soon return to meet my friends of long ago,
Their voices come like music in a dream,
The clouds of sorrow on my heart hang heavily and low,
Oh, give me back my cabin by the stream.

Chorus—
The laughing stream went singing on its merry, joyous way,
It seemed like distant music in a dream,
The rose and lily twined their leaves, the birds sang all the day,
To glad my humble cabin by the stream.

LEGAL.

(ONTARIO.) EXPRESS BUSINESS.

Subscriber, Ont.—The express company have an office and collect express parcels in an incorporated town of about 5,000 inhabitants. Has the agent power to refuse to call for parcels, when notified by any person residing within the corporation, in reasonable time? Can he also refuse to deliver at their residences express parcels addressed to ratepayers of said town? What are the obligations of the Can. Ex. Co. in regard to collecting and delivering express parcels in an incorporated town or city? Ans.—We could not venture to answer your questions without seeing the charter of incorporation of the company, or a copy of the same.

TENANT AND NEW LANDLORD.

Subscriber, Ont.—A rents a farm to B for a term of years. Before the lease expires A sells the farm to C subject to the lease. 1. Is B responsible to C for damage he has done to farm before C bought it, such as cutting wood off farm, etc., that the lease did not allow? 2. Can C make B pay for wood that was cut before he bought and burned since? 3. Can C make B leave fences in their original position, he having moved them for his own convenience. The lease says that fences and buildings must be kept in a good state of repair. Ans.—1 and 2. We cannot tell definitely from the foregoing statement of facts alone, but it is probable that C is not in a position to legally recover damages, or payment for wood, as suggested. 3. We think that C is entitled to do so; and that if B fails to return the fences to where they formerly stood, after notice from C, he may be liable in damages for his refusal or neglect.

MEDICAL.

(Letters for this department should be addressed 'Medical Editor 'Witness,' Montreal.' Should a subscriber ask any question which is not suitable for publication, a reply will be sent by mail if a stamped addressed envelope and $1, physician's fee, be enclosed with such question.)

TAPEWORM.

'Winnipeg Subscriber' asks how to get rid of a tapeworm, which he thinks he acquired by eating diseased meat. Ans.—It is by no means easy to get rid of a tapeworm, and you many need to repeat any treatment several times. The difficulty is, that unless you get away the head of the worm it will grow again. If any of the worm comes away, look for the head. This is at the end of a fine thread, much smaller than the body of the worm. The treatment is as follows:—At bedtime take an ounce or two of castor oil. Then before breakfast time, take thirty drops of liquid extract of male fern. Follow this up an hour later with another ounce of castor oil. Do without your breakfast. If this does not do, get two ounces of pumpkin seed. Bruise them fine and boil for half an hour in a little water. Strain and drink the liquid. Precede and follow this with the castor oil, as above recommended.

SORE FOOT.

J.W.M., a young man, aged twenty-eight, is troubled with his left foot, on the side near the small toe. After wearing his shoe for an hour his foot cramps. This starts at the side, and unless he takes off his boot, keeps getting worse. He has an occupation that necessitates his keeping his feet on a table. He is otherwise in fairly good health, except that before his meals he is troubled with pains in his stomach. Ans.—I should think the trouble is in part due to the position that you have to assume, and, also to a badly-fitting boot. Try wearing moccasins for a while.

INTERNAL HAEMORRHOIDS.

'A 'Witness' Admirer' asks for the formula of a good ointment or salve to apply inside the rectum to a tumor-like swelling, which gives him great distress at times. Ans.—No doubt you are troubled with haemorrhoids, or 'piles.' It is important, first of all that you keep the bowels moving daily. Aim to have an easy, soft, motion. A teaspoonful of flowers of sulphur in a little molasses at bedtime is the best thing for this purpose. Many of the drug firms make a suppository for the treatment of piles, which contains adrenalin. You could probably get this through a druggist.

ECZEMA.

S.B.E. is a married woman, aged thirty-seven. She has been troubled with eczema of the hands for a year and a half. It is worse in cold weather. Asks for advice, and whether the trouble is a skin affection or one of the whole system; also, if it is infectious. The itching is intense. Ans.—Eczema is a disease of the skin, but the condition of the skin is controlled to some extent by the nervous system. It has been thought that indigestion and constipation increase the tendency to eczema. Eat plain food, avoiding all rich and fatty substances. Sugar, pickles, cheese, all are injurious for you. Take cascara for the bowels if you need anything of the kind. Do not take salts. The most important thing in the treatment of eczema is to keep the hands out of water. If you must use water, wear a pair of rubber gloves. When the hands need cleansing rub them with bread and sweet oil. Most of the trouble is due to a lack of fat in the skin. At night rub the hands with lanolin, and put on a pair of old gloves. Wear these all night. When it is absolutely necessary to put the hands in water, add a little boiled starch to it, or a handful of oatmeal. Never use common soaps, always castile. Obstinate cases may necessitate abstinence from housework and a change of air.

GARDEN TALKS

This department is conducted by Mrs. Annie L. Jack, Chateauguay Basin, Que., to whom all questions should be sent. All questions answered through the 'Witness.'

'In the month of December, when naked and grim,
The tree-tops thrust at the snow clouds grey,
And frozen tears fill the lids of day;
We sigh, "Would the winter were well away
For whatever the sun and the dial say,
This is the longest day."'

It is no wonder the Prodigal skipped out, if he had to get up and light the fires and cook the breakfast these dark, cold mornings, said Aspasia; really 'riotous living' sounds quite alluring. But according to the story that could not be an excuse, for he was one of the four hundred of his times.

Now, as a character I have always had a sneaking liking for the Prodigal, and admired him, as some artists must have done who have represented him, as one could easily imagine his appearance—a frank, handsome countenance, not lacking in courage; the sort of face that charms, and excuses faults.

How few of us are willing to 'arise' and confess our sin, even after we have wasted our years in riotous living, and fear starvation.

There is something very touching in his submission to become one of his father's servants, knowing that it meant to lose caste with his own people.

Thinking of this one Sabbath, the sleepy bells rang out an invitation to all Christians and prodigals to go and be fed.

Over the roofs and chimneys came the tongues from the church steeples, and the chimes made music to the words:

'Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.'

Fast and dark life's years close in apace, and the 'darkness deepens.' We need the torch of faith to light the way, and the strengthening welcome of the Father's voice.

Is the Prodigal still waiting? He has fed on husks so long: And too often the bread of life is mixed with inferior grain in these days of adulteration.

It does not nourish the soul, and after eating of it one becomes sleepy, and self satisfied; time and eternity seem afar off and easy, under its torpid influence.

What say the bells now?

'Can I be carried to the skies,
On flowery beds of ease'?

Ah, no; the way to heaven, as trod by the Saviour of men and his disciples, is by the gate of self-abnegation, through fields of labor, and over stony paths of self-denial. But the road leads to our Father's house.

A SIGN OF PROGRESS.

We have only to look at the advertising pages of the leading magazines and other journals to realize that an interest in floriculture is fast increasing.

Page after page will be given up during the next three or four months to notices of the plants and seeds offered for sale. And the catalogues are really works of art, full of useful information as well as alluring and delightful possibilities.

Wealthy capitalists are encouraging the laying out of fine grounds, and importing beautiful novelties to add to their collections.

In the matter of books there is much new garden lore to read and learn, showing an interest in this work that is pleasant to see.

In this growing love for flowers there is a tendency toward the higher cultivation of the beautiful, and a striving for the better things of life. Bodily weariness may overtake us, but the hopeful spirit of the garden lover never fails, as long as the garden remains.

LEAF FOR NAME.

B.B.—Your leaf was overlooked last week which was certainly ungrateful of me, because I did not thank you for the magnolia seeds so kindly sent. They are not likely to grow large here, although we have two magnolia trees growing in sight of my window, Magnolia Stellata and Acuminata.

The leaves sent are no doubt Japanese maples, so well known and admired for their brilliant foliage, finely cut and dissected.

Their dwarf almost shrubby growth has prevented their use, not being adapted for general planting. But a hedge of them must have presented a fine appearance with the yellow, bronze, red and green coloring.

The plants in my garden have never yet become large enough for a hedge, being winter killed every season. But they are objects of interest to all who are not familiar with these beautiful markings.

SEVERAL QUESTIONS.

Helen L. C.—Tuberoses have a habit of growing very tall; for that reason, there is a dwarf variety more in favor than the older sort. The bulb requires a large pot and plenty of room, and after blooming it can be set away in the pot. As a rule, they do not blossom again, but if you make the trial remove all offsets in spring and re-pot in rich soil.

As regards the strength of the tobacco decoction all depends on the strength of the tobacco. If you have the water a clear brown, the color of a good cup of tea, it will not be likely to do any harm. Wash with lukewarm water first, and keep the tops moist for a while after using the tobacco.

A little fertilizer will not injure your begonia if it is in a healthy growing condition.

The term 'frond is used in connection with ferns, whether the leaves be small or large.

THE CHRISTMAS ROSE.

Mrs. McG.—The plant you mean is not a rose at all, but is of the Hellebore family. It will not bloom out of doors in midwinter in this climate, as you can readily understand, but in England its bells open in November, and continue to blossoff through frost and snow. It can be raised out of doors in summer, and I have had plants in bloom at Christmas that had been freely forced by a skilful grower.

THE DIFFERENT RASPBERRIES.

Henry D.—The Marlboro raspberry does well on gravelly ridges, but not on sand. It is early, but not sprightly in flavor. Kirkland is productive and hardy, but Cuthbert is the well tried and reliable market variety. Golden Queen is fine for the table, and not half appreciated, as it does not sell so well on the market as a red berry, and discolors quickly. Shaffer is rather soft, but fine for home use, and a good canning berry.

GRAPE GROWING.

J.G.H.—It is not advisable to go too extensively into the culture of grapes in your latitude. Of varieties, try Worden and Concord for black, Brighton for red, and Niagara for white.

In order that they may ripen the soil should be warm and gravelly, with a sunny southern exposure. That they may escape frost, they are best planted on high land.

The distance apart varies according to method of training and growth of variety. Some of the small growing sorts can be planted eight feet apart each way, while the stronger vines require ten.

A trellis is the best support, using posts that are set twenty-five feet apart and six feet above ground, with two rows of No. 10 galvanized wire.

Grape vines are subject to several diseases. In cold, wet seasons, downy mildew attacks them, and powdery mildew when it is hot and dry. Then there is black rot and anthracnose to fight against, though some varieties are more free than others from these attacks.

Where any of these diseases are troublesome, the prunings, and fallen leaves and fruit must be burned and the vines sprayed with fungicides.

Where one has only a few vines the bunches can be enclosed in bags of manilla paper, put in when half grown, and allowed to remain there until the grapes are fully ripe. The fruit will be found earlier and larger.

RED AND WHITE 'CEDAR.'

R.S.—There are many mistakes made in regard to the above varieties called cedar. The white or swamp cedar, is a cypress, and goes by the name of Cupressus Thyoides. It is of rapid growth, light green foliage, and will grow in the dampest localities.

What is commonly called red cedar is in reality Juniperus Virginiana.

The Junipers are beautiful trees, and this variety has an erect growth, and the color of the foliage varies from light to dark. If once established it makes a beautiful hedge.

PYRETHRUM POWDER.

Mrs. A.R.—Having never tried growing Pyrethrum in order to utilize the flower heads as powder, it is not easy to say if you would be successful. The flowers are very desirable perennials and form broad clumps, with handsome fern-like leaves, thriving in any rich well drained soil. They have grown here for many years without any attention, and, of course, ripen their seed. The only thing you can do is to experiment by grinding up the flower heads. It will certainly be fresh compared with what we purchase from the druggist.

ON PRUNING NOW.

J.B.L. asks if it is a good time to prune now. Pruning plants and training them in the way they should go is one of the necessary helps to the production of good fruit, or shape.

Shrubs and ornamental trees are pruned to give them grace and beauty, and at times plants must be pruned to restore their vigor. It is not well to prune when the branches are frozen, and there is an old saying: 'Prune in winter for wood, in summer for fruit,' so it depends upon what is wanted.

Late winter is generally regarded as the best time to cut off large branches, but many growers allow that it can be done with safety at any time between the fall of the leaf and its reappearance in the spring.

Like many other departments of work, a great deal must be left to one's own judgment and a knowledge of the climate and condistions of the trees to be pruned.

PLANT FOR NAME.

E.G.—The flower sent in for name has the botanical title of Cosmos Bipinnatus; it is an annual and a native of Mexico.

As a garden plant it is of the easiest possible cultivation, but is late coming into bloom, which fault takes it rather unpopular with impatient amateurs as late north as this.

The seed germinate readily, and whther sown early or late, it does not come into flower any sooner. If left alone it will grow six or seven feet in a season.

CROWN PRINCE'S COURAGE.

The credit of having lanced the malignant tumor belongs, not to Harden, but to the Crown Prince. Any one can understand, without being a trained psychologist, that it cannot have been an easy thing for the son to appear before his imperial father and to complain to him of his closest friends. To have done this was a courageous act.—'Kolnische Zeitung.'

CHESS

Tuesday, Dec. 17, 1907.

PROBLEM NO. 1212.
By G. Heathcote.
Prize for best two moves in Norwich 'Mercury' theme tourney.
White—12 pieces.

Black—9 pieces.
White mates in TWO moves.

PROBLEM NO. 1213.
By W. Pauly, Bucharest.
First prize in 'Deutsch Wochenschach' theme tourney.
Black—6 pieces.

White—9 pieces.
White mates in THREE moves.

In the go-ahead north we see by the Yorkshire 'Weekly Post' lodges of chess instruction have been formed. At the last 'instruction night' at the Leeds Club the instruction took the form of a consultation game between two pairs supported by three junior players on each side, while at a third board a strong player reproduced and criticised the moves for the edification of the weaker brethren.

In connection with the City of London Chess Club competitions a novel feature is that in all the tourneys players will receive 1s for every game won, provided no game be scored against them by default. The working of this arrangement will be noted with interest by club secretaries, as how to get all the games in a tourney played off has long been a problem in the management of a chess club.

COLLEGE CHESS.

Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Columbia will play their annual four-cornered chess tournament during the Christmas holidays. They have selected Dec. 21, 23 and 24 as the dates.

In the current number of 'The Chess Amateur' the following question is asked: How many different routes can be taken by the King in moving from K 1 to K 8 . . . in seven moves?' The correct answer may be obtained empirically in a minute or two, but the question suggests this interesting problem. On an unlimited board, required a general expression for the total number of different minimal King's routes between two given squares in terms of the co-ordinates of those squares.

Example: Suppose we take one of the given squares as origin, and, with axes parallel to the board-edges, the co-ordinates of the other square are 19 and 4. Working by the rule-of-thumb method of writing numbers in the several squares, an expert arithmetician might complete the work in two hours; but in all probability his result would be wrong. With the general solution known, five minutes will suffice. Perhaps some of your readers would like to work it out.—'Eng. Mechanic.'

One of the "brilliancy" prize games of the recent Carlsbad Tournament.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

White. (Janowsky)	Black. (Prof. Berger)
1 P—Q 4	1 P—Q 4
2 Kt—K B 3	2 P—Q B 4
3 P x P (a)	3 P—K 3
4 P—K 3 (b)	4 B x P
5 B—K 2	5 Kt—K B 3
6 Castles.	6 Castles.
7 P—Q R 3	7 P—Q Kt 3
8 P—Q Kt 4	8 B—Q 3
9 B—Kt 2	9 B—Kt 2
10 Q—Kt Q 2	10 Q—Kt Q 2
11 P—B 4	11 Q—K 2
12 P x P	12 B x P
13 Kt—Q 4	13 P—Q R 4 (c)
14 P—Kt 5	14 Kt—B 4
15 B—K B 3	15 Kt—Q 6
16 B x B	16 Kt x Q B
17 Q—Kt 3	17 Kt x B
18 Q x Kt	18 Q—B 3 (d)
19 Q R—B sq	19 Q R—B sq
20 Q—Kt 3	20 Q—R 3
21 P—Kt 3	21 B—B 4
22 Kt (Q 2) B 3 (e)	22 Q—R 4
23 K—Kt 2	23 Kt—B 3? (f)
24 Kt—B 6	24 K—R sq
25 K R—Q sq	25 P—R 3
26 R—B 4	26 Kt—Q 4
27 R—K R 4	27 Q—Kt 3
28 Kt (B 6) K 5	28 Q—R 2
29 P—K 4	29 Kt—K 2
30 R—Q 7	30 Q R—K sq
31 Kt—Kt 5 (g)	31 Q—Kt sq
32 Q—Q B 3	32 P—B 3
33 R x Kt! (h)	33 Resigns.

(a) Quite sound. White has a 'Queen's Gambit Accepted' position, with a Pawn ahead.

(b) It would be a mistake to attempt to maintain the Pawn by P—Q Kt 4, as Black, with P—Q R 4, etc., would ultimately have the better of the game.

(c) There appears to be no good reason for this weakening advance.

(d) Preventing Kt—B 6.

(e) If now Kt—B 6, Black can dislodge the piece by Kt—K 2. It has been suggested that Black could, in reply to 22. Kt—B 6, venture Kt x K P; but this seems erroneous, on account of Kt—K 7 ch., ultimately.

(f) He now lets the Kt in very effectively; evidently an abberation. Kt—K 2 was the right move.

(g) White has taken remarkable advantage of his opponent's error on the 23rd move. Games of this kind always afford a very valuable Chess lesson for those students who observe as well as see.

(h) A beautiful conclusion. If either B, or R x R, 34. Kt—Kt 6 mate. If P x Kt (K 5), 34. R x P ch., P x R; 35. Q x P ch., etc. And if P x Kt (Kt 5), then 34. R x P ch., P x R; 35 Kt—Kt 6 mate! White's move, 32. Q—Q B 3, was a deep and very fine trap.

A FINE PAWN AND MOVE GAME.

1 P—K 4	1 P—K 3
2 P—Q 4	2 P—Q 4
3 P—K 5	3 P—B 4
4 B—Q Kt 5 ch	4 Q Kt—B 3
5 P—Q B 3	5 Q—Kt 3
6 B x Kt ch	6 P x B
7 Kt—B 3	7 B—R 3
8 Kt—Kt 5	8 P x P
9 Kt x K P	9 P—B 4
10 Kt x B?	10 Kt—K 2
11 Kt x P	11 R x Kt
12 P x P?	12 P x P
13 Q—B 2	13 R—B 1!
14 Q—Q 2	

At this point the odds giver, Black, initiates a beautiful winning combination, by which he succeeds in mating White in less than a dozen moves.

It is now a case of Black to play and win!—Dublin 'Herald.'

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

KRISS KRINGLE'S VISIT.

Who dashes on in sleet and snow;
With ears and cheeks a ruddy glow,
With whoop and shout and merry jingle?
Good folks, look out, 'tis old Kriss Kringle.

His cap he raises with a shout,
His beard and hair blow all about.
He stamps his feet and snaps his finger;
For not an instant can he linger.

He cracks his whip, now left, now right,
The reindeers speed with all their might,
A million stockings must be filled,
And not a single toy be spilled.

Look out now—there's a sled broke loose,
And there's a doll caught in a noose—
Now hasten, hasten every one
Or soon we'll see the rising sun.

Now first go through this narrow street;
We'll give the children here a treat,
For once a year, at least, I'll see
The poorest child shall happy be.

There, halt! How high this chimney is!
'Tis well I understand my biz,
For never mortal saw before
So tight a squeeze as this, I'm sure.

Now dash away o'er hill and dale,
The stars and moon begin to pale,
And Mrs. Kringle will not wait—
She never likes her breakfast late.
—Selected.

THE FIR TREE.

Long ago in a forest there grew a beautiful fir tree. She used to say to the other trees, 'I wish I could go out in the world and do some good.' Now, not far from this forest there was a hospital. One day some men came with big sharp axes and cut the tree down. 'Oh!' sighed the fir tree, 'I wanted to go out in the world, but it is hard to bear such pain as those axes gave me, and to leave one's friends. But if I want to do anything, I must bear patiently all things pleasant and unpleasant.'

Now when the men had cut it down, they put it in a sleigh, drawn by two powerful black horses, and took it to the hospital. It was put on a platform behind a big white curtain. Soon, some young girls with white caps and aprons came in. After much whispering and rattling of paper, the tree found herself transformed into a fairy tree, all covered with gold tinsel, dolls, and all sorts of pretty things. 'Oh!' said the tree in rapture.

It stood there for one night. The next afternoon, the great white curtain was drawn aside. There were exclamations of delight and satisfaction from the children in their little beds. Soon a gentleman went up by the tree. 'Before we distribute the presents,' he said, 'we will offer a prayer to God Almighty, who has given this tree for our use.' Then everybody bowed their heads. When he had finished, the young girls who had helped to make the tree so beautiful, came up to the platform. The gentleman began to take off the toys from the tree and hand them to the girls, who went around to the beds and laid some things on each. 'Oh, oh!' was all that could be heard for a few minutes.

Next day, the fir tree was stripped of all the trimmings which had made her look so fine the day before, and was thrown out into the yard. 'Ah!' she said, 'I have given some pleasure anyway.' Later in the day some boys came with hatchets and chopped it up, put it into their little sleighs, and drew it home. Their home was a poor little cottage. 'Oh, good,' cried their mother, when she saw it; 'we can have a fire now.'

'Well,' said the fir, 'never mind,' she knew she had given pleasure, and was satisfied.

(Signed)
MARGARET KATHLEEN SMAILL.
(aged 11 years.)

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LITERARY REVIEW.

HOLIDAY FICTION.

A fine example of vigorous style and carefully constructed plot, a book which holds the interest throughout, is 'Arethusa,' by F. Marion Crawford. (The Macmillan Co. of Canada, $1.50.) The story is partly historical, partly romantic. The scene is in Constantinople, in the 14th century, when Johannes Paleologus was imprisoned and his throne usurped by his son Andronicus. The hero of the story, a young Venetian of high rank, named Carlo Zeno, becomes interested in the rescue of Johannes or Handsome John, and leads the rebellion against the usurper. The heroine is also a young Venetian, but has been adopted in early life by a citizen of Constantinople, who later suffers a terrible death for his loyalty to John. To save his widow and her children from starvation, Zoe sells herself to a slave-dealer, taking the name of Arethusa to conceal her identity. Zeno, in fulfilment of a commission from a Venetian friend, visits the slave-dealer to inspect Arethusa, but is struck by her noble appearance and manner, and keeps her under his own protection instead of forwarding her to Venice. The usual result follows. The two young people fall in love, but the girl's condition as a slave forms a barrier between them. Eager for vengeance on the Emperor Andronicus, Arethusa awakens in Zeno the desire to join in the rebellion and secure the island of Tenedos for Venice, arousing in him the fear that the usurper is about to bestow it on the rival Genoese. They both take an able and courageous part in two attempts to restore John to his throne. The first is a failure, owing to the Emperor refusing to follow his liberator.

Zeno at once continued hauling up the rope, but a moment later the Emperor stopped close beside him. 'It is of no use, he said; 'I cannot go with you.' Zeno was thunderstruck, and stood still with the rope in his two hands. 'You will not go?' he repeated, almost stupidly. 'You will not be free now that everything is ready?' 'I cannot . . . Andronicus has my little son in the palace,' said the prisoner.

'If I escape he will put out the child's eyes with boiling vinegar, and perhaps mutilate or kill him by inches. Save him first and I will go with you.' Zeno was profoundly disappointed. He tried one argument. 'If you will come at once,' he said, 'I promise you that we shall hold the palace before daybreak, and the little prince will be as free as you. 'The guard will kill him instantly,' he said, 'the more certainly if they see that they must fight for their lives. . . . I would rather die ten deaths than let my child be tortured, blinded and murdered.' 'Very Well, answered Zeno; 'then I must go.'

The attempt has been in the meantime betrayed to Andronicus and Zeno narrowly escapes with his life. The second attempt is planned by Arethusa. Gorlias, one of the chief conspirators, personates John, and the soldiers and people rise in his favor, while Arethusa, in disguise, informs the jailer's wife, who is one of the faithful party, that she may have the true Emperor set free. Arthusa is taken prisoner and is being subjected to the most refined torture when the supporters of John arrive, the true Emperor is substituted for the disguised Gorlias, and Andronicus is in turn made prisoner. Zeno then discovers Arethusa's name and rank and immediately marries her before proceeding to take possession of Tenedos, which John has bestowed on the Venetian republic. 'Arethusa,' in its sustained lofty tone, suggests the writer's earlier works rather than his more recent books. The situation of Zeno and his beautiful slave is treated with delicacy.

'Vida,' by S. R. Crockett, (the Macmillan Co. of Canada, $1.25), mingles the lives and loves of a west of Scotland mining town with the politics of the Balkan states. The heroine, who gives the name of the book, rejoices in two adopted fathers, old lighthouse keepers, who rescue her from a sinking ship, as well as a real father who has proved unworthy of the name. Jacob Gorm, of Gorm Castle, cares for nothing but money and the mines of 'Incubus and Co.' as a means to obtaining the same. His agent, in extorting from the mines all possible profits, is James Kahn, a cross between a Serb and a Jew. His accomplice, Casimir, is also of Eastern birth. In the end Kahn absconds with his master's whole fortune. On following his track it is discovered that Casimir has turned avenger and slain him in return for his treachery to the Balkan committee and to satisfy a standing blood feud of his own. Jacob Gorm is prostrated by the loss of his wealth, but is nursed back to life and health by his daughter. Vida's complicated love affairs and those of two other maidens with which they are closely entwined, are at last satisfactorily settled, and love in three different cottages brightens the closing pages.

'The Loves of Pelleas and Etarre,' by Zona Gale, (Macmillan Co. of Canada, $1.25), contains a number of complete but connected short stories, which first appeared in various magazines. The idea of the book is rather fresh and novel. The hero and heroine are married lovers over seventy years of age, who delight in birds and flowers, but especially in the loves of the young folk with whom they come in contact. Nothing pleases them so much as the discovery of a romance or the opportunity of assisting at an innocent elopement or a marriage. The first story of the series introduces all the leading characters, notably the dour but faithful old Italian servant, Nichola. The quaint fancy and gentle sentiment of the whole series is also given free play in 'The Odor of the Ointment.' The old couple are commanded to stay at home on an icy Easter morning, but steal away during Nichola's absence, and try to go to church. They soon come to grief on the ice, but are rescued and conveyed home by a bright-faced girl in shabby clothes. She and Nichola restore them to their sitting room, which is adorned with many beautiful but scentless Easter lilies. Pelleas and Etarre find that she is on her way to a service in a bare mission hall, and conceive the happy idea of asking the whole small congregation to meet among their lilies. 'Little Friend' gladly goes to bring them, while the indignant Nichola is told of what is to happen. Then comes the great discovery that the missionary and 'Little Friend' are lovers. A joyful Easter service is held, and at the end Nichola has provided for the starved-looking company hot coffee and sandwiches and sponge cakes—her 'pound of ointment of spikenard, very precious.' The missionary and 'Little Friend' spend the day with the old couple.

And when after tea they stood in the dusk of the hall-way trying to say goodbye, I think that their secret must have shone on our faces, too; and, as the children say, 'we all knew that we all knew, and life was a thing of heavenly blessedness . . . That night Pelleas carried upstairs a great armful of the Ascension lilies to stand in the moonlight of our window . . . We bent above the lilies that looked so sweet scented and yet had been barren of fragrance because, we had told ourselves, they seemed flowers of symbol without mission or message beyond the symbol, without hue of passion, or, so to say, experience. (Perhaps if one were to make some one happy with them or to put them in a bride's bouquet they would no longer be scentless,' Pelleas had quaintly said). And now we were certain, as we stood hushed beside them, that our Easter lilies were giving out a faint, delicious fragrance. . . . 'And the house shall be filled with the odor of the ointment,' I said over. 'O Pelleas,' I added, tremulously, 'do you think. . . . Pelleas lifted his face, and I thought that it shone in the dimness. 'Ah, well,' he answered, 'we must believe all the beautiful things we can.'

'The Shadow of a Great Rock,' by William R. Lighton (Henry Wade, $1.25), tells of the days of the pioneer invasion of the desert between the Missouri river and Salt Lake City, the 'big, brave, hardy days.' 'Government by rule and statute in the new land was still far away:

For the present, better than any code of laws, was the staunch spirit of a people firmly bound together by the cords of a common interest, common dependence and common honor. . . . Rude honesty was practized; rude justice was done; and that was enough. If any hungered, he was fed: if any mourned, he was comforted; no man was permitted to feel himself a stranger. Those were the best days the West has ever known.

A gentle and delicately nurtured girl is deserted by a rascally brother while journeying to the west, but is generously taken care of by the emigrant train of which they had formed a part. Two of the men, who are old friends, fall in love with her, and each makes up his mind that the other has won her love in return. Her distress about her brother prevents her encouraging either. In the end the strong man wins, but the weaker shows even finer qualities in his quiet acceptance of the inevitable, his unselfish devotion, and his delicacy in helping his friends in time of need.

'Sadie,' by Karl Edward Harriman (Henry Frowde, $1.25), is a story of a later time in the sage-brush desert, after the railway had made it a highway between east and west. The great days of pioneering are gone, but the restraints of law and order are still slight. The virtues of a primitive society have not yet been swallowed up, however, and when 'Sadie' comes from Kansas City to 'Bagdad' she meets with a truer chivalry than she had known in the more crowded centre of civilization. Sadie is an untutored but independent and high spirited girl who has evolved ideals of her own and lives up to them. The limited society of Bagdad, chiefly masculine, falls prostrate before her charms, but Sadie steers an undisturbed course through it all, making friends with all and accepting their homage, but stopping there. Her heart has been hardened by the treachery of a Kansas City admirer, and it is not till he appears as a wretched outcast from justice, and is helped by her to escape, that the hardness disappears and the devotion of her staunch friend and supporter, Billy Thompson, is rewarded. Through all the wild riot of western life, the author shows the power of the finer side of human character.

'Comrade John,' by Merwin-Webster (The Macmillan Co.), has a double plot, corresponding to its double authorship, in Samuel Merwin and Henry K. Webster. One of the two leading men in the story, Herman Stein, is the founder of a quack religion, who easily gathers about him a large body of believers in his doctrine of 'toil without weariness, producing beauty.' 'One may build character and soul, which together make beauty, by working with the hands. . . Work, to be of the slightest value, must be entered into with joy and lightness of heart, and therefore (though this was not stated) must be easy.' Stein founds a community at Beechcroft, a beautiful valley in eastern New York State. He has drawn many to live the simple life, clad in tunic and sandals and playing at different trades, and also has attracted considerable capital which is completely under his control. To enlarge his community he concevies two ideas; first, to erect secretly in the upper part of the valley a narrow gorge at the foot of Mt. William, the most imposing temple and show place in the world, and, second, to find a beautiful woman to be his prophetess. These two schemes bring the second thread into the narrative. John Chance, builder of white palaces at exhibitions and summer gardens, agrees to become an imitation Beecherofter, and carry out the first idea—for a consideration. A beautiful girl whom Chance had met and rescued from a Mardi Gras mob in Paris, appears as the proposed prophetess, and meets 'Comrade John' at the opening festival of tre new Beechcroft. There is an exciting and complicated situation in the valley which ends in the ruin of Stein, the destruction of his temple, and the rescue of the lady a second time by John Chance, who carries her off to Hymen's altar.

'A Prodigal,' by Mary Wallace Brooks (Richard G. Badger, the Gorham Press, $1.25), presents a study of the influence of a gentle and pure-minded girl on a man whose character has been warped by unsympathetic severity in childhood and youth. This man, Allan Stewart, who develops into the hero, inherits a highly strung nature from his father, a cleric of stern Puritan type. Dreading lest he should idolize his most promising child, the father represses all appearance of interest in him, and alienates him entirely. The son disgraces his father by his dissipation and an open breach follows. The son becomes a bitter cynic, defiant of the judgment of society. From this state of mind he is delivered by the friendly interest of Hope Maynard, who comes to his native town for a summer holiday. She arouses in him all the finer instincts of his nature, which have been lying dormant. Hope imagines herself in love with another man, and, consequently, rejects Stewart's offered love. She finds, however, that she has been mistaken, and when 'the 'Prodigal' comes to tell her that he has returned to his father and been forgiven she is ready to crown his repentance and restoration by the unhoped for joy of a returned affection. The holiday setting of the story, on the shore of a Muskoka lake, gives lightness to this somewhat serious theme.

A book which is likely to appeal to a more youthful class of readers is 'Nina's Career,' by Christina Gowans Whyte (The Macmillan Co. of Canada, $1.50). This is the story of three girls who meet as children once a year at a large party. They become great friends, and their fortunes are closely entwined till they reach womanhood. Nina, who is dependent on her aunts, maiden ladies with an annuity, is to be prepared for 'a career.' She shows a taste for art, and is accordingly trained in an art school and wins a name for herself as an illustrator. The other girls accompany Nina to the school. Varied adventures in the highlands of Arisay and elsewhere make the book a bright and pleasing companion for the holiday hours.

ALSO RECEIVED.

'Sesame and Lilies, Unto the Last, and Political Economy of Art,' etc., by John Ruskin. (Toronto: Cassell & Co., Ltd.) 'Tom Brown's Schooldays,' by Thomas Hughes, 'Mr. Strudge,' by Percy White, (London: T. Fisher Unwin.) 'Islam: a Challenge to Faith,' by Samuel M. Zweiner, F.R.G.S. (New York: Student Volunteer Movement.) 'Just One Blue Bonnet, the Life Story of Ada Florence Kinton.' Edited by her Sister, Sara A. Randleson; 'Alter Ego: A Tale,' by the Rev. W. W. Walker; 'The Halo,' by Bettina von Hutten: (Toronto: William Briggs.) 'England and Germany,' by Austin Harrison. (Toronto: Macmillan Company of Canada, Ltd.) 'Bohemian,' 'Outing,' Children's Books and Calendars from Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd., Montreal.

Most persons employed in the Venetian glass industry begin to lose their sight when they are between forty and fifty years of age, and in a short time become blind. This blindness is caused by the excessive heat and glare from the furnaces.

THE LITTLE SISTER'S VACATION

A TALE OF CHRISTMAS WEEK.

(By Winifred M. Kirkland in the 'Youth's Companion.')

It was to be a glorious Christmas at Doctor Brower's. All 'the children'—little Peggy and her mother always spoke of the grown-up ones as 'the children'—were coming home. Mabel was coming from Ohio with her big husband and her two babies, Minna and little Robin, the year-old grandson whom the home family had never seen; Hazen was coming all the way from the Johns Hopkins Medical School, and Arna was coming from her teaching in New York.

It was a trial to Peggy that vacation did not begin until the very day before Christmas, and then continued only one niggardly week. After school hours she had helped her mother in the Christmas preparations every day until she crept into bed at night with aching arms and tired feet, to lie there tossing about, whether from weariness or glad excitement she did not know.

'Not so hard, daughter,' the doctor said to her once.

'O papa,' protested her mother, 'when we're so busy, and Peggy is so handy!'

'Not so hard,' he repeated, with his eyes on fifteen-year old Peggy's delicate face, as, wearing her braids pinned up on her head and a pinafore down to her toes, she stoned raisins and blanched almonds, rolled bread-crumbs and beat eggs, dusted and polished and made ready for the children.

Finally, after a day of flying about, helping with the many last things, Peggy let down her braids and put on her new crimson shirt-waist, and stood with her mother in the front doorway, for it was Christmas eve at last, and the station bus was rattling up with the first home-comers, Arna and Hazen.

Then there were voices ringing up and down the dark street, and there were happy tears in the mother's eyes, and Arna had taken Peggy's face in her two soft-gloved hands and lifted it up and kissed it, and Hazen had swung his little sister up in the air just as of old. Peggy's tired feet were dancing for joy. She was helping Arna take off her things, was carrying her bag up-stairs—would have carried Hazen's heavy grip, too, only her father took it from her.

'Set the kettle to boil, Peggy,' directed her mother; 'then run up-stairs and see if Arna wants anything. We'll wait supper till the rest come.'

The rest came on the nine o'clock train, such a load of them—the big, bluff brother-in-law, Mabel, plump and laughing, as always, Minna, elfin and bright-eyed, and sleepy Baby Robin. Such hugging, such a hubbub of baby talk! How many things there seemed to be to do for those precious babies right away!

Peggy was here and there and everywhere. Everything was in joyous confusion. Supper was to be set on, too. While the rest ate, Peggy sat by, holding Robin, her own little nephew and managing at the same time to pick up the things—napkin, knife, spoon, bread—that Minna, hilarious with the late hour, flung from her high chair.

It seemed as if they would never be all stowed away for the night. Some of them wanted pitchers of warm water, some of them pitchers of cold, and the alcohol stove must be brought up for heating the baby's milk at night. The house was crowded, too. Peggy had given up her room to Hazen, and slept on a cot in the sewing-room with Minna.

The cot had been enlarged by having three chairs, piled with pillows, set along the side. But Minna preferred to sleep in the middle of the cot, or else across it, her restless little feet pounding at Peggy's ribs; and Peggy was unused to any bedfellow.

She lay along awake, thinking proudly of the children, of Hazen, the tall brother, with his twinkling eyes, his drolleries, his teasing; of graceful Arna, who dressed so daintily, talked so cleverly, and had been to college. Arna was going to send Peggy to college, too—it was so good of Arna! But for all Peggy's admiration of Arna, it was Mabel, the eldest sister, who was the more approachable. Mabel did not pretend even to as much learning as Peggy had herself: she was happy-go-lucky and sweet-tempered. Then her husband was a great, jolly fellow, with whom it was impossible to be shy, and the babies—there never were such cunning babies, Peggy thought. Just here her niece gave her a particularly vicious kick, and Peggy opposed to her train of admiring thoughts, 'But I'm so tired!'

It did not seem to Peggy that she had been asleep at all when she was waked by a vigorous pounding on her chest and a shrill little voice in her ear:

'Ch'is'mus, Ch'is'mus, Chri,'is'mus! It's mornin'! It's Ch'is'mus!'

'Oh, no, it isn't, Minna!' pleaded Peggy, struggling with sleepiness. 'It's all dark still.'

'Ch'is'mus, Ch'is'mus, Ch'is'mus! It's iterated Minna, continuing to pound.

'Hush, dear! You'll wake Aunt Arna, and she's tired after being all day on the chou-chou cars.'

'Merry Ch'is'mus, Aunty Arna!' shouted the irrepressible Minna.

'O darling, be quiet! We'll play little pig goes to market. I'll tell you a story, only be quiet a little while.

It took Peggy's utmost effort to keep the little wriggler still for the hour from five to six. Then, however, her shrill 'Merry 'Ch'is'mus!' roused the household. Protests were of no avail. Minna was the only granddaughter. Dark as it was, people must get up.

Peggy must dress Minna and then hurry down to help get breakfast—not so easy a task with Minna ever at one's heels. The quick-moving sprite seemed to be everywhere—into the sugar-bowl, the cooky jar, the steaming teakettle—before one could turn about. Urged on by the impatient little girl, the grown-ups made short work of breakfast.

After the meal, according to time-honored Brower custom, they formed in procession, single file, Minna first, then Ben with Baby Robin. They each held aloft a sprig of holly, and they all kept time as they sang, 'God rest you merry, gentlemen,' in their march from the dining-room to the office. And there they must form in circle about the tree, and dance three times round, singing 'The Christmas tree is an evergreen,' before they could touch a single present.

The presents are done up according to custom, packages of every shape and size, but all in white paper and tied with red ribbon, and all marked for somebody with somebody else's best love. They all fall to opening, and the babies' shouts are not the only ones to be heard. Passers-by smile indulgently at the racket, remembering that all the Browers are home for Christmas, and the Browers were ever a jovial company.

Peggy gazes at her gifts quietly, but with shining eyes—little gold cuff pins from Hazen, just like Arna's; a set of furs from Mabel and Ben; but she likes Arna's gift best of all, a complete set of her favorite author.

But much as they would like to linger about the Christmas tree, Peggy and her mother, at least, must remember that the dishes must be washed and the beds made, and that the family must get ready for church. Peggy does not go to church, and nobody dreams how much she wants to go. She loves the Christmas music. No hymn rings so with joy as

'Jerusalem triumphs, Messiah is king.'

The choir sings it only once a year, on the Christmas morning. Besides, her chum Esther will be at church, and Peggy has been too busy to go to see her since she came home from boarding-school for the holidays. But somebody must stay at home, and that somebody who but Peggy? Somebody must baste the turkey and prepare the vegetables and take care of the babies.

Peggy is surprised to find how difficult it is to combine dinner-getting with baby-tending. When she opens the oven door, there is Minna's head thrust up under her arm, the inquisitive little nose in great danger by reason of sputtering gravy.

'Minna,' protests Peggy, 'you mustn't eat another bit of candy!' and Minna opens her mouth in a howl, prolonged, but without tears and without change of color. Robin joins in, he does not know why. Peggy is a doting aunt, but an honest one. She is vexed by a growing conviction that Mabel's babies are sadly spoiled. Peggy is ashamed of herself; surely she ought to be perfectly happy playing with Minna and Robin. Instead, she finds that the thing she would like best of all to be doing at that moment, next to going to church, would be to be lying on her father's couch in the office, all by herself, reading.

The dinner is a savory triumph for Peggy and her mother. The gravy and the mashed potato are entirely of Peggy's workmanship, and Peggy has had a hand in most of the other dishes, too, as the mother proudly tells. How that merry party can eat! Peggy is waitress, and it is long before the passing is over, and she can sit down in her own place. She is just as fond of the unusual Christmas good things as are the rest, but somehow, before she is well started at her turkey, it is time for changing plates for dessert, and before she has tasted her nuts and raisins the babies have succumbed to sleepiness, and it is Peggy who must carry them up-stairs for their nap—just in the middle of one of Hazen's funniest stories, too.

And all the time the little sister is so ready, so quickly serviceable, that somehow nobody notices—nobody but the doctor. It is he who finds Peggy, half an hour later, all alone in the kitchen. The mother and the older daughters are gathered about the sitting-room hearth, engaged in the dear, delicious talk about the little things that are always left out of letters. The doctor interrupts them.

'Peggy is all alone,' he says.

'But we're having such a good talk,' the mother pleads, 'and Peggy will be done in no time! Peggy is so handy!'

'Well, girls?' is all the doctor says, with quiet command in his eyes, and Peggy is not left to wash the Christmas dishes all alone. Because she is smiling and her cheeks are bright, her sisters do not notice that her eyes are wet, for Peggy is hotly ashamed of certain thoughts and feelings that she cannot down. She forgets them for a while, however, sitting on the hearth-rug, snuggled against her father's knee in the Christmas twilight.

Yet the troublesome thoughts came back in the evening, when Peggy sat up-stairs in the dark with Minna, vainly trying to induce the excited little girl to go to sleep, while bursts of merriment from the family below were always breaking in upon the two in their banishment.

There was another restless night of it with the little niece, and another too early waking. Everybody but Minna was sleepy enough, and breakfast was a protracted meal, to which the 'children' came down slowly, one by one. Arna did not appear at all, and Peggy carried up to her the daintiest of trays, all of her own preparing. Arna's kiss of thanks was great reward. It was dinner-time before Peggy realized it, and she had hoped to find a quiet hour for her Latin.

The dreadful regents' examination was to come the next week, and Peggy wanted to study for it. She had once thought of asking Arna to help her, but Arna seemed so tired.

In the afternoon Esther came to see her chum, and to take her home with her to spend the night. The babies, fretful with after-Christmas crossness, were tumbling over their aunt and sadly interrupting confidences, while Peggy explained that she could not go out that evening. All the family were going to the church sociable, and she must put the babies to bed.

'I think it's mean!' Esther broke in. 'Isn't it your vacation as well as theirs? Do make that child stop pulling your hair!'

If Esther's words had only not echoed through Peggy's head as they did that night!

'But it is so mean of me, so mean of me, to want my own vacation!' sobbed Peggy, in the darkness. 'I ought just to be glad they're all at home.'

Her self-reproach made her readier than ever to wait on them all the next morning. Nobody could make such buckwheat cakes as could Mrs. Brower; nobody could turn them as could Peggy. They were worth coming from New York and Baltimore and Ohio to eat. Peggy stood at the griddle half an hour, an hour, two hours. Her head was aching. Hazen, the latest riser, was joyously calling for more.

At eleven o'clock Peggy realized that she had had no breakfast herself, and that her mother was hurrying her off to investigate the lateness of the butcher. Her head ached more and more, and she seemed strangely slow in her dinner-getting and dish-washing. Her father was away, and there was no one to help in the clearing-up. It was three before she had finished.

Outside the sleigh-bells sounded enticing. It was the first sleighing of the season. Mabel and Ben had been off for a ride, and Arna and Hazen, too. How Peggy longed to be skimming over the snow instead of polishing knives all alone in the kitchen! Sue Cummings came that afternoon to invite Peggy to her party, given in Esther's honor. Sue enumerated six other gatherings that were being given that week in honor of Esther's visit home. Sue seemed to dwell much on the subject. Presently Peggy, with hot cheeks, understood why. Everybody was giving Esther a party, everybody but Peggy herself, Esther's own chum, and all the other girls were talking about it.

Peggy stood at the door to see Sue out, and watched the sleighs fly by. Out in the sitting-room she heard her mother saying, 'Yes, of course we can have waffles for supper. Where's Peggy?' Then Peggy ran away.

In the wintry dusk the doctor came stamping in, shaking the snow from his bearskins. As always, 'Where's Peggy?' was his first question.

Peggy was not to be found, they told him. They had been all over the house, calling her. They thought she must have gone out with Sue. The doctor seemed to doubt this. He went through the up-stairs rooms, calling her softly. But Peggy was not in any of the bedrooms, or in any of the closets, either. There was still the kitchen attic to be tried.

There came a husky little moan out of its depth, as he whispered, 'Daughter!' He groped his way to her, and sitting down on a trunk, folded her into his bearskin coat.

'Now tell father all about it,' he said. And it all came out with many sobs—the nights and dawns with Minna, the Latin, the sleighing, Esther's party, breakfast, the weariness, the headache; and last the waffles, which had proved the one unbearable thing.

'And it is so mean of me, so mean of me!' sobbed Peggy. 'But, O daddy, I do want a vacation!'

'And you shall have one,' he answered.

He carried her straight into her own room, laid her down on her own bed, and tumbled Hazen's things into the hall. Then he went down-stairs and talked to his family.

Presently the mother came stealing in, bearing a glass of medicine the doctor-father had sent. Then she undressed Peggy and put her to bed as if she had been a baby, and sat by, smoothing her hair, until she fell asleep.

It seemed to Peggy that she had slept a long, long time. The sun was shining bright. Her door opened a crack and Arna peeped in, and seeing her awake, came to the bed and kissed her good morning.

'I'm so sorry, little sister!' she said.

'Sorry for what?' asked the wondering Peggy.

'Because I didn't see,' said Arna. 'But now I'm going to bring up your breakfast.'

'Oh, no!' cried Peggy, sitting up.

'Oh, yes!' said Arna, with quiet authority. It was as dainty cooking as Peggy's own, and Arna sat by to watch her eat.

'You're so good to me, Arna!' said Peggy.

'Not very,' said Arna, dryly. 'When you've finished this you must lie up here away from the children, and read.'

'But who will take care of Minna?' questioned Peggy.

'Minna's mamma,' answered a voice from the next room, where Mabel was pounding pillows. She came to the door to look in on Peggy in all her luxury of orange marmalade to eat, Christmas books to read, and Arna to wait upon her.

'I think mothers, not aunts, were meant to look after babies,' said Mabel. 'I'm so sorry, dear!'

'Oh, I wish you two wouldn't talk like that!' cried Peggy. 'I'm so ashamed!'

'All right, we'll stop talking,' said Mabel, quickly 'but we'll remember.'

They would not let Peggy lift her hand to any of the work that day. Mabel managed the babies masterfully. Arna moved quietly about, accomplishing wonders.

'But aren't you tired, Arna?' queried Peggy.

'Not a bit of it, and I'll have time to help you with your Caesar before—'

'Before what?' asked Peggy, but got no answer. They had been translating famously when, in the late afternoon, there came a ring at the door-bell. Peggy found Hazen bowing low, and craving 'Mistress Peggy's company.' A sleigh and two prancing horses stood at the gate.

It was a glorious drive. Peggy's eyes danced and her laugh rang out at Hazen's drolleries. The world stretched white all about them, and their horses flew on and on like the wind. They rode till dark, then turned back to the village, twinkling with lights.

The Brower house was alight in every window, and there was the sound of many voices in the hall. The door flew open upon a laughing crowd of boys and girls. Peggy, all glowing and rosy with the wind, stood utterly bewildered until Esther rushed forward and hugged and shook her.

'It's a party!' she exclaimed. 'One of your mother's waffle suppers! We're all here! Isn't it splended?'

'But, but, but—' stammered Peggy.

'"But, but, but,"' mimicked Esther. 'But this is your vacation, don't you see?'

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

'Witness Office,'
Dec. 14, 1907.

The local stock market opened steady on Monday, but has ruled on the dull side throughout the week. The bulk of trading in the various stocks was by investors, who continue to take advantage of the opportunity to secure stocks at the prevailing low prices. The principal trading was, as usual, in Power, which retains its reputation with investors. It closed on Thursday evening about two points down from a week ago The continued heavy investment demand is no doubt due to the fact that purchasers have unbounded confidence in the future. Montreal Street Railway played a prominent part in the buying on the Stock Exchange. It shows a loss for the week of a point and a half. The earnings of this company continue to show heavy daily increases and there is reason to believe that the monthly net earnings will prove very favorable from this time on. This also applies to Toronto railway stock, for which there has been a good demand, although it shows a decline of one point during the past few days. Detroit United continued in favor, and, notwithstanding that this issue lost a point since Monday, it has been invariably purchased by those who are carefully following events at Detroit. One of the causes for the decline, especially in traction, has been the continued tightness of money here and the dearness of money in New York, which resulted in bringing about a lower range of values on Wall street. Twin City shows a loss on the week of about four points, in sympathy with the lower trading across the border. Textile preferred shows a healthy advance since Saturday last of one and a quarter percent, due to the rumor that the fiscal year for Textile will, in all probability, be the largest on record. Iron and Coal remained fairly steady at last week's closing, being neglected owing to the more profitable buying in other leading stocks. Mackays declined three points, which is accounted for by the lower range of value prevailing in the United States.

Illinois preferred shows a slight decline, but cautious investors evidently have faith in this stock, which represents a property which the monthly statements show to be rapidly increasing in value. Laurentide is looked up as a safe security, but the depressing atmosphere of the week also affected this issue. Nova Scotia Steel closed last evening about the same as on Friday last. Richelieu & Ontario has been steady this week with a consistent investment demand being noticeable. The same may be said of Shawinigan and Lake of the Woods issues. There has been also a strong demand for leading bank stocks. They closed at about the prevailing prices of a week ago. The bond market was steady and a fair amount of business was done in this department.

A careful analysis of the week's financial developments in the United States would probably lead to the conclusion that, all things considered, the situation at large has undergone a slight change for the better. There was, however, no dearth of unpleasant happenings, as evidenced by several failures of small banking institutions and commercial firms, which happily have been largely if not fully discounted. On the other hand the extent to which interior banks had hoarded their resources was surprising even to many bankers who have been under the popular impression that the heavy withdrawals from this source were to supply the panicky demands of individual depositors of these domestic banks. There have doubtless been considerable withdrawals from the small banks across the border, but this only goes to accentuate the belief that the gradual return to confidence in the United States business world will cause a substantial increase in the money supply. The frequent outbursts in weak places in the American financial structure are giving that country a more solid basis and are certainly creating a restraining influence upon the mad rushes of the reckless speculator. It is desirable, so far as the United States is concerned, that prices should show greater underlying strength than during the past few months, and it is not unlikely that endeavors to this end will be continued with the sanction of the banking interests which now have the situation fairly well under their protection. There has been a decidedly more hopeful feeling in stock and financial circles, although, following the advance of over a week ago, and then the reverse during the past few days, one would expect that more or less realizing is about due. Buying power is gradually revealing itself. The number of holders of prominent railway stocks is said to have increased twenty-five percent, showing that these are being absorbed in entirely new quarters. Now that the disturbance has largely subsided on Wall Street, general business is also recovering. Merchants and manufacturers are conducting their operations with visibly greater confidence than a month ago. It is not to be expected that business throughout the United States will go back to the old level of activity and profits in a great hurry. Nevertheless, reports received here as late as this morning show that business conditions are generally sound, and that there is no reason for apprehension. It is quite possible that further decline in the commodity markets will have to be experienced, but no serious curtailment seems probable. The farmers of the United States are reported to be in an exceptionally strong financial condition, and this has to a large extent mitigated the distressing effects of the panicky feeling.

In Canada we are far enough away from the panic cry to face the facts of our own financial stringency, and the continuous clamor of the bear element as to hard times and tight money, must not be accepted as gauging prevailing conditions throughout the Dominion. Whether the slight downward tendency of stocks this week was merely a reaction from the financial recovery of last week, may be a matter of discussion, but the country is assured by leading bankers and merchant princes that while complaint is heard of the scarcity of money, there is sufficient of the latter in the banks to carry on the legitimate business of the country. The reckless speculator will, however, have to look somewhere else for funds if he desires to deal in securities for speculative purposes. There is much reason for congratulation in the remarkable statements issued during the week by the Canadian Bank of Commerce, which showed its net earnings to be at the rate of seventeen and a half percent, while the Merchants Bank of Canada gives evidence of its growth and prosperity by placing before its shareholders net profits for the past twelve months equal to fifteen and four-fifths percent. The Bank of Toronto and the Bank of Ottawa have shown that the past year has with them been one of the most successful on record. Canadians have reason for congratulation upon a banking system capable at all times of meeting the ordinary requirements of a growing country. As Mr. R. Wilson Smith said recently, 'it does not need a prophet to predict that Canada has entered upon a stage of wonderful growth and expansion,' but, notwithstanding this, is it not a fact that it is all the more necessary that our people should be a little cautious and conservative in their business transactions, even if we do not rush ahead as some of the more enthusiastic would desire? We should not force matters unduly, and above all, we should not indulge in extravagance. It should be the constant aim of our business men and manufacturers to progress on a reasonable and sound basis, working out our financial and commercial destiny, and building up a strong and healthy nation.

The feeling of business men regarding the position of Canada both from a financial and commercial point of view remains optimistic, and there are those who are bold enough to predict that the coming year will be to this country one of prosperity and general advancement.

PRICE CHANGES OF STOCKS AND INVESTMENT RETURNS

The following tables of active and inactive stocks listed on the Montreal and Toronto Stock exchanges have been compiled up to and including Friday afternoon's session on the Montreal market. Last Saturday's prices are also included so that the week's record may be complete. The tabulated information contains the amount of dividend payable, if any, the month when due and the highest and lowest prices of 1906-1907, together with the investment returns on current quotations:

			1906.		1907.	This week.		Last.	Price per	Re-
	Div.	Payb'l.	High.	Low.	High.	Low.	High.	Low sale.	share	turn.
C. P. R. . .	2½H	Jan.	201	155⅞	196¼	140	152½	149⅝ 150	$150.00	4.6
Power . . .	1½Q	Feb.	99¾	86	96½	79	88	85½ 85	85.00	7.0
M. S. R. .	2½Q	Feb.	283¾	230½	239	157	180	176 477	177.00	5.6
Twins . . .	1¼Q	Feb.	122	105¾	107½	69	85	80½ 81¼	81.13	6.1
Tor. Ry. . .	1½Q	Jan.	126	104½	115½	82⅞	96½	94 94	94.00	6.4
Detroit . .	.....		122	80	84½	28½	36¼	35 35¾	35.75	...
Richelieu . .	1¼Q	Mar.	88	79¼	83½	48½	65	59¾ 61	61.00	8.2
N. S. Steel .	1½Q	Jan.	73½	59⅛	79	45	57½	54⅝ 55	55.00	11.0
Dom. Coal .	1Q	Jan.	81¼	68	70¼	37	40	40 34	34.00	11.7
Iron bonds .	2½H	Jan.	87	79	80	64½	71	70 70	70.00	7.1
Iron Com. . .			30¾	20⅛	26	13⅛	15¾	14¼ 14¾	14.75	...
Mackay Com.	1Q	Jan.	77	57¾	76	42	56	52 51¼	51.25	7.8

Stocks	Dividend	Payable	High 1906	High 1907	Low 1907	Last sale	Return
BANKS							
Montreal	2½ Q.	Mar.	261	257	225	225½	4.4
Merchants	2 Q.	Mar.	175½	170	150	150¾	5.2
Hochelaga	2 Q.	Mar.	163	159¼	135	136¾	5.8
E. Townships	2 Q.	Jan.	165	162	150	150	5.3
Molsons	2½ Q.	Jan.	230	215½	183	188	5.4
Toronto	2½ Q.	Mar.	250	234	200	200	4.5
B.N.A.	4 H.	Apl.	146¼	153½	148¼	152¾	5.2
Royal	2½ Q.	Jan.	242½	242½	218	218	4.5
Dominion	3 Q.	Jan.	283	263¾	230	234	5.1
Imperial	2½ Q.	Feb.	254½	250	216	217	5.0
Standard	3 Q.	Mar.	260¾	246½	215	215¼	5.5
Ottawa	5 H.	Mar.	227	226	224	224	4.4
Quebec	1¾ Q.	Mar.	145	145	124	124	5.6
Union	3½ H.	Mar.	157	152	125	125	5.6
N.S.	3 Q.	Jan.	295	293	274	275¼	4.8
Commerce	2 Q.	Mar.	190¼	179¼	156	159	5.0
Sovereign	1½ Q.	Feb.	155¾	134¼	95	114	5.2
BONDS							
Coal	2½ H	May	102¾	100	98	99	5.0
Scotia	3 H.	Jan.	109¼	110¼	106¼	113	5.3
M.S.R.	2½ H.	Feb.	105	104	97	97½	5.0
Col. Cot.	3 H.	Apl.	110	98	92¼	92¾	6.4
Lke. Wds.	3 H.	June	113	107	103	103	5.8
PREFERRED STOCKS							
Scotia	2 Q.	Jan.	122½	120	106	108	7.4
Iron	...	...	...	83¾	66¼	36	40
Coal	3½ H.	Feb.	121	112	88	99	6.7
Ogilvie	1¾ Q.	Mar.	130	130	110	113	6.2
Switch	1¾ Q.	Jan.	115	105	92	92	7.6

Stocks	Dividend	Payable	High 1906	High 1907	Low 1907	Last sale	Return
PREF CONT.							
Mackay	1 Q.	Jan.	75¾	71¾	50	61¼	6.5
Lke. Wds	1¾ Q.	Mar.	115	112	99¼	101¼	6.9
Illinois	1¾ Q.	Jan.	101¼	94¼	70	74½	8.0
Tri. City	1½ Q.	Jan.	95	93½	80	80	7.5
Lau. Paper	1¾ Q.	Jan.	14¾	110	98	102¼	6.8
Magdalen	1¾ Q.	....	....	71¾	70¼	71¾	9.7
Havana	1½ Q.	Jan.	97	85	68	68	8.8
Textile	1¾ Q.	Jan.	109¾	98¼	75	80	8.7
B.C. Pack.	3½ H.	....	81	74¾	74¾	74¾	9.3
MISCELLANEOUS							
Bell Tel.	2 Q.	Jan.	158½	145	115	120	6.6
Mon. Tel.	2 Q.	Jan.	171	162	130	132½	6.0
Mon. Cot.	1¾ Q.	Dec.	133	128	103¼	103¾	6.8
Hafx. Ry	1½ Q.	Jan.	108¼	104½	87¼	97	6.2
Trinidad	1¼ Q.	Jan.	91	78	70¾	5½	6.5
Toledo	...	...	....	36¼	29½	9¼	9¼
Switch	7 Y.	Dec.	114	98¾	94¾	94¾	7.7
Soo	2 H.	Apl.	164	136½	63	79¾	5.6
Lau. Paper	3 H.	Jan.	107½	93	80	80¾	7.0
Magdalen	...	...	....	....	31½	31	...
Havana	...	...	...	53	45¾	21	21	...
Textile	1¾ Q.	Jan.	....	....	45	42	44	11.0
Lke. of Woods	3 H.	Feb.	103	107	65	72½	8.3
Mexican	...	...	....	70	57½	58	60¾	...
Sao Paulo	3 Q.	Jan.	145¼	138¼	98½	105¾	7.6
Rio	...	...	....	48	48	26¾	33	...
Ohio	...	...	...	38½	30¾	30	30	...

SAVINGS BANK INTEREST MAY BE INCREASED.

It is Said that Present Rates Paid by Banks Do Not Encourage Deposits.

Mr. Rodolphe Forget, M.P., has asked the Federal authorities to advance the rate of interest on deposits made in the Government savings banks from 3 to 3½ percent.

On his return from Ottawa this morning Mr. Forget was seen by a 'Witness' representative, and asked if he would give particulars regarding his proposal. He declined to make any statement for publication until the matter has been dealt with by the authorities at Ottawa.

However, it is well known that an increase, as suggested by Mr. Forget, would encourage small wage-earners to deposit their savings in the banks, which to-day are held by the people at home or spent in a more or less reckless manner.

It is claimed that if the Government would increase the rate of interest it would compel all Canadians banks to do likewise. The latter are, according to their annual statements, earnings from 16 to 20 percent, while the 'Rest Fund' of these institutions is gaining annually.

RETURNS WILL BE LESS THIS YEAR.

Higher Prices Do Not Offset Effect of Heavy Decrease in Volume of Exports.

This is the time of the year when comparisons of the exports of Canadian produce with former seasons are most easily made, and the statistics of the shipments of grain, dairy produce, lumber and so forth, which have been published during the past few days, show the effect of the changed conditions that have exerted such an enormous influence on the trade and commerce of this country during the past twelve months. Throughout the list of the most important exports of produce from the farm, the field and the forest, there is a long record of decreases in the volume of this season's shipments compared with last year's; in the grain list, the exports of peas, buckwheat, barley, rye and flax have decreased, and the only gains have been in wheat, corn and oats. The increase in these three, however, have been heavy enough to bring the total grain exports up to a very satisfactory gain over last year's showing, and with the high prices that have been ruling the net return on the list as a whole will show a substantial advance.

The exports of other produce do not make quite such a satisfactory showing, and the gains in flour and apples fail to offset the decreases in butter, cheese, eggs, cattle, meats, leather and lumber. Commodity prices are high in many cases, and the farmers are getting prices that in some instances almost compensate for the decreased production, but, taking the returns to the country as a whole, the figures that have already been published indicate that the money which will be paid to Canada in exchange for her agricultural products will fall short of the returns which crowned the country's wave of prosperity last year.

DETROIT UNITED RY. AND MR. HUTCHINS.

Canadian Shareholders Will Support His Policy by Electing Favorable Directors.

The announcement made in the 'Witness' on Friday last regarding the decision of the Montreal shareholders to support Messrs. J. M. Wilson and A. J. Ferguson for election to the board of directors of the Detroit United Railway at the annual meeting to be held in Detroit in February next, was well received on the 'street.'

To many it came as a surprise, however, as it was understood that certain other well-known business men had been prominently mentioned for the honor. In fact, they had been requested to allow their names to go before the shareholders.

It is understood that the Canadian shareholders are in sympathy with the policy of the president, Mr. J. C. Hutchins, and that he will be loyally supported by them at the coming meeting.

Mr. J. M. Wilson, when seen to-day regarding the probability of his election, said that he was quite prepared to serve the Canadian shareholders if they so desired.

'I am convinced,' said Mr. Wilson, 'that the time has come when the question of politics must be removed from the business interests of the Detroit United Railway and if I am elected a director I will insist on that policy.'

Mr. A. J. Ferguson, when interviewed, was reluctant to discuss the situation further than to say that he was in the hands of the Canadian shareholders and that he was prepared to accept the honor if conferred upon him.

CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS

The total bank clearings of all the clearing houses of the United States for the week ending Dec. 14 have been $2,316,160,902, as compared with $2,455,120,175 a week ago, and $3,467,310,583 in the corresponding week a year ago.

N.Y. CENTRAL DIVIDEND

New York, Dec. 16.—In all probability directors of the New York Central Railway will take action in matter of dividends for fourth quarter at regular meeting next Wednesday. Question of financing in still in the hands of a special committee of the board, and there is reason to believe that this committee has not yet laid definite plans before the directors.

THE MARKETS.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE PRICES

The demand for flour has dwindled considerably on the domestic market during the past week or two, and by this time buyers are pretty well supplied. Quotations have held steady with the exception of some reductions in the prices asked for winter wheat patents. This movement has not been general, however.

There is not much inquiry for rolled oats and the market is quiet at $2.75 to $3 per bag in jobbing lots.

Some improvement is noted in the demand for bran, but shorts and mouillie are moving slowly. Values are about steady, but there is no scarcity of supplies now in any line.

The local oat market has been depressed of late by some heavy offerings of cheap Manitoba oats, but in view of the fact that the grain is quoted to come forward and that there is no glut of supplies here, dealers on spot are holding out for somewhat higher prices, and a fair volume of business is passing for local account. No. 2 Ontarios are held for 53c; No. 3 at 51c; No. 4 at 49c, rejected at 48c; No. 3 Manitobas at 52c to 52½c, and rejected at 49c per bushel.

The market for baled hay is easier under the influence of large deliveries and a lighter inquiry from local buyers.

The following table shows the stocks of grain and flour in store in Montreal on the dates mentioned:

	Dec. 14. 1907.	Dec. 7. 1907.	Dec. 15. 1906.
Wheat, bush.	71,929	25,566	101,593
Corn, bush.	43,045	88,399	65,217
Peas, bush.	13,757	8,631	17,404
Oats, bush.	159,063	180,808	37,273
Barley, bush.	95,325	89,288	81,076
Buckwheat, bush.	22,178	22,193	22,609
Flaxseed, bush.	124,112	133,648	.....
Flour, brls.	75,339	78,828	41,669

The lightness of the current demand for butter seems to be undermining the strength that it would be natural to expect on a market that is known to be short of supplies. Jobbers express surprise at the quietness of the trade at this time of the year; there does not seem to be much inquiry for any grade at any price. Finest October made butter has been sold here in single packages at 28c; fresh receipts are offered at 26½c, summer made dairy at 24c, and rolls and fresh dairy at 25c to 25½c per pound.

Cheese is quiet and prices range nominally from 12¾c to 13¼c per pound.

The persistent offerings of American eggs has been exercising a depressing influence on local values, and the latest move in the situation in the reduction of 20c per dozen on all grades of limed and cold storage stock. This is from 2c to 4c per dozen below last week's price, but holders are not in a position to force their ideas on the buyers with the market in its present condition. Selects are quoted down 1c per dozen at 25c, and new laid bring from 35c to 40c.

The market has been pretty well cleaned up of cheap potatoes and values as a rule are firm. Carload lots or Green Mountain variety have been contracted for at 75c to 80c, and jobbers are asking 90c to 95c per bag delivered.

The accumulation, on account of weather unfavorable for selling, of quantities of all kinds of poultry had a very weakening effect on the market last week, and large quantities of stock had to be sacrificed. There is a prospect of a better market during the next week as the weather shows signs of improvment. To-day's quotations are 12c to 13c for good turkeys, 8c to 9c for geese, 9c to 10c for ducks, 9c for chickens, and 6½c to 7c for fowl.

Beans are steady at $1.80 to $1.90 per bushel in jobbing lots.

The offerings of live hogs were not very heavy on the local market to-day and quotations were firm around $6 per hundred pounds for select lots weighed off cars

Abattoir dressed hogs are steady at $8.50 to $8.75, and a fair inquiry from local retailers is reported.

There is no change in the market for hams and bacon, and lard is firm and steady.

FLOUR—Manitoba spring wheat patents, $6.10; second patents, $5.50; winter wheat patents, $5.50; straight rollers, $5 to $5.25; in bags, $2.35 to $2.50; extra, $1.30 to $1.90.

ROLLED OATS—$2.70 in bags of 90 lbs., (nominal).

OATS—No. 2 Ontario, 53c; No. 3, 51c; No. 3 Manitobas, 52c to 52½c; rejected, 47c to 49c per bushel.

CORNMEAL — $1.60 to $1.70 per bag; granulated, $1.60.

MILLFEED—Ontario bran, in bags, $23 to $24; middlings, $25 to $26; shorts, $23 to $24; Manitoba bran in bags, $22 to $23; shorts, $24 to $25.

BEANS — Prime pea beans, in jobbing lots at $1.80 to $1.90 per bushel.

POTATOES—90c to 95c per bag of 90 lbs., in jobbing lots.

PEAS—Boiling, in broken lots, $1.17 to $1.20 per bushel.

HAY — No. 1, $16.50 to $17 per ton on track; No. 2, $15 to $16; clover, $13; clover mixed, $14.

PROVISIONS — Barrels, short cut mess, $22.50 to $23; ¼ brls, $11.75 to $12.25; clear fat back, $23.50 to $24.50; long cut heavy mess, $21 to $23; half barrels, do., $10.50 to $11.25; dry salt long clear backs 10¾c to 11¼c; brls., plate beef, $13.50 to $15; half barrels do., $7.25 to $7.75; brls., heavy mess beef, $10 to $11; ½ barrels, do., $5.50 to $6, compound lard, 10c to 11c; pure lard, 12½c to 13c; kettle rendered, 13½c to 13c; hams, 12½c to 12¾c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 14c to 15c; Windsor bacon, 14½c to 15½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, $8.50 to $8.75; alive, $5.75 to $6.00.

BUTTER—Sept., 28c to 29c; fresh receipts, 26c to 27c; dairy, 24c to 25½c.

CHEESE—Western, Sept., nominal; late fall makes, 12½c to 12¾c.

EGGS—Pickled and cold storage, 20c per dozen; selects, 25c; new laid, 35c to 40c.

ASHES—First pots, $6.10 to $6.20; seconds, $5.50; pearls, $7.15 to $7.35 per 100 pounds.

STEEL RAIL DEADLOCK SETTLED

New York, Dec. 16.—The announcement of the final settlement of the steel rail deadlock by the placing by the Erie Railroad of a positive order for 35,000 tons of steel rails on the 1907 basis was followed on Saturday night by a statement by representatives of the rail pool that practically every trunk line in the country had placed tentative orders for the estimated requirement in steel rails for 1908, with the promise of specifications on all orders in ten days. It is stated that these final estimates indicate sufficient business to run the rail mills of the country to October of next year.

NEWFOUNDLAND PAPER MILLS

London, Dec. 16. — The Amalgamated Press, Limited, has decided to invest a reserve fund of nearly a quarter of a million in the Concessioned Paper Mills, Newfoundland, which has a capital of £800,000. It is stated that the Amalgamated Press will take £700,000 worth of paper annually.

CATTLE MARKETS

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Dec. 16.

About 1,344 head of butchers' cattle, 200 calves, 727 sheep and lambs, and 876 fat hogs were offered for sale at the Point St. Charles stock yards this forenoon. The butchers were out strong, and trade was good at pretty high figures in some cases for extra Christmas meat. An extraordinary fine steer was sold at 7 2-4c per lb., to go to Quebec; Christmas cattle sold at 5 3-4c to 6½c per lb.; prime beeves, 6¼c to 5½; pretty good cattle, 3¼c to 4¼c, and the common stock at 2c to 3c per lb. Mr. M. Williams, of Whitby, sold an extra large calf, weighing 940 lbs. at a little over 8? per lb.; grass fed calves sold at 2½c to 3½c, and the good veals at 4c to 5½c per lb. Sheep sold at 3½c to 4c, and the lambs at 5½c to 6c per lb. Good lots of fat hogs sold at 5 3-4c to 6c per lb.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—The run at the City Cattle Market yesterday and to-day amounted to 174 cars, containing 3,087 cattle, 2,150 sheep and lambs, 800 hogs and 105 calves. As 59 cars included in this total were Chicago cattle that had been stopped over for feeding on their way to the seaboard, the number actually on sale was only about 1,100 head. The run was light, considering the season, but the improved quality of the cattle resulted in a more satisfactory trade all round. Extra choice steers were not numerous, but good ordinary butchers' were much more plentiful than at previous markets. Prices were firm under a demand that could have taken as many cattle again as were on sale. Good export bulls continue in steady demand at $3.25 to $4.

The top price paid for Christmas beef today was $5.50, with a sale at $5.60 reported on Wednesday. Prices for good to choice butchers' were about 25c above those paid first part of the week. Only about half a dozen steers sold above the $5 mark, but a considerable number brought $4.50 to $5. Good ordinary butchers' sold around $4.25 to $4.50; medium to good, $3.75 to $4.25; common to medium unchanged at $2.50 to $3.50. Cows, choice, $3 to $3.50; common, $2 to $2.75. Canners, 75c to $1.

Choice stockers were in demand at $2.75 to $3.50, with ordinary light cattle unchanged, selling from $1.75 to $2.60.

Milkers were firm at $40 to $55 for choice and $25 to $35 for medium. Springers, $30 to $40.

The supply of calves continued light, and prices held steady at 3c to 6c per pound.

Export ewes sold at $3.75 to $4, with bucks and culls firmer at $3 to $3.50. Lambs were unchanged at $4.25 to $5.25.

The hog market continued firm, another advance being made to-day. Buyers paid $5.40 for selects, with good lights and fats at $5.15; roughs, $4.50 to $4.75.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Cattle receipts about 20,000, market steady; beeves, $3.15 to $6.10; cows and heifers, $1.10 to $4.50; Texans, $3.00 to $3.80; calves, $4.75 to $7.00; westerns, $3.10 to $4.70; stockers and feeders, $2.20 to $4.15.

Hogs, receipts about 53,000, market is weak; light, $4.10 to $4.50; mixed, $4.15 to $4.60; heavy, $4.10 to $4.55; rough, $4.10 to $4.25; pigs, $3.50 to $4.35, bulk of the sales, $4.35 to $4.50.

Sheep, receipts about 38,000, market 10c to 15c lower; native, $2 to $4.70; western, $2 to $4.70; yearlings, $4.60 to $5.30; and lambs, $3.75 to $6.20; westerns, $3.75 to $6.30.

East Buffalo, Dec. 16.—Cattle receipts, 5,900 head, slow and 25c lower; prime steers, $5.25 to $5.75; shipping, $4.60 to $5.25; butchers, $4.00 to $5.00; heifers, at $2.25 to $4.75; cows, $2.50 to $4.15; bulls, $2.50 to $4.50; stockers and feeders, $2.50 to $4.00; stock heifers, $2.25 to $2.75; and fresh cows and springers, steady, $20 to $56.

Veals, receipts, 1,200 head, active and steady, $5 to $9.25.

Hogs, receipts, 25,000 head, active and 15c to 25c lower; heavy, $4.65 to $4.70; mixed and Yorkers, $4.60 to $4.65; pigs, $3.90 to $4.50; roughs, $4.00 to $4.15; and stags, $3.00 to $3.50; dairies, $4.25 and $4.60

Sheep and lambs, receipts 22,000 head; active; lambs and yearlings, 25c lower; others steady; lambs, $5.00 to $7.25; yearlings, $5.50 to $5.75; wethers, $4.75 to $5; ewes, $4.50 to $5.75; sheep mixed, $2.00 to $4.75; Canada lambs, $6.65 to $7.00.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

London, Dec. 4.—Beast supply consisted of fat butchering cows, bulls and rough cattle, trade for which was slightly brisker, though not sufficient to quote any advance. Top prices per 7 lbs.: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s. No sheep offered. Few calves offered met with buyers at late currencies; best quoted 4s 10d to 5s pr 8 lbs. Total supply—Beasts, 80; calves, 10.

London, Dec. 4.—Good supplies; trade continues slow, and prices barely maintained. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters beef, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; do., seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; do., forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d. Mutton—Scotch wedders, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; do., tegs, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; do., ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wedders, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; do., ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 5s; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; Dutch do., 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lbs.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES, Dec. 13.

With very bad sleighing in zero weather, a large farmers' market was hardly to be expected, yet there were more loads of oats (all on wheeled vehicles) than has been the case for some time past. The weather was too cold for the market gardeners to expose much of their goods, but the basket brigade nearly filled both of the market halls, where there were good supplies of dead poultry and large quantities of pork piecee offered for sale, and the very active demand for turkeys helped to keep up the prices. Oats sold at $1.10 to $1.20 the bag; buckwheat, $1.45 do.; potatoes, 75c to 80c the 80 lb. bag; turnips and beets, 60c to 75c do.; carrots, 60c do. parsnips, 90c do.; onions, $1 to $1.15 do.; dressed hogs, 8¼c to 8 3-4c per lb.; beef hindquarters, 5c to 6c do.; do., fronts, 3½c to 4½c do.; dead turkeys, 12c to 15c do.; geese, 10c to 13c do.; ducks and chickens, 13c to 15c do.; tub butter, 24c to 28c do.; print butter, 25c to 35c do.; new laid eggs, 55c to 60c the dozen; older eggs, 30c to 45c do.; apples, $2.50 to $5 the barrel; cranberries, $10 do. There is a glut of oranges on the market, and prices are very low. Valencias are $3 the large case; Costa Rica sweet oranges, $2 the box; lemons, $3.50 to $3 do.; Almeria grapes, $6 the keg; bananas, $1.50, up to $3 for extra large jumbos; hay, $16 to $17 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, $5 to $6 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

WILL DEPOSE HARRIMAN

Chicago, Dec. 13.—In an affidavit filed to-day in the Supreme Court Mr. Stuvesant Fish says if he obtains a majority of the proxies to be voted at the annual meeting of the Central Illinois Railroad, he will depose Mr. Edward H. Harriman as a director.

ONTARIO MARKETS

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 14.—White wheat, per bushel, 90c to 92c; Red at 90c to 92c; Spring at 85c to 92c; Peas, 78c to 80c; barley, 68c to 70c; oats, 48c to 50c; corn,, 62c to 64c; clover seed, $9 to $9.25; timothy seed, $1.75 to $2.25; white wheat flour, per brl., $4.30 to $4.50; strong bakers, F.P.B., $4.50 to $4.75; dressed hogs, per cwt., $7.75 to $8.25; apples, per bag of bushel and half, $1 to $1.25; dried apples, per lb., 3c to 4c; potatoes, per bag of 90 lbs., 90c to $1; butter, in rolls, per lb., 23c to 24c; butter, in firkins, per lb., 20c to 23c; eggs, per doz., 24c to 25c.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—As a result of the bad roads, quite a turkey and fowl famine developed at the market to-day, but dealers expect the situation to break before this time next week. Fresh killed turkeys were worth 15c to 16c a pound, but others, and the majority frozen, went at 14c to 16c, with geese at 8c to 12c., chickens at 10c to 15c. and fowl at 10c to 12c. Black ducks were brisk at $1.50 per pair and domestic at 15c per pound. Rabbits are going at 40c to 50c per pair. Meat remains at the old figures and appears to be a drug on the market. On the other hand, fruits, vegetables and produce are very brisk. Tub butter demands 27c to 28c, creamery 30c to 31c, laid 15c to 16c, and eggs 27c to 35c, the latter being really fresh.

Vegetables are easy at the following figures: Potatoes, 75c to 80c; carrots, 50c; parsnips, 75c; cabbages, 40c to 60c; celery, 25c to 40c; sage, 2 for 5c; onions, $1.25; turnips, 40c; and beets, 60c.

Ingersoll, Ont. Dec. 16—White wheat 95c to 97c per bushel; red fall wheat, 95c to 97c per bushel; peas, 70c to 75c per bushel; barley, 55c to 60c per bush; oats, 48c to 50c per bush.; corn, 70c to 75c per bushel; oatmeal, $3.50 to $4 per cwt.; cornmeal $3.50 to $4 per cwt.; flour, $2.60 to $2.85 per cwt.; bran, $23 to $24 per ton; shorts, $25 to $26 per ton; butter, 28c to 30c per lb.; creamery, 32c to 35c per lb.; eggs, 27c to 29c per dozen; potatoes, 95c $1.05 per bag; live hogs, $5 to $5.25 per cwt.; hay, $15 to $16 per ton; hides, $9 to $10 per cwt.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—The local grain market continues dull, business being confined to small lots to meet immediate requirements.

Prices are—Manitoba wheat, No. 1 Northern about nominal at $1.13; No. 2 Northern, $1.07½; No. 3 Northern, $1.04½; feed wheat, 60c to 61c; No. 2 feed, 59c to 61c, lake ports. Flour, Ontario winter wheat patents for export, $3.90 bid; Manitoba patents, special brand, $5.80 to $6; seconds, $5.20; strong bakers, $5.10. Ontario wheat, No. 2 white or red, 94c to 95c outside; No. 2 mixed, 92c to 93c outside; goose, 85c. Barley, No. 1, 70c to 72c; No. 2, 68c to 70c outside; No. 3 extra, 65c to 67c. Oats No. 2 white, 44c outside; mixed, 43c outside. Peas, 83c to 83½c outside. Rye, No. 2, 78½c. Corn, No. 3 yellow American, 70½c to 71c, Toronto freights; new No. 3 yellow, 64½c to 65c, delivery after Jan. 1; new No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, 63½c to 67c. Buckwheat, 62c outside. Bran, $19 to $20 in bulk outside; shorts, $21 to $22. Butter, eggs nd cheese steady.

HOW WHEAT FLUCTUATED

Highest and lowest prices of Chicago and Winnipeg cash and future options for the week ending Dec. 14:

CHICAGO.

Day	Option.	High.	Low.	Change.
Monday	May	101⅝	100⅝	—1
"	July	96¼	95⅝	— ⅞
Tuesday	May	100½	99⅞	— ⅝
"	July	96¼	95⅝	— ⅜
Wednesday	May	100⅝	99½	*1¼
"	July	95½	94⅝	* ⅞
Thursday	May	100⅝	99⅞	— ⅞
"	July	95½	95	....
Friday	May	100½	99⅝	....
"	July	95½	94⅜	* ⅜
Saturday	Dec.	95½	93¼	*1⅞
"	May	101⅝	100¼	*1⅜

WINNIPEG.

Day.	Option.	High.	Low.	Change
Monday	Dec.	100⅝	100⅜	* ⅛
"	May	109⅜	109⅛	— ⅛
"	July	....	....	....
Tuesday	Dec.	100⅞	100¼	....
"	May	110	109¼	....
"	July	....	....	....
Wednesday	Dec.	100⅝	100	* ⅝
"	May	109½	109	* ½
"	July	....	....	....
Thursday	Dec.	100½	100¼	* ⅜
"	May	109⅝	109	— ⅜
"	July	110½	110	— ½
Friday	Dec.	100	99⅝	....
"	May	108⅞	108⅛	....
"	July	110½	110	* ½
Saturday	Dec.	101	100	*1
"	May	109⅝	109	* ⅝
"	July	111⅝	111	*

"OLDBURY"

— BY —

ANNIE KEARY.

(By Special Arrangement with the Publishers, MacMillan and Co., Limited.)

CHAPTER XXXVII—Continued.

When the weather was not fine enough for walking, Mr. Blake's great pleasure was to frequent the reading-room of the British Museum Library—entrance tickets for which Gilbert Neale had procured both for him and Elsie. There he would contentedly spend the greater part of the day handling and seeming to read the books that were brought to him. Pleasant associations always seemed to come back upon him while he was so occupied. He held his head higher—an expression of wistful half-intelligence came into his face. He looked almost the interested, eager student he had been in that same spot years and years before. Generally, Elsie sat by his side reading, or copying illuminations from old missals; but sometimes she grew weary of the constraint of sitting still for so many hours, and when Mr. Blake was happily engaged, and did not seem to want her, she would leave the library, and on days when the Museum was not open to the general public, she would wander up and down the silent echoing galleries and staircases, till it was time to take her grandfather home. It was a weird kind of place to muse in, when the great halls were emptied of their usual crowd of visitors—but it suited Elsie's mood. The calm colossal heads staring blankly down on her, the broken fragments of statues, the beautiful strange sea things, the bright tropical birds and animals in their motionless mimicry of life, grew familiar, and seemed to enter into her reveries as constituent elements of them—miles and miles of dead, detached, broken things which had had some meaning, and some place, and some life of their own once—Elsie felt a great deal nearer to them, a great deal more at home with them, than with the people in the Park. No one interfered with her wanderings; the officials of the Museum took a kindly interest in the superannuated old scholar who haunted the library, and in the beautiful girl who watched over him so carefully, and they were all anxious to show her every courtesy in their power.

Weeks and months passed in this way, gliding rapidly into each other. The most intense pain is mitigated by time; and Elsie began to wonder at the tranquility and peace that had come into her life. Was it peace, she sometimes asked herself, or was it only deadness? By the time another spring and summer and winter had gone by in the same quiet, eventless fashion, she could hardly believe herself to be the same person who had grown up in Oldbury, and felt as if her very life was being torn from her when she had had to leave it. The time of strong feeling she had known there, of short, vivid joy and of agonizing pain, lay very, very far away from her now. It looked like another life, from which she thought she was definitely cut off. What had once seemed impossible to be borne appeared quite natural and inevitable now. One year would follow another just as the two last had done, quiet and grey, and she would bend her will more and more earnestly to the cheerful, contented bearing of her lot. New interests were gradually creeping into her life; and she knew she must honestly strive to make them thrust farther and farther away the thoughts that belonged to the past—the useless thoughts and regrets, that were alternately sweet and bitter, but always poisonous food for her mind to dwell on. During the first few months of her residence in London, several trifling incidents had concurred to put her in possession of small items of news respecting Oldbury and Oldbury people—foolish, useless pieces of information—which yet had filled her with immense joy, and made of the days on which she obtained them epochs of interest to count the passing of time by. Later these chances had become rarer, and the last year had not brought her a single one. Even the ingenious little schemes she sometimes concocted to make Margaret or Crawford talk of old times, and mention Oldbury names, seemed invariably to fail now. She began to think that a spell of silence had fallen on her that would never be broken again.

It was not that opportunities were altogether wanting which might have led to her hearing one or two of the chance mentions of dear familiar things which she longed for. Gilbert Neale was frequently at his mother's house. He often came there straight from Connington. He would sometimes, in Elsie's presence, go on talking for an hour together of places he had visited, and people he had seen, yet during several months he never once happened to bring in one of the words Elsie thirsted to hear. She chid herself for going to her grandmother's house whenever she knew that her uncle was there, with such a foolish fluttering of hope in her heart, and for coming back when the evening was over, so weary with disappointment. What could it signify to her? If even his name had come into the talk, if even she had heard that he was coming back to England, what right would she have to be interested in the news?

When she had suffered a great many disappointments, she began to tell herself she was cured of ever expecting anything to happen again. She believed she had come to the conclusion, that it was best not to have remembrance stirred by hearing the names of people with whom she should never have any further connection, who had quite passed out of her life. She tried to resolve that she would not even wish to hear, that for the future she would be thankful, not worry, when an evening in her uncle's society passed over safely without any little word being spoken to disturb her tranquility.

She said all this very emphatically to herself one sunny April morning, as she sat in her usual place at the desk in the Museum Library, assiduously copying a picture from an old illuminated book.

She had begun her drawing two days before, when she had had the prospect before her of seeing her uncle soon. She had spent the previous evening with him at her grandmother's house, and to-day he was on his way back to Connington. Oh, how foolish she had been two days ago to be in such a state of agitation at the thought of what she might possibly hear from him, that her hand had trembled in tracing those curves! How foolish! How foolish! Well, the opportunity had passed. He would certainly not come again for three months at least. Fortunately she could acknowledge it was much better for her that the anticipated evening had proved a complete blank; that he who could have told her so many things she would have liked to hear, had talked for hours and said nothing, absolutely not one word. Yes, it was better for her not to have her peace disturbed. Was it peace, or was it death, famine, starvation? He might have given her a little taste of life-restoring food! He must often have walked down the dear streets, and seen the names written over the shops, and been stopped by acquaintances, and heard words spoken that she would have been so thankful to him for repeating ever so indifferently.

Elsie pushed the missal from which she was copying hastily aside; the illumination was in greater danger now than when her hand had trembled. A treacherous tear had nearly fallen and blistered the priceless page. What could it be that made the longing for Oldbury streets and faces come so strongly over her just at that moment?

Such a flood of recollections rose that she could almost fancy she had been spirited away in a moment to Oldbury, and that she was standing on the doorstep of Elderberry's little house, with the scent of the lavender bushes in the Rectory garden blowing full in her face.

She put her hand over her eyes to press back the tears that obscured her vision, and then looked round to convener herself of where she really was.

The entrance-door to the Library, which was close to Elsie's seat, had opened a moment ago, and a party of visitors, under charge of one of the curators of the Museum, had come inside to look at the reading-room, and were whispering in what were meant to be low tones quite within Elsie's hearing.

A broad, good-humored, rosy face, with a flutter of gorgeous ribbons round it, caught her eyes. She must be dreaming still; or had she been asleep for years, and just awakened in the middle of a Sunday morning at Oldbury Church, with Mrs. Adams in her best bonnet seated in the pew opposite? Yes, it was a whiff of Oldbury rose leaves and lavender that had come to her. The stout lady moved aside, and Elsie caught a glimpse of a certain white knitted woollen shawl (oh, how well she knew every leaf of the pattern on it!) which had always had a faint perfume of lavender and rose leaves hanging round it since Elsie could remember anything.

The quaint little elderly figure round which it was folded came in sight next. There was no room for doubt, and, awake or asleep, Elsie could sit still no longer. She rushed to the door just as, in despair at the talkativeness of the party he was escorting, the gentleman who had brought them in swung it wide open to let them out; and she had presence of mind enough not to throw her arms round Miss Berry's neck till they were safe outside the hall of silence, in a passage where there were only a few passers-by and the umbrella keepers to be scandalized at the exclamations and hand-shakes and breathless questions and answers that followed.

Good-natured Mrs. Adams was almost as vehement in her expressions of delight at their unexpected meeting, as Miss Berry; and from her Elsie at last heard a coherent explanation of the circumstances that had led to their being at the Museum that day.

She told Elsie that she had come up to London to be present at the marriage of one of her grand-daughters, and had persuaded Miss Berry to accompany her to her daughter's house, and pay her a long-talked-of visit. They had already been three weeks in town, but this was the first day they had been able to go sight-seeing. Miss Berry had had some business to attend to, some one to visit whose address she had to seek out, and much time had been taken up in the search; then there had been the wedding. But this one leisure day had come at last, and it was Miss Berry who had decided on spending it in visiting the British Museum.

'My dear,' struck in Miss Berry, squeezing Elsie's hands, which she still held tightly, 'I thought only of my map, and of seeing the likeness of Joseph's Pharaoh, in whom, as you know, I always have taken such a particular interest; and to think of his having led me to you!'

When the excitement of the first few minutes was over, Mrs. Adams had the consideration to draw off the attention of the rest of the party so as to leave Elsie and her dear old friend to themselves. They walked up and down the lower Egyptian Hall, among the black sarcophagi, and wandered into cool, damp-smelling galleries, where ancient Babylonians stab each other endlessly on the walls, and talked, feeling as if they could never say all they had in their hearts, or look at each other enough. It seemed at the time to Elsie the most unreal of all the day dreams she had dreamed in that place: Oldbury news, mixed with exclamations from Miss Berry respecting the wonders she could not keep her eyes from wandering towards sometimes; the old dear, rambling, affectionate, familiar talk that Elsie had so thirsted after, and never thought to have heard again.

'O Elderberry, if you knew what it is to me to see you again!' was about as much as Elsie could find voice to say for some time; and even when she felt collected enough to ask questions, she found that her queries rather hindered than expedited the communications of which she was so greedy, and that it would be safest to let Miss Berry bring out her news in her own way, and keep the curiously interwoven sentences in her mind, to be unravelled at her leisure afterwards.

'Was it, could it be me you came to London to look for?' Elsie asked, eagerly, when Miss Berry was mysteriously hinting at some secret mission which, far more than any wish to attend Miss Adams's wedding, had induced her to undertake such a long journey at her age.

An expression of perplexity crossed Miss Berry's beamingly happy face.

'My love, I think, if you please, we will walk on a little faster and get into another department, where perhaps I shall be better able to collect my thoughts. I confess it confuses me a good deal to have all the Pharaohs, and so many other Scriptural characters as I am told there are in this room, staring down into my face. I cannot help pausing in what I am saying to think how I can best introduce them into the map, with that tiger-headed woman to serve as an example of a monstrous idol. Well, now that we are coming among the Babylonians, with whom I have never felt I had quite so much to do, I shall be able to give more undivided attention; and, my love, though your question embarrasses me a little, I will be perfectly frank with you. I did, I confess it, my dear, that last evening when he came back to Oldbury for nothing in the world but to talk to me about you—and, poor fellow, the state of mind he was in—I did make him a kind of promise, and it troubles my conscience very much sometimes to think that I had never once in all these months written to China, or taken any decided steps to get the news of you he was so anxious for. He must think me very ungrateful, for I have received the kindest letters from him and presents—a magnificent China crape shawl, which I have left in my will to you, Elsie:—to that length I think I may safely go in encouraging the attachment. And now that you have been thrown in my way in such a providential, unsought manner, in a place too, that, what with the tombs and the Scripture characters, may be almost said to rank with a church. I shall certainly feel justified in writing him a little letter, and just mentioning casually that I have seen you. I do not suppose I should have been quite so scrupulous hitherto, if such awful instances of disobedience to parents with respect to matrimony had not occurred in Oldbury. You do not mean to say that you have not heard? Then you may well be surprised at seeing me here. It was not for your sake, to tell you the truth, my dear, that I undertook a journey at my time of life; it was to look after those unhappy young people, Richard and Sophia Lutridge, who have brought such trouble on their parents and such disgrace on all Oldbury. If dearest Mrs. Lutridge could have risen from her sofa—but she cannot—she would positively have gone down on her knees to thank me when I ventured to suggest that, as I was nobody of any consequence, and had no character for consistency to keep up, I might come to London and find her poor children out, and make the first overtures to reconciliation. That the eldest son and daughter of such a family should make runaway matches within two months of each other—you can conceive the thrill of feeling that went through Oldbury when the news came out. I grieve to say that there were found some, even among the district visitors, cruel enough to insinuate that if dearest Mrs. Lutridge had meddled less in her neighbors' concerns, and made her home a little pleasanter to her own family, the scandal might never have occurred. It was a heartless remark, my dear, and I never shall again be able to feel quite cordially to the Tomkinsons. Such a time to turn round on an old benefactress too! for, independently of these unlucky marriages, things are not with the Lutridges by any means as they used to be. It seems that, owing to some carelessness of Mr. Richard's, affairs at the bank began to go wrong. There were difficulties. Some people who have lost money complain a good deal, and the dear Lutridges themselves have been obliged to give up Laurel Lodge and come down into the town to live.'

'That must have been a great trial to Mrs. Lutridge,' said Elsie, a little blankly, for she could not help being disappointed at the turn the conversation had taken.

'She bore up very well till the story of Mr. Richard's marriage with the daughter of the man who keeps the little public-house at the bottom of the hill came out. You may remember her, my dear—a large young woman, as unlike you as it is possible to conceive, and at least fifteen years older than Mr. Richard. Mr. Lutridge was disposed to be lenient, in spite of all the trouble and disgrace his son's carelessness (and I fear worse than carelessness) had brought upon him; but Mrs. Lutridge thought she owed it to Oldbury to let her displeasure be shown plainly. When she heard that the marriage had taken place clandestinely at a church in Bristol, months before the parents on either side knew of it, and that two of her daughters had long been aware of what was going on, and had connived at their brother's misconduct, she was so indignant that she declared she would never see her son again, or forgive her daughters for their share in his ruin. Poor girls! they used to come to me and cry a great deal, and talk of their having always been so afraid of their mother, and of the discomfort and disunion at home, which they said had driven them all to underhand ways. It ended in poor Miss Sophia's running away with one of the bank clerks who had been turned off for unsteadiness a year before, and in Miss Ursula's resolving to go over to the Church of Rome, and drawing young Walter Neale, who is a weak youth I am afraid, my dear, into a secret correspondence on the subject. It seems they proposed to escape to France together, and there to take monastic vows; but, as I understand now, they have changed their minds, and are content to form a marriage engagement instead. It strikes me that this is the simpler and less objectionable arrangement of the two; but it has met with much opposition from Walter Neale's friends. I have heard that his mother still refuses her consent, and that Mr. Lutridge is quite bowed down with shame at the want of right feeling and sense of propriety his poor daughter has shown in her conduct throughout the whole affair. Some people say that Mrs. Lutridge does not feel it nearly so much as he does; but, my dear, I leave you to judge: she has never been outside her house for a whole year! Oldbury is a changed place in consequence. The way in which the servant girls stand talking and laughing at the area gates of an evening now, and the style of bonnets they go to church in, are proof enough that she is no longer the person she used to be. People speak their minds and arrange things in an off-hand way that is quite startling. One hardly seems to know now what sides people are on, or who ought and who ought not to be visited. Mr. Pierrepoint and the incumbent of the district church walk about together arm in arm. Little innovations (of a very pleasing sort, I must confess) are actually creeping into our service at the old church; there is a talk of our having 'Hymns. Ancient and Modern,' when the old hymn books are worn out; yet Mrs. Lutridge takes it all quietly, and does not offer an opinion. She seems to have lost heart to interfere about anything now. If the Pope himself were to come and attempt to preach in Oldbury I really don't think it would stir her up. When I consulted her about my journey to London, and suggested that I would, if she pleased, trace out poor Sophia, and ascertain whether the rumor we had heard about her husband's actually ill-using her was well founded or not, and call on Mr. and Mrs. Richard, and bring her news of their baby—instead of being angry with me, and ordering me out of the house, as I quite expected she would, she broke down, sobbing, my dear—only think of that, Mrs. Lutridge!—and when she had recovered herself a little, she spoke of my faithful friendship and kindly influence over every one, in terms really as if she had taken it into her head that there had been some mistake, and that it was I, and not she herself, who had been doing good in Oldbury all these years. It was a distressing scene, indeed. Dearest Mrs. Lutridge almost, one may say, humbling herself to me! You will not wonder, I am sure, that, with such heart-breaking warnings before my eyes, I have been scrupulous and doubtful about the wisdom of keeping up in Stephen Pierrepoint's mind certain hopes and fears. I see what a brilliant color has come into your face, my love, and I know that I am approaching a delicate subject. If I had not been taken so unawares I would have thought it over, and made up my mind how much I should be justified in repeating of what he said to me the last day he was in England, when he read your little note, and was completely overcome at the thought of going so far away without prospect of hearing of you again. Poor fellow! I always knew what a great amount of deep feeling there was hidden under that playful manner of his, which, in spite of one's dread of levity, one could not help finding very winning. He was always making a joke of me and saying perplexing things, and yet, my dear, you would hardly believe how much older I feel since he left England; and how I miss all the kindnesses he was always showing me, and the sight of his pleasant face coming into my room. However, as I have not had time to consider what I ought to say, and feeling bewildered, as I do, with so many Pharaohs and Sennacheribs standing round, I think it will be more conscientious of us to change the subject. Let us speak of something else. Ah! there are Mrs. Adams and the others coming to look for us. I fear we have been keeping them waiting an immense time. And that wonderfully clever gentleman, who told us all about the world before it was created, must be getting impatient for us to go. I will give you one kiss before they all come up. Yes, I love you as much as ever, my dear Elsie; and I understand what your eyes are asking me, though you speak in such a low whisper that I cannot quite catch the words. I will write to China to-night, and I promise to post the letter before I have time to think it over and get frightened. He has begged me over and over again to write, even if I have nothing to say about you; and now I think I shall be justified in sending a letter and putting in some allusion (not too explicit perhaps) to what has happened to-day. It will be a difficult task; but I trust I shall be enabled to express myself judiciously, and avoid saying more than I ought. Unfortunately we go back to Oldbury to-morrow morning, and I have promised to spend the last evening with the poor Richard Lutridges at Camden Town, so I am afraid this must be good-by. Mrs. Adams is beckoning quite impatiently, you see.'

Elsie followed her friends to the outer door and took an affectionate leave of Mrs. Adams, whose daughter, as kind-hearted and rosy-faced as herself, gladdened Elsie's heart by asking for her address, and promising to call on her sometimes, and let her know how the two elder ladies settled down to Oldbury after the excitement of their London visit.

She did not re-enter the building till the last flutter of Mrs. Adams's floating bonnet-strings was lost in the crowd outside, and then she discovered how late it was, and that she must hasten back to her grandfather, from whom she had never before been so long absent. Fortunately he had been happily occupied, and had not missed her. He did not ask her any questions when she came back, or appear to notice anything unusual in her countenance as they were walking home together. The event of the last hour and a half, which had somehow or other made all the world look different to Elsie, would have no interest whatever for him. She did not think it necessary to attempt to talk to him about it.

Margaret was more observing. When she returned home late in the evening after a hard day's work, she saw that something had happened almost the moment she opened the door of their dull little lodging-house drawing-room. Elsie was seated at the open window with her hands resting idly on her lap, looking over the leafless lilac bushes in the dusty square garden towards an opening in the opposite row of houses, which showed a patch of sky and a silvery crescent moon, just then faintly marked in the pale blue. Her restful attitude struck Margaret almost as much as the happy, dreamy smile on her face. It almost startled her. It spoke of a mood very, very far removed from anything she herself had experienced for many a year; yet she understood what it meant very well. She knew that Elsie did not see the dusty lilac bushes, or even the shining silver boat sailing in that narrow river of London sky. She had taken some treasured remembrance out of her mind, and was looking only at that. She was conning over some words, or bringing back some looks, weighing them and appraising them as if they were jewels, and smiling to herself to discover how rich beyond her previous reckoning she was. It must be something she had heard lately, for Margaret had never seen her look like this before. She went up to her softly and laid her hand on her shoulder. 'Well?' she could not help saying in a tone of inquiry, as she looked down into Elsie's changed face.

'O Aunt Margaret, what do you think has happened to-day?' Elsie began eagerly.

Margaret's face expressed a little surprise and disappointment, perhaps, as Elsie's narrative went on; she had evidently expected to hear something of more importance, and indeed, as Elsie related the incident of the afternoon, it hardly sounded a sufficient reason for feeling so radiantly happy. After all, what had happened? She had, by the merest chance in the world, encountered an old friend who would probably never come across her path again; and that was all. Elsie's joy was somewhat checked by Margaret's matter-of-fact way of listening to the news she had to impart. She began to think the meeting, which had seemed little short of a miracle, almost commonplace and natural, as Margaret calmly commented on it; and Miss Berry's words hardly seemed worth such endless pondering over as she had been disposed to accord them a few minutes before. But the glamor that the daylight of Margaret's reason dissipated, returned again the very first time Elsie was alone, and could translate the story back into her own heart's language. Miss Berry's words turned into priceless pearls and diamonds once more, and with them in endless variation she embellished all the sultry days of the summer that followed, and wove garlands, and made lamps of them to lighten the gloom of a dreary autumn, till a certain day in the winter came and brought fresh emotion with it.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

MISS BERRY'S LETTER.

A wide low room spread with matting, but in other respects furnished like an English drawing-room, and littered with music, work, and sketches in a fashion that spoke of a lady's constant occupation of it. A large window opening on to a shaded balcony filled with flower-pots, where a few roses and geraniums and a clump of English daisies drooped in the heat; and from which, now that the curtains of the awning were drawn aside, a glimpse of the sea blazing in sunlight, of a squadron of English and French men-of-war in the distance, and of strange sailed, strange hued Chinese junks gliding past, could be gained by the occupants of the room. These were just now only two, who had lately deserted the shadier parts of the room for the window recess. Cecil Russel stood a little way out on the balcony braving the glare and the inquisitive glances of some almond-shaped black eyes from the streets below (to say nothing of unsavory whiffs from the same locality which entirely overpowered the faint perfume of the flowers and tainted the fresh sea-breeze), while she stooped down and picked off some faded leaves from her plants, and touched with her finger the burned-up earth round the roots of her melancholy-looking withered Oldbury daisy.

Stephen Pierrepoint, who had risen from a table laden with books and papers a minute or two before, and come to the window for no apparent purpose but to see what she was doing, stood leaning against the window-sill, alternately watching her and spelling out a sentence in a Chinese book he held open in his hand.

They both looked a great deal older than when Oldbury knew them—older than the additional three years that had passed over their heads at all warranted—till they spoke, and then each face regained something of the playful animation and openness of expression that had given it its peculiarly youthful look a few years before.

They had been talking and laughing eagerly over some incident of a few minutes ago, almost in their old openly familiar brother and sister fashion—almost, but not quite. They had never been quite as intimate since they left England as they used to be in the old days before they spent a summer together in Oldbury, though Cecil was perhaps the only one who was conscious of the slight barrier of reserve that had grown up between them. They stood now close together, quite at ease in not talking, and only let fall a sentence now and then as they pleased. When Cecil had finished watering her flowers, she remained on the balcony with her hands clasped behind her, looking out dreamily towards the sea. A somewhat weary, anxious expression grew into her face as she gazed; and it was with a quick sigh and an impatient gesture, as if she were struggling to shake off a weight, that she turned towards the room and took up the desultory conversation again.

'What an odd feeling it gives one to look out upon the sea for long together! The motion of the waves has a strange sort of power over one. I feel as if I were gradually slipping out of my body as I look, and floating away just over the tops of the waves—not exactly touching them, but borne along by their rocking. If I went on staring along enough, I do believe I should go. I should get to England that way, or somewhere.'

'That sort of feeling was what the Greeks meant by their stories about the sirens, I suppose,' said Stephen carelessly. 'Have a little bit of prosaic practical Confucian philosophy to put your body and soul into comfortable relations again. I'm reading from one of the most approved Chinese books of instruction. Here is what serves a follower of Confucius for spiritual nourishment. The subject of the treatise is duty to parents; and there are examples recorded for general imitation; it is a sort of sacred history in fact, handed down for all generations to ponder over. You shall hear a sentence or two: "In the Chang dynasty, Sin Li, when fifty years of age, still resided with his parents, and was subject to their will. To prevent them from considering themselves old he affected the manners of a child, and sported and gambolled before them in gaily-colored garments. He would pretend to stumble in walking like a babe. All this he did to divert his aged parents. In the Tsin dynasty, Mang Tsun mourned the death of his father. During the winter season his mother desired bamboo sprouts made into soup. He went into the forest, and, grasping a bamboo with his hands, burst into tears. Such filial devotion moved heaven and earth; and in a little while the earth opened and sent forth several bamboo sprouts.' This is said to be the original cause of bamboos sprouting in the winter as well as in the spring, by the way.'

'Well, but that is a little less prosaic than I expected. It is a miracle.'

'No, a thoroughly unspiritual marvel; that is to say, the most prosaic, degrading subject of belief in the world—akin to Cagliostro tricks and table-rapping—the thing that is sure to result from a creed which starts by disowning every attempt to get beyond the region of the senses.'

(To be continued.)

PILES

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Mr. W. B. Reynolds, Halifax, N.S., writes Dec. 26, 1905: "I consider your Oxydonor a little wonder. After using it a few weeks, Rheumatism, from which I was suffering for a year or more, entirely left me. No person afflicted with Rheumatism should be without one."

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There are different kinds of colds, and various ways in which they affect different people. Some constitutions will throw off a light cold, while to others it will stick tenaciously. There is one kind—the kind accompanied by a cough, the kind that turns to bronchitis, the kind that ends in consumption — that should never be neglected.

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makes a quick, lasting shine that stands the hottest fire you can build in the stove.

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Insist on having 'Black Knight'

WANTED—MORE REST!*

(By the Rev. J. H. Jowett, M.A.)

'Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.'—Matthew xi., 28, 29.

'I will give you rest.' Give! This kind of rest is always a gift; it is never earned. It is not the emolument of toil; it is the dowry of grace. It is not the prize of endeavor, its birth precedes endeavor, and is indeed the spring and secret of it. It is not the perquisite of culture, for between it and culture there is no necessary and inevitable communion. It broods in strange and illiterate places, untouched by scholastic and academic refinement, but it abides also in cultured souls which have been chastened by the manifold ministry of the schools. It is not a work, but a fruit, not the product of organization, but the sure and silent issue of a relationship. 'Come unto me and I will give you rest.'

But even the gift of rest does not disclose its unutterable contents in a day. It is an immediate gift, but it is also a continuous discovery. 'Learn of me . . . and ye shall find rest.' Part of 'the things which God hath prepared for them that love him' lie in this wealthy gift of rest, and it is one of the frequent and delightful surprises of grace that we should repeatedly come upon new and unexpected veins of ore in this deep mine of 'the peace of God, which passeth all understanding.' I say that the rest of the Lord is an immediate gift and a perpetual discovery. 'Come unto me . . . and I will give you rest.' 'Learn of me . . . and ye shall find rest unto your souls.'

And so I am to speak to you of the riches of the Christian rest. Do you feel it to be an irrelevant note, an inappropriate theme, in the march and warfare of our times? Surely we need to speak of battlefields rather than of green pastures, and to hear the nerving call to struggle and duty rather than the soft and gentle wooings that call to rest! Our times demand the warrior's bugle-peal, and not the shepherd's pipe of peace! Ah, but, brethren, in this warfare the trumpeter himself is shorn of inspiration unless he have the gilt of rest, and the warrior himself is rendered impotent unless he be possessed by the secret of the heavenly peace. The restless trumpeter ministers no thrill, and the perturbed warrior lacks the very genius of conquest. I know the feverish motions of our time, the restlessness of fruitless desire, the disturbing forebodings of anxiety, the busy-ness of the devil, the sleepless and perspiring activity of Mammon, the rush to be rich, the race to be happy, the craving for sensation, the immense impetus and speed characterizing every interest in our varied life, and added to all, the precipitate shedding of hoary forms and vestures, and the re-clothing of the thoughts of men in modern and more congenial attire. I know the general restlessness, the heated and consuming haste, and knowing them I proclaim that the secret of a successful antagonism must be sought in the profound restfulness of the Church. I do not wonder at the restlessness of the world, but I stand amazed at the restlessness of the Saviour's Church! We are encountering restlessness by restlessness, and on many sides we are suffering defeat. Let me pause to make a few distinctions in order that my argument may not be misunderstood. We must distinguish between indolent passivity and active restfulness. I am not pleading for enervating ease, but for enabling and inspiring rest. Ease is an opiate; rest is a stimulant, say rather a nutriment. Ease is the enemy of strength; rest is the hidden resource. Our scientists distinguish between motion and energy, and I could wish that some similar distinction might be transferred to the sphere of the Church. All activity is not influential. All speech is not persuasive. All supplication is not effective. The secret of effective supplication is a quiet faith. The secret of effective speech is a hidden assurance. The secret of triumphant warfare is a permanent peace. The essential and operative element in all fruitful activity is a deep and abiding rest. We must fight the prevalent restlessness by a sovereign peace. 'Come unto me . . . . and I will give you rest.'

Now, my brethren, I confess I miss this essential in the modern Church. How think you? Is the Church of our day characterized by that healthy peace and rest which ought to be the portion of all saved, forgiven and sanctified men and women? I confess that peace and rest are about the last grace I think about when I gaze upon the modern Church. The care lines, and the wrinkles of worry and anxiety and uncertainty, and a general air of restlessness, seem to me almost as prevalent upon the countenance of the Church as upon the face of the world. The Church is not conspicuous by the smoothness of its brow! Everywhere I detect a certain strain, a certain fussy precipitancy, a certain trembling activity, a certain amasculating care. We look like men and women who are carrying more than we can bear, and who are attempting tasks that are quite beyond our strength. If I listen to our prevailing vocabulary, and note the words that are most in evidence, my impression of the general restlessness is only confirmed. The vocabulary is scriptural enough so far as it goes, but the real fertilizing terms are too much obscured or ignored. The great, hot, dry words in the terminology are manifest enough: strive, fight, wrestle, oppose, work, war, do, endeavor; but those gracious, energizing words, lying there with the soft dews upon them—grace, rest, joy, quietness, assurance—those deep, generic words are not sufficiently honored in our modern speech. I am calling for the resurrection of these domestic terms in order that the military terms may be revived. I am calling to peace for the sake of warfare. I am calling to rest for the sake of labor. I plead for a little more mysticism for the sake of our enthusiasms. I proclaim the sacredness and necessity of the cloister in the soul, the necessity of a chamber of peace, a centre of calmness, a 'heart at rest, when all without tumultuous seems.' Rest is the secret of conquest, and it is to the Church, therefore, and not to the world, that I primarily offer this evangel to-day:—'Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavily laden, and I will give you rest.'

Now, when I lok around upon the strained and wrinkled Church, moving often in pallor of fear and uncertainty when she ought to exult in the pink of strength and assurance, I am impressed with certain primary lacks in her equipment. The strain frequently comes at the hill; not always so; perhaps not even commonly so; for perhaps it is true both of men and of Churches that the strain is not so much felt in the sharp and passing crisis as in the dull and jogging commonplace. Perhaps there is more strain in the prolonged drudgery than in the sudden calamity. The dead level may try us more than the hill! 'Because they have no changes they fear not God.' But come the strain how it may, all strain is suggestive of inadequate resources; and the wrinkled, restless, careworn face of the Church makes it abundantly evident that the Church is not entering into the fulness of 'the inheritance of the saints in light.' What does the Church require if her strain and her paralyzing restlessness are to be removed?

She needs a more restful realization of her Lord's presence. My brethren, we fight too much as soldiers whose leader is out of the field. We work too much as though our Example were a dead Nazarene instead of a living and immediate friend. We tear about with the aimless, pathetic wanderings of little chicks when the mother bird is away. And so our life is strained and restless and uninspired when it might be filled with a big and bracing contentment. We need the stimulating consciousness of a great and ever-present companionship. We know the stimulus of lofty companionship in other spheres and in smaller communions. We know the influence of Stevenson's companionship upon Mr. Barrie and Mr. Crockett. That companionship acted like a second literary conscience, restraining all careless and hasty work, but it also acted as an unfailing inspiration, quickening the very tissues of their minds and souls. It was a companionship that was not only like a great white throne of literary judgment, but a throne out of which flowed, as there does out of every engaging personality, a river of water of life, vitalizing all those who hold communion with it. But when we lift up the relationship, and contemplate the great communion which we are all privileged to share in the companionship of the Lord, all similes tire and fall limp and ineffective, and leave the glory unexpressed! A restful realization of the Lord's companionship! That has been the characteristic of all men whose religious activity has been forceful, influential and fertile in the purposes of the Kingdom. At the very heart of all their labors, in the very centre of their stormiest days, there is a sphere of sure and restful intimacy with the Lord. You know how close and intimate and calm such intimacy can be. I think of Samuel Rutherford. I think of the love-language which he uses in his communion with the Lord. Only the Song of Solomon can supply him with the suitable expressions of holy passion wherewith to tell the story of his soul's devotion. When I read some of his words I almost feel as though I were eaves-dropping, and had overheard two lovers in their gentle and wooing speech. It is a fashion of language not congenial to our time, but that, my brethren, is only because in our day we have almost ceased to cultivate the affections, and confine our education to the culture of the intellect and the conscience. 'We now make critics, not lovers,' and the speech of Samuel Rutherford sounds to us like an alien tongue. I think of Jonathan Edwards, a man of greatly differing type from Samuel Rutherford, but also a man of multitudinous labors and of fearless persistence, and whose activities rested upon a sublime repose in the abiding sense of the reality and presence of his Lord. His latest biographer declares that he had 'an immediate vision of the spiritual universe as the reality of realities,' that 'in exploring its recesses and in pondering its relations he did so as native and to the manor born,' and that, next perhaps to the apostle John he exercised the surest and most intimate familiarity with things unseen. But why should I keep upon these high planes of renowned and prominent personalities. Get a man who is restfully intimate with his Lord, and you have a man whose force is tremendous! Such men move in apparent ease, but it is the ease that is linked with the infinite, it is the very rest of God. They may be engaged in apparent trifles, but even in the doing of the trifles there emerges the health-giving currents of the Kingdom of God. Listen to James Smeatham: 'I was at the leader's meeting last night. There was the superintendent. There was a gardener, a baker, a cheesemonger, a postman and myself. We sat till near ten p.m. Now what were the topics? When is the juvenile missionary meeting to be? When the society tea-meeting? How best to distribute the poor money, etc.' Here were these unknown and unlettered men, engaged in apparently trivial business, but resting in the Lord, and pouring forth from their rest-possessed souls spiritual energy which to James Smeatham is like 'healthy air,' and 'send me home,' he says, 'as last night, cured to the core, so fresh, so calm, so delivered from all my fears and troubles.' The man who is sure and restful in the conscious companionship of his Lord has about him the strainlessness and inevitableness of the ocean tide, and gives off bracing influence like God's fresh and wondrous sea. 'Then had thy peace been like a river, and thy righteousness like the waves of the sea.' Let us become restfully sure of God, and we shall meet the batalions of the evil one unstrained and undismayed. Let the Church rest in her Lord and she will become terrible as an army with banners.

What does the Church need if her strain and her wrinkles are to be removed? She needs a more restful realization of the wealth and power of her allies. We too often face our foes with the shiver of fear, and with the pallor of expected defeat. We too often manifest the symptoms of panic, instead of marching out in orderly array with the restful assurance of conquest. The hosts of evil are even now organizing their forces in threatening and terrific mass. Ahe our wrinkles increasing? Is our fear intensifying our strain, and are we possessed by a great uncertainty? Why, brethren, if we were conscious of our resources, and recognized our co-operative allies, we should more frequently put the Doxology at the beginning of our programmes, and our hearts would sing of victory even before the conflict began! It is all a matter of being more restfully conscious of the allies that fight on our side.

*A sermon preached at the St. James's Hall, anniversary of West Central Mission, Friday, May 6.

NEARLY ALL YOUNG WOMEN ARE WHITE-BLOODED, ANAEMIC

Anaemia is associated with languor and sensitiveness to cold. All the mucous surface, such as the gums, lips, and eyelids, are blanched and waxy looking, the skin is pallid and colorless. The pulse becomes rapid and feeble; there is also loss of appetite and enfeebled digestion, palpitation of the heart, breathlessness and tendency to faint. In extreme cases there is complete disappearance of the menstrual flow and dropsical swelling of the limbs.

Treatment consists in restoring the red corpuscles of the blood and building up the general health. Physicians know of no remedy so prompt in results as Ferrozone, which contains all the elements lacking in debilitated blood. Ferrozone not only improves the present quality of the blood, but actually forms more blood—the rich, red kind that nourishes and feeds the organs that require assistance.

It is impossible for any person to suffer from White Bloodedness that uses Ferrozone. This is amply proved by the following statement:

'About a year ago,' writes Mrs. S. G. Stanhope, of Rothesay, 'my daughter complained of feeling tired, she was very pale and listless, and kept losing strength till too weak to attend school. The doctor prescribed different medicines, but Elaine kept getting worse instead of better.

'We read of a similar case, that of Miss Decent, of Stirling, Ont., being cured by Ferrozone, and this induced us to get it for Elaine. It took three boxes of Ferrozone to make any decided improvement, but when six boxes were used my daughter was beginning to be her old self again. It didn't take much longer to make a complete cure, and I am convinced that there is no better blood-maker than Ferrozone. It has made a new girl of Elaine. She has gained ten pounds in weight and looks the picture of perfect health. She is stronger and enjoys the best of spirits. The credit of her recovery is due entirely to Ferrozone.'

Every growing girl and young woman can make herself strong and healthy with Ferrozone. Complexion soon becomes rosy, nerves get new strength, tiredness vanishes. Ferrozone is sold by all druggists. Price 50c per box, or six boxes for $2.50. By mail from N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U.S.A., and Kingston, Ont

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON

December 29, 1907.

REVIEW OF THE FOURTH QUARTER.

Fourth Quarter.—Lesson XIII.

(Davis W. Clark.)

Golden Text.—'Thou crownest the year with thy goodness.—Psa. lxv., 11.

A whole year of 'ranging' through the pleasant fields of Holy Writ draws to its close. It has been in large part a study of origins, always a fascinating pursuit. It has covered the genesis of the human family in general and the patriarchal era in particular. The evolution of the Hebrew nationality has been traced stage by stage; Bondage and Deliverance; the Law-giving; the march to and conquest of Canaan; and finally the era of the Judges.

Once more the old book proves itself new. It is an evergreen. No leaf is sear or yellow. It has an evolution which runs parallel to that of the race, so that each human emergency is matched by a sacred page which is illuminative of the situation. Moral and ethical principles are irradiated which are fundamental and consequently universally and perpetually applicable. So, although the study of the whole year is in the eldest history of the human family, there is no effete or musty smell about it. On the contrary, there is perennial freshness.

The first portrait flashed upon the screen of the last quarter is that of Joshua, Israel's new leader. He met the need of the hour in his person. Conquest was the key word for the new epoch. Joshua was the conqueror par excellence. He was a great, determined, tactful and inspirational leader.

Israel entering the land of promise makes an ever-living picture. Jordan running bank-full and a mile wide makes apparently an impassable barrier. But when the sandaled feet of the priests bearing aloft the glittering palladium of Israel, the ark of the covenant, dipped into the foaming torrent the floods stood still. Then began that never-to-be-forgotten march through God's viaduct.

Jericho was the Gibraltar of Canaan. Even if its gauntlet could be run, no commander versed in tactics would ever leave such a citadel in his rear. But a plan of investment and assault was revealed to Joshua which to the last degree must have been fortifying to his military genius. He sacrificed his science to his faith and his reward was the signal. God handed him the key to Canaan.

In this ancient hall of fame alongside of the portrait of Joshua hangs that of his comrade-spy, Caleb. The last scene in his noble career is in all respects worthy of his exalted character. He comes in his turn before the commission whose task it is to divide the conquered land among the tribes and families. Instead of asking for some lordly manor, as he had a perfect right to on account of public services, the aged warrior asks that he be given the only unconquered portion of the country, the inaccessible heights in which the Anakim were fortified.

The political constitution of the Hebrew nation shines like a radiant star through subsequent ages of dark oppression and injustice. Its jurisprudence, agrarian, municipal, sanitary and criminal is the wonder of minds versed in such matters. Our modern advanced laws were antedated three thousand years by the Jewish statutes concerning dumb brutes, contagious diseases, etc. Of the philanthropic and practical nature of the Hebrew polity the one institution of Cities of Refuge is a remarkable evidence.

After a stainless and brilliant career, Joshua approaches his end. He will fain, after the example of Moses, project his influence beyond his moral life. With this in view he summons his powers of body, mind and spirit and pours them out in an historic résumé, in discriminating analysis of cause of national prosperity and an appeal and exhortation worthy of Moses or Elijah. A general national assembly is planned at which the public parting shall take place. The local environment, including, as it does, Shechem, Ebal, and Gerizim, is a fitting frame for the scene at once pathetic and sublime. The solemn covenant between God and Israel is renewed and confirmed with an oath of which monumental reminders are erected.

The Hebrew Church was in black apostacy for seven years. The land was full of altars to the sungod and his voluptuous consort, the star-queen. They suffered the pains and penalties of a punitive Providence. The moment they cried 'Enough,' God prepared deliverance. There is a weirdness about Gideon which gives a romantic fascination to a career for which a victory of an army decimated by a novel sign and armed with the unique weapons of lamps and pitchers is an altogether fitting climax.

Samuel was a lily on a dunghill. He grew in the midst of moral rottenness. He was the white flower of a dark period. His good parentage partly accounts for his unique character. He was a boy given to God and his tabernacle. The subjective effect of his environment and occupation must have been a considerable factor in the evolution of his moral power and spiritual character. At length when God called him, the prepared message found a prepared heart. Such in brief was the origin, environment and training of the last of the judges and the first of the prophets.

In that New Testament 'hall of fame' the eleventh chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews, hangs a tablet to Samson. The effort to deny his historicity and to reduce him to a solar myth has had no better success than the effort to discount his character and deeds. The narrative preserves with photographic fidelity the manners and customs of the eldest age. The stories of wit and prowess are an interpretation of a time otherwise incomprehensible. On a larger scale the crude history is an interpretation of human life in general, the comedy and tragedy of it, the mixture of gold and clay in all heroes. Extensive allegorization is possible. Samson was undoubtedly designed to be a national object-lesson. He certainly exemplified the advantage of good parentage, the immanence of God ('and the Spirit of the Lord began to move him'), and the danger of irreligious affiliation. The whole story is inspirational of courage and patriotism.

The continuity of the quarter's lessons is somewhat disturbed by the injection of two lessons which come in arbitrarily. The one for the World's Temperance Sunday is from that mirror of the Apostolic Church, the Epistle to the Romans. We discover, regretfully, that the early Church was divided. Practically, Paul's purpose in writing is to outline those principles and methods which will most conduce to unity and peace. This inspired and transparent casuistry is of perpetual application.

The Christmas Lesson is the golden climax to the year of study. The Magi are the ideal Bible students for every age. Undoubtedly they conquered their racial prejudices and studied with the exiled Jews the yellow and sacred scrolls and thus learned of Him of whom Moses and the prophets spoke. God met them on their own plane of thought. He sent a star to the star-gazers, just as he sent angels to the Jews who through their literature and history were familiar with angels. Their quest proved their moral earnestness and had its reward. 'They found the babe.'

HOME READINGS.

Monday, December 23.—Ps. 68, 1-18.
Tuesday, December 24.—Ps. 68, 19-35.
Wednesday, December 25.—Ps. 78, 53-66.
Thursday, December 26.—Ps. 80, 1-18.
Friday, December 27.—Ps. 106, 34-48.
Saturday, December 28.—Ps. 135, 1-21.
Sunday, December 29.—Heb. xi., 29-40.

BIBLE TRUTHS.

THE BIBLE.

When Sir Walter Scott was dying he said 'Bring me the Book.' He was asked, 'What book?' He replied, 'There is but one, the Bible.' Of all the books in the world this is the only one we cannot do without. It is the oldest, the wisest, the truest. 'Thy Word is truth.' The whole of its revelations are from heaven, and cannot be broken. (Ro. i., 2.) All Scripture is God-breathed. (II. Tim. iii., 16.) Holy men of God spake as impelled by the Holy Spirit. God's revealings came through, not by, the prophets. (II. Pet. i., 20, 21.) They did not write opinions, but facts, in words taught by the Holy Spirit. The first thing is to know the Book, which is able to make wise unto salvation. This is to be attained by careful, prayerful believing, reading. The second thing is, to get a right understanding of what we read. This can only come through the Spirit's teaching, or by the help of Spirit-taught men. (Acts viii., 26-40.) Spiritual things can only be understood by spiritual minds. Thirdly. To remember what we read. (Jno. xv., 20; ii., 11, 20; Acts xx., 35.) The best way to keep it in mind, is to practise what we learn. If ye know these things happy are ye if ye do know them. (Jno. xiii., 17.) Fourth. Believe the Bible. Some men are slow to believe. Lu. xxiv., 25, 27.) Others search the Book to see if the preaching is true. (Acts xvii., 10-12.) Some believe the preacher and reject the teaching of the book. No teacher has authority to teach anything contrary to the Bible. Let God be true, though it should prove all men to be liars. (Ro. iii., 1-4.) Fifthly. Obey the Scriptures. (Acts v., 29.) God's Word is truth, the whole of it. Men are made righteous by belief of the truth.

FATALITIES FROM DIARRHOEA

Could often be avoided if Nerviline were used promptly. It is prepared specially for stomach and bowel troubles—acts swiftly and thoroughly—relief is immediate and the cure permanent. Doctors say no prescription could possibly be more efficient than Nerviline, which is a protection against cramps, colic, pain, or gas in the stomach. For nearly fifty years all druggists have sold Nerviline in large 25c bottles.

PEPPER CURED HICCOUGHS.

A new and immediate remedy for hiccoughs was discovered at the Hahnemann Hospital on Friday evening by Dr. Peters, by whom George McClellan was cured of hiccoughs, which began two days ago, by means of a pinch of pepper. McClellan had tried all kinds of remedies before coming to the hospital, but without avail. Two hospitals were visited, but the treatment he received was apparently as little good as the drugs he had taken at home. He became weaker and weaker and could not eat or sleep. It was in this condition that he appeared at the Hahnemann Hospital last evening.

'Here is something that you never tried,' said Dr. Peters. He gave the man a pinch of pepper. The man was hiccoughing violently at the time, but managed to inhale the stimulant. Tears came from his eyes as he did, and he sneezed violently. He sneezed again and when he was through sneezing the hiccoughs were gone.—Philadelphia 'Inquirer.'

SENATOR COSTIGAN SAVED FROM DEATH

New Brunswick's Grand Old Man Suffered Severely, but Made a Quick Recovery.

Practically everyone in Canada has heard of Hon. John Costigan—statesman, orator, M.P., Cabinet Minister, and now Senator, from New Brunswick. For over thirty years this prominent man was a martyr to Chronic Constipation. Leading physicians of London, Paris, New York and Ottawa treated him in vain. It remained for a wonderful Canadian discovery to cure him—and in only three months too.

'232 Cooper street, Ottawa.

'I have been a dreadful sufferer from chronic constipation for over thirty years, and I have been treated by many physicians and taken many kinds of medicine, without any benefit whatever. Finally, I was advised to try 'Fruit-a-tives,' and, after taking them for a few months, I feel I am well from this horrible complaint. "Fruit-a-tives" is the only medicine I ever took that did me any positive good for Constipation. I can conscientiously recommend "Fruit-a-tives" as, in my opinion, it is the finest medicine ever produced.

(Signed) JOHN COSTIGAN.'

This is only one of the hundreds of similar cases—all successfully treated by 'Fruit-a-tives.' Don't suffer longer. Take 'Fruit-a-tives.' They never fail to cure.

50c a box; 6 for $2.50. If your druggist is not able to supply you, we will send 'Fruit-a-tives,' postpaid, on receipt of price.

Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

If you are contemplating a Course in Stenography or Shorthand

DON'T FORGET

The Oliver School of Shorthand and Stenography

80 Sparks Street, Ottawa.

Lowest rates. Best accommodation. New classes forming.

We fit our pupils for high positions in the Government Departments. Send for our circular to above address.

THE QUEEN OF SIAM.

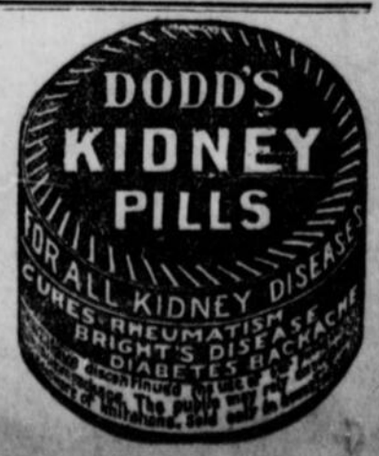
(Dundee 'Advertiser.')

Next to King Chulalongkorn, the most powerful personality in Siam is undoubtedly the Queen, a capable and energetic woman, and altogether a remarkable personage. The position of women in Siam contrasts favorably with that among other Oriental peoples. The ordinary woman possesses such a robust physique and erect bearing that a stranger easily mistakes her for a man, especially as her hair is short cropped and the dress of both sexes very similar. In the general business of life the average Siamese woman is often superior to the man; she understands thoroughly economic as well as domestic household affairs, and enjoys a considerable share of freedom. Polygamy is fast dying out in the lower classes and gradually decreasing among the rich. What is peculiarly hopeful is the attitude of both government and society toward female education.

VIOLIN AS A HAIR RESTORER.

(From the Paris 'Menestrel.')

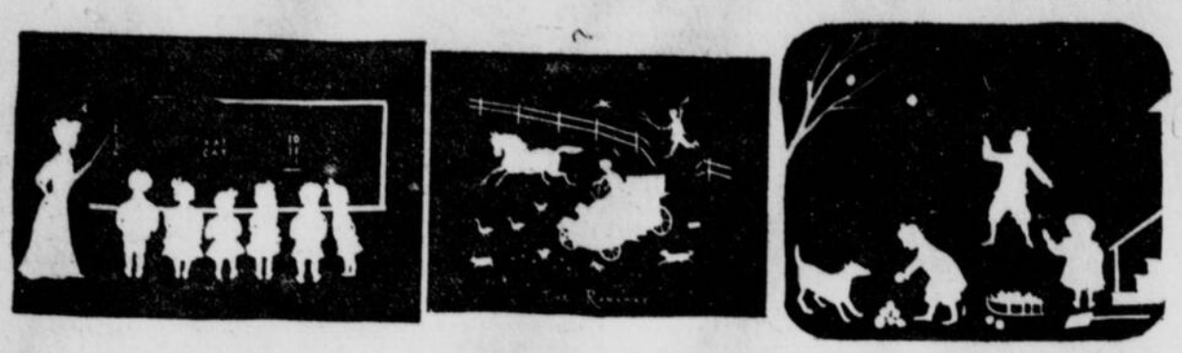
It is now a scientifically proved fact that music exercises a great influence on the growth of the hair. It is with good reason that great musicians, such as Paganini, Liszt and Paderewski, are represented with a growth of hair which Absalom might have envied. Science has proved that stringed instruments have a favorable influence on the growth of the hair, while brass instruments act in the opposite direction. Every one has probably observed that a bald violinist is as rare as a bald horn player is common. Wood instruments, such as the flute, seem to have no pronounced influence either way.



The Boys' Page.

THE CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

Silhouettes and Toys---Nine Prizes in All.



THE PRIZE SILHOUETTES

SILHOUETTES.

First prize—Verna Eldon, Toronto, Ont.—For the best silhouette, a large-sized camera, with two rolls of films to start on.

Second prize—Dorothy Rhynas Coles, Montreal—For the second best silhouette, a farmer's combination knife, containing eight tools, or a small sized box of Rowney's water colors.

Third prize—Clara A. Wilton, Montreal—For the third best silhouette, a two-bladed Rogers jack-knife, or pair of strong cutting shears.

HONORABLE MENTION.

James P. Keith, Montreal.
Isabel McCaw, Montreal.
Wm. J. Flower, Montreal.
Norman R. Dunlop, Carleton Place, Ont.
Hazel J. Bennet, Montreal.
Catherine R. Dods, Montreal.
J. Scott Parke, Montreal.
Herbert V. Dobson, Fordwich, Ont.
Mamie Youngson, Metropolitan, Ont.

HOME-MADE TOYS.

First prize—Don. S. M. Clark, Chatham, N.B.—For the best home-made toy, 'The Boys' Own Annual,' or 'The Girls' Own Annual' for 1907.

Second prize—A. Barlow Whiteside, Lamont, Alta.—For the second best home-made toy, 'Ungava Bob,' a new story of a Labrador boy's adventures, by Dillon Wallace, or a safety razor.

Third prize—Alexander Sutherland Murray, Earltown, N.S.—For the third best home-made toy, a Rogers jack-knife, with two blades, or a shield-shaped brooch pin, enamelled in blue and white.

HONORABLE MENTION.

William L. Foster, Upper Granville, N.S.
Harold J. Hunter, St. Etienne de Beauharnois, Que.
Earl C. Kerr, Sherbrooke, Que.
Lillie M. Hunter, St. Etienne de Beauharnois, Que.
Elizabeth Read, Montreal.

1. John Gordon Coles, age 8.
2. John Edward Keith, age 11.
3. Algy Noad, age 9.
4. Arthur Read, age 10.
5. Lloyd Shewan, age 9.
6. Jock Noad, age 12.
7. Muriel Shewan, age 7.

EXTRA PRIZES.

FOR THOSE TWELVE AND UNDER.

First prize—Joan Gordon Coles, Montreal: 'Yoppy: The Autobiography of a Monkey,' by Mollie Lee Clifford.

Second prize—John Edward Keith, Montreal—'Duck Lake,' stories of the Canadian backwoods, by E. Ryerson Young.

Third prize—Algy Noad, De Ramsay, Que.—'A Tale of Two Terriers,' by Chas. Welsh.

HONORABLE MENTION.

Jock Noad, De Ramsay, Que.
Lloyd D. Shewan, Brandon, Man.
Muriel Shewan, Brandon, Man.
Arthur Read, Montreal.
Elsie C. Blair, Hemmingford, Que.

OTHERS COMPETING.

(Over twelve years of age.)

Gladys A. Stewart, Hickson, Ont.; Ernest G. McCabe, Fresno, Cal.; Stella Fizzell, Montreal; Charles Clarke, Hudson Heights, Que.; Melville G. Anderson, Goderich, Ont.; Harvey Davidson, Verna, Ont.; Ross McIntyre, London, Ont.; Edna A. McBain, McDonald's Corners, Ont.; E. W. McEwen, Dewittville, Que.; Laura E. French, Waverly, Ont.; Wm. McDonald, Brookdale, Ont.; Olive Young, Cote des Perron, Que.; E. Edwin Priest, Halifax, N.S.; Raymond S. Gordon, Dewittville, Que.; Christina Meyer, Brookdale, Que.; Stella Larrivée, Montreal; Francesca Larrivée, Montreal; Ethel Dilworth, Malakoff, Ont.; Jean Thompson, Heron's Mills, Ont.; Minnie G. Robertson, Kaslo, B.C.; G. W. Keatley, Plainfield, N.S.; Howard Stalker, Lachute, Que.

(Twelve and under.)

Clarence W. Thorne, Lower Granville, N.S.; Tom Smith, Beach Ridge, Que.; Mary A. Sheppard, Belhaven, Ont.; Lloyd G. Taylor, Salisbury, N.B.; Douglas Scott, Eramosa, Ont.; Alice Read, Montreal; Frank Read, Montreal; Elsie C. Blair, Hemmingford, Que.

(No age given.)

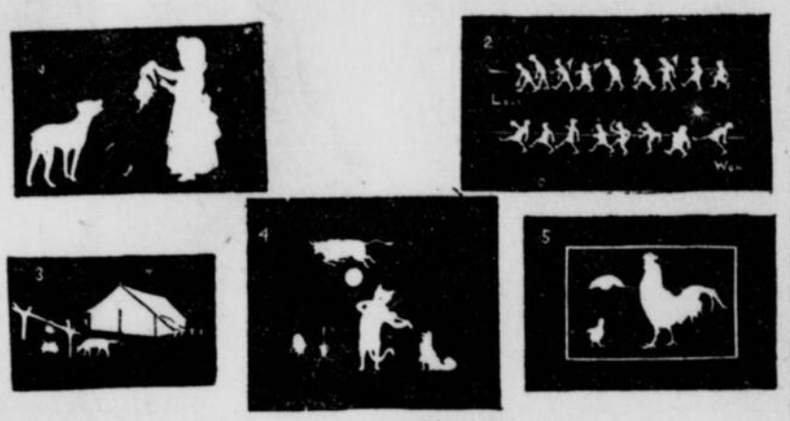
G. G. Cliffe, Central Kingsdean, N.B.; Frank Booth, Toronto; M. K. McLennan, Dalkeith, Ont.; Henry Pollock, Cambria, Ont.; L. B. Cliffe, Central Kingsdean, N.B.; H. Roy Piper, Iona, Ont.; Ethel Piper, Iona, Ont.

OTHERS COMPETING.—TOYS.

Pearl F. Ewing, Walhalla, North Dakota; Christina Meyer, Brookdale, Que.; Emma F. Read, Montreal; A. Edwin Priest, Halifax; Esther Read, Montreal; Anna J. Findlay, Wolseley, Sask.; Elsie C. Blair, Hemmingford, Que.; Robert Gillespie, Galt, Ont.; Philip A. Pollock, Cambria, Que.

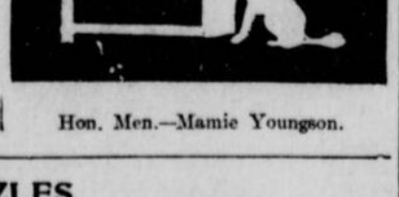
Now, the judges' report. First and foremost it was a genuine surprise to find what splendid work could be done, and by so many, in the way of silhouettes. The judgment is announced, and as that is the main thing only a word or two need be said here. The dividing of the competition, according to age, although it was not in the original plan, seemed an absolute necessity when the judges saw what fine work stood to the credit of the younger ones. They certainly deserved prizes, although they were not perhaps quite so good as some of the better work by the older ones, so we put all those by competitors twelve years old or under in a class by themselves and awarded extra prizes. The youngest in this competition was six years of age, and the oldest seventeen. Judging among the best of the silhouettes by those over twelve was exceedingly difficult. When it comes to sifting out from among fifteen the three very best, the judge's job is not one to be desired, especially when admiring friends look on and say, 'This one certainly should have a prize, and you can't leave these two out, and oh, what a little beauty. I suppose this comes first.' The judge has to look very stern and say, 'Madam, it is impossible to make three prizes go round to four people,' or something to that effect. The result is that the judge is inevitably regarded with looks of pained reproach by the advocates of the various rejected silhouettes, when the choice is narrowed down to three. Every point counted in so close a contest and the originality of the prizewinners was a marked point in their favor. Special notice must be given to the silhouette on 'Hey Diddle Diddle,' by Phyllis M. Coles. This kept persistently creeping back into the prize list for its perfection of detail, and was quick to captivate many a first glance. However, it put forward no claim to originality and was at last placed aside. Another one that stood alone was 'Noah's Ark,' a large silhouette nearly three feet by two, in which the many animals were very well done.

About the toys. Of these, there were not nearly so many, but while the honors in the silhouettes went largely to the girls, the boys came out best with the toys. While they were coming in, there was a feeling abroad that the B. P. editor was having too good a time, it felt like a continuous run of birthdays and the toys were heartily admired by all. They mean, too, a lot of fun for the little shut-ins ones of the Children's Memorial Hospital. The first prize went to a man o' war, the second to a bright red two-horse sleigh, the third to an ingenious wooden pistol. An appealing cosy buff and white pussy put in a claim for the third, but we finally stroked it down and gave it a place among the honorable mentions. Others in this list were a set of doll's furniture (table, sofa, and chairs, a toy jardiniere stand, exceedingly well done, an upholstered sofa, seven inches long, and a bobsleigh, whose only fault was its frailty. There were also among the other toys a white lamb, a puzzle rattle, a little ladder, a hickory nut witch, and a crocheted doll's tuque.

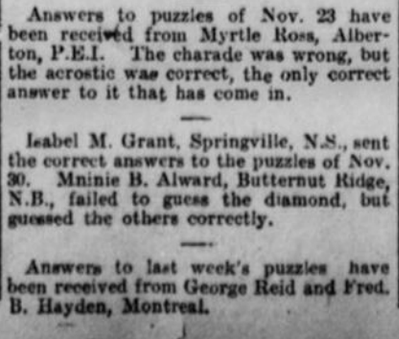


1. Catherine R. Dods.
2. Wm. J. Flower.
3. J. Scott Parke.
4. Phyllis M. Coles.
5. Hazel J. Bennet.

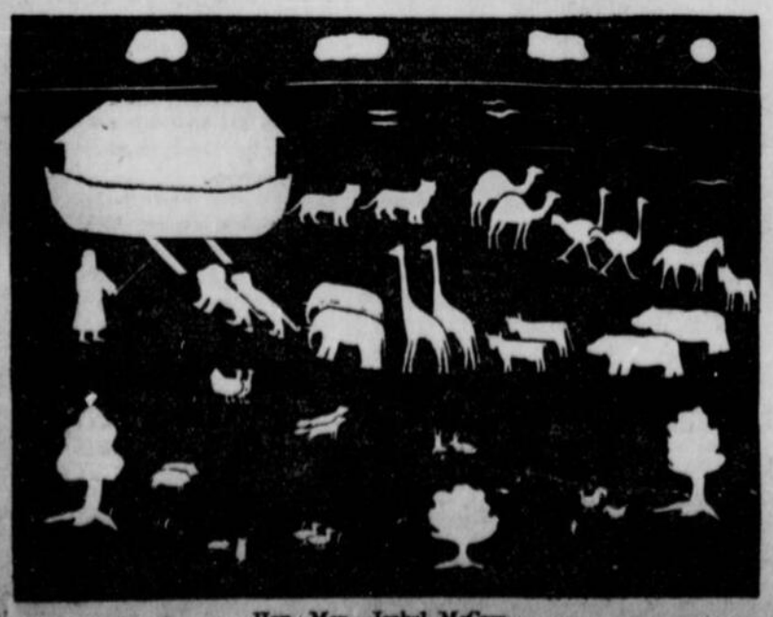
Hon. Men.—Herbert V. Dobson.



Hon. Men.—James P. Keith.



Hon. Men.—Mamie Youngson.



Hon. Men.—Isabel McCaw.

DOES AN EDUCATION PAY?

Does it pay an acorn to become an oak?

Does it pay to escape being a rich ignoramus?

Does it pay to fit oneself for a superior position?

Does it pay to open a little wider the door of a narrow life?

Does it pay to learn to make life a glory instead of a grind?

Does it pay to add power to the lens of the microscope or telescope?

Does it pay to taste the exhilaration of feeling one's power unfold?

Does it pay to know how to take the dry, dreary drudgery out of life?

Does it pay a rosebud to open its petals and fling out its beauty to the world?

Does it pay to push one's horizon farther out in order to get a wider outlook, a clear vision?

Does it pay to learn how to centre thought with power, how to marshal one's mental force effectively? —'Success.'

A polite man is one who listens with interest to things he knows all about, when they are told by a person who knows nothing about them.—Duc de Morny.

JUST FOR FUN.

No crow leaves his place without caws.

Fruit preservers know no such word as 'fail.' Their motto is, 'I can.'

Farmers like to raise 'small fruits,' but not small potatoes.

A mule, like lightning, 'never strikes twice in the same place.' The reason is that the same place is never there afterward.

Of the one thousand graduates from our colleges, only one hundred make for themselves a name. These are the baseball pitchers, football bumpers and crack oarsmen.

It is all right to be concerned about making a fortune for yourself, if, at the same time, you have a care not to make misfortune for others.—'Lookout.'

PUZZLES.

SQUARE.

A month. Cost. Stiff. Decoration on cakes. A shelf.

DECAPITATION PUZZLE.

I am something to see. Cut off my head and I ask a question. Now behead me, add a vowel to my tail, and I am in debt. Cut off my head, and I stand for you and me. Double my tail, and I am very small indeed.

CHARADE.

My first is a boy's name. My second a metal. My third is in the country. My whole a well-known book.

Subtraction.—
1. Dove, doe.
2. Blow, bow.
3. Cool, coo.
4. Lady, lay.

Transpositions.—1. Spelt—slept. 2. Tape—peat. 3. Trap—part.

Answers to Last Week's Puzzles.

Anagrams on Birds.—Linnet. Pelican. Starling. Corncrake. Blackbird.

Answers to puzzles of Nov. 23 have been received from Myrtle Ross, Alberton, P.E.I. The charade was wrong, but the acrostic was correct, the only correct answer to it that has come in.

Isabel M. Grant, Springville, N.S., sent the correct answers to the puzzles of Nov. 30. Minnie B. Alward, Butternut Ridge, N.B., failed to guess the diamond, but guessed the others correctly.

Answers to last week's puzzles have been received from George Reid and Fred. B. Hayden, Montreal.

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR DEPARTMENT.

Hunters in Many Lands.

VIII.—A STORY FROM MAINE.

In every party of hunters going into the big woods, that is, if there are more than two or three in the party, there will always be some who have never been there before, whose ideas of hunting, still hunting and trailing are based largely on the records (?) left by J. Fenimore Cooper, or such less famous writers as Harry Castleman, Oliver Optic and other charmers of youthful hearts and imaginations. They go to some store where sportsmen's outfits are furnished to order without limit, and cheerfully fit out with everything that the honest looking salesman tells them is absolutely necessary for an outing trip, with the result that they might make a tour of the world and be prepared, at a minute's notice, to camp in the heart of a big city, or tent out in the most forsaken lands ever ventured into by sportsmen of this century—or any other.

On our last trip we had one such novice along. He was not exactly what one would call reserved, indeed his very openness—of voice—left much to be desired on the part of the old veterans of our party. Quiet intimations were of no avail, and finally we decided, in a brief, but spirited conference during his temporary absence from the party, that we should let him run his rig till bedtime, when we would show him a thing or two about camping in the woods.

On the trip I mention we left Bangor shortly after three in the morning, and after a most comfortable breakfast, got away for the last stage of the journey about seven o'clock. Consequently, we arrived at camp in good season and put in a hard day getting things settled, and exploring the country, with a view to selecting the territory to be hunted the next day, that no two divisions of our party might get near enough to each other to make any mistakes, and cause any fatalities.

We didn't have to wait for the noon whistle to blow before we were hungry, and as soon as Guide Norton could get dinner ready it was hustled onto the table, and it went out of sight like a toy balloon that some kid has forgotten to hold the string of. Then we paired off, and apparently, by accident, the tenderfoot fell to my share, and that afternoon I put him through about as stiff a course of spurts, in the way of a woods tramp, as ever a man got in a half day's outing. There was method in my madness, however, for I wanted him to be good and tired, and ready for the next lesson in his initiatory degree. After supper we sat around the cheerful open stove in the front room of the camp, whih was arranged in two rooms on the ground floor, and a half floor above, so that the sleeping loft was open, allowing the heat of the stove to warm both sitting and bedroom at the same time. Among the paraphernalia brought by our know-it-all tenderfoot, was a new and warm sleeping bag, and he was quite elated that his was the only bag in the crowd, this style of camping comfort having but recently begun to attract attention. He did confide, somewhat confidentially, that he had never used one of the bags before, and this really gave us the inspiration for the trick we played on him.

Telling him, when he began to get sleepy, for he must have been fearfully tired, that it was so near bedtime that we wouldn't ask him to sit up for us, we sent him off to bed, and I went up the little ladder to help him get settled in the particular bed, that was allotted to him. We had already fixed the bed by adding an extra quilt to it from each of the other three beds, and as it was rather dark up there, he failed to notice that fact when I helped him to slip his sleeping bag between the blankets, and told him to undress to his underclothes and slide in, after which I covered him up as carefully as mamma would have done and left the room, which was already too hot for comfort, even out of bed.

There were two games in progress that evening, one was that of keeping a roaring fire going, and as we had the window open a bit it was quite comfortable on the floor. The upper part of the room and, of course, the sleeping loft grew hotter and hotter, and we could hear the weary sleeper (?) above turn and twist and mutter, as he strove to adjust himself to the strange conditions, and probably wondering what on earth made him so unable to go to sleep, when he was so tired.

That was a long game, and although we were decidedly tired ourselves, we just had to see it through to a finish before we could think of turning in, but finally human nature could stand no more, and with a yell and a bounce, a white-robed apparition burst upon the waiting crowd in the sitting-room, the only striking color about it being a face and two hands that might have belonged to a lobster of the deep sea. We, of course, hastily shut the door, and while somebody helped him get rubbed dry and change his clothing another slipped off upstairs and removed the extra comfortables, so that when he once more returned to his bed, he found it in normal condition, except for his boasted sleeping bag. That he promptly hung up, to dry off, and for the balance of the night slept the sleep of the weary.

'A mean trick,' do I hear somebody say? Well, maybe, but it was effectual, for although he never acted as if he suspected any trick, it was noticeable after that that he was ready to take advice from any of the older members of the party, and in fact sought it before venturing in unknown paths and his boasts regarding the superior qualities of his outfit were conspicuous by their absence. He developed into a delightful camp mate, and was cordially welcomed for several years as one of the members of the jolliest party that ever camped on Upper Dobsis.—'Maine Sportsman.'

BIG BUDGET FROM BUSY BOYS.

No need to comment on these letter. They come from boys who 'know a good thing when they see it.' How about you?

I received the watch and chain this evening all right. I like it fine, and it is running all right. Thank you for sending it so quickly. I am well pleased with it, and think I am well paid.—Irving J. W. Wye, S——, Ont.

I received the fountain pen alright, and thank you very much for it. I think it is a nice present for so little work—Mrs. Wm. Wight, McP. F.——.

I received the dozen 'Canadian Pictorials.' They sold like wild-fire. Send on another half dozen, so that I can get my camera.—G. W. Elms, B. R——, Nfld.

I received my jack-knife, and I am well pleased with it. How much is it worth? I was offered fifty cents for it before I undid it.—Samuel Hutchings, J—— F.——, Ont.

I like the pen fine. I think it is a dandy good pen.—Fred. Grant McGregor, K——, Ont.

I received my premium knife for selling the 'Canadian Pictorial' on Saturday, and was very much pleased with it. I think it is a beautiful knife, and many thanks for it. Everyone that has seen it thinks it is a beauty, for so little work.—Flora V. Loeper, N——, Ont.

I received the watch some time since. I am very much pleased with it, and do not know how you can give such a handsome premium for a small amount of work. You have my sincere thanks.—Arthur Matheson, D——, P.E.I.

I received camera last night, and I am very well pleased with it. Thank you very much.—Harry Shufelt, B——, Que.

I received the 'watch' premium all right. Am well pleased with it; it keeps good time, looks well, and is certainly worth the amount of work I took to get it.—William R. Eird, A——, N.S.

I received the stamp, and was very much pleased, and I think it worth selling a hundred papers for.—C. Edward Dewar, St. G.——, N.B.

I received my fountain pen, and don't see how you can afford them. Could have sold it for $3.00, but did not.—Haskett Burton, C——, Ont.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the watch you sent me. I think it is a real beauty. It keeps good time, and I don't know how you can give them away for so little money.—Percy Oliver, A——, P.E.I.

I am very well pleased with my watch, and thank you very much for your promptness in sending it.—Harold Blaney, M., Man.

I received the watch to-day, and think it is a dandy. I consider I am well paid for my trouble. Thanking you for your favor.—Wm. J. Jameson, W——, Que.

I have received the fountain pen, and I think it is a very beautiful cover and a good pen to write with. I am delighted with it—Archie Clive Stockton, O——, Alta.

I am in receipt of camera from you. I think it is a very nice present to give, and am very much pleased with it.—Percy Southern, St. T.——, Ont.

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Would you kindly forward fourteen 'Canadian Pictorials,' which I agree to sell to obtain reward offered by you, viz., fountain pen. I am very pleased indeed with watch, which is going fine and keeps good time, far above what I expected. Thanking you in anticipation. — Henry Mang, H——, via Balgonie, Sask.

I received my watch and chain all right, and think it is a dandy. I would not take $5.00 for it. I think some of the boys around here will be trying for one, too.—Wesley Hutchinson, R——, Ont.

'Pictorials' came all right. Having a sore foot, I was unable to get out to sell them, but my little sister, six years old, sold them all in less than three hours. Nearly everybody she asked took one.—Douglas A. Wright, N——, P.C.

I received my camera, and am very pleased with it. Please send me nine more 'Canadian Pictorials.'—Ernest Truly, H—— B——, Ont.

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BY WILLIAM STEARNS DAVIS,

AUTHOR OF "A FRIEND OF CÆSAR," "GOD WILLS IT," "BELSHAZZAR," ETC.

". . . On the Ægean shore a city stands,
Built nobly, pure the air and light the soil,
Athens, the eye of Greece."

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CHAPTER III.—(Continued.)

'You say he is waiting at Hegias's inn?'

'Yes, master. It's by the temple of Bellerophon, just as you begin to enter the city.'

'Good! I don't want to ask the way. Now catch this obol and be off.'

The boy snatched the flying coin and glided into the crowd.

Democrates walked briskly out of the glare of the torches, then halted to slip the hood of his cloak up about his face. 'The road is dark, but the wise man shuns accidents,' was his reflection, as he strode in the direction pointed by Bias.

The way was dark. No moon; and even the brilliant starlight of summer in Hellas is an uncertain guide. Democrates knew he was traversing a long avenue lined by spreading cypresses, with a shimmer of white from some tall, sepulchral monument. Then through the dimness loomed the high columns of a temple, and close beside it pale light spread out upon the road as from an inn.

'Hegias's inn,' grumbled the Athenian. 'Zeus grant it have no more fleas than most inns of Corinth!'

At sound of his footsteps the door opened promptly, without knocking. A squalid scene revealed itself—a white-washed room, an earthern floor, two clay lamps on a low table, a few stools—but a tall, lean man in Oriental dress greeted the Athenian with a salaam which showed his own gold earrings, swarthy skin, and black moustache.

'Fair greetings, Hiram,' spoke the orator, no wise amazed, 'and where is your master?'

'At service,' came a deep voice from a corner, so dark that Democrates had not seen the couch where lolled an ungainly figure that now rose clumsily.

'Hail, Democrates.'

'Hail, Lycon.'

Hand joined in hand; then Lycon ordered the Oriental to 'fetch the noble Athenian some good Thacian wine.'

'You will join me?' urged the orator.

'Alas! no. I am still in training. Nothing but cheese and porridge till after the victory to-morrow: but then, by Castor, I'll enjoy "the gentleman's disease"—a jolly drunkenness.'

'Then you are sure of victory to-morrow?'

'Good Democrates, what god has tricked you into believing your fine Athenian has a chance?'

'I have seven minae staked on Glaucon.'

'Seven staked in the presence of your friends; how many in their absence?'

Democrates reddened. He was glad the room was dark. 'I am not here to quarrel about the pentathlon,' he said emphatically.

'Oh, very well. Leave your dear sparrow to my gentle hands.' The Spartan's huge paws closed significantly: 'Here's the wine. Sit and drink. And you, Hiram, get to your corner.'

The Oriental silently squatted in the gloom, the gleam of his beady eyes just visible. Lycon sat on a stool beside his guest, six Cyclops-like limbs sprawling down upon the floor. Scarred and brutish, indeed, was his face, one ear missing, the other beaten flat by boxing gloves; but Democrates had a distinct feeling that under his battered visage and wiry black hair lurked greater penetration of human motive and more ability to play therewith than the chance observer might allow. The Athenian deliberately waited his host's first move.

'The wine is good, Democrates?' began Lycon.

'Excellent.'

'I presume you have arranged your wagers to-morrow with your usual prudence.'

'How do you know about them?'

'Oh, my invaluable Hiram, who arranged this interview for us through Bias, has made himself a brother to all the betting masters. I understand you have arranged it so that whether Glaucon wins or loses you will be none the poorer.'

The Athenian set down his cup.

'Because I would not let my dear friend's sanguine expectations blind all my judgment is no reason why you should seek this interview, Lycon,' he rejoined tartly. 'If this is the object of your summons, I'm better back in my own tent.'

Lycon tilted back against the table. His speech was nothing curt or 'Laconic'; it was even drawling. 'On the contrary, dear Democrates. I was only commending your excellent foresight, something that I see characterizes all you do. You are the friend of Glaucon. Since Aristeides has been banished, only Themistocles exceeds you in influence over the Athenians. Therefore, as a loyal Athenian you must support your champion. Likewise, as a man of judgment you must see that I—though this pentathlon is only a by-play, not my business—will probably break your Glaucon's back to-morrow. It is precisely this good judgment on your part which makes me sure I do well to ask an interview—for something else.'

'Then quickly to business.'

'A few questions. I presume Themistocles to-day conferred with Leonidas?'

'I wasn't present with them.'

'But in due time Themistocles will tell you everything?' Democrates chewed his beard, not answering.

'Pheu! you don't pretend Themistocles distrusts you?' cried the Spartan.

'I don't like your questions, Lycon.'

'I am very sorry. I'll cease them. I only wished to-night to call to your mind the advantage of two such men as you and I becoming friends. I may be king of Lacedaemon before long.'

'I knew that before, but where's your chariot driving?'

'Dear Athenian, the Persian chariot is now driving toward Hellas. We cannot halt it. Then let us be so wise that it does not pass over us.'

'Hush!' Democrates spilled the cup as he started. 'No "Medizing" talk before me. Am I not Themistocles's friend?'

'Themistocles and Leonidas will seem valiant fools after Xerxes comes. Men of foresight—'

'Are never traitors.'

'Beloved Democrates,' sneered the Spartan, 'in one year the most patriotic Hellene will be he who has made the Persian yoke the most endurable. Don't blink at destiny.'

'Don't be overcertain.'

'Don't grow deaf and blind. Xerxes has been collecting troops these four years. Every wind across the Aegean tells how the Great King assembles millions of soldiers, thousands of ships: Median cavalry, Assyrian archers, Egyptian battle-axemen—the best troops in the world. All the East will be marching on our poor Hellas. And when has Persia failed to conquer?'

'At Marathon.'

'A drop of rain before the tempest! If Datis, the Persian general, had only been more prudent!'

'Clearly, noblest Lycon,' said Democrates, with a satirical smile, 'for a taciturn Laconian to become thus eloquent for tyranny must have taken a bribe of ten thousand gold darics.'

'But answer my arguments.'

'Well—the old oracle is proved: "Base love of gain and naught else shall bear sore destruction to Sparta."'

'That doesn't halt Xerxes's advance.'

'An end to your croakings,'—Democrates was becoming angry,—'I know the Persian's power well enough. Now why have you summoned me?'

Lycon looked on his visitor long and hard. He reminded the Athenian disagreeably of a huge cat just considering whether a mouse were near enough to risk a spring.

'I sent for you because I wished you to give a pledge.'

'I'm in no mood to give it.'

'You need not refuse. Giving or withholding the fate of Hellas will not be altered, save as you wish to make it so.'

'What must I promise?'

'That you will not reveal the presence in Greece of a man I intend to set before you.' Another silence. Democrates knew even then, if vaguely, that he was making a decision on which might hinge half his future. In the after days he looked back on this instant with unspeakable regret. But the Laconian sat before him, smiling, sneering, commanding by his more dominant will. The Athenian answered, it seemed, despite himself:—

'If it is not to betray Hellas.'

'It is not.'

'Then I promise.'

'Swear it then by your native Athena.'

And Democrates—perhaps the wine was strong—lifted his right hand and swore by Athena Polios of Athens he would betray no secret.

Lycon arose with what was part bellow, part laugh. Even then the orator was moved to call back the pledge, but the Spartan acted too swiftly. The short moments which followed stamped themselves on Democrates's memory. The flickering lamps, the squalid room, the long, dense shadows, the ungainly movements of the Spartan, who was opening a door,—all this passed after the manner of a vision. And as in a vision Democrates saw a stranger stepping through the inner portal, as at Lycon's summons—a man of no huge stature, but masterful in eye and mien. Another Oriental, but not as the obsequious Hiram. Here was a lord to command and he obeyed. Gems flashed from the scarlet turban, the green jacket was embroidered with pearls—and was not half the wealth of Corinth in the jewels studding the sword hilt? Tight trousers and high shoes of tanned leather set off a form supple and powerful as a panther's. Unlike most Orientals the stranger was fair. A blond beard swept his breast. His eyes were sharp, steel-blue. Never a word spoke he; but Democrates looked on him with wide eyes, then turned almost in awe to the Spartan.

'This is a prince——' he began.

'His Highness Prince Abairah of Cyprus,' completed Lycon, rapidly, 'now come to visit the Isthmian Games, and later your Athens. It is for this I have brought you face to face—that he may be welcome in your city.'

The Athenian cast at the stranger a glance of keenest scrutiny. He knew by every instinct in his being that Lycon was telling a barefaced lie. Why he did not cry out as much that instant he hardly himself knew. But the gaze of the 'Cyprian' pierced through him, fascinating, magnetizing, and Lycon's great hand was on his victim's shoulder. The 'Cyprian's' own hand went out seeking Democrates's.

'I shall be very glad to see the noble Athenian in his own city. His fame for eloquence and prudence is already in Tyre and Babylon,' spoke the stranger, never taking his steel-blue eyes from the orator's face. The accent was Oriental, but the Greek was fluent. The prince—for prince he was, whatever his nation—pressed his hand closer. Almost involuntarily Democrates's hand responded. They clasped tightly; then, as if Lycon feared a word too much, the unknown released his hold, bowed with inimitable though silent courtesy, and was gone behind the door whence he had come.

It had taken less time than men use to count a hundred. The latch clicked. Democrates gazed blankly on the door, then turned on Lycon with a start.

'Your wine was strong. You have bewitched me. What have I done? By Zeus of Olympus—I have given my hand in pledge to a Persian spy.'

'"A prince of Cyprus"—did you not hear me?'

'Cereberus eat me if that man has seen Cyprus. No Cyprian is so blond. The man is Xerxes's brother.'

'We shall see, friend; we shall see: "Day by day we grow old, and day by day we grow wiser." So your own Solon puts it, I think.'

Democrates drew himself up angrily. 'I know my duty; I'll denounce you to Leonidas.'

'You gave a pledge and oath.'

'It were a greater crime to keep than to break it.'

Lycon shrugged his huge shoulders. 'Eu! I hardly trusted to that. But I do trust to Hiram's pretty story about your bets, and still more to a tale that's told about where and how you've borrowed money.'

Democrates's voice shook either with rage or with fear when he made shift to answer.

'I see I've come to be incriminated and insulted. So be it. If I keep my pledge, at least suffer me to wish you and your 'Cyprian' a very good night.'

Lycon good humoredly lighted him to the door. 'Why so hot? I'll do you a service to-morrow. If Glaucon wrestles with me, I shall kill him.'

'Shall I thank the murderer of my friend?'

'Even when that friend has wronged you?'

'Silence! What do you mean?'

Even in the flickering lamplight Democrates could see the Spartan's evil smile.

'Of course—Hermione.'

'Silence, by the infernal gods! Who are you, Cyclops, for her name to cross your teeth?'

'I'm not angry. Yet you will thank me to-morrow. The pantathlon will be merely a pleasant flute-playing before the great war drama. You will see more of the "Cyprian" at Athens—'

Democrates heard no more. Forth from that wine-house he ran into the sheltering night, till safe under the shadow of the black cypresses. His head glowed. His heart throbbed. He had been partner in foulest treason. Duty to friend, duty to country—oath or no oath—should have sent him to Leonidas. What evil god had tricked him into that interview? Yet he did not denounce the traitor. Not his oath held him back, but benumbing fear—and what sting lay back of Lycon's hints and threats the orator knew best. And how if Lycon made good his boast and killed Glaucon on the morrow?

CHAPTER IV.

THE PENTATHLON.

In a tent at the lower end of the long stadium stood Glaucon awaiting the final summons to his ordeal. His friends had just cried farewell for the last time: Cimon had kissed him; Themistocles had gripped his hand; Democrates had called 'Zeus prosper you!' Simonides had vowed that he was already hunting for the metres of a triumphal ode. The roar from without told how the stadium was filled with its chattering thousands. The athlete's trainers were bestowing their last officious advice.

'The Spartan will surely win the quoit-throw. Do not be troubled. In everything else you can crush him.'

'Beware of Moerocles of Mantineia. He's a knavish fellow; his backers are recalling their bets. But he hopes to win on a trick; beware, lest he trip you in the foot-race.'

'Aim low when you hurl the javelin. Your dart always rises.'

Glaucon received this and much more admonition with his customary smile. There was no flush on the forehead, no flutter of the heart. A few hours later he would be crowned with all the glory which victory in the great games could throw about a Hellene, or be buried in the disgrace to which his ungenerous people consigned the vanquished. But, in the words of his day, 'he knew himself' and his own powers. From the day he quitted boyhood he had never met the giant he could not master; the Hermes he could not outrun. He anticipated victory as a matter of course, even victory wrested from Lycon, and his thoughts seemed wandering far from the tawny track where he must face his foes.

'Athens—my father—my wife! I will win glory for them all!' was the drift of his revery.

The younger rubber grunted under breath at his athlete's vacant eye, but Pytheas, the older of the pair, whispered confidently that 'when he had known Master Glaucon longer, he would know that victories came his way, just by reaching out his hands.'

'Athena grant it,' muttered the other. 'I've got my half mina staked on him, too.' Then from the tents at either side began the ominous call of the heralds:

'Amyntas of Thebes, come you forth.'

'Ctesias of Epidaurus, come you forth.'

'Lycon of Sparta, come you forth.'

Glaucon held out his hands. Each trainer seized one.

'Wish me joy and honor, good friends!' cried the athlete.

'Poseidon and Athena aid you!' And Pytheas's honest voice was husky. This was the greatest ordeal of his favorite pupil, and the trainer's soul would go with him into the combat.

'Glaucon of Athens, come you forth.'

The curtains of the tent swept aside. An intense sunlight sprang to meet the Athenian. He passed into the arena clad only in his coat of glistering oil. Scolus of Thasos and Moerocles of Mantinea joined the other four athletes; then, escorted each by a herald swinging his myrtle wand, the six went down the stadium to the stand of the judges.

Before the fierce light of a morning in Hellas beating down on him, Glaucon the Alcmaeonid was for an instant blinded, and walked on passively, following his guide. Then, as from a dissolving mist, the huge stadium began to reveal itself, line above line, thousand above thousand of bright-robed spectators, a sea of faces, tossing arms, waving garments. A thunderous shout rose as the athletes came to view,—jangling, incoherent; each city cheered its champion and tried to cry down all the rest: applause, advice, derision. Glaucon heard the derisive hootings, 'pretty girl,' 'pretty pullet,' from the serried host of the Laconians along the left side of the stadium; but an answering echo, 'Dog of Cerberus!' brawled by the Athenian crowds opposite, and winged at Lycon, returned the taunts with usury. As the champions approached the judges' stand a procession of full twenty pipers, attended by as many fair boys in flowing white, marched from the farther end of the stadium to meet them. The boys bore cymbals and tambours; the pipers struck up a brisk marching note in the rugged Dorian mode. The boys' lithe bodies swayed in enchanting rhythm. The roaring multitude quieted, admiring their grace. The champions and the pipers thus came to the pulpit in the midst of the long arena. The president of the judges, a handsome Corinthian in purple and a golden fillet, swept his ivory wand from right to left. The marching note ceased. The whole company leaped as one man to its feet. The pipes, the cymbals were drowned, whilst twenty thousand voices—Doric, Boeotian, Attic—chorused together the hymn which all Greece knew: the hymn to Poseidon of the Isthmus, august guardian of the games.

Louder it grew; the multitude found one voice, as if it would cry, 'We are Hellenes all; though of many a city, the same fatherland, the same gods, the same hope against the Barbarian.'

'Praise we Poseidon the mighty, the monarch,
Shaker of earth and the harvestless sea;
King of wide Aegea and Helicon gladsome
Twain are the honors high Zeus sheds on thee!
Thine to be lord of the mettlesome chargers,
Thine to be lord of swift ships as they wing!
Guard thou and guide us, dread prince of the billows,
Safe to their homeland, thy suppliants bring;
Faring by land or by clamorous waters
Be thou their way-god to shield, to defend,
Then shall the smoke of a thousand glad altars,
To thee in reverent gladness ascend!'

Thus in part. And in the hush thereafter the president poured a libation from a golden cup, praying, as the wine fell on the brazier beside him, to the 'Earth Shaker,' seeking his blessing upon the contestants, the multitude, and upon broad Hellas. Next the master-herald announced that now, on the third day of the games, came the final and most honored contest: the pentathlon, the fivefold struggle, with the crown to him who conquered thrice. He proclaimed the names of the six rivals, their cities, their ancestry, and now they had complied with the required training. The president took up his tale, and turning to the champions, urged them to strive their best, for the eyes of all Hellas were on them. But he warned any man with blood-guiltiness upon his soul not to anger the gods by continuing in the games.

'But since,' the brief speech concluded, 'these men have chosen to contend, and have made oath that they are purified or innocent, let them join, and Poseidon shed fair glory upon the best!'

More shouting; the pipers paraded the arena, blowing shriller than ever. Some of the athletes shifted uneasily. Scolus the Thasian—youngest of the six—was pale, and cast nervous glances at the towering bulk of Lycon. The Spartan gave him no heed, but threw a loud whisper at Glaucon, who stood silently beside him:—

'By Castor, son of Conon, you are extremely handsome. If fine looks won the battle, I might grow afraid.'

The Athenian, whose roving eye had just caught Cimon and Democrates in the audience, seemed never to hear him.

'And you are passing stalwart. Still, be advised. I wouldn't harm you, so drop out early.'

Still no answer from Glaucon, whose clear eye seemed now to be wandering over the bare hills of Megara beyond.

'No answer?' persisted the giant. 'Eu! don't comfplain that you've lacked warning, when you sit to-night in Charon's ferry-boat.'

The least shadow of a smile flitted across the Athenian's face; there was a slight deepening of the light in his eye.

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the thousand of gazers now. 'Wake, or Lycon wins again and all is lost!'

Glaucon was almost beyond earshot; to the frantic entreaty he answered by no sign. As he and the Spartan stood once more together, the giant leered on him civilly:—

'You grow wise, Athenian. It's honor enough and to spare to be second, with Lycon first. Eu!—and here's the last contest.'

'I say again, good friend,'—there was a slight closing of the Athenian's lips, and deepening in his eyes—'The pentathlon is not ended.'

'The harpies eat you, then, if you get too bold! The herald is calling for the javelin-casting. Come—it's time to make an end.'

But in the deep hush that spread again over the thousands Glaucon turned toward the only faces that he saw out of the innumerable host: Themistocles, Democrates, Simonides, Cimon. They beheld him raise his arm and lift his glorious head yet higher. Glaucon in turn saw Cimon sink into his seat. 'He wakes!' was the appeased mutter passing from the son of Miltiades and running along every tier of Athenians. And silence deeper than ever held the stadium; for now, with Lycon victor twice, the literal turning of a finger in the next event might win or lose the parsley crown.

The Spartan came first. The heralds had set a small scarlet shield at the lower end of the course. Lycon poised his light javelin thrice, and thrice the slim dart sped through the leathern thong on his fingers. But not for glory. Perchance this combat was too delicate an art for his ungainly hands. Twice the missile lodged in the rim of the shield;

(To be Continued.)

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Home Department.

Lest He Should Weep.

(Dallett Juguet.)

He went so blithely on the way
Which people call the Road of Life,
That good folks who had stopped to pray,
Shaking their heads would look and say
It was not right to be so gay
Upon that weary road of strife.

He whistled as he went, and still
He bore the young where streams were deep,
And helped the feeble up the hill,
He seemed to go with heart a-thrill,
Careless of deed, and wild of will;
He whistled—that he might not weep.

The Price of Achievement.

(By Violet Coen, in the 'National Home Journal.')

'The depth and dream of my desire,
The bitter paths wherein I stray,
Thou knowest Who has made the Fire,
Thou knowest Who has made the Clay.'

'But Professor, dear old Professor, don't you see, can't you see, won't you see,that I want only fame? Surely it isn't anything out of the way that I ask—merely that I use the brain that I have, that it be given a chance to show what it can do. Why shouldn't I go out and win just as much as any man?'

The professor looked helplessly up at the imperious young face, shaking his head as he answered:

My dear Eleanor, don't misunderstand. I don't deny that you have the brain, that you have the ability, that you have the right, to go out and win in any field you may choose. As you have somewhat energetically claimed, God gave you a mind. You are perfectly right. He did give you a mind, and one of the most gifted, one of the most brilliant, one of the most beautiful, minds I have ever known. Add to this all the rare personal charms that is yours, and you have the priceless assets with which you could undoubtedly go into the world and exert a broad, far-reaching influence. But don't you think there is just as great an influence, and one just as far reaching in its ultimate results, to be exerted in the quiet, sheltered life of a home? Still, dear child, all I wish for you is your truest happiness, and if you believe that you will find it out in the crowded rush of things, meeting life and the years alone, why then I should be the last to oppose your going.'

'Oh, I'll find it, never fear! It's bound to come to me. It's such a dear old world, and it's bound to give me what I want. It's going to give me fame and fortune, and all that I care for, and I'm going to give it all my strength, and hope, and ambition. Why,' with a little catch in her throat, 'it's just throbbing and pulsing and bubbling in every nerve of me all that I feel that I can and must do. Can't you see me going on and on! Just wait until I write The Book! Then won't you be proud you know me!'

As she paused, breathless, the professor again shook his head protestingly at her.

'Am I not already proud of you? As for The Book, the one I should like to see you write would be the remaining chapters of 'The Life of Some Fine Young Fellow,' —that you could do with a master hand. But you must do just what you think best—only remember always that it was your happiness of which I was thinking.'

'I know—I know! And it was a shame for me to bother you,—only we had to speak about it before I went. Just you wait and you'll see some day.'

'What are you two talking about so long?' broke in a fresh voice from the door. 'Eleanor, we are hours late now. Has Dads been blowing you up again about gadding off to Europe? Oh, Dads, Dads!' and Anne Maurice, leaning over the back of her father's chair dropped an affectionate kiss upon his head. 'Why don't you leave her alone. Eleanor's all right, and whatever she does is all right, and she's going to be the greatest credit to all of us. So don't bother her any more. I'm going to carry her off this very minute, so good-bye.'

Left to himself, the professor thought long upon the talk he had had with Eleanor Wymer, whose guardian he had been ever since she was left to his care, a tiny child of five. In all those years, he had never been so troubled as now, when his charge, finished with school and college, had come into her own and was facing the world and its problems, clear-eyed, unafraid. Her plan to go abroad alone for two years' study and research as additional preparation for the life of letters she proposed to follow, had come as a severe shock to the professor's old-fashioned ideas about girls. What he had expected her to do was to stay with Anne and himself as long as she desired, then do what all the women he knew anything about had done—get married.

'It's all that infernal college,' he finally said to himself, abruptly, pulling his chair over to his desk. 'I never did believe in it, and it was only her begging that made me let her and Anne go. Still, if it would make her happier to pitch a tent in the desert and live under the shadow of the sphinx, I have no doubt I'd help her drive the pegs: If only I were sure she'd find what she wants in this—if only I were sure!'

Instead of staying two years in Europe, Eleanor Wymer stayed ten—ten years filled to the brim with brilliant successes that brought her honors and fortune. Purely fictitious accounts of the famous writer, with pictures of her and of her home in France, appeared from time to time, and her books and magazine articles were eagerly seized upon by her friends in America, but from Eleanor herself little had been heard. She had written to Anne Maurice regularly at first, then intermittently, until finally only beautiful gifts at Christmas and on birthdays came to show that Eleanor had not forgotten. She had been expected home for Anne's wedding, but at the last moment cabled:

'Have fallen into the hands of the publishers. God bless you, and give you happiness.'

A loving little note followed, and a long letter came when the professor died. After that there was no word, until one morning two years later, Anne's little maid brought her up the square, blue-stamped letter which was torn open with a cry of joy.

'I am really going home, dear little Anne,' it said, 'and will you be glad to see me? Please be so glad that there will be no room for disagreeable thoughts when I tell you that I can stay over only a week. Could you see the work that is piled up you would wonder that I leave at all. But they have been asking her to go up to the old college, and give a lecture to the girls —fancy the importance of me! So over I am going. Just between us though, it is only because I want to see you and John and the baby. Be sure to meet me. I wonder if we shall know each other!'

Through some mishap, the steamer was two days late in arriving, and to Anne's dismay, there was barely time for Eleanor to get across town and catch the train up to college, in order to be there for the lecture that evening.

'Oh dear!' wailed Anne, as they were bounced along in the hansom. 'This is the most dangerous thing that has happened since you went away. Don't let them persuade you to stay over to-morrow —now be sure! If it weren't for that wretched baby, I could go, too. Let me look at you again. Aren't you the handsome lady! Do you remember when we used to say that! Such ages ago! And here you are, so famous that I am likely to step in a proud and haughty way for days, just because I have sat beside you for a brief space of time!'

Eleanor laughed gently.

'Dear little Anne, you haven't changed at all.'

'Neither have you,—yes, you have, too. You're lots quieter, and such a calmness about you! I can see my despair, trying to acquire it.'

Eleanor laughed again, merrily this time. 'Perhaps it's just because I've grown up at last. One has to do it some day, you know,—and I took a terribly long time about it.'

'Well, you certainly made a success of it, when you got there,' said Anne. 'Here's that miserable station. Now, remember, be sure to come down to-morrow, for the baby and John won't be able to wait another minute after that to see you.'

In the chair car Eleanor was met with enthusiasm by a number of her old classmates who were going up with her.

'If you do this sort of thing very often, Eleanor,' said one of them, 'you'll be the cause of the breaking of home ties. There's not one of us who hasn't left husband and children to get this glimpse of you. So proud as we all are of you! They tell us at the Alumni luncheons that we are absolutely unbearable, we are so set up because you belong to us!'

Eleanor parried determinedly every attempt to get her to talk of herself. She would speak only of the old days together, and when they arrived at the station, she refused to go into the carriage that met her.

'Let me go out in the car, just as I used to,' she insisted. 'I want it to be as nearly the same as it can be.'

But she was totally unprepared for the greeting she received at the gates, where she found the entire undergraduate body drawn up in long double lines, between which she walked to the entrance. They had been forbidden to cheer, and Eleanor said afterward that their silent tribute was the most effective she had ever known. As she reached the college steps at last, she turned to look back at the girls and said with a little quiver of the lips:

'This makes it seem worth while.'

By eight o'clock that evening the assembly hall was packed to the doors,—not a girl could have been bribed to stay away, and they were all there, from the most earnest habitue of the lecture room, to the most skilled of 'cutters.' Eleanor's name had been to them a watchword for years, —because she had once been a girl there herself, had done the same things they did, had had the same interests, and, as she came in, and as they thought of her having crossed the ocean just to speak to them, it was with a feeling of intensely loyal, personal pride that her audience swept to its feet, to stand while the president presented her briefly as one whom it was the privilege and delight of the college to welcome. Eleanor stood by the reading desk, looking for a moment at the eager young faces before her; then, with no introductory remarks, spoke upon the theme she had chosen: 'Women in the Working Day World. With the first word her audience was with her, from the president to the youngest freshman. Speaking easily and masterfully, she handled her subject with the strength of a man, the delicacy of a woman, showing little things little, big things big, tearing out the heart of the truth, the next instant, with rare tact, soothing the wound that had perhaps been made. It was a wonderful talk, clear, polished, without a flaw from beginning to end, and as she finished, a storm of applause rang out again and again. As it ceased, Eleanor paused, irresolute, for a moment: then,with the beautiful smile that was one of her greatest charms, said: 'Girls,' and hesitated, still smiling down at them. There was none of the 'it seems-only-the-other-day-that-I-was-here-myself' attitude, —that simple, one-syllabled word swept away all the barrier and placed here where she could appeal directly to the girls.

'Good old Eleanor!' said one of her classmates on the back row of seats. 'I wondered if she'd strike the personal note at all. Well, whatever she wants with these girls she'll win them, just as she always won us. That's just the way she used to look at us, and speak to us, and my, but we loved her!'

'It has been a great pleasure,' said Eleanor, slowly, 'to speak to you of the women who have gone out into the world and have made successes of their lives. It was with care and thought that I chose those who shone most brilliantly, who gained from the world all that the world had to give. And I know that there are many of you whose dream it is to win just as they did, who think there would be nothing more wonderful in life than to conquer so splendidly. I do not doubt that there are those of you who could do it, and it is to them that I wish particularly to speak for just a moment—to the possible successes. It is in all fairness that I wish to sound a note of warning before we part,—a warning that is so old that it may seem to you a platitude. It may seem to you paradoxical, perhaps untrue and exaggerated, but it is my belief that if all the women of whom I have been talking could stand before you, they would say just what I do: Go slowly,—be careful,—and unless it be an imperative necessity for you to plunge into the struggle, don't. We laugh at our grandmothers of yesterday. Unworthier than they, we raise to-day the cry: "Give us the same chance as men!" and, led by the trumpet call of blatant theorizing, summoning us to new duties, we ruthlessly trample under foot chances that are beyond the reach of any man. For there is reserved for woman the better part, and it is their privilege to do what no man could ever possibly do—to make and keep a home. Take a career—what does it give you? A few years at best of scintillating brilliancy, of great admiration and greater criticism, filled with certain results, naturally—but the other life could give you relative ones. Do not think that your talents, your gifts, would be wasted. Never was there greater need than to-day for the influence of strong women in the home life, when its fairest traditions are being assailed as never before. Think well before you give up your chance to do your share. And, remember, too, that the gladdest are not they who have won the worldly laurel, and Fame and Fortune are after all, cold comfort to warm one's heart by. I thank you very much for your attention.'

With another smile she stepped back to her chair, in a silence that was striking after the applause that had gone before. Only the president, as Eleanor turned to him, nodded approvingly, and whispered: 'Good for you. You couldn't have done better.'

(To be Continued.)

Home Thoughts.

FOREBODINGS.

'Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero.'—Horace.

('Enjoy the present day, as distrusting that which is to follow.')

Let to-morrow take care of to-morrow,
Leave the things of the future to fate;
What's the use to anticipate sorrow?
Life's troubles come never too late.
If to hope over-much be an error,
'Tis one that the wise have preferred;
And how often have hearts been in terror
Of evils—that never occurred!

Have faith and thy faith shall sustain thee;
Permit not suspicion and care
With invisible bonds to enchain thee,
But bear what God gives thee to bear;
By His spirit supported and gladdened,
Be ne'er by forebodings deterred;
But think how oft hearts have been saddened
By fear of—what never occurred!

Let to-morrow take care of to-morrow!
Short and dark as our life may appear,
We may make it still darker by sorrow,
Still shorter by folly and fear!
Half our troubles are half our invention,
And often from blessings conferred
Have we shrunk in the wild apprehension
Of evils—that never occurred.
—Charles Swain.

HUGGED HER BURDENS.

Loaded to the chin with packages and parcels, tensely erect, in a straight-back chair, sat the weary shopper in the station waiting room at the close of a bargain-day.

The place was nearly deserted, there were any number of empty rocking chairs and an inviting couch beckoned from a secluded corner. But the tired, rigid little soul would none of these creature-comforts, and when I went to my train I left her still sitting in the same position with that strained, set look on her face, while she convulsively clutched her lapful of bundles.

Type everlasting of those who hug their burdens of care when they might just as well let them drop down to their feet; who choose the stiffest, most cramped position in life, while an easy, relaxed attitude is to be had for the taking; who seem almost wilfully to select the hardest seats of duty, ignoring the big-armed, comfortable rocker of rest made just to soothe racked nerve and weary brain.

Why should we go out of our way to hunt for hard times? As we go along, enough of that sort of thing will be provided for our highest development. There is no reason why we should go about as roaring lions to seek what of trial or of tribulation we may devour. There is large virtue in that necessity which bows to the inevitable, but there is none in needless self-inflictions. Inglorious ease is one thing, asceticism is another. Seeking trouble is about as bad as fleeing from it, and bearing trial needlessly is no better than shirking it.

'Never trouble trouble, till trouble troubles you, has in it more of philosophy than of poetry. Whenever possible, rest the hands, rest the head, rest the heart. Never take up a burden that is just as well off where it is.—Julia Thayer.

With the Children.

AS A LITTLE CHILD.

(By Emily Houseman Watson, in the 'Ram's Horn.')

In simple faith, content to know Thou leadest me;
Trusting, I place my hand in Thine, to walk with Thee.
I little care if worldly pleasures be denied,
If only in Thy love and care I may abide.

I know not whether good or ill awaits me here,
Or whether sunlit days be mine, or darkness drear;
If Thou, dear Lord, are near to bless and cheer my way,
The ill a blessing proves, the darkness flees away.

A CHILD'S PART IN THE HOME-MAKING.

'Shall a child have prescribed duties in the home?' foolishly asks one of our magazines.

Certainly. We love only that in which we have an active part; hence the child's present and future good demands that it, regardless of age or sex, have its share in the home-making. It is not a question of expediency but of proportion.

Just what and how large that part shall be cannot be decided by an outsider, for in no two homes are conditions the same. But this we know; the child's part should bear a certain proportion to the mother's. The child will be happier for taking a real and active interest in the care of the home.

A woman without servants should have more help from her children than those with servants. And, in allotting this, the child's age, health, and, to a certain extent, its tastes, should be considered. As a girl grows older her share should be gradually enlarged or changed until she understands something of the whole realm of housekeeping. She will bless her mother for it some day. Even the boy should have enough insight into 'mother's work' to make him, one of these days, a sympathetic, helpful husband.

It is the spirit of helpfulness, of unselfishness, more than the actual work they can do, that is of value. For this reason it is sheer nonsense to pay them for their regular home duties. If it is desired that they earn money in order to know the value of it, let the pay come from unusual outside tasks. As neither father nor mother receives money for the daily home work, neither should the children expect it. This plan fosters a selfish love of gain which simply submerges the small amount of good it may do.

Whenever possible, a child's tasks should be those in which some pride may be taken for this makes labor a joy. Along with this is the habit of doing things right and doing them thoroughly. The success of after life depends almost wholly upon the formation of habits like these, and earliest lessons last longest.

Indeed, early beginning is the secret of all training. Teach the baby industry, system and neatness by requiring him to put away his toys in a certain place whenever his play is over. By and by he will put away his tools, books and belongings from sheer force of habit, and we will have a man with a neat office-desk, an orderly bedroom, and a well appointed workshop.

Let a child's constructive talent be put to use in the home-making. Things to make and beautify the house will develop a practical love of the beautiful and endear that particular spot to the growing boy or girl. A bit of landscape gardening, a pot of paint for the fence or outbuildings, a little carpentering, will be a better for a boy than several spelling lessons; while a girl's opportunities from the making of sash curtains to the embroidering of a door panel, are simply innumerable.

But neither the richest nor the poorest home can afford idle children. It is simply a question of what and how large shall be the child's part. Each home is the hub of the world, the centre for which all the circumference exists. Love of home and love of work are absolutely necessary to good citizenship, and, fostered in youth, make happy, useful, contented people of us, whether we be large or small.—Lee McCrae, in 'Mother's Magazine.'

Health Hints.

CULTURE OF THE RISIBLES.

Rays of irresistible attraction radiate from a household where the risible muscles are kept flexible by frequent exercise.

Ripples of laughter spread very far. Children crowd into a merry home, as bees to a honey-yielding flower. There may be but a small allowance of sense in the easy-coming laughter, but it shakes up the diaphragm and awakes the solar plexus, so a jolly family have always an admiring fringe of neighbor's children who love to 'laugh, too.' The family of daughters have always good health, and even when living is plain, are plump and rosy. Among all the aids to digestion and the solemn ways of hunting health, it is strange that some one has not made a serious attempt to bring the 'Culture of the Risibles' into the foreground and charge a fee for a course of lessons.

The gift of laughter is too truly heaven bestowed to permit of faking; yet even the sourest stomached dyspeptics can learn to laugh side-shakingly, uproariously, and be cured of his ills thereby.

He may not find the risible mover in the funny paper paragraphs, but any one who does not get a good laugh at something two or three times a day ought to start out on a hunt for some jolly joker who can strike the responsive chord that controls the risibles.

It takes only one at a family table to give the rest indigestion. So many parents sin in this way of bringing up children's faults for reproval when they are at the table. Did they but know that they were mixing poison with the food they bid the children eat and 'stop crying.' Far healthier were it to forbid the meal altogether than compel it to be eaten with compressed spirits.

Fault-finding, cutting sarcasm, stabbing little jibes, scolding and such like laugh-killers are also health-destroyers. Depression immediately shuts down the flow of digestive juices and distils bitterness which has to be slowly eliminated with weakened powers. Many a devoted wife has poor health because a dish she has prepared under stress of overtaxed strength fails to elicit anything but a cross criticism from the husband.

To conceal a hurt spirit she will choke down her despised and probably palatable food which wasn't cooked somehow differently, and the heaviness of heart will be soon augmented by a heaviness in the stomach, and then in the head, and the days go on with waning health, then 'mother's stomach is out of order all the time.'

What if smiles had been the sauce instead of fault-finding. If there be one more essential constituent of a family meal than the food, it is good nature, even good nature that shakes out its banners into open-mouthed laughter. 'Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.'

The temperament which laughs easily is born, but a habit of good nature may be cultivated to the point of seeing the fun in common things. Humor and wit are the summits to attain in this culture of the risibles. We may as well be explicit, for the benefit of the seriously solemn ones who are so contemptuous of a mind that sees anything to laugh at in less than a double intended joke.—'Health Culture.'

For the Housekeeper.

THE CARE AND PRESERVATION OF PICTURES.

The proper care and treatment of pictures to those who own them is a matter of the first importance—so important that their owners themselves should personally supervise, or, perhaps, better still, do them themselves, and in the case of really valuable pictures entrust them only to reliable and experienced experts.

Oil paintings from time to time should be lightly cleaned to remove any surface deposit arising from smoke, dust, house-flies, etc. This may best be done by wiping the surface of the picture with a soft clean sponge, which has been wetted and the surplus water squeezed out. Lay the picture flat, and on no account let the water flow over the picture in a stream. Choose a fine, dry day for the operation. As soon as the picture is dry enough it should be rubbed over gently with an old and much used silk handkerchief. When this has been done, replace it in its frame and leave it. Revarnishing should only be done by someone who knows how to do it, and only 'picture' mastic varnish used. The picture must be bone dry, and the day warm and dry, otherwise 'bloom' is almost certain to appear—that is a kind of misty (milky) appearance over the picture.

Water colors sometimes want to be removed from their frames, and the mounts and inside glasses cleaned; cleaning the latter is obvious to all. The mounts are best cleaned with stale bread crumbs or plastic rubber, and wiped off with a soft cloth or brush.

Pastels are very risky, and require the most careful handling—they are so fragile and so easily damaged. Some years ago I had a fine pastel portrait brought to me to restore which in the annual cleaning had been removed from its frame and 'dusted' by one of the domestics, who 'dusted' the head entirely out. Fortunately it had been washed in with water color as a basis for the pastel to follow. This, with hints from its possessor, enabled me to restore it to their satisfaction. Charcoal and chalk drawings need the same care; pencil drawings nearly as much.

Etchings and engravings are not so readily damaged, but care should be taken not to touch the surface or abrade the margins. In hanging pictures avoid damp walls, they are fatal to almost any kind of picture. It is a good plan to cut a cork in half and glue or tack a piece at the bottom part of each end of the frame. This keeps the picture from contact with the wall, and allows a current of air to pass behind which does much for the dryness and preservervation of the picture. All good pictures under glass should have the glass pasted into the rebate of the frame, and the back covered with stout brown or waterproof paper. This is well worth the small extra cost and trouble.—'T.P.'s Weekly.'

ONCE A PIANO, NOW A TABLE.

An out-o'-town visitor to an east side Settlement House was much impressed the other day with the massive elegance of a rosewood table, with heavy, carved legs, which occupied the centre of the large living room or library. Her admiration brought about an explanation from one of the workers to the effect that the table had been made from an old-fashioned square piano which had been presented to them. As its days of usefulness as a musical instrument had long since passed, and as the Settlement had been the recipient of a new upright piano, it was something of a question what should become of the big square piano. Finally one of the clever women interested in the work suggested that it be transformed into a library table.

It was a comparatively easy matter to have the interior mechanism removed, the pedals taken off, and the box of the piano cut down to the level of the keyboard.

The two parts of the lid were then laid on and firmly screwed down. Over the top of each screw, to complete the illusion, was glued what looked like a large button of the rosewood. It covered the top of the screw and was decidedly ornamental. The wood for these ornaments was easily found in the framework of the pedals which had been discarded.

The only flaw in such a table is that the top is of necessity in two pieces, a dividing line its entire length showing where the original piano top opened. The only remedy for this is to cover the entire length of the table with a runner of some suitable material. In the case in question an eighteen-inch runner of dark red felt was laid over this dividing line, but in a more pretentious library such a runner might be of Turkish embroidery or of brocade in dull, aesthetic colorings.

As the visitor to the settlement had a beautifully carved but hopelessly superannuated square piano stored in a loft in her stable, its transformation into a handsome library table came to her as a very practical suggestion.—N. Y. 'Times.'

Selected Recipes.

Marrons glaces are so expensive to buy that it pays to prepare them at home. Mrs. Rorer in her new book gives the following directions for making this delicious preserve: Select large Italian or Japanese chestnuts, and remove the shells and brown skins. 'Boil rapidly until tender, but not too soft; drain and weigh, and to each pint add a quarter of a good, oily vanilla bean and one pound of sugar. Split the bean into halves; then cut it into small pieces, being very careful not to waste or lose the seeds. Add the sugar to a half pint of water; stir until dissolved; bring to a boiling point; boil a moment and add the chestnuts. Push the saucepan to the back of the stove and cook slowly until the chestnuts are soft, dark, and very rich. Lift each carefully with a fork, put them in a bottle or jar and cover them with the boiling syrup. Seal and stand aside. These will keep for any length of time.'

A concoction that will prove most unique and most appetizing is a strange combination of baked fish and Welsh rabbit. If there is any culinary preparation that is more out of the ordinary it has yet to be made a matter of record.

In making this dish a bluefish, a haddock, or a small cod may be used. Stuff the fish with a dressing made of bread crumbs, chopped onions, fried bacon, chopped fine, all moistened with melted butter and seasoned with pepper, salt and summer savory. When thoroughly stuffed sew the fish carefully, and place it in the baking pan with a very little water, and small bits of butter dabbed all over it. Baste it frequently. When it is done and the thread carefully removed, serve the fish on a hot platter with a generous Welsh rabbit poured over it.

Although any kind of 'rabbit' will answer the purpose, those who follow the following formula will find that they have prepared a cheese mixture which harmonizes deliciously with the fish.

Heat half a cupful of milk in a porcelain-lined saucepan, and, when it is boiling hot, add two cupfuls of very rich cheese, finely grated. Stir this until the cheese melts, then add salt and paprika to taste, and finally, the well-beaten yolks of two eggs.

A Savory Dish.—Procure a breast of mutton, not too fat, bone it, and spread sage and onions over it thickly, and then put in pan and bake a nice brown. This is very nice hot or cold.

LITERARY NOTES.

MEMORIES.

A remarkable book published anonymously in England by Heineman and imported by Scribner's leaves, however, no possible doubt as to its authorship. 'Father and Son' is the story by Edmund Gosse of the pathetic and strange life of his childhood under the religious teaching of parents for whom he has the sincerest admiration apart from the harsh narrowness of their religion. The late P. H. Gosse, F.R.S., the marine zoologist, author of several books of note, easily identified but not actually mentioned throughout the book, and his wife were satisfied and at peace in their religion, self-centred though it made their lives. The singular style of this record by their only son, it is impossible to convey, but its fascination will make the book widely read. It is a tale of extreme Puritanism such as the world is happily seeing less of to-day. The pathos of the son's break with the father is all the greater for the simplicity of the author's style.

'Leaves from the Note-Book of Lady Dorothy Nevill' (The Macmillan Company), contains memories and observations extending over a long period of years. Many notable people and events are discussed by Lady Dorothy who has always had a passion for collecting odds and ends of every sort and preserving them in scrap and note books. These volumes, filled with old squibs, cuttings, photographs, scraps of verse, menus of long-past banquets, and other trifles, recall many pleasant and amusing days now long vanished into the past.

ANIMAL HEROES.

A splendid story of a splendid dog is 'Jock of the Bushveldt' by Sir Percy FitzPatrick (Longmans & Co.). In the early days of the white man's pioneering in Africa dogs were not many, but it is not for that fact alone that Jock who lived in those times was worth writing of. He was a bull-terrier with rather more than his share of grit to make up for what he was lacking in beauty, and this is a story of his exploits as he accompanied his master on various hunting trips. No game in that country of big animals caused Jock a moment's uneasiness, and it is a sad reflection that his bravery could not secure him against the sad end which the author has chronicled. The illustrations by Mr. E. Caldwell bear out the spirit of the tales.

'Scud' is a British squirrel, it is true, but his insularity is not so marked that he will not serve as a type for his more distant cousins in whatever land they may set up housekeeping, and when the young readers have made his acquaintance in 'The Life Story of a Squirrel' as told by T. C. Bridges (London: A. & C. Black), they will have a pretty good idea of the habits and ways of the squirrel in general. It is pleasant to watch the small wild creature gradually losing its natural instinct of fear of the great and unaccountable animal called 'man,' and coming at last to actual friendship.

BOYS' BOOKS.

What does anyone want to know about the internal economy of motors, machines, etc.? Mr. Archibald Williams undertakes to give a satisfactory if not a detailed explanation in 'How it Works' (Thomas Nelson & Sons). It is a book to be seized upon by the perplexed parent, to be eagerly searched by the boy with the mechanical turn of mind, and one to give the joy of a safe if somewhat surface knowledge to many hitherto somewhat ashamed of their ignorance. Mr. Williams has endeavored to neglect nothing, from the ordinary steam engine to the latest achievements in wireless, and he deserves gratitude for what he has to say rather than criticism for what he has been forced to leave out.

Another joy to the heart of youth is 'Harper's Electricity Book for Boys' (Harper's), by Mr. Joseph H. Adams. Information is here with regard to all matters electrical, and the terms used are purposely kept as simple as possible. Mr. Adams is at pains to make the experiments easy for the boy who would like to see for himself, and has endeavored, too, to keep expenses down. Electricity has not yet stepped out of the realm of wonders, and there is a tingling pleasure in being able to control its powers.

A new edition of Mr. Stewart Edward White's 'The Blazed Trail' is published by the McClure Company. There is room for it, as this book bids fair to hold its place among the boys' favorites.

'Filippo, the Italian Boy,' by Laura B. Starr, is a tale of child life among the Italians, recently published by A. S. Barnes & Co. A readable story, with an educational tendency, showing the customs of the country from the boy's birth to manhood, its climate and productions, with much else of interest.

A new edition of Swift's 'Gulliver's Travels' is also on the lists of A. S. Barnes & Co. The revision of the original text has been carefully done.

SELECTIONS.

A Christmas anthology, 'The Poets on Christmas,' selected and edited by William Knight, is published by the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge. To every one of its readers naturally some or other of the selections will be familiar, but none the less favored on that account.

'The Optimist's Good Morning' (Boston: Little, Brown & Co.) is the title of a new book of selections for daily reading compiled by Florence Hobart Perin. For each day in the year there is a noble sentiment, followed by a brief morning prayer. The selections are made, not uniformly, but very largely with reference to their optimistic quality. They breathe the spirit of hopefulness and courage. The prayers are real prayers by the leading ministers of all denominations.

An interesting volume is Arthur Guiterman's 'Betel Nuts' (Paul Elder & Co.), a collection of Hindustan proverbs and aphorisms. The translator has caught and expressed their spirit cleverly, and the easy verse form he uses makes these sayings easily remembered. An example of Mr. Guiterman's success is the following:—

His head is rather thick,
But he isn't all a fool:
He knew the ox might kick,
So he stood behind the mule.

LITERARY.

The first of the four dramas of the Nibelungen Ring series in this season added by Dr. Oliver Huckel to the list of his translations from Wagner. His previous success with 'Parsifal,' 'Lohengrin,' and 'Tannhauser,' was a fair guarantee of his powers, and his latest work is fully up to the standard. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. are the publishers.

Another publication from the same house is 'The Pure Gold of English Literature,' a little book of some thirty-seven pages by William Lloyd Phelps, who holds the Lampson professorship of English literature in Yale University. It quantity is not here, there is no question as to quality, for, brief as it is, it covers well its ground, being only, as Professor Phelps says, 'an attempt to appraise and assay the precious material in the literary output of the nineteenth century.'

A volume of essays on 'Great Writers,' by G. E. Woodberry T(he McClure Co.), deals with six in all, three great prose writers, Cervantes, Scott, and Montague, and three world poets, Virgil, Milton, and Shakespeare. The papers are clear and to the point in every case, rising, with the poets, into rather more enthusiasm than Mr. Woodberry allows himself in the case of the others. His estimation of 'Don Quixote' is that rather of the minority in his emphasis of the tragical side of the tale.

The literary history of Russia is considered by Andreyevitch, the critic, in his recently published book, 'An Attempt to Trace the Philosophy of Russian Literature,' brought out by 'Snanie,' St. Petersburg, a work of no little importance. The author from his studies determines the keynote of his country's literature as lying in its abolitionist and emancipatory ideals Roused to early life by the horrors of serfdom, it has never strayed very far from its main theme, as Andreyevitch makes evident.

THE MONTHLIES.

Notable among the magazines from the United States this month has been a seemingly tacit agreement to leave Christmas out. Some have eschewed it altogether, while others have introduced the theme shamefacedly. The wholehearted goodwill, good cheer, and holly that used to bless their contents for December have largely been set aside in favor of the mere ordinary magazine number. One or two may be excepted, but for the most part they are a disappointment.

In the 'University Magazine' for December, the opening article, by M. O. Scott, upon 'Canada's First Centuries,' is intended for the benefit of newcomers into Canada, to inform them of the debt of gratitude which Canada owes to the early French settlers. The second article, by Dr. Andrew Macphail, 'What can Canada do?' takes as a theme Canada's service to the Empire in self-development. As the second of the series of articles on 'British diplomacy and Canada,' Mr. D. A. MacArthur gives a full consideration of the Alaska boundary award with two maps. His conclusion is that the final award was in accord with the intention of the original negotiators of the treaty. Mr. W. F. Chipman's article taxes Canada not with two much partyism, but with too little, because both Liberals and Conservatives have lost sight of the original principles by which these parties were created. The address which Rudyard Kipling gave before the students of McGill University, on Oct. 23, is reproduced from the author's manuscript. Dr. McCrae contributes a sonnet, and Marjorie Pickthall a piece of verse entitled 'Armorel.' Professor Alexander, of Toronto; Miss Fenwick, Professor Fernow, the Dean of the new Faculty of Forestry in the University of Toronto; Mr. J. L. Payne, and Dr. Herbert Symonds, contribute other important articles.

'Bird-Lore' for December contains many articles of interest, with numerous illustrations. Mr. Herbert K. Job relates his unique encounter with a pair of Thrashers and their bravery in defending their nest. 'Around the Horn for Petrels' is an interesting study of the haunts and habits of pelagic birds. An article on the Heath Hen describes a bird once abundant, but now almost on the point of extinction. Mr. Frank M. Chapman contributes a notable article entitled, 'A season's field work.' Mrs. Mabel Osgood Wright, in the School Department, writes interestingly of 'The herring, or harbor gull.' The annual report of the National Association of Audubon Societies gives an encouraging account of what has been accomplished during the past year.

Asphaltic layers have been found in Syria, near Kferie, a village about twenty-five miles north-east of the port of Latakia, along the road leading toward Aleppo, which have been declared by competent mining engineers to be not only rich in asphalt, but also practically inexhaustible.

A FREE GIFT.

Subscribers (new or renewal) sending in to this office one dollar for twelve months' subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' will UPON REQUEST, be sent as a premium a copyright fine Christmas number of the 'Canadian Pictorial,' containing about 1,500 square inches of exquisite illustrations Cut this advertisement out and attach to your remittance.

This offer open to all subscribers in Canada (Montreal and suburbs excepted), Newfoundland, and the British Isles as long as the supply reserved for that purpose lasts.

BOYS!

One Word More.

Just as we are going to press we have another batch of latest returns from our enthusiastic boys. It contains lots of 'plums.' Here are just two:—

S., Ont.

1. 'I enclose a postal note for THREE DOZEN copies of the 'Pictorial Christmas Number. I sold the TWO DOZEN sent me earlier, in two hours, all but six copies.

H. A. McADIE.

(Not bad that, for a twelve-year-old in a new place along the railway line—with only one general store!)

2. 'Having received copies of the 'Pictorial,' please send forty more, for which I enclose cash. For the six sold please send Maple Leaf Blouse set.

G. HAYDEN.

(One only of several boys in a western town.)

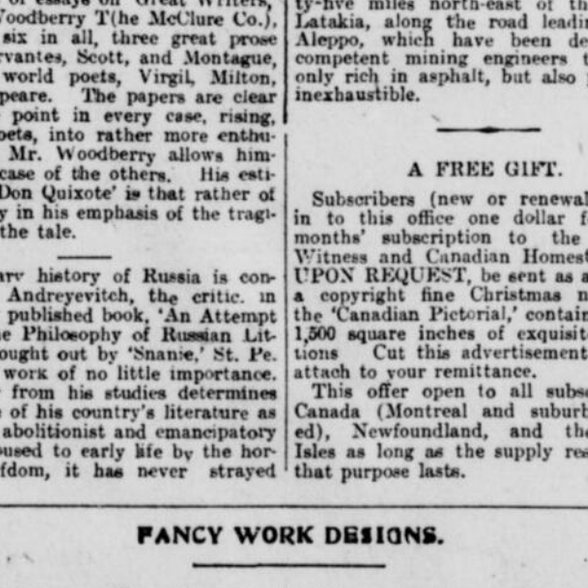
Read the 'budget' on the Boys' Page, and DO IT NOW.

FANCY WORK DESIGNS.

Cambric patterns, full working size, supplied of design given below. Pattern may be used over and over again. With each design is sent a sheet of illustrated directions for working. As an additional accommodation for out of town customers, the necessary material in braids, thread, etc., can be supplied if desired at prices named.

Readers will bear in mind that the materials we supply are not cotton, but of the best imported linen, so that if the cost seems a little higher than the braids generally sold, the quality fully makes up for it in beauty of appearance and in durability.

Send money in express or postal order or registered letter, reading directions carefully, that correct amount may be sent and delay avoided.



Design 151. Size 14 in.

LACE CENTREPIECES WITH EMBROIDERY LINEN CENTRE.

Dainty table linen has a certain fascination for the majority of women, and it may be said that there are few other household accessories which afford so much opportunity for decoration.

The design shown to-day is a beautiful arrangement of point lace as border and embroidered linen centre, pattern and material of which we supply as follows: Pattern alone, 20 cents; materials, 13 yards No. 1 braid, 1 thread, 25 cents; linen centre, stamped for embroidery, 12 inches, 20 cents, or pattern, braid, thread and stamped linen centre for 65 cents.

Address, Art Needlework Department, 'Witness' office, Montreau.

The 'Witness' Pattern Service.

FALL AND WINTER FASHIONS.

Those who purchased our catalogue of spring and summer patterns, will know that it was a very handy addition to the home work-room. We can now supply a very attractive catalogue of the latest styles for fall and winter, 1907-8. Same price as before, only ten cents, and well worth more than that small sum.

Over three hundred charming designs are given for ladies' and children's garments, besides illustrated supplement on Home Dressmaking, Fancy Work, House hold and Beauty Hints, and the latest Embroidery Designs.

To obtain this catalogue fill in coupon given at foot of this department, send it to us with ten cents in stamps, and the catalogue will be sent by mail to your address. Allow one week margin beyond time necessary for return of mail, as orders are handled in rotation.

NO. 5950.—LADIES' WALKING SKIRT

This seven-gored skirt has an air of combined smartness and simplicity. Extensions on the front and side gores form an effective and somewhat unusual trimming. Self-covered buttons and machine stitching give the finishing touch and are all the decoration needed. As illustrated, it was made of chiffon broadcloth, but serge, Panama, voile and Venetian will all develop well. For 26 inch waist measure 4 1-4 yards of 44 inch material will be required. Sizes for 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure.

NO. 5969.—LADIES' WAIST.

The design here pictured is in Henrietta in one of the new shades of bright blue. A fitted lining serves as a support for the waist, which is box-plaited in front and back. A fancifully shaped trimming band is arranged on each side the lace chemisette, and extends around the back. The sleeve is gathered into a deep close fitting cuff of the lace. Voile, Henrietta, taffeta, louisine, and pongee are all adaptable. The medium size will require three and an eighth yards of 36-inch material. Sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.

NO. 5955.—LITTLE GIRLS' COAT.

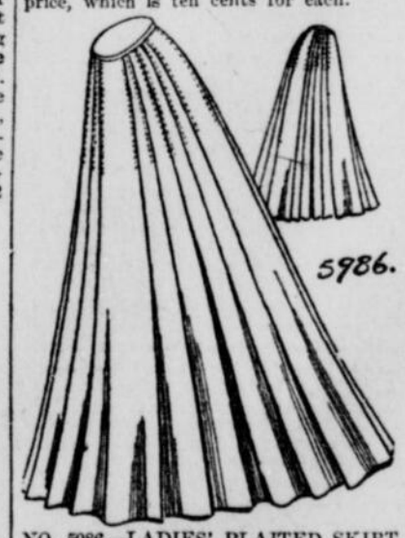
The plain long coat in double-breasted style is always a popular model for home making. This one is a particularly good design, with its broad shawl collar extending out over the sleeves, as it gives the wide shoulder effect, so becoming to children. The back is quite plain and the lines of the front unbroken, save for the pockets and three large buttons at the closing. Herring-bone cheviot was chosen for the making, but Scotch tweed, broadcloth, velvet and the novelty fabrics are all suggested. For a child of 8 years 2 3-4 yards of 44 inch material will be required. Sizes for 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

NOS. 5992 AND 5995.—GOWN FOR EVENING WEAR.

The illustration shows a charmingly simple design, handsomely devloped in hydrangea blue crepe de Chine. The waist is mounted on a fitted lining, and if low neck and short sleeves are not desired, high neck and full-length sleeves may be substituted. The deep bertha and sleeve cap combined is made of heavy lace and gives width to the shoulders, which is such a feature of present styles. The skirt is one of the newest among the many styles brought out this season. The top is given close adjustment by tucks that are stitched to deep yoke depth, except in the front, which is left plain in panel effect. Circular flounces add a becoming flare to the lower edge, which may be in medium sweep or round length. For 36 inch bust measure two and a half yards of 44 inch material will be required for the waist, and eight and seven-eighths yards for the skirt. Ladies' evening waist, No. 5992, sizes for 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.

Ladies' five-gored skirt in medium sweep or round length, and with or without the three circular flounces, sizes for 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure.

The accompanying illustration calls for two separate patterns, which will be mailed to any address on the receipt of price, which is ten cents for each.



NO. 5986.—LADIES' PLAITED SKIRT.

This graceful walking skirt is given the fashionable close fit about the waist by the plaits being stitched to deep yoke depth, and allowed to flare below that point in well-pressed folds, thus producing the necessary fulness at the lower edge. This design is suitable for broadcloth, Panama, voile, and English suiting. For 26-inch waist measure 6 3-4 yards of 44-inch material will be required. Sizes for 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure.

NOS. 5908 AND 5950.—A STYLISH GOWN.

The costume, in dark blue Panama, here illustrated is well adapted for home making. The waist is decidedly pretty, with its low round neck filled in by a dainty lace chemisette. The trimming band that outlines the neck is covered by a design in soutache braid. The seven-gored skirts is one of the most attractive models of the season, and has an air of combined smartness and style about it. Extensions on the front and side gores form an effective and somewhat unusual trimming. Chiffon taffeta, voile, serge, and broadcloth will all develop stylishly. For 36 inches bust measure two and three-eighths yards of 44 inch material will be required for the waist, and four and a quarter yards for the skirt. Ladies' blouse, No. 5908, sizes for 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Ladies' skirt, No. 5050, sizes for 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure.

This illustration calls for two separate patterns, price 10 cents for each.

Weekly Witness Pattern Coupon

Please send me

Pattern.	Size.
No.....	.....
No.....	.....
No.....	.....
No.....	.....

for which I enclose.....cents

Name.....

Street and No.....

P. O.....

Prov.....

For blouses, etc., give bust measure in inches.
For Skirts, etc., give waist measure in inches.
For Misses and Children, give age only in years.

N.B.—Be sure to cut out the illustration and send with the coupon, carefully filled out. The pattern will reach you about a week or ten days from date of order. Price 10 cents, in postal note, or stamps. For additional patterns, coupons may be readily made after the above model on separate slips of paper.

Address, Pattern Department, 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' 'Witness' Block, Montreal.

FALL and WINTER FASHIONS

Catalogue Coupon.

Pattern Dept., 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead.'

'Witness' office, Montreal.

Enclosed please find ten cents for which kindly send to my address your Fall and Winter Pattern Catalogue for 1907-8, with illustrated supplement as advertised above.

Name.. .. ..

P. O... .. ..

Date.. .. .. Prov... .. ..

DECEMBER SUBSCRIBERS

Should in renewing for the 'Witness' take advantage of one or other of the following clubs:

The 'Weekly Witness'
AND THE
'Canadian Pictorial'
one year for
only $1.35.
Worth $2.00.

Our Special Family Clubs
are the best in the market.

1. 'Weekly Witness,' 'World Wide,' 'Canadian Pictorial' and 'Northern Messenger,' worth $3.90, for only **$2.70.**
2. 'Daily Witness,' 'World Wide,' 'Canadian Pictorial' and 'Northern Messenger,' worth $5.90, for only **$3.70.**

Our other clubs are as follows:—

	Regular rate per annum	Club price
'Weekly Witness' and 'World Wide.'	$2.50	for only $2.00
'Weekly Witness' and 'Northern Messenger'	$1.40	for only $1.20
Weekly Witness, 'World Wide' and 'Messenger.'	$2.90	for only $2.2

The above cut rate offers are subject to postal regulations given on page 8.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON.,
'Witness' Block, Montreal.

FELL FROM TRAIN.

Body of Capt. H. F. L. Locock Found on C.P.R. Track.

HE WAS PROCEEDING TO BRITISH COLUMBIA FROM ENGLAND.

The body of a well-dressed man was found on Tuesday about 6.30 near Montreal West, close to the C. P. R. tracks. By the position in which the body was found and the extent of the injuries, it would seem as if he had fallen between the coaches in crossing from one car to another, and that several of the cars had passed over the body. Papers found on the body go to identify the deceased at Captain H. F. L. Locock, of the reserve of officers. In the pockets were found a silver watch chain, with two rings attached. There was also a pocket book kith several letters, one of which reads as follows:

'Legion of Frontiersmen; chairman, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lonsdale. No. 6 Adam street, Adelphi, London, W.C. To members of the Legion in the Okanagan district. This letter is to introduce Captain H. F. L. Locock, a member of the London Command, proceeding to British Columbia. Any courtesies extended to this gentleman will be greatly appreciated at headquarters.

(Signed), ROY POCOCK,
Commissioner.

A card found on the dead body reads as follows:—

Captain H. F. L. Locock, Junior United Service Club, London. 28 Sussex square, Brighton.

An entry in the deceased's diary reads: 'Spent Sunday evening at the Windsor Hotel.'

Deceased is supposed to have left Windsor Station on the 10.10 train of Monday night.

MINE DISASTER IN WALES

TWELVE MEN CUT OFF BY EXPLOSION.

London, Dec. 14.—A terrible explosion occurred at the Dinas main colliery in Wales to-day. Fortunately, only twelve men were below the surface at the time, the others having come up to receive their weekly pay. The disaster which caused the accident was brought about by the firing of a shot to signalize the change of shifts. All the headgear of the top of the shaft was blown out and there was a great fall of rock internally. The rescuers are still at work. Six bodies have been found, but it is believed that the death roll will be higher.

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES

AGREEMENT REACHED ON MINOR POINTS ONLY.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 15.—The report emanating from New York that a treaty was about to be signed with the United States, settling all Canadian disputes, is incorrect. It is understood that an agreement has been reached on minor points only, but negotiations are progressing satisfactorily.

AN ACCEPTABLE PREMIUM.

Subscribers (new or renewal) sending in to this office one dollar for twelve months' subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' will UPON REQUEST, be sent as a premium a copyright fine Christmas number of the 'Canadian Pictorial,' containing about 1,500 square inches of exquisite illustrations. Cut this advertisement out and attach to your remittance.

This offer open to all subscribers in Canada (Montreal and suburbs excepted), Newfoundland, and the British Isles as long as the supply reserved for that purpose lasts.

WIRELESS NEWS.

Druce Case—Warrant for Caldwell's Arrest—The Kaiser and the Navy League.

(Exclusive to the 'Witness' via Marconi Wireless Telegraph.)

London, Dec. 15.—In the Druce case a warrant has been issued for the arrest of Robert Caldwell, the American witness, on charges of conspiracy and perjury. Caldwell sailed for New York on Thursday.

The Emperor William arrived at Potsdam yesterday after a six weeks' absence. His Majesty intends to forbid officers of either service joining the Navy League.

The 'Times,' in a leader on the battlefields of Quebec, says:—The battle of the Plains of Abraham was glorious to French and British alike, as the closing scene in a long struggle in which each was alternately the victor and each equally enterprising and courageous. The 'Times' thinks 'a symbolical statue might, for the sake of ancient associations, add to the picturesque aspect of this most commandingly impressive city, which, without such aid, appeals to the travellers' sense of beauty.' The paper concludes: 'To such a man as Wolfe the only reward required is the consciousness of his country's thanks and praise, and the way to meet the need of such is to make the world feel that we are not unmindful of his claims.'

Geneva, Switzerland, Dec. 14.—Dr. Krennan Hasel has been elected president of the Swiss Confederacy.

INDIANS GET FIREWATER.

Caughnawaga Iroquois Prosecuted for Selling Liquor on the Reservation.

INDIAN ACTS AS SPY AND FURNISHES MONEY TO ANOTHER TO PURCHASE WHISKEY.

'Firewater' is still obtainable on Caughnawaga Indian Reserve, if the thirsty Indian knows where to go. This is the conclusion of one Indian witness in a charge of liquor selling brought before Judge Piché Wednesday against Frank Bauvain, a member of the Iroquois tribe on the Caughnawaga reservation.

Mr. Wainwright, K.C., who defended explained that his client was accused of having on 1st September supplied liquor to Peter Stacey, another Indian.

Jaques Monique, a member of the tribe, who could only speak the Iroquois tongue, described through the interpreter, the process by which the whiskey selling was detected. He explained that he had lent 50 cents to Stacey who went to the house of the prisoner and brought a bottle of white whiskey, out of which the witness and Stacey each took a drink. The bottle was then passed round to other members of the tribe, who finished it.

The witness declared that his only motive in furnishing the money to buy the whiskey was to discover that it actually was sold, have the seller brought to court and convicted, and have the sale of liquor altogether abolished on the reserve.

IROQUOIS GETS EXCITED.

For the defence counsel endeavored to prove that Monique's word was not to be relied on, and to this end he called several Indian witnesses, one of whom, Thomas Canadian, declared that Monique himself was nearly always drunk.

The Iroquois's face when this accusation was made against him was a study. He jumped up, approached the witness box, and gesticulating fiercely, assailed the witness with a storm of fluent Iroquois, and was with difficulty calmed by the interpreter.

The defence then called on Mr. Jackson, the interpreter to enter the witness box, but on his representation that to give evidence against anyone, would injure his official standing with the village, Judge Piché granted him exemption. He consented, however, to be examined regarding the prisoner's reputation, and said that, though he had heard Bauvain had sold liquor, at a time when he was unable to work and would otherwise have starved, he had no personal knowledge of the offence. On the contrary, he believed the prisoner to be a respectable man, and he certainly had a respectable wife and came of a respectable family.

The case was postponed till the 18th in order that more witnesses might be brought forward.

NO FUTURE RIGHTS INVOLVED.

Mr. Justice Davidson rendered judgment, last Tuesday, dismissed the defendant's motion to have the proceedings carried from the Circuit Court to the Superior Court, in a case of Marson vs. the Grand Trunk Railway Company. This is an action by which Mr. G. A. Marson, advocate, claims damages alleged to have been suffered by him through the defendant company's trains not having been run according to schedule between Montreal and St. Hilaire, while he was a summer resident at the latter place. The company invoked the question of future rights to come before the Superior Court, but the learned judge held that no such rights were involved.

A Calgary despatch says the Hon. W. Cushing has entered into an arrangement with the Civic Telephone Committee, under which the government agrees to charge $30 per annum on business telephones and $15 on house telephones, on the provincial system.

CANADIAN CABLES

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 10.—It is understood arrangements have been concluded for a Canadian Government loan, which will shortly be offered to the public here. The total is £1,500,000 five year bonds, issued at par, with 4 percent interest.

London, Dec. 10.—Sir Thomas Sutherland, presiding at the annual meeting today of the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company, in referring to the All-Red route, declared that it would demand gigantic resources, and it would be interesting to find out where these resources were to be found. He added further that the building of steamers to carry enough coal for an express service between Vancouver and Wellington, New Zealand, was one of the engineering problems at present insoluble. As far as Canada is concerned the project was legitimate. Passenger traffic with Australia, however, did not satisfy the requirements of shipping companies.

London, Dec. 11.—The West India committee circular contains the text of a letter addressed to Mr. Fielding with reference to trade relations between the West Indies and the Dominion, and an article on the same subject in connection with the Franco-Canadian treaty.

London, Dec. 13.—The report of the Privy Council Committee respecting the Scotch emigrants, who alleged that they were refused work promised on the G.T.R. at Portage la Prairie in May, just received news that the company immediately employed them elsewhere. Scotch papers publish the report without comment, which is apparently regarded as satisfactory.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Notices of births, marriages and deaths must invariably be endorsed with the name and address of the sender, or otherwise no notice can be taken of them. Birth notices are inserted for 25c, marriage notices for 50c, death notices for 25c prepaid. The announcement of funeral appended to death notice, 25c extra; other extension to obituary, such as short sketch of life, two cents per word extra, except poetry, which is 50 cents per line extra—prepaid.

Annual subscribers may have announcements of births, marriages and deaths (without extended obituary or verses) occurring in their immediate families, free of charge, in which case name and address of subscriber should be given.

BIRTHS.

CRAIG — At Rosedale Farm, Howick, Que., on Dec. 9, 1907, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Craig, jr.

CUNNINGHAM — At New Glasgow, Que., on Dec. 7, 1907, the wife of R. W. Cunningham, of a son.

LOYNACHAN.—On Dec. 2, 1907, at Minneapolis, Minn., to Mr. and Mrs. J. Arthur Loynachan, a son.

McRAE — On Dec. 9, 1907, at Lost River, Que., a son to Mr. and Mrs. John H. McRae.

ROBINSON — On Dec. 7, 1907, at 'The Elms,' Mascouche Rapids, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. K. Robinson.

SAVAGE.—At 307 Peel street, on Saturday, Dec. 7, 1907, a son to Mr. and Mrs. J F. Savage.

STARK.—At Orchard Hill, Kensington, on Dec. 8, 1907, to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Stark, a son.

MARRIED.

ARGUE—CALDWELL.—On Dec. 11, 1907, at the residence of the bride's father, Edmund Caldwell, Esq., Carp, Ont., by the Rev. J. W. Humphrey, B.D., Margaret Scott Caldwell to Charles G. McKenzie Argue.

BATCHELOR — ROSE — At Saginaw, Mich., on Dec. 4, 1907, by the Rev. N. S. Bradley, of the First Congregational Church, Ella Batchelor, daughter of Mr. Henry A. Batchelor, of Saginaw, to Dr. Malcolm Cameron Rose, son of the late George Maclean Rose, Toronto.

CHADWICK—LINTON—In Kingston, Ont., on Dec. 11, 1907, at the residence of the bride's parents, 15 Division street, Harford A. Chadwick, to Alice M. Linton.

CHESTER—STEPHENSON.—By the Rev. F. L. Brown, B.A., Tuesday, December 10, 1907, at the residence of the bride's parents, New Liskeard, Ont., May, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Field Stephenson, to Reginald D. Chester, youngest son of Mr. Thos. Chester, Homestead Inspector.

FEADER—DAVIDSON.— On Nov. 27, 1907, by the Rev. George Mingle, M.A., North Lunenburg, Miss Florence M., fifth daughter of James Davidson, to W. A. Feader, M.D., of Lickinson's Landing, Ont.

MACKAY—KRAUSS. — At St. Thomas' Church, Toronto, on Dec. 11, 1907, by the Rev. Mr. Sweetman, Rose Isobel, youngest daughter of the late Dr. Krauss, to Donald Gunn Mackay, of Indian Head, Sask.

McMATH — BODEN — On Dec. 10, 1907, at the residence of the bride's uncle, Springhill, Maxville, Ont., by the Rev. Roderick McKay, Andrew McMath, of the Bank of Toronto, Montreal, to Mary Boden, also of Montreal.

NORRIS — RITCHIE — At the manse, Bathurst, on Dec. 11, 1907, by the Rev. H. J. McDiarmid, Mr. Geo. E. Norris to Miss Jennie Ritchie, both of South Sherbrooke, County Lanark, Ont.

PELKEY—ORR.—On Dec. 11, 1907, at the bride's home, Barrington, Que., by the Rev. C. A. Haughton, B.A., Margaret Frances Orr to Frederick Adolphe Pelkey.

PERRY—PAINTER.—On Dec. 10, 1907, at the Methodist parsonage, 30 Colborne street, Kingston, Ont., by the Rev. W. H. Sparling, B.A., Ethel, daughter of Richard Painter, Esq., to Harvey Lavell Perry, son of Norman Perry, Esq., all of Kingston.

PUBLOW—ROBINSON.—At the Methodist parsonage, on Dec. 5, 1907, by the Rev. Mr. Lewis, Picton, Ema May, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Robinson, Bethel, Ont., to Ivan Publow, son of G. G. Publow, Kingston, Ont.

WURTELE—MASON.—At Hamilton, Ont., on Dec. 11, 1907, at St. Mark's Church, by the Rev. Canon Sutherland, M.A., James Frederick Wurtele, son of Frederick C. Wurtele, of Quebec, to Mary Walter, youngest daughter of the late J. J. Mason, Hamilton.

DIED.

ADDISON—At Mount Forest, on Dec. 12, 1907, Rhona Ellis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Addison, and granddaughter of W. J. Gilroy, aged 3 years and eight months.

The XMAS NUMBER of the CANADIAN PICTORIAL

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ANDERSON.—At 86 Yorkville avenue, Toronto, on Dec. 10, 1907, the Rev. William Kay Anderson, D.D., aged 86 years.

BACK.—On Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1907, at her late residence, 49 Fourth ave., Ottawa, Mrs. James Back, wife of Jas. Back, of Immigration Dept.

BRACKENRIDGE — On Dec. 9, 1907, at his late residence, 54 Sussex avenue, Toronto, Richard Brackenridge, aged 84 years and 10 days, a native of Tintockland, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

CONNEL.—Suddenly, in Winnipeg, on Dec. 10, 1907, John Bishop Connel, aged 32 years, beloved husband of Maude Jamieson.

DUBE.—On Dec. 12, 1907, at St. Charles Home, Water street, Ottawa, Louis Dube, aged 81 years.

DUNN.—At the Western Hospital, on Friday morning, as a result of accident, on Dec. 2nd, Alfred Hollingsworth Dunn (Freddie), aged 17 years, eldest son of J. J. Dunn, and grandson of W. J. N. Turner.

ERSKINE — On Nov. 22, 1907, at the home of his parents, near Lynch, Neb., John Williamson Erskine, after a few days' illness, aged 20 years, 6 months and 6 days, born at Madison County, Neb., on May 16, 1887, only son of John A. and Mary Jane Erskine.

FERGUSON.—On Dec. 9, 1907, at her late residence, 108 Barker street, Niagara Falls South, Ont., Annie S. Campbell, beloved wife of the Rev. George Ferguson, aged 66 years.

FIDDES — At the residence of her daughter, Mrs. W. P. Wilson, 617 St. Antoine street, Westmount, P.Q., Alice Fiddes, eldest daughter of the late George Fiddes, of Havelock, Que., aged 72 years.

FINDLAY.—On Dec. 12, 1907, at 145 Bayle street, Mary Forbes Mercer, widow of the late Jonathan D. G. Findlay, in her 80th year.

FISHER.—At his late residence, 121 Spadina ave., Toronto, on Dec. 8, 1907, Edward J. T. Fisher, M.D., in his 64th year.

FORTIN.—At St. Roch, Quebec, on Dec. 13, 1907, Mary Ann Mountain, wife of Eugene Fortin, merchant, at the age of 67 years and 10 months.

FRAZER.—In this city, at his late residence, 'Bellevue Hall,' No. 660 Dorchester street west, on the morning of December 10, 1907, Sarah Mussen, widow of the late John R. Frazer, merchant, of Montreal, P. Que., and only sister of the late Thos. Mussen, merchant, of this city, aged 92 years, 11 months and 24 days.

GALT.—At Vernon, British Columbia, on Dec. 7, 1907, Elizabeth Jane, beloved wife of John Galt, consulting engineer, Toronto.

GORDON — At Toronto, on Dec. 9, 1907, Mary, eldest daughter of the late William Gordon, of 'Bayside,' Whitby, Ontario, aged 79 years.

JORDAN.—At the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. W. G. Harwood, Toronto, on Dec. 8, 1907, Matthew Jordan, of Napanee, aged 73 years.

LYTTLE.—On Dec. 9, 1907, Anne Jane (Annie) Lyttle, eldest daughter of the late William Lyttle, of Magharaglass, Tyrone County, Ireland.

MACKAY.—On Dec. 7, 1907, at Hewlett, Virginia, P.S., Angelique Mary, wife of Dr. J. A. Mackay, and daughter of the late J. P. de la Haye, of Upper Canada College.

MALLOY — At Quebec, on Dec. 12, 1907, Thomas Malloy.

MARTIN.—On Dec. 11, 1907, at 1050 Dorchester Street West, Joseph Martin, in his ninety-seventh year.

MAY.—At the Montreal General Hospital, on Dec. 11, 1907, Thos. May, of Riviere du Loup, P. Que., aged 72 years 10 months.

OLDRIEVE.—In Kingston, Ont., on Dec. 13, 1907, George Seth Oldrieve, aged sixty-seven years.

PARSONS.—At her late residence, Eglinton avenue, Toronto, on Dec. 12, 1907, Edna May Quinn, beloved wife of T. J. Parsons, aged 26 years.

PERHAM.—Suddenly, on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1907, Lewis Daniel Perham, aged 53 years and 8 months.

PICKETT — At London, Ont., on Sunday, Dec. 8, 1907, Jas. H. Pickett.

REID.—At Brighton, England, on Dec. 7, 1907, George Lowe Reid, Esq., in his 79th year, formerly chief engineer of the Great Western Railway, Hamilton, Ont.

ROBERTSON.—Suddenly, at Ste. Therese de Blainville, Que., on Friday, Dec. 13, 1907, Henry Robertson, aged 60 years, a native of St. Helen's, Lancashire, England. Buried at Ste. Therese. English papers please copy.

SADLER.—At the residence of her son-in-law, John Gilson, 297 University ave., Kingston, Jane Tate, widow of the late John Sadler, in her 74th year.

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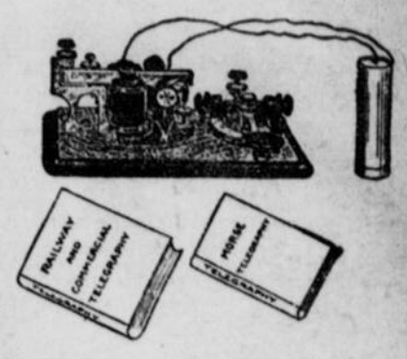

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UNIVERSITY CLUB OF MONTREAL.

Notice is hereby given that University Club of Montreal will at the next session of the Legislature apply for an act amending its charter, giving it power among other things to acquire and hold real estate, and the same to hypothecate, sell or transfer, to issue bonds secured on its real estate, and to do all such things as are requisite for the carrying on of a club.

5th November, 1907.

FLEET, FALCONER, WILLIAMS & BOVEY, Attorneys for Applicants.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Corporation of the Village of St. Pierre-aux-Liens will apply to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at its next session, for an act erecting it into a Town Corporation, under a new name and under the Cities and Towns Act of 1903, extending its limits, more fully determining its powers of imposing and collecting certain taxes and licenses, determining the number and qualification of its aldermen, the mode of election of its mayor, modifying its borrowing powers, and for other purposes.

Montreal, December 6th, 1907.

ALPHONSE DECARY,
Attorney for the Corporation of the Village of St. Pierre-aux-Liens.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec at its next session for an Act to make special provision for the partition of the Estate of the late John Redpath, in his lifetime of the City of Montreal, and to ratify and confirm two deeds passed before W. deM. Marler, N.P., at Montreal, on the 5th October, 1907, between Francis Robert Redpath and others of the one part, and the said Francis Robert Redpath, Huntly Redpath Drummond and George Hyde of the other part, and to have the said deeds declared binding on all persons having or claiming under or by reason of the will of the said late John Redpath, any interest in or to any of the property in said deeds described or referred to.

Montreal, 30th November, 1907.

FLEET, FALCONER, WILLIAMS & BOVEY, Solicitors for Applicants.

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SHIELDS. — At 1245 Wilder avenue, Honolulu, Hawaiian Territory, on Dec. 6, 1907, Georgina Aberdeen Maconachie, beloved wife of Walter C. Shields.

TWEEDIE.—At the Western Hospital, on Dec. 10, 1907, Susanna Wheatley, at the age of 67 years, wife of William Tweedie, of St. Henri, Montreal.

WARNER.—On Dec. 13, 1907, at Upton Station, Que., Lorenzo Barney Warner, mechanic of the C. P. Railway, aged 76.

IN MEMORIAM.

BROWN.—In loving memory of Mrs. William Brown, who departed this life on Dec. 12, 1903.

READ — Entered into rest, on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 1902, at Montreal, the Rev. Frank W. Read, of Romsey, England, and Sakanjimba, West Africa (A.B.C.F.M.).

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THE WEEKLY WITNESS is printed and published at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter sts., in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall and Frederick Eugene Dougall, both of Montreal.

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