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AND
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Make Canada A Land to Love

The Week's Outlook

The Ontario Referendum Act

THE bill enabling the Ontario Government to take a vote from time to time upon the liquor question was carried through the legislature last week. A House crowded by members and visitors manifested the general interest in the issue. Mr. Ferguson availed himself of the debate as an occasion for launching a bitter personal attack on Mr. Raney. "When the bill was introduced," said Mr. Ferguson, "the purpose of the late Attorney-General was made apparent by himself. It was not that the bill should have a fair discussion that he desired an adjournment over the week end, or that the purposes of the Government should be considered, but that he should have the opportunity of inflaming public opinion, or misleading the public purely for political purposes." Certain telegrams had gone out unfriendly to the bill. According to the Premier, Mr. Raney was at the bottom of this dark plot. "My honorable friend straightway hied himself to the telegraph office. . . . When the people have accurate knowledge I have no objection. But when the fanatics of Ontario distort the situation and mislead the public, then I say it is time the public knew the situation. What has gone abroad is that the O. T. A. is in jeopardy, that this government is making an attack on the O. T. A. It is the grossest kind of misrepresentation, as my honorable friend knows and everyone that sits behind him knows. It is done simply in the hope that the temperance question shall be made an issue to the detriment of this government. I don't wonder, however, at my friend's smarting under the decision of June last." Several amendments were voted down, including one from Mr. Raney enabling the Government to take one vote instead of several. The Premier's evident excitement rendered his remarks rather inconsistent and contradictory. On the one hand, it was "the fanatics of Ontario" who were misrepresenting the bill. On the other, Mr. Raney was the party guilty of "misleading the public for purely political purposes." We do not know who sent the offending telegrams, and are not aware of their contents, but we should say that the nature of this measure, the government's testiness against fanaticism and its zeal in forcing it through show plainly enough that "the O. T. A. is in jeopardy." Those who are urging a referendum upon the government and on whose behalf the Prime Minister is so bitter, are, of course, not those who desire the continuance of the act. Under the new Act the people do not know how suddenly or how often a referendum may be sprung upon them. It is a time to keep the lamps burning, not knowing at what time the thief may break in.

Hold The Fort

MISS McPhail has been telling us that the Act is already lost through the indifference of the church people. Is she right? It is a time to perfect organization in every constituency and to use every possible means to educate public opinion on the question. We will not presume to teach Ontario anything about temperance campaigning. Her people have fought for temperance and prohibition again and again through plebiscite, local option and referendum. They have sought the security of their homes and of the province, by federal, municipal and provincial legislation. The contest upon which they may soon be called to enter is, however, in many ways the most important in which the province ever engaged. The liquor traffic enters it flushed with its victorious gains in other provinces. Its coffers are full to bursting, and it has the weight of the liquor organizations of the continent behind it. Mr. Ferguson will presumably endeavor to umpire the game between the people and the traffic fairly but he has the lure of easy revenues. Without this intemperate outbreak, there was plenty of material to show how liquor and the liquor traffic is regarded by the subconscious mind of Mr. Ferguson's government and its supporters. There are ebbs and flows in popular conviction. Liquor is taking convulsive advantage of the moment when, owing to much law breaking, the popular faith in prohibition is at low tide, and when, even if they expect nothing better people are indifferent as to whether they are in the frying-pan or in the fire. A dose of the latter will cure them. Taking long views, comparing the situation today with that of fifty years ago, there is no doubt but that prohibition is gaining, and that gain it will. The prohibition line has been broken in one province after another. It is for those where the line is still unbroken to say, "they shall not pass," and so to hold the fort that the day may be retrieved and liquor driven from our beloved Dominion.

Referendum Tactics

THE attack on prohibition in Ontario has been preceded by a great campaign of law-breaking. This has been liquor policy everywhere. First the law is flagrantly and persistently violated, then it, and not the violaters, are blamed for the results. "The futility of the Temperance Act and the irritating methods of enforcement," are the phrases used by that respectable and faithful supporter of the liquor interest, the "Montreal Gazette." Any one in Ontario who is not willfully blind knows that the Act is by no means futile, and as to the "irritating methods of enforcement," that is, of course, possible with an administration or with local officers desiring to bring the law into disrepute. Of course all enforcement is irritating. There are hundreds of communities in Ontario in whose experience the Act has been a great success and a great help. There are thousands of families who, from the inauguration of the Act, can date a new era of happiness and comfort and hope. We heard the other day of a brilliant and lovable professional man, who, when residing in Montreal, had continually been overtaken by temptation, and who now is making a brave, and, we understand, a successful fight for life and health in Ontario. The Act has cleared many towns and villages of their barroom loafers and has removed a deadly trap from the path of many a promising young man and woman. Municipal authorities, police officials, school boards, merchants, clergymen and many others who have opportunities of judging have testified to the great benefit which the law has conferred on the province and its people. That the law is capable of improvement its supporters will very readily admit. They have sought its improvement at the hands of successive governments. It would certainly work much better if petty breaches of it were held disgraceful by public sentiment and so treated. But any suggestion that it be repealed and "Government Control" or any other liquor system erected in its place should receive the most determined opposition from every one who has the good of the province at heart. For the benefits of "Government Control," as demonstrated in the province of Quebec, are wholly illusory. Almost every day in Montreal we come across instances of the devastating effects of drink, whether it come from the beer-saloon or the government groggery. We know one factory, not far from the Witness office, in which work is continually hampered and money lost through liquor. From the highest to the lowest grade of society drink, under government auspices, is doing its deadly and degrading work. To ask Ontario, or any other province, to follow Quebec's example in this respect would be to ask that it throw away a law which has helped it materially and morally, and to adopt a system which means a province impoverished and a people endangered.

Demoralized Finance

LIQUOR is a curse to the seller as well as to the purchaser. This is true whether the sale is in individual hands, or in the hands of the government. During the recent session of the Quebec Legislature a flash-light was suddenly turned on the Liquor administration. It was very hurriedly and determinedly shut off. But the very excitement and the anxiety to get things comfortably shrouded in darkness again, showed that there was something to hide. Looked at merely from the hard-headed financial point of view, "Government Control" has been a miserable failure. This statement may be challenged with reference to the four million odd dollars which the Quebec government claims as its profit over enforcement expenses, on its liquor business last year. Quebec's wonderful surpluses, Quebec's safe, sane and sober financial methods, have been advertised so assiduously that doubtless the advertisers themselves believe in their solid reality. There was a hot debate in the Legislature a little while ago on the provincial methods of bookkeeping. Mr. George Wright goes more fully into the matter in MacLean's Magazine: He shows that in the last five years in spite of an increase of ninety percent in annual revenue the debt of the province has doubled. "The surplus of the province would be entirely wiped out," says Mr. Wright, "if it were not for the fat profits made out of the government's liquor monopoly." Quebec is living on its capital, not on its revenue. Lands, forests, mines, fishing and hunting rights are being disposed of with such prodigality that these resources are becoming depleted and some day the province will wake up to find that capital and income have alike disappeared. Expenditures show a general increase, with an ominous jump in those departments where the "pork barrel" has its best chances. Just as man's judgment is impaired by liquor, his moral sense blunted, his mental processes confused, just as he is liable to fling his money round under the delusion that he is the possessor of inexhaustible wealth, so is it with Quebec. She had set foot on the road to ruin before she started in the liquor business, but this business has apparently accentuated her infatuation. Liquor has mounted to her head, and is fast driving her to financial and moral chaos. But Quebec is not the only unfortunate "ruined by drink." She has doubled her debt in six years, but, according to Mr. Scott Duthie, in the same issue of MacLean's, British Columbia has trebled hers in the same period. Reckless expenditure, "the easy but ruinous road" has been taken, and the descent is yearly becoming accelerated. The people of Ontario should lay such facts to heart, and, when the time comes, as come it will, when the friends of liquor shall endeavor to persuade them to embark on the wonderful system of "government control," they will give their sophistries the answer they deserve. Liquor in any shape and under any management is an evil, and a root of evil. The true cure for violations of the law is to make it ever more sacred in the people's eyes, "Government Control" means that liquor controls the government and everything else.

Stealing Water

AND wouldn't those naughty Canadians allow Chicago enough water out of her very own lake to wash herself with? We do not think that there would ever have been a complaint either from the Canadian or the American shores of the St. Lawrence and lower lakes had the opinion prevailed that the alleged purpose of sanitation was all that was contemplated by the immense works of the Chicago drainage canal, which forms an outlet from Lake Michigan into the Mississippi, and to that extent swells the bosom of the Father of Waters at the expense of the said St. Lawrence. Naturally one of the most urgent complainants is Sir Adam Beck, who is for his province of Ontario the very impersonation of water power—the magician of the falls. So it is against him that all representatives of Illinois are asked to raise their voices in Congress in the shape of an enquiry as to whether he is not taking more than Canada's share from above Niagara Falls. It is not that Illinois has any sort of economic interest in the Niagara water. It has only the same that we all have in an impressive wonder. It evidently wants to cover its own doings by the "you're another" argument. As far as robbing navigation is concerned the cases are not parallel, as every drop of water that Sir Adam Beck purloins must find its way back into the St. Lawrence, except what evaporates. But when it is practically alleged that Sir Adam is taking more than his share,—in other words stealing—a question is raised of international interest. It is, as Illinois knows, a form of larceny that offers opportunities and temptations, and that breeds suspicions. So we may expect to have both parties courting full and faithful investigation. No doubt the material for such an inquest will be largely to hand in the three ponderous volumes of the Gregory commission's report just handed in to the Ontario Legislature. This commission was appointed by the Drury government for the purpose of ascertaining whether public ownership had worked satisfactorily in Hydro matters. It has, it is said, fully vindicated the Beck management as far as honesty and efficiency are concerned, but whether it looked into the question of the quantity of water actually abstracted from the river is not said in notices of it that we have seen. The scope of the enquiry now demanded would, we assume, not end with investigating the Canadian operations. It would also ascertain whether the American exploiters are keeping within the treaty.

Penury And Power

IT would have been less embarrassing if the question of further power development had not come upon Canada at a crisis when she would be dependent for the immediate cost on neighbors who came out of the war, to say the least, financially unscathed and would so come more or less into financial bondage; for it was said of old that the borrower is servant of the lender. Pressure from the south has come to a head in approaches from Washington for the immediate undertaking of the St. Lawrence canalization. It has in the past been thought of chiefly as a facility for opening the Great Lakes to ocean navigation, and it is probable that the major interest even yet is the anxiety of the immense basin of the Missis-

sippi, probably the largest productive area in the world, to lessen the deadly distance between it and the markets which still largely determine the market value of its products. But the value of the power obtainable has introduced a new urgency into the pressure upon the Washington government. Our government could no longer meet these friendly approaches with blank postponement. But it is only fencing for delay. It has interjected a very reasonable demand that information should be mature before such a vast work is ventured on, and has proposed a twin commission to study together the whole cost and value both in facilitating navigation and as a power producer, and the effect on river and lake levels both above and below the reaches of the river affected and report to their governments severally. That this prudent procedure should not cause more delay than necessary the President has lost not a moment in naming his commission. We may take it for granted that the thing is going to be done. The only question is when? We may expect it to be a very live matter of public discussion and to some extent a clash of interests for the next ten years. There was a time when the interest of the steamboats which bring tourists down the rapids was big enough to form a compelling objection. But it is evident that the continental interests on the affirmative side will pay little or no heed to such minor matters.

Doom of The Waterfall

BUT the St. Lawrence navigation development is not the only form in which this new thirsty appetite for power is laying siege to us. It happens to be a possession in which we are long and our neighbors are short. Both sides indeed are glaring enviously at the amount of force and heat and light going magnificently to waste over Niagara Falls. It begins to look as though it was only a question of time when there will be no Niagara save in the penstocks of power plants. That fate has already befallen some of our most splendid cataracts. There are those alive who can still remember the boisterous cauldron of the Chaudiere at Ottawa—the Shy-ear, as the lumbermen called it. Its tumult outdid the solemn simplicity of the Niagara fall. But where is it now? An American minister of note once greeted the writer with this outburst: "I've been to Kennedy. I've been to Quebec. I've seen your wonderful waterfall of Mont Morency. Plentiful lack of water there! and water's a very essential thing for a waterfall." The fact was that at seasons of minimum flow practically the whole river was turned into the mill. The thing has been repeated a thousand times in the case of minor cataracts and cascades, with nobody to attend the funeral of Undine, the water nymph. And the speed with which the local demands for water power are banalizing the haunts of the naiads is going on at a rapidly accelerating rate. The live question at the moment is with regard to the Carillon development on the Ottawa. The dam at the foot of the Longue Sault of the Ottawa has both ends in Quebec. But for the ten miles and more in which navigation is interrupted by rapids the river runs between Ontario and Quebec. It has for generations furnished power in Ontario. As the national government treats water power as a provincial matter, there are evidently complications here, especially as one province believes in public ownership and the other in coming to terms with financial groups, which is an art with some politicians. There is no question of resources. A company is prepared to spend forty million dollars at Carillon if allowed to export power on twenty year contracts. The most of that money would come across the line whence comes also most of the pressure for the undertaking of the work. It is up to Canada to say whether she will permit her giant to be harnessed or not.

Selling Power

THE Carillon development, like that of the St. Lawrence rapids, is opposed by many voices in Quebec, and among them those of Montreal aldermen, on the score that it will be using a Canadian asset to build up a rival country. They see the advantage, of course, of having forty or fifty million dollars spent within fifty miles of Montreal, and they see the time coming when enterprise in Montreal and vicinity will be able to use all the power. But let the power once take an alien course and the benefit of possession will be lost to Montreal. There is a good deal of power being exported at present from Canada to the States on yearly leases. Longer terms are not allowed, the object being to secure precedences for Canadian uses. Very naturally the promoters of this great enterprise say that it is obviously necessary that the power should be placed at paying rates as soon as produced, and that they could not hope to do that on yearly leases. Without large contracts, people would not venture the cost of installation. They ask for twenty year contracts. That is answered by the consideration that if at any time during the twenty years the United States should think to put an embargo on the coal she supplies to Canada we should not be able to retaliate, being under bond to furnish the power. We do not contemplate the United States doing that; but we have just had an example of what power can be exercised by blocs as a presidential election approaches. It is fair to retort that in these days of startling electrical developments no one can or would calculate on a twenty year instalment, and there would be small hardship in reducing power leases to ten or twelve years.

What is Right

IT may not be long till we shall be easily able to use all the power we can get. Even at the monopolistic rate at which electric energy is being furnished in Montreal, yielding a fabulous profit to the monopolists, a good deal of that energy is already being used for heating. Why then should we who have no coal not be using our own waterpower? Who knows whether, given real competition in power we need not import coal at all. This may be premature, but improvements are rapid. Instead of getting the practical use of five percent of the power produced we may be able to use ninety-five percent. If we could only, by some discovery in economics manage to keep these powers out of the reach of monopolistic grabbing, we might soon have little need for exportation. Meantime, if we can accept the assurance that there is to be no collusion, we see also that these most interested in balking rival power development are these monopolists. As for the immediate question of exportation it is obvious that dog-in-the-manger conduct can never be right. If we have power that we cannot use, and our neighbor needs it, or at least can use it, we are bound to come to equitable terms with him. We may rest assured that what is not right can never be wise. As in the case of standing timber and other unexploited national resources, let us put upon them their latent value, payable to the nation or to the province, as we may choose to estimate that value, and then not grudge it under proper regulations to whoever can exploit it. The way to reach the market value of a thing that is not on the market is to take bids for it, supposing that can be done in a clean way. Unfortunately it is possible for bidders to combine and eliminate competition, and sometimes, not at Washington, only official cooperation with exploiters can be bought more cheaply than the commodity can. Public ownership seems liable to that sort of thing at every stage. The standard of public morals is higher in some quarters than in others. It is for good citizens to uphold good rulers and officials.

A Redemptive Proceeding

THE action of New York and London—New York first, as being the larger operator—in advancing money for the rehabilitation of the franc has its chief value in sentiment. There are newspaper correspondents elaborately pointing out that it is not only for love of France that the bankers of the two wealthiest nations have thus stepped in, that the financial centres really cannot afford to let the bottom drop out of Europe. Most true! And most happily is it true that the world is bound together by ties of brotherhood which it ignores at its cost. It may not be because Wall Street is of nobler stuff than the nation at large which has set international relationships at nought. It may only be that the bankers have a much wider vision, and therefore also wider sympathies, than the rest. It is a fact, however, that when the franc took to tumbling, the Paris press, led by Poincaré, took to declaring that it was France's enemies that were doing it. France's enemies could not do such Samson work unless the pillars were rotten. It was France herself, led by Poincaré, that was doing it. She was discounting claims on Germany which she was making it impossible to collect. She was lavishing money on impoverished countries to be dissipated in armaments, which are no security. She was swelling her own air force and maintaining a bigger army than before the war. She was doing nothing to meet her debts. Still, as she insisted that it was malevolence which drove the franc down, she is bound to see love in the combination to hold it up, and that will do her a lot of good. All kindly acts are obligations, at least in the moral sense. All the same, being done in goodwill, they should breed good-will. But, apart from motives, the comfort this act has been to France is in the fact that these bankers have shown a confidence in France's future which France, herself, was unconsciously losing; also that they are in a measure committed to sustain France further. There is, however, this peril in the situation that if the franc should take to falling again, as all the banks on earth cannot prevent, should men lose confidence in it, the discouragement would be greater than ever. The way to prevent that is to reverse all the processes above mentioned. Withdrawal from the Ruhr would give the franc an upward bound such as nothing else would.

Islam's Enigma

DOES the deposition of the Turkish Caliph mean the wreck of Islam, or a more spiritual vitality for that faith? When Mr. Lloyd George, as prime minister, received an Indian Mohammedan deputation on the subject of the Caliphate, he put the question whether the Caliphate was hereditary. Mohamet Ali, who on that matter claims to speak for the seventy million Moslems in India, said that was a point that would clear up the whole question of the Caliphate. Islam required temporal power for the defence of the faith. For that purpose, if the ideal combination of piety and power could not be achieved, the Moslems said: "Let us get hold of the most powerful person, even if he is not the most pious, so long as he places his power at the disposal of our piety. By their own definition, it must have been dawning on the Ali brothers that the Caliphate, about which they were raising such a pother, has really become non-existent, the piety of the titular Caliph being greatly open to question and his power being practically nil. It is now wiped out. According to that definition of the requirements, how are the Mohammedans of many races and conflicting beliefs to agree upon a new ruler whose authority in religious matters they must all obey? We may discard, as only a marplot, Kemal's substitute for the hereditary dignity he has wiped out, namely, that the republican parliament of Angora is henceforth to be Caliph of Islam. To the eastern mind that is an infidel institution and a meaningless abstraction, not a person. Moreover it can only claim a very small and shaky remnant of the vast traditional Turkish power. As for its piety, all Islam knows it has none, and that it is Western in all its aspirations. There probably remains only one reigning sovereign besides Hussein, king of the Hedjaz, with any power at all, the Ameer of Afghanistan, and his strength is the strength of the hills and of the bandits that hide in them. But even he is a pensioner of the Emperor of India. The Arabs accepted the Grand Turk as Caliph because they could not help it. They would not probably acknowledge this chieftain of the lost tribes, as he vaguely imagines himself to be, while the Tartar Mohammedans of India would not accept an Arab king. What might happen, says Mr. Lloyd George, might be the repudiation of the temporal power and the exaltation of some holy man who would be a real spiritual force and change the whole Mohammedan world from a condition of inert fatalism to a restored zeal for world conquest, using, however, spiritual instead of carnal weapons. It seems like an infinitely important moment for what is still a world-wide and a wildly fanatical spiritual force; also for those spiritual forces that are in touch with the divine purposes. Is there to be a trial of spiritual strength between Christendom and an awakened Islam?

Government Control

UNFORTUNATELY we cannot accept without question everything about China that comes to British Columbia by way of travellers. Here is one such tale as told in a heading: "Sun Yat Sen Government Takes over Drug Monopoly." From statements under this invidious heading we gather that all over China, in most of which, perhaps unfortunately, Sun Yat Sen has no sort of power, the army—that is, we presume, whatever military force prevails in each region—is understood to have the duty of suppressing the opium traffic. It will readily be understood that "The Army Joint Office for Control of Investigation" is a big boot-legging machinery which only checks the traffic by taking a very big profit out of it. What Sun is accused of seems to be taking a leaf out of British Columbia's book, proposing to promote true temperance in opium by taking over the boot-legging business in opium with its big profits. Claiming to be President of China, but holding uncertain sway only over a very limited region about Canton, he is naturally much put to it for funds with which to assert that grandiose dignity. He recently thought to seize the customs revenues at the port of Canton, but was balked in that by seeing the warships of the nations that have a lien on Chinese customs gathering in the harbor. We are not adopting this report against the "President of the Republic of China," at one time popularly elected as such—just stating the case as it comes from British Columbia, which province will, no doubt, feel flattered by the alleged imitation.

Britain's Burden

BRITAIN is at present supporting twenty-two hundred thousand registered out-of-works and their dependents, of whom one-third are war-disabled, the rest fit, but in process of growing unfit. Besides these are persons seeking employment, living on hope, not on the dole, with their dependents. The unemployed, and therefore, living on the earnings of the rest, must be a considerable proportion of the whole population. It would be hard to describe a more unwholesome condition either for the body politic which suffers partial paralysis, or for the dole receiver whose moral nature is liable to the same. It is an after-the-war misfortune, directly attributable to otside conditions and to Britain's heroism in facing her debts as no other war-crippled country is doing. But it may have some causes at home, which it is imperative for the Labor chieftians to face. Social workers in the Poplar region report able-bodied applicants for assistance who are drawing from the dole much more than they were earning when at work. Except in Poplar, which has been putting a premium on idleness by giving the unemployed the same pay as the worker, it is generally averred that the dole, as it is called, does

not afford more than a bare sustenance. Still while this is true in the case of well-living people, it cannot but create conditions that many prefer to working, to their own bodily and spiritual detriment and that of their families. But why all this unemployment? There are as many people employed in Britain today as before the war, but there has been a great increase of population. People used to emigrate at the rate of a quarter of a million a year. The ports across the sea are now jealously closed to them, and no one is admitted without severe scrutiny. This dams the tide back upon the mother country. On the other hand, there were instances last harvest of people who went back from Canada to the dole rather than take to lumbering and such like work. That easy, if humbling, alternative weakened endeavor and the sense of "must." Then, though there are as many employed in Britain as before the war, the output per head is less than in the United States. Why is this? It is not hard to believe that factories running at low pressure for lack of markets would not be as intensively equipped with the latest appliances, especially as, at a time when, so many being out of work, to supplement labor with machinery would be extremely unpopular.

Wilful Poverty

THIS virtual preference for inefficiency introduces an all powerful cause of low output, namely, the prevalent idea that the less each does, the more people will be employed, as though the less profitable the labor the more demand there would be for it. Still, it is impossible to get this vicious idea out of the head of the average British workman. That idea of easy-going service added to the reduced hours of labor might account for Britain finding herself at a disadvantage in many markets. Britain more than any other country depends on export markets. Mr. Lloyd George, who finds in this condition an ominous threat to Britain's industrial future, reports having met with different influential Labor men during his American tour and learning that they had always opposed the principle of "ca' canny," being convinced that it would injure the worker by depressing wages and limiting his opportunities of employment. He regards the opposite notion as far from conducive to the rehabilitation of British industry. We have read somewhere the report of an English commercial traveller whose business made him familiar with the inner working of factories, who said that he did not believe the English could hold their own against the tense and high-strung production of the United States, owing to he better condition of the American worker, who was not working off a series of glasses of beer during working hours. This might be a prejudiced report; but it is somewhat notorious that it is the general judgment of American employers, who are, as a rule, strong supporters of the national prohibitory law. That law, however, is not the whole cause of the difference. On the contrary, it would not have been possible to enact it unless it already had the support of practice, or at least, conviction, among all but the lowest of the workers. We do not believe that the Labor leaders who now rule in Britain are one whit less intelligent than the most advanced in the United States, and on the beer question most of them are far in advance of Mr. Gompers. But, now that Labor is in a position of responsibility we look for an opening of the eyes of the rank and file to many things of which they naturally lost sight in the political and social war which brought them to power. The new government cannot do better than have a critical report on this, to them, supreme question, and have the results broadcast among the men.

Christian Recognition

THERE is a sound of abundance of rain. The union in Canada of three Christian denominations is stirring Christendom everywhere. The Anglican church, which has never forgotten its testimony to the duty of unity, has begun asking itself whether that obligation was altogether on the part of those separated from it and whether it has no fences of its own to lower. It has been making very notable moves in that direction. And, as was to be expected, the spiritually-minded Baptists are painfully asking themselves where this movement places them. We warmly welcome the letter of "Roxburgh" as evidence of such questionings,and we greatly sympathize with the writer's perplexity. The Witness has never broached the subject of church union as a practical duty, except between denominations that had no remaining distinction of creed, church government, or indispensable ritual; not that it has not been all along eager to see all barriers broken down, but that the more obvious steps should be taken first. In first moving in this matter the Witness included only the Presbyterians and Methodists, on the score that both churches were presbyterian in government and that the difference of creed, once exceedingly bitter, had become practically obsolete. The Congregationalists were not specifically included for two alleged reasons. One was that in uniting, they would in point of form have to sacrifice their distinctive principle, the independence of the individual congregation. The other was that the union of the two larger bodies would be greatly strengthened by having discontented churches free to leave it, and to set up for themselves under the Congregational act. We fear that this very important safety valve has been too little provided for in all the negotiations. The looser the legal tie the sounder will be the spiritual one. As the years flowed by, however, there was a constant process of assimilation going on. The Congregationalists drew more and more together as a cooperative body, while congregational initiative asserted itself more and more in the larger bodies. The Congregationalists had also regarded their terms of communion as more spiritual than those of the other churches, their conceptions of right in that matter being identical with those of the Baptists as set forth in "Roxburgh's" letter. As to that we can only refer to the unanimity with which the Congregational Churches have accepted the union as proving that what was at one time much more than a theoretic difference is no longer a practical obstacle. There is no absolute security for purity of communion. It was not found among the twelve apostles. In these days indeed, presence at communion is in itself an evidential confession. The question put by "Roxburgh" we take to be; What is the right attitude of Baptists toward church union? That is, of course, a question for Baptists. But it is also a question for all who seek the removal of barriers which interrupt spiritual currents. There is surely some place within the visible church for believers who feel the compulsion of a certain rite but who are whole-heartedly Christian and wholeheartedly fraternal. Those who recognize their brethren as fellow-Christians, as "Roxburgh" evidently does in leading their worship, can never be satisfied while formally separated from them.

Tithing

WE are asked to join in a campaign for the promotion of tithing among Christians, and we give space to some inspiring letters from missionaries. It may be said with regard to this practice that it is a return from Gospel liberty to legalism, devoting so much and thus having a clear conscience. It was the pharisee that took this cheerful view. One who asked the Master's judgment was told to give all he had. Whatever that meant practically to him, it was the spiritual advice, consistently given throughout to every Christian, namely, that there could only be a clear conscience when all was on the altar. Does this mean greater bondage or a new liberty? With regard to the temple tribute referred to by Malachi, the Saviour's judgment was "Then are the children free." It is evident that liberty and not bondage is the condition of the writers of the letters referred to. They have joyfully given their very selves. Those Koreans who are giving from a quarter to two-fifths of their earnings are under no mercenary condition of paying God off with a certain allowance. But, as we have said before, the tithe is so immeasurably ahead of what Christians generally do that we cannot see but that, like setting apart one day in the week for holiness, it may have the effect, as it seems to, of keeping the conscience alive. There are plenty of people who will sing lustily, "Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold," and then put five cents on the plate.

What About Democracy

THE triumphs of democracy pour in upon us from all points of the compass. From our farthest east (we still count Newfoundland as one of us) we have an awful story of barefaced graft on the part of an ex-prime minister. We are forming no judgment as to the truth of it; only such is what we have had to read. From our furthest west we have a like accusation against an ex-prime minister. From Washington one lid after another is being lifted off alleged rottenness in the very cabinet of the President. These cases are not all; they are "shocking examples." In Quebec the lid is tight down on liquor manipulation and bank disasters. What do we learn from it all? That Democracy is a failure? What then shall we have in the place of it? No one but the Socialists has anything to propose, and Socialism is another despotism. The Socialists themselves could not stand it. There are those among them who realize that legislation is the child and not the father of social reform—that the Kingdom will not come by law but by the Gospel. There is nothing for it but the old rule, either make the tree good and its fruit good, or let the tree be corrupt and its fruit will be corrupt. The dangerous thing in democracy is the idea that any people who are able to demand self-government are fit for it. It is an alluring idea which makes the strongest appeal to those least aware of the searching discipline of the accomplished fact. President Coolidge has returned a definite refusal to the Filipinos' demand for their promised independence on the grounds that they are not yet ready for it, a proceeding which will silence a lot of sneering at England. The reason is the same as that given by Lord Reading to the Swarajists in India with the endorsation of so good a social-democrat as Mr. Ramsay MacDonald. Both of these peoples have been going to school a good many years under their respective tutors and both ar warned that their guardians are not to be dragooned into giving them their own latchkey. There is the tugging between the over timorous on the one side who would forever hold back and the over bold on the other who believe themselves fitted to govern for no other reason than that they wish to. Democracies have strength in proportion to the devotion of their people to the principles of justice and the laws of God. Political systems are but the measure of men's growth in democracy.

The World To Come

WE call it that because we believe it is going to be. We give much space to an essay on the true law of nature, as it finely pictures ideal life upon the globe, such life as there will be when the Kingdom of Heaven has fully developed among men—"that divine event, to which," as Tennyson says, "the whole creation moves;" and toward which it has really moved a long way since he wrote that fine phrase. For in spite of all the hysteria that has made social life a danse macabre since the war, there is heard in every land, discernible behind the whole racket, the song of the Angels. It rises everywhere out of the turbulent sea of labor. It is set to music by philosophical writers such as this writer. In fact the ideal of mutual service has taken hold of mankind almost universally and is embodying itself in countless ways. Oversgainst it, the selfishness of the capitalistic system of mutual plunder has become apprehensive and belligerent. It is in the heyday of its dominance, but has a sense of being in a world that is heading for disaster. It is conscious of something real behind the selfish and despotic brutalities with which an ignorant proletariat responds to the selfish and despotic brutalities from which it has long suffered, as deep calls unto deep. There is, however, a great gulf fixed between those beautiful visions and their fulfillment. It is all very well to philosophize about the true law of natere. It remains true that, as St. Paul words it, the law of the flesh wars against the law of the mind, and that the law of the flesh still holds sway over man. The change must be in men themselves. Men must have new hearts. The race must have a new heart. When man is born again we shall have the New Jerusalem and men and nations leap, as do the angels, to obey the law of love and service. That is the revelation which the Lenins and Trotsky's have not known. Tennyson speaks of the "divine event" being far off. So it seems; but who knows? Things have moved fast since his day. The world has been in the crucible and human systems have melted with the fervent heat. Not only have hoary despotisms toppled. Democracy, from which so much was hoped, and which is still the hope of man, is being everywhere cracked open before our eyes revealing the worm of corruption at the core. Not only has social inequality been challenged in a way it will yet feel, but false methods of "taking the Kingdom of Heaven by force" are proving vain and will in turn be overturned. What will change the face of humanity will be a warm breath of the Divine Spirit for which the church is, let us hope, praying. Prayer is the Spirit's necessary electrode. Let the Church not prove a resistant non-conductor.

PRINCE IN STEEPLECHASE HAS ANOTHER ACCIDENT

The Prince of Wales met with another riding accident on Saturday. He was competing in the army point-to-point steeplechase and was thrown twice. The second time he was kicked in the face by his horse and was carried off the field in a hand ambulance.

It was announced that the Prince's injuries were not serious, but that there was some concussion and he was remaining for the night at Aldershot, near which the race took place. The Prince only recently recovered from a broken collarbone received in a fall from a horse.

Franc Still Improving.

Continuing to improve rapidly, the French franc rose to 20.80 to the dollar and 89.20 to the pound on Monday. The continued improvement was believed due to certainty that the Government's financial program will be voted.

SOVIET DELEGATION AT OTTAWA

The Russian Soviet trade delegation has been recognized by the Canadian Government. After presenting their credentials to the Acting Premier, Hon. George P. Graham, on Friday, the delegates returned to Montreal on an early train to continue negotiations with commercial interests there for trade between Canada and Russia. The delegation comprises Alexander A. Yazikoff, official agent of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; Ivan I. Kulik, assistant official agent, and Nicholas N. Kostritzin, acting secretary.

The Russian trade officials conferred with the Government over the resumption on a much larger scale of commercial relations with Russia.

By a vote of 154 to 141 Poincare forced the first clause of his financial proposals through the Senate on Friday. The franc increased in value sharply following Poincare's victory in the Senate, dollars opening at 21 francs each and the pound sterling at 90 francs.

Ex-Crown Prince Selling Farm Implements

The former German crown prince has set up as a business man, and now is living at the home of his brother, Eitel Frederick, at Potsdam, with his wife and family, according to the Daily Mail's Berlin correspondent. He is selling farm implements.

LETTERS FROM READERS.

SCOTTIE—TRUE TO TYPE

Maister Editor:—

I hae a wee bit experience tae tell some o' yer readers. An honest tae guidness paper maun aye be takin' sides on every vexed question, and if it hae ony courage maun aye be expressin' its convictions withoot mincin' maiters. I hae nae use for the press that is highly colored when it comes to a divorce or a murder or ony ither thing, guid or bad, that it kens will tak' the fauncy o'ts readers, but which apes the wee bit mousie when it comes tae onything that would divide its circulation. Sic like papers are laudeeced theirsels and cater tae their ilk. At ony rate they hae nae real red bluid in their bodies. But I admit it; the real red-bluided, upstaun'in' papers that hae conviction on a' the vexed questions o' the day are apt tae tread on my pet corn noo an' then. And I maist certainly am vexed wi' them for it. But what can I do? The lukewarm press I spue oot o' my mouth, and the strong courageous press faches me at times sae that I canna' staun' it, and I fling it frae me wi' rage, and detairmin tae gie it up for ever.

But the next morn I hae a discussion wi' the wife. She hauds a different opeenion frae me on the matter o' spankin' the bairn, and in the aifternin I meet the meenister and hae a difference wi' him aboot ane o' the kirk innovations, ye ken. And since a' things are oot o' sorts wi' me they maun a' be wrang. Will I just gie yon wrang-heided folk up like I did the Witness? Na, na, I canna, maunna dae sic a thing. Gie up the kirk and the meenister, gie up my bonnie wife! Hoot, man, are ye clean gyte? They may be wrang, but sae lang as they mean weel they hae as muckle richt tae their opeenions as I hae tae mine. And by the same argument sae has the Montreal Witness. It was true tae its opeenions at ony cost. I wadna hae wished it tae be itherwise. I haud tae mine, and agree tae differ, and I can read the pairts I dinna like, or I can pass them o'er withoot ever noticin' them. But, as I say, o' my wife: "wi' a' her fau'ts I lo'e her still, and it is juist that way wi' the Witness. It an' the wee wife — losh, man, thae haenna' their match onywhere. An' min' ye, that's a fac'!

Weel, Maister Editor, I ken this is a confession o' weakness that I should hae tae gie in instead o' you. But gin I were the publisher and you were the reader, the buit wad be on the ither foot, for I wad stick tae my convictions, even if a' body stoppit their papers. An' I wunner what guid it wad dae ye a' tae kill the paper ye lo'ed best o' a'? Wad ye juist gang an' tak' in its place ane that wad milk-sop ye like wee babies, an' cajole ye like as though ye were pert lassies tae be flattered, and then sell ye tae the highest bidder i' the political or economic market place? Ye wad na! No nor wull I gie up the Witness for yon kind o' papers. Sae I find we are mair akin, Maister Editor, than I thocht, an' I like ye the better for the expeerience I had wi' me thinkin' tae gie ye up forever.

Here's my haun, then, an' my hairt's nae far frae it. For auld lang syne, ye ken, and the things we hae in common, let us walk thegither till death dae us pairt. But mind ye, ye'll ken that when we dinna keep step it's you that's oot o' step, an' no' me. An' that's my last word on the subject. Sae long,

SCOTTIE.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH AND PROHIBITION

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—I have just read your editorial entitled "Stepping Backward" on page three of your issue of March 5th. I am not a member of the Church of England, but, lest no one else who knows the facts should think to write you, may I say that the situation is not nearly so bad as you seem to think. You speak as if the whole Anglican Church of Saskatchewan were involved. This is not the case. The Synod which met at Regina is for the Diocese of Qu'appelle only, that is, for about one half the province. When the Synod of Saskatchewan meets in June you will hear another sound. Bishop Lloyd is a different type from Bishop Harding. He is President of the Prohibitionist League of the province and heart and soul in the cause. So are the overwhelming majority of his clergy. It is sad to see even a portion of the church lined up with the brewers, but they, the latter, will get no unanimous support from the Church of England. Quite the contrary.

J. A. DONNELL.

St. Thomas Manse, Saskatoon.

March 8th, 1924.

P.S.—We are planning some general action re your offer of three months' subscription.

IS PROHIBITION A DUTY TO GOD?

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—In my letter in your issue of 16th January, you do not attach any note. I assume the contents are not objectionable to you. I hope they are pleasing.

It is claimed that the Witness is working for the home and general welfare. I suppose that means the earthly and heavenly (bodily and spiritual) welfare of humanity. It would seem to me to be the duty of humanity to work for the heavenly welfare only and the earthly welfare will automatically follow.

Is God with the workers for prohibition? Who can answer the question? It does not follow that because God is not pleased with the evils resulting from the use of intoxicating liquors, that He is in favor of the adoption of prohibition to overcome the evils resulting therefrom. Persuasion, not force, seems to me, to have been taught and practiced by Jesus Christ. While you may punish for sin or a breach of a law, it does not seem possible to force any human being to become a subject of the Kingdom of God (child of our Heavenly Father). I can see no chance of legislating sin out of the world. If you can get a human being to believe in the benefits to be derived while on the earth in abandoning the great desire for earthly pleasures and substituting therefor a desire for heavenly pleasures, and also to believe in the promise of eternal life for the righteous, good results must surely follow. I am also inclined to believe that having once sincerely and fully given up the earthly and adopted the heavenly life, there is not much chance of backsliding.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting." Repent to God and be forgiven; receive and be guided by the Holy Spirit in thought, word and deed.

SUBSCRIBER.

Note:—There are some things in letters that we cannot well allow to pass without comment. In printing the above it seems necessary to say that we cannot be assumed to agree with every expression in a letter on which we do not define our own views. We should have to give up printing letters. Our correspondence columns are meant to give such good people as our correspondent, within space limit and reasonable bounds, an opportunity to say what they have thought out. That process lets us know what our more interested readers are thinking, often different from what we think. It also opens the way to say things that would not otherwise come to the front.

"Subscriber" deals with the deep things of God. He says God does not force people to be good; why should we seek to do so? That is a fundamental question at the very foundation of our community and national life. It is certain that while God, as a fond Father, must grieve greatly over the waywardness of His children, He does not force them to be good. We say with reverence: He could not. If He did there would be no evil in the world. But also there could be no goodness. There would be no such thing as goodness if men had no choice between good and evil. God's Spirit can only plead constantly with the spirits of men. How does this apply to human law? Must there therefore be no human law enforcement? It cannot too often be said that people look too much to law and law enforcement, and too little to conviction. "There should be a law!" is the natural exclamation of each of us when things go wrong with us—for instance, when we slip up on the sidewalk—implying a universal instinct of community duty. The late Newman Hall, of London, walking at night in an American city measured his length in a gas trench. When he got out he sharply remarked to the by-standers that in England there would have been a light at the end of that hole; to which a New Englander replied: "In this country you are supposed to use your intellect." The fact is, that men in this world live in communities, and that not only are men bound to do right, but communities must do right. Communities likewise have responsibilities and consciences. It is ordinarily held to be the duty of communities to make it hard to do wrong and easy to do right, and to make things safe for the unwary. We do not see but that "Subscriber's" argument would tell against all law.

THE OLD TESTAMENT

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir:— May I continue in a few more letters to show how modern scholarship makes the Bible, when intelligently interpreted, not less but more of a treasure in the lives of men, and how many difficulties created by traditional and mistaken conceptions of it vanish at the touch of frank and fearless, but reverent and careful interpretation. This can be done by a glance at the Book of Psalms.

Psalm is not a Hebrew, but a Greek word, and has come to us from the Septuagint or Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures. It means a song or hymn accompanied by a stringed instrument. The Psalms were largely Temple songs.

Many speak popularly of the "Psalms of David" because of the tradition in the Chronicles that David was a musician, a sweet singer, and a poet. Some have not noticed that even our English Bibles ascribe only a section of the Psalter to David. Also the Hebrew Bible, and the Septuagint differ in regard to the authorship of the psalms, the former assigning 73 to David and the latter 83, proving that even in early times there was no conclusion based on accurate knowledge in regard to the matter of number, date or authorship. Indeed, the whole question of the authorship and date of the various Psalms is a very open one, and, let it be confessed, with the knowledge at hand, well nigh impossible of decision. The very most that can be said is that from their very language and contents some are clearly earlier than others and that some are very late, hundreds of years after David, indeed, post-Exilic and near to the time of Christ.

The traditional view admits a number of authors: Moses, David, Solomon, Asaph, Ethan, the Sons of Korah, while some are said to be "orphan," or without titles. It is clear that Hebrew editors have been at work not always with the greatest care, for some of their notes, like "The prayers of David the Son of Jesse are ended" after Psalm 72, land us in confusion. Psalm 72 itself is said to be Solomon's, while the prayers of David are continued. At the time, there may have been explanations of such notes and arrangements, but for us the traditional view is confusing and generally impossible.

The best way to think of the Psalter is to regard it as the hymn book of the Second Temple containing songs, some of them old, and, at that time, some quite modern. That is how it is with our hymn books. Some of our sacred songs go back to the early Greek church, some of them were written but yesterday. In our hymn books those hymns that best suit human need, interpret its longings, and express its aspirations survive and continue to be used, others are forgotten. So was it with the songs of Israel. The Psalter is clearly composed of different collections of hymns, in all likelihood three, one added to another as the centuries passed, and so the book grew until 150 were selected and preserved. But on a large section of the whole the mark of the Second Temple can be seen. Even the music to which they were sung must have changed, for in books IV and V old musical terms entirely disappear. Then as now, thought, custom and fashion changed and moved as generations came and went, and an enlarged hymn-book met the changing need.

The difficulty of holding the traditional view of the Psalter is that the contents of many Psalms demand a late date for their authorship. We may not hold with Cheyne that only two Psalms could belong to David, or to David's time; but what is the use of speaking of a "Psalm of David" which sings of a temple and looks to Zion as its hope when David knew no temple; or of saying that a song is Davidic when it demands the Exile for its explanation; or of ascribing to David a theology that arose hundreds of years after he was dead, or of dating as early, Psalms that are plainly Maccabean; or of putting songs that at least reach out to a hope of immortality at a time when we know only the doctrine of Sheol was held? By that way only difficulty and confusion come to the thoughtful and thorough Bible student, from all of which he is delivered when freed from traditional theories and left to study these wonderful sacred songs for what they are in themselves. In matters of literature we are not bound by Hebrew traditions and mistakes any more than we are in science or any other subject. Our business is to love the truth and to seek it earnestly, and to be humbly and bravely faithful to our ignorance.

The perennial value of the Psalms is found in what they say and sing:— in their thought of God and hope in Him, in their trust in God and visions of His character, in their interpretation and utterance of human need and aspiration, in their conviction that God is man's refuge and strength when he delights in God's law and seeks his face, and in their brimming joy in God who forgives and heals, comforts and strengthens. At their best they sweep the chords of the human heart common to men in all ages and draw the deepest music out. And so men read them and treasure them, meditate on them and sing them, and as they sing find in them the wings of the soul by which it reaches God and Home. Here and there one finds dark spots in these songs, outbursts of heathen vengeance and flashes of Jewish savagery, calling for no defence at our hands. But how these recede and pale into insignificanse in the noon-day splendor of Jehovah the shepherd God, our light and our salvation, our dwelling place in all generations.

In the presence of all that what matters questions of date and authorship? Indeed, how secondary, even paltry, are all such. Gold is gold, and precious, no matter whose superscription it may bear. Inspiration is always its own witness and needs no authority of names or dates.

I am, etc.,

D. L. RITCHIE.

FLIES IN THE OINTMENT

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,— The writer of this letter has been a reader of the Witness almost ever since he has been able to read anything. My father subscribed for the Witness in the year 1850, and it has never been a stranger in my home for the past 75 years. I am in my 86th year, and know the history of the sacrifices it has made and the good work it has been doing. Without going into detail, I may say that I subscribe for 9 magazines and papers, and I rate the Witness much higher than any one of them.

Robert Burns has said that

"The cleanest corn that e'er was dight
May ha'e some pyles o' caff in."

and such letters as that which appeared in your issue of March 5th over the signature of D. L. Ritchie are the chaff among the clean corn you have been giving us.

According to D. L. Ritchie, he could write a much better book than that which is described as the words of Jeremiah, and which D. L. Ritchie describes as simply a conglomeration of oracles, and anything like straightforward intelligent reading is well nigh impossible. The books of Obadiah, Joel, Zechariah and Daniel, he discusses in an easy off-hand way as being vivid, lurid, and sometimes grotesque and imaginative.

Many years ago I listened to an attack upon the Old Testament Scriptures by a famous infidel lecturer, and now I find that Dr. Ritchie is using the columns of a religious newspaper to foist off upon its readers a chapter from the book of Bob Ingersol, and doing a serious injury to the paper itself.

I notice that at the foot of Dr. Ritchie's letter another writer, E. M. Graham, asks for the thanks of all the readers of the

Witness: for the letters Dr. Ritchie has written, and speaks of his own appreciation of them. I suppose I may be permitted to express my appreciation of them in my own way; and I have to say that I look upon them as destitute of that reverence with which the subject should be treated, criticising the Word of God in terms amounting to sacrilege, occasionally verging upon downright blasphemy.

I also look upon them as an imposition upon the patience of many of your oldest and best friends. So far as my own reading is concerned, I have no grievance, for I am not compelled to read what I abhor—and which, I may remark by the way, you are under no obligation to print—but there is another aspect of the question which deeply affects both you and me. For over 30 years I have been working for the Witness, and up to a few years ago have been sending you a large number of new subscribers and renewals of old subscriptions. I have now, with advancing years, to ask that you accept the will for the deed, but I am still working, and two years ago got all the absent members of my family, five in number, to subscribe for the Witness; I can assure you that I do not know of a single subscriber whose name is on any of my lists who does not look upon these letters I refer to as the dead flies in the ointment of the apothecary, and I believe the publication of them has very seriously affected the circulation of the Montreal Witness.

JAMES P. TELFORD.

Note.—We did not admit the letter in question without a full sense of the heavy cost of doing so and the pain such discussions give to many. Nothing, indeed, could pain us more than any loss of the hearty sympathy of such splendid friends as Mr. Telford. We could have taken the easy path, without a cross upon it. We could not but know, however, that the views expressed by Dr. Ritchie are not the blaspheming of a travelling scorner, but are those being taught by conscientious scholars in all university schools the world over, and are those held by practically all educated ministers of the new generation. We could not but admit that these younger ministers are, on the average, as godly and as zealous for the cause of God as those of an earlier day. We could not but feel that havoc was being wrought in careless young minds by sensational ignorance in the newspapers, grasping at everything that seemed to discredit religion and we could not but know that eager and earnest minds were being shaken by terrible questionings as to the whole fabric of Christianity. Certainly the right way to lay the spectres of the mind is to face them. When a horse shies at a newspaper, it is because he has blinders on. Lead him up to it and he learns that there is nothing to fear. We have a resolute belief that honest discussion "can do nothing against the truth but for the truth." We should not have admitted such letters but for the knowledge that competent controversialists were eager to reply. Should those who are in the lists give out there are more in reserve. We only wish we had room for all competent letters that might come on so important a subject as the origin and inerrancy of Scripture. We can say, however, that we have no more fear for the Gospel of Christ from anything scholars may conclude than the Church need have had when Galileo announced that the earth, instead of being the fixed centre between heaven and hell, was, as a matter of fact, swinging round a sun that is surrounded by an infinity of greater suns. Galileo seemed to have robbed the Christian world of its heaven beyond the sky, that to which the Saviour ascended and to which Paul was caught up.

MANITOBA FACTS

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—I have noticed references in the press of Eastern Canada to the United Churches of this province. There are certain facts which should be known in his connection.

(1) These Churches have arisen spontaneously from the desire of the people themselves to be rid of a wasteful and unseemly church rivalry, in anticipation of organic union, which they were led to believe from official action of the negotiating churches was practically certain and imminent.

(2) They are successful. Some of them have been in existence for ten years, and most of them for a period long enough to thoroughly test the scheme. During these years only one of these Unions has been dissolved, and that for special local reasons. In none of the others is there the slightest indication of a desire to return to the old order. From many of them have come reports that there are more in attendance at their church services than in both the old congregations together and in every way they are making more of an impact on the life of the community than was possible when they were divided. It was the success of those who made the experiment that stimulated action in neighboring districts.

(3) They have eliminated waste—of money, more particularly, of men. Useless churches have been closed. More than fifty men have been released to the work of the two parent bodies. In as much as during the years of the war and succeeding years the number of graduates from Theological Colleges was small, this saving of men has made it possible to maintain the work.

(4) There has been some difficulty in making a strong denominational appeal on behalf of missions in the United Churches, but the action of the last three Assemblies has already borne fruit. In one Presbytery reporting only last week, it was shown that the United Churches in that Presbytery raised fifty-five per cent. of their allocation for missions, which was several points higher than that raised by strictly Presbyterian Churches. There has been appreciable improvement in this respect during the past year.

(5) Their number is impressive. Leaving aside the mission areas which have been assigned to the care of one or more Mission Boards, there are as many self-sustaining United Churches in this province outside of the cities as there are Methodist and Presbyterian Churches put together. And the number is growing. This very week a vote is being taken by the members of three Presbyterian pastoral charges and three Methodist pastoral charges comprising 17 preaching stations, on the question of forming out of these, four United charges. Last year six unions were formed. There are left in Manitoba, outside of the cities, only thirty pastoral charges where there is overlapping, and seven of these are in towns of 1500 population and over, and more than a dozen others are charges where, in the same area, Methodist and Presbyterian ministers are each serving three appointments. At least two of the congregations voting against Union in 1915 have gone into Union, and others would consider it if it were not for the fact that they would be immediately involved in a building programme. On a line of railway running west from Winnipeg to the Saskatchewan border, 225 miles distant, there is only one point where the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches overlap, and that is an important town. On the C. P. R. main line from Winnipeg to the Saskatchewan border, with the exception of the cities of Brandon and Portage la Prairie, there are four points where there is overlapping, and two of them are voting on local Union this week. The Bill is before our Legislature. In fourteen electoral divisions there is not one point where the two churches overlap, and in nine there is overlapping in one point only. Omitting the cities and the non-Anglo Saxon areas, these divisions comprise almost the entire province.

Mr. Editor, there is no one in this province in touch with the United charges who believes that Federal Union will meet their case or satisfy our great city and town congregations who share with those in the country the obligation of religious leadership in Manitoba. Our people have acted in anticipation of organic union, and are looking to the parent bodies to keep faith. The independent Union movement came to an end after the action of the Toronto Assembly, and since then many of them have come into affiliation. The only thing that will meet our case is prompt action in completing the negotiations by passing the enabling legislation.

JOHN A. CORMIE.

Social Foundations

By R. W. Armstrong.

The belief that self preservation is the first law of nature has so imbedded itself in the thinking of the human race that we have witnessed the rise of a civilization that has its basis almost entirely in self-interest. This principle has worked itself out in almost every department of life. The incentive in industry has been the accruing of personal gains in the shape of dividends. The goal of national life has been territorial accumulations and the fortifying of these against military invasion or commercial exploitation. The object of education has been to place the pupil on a vantage ground over his fellowmen. And the motive of religious faith has been the saving of the soul from personal torment. It is small wonder that, based on such an unsound principle, present-day civilization should find itself in the process of disintegration, and faced with inevitable collapse. It is a scientific fact that "Mutual Aid" and not "Self Preservation" is the first law of Nature. Every force in nature that loses its power to co-operate with other forces becomes obsolete. Every cell that fails to respond to other cells, ultimately dies. There can be no such thing as prolonged life without mutual aid. This principle is at work in the lowest forms of cell-life and continues to manifest itself consistently throughout the entire line of biological development until we come to the most highly organized forms of animal life. The preservation of the species is always more fundamental than the preservation of self. If those principles which form the constitution of the natural universe are going to express themselves in our economic and political life, then by all means let us see that they are properly understood, and that subordinate or secondary laws have corresponding positions in our economic and social theories. The modern collapse is due to the fact society has not been based on life's fundamental law, but on a secondary or subordinate law. In the new social order that is bound to emerge out of the present chaos, the law of mutual aid must have first place.

A Change of Motive

The application of this principle to the industrial order will mean that competition must be replaced by co-operation, and the profit-incentive must be replaced by the service-incentive. Competition has proven itself to be the death of trade, and the direct antithesis of sound economics. A society not comprised of functional units cannot be said to be economically sound. Competition in production and distribution weaken the functioning power of much of our social machinery in so much as it increases the spread between the producer and the consumer. Experiments in co-operation show that much of this can be eliminated, to the general benefit of society. Mass and co-operative production which does not lend itself to monopoly and exploitation is to be encouraged in so far as it increases the functioning power of the productive agencies concerned. This spirit and practice must also be exemplified in the relation of capital and labor, and producer and consumer.

Profit is the predominating motive in much of the business carried on in the world to-day. And commerce is organized around that idea without regard for the needs of society. As a result there has been developed a vast amount of organization between the producer and the consumer. This faction of society is sufficiently powerful to influence, if not completely control, the prices received by the producer and the prices paid by the consumer. This organizaion of agencies has become so extensive that it is eating up a large part of the world's wealth. So that the purchasing power of the public is being reduced on one hand, and the ability to produce profitably on the other. Basic industries are to-day considered poor fields for investment. You cannot interest Wall Street in agriculture, because necessary as it is, this has become an unprofitable vocation. All this means that civilization is drifting towards a collapse. Rome fell when the land failed. Disaster awaits us if we render the cultivation of the land an economic impossibility.

This aggregation of middlemen is due entirely to the profit motive. The remedy of the evil confronting us lies in a change of motive. Industry must be transferred from a basis of self-interest to a basis of mutual aid. This new incentive would change the whole economic system, and industry would soon find itself organized around the demands of human life instead of around acquisitive instinct. Captains of Industry should accept their callings for the sake of the service they can render instead of for the sake of what they can get out of them. Men do this when they volunteer for the army or the Christian ministry. Why can they not do it in the business world? If promoters and managers were placed on a salary basis the same as clergymen and college professors, it would be a great corrective to many of the economic ills of our day. This involves unselfish living and calls for a spirit of mutual helpfulness. The idea of "the survival of the fittest," or, in less classical language, the idea of "every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost," should have no place in the social order.

Purpose of Nationhood.

If self-interest is wrong in the realm of industry it is also wrong in the realm of international affairs. Nations are dependent upon one another just as neighbors and the different sections of the social order are. Each one has some contribution to make to the other; each one has some element that will enrich and enlarge the common life of the world. And here the principle of "Mutual Aid" must also find an expression. The purpose of nationhood should be something higher than the securing of economic advantages for our own citizens. And yet this seems to be the idea that is uppermost in the minds of the majority of our statesmen at the present time. Economic strife is one of the most evident elements in the international situation. Now, sound economics would admit of no such thing. The natural resources of one country exchanged for the natural resources of another would permit each to concentrate upon that phase of production for which it is best suited by nature. Policies that are productive of economic strife are not based on the welfare of the nation itself, much less on the welfare of the race as a whole, but are usually promoted to satisfy the acquisitive ambitions of certain factions within the nation. Not only are such policies unsound from an economic standpoint, but they constitute one of the primary causes of war. History attests that military strife is the logical outcome of economic strife. As long as national exploitation of raw materials continues there is no hope of economic prosperity or permanent peace in the world. But let the brotherhood of nations become a reality; let each one gladly and willingly make its contribution to the common weal and civilization will at once find itself in the process of salvation.

The First Law of Nature.

"Mutual Aid" has been ridiculed as a piece of crazy idealism; perhaps all right in theory, but entirely impracticable. Now science has told us that it is operative in the realm of biology, and if so why will it not be just as capable of expressing itself in the economic realm as the law of "Self Preservation," which, in the social field, has come to be known as "Economic Darwinism." It, also, started as an ideal, and we see how thoroughly it has permeated our economic thinking and enslaved the whole economic order. That idea working in the economic and political life of the world has brought about the present state of chaos. The Germans are not the only people who have been obsessed with the idea that "might is right," that it is the prerogative of the man or nation of power to exploit weaker individuals or weaker nations. This has been the philosophy of individualism on which our decadent social order was founded. A mistaken interpretation of science released the idea and it took like wildfire until it became the motivating principle in public and private enterprises.

If we are going to change the world we must first change our thinking. Let us cease to thinks in terms of "self" and begin to think in terms of "service." Let us become thoroughly seized with the truth that "Mutual Aid is the first law of nature," and that idea will express itself in every department of life just as the other one has done. This scientific thought is powerful enough to change the whole complexion of civilization in a generation. Idealism we must have, but let it be a workable idealism; and no idealism will meet the present situation nearly so well as the idealism that lies in the heart of the universe itself. Put the principle of mutual aid into internationalism, and disputes will be settled by reason instead of by force; confidence will hold the field now occupied by fear and distrust; and competition in the production of armaments will be replaced by universal co-operation for the preservation of life and the promotion of human welfare.

The strength of the State we'll lavish on more
Than the making of wealth and the making of war;
We are learning at last, though the lesson comes late
That the making of man is the task of the State.

If the world will only accept this scientific truth and apply it to her political and economic life we will have a social foundation that will endure. Our former house was built upon the sand; let us now build upon a rock.

From the Crow's Nest

Conducted by Rev. Dr. E. I. Hart, The Secretar; Prohibition Federation of Canada and of Quebec Province.



LIQUOR CONTROL IN MANITOBA

Mr. W. R. Wood, General-Secretary of the Manitoba Prohibition Alliance, has just issued the following statement regarding the liquor situation in that province:

"The moderation system has had some months' trial and the issue of reports covering the period from September 22nd, 1923, to the end of the year, enables us with some degree of justice to arrive at some conclusions as to the nature and effects of the plan.

"It is reassuring from the temperance point of view to find that only 25,707 individuals up to the end of the year had secured permits to purchase liquor. This is not only a very small proportion of our population, it is less than one-quarter of those who favored the system by their votes. This would tend to confirm the opinion that very many voted on that side not from any personal desire to drink but in the hope that the change whatever its nature, might be an improvement on conditions as they were. On the other hand, the tremendous volume of liquor purchased totalling close upon two million dollars in the price paid would seem to indicate a considerable measure of free and easy use of the permit to secure supplies for friends and neighbors. The nature of the system makes it practically impossible to check the man who gets a case on his own permit and sells half of it on delivery to his neighbor across the way.

Illicit Sale

"It may be urged that such an offence is a peccadillo hardly worth noticing, being largely a matter of saving the dollar charged for the permit. But the principle works on a much wider scale than that. The permission to buy and to have liquor in any residence temporary or permanent makes possible continuous and systematic illicit sale. The checking of the man who sells to others from what he calls his residence became practically impossible as soon as the system began to operate. Thus the Free Press, as early as November 1st, had the following statement: 'Under the Moderation Act it practically is impossible to prove the sale of liquor now that permits make it legal in all building . . . . although police have been advised and are prepared to admit that liquor is being sold in hundreds of suites and houses in the city they are powerless to do anything by virtue of the difficulties outlined.'

Not Control, But Sale

"Hence we have the spectacle of a system, designed—its promoters say—to abolish illicit sale, operating directly and from its inception toward the increase of such sale. Thus temperance people, finding the Act on the one hand providing facilities for getting liquor legally, and, on the other, opening the way for extension of illegal trade, are confirmed in the opinion that the main purpose of the movement was gain to the trade by the increased consumption of liquor, and that that purpose is being eminently realized.

"The provision in a 'Government Control' system for free sale of beer by brewers was strenuously opposed in the referendum campaign, and its operation has been watched with special interest. To the six brewery establishments of the province it has meant a trade totalling not less than $546,000, which would average over $1,000 a day for each of the six. It has gone far toward putting the breweries on 'easy street.' The sections providing for breweries establishing retail beer shops at places sanctioned by the Commission was brought into operation in November. At the end of the period twenty-three such retail stores were in operation, located as follows:—Winnipeg, 2; Brandon, 2; Dauphin, 2; St. Pierre, 1; St. Jean, 2; Neepawa, 2; Morden, 2; Killarney, 2; Portage la Prairie, 3; The Pas, 3; Dominion City, 1; Letellier, 1.

Power of Brewers

"When it is recognized that the choice of location is in the hands of the brewers, the Commission merely seeing that stores are not located in more than twelve centres, and that they are not established where there is pronounced local option to them, it will be regarded as very significant that six out of the twelve places are near to the southern boundary of the province and that four of these are on main roads leading south from Winnipeg to Dakota. With the past court records of these breweries and the fact that there is no supervision of their operations as to quantities sold, hours of sale or modes of delivery, it is reasonable to expect that they will take advantage of their special privileges to make what they can on the side. Already the Commission has found it wise to withdraw the permit for one particular beer shop which had only been in operation a few days.

Financial Results

"Looking at the system from the financial standpoint we find the money received from permit holders for liquor by the Commission and the brewers reaches a total of $1,781,701.94. If, to this, we add the $24,495.50 paid for the permits which were issued, we have a grand aggregate of $1,806,197.44. This amount was transferred from the pockets of the people on 85 days giving an average per day of $21,249, which works out to $885 for every hour and $14.75 for every minute. That practically the whole of this vast amount might have passed into the channels of the businesses which supply food, clothing and the other necessities of life, is a statement which cannot be contradicted, and that, so disposed, it would have been of immense advantage both to the businesses and to the homes which would have been supplied, is equally incontrovertible. Spent for drink it meant perhaps a momentary thrill of satisfaction to the drinker, but beyond that a harvest of headache and ill-humor and ill-health, of craving created or confirmed, of quarrelling and assault and crime, of reckless driving and accident and suffering, of slackened morality and wasted property and lowered vitality.

"Of course, it brings, also to the province a profit of $516,479. But it has not yet been demonstrated that revenue secured by exploiting the weakneses and the vices of our citizens is one of the things on which we may congratulate ourselves. When it is recognized that it cost the province nearly two million dollars to realize the one-half million it would seem to be a very questionable blessing. True, there went also into the Dominion treasury as a concomitant of the system the sum of $664,639.98. But just why in this time of all times the province should be called upon to bonus the Dominion to that extent no one has explained. No one will argue that it saves us that much—or, indeed, any sum—in Dominion taxes. While the Dominion treasury continues to be the bottomless pit it has proved itself of recent years, pouring liquor money into it is closely similar to pouring it into Lake Superior.

Social Effects

"The supreme issue in this situation is not the economic, serious as that is. The vital issue is the social and personal effects and concomitants of the system. The law now regards liquor drinking with favor. It is no longer classed with the reprehensible and the forbidden. One may have and consume and give liquor lawfully. Some men are confirming themselves in the habit. Drinking at social gatherings of young people and adults is being freely indulged in. Young boys and girls are being faced with the temptation in subtle and alluring forms and amid circumstances that on the one hand make it seem innocent and natural to drink and on the other make it almost impossible to refuse. Students at our collegiate institutes, and colleges, clerks, stenographers, young business people of both sexes are finding it steadily but certainly encroaching upon the circles with which they would naturally associate. In many cases it becomes — it has become during the past few months—a matter of cutting the circle in which one has been used to find social enjoyment or enduring at every party the presence and use of drink with the inevitable associations and consequences. The drink area is widening. It is the purpose and design of the trade that it shall widen. It menaces my son and daughter to-day. It will confront your son and daughter tomorrow. My neighbor provided liquor for a party last week. Your neighbor who has never used liquor is being urged to admit it to her party next week. The question is how many of our young people are to be sacrificed—swept off their feet and ruined —how many of our homes are going to be invaded, and degraded, before we can stop the advancing flood. It is the problem that must be faced by the parenthood and the citizenship and the Christianity of our land. And it presses insistently and imperatively for answer at the present hour.

"The province of Manitoba is one sector of the fighting front in which the enemy have advanced far across the temperance lines. Flushed and intoxicated with victory, they are taking full advantage of their gains and exacting a tremendous toll from those who have come under their power. To-day they are training their artillery on Ontario and on Saskatchewan. Their objective is full privilege for the trade—free sale and genral drinking from ocean to ocean. It is a time for those who stand for decency and for righteousness to take counsel together as to the means to be taken to meet the inflowing tide. It is a time for the inauguration of basic education and basic organization that will build up a national intelligence and a national sentiment that will ultimately refuse to grant any license to a "trade" that has no relationship but that of antagonism to all that is most worth while in life."

ONTARIO! BE WARNED

There came into our hands a few days ago, the letter which appears below, from Mr. James Dunlop, of Manitoba. It is well worth reading and thinking about:

"I have been sorry to notice in the Press that there is a possibility of old Ontario being called upon to fight another Prohibition campaign, and I wish to tell my old friends there to beware of those who call themselves the Moderation League. I think the Desolation League would be a more descriptive name. The Manitoba Temperance Act was hardly on the statute books before this league started its work, and now the people of Manitoba are learning their lesson. We, like British Columbia and Quebec, are not only a disgrace to Canada, we are a disgrace to the civilized world. We have 130 schools idle for want of funds, and yet our Government is asked to spend our tax money to establish a liquor business. What if we do get an income from it? Who wants to be a partner in the damnable business? Not I, for one. It cos. our Province about $75,000 to take our two votes last year, then thousands more to start the business, and now we have a proposition on hand to take care of the suffering which always follows in the trail of the liquor traffic.

"The poor farmers haven't much money for booze. I read where the Province had only purchased 1,300 permits against 13,000 purchased in the city of Winnipeg. It takes two acres of wheat, or thirty-five gallons of milk at farmer's prices in some districts to buy a quart of booze.

"I tell the Manitoba people they ought to be ashamed voting wet, and it dry on all sides of them. North Dakota went dry thirty-five years ago, and it was wet on all four sides, Minnesota, South Dakota, Montana and Manitoba. If another vote was taken now, North Dakota would vote dry with a larger majority than before. North Dakota went through all the tricks of the trade, blind pigs, bootleggers, drug store pigs, sealed packages and a dozen other tricks. The booze prophets said the grass would grow on the main streets of Grand Forks, and East Grand Forks in Minnesota would be another Minneapolis. It worked the opposite way. Grand Forks was and is yet a beautiful city, while East Grand Forks never amounted to anything. We hear it said in Winnipeg that North Dakota has more drinking than ever. I was over there at Christmas for nine days, and I never saw the least sign of drink, not even smelled it. Quite different from Winnipeg to-day when you go on a street car and sometimes the fumes would stifle you. Yet, previous to Moderation rule I walked the streets of Winnipeg every day for seven months, and only saw three drunken men.

"Legalized booze kills six thousand people a year in Canada, to say nothing about the six thousand mothers and children it destroys. Counting $6,000 for each would be $72,000,000 per year. Then bring in that number from southern Europe to fill the gap, people that are not Canadians, and don't want to be Canadians.

"Premier Bracken took the platform and talked against the Moderation Bill, said he hoped the people of Manitoba wouldn't ask his Government to go into the whiskey business.

"Last June was the first time I ever saw a man take the public platform and defend the booze. I never heard as many lies told; and no matter how often their statements were proven to be false they just went ahead. The most disgraceful sight I ever saw was old men and women, with one foot in the grave, yelling for their booze. I can remember fifty-five years ago Pat Burns made whiskey in a swamp twenty miles south of Ottawa, and drew it to Pembrooke to sell to the lumber-jacks of that day. I think it was about fifty cents a gallon then. No wonder they make it now when it is $15.00 per gallon. Our Government sells men stuff to set them crazy, and they commit murder. Then they get the pen for life, or the loan of a rope, leave a wife and children to mourn their loss. Good business!

"Every man in Manitoba that buys a permit can buy a case of booze as often as he has the price. Every roomer in a hotel or rooming house can have a case delivered at their room, or wherever their hat is hung up. When the owner of the place objects they are told they can go to a place where they can have their booze. The old disgraceful bar room was bad enough, but the Moderation League or Desolation system is worse. When a man got drunk then a big policeman handled him, now he abuses his wife and children in the home. Roomers complain of this state of affairs, and leave to find another place.

"If selling booze is a decent business, why don't they exhibit their finished product—have a row of old drunks on a platform in front of the place to show their product? The stock food people show their fat cattle and horses which is their product. Two old fellows that I know met and were having a drink, the younger said to the older, "Jack, you are the finished product, and I'm on the way." When a child is born in Manitoba, it is in the whiskey business, the meanest business in the world.

"I earnestly hope that the people of Ontario will turn out to the polls if they are ever called upon, and decide this thing forever. The bill you have is the best thing you ever had—keep it. Hundreds here voted for the Moderation League Bill who never saw it—some thought it would stop bootlegging, but it hasn't. We are sorry the Temperance line has been bent, but we are not broken, and right will ultimately triumph."

HOW THEY DO IT IN SWEDEN

In Sweden, we are told, that no one can secure a license to drive an automobile unless he has passed an eye and ear test, and has a certificate that he is of sober habits and orderly conduct.

Sooner or later it seems as though such regulations would have to be enforced here. The auto is too dangerous a tool to be in the control of either incompetence, drunkenness or indifferences. The victims of the autos are too numerous, and the rapid increase of these dangerous, high-sped machines necessitates wise and effective legislation for their control.

In the last decade the number of farms in Manitoba has been increased by about 9,000, or at the rate of 1,000 a year. There are now more than 53,000 occupied farms within the province, with a total acreage of 14,600,000. The value of the property, based on the 1921 census, is estimated at $625,500,000.

Militant Prohibition or Supine Compromise?

If an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure, then Ontario and Saskatchewan will do their very best to keep outlawed the traffic in intoxicating drink.

The present laws may not be ideal nor perfectly administered and enforced, but they are a long step in the right direction. On the other hand, the proposal to let down the bars is a reactionary movement and the main push behind it is sinfully selfish. Liquor interests had generations in which to perfect legislation that would keep it from doing untold harm to the community. Now they are the first to rise and say because Prohibition does not perfectly prohibit the only right thing is to go back to the old system, or, at least, for a first step, half way back. Under the guise of Government Control they are going to get all the liquor sold that they can. The cure for a good deal of illicit sale is to half flood the country. The cure is surely worse than the disease.

The people of Quebec know a good deal more of Government miscontrol and uncontrol than they do of Government Control. For the Government here has never been able to control the sale of liquor though it boasts its law as worthy of all emulation. And they have some secrets which they are trying desperately hard to hide. People cannot make grogsellers of their governments without degrading them. Those who magnify the profits to be made out of the sale of intoxicating liquors are usually very callous as to the harm it does or what it costs the country in other ways.

Miss Agnes Macphail, M.P., says:—

"Yes, much as I regret it, I very much fear the Act is doomed. It is partly because people differentiate between criminal or other punishable offence and an offence under the Temperance Act. The whole moral force of the community is not solidly behind the law. Then, Politics have divided the Temperance forces. I met hundreds last summer who have thrown up their hands and said 'we're through.' The reason goes deeper still. There is not enough education on temperance. In the old days they used to teach temperance — now they legislate about it. These are the reasons why I fear the Act is doomed."

Miss Macphail is not the pessimist that some papers quoting her pretend by their over-emphasis of the prediction that LIQUOR WILL WIN! Her whole statement should be read and reread. It is a powerful challenge to the moral forces of the country to wake up and put first things first. And she is emphasising what we have been insisting on all the time, that in late years there has been a great neglect of education and a too great dependence on mere legislation. The latter is little use without the former. If, as soon as a province gets Dry legislation it rests on its oars, the Wets will surely get busy and turn the tables. But there is nothing truer than this if the Christian people were in earnest about the matter the Wets simply could not win.

Let each and every Christian take that statement home to himself and decide this day to start doing all they can to educate the people within their reach. We think Miss Macphail deserves great praise for the strong challenge she has flung out to those who are too much at ease in Zion.

"A BUNCH OF FANATICS."

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—In running through the last number of your paper I notice the letter of Mr. McPhail which, after a fashion, is expressive of my sentiments regarding the tendency of your management. He calls you a bunch of faddists, but you are hardly that—you are a bunch of fanatics. I'm a bit of a sportsman in my attitude to things in general, though a quiet, serious, thoughtful man, who has lived up to a high sense of duty for most of a fairly lengthy lifetime. I am rather for the under dog, especially if he's chiefly dog and not cur, and fighting for his rights. I hate sacerdotalism with deep intensity. I hate fanaticism and pharisaism nearly as much; and these thoughts bring me to three points—first, the impulse which led me to jump to your support; second, the sense of disappointment and irritation, in part expressed, as I have said, by Mr. McPhail; third, the obsessed state of mind and the lack of sportsmanship which would lead or permit you to add the very miserable observation to his letter, that "most of those who write this way say their letters are not for publication." Most unworthy, gentlemen, most unworthy, to a man who has, perhaps, tried in a way to be a real friend.

The prohibition movement appeals to many resolute, high-thinking people; but let it be remembered that it is not a religious movement, though many would like to believe it is, and would like to ply the trade of inquisitors within its protection. It has its share of fine minds and it has its full share of sneaks and snivellers. I am like McPhail in this respect, that your paper ceases to bring one any comfort, so, why continue it?

W. L. HAIGHT.

Parry Sound, Ont.,
9th March, '24.

—See Top of Next Column.

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—You have been sending your paper to me for the past few weeks, but I should be glad if you would discontinue doing so, as I am entirely opposed to your policy of prohibition. I am of opinion that prohibition encourages traffic in drugs, the manufacture of poisonous liquor, deceit, and secret drinking, and is much more of an incentive to crime than a deterrent.

Alcohol is meant to be used, but not abused, and you would be doing some good if you endeavored to educate public opinion, so that people looked askance at the abuse of it. Neither Christ nor St. Paul condemned the use of wine, but possibly you and your fellow prohibitionists consider yourselves more righteous than they. Why do you not start a campaign against the importation into Canada of the many salacious magazines, most of which, I believe, are published in the United States, which you so much belaud.

F. R. KESTIN.

Vancouver, B. C.,
March 11, 1924.

Seventy-four NEW Subscribers

St. Pauls Union Church

Bancroft, Ont. Mar. 10th, 1924

Dear Sirs:—

In accordance with your special offer of four or more subscriptions for three months for $1.00 I am enclosing a list of 74 names. There may be some who are already receiving the Witness. If so I could substitute names. I want to substitute the Witness for a local church paper in the interests of Temperance. Wishing you success, I remain

Yours faithfully,

(243-19) (Rev.) E. M. COOK

P.S.—If you could insert the above in the first issue that goes to those whose names I have given they would understand why the Witness was coming.

"TAKE A LITTLE WINE."

"Take a little wine for thy stomach's sake," says the Apostle Paul to Timothy. But that advice was given by the same man who said "If meat cause my brother to offend I will eat no meat while the world lasts.' The wets who quote the advice to Timothy with so much satisfaction absolutely ignore the foundation principle of the apostle. After all, he was what we would call to-day a doctor of divinity, not a modern scientist. He knew better about the proper relation of man to God and to his fellows than he could be supposed to know about hygiene—or of the way the modern liquor business would build itself up on that casual advice. All that Paul does is to ask Timothy to try the customary cure all of the time.

The miracle of Cana was by way of evidencing the heartiness of our Lord's sanction of marriage, and He showed it in the way common to the day. The purpose had nothing to do with the merits or demerits of fermented wine, but merely to do the fullest honor to the high feast in the way that the people would most readily understand. One might as well insist that the grain of mustard seed was the smallest of all seeds since our Lord referred to it as such. But He was just using a popular conception of the day to illustrate the wonderful development of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Had He digressed to give them a scientific lecture on the misstatements of some of the popular proverbs, and to show how unscientific they were, some of them contradicting each other the illustrative power of the proverb would have been lost entirely. The same would have been true had He stopped at that moment to give an address on the dangers of alcoholic beverage, assuming that it was alcoholic to any degree, or had he further digressed to prophesy that alcoholic beverages would be multiplied in kinds and strengths becoming ever more of a snare to humanity, and especially so in rigorous climates. There are simply some things which one cannot conceive of as coming out of the Saviour's heart, and one of these is that He should teach that men should drink which makes brutes of so large a percentage of those who drink alcoholic liquors, subjecting the innocence and the helpless to suffering of body, mind and soul. At all events the kind of wine, the character of the people and of the climate were all different to those we know here and now.

It is too true that where drunkards cannot get drunk they are apt to seek some substitute. Then Prohibition must include prohibition of drugs as well. The drug evil is threatening the world — the wet provinces and countries as well as the dry. People must be saved from themselves in the interest of all concerned. And let us hope that even the liquor interests and dealers in drugs will be saved. Some seem to think that there was no deceit and secret drinking before Prohibition came into force in certain parts of the country, and that the more liquor the less crime. We have repeatedly published conclusive records of fact showing that this is not true. Mr. Kestin is quite right about Canada's shame in admitting so many salacious magazines and papers. But he does not seem to know that much pressure has been brought to bear on the authorities and that many of these evil magazines have already been debarred, and every now and then the Government puts the ban on another. If Mr. Haight analyzed carefully his likes and hatreds and ours he might find that we still had much in common. We also are for the under dog, even if he is an outcast; yes, even if he has no strength to fight for his rights. Then he needs us most of all. And we also hate Sacerdotalism as such, and fanaticism and pharisaism Mr. Haight says the Prohibition movement is not a religious movement. In that we disagree with him, for, to our minds, the very essence of religion is in it. Cain was taught that religion was relationship, and that he was his brother's keeper. Cain was a pure individualist. What was Abel's welfare to him?

DON'T BE NEUTRAL

Much education can be crammed into three months. The "hot-bed" process must be adopted for the present. Victory is still abundantly possible! Trust in God and do your part. The liquor people, like the Kaiser, have forced the issue. They have filled the air and the press with their sophistries. But they are fighting for their selfish ends, and though they get a victory here and another there they will be ultimately defeated as was the Kaiser and for much the same reasons. The salients of Ontario and Saskatchewan must hold. The great war was painfully prolonged because so many people and nations were for so long "neutral." The neutral element always count on the side of selfishness. It is the neutrals that the liquor interests most bank on. It is the neutrals who must be convinced, and every Prohibitionist must keep himself informed of the enemy's every move to be able to do his share in winning over the neutral neighbor. He is probably neutral because the facts are not sufficiently before him. A word now and then will go a long way. But the regular visits of a paper devoted to Prohibition because it is in the interest of the general welfare will probably achieve a lot more. Introduce the Witness to such, as a paper whose slogan is "Make Canada a Land to love." Very many of the better neutrals will want it on that score even if they would not merely take it because of its championship of Prohibition; for they do not as yet realize the importance of that great movement, or of its bearing upon the whole world.

N. Y., March 14, '24.

Dear Mr. Dougall:—

Sorry, indeed, to read so many dropping our dear old Witness. Well, one thing is sure, they are going to drop a lot of good things out of their lives in the future by so doing. I am surprised that folks drop paper over Church Union matter. One would think that people of that class would have a give and take spirit. I enclose two new subscriptions.

Sincerely yours,

(242-6) A. D. DEWAR.

Ont., March 15th, 1924.

Dear Sir:—

Please find enclosed coupon with five new names and $1.25 for three months' subscription to the Witness. I am trying to get some more at one dollar to the end of 1924, also for the three months. We need all the education we can get on the Prohibition question.

Sincerely yours,

(244-17) (Mrs.) W. J. MILL.

Scattering

PROHIBITION Seed Scattering COUPON

John Dougall & Son, Publishers, WITNESS BLDG., MONTREAL.

Dear Sirs:—

Please send the Witness and Homestead to the following addresses for 3 months for

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MONTREAL WITNESS and CANADIAN HOMESTEAD

NEWS OF THE WEEK

MONTREAL MARCH 19, 1924.

Parliament in Session

The Proposed Tariff Changes—A Warning From Brantford—Agricultural Conditions—"Jollying The Progressives"—"Whispers of Death" vs. The Gospel of Faith and Hope.

Mr. W. D. Euler, Liberal member for North Waterloo, continuing the debate on the address, and following the lead set him by Herbert Marler, Liberal member for St. Lawrence-St. George, warned the Government to go slow in its proposed tariff changes. He believed that the whole tariff structure of the Dominion ought to be overhauled, and that a permanent tariff commission ought to be appointed to advise governments on tariff matters.

Attitude of Progressives

Alfred Speakman (Progressive, Red Deer) said Progressives might be accurately described as benevolently neutral, provided that term was taken to mean that they were sitting tight, but always on the alert. He would support any legislation from any quarter of the House if it accorded with the views and interests of his constituents. He, therefore, urged the necessity of securing the best method of taxation, and advocated the income tax as the most equitable of all. He urged Government action in regard to credits, not to extend, but to consolidate the indebtedness of western farmers. In regard to transportation, he asked for equality between East and West in freight rates. He closed by stating that all desired national unity, but that it could not be denied that there was not a feeling of harmony between all parts of Canada. The West had not been treated fairly, and western members called attention to this, not with a view of whining, but in order that it should be recognized and a remedy provided.

H. A. Stewart, (Conservative, Leeds) urged the necessity for lower taxation. He suggested the abolition of the sales tax and the substitution therefor of a moderate turnover tax, which would be easily collectable, and would provide revenue without imposing a hardship. He urged that a reduction in income tax had been made necessary through reduction in the United States.

Agricultural Implements

Mr. Stewart objected to any reduction in the tariff on agricultural implements. This tariff was very low at present. If decreased further it would result in driving some of the manufacturers out of business. He agreed that the tariff needed revision, but in many respects the revision should be upward. This was especially so in regard to agricultural products. He compared the United States and Canadian duties on farm products, and said that figures showed a serious discrepancy between these duties, which was operating to the detriment of the Canadian farmer. He believed in unity, but warned the west that east and western Canada could never be united by destroying the industries of the former.

Following the lead of W. D. Euler, North Waterloo, the Liberal member for Brantford issued an ultimatum to the Government to preserve protection to the agricultural implement industry or lose his support. He declared he would not swerve from this pledge if necessity arose to implement it.

Mr. Raymond recalled Premier King's pre election pledge to the people of Brantford that there would be no injury to legitimate industry. He could not condemn the Prime Minister on present evidence, but he added: "We will not forget his promise."

Mr. Raymond said that what Manchester was to cotton and Sheffield to cutlery, Brantford was to agricultural implements throughout the world. That city had been the home of the farmers' tool-maker for more than half a century, and the making of agricultural implements should be considered a key industry in this country. The Governor-General had been entertained in "the humble home" of one of the plough makers of Brantford, and Mr. Raymond felt sure that he would not desire to return that courtesy in a manner to injure that city.

Competition in The Home Market

W. C. Good (Progressive, Brant) said that Mr. Raymond had informed the House that the agricultural implements made in Brantford were sold throughout the world. Yet these were the machines which were evidently afraid of competition in the home market. The previous speaker had made a plea for national unity and compromise between the various sections of the country But he had also stated that he stood four square for the interests of Brantford. How could these statements be reconciled?

Progressives had been frequently charged with being sectional. He could not see how any charge of that kind could be laid at their doors which could not much more properly be laid at the door of Mr. Raymond. (Progressive cheers.)



MISS AGNES MACPHAIL, M.P.

Dealing with the local situation around Brantford, Mr. Good said that he had never known agricultural conditions to be as bad in that county as they had been in the last few years. Eight hundred acres of land had gone out of cultivation in that district last year, and a good deal of it was still out of cultivation. This spring he had had part of his own farm thrown back on his hands, and for three months he had not been able to get anybody to take it over. Yet this land was well supplied with buildings and was within 2 1-2 miles, on the concrete highway, of this well-known home market for Brantford. The condition of affairs was extraordinary. Perhaps the tariff had not much to do with it. Nevertheless, this condition existed in close proximity to the much-praised home market.

"A Vain Hope"

Hon. H. H. Stevens, Conservative, Vancouver Centre, sought to secure from the members of the Government present a confirmation or denial of the interpretation of the Speech from the Throne that agricultural implements would be placed upon the free list. The Government owed such a declaration, he said, to the House and to the country;

Mr. Stevens declared that the Government was afraid to come out and tell the Progressives where it stood. "It is jollying the Progressives with the vain hope that agricultural implements are going on the free list," he said. The Government was simply "feeling out public opinion" in the Speech. If public opinion became restive, "the soft pedal will be put on free trade." The Government was deceiving the Progressives in order to get their support in putting through the motion for the address, but in the meantime the sword of Damocles was hanging by a thread over the industries referred to in the Speech. Last year the Government had half ruined the woollen industry in Canada.

Speech by Mr. Lapointe

Hon. Ernest Lapointe, in his speech on the address on Friday, took an optimistic outlook of precent and future conditions in Canada and strongly condemned "Whispers of Death." The Speech from the Throne had received the commendation of the Progresive party, and, in fact, everybody else except the dismal Conservative Opposition. The balanced budget, which would be presented to Parliament shortly, would be an answer to the criticism directed against the Government by the Hon. Mr. Meighen and his supporters.

Mr. Lapointe declared that the Opposition propaganda was but a curtain raiser to higher protection. They had seized on a phrase from the Speech from the Throne to give effect to this propaganda. The Government proposed to legislate for all classes, not for one section or one class. He declared that the Opposition was creating disunion, while the Government was seeking to reconcile diverse elements and sections.

"A Citadel of Misrepresentation"

Criticizing Conservative utterances during the debate and in the country prior to that time. Mr. Lapointe described the Conservative campaign as "a citadel of misrepresentation" and as "the pen and mouth disease." He asserted that the Speech from the Throne spread the gospel of faith and hope, while the speech of Mr. Meighen had been filled with the spirit of "dismay and bitterness." "The world is moving," said Mr. Lapointe, "and we as a young country must move with it."

Mr. Lapointe took the leader of the Opposition to task on the ground that he was pessimistic and discouraging. He had said



THE PESSIMIST

—From the Humorist, London.



HON. E. LAPOINTE

publicly to his followers that he would not cease from his campaign to convince the public that the Liberal regime was no good. Mr. Meighen had gone about the country spreading gloom and whispers of death, making as difficult as possible the work of the present Government, which was trying to clean up the "ghastly muddles and messes" left by their predecessors. Out of all his campaign and his subsequent utterances in the House, there had come not one word of constructive criticism to help Parliament in its problems.

Canada had come out of the post-war troubles better off than most countries, and there was much to thank Providence for. Trade and national wealth was greater than ever before. There were some problems which could not be solved except through international treatment, "and that is why," he added, "I am a firm believer in he League of Nations."

FIUME IS ANNEXED BY ITALY

Welcomed by cheering thousands along the route of the procession, King Victor Emmanuel entered Fiume on Monday for the formal ceremony of annexing the city to Italy.

The king arrived by launch from Brindisi, accompanied by Admiral Thadondi Revel, Minister of Marine and director general of police. Cannon roared a royal salute of 21 guns, the bands played, and the royal march through the city was begun.

The B. C. Beer Plebiscite

At the B. C. synod of the Presbyterian Church, on 6th March, a resolution was unanimously adopted urging upon the General Assembly's Committee on Home Missions and Social Service to consider the preparation, by itself or through the Prohibition Federation of Canada, of such literature on the moral and scientific phases of the liquor question at as early a date as possible, for circulation among the people along with reliable information regarding the present situation of the liquor question in the provinces of Canada and in other lands.

Regarding the B. C. beer plebiscite to be held during this summer, this Synod reaffirmed its belief in a policy of the absolute prohibition of the manufacture, distribution and sale of intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes.

New Series of Greek Stamps

What promises to add some classic subjects to the postage stamp picture-gallery is a new series now in preparation for Greece. There are to be seventeen denominations in ten designs which have been obtained in open competition. Among the subjects treated are women in the national costumes of the Dodecannese and of Macedonia, the White Tower of Salonica, the Convent of Simon Peter at Mount Athos, the Corinth Canal, the Theseum, the Acropolis, the battleship Averoff, and the Academy.—London Daily Telegraph.

HOW QUEBEC RUNS THE LIQUOR BUSINESS

Lively Debate in Provincial Legislature

If the House and the province do not like the fact that the Government refuses to permit the Quebec Liquor Commission to divulge the prices it pays for its liquors and wines, and the names of the firms from which the purchases are made, it is for the House and the province to get another Government to replace that in power.

This is what Hon. L. A. Taschereau told the Legislative Assembly Thursday, in the course of a fiery speech in answer to the attack on the Liquor Commission and Government, lead by Hon. E. L. Patenaude.

Mr. Patenaude in his speech said it had been impossible to obtain any of the correspondence between the Paris office and Montreal or any information in regard thereto.

The result was that the Legislature was faced with the fact that the Commission, on behalf of the province, transacted business at Paris through an employee with firms all over Europe, and nothing could be learned of what went on.

Hiding the Truth

Mr. Patenaude believed the public interest was in knowing the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and not in hiding the truth for the sake of a little gold, which it was feared would be lost, and personally he did not believe there would be a loss because of publicity.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Hon. Mr. Patenaude moved that "The question already considered by the Public Accounts Committee according to the second report of this committee, as well as the second report of the committee, be sent back to the Public Accounts Committee with power and instructions to continue its enquiry into all the affairs of the Quebec Liquor Commission, and more particularly to order the president of this Commission, the officers of the Commission and all witnesses to reply to all questions put to them in connection with the affairs of the Commission, and to produce all documents and exhibits in connection therewith."

Premier Makes Counter-charges

Premier Taschereau, in reply, said there were two reasons why this information was not being given, the first being that it was not good business to do so from a commercial point of view, and no business man would blame the Government for its refusal.

"But," said the Premier, "there is another reason. There are people very close to the member for Jacques Cartier, who would like to go to the producers in France, and ask them to sell their wares to the Commission so that they get a commission of ten per cent. on such sales. The member for Jacques Cartier knows these people."

The House was immediately in an uproar, the members of the Opposition showing decided resentment. Mr. Patenaude was on his feet, but Mr. Taschereau went on.

"The member for Jacques Cartier wants to go back to the system dear to those who want to enrich themselves. That is why we have this virulent attack against the liquor commission, which has been established for three years, and with which the people are satisfied, and which the other provinces are imitating, and which the old prohibition province of Ontario will have in six months."

The Paris Arrangements

"Mr. Guibert, the employee of the commission at Paris, is the man who does not want to lend himself to the matter of the 10 per cent. commission of which I spoke, and he prevents the friends of the member for Jacques Cartier, friends whom he knows very well, and who have been around the corridors of the Parliament buildings lately—from doing what they wish. It is Mr. Guibert who stands in their path, and I am not surprised at the attack. Mr. Guibert has done his duty to the satisfaction of the commission. He does not buy but receives samples, and all the samples are sent to Montreal, and there is no buying unless three commissioners sign the order. Mr. Guibert is a man who can hold his head as high as can the member for Jacques Cartier. We buy at reduced prices, prices of favor. We have arrangements in Paris and France providing for prices of favor for us, on condition that such prices are not known, and we cannot betray those prices. Are we to break this gentleman's agreement? These prices of favor are so good for this province that the buyers from the British Columbia Commission buy a large part of their liquors from the Quebec Liquor Commission. We make a profit from the people of British Columbia. If we tell the prices at which we buy, it means renouncing an honorable contract that we have made and which any honorable business house would make.

Mr. Taschereau challenged anyone to point to a single act of dishonesty on the part of the commission, or its agent in Paris.

The Public Rights

Mr. Duranleau, of Laurier, Montreal, felt that the Premier was ever boasting, now about his measure as to the bank merger, again as to the wonders accomplished by the Liquor Commission. The people had a right to know the business of the Commission, and the Premier had not diminished this pretension by his speech.

He did not think that the Premier's air of bravado would last very long in view of the public feeling in the matter. The Liquor Commission spent money, even borrowed on the Government's guarantee, and there were no figures to properly show what was being done. He did not believe that the Commission was benefiting because of special prices, but that friends of the Government obtained such benefits.

There could be no question of a gentleman's agreement in a matter where such a principle as the public right was involved. If the Premier had insinuations to make, let him name those he meant. It was unjust and disloyal to merely make insinuations, and it would be interesting to know what was behind the Premier's statement.

Living Like Millionaires

Some of the employees of the Liquor Commission in Montreal were living like millionaires, said Mr. Duranleau, living in cottages which cost from $15,000 to $20,000 per year.

"Who and where?" queried the Premier.

"Let us go back to the Public Accounts Committee, and give us the information we want, and I will tell you," said Mr. Duranleau.

Hon. Jacob Nicol followed, said the Opposition was and had been doing all possible to break the confidence of the people in the commission with a view of getting the trade back into the hands of private individuals who had held it before. The people approved of the fact that the Government had taken over the trade, and had shown its approval in the last general elections.

Jules Langlais, Conservative member for Temiscouata, said the Government had no right to permit its coat-of-arms to be used in such a dangerous business as the liquor trade when all information was refused.

The amendment by Hon. Mr. Patenaude to refer the report of the public accounts committee back to that committee was then put before the House, and defeated.

The vote was 47 to 16. Mr. Sauve moved that the report of the committee be printed in the Journals of the House, and there being no objection, it was so ordered.



REV. S. D. CHOWN, D.D., LL.D.

General Superintendent of the Methodist church, who has been decorated with a medal of the Order of Excellent Crops, second class, from China, in recognition of the services of the Methodist church during the famine and flood in Honan Province in 1920. Rev. Dr. James Endicott, General Secretary for Foreign Missions, has received the medal of the third class of the same Order.

THE ETON RACK

Stories of the rod and ferule, the instruments of torture of the district school of our grandfathers, sink into insignificance when we compare them with the accounts of the gruelling castigations that were inflicted on the erring and slothful English schoolboy of the same period. Mr. Ralph Nevill, in Floreat Etona, describes some heroic and amusing efforts of Eton head masters to correct and "encourage" their charges.

When Dr. Keate assumed the head mastership at Eton the whole public-school system was far behind the age; many of the manners and the customs of barbarous times still continued at the schools in spite of the fact that in English homes life and manners had become civilized. There is no reason to suppose that Dr. Keate was in any way of a brutal disposition or wanting in the natural affections. He had to deal with a very difficult situation, and it is greatly to his credit that, by overcoming almost insurmountable difficulties, he maintained the prestige and increased the number of students at Eton.

One of the first innovations that he imposed was an "absence" the evening after what was then known as "long church." The first time he put the new rule in force the whole school 'booed" him as he opened his mouth, and it took him two hours to get through calling the roll, although the tutors did their best to help him detect the ringleaders. After trying to discover the principal culprits and failing, Keate finally determined to punish the last remove of the upper fifth and the whole of the lower fifth division, whom he considered responsible for the outbreak, by making them attend a five-o'clock "absence." Some ninety boys hid behind the trees in the playing field when this "absence" was called, and purposely did not answer their names. The situation was grave, and at first it seemed likely that all of these rebels would be expelled; eventually, however, Keate determined to be more lenient, and announced that instead of expelling them he would "flog the lot."

When the first batch came up for punishment in the library a scene of riot took place, and as the first boy knelt on the block a shower of eggs smashed round Keate; in fact, after three victims had suffered, the head master's clothes had got into such a state owing to the unsavory missiles hurled at him that he had to go home and change. On his return he was accompanied by a number of assistant masters, and with their aid in keeping order he finished swishing the whole of the ninety boys by eight o'clock that evening.

One boy just about to leave Eton objected to being flogged, and on his arrival at home discovered, to his horror, that his refusal to bow to constituted authority would prevent him from being allowed to enter the career upon which he had set his heart. Hoping to put matters right he at once set out for Eton, only to find on his arrival there that the head master had gone to Switzerland. The ingenious youth, determined to get flogged, found two birches and hurried off to Geneva, only to discover that the head master had gone to Lucerne. To that city he followed, but, missing the pedagogue whom he sought, again had to continue his pursuit, which eventually ended in the refectory of the Monastery of Mont St. Bernard, where he finally persuaded the doctor to administer the sought-for flogging amid a circle of edified monks. When the ordeal was over, the young man presented the head master with the leaving fee, and in return received a "leaving book" in the shape of a Guide to the Alps, which happened to be the only volume at hand.

On the island of Penang the barber is an itinerant wandering about the streets and performing his tonsorial tasks wherever he meets a patron. He carries all his supplies with him, including water, which he uses very sparingly and any that is left from one patron is poured back into the bottle for use on the next customer. He not only shaves his patrons, but removes his eyebrows, cleans his ears and nose and finally scrapes his tongue.

Bill, a Lancaster poultry fancier, had sold his cote, and along with four friends went to remove it to its destination. Each of his companions took a corner and lifted it on their shoulders.

As they rested half way up the hill over which they had to travel, they missed the fancier, and each asked the other, "Where's Bill?" when a voice exclaimed from within the cote. "Ah'm inside, carryin' th' perches."



HERBERT C. HOOVER

The United States Secretary of Commerce, who has been appointed chairman of a United States commission appointed by President Coolidge to investigate the proposed St. Lawrence-Great Lakes Deeper Waterway.

THE GREAT PITCH LAKE

Of all the wonders of the world, says Percival Renfers, in the New York "Evening Post," the Pitch (properly the Asphaltum) Lake of Trinidad is probably the one least conducive to a spasm of the emotions. As a sight it is what is unpopularly known as a "sell." Still it retains its place in the list of the things that must be seen, for is it not the apparently inexhaustible source of our city streets? And so the tourist ships put in at Le Brea, and will doubtless continue to do so until the place is dug clean of its black treasure.

Charles Kingsley in "At Last" began his description of it by discounting it as a "wonder," and then took literary refuge in the surrounding palms which accentuated its desolate appearance. Even he was put to it to bring forth a eulogium. The gentleman who wrote it up for the Trinidad Handbook delivered himself of a mighty tribute, with the kindly aid of Charon, the Styx, and the almighty dollar. But he wrote to advertise. Writers have approached the Pitch Lake with the best of intentions, putting on humility, trepidation, reverence, and risking a touch of the fever. And almost all that has been written of the spot shows that determination born of necessity and disappointment, assaulting description at the point of the pen, as though something must be done or streets would not be paved.

Sir Walter Raleigh, one of the first, if not actually the first English recorders (1597) was quite properly utilitarian about it, said there was enough pitch to "pay" the decks of the world's ships, and saved his enthusiasm for the "oisters" he found growing on the trees at Le Brea, for which he was rewarded by loud cries of "Liar!" when the information reached London. For the epicure, at least, there is more enjoyment in one succulent mangrove oyster than there would be in the Pitch Lake on an infinitude of half shells.

If you are curious to know what the Pitch Lake looks like, go to the nearest desolate swamp of black mud, imagine it solid and quite cleared of vegetation, and imagine yourself walking over it with impunity. Having got that far, you would not find it boiling, nor even soft. If a hot sun is on it, the surface will soften, just as the streets at home do on a sweltering day in August. If the sun is not on it and it has just rained —as it is forever doing in the tropics in winter—the surface is hard as any cool asphalt, and the holes where the workmen have drilled out chunks of the stuff are filled with water. Do not look for Kingsley's palms, for they are no more; oil wells are taking their places.

The most impressive thing in the scene, you will admit, is the huge plant with its up-to-date barrelling process and the bucket trestle that carries the product on an endless chain down to the ships, half a mile away. And if you are interested in statistics you will discover that, contrary to what you have heard, the constant mining of the pitch is lowering the surface, at the rate of about eight inches a year. In the last twenty years the level has been taken down fourteen feet, but subterranean pressure works the stuff upward and drills have never reached any bottom limit because shifting and buckling will not permit their being forced down more than 200 feet.

(Continued from page 5.)

LETTERS FROM READERS

OUR BROWN BROTHERS

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—In reply to the letter of Rev. Mr. Hall in your issue of the 6th inst. I would beg leave to take issue with his version of the Komagatu Maru incident. In order to get a view point of both sides of the case I might say that I have discussed it with several Sikh friends and I would submit the following as being what I consider the true facts.

During the latter part of the year 1913 and the early part of 1914 there were gathered in Hong Kong quite a number of Sikhs who were on their way to Canada. Their stay had been prolonged in Hong Kong through inability to secure further passage. A good many of these men were discharged British soldiers and military police who were proud of the service they had rendered the Empire. Many of them had medals received for distinguished service. Besides these there were quite a large number of men who had been former residents of Canada and who were now returning to Canada after a visit to their home land. Some of these men had real estate and other interests here. I might explain that at the present time Sikhs resident in Canada who wish to visit their native land are given a letter to identify them, but before the time of the Komagatu Maru this was not the custom, and men going on a trip to India were told that if on their return they could prove previous residence they would be admitted.

About this time it was becoming increasingly difficult for Hindus to enter Canada. There was the continuous passage regulation, etc., etc. Owing to difficulties with the Immigration authorities, the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. was very cautious in selling them tickets. Consequently there was held up in Hong Kong a large number of Hindus who had made their passage thus far but were unable to get farther. Many of them had been there several months and were short of money. It seems though a few from time to time were able to get passages and on October 17th, 1913, the SS. "Panama Maru" arrived in Victoria with some Hindus on board. Our immigration authorities refused to admit them but on their case being taken to the Courts, Chief Justice Hunter found that the immigration authorities were acting beyond the authority of the law, and 38 Hindus were admitted to Canada of this party.

When word of Chief Justice Hunter's decision reached Hong Kong the hopes of the Sikhs there revived, but as they were unable yet to secure tickets from the regular steamship companies, the idea came to Gurdit Singh to charter a ship and take these men to Canada. A good many gladly accepted this offer. Many of them were in distress for lack of funds. They could not very well return even if they wished to, and if they went forward they had hopes.

When news of the coming of this ship reached B. C., it was decided that an effort must be made to prevent their admission, and after some delay after the ship was well on its journey an Order-in-Council was passed which would prevent the entry of this party. On the strength of this Order-in-Council I take it the Komagatu Maru party was turned back.

As to the financing of the voyage the first payment on the charter of the vessel was made by Gurdit Singh, partly from passage money paid by the party and partly from money advanced by himself. Many of the party were short of money and they promised to reimburse him later. To help pay for the trip Gurdit Singh loaded in Japan a cargo of coal which he hoped to sell when he reached this coast.

As regards this shipment of coal I might say that the Government refused to permit the unloading of it and consequently it had to be taken back.

In order to pay the balance due on the charter of the ship and to provide for the return trip a large sum of money was raised by the local colony of Sikhs, some of them mortgaging their property to do so.

I might say that I showed Mr. Hall's letter to some of my Sikh friends, and they denied his story from start to finish. They deny the insinuation that this voyage was promoted or financed by political agitators in India or by the Germans. They have personal knowledge of the raising of the above mentioned money by the local colony of Sikhs, a sum which was in the neighborhood of forty thousand dollars. They deny the accusation that the Komagatu party were seditionists. They dispute the findings of the Enquiry as regards the riot at Budge Budge. In this connection I might say that the Nationalist party of India instituted another enquiry into this whole question of the Komagatu Maru voyage and they disagreed in its entirety with the findings of the first committee. My friends deny that the Komagatu Maru party were armed either in Vancouver or at Budge Budge, or that attempts were made to supply them with arms in Vancouver. At Budge Budge the party were searched for firearms before they were permitted to land. It is true that Gurdit Singh and his followers were determined to go to Calcutta to tell the story of their treatment to their countrymen, but evidently the Government of India was not proud of this story, and they were not permitted to do so.

This is a question that the Sikhs feel very strongly on, both those in Canada as well as the whole Sikh nation. In fact it is a story that has stirred all of India. It has brought much disrepute to Canada, and in India the name Canada is associated with the Komagatu Maru.

As regards the contention that a country has a right to control its own immigration I would admit that is true to some extent, but in doing so it would be well to avoid giving offence to any people. Not so long ago I read a report of a speech of Secretary Hughes, of the United States, in which was a statement that his government would resent discrimination against his country, from what ever quarter such discrimination came. It seems to me this is the seat of the whole trouble in connection with our dealings with the people of India. From the very first we have treated them in a way we would not dare to treat the people of any other nation. They resent this very much, and it has been the first cause of much of the unrest in India.

I do not wish to find fault with the government of India which no doubt is endeavoring to give good government to the country, but in this matter of the Komagatu Maru it seems to me they must have suffered the loss of serious prestige in India in that they did not support their own people when they were in trouble with the government of Canada.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have endeavored to tell this story from the viewpoint of the people of India. It is the story that is believed by the Indian nation, and it is well the people of Canada should know it.

As regards Mr. Hall's letter, I would say that I do not find any real evidence in it of the "sinister political machinations" he speaks about. I trust he will get better acquainted with the Sikhs, and I think he will get a better opinion of them.

G. M. BOYER.

Duncan, B. C., Feb. 22, 1924.

A WORD FOR THE SHOP GIRL

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—In doing social work one is forced to consider—sooner or later—the needs and the wrongs of the little shop-girl.

With us — as in the States — she is a "step-child." Paternal legislation safeguards the factory-girl, leaving the shop-girl to the tender mercies of a thoughtless public and an exacting business-management.

At the Christmas season she is kept at exhausting and nerve-racking work till ten o'clock at night, or even later, and she goes home through streets insufficiently policed and inadequately lighted.

The wages paid in some of our shops are pitifully and absurdly small. Many of the younger girls get less than five dollars a week. How, on this, can a girl exist? If she lives at home, combining her earnings with those of older brothers and sisters, her problem is simplified. But as Montreal grows we have a great and increasing number of girl wage-earners living in lodgings. There are few places in the city where a decent room can be obtained for less than four dollars a week. Even though girls share such a room their problem is acute. Where are overshoes to come from, or warm clothing, or an umbrella? How to pay for a hot meal before returning, weary, through bitter weather after the day is done? These matters are our business, for we, the customers, hold the power to dictate the living-conditions of those whose poverty compels them to work for us. If they live and work in wretchedness we—ultimately—are to blame.

It is now more than twenty-five years since a few New York women realized this, and organized "The Consumer's League." The object, as stated by its founders, is "to ameliorate the condition of working women and shop-girls in the city of New York."

The heads of a few retail houses known to deal justly by their employees were asked to adopt and observe a few simple rules, framed in behalf of their work-people. The names of these houses were then entered in what was called the "White List."

The Constitution of the League has recognised that responsibility for some of the worst evils from which wage-earners suffer rest with the consumer, "and that most employers are virtually helpless to improve conditions as to hours and wages unless sustained by public opinion, by law, and by the action of consumers."

The employer who gives his work-people humane treatment and just wages is the "Proprietor of a Fair House," and members of the League give him their custom whenever possible.

If we, for instance, had a Montreal Consumer's League, its members would purchase from these houses whose names appeared on our White List. Let us hope that we shall have both List and League, and that soon.

MAUD GOING.

THE BASIS OF CHEMICAL THOUGHT—IMMENSITY OF THE UNIVERSE

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir:—

I don't think I ever took so much pleasure out of the perusal of a single publication as out of the last number of the Scientific American. I had heard some rumors of the basic changes in chemistry but knew nothing of them. They used to be arranged in series, according to their atomic weights. This was a very baffling series, because these could not be expressed in whole numbers and no conceivable formula would make an intelligible series of them.

An Englishman, Mosely,—killed in the war in Turkey—arranged the elements in accord with the length of the "X" ray emitted when they were used at the cathode of an X-ray tube, and found that so arranged, they fell into a perfect series, expressed by the whole numbers from one to ninety-two. Thus, (1) Hydrogen, (the lightest); (2) Helium; 40 zirconium; 50, 60, 72, 92 uranium (the heaviest).

There was one missing, No. 72. It is an old law that when the elements are arranged in their table any one has strong resemblance to others which are separated from it in the table by eight, or multiples of eight. So two Danes started to look for 72, which was unknown, by examining 40 (zirconium) in its many compounds. They quickly found it and have named it *Hafnium*, the Latin name for Copenhagen.

They have gone further than this, and found the new serial numbers one to 92 represent the number of electrons that whirl around the nucleus of each atom. Thus, the Hydrogen atom is a nucleus with one electron, the Helium atom is a nucleus with two planetary electrons, and a Uranium atom is a nucleus which has 92 electronic planets revolving around it.

This is very picturesque, and as it is leading to results, may rest for a long time as a new basis of chemical thought.

Einstein's discovery concerning light has now been agreed to by all who measured the stars at the last eclipse. Not only was he right, but his calculated deflection was correct to within 1/100th part of the ascertained deflection.

Is he as right about the size of the Universe? His calculations show that if it is of the average density of the milky-way, it is not less than three hundred million light years in diameter. A hundred million is beyond conception. A light year is doubly beyond conception; so that the diameter of the universe might be stated as the third power of our ability to conceive—thus (conception)³.

I see that at Hartford they have erected an engine of over 2000 horse-power in which mercury is used in the boiler instead of water, and after three months working find that it saves 50 per cent. of the coal.

WILFRID DOUGALL.

Note: A light year means the distance that light travels in a year, at the rate of 186,000 miles in a second.

UNION AND THE INDIVIDUAL

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—The letter of your correspondent on "A Problem of Union," the other day, interested me much. I, too, am Scotch—or was before I was "born again"—and of Covenanter stock. As is well-known many of the more spiritual in the Uniting churches have an uneasy feeling that the projected Union has its impulse mainly in economic and material considerations. These are not to be overlooked, but surely, as your correspondents suggest, they should not be our highest incentives. A heart union in real Christ-inspired charity and lowliness of spirit would accomplish things which the lesser alliance fails to get within sight of. And obtaining through the grace of God this surpassing boon and fitness, think you some substantial form of church unity would prove unattainable? Is it not because the church of God has degenerated from her early Divine simplicity that she has become so shockingly divided?

Sectarianism is not of God, neither he who would build or maintain fences between brethren. It does not accompany or grow out of the new birth. It has ever been the mark of ignorance, of carnality. The more mature, informed, devoted a child of God is, the more repugnant and silly denominationalism is to him. It has always been an excrescence, and reproach in the Lord's church, a dishonor to her Head. It is one of the very difficult things for people who mean well to unlearn; and about the last item that heaven can save the average Christian from. No one thing retards Christ's Kingdom more. So the Spirit is moving some of us in all lands these days to plead for such an outpouring from on high as shall sweep away hindrances and make ready the way of our returning Lord. To make room for Him in our church activities involves, I think, three particulars.

(1.) We must become willing to establish the Holy Scriptures as our sole and sufficient authority in all matters religious. There must be no surrender to apostate ecclesiasticism, tradition, or human wisdom.

(2.) Only upon evidential confession of saving faith in our Lord Jesus Christ should any one be permitted to join a Christian church. "Ye must be born again." The faithful evangelical missionaries in dark lands put us to shame in this respect. Try to imagine Jonathan Goforth in China receiving members as we do at home here.

(3.) After seeking God's righteousness it is for us as individuals and as churches to place heaven first, to "seek the Kingdom of God," and let all other things take their positions where they may. Then there will be no further waste of time and energy in trying to build up or perpetuate "great historic churches."

Besides the family interest I have in this discussion, like "Rutherford," I have a personal one. I am a minister in a denomination which firmly declines to connect itself with others in the coming Union. With her motive in thus standing aloof I have sympathy, but not with her methods or attitude. I have long felt out of place—as do many others—within her ranks, and yet what am I to do? Where shall I go? Now under the proposed Union of Churches in Canada will there be any corner reserved for poor mortals like "Rutherford," and myself? We cannot conscientiously receive men and women avowedly unregenerate into the ecclesia, nor can we set aside Christian baptism and replace it with baby sprinkling. Will the door then be closed against us? Or is the Union to be larger? Notice that we are quite willing to lay aside all the thousand and one questions as to church polity, etc., and merely beg this small favor? It ought to be the more easy to grant now that in these last days true Bible lovers everywhere are coming more and more to agree on these points. As to believer's baptism let me remind you that it is not the water, but its sacred symbolism and teaching, for the Christian of sanctified life and service that grips us tenaciously. And pardon us if in the face of all rulers of the synagogue or scribes of the law we descend to no apology whatever. I have many times officiated in Presbyterian and Methodist churches, and found my ministry acceptable, but a settled pastorate would be impossible. What of the coming Union? We just want to be "one" with you in our testimony to the world. (John 17:21.) Sincerely,

ROXBURGH.

Three rooms and bath on wheels was one of the striking novelties of the Paris Motor Salon this year. The automobile bungalow has a wheel-base of 30 feet. There are bedrooms for three people beside the bathroom, kitchen and other conveniences.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Copies of the hymn "Gethsemane," or "Christ in the Garden," asked for by Mrs. Robert Ritchie, B. C., have been supplied by Mr. Thos. Clarke, N. B.; Mrs. John R. Dignan, P. E. I.; Mrs. H. Melkins, N. S.; Mrs. Agnes Clint, Ont.; Mrs. Alexander Mackay, Que.; J. H. Bryan, P. E. I.; E. B. McCabe, Calif.; Mrs. Wm. J. Taylor, P.E.I.; and Mrs. Annie Chamberlain, Que. Also our thanks to Mr. A. Lovatt, Man., for his copy of "Life's Cost."

Thos Place, Sask.—Woul d you kindly publish in the "Witness" my thanks to Mrs. Jas. McAllister, Nashville, for the words of the recitation, "The Woman of Mumbles Head." I also wish to thank the Witness for publishing same.

Mr. Frank Inkster writes:—My request for the verses, "All Hollow! hollow! hollow!" has been answered by an unknown correspondent; a booklet was also enclosed. The envelope bore the postmark, St. Mary's Ont. Can you spare space to express my thanks for copy of verses and booklet.

TAXES—COMMERCIAL ART

Reader asks:—In your Questions and Answers column, will you kindly answer the following, if possible. (a) Is it correct that the house where the Roman Catholic priest lives is not taxed, while the houses provided by Protestant denominations for their ministers are taxed the same as those of other residents? If so, why are the former exempt? (b) Where are the best schools to study commercial Art? Is there much demand for this kind of work, and is it remunerative?

Ans.—(a) This is purely a Municipal regulation and may differ in various districts. Where a clergyman of any recognized denomination has his residence in the same city as his church, he is generally exempted. (b) There is a demand for very good work of this kind, and it is remunerative. Commercial Art is taught in any good Art school.

LIQUOR STATUS IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Interested, Que.—Would you please give me a little information on the prohibition work being done in the following countries: Russia, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden? A referendum took place in Switzerland last April (1923). What were the returns?

Ans.—Russia has a restricted sale of liquor. Spain, like France, is a wine country. They make it, drink it and sell it. There is a prohibition organization on foot in Spain but it has very little support. Sweden has a system of modified prohibition similar to our government control; a great struggle is going on at the present time with the liquor forces, both sides being extremely active. In Switzerland, last June, a referendum took place in the interest of prohibition, calling for an extension of the State liquor monopoly and placing a big import duty on all foreign liquors. It was rejected at the polls by a vote of 352,772 to 259,741.

OLD COIN

J. A. C.—Please tell me where I can get an 1867 cent. For a long time it has been looked for, but it cannot be found.

Ans.—Try a dealer.

"WONDERFUL HEROINE" AND ITALIAN ARTIST

Miss Helen Johnstone, P.E.I.—Will you kindly answer the following questions: Is the story of the "Wonderful Heroine," published by the Star, fact or fiction? (2). Is the picture of the "Wonderful Heroine" really Olga's picture or is it one of the Madonnas? Can you tell me something about the painter Ferruzzi? Is he Italian. When did he live? What pictures did he paint?

Ans.—We have been informed that this story, though supposed to be a true one, is in all probability only fiction. (2). The illustration is a reproduction of a painting called "The Modern Madonna," a painting that gained considerable attention a few years ago. (3). There is no record of this painter in the library of artists. The name is an Italian one.

EASTER HYMN SUPPLIED

Mrs. M. J. Barrick, Ont. — This hymn, asked for by Mrs. Robert Ritchie, B.C., I have known since a girl and am sending it to you to publish. I enjoy the Witness so much.

CHRIST IN THE GARDEN

While Nature was sinking in stillness to rest,
The last beam of daylight shone dim in the west,
Through fields of pale moonlight I wandered abroad,
And in deep meditation I thought on my God.

On passing a garden I paused for to hear
A voice faint and faltering of One that was near;
The voice of a Sufferer affected my heart
While pleading in anguish a poor sinner's part.

I paused for a moment and turned for to see
What man of compassion the stranger could be.
I saw him, low kneeling, upon the cold ground,
The loveliest Being that ever was found.

How deep was His anguish, how fervent His prayer,
While down o'er His bosom flowed sweat, blood and tears,
I wept to behold Him, I asked Him His name;
He answered "'Tis Jesus, from Heaven I came.

"I am thy Redeemer, for thee I must die,
The cup is most bitter but cannot pass by.
Your sins, which are many, are laid upon me,
And all this deep anguish I suffer for thee."

With a voice of contrition I loudly did cry,
"Lord save, e're I perish, oh, save, or I die."
He smiled when He saw me and said to Me, "Live—
Your sins which are many I freely forgive."

How deep was the sentence that made me rejoice,
His looks so consoling, how charming His voice;
I ran from the Garden to spread it abroad
And shouted, "Hosanna, all glory to God!"

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS AND AMBASSADORS

Miss Verna Mayne. — Could you please tell me the names of the following: (1). Lieutenant-Governors of the nine provinces of Canada. (2). British Ambassador to Canada. (3). Canadian Ambassador to England.

Ans.— (1). Alberta, Hon. Robert G. Brett; British Columbia, Hon. W. C. Nichol; Manitoba, Hon. Sir J. A. M. Aikins; New Brunswick, Hon. Wm. F. Todd; Nova Scotia, Hon. MacCallum Grant; Ontario, Col. Henry Cockshutt; Prince Edward Island, Hon. Murdock Mackinnon; Quebec, Hon. N. Perodeau; Saskatchewan, Hon. H. W. Newlands, K.C. (2) and (3). Britain and Canada have no exechange of ambassadors. With direct communication between any of the departments of government there is no need of them.

WORDS SUPPLIED

Mrs. N. S. T., Summerside, P. E. I.:—Seeing the request for two poems, "Who is my Neighbor," and "The Snowflake," asked for by L. E., Brysonville, Que., I am sending them.

THE SNOW FLAKE

"Now, if I fall, will it be my lot
To be cast in some low and lonely spot,
To melt, and to sink unseen or forgot?
And then will my course be ended?"
'Twas thus, a feathery snow flake said,
As down through the measureless space it strayed,
Or, as half by dalliance, half afraid,
It seemed in mid-air suspended.

"O, no," said the Earth, "thou shalt not lie,
Neglected and lone, on my lap to die,
Thou pure and delicate child of the sky;
For thou wilt be safe in my keeping:
But, then, I must give thee a lovelier form
Thou'lt not be a part of the wintry storm,
But revive when the sunbeams are yellow and warm,
And the flowers from my bosom are peeping.

"And then thou shalt have thy choice to be
Restored in the lily that decks the lea,
In the jessamine bloom, the anemone,
Or aught of thy spotless whiteness;
To melt and be cast in a glittering bead,
With pearls that the night scatters over the mead,
In the cup, where the bee and the firefly feed,
Regaining thy dazzling brightness.

"Or, would'st thou return to a home in the skies?
To shine in the iris? I'll let thee arise,
And appear in the many and glorious dyes
A pencil of sunbeams is blending,
But true, fair thing, as my name is Earth,
I'll give thee a new and vernal birth,
When thou shalt recover thy primal worth,
And never regret descending."

"Then I will drop," said the trusting flake;
"But bear in mind that the choice I make
Is not in the flowers or the dew to awake,
Nor the mist that shall pass with morning;
For things of thyself they expire with thee,
But those that are lent from on high, like me,
They rise and will live, from thy dust set free,
To the regions above returning.

"And if true to thy word, and just thou art,
Like the spirit that dwells in the holiest heart,
Unsullied by thee, thou wilt let me depart,
And return to my native heaven;
For I would be placed in the beautiful bow,
From time to time, in thy sight to glow,
So thou may'st remember the flake of snow,
By the promise that God hath given."

WORDS WANTED

Mr. V. Pickering, Ont.—Will you please publish in the Witness the words of a poem, entitled "The Dying Cowboy," also, "The Old Log Cabin," and oblige.

Mr. John Sutherland, N.S., wishes to get the words of two poems, "How Cyrus Laid the Cable" and "The Long White Trail."

TWO CRADLE SONGS

Some of the greatest poets have not disdained to write lullabies. Here are two cradle-songs, the first by Sir Walter Scott, the second by Alfred Lord Tennyson:—

Oh, hush thee, my babie, thy sire was a knight,
Thy mother a lady, both lovely and bright;
The woods and the glens, from the towers which we see,
They all are belonging, dear babie, to thee.

Oh, fear not the bugle, though loudly it blows,
It calls but the warders that guard thy repose;
Their bows would be bended, their blades would be red,
Ere the step of a foeman drew near to thy bed.

Oh, hush thee, my babie, the time soon will come
When thy sleep shall be broken by trumpet and drum;
Then hush thee, my darling, take rest while you may,
For strife comes with manhood, and waking with day.

Sweet and low, sweet and low,
Wind of the western sea,
Low, low, breathe and blow,
Wind of the western sea!
Over the rolling waters go,
Come from the dying moon, and blow,
Blow him again to me;
While my little one, while my pretty one, sleeps.

Sleep and rest, sleep and rest,
Father will come to thee soon;
Rest, rest, on mother's breast,
Father will come to thee soon:
Father will come to his babe in the nest,
Silver sails all out of the west
Under the silver moon:
Sleep, my little one, sleep, my pretty one, sleep.

RELIGIOUS POEM WANTED

Question.—I should like to get the words of a religious poem beginning "He touched her hands and the fever left her." E.D.

(See also Page 30.)

SHOP WINDOWS

Making a purchase to your advantage is one of the arts. For an expenditure of the minimum amount of money you desire as a return the very highest quality of material it is possible to get. It is more difficult than it sounds. You must have a feeling of confidence in those with whom you are dealing.

That is why we desire to bring to your notice the excellent service being rendered by the advertising columns of the Witness. When you think of it, these columns are really shop windows. Look into them, study them carefully as you would the windows of your home-town stores. You will be agreeably surprised at the variety, splendid quality and efficiency of commodities offered to the public through our windows. You will find there many things that you were just wanting, perhaps. Sometimes it is necessary to write to the advertiser for the article you wish. You are sure of satisfaction and prompt attention if you mention that you saw his advertisement in the Witness.

Make use of the seller who makes use of your paper, the Witness, and more of these so-called "Shop Windows" will appear, to the advantage of yourself and your paper.

"LAKE LOUISE"

Chorus:

Lake Louise, I love you, I love you,
On the breeze I hear you calling me,
Memories of mountains above you,
In my dreams their beauty I can see.
On the trees the moonlight is lying,
On the lake a silver lane;
For your mountains I am sighing, crying
Lake Louise, I'll come back again.

Complete for piano and voice with male quartette arrangement—the most beautiful popular song yet written for Canadians—inspired by editorial of the "Witness" — 35 cents (or three copies for $1.00). We guarantee that you will be delighted with it. Ask your dealer to secure it or send direct to the publisher—

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For circular apply to

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65 McTavish Street,
Montreal

Sunday Home Reading

"STIR INTO FLAME"

(2 Tim. 1:6. R. V. margin)

Stir me, Oh! stir me, Lord—I care not how;
But stir my heart in passion for the world;
Stir me to give, to go, but most to pray,
Stir, till the Blood-red banner be unfurled
O'er lands that still in heathen darkness lie,
Oe'r deserts where no Cross is lifted high.

Stir me, Oh! stir me, Lord, till all my heart
Is filled with strong compassion for these souls.
Till Thy compelling "must" drives me to pray,
Till Thy constraining Love reach to the poles
Far North and South, in burning deep desire,
Till East and West are caught in Love's great fire.

Stir me, Oh! stir me, Lord, till prayer is pain,
Till prayer is joy—till prayer turns into praise;
Stir me till heart and will and mind, yea, all
Is wholly Thine to use through all the days;
Stir, till I learn to pray "exceedingly,"
Stir, till I learn to wait expectantly.

Stir me, Oh! stir me, Lord! Thy heart was stirred
By love's intensest fire, till Thou did'st give
Thine only Son, Thy best-beloved One,
E'en to the dreadful Cross, that I might live;
Stir me to give myself so back to Thee,
That Thou can'st give Thyself again thro' me.

Stir me, Oh! stir me, Lord, for I can see
Thy glorious triumph day begin to break;
The dawn already gilds the Eastern sky;
Oh! Church of Christ arise, awake! awake!
Oh! stir us, Lord, as heralds of that day,
For night is past — our King is on His way!

—Bessie Porter Head.

The Soul of Sin

Sermon Preached In Gordon Church, St. Elmo, Glengarry, By Rev. G. Watt Smith, M.A.

"Against Thee, Thee only have I sinned and done this evil in Thy sight; that Thou mayest be justified when Thou speakest, and be clear when Thou judgest."—Psalm 51: 4.

And this is what David says. If you think that this psalm could only be spoken by some rake who has broken every commandment of God, just note what is written for your instruction at the beginning of it, before the first verse. Remember, too, that you may read in I. Samuel 18:14 this: "David behaved himself wisely in all his ways, and the Lord was with him." There is not possible a better testimonial, nothing better can be said about any minister of the church than that. If I were appointed to write the best eulogy possible about some elder or deacon of the church, or some devoted Sabbath school teacher, the very best my pen could frame from elusive words, and had concluded that I had succeeded fairly well, I think I would want to tear it all up and consign it to the flames if I came upon these words written about David the servant of the Lord. If they would at all fit I could not find anything finer or nobler. They were applied to David; he was no wild, worthless rake. If any man now present can claim for himself a greater and holier character than has been given to David on the authority of holy writ he may say that the words of this psalm have nothing to say to him; but as a minister of the Gospel of Christ, and a sinner saved by His grace, I can make no claim to such excellence, and I want to read through what has been written here, and when I find that it says "Against Thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight," I tremble in the presence of the Almighty God, and cry anew for the protecting favor of the Lord.

But we read that the words were spoken by David when the prophet Nathan brought home to his awakened soul the guilt of the sin he had committed with Bathsheba; what depths of infamy are these into which David fell, that he even dyed his hands with the blood of the innocent; never have we fallen so far. Well we may join the sacred singer when he says, "Praise to the holiest in the heights, and in the depths be praise." In the heights we get visions of His love and power and glory; in the depths we are preserved and protected by His grace and restraining hand. We need not be so sure that the evil in our hearts may not lead us by some of its devices to sins as gross as those which tempted David and to issues just as fatal to honor and innocence.

Suppose, however, we hear what some of the scholars have to say about this psalm. They have looked at its closing verses, "Build thou the walls of Jerusalem, then shalt thou delight in the sacrifies of righteousness." "Ah," says the scholar, "this psalm really does not belong to the life of David at all. It belongs to the time when the people of God were looking for the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem, and the re-establishment of the ritual of the temple. That was a time when the people were suffering for their indifference to the claims of Jehovah. They had ceiled houses, big barns, rich clothing, abundance of comfort, plenty of luxury, but a starved heart, giving support to the temple with a very penurious generosity, little love for the household of faith and a very poor regard for the services of worship."

I think the scholars are not very far wrong. Do not lay all the sin on poor David. Somebody wanted to make this penitential psalm apply to some one man. It was written for the whole church which fell into sin; it was probably shaped by a prophet who was keenly conscious that somehow he had spoken with an insufficient faithfulness about the sin of the people, but had been afraid of offending man rather than of grieving God. Read the psalm, if you can read any part of the Word of God with spiritual understanding, as a confession of a cold, dead church, penned by a minister who was more concerned about his bread than about the salvation of souls, and it will bring everyone of us to our knees. "Against thee only have I sinned"; the echo of it comes back from the walls of the New Jerusalem. You thought there could be no doubt about your sure place within the gates of heaven, as if God could have any place by the river of the water of life for mere dead creatures, as if He had not written, "Every branch that beareth not fruit is cut off and burned with fire."

But what shall we say about the other part of the verse? "That Thou mayest be justified when Thou speakest, and be clear when Thou judgest." What uses have been made of the Word of God; we sin that the grace of God may be made to abound toward us; we sin that God may be justified; we sin, we become cold, we become indifferent, that God may have something to do to awake us, to revive us, to somehow get us past the mouth of hell and squeeze us into the home of the redeemed. What heresy is this; it is all an utter, absolute falsehood. If we try to make ourselves believe it we are just taking poison, the deadliest poison that corrupts and rots the body before it can be buried, that distorts the truth and confounds the mind before it is cast out to the perdition to which it belongs.

Just get near to the august truth of this text by steps. In another verse of the psalm we read, "Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean, wash me and I shall be whiter than snow." Hyssop—is it some charmed plant, a pungent disinfectant? There is no charm which will take away sin or make men quick with spiritual fervor and perception. Hyssop—why, that is the wisp which is used for sprinkling the lintel and doorpost previous to the passover. Take the hyssop in your hand and you have shut yourself in with God, to reflect upon the mourning world without, through which passes the angel of death; you are shut in to reflect upon past mercies and favors, to enter upon the mystic rite which cleanses from sin. "Purge me with hyssop; shut me in with Thee and I shall be clean." Look at it. You may sit in a committee meeting, planning ways for the advancement of even a very good cause, and you may easily think yourself, like the Pharisee of old, not at all like other men. Shut yourself in with God, "enter thy closet and shut to the door," and if you are not clean in that presence, and cannot be cleansed, you will soon want to get out and face death rather than continue with Him who seeth in secret.

This psalm is homogeneous; the theme is the same throughout. "Against Thee only have I sinned." Preacher, acknowledge that you have not been faithful in dealing with the souls of men; elder, confess that you have forgotten your duty as a co-partner in the shepherding of those souls. Fathers and mothers, confess that you have been more anxious that your children should pass examinations than that they should pass from death to life. This will take us into the presence of God. He will be justified when He speaks. His word is questioned by the impenitent, by those who are rebels to His law, not by the subjects of His rule, those who are submissive to His authority. "Thou art justified when Thou speakest."

It even goes a step further: "be clear when thou judgest." This is a term of the law court. Isaiah might use it when he sets his assize in his first chapter. It might be taken by the Lord when He sets the judgment scene, and utters those terrible words of doom. "Depart from me, I never knew you; inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these ye did it not to me." "Be clear when thou judgest." There is no appeal from this tribunal of God; His judgment is final. All our specious pleas about someone else being to blame fall from us when we are face to face with God.

There is no other standard for the church save the judgment of God. What shall we do about the church? What folly the Anglicans speak who say that we must go back to the practices of the third century to find means for the revival of the church. What folly the Congregationalists speak when they say that we must get back to the days of the Puritans, the time of Brown, and Robinson and Doddridge. What folly the Methodists speak who say that we must get back to the days of John and Charles Wesley. What folly on the part of the Presbyterians who say that we must get back to the days of the Westminster Assembly. The standard for a revived church is set up in this house of God to-day. We do not get the mortar for the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem from the dead past; we hew the stones out of the living rock of regenerated men, and burn the lime in the fires of a quickened conscience. God; He has something to say to your soul to-day. He has broken down the walls which were shaken at their foundation by the sin of His own people. He has not failed, even when we have fallen. He still rules the sun and moon and stars, and He can still redeem Israel. "Oh, come, Thou, living God of righteousness and clear judgment. Cast me not away from Thy presence; take not Thy Holy Spirit from me; restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation and uphold me with a free spirit."

PRAYER

O Lord God, may I breathe under the light burden of love, nor be restrained by slavish fear, nor allured by mercenary desire; but may I be led by Thy free Spirit, which may witness with my spirit that I am Thy child.—Bernard of Clairvaux.

Practical Religion

The religion which we should desire, seek after, and immediately obtain, is one that goes into the family and keeps the husband from being spiteful when dinner is late, and keeps the dinner from being late; keeps the wife from fretting when he soils the newly-washed floor with his muddy boots, and makes the husband mindful of the scraper and the door mat; keeps the mother patient when the baby is cross, and keeps baby pleasant; amuses the children as well as instructs them; wins as well as governs; projects the honeymoon into the harvest moon, and makes the happy hours like the Eastern fig tree, bearing in its bosom at once the beauty of the tender blossom and the glory of the ripening fruit.—Bonham.

CRUMBS

(Matt. 15:27)

Helpless and weak to Thee I come,
Thou Ruler over all,
And fain would gather up the crumbs
Which from Thy table fall.

Weary of wandering to and fro
Amid earth's din and strife,
To whom should I for succor go?
Thou hast eternal life.

To Thee, O blessed Lord, I come,
Oh, hear my humble prayer!
And if it be but one small crumb,
Let me Thy mercy share.

"Great is thy faith: thy prayer is heard,
Thou shalt rewarded be;
Be it according to thy word—
Thou hast prevailed with Me."

JAMES LAWSON.

Verona, Ont.

THE "BOOK"

The words of the matchless Commandments,
Engraved by the Finger of God,
'Mid terrible roll of the thunders
And Sinai's lightnings abroad—
Ye tell me that record is legend,
Such manifestations, who saw?
Did Moses come down from the mountain
And read to the people God's Law?

Few rays of the wisdom terrestrial
Have lighted my wilderness way,
I walk by the Lamp of the "Word," that
Shall guide into clear perfect day.
Thy Word is a Lamp to my pathway,
A Light and a guide to my feet
Ev'n into the twilight of morning
Where Time and Eternity meet.

O, many the flashes and signals
On mountain and desert and wave,
A moment transcendently brilliant,
Then low in oblivion's grave;
The will-o-the-wisp of man's reason,
The light of a wandering star,
Uncertain as waves of the ocean
Wind-driven in darkness afar.

Ye ships without cable or anchor,
Ye rudderless vessels adrift,
No compass nor chart, not a beacon,
And waters are inky and swift,
Be guided by voice of the thunders
That sounded from Sinai's height
And turn to the harbor of safety
Revealed by the "Book" which is "Light."

To him who will "do" it is written,
To him shall My Truth be revealed,
The wayfarer humble, unlearned,
Rejoiceth in knowledge unsealed.
Few rays of the wisdom terrestrial
Have lighted my wilderness way,
I walk by the Light of the Word, that
Shall guide into clear perfect Day.

E. K.

RELEASE

Bury me not in the old church yard,
The gate of sighs and tears,
But let me lie in my own wee lot
Where I have toiled these years.
Bury me at the root of a tree
Planted in days gone by,
Let it alone my monument be
Pointing aye to the sky.

"Ashes to ashes and dust to dust."
Clay must return to clay.
Only the husk you will bury there,
Hence I shall wing my way.
Faith burns on the altar of my heart
Though oft its flame is dim,
I know that my Redeemer lives
And I shall live with Him.

F. W. NASH.

Renata, B.C.

Were our philosophers and artists thoroughly penetrated by the light and warmth of the sun of grace how would the arts and sciences of this earthly life flourish as they have never yet done; and how much brighter would be the hue and richer the fragrance of the fruit they bore!—Tholuck.

One of the greatest things any young man can do for himself is to connect himself up at the very beginning of his career with some great moral proposition. If his help-meet-to-be does the like, the future of the resulting family is bright indeed.

"God uses folks—just folks like you and me."

Early Spiritual History

THOUGHTS FOR THINKERS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Very many histories have been written which tell of the rise and fall of empires, of the kings that have reigned, and of the battles that have been fought. Other histories record the political development of different countries or tell of the progress of civilization or of the growth of knowledge and increase of power by discovery and invention. But as a rule the historian has looked at facts only in their relation to the outward life of the people.

In the Bible we have a number of historical works written by different men in different ages, but all presenting the facts in their spiritual aspect. Men are the actors in all these narratives and every man acts in accordance with his own impulses or with the purposes of his own will. But God is always in the background. We see the actors in the light of God's thoughts, and we see God overruling their acts and causing them to work out the accomplishment of His purposes. But God never interferes with man's freedom of choice between good and evil, and therefore when men determinedly refuse to obey Him, He lets them go their own way and take the consequences.

Spiritual history begins with the story of Adam and Eve, from which we learn that rationalism is the original sin. Surely, the tempter argued, God could not have said that. If He did say it, He cannot be good. He must have had an unworthy motive. This argument assumes that man's mind is the supreme judge of righteousness, and man has a right to set at defiance any command of God which does not commend itself to his reason. God's command to Adam was evidently given for the very purpose of testing him on this point. The question at issue was whether Adam would obey unquestioningly or not. Obedience is the very essence of goodness.

The flood was a stupendous object lesson to the world for all time, teaching us that while God has infinite patience with sinners as long as there is any hope of bringing them to repentance, He will not trifle with persistent rebels against His authority. (See Mat. 24:36-44.) Man's life on earth is given to him as an opportunity to fit himself for intimate companionship with his Creator and if he will not use it for that purpose he has no right to live, and indeed, it is not to his interest that he should be allowed to live, for the longer he lives in sin he is just heaping to himself, "wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God." (Rom. 2:5, 8, 9.) If all those that were drowned in the flood were incurably rebellious against God, then it was better for them to be drowned than to go on living and having children to grow up like their parents. If any of them were trying to do the will of God He would know His own, and to them death would prove a blessing. And then, think of the thousands, or millions, of children who had not yet arrived at an age of moral responsibility who were saved from becoming sinners.

There may have been many in that old world who were living in sin, but had not become so decidedly alienated from God as to be incapable of repentance, what of them? That is one of the many questions to which no answer is given. We shall know the answer sometime. Now, we only know that no soul could be lost without having had ample opportunity to make a definite and final choice between good and evil: because it is not the will of God that any should perish. (2 Peter 3:9.) Peter tells us that after He was crucified Jesus went and preached to the spirits in prison which were disobedient in the days of Noah. (1 Peter 3:19, 20,) and that seems to imply that some, at least, of those who perished in the flood were given a chance to repent long afterward. If that is not what Peter's words were intended to teach, it certainly would not be safe to draw any other conclusion from them.

There was one preacher of righteousness in the wicked world (2 Peter 2:5), and he was saved with his family—or rather, he saved himself and his family by an act of strong faith. He spent 120 years building a great vessel in obedience to the command of God, knowing that his vessel would be useless if the flood which God had predicted did not come. (See Gen. 6:3 and 14-16 also Heb. 11:7 and Mark 5:34.)

Obedience is the beginning of holiness and faith is the basis on which all true obedience rests. Faith is the germ of spiritual life in the man; it is the seed of the divine nature which God wants to develop in us. It is the eye by which we can see the invisible things of the spirit world. (Heb. 4: 17, 18.) And because real faith inevitably produces obedience faith itself is counted by God as essential righteousness. Before Isaac was born, when Abraham could not see any prospect of having a son, God led him out at night and asked him if he could count the stars. "And He said, So shall thy seed be." And Abraham believed, and God "counted it to him for righteousness." And Paul uses this old declaration of God's estimate of the value of faith to show that the Gospel of justification by faith which he preached was not a new thought, but only a fuller declaration of the truth which had been revealed to Abraham about 2,000 years before Christ came.

Thus from the experiences of Adam, Noah and Abraham, reported for us in the light of God's dealings with them we learn the fundamental spiritual truths that disobedience is death and obedience is life. (Rom. 8:6, 7.) and that faith in God is the basis and beginning of righteousness. (Heb. 11:6.)

The bondage of the Israelites in Egypt is a type of the bondage of the whole human race to sin, and the mission of Moses to deliver them is a beautiful illustration of the purpose of God to send His own Son to rescue His people from that bondage.

God's revelation of Himself to Israel through Moses at Mount Sinai prefigures His revelation of Himself to us through Christ, and the giving of the law at Sinai illustrates the truth that with the consciousness of God's presence there will always come a recognition of the fact that His character and His will are the supreme law for our lives.

The experiences of Israel in the wilderness journey constitute an inspired Pilgrim's Progress, and illustrate strikingly some of the temptations and dangers which always assail the child of God, and also show how able and how ready God is to send help in answer to believing prayer.

The refusal of the Israelites to enter Canaan when God had brought them safely through the dangers of the wilderness to the very border of the promised land, and the penalty imposed upon them for that refusal show how easy it is to come short of entering into God's rest even when on the very threshold; as the writer of Hebrews teaches us. (Heb. 4:1, 2.) As John Bunyan put it, there is a way to Hell even from the very gate of Heaven. And our Lord taught the same truth in His parable of the foolish virgins, and in His warning that many who thought they were His disciples will be rejected at the last. (Mat. 7:22-27.)

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him. (See Heb. 2:1-4.)

The conquest of Canaan illustrates the experience of the Christian when he lays hold of faith with both hands and keeping close to his divine leader, our Joshua (Jesus), fights a victorious battle against sin and enters the Christian's "promised land,"—the peace which Jesus left as a legacy to His disciples—the peace which rests upon full assurance of faith that God reigns and God sees and God cares for all the interests of His children, so that all things must work together for good to them. (Rom. 8:28-32, and Heb. 4:8-11.)

The story of the Judges shows how patient God is with His people, and how He helps them in spite of their sinfulness; trying always to win them back to their allegiance. And the story of Samuel shows how one really good man with strong faith in God can influence a whole people and bring about a great change in their condition.

The reigns of David and Solomon typify the reign of Christ on earth in its different aspects—first, as He goes forth conquering and to conquer, and then, as He reigns gloriously over a united and happy people.

"Now these things happened unto them by way of example: and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come." (1 Cor. 10:11.)

Development, evolution, progress—call it what you will—God's method of working is always progressive from one stage to another. The first chapter of Genesis shows that God created the world in that way, beginning with a formless and useless mass of inert matter and producing by a succession of stages the order and beauty and life which we see and know.

But the material world with all its countless and wonderful adaptation of means to ends was only designed to furnish opportunities for the working out of a wonderful purpose—so wonderful that no being but God could have conceived it. God wanted friends who could share His thoughts and impulses and desires and activities, and His plan for obtaining such companionship was to create a race of beings just like Himself, endowed with all the capacities and capabilities which He possesses, only in a limited measure, and possessing a free moral nature, like His own, and to subject every individual of that race to such tests as would be necessary for the development of his or her moral character.

If God had created beings who were incapable of sinning, or who had no element of weakness in their nature, there would not have been any way of developing in them a strong personal character by subjecting them to temptation. There would not be any virtue in always doing the right if we were never tempted to do wrong. Even the divine Man could not have been perfected without being subjected to temptation on all sides of His nature—temptation which He was able to resist only by keeping in close contact with His Father.

We have no right to claim, or to think, that we should be able to understand all God's ways. Zophar, the Naamathite, said some foolish things, but he hit the nail on the head when he asked the patriarch of Uz, Canst thou, by searching, find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? It is as high as heaven; what canst thou do? deeper than Hell; what canst thou know? (Job. 11:7, 8.)

Golden Text: Jehovah is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness.—Psalm 103:8.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday, March 24—Gen. 12:1-7; Tuesday—Ex. 3:1-12; Wednesday—Deut. 4:32-40; Thursday—Josh. 1:1-9; Friday—1 Sam. 7:5-13; Saturday—2 Sam. 7:18-26; 8:14, 15; Sunday—Psalm 133.

CHRISTIAN TITHING

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir,—I have received some interesting letters from missionaries in different parts of the world, and feel confident that many of the Witness readers in Canada will be greatly pleased to read these. Therefore, I am sending you a copy of one from Rev. S. J. Proctor, B.D., of Korea, and also one from Rev. W. Green, of Couva, Trinidad. Trusting that you will kindly make space for these in the next issue of your valuable paper. (Rev.) P. McGREGOR.

Korea Mission of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.
Sungjin, Korea,
February 4, 1924.

Dear Mr. McGregor and Members of the Tithers' Union:

I received your letter to-day and am pleased to hear that you are engaged in an energetic campaign for the Lord's money. During our recent Bible Institute we studied Malachi, and I drew attention in connection with their Evangelistic Societies to the teaching on tithing.

I have been a tither for nearly twenty-five years. There are great spiritual blessings in it, not the least being a clear conscience in regard to the use of money and the deciding one's duty in the face of multitudinous claims. To the best of my knowledge, I think that almost all our missionaries here are tithers.

The Koreans are generous givers, as Dr. Goforth points out. Speaking to a young man here a few years ago about tithing, he said, "Pastor, if we only tithed, the Church here would be in a poor way. Most of the young men in this (local) Church, give from one-fourth to two-fifths of their income to the Lord's work." I have never forgotten the quiet rebuke, unintentional on his part. Observation and experience during the last few years has taught me this: that it is out here as it is at home. Some few give "tithes and offerings"; some give "tithes only;" but the most part give much less, and think they are giving more than the tithe. It needs a campaign to awaken conscience on the matter. I am glad to be enrolled.

Yours sincerely,
S. J. PROCTOR.

Couva, Trinidad.
January 31, 1924.

Rev. P. McGregor,
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Mr. McGregor:

Besides signing and sealing the enclosed pledge, I feel I might add a few notes. I have been giving at least my tenth for over thirty years, and these years God has continually increased my material blessings, which is the least that He has done for me. This past year I have been able to give more than any other year.

I have under my supervision in this field 8 Catechists and 71 teachers (day school) representing a Christian community of 1,600 Christians. The Christian duty of tithing is continually kept before these people, especially the leaders, with the result that, though in most cases struggling hard to make ends meet, and often suffering real poverty, they have this year given $3,164. A number of these leaders are tithing their small income.

With very best wishes for the success of your Union, I am, Yours sincerely,
W. GREEN.

MY WINDOWS

(By Barbara Young)

"Three windows in my House of Life
Look out three different ways.
One turns with wistful longing
To the Road of Yesterdays.
And watches how the shadows
Of the poplars, slim and tall,
Point mutely at remembered days;
And silence over all.

"And one looks out with eager eyes
Upon the Street of Now,
And sees the passers up and down,
And greets them with a bow.
The little street is frankly gay,
With checkered shade and shine,
And busy, too, with bustling joys
That wait on me and mine.

"The other window turns away
From Yesterday and Now,
And not a single backward glance
Its visions will allow.
Its gaze leaps out to hills afar;
Its clear eyes, purged from tears,
Up through the deathless pines can trace
The Path of Coming Years.

"And sometimes when the sun is down,
And I am all alone,
The little windows beckon me,
For they are quite my own,
And seem to love me, everyone,
At each I stand and look,
And read their little stories
Like the chapters of a book.

"The first one fills and thrills me through
With happiness and pain;
The text—I'm drenched with starlight,
And then I'm splashed with rain.
But the other window draws me,
And I smile through rainbowed tears,
For I read a happy ending
Down the Path of Coming Years."

—New York Times.

YOUR FINISHED COPY

Some far away Missionary of your Church or nearby Christian worker would like your copy of the WITNESS when you are through with it. A little thought of that kind means much more to a lonely worker or to some invalid friend than perhaps you realize. A one-cent stamp carries it anywhere in Canada; six cents postage is required for foreign countries. Of course, if you were sending it regularly to a Canadian, U. S., or British address, it would be much cheaper, quicker and better to order it sent direct from the office of publication.

THE TITHE

A Message to the Canadian People by Dr. Goforth, of Honan, China. Dr. Goforth is one of Canada's best known missionaries. Will you help to place a copy in every home in Canada? The Message contains about 5,000 words. 100 copies, postage paid, $1.00. 12 copies, 15 cents.

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FOR THAT ROUGH BANK

An outcrop of rock or mass of boulders often seems ugly when near our home, and sometimes we go to considerable expense to remove such natural happenings. Usually, writes J. P. Porter, of Cornell University, it would be better to take advantage of these beautiful "rough places" so common and characteristic, and by thought and a little work have something that will add beauty, interest and value to the place.

Steep banks are frequently difficult to maintain. They are torn and washed by the rains and are rarely beautiful. These may, however, be easily converted into attractive rock and wild gardens. Stones and boulders may be inserted into the bank to give the appearance of a natural rock outcrop. Pockets of good soil can be made in which to plant flowers and small shrubs. Rough stone steps and a winding path will add to the attractiveness and interest.

Think of this rocky place as you would the making of a picture. Imagine some hemlocks or an old gnarled apple tree or some leaning dogwoods (Cornus florida) in the background, give additional framework and enclosure by massing suitable shrubs at the sides. Plant two or three large masses of herbaceous perenials among the rocks, which will come into dominant bloom at different times, add variety and contrast by filling in the chinks with ferns and native flowering plants which love rocky situations, and finally carpet the open areas by using many low creeping plants, largely evergreen, which will cover some of the rocky surfaces and give character to the place in winter as well as in summer. If we can use a little imagination, a little labor and a little money, the unsightly spot will become a picture of great beauty. The best part is that we can work along side of nature and plant it with plants from our neighboring woods and cliffs which will be sure to grow. Imitate nature as far as possible.

Suitable evergreen trees may be dug from the pastures or from the edges of the woods. White, Red or Pitch Pine for the dryer and more open places with Hemlock for the more moist spots may be used. Deciduous trees such as Oaks, Flowering Dogwood or Thorns are in keeping and by choosing those with twisted or gnarled stems a very picturesque result may be obtained. Cedars that are low growing and twisted will fit among the rocks and crawl over them, while in shady, moist places ground hemlock will give much the same effect.

In swampy spots, sweet fern, wild roses or silky dogwood can all find places that will help the general effect; while in shade, wood azaleas, blueberry bushes and Dockmakie, i.e., the Maple-leaved Viburnum with its wonderful autumn color, are fine.

The native bittersweet vine will hang over or climb rock faces, while the Virginia creeper will give a graceful effect if planted above and allowed to hang down. The wild Clematis can, also, be used.

Herbs are so numerous that only a few can be mentioned, but in sunny places moss pink, wild geranium or starry grasswort are of the style required. In shade, columbines, Wake Robins, Foxgloves, Violets and ferns are among the host that will succeed. If the suggestion is made to the children they will find and bring in many lovely plants that cannot be mentioned here. Always remember, however, to put them in places that are similar to the spot from which they were taken in the wild. Deep crevices filled with leaf mould, or spaces between, or in front of rock outcrop or boulders, are ideal for these plants.

Every nurseryman supplies plants suitable for rock garden work and lists are available for the asking. These types of plants are known frequently as alpines. Many of our most beautiful flowers are of this type. If ordering from the nursery be sure to secure several plants each of the beautiful little rock rose (Helianthemum vulgare) and the hardy candytuft (Iberis sempervirens). These are low creeping evergreens with handsome foliage and flowers.

Once thought of and worked out such a way of treating "rough places" will always add interest and value to the home surroundings.

A LITTLE "TREE" OF HELIOTROPE

To know heliotrope at its finest, one must have a little "tree" of it; that is, a plant trained as a standard. Though you lack a small greenhouse, it is not difficult to raise standard heliotrope, writes James J. Deehan, in the "Rural New-Yorker." In February or now take some strong cuttings from your window heliotrope and root them in sand. When rooted, pot the young plants in rich soil and keep them growing fast and well staked thereafter. Nip in the bud any tendency to flower or branch. Have each plant a single shoot. Keep this shoot striving upward by constantly re-potting to a larger pot as the roots reach the bottom. Continue this shifting throughout the summer until the plant is about 3 ft. high and occupying a 10 or 12-in. pot. After that the plant should be allowed to branch at the top, but only there. Shoots along the sides should be pruned off as they appear. As the branches at the top develop, they too should be pruned until a symmetrical head is formed. By late October this will be accomplished, and the little "tree" begin to flower.

Starting the cuttings in early permits most of the growing and training to be done outdoors. By bringing in time, the plant will be in bud. But take no chances with Jack Frost. Heliotrope wilts at the gentleman's slightest touch.

While heliotrope does not require beating sun, the plant loves light, as the names of Greek derivation implies (helios, the sun; trope, a turning).

Water should be applied not too liberally. Just a trifle more than a geranium requires. Liquid cow manure is of great benefit to the growing plant. Aphids are to be guarded against, also red spiders. The usual remedies should be used if these pests put in their appearance.

When brought indoors the little tree will do best with the temperature around 55 deg. F. It will bloom the winter long. It will be a huge lasting bouquet, and will contribute many fragrant sprays for table decoration and friends.

CARROTS IN HEAVY SOIL

Carrot culture is simple in light friable soil, but in stiff clinging soil it is an art to be able to grow good carrots. Home gardeners having heavy soil need not despair, as there are several ways by which they may raise good carrots. In heavy soil the ground can be trenched, removing the topsoil the width of the spade. The top soil from the next trench is thrown over to fill up the top of the first trench and the operation repeated until the entire plot has been treated, throwing in the last trench the topsoil removed from the first. This will give a depth of two feet of fairly good soil.

Another plan is to make holes thirteen inches deep with a crowbar, filling them up with loam and sand, sowing three or four seeds in each hole and thinning out the plants to one when they are large enough.

Ridging is another system by which carrots can be successfully grown on heavy soil. Fork up the ground so as to give plenty of finely pulverized soil. Set a garden line one foot high and as long as the rows are wanted, and with a hoe or spade draw the earth up to the line. This will give a mound one foot high and twelve inches or a little wider at the base. Make the ridge straight and even. When the ridge is ready press a hoe or rake handle into the top to the depth of an inch to form a drill. Sprinkle the seed thinly along the drill and cover the seed by pressing over the edges of the drill. As soon as the young carrots are an inch high they must be thinned out and the soil pressed close around the remaining plants. Later when the plants are well established a second thinning is necessary, leaving the plants six inches apart, pressing the soil around the plant as before.

Use no manure around carrots. Where it is desired to use manure it should be applied when well rotted, working in the manure in the autumn on land that is to be planted the following spring.

THE FIRST SALAD

The delicate, piquant leaves of garden cress or pepper-grass are the first salad obtainable from the garden without the aid of a hotbed or a cold frame. The dainty little plants may be eaten in three weeks or even less from the time of sowing the seed and if they are then clipped with a shears so as to leave one or two leaves on the stems they will yield a second cutting within a couple of weeks.

No crop is easier to grow. The seed is best sown thickly early in the spring in rich soil, preferably in a little finely raked garden bed or border and covered only a quarter to a half inch deep. The rows may be only three inches apart, as the plants are to be used while small. In less than a week the seedlings should appear. They will probably race ahead of the weeds, so no weeding will be necessary. After the second or perhaps third cutting has been made they may be destroyed.

Late sowing, of this plant are not successful unless made on the north side of a building or a wall where the shade kept the ground cooler than in the full sun. But it seems unnecessary to grow for summer use since there are at that season many other vegetables of greater value. But from early spring to early summer it is the choicest salad obtainable. With salt and then bread and butter it makes an excellent sandwich and when added to "flat" salads such as fetticus or corn salad it adds just the touch of piquancy that these salad plants lack. For winter use it is easily grown in a large flower pot or a shallow box of rich soil kept moist, but not wet, preferably by standing the pot rim deep in water until the surface looks wet, then letting the excess water drain away.

ANSWERS TO GARDEN QUESTIONS

Couch, Quack or Twitch Grass

Miss H. C.—When a garden enclosure permanent and not the garden large enough to summer fallow a part each year this grass is a pest indeed and the only method possible is that of hand digging and picking out the rootstalks. Once a bed is cleared of it watch for every stalk and shoot that may spring from a neglected bit of root. Keep it weeded out and if you have grass walks in the garden in which it has a foothold, edge your perennial beds with 2 inch planks or cement deep enough to prevent the rootstocks spreading in.

If the vegetable garden is small dig out the grass or plough shallow and cultivate until the root stocks have been brought to the surface when they should be gathered and burned. If your garden is large enough, give up half to the good work of getting clean of this weed. Let it exhaust its substance in the production of a hay crop, which should be cut and removed as soon as the head is formed and before it is in blossom. Plough shallow and cultivate out the rootstocks; burn them and follow this up with a cleaning crop of rape or buckwheat or a hoed crop.

Fertilisers For the Potato Crop

G. W.—Of all ordinary farm crops that of the potato is probably the most profitably responsive to liberal feeding. It is generally conceded that there is no better preparation for the crop than a clover or alfalfa sod well manured (10 to 20 tons per acre) and ploughed in the late summer or early autumn. This practice of fall ploughing ensures the decay of the sod and manure and provides a good supply of humus, which is so useful in keeping the soil moist, and at the same time allows for the preparation of plant food in forms available for the use of the crop. Spring dressings of manure are not desirable, as they tend to encourage the development of scab.

As is well recognized, soils differ greatly as to their productiveness—a quality largely dependent upon richness in available plant food—indeed there are no two soils exactly alike in this respect — and this fact makes it impossible to lay down hard and fast directions for fertilizing or to give a formula that would be equally applicable for all soils. But with a fairly good soil, from a well manured clover sod as described, we should consider 350 to 700 pounds of 3:9:6 commercial fertilizer would represent the limits that may be deemed desirable and profitable. This, says Frank T. Shutt, Dominion Chemist, would mean an application of nitrogen 10 1-2 to 21 pounds, of phosphoric acid 31 1-2 to 63 pounds and of potash 21 to 42 pounds, per acre. If the ingredients are purchased rather than the ready mixed fertilizers, (generally the more economical plan) the amounts would be nitrate of soda 75 to 150 pounds, superphosphate 200 to 400 pounds and sulphate of potash 40 to 80 pounds per acre. On light and very poor soils scantily manured the maximum amounts here given may be somewhat raised, dressings to 1,000 pounds or more per acre frequently proving profitable. For soils rich in nitrogen, as from clover and liberal manuring, the nitrogen in the above recommendations may be cut down one third. On clay loams the potash may likewise be reduced one third.

It is considered good practice by many experienced potato growers to supply a part of the nitrogen in the form of an organic nitrogenous fertilizer, as dried blood. As both fertilizers contain approximately the same percentage of nitrogen this may readily be done by replacing half the nitrate of soda in the above recommendations by an equal weight of dried blood.

Probably the best plan of application is to broadcast the fertilizer mixture on the prepared land when reworked in the spring and harrow in. If the method of putting the fertilizer in the drill or furrows is considered more direct and more economical, care should be taken that the fertilizer does not come into direct contact with the sets.

Washing Elderdowns

Mrs. F. B.—It is not difficult to wash elderdowns at home. For one of ordinary size a quarter of a pound of shredded soap or soap flakes, should be dissolved by gentle boiling in a little water. This will be found ample for two separate lots of fairly hot water, in which the elderdown must be kneaded and squeezed, followed by a thorough rinsing in clear, warm water. It is advisable to do all the wringings by hand, since there is always the risk of the fabric being unequal to the strain of much water being forcibly expelled by a wringer. While drying the elderdown should be frequently shaken. Best of all is to do this work on a cloudy but windy day when the down will be continually shaken. Turn the elderdown until it has hung by each of the four sides, or better still, hang it between two lines so that the wind will shake the down from the sides towards the centre.

For Leaking Stovepipes

I saw in the Witness an article on leaking stovepipes and wish to tell what I have found to be an unfailing remedy, as have others to whom I told it. Cut a hole one inch square in the first pipe above the stove (no damper above it). The last pipe that began to leak I could not cut a hole in it myself so I drove a big nail into the pipe, making three holes in an upright line, and the drip stopped at once. This has been a great relief to me and other distressed homekeepers, so I pass it on.—E. H. Craig.

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Guelph, : - : Ont.

Mumps

Reader.—Mumps is an acute infectious disease the most prominent symptom of which, if not the very essence, is an inflammatory swelling of the parotid gland, a salivary gland that lies behind the angle of the jaw. It is not definitely known whether the disease begins in the ducts or in the substance of the gland, or in the tissues surrounding it, and it makes little difference, for soon all these parts are involved. Its symtoms are usually a little fever, chilly sensations and a general ill feeling, followed by tenderness and pain in one or both parotid glands. At the same time, in the depression below the ear at the angle of the jaw, you can see that the gland is swelling. This swelling increases rapidly and spreads to the neck and to the side of the face.

When the disease is at its height, the pain, which is considerable, is so much increased by moving the jaw and by swallowing that the patient often refuses food. It frequently extends to the ears and causes more or less deafness and ringing in the ears. It may also involve the other salivary glands in the floor of the mouth.

Mumps lasts from ten to twelve days as a rule, and the swelling and discomfort are at their height for five or six days. Sometimes the onset is more violent and is accompanied by high fever and attacks of vomiting, and the patient, if a child, may even have convulsions.

Although mumps is regarded as one of the diseases of childhood, it is not at all uncommon among young adults who previously have escaped it and among the aged who seem to wear out in the course of time the immunity that one attack generally confers.

The disease is eminently contagious and often occurs in epidemic form, but just how it is spread—whether by direct contact, through the air in droplets scattered by sneezing, coughing or even talking, or by intermediate contagion — is not yet known. It may occur at any time of the year, but it is more common in winter or early spring when people congregate in poorly ventilated houses, schools, theatres and churches. Although painful, it seldom has serious consequences; but in rare instances it has caused permanent deafness, and even death when inflammation has extended to the membranes of the brain. There is no special treatment, and the doctor's part to keep the patient in bed, make him as comfortable as possible, and keep watch to see that no complications develop. Warm and slightly stimulating liniments applied to the neck without rubbing sometimes give considerable relief.

Sedges

W. E.—The presence of Sedges is usually a sign that land needs draining and liming. The yellow nut-grass (Cyperus esculentis L.) is a troublesome weed in hoed crops or timothy grown on wet land. It spreads not only by seed but by small nut-like tubers underground and so is difficult to eradicate except by making conditions less favorable to its growth.

Aero Stamps

The collecting of stamps of the world's air mail services has been the popular vogue of the year. There have only been forty new additions to the varieties of such stamps since January last, and it is still fairly easy to get a nearly complete collection of aero stamps, writes Fred J. Melville, in the "Daily Telegraph." Austria added two new values, 3,000 and 4,000 kronen to the set issued in 1922, the handsome Chinest aeroplane stamps which were originally issued for the air mail fiasco of 1921 came into regular use for a new service in 1923. Danzig issued four aero stamps, Esthonia issued four provisional air stamps surcharged on the old triangular 5 marks, Germany printed a revised edition of her "peaceful plunging Taube" stamps, Switzerland issued a set of six, and the United States a set of three. The longest set, consisting of sixteen values, was issued by Portugal to commemorate the flight (in 1922) from Portugal to Brazil, but the stamps were not issued in a very legitimate way, the bulk of the issue being sold at a premium to a small syndicate of speculators. The stamp dealers and collectors in Portugal quite properly have shunned the issue, and the speculators have got the pretty labels (or most of them) still on hand.

While the necessity of vegetables in the diet of the adult is well known and receives more attention with each passing year, provision for the dieting of children is a matter of more recent understanding. A very small garden patch would provide spinach or beet greens for the baby all summer.



CANADIAN SHIP LAYS CACHES FORROUND THE WORLD AIR FLIGHT

H.M.C.S. Thiepval sailed a few days ago from Esquimalt, on a 6,000 mile trip in the little known northern seas by Alaska, the Aleutian Islandz, Kamchatka and Northern Japan, expecting to arrive to Yokohama by May 1. En route the crew will establish caches, or "dumps" of food, petrol and oil for the British airplanes which will this summer make an attempt at a flight around the world.

The ship has three officers and crew in addition to Col. L. E. Broome, O. B. E., who is in charge of the Canadian and Pacific portions of the flight and is shown standing alone in the picture above. The three Canadian officers in charge of the Thiepval, served during the war on mine-sweepers and destroyers in the British navy, and are keen for their new adventures. Left to right, above, they are: Lieutenant R. Shipley, Lieutenant W. J. R. Reid, R. C. N., in command of the trawler, and Lieutenant A. Pressy. Above is the trim little ship which is venturing out to cross the Pacific. Accompanying the party also will be George H. Valequette, Canadian Government Arctic photographer, who will write thestory of the venture, and Hamilton Lang, ornithologist for the Dominion Government. The Thiepval will have a radio on board to keep the men in touch with civilization.

Tiger Language

Tiger language is one of the things that Major-General A. E. Wardrop teaches us in "Days and Nights with Indian Big Game." When all is quiet at night, the great beasts can be heard for many miles. The "'aa-oonh" is the most beautiful of all the tiger calls. It is distinctly a call and not a hunting note. It starts with a deep 'aa' and the 'oonh' is long-drawn and musical, and much higher pitched. Like the hunting note, it has a marked vibrating sound. A strong nasal 'n' runs through both call and hunting note. The hunting note is 'eh-unrh,' with the second note much deeper than the first." This sort of roar is to scare game into a noisy stampede;

An Idea
—borrowed from World Wide

The responsibility of the individual for the common weal—

the need for positive, personal effort on the part of the more enlightened citizenry to include among their obligations the enlightenment of the less favored and the enlistment of these for the achievement of some ideal—

> *"It is not too much to say," said Sir Henry Hadow, "that if we could multiply by five the number of people who in a modest and disinterested spirit of public service take up the work of borough and county councils, of churches, hospitals, and the great societies which, in such varied fields, all ultimately seek the public good—above all, the work of Parliament at home, and of the League of Nations in all the world—we should have gone a long way towards turning ideals into realities."*

If everyone who realizes the truth of this would constitute himself or herself a nucleus about which immediately to attract four from the ranks of those who have not yet consciously identified themselves with any welfare or forward-looking adventure, the problem of multiplication would be solved, and "ideals turned into realities."

The trouble is that the problems of the world are multiplying too, and breeding ever more troubles. Unless the number of those devoted to their right solution develops more rapidly, idealism will continue to be an impractical dream.

In this connection would not the regular reading of **the Witness** by four young men or young women of your acquaintance prepare them, and, indeed, more or less inspire them, to take their share in the great adventures of the day? Would it not be a step toward that multiplication of yourself by five which Sir Henry says "would go a long way towards turning ideals into realities." To facilitate the introduction, we offer to send **the Witness** on trial for **three** months for **35 cents**—

A convenient Coupon will be found on page 7 **[4 addresses for $1]**

The above quotation is from one of a wonderful series of lectures on Citizenship delivered by Sir Henry Hadow, vice-chancellor of Sheffield University, to the students of Glasgow University.



Beautiful Farms Make Enjoyable Homes

ALFALFA TROUBLE

Probably the only argument of any weight which is brought against alfalfa is that the uncertainty of getting a catch makes it too risky a crop.

There are two causes of poor germination of alfalfa seed. The first is the absence of alfalfa bacteria in the soil, the second is hard seed.

Sweet clover is the most common plant which harbors on its roots the alfalfa bacteria and it is a safe assumption that land which has grown sweet clover will grow alfalfa successfully. If this practical test has not been made then it is wise to inoculate the seed or the land. There are several ways of inoculating but perhaps the best is to treat the seed with pure cultures of live bacteria which can be obtained from experiment stations.

The second cause of poor germination is less heeded but none the less important. Alfalfa seed, in common with sweet clover, red alsike and white clover, shows a very high percentage of "hard shells" which are very slow in germinating. This is nature's precaution against extinction of the species which might occur if all the seed germinated practically simultaneously and met with fire or frost. Some of these hard shells will lie in the ground three years before germinating.

To overcome this natural safeguard and bring the seed into a domestic state the impervious shell must be rendered pervious to moisture which provokes germination. This can now be done by machinery and is known as scarification. It need only be employed when a test sample of the seed shows considerably more than ten percent hard shells. Some samples will show as high as ninety percent hard shells. Seed which is going to be stored more than a year should not be scarified as there is always a loss in vitality in scarified seed which is stored for longer than that. The scarifying process cannot be undertaken by the farmer. He can only make sure that the seed he buys has been so treated.

These two factors, inoculation and scarification, given proper attention, alfalfa can be sown with as much certainty of success as any crop.

ACCLIMATIZATION OF VARIETIES OF GRAIN.

It is quite commonly believed that any variety of grain when grown in a given district for a number of years, gradually becomes more and more suited to the conditions of that district. While this may be true in the case of plants, which naturally cross-fertilize, such as most of the grasses and clovers, it is not true to the same extent in the case of such plants as wheat, oats and barley, except possibly where mixed varieties containing different strains are grown. In nature, acclimatization takes place as a result of natural selection. The vagaries of soil and climate gradually weed out or weaken those strains which are less suited to survive, whereas the stronger strains increase in proportion.

Since varieties differ greatly in their ability to thrive under different conditions of moisture, temperature, physical condition of the soil, it is highly important from a practical standpoint, that the farmer grow the variety which is best suited to his conditions. This variety can be located only through comparative tests of different varieties sown in adjoining plots in his district. After two or three years' careful testing, it should be possible to choose the variety which seems to give the most promise. If this variety is what is known as a "pure line," by which is meant a variety composed of a single strain, it is not likely that so-called acclimatization will take place to any appreciable extent. If, on the other hand, a variety should happen to be a composite one, that is, composed of two or more strains of varying adaptabilities, it is quite possible that acclimatization may take place by the gradual increase in the proportion of plants belonging to the best adapted strain.

It was once thought that acclimatization takes place in a fairly definite manner in the case of practically all plant life, and that any variety might, in the course of time, become especially suited to the conditions under which it was being grown. That this point of view was incorrect has been clearly demonstrated during recent years, and farmers would be well advised to depend more upon comparative tests of different varieties rather than upon the time-worn theory that sorts grown in a district for many years must inevitably be superior to any new introduction.

Farmers desirous of comparing a few of the best varieties of grain of any kind are invited to communicate with the Cereal Division, Experimental Farm, Ottawa, for advice as to how to proceed. The above institution is anxious to co-operate with farmers in different districts in this work as it realizes that the soil and fertility conditions on a given farm may differ to a very considerable extent from the conditions under which varieties are tested at the farm at Ottawa. In other words, varieties which do not do particularly well at Ottawa might be most desirable to grow under certain conditions met with on a given farm some distance away.

Where a farmer does not wish to take the time to conduct a comparative test of different sorts on his own farm but would like to have the variety he is growing compared at the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, with the varieties grown at that institution, the Cereal Division will be glad to receive from him a one pound sample of his seed. The sack containing this sample should bear the grower's name, the variety name, and the number of years the seed has been grown on his own farm

—L. H. Newman, Dominion Cerealist. Ottawa.

FARM HELP

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

IN CO-OPERATION WITH

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

WILL AGAIN ASSIST FARMERS IN SECURING FARM HELP.

THERE will be an urgent demand all over Canada this year. If you need farm help apply early. The Canadian National Railways Colonization and Development Department, through its representatives in Great Britain, Scandinavian and other European countries, offers a free service to farmers. Order your farm help as early as possible in order that they will reach Canada in time for Spring.

BLANK APPLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ANY CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS AGENT OR DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS MONTREAL, QUE.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

FURTHER FACTS

REGARDING FARM IMPLEMENTS

No. 3 of a Series

Implement Prices Offer Greatest Value

IT has been shown that the present prices of farm machines are the results of certain factors which the implement maker is absolutely unable to control and that these prices are relatively low compared with the cost of material, labor, and transportation, all of which enter into the production. How do these machine prices compare with those of other commodities?

The only practical way to make this comparison is on a price per pound basis. This is quite reasonable when the materials pass through similar machine shop and factory processes and are treated by a like class of labor.

Comparison of Prices

A group of fifteen basic farm implements and a like number of other articles commonly used on a farm have been chosen. These have all been taken at the price prevailing in Ontario. To compare with prices outside of this Province, freight charges must be added. The table in the centre shows the result. The price of implements includes freight charges to the farmer's station, sales tax and moreover the well-known, highly appreciated service that Implement Companies give. The other commodities chosen are not high-priced goods, but articles which are used every day and the prices of which are accepted as fair by all buyers.

Implement Prices Lower than other Commodities

Dump Rake	12c. per lb.
Disc Harrow	15 "
Mower	13 "
Binder	15 "
Hay Loader	15 "
Cultivator	13 "
Spreader	10 "
15-Disc Drill	14 "
3-Section Drag Harrow	13 "
Sulky Plow	15 "
Pulper	11 "
Straw Cutter	14 "
Land Roller	9 "
Wagon Gear	14 "
Wagon Box	13 "

Average Price per pound of Implements, 13.5 cents.

Cheapest Automobile	36c. per lb.
Pipeless Furnace	14 "
Stove—Kitchen	15 "
Bath Tub	20 "
Wash Boiler	42 "
Pitch Fork	36 "
Frying Pan	32 "
Axe	41 "
Coffee Pot	100 "
Washing Machine	22 "
Sewing Machine	45 "
Vise	29 "
Coal Scuttle	37 "
House Force Pump	26 "
Kitchen Cabinet	17 "

Average Price per pound of Foregoing Articles, 25.4 cents.

A Demonstration of Values

It is interesting to note that if a 5-foot Binder were bought at the per pound price of the cheapest automobile, it would cost $556.56 instead of $252.00, a Mower would cost $266.40 as compared with $102.00, a Hay Rake $159.48 instead of $57.00, and a Farmer's Friend Gang Plow $267.84 instead of $136.00.

Implements are Money Makers for the Farmers

It is clearly evident that farm implements offer the greatest value for the farmer's dollar, and if retrenchment is necessary it should not be in equipment. Money spent on farm machines, unlike that spent on many other articles, helps the farmer to increase his earnings and enables him to purchase his other requirements.

Implement Prices Offer Greatest Value for the Farmer's Dollar

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THE PURE-BRED SIRE

The practical application of the science of agriculture implies the recognition that improved live stock is more profitable to the individual breeder, to the province, and to the Dominion as a whole. Otherwise we might rest content with scrub cattle, horses of inferior conformation, and "Captain Cook's" pigs. Where would this Dominion be if enterprising importers had not drawn upon Britain's best Clydesdale horses, stud cattle of a beef type, pure-bred long and short woolled sheep, and, last but not least, notable representatives of the various milk-producing breeds? The answer is contained in that impressive if slangy phrase "in the soup." Everyone who gives a thought to the matter must recognize that the improvement of one's herd, stud, or flock is only possible through using sires carrying blood of the best breeding. The purebred sire must be depended upon to increase the money output per animal, no matter whether we consider dairy stock, beef cattle, mutton or wool sheep, or horses. The live stock industry, together with the agricultural industry, determines our national prosperity, and the two cannot be separated. It is well to bear this in mind, and not neglect, in an effort to carry more stock, the fertility of the soil. No realization of the value of superior sires is complete unless farmers visualize the importance at the same time of maintaining the land's capacity to "do" the stock well. In a bulletin dealing with the question of purebred sires, it is asked and answered, Why do purebred sires pay? It is a Canadian question, but its application is world-wide. The answer is that having been long and carefully selected for certain desirable qualities they are able to transmit these qualities to their offspring in a high degree. These qualities vary with the class of animal, but include weight and power in draft horses, speed and agility in light horses, uniformity in size, quality and early maturity in meat animals, and increased production in various animal products. The better quality and greater quantity of these products in turn brings about higher prices and greater returns. On the other hand, scrub sires, not having the years of careful selection for these desirable qualities, it is impossible for them to pass them on to their offspring; therefore, increased production and returns are not to be expected. In other words, we have retrogression. Instances of the improvement brought about by purebred sires are not wanting. The yearly milk production of cows from ordinary dams and sired by purebred bulls of high quality has been increased as much as 60 per cent., and the fat production over the original dams has gone as high as 130 per cent. and the increase in fat production as high as 100 per cent. It is a notable fact that the increase in milk and in fat does not advance in the same proportion, the per cent. of increased fat gradually lowering. In one test with sheep the use of a purebred sire on a grade flock increased wool production from .5lb per animal to 8 1-2 lb. per animal to the first class. The improvement in mutton form added 5 cents per hundred to the value of the lambs, which carried 50 per cent. more weight than lambs from scrub sires. Many other instances could be cited if space would permit. In the selection of this very important animal—the purebred sire—let us not be carried away by the fact that we can obtain for an animal papers showing that he is purebred. In spite of all the papers issued (and this is one of the shortcomings of our recording system), many a purebred animal is no better than a scrub. The scrub purebred is, in animal breeding, a curse, second only, if not equal to, the out-and-out scrub. The pedigree is of importance in that it shows what the animal may be through natural inheritance, but it does not show what he is as an individual, and individuality is the first consideration in a sire. Pedigree is of particular importance in dairy sires where production records are shown, but here again let us not be carried away by the fine records of one or two remote ancestors whose good influence may have been entirely overshadowed by the introduction of one or two lines of inferior blood. Remember that the effective contribution of each ancestor in the first generation is 25 per cent. of the whole, while that of each ancestor in the fourth generation is only 0.39 per cent. of the whole. In view of this, if we consider the records of the dam and granddams, we have the essence of a dairy bull's breeding. If he has good backing further back so much the better. Lastly, if the purebred sire is to become all that his natural inheritance and individuality give promise of, he must be given a proper opportunity. Many a good animal has been turned into a scrub through improper and insufficient feeding, particularly during the first year or two of his life, though the feeding of the mature animal is also important.—Otago Witness.



PREMIER BRACKEN

The optimistic Premier of Manitoba, who says that conditions in Canada are more hopeful now than at any time for the past twenty years. He spoke before a conference in Winnipeg at which were represented public, semi-public, social and service organizations of Manitoba.

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Before churning add one-half-teaspoonful to each gallon of cream and out of your churn comes butter of Golden June shade to bring you top prices. "Dandelion Butter Color" costs nothing because each ounce used adds ounce of weight to butter. Large bottles cost only 35 cents at drug or grocery stores. Purely vegetable, harmless, meets all State and National food laws. Used for 50 years by all large creameries. Doesn't color buttermilk. Absolutely tasteless.
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Small accounts are willingly handled.



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Established over 100 years

FERTILIZER FACTS FOR FARMERS

(By The Fertilizer Division, Ottawa.)

"Wasteful ways bring woeful want," but even in the face of this truth, the wasteful buying of commercial fertilizers is still with us. Many farmers fail to realize that the terms "fertilizer" and "plant food" are not synonymous; that in the trade "fertilizer" is the material which at so much money per ton the farmer is asked to buy, while "plant food" is the nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash content of the fertilizer, and the basic factor in determining its relative value both in crop production and on the market.

One of the provisions of the Fertilizers Act requires fertilizers to be sold with a statement of guaranteed analysis or content of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. The object of this is to provide farmers and other buyers with information as to the number of units of each of the plant foods which the fertilizer contains, so that economies in buying may be effected, which will ensure maximum crop results and minimum expenditures for the plant food used.

Wasteful buying will cease only when the haphazard manner of buying tons of fertilizer is replaced by the method of comparing the relative costs per unit of plant food. The latter is based on scientific research and sound economics, and may be used by all who understand fertilizer formulae.

"E pluribus unum" is the motto of the United States. It is a Latin phrase meaning "out of many, one."



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AT many points in Canada there are openings for men capable of representing this Company. Life Insurance is a substantial business of a highly remunerative nature and offers you a big field for your life work.

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HOW TO REAR EARLY CHICKS

(Hoard's Dairyman.)

The more feed one can safely get into a bunch of chicks the more rapid growth will be. One assumes that such a program is relatively simple and requires little if any special attention. As poultry increases in value and importance, there is a resulting increase in competition among the producers that makes earlier hatching necessary. Often there is a tone of doubt among poultry raisers as to the possibility of carrying unnatural conditions too far. At the present time it is possible and profitable to raise chicks the year round which seems to answer the question.

Why not early hatching? There is no question but that the earlier stock hits the high market and consequently pays a bigger profit. Except during the war, there has never been a concentrated effort to increase the number of chicks hatched but there is a necessity for hatching earlier.

Most of the late work shows that the ills of early hatched chicks are caused by rations deficient in some material. Leg weakness is manifested by that appearance in the flock and either results in high mortality or slow growth. By a series of experiments that open up new channels of light and throw out the discard materials, some real help to poultrymen has been suggested.

As a step in this direction, at the University of Wisconsin, an effort was made to discover the effect of sunlight on chicks. In this work the chicks kept away from sunlight and fed a white corn ration died at the end of the fifth week. On the same ration, but given sunlight, they lived until the nineteenth week. A yellow corn ration and no sunlight sustained life until the fourteenth week, while with sunlight they lived and grew splendidly. The ration was composed of yellow corn 80, standard middlings 20, bone 5, lime rock 5, salt 1, and skimmilk to drink. With this ration, in an experimental way, excellent results were obtained.

One should not expect to accept this as a ration that can be universally adopted and used with success but does tend to show the materials that must be incorporated in a feed in order to supply all the necessary ingredients. Rather than discarding the present system and adopting that ration, one should draw some conclusions from the experiments.

Probably the first and most important thought is the yellow corn. For ages, apparently, the one best feed for chicks has been diluted by a mixture of a lot more unnecessary materials or the use of white corn rather than the yellow as a foundation. Yellow corn probably will not influence color in white birds as much as the breeding that is put into them by the foundation stock.

Second in order only is sunlight. How often has one noted the improved condition in chicks that resulted from free range after being closely confined during inclement weather. We have always thought that contact with the ground was responsible while it has really sunlight, the cheapest food known, that was doing the job. It must be direct sunlight to accomplish this end for indirect light, obtained through glass, has been filtered so that no good is obtained.

Instead of trying to pamper a bunch of chicks along in small quarters we should get them out as soon as possible. This means very early, with the present brooding equipment, for the better apparatus now used means more reserve heat and less chance of the chicks becoming chilled. Even though running outdoors the heat is available for them at any time. It is surprising how early they can be moved to the colony house.

Third in order is the use of milk, eggs, or both. Milk is a wonderful food rather than a stimulator and can be given to the flock as soon as they are hatched. Keep the milk before them from the time they are placed in the brooder until they are matured. No value can be placed on either skimmilk or whole milk when it comes to the food value for chicks.

As a substitute one can use either fresh or infertile incubator eggs. About three to the hundred chicks is the proper number when mixed with milk. One can beat the eggs into the milk and use this to moisten the mash to a crumbly condition. This feeding schedule utilizes the infertile incubator eggs, which would otherwise be a waste, and is important enough so that fresh eggs could economically be used.

With the thought in mind of what is necessary and importance of the foregoing for early chicks, one can compile a ration.

A scratch composed of equal parts cracked corn and cracked wheat with a mash mentioned is satisfactory. More variety is obtained in 150 pounds yellow corn meal, 100 pounds wheat bran, 100 pounds wheat middlings, 20 pounds rolled oats, 20 pounds meat scrap, and one per cent. of salt. Dry bone and limestone would be placed in the hopper available for the chicks at all times.

One should strive to produce one and one half-pound broilers in eight to twelve weeks. If this is being done one is growing the stuff economically and from that time on the pullets should be developed at a slower rate.

DIGESTIVE TROUBLES

Digestive disorders among certain hens in a flock may be due to a variety of troubles, but the ration is a common cause. Hens that receive only hard grain but no dry mash or green food seem the most subject to bowel trouble. The bran and easily digested ground grains in the dry mash are a great help in preventing digestive disorders.

A pound of epsom salts per 100 birds is sometimes an effective remedy. This can be given in a moist mash. Then keep dry mash before them at all times. Also provide a hopper of charcoal and give green feed, such as sprouted oats or cabbages once each day. Perform a postmortem on any hens that die and note the condition of the internal organs, especially the liver.

BLACK LaBESSA BREED

O. S., Ont., writes:—A few weeks ago I saw an article on the Black LaBessa Fouret Poultry. Will you please give the names of some parties who raise the Black LaBessa? I should like to get either some chicks or eggs. Wishing you and the Witness success.

POULTRY-KEEPING GOOD BUSINESS

Sir Daniel Hall, who was the principal guest at the reunion of the National Utility Poultry Society (England), said: "I have learnt wisdom since I was principal of Wye College. In those days the great Tegetmeir challenged the world to produce a balance sheet of a commercial egg farm. He died before it could be tested. The N.U.P.S. has given the whole farming interest an example, and I recognise the hen as good business. Poultry-keeping is increasing. Farmers are turning their ploughshares into poultry-houses, and are finding that the hen is one of the most profitable converters of food ever possessed. Farms that are now paying are those on which the crops are turned into poultry products. Poultry-keepers are reasonable people, keen, progressive community, worthy of all the help the Ministry can give them."

Rough-looking plumage is sometimes an indication of good work upon the part of a hen. It may be due to late moulting, hard scratching and the general activity that goes with good production. The sleek well-fed, high-colored, "dolled-up" bird is apt to be one of the drones of the flock, one that spends more time preening herself and trying to look attractive than in laying. On the other hand, rough plumage may result from infestation by lice or depluming mites, and requires a little grease rubbed into bare spots, or, of course, such a fowl may be sick, though the latter condition would also be shown by lack of appetite, inactivity, etc.—M.B.D.

More failures in poultry-keeping are due to lack of care than anything else. No living thing penned up and neglected can thrive. Yet the breed usually gets the blame, instead of the owner, whose indifference was usually the cause.

Flavor is an important feature in an egg. The yolk of an egg contains about 30 per cent. of fatty substances. Fats and oils have a strong "liking" for scents and aromatics generally, which explains the ease with which eggs are tainted.

CULLING AND SELECTIVE BREEDING

Before the Michigan Poultry Producers' meeting at the College, Prof. E. C. Foreman stated that the average farm flock usually has about thirty hens which cannot produce more than eighty-five eggs per year. They have one Rhode Island Red hen picked out of a farm flock which has laid 230 eggs and is still producing. This hen has not moulted up to February 7 and will be used to establish a strain of high-producing Reds.

Cold weather is not a handicap to egg production as it stimulates the appetite and a hen, to lay heavily, must be a heavy feeder. Endurance is necessary to stand up under the heavy feeding and make a good record for the year. The average hen of the heavy breeds goes broody four times per year and some may go broody nine times. A hen loses twenty days, or about a dozen eggs, every time she goes broody.

The four-finger spread means that the ovary of the hen is functioning. The two-finger spread indicates the bird is not laying, but may produce later. The Hoganizing of flocks must be supplemented with other tests. Some crow-headed birds will lay at a profit, while others lack constitutional vigor. The skull of a good layer is flat on top when the bird is viewed from the front. Hens with masculine heads should be culled out. Professor Foreman says he has handled close to one million hens and never yet found two heads alike yet.

Good layers are flat-backed, with deep, flat ribs and they are close feathered. The close featured birds are apt to be late moulters. A hen may moult a primary feather for each broody period. Up to September first you can count the new feathers and determine the times the hen has been broody.

Crow-headed birds may be caused by close breeding, over-crowding, or poor feeding. They throw slow feathering chicks, which means low winter production. That means low annual production. Over-refined birds lose weight rapidly, they often lay profitably, but mature too early. An early-maturing Barred Rock pullet at the college plant began laying when a little over three months old. The first sixty eggs she produced were without market value and weighed about an ounce each.

A good producing hen will have a waxy skin on the face and the eye will show femininity and character. An age of from five to six and a half months is about right for laying. The active busy hens have the laying temperament. The hens should hold the pigment, showing that they are receiving plenty of feed and do not have to draw on their reserves to produce the eggs.—"K", in Michigan Farmer.

PREVENTING EGG EATING

The use of darkened nests is one of the best preventives of egg eating. The hens enter at the rear and the eggs are removed by the caretaker by lowering a hinged door in front. When the hens see the eggs in open nests and scratch in the litter in such nests, the eggs are often broken and soon the hens learn to break and eat them.

Use plenty of oyster shells so the hens will produce eggs with strong shells that are not easily broken. Filling an egg with mustard and red pepper is sometimes used to break the habit, but it is not as good as using the right kind of nests and gathering the eggs often.

THE GENETICS OF BREEDING

The breeder of stock is in a great measure, dependent upon the environment in which his animals are placed, which, taken together with heredity and the genius of the breeder—for it is a genius which maintains a type through generations—enables him to practically sell his surplus progeny "on the blind." Fortunately this Dominion is well endowed in climate and soil to maintain the best traditions of British stock, and we believe we have also enough keen stock breeders to safeguard their heritage. Breeding is a science which no studmaster can afford to ignore. The application of genetics to animal breeding as pointed out by Dr. Crew, director of the Animal Breeding Research Department, Edinburgh, at the opening meeting of the Bangor Agricultural Discussion Society, will revolutionise stock breeding some day. Exact information on the various facts and problems of heredity is being pigeon-holed for use of breeders later on. As a science, genetics is above twenty years old, but says Dr. Crew, already a great deal of knowledge of the principles of heredity and of variation has been obtained from the study of such animals as flies, moths, mice, rabbits, etc. This in no way lessens its ultimate value to the stock-breeder, because in all cases the same general principles have been found to hold true when applied to the known facts of heredity and variations in horses, cattle, sheep and pigs.

The fundamental idea of genetics is that the future characters of an individual are determined by its hereditary composition, which is fixed at the time the egg-cell of the mother is fertilized by the sperm-cell of the sire. The geneticist holds that the phenomena of heredity have a definite and knowable basis, that in this matter there are no real mysteries, but only present lack of knowledge. The science of genetics has made great strides during the past ten years, and its influence has been extended into the realm of practical stock-breeding, but it is unreasonable to expect this to result in any immediate advance in the practical art of stock-breeding, as yet far in advance of the applied science. The principles of heredity were in operation long before Mendel discovered them, and the successful stock-breeder, whether he recognised it or not, was the man who adopted practice which was in accordance with laws which the scientist is only now beginning to put in definite form.

The great service which genetics offers to-day to the breeder is the means it provides for interpreting his methods and results, so as to enable him to concentrate on essentials, and thus proceed confidently and more directly to his goal. In its application the science is of most value to the breeder of small, quickly reproducing and rapidly maturing stock, such as poultry.

Genetics has shown that characters or groups of characters are inherited in such a way that they may be treated as independent units. It has shown clearly the value of selection, not as a means of creating new characters, as the breeder so often believes, but as enabling him to sort out what he requires from the mixture of heritable characters already present in the stock. The geneticist has gained considerable knowledge of the mechanism of sex determination, and of sex-differentiation, and has interpreted the phenomena of sex-linked inheritance, intersexuality, and sex-reversal. He has demonstrated beyond doubt that certain forms of disease are truly inborn, has disclosed the method of their transmission, and has shown the way through breeding by which they may be eliminated. He has given an exact meaning to the phenomena of inbreeding, outbreeding, and prepotency, and has shown that fecundity, fertility, longevity, and certain forms of sterility have a definite genetical basis. He has critically examined the traditional beliefs, and is able to give an authoritative opinion as to their validity.

It is important that the stock-breeder should appreciate the, so to speak, fundamentals, as the future lies with the experienced and skilful breeder to ensure improvement with certainty and speed. No breeder should expect straight away a herd of dairy cattle capable of yielding exceptionally high milk returns, but he cannot afford to ignore the psychology of milk secretion. The time no doubt will come when the geneticist will be in a position to dogmatise and indicate just how to secure relatively low or high milk yields.—Otago Witness.

HATCHING-EGGS, BABY-CHICKS AND STRAWBERRIES

1,565 eggs in January from 94 May-hatched Pullets from our "Bonnie Best" Barred Plymouth Rocks. You figure out the per cent., and to the first 25 correct solutions we will send in season, five Pedigree Strawberry Plants. Our Strawberry varieties consist of "Dr. Burrill," the Million Dollar Plant; "Brandywine," "Williams' Improved," "Glen Mary," "Parson Beauty," "Premier," "Charles J.," "Valonia" and "Vendace." Ladies, Our fruit canning Process "sent Free" with literature to all enquiries. N.B.—Please mention this paper.

Don't put it off, write to-day.

ROBT. BROWN FRUIT AND POULTRY FARM,
Hamilton, R.R. 5, Hamilton, Canada.



The Pacific Construction Company of Vancouver sent the following message on Friday to the Royal Grain Commission sitting at Winnipeg: "Owing to serious insinuations and representations made to you by Van Allen involving this company in questionable transactions in connection with the construction and operation of the grain elevator under control of the Vancouver Harbor Commission, we strongly urge your Commission to hold an investigation at Vancouver so that our company can have an opportunity to refute such malicious misrepresentations."

Father Delorme, who, during the present trial, has maintained an almost stoical composure, wept copiously on Thursday afternoon while his own deposition, given before Coroner McMahon in February, 1922, was being read in the Court of King's Bench. The accused listened to his own story of how detectives informed him of Raoul Delorme being found murdered near Snowdon, when he suddenly gave vent to his emotions.

A decrease in the net debt of Canada, increased ordinary revenue and decreased ordinary expenditure during the month of February, are shown in the monthly statement issued on Friday through the finance department. During the month the net debt decreased by $1,226,429, standing on Feb. 29 at $2,410,162,174.

A strike of mail service employees that will be Dominion-wide is threatened if the policy of the Government to take away or cut the bonus of postal employees is persisted in.

Curtis D. Wilbur, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, has been appointed to the office of Secretary of the Navy made vacant by the resignation of Edwin Denby.

One of the greatest things any young man can do for himself is to connect himself up at the very beginning of his career with some great moral proposition. If his help-meet-to-be does the like, the future of the resulting family is bright indeed.

"God uses folks—just folks like you and me."

MACHINERY

Cylinder Grinding for Automobiles, Tractors, etc., have us do this and put new pistons in—makes it stronger than new. Send for free circulars. GUARANTEE MOTOR CO. Hamilton, Canada. t.f.

Engines, Magnetos, Propellers, Carburators, and all motor boat fitting for sale or exchange. Send for lists. GUARANTEE MOTOR CO. Hamilton, Canada. t.f.

No. 2 Pringle and Bredle variety wood turning lathe with counter shaft, 12 rings, 2 knives and necessary tools. A small factory itself. Used 3 months. Value, new, $500; will sell for $350 or exchange for Ford car of equal value. Write if interested, WELLS THOMPSON, Orrville, Parry Sound, Ont.

MOTOR SUPPLIES

Spare Parts for Most Makes and Models of cars. Your old, broken or worn parts replaced. Write or wire us describing what you want. We carry the largest and most complete stock in Canada of slightly used or new parts and automobile equipment. We ship C.O.D. anywhere in Canada. Satisfaction or refund in full our motto. SHAW'S AUTO SALVAGE PART SUPPLY, 922-941 Dufferin St., Toronto, Ont.

Water-less Storage Battery

Here is the battery you have been waiting for, they will not freeze under any conditions, or leak, corrode, etc.; they have been left in a truck over three years and not a terminal removed and has been signed by a notary public, W. A. Melchert, and the battery is as good as the day he got it, it is the battery without a fault, they are protected by a 2-year guarantee. If your dealer cannot supply you, send direct to us, with money order enclosed, and model of car; you run no risk—

6 volt, 11 plate, $25.85, for Fords, Chevrolet, Yellow Cab, Durant, Maxwell.

6 volt, 13 plate, $28.85, for Essex, Paige, Studebaker.

12 volt, 7 plate, $32.85, for Dodge, Franklin, Hudson, etc.

BARKER BROS., Goderich, Ont., Ontario Distributors. Box 474.

POULTRY

BANTAMS

Black, buff, white Cochins Bantams, $2.50 each, $5 pair. See winnings at all leading shows, satisfaction guaranteed. PARKER BROS., Woodstock, Ontario. 11-6

CORNISH

Cornish Pens, headed by my Toronto Royal winners. Eggs, $5 per fifteen. W. D. BARKER, importer and breeder of Dark Cornish, R. R. No. 2, Paris, Ont. 10-6

DUCKS

For Sale Domesticated, Wild Mallards, four ducks, one drake, three dollars each; also, Mongolian pheasants. WALTER FILMAN, Aldershot, Ont.

JERSEY BLACK GIANTS

Price List descriptive circular free. Stock for sale. Booking orders for hatching eggs. E. B. ROACH, 19 Devonport Street, Hamilton, Ont. 8-6

Jersey Black Giants—Settings from birds carefully mated for size, vigor, beauty, utility, $5.00 per 15. REV. M. C. GANDIER, Fort McNicoll, Ont., Member American Association Jersey Black Giant Breeders of America. 11-6

POULTRY

LEGHORNS

50 Pure O.A.C. large, utility White Leghorn pullets for sale, $1.75 each. Baby chicks, $19.00 per hundred. Hatching eggs, $1.50 per fifteen. MRS. J. C. HENDERSON, Durham, Ont. 11-2

Single Comb White Leghorn Cockerels, Bred from 265 to 300 egg strain. Imported direct from Ferris. CHAS. W. MOLLAND, Thorndale, Ont. 10-6

MINORCAS

Choice Single Comb Black Minorcas. Cockerels, $3.00 to $5.00 each. Canadian best strains. Eggs, per settings, $2.00, 3 for $5.00. GEO. E. BARCLAY, Ildeston, Ont. 10-6

PLYMOUTH ROCKS

Stock for Sale — "Lakeview" Barred Rocks, winners Canadian National and Royal Winter. Money refunded unless satisfied. Mating list for 1924 on application. H. SPURWAY, Birch Cliff, Ont. 50—52.

Peerless White Rocks. They win and lay; stock and eggs at all times. Send for 1924 Mating List. McCALL & SHERK, Box 645. Simcoe, Ont. 4—16

Order Now—Bred-to-lay Barred Rock Chicks, $20. Select hatching eggs, $5 hundred. Immediate shipment. WELSH BROS., Parkhill, Ont. 9-12

Barred Rock Chicks and Hatching Eggs. Exceptional laying strain. Lowest prices.—WOODYCREST FARM, Perth, Ontario. 11-6

Barred Rocks—Cockerels bred from the heavy laying and exhibition strains which have been consistent winners at Madison Garden Show, New York. $4 each. MRS. JOHN P. MARTIN, R.R. No. 2, Millbrook, Ont.

Barred Rock Baby Chicks, Eggs from special matings or 220 to 272 egg strains, headed by Pedigreed cockerels of 226 egg. Hen, chicks, 20c each; eggs, $8 per 100. W. G. PICKETT, Clinton, Ont. 12-6

TURKEYS

Mammoth Bronze Turkeys, from Best Prize winning strains. Large, healthy birds. Toms, $6.00 each. Hens, $4.00. P. MacINTOSH, Martintown, Ont. 7-6

Mammoth Bronze Turkeys. Strong healthy birds from good laying strain. Prices reasonable. E. C. MacINTYRE, Mountain, Ont. Box 14. 8-6

Choice Copper Bronze Turkeys. Big, healthy, vigorous birds from imported stock. Ideal breeding stock. JOHN BRADY, Glanworth, Ont. 11-6

RHODE ISLAND REDS

Elegant, Vigorous Rose Comb Cockerels, $3.50 upwards. Satisfaction guaranteed. E. BEAN, Elmira, Ont. 7-6

WYANDOTTES

Eggs for Sale, $3 for 15; Legal White Wyandotte, Grand Sire, took first prize at New York State Fair; and, also, Cockerels for sale, of the same breed, at $5.00 each. Legal strain. Apply to F. SIEFERT, P.O. Fordwich P.O., Ont. (Box 69). 12-6

MISCELLANEOUS

Baby Chicks, S. C. White Leghorns, Barred Plymouth Rocks, S. C., Rhode I. Rocks, Anconas. Write for particulars, ELMSLEA CHICK FARM, Clinton, Ont. 10-6

Baby Chick, Wishbone hatched, heaviest laying strains, Rocks, Reds, Wyandottes, Leghorns, Anconas. Twenty dollars per hundred. MOUNT PLEASANT HATCHERY, Mount Pleasant, Ontario. 10-6

Cockerels, White Wyandottes and S. C. White Leghorns. Standard bred, heavy laying strains. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Wyandottes, $5; Leghorns, $3. ROY BLACK, Sundridge, Ont. 10-6

Pen Prize Winning Hamburghs, $20, 33 Calabar repeating rifle, $30; 22 repeater, $10; exchange for White Leghorn hens. ISAAC COLLINS, Sheguindah, Ont. 10-6

For Sale—5 S. C. Brown Leghorn Cockerels, $3 each. Eight Pekin drakes, twelve ducks; two Rouen drakes, two ducks; three Aylesbury drakes, three ducks, $5 each. Two Mallard drakes, $3 each. Guaranteed exhibition stock. H. J. BLACK, 247 Forest St., Chatham, Ont. 11-6

Martin Strain Pure-bred White Wyandotte Cockerels, prize-winning White Leghorn Cock. Safe arrival guaranteed. Price, $2.75 each. JOHN F. ROSS, Lucknow, Ontario. eow

Ten Thousand Baby Chicks. Best Bred-to-lay strains in Canada. White Wyandottes, Barred Rocks, White Leghorns, Cockerels, three and five dollars. Catalogue free. SID SAUNDERS, Box W., Brantford, Ont. 12-6

Bred-to-lay Baby Chicks. Our Baby Chicks are pen-run, no special pens. You get chicks from entire flock of heavy laying stock and at our attractive prices you are saving from 5-10c a chick. Write for complete price list of all varieties. GRIMSBY CHICK COMPANY, Grimsby, Ontario. 12-6

Hatching Eggs from trap-nested stock, Ferris strain, $1.75 per setting. C. W. EDGAR, 951 Hudson Ave., Montreal West. 12-3

Eggs For Hatching from my Great Winter laying strain, S. C. Anconas, S. C. Black Leghorns, $1.50 per 15 eggs. J. LOUCKS, Neuburgh, Ont. 12-7

LIVE STOCK

CATTLE

10 Holsteins, foundation cow, sister of "May Echo," Sylvia Grand stock. No reactors. Prices moderate. WM. BELL, Cherry Valley, Ontario. 11-2

Starkholm Ayrshires.—Two pure-bred bulls, ten months old, Sire "Oakland Field-Marshall—53900—whose grandsire has 6 qualified progeny and both from good females. J. H. STARK, Peterboro, Ont., R.R. 7. 12-6

FOXES

Upper quality Black Silver Foxes. Write with full assurance of a square deal. Reference, Portal State Bank, Portal, N. Dak. JAMES UPPER, North Portal, Sask. 10-12

SWINE

Selling—Registered Tamworth Yearling Boar, $25, sure and cheap. Also Bronze gobblers, $4.00. A. BRADFORD, Arrow River, Man.

AGENTS WANTED

A rare opportunity — men and women make enormous profits. Article costs 5c, sells quickly for $1; can make $15 to $20 daily. Particulars free; write quick. GEORGE G. GRATTAN, New Glasgow, Que. tf

One Man Wanted in Each County to Appoint agents to sell our "Magic Gas"; a guaranteed product; new discovery; equals gasoline at 3 cents a gallon, $1.00 box gives 500 miles; $500 monthly easy. Write quick. P. A. LEFEBVRE & CO., Alexandria, Ont.

Hosiery Agents, $5,000 yearly, selling hosiery, direct mill to consumer. Ladies', men's and children's line. Hundred different numbers. Best values. DEPT 223, Triangle Mills, Box 2503, Montreal.

FARMERS' WANTS & SALES

ADVERTISING RATES.—Under this heading advertisements will be inserted without display at a cash-with-order rate of two cents per word per insertion (minimum charge 10c. per insertion). SIX consecutive insertions will be given for the price of FOUR (minimum rate for six insertions one dollar). A number or a single letter is 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.

Copy for insertion in these columns should be in the "Witness" Office not later than Friday morning to secure proper classification in following Weekly Edition.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE

Big Bargain—Parcel Remnants, $2. 5 lbs. Quilt patches, $1.50. A. McCREERY, Chatham, Ont. 7-6

Weeping or Dripping Stovepipes are dangerous and wasteful. Write for information. CHIMNEY DOCTOR CO., Seguin Falls, Ont. Mention paper. 8-6

Heaven and Hell, Swedenborg's great work on the life after death and a real world beyond. Over 400 pages. Only 25c postpaid. W. D. LAW, 456 Euclid Ave., Toronto. 9-4

For Sale—Fanning mill, wire and zinc screening, all sizes. For prices, write J. A. GRAHAM, 201 Langlois Ave., Windsor, Ont. 9-6

Pure wool yarns for sweaters; lovely carded wool for comforters. Sample for light comforter, one dollar.—GEORGETOWN WOOLLEN MILLS, Georgetown, Ontario. 10-6

POST CARDS

25 Handsome Easter Cards, verses, pictures, flowers. Best ever offered. Big assortment, postpaid, for 25c. HOWIE CARD COMPANY, Beebe, Que. 9-6

SEED.

Carload, Third Generation, Registered Banner Oats, 50c bushel in bulk, f.o.b. Marshall. NORMAN TYLER, Marshall, Sask. 7-6

Cloverlea Seed and Stock Farm, 8820-111th Street, Edmonton, offers Altaswede, a new hardy Red Clover, $1.00 pound. Recommend seeding five pounds acre in rows. 8-6

Choice Seed Corn. Write A. S. MAYNARD AND SONS, Chatham, Ont. 9-6

Alfalfa Seed for sale. Government graded No. 2, at $11.50 per bushel. Bags extra, 50c. HAROLD DAY, Creemore, Ont. 9-7

Early Alaska and Gold Rain Seed Oats, 85c a bushel. Bags free. JOHN W. SCHWEITZER, Elmira, Ont., R.R. No. 2, 9-6

Selling—Kubanka rust resistant wheat—Dollar fifteen machine run to be re-cleaned by purchaser, dollar quarter cleaned bags, twenty cents. Went 21 to 27 per acre. Marquis next section went 8 graded "feed." Send ten cents for sample. Deposit 35c bushel reserves wheat. MONTGOMERY BROS., Deloraine, Man. 10-6

Large White Seed Beans for sale, excellent cookers, wonderful yielders, five dollars bushel. Sample on request. CYRIL TROYER, Malton, Ont. 10-3

Car Banner Seed Oats free from noxious weeds. Germination test, 100 p.c. PERCY HATCH, Perdue, Sask. 10-8

Home-grown variegated alfalfa; Grimm alfal- fa; red clover; sweet clover; timothy. All fancy quality, recleaned, Government standard seeds. Prices reasonable. Write A. C. MUIR, Ceylon, Ontario. 11-6

Potiatch Peas, like Stratagem, bigger pods; everybody praises them, lb., 20c and postage. PERCY WRIGHT, Wilkie, Sask. 12-6

BULBS AND PLANTS

Gladiolus Bulbs from a pleasure garden. List of eighty varieties mailed on request. W. HARRIS, Rockwood, Ont. 4—10

Roses, Peonies, Shrubs, Gladioli; Best and cheapest in Canada. Write for price list.—A. W. GRAHAM, St. Thomas, Ont. 7-6

Hardy Chrysanthemum Plants—Live outdoors all winter. Bronze yellow, red, and white, $8.00 per hundred, $1.20 per dozen. 10 cts extra postage per dozen by mail. CLAYTON FIELD, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. 8-6

Private Garden Surplus, Prize Gladioli, Dah- lias, Perennials, Raspberries, Strawberries, Victoria Rhubarb. Bargain list free. W. A. SNIDER, Woodbridge, Ont. 10-6

Glorious Gladioli. — Hardy northern grown stock. World's best varieties. List Free. Special Bargain. Send one dollar for a two dollar collection. O'ROURKE, Woodstock, Ontario. eow

Best Gladioli, 300 varieties, reasonable prices. H. P. Van WAGNER, R. 5, Hamilton, Ont. 12-6

Sweet Pea Seed, choice new and standard va- rieties, 10 cents per packet; 12 packets, all different, for $1.00, post free. Direct from the grower. FRED. COUSINS, Rural Route 4, Victoria, B.C. 12-6

Gardens — Hardy and Attractive Gardens and grounds planned and planted. MISS S. L. BOND, Garden Architect and Consultant, Stanstead, Quebec. 12-6

STRAWBERRY AND RASPBERRY PLANTS

Williams, and Marshall Strawberry Plants at $6.50 per thousand, good stock. CLAYTON FIELD, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. 8-6

"High Class" Strawberry Plants, Standard and Everbearing varieties at "live and let live" prices. Write for descriptive price list. J. E. WILCOX, Hastings, Ont. 10-6

HONEY

Clover Honey, sixty pounds, $6.00, F.O.B., Glencairn, J. WILLOUGHBY, Glencairn, Ont. 8-6

FARMS WANTED

Wanted—To hear from owner of good Farm for Sale. State cash price, full particulars. D. F. BUSH, Minneapolis, Minn.

Want to hear from owner having farm for sale; give particulars and lowest price.—JOHN J. BLACK, Witness Street, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. t.f.

Sell Your Property Quickly For Cash, No Mat- ter where located. Don't pay big commissions. Particulars free. REAL ESTATE SALESMAN CO., 558 Brownell, Lincoln, Nebr. 7-12

PROPERTY FOR SALE

A Modern Seven-suite Apartment House, "Beechcourt," in a fine residential section of Toronto. Must be sold immediately to wind up an estate. Ideal purchase for a retired farmer or anyone wishing to make an extremely attractive and profitable location. Can be purchased direct from owners now, for $25,000, with $5,000 down. Purchaser can make 40 p.c. on investment. Absolutely an exceptional opportunity. Full information direct from R. COURTICE, 109 Beech Ave., Toronto, or through your agent. 11-2

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted — Experienced Single Man, mixed farming; yearly employment. State wages; send references. HERBERT LATIMER, R. 5, Dresden, Ont. 11-4

FARMS FOR SALE

160 Acres, Fenced, Good Timber, usual out- buildings; five-room bungalow, water and soil good; pasturage. Nicholson Creek. Further particulars, apply to CAPTAIN A. WELSTEAD, Kettle Valley, B.C., Elevator 2600. 6-8

320 Acres at Wainwright, Alta., in Oil Belt. Good buildings. Well fenced, lots of water, in good state of cultivation. Will sell very cheap or will trade for small farm or Toronto property. Clear title. GEO. O. THOMPSON, Wainright, Alta. 8-6

Improved Farms For Rent. Good buildings and close to towns. GEO. INNES CO., Innes, Sask. 9-6

For Sale—72 Acres, Albany 11 miles, railroad 1 1-2 miles, 10-room house, two barns, large hen house, other buildings; electric lights, telephone, stock, tools. S. D. BENEDICT, Voorheesville, N.Y. 9-6

Two Choice Dairy Farms, 1-2 mile apart, con- taining 100 and 90 acres respectively; both with good house and barn buildings. Will sell together or separately, with or without stock and machinery. E. I. CROWDER, Oxford Mills, Ont. 10-6

Farms — New Catalogue containing descrip- tions of fifty farm bargains selected from our list, ranging in price from $1,000 to $7,000 each. Terms, from $200 up. Some have stock, tools and furniture. We print this book for your benefit, and it will save you time and money. Copy free. J. K. RICHARDS, Agency, Farmington, Me. 10-6

Poultry Farm for 1,000 hens; modern two- family house; excellent location; terms. WM. P. ERDELL, 517 Landis, Vineland, N.J. 10-6

Picturesque hill farm, with large wood lot, two brooks, Tioga County, N.Y. 160 acres; $3,200. WARD CLARKE, Saco, Me. 11-3

Good Dairy Farm for sale. One-half mile from Kinburn village and G. T. Ry Station. 200 acres in good locality, in good state of cultivation; well fenced, good bush; never failing spring, water in barns. Good buildings, frame house, close to cheese factory. Apply to WESLEY GRIERSON, Kinburn, Ont. 11-6

Farms for Sale. — One hundred acres each, finest land and location in Ontario. No. 1 sold as 85 acres, No. 2 as sixty-five acres. Full particulars from A. KIRKPATRICK, Lefroy, Ont. 12-6

For Sale or Exchange—Farm consisting of 266 acres, 45 cleared, balance in timber. House, 24 by 28, barn, 20 by 40; implement shed, 12 x 20; three miles from station, 2 1-2 to church, stores and post office. School on farm. Further particulars, apply to A. W. TULLY, Maynooth, Ont. 11-6

112 Acres—$4,500—County Simcoe — Township Medonte; near Waverly; good land; buildings; bank barn, pens and sheds; orchard, running water, school and churches near; easy terms; immediate possession. H. E. MACARTNEY, Midland, Ont. 12-6

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50 acres one mile from village; 20 acres smooth fields; good pasture; wood and lumber for home use; house, five room; barn, 40 x 45. Fully equipped with stoves and furniture in the house, horse, cows, tools, hay, wood. Price, only $1,500. $500 down, balance $200 yearly. ALONZO P. RICHARDS, Farmington, Maine. 12-6

For Sale—Complete stock of millinery and fix- tures at a very low price for a quick sale; chance of a lifetime for anyone entering business. E. MARTH, 135 N. 13th St., Olean, N.Y. 12-6

$4,500—80 Acres, 72 Workable, Balance Pas- ture. Barn, 50 x 35, hip roof, granary, track; hay barn, 50 x 30 on wall, stabling 12 cattle, 4 horses; root cellar; 2 good silos; modern piggery, feed room; sheep house; 2 good henhouses; windmill. Eight-room house, cellar, furnace, bath, hot and cold water, woodshed, gas and electricity available. School 1 mile, store, churches 2 miles. 10 acres wheat, 14 acres ploughed, 3 acres orchard. Priced below value for quick sale before April 1st. Will sell stock and implements. Owner, R. D. CAMPBELL, R.R. No. 3, Delhi, Ont. Phone 231. 12-2

32 Acres Choice Land in Village of Oxford Mills, 4 miles from Kemptville, 1 mile from Swan. Churches, school, factory, bakery, stores, mill. Good house, wood shed, kitchen; barn, stabling for 11 cows, 5 horses, 2 silos carriage machine, hen house. Apply J. A. COCHRANE, Oxford Mills, Ont. 12-6

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A MAGAZINE PAGE FOR HOME WORKERS

COLD WEATHER HOUSE CLEANING

It is none too early to begin house cleaning now, provided, says Hilda Richmond, in the New England Homestead, the house-wife goes at it in a sane manner. There are always odd chores to be done before the big cleaning tasks are undertaken that are no hardship if done by degrees and by a warm fire. The closets, the basement, the boxes and corners, the cupboards and pantries all need overhauling, and if this work is done while the "men folks" are not busy it is possible to enlist them in the heavier jobs.

First of all should come the constructive tasks, such as tearing old clothing into carpet rags, cleaning out old piece bags for materials for comforts, making long curtains into sash ones for the bedrooms, mending and letting down the children's clothing, passing on books and toys and articles no longer used in the home and making use of every available bit of material from the flour sack in the kitchen to the linings of old coats in the attic. Nothing that is worth while should be passed by and before two weeks roll round it is possible to have new dish cloths, new curtains, new dusters, new holders, new rugs and many other useful articles made out of cast off ones. The thrifty housewife routs out every thing she can make use of before the real work of cleaning begins.

With the closets almost empty and the old newspapers and rags and broken dishes disposed of it is easy to clean the shelves and put new paper on them. The decaying vegetables should be carried out of the basement by the men, and the place thoroughly whitewashed so that no sickness will result in the spring from neglect.

If there is any wall paper to clean the men can be enlisted for this job on bad days. Even with the fires still burning in the stoves one can be careful, and it is far better to have help with this hard task than to wait and do it alone.

Then when warm weather comes it is easy to take out rugs and beat them, wipe the walls, clean the wood work, wash curtains and bedding, and get everything settled for summer. When everything is done bring out the new cushion covers, the clean curtains, the light dresser covers and the other things that winter retired and give the whole domain a summery, cool look before the hot weather and harvesting come. In the winter house cleaning there need be no exposure to the weather, no dabbling in water, no tearing out the living rooms, but all the same the most important part is over when the attic, the basement, the closets, the pantries, the cubby holes and the stairways are disposed of as they can well be if the mistress of the house avails herself of the masculine help on stormy days of late winter and very early spring.

TELL-TALE WIVES

When a husband owns that he does not tell his wife everything—other women are "up in arms" at once.

"A wife has a right to know," they cry.

But there isn't a doubt, writes Isa Grieve, in Pearson's Weekly, that most husbands hold their tongues upon occasion. And perhaps this is because members of my own sex cannot always hold theirs!

It just seems as if some wives cannot help telling tales. They must know that they are treading very near to forbidden ground, yet on runs the talk, and out comes the very last thing they ought to have said.

If only some wives could remember that no remark about hubby's business should ever be repeated there would be fewer vain repinings! A man loves to talk over little things with his wife at the end of a busy day, but, however harmless and innocent his conversation may be, her lips should be sealed.

A girl I know once lost her husband's firm some thousands of pounds in this way. Her husband asked her to arrange a specially nice little dinner to which a wealthy client of the firm was to be invited. A big deal was pending, and her husband told her that he hoped to bring it off before another firm could step in. The dinner was all that it ought to have been, but the wife, anxious to do her husband a good turn, began to praise the firm. Before her indiscreet tongue could stop, her guest became aware of the fact that she knew about the proposed deal! Angry at this breach of faith, the negotiations were broken off by the client, and the husband narrowly escaped dismissal in consequence.

No amount of repenting afterwards is of avail. Words once spoken can never be recalled.

There are other ways, also, in which a wife should never be guilty of telling tales.

Hubby, occasionally, will make unvarnished remarks about her people and her friends. All men do. But it is the height of folly to repeat such remarks—to anyone, however confidentially. Such secrets have an unlucky habit of leaking out somehow, and the consequences are certain to be unpleasant.

And then, too, a wife is telling tales when she criticises her husband in any way to her friends or relations. We all have our little bad points, and there isn't a doubt that she possesses hers—yet one very seldom finds a husband "talking over" his wife. In this he is guided by an inborn chivalry. Besides, he has no wish that the private happenings of his home should be held up to the limelight for the world to remark on and pity.

It pays a wife to be discreet. She will never lose the love and trust and comradeship of her husband if she respects his secrets, however harmless they may appear to be.

A RENOVATED SPARE ROOM

Inevitably, it was into the spare bedroom that the old iron bedstead, the rather scratched dressing-table, the rickety chair, goes. That was what had happened in our house, writes A. M., in the Daily Chronicle. And up till now it had not mattered very much. We always apologised to the casual guest, and the casual guest—generally glad of a bed for the night, did not mind either.

When the question of beautifying that room without spending too much money came up the biggest eyesore in the room was the bedstead. It was bought before the era of the rather charming wooden bedstead so fashionable today. They were days when only iron bedsteads were considered hygienic, and so iron it was.

But how to camouflage it? To enamel it another color did not really hide its hideousness. Then I had a brain wave. We would cover it up altogether with an all-over patterned chintz. The knobs were taken off, and, carefully measuring up the head and the foot, I made chintz covers that went over the iron framework. For greater strength they were lined with coarse cotton, and to the outer side of the cover for the foot of the bed I attached a deep valance that extended to the ground and covered up the spindly iron legs. Valances of the chintz along the sides of the bed completed the camouflage. I made a bedspread of the same material, and also covered a big bolster cushion with it for use on the outside of the bed during the day-time.

Then there was the question of the furniture. It was so old and decrepit-looking that nothing could be done in the way of repolishing.

"Bright painted furniture is very fashionable," I said, hesitatingly, as we surveyed it.

"Just the idea," returned my better half. "What do you say to bright orange, to match the tones in the chintz, and simply lined in with black?"

We cleaned off the old varnish and then painted the dressing table and the chest of drawers as suggested, toning down the brilliance with black toilet covers. The floor was already polished, and needed but a couple of small rugs to make it quite comfortable.

A black toilet set looked very modern and very smart on the washing stand, and then we painted the old white marble mantleshelf black to match it. This was quite easily done with ordinary black lacquer.

WILD GEESE

I've scoured the copper kettle
And hung it in the sun,
I've scrubbed the floor until it's white,
And all the dusting's done.

I've skimmed the milk, I've baked a loaf,
I've hung the clothes to dry—
There's not a bird that spreads its wings
That is as free as I!

Oh, you may frown and shake your head
And mumble if you will;
I shall not knit nor spin nor mend—
I'm off to climb the hill!

I want to feel the wind go by,
To scramble through the snow,
With no one but the trees to watch
And wonder where I go.

My man must break his bread alone
Or break it not at all—
I'll sit somewhere where clouds run by
And hear the wild geese call.

When I'm as old as you, perhaps,
I'll be content to sit
Beside the chimney where it's warm
And nod and nap and knit.

But now—my blood runs swift and warm,
I'm stifled by these walls;
The gray goose wings it past and I
Must answer when he calls!

—Abigail Cresson, in New York Times.

THERE'S ALWAYS A HOPE

There's always a hope that tomorrow
Will be brighter than today,
That from darkened skies above us,
The clouds will clear away.

There's always a hope that the future
Has something so good in store,
That heartaches will be forgotten
And vanish forevermore.

Then cling to the thought of tomorrow,
No longer in darkness grope,
And remember the good old saying,
That "While there's life, there's hope."

—Ida M. Thomas.



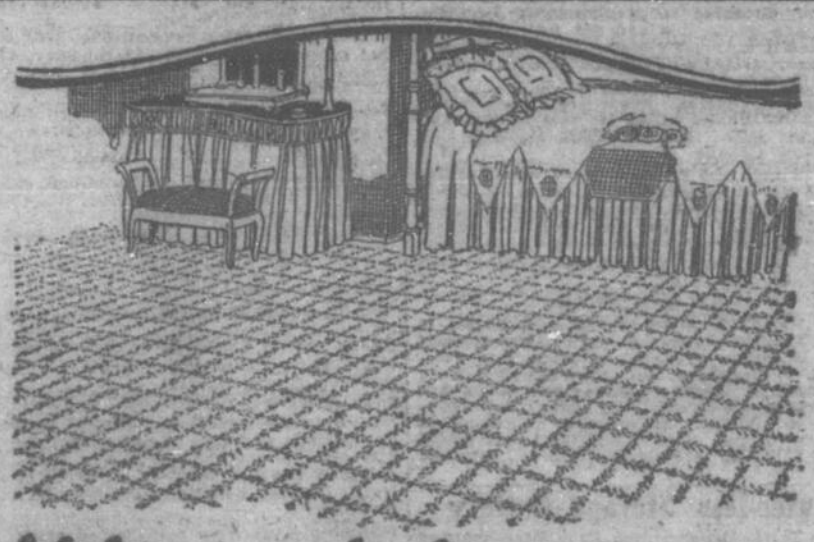
LADY-IN-WAITING TO THE QUEEN

The Dowager Countess of Minto, wife of a former Governor-General of Canada, and mother-in-law of a Canadian Countess of Minto, formerly Miss Marion Cook, has been named a Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty the Queen.

The most curious and remarkable spoon in the world, perhaps, is a "coronation spoon," preserved among the other royal relics in the Tower of London. The bowl is of gold and the handle of silver. The handle is split down the middle and set with many kinds of precious stones. The relic is valued at upward of $200,000.

In a few years little dinner trips from one city to another will be made by airship. And a few years later the guest of the evening may stay at home and be seen as well as heard by means of wireless transmission.

By injecting dye into the cocoon, a French scientist claims the worm will spin colored threads that will not fade.



Make your bedroom cosy

An appropriate Dominion Linoleum floor puts the finishing touch on a tastefully decorated bedroom. There are many charming patterns to choose from, any one of which imparts an air of daintiness and refinement.

Dominion Linoleum is so easy to clean. Its firm, springy surface affords no hiding place for dust or germs while the rearrangement of furniture is no trouble or effort whatever.

Dominion Linoleum or a Dominion Linoleum Rug on your bedroom floor assures beauty, cleanliness, comfort and the economy that comes from long wear.

See these moderately priced floor coverings at your dealer's who will also show you many attractive designs in Dominion Oilcloth should you prefer a serviceable product at a lower price.



Always turn over the corner of Dominion Linoleum and Linoleum Rugs when buying. The genuine have a canvas back; also the Dominion trade mark on face of goods.

DOMINION LINOLEUM RUGS
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HOME COOKING

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MIXING?

Do you know why the recipe book tells you to "fold" the beaten whites of an egg into the cake mixture, but simply to stir or cream the sugar, butter and yolks in the same cake?

Do you know why you beat egg whites and cream?

Do you know the best way to mix French dressing, to stir preserves while they are cooking or flour and water that is to be used for gravy thickening?

Now perhaps do some persons all these different sorts of mixing or stirrings are the same, but to the efficient cook there are many differences, and the fine points are worth some little thought.

Always make up your mind what the object of the mixing is. Then you will know how to do it. With cream or egg white the object is to introduce air into the ingredient so that it will become light and frothy. For that reason you use a vigorous, brisk motion, raising the mixer well up from the bowl. But when you want to add egg whites to the cake the air is already introduced into the egg and you do not want to release it. If you were to beat it into the cake batter the greater weight of the moist batter would be sure to drive much of the air out of the egg, and of course it would help to make cake light if you left that air in. Therefore you select a motion that does just the opposite that the beating one does. You therefore "fold" it in, by which is meant that you gently lay the batter over the egg whites, using only enough motion to mix them fairly well into the batter.

When you mix flour and water for gravy thickening the main object is to make a perfectly smooth mixture. It doesn't matter if you get air into the mixture or not, so you can beat or stir or do what you choose—anything to get the lumps out.

And with that end in view you probably use a stroke that will keep rubbing the flour against the side of the bowl.

In stirring preserves the whole idea is to keep the mixture from sticking on to the bottom. Moreover, you do not want to introduce air into the mixture. For that reason you adopt a motion that passes the spoon evenly and steadily across all parts of the bottom of the kettle.

In cooking a thick porridge such as oatmeal over a direct flame your idea is to keep the whole evenly heated so that it will not burn. Remember then that the porridge is so thick that steam will not readily rise from the bottom to the top. Therefore use a motion that will raise the bottom part of the mixture to the top, releasing with each stroke some of the steam from below.

And so it goes. For every mixing or stirring process there is an object, and the whole art of mixing lies in adapting the motion to the object in view.—The Sun.

Kibbee:—Chop uncooked tough meat very fine, putting it twice through a grinder. To each pound allow a tablespoon of grated onion, a tablespoon of chopped parsley, a teaspoon of salt, just a dash of pepper. Form into balls about the size of an egg, stand in a baking pan, add a half pint of strained tomatoes, a tablespoon of butter and bake slowly thirty minutes, basting three or four times.

Beef Timble:—Chop fine one pound of left over tough bits of lean beef; cook together for a moment a gill of strained tomatoes and one cup of bread crumbs; add to the meat, rub to a smooth paste, season with a quarter of a teaspoonful of celery seed, a half teaspoonful of salt and a dash of pepper; mix, then stir in carefully the well beaten whites of eggs, fill into custard cups, stand in a pan of boiling water and cook in a moderate oven twenty minutes. Serve with tomato sauce.

New Orleans Beef Slices:—An appetizing breakfast dish this for a cold-frost-on-the-window-panes morning. Take corned beef—tinned variety—remove from the can and cut in quarter-inch slices, using a sharp knife. Lay in the hot skillet dressing, each slice with a little English mustard wet up with a little water, vinegar and salt, and a dash of Worcestershire. Pour a spoonful of vinegar in the pan, too. Let the meat slices simmer in this sauce and then turn them for the other side to become seasoned. Serve at once.

Mock Cherry Pie:—1 cup cranberries, 1 cup seeded raisins, 1-2 cup sugar, Pinch salt, 1 teaspoonful cornstarch. Wash the raisins and cover with 1 cup cold water; put on fire and as soon as they come to a boil add cornstarch which has been mixed with cold water; boil 2 minutes; add salt. Remove from fire. Wash the cranberries and cut in half; add to the cooled raisins; then add sugar; do not boil after adding cranberries.

Line pie plate with the regular pie crust, sprinkle with a little flour, wet edge with cold milk, put in the filling, cover and press edges together; brush top with milk, bake in hot oven 35 to 40 minutes.

Potato Loaf:—Beat two eggs in a mixing bowl, add to this a cup of bread crumbs, a cup of hot mashed potato and one cup each of ground walnut meats and peanuts, from which the brown covering has been removed. Mix this together thoroughly with the hands, season liberally with salt and pepper, and if it seems very dry add a little hot milk. Form this into a loaf and place in a baking dish. Bake in a moderate oven for half an hour, basting with a little beef stock or hot water and melted butter. Serve hot on a garnished platter and cut in slices. It will be a rich, dark color like a meat loaf, and will serve six persons.

Lima Bean Loaf:—One pound of lima beans, 1-4 pound fat pork, 3 onions, 2 cups bread crumbs (dry), 2 teaspoons poultry seasoning, salt and pepper to taste; bake in a loaf. Soak beans overnight, put on in same water, add 1-4 teaspoon soda. Let boil 5 minutes, then throw the water away. Add cold water and let come to a boil, add the pork in slices and the onions cut fine. Cook slowly until soft. Press through a sieve and add dry crumbs which have been put through meat chopper; also slices of pork and seasoning. Grease a bread tin and pack mixture in it. Butter top and cover with another tin. Brown on sides and bottom. Invert on platter. One does not need meat nor potatoes.

New York Beet Salad:—Chop pickled beets fine and add a tablespoonful of cut up capers. With some leftover cold boiled spinach form nests on individual salad plates or on one impressive serving dish and, mixing the beets gently with the mayonnaise, fill into the spinach centers to gether with some chopped crisp bacon and a few slivers of sharp pickle. To moisten well, dress the spinach with a spoonful or two of French salad dressing of oil and vinegar—four parts of oil to one of the vinegar—salt and cayenne.

Steamed Cornmeal Pudding, Caramel Sauce:—2 cupfuls milk, 1-2 cupful cornmeal, 1-2 cupful brown sugar, 1-2 cup seedless raisins, 1-2 teaspoonful salt, 1-2 teaspoonful cinnamon or ginger, 1 teaspoonful of butter substitute. Add the cornmeal to the boiling milk; boil until thick; add the rest of the ingredients. Steam in top of double boiler 1 hour, or it can be put in mold to be steamed. Serve with caramel sauce.

Truck:—2 cupfuls of pastry flour, 2 even teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, 1 teaspoonful of soda, 1 cupful of milk, 2 quarts of apples, 1 cupful of boiled sweet cider, 1 cupful of water, butter, 2 tablespoons of sugar, nutmeg. Sift the cream of tartar with the flour, dissolve the soda in the milk, and make a dough with the flour and the milk thus prepared. Cut the dough into several pieces and roll out each piece to the size of a plate. Make small incisions in each piece of dough; then fry all the pieces in deep fat. Pare the apples, cut them into quarters and place them in a porcelain-lined stewpan; add the cider and the water. Set the dish on the back of the stove and let it cook slowly for several hours; then lay some of the apple filling on one piece of fried dough, add the butter and the sugar and grate the nutmeg over the top. Alternate a layer of dough with a layer of filling until all the ingredients have been used. Cut the truck into quarters and serve it hot.

Virginia Fruit Cake:—Cream together one-half cup of drippings or vegetable fat, one-half cup of butter, one cup of sugar; then gradually add four well-beaten eggs. Now add one cup of thick molasses, 1 lb. currants, 1 lb. raisins, 1-2 lb citron peel cut fine, one cup chopped nut meats, one-half cup grapejuice, four cups flour, sifted with four teaspoons baking powder; add one-fourth teaspoon salt, two teaspoons powdered ginger, one teaspoon of cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon and allspice; one-half cup chopped cocoanut if desired. Mix Well; turn into a papered and greased tin, and bake in a slow heat for three hours.

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CONTROL OF COCKROACHES

That roaches have a gypsy nature is declared by R. L. Webster, entomologist.

"In towns roaches may move from house to house," said Mr. Webster. "They have even been known to leave one house in large numbers and migrate to another. But whether they enter in bands or singly they are a pest that is especially repulsive.

They are probably the most annoying of the common insects, according to Mr. Webster, and some time in the history of nearly every home they make their appearance and cause the housewife no end of trouble.

Damp localities, such as the neighborhood of the kitchen sink, is their favorite habitat. They are night prowlers and usually remain hidden during the daytime. Roaches may be recognised by their brown or black color and their size, which is usually a half inch or more in length. Their flat bodies are well fitted for hiding away in cracks under baseboards.

Roaches reproduce by means of eggs and the young roach is similar in appearance to the mature forms, excepting in size and in the absence of wings that indicate the full grown insect.

"Probably the most effective method of controlling roaches is by the use of sodium fluoride," Mr. Webster explained. "This is a white powder that may be purchased at almost any drug store. The powder should be dusted in liberal quantities into all locations in the house frequented by the insects, especially in pantries and under sinks. Sodiur fluoride should never come in contact with any foodstuffs, however, since it is poisonous."

"On the market there are a number of preparations for the control of cockroaches. Many of these contain borax or boric acid, which may be purchased as such from the druggist and applied in the same manner as the sodium fluoride previously mentioned."

Any treatment for cockroaches must be continued for several weeks, if success is to be attained. Persistence is necessary, regardless of whatever measure is used against these troublesome insects. Special care should be taken never to allow bread crumbs or other food of any description to remain exposed about the house, since this encourages the insect.

Under high temperature and at high tension wool can, it is said, be successfully mercerized. The yarn is immersed for about five minutes in bi-sulphite of soda at a high temperature. Shrinking is prevented by a mechanical apparatus that holds the yarn at high tension. The tension is then relaxed, and the yarn is boiled in a weak acid solution. Mercerized wool yarns increase one-third in length, but, unlike cotton yarns, gain nothing in tensile strength.

The custom of scribbling names on playing cards and using them as visiting cards originated in Paris about 170 years ago. Later these were replaced by cards engraved with pictures, the designs gradually developing into something of personal or business significance. The visiting card of the present day was a gradual evolution from the pictured cards through the elegant flourishings of Spencerian penmanships to the neatly engraved bits of white pasteboard.



DR. HAROLD K. BOX

A young Toronto dentist, who has made a special study of the disease known as pyorrhea, and has discovered the nature of the disease, and a method by which it can be successfully treated. So widespread is the diseases that the discovery ranks close to that of insulin, in the relief of millions of sufferers the world over. Like Dr. Banting, Dr. Box has offered his discovery freely to the dental world, making a gift of it to humanity. Official endorsement has been given his work by the government of Ontario.

One of the greatest things any young man can do for himself is to connect himself up at the very beginning of his career with some great moral proposition, if his help-meet-to-be does the like, the future of the resulting family is bright indeed.

"God uses folks—just folks like you and me."



The Home Circle.

A Page for Boys and Girls.

HOSPITALITY AMONG THE CRIM-TATARS

Every nation has its own ideas of hospitality and its own ways of looking after the comfort of guests. But, as Mr. Harry de Windt, author of Russia As I Know It, discovered when he was visiting the Tatars, it does not always happen that different peoples have the same ideas of comfort.

There was, of course, no inn of any kind, he says, and a glimpse of the native caravansary was so uninviting that I decided to lodge with a Tatar friend of Ivan's—a tobacco merchant, who, with no thought of remuneration, entertained me in a clean and comfortable dwelling, which, after my previous experience of native households, was an agreeable surprise. It contained several rooms almost luxuriously furnished in Tatar fashion with soft and capacious red velvet divans, walls hung with costly embroideries and Caucasian armor, and cool, red tiles strewn with bearskins and small but exquisite rugs from Bokhara.

There were, of course, neither tables nor chairs, and so I had to sit on the floor while eating my first decent meal a la tartare, with onion soup, trout in rich, yellow sauce, roast lamb, skewered kababs fried in grease, vegetable marrow stuffed with savory herbs, and a variety of highly colored cakes and sweetmeats. Crimean wine accompanied the repast, which concluded with beckmess, a syrup of sweet and sickly flavor made of fermented apples. Coffee, nargiles and cigarettes were then handed round before I sought my couch.

Crim-Tatars appear to regard appropriate hours for meals and repose with the same indifference that most other Eastern races show—they generally sleep when they feel tired and eat when they are hungry. I was already aware of this Oriental idiosyncrasy, but was somewhat startled when, the morning after the banquet, my host suddenly appeared in a weird white garment to awaken me at five o'clock, although he was well aware that my departure was fixed for midday.

This matutinal intruder placidly seated himself on my bed, or rather divan, and, as he was unable to converse in any language I could understand, continued to contemplate my recumbent form smilingly for nearly an hour before the trying ordeal was terminated by the entrance of Ivan. The latter then informed me that it is an old Tatar custom to visit guests at dawn in order to inquire whether they have slept well—a kindly attention which, if practiced, say in England, might conceivably result in certain conditions in grave bodily injury—to the host!

FATHERS AND SONS

Father's first duty is to make himself what he wants his boy to become.

The divine name is conferred upon parents; a boy uses his father in forming his conception of God.

Too often father is a consulting rather than a practicing parent; he leaves his boy half an orphan.

It takes two to bring up a healthy boy; first, the mother with tender patience, and, second, the father with masculine leadership.

Boys thrive more on inspirations than on prohibitions, more on incentives than on restraints.

Fathers owe their sons understanding. "Know thy boy." Taste his dreams. List his likes and dislikes. Remember "When a feller needs a friend."

Fathers owe their sons muscularity. It is a great help if fathers can faintly approximate the athlete.

Fathers owe their sons instruction in the use of money. Spendthrift sons of money-making fathers are a social menace.

Fathers owe their sons a limber youthfulness of spirit. No father need grow old except in years and baldness.

Fathers owe their sons a perpendicular honorableness. Some fathers make it difficult for sons to obey the fifth commandment.

Fathers owe their sons training in worship, both private and public. No church can hold the boy on Sunday if father is regular in his absence.

Fathers owe their sons intimate comradeship. An ounce of parental companionship in the early teens is worth a barge-load of exhortation given later.

Fathers owe their sons rugged sincerity. Boys are adepts in smelling sham. If they find fraud in father, smash goes their faith.

Fathers owe their sons a home, which is more than a house full of things; which is soft, rich soil in which great ideals and pure joys will thrive.

Fathers owe their sons a life which is a humble but real symbol of the Fatherhood of God.—Hugh Elmer Brown, in "Seattle Daily Times."

THE BARN OWL'S LARDER

The kestrel and the barn owl are the Box and Cox of the feathered race, says Canon Theodore Wood, in the Morning Post. One goes out to work, with unfailing regularity, just as the other returns to roost. Both turn their attention principally to mice; and, so far as appetite is concerned, I don't think that there is much difference between the two. In the late Lord Lilford's famous experiment, a caged barn owl swallowed no fewer than eight mice in rapid succession, and was only prevented from doing the same with a ninth by restrictions of internal capacity. Yet three hours later it was hungry again, and ate four more mice. The indigestible portions of the prey are returned through the mouth in the form of "pellets." From the roosting-place of a pair of barn owls more than a bushel of these pellets were taken in the course of sixteen months; and in every pellet were found the remains of from four to seven mice. Then, there are six or seven weeks in the spring during which the young have to be fed, and these are almost as voracious as their parents. The late Mr. Charles Waterton, who made a special study of the barn owl, asserts that a mouse or a vole is brought to the nesting-hole every twelve or fifteen minutes throughout the night; and Dr. Bowdler Sharpe tells us that he has himself found more than forty field mice lying dead in one of these holes, all freshly killed, and evidently the result of one night's hunting. These, of course, were additional to the many which the old birds and their offspring had actually devoured. Barn owls, like shrikes, have learnt the advantages of a well-filled "larder." Then barn owls are with us for twelve months in the year, as against the ten which are spent here, on an average, by the kestrel. The annual slaughter of ten thousand mice attributed to the latter bird must be equalled, if not excelled, by the barn owl.

Mice, however, do not form the whole of its food, as may easily be seen by examining the "pellets." As a result of a careful examination of 706 of these the late Dr. Altam discovered the remains of 16 bats, 3 rats, 237 mice, 693 voles, 1,590 shrews, and 22 small birds. In a collection of pellets which I recently examined myself nearly all the skulls were those of sparrows. But barn owls do not disdain to feed on cockchafers, which they capture and devour in the air, apparently, after the manner of the kestrel. And just now and then one finds in a pellet the backbone of a small fish, which had evidently been snatched up from the surface of some neighbouring pond or stream.

Now, against all the invaluable services which these birds render to the farmer, there is very little indeed to be set in the way of mischief. A barn owl may sometimes be seen in a farmyard. But it goes there in quest of mice, not of chickens, which retire to roost long before this strictly nocturnal bird makes its appearance. Neither does the gamekeeper suffer from its depredations in any appreciable degree. At the most, and as a very occasional thing, it may help itself to an infant rabbit of microscopical dimensions; and this affords very little justification for its presence in his "museum" in the company of jays and weasels. Judged purely and simply by the standard of usefulness to man, there is scarcely any bird whose record is so full and so untarnished as that of the "ominous owl of death," whose real value we are only just beginning to appreciate.

OUR PUZZLE CORNER

Anagrams

A Collection of Plants

1. Regina Sum; 2. Here's a seat; 3. All on a bed; 4. My old rag; 5. Be reviled; 6. I can order; 7. A dirt man; 8. No leader; 9. Had the sign; 10. A Nut Pie; 11. As Lamb; 12. Love it; 13. Air cannot; 14. Dag Henry; 15. Ann do idle; 16. Real vain; 17. Worst Pride; 18. Oh, now rude sot; 19. Rats nip me; 20. One amen.

Answers to Last Week's Puzzle

Headings: One, Bone, Done, Gone, Hone, Lone, None, Pone, Tone, Zone.

THE LAST RAID

(By Dora Read Goodale.)

Frost-laden from the farthest peak
That daring eyes to northward seek—
From wastes whereon the shortening sun
Deigns not to rise, the cold came down.
Stealthy and swift by night it came,
Nursed in the ice-fields, tongued with flame,
Child of Boreas, changeling boy,
Apt to jest as to destroy!

Eager and brisk, with velvet feet
It glided through the darkened street;
The squirrel shivered, deep in leaves;
Ribbons of ice swung from the eaves;
The billowy drifts enameled shone,
The brook's voice sank to an undertone.
Clouds of vapor that rose like smoke
Fell congealed in a rimy cloak
Where some benighted teamster slow,
Beating his sides, creaked o'er the snow.

Under the rich man's roof, no doubt,
Sea-coal and cord-wood kept it out;
The breath that fills those roaring flues
Yields not a climate frost would choose!
Though thick its arrowy fingers cast
Crystal and star-dust as it passed,
The laborer's cottage, shrunk and old,
Was first to prove the entering cold.

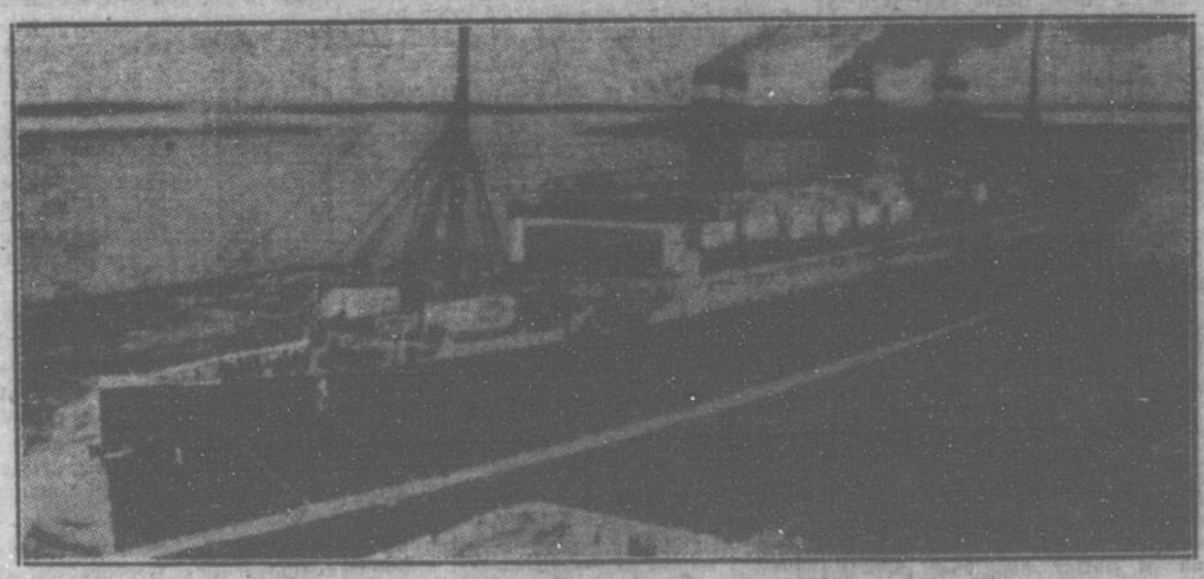
Ghost-like, it laughed at bolt and key,
Stole through the casement, wandered free,
Coated the latch with fairy mail,
Breathed a white cap on every nail,
Spangled the panes with stars unnumbered,
Pinched the children the while they slumbered,
Hushed the timepiece with elfin skill,
Humored its fancy, wreaked its will.

Milk in the pan grew hard as bone;
Loaf and pudding were turned to stone;
Eggs in the basket snapped in twain;
Pitcher and goblet cracked again;
The very plants on the basement shelves
In the morning did not know themselves!
So came the cold; and swift as light,
Roguish as Puck, it took its flight;
Scarce had the farmer thawed his ears,
Scarce had the urchin ceased his tears,
Scarce had the rich man sighed for Spain,
When the stopt tide ran full again.
The sun began to mount and beam,
The trembling ice released the stream,
Fast and faster the eaves' spout flowed,
Willows beckoned along the road,
And hark! I heard a bluebird sing:
"Farewell, winter! and welcome, spring!"

—Youth's Companion.



Small and dainty, nickel-silver case, stem wind, guaranteed movement. GIVEN for selling only 75 packets of Gold Medal Government-tested, "Guaranteed-to-Grow" Garden Seeds at 10c a packet. SEND NO MONEY—we trust you.
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UNITED STATES WILL SELL LEVIATHAN

The United States has realized its inability to operate its merchant marine successfully, and hundreds of vessels are to be sold, including the Leviathan. This monster ship, a sister ship of the British Majestic, was a German ship, and confiscated during the war. Eight million dollars was spent upon its renovation before it was put into service by the United States last July. It was withdrawn from service in the autumn. Millions of dollars have been lost weekly upon the operation of the United States merchant fleet.

FUN FOR WINTER EVENINGS







Has two keen blades; Gimlet, Punch, Saw, Jar and Can opener, Screwdriver, Bottle-cap Lifter, Reg Clevis hair chain and leather fastener.
GIVEN for selling only 40 packets of Gold Medal, Government-tested, "Guaranteed-to-Grow" Garden Seeds at 10c a packet. SEND NO MONEY—we trust you.
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Old Faithful

Story For Little Folk By Lillian E. Andrews.

Bess and Bob had never seen a snowflake in their lives, so the first day that it began to snow was a wonderful one for them. "Oh, look, Bobby, look!" cried Bess. "Why, it's just like thousands and thousands of orange blossoms all falling down at once."

All day and all night it snowed, and the next day the big hill near the schoolhouse was covered with children either skimming swiftly downhill or climbing up, dragging their sleds after them. Ralph Loring had the most beautiful sled on the hill. It was long and slender and a brilliant, glossy red with a great shining golden eagle painted on it. He gave Bess and Bobby several rides on it, and, oh, how they flew down the steep hill! "I don't believe a real eagle could fly faster," Bobby told Bess as they trudged homeward that night. "Oh, dear, how I wish we had a sled of our own!"

"I wish so, too," said Bess, "but you know we promised father we wouldn't tease grandmother for things this winter." Bobby swallowed manfully. "I'm not going to tease," he answered, "but I can't help wishing we had a sled just the same."

Perhaps Grandmother Norton saw the desire in Bobby's eyes as he told her about the coasting. "There's a sled up garret you can have," she smiled. "I haven't seen it since your father went to Florida, but I guess it's still up under the eaves where he left it."

Bess and Bobby lost no time in searching the garret. But tears came into Bess's eyes when they finally found the sled. "Oh, what a homely old thing!" exclaimed Bobby, scornfully. "Who wants to use such a cobwebby old sled?"

Bravely Bess brushed away the cobwebs. "It isn't pretty," she admitted. "It's made of such thick boards, and there isn't a bit of paint on it, but it's a sled and it will slide downhill anyway. Come on and try it, Bobby."

To Bobby's surprise the funny old sled proved to be as fast as any on the hill. It was so large that they could crowd five or six boys and girls on it, and the more there were on it, the faster it went. "I don't care if it is heavy and clumsy," said Bess, delightedly. "If it were like Ralph's, it would break with such a load. It's lots more fun to ride downhill with so many than go alone, and we can give slides to every boy and girl that hasn't got a sled."

As the snow became worn down, the sleds went even faster. Then, one day, just as Bobby and Bess and the others started downhill on the old sled, something happened that frightened them all. Ralph was just ahead, and all at once he tipped completely over, sled and all, in the snow. Bess shut her eyes and screamed. It certainly seemed as if the old sled would run over him and crush him as he struggled desperately to get out of the way. With all his might, Bobby pulled on the steering rope and dug his heels into the snow. The old sled just missed Ralph as it swerved to one side, but it was going so fast Bobby could not stop it. Leaving the track, it plunged wildly downward on the smooth crust. Something dark loomed up before Bobby, there was a crash, and he knew no more.

When he opened his eyes again, Ralph's father was kneeling beside him and rubbing his face with snow, while the frightened children crowded about him. "I'm all right," said Bobby, as he struggled to sit up. "I—I just feel dizzy, that's all."

As he looked about him, he saw the old sled lying against the trunk of a young pine tree near him. Several big splinters from the broken planks were scattered over the snow, and the bark of the tree was scarred and torn where the old sled had struck it.

"Oh, our sled's broken!" cried Bobby. "We can't slide downhill on it again!"

Ralph's father examined the old sled carefully. "It isn't damaged very badly, after all," he said with a smile. "I'll have it repaired right away. You ought to be thankful that it's made of oak boards. Nothing but oak could have stood such a blow and be of any use again. If it hadn't been so strong, some of you would surely have been hurt or killed."

It was several days before the old sled came back from the shop where Ralph's father sent it, and then Bess and Bobby could scarcely believe that it was the same old sled. It was painted and varnished and was as smooth and glossy as Ralph's, and on one side in big shining letters were the words, "Old Faithful."

"And just think, Bess," said Bobby, shamefacedly, "when I first saw it, I thought it was so homely I didn't want to slide downhill on it. Grandmother says, 'Handsome is that handsome does,' and I'll always believe it after this. I won't think just because anything is homely and rough that it isn't of any use."

Bess bent down and gave the old sled a caressing pat. "It's the best old-new sled in the world," she said joyously. —Boston Congregationalist.

WHEN THE GUESTS ARE GONE

Will you have a cup of tea, Dolly?
And a bit of candy, too?
It's the best we had and I'm very glad
That some was left for you.

Oh, yes, we had a lovely party,
And I like them all, you know;
But when it's through I'm glad that you
Are not the one to go.

You never scold or cry, Dolly,
Nor upset what I've planned;
I never heard you speak a word,
But I know you understand!

So have a cup of tea, Dolly,
And cake and candy, too;
The best of fun when the party's done
Is my little chat with you.

—Harriet Sutherland, in "Youth's Companion."

THE FIRST ARRIVAL

"O dear, O dear, it is dark down here"—
A dear little snowdrop said;
"If I loosen my wraps
I can see perhaps
The daylight overhead."

So this wee maid, who was not afraid
Of the cold, began to grow—
And soon she stood,
In her milk-white hood,
Fair as the drifted snow.

—Mrs. J. M. Dana.

Birds Out At Sea

When the Cunard liner Samaria was 500 miles from Boston on the way to Liverpool last October over a score of small birds, finches, wrens, and hedge sparrows, together with a homing pigeon and an owl, alighted on the deck in an exhausted condition. They were picked up and flew in the garden lounge, and when the steamer arrived at Liverpool, says Public Opinion, several of the birds were still flitting about among the shrubs and hanging baskets of flowers.

The King has approved of the appointment of Colonel (temporary Colonel-Commandant) A. E. W. Harman, C.B., D.S.O., as Aide-de-Camp to the King, with effect from December 19, 1923, in succession to Colonel A. Carton de Wiart, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who has retired.

Can You Read This?

ANSWER NEXT WEEK.



Answer to Last Week's Puzzle.

The greater the number of kind deeds we do, the happier we shall be.

Down In Domino Land

Where They Draw the Easy Way.



A BEFORE EASTER THOUGHT

(By Pearl Howard Campbell)

Beth was lonesome. It's hard enough to be shut in the house with the mumps for a month before Easter. Yet to have a voice like a bird, to hear the children practising the Easter hymns, and then have the doctor tell you that you cannot sing at all, is very hard to bear.

Easter is such a happy time that you feel as though you were missing the best part of it if you don't make other people glad too. Last year she had gone with the others to scatter Easter blossoms and to sing to the folks who couldn't get out to church.

This year they meant to do more. Already they had a long list of visits to make, but poor little Beth couldn't go at all. Neither could she read or play long at a time. So the days were very dreary.

Then one dark, showery morning Cousin Alice came dancing in and said that she had come to spend the day.

"I've got something for you to do, Bethie, if you don't mind parting with a few of your treasures," she said cheerily.

"What is it?" Beth asked, all eager interest.

"Why, I have just had a letter from a friend who is teaching in a mission school for Indian children. She wants some Easter cards. I have no time to make them for her, but I thought you might do it if I showed you how. Get those that were sent you last year, also some paste, and we will begin."

Beth forgot she was sick, and flew about to help.

"Here are the cards," she said, "but I don't see how you can use them. The postcards have writing on them, and so have the booklets."

"Just you wait and watch," laughed Alice.

She had brought with her some sheets of pasteboard in dainty shades of gray, brown, and purple, which she told Beth to cut into cards five by seven inches. Then she took one of the Easter postcards, and, starting at a corner, split it with her penknife, thus removing the side with the writing without spoiling the picture. She spread paste carefully over this, mounted it in the centre of one of the squares of bristol board, and there was a pretty new card!

Beth was pleased, and went to work with a merry heart. When all the postcards were mounted Cousin Alice showed her how to use the booklets. Each one was fastened together with a cord or ribbon, and had two pretty covers and an inner leaflet with a bit of verse and the name of the sender. Cousin Alice removed this, and cut from unruled notepaper a leaflet exactly the same size. This she gave to Beth to decorate in any way she pleased.

It proved to be the most fun of all the work. Some of the pages had a text and a short Easter greeting printed in gold upon them. On others she drew crosses and flowers, daffodils and crocuses and lilies of the valley, coloring them with water colors. Still others had little pen and ink sketches, and one of the opening bars of a hymn, and the glad "Alleluia, alleluia," printed beneath in gilt letters.

There were fifty of them when they were all done, and, as they kept Beth busy and happy, Cousin Alice was well pleased. Then the cards were so fresh and dainty. No one would have guessed that they were what Beth's mother called "second editions."

They were mailed in plenty of time, and as Beth listened to the Easter music of her church she felt a happy thrill at her heart as she thought of the children out on the plains whose Easter would be the brighter for her gift.

A fortnight later the postman brought her a fat envelope containing a note of thanks from the missionary and fifty letters from the children. Forty-nine of them were nearly alike, except for the names signed at the bottom—funny Indian names they were, Fred. Kicking Horse, Ruth Good Bear, Mary Tall Meat, and others equally queer.

The fiftieth letter was different. The writer said that although she went to school with the Indian children she was a little white girl living in a sod house on the claim with her father and mother. "Times have been very hard with us this year," she wrote. "Your card was the prettiest thing I have had in a long time. Won't you write to me some other day?"

Beth's eyes were wet with tears when she laid the letter down.

"To be thankful for a little made-over Easter card," she said. "Of course, I'll write to her, and I'll ask the other girls to."

Then a bright idea popped into her head.

"Mother," she cried, "why couldn't our Sunday school class adopt that mission and see that they get cards regularly?"

"I think it is a beautiful plan," answered her mother. "I know your teacher will approve."

And so she did. Yet cards and letters were not the only things that followed in the wake of the Easter gift. There were games and books, while the Indian children sent back little presents of bead work and baskets of sweet grasses. And as the friendship between the two schools grew so did the spirit of love and helpfulness, so that both did better work for the risen Saviour.—S.S. Times.

Tarring and feathering is supposed to have originated with Richard Coeur-de-Lion. When he sailed for the Holy Land, Richard made sundry laws for the regulation of his fleet. One of them was that a "robber who shall be convicted of theft shall have his head cropped after the manner of a champion, and boiling pitch shall be poured thereon, and then the feathers of a cushion shall be shaken out upon him, so that he may be known, and at the first land at which the ship shall touch he shall be set on shore."

Barnyard Comics

JUST LIKE A BOY



"Willie, get in the water this very minute; out there getting your nice new suit all dry."

Our Needlework Corner.

THE "NEEDFUL NEEDLE"

Those wonderful samplers of our little greatgrandmothers, with their rose, cross, or Greek-pattern borders, their elaborate alphabets, their impossible birds and beasts, their painfully wrought texts and verses, were doubtless, once achieved, sources of pride to their little makers, as now to their descendants. Nevertheless, says a writer in the Youth's Companion, they must often, in the making, have been bedewed with childish tears and many a lively little girl, primly seated at her task when she longed to play, must have heartily hated the scrap of canvas that could accommodate so many stitches, and longed to cast away forever the enslaving needle.

Among the pious texts and improving stanzas that constitute the bulk of sampler literature there crops up occasionally a verse that recognizes a possible distaste for woman's special accomplishment—if only to chide it. Anne Fraxham, a little English girl eleven years old, made a sampler in 1790, that bore as its message to the world these ten exquisitely wrought lines:

Who masters not in Youth the woman's tool,
Proud, trivial or unapt, she is a Fool.
The Plough, the Sword, the Pen to man we leave,
But ours the NEEDLE since the days of Eve.
Then happiest she, industrious and wise,
Who with most skill the needful NEEDLE plies,
For Eden vanish'd who Exhales no Sigh
When needles were not, or might useless lie,
Whose pliant Fingers and whose willing Heart
Less execute her Task than practise Art.

Briefer and less edifying—indeed, perilously like a sigh exhaled for Eden!—is the verse painstakingly embroidered in 1796 in somewhat irregular letters on a charming and cherished little cross-bordered sampler by Lydia Howe of Jaffrey, aged thirteen:

Were innocence our garb alone
And Nature's bloom our only pride
The needle still had been unknown
And Worth the want of dress supply'd.

When Making Silk Cording

It is often impossible to buy suitable cord for silk, satin, and other thin materials, as the regulation cord sold in the shops is rather heavy, not always graded sufficiently as to size, and has a twist which the silk covering does not always disguise. An excellent substitute is wool of any size, color, or condition. You can regulate the size of the cording by the number of strands of wool selected. Furthermore, the wool is light, and cording made from it can be sewn on very easily. In this way, old, faded, and otherwise useless wool becomes highly useful.

Slip Petticoats

In making slip petticoats for growing girls, do not sew up the shoulder seams, but face them back for about two inches and sew on the under side of the fronts, and the upper side of the backs, three snap fasteners about an inch apart. The skirt may then be adjusted at the shoulder seams to suit the length of the dress with which it is worn, for although theoretically all the dresses are the same length, some shrink more than others in laundering, and it is hard to have the petticoats and dresses of identical length.

WHAT THE TEA PACKAGE DOES

Tea growers have found from experience that it is necessary immediately to pack tea in air-tight, metal-lined chests, to preserve the flavor and goodness of the leaf. Equally so is an air-tight package necessary for the small lots of tea for individual consumption. Bulk Tea is always inferior tea because it is exposed to air. The "SALADA" air-tight aluminum package is the most efficient way of preserving tea known. adv.

Last Summer's Dresses

When it is necessary to lengthen a little girl's dresses, the regular gauze bandage which comes in rolls of different widths will be found just the thing to use in facing them. The gauze shrinks so little that if it is placed on the under side when stitching, the hem will be perfectly smooth and not wrinkled when ironed.

Setting in Insertion

When making baby clothes have a line of hemstitching made where you intend the insertion to go. Cut through the hemstitching and sew the insertion to either side with fine stitches. This saves much time in rolling hems and produces a neat finish.

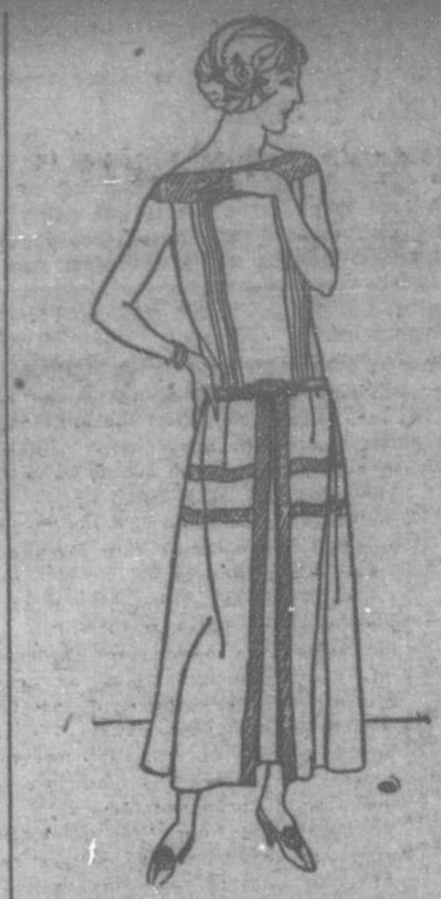
When Making New Chintz Covers

Frequently, an expensive chintz chair cover will be quite fresh and in good condition except for the back and arms, where the rubbing occurs. An excellent plan to prevent this disaster is to have detachable head and arm rests made of the same material as the cover. Fitting closely like caps, they will not show, and can be taken off and washed when dirty and renewed when worn, though by the time that happens the rest of the cover will be fit to take its share of the wear.

In making chair covers always tack the pieces together, and then fit it on inside out. It is so easy to make alterations when the seams are on the outside, and in this way much time and trouble are saved.

Darning Underwear

Never darn fine woollen underwear with wool. It will shrink and pull out a hole larger than the original. A loosely twisted knitted silk is excellent for this purpose, or the cotton which can be divided, using as many threads as will work in well and not break the knitted stitch of the woollens. When washed the darn will have almost the same thickness as the knitted goods. Look over the underwear as it is put off for the season, have all sent to the wash, then mend and patch the garments that are worth it. Often, a fine combination or long shirt which is past mending will have enough good material in it for a shirt or drawers for a child. Cut these out and lay them ready to be sewed when leisure moments come.



A DRESS OF TULLE AND SILVER RIBBON

The simplest lines on which this dress is designed, are quite out of the ordinary for tulle, yet this is the material used. The only trimming is silver ribbon, which forms a quaint collar and girdle, and is used to bind the overskirt. Ribbon of different widths is also used as trimming.

CELESTIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

(Eph. 2:6; 2 Cor. 3:3)

The plate designed with skill and care
And placed upon a well-made kite
Goes forth into the yielding air
Where gleam the splendors of the night;
Then pictured on that plate appear
The wonders of the starry sphere.

And, like the photographic plate,
To highest regions we may rise,
And then in life and conduct state
The treasures hid from mortal eyes:
Thus may we in a life of love
Portray the radiant life above.

—T. Watson.

Ridgetown, Ont., 1924.

Women! Dye It New For 15c

Skirts Kimonos Draperies
Waists Dresses Ginghams
Coats Sweaters Stockings

Diamond Dyes

Don't wonder whether you can dye or tint successfully, because perfect home dyeing is guaranteed with "Diamond Dyes" even if you have never dyed before. Druggists have all colors. Directions in each package.



CLOTH REMNANTS

We are offering a wonderful trial assortment arranged in remnant lengths suitable for useful and necessary purposes, such as ladies' and misses' suit lengths, waist, skirt and dress lengths also men's shirt lengths; also odd lengths and pieces of all kinds, latest styles, colourings and materials. Money cheerfully refunded if not entirely satisfactory. Price $1.00 postpaid. George Grattan, Mfg. Agt, New Glasgow, P. Q.

SIX WORDS

(London Daily Telegraph)

The Professors of Princeton University have been asked to choose by vote the six most important words in the English language. What man's mind conceived this idea, or why the professors were thought to be the best judges of the matter, the laconic cablegram does not explain.

Some of us, gross in our natures, may have thought that the most important words are those concerned with the primitive necessities and the earliest relations of life. But the professors of Princeton will have none of such materialism. Not father, nor mother, nor the daily bread is as important to them as abstract nouns. "Loyalty" takes the first prize, and thereafter come "courage, duty, sportsmanship, self-respect, and humor."

It is a very moral list, and also, if we may be allowed to say so, a list of a rather limited morality. It seems to contemplate only the relations of people as disciplined members of a community. Courage is there, but not kindness, or any word for it, and we find ourselves wondering whether the professors of Princeton have ever read the famous lines which link the two virtues together:—

"Life is mostly froth and bubble,
Two things stand like stone—
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own."

And when we think of what the professors left out of the list of six we wonder the more. The Apostle of the Gentiles, with his commendation of "faith, hope, and charity," seems not to be approved at Princeton. There is an ancient admonition to do justly and love mercy which did not win a place for mercy or justice in the Princeton vocabulary of ethics.

We are advised that among the words which had votes, but were not elected, were "love, truth, service, yet, no, knowledge." It seems hard that neither love nor truth should get a place."

The 'Witness' Pattern Service



A CHARMING FROCK FOR JUNIORS AND MISSES

4679. Silk and crepe could be pleasingly combined in this model which is also nice for linen, figured crepe or printed voile. One may have the sleeves in elbow length, or in wrist length.

The Pattern is cut in 4 Sizes: 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. A 16 year size requires 4 yards of 40 inch maetrial. To make as illustrated will require 3 1-4 yards of plain and 3-4 yard of figured material 40 inches wide.

Pattern mailed to any address on receipt of 15c in silver or stamps.

A PLEASING MORNING DRESS

4671. Printed voile is here portrayed. One could use gingham, chambrey, linen, sateen or crepe.

The Pattern is cut in 7 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. A 38 inch size requires 4 3-4 yards of 32-inch material. The width at the foot is about 2 1-8 yards.

A PRETTY DRESS FOR THE TINY TOT

4570. Soft nainsook was employed in the making of this model. Embroidery and narrow ruffles form the trimming. This is a good style for crepe, lawn, voile or soft silk.

The Pattern is cut in 3 Sizes: 6 months, 1 year and 2 years. A 1 year size requires 1 1-2 yard of 36-inch material.

A COMFORTABLE CORSET SUBSTITUTE

4689. Satin, sateen or drill are good materials for this model. It is a style that is suitable for slender and stout figures.

The Pattern is cut in 4 Sizes: Small, 34-36; Medium, 38-40; Large, 42-44; Extra Large, 46-48 inches bust measure. A Medium size requires 1 yard of 36-inch material.

Pattern mailed to any address on receipt of 15c in silver or stamps.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal. **COUPON PATTERN**

Please send me PATTERN NOS.) No. ..... No. .....
At the rate of fifteen cents each.
Amount enclosed. ..... Cents
Name .....
Address .....
..... Prov. .....
For Blouses, etc., give BUST MEASURE in inches.)
For Misses and Children give age only in years.)



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Darkness and Dawn

A Tale of The Fall of Jerusalem,

By J. Tooker Ford.

CHAPTER XXVII. (Continued)

The wily Roman commander was permitting thousands and tens of thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands, to walk into that open death-trap under cover of the inviolable sanctity accorded to a religious rite. The city became chokefull. Two million, five hundred thousand were crowded within the walls. * Streets, roofs, courts, temple, all places were crowded with a moving, human mass thick as when a locust army drops on a town. Twenty persons, friends from distant countries, were added to Elthemus' household. A few days after the Paschal lamb had been eaten with its unleavened bread, the donkeys and camels (unclean beasts) began to be eaten, and then the awful fact of starvation dawned full upon those pilgrims and the inhabitants of the city.

*Josephus, Wars. Bk. 6. Chap. 9, says 2,700,000. Also see Bk. 5. Chap. 3, note for Lacitus statement.

Rachel scrupulously measured out from their store, half a cab of grain each day, to each of the twenty guests, and a each out of her own household. A cab was about a pint. But the fact was, out from the window, those guests with Rachel and John learned to throw perhaps half their allowance to the starving passers by. The sight of those poor wretches scrambling and fighting for the kernels of wheat with the savagery of dogs soon became an every-day occurrence. In a few weeks a dreadful herd stood gathered always about the door, which Elthemus and the men about him, as they went to and from the defense of the wall, would drive off with their heavy pikes: "Begone! you curs!"

"In the name of the merciful give us food." Some rich man shows in his palm six golden shekels. Elthemus seizes them, and presently reappears in the gate and stealthily transfers a little bag of grain to the bosom of the stranger. It contains an omer (2 1-2 qts.) Part of the grain he bought had been piled in the rock chamber and part sold. He reckons up his gains. "Eight sacks sold for two hundred manehs ($5,000). "By the golden altar! I will get more than five talents in gold, ($115,000) I will get eight," (about $180,000.) Part of the grain still remains unsecreted. Elthemus did not growl at Rachel and John for throwing down part of their daily portion to the starving in the street, but when he discovered John's plan to dole out part of his own (John's) store, he was provoked. John had said to his mother: "It seems to me the siege cannot last more than two months and I cannot endure the sight of such suffering. Let us carefully give from the one hundred and twenty measures that remain of ours one seah a day," (a peck.) So John had a bag made of leather, and, accompanied by two old men who were too infirm for war, he went out daily. These two attendants would beat back the crowd of women and children and old men, with their staves and make a passage for John. To the wounded soldiers he went, as they lay in desolate homes on bare floors, or on the temple pavement, or in the towers. To each he gave a gaschal, (a little handful). "May God return it to you a hundred fold!" "May the Almighty bless his angel." Thus followed by benedictions he fed a hundred and sixty men a day from his peck. This roused Elthemus' indignation:

"You endanger our lives," he said, "they will presently burst the doors and take all." For his own unconcealed treasure he now dug a place in the court, transferring the earth to the roof and rolling it down. In the square vault thus dug, he placed nearly all the bags and covered the treasure with the great stones of the court pavement.

In the meantime Metellus kept up written communication with Elule. Abner's cough kept increasing; his bodily strength slowly diminished but his mind was active as ever and his interest in the war intense. Elkanah watched over his boy with unwearied solicitude. The strange change wrought in the father touched and amazed the son. Abner never saw his father so happy and peaceful in all the days of his prosperity as now when the darkness was like night.

"Why," asked Abner of John, as he and his father sat beside him, "Why do you believe in this Jesus?"

"Because," said John, "he is the Messiah whom all prophets foretold."

"What proof have you?" asked Abner with short, husky breath, as he raised himself on his elbow and fastened his large eyes on John: "Father says he is happy because his sins are forgiven, but I want to know why you believe this Jesus is the promised Messiah."

"Well," said John, "You know the Messiah was to descend by generation from Abraham and through Judah and David."

"Yea," answered Abner.

John ran over the genealogical list and showed how Jesus' line was through these; "It was prophesied by Isaiah that he should be born of a virgin; Mary was that virgin, espoused to Joseph: Micah foretold that he should be born at Bethlehem; there Jesus was born in a stable. Malachi prophesied that a messenger should prepare the way before the Messiah; and John the Baptist was that messenger. Isaiah prophesied that the spirit of the Lord would rest upon him and he should be anointed to preach the gospel,—to bind the broken-hearted and to proclaim liberty to the captives; Jesus Christ did these things.

"Zechariah said that the king should come having salvation, lowly and riding upon an ass, and so Jesus rode into Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives. Isaiah foretold that the eyes of the blind should see, and the ears of the deaf be unstopped, and the lame man leap; and your father knows these things were done through Jesus the Christ. David prophesied that the rulers should take counsel against the Anointed; and so they did against Jesus of Nazareth. Isaiah said: 'As a sheep before his shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth,' so Christ was silent when they falsely accused him. Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah should give his cheek to them that plucked off the hair and that he would not hide his face from shame and spitting, and so Jesus acted. David prophesied that they would laugh and say: 'He trusted in the Lord, that he would deliver him; let him deliver him.' Yea, David foretold the casting of lots upon his vesture and the parting of his raiment. All these things came to pass exactly as prophesied. Yea, David says: 'They pierced my hands and my feet,' and the Romans crucified him. Daniel foretold the very time of his death: He says—"The Messiah shall be cut off and have nothing after sixty-nine weeks of years from the going forth of the commandment to build the wall of Jerusalem;' and the nation of the Jews knows that Christ was crucified at the predicted time.

Abner listened with all attention: "But, our Messiah is to deliver us from the yoke of the Romans; so the Scriptures foretell."

"Jesus said," answered John, "that His kingdom is not of this world—it is of the heart, and He will save everyone who puts his trust in Him."

"Amen," responded Elkanah, joyfully.

"It is remarkable," said Abner, "how exactly these prophecies are fulfilled in this Jesus."

"Shall we pray to be led into the light?" asked John in the earnestness of his desire. Kneeling, he poured out his heart in simple supplication for the illumination of the Spirit in Abner, and that the Spirit might take the things of Christ and make them clear to him.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Two or Three Predicaments

While untold horrors were being enacted inside the city, the Roman soldiers outside, were having a comparatively easy time. They were waiting for the furies: famine, fire and pestilence, to do their work for them.

The soldiers had come into the habit during the last month or two of enriching themselves by catching deserters from the city as they skulked out in the darkness, and disemboweling them to get the rubies and pearls and diamonds they had swallowed, and with which they had hoped to escape alive. The rapacity of the soldiers was such that all the vigilance and threats of Titus could not restrain these diabolical outrages.

After this supply of precious stones and jewels seemed to have ceased, the soldiers amused themselves by catching and nailing to crosses all about the city, the crawling, starving creatures who were accustomed to creep stealthily on hands and knees from the gates in the darkness to dig up grass roots, to which they had been reduced.

If these crucifixions were not commanded of Titus, they were done at his connivance as a fitting punishment for the prolonged and insane resistance of the city. On some nights, four hundred or even five hundred victims would be caught, and crucified in the morning, in plain sight of the inhabitants of the city.

The hideous circle of crosses about the walls grew to the proportions of a forest. Thousands of grinning skeletons and dried up mummified bodies stretched out their arms in the sight of their families and companions.

The only shade from the burning sun, for the crucified, was the black clouds of crows and buzzards that clamored about them, unfrightened by the din of sallies and attacks. But the Roman soldiers themselves were having a good time—for soldiers; they were well fed, their dangers were few, they were simply waiting to grasp the untold wealth that certainly would be theirs. Dingy tented camps spread over the mountains to the north and east and west of the city, away from its awful stench. Between times of duty they gambled for money they already had, and treasure yet to be theirs, or perhaps they whiled away the beautiful twilight hours in telling stories of advenure.

There was a company of six or eight officers lying in front of Metellus' tent one evening; among them was a famous captive, a Jewish general, and also a German who had risen to the rank of tribune in the war against the Britons. They were talking about strange predicaments in which they had found themselves. Others had been telling their stories and now it was the turn of the Jewish general.

He stroked his black beard with an affable smile: "I have had many, very strange experiences, but I praise Jehovah for His miraculous deliverances. I think the strangest, most exciting predicament was that one when I was in a cave after your army battered down the walls of Jotapata and took the city by assault.

"I fled for safety to a subterranean chamber which opened out from a well about forty feet deep. In that underground chamber I found forty other men with a scant supply of provisions. We could not have lived there long in any event, but our hiding place was revealed to Titus by a woman. Titus came and called to us, offering us life and safety if we would surrender. I was for surrendering, for I argued that we had made a valiant fight, had done all mortal men could do for our country, and there would be no gain in staying down there and miserably starving to death. But the forty men were outrageously angry at this counsel.

"'Art thou so fond of life?' they said, 'Canst thou bear to see the light in a state of slavery? We ought to take care that the glory of our forefathers may not be tarnished. We will lend thee our right hand and a sword; if thou die willingly, thou wilt die a general of the Jews, if unwillingly, thou wilt die as a traitor to them.' Then they fiercely rushed at me and I thought they would cut my throat immediately. But I looked this man in the eye, 'I am your General,' I put my hand on another's arm, 'You already have done me great injustice,' to another, 'You know my deeds of valor, you know I have faced death a score of times without flinching.' With such and like words I scarcely restrained them from thrusting their swords through me."

"At last as the days went on their raging became so furious, for they all said, 'It is better for us to die than to endure the shame of surrendering to Romans,' that I, after committing my life to Jehovah said, 'Since you are resolved to die, come on, let us commit our mutual deaths to determination by lot. Self murder is a crime most remote from the common nature of animals, it is an instance of impiety against God our creator. God hates such sin. The crime is punished by our most wise legislators. Come on now, my counsel is that each one draws lots and he who draws the first lot shall be slain by the man drawing the second lot, and he in turn shall be slain by his companion who shall draw the third lot, and he shall die by the man who draws the fourth lot, and so let Providence make its progress among us till the last man; who shall die either by his own hand or else both of the last two men shall thrust each other through at the same moment as they may agree.'

"In such dire predicament was I placed by the furious raging and insanity, as it seemed to me, of the forty men in that horrible cave who disdained to live by the mercy of a Roman. Now, who would hold faith with a maniac? A solemn pledge made to a man bereft of reason may rightly be broken without sin in the eye of Jehovah. So I argued with myself as I gave my right hand to each of the forty men that I would fulfill my contract, and when my turn came I would slay my fellow and in turn offer my breast to the sword.

"In the meantime I committed my cause to the Almighty to deliver my life. The lots were drawn one after another and soon the floor of that cave was covered with the blood of my companions. Willingly they bowed heads or bared their breasts as their lot called them, until, strange to say, the lot had taken all of them except two, myself and another man.

"That was a most terrible sight in the dim light of our lamps. Thirty-nine bodies of men with the warm blood still flowing from the wounds lay about on the floor or were fallen in a heap upon one another.

"The Almighty deliver me from such another spectacle! Two of us only were left. Before we put forth our hands to take the lot which was to decide who was to kill the other I turned to my companion and said, 'I do consider it a most terrible sin against God and man to take the life of a friend or to take one's own life. I bear you no grudge. I am your friend and you are my friend. We have fought for our country most bravely. Now, let us live and call aloud to the Romans that we surrender. A kind of insanity has driven these men to their death, let us be reasonable and hold the life God has deposited in us.' The man at last was won over to this, as it seems to me a sensible and just view, and so it was that Jehovah delivered me and him."

Every soldier in Titus' army knew of the heroic defense of Jotapata and he knew that Vespian and Titus held this man in peculiar esteem, not merely because he had foretold that Vespian should be Emperor but because of his own personal and remarkable deeds of courage in defense of that city. "A most sensible thing to do," said one after he had finished. "I claim that it happened so by chance or else," said the captive, "the Almighty saved me by a providence that I might perform some great deed."

(To be continued)

The Pleiades

The Pleiades, in classical mythology, were seven daughters of Atlas and Pleione. Their names, Alcyone, Electra, Merope, Maia, Taygete, Calaeno and Asterope, with those of their parents, were given to the nine brightest stars of the group in Taurus. As these stars rose in May, and set in October, they marked the season of navigation for ancient seamen. It is quite possible that the poetic reference in the Bible, Job 38, verse 31, "canst thou bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades" referred to the balmy weather of the period associated with their appearance. The group Taurus includes the Hyades and Pleiades as well as the great star Aldebaran, which is pale red, and extraordinarily brilliant.

The Hidden Riches

By David Lyall.

"I will give thee the hidden riches of secret places" — Isaiah45:3

(Continued)

Cherry's face flushed.

"Oh, mother, I'm afraid of it. He comes such a lot—nearly every Sunday. Me and the Dream Ones don't like him, and Cousin Rachel knows it, I think. She was rather cross with me one day when he had been here to lunch, and after he was away she asked me did I not think he was a wonderful man."

"And you were a little silly and said 'no', instead of holding your tongue, I suppose," said her mother, with a very feeble attempt at severity, which had no effect on Cherry at all.

"I said I didn't like him, mother; then she wanted to know why, and because I couldn't tell her she was just a little cross—nothing to speak of, you know, mother. The Dream Ones were very lively that night after I was asleep; they kept saying I'd better go home. Do you think she'd mind, mother, very much if I went back with you? I'll never, never be able to let you go without me! I don't think you should have come, really, though it's heavenly seeing you.

She was sitting forward, her thin hands clasped, her pathetic face alight with a kind of wistful love, when the door opened suddenly. There was the swish of soft silk skirts, and Rachel, bringing a wonderful whiff of fresh air mingled with the exquisite perfume she had chosen for her own exclusive use, appeared before them.

CHAPTER XX.

"Aunt Katie—I know!" she said a little nervously, stepping forward. "You've come to take away Cherry."

Thinking over it later Mrs. Parsons wondered that Rachel should have gauged her motive so quickly. Perhaps she was not shrewd enough to grasp the fact that Rachel's conscience was not quite easy.

"As to that," replied Mrs. Parsons cautiously, "I don't know. I wanted to see her, so I come, my dear. I hope I'm welcome?"

"Oh, Aunt Katie!" A quick tear started to Rachel's eyes as she kissed her. No more and no less—only "Aunt Katie"—but it had pathos in it which easily reached that kind and not invulnerable heart.

"My, but you do look lovely, and years younger, Rachel! Enjoying yourself a treat in London, eh?"

"I'm finding life tremendously interesting and engrossing, Aunt Katie. I had no idea it could be so full of things. I'm afraid I have been neglecting this dear person just a little," she added, moving to Cherry and laying her hand lovingly on her bobbed head.

Rachel had not changed at least, only become engrossed.

Becoming engrossed with this interest or that is a foe, not to love, but to some of its outward manifestations. Hence arise misunderstandings which unless skilfully handled may easily slay love.

Those who tell you that true love cannot be slain draw largely on their imaginations. True love is a tender plant, and though the root may continue in the dry ground, it cannot flourish. When the drought is prolonged unduly it dies. Nothing can prevent it dying. We have Nature's mandate for it.

Cherry rubbed her cheek against Rachel's hand.

"No, no— not neglecting; it's me and the Dream Ones that's selfish. I've been telling mother, I'm just like our tabby at home—jealous, I am—can't suffer another person to live and share my Rachel. That's me all over. No wonder the Dream Ones are shaking their wings over Swindon. Time to go home and scrub floors and wash clothes, they say. I guess mother will take me back with her."

Rachel showed alarm at the suggestion.

"Oh, not yet, surely, Aunt Katie. If you do I shall feel that I have misbehaved and am being punished."

"Well, you see, you've had her three weeks, my dear," said Mrs. Parsons slowly, "and we do miss her at home. As for the chapel, I'm not prepared to say they'll stand Ruth Carr at the organ another Sunday."

"Oh, but this is Thursday, Auntie Kate, and neither of you can possibly go till Monday at least. Now come and let me take you to your room. Would Cherry like to come to the silver-grey room? She says she likes it best of all."

It was very beautiful, with a touch of pale lilac in the hangings, and the frieze and silver-wood furniture so delicate and shiny that it was a delight to the eye. But over all the same touch of luxury, of softness, of too much pandering to the lust of the eye.

Mrs. Parsons felt it very much, though she could not have put it into words. A delicate perfume of violets ever lingered and she moved instinctively towards the window.

"A little air wouldn't be amiss, Rachel. Yes, it's lovely. Never been in a room like this—too grand to sleep in, I think, messing it all up with clothes and things."

"Mine is pink like the rose-red dawn—that's what the Dream Ones call it—mother," piped Cherry. "Rachel's is blue, like her eyes, and the curtains have thick wadding of blue silk, mother — silk all the way through."

Rachel had spared nothing in the decoration and furnishing of her London house. Why should one spare when the money is there, crying to be spent? But when she had seen the place "down East" where Geoffrey Manning and his wife proposed to live, he toiling up to Westminster every working day, she had suffered a queer pang.

Odd people they were, Manning and his wife. Their perspective was very vivid, however; their decisions for themselves remorseless. Duty called them down there to help, and fitness demanded that they should live simply, austerely, spending nothing on themselves.

Rachel had not yet sorted out all these things in her mind. And she frequently said—life had got her. She was beginning to understand, or at least feebly to make study of the great game. Meanwhile she was playing the role of the woman to whom money is no object, and finding it good.

She began to unfasten, with her own hands, Mrs. Parsons's coat.

"I've a friend dining tonight, Auntie Kate, and I was going to a meeting after. You won't mind, you'll be pleased to be with Cherry. I shall not be longer than an hour out of the house."

"Mind, my dear! no, no. Cherry and me will be delighted to have our evening together—plenty to talk about, with the Missionary sale coming on again and the chapel treats for Christmas. They've started the carol practice already; Gertie and Albert are at it every night."

This small talk covered deeper feelings, of which all were conscious.

Rachel rang a bell and Perilla, the demure little housemaid, who, like Emily Locket, was devoted to Cherry, came to take her orders.

"No fire, Rachel, if you please; no no! I couldn't sleep with it. Fires in bedrooms is only for sick people."

"I have one every night," said Rachel. "I sit quite a long time by it in my dressing-gown, often. In the dark, when one doesn't sleep, it's comforting, like a friend."

"A healthy young woman shouldn't be lying awake at nights, my dear," said Mrs. Parsons calmly. "Maybe you don't walk enough. Work's the thing, ain't it, Cherry? Monday wash, Tuesday iron and put away, Wednesday turn out the rooms, Thursday half-day whisk round, to get ready in case anybody wants to go somewhere in the afternoon, Friday bake, and Saturday sew and scrub generally—that's it, isn't it, Cherry?"

Mr. Parsons didn't know why she went into that rigmarole—forced to it, perhaps, by the poignancy of contrast.

Rachel laughed, and gave a little nervous turn of her head, as she caught a glimpse of a face that was radiant—her own—in the long glass of the wardrobe.

"Why, I never! it's twenty minutes to seven. I must go and tidy myself. We're eating at seven, as the meeting is at Fulham at eight o'clock."

"Fulham," repeated Mrs. Parsons, and then remembered that Cherry had said one called Raikes lived there.

Rachel went towards the door, then paused, looking back.

"It is a gentleman who is dining, Aunt Katie—one of the Labor leaders called Mr. Raikes. He is a friend of the Mannings," she added, drawing the long bow ever so slightly, for he could not by any stretch of the imagination be called their friend. They suffered him as they suffered some fools—not always gladly. They liked him in parts, but recognized the need for him to grow and broaden and understand the claims of life and all sections of humanity.

They were, happily for their own peace of mind, totally unaware as yet of the hold he had got on Rachel and her life.

"I'll be pleased to see him, my dear," said Mrs. Parsons, with an odd, gentle dignity, "though Henry says Labor leaders are at the bottom of a lot of the mischief that's rife just now. They've gotten clean away from work and have forgotten what it stands for. That's your Uncle Henry's idea, and it might be mine. Work's saved me many a time," and here she lowered her voice reverently, "and brought me nearer to that little home at Nazareth where our Lord Jesus worked at the carpenter's bench."

"Oh," said Rachel, with a queer wrench in her voice, "Your're wonderful, Auntie Katie, the best preacher I've ever heard. Well, I must go and wash my hands. I don't need to change tonight as it's a meeting."

She went out and the door was shut, and mother and daughter looked at one another.

"Something's happened to Rachel, duckie."

"I know," said Cherry with a prodigious sigh. "It's that man; I don't like him, mother, and as for the Dream Ones, they positively can't abide him. He's — he's out for himself."

That was a tremendous indictment for Cherry to bring against a human being; it hurt her to bring it. Her eyes were perilously bright, and yet clouded, as if mists of tears lay behind.

"Never mind, darling, it ain't our business, but I should hate to see Rachel make a mess of her life. She's fine, or would be fine, if she'd a chance away from all this." Here she fingered the silk curtains with a queer caressing, yet disapproving touch. "It ain't meant, Cherry, not for one woman to have so much, and never earned it either. You take it from me, duckie, the sweetest money is what's earned. I'll never forget David running home all the way, breaking his neck, to hand me the first seven-and-six he'd earned. It made a man of him, Cherry," and here her motherly bosom swelled. "He's been a man ever since."

"Mother, perhaps God will help," said Cherry cautiously. "It He sees Rachel being hurt with the money He'll take it away. He never makes no mistakes — that's what the Dream Ones keep telling me when I get a little low sometimes."

Mrs. Parsons nodded.

"That's so; your're wise, Cherry, we needn't worry about Rachel. The Lord will see to her. Meantime, am I to wash my hands in that gorgeous basin? Oh, my, look at the lace towels; a good old huckaback behind the scullery door is more use to working hands. Not that mine are so bad. I kept my old washleather gloves on all the way in the train. Are you right, Cherry? That's a new frock."

"It's one of them, mother. Rachel has given me three; this is georgette. Isn't it sweet, but it's the "crepe-de-Chine" one I like best. It's crinkly, but soft. You should see Rachel dressed for a real dinner party, mother—the kind she was at last night. Her frock don't come no higher than this." She indicated her shoulder blades and drew a kind of diagram of Rachel's "decollete."

"Mercy! ain't she cold, Cherry?"

"No, and her neck is as white as snow; a lovely neck, mother. She looks like a queen. She's got some pearls too; she said a thousand pounds for them. She'll have them on to-night."

"Merciful goodness, duckie, it seems wicked, and so many children needing bread. But it's the Lord's business; we must leave it to Him. I'll stop till Monday, and take you home. I don't see that it would be very good for you, or much use, to leave you here any longer."

She plunged her hands into the soft perfumed water which Perilla had brought in a shining can, took her stumpy little black brush and comb from her bag and smoothed her grey hair.

"Black's easy wear, Cherry—you don't need to bother, but father doesn't like me in black. Men seem to like their women folk in light colors, maybe because they've to wear so many dark clothes themselves. What's that?"

"The get-ready gong, mother; we needn't go down just yet."

About two minutes to seven Cherry and her mother, hand-in-hand, repaired to the drawing-room, which was on the first floor. Before they opened the door they could hear voices.

"He's come, mother," said Cherry, with a slight grimace. "I don't think he likes me; he teases me, pulls my hair. A strange man oughtn't to pull one's hair, should he, mother?"

"Not as a general thing, duckie, but if he's a friend of your cousin Rachel—"

"He's not a friend of mine," said Cherry, and the faint pucker was in her brows even after they very diffidently opened the drawing-room door and presented themselves.

Mrs. Parsons stood in no awe of William Raikes, and swept him with keen appraising eyes when Rachel introduced him.

He was a tall, slim man, very well dressed, with that studied carelessness which indicates concentration on the subject of dress. His loose collar and rather bright tie were a concession to what he stood for. Raikes was at the stage when he would attend a dinner party (he was asked at infrequent intervals by certain ones who exploited anything or anyone out of the beaten track) dressed in his ordinary clothes as a protest. He was always protesting against something, but something about the man caused his protests to be futile and unconvincing. He somehow did not ring true, and his own fellows, quick enough to detest the honest ring, were beginning to shy away from him.

"How do you do?" said Auntie Kate solemnly. "I'm very well, thank you, Mr. Raikes."

She did not respond to the formula which Raikes had uttered. She was not particularly pleased to meet him, nor did she believe that he was at all pleased to meet her. But for her presence and Cherry's he would have had an uninterrupted tete-a-tete with Rachel.

Mrs. Parsons made up her mind instantly about William Raikes. She believed he was after her niece's money. This conviction made her less amiable than usual, even less talkative.

It was a very queer meal. Learning that she came from Swindon, Raikes inquired how the railwaymen down there were getting on.

"They're all right, the ones that work," said Mrs. Parsons coolly. "They don't grumble; it's the other sort."

"The ones you're speaking of, Mrs. Parsons, have had the grumbling knocked out of them," remarked Raikes. "Got no initiative left."

"What's that?" inquired Mrs. Parsons, and suddenly smiled with engaging sweetness upon Emily Locket, who was offering her something out of a silver dish. Mrs. Parsons was full of wrath, not at the silver dish, but because William Raikes was being helped out of it too.

Asked why that should have irritated her, she might have found some difficulty in explaining. But it did.

"Cherry will tell you, she has a splendid vocabulary," said Raikes, bending his flashing eyes on Cherry's face with that teasing glance which in him she particularly disliked.

Cherry shook her head, and put her fork into the fish, not feeling very hunghy and thinking how she used to enjoy the jam roll made hurriedly on a washing morning at Glenavon Terrace and left to mind itself.

Rachel stepped into the breach.

"Mr. Raikes means that the workmen who have been long oppressed have lost the power to act, or even to speak for themselves, Auntie Kate."

"I see, and then Mr. Raikes speaks for them, is that it? Well, I wonder——"

"What do you wonder now, Mrs. Parsons?" said Raikes, smiling a little. "Out with it! Confession is good for the soul, and we're all friends here, and should be frank with one another."

"I'm not your friend, sir; I never saw you till to-night," said Mrs. Parsons, not to be outdone in frankness.

Emily Locket turned her face towards the sideboard at that moment, stifling a desire to laugh. She was enjoying herself immensely. She had no use for William Raikes, and was of Mrs. Parsons's opinion regarding him.

"Sorry you don't feel friendly to me, Mrs. Parsons. I assure you I want to be friendly with you," said Raikes. "But what was it you wondered?"

"Whether your kind of talk does 'em any good," said Auntie Kate. "My Henry doesn't think so. I've heard him and other folk who think about things, weighing up the kind of talk the working folks get from their leaders."

"Oh!" said Raikes, rather shortly. "Weighing us up and finding us wanting, I suppose?"

"Yes; if people could be let alone more in this world, it would be a better one. We're too much governed and policed, and instructed and — and bullied," said Mrs. Parsons with a warmth which surprised no one more than herself. "Most folks are all right when they're let alone."

"The let-alone policy has brought us where we are to-day," said Raikes, smiling across the table at Rachel, with a meaning which Mrs. Parsons did not grasp, though she noted it all right. "I'm surprised that an intelligent lady like yourself should cherish such archaic notions, Mrs. Parsons."

"Such what?"

"Old-fashioned ideas, Mr. Raikes means. Stop teasing Auntie Kate," said Rachel pointedly. "Tell her what the meeting is about to-night. Then she might like to go."

(To be continued)

True To The Last

Short Story By Philip J. Cleveland.

The moon cast her silvery glance on the great city of Rome. The midnight hour had passed, but the lights in the palace of the cruel Nero still burned. A gay, boisterous crowd, which in the last few hours had been inflamed to the utmost with costly wines, now slept the dull, heavy sleep of intemperance. Some had bowed their heads on the large table stained with liquor and over revealing broken chalices. Others were sprawled upon the marble floor,—just as they had fallen after their last toast to the gods of Rome. In one corner in a wretched heap lay three of the most boisterous courtiers of the evening. Nero himself had been dragged away from this unsightly banquet hall to his own private apartment by his private servants, and on a gorgeous couch overlaid with gold and ivory and covered with the most expensive coverlets, hidden by a rich tapestry from Egypt from all observing eyes, the emperor of Rome slept. It was a deep, heavy, unnatural slumber, the result of the evening's surfeiting and drunkenness. Could one have looked for one brief moment on that bloated, discolored face, revealing the signs of weakness and sin—lacking the marks of character and purpose as it lay unnaturally on the immaculate lace adorning the head of the couch, that person might have wondered for one brief moment if such could be a man.

Nero's palace was well acquainted with such scenes of revelry and carnival. The intemperate emperor called many such banquets. In fact, he could not long abide in contentment without them. He had his draught of wine every day. And this banquet differed from past revelries only in its increase of indulgence and wickedness. Twenty Christians had lost their lives that day in the huge Coliseum (much to Nero's delight for he gloried in cruelty and bloodshed) and he had celebrated the occasion with another palace festival—or drunken brawl, for inreality it was nothing less.

That same moon with her silvery beams —traversing the heavens and marking out her path among the dark, ominous clouds that hid her bright face at frequent intervals from the eyes of the Romans—also looked upon another scene in that proud city. Her pure light, dulled and robbed of its lustre as it pierced through a window covered with dirt and cobwebs in one of the foulest cells of the large prison, fell upon a little group imprisoned that very night. One would have needed to look sharp to count the persons, because the moon's ray of light very ineffectively showed as a lantern in that gloomy, dismal place shrouded in the blackness of night. There were four in the little company —an old man with locks, two men in middle life, and a maiden. They were all Christians. That very night their secret place of worship had been raided by Roman soldiers and these four had been seized and cast into this dungeon. Nero had decreed the extermination of the Christians. He charged them with the destruction of a great part of the renowned city. Not many days ago had the terrified populace seen the fearful columns of smoke—the awful tongues of fire, that had consumed many of Rome's citizens, and had left thousands homeless. It had been whispered around that the emperor played upon a stringed instrument in glee, while the shrieks of anguish and cries of woe resounded horribly upon the midnight air. And to divert suspicions — so some thought — he had incriminated the Christians in Rome with this fearful tragedy. He alleged that they kindled the fire. And forthwith he took measures to rid Rome of the sect. He would exterminate them. Rome should be cleansed.

One of that little company remained awake during the long hours of the night. She could not close her eyes in slumber. She was too excited. She knelt for hours in that cold dismal place. She tried to pray as best she could, for some time, how long she did not know. She held communion with the Father in heaven, unlike her earthly parent, so careless concerning the welfare of his children, so greedy for gold. She silently lifted up her heart to the all-seeing One; for she needed strength in the black, ominous night that had fallen upon her pathway . . . a night of doubt, reproach, and fear, a thousand times darker, blacker than the night that had fallen upon the world and which would be pierced and routed with the appearance of the great warrior, the sun.

She prayed for Miriam — her mother. Berenice seemed to see her distracted, anxious countenance as she discovered the truth; she seemed to hear her cry of alarm as she discovered that her daughter had not slept on her couch that evening, if perchance Miriam found out for herself the absence of her only child—that she had not spent the night in her father's abode. For she had secretly stolen out with her Uncle Amos to the upper room in the house of Nicanor where the Christians worshipped, after she had received the customary benediction from her mother before retiring to her room. Again she seemed to be stealing along the dark streets with Amos, avoiding as best they could all pedestrians. She again seemed to be in the dimly-lit upper room where the followers of one Jesus of Nazareth worshipped. What wonderful words Nicanor had read that night from one of the sacred manuscripts. They had powerfully impressed her. One sentence still lingered in memory: "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." Then the speaker had explained the meaning of that passage and never had she heard him so forcefully, energetically address that little company. He had shown how the Old Testament prophet—Isaiah—had foretold the Messiah's sacrificial work—His sufferings and death. He had revealed to that interested and happy company the powerful significance of the Old Testament sacrifices, especially concerning the sin-offering, trespass-offering and burnt-offering. He had marvellously portrayed their reference to "the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." Although she had attended service before—and secretly—she never before had so clearly perceived that all of the predictions concerning the Messiah's work in the prophets and psalms centered in Jesus of Nazareth. The long-expected Messiah had come! With mighty power this thought had pierced her very heart. His death on the accursed tree had been in reality—not as the rabbis taught, a sign of ignominy and shame, but the revelation of Jehovah's love and mercy. And while the aged speaker in a trembling voice—choking with sorrow, and with eyes overflowing with tears had told the story of Jesus—had lifted him up on the Cross where in unutterable pain and sorrow, the innocent, divinely-appointed Sufferer hung —bleeding—dying! and to save us from an injured Law—the tears had started unbidden from her eyes. She tried in vain to restrain them. And that same moment a great love had sprung forth from the hidden recesses of her heart for this One dying in woe and agony on Golgotha's rugged brow—hanging between two thieves.

She had not in reality prayed a great length of time—although she continued to kneel in the dingy old dungeon, shrouded in an impenetrable blackness. The rays of light—dull as they were—no longer lighted the dismal place. Berenice, however, did not realize this fact. She was thinking. She remembered that she had tarried after service to ask the speaker a few questions. Four others had remained also. They had talked with her and had prayed with her. The aged one had said: "Pray to Him, yourself, my daughter. The Saviour said: "Ask and it shall be given you." While she had been imploring the great Jehovah to cleanse her from the stains of the sins of the past—as best she could, and for the Saviour's sake, a deep gruff voice had said: "They are here!" and heavy steps sounded on the stairway. The next thing she knew the door had been thrust open, and a Roman soldier had seized her roughly by the shoulder and had brought her suddenly and painfully to her feet. Without a word of explanation or enlightenment, four figures had been hastily led through the streets of Rome to the prison. One of the little number had escaped. Berenice was extremely thankful for that. It was her uncle Amos. He would tell Miriam the episode of the night. But Berenice hardly dared to think of the terrible grief of Miriam, or the fierce rage of her father on learning the truth.

But an overtaxed mind and tear-dimmed eyes usually conspire to bring a species of slumber. And with the first dim rays of the dawn Berenice fell asleep. Although she slept, sometimes a groan would escape her lips.

When Berenice first regained consciousness, she felt a light hand on her forehead, and as she opened her eyes, she saw the gray-haired preacher of the preceding night gazing thoughtfully, kindly at her.

"Thou art not well, my daughter," he remarked as he looked upon her flushed face. "Thine eyes look as if thou didst have a fever—but thy brow is cool."

Then Berenice realized that it was all true. Her experience had been real and no idle dream. There was Nicanor, the preacher with the whitened locks and two of the brethren, and she was surrounded by the damp, dingy walls of the old dungeon.

"Nay, gentle sire, I have no fever," replied Berenice. "This color on my cheek, this redness in my eye is not because of illness." Then Berenice told the other three her story. They listened attentively, and interrupted the recital only with a short explanation, now and then such as, "Praise the Lord," or "Honor to the Saviour."

After the three Christian brethren had encouraged and consoled her as best they could, they managed to kneel in prayer, even though chained. They thanked the Heavenly Father for His goodness and love and above everything else—for the gift of His Son. Berenice especially noticed Nicanor's prayer. He praised Jehovah that they had been permitted to share the Saviour's sufferings. After singing one of their customary psalms, Nicanor recited from memory many of the words of John's first epistle, and again Berenice heard the words "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin." And a great peace filled her soul. So great was the peace that she marvelled. Then the little party awaited the events of the day.

Not long after the meagre breakfast of hard, unpalatable bread and water offered them by the Roman jailor, gruff voices were heard in the corridor, a key turned harshly in the lock, and three men attired in the uniform of Rome, entered with the jailor. The largest one cast a quick glance at the four inoffensive-looking figures before him. A look of scorn and contempt somewhat changed the expression of the naturally hard cruel countenance. His large, homely lips pursed themselves outward—as they always did when he would reveal contempt for inferiors. It was Flavian, Nero's private councillor and benchman. Many in Rome testified to his inner baseness and cruelty. Many Christians before this time had been torn to pieces by hungry lions because of the man. He would submit to tasks that Old Nero himself, with all his unscrupulousness and depravity hesitated to undertake. Because of his cruelty and heartlessness in executing the emperor's designs, he came to be called "The Scourge of Nero."

"What doest thou here?" suddenly exclaimed Flavian. "Are all enemies to Caesar working sedition and the seeds of revolt in the city of the emperor? Answer!

Nicanor, after saluting the frowning Roman, replied, "We are not enemies to Caesar, working sedition, or sowing the seeds of revolt in the city, but ——"

"Wouldst thou deny my words, cur of the street?" thundered the enraged Roman.

For a moment Nicanor held his silence. He prayed inwardly.

"Wilt thou hold thy tongue when I command thee to speak?"

"Nay, noble sire," ventured Nicanor. He addressed the Roman official thus because he would call no man "Lord." We four are known as followers of the Christ. While worshipping our heavenly Lord and Saviour last night, we were interrupted by the Roman guard and baled off to this place."

Before Nicanor could proceed further, Flavian exclaimed: "Are all here members of the evil sect, Christians?" and he uttered a fearful imprecation on their heads.

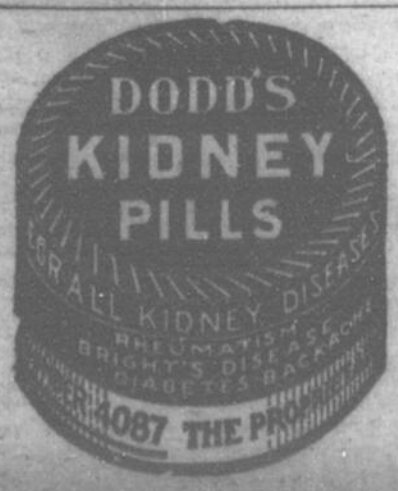
Nicanor cast a quick glance at Berenice. She nodded and seemed to smile.

"Yes, truly, noble sire," replied the aged one. He said this meekly but firmly.

"Knowest thou the portion of Christians? Hast thou heard of the arena and the beasts of Nero?" queried Flavian, in a softer but more terrible tone of voice. Without waiting for a response, he continued: "Unless thou dost renounce the One you profess to serve, and cry 'Caesar' twice, it shall go ill with thee. I return to-morrow!" With a final glance of hatred, Flavian turned and was gone.

Three in the little group cast anxious glances at one another. Nicanor was unmoved.

"Be strong and of a good courage, my little children," he remarked, as he perceived the anxiety on the countenances that looked at him. "Remember the words of the beloved John, "Perfect love casteth out fear. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."



Mother!

Child's Best Laxative is "California Fig Syrup"



Tongue Shows if Bilious, Constipated

Hurry Mother! Even a bilious, constipated, feverish child loves the pleasant taste of "California Fig Syrup" and it never fails to open the bowels. A teaspoonful today may prevent a sick child tomorrow.

Ask your druggisht for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has directions for babies and children of all ages printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

TEETHING TROUBLES

Baby's teething time is a time of worry and anxiety to most mothers. The little ones become cross; peevish; their little stomach becomes deranged and constipation and colic sets in. To make the teething period easy on baby the stomach and bowels must be kept sweet and regular. This can be done by the use of Baby's Own Tablets— the ideal laxative for little ones. The Tablets are a sure relief for all the minor ailments of childhood such as constipation, colic, indigestion, colds and simple fevers. They always do good—never harm. The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

How good were the words of Nicanor! For two hours he talked with them and spoke of the glorious, everlasting crown reserved for the one who would "be faithful unto death."

That afternoon the key of the jailer once more grated in the lock. Another entered.

"The rabbi Othniel!" exclaimed Berenice to herself. But the visitor was a stranger to the three Gentile brethren.

The rabbi spoke quickly to the jailer, who withdrew, leaving the stranger alone in the dungeon with the prisoners.

"Base deceiver! like the evil one himself, what hast thou done?" exclaimed Othniel, looking sternly, angrily upon the Hebrew maiden.

"Thy mother is distracted and almost mad! Thy father storms and rages like the fierce tempest, crying vengeance on all believers in the Nazarine. He is like the Gadarenes this day. I say, wicked maiden, what hast thou done?" The heavy, prominent brows met, the heavily-bearded face hardened; the large fists clenched.

Berenice, who had fallen into violent sobbing, was unable to speak. Nicanor wished that he could have understood the stranger's words. Alas! he knew not Hebrew. Neither did the other two believers. Nicanor but looked silently and indignantly at the towering form in front of the maiden.

"Thou must deny that deceiver and blasphemer and return to thy mother. With the utmost difficulty did I procure a pass. Had it not been for my fortunate acquaintance with Popilius, I could not have interviewed thee. Thou wilt renounce the Nazarene and his pernicious sect or face the lions next week, and suffer the vengeance of the Eternal One—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

(To be continued.)

TWO MODERN CRUSOES

A modern Mr. and Mrs. Crusoe are living on Middleton Island, off the southern coast of Alaska. Mr. and Mrs. Crusoe are a Boston school teacher and her husband, who have a blue fox farm on this far-off lonely island, as we see from an account written in the National Geographic Magazine (Washington), by Margery Prichard Parker, who has given the name of "Crusoe" to these people, who are so cheerfully making a living in tais distant spot. Friday is also present on this island.

The "Friday" of this island is a patient old black horse, who was abandoned by former owners when they left the place. Friday saw no human being for three years. In summer he could easily feed himself upon the abundant growth of clover, timothy, redtop, and wild peas; but it makes an animal-lover cringe to think what the poor fellow must have endured in winter, when all the fodder was covered with snow and raging storms swept over the island.

When the Crusoes came, it took some time to reclaim Friday from the wild and convince him that they were friends; but now he is an honored, trusting, and faithful member of the firm. His chief duty is to drag from point to point a sledge containing the fox feed; it is also his job to haul kelp for fertilizing the gardens and to help salvage the heavy driftwood.

Most of the time Friday roams at will, but never goes beyond call from the house. Upon the approach of a storm he retires to the shelter built for him and stands contentedly looking out, knowing full well what warm mashes of potatoes and salt will be served to him until the wild weather subsides and he can again provide for himself.

The blue foxes roam all over the Island and are very little trouble to raise in this way:

The breeding of blue foxes in captivity is not an easy undertaking, owing to the extreme shyness of the fox family. They do not readily grow accustomed to man, but generally have the attitude of wild animals on the defensive. A mother fox, when alarmed, has been known to kill her offspring on the instant, and the constant nervousness of the animals even affects the quality of the fur.

On the island the foxes are unaware of being prisoners, as they roam freely, so they rear their young in the natural way, and double their number annually.

The chief duty of the fox farmers is to provide and daily distribute fresh food for his charges, at stations scattered about the island, especially during the winter months. Besides a small proportion of vegetables, rations consist of rabbits and the flesh of the hair seal when it can be obtained. The last requires expert marksmanship, as the seal must be shot through the head in order to float ashore; otherwise it sinks and is lost.

In summer the foxes will leave the food in the feeding-boxes and go foraging for themselves, running along the beach in search of fish eggs and small fish washed up in the kelp, or climbing the cliffs to rob the sea-pigeons' nests of eggs and squabs.

Plant life on Middleton Island is very much like that of New England, with omission of fruit trees. In June and August strawberries and salmon berries appear in quantities, and make a welcome change to the diet of Mr. and Mrs. Crusoe. The island does not appear to be the place for songbirds, but has many other birds of sorts, large and small. Said Mrs. Crusoe:

"One of our duties, which is also a diversion, is a daily log recording observations of weather, wind, temperature, and any items of natural history which we may have acquired. Chief among the latter are facts regarding the birds, both the migrants and those which breed here. The former include several varieties each of the sandpiper, grebe, duck, merganser, curlew, goose, teal, widgeon, gull—in fact, almost every water-fowl of the Pacific coast. Among the land birds seen in migration are the robin, jay, owl, magpie, sparrows of various kinds, grosbeak, humming-bird, phoebe, and Arctic three-toed woodpecker.

"We have built several types of bird-houses about the place, hoping to induce some of the songbirds to remain with us during the summer, but so far they have declined our hospitality. Occasionally a pair of trumpeter swans is seen, or magnificent golden eagles soar far above. These rarely stay more than a few hours, as their powerful wings are much sooner rested than those of the smaller birds."

This lonely Paradise blossoms from the middle of April until September with all the old-fashioned flowers of New England—hyacinth, harebells, aster, larkspur, columbine, sweet peas—72 kinds of flowers in a season, but, sad to say, all odorless. Then late in the autumn when all the flowers are frosted, comes the beautiful fleecy Alaska cotton, looking like small banks of snow.



THE DISCORDANT NOTE

Ramsay (conducting the orchestra): kick that fellow out altogether. He quite ruins the harmony!"

—From London Opinion.

THE TREACHERY OF SPRING

False Sunshine Brings Colds, Backache and Rheumatism.

Spring may be a time of sunshine, buds and flowers; but it is also a time of driving rain, chilling winds, draughts and fogs.

We say "spring is here" and the first thing we know, we sneeze and cough; sometimes we are ill for weeks with grippe, tonsillitis or pneumonia. Spring is danger time, and everyone should guard their health by taking "Fruit-a-tives" during the breaking up of winter and the coming of warm weather.

These wonderful tablets—made from concentrated and intensified fruit juices—purify and enrich the blood—regulate kidneys, bowels and skin—and by building up the whole system, protect you against sudden weather changes.

25c. and 50c. a box—at all dealers or Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

HOME TREATMENT SAFE AND EFFICIENT

Ailing People Made Strong by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills do one thing, and do it well. They build up the blood, increasing the number of red corpuscles. As this is done the blood becomes a richer red and is able to carry more oxygen, the great supporter of human life. As the blood improves in quality the tissues of the body are better nourished and the functions of the body are better performed. This is the reason Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have been so successful in the treatment of diseases due to poor, thin blood, and it is also the reason why they are so successful in building up strength after fevers and acute diseases. Among those who have used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills with great advantage is Mrs. Helena B. Taylor, Hanover, Ont., who says: "Not long ago I was critically ill. The trouble started with anaemia and a run-down system, and ended with pleurisy. I was confined to my bed for three months and three doctors were in attendance at different times. My life was despaired of, and I was practically living on doctors' medicine, because I could not eat. My friends did not expect me to recover. During my girlhood Dr. Williams' Pink Pills had brought me through a severe attack of anaemia, and my mother urged that I should try them again. The doctor could not understand why we wanted to try these pills, but we decided to do so. After taking six boxes a decided change was taking place. I was actually getting hungry and anxious to live. After using twelve boxes a miracle was worked. I could walk and felt my strength coming back, and people on all sides were asking what was helping me, and we were not slow in telling them it was Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. With my health fully restored through the use of these pills I am a striking example of what this wonderful medicine can do, and now I never see a pale or sickly-looking girl or woman that I do not feel like going up to her and asking why she does not take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

You can get these pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail at 50 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

WHAT FARM BOOKKEEPING SHOWS.

An acre of crops in 1920 bought only 62 p.c. as much coal and about 52 p.c. as much clothing as in 1914, according to a recent report from the College of Agriculture, University of California, Berkeley, California. Other comparisons show that the 1920 acre yield purchased 71 p.c. as much flour as in 1914, 76 p.c. as much gasoline, 59 p.c. as much lumber, 58 p.c. as much sugar, 78 p.c. as many plows, 76 p.c. as many mowers, 70 p.c. as much cement, and about 59 p.c. as much paint. These figures, of course, represent general conditions; individual records might show even more startling facts.

Farm bookkeeping and cost accounting are now being used to correct mistakes on the farm rather than just to show certain isolated facts.

VETERINARY DIRECTOR GENERAL APPOINTED

Dr. George Hilton has been promoted to the position of Veterinary Director General of Canada, succeeding Dr. Frederick Torrance, who resigned last autumn. Dr. Hilton's appointment is a promotion from the office of Chief Veterinary Inspector which he has held since 1902, and acting Veterinary Director General since the retirement of Dr. Torrance.

There is a saying, "Hard words break no bones." This may be true; but they break something more precious and slower-healing than bones; the ties of affection and friendship. They leave wounds and bruises that cannot be quickly cured. It has happened not infrequently that some insulting word uttered in anger has rankled like a thorn for years, and caused feuds between those born of the same father and mother.

We read the other day of a man who had just passed through a harrowing experience. He had seen a ghost. "Ah jes' come out of de cowshed," he said, "an' Ah had a pail o' milk in mah hand. Den Ah hears a noise by de side of de road an' de ghost rushes out." "Did you shake with fright, Sam?" asked one of his dusky audience. "Ah don't know what Ah shook wid. Ah hain't sayin' for suttin Ah shook at all. But when Ah got home Ah foun' all de milk gone, an' two pounds o' butter in de pail."—The Progressive Grocer.

SLOW Ears *or QUICK* Ears



WHICH ARE YOURS?

Slow ears mean that you can't quite catch the sense of what people are talking about. You lose a word here and there. You feel tired because of your constant effort to hear.

Perhaps you have noises in your head, so that you feel confused when you try to distinguish sounds.

In other words you feel the gradual dulling of one of the most important of all our senses.

Quick ears mean just the reverse of the foregoing—the ability to hear sounds readily and keenly—to hear the birds—the lodge ritual—and the sermon.

Quick ears mean that you catch every word of the family chat—the business conversation—just as you used to do.

4-Day Treatments Free

In Boston at 286 Cornhill Building is the office of a man who after being graduated from Dublin University, Ireland, and after serving as surgeon in the British Royal Mail Naval Service for a period, has for more than 35 years, made Catarrhal Deafness a study. Moreover, Ear Specialist Sproule and his associates developed a method of Home Treatment for Catarrhal Deafness and Head Noises.

It is so difficult to properly describe a Method of Home Treatment that instead they offer a 4-day treatment, FREE. All you have to do is to send off for a free Treatment. Just a postcard or letter asking for the Free Deafness Treatment will bring it by return mail.

You are asked to use it carefully. Examine the treatment—note its careful preparation—the ease and convenience with which it can be used at home. Observe how every detail of the Method has been made to work toward the desired end of changing slow ears into quick ears.

Then after you have done this, and have seen the Method for yourself, read what some grateful friends have to say of the "results they have received."

If you have slow ears, you are gladly welcome to this opportunity to see what can be done for them, through this Home Treatment Method.

Write for your Free Treatment to

EAR SPECIALIST SPROULE
286 Cornhill Building Boston, Mass.

THE MINISTRY OF A ROSE

On a railway train approaching one of the Western cities a company of girls in holiday attire noticed a desperate-looking man in charge of an officer. Some of them spoke of him as a "gaol-bird," and looked with scorn at the prisoner. One looked with pitying eye, and whispered, "Poor fellow! How hard to be deprived of liberty!" Selecting one of the most beautiful and fragrant of a bunch of roses that she was taking to a favorite aunt, she crossed over to his seat, and with a smile dropped the flower upon his lap. Tears came to his eyes, and, taking the rose in his handcuffed fingers, he said, in a husky voice, "God bless you, Miss, for your kindness to a poor castaway. May you never know what it is to be friendless. It is many a day since I heard a word of cheer from human lips." An aged man who witnessed the scene told the girls that the prisoner had been a soldier, and when in the army learned to drink, and became a castoff because of his habits, and was then on the way to State prison to serve a five-years' sentence.

Tears dropped from the eyes of the poor fellow, upon the rose, and he carried it with him to his cell, and pressed it between the leaves of his Bible. The memory of the kind act and the smiling face was thus kept before him daily. The rose and the book were alike precious to him through those long years. He became a Christian; and when he came out of the prison he carried with him testimonials from prison officials. With a new spirit he began to work humbly among the lowly, and became the means of leading many friendless, homeless men and women into better, purer ways of living. With the passing of years there came changes and sorrows to the dear girl who gave the rose. Parents died, reverses followed, and her brother became a miner, and fell into bad habits. One morning an explosion buried the miners working below. A stranger hastened to the mouth of the pit, and in spite of the great danger, asked to be lowered to the assistance of the men below. One by one they were rescued. The man then told the story of the rose, and its ministry to his life. He won the brother of the giver to a new and better life, having rescued him from a living tomb. The offerings of kindness live on forever, and often return in blessings to the giver.

WATCH THE CORNERS

(By Lulu Linton.)

When you wake up in the morning of a chill and cheerless day,
And feel inclined to grumble, pout or frown,
Just glance into your mirror and you will quickly see
It's just because the corners of your mouth turn down.
Then take this simple rhyme,
Remember it in time:
It's always dreary weather, in country side or town,
When you wake and find the corners of your mouth turned down.

If you wake up in the morning full of bright and happy thoughts
And begin to count the blessings in your cup,
Then glance into your mirror and you will quickly see
It's all because the corners of your mouth turn up.
Then take this little rhyme,
Remember all the time:
There's joy aplenty in this world to fill life's silver cup
If you'll only keep the corners of your mouth turned up.

—Youth's Christian Companion.

The earliest will found is of Egyptian origin of the Twelfth dynasty (B. C. 3500), and the testator is minutely described. He was "in his sound mind and right understanding, a sojourner about 80 years old, short in stature, with aquiline nose and bright eyes, curly hair, but rather bald, with long ears."

No man on feet has exceeded a speed of twenty-two miles an hour.

ASPIRIN

UNLESS you see the name "Bayer" on tablets, you are not getting Aspirin at all



Accept only an "unbroken package" of "Bayer Tablets of Aspirin," which contains directions and dose worked out by physicians during 22 years and proved safe by millions for

Colds	Headache	Rheumatism
Toothache	Neuralgia	Neuritis
Earache	Lumbago	Pain, Pain

Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets—Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists.

Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada) of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid. While it is well known that Aspirin means Bayer manufacture, to assist the public against imitations, the Tablets of Bayer Company will be stamped with their general trade mark, the "Bayer Cross."

SOME SECRETS OF THE SEA

Luminous fishes are one of the ocean's many interesting features, says L. E. Eubanks, in our Dumb Animals. The mechanism of and reason for a lighting apparatus has long been a subject of scientific investigation. Professor E. Newton Harvey, of Princeton University, has been studying the cypridina, a crab-like creature about an inch long, with oval-shaped body inclosed in a shell much like a clam. It emits a strong bluish light, the source of which Professor Harvey has found to be a relatively large gland located near the mouth. The light is in constant process of manufacture and the supply is never exhausted.

Professor Harvey tells, also, of another little fish he discovered in the East Indies. It is about three inches long and carries a large oval of light beneath its eyes. There are two types. One shuts off its light supply when it desires by means of a screen-like eyelid which can be made to cover the luminous area. In the other type the light-giving organism is revolving, so that its bright side can be turned inward when the fish desires.

How to write a letter, or prepare a paper to be read in public, or conduct a business meeting, are things that are very apt to be nebulous in the mind of the average man or woman who has not had a course of instruction on the subject. For the benefit of such, the Ontario Department of Agriculture has issued a special bulletin which may be had on application. It also contains admirable hints on how to avoid common errors in speech.

Radio is responsible for a serious annoyance to French ears, proceeding from the welkin over the Rhineland. As if the French did not hear enough in wartime of the German anthem, "Deutschland Ueber Alles," they are now compelled to hear it broadcast on every possible or impossible occasion. They are hardly to blame if they attempt to crowd it out of the air surcharged with messages more agreeable. The Germans, if they persist, will succeed in making themselves as hateful with their hymn-tune as with other forms of subcutaneous irritation which they have practiced without ceasing to annoy the neighbors since they lost the war.

Richmond, Va., which was originally built on seven hills, was often called the Modern Rome.

The Parsonage, Kenabeek, Ont., Feb. 24.

Dear Sirs,—I am a new-comer to this great country and owing to the nature of my profession, the Christian ministry, I am keenly interested in the prohibition question and all matters that affect the public welfare. The other day I picked up a couple of recent copies of your paper and was impressed with its high moral tone and its comments on the general "Outlook", so I am filling up this coupon.

W. R. TRISTRAM,

(Many thousands of old time Canadians are missing the Montreal Witness simply because of wrong impressions of its purpose.)

FOR LEISURE MOMENTS

An old colored woman came up to the ticket agent at a big railway station, and addressed the agent, "I wants a ticket fo' Florence," she said.

The ticket agent spent some minutes turning over railway guides, apparently with no success, and then asked:—

"Where is Florence?"

"Settin' over dar on de bench," replied the colored woman.



Wife: "Oh! Darling—did you miss a step?"
Husband: "No, my dear,—Hit every blessed one of them."

—From London Opinion.

Rich Man—My position is a hard one.

Friend—In what way?

Rich Man—If I hoard my wealth they say I'm a skinflint, and if I give my money away they say I am trying to ease my guilty conscience.

"Can I see the lady of the house?" asked the canvasser.

"Yes, you can."

"Well, madam, I am selling a can opener which cannot be beaten. It opens any can that can be opened by a can opener, and any can can be opened by this can opener that can be opened by any can opener. If you can show me a can I can—"

But the door had shut, and he could not.

At a dinner in the States a professor thought he would ask a black cloak-room attendant a few questions about his memory.

As the attendant handed him his hat he said—"How do you know this one is mine?"

"I don't know that, suh," was the answer.

The professor gasped.

"Then why do you give it to me?" he demanded.

"'Cause yo' gave it to me, suh," the attendant replied.

Pallid passenger staggering into the cabin is met by the warning words from an indignant steward:

"You can't be sick here, sir."

Passenger: "Oh, can't I?"

"Cats is dogs," mused the railway porter inspecting an old lady's pet with a view to its classification at tariff rates as per the company's law, "and rabbits is dogs, and so's parrots, but this here tortis is a hinsect."

"Jock, Jock," said a farmer's wife to a herdboy, "come in to your parritch; the flies are drowning themselves in the milk."

"Nae fears," said Jock, "they'll wade through it."

"You little rascal! Do you say you dinna get enough milk?"

"Ou' aye, plenty for the parritch."

A Health Secret

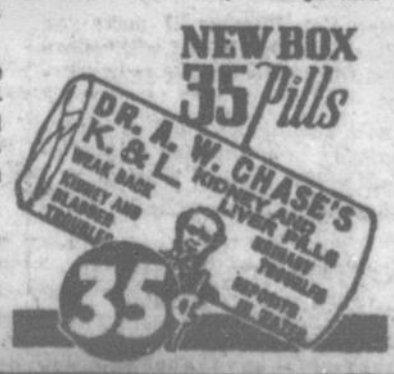
It is frequently claimed by physicians that nine-tenths of all human ills may be traced to neglect to keep the bowels regular and the liver and kidneys active.

The result is an accumulation of poisons in the system which cause pains and aches and give rise to such dreaded diseases as appendicitis, Bright's disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, etc.

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are the ideal regulators of these vital organs because they act directly on the liver, kidneys and bowels, and ensure a thorough cleansing of the system.

You will notice that while the price of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills has been increased to 35 cents, the box now contains 35 pills instead of 25 as formerly.

Likewise Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is 60 cents a box of 60 pills, instead of 50 cents a box of 50 pills. Edmanson, Bates & Co. Ltd., Toronto.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

(Continued from Page 11.)

POEM WORDS WANTED

Mrs. E. Wilkinson, Ont.—I appreciate the poems under Questions and Answers, and would like to get the words of:

"Hearts and homes, sweet words of pleasure,
Music breathing on the ear
Making each the others treasure
Once divided loosing all.
Homes ye may be high or lowly,
Hearts alone can make you holy."

Mrs. H. Meekins, N.S.,—I would like to get a piece of poetry called "Heaven Is Over All." The first lines are:

"In weary paths, my precious boy,
Your faltering feet may fall.

S. Edwards, Ont.—Could you, or any of the readers of the Witness, furnish, through our noble paper, the Witness, a poem entitled "The Worn Wedding Ring," which appeared in the Witness about sixty years ago. One verse reads as follows:

"Your wedding ring wears thin, dear wife,
Ah, years are not a few
Since you became my own dear wife,
When this old ring was new."

What Is a Friend?

London Tit Bits offered a prize for the best definition of "a friend." The following won first place:

"The first person who comes in when the whole world goes out."

Some of the other definitions are:

"One who considers my needs before my deservings."

"One who smiles on our fortunes, frowns on our faults, sympathizes with our sorrows, weeps at our bereavements, and is a safe fortress in all times of trouble."

"One truer to me than I am to myself."

"One who guards another's interests as his own and neither flatters nor deceives.'

"One who to himself is true and therefore must be so to you."

THE TESTIMONY OF A TAXI-CAB MAN

In the American Magazine the President of the Black and White Taxi-cab Company—a Company which operates 900 cabs on the streets of New York, has this to say:—

"We believe that the safety of the public on the streets of our large cities, has greatly increased as a result of Prohibition. Under Prohibition we have paid in damages for personal injury only about one-third (37.8 per cent) of what we paid for the same cause before Prohibition. I have concluded that the only way to account for the difference is the sobriety of the people in the streets; and I have to admit that our drivers are part of the public, and that since Prohibition the standard of sobriety among them is almost absolute."

The British South Africa Annual 1923-24, is full of interesting reading brightened with photographic and other illustrations, and should do much to popularize one of the richest and best countries of the Empire.



MAY GIVE HIM PERMANENT HOLIDAY

The Shah of Persia, who spends the greater part of his time in France and other parts of Western Europe. His prolonged holidays have provoked his people into considering a republic and so depriving him of his throne.

In the expression "scot free," scot means a tax, contribution or fine. Scot free is a natural combination of words conveying the idea of being free without payment of fine.

The joints of the bodies of animals are marvellous pieces of mechanism, and the most beautiful of all is that with which the human head swings in all directions upon the top of the spine. Forward and backward, from side to side, up and down, round and round, it goes, with never a jolt. The most perfect universal joint known to machinists does not equal it.

Here Is What a Mother Says

"I Have Found in Dodd's Kidney Pills a Veritable Friend"

Mrs. G. B. Albert tells how Dodd's Kidney Pills relieved her daughter.

Le Bouthellier, N.B., March 19 (Special)—Claiming that her daughter has been completely relieved of headache and heart trouble, Mrs. G. B. Albert, a well-known resident here is enthusiastic about Dodd's Kidney Pills.

"I have found in Dodd's Kidney Pills a veritable friend. My daughter Magdalan, aged 17 years, suffered from severe headache and could only get broken sleep at nights and would wake up more tired than when she went to bed. She also suffered with heart trouble. Two boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills have relieved her and she is now quite well."

Dodd's Kidney Pills are a kidney remedy. They strengthen the kidneys so they can do their full work of straining the impurities out of the blood. Dodd's Kidney Pills are intended for the treatment of backache, diabetes, rheumatism, dropsy, urinary troubles, heart disease and all ills of the kidneys.

CONSTIPATION

Take a good dose of Carter's Little Liver Pills—then take 2 or 3 for a few nights after. They cleanse your system of all waste matter and Regulate Your Bowels. Mild—as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

Genuine bear Signature— Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price

DR THOMAS' ECLECTRIC OIL

A SURE, SAFE AND SIMPLE REMEDY FOR ALL THE COMMON AILMENTS OF MAN AND BEAST. IT SHOULD ALWAYS BE KEPT ON HAND, AS A MORE SERVICEABLE PREPARATION FOR SUCH USES CANNOT BE FOUND. GET A BOTTLE TO-DAY AND HAVE IT READY FOR THE TIME WHEN YOU WILL NEED IT.

Removes Warts

"ENGLISHWOMAN" writes to the *Montreal Star*:

"I read a letter in your paper asking for a remedy for warts, and as I found one that took an ugly one off the side of my forehead I will give it to you. I had a bottle of Minard's Liniment in the house that I use for rheumatism, and casually reading directions I saw it was a good thing for corns and warts, so being so simple I tried it. Just dab it on with the cork two or three times a day letting it dry on. Well it all went away in about two weeks, dried up and came off by degrees.

"Another also appeared on my cheek not so large, but I applied the same remedy and could pick it off like the other."

MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

YARMOUTH, N.S. 20

RHEUMATISM REMEDIED

WAIT'S HOMOEOPATHIC RHEUMATIC REMEDY.

Remedies Rheumatism, Acute Rheumatism with painful hot swelling of the part, Chronic Rheumatism with lameness, stiffness and soreness of the part; Sciatic Rheumatism with pain in the hip, knee or leg of the affected side; Lumbago, or pains across the loins of back; Old Rheumatic Pains or Lameness. Positive Cure. Price $1.50.

JOHN T. WAIT, Box 285, Arnprior.
Send Registered Letter or Postal Note.

PILES

If you suffer from Piles in any form we have information that may be of great value to you. Send your name and address today and it will be sent free by return mail.

MICMAC,

Box [illegible] Yarmouth, N.S.

Here's the Way to Heal Rupture

A Marvelous Self-Home-Treatment That Anyone Can Use on Any Rupture, Large or Small.

COSTS NOTHING TO TRY

There is now no longer any doubt but what the plan used by Capt. Collings is the



This Is the Famous Capt. Collings Who Gave Away Free, Thousands of Treatments After Healing His Own Ruptures.

only way to completely heal rupture without any operation.

And it costs you nothing to try it.

If you are ruptured, no matter how bad or how long send your name and address to Capt. W. A. Collings, Inc., 190A Collings Bldg., Watertown, N. Y., and try free the wonderful discovery that healed him of the worst two ruptures you ever heard of. He threw away his truss, never had to wear it again. His two large ruptures that had kept him bedridden for years were both held naturally by his own muscles without support of any kind. It was a marvelous cure of rupture and you can have a free trial of his wonderful discovery by merely sending name and address; no charge whatever. Don't fail to send for this free trial. It is certainly wonderful.

SHILOH STOPS THAT COUGH

Your grand-parents used it. Safe, sure and efficient. Small dose means economy and does not upset the stomach. Get Shiloh, at all dealers 30c, 60c and $1.20.

Brew This Fine Spring Tonic Yourself

Brew a cup of this gentle and effective remedy and take it at bedtime three times a week for three weeks.

Celery King

It will purify the blood, make you feel vigorous and healthy at a cost of only a few cents. Give it to the children, too. Everyone needs a spring tonic—30c and 60c, at druggists.

DEAF?

A clear and natural sound is the essential thing about an ear phone.

It makes you hear distinctly.

It keeps your ears active.

We particularly recommend to you our newest device.

The Potter Ear Phone

The Potter Ear Phone will make you hear clearly and distinctly and will relieve you of the strain by preserving your nervous energy.

It is a new achievement and of recognized superiority over anything as yet invented in aid of the hard of hearing.

Call for demonstration or write for particulars.

H. POTTER CO., LIMITED
415-16 "W," Eyrie Building
(Cor. Yonge and Shuter)
Toronto. Phone M. 4885



When Rheumatism Grips You

Thermogene will bring you speedy relief. Just cover the affected joint with a piece of Thermogene and bandage with flannel. Almost at once the medicinal essences with which Thermogene is impregnated stimulate the blood, producing a tingling thrill of warmth that relieves your pain—gently, simply, effectively.

The Thermogene way is economical. When necessary, a fresh medicated service can be obtained by stripping a thin film from the piece in use.

Thermogene is an indispensable home remedy for winter ailments, so always keep a box handy.

BRITISH OWNED and BRITISH MADE by
THE THERMOGENE COMPANY, LIMITED
Heyward's Heath - England

Use Thermogene Medicated Wadding for
Lumbago
Rheumatism
Neuralgia
Neuritis
Grippe
Sore Throat
Chest Colds
Bronchitis

THERMOGENE

TRADE MARK REGISTERED
DRY FLEECY MEDICATED WOOL

Sole Agents for Canada: HAROLD F. RITCHIE & CO. Limited, 10 McCAUL STREET, TORONTO. 33A

LIVE STOCK PRICES

COMMENTS FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 15, 1924.

Fairly good steers sold from $6.26 to $7.00 at Montreal and medium from $5.50 to $6.00. Good heifers sold $6.50 to $7.00 Good cows, $5.00 to $5.50, medium cows, $4.00 to $4.50 and common cows, $2.75 up. Good butcher bulls $5.00 to $5.50; medium, $3.50 to $4.50. A few good milk-fed veals sold from $10.50 to $11.00. Common to medium quality opened $9.00, closed $8.00. Common calves $6.75 to $7.50. Good lambs were in demand at $12.00, the poorest realizing $8.00. Good sheep, $6.00 to $7.50. Thick smooths and shop hogs were $8.25 to $8.50. Poor quality $8.00. Select bacon hogs $9.00; sows $8.00 to $6.50.

At Toronto one load of steers topped at $8.00 and the rest from $7.25 to $7.75 Good butchers sold from $6.00 to $6.75 and plain stuff downward to $4.50. Export quality cows sold firm from $5.25 to $5.50 with an odd sale at $6.00, and good butchers $4.00 to $5.... Good, heavy bulls $4.00 to $5.25. Short-keeps brought $6.00 to $6.85 and lighter kinds from $4.50 to $5.50. The milker and springer trade prices $80.00 to $110.00 for the best. $10.00 to $11.00 for choice calves and from $7.00 to $9.00 for medium veal. Hogs sold at $8.00 fed and watered. Some sales were $7.75 to $8.00 fed, or $8.25 to $8.50 off cars. Lambs sold from $14.25 to $14.50. Natives sold $11.00 to $15.00 according to quality. Spring lambs $14.00 to $15.00 each. Sheep $8.00 to $9.00 for handyweights and $5.00 to $8.00 for good heavies.

Weighty steers in Winnipeg were from $5.00 to $6.50. Best handyweight butchers $5.50 to $6.00, and medium to good $4.50 to $5.25. Heavy butcher heifers $4.50 to $5.00 and fair $3.75 to $4.25. Top butcher cows $4.00 to $4.25, medium to good $2.75 to $3.75. Canners and cutters $1.25 to $2.25 and bulls from $1.50 to $3.00. Good to choice handyweight vealers $6.00 to $10.00 and plain and medium $3.00 to $5.00. Fleshy feeder steers $4.75 to $5.00 and the remainder $3.00 to $4.50. Heifers $2.25 to $3.00 and medium to good stocker steers from $3.00 to $4.00. Good killing lambs $12.50 to $13.00 and a few sheep $7.50. Thick smooths opened at $7.35 and worked to $6.90 by the close.

Top steers made $5.25 and the bulk sold from $4.00 to $4.50 at Moose Jaw. Top heifers sold at $4.75 and good from $3.00 to $4.00. Good cows made from $3.00 to $3.50, medium around $2.50 and canners $1.00. Calves sold from $6.00 to $6.50 Thick smooths, fed and watered sold at $6.65.

Heavy and handyweight steers at Calgary sold $5.75 to $6.25 and a few heavy tops at $6.35. Good steers $5.00 to $5.50 medium $4.00 to $4.75, common $2.75 to $3.50. Choice heifers $4.50 to $5.10, good $3.50 to $4.00. Choice cows $4.00 to 4.75. Good, $3.50 to $3.95, medium $3.00 to $3.25 and common $2.25 to$2.75. Canners and cutters made $1.00 to $2.50. Good bulls sold $2.00 to $2.25 and common to medium up to $1.75. Good to choice stocker steers $ 3.25 to $4.75. Good feeder steers, $4.00 to $5.25 and fair $3.00 to $3.75. Good to choice calves made $5.00 to $6.00 and fair stocker calves $3.00 to $4.50. Thick smooths opened at $6.25 closed at $6.00, lights and feeders sold at premium $6.50. Select bacon $6.87, fed and watered basis. Lambs sold from $12.50 to $13.00, ewes at $8.00 and yearlings at $9.00.

A few choice steers in Edmonton topped at $6.50, good to choice sold from $5.00 to $6.00, and common to medium $3.50 to $4.50. Heifers topped at $5.00 , $4.00 to $4.50, and common to medium $2.50 to $3.50. Some cows at $4.00. Good to choice cows $3.25 to $3.75 and common to medium $2.00 to $3.00. Canners and cutters $1.25 to $2.00, and good bulls $2.00 to $2.50. Good to choice feeders $4.00 to $4.50 and common to medium $3.00 to $3.50. Choice vealers moved from $7.00 to $7.50 and heavy calves $4.00 to $4.50. Thick smooths $6.75 off cars.

British cattle market:—Glasgow reports no further outbreaks of Foot and Mouth disease, but markets are still closed. There were no Canadian cattle on offer at Glasgow, but a shipment of 270 head sold at Dundee for an average of 11c per lb., live weight. Prime Scotch made 13¾c medium weights 11¾c to 12¼c and heavies 11½c. One hundred and fifty Irish ranged from 11c to 11¾c. Birkenhead sold 1286 Canadians. Prices ranged from 17½c to 19¼c in sink. London, Canadian dressed sides 15½c to 17½c per lb. Moderate supply, fair demand.

British bacon market:—Canadian boxed bacon 75/- to 80/-, bales 80/- to 84/-. American 64/- to 70/-, quiet but steady. Irish 90/- to 96/-, short supplies. Danish 89/- to 94/-. Danish killings estimated at 68,000 head.

THE MOTOR WORLD

Hard on Grease Cups

Bear in mind that cup grease solidifies in cold weather and the resistance is greater, so give the cups a turn or two at frequent intervals and turn them down hard. If they will not turn and are not clear down take off the cap, open the vent with a piece of wire, and put in fresh grease a little softer than that you have been using.

Carry Those Chains

Most drivers have a set of non-skid chains, but they are all too frequently left in the garage. Get them out, replace broken links, and keep them in the machine, ready for the emergency which is all too frequent at this time of year.

Tax Will Encourage Lighter Cars.

Lighter cars will be encouraged in the Province of Quebec by the provisions of the new automobile law and its sister, the gasoline bill, declared Hon. Jacob Nicol, provincial treasurer, in the Legislative Assembly on Friday, in the course of a speech on the important legislation brought forward. Because of the gasoline tax, cars which used less gasoline per mile would also be encouraged, while as for those who wanted to use the more expensive and heavy cars, and thereby use up the roads to a greater extent, a higher tax was only fair, for, insisted the provincial treasurer, the whole basis of taxation of the motor vehicle was that the roads must be paid for in proportion to use.

Think!

IF you had a son who asked you this question: "Shall I save my money or spend it?"



—what would you advise?

Of course, you would tell him to SAVE!

And if he replied, "Are you saving YOURS, Dad?"

—could you say "yes"?

If not—for the same reasons that you would give your son—start your savings account now in our nearest branch.

Think of the future!

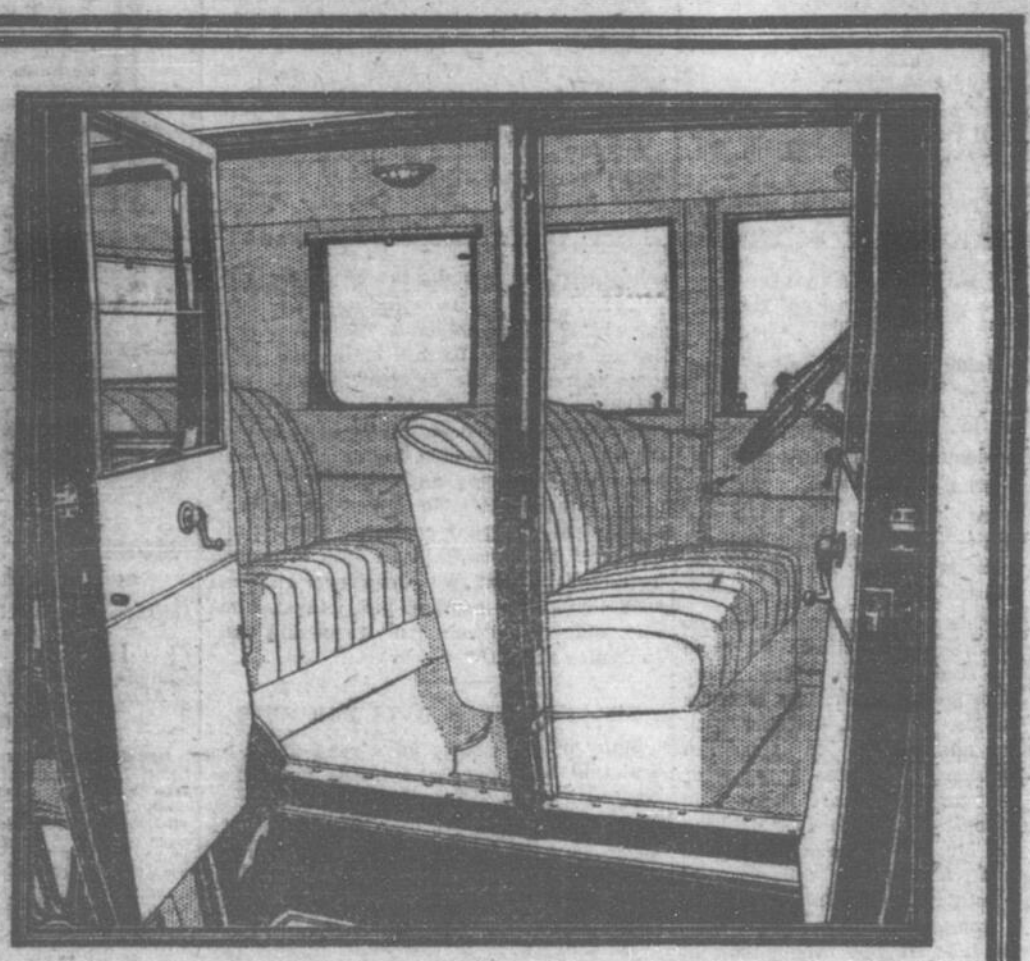
THE BANK OF TORONTO

Capital $5,000,000 Reserves $7,000,000

JOHN R. LAMB, General Manager.

170

The Japanese use paper napkins and handkerchiefs, which they burn after use. This they consider a sanitary custom, to say nothing of the saving of laundry labor. They also make their lanterns and lamp globes of paper, and a Japanese fireman, when assisting at a big fire, carries a lighted lantern in one hand no matter how fierce the blaze from the fire may be. This custom is still in vogue on many towns and country districts, though in the larger coast and commercial cities modern fire-fighting apparatus is expertly manned by trained firemen.



The Car You've Been Waiting For

In response to the wide demand for a Ford closed car of the Four-door type, the Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited, has produced the Fordor Sedan.

With this new sedan as a family car you can enjoy the comfort and convenience of a closed car for personal use and keep your touring car for routine work on the farm.

It is a car of snug comfort and good appearance. The fittings, both outside and in, include features never before obtainable in a car of this price.

At $895, F. O. B. Ford, Ontario, (taxes extra), it is the lowest priced car of this type ever placed on the Canadian market.

SEE ANY AUTHORIZED FORD DEALER

CF-42

FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED, FORD, ONTARIO

FARMERS MARKETS

COUNTRY PRODUCE

Egg supplies were ample to meet all requirements and sales of fresh extras were made at 35c to 36c per dozen, and firsts at 32c to 33c per dozen. Sales of turkeys were made at 33c to 35c per lb., and frozen stock at 28c to 30c per lb., while fresh-killed chickens weighing 5 to 7 lbs. each brought 27c to 30c per lb., 3 1-2 to 5 lb. birds 24c to 27c per lb., and frozen stock 20c to 23c per lb., with heavy fresh-killed fowl selling at 24c to 26c per lb., and frozen stock at 20c to 23c per lb. Ducks were dealt in at 20c to 25c per lb., and geese at 16c to 18c per lb. No. 1 white clover honey in comb was quoted at 25c per section, No. 2 grade at 20c, No. 1 amber at 22s and No. 2 amber at 19c per section, while white extract honey in 30 lb. tins sold at 12c per lb., 10 lb. tins at 12 1-2c per lb., and 5 lb. tins at 13c per lb. Sales of car lots of Green Mountains were made at $1.65 to $1.70 per bag, and Quebec stock at $1.55 to $1.60 per bag of 90 lbs. in bulk, ex-track.

New York, March 15th. — Eggs easier. Receipts, 23,971. Fresh gathered extra firsts, 25 1-2c to 26c; do. firsts, 24 3-4c to 25c; do. seconds and poorer, 24c to 24 1-2c.

Nearby hennery, browns, extras, 29c to 31c.

THE DAIRY MARKET

The butter market was quiet, with sales of No. 1 pasteurized creamery at 35c per lb., No. 1 creamery at 34c to 34 1-2c per lb., No. 2 creamery at 3c to 3 1-2c per lb., and undergrades at 32c to 32 1-2c per lb. In a wholesale jobbing way prices were also weaker with finest creamry selling at 39c per lb. in solid packages, and at 40c per lb. in 1lb. blocks.

The cheese trade was dull and the market was without any special feature to note, there being practically no demand from any source for supplies at present.

New York, March 15.—Butter steady. Receipts, 7,741.

Cheese irregular. Receipts, 158,387. State, whole milk, flats, fresh, fancy, 21c to 22c; do. average run, 20c to 20 1-2c; state, whole milk, flats, held, average run, 24c.

THE GRAIN MARKET

Prices closed in the Winnipeg cash wheat market:—No. 1 northern selling at 97 1-4c; No. 2 northern at 94 1-4c, and No. 3 northern at 90 1-8c per bushel, ex-store, Fort William. There was also a firmer feeling in premiums and they closed 1-8c per bushel higher with No. 1 northern selling at 2 3-8c per bushel under the May option; No. 2 northern at 5 3-8c under, and No. 3 northern at 9 1-2c under. Sales of No. 1 northern for nearby loading were made at 19 1-4c per bushel over the Winnipeg May option, f.o.b., New York, and No. 3 northern for the last ten days of March shipment sold at 12 3-4c per bushel over the same option, f.o.b., New York, while No. 3 northern changed hands at 2 1-4c per bushel over the May option, c.i.f., Toledo.

The trade in cash grain in the local market was unchanged with car lots of No. 2 Canadian western oats selling at 53c; No. 3 C.W. at 51c, No. 1 feed at 49c to 49 1-2c, and No. 2 feed at 46 to 46 1-2c per bushel, ex-store, Canadian western feed barley was steady at 69c to 70c per bushel, ex-store.

At Winnipeg:—

Wheat—No. 1 northern, 97 1-4c; No. 2 northern, 94 1-4c; No. 3 northern, 90 1-8c; No. 4, 85 7-8c; No. 5, 79 5-8c; No. 6, 73 5-8c; feed, 68 5-8c; track, 97 7-8c.

Oats—No. 2 C.W., 37 7-8c; No. 3 C.W., 35c; extra No. 1 feed, 35 1-8c; No. 1 feed, 33 3-4c; No. 2 feed, 31 3-4c; rejected, 29 3-4c; track, 38 1-2c.

Barley—No. 3 C.W., 60c; No. 4, 54 1-2c; rejected, 52 1-2c; feed, 51 1-2c; track, 60c.

Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $2.10 3-4; No. 2 C.W., $2.06 1-2; No. 3 C.W., $1.88 1-4; rejected, $1.88 1-4; track, $2.11 1-4.

Rye—No. 2 C.W., 63 1-8c.

Foreign Exchange Department, Bank of Montreal, shows sterling, $4.43 5-8 (par value, $4.86 2-3).

New York funds, 3 1-2 premium.

FEGAN BOYS IN CANADA

(From Visitor's Report)

"Reggie is doing very well and getting to be a thorough Canadian farm help. Ready for any job that presents itself and shows a very commendable willingness to please those who employ him. An undoubted success. Says that he is saving to have enough to repay cost of his emigration to Mr. Fegan out of his first six months' earnings.

"All things taken into account, Jack is one of the finest young fellows we have received from England for many years past. His knowledge of farming and the smart way he goes about it, together with his immediate adaptability to Canadian methods, combined with steady behavior and courteous bearing, have made him stand out conspicuously in this district. His employer, Mr. A—, who himself is a very prominent farmer in this part of Ontario, had nothing but the highest praise and said, 'I congratulate the Home that can turn out lads of the rare stamp of Jack.'"

"Dick, a little slow in getting into his stride at first, has now gained the reputation of being the finest all-round Fegan boy who has been in this section of Canada for many years. He is much sought after and some farmers are anxious to engage him a year ahead in the hope of securing him. For general character, ability, and reliability he stands first in the whole district, and with all this he maintains a beautiful disposition—underlying all is a sterling Christian character and a big, loving, grateful heart. It is a privilege to know him and count him amongst our friends, and nothing is too good to write about him. He is with splendid people in a first-class home.

"One would suppose that Chris had been born and reader on an Ontario homestead all his days to watch him move round the farm. He goes at express speed all the time, and gives one the impression that all that makes for a successful season depended upon how he did his share of the work. He is a sure success out here. Mrs. R. Says—'Just the boy I like in my home,' and Mr. R. Says—'The best boy in all this section, without a doubt.' Mrs. R. is an office bearer in the local church and also the superintendent of the Sunday school, so Chris is under the best influence.

"Cecil, (once an incorrigible, and nicknamed, 'The Unsquashable Imp') has captivated everybody by his smile and winsome manner. He is cheerfulness and optimism personified. As a willing, helpful young worker, he would be hard to beat anywhere. He is also a boy of sterling Christian character and would not stoop to do a mean act. He makes his religion a practical, everyday concern. That is appreciated by those he lives with is proved by the fact that we were overwhelmed with thanks for sending him. Cecil, himself, added: 'A lovely fruit farm and with such nice people.'"

TREATING SEED OATS FOR SMUT

Many of our people have read about inoculation for clover and beans and other legumes and they seem to be a little confused. For instance, one man wants to know what inoculation he should use for wheat, rye and oats. The inoculation so often referred to is figured for the legume crops alone. That is, those crops which bear their seeds in the pods, all the way from clover up to peas and beans. The grains, like oats and rye, are entirely different, and they will not respond to inoculation because there are no bacteria which work on their roots as is the case with legume crops. A crop like oats is subject to various diseases, such as smut, rust or blight. Probably smut is the most troublesome oat disease, and this can very largely be prevented by treating the seed before it goes into the ground. This smut is produced by a germ which grows in the plants when the conditions are right, and gives the black, bad-smelling stuff which most farmers notice at thrashing time. In some cases the smut is so bad that the black stuff blows away from the thrashing machine like smoke out of a furnace. The way to handle smut is to spread the grain out on the barn floor and sprinkle it with a solution of one pint of formaldehyde in 60 gallons of water. A watering pot is good for doing this work. The oats are well sprinkled and then shovelled together in a pile which is covered with a blanket or similar covering. The gas generating from the formaldehyde works through the oats and destroys the germs, then the seed is dried and put in the ground in the ordinary way. Usually this will entirely or largely prevent smut disease. There are other ways of applying formaldehyde and water, such as spraying it over the oats, but the sprinkling method is generally followed by farmers. —Rural New Yorker.

Some folks won't mind their business;
The reason is, you'll find,
They either have no business,
Or else they have no mind.

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DOMINION TEXTILE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND

A Dividend of one and three-quarter per cent (1¾%) on the Preferred Stock of DOMINION TEXTILE COMPANY, LIMITED, has been declared for the quarter ending 31st March, 1924, payable 15th April to shareholders of record March 31st.

By order of the Board,

JAS. H. WEBB,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Montreal, Feby. 8th, 1924.

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