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The Week's Outlook

We Must "Try Again."

IT is quite evident that many people have misunderstood what we have been trying to say about independent journalism and individual co-operation. So long as some of our best friends are laboring under misapprehensions it is our duty to try again, to make certain facts clear to them. One is that we are not "again crying out for money." Another is that no one has "to co-operate with the publishers of the Witness." It may be a privilege, but there is no coercion in the matter, unless it be the fear on the part of the reader that he might otherwise lose the WITNESS, or, unless other promptings from within urge to the point of self-coercion. But we do ask all those who are "tired with the campaign" to at least read "You don't have to" on page 5 of this issue.

The Day of Joy.

AGAIN Christmas approaches with all the beauty and gladness which we, through the centuries, have learned to associate with it. Its beauty is sometimes obscured by commercialism, its gladness, almost hidden by rush and worry and display, but underneath, it is the same lovely season that delighted us when we were children. It carries with it the same magic and miracle, the same joy, the same strange mystic sense, that in all these homely pleasures we are treading close to the borders of an unseen, heavenly world, that on this day of days we are in some peculiar way, living under the smile of God. And this sense, like many an intimation of childhood, is a glimpse into the heart of life's highest mystery. For Christmas is the day when we forget ourselves and take joy in the joy of others; it is the day when youth and age, when class and class, come closer to each other, when simple human love has the broadest and fullest outflowing—and, as Tolstoy says, "where Love is, there God is also." As the years roll onward with ever increasing momentum, Christmas, when it comes, has a stab of pain mingled with its joy. A tolling note sounds under the glad peal of the bells, a shadow rests upon its brightness and its beauty. Many who have been with us in former days have passed from sight, there are vacant seats at our table, there is an aching spot in our hearts. But for us as for the children Christmas has its message, and it is the same message of hope and glory, only of a fuller hope and of glory that excelleth. For Christmas tells us ever more clearly of another world that surrounds and embraces ours, and of the great love of God, Who is above all and through all and in all worlds, Who "hath made one family there and here, one living communion of seen and unseen."

The Heavenly Quest.

MANY far off lands and ages have contributed to our Christmas festival, and its observance. Fragments from ancient rituals and ancient revels have floated down the stream of time and mingled with our modern doings. The Saxon and Norse "Yule" is from the same root as our word "wheel" and had reference to the turning of the year from darkness toward light. Here, indeed, was something to be glad about in those days of dimness. And there are indications that many of those rough ancestors of ours saw a deeper meaning in the old Nature festival and recognized in the conquering sun a symbol of a coming victory of the forces of light and goodness over those of darkness and evil. There was a longing in the ancient pagan world, as there is in the modern pagan world for an unveiling of God. "who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways, but left not Himself without a witness, in that He did good and gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons filling our hearts with joy and gladness." The ancient and the modern searchers find themselves directed to the same goal, the stable of Bethlehem. The faith of the Church has ever been that, in some way too wonderful for us wholly to grasp, "Very God incarnated Himself in the Christ who trod our earth. It was the compassion of God which streamed from the heart of Christ. It was the love of God which spoke to men in the pitying voice of Christ. It was the mercy of God which touched men in the healing hand of Christ. . . . Christ did not come into the world to make God love us, it was because God loved us that He came, Christ has not somehow softened God and made Him kinder, but He has interpreted for us the love with which God has regarded us from the beginning.

"Thus the All-Great is the All-Loving too
Thus through the thunder comes a human voice.
Saying, 'O heart I made, a heart beats here.'"

"Our thoughts need no longer wander through eternity in search of the living God. Here can we clasp by faith the hand of the Infinite. Here can we feel the throb of the great heart which keeps creation warm." This is the way to the seeking Father, the faith that, apart from all technical interpretation, will solve for us all questions in the earth and out of it—the vision that will yet lift up and heal this lost and broken world.

Advent.

Through this dim December mirk
We may not see the Christmas Star.
Where can peace and good-will lurk
Amid these poison fumes of war?
But still we know the Star is there,
With steadfast gleam beyond the gloom;
Not here; not there; but everywhere,
The Lord has come.

The wise may sail the furthest main
To fix their glasses on that Star,
Only to find their quest is vain—
No, not so far!
Who shall scale the infinite height
To bring the Christ to troubled earth,
Who the abode of dreadful night
Shall pierce to give Him birth?

Lo, it is nigh, at every door
In every heart lies furled;
The light that ligheth every man
Hath come into the world.
Shining from one part under heaven
To heaven's remotest bound,
Heaven's kindly glow to man is given
And everywhere is found.

And everywhere where hate and strife
Make of this world a hell
Beneath the raging swirl of life
This hope of peace doth dwell.
Though unrevealed to outward sight
Still brooding o'er the gloom
The Spirit moves and brings forth light,
And says the Lord has come.

The New Dominion.

THE Irish Free State was duly launched just a year from the signing of the treaty. The ship of state started on her voyage amid a general chorus of good wishes. Mr. Bonar Law sent a very kindly message; Sir James Craig was cordial. The press of Ireland, of the United Kingdom, of the United States, and of the world in general, expressed the best of goodwill, and great confidence that the new era which is opening for Ireland will be one of success and prosperity. It might have been expected that a people like the Irish, with their strong poetical and dramatic instinct, would have had more circumstance at the inauguration of a genuine Irish regime in their ancient capital. The arrival of a new Viceroy has always hitherto been the occasion of social and military display. Glittering uniforms, flashing bayonets, bands, banners, a special steamer and decorated train, civic dignitaries, youth lower beauty and fashion, all conspired to render the event picturesque and impressive. But instead of this, Mr. Cosgrave and General Mulcahy ran across to Holyhead by the night mail and met Mr. Healy on the bleak railway platform of that little Welsh port. There was nothing to mark him off from the ordinary passengers, and in common with theirs, his baggage was searched for arms and explosives. He, with the Free State President and Commander-in-Chief, arrived in Kingstown, or, as it is now called, Dunlaoghaire, in the grey dawn of morning, and were greeted on the pier by a few sleepy and shivering porters and cabmen, and—probably altogether unnoticed—made their way by the ordinary train to Dublin. There is, however, something in that two hours' night voyage which appeals very powerfully to the imagination. The three men embarking on the "Hibernia" had embarked on a fateful enterprise, an enterprise which has already broken hearts, blasted careers and cost countless lives to Ireland and England—the three true Irishmen, who desire above all else to see a peaceful, prosperous and happy Ireland rise out of the present wreck and ruin. Their thoughts must have been very solemn as the lights of Howth and Dunlaoghaire rose into view and the grey arms of historic Dublin Bay reached out toward them through the darkness.

An Intractable Race.

FOR Healy, Cosgrave and Mulcahy enter upon no ordinary task. Beecher said of the Irish that they were the noblest, bravest and best-hearted people that ever troubled the earth. In old Irish legends and romances we read of a Golden age in which, under their own chiefs and their own code of Brehon laws, they lived in harmony and in happiness. "I walked entranced through a land of morn. The sun with wondrous excess of light shone down and glanced over seas of corn and lustrous gardens a-left and right. Even in the clime of resplendent Spain beams no such sun upon such a land." It runs in the blood of the Celt to mourn a lost and glorious past, and to resent the wrongs which have withdrawn it. The land is beautiful as ever, but it is a long time indeed since there was peace in Erin. Danes, Normans, Tudors, Cromwellians, Williamites, and far worse than all these for Ireland, Irish of many factions have struggled and fought, till every glen has a hundred histories and every mountainside a thousand memories of romance, of pathos and of tragedy. It is idle to ask where the fault has lain. No party or section has been free from it. The Celts, since the time of Julius Caesar, have been hard to govern, and in Ireland the task has been notably hard, for the original Celtic strain has mingled with the best fighting stock of half the countries of Europe. The tradition of fighting, of massacre and reprisal, of jealousy, suspicion and faction has never died out, has become intensified through the centuries. It is to bear rule over this people that Mr. Healy and his ministers have been called—a dangerous and a difficult task, as they well know who know their own people so well.

Reprisals.

THE new Dominion has come into being under very terrible auspices. The execution of Childers was followed by the murder of a Dail deputy and the wounding of another, and this by the execution, by way of reprisals, of Rory O'Connor, Liam Mellowes, and two other rebel leaders. Rory O'Connor was the leader of the Four Courts Rebellion last summer. In the newspaper pictures he has a face of criminal cast, but in some Irish pictures which we have seen he is much more attractive. The forehead is broad but a little lacking in height; the eyes deep-set; the nose small, the weakest feature in the face; the mouth sensitive and wanting in firmness, the chin strong—altogether a face full of strange contradictions. Liam Mellowes was beautiful and manly. Anyone

would put him down as a charming and high principled young fellow. The discouraging thing about this painful proceeding is that the summary death of those rebels, taken with arms in their hand is announced to be by way of reprisals for the death of Mr. Hales and the wounding of General O'Malley. When did reprisals ever bring peace? The outer world will sympathize with the dignified protest of Mr. Fitzgibbon in the Dail: "I appeal to the government to ask for new powers if needed, but to abide within their legal powers. These men have been leniently dealt with in being allowed to live for so long; yet that does not justify the execution of them for somebody else's act." In reprisal for these executions armed men forced their way into a hospital in the heart of Dublin and murdered a Free State soldier. It is all very horrible and one wonders how and when this awful alternation of vengeance will end. The government are undeniably anxious to govern as a civilized government over civilized people. But they are faced with anarchy. Robbery and murder are of daily occurence. Mr. de Valera, some months ago, threatened "Mexican methods" and thereby took the responsibility of turning Ireland into a second Mexico, in which pttriotism and brigandage consider themselves as one and the same thing. The English are hoping that the arrival of Mr. Healy will stop reprisals. He and his ministers are faced with three choices, they might ask the British to come back on the plea that Irishmen who, for centuries have been clamoring for self-government, are unable to govern themselves. They might abdicate and hand the country over to de Valera and his Republic —with the assurance that inside of a week his government would also be threatened by "Mexican methods" under other wild idealists. The only other choice is to govern, and this they are trying to do.

The Senate.

MR. COSGRAVE'S speech at the opening of the Dail was an admirable one. He paid a warm tribute to the British, who, he said, since the treaty was signed, had never tried to whittle it down by one iota, but had stood by the letter and spirit of their bargain with scrupulous and undeviating good faith. His nominations to the Senate also exhibited him as a man untainted by sectional prejudices and possessed of that innate respect for dignities which is one of the saving graces of the Celtic race. They included many of the "ould gentry," who still have a warm place in the hearts of the Irish people. In fact, though saved from being so by a highly democratic admixture, the Irish Upper Chamber comes about as near being an Irish House of Lords as was possible in the circumstances. Sir Bryan Mahon Commanded the Irish Division at Gallipoli, and was greatly beloved by the soldiers; the Earl of Gravard held a command in the same force, and shared his popularity; the Earl of Dunraven is known to two continents as a former contestant for the America Cup, but has many other claims for recognition, as a good landlord, a public-spirited man and a patriotic Irishman; William Butler Yeats is a poet who has wrought well in the Irish literary revival; Sir Thomas Esmonde was a nationalist member in the stormy eighties—one of his ancestors suffered death for participation in the rising of 1798—Sir Horace Plunkett is perhaps the most practical patriot that Ireland has produced in centuries, a man of vision and of singleness of heart. The Earl of Wicklow, the Earl of Kerry, the Earl of Mayo, the Marquis of Headfort, Baron Glenvey, Martin Fitzgerald, Henry Guiness, Dr. George Sigerson, the Dowager Countess of Desart and Mrs. Wyse Power, are all intimately interested in the development of Ireland; they represent a class constitutionally averse to the heats and controversies and littlenesses of electoral campaigning, but containing many members who consider rank, wealth and opportunity as so many calls to unstinted public service.

The Lowered Flag.

IT gives us all a shock to hear that the Union Jack has been hauled down throughout the Free State. The Union Jack, the most beautiful flag in all the world, is the flag of the Empire, the supernational flag of every British Commonwealth. It is built up of the three crosses, those of St. George, St. Andrew and St. Patrick, and so is an Irish flag as well as an English and Scottish one. But Ireland holds the theory that she broke loose from the Empire in Easter Week, 1916, and now comes into it again of her own free will and under the flag, which during six stormy years, stood for an independent Ireland. Ireland's traditional flag is green charged with a golden harp. This is not quite correct, however. It is really blue, as we see it in the Royal Standard. It was, we think, in the days of '98 or before that, that the nationalist leaders mixed orange with the blue and made green as a symbol of Irish unity. Ulster drew out of the rebellion, however, and green became the national color. When Sinn Fein arose there was a similar bid for Protestant participation, and a flag was evolved orange and green with white in the centre, some say to unite the two, others say, to keep the two from proximity which might lead to fighting. In days anterior to the treaty a favorite saying was, "O never marry a soldier or a sailor or marine But marry a jolly rebel with his yellow, white and green, Right ye are! Right ye are! Right ye are!"

Will the King go?

WHEN the King opened the Ulster parliament at Belfast, he expressed the fond hope that there might soon be a similar glad occasion for the rest of Ireland, implying an earnest wish to fulfil the same function at Dublin. It would be a most desirable proceeding for all concerned. Will he be invited to do so? It has to be noticed that the new constitution slipped into being as unnoticeably as possible. Members of parliament are living as it were in barracks for fear of assassination—well warranted. At the moment when the parliament was being sworn in the rebels were storming a strongly garrisoned police station in Southern Ireland and capturing ninety prisoners. During the long war for Irish independence the people—traditionally inclined thereto, no doubt—learned so well the conquering power of terrorism that it seems impossible for a certain element among them to give up the luxury of petty warfare. Such warfare was the high virtue of their ancestors, who as gallowglasses followed their chieftains on plundering and murdering excursions. After British law and order were attempted to be established the same class of terrorists and looters were called tories, a name inherited by strange descent by those politicians who are most insistent on the enforcement of public order, power and privilege. The primitive "sport" of killing something survives in the gentry as applied to various "game" animals. Those untamed youth strike higher than the modern gentry and enjoy man-hunting. Any theory of patriotism serves them as an excuse. It will take a different kind of education from what those Irish people have had, to lift them up to the level of civilized life. The King, however, like all his family, is without physical fear, and will certainly not shrink from such a risk, if permitted by his advisors, Irish and British. Possibly the Irish government would think it inopportune. We could wish it were possible.

Differing Reports.

IT has become the fashion in certain quarters to speak in contemptuous tones of the poor mouth the political farmers of the north west are making. Comfortable people tell us that the distress of the prairies is being very much overworked, that the farmers are doing very well and reducing their adverse balances at their banks. Keenly realizing the need of population, as every one with his eyes open does, it is probably looked upon as unpatriotic and unbelieving to give any other report of the land than a floorishing one—a land flowing with milk and honey and loaded with the grapes of Eshcol. At a Montreal banquet to Sir Henry Thornton, Sir Joseph Flavelle drew a very rosy picture:

> "In the three Prairie Provinces, an estimate based upon actual figures shows that the present bank deposits in these provinces are three times as large as were all the deposits in the chartered banks in all Canada in 1887.
>
> "Similarly, that the purely savings deposits in the banks in these provinces, are almost twice as large as were all deposits in the banks in all Canada in 1887.
>
> "The banks have loaned these deposits, and a third as much more, which they have drawn from the East, to borrowers in the three provinces. These borrowings are for the most part for productive purposes, directly or indirectly associated with agriculture, and furnish additional evidence of the extent of profitable activities in prairie farms, towns, and cities.
>
> The aggregate bank loans outstanding with borrowers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, are more than two and a half times greater in amount than the aggregate bank loans to borrowers for all purposes in Canada in 1887, when we had a population of four million, six hundred thousand people.
>
> "The statistical demonstrations of unprofitable results from agricultural efforts in the West are obviously overworked. While there has been much hardship in sections of the West, these figures furnish striking and conclusive evidence of accumulated wealth through farming operations in the Prairie Provinces. It is a matter of satisfaction that in the present period of serious re-adjustment, the West has this background of liquid resources.

These evidences of development are in the highest degree reassuring. But we sadly need to be reassured, as there is another side to the picture. People who are appealed to in church and elsewhere for cast-off clothes to help western families through the winter resent anything in the way of flouts at very unwillingly exposed distress. A news item from Winnipeg says destitution has reached such a stage in the northern part of Manitoba as to interfere with school attendance and is regarded as warranting the Department of Education in appeals to the principal relief organizations of Winnipeg to supply the boys and girls with clothing. Here is a specimen extract from letters we are receiving from readers:— "A heavier deficit than ever this year from farm operations and the distracting worry attending the hovering prospect of an early abandonment of our homestead buildings. With the sacrifice of 16 years of pioneer work, the —— branch of —— Bank pulled out of our village in July, when they saw the effect of the protracted drought—the first of the rats to leave the ship. Now they are dogging us unmercifully from their ,—— branch." It is pleasant for financiers to tell us that the banks are able to call in their loans; not so pleasant for those who are pinching their families for that necessity, and who ruefully say, "yes, we had a fine crop, but the banks got it all." Very naturally the banks collected what they regarded as long overdue, and thought they were very gentle about it. Will our politicians lay aside their rosy figures for a while and consider the human factor? Let them think of the farmer working 16 hours a day, the spectre of debt haunting him day and night; worry, which he would bear himself, blighting his wife's life; schools closed for want of funds and he savagely helpless to help himself. What makes the hardship of passing this crisis seem light or heavy is the way the farmer regards his prospect. Will the farm yield more or less in the future than in the past? Will life be easier or worse? We shall perhaps get different impressions of this ent sections. Our readers are, we do not doubt, among the most thrifty settlers of the west. The question is a vital one.

A Firm Hand.

WE take courage from the sturdy and absolute way in which big Sir Henry Thornton declares that there is going to be no political interference with the operation of the Canadian National lines. His repetition of this declaration in the unbelieving atmosphere of the Montreal Board of Trade was reported in the same paper as a resolution passed at Moncton, declaring that that centre, which has so long acted as the heart of the Intercolonial system, was, since the amalgamation, being unfairly treated—that work was being withheld from the Moncton shops and placed elsewhere, even with private concerns. Assuming these grievances to be real, we would submit that the right court of appeal is no longer that to which Moncton has always turned, since before any of those at present interested came upon the scene. It would vitiate the whole conception of successful government ownership, to which Moncton has always been loyal, and would blast the hopes of those who advocate that method for the government to stultify its pronounced policy and its promises to the country and its pledge to Sir Henry Thornton by starting the new order of things by interference. These representations should, we should suppose, have been made direct to the Railway Board, which presumably exists for the very purpose of considering major questions of policy, and to which they will no doubt be referred, and may be counted on in view of its duty to the various interests served by the roads and to the prosperity of the whole service to give all such suggestions anxious attention. Sir Henry Thornton, once he can escape the civilities various places are crowding upon him—and it would never do for him to refuse—will make Moncton practically the beginning of his investigations into the present condition of the intricate task that has been set him, and is in a mood to learn how he can best satisfy all parties, including, of course, the great public. It may be taken for granted, however, that his first study will be how to prune expenses everywhere. Apart from the danger from political interference, which has so generally proved fatal to government management, Sir Henry does not see why the whole system should not be brought to a paying basis. We should not ourselves expect it to do as well as the Canadian Pacific, as it is a patchwork concern, not reduceable to a well-devised organism.

Political Designs.

OUR governing class—for we have a governing class; every country has—is planning a return to power. They see hopes of the Progressives wrecked on the insistence of the rank and file on a compulsory wheat board and other measures which leaders of business mind find impracticable. They see, but they do not put it so, the Liberal party going to pieces through the resentment of the genuine Liberals at the domination of a capitalistic group from Quebec. Why do they not state it that way? Because their own plan is the formation of a capitalistic government under Sir Thomas White and Sir Lomer Gouin, a renewal of the old Macdonald-Cartier control. It would be government of the people for money by money; nothing new, by the way. Why thus openly dismiss the present Conservative leader? Because his surrender to the principle of government ownership, as well, perhaps, as his lack of the glad hand, has put him out of the running for capitalistic support. The business world resents the saddling of the country with the heavy railway load, with its legacy of taxation, which has, as pointed out last week by Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, the manager of the Bank of Montreal, driven nearly two millions and a half of our people across the line. They say that that acquisition was entirely unnecessary, as the Canadian Northern, had it been thrown upon the market, would have been purchased at half price, at which it could have been profitably run.

Political Necessity.

WHY did not the Meighen government let it go? For three reasons. One was pressure from banking interests in Toronto—interests that were practically in control of the government, which were too deeply linked with the fortunes of Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann, who would have been heavy losers had the government not come to their aid. Another was the determined and united pressure of the Prairie provinces, which had come under the conviction that they could enforce cheaper service if the railways were owned by the government. This pressure was so determined that it became evident that nothing would serve but experiment. Long before the railway collapse, Sir Robert Borden accepted this political necessity when he undertook the construction of the Hudson Bay Railway at the cost of the government, and Mr. Meighen, being himself a western man, acted upon it frankly, with what conviction we do not know.

Another reason, which most people will acknowledge was a very strong one, whoever urged it, was the patent fact that the purchaser would have been the Canadian Pacific Railway. That made it a question whether Canada would rule her railways, or one railway would rule Canada. Mr. Mackenzie King, a master of economics, never pretended to approve of the principle of government ownership. But he found the government in possession. There was no alternative. So he undertook the herculean effort of carrying the load with as strong a determination as a leader could make that success should not be balked by political interference. An other hope of our die-hards to get back is the fact that the King government has to face the brunt of the cruel taxation this situation involves, and in doing so, will naturally have no friends in any quarter. How is the proposed party going to solve the railway problem now? It, no doubt, has its designs, though it may be careful about announcing them. Sir Joseph Flavelle adumbrates a sale of the whole concern when government expenditures have rendered it a merchantable asset.

Expediting Traffic.

AN interesting chart issued by the Railway Association of Canada comparing present Canadian wheat freight rates with those of the United States, points out that not only is Duluth, where American wheat takes to the water, about a hundred and seventy-five miles further west than Fort William, but the bulk of the United States wheat area is much further east than that of Canada. Yet, notwithstanding the much longer haul, the Canadian rates are, at like longitudes, much the lowest. Taking parallel points, we find, Winnipeg, 420 miles from Fort William, with a rate of 14 cents against 16 1-2 from Grand Forks to Duluth, 240 miles. Regina, in Saskatchewan, is as far west as Poplar in Montana, and has sixty-six miles more haul. Its rate is 20 cents against Poplar's 31. Bassano, in Alberta, is just as far west as Bombay, in Montana, with eighty-three miles more haul, yet its rate is 25 cents against Bombay's 45 1-2. Other comparisons would come out similarly. We have selected these because they are fairly parallel. The same organization states with regard to car shortage that there are at present twenty-four thousand more Canadian box cars in the States than American cars in Canada. The strike in the States caused extreme shortage there, and has made it uncommonly difficult to get cars back. Washington has promised its best co-operation to this end. The roads are naturally doing all they can to run the cars they have fuller, faster and further, and they urge upon shippers and shipping room employees co-operation for the general good in packing their cars as full as possible and in releasing them with the least possible delay.

Electrifying a Province.

PEOPLE think of Lake St. John, from which the Saguenay flows, as somewhere a long way into distant Labrador; and Lake Mistassini used to be the subject of mystic tales of a lake that had no other end. The River Mistassini which flows into Lake St. John was supposed to be the outlet. One learns on consulting the map that the great Lake St. John is west of north from Quebec about a hundred and twenty miles away, and that Lake Mistassini, which empties into Hudson Bay is due north from Montreal and not so far as Cochrane is north of Toronto. It seems to be time, therefore, that the province was caring for her heritage. It is interesting to learn that, under the impulse of the great lumbering and paper firm of Price Brothers, with New York affiliations, the Quebec government has entered into a scheme for the use of the immense water power that is going to waste at the "Discharge" of Lake St. John. We are not told that the scheme includes any plan for navigating the upper Saguenay and so reaching the lake from the sea. But the scheme is ultimately to develop a million horse-power and, through electrical development, to relieve the Province of Quebec from the need of importing coal from the United States, or, at least go a notable distance toward that coming independence. That is a statesmanlike vision inclosing in its bosom a politician's vision of endless public works with their mysterious political fruitage. For what government has ever flourished in Canada without some stupendous public work on hand, needed or not needed. How often shall we hear the threat, uttered before the Labelle election, that the government would not consider the county represented at all if it did not elect a supporter of the government. There is some analogy between this Saguenay development and that of the Jordan at the discharge of the Sea of Galilee, of which we are hearing so much, though it is of much larger proportions through the greater flow of water.

The Frenchman's Complaint.

MR. CLEMENCEAU, who has been visiting the United States to present to that nation the case of France, has not feared to reproach it with its repudiation of the promise made by its president, on the strength of which the treaty of Versailles was signed—the promise made jointly with Great Britain that both powers would come to France's aid, should she again be attacked. The defense of the United States is that France should have known that no undertaking on her behalf had any value unless endorsed by the Senate. It is hard for Europeans to understand that incompetence on the part of representative negotiators. At all events, that plea fails to reach the marrow of the question, which is whether the United States should not have joined in the guarantee. In upbraiding the republic with this withdrawal, Mr. Clemenceau has made the reproach perhaps more palatable to those he was addressing by including Great Britain among the repudiators. What ground there is for this hateful charge is the fact that Great Britain's undertaking was entered into jointly with the United States and that when the United States disavowed the commitment of its president, Britain's obligation under the pact fell to the ground. It is, we think, true that the British government of that time—to wit, the government of Mr. Lloyd George—took that position with regard to it—an unfortunate position, seeing that in the very nature of things it would be impossible for Britain to witness a renewal of German aggression without throwing herself, however hopelessly, into the breach, as it could not but mean a question of life and death for herself. Still, no one will understand better than the United States the hesitancy of a nation faced with a very positive peril to give France any encouragement to be provocative toward Germany.

Who Scrapped It?

SUCH are the conditions under which Mr. Clemenceau included Great Britain in his reproach. He gave no heed to the fact that Great Britain, at Cannes, renewed this promise for her own part as fully and definitely as before, and that it was rejected with scorn by Paris, on the score that it was not specific as to exactly how many army corps Britain would keep up in readiness for the purpose of defending France and therefore meant nothing. For that matter, no such specific understanding would have meant anything as there was no thought of any immediate aggression from Germany and it was impossible to foresee what the conditions might be when the "tag" should again come. The only things of value in the matter were Britain's obvious interest, and her good faith, which Paris traditionally did not believe in. If the spirit of the French press were studied—and it was frank enough—one would gather that the reason for France herself—not England—scrapping the guarantee was that it would involve France's retirement from the Rhine, whereas she has set her heart on possessing the Rhineland of Germany and domineering over the richest section of Germany and over some millions of Germans who hate her and would turn peace on the Rhine into latent war.

Response of Mr. Lloyd George.

MR. Lloyd George, whose tongue and pen have been set free from the thraldom of diplomacy, is using the opportunity afforded by a syndicated correspondence, invited by the American press to respond to the imputation of Mr. Clemenceau, of whom he speaks in the highest terms as a generous and life-long friend of Great Britain, but as having failed in his memory of facts. The facts were these. France found Germany, even with the reduction of her territory both in Alsace and Lorraine and on the Polish border, a nation now half as large again as herself and growing at an alarming rate, while the number of Frenchmen does not increase. Every Frenchman thinks with terror of the army of children now growing up in Germany and being nursed in vengeance toward France. Her view is that the Rhine is the only defensible boundary between her and Germany. The one thing that her whole soul revolts against is the retirement of her troops from the Rhine. On the other hand, if there is anything that ensures perpetual war it is the presence of France upon the Rhine and the surly rule her armies are maintaining there over intensely German communities. In 1919, says Mr. Lloyd George, there was a statesman at the head of affairs in France; but what of 1922? Mr. Briand was ready to accept Britain's assurance and retire from the Rhine, but forthwith Paris turned Mr. Briand out of power and substituted a regime of annexation which has maintained this continuous irritation and there seems small reason to hope that any statesman will arise in France strong enough to put an end to it. All Europe is intensely interested, as without some change in relations, it will not be the Rhine alone that will overflow with blood. Indeed, the defensive value of the Rhine might be a mere sentimental theory under new war methods and with German strength increased to a hundred millions.

Europe in Peril.

THE man of tranquillity has not reached his goal at Lausanne. For the moment—let us hope and pray, not finally—things have gone all to pieces there through the recalcitrancy of those Paris jingoes. Well does Mr. Lloyd George say: the devil has not done with Europe. Mr. Garvin, the prophet of the London Observer, cannot be called a trouble-maker when he says the fate of Europe is at stake and that a cruel penalty must follow either a wrong solution or none. The dissolution of the Entente would, he says, bring a period of ruin and doom to Germany. Isolated action on the part of France would be suicidal. It would gradually consolidate Europe against her, especially if taken before the new Chancellor, Cuno, had had time to prove his good faith. Mr. Bonar Law is willing to consider the cancellation of France's debt to Britain if France will make a like concession to Germany. These Paris jingoes do not see anything in that, as it would bring no money to France; and they do not intend to pay that debt anyway. Mr. Clemenceau, who is an honest patriot, says: we want to pay but how can we if we cannot collect. But above all "we want guarantee of safety." Where the British ex-Premier can see safety is in case the United States should join with Britain in putting a veto on these irritations. "Is it too much to ask," Mr. Lloyd George concludes, "that America in time should take an effective interest in the developments along the Rhine." "In that respect," he says, "I am in complete accord with Mr. Clemenceau, neither Britain nor America can afford to ignore the manoeuvres going on along its banks." The President in his message to Congress last week fulfilled the conditions of his election campaign by declaring that the United States would do her duty by the other nations but would not go under bondage to any fellowship of nations. Since Mr. Lloyd George wrote these lines, Mr. Clemenceau, addressing Congress, reinforced his appeal to the American nation by reference to President Harding's message to Congress, which, while sticking as all-Republican Americans have to do, to the "expressed hostility of the American people to a super government or to any commitment where either a council or an assembly of leagued powers may chart our course," still glorified the four power treaty upon the Pacific and expressed the hope for similar action wherever in the world any common interests are concerned.

Men of No Opinion.

"I AM a Lloyd George man," was pretty much the whole confession of faith upon which the popular chieftain's followers sought election. It failed in many instances, but was successful in others. They got to parliament, a slim group compared with what they all expected, and took an unaggressive place there. They, of course, counted on being told how to vote, as they always had been told. How they must have been dismayed when on the first critical vote—that on the continuance of protection—they looked round for their leader, and he was not there. He was perhaps embarrassed by having, if he might want to co-operate with the Liberals, to condemn a condition which had prevailed to the end of his own reign. And he wanted to know which way his "Liberal" followers wanted to turn. Most of them did not vote. Twenty of them who voted, voted against protection.

Ulster on the Embargo.

UNTIL war conditions enabled the Chamberlain protectionists to force the hand of the Lloyd George government, the cattle embargo was the only blemish on Britain's free trade policy. It was maintained under a fraudulent pretense that it was necessary to protect British herds from disease; this, while all the time there was more danger from Irish store cattle which were freely admitted. Indeed, it has been generally known that the chief interest that was protected by the embargo against overseas cattle was that of the Irish cattle breeders. Now that the thing has come to an issue in parliament, it is the Ulster members who present a united front against free trade, the rest of Ireland being now out of Parliament. In the past, Ireland suffered unspeakably from English tariffs against her. There may be in that some historic claim for the demand that England should now consent to suffer as she has long been doing largely for her sake. That is not, however, free trade, and at a time when a nation is in the deepest financial distress through taxation to pay war debts, and through consequent unemployment, it is asking a great deal that for the sake of Ulster she should deny herself any source of cheaper food. As for the rest of Ireland, now that she is a dominion, the embargo, if continued, would naturally fall also upon her. That dangerous headland is weathered by the removal of the embargo. So that, though Canada has really been obstreperous in demanding it, it was unnecessary to urge it through parliament for no other reason that that Canada was ardently urging it. We are sensitive on this point, because while Canada had the fullest right to resent the bogus reason given for the embargo, since it is openly confessed to be a protective measure, she has no claim at all so long as she maintains protection against Britain. Yet even by putting Ireland on a par with Canada that country comes under limitations unknown before. It is held by the British government experts that Ireland and not Canada, is the source of disease where it breaks out; which is natural enough, as Canadian cattle have the natural quarantine of a week at sea.

Philosophy of Clothes.

WERE the new Caliph of Islam, appointed by Kemal in succession to the long line of Osmanli sultans, to take off his fez and enter any hotel in Canada he would not be noticed as different from the rest of us. A hundred years ago a Sultan would have been pictured sitting on a divan robed in loose and flowing garments, with a great beard and a mighty turban, probably smoking a hookah. He was then known in a hazy half light of eastern romance as the Grand Turk, and his court as the Sublime Porte. The very fact that all those eastern ways have yielded completely to western cannot be less than an outward and visible evidence of an inward and spiritual change. Carlyle wrote at great length on the philosophy of clothes, the gist of which was that a man is very much what his clothes make him. What a sense of

power a uniform gives to a policeman! It is certain that a caliph cannot be the same man in a tweed business suit that he would be in the pomp of raiment affected by his ancestors. What would happen to the Roman Church if the Pope was to appear in tweeds with a soft collar? East is still east and west is still west. It would be a sad thing indeed if any western power could be as beastly brutal as the Turks still are. But from the day that western Europe throws its democratic raiment over Tartary, over Araby, over Nippon, a great step has been taken toward the wiping out of race distinction and of class distinction, and toward the coming fellowship of mankind—fellowship for good or ill, according to the quality of the recognized leadership. How infinitely important that leadership is.

A Front Trench Battle.

A REFERENDUM on prohibition of the importation of liquor will be held in Prince Edward Island on Monday, the twenty-second of January. The question is one of prime importance to a province which is at every part exposed to the sea. The result of the poll will be declared a week afterwards, on January the twenty-ninth. If prohibition of liquor importation achieves a majority the voice of the electors will be given effect on a date to be set by Order-in-Council. Prince Edward Island is our pioneer prohibition province. The Scott Act prepared the way, as being at least an expression of the mind of the people. It captured the whole island with the exception of Charlottetown. Then in 1901, the provincial act came into operation. More could be done with this than with the Scott Act, as it was province-wide and the province had the means of enforcing it. It had a most beneficent effect on the moral as well as on the material welfare of "the Garden of the Gulf." But into this Garden, as into Eden, the serpent worms his way and pursues his devilish work. Without the recent addition to the powers of the provinces, local prohibition was, in such a vulnerable region, weak indeed. Even with the law against importation, it will be hard enough to prevent smuggling. But the law will turn lawful importation into smuggling, and thus put the social ban upon it. This, of course, comes a long way short of complete national prohibition, but it is a notable step worth taking. Prince Edward Island protectionists will omit no effort to register this public protest against the permission of the drink traffic in any form. They will realize that in this struggle they are not working alone for the good of their happy island, but that this referendum has put them in the world's front trench against all Liquordom. They need not expect that it will be a walk-over. Liquor is still strong, has an unlimited treasure-chest, and is not hampered by scruples where its interests are concerned. Moderation leagues and all sorts of camouflaged liquor agencies are at work in Canada and the United States to overthrow prohibition and to hinder its extension. Their hand, if not seen, will be felt in Prince Edward Island. A big prohibition vote must be worked for. An overwhelming prohibition victory would serve another notice on the enemy throughout the world that its days are almost numbered, and on parliament, as to what the country wants of it.

The Farmers in Harness.

A NUMBER of very interesting and vigorous co-operative organizations have developed among the French Canadian farmers of the Province of Quebec. There were evidences at the last Federal election of a tendency on the part of the farmers to kick against the long established rule of lawyers. One farmer was elected as such. What more natural than that both Rouge and Bleu should feel concern lest there should spring up out of these co-operative societies something analogous, if not akin, to the Farmer movement in the other provinces. What was to be done? Why, organize all these societies into one, and give the government the key to the whole. The bill which will pass—the Taschereau government can pass any bill it likes—gives the Minister of Agriculture the right to approve or disapprove of the president. Mr. Caron explains that that provision is for the sake of the farmer. These organizations handle, he says, some fifteen million dollars, and it was no discredit to the farmers to say they do not understand finance as well as they do farming. His provision was for their protection. Mr. Sauve, the leader of the small, but, in his hands, very vigorous opposition, saw in it what he feared the farmers who had approved of the bill had not seen, but would presently discover, a taking out of their hands the control of their own affairs. Mr. Sauve, as Conservative leader, no doubt shared the government's apprehension of the development of a Farmers' party. The department will have to exercise its power with silk gloves if it does not want it to result in something more definitely independent.

A New Cure.

ONE of the most important as well as remarkable steps that are following each other in a certain line of medical discovery falls chiefly to the credit of two graduates of Toronto University, Dr. Bantin and Dr. Best. These pathologists, practicing on inferior animals along lines which no doubt many others were following, had reached satisfactory results in the cure of diabetes by injections of a certain extract from the pancreas of the pig. It seems that that important gland supplies for digestive purpose, not only the essential pancreatic juice, but also through distinct channels, another essential contribution to the same end, failure of which is the cause of that fell disease. Being kept distinct by physiological process, it is called insulin. This is the material which has been found curative. Simultaneously both at Edmonton and New York, it was experimented on in cases that had reached the hopeless stage of coma, in both cases with apparently immediate and absolute success, though the patients, both under age, may need repetitions of the process from time to time. As one disease after another surrenders to some application of animal physiology, we are carried back to the investigations of Jenner, a hundred and fifty years ago, in which that kind of medicine may be said to have commenced. There is, however, a distinct difference between the administrations of serums for the counteraction of germ diseases and that of gland secretions for the replacement of some deficiency or excess of nature such as thyroid treatment for goitre.

Distribution of $190,000,000, saved by Christmas Club depositors under a plan which assures them of sufficient spending money for the holiday season, was begun on Thursday and will be continued until Dec. 10 by Christmas Clubs operated in 5,000 banking institutions throughout the United States. This huge Christmas fund is to be turned over to 5,000,000 depositors who joined the clubs with the idea of "saving for spending."

An Extension Course in Export Trade is being planned by the authorities of McGill University, Montreal, in conjunction with the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, and with the co-operation of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. The course will comprise two weeks of intensive study of the underlying principles of export trade and of familiarizing the students with the practical details of management.

Proof that Bolshevik Russia is highly dissatisfied with Turkey because Ismet Pasha at Lausanne has abandoned the Russians on the question of the Dardanelles, was found on Saturday when M. Chitcherin, the Soviet Foreign Minister, issued an urgent invitation to the Turkish journalists, and, in the course of a long speech, warned them of the dangers of placing their trust in the allied nations.

Hostility and resistance greeted the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment which, under the command of Superintendent A. W. Duffus, visited the Six Nations Indian Reserve at Brantford, Ont. in search of illicit stills on Friday.

The death of William Kennedy, of Holden, Alberta, at the ripe old age of 125 years, has been reported to Donald Mackie, registrar of vital statistics, as having occurred November 30.

Joseph Maggio, known throughout the Italian colony of Chicago as the "King of the Black Hand," was shot from behind and killed on Friday night as he walked near his home 245 East twenty-fourth street. He is the last of three brothers to meet death in a strange vendetta.

A CHRISTMAS DAY

'Tis Christmas morn, with sunshine bright and fair,
The frost adds tonic to the bracing air.
A church-bell's mellow notes come o'er the glen
Proclaiming peace on earth, goodwill to men,
And like the fragrance of a rose new born,
Its sounds suffuse the air this happy morn.

The children, scarce till dawn restrain their glee,
A peep of Santa they so wish to see.
They scamper down, expectant, him to find;
But Santa's gone—his gifts are left behind!

Then father makes the jolly fire roar,
While he, and mother laugh o'er days of yore.
The living-room is just the same old place,
But still it wears a happy, jaunty grace;
The holly adds a touch of dashing red,
And mistletoe is laughing over-heard;
But father's acting queer—ne'er saw him so—
And mother won't go near that mistletoe.

Then listen; 'tis the sound of merry bells;
Our guests have come is what their ringing tells.
And in the welcome, and the greetings gay
There is a hearty warmth on Christmas Day.

Then from the realm that to the cook is dear
Come savory odors, smelled but once a year;
But of the feast how futile 'tis to speak;
A pen description always is so weak.
The food is not the feast—'tis but a part—
It's loving friendship feeds the hungry heart.

When guests have gone and evening changed toni_ht
The children come to claim the children's right;
"A story, please, before we go to bed.
Oh! tell the one about the star so red."
And father tells them how to earth there came
A little Babe, and Jesus was His name.

M. L. MacLean.

Scotsburn.

"I care."
"I dare."
"Say it with Subscriptions."

THE FALL OF ZENOBIA

Explorers in Syria Expect to Fathom the Mystery of Palmyra's Queen.

The wonderful rise of Zenobia, Queen of Palmyra, the great woman organizer, who came so near to breaking up the whole Roman Empire as the result of her ambitious schemes for holding the control of Africa, Syria, and Asia Minor, followed by her defeat and ultimate degradation, is a classical story known to most people. Perhaps the most widely known part of the story concerns her defeat and the treatment she suffered at the hands of the Romans, when, covered with priceless jewels and fettered in golden chains, she was dragged through the streets of Rome to grace a Roman holiday.

Scientists, says a writer in the New York American, are now uncovering the ruins of the once gorgeous palace on the edge of the Syrian Desert from which Zenobia, burnished in armor, sallied forth to fight the Emperor Aurelian for the control of Africa, Syria, and Asia Minor.

Here they expect to fathom the mystery of Zenobia's Court, and the wonderful system of taxation that enriched her people. They hope also to learn from the buried past something of the treachery that lost Zenobia the battle of Amesa and led to her capture, in flight, on the banks of the Euphrates River, from which she was brought back to become the unhappy living symbol of Rome reunited at a pageant that Aurelian staged in the year 274 to glorify his victory.

Another quest of the archaeologists will be to discover how it was possible that the fair African colonies fell away from Rome and acknowledged Zenobia as their Queen. This makes one of history's most striking page of a beautiful woman's energy and ambition which raised, practically within a single generation, Palmyra from a caravan trading centre to a powerful capital with confederated states so strong that she defied the ascendancy of Rome.

Waste and Desolation

For this revolt Aurelian's punishment was crushing. The city of Palmyra was put to the sword and torch, until now its heaving mounds, burying the riches and secrets of a past civilization, give place to the desolate huts of a few nomadic Arabs.

Into this desert waste, whose ruins still standing are one of the sights of Syria, the French Government has sent members of "The Service of Antiquities and Fine Arts" to make this exploration.

Originally sandstone columns were placed at the intersections of streets, and on them were raised carved statues of local heroes. Soon these heroes became so numerous that brackets were added to each column (which were fifty-five feet high) and other statues placed on these brackets. Then the advantage of joining all the columns together on the main thoroughfare was conceived, and these upstanding, weather-bruised columns are all that is left of Palmyra's main street.

In these ruins may be found the long-lost writings of the philosopher Longinus, who, as Zenobia's counsellor, was held responsible for her uprising against Imperial Rome, and suffered death as a consequence.

A LAND OF WONDERS

(By James T. Nichols)

Buried in a great forest less than one hundred and fifty miles from Mexico City are the ruins of a prehistoric city that some believe was larger in extent than either New York or London. Even Cortez when he conquered Mexico four hundred years ago never dreamed of its existence. No book or record ever mentioned these ruins and there is not even a tradition concerning it known to man today. Some have reason to think it was builded by some sort of a Christian civilization about the third century, but many think it is older than Pompeii or Herculaneum.

The ruins of this city are called Palenque and they were found by some Spaniards in 1750. They were wandering through southern Mexico and some natives led them into an almost impenetrable forest to show them some "houses of stone." Here are walls and temples, altars and towers into which the roots of great forest trees are interlocked and upon which the rays of the sun have not shone for a century.

One writer says of the temples discovered in this city, the greatest of which is called "The Palace," "It is on a pyramid nearly fifty feet high and the base of which is two hundred and fifty by three hundred feet. The walls are cut by fourteen arched doorways, eight feet apart, ten feet wide, running up to pointed archways; within the walls are a number of courts, the largest of which is nearly one hundred feet square, covered with stucco moulded or carved into curious figures and hieroglyphics." It is said that many of these temples and the carving are wonderful to behold. Who knows that in the generations yet unborn will arise someone who will discover a "rossetta stone" and give to the world the history of this prehistoric city.

In another part of the country is a great pyramid not unlike the Pyramid of Cheops in Egypt but much greater in size, and no one knows when it was built. When the Aztecs gained possession of the country the people told them a legend of how it was built by a race of giants descended from two survivors of a great deluge that overspread the land. This legend further states that in trying to build this structure to heaven they incurred the displeasure of the gods, who destroyed them with fire. This legend no doubt had its origin in the Biblical story of the Tower of Babel.

"On the summit of this pyramid," says the author quoted above, "stood the temple of the mystic deity, the 'god of the air,' whose image was there, under its pinnacled towers, with ebon features, wearing a mitre on his head, waving with plumes of fire; a resplendent collar of gold about his neck; pendants of mosaic turquoise in his ears; a jeweled sceptre in one hand, and a curiously painted shield, emblem of his reign over the winds, in the other." It is said that Cortez declared that he counted four hundred towers in the city of Cholula, yet no temple had more than two and some only one tower.

To get an idea of these ancient peoples one has only to go into the National Museum in the city of Mexico. Here is one of the finest collections of antiques and objects of natural history to be found. Here are idols from the old temples as well as ornaments from the palaces of the Aztecs and Toltecs and prehistoric races. Jewels, arms, shells, portraits, parchments, paintings, pictures, and nearly everything imaginable from the ruins of this wonderful country.

INSULIN EXTRACT PATENTED BY UNIVERSITY

Sir Robert Falconer, president of Toronto University, defended the action of the university in patenting Insulin extract for diabetes, the discovery of two university professors, on the ground solely that it was done to protect the public and to insure use of the cure at the proper strength.

The reports from New York and Alberta of recoveries of diabetic patients from the last coma stage of the disease following treatment from Insulin, has been received with satisfaction by the research workers at Toronto University, where intensive laboratory work is being done by Dr. F. G. Banting and his associates to improve the extract. Prof. J. J. R. McLeod also explained "if the university had not patented the treatment some commercial company would have done it, and so would have obtained a monopoly. There have been cases such as this in connection with many well-known substances that are used for alleviating suffering.

You Don't Have To----

IT seems that there are some who have sadly misunderstood our statements about the WITNESS. One eminent insurance man in the West, a thirty-year long subscriber to, and a real friend of the WITNESS, thinks we "are after money again." Oh, that even such as he misunderstands! Can anyone find in all that we have said, this season, any hint that we wanted money. Our only use for it would be to bribe subscribers to read the WITNESS by the usual methods—on the one hand by premiums, prizes, contests; on the other hand by large papers, multitudinous interests. In the days when we had money of our own we gladly used it in making the paper so attractive, that we managed to get a relatively larger number of subscribers without such strenuous effort to secure co-operation. In those days we gladly gave the readers what cost us twice as much as we got from it in subscriptions and advertising. When, after many years of that program, our available resources ran short, we had to begin telling the readers that the only way they could perpetuate independent journalism, was to co-operate with it by extending its circulation and sphere of influence through the personal effort.

We can easily begin to make money by stopping the WITNESS. The most profitable act for us would be to turn the key in the door, but, so long as we are given strength and a message for the people—the most cowardly! Money is not what we are after, else we would not be pouring all our available resources into the WITNESS or not be giving our whole time whole-heartedly, without wage or other emolument. All we asked that friend was for his personal co-operation, and that co-operation he gladly gave, but in giving it said he feared that we might be "making our readers sick of this eternal cry for money." In seventy-seven years there has been but one call for contributions. After a million of Dougall money had been cheerfully devoted to the service of Canada through the WITNESS we asked, in our extremity, last spring, a time of international financial stringency—that such as felt like doing so would send small sums to save the home of the WITNESS, on the large rent roll of which the WITNESS greatly depended for its future existence and service to its readers and to Canada. That was the first time we ever asked for donations, and we sincerely hope that it will be the last. If times improve, the rent revenues will enhance and contribute still more to the monetary needs of your paper. On that occasion we needed and got from our friends about $25,000.00. More was offered, but not needing it, we did not accept it. $25,000.00 was nobly given by some three thousand WITNESS friends. The only gifts within three generations. Yet one of the publishers, alone, devoted more than that on an average each year for over a score of years. Think of that. And he gave that without any return or expectation or even hope of return. Nor was the fact mentioned by him. But one time when his resources were exhausted his partner told the story of the WITNESS and stated that fact for the express purpose **of coupling a call for co-operators with proof of the publishers' disinterestedness.** That was the only reason it was ever stated. Since then the fact has been reiterated that every new subscriber may realize that the call for co-operation has no factor of selfishness in it, that **it is a high call,** and that the existence and extension of independent journalism is absolutely dependent on the answer the readers make to that call. **Every subscriber of the WITNESS is its friend,** but **every co-operator is a partner with the editor in the service the WITNESS seeks to render the people of Canada.**

None have to---not even the publishers

No sir, it is not money the WITNESS wants, but merely the opportunity to serve you, and through you an extension of that service to your friends and neighbors, and so to render a greater service to Canada as a whole. No one has to introduce the Witness to his friends. And if any one knows another paper which is more worthy, we earnestly beseech him rather to work for that paper, for it will, by the very fact of its greater moral worth, be more in need, as well as more deserving of, his co-operation. As experts we see the nations great need of independent journalism as the average man, perhaps, cannot see it, and also as experts we know the possibility of the people losing even what they have by their lack of sufficient interest to read what it writes in blood. When even a thirty-year long subscriber and co-operator thinks we are after money again, who can expect the average subscriber to read or understand our CHALLENGE TO HIGH SERVICE in the nation's interest? No one knows how sick we are of these campaigns. They tax our strength, as nothing else we do, because they absorb our energies and handicap for the time our usefulness. And if we do not, through them, win the co-operation the WITNESS needs each year if it is to be free to serve, they are not only a waste of energy but are suicidal to your paper. It is our bounden duty to press these truths home, while yet it is called today. No one has to co-operate—you don't have to. But if you do not "say it with subscriptions" today while you have the chance, during this subscription season, the WITNESS will weaken and die fighting for you in the front trenches. If you are sorry, when it is too late, weep for your self and for the country, not for the WITNESS, which shall have fought a good fight and having kept the faith will be at well deserved rest. Please do not then "say it with flowers." Save your money and especially your energies for some other thing that is devoting all its strength to the general welfare.

FRIENDS!

This is the season when most people select their papers for the New Year. If they do not take the WITNESS now, it will be much harder to get them later. If we do not reap a harvest now, the WITNESS, lacking circulation will become anaemic, as the doctors say and may become so emaciated that it will be impossible to undertake another great campaign a year hence, or even then be able to promise, as it is now fully warranted in doing, still another year of service. People do not realize that they actually weaken their paper by forcing such admissions for they will be taken from their context and misquoted, to its disadvantage by its enemies, who will read these statements and gloat over them; while others with their sickly sentimentality will "pity the poor Witness."

The newspaper business is vastly different to other businesses. If its circulation does not grow it sickens and finally dies of lack of circulation. Then who's to blame?

OUR CHALLENGE IS THIS:—

We are freely and gladly devoting our whole lives and all our resources to your service. Is an evening's effort too much to expect from you every now and then, at least once a year? If any one cannot see people personally, could they not send their copy, when through with it, or get some one to do it for them? Unless the Witness has regular and adequate co-operation, equal to that given the denominational or class papers for example, it cannot be healthy.

OUR GREAT JOY IS THIS:—

That so many have told or written us that they had been so helped by the WITNESS that they felt impelled to co-operate with its publishers in the work they were trying to do. Apparently the number of such "partners" in the work of publishing the Witness is increasing.

"But why, Mr. Publisher, does the Witness not pay. The denominational papers are every bit as exclusive about misleading and injurious advertising as the Witness, yet they manage without such appeals for assistance."

Ask the denominational papers if they could live without large annual grants from the denominational treasury; then, if they could live without the co-operation of the ministers or of some one duly appointed in each church to canvass for subscriptions each year and "the better the day the better the deed," for a paper of the kingdom.

Ask them if no good churchman patronizes their advertising columns largely because they are the denominational organ. Or if subscribers do not take them for the same reason. Of course they do. And must do if the organ is to be strong and effective and a credit to its denomination. The organ is worthy of the support it gets and NEEDS it, not once in a lifetime, but every year—every week! Yet the Denominational press has an easy road compared with the Witness; for the former is the spokesman of the views of its group—so far as such views are recognized as fairly general. It does not conceive it any part of its duty to take high stand on any question that would seriously divide its group or its following. Such problems are for a paper like the Witness, which knows no restrictions—not even those prompted by self preservation.

The organ is essential to and is subsidised to fight for the welfare of the organizations and so serves the general public. The Witness seeks the general welfare, without subsidy, and so serves every worthy organization. The organ has an organized backing and takes its dictation from the organization.

The Witness foreswears all such organized backing that it may be free from such restrictions.

Each paper has its unique work to do, and each to the extent which it does not seek its own interests, must have the voluntary co-operation of its friends. Every paper worthy of friends has some enemies, but the opposition to and persecution of the Witness by its enemies—enemies of many kinds and on many counts—would fill a book. The publisher who has not tried to publish such a courageously outspoken independent paper, knows not half the truth of this statement. If the church papers could speak their minds on vexed politics and economic problems as fearlessly as does the Witness, they too, would know more about these things.

If people do not want any independent papers they can just drop them and they will not be bothered by what they call "appeals." The Witness never appeals—It states the facts and challenges the manhood and womanhood of the country to share joyously in its service of humanity. That's all.

You don't have to—but you will.

PICTURESQUE EASTERN CITIES

Damascus is like no other city in its attractiveness and picturesqueness for the Western traveller. All along the road from Bayrouth to this ancient city in the desert there are camel trains, almost in a continuous line, carrying the grain of the plains to the sea and bringing back the products of the Western world to be distributed far and wide by other caravans toward the East. The bazaars of Damascus are the most interesting in the Near East, although they are not so extensive as those of Constantinople.

After Damascus, Homs and Hama on the road to Aleppo attract attention, set as they are in the midst of wild, desert country but refreshed by never ending water. Homs is the centre of a great grazing country, and Hama, with its ancient waterwheels pumping water in primitive fashion, is the centre of an important silk industry and market.

Aleppo is a source of delight, for her bazaars are more primitive than those of any other city in the country and for the same reason full of charm. One can buy any product of the Near and the Farthur East from these merchants, the products of the looms of Persia, the silk of China brought thousands of miles by caravan and wonderful brass and inlay work.

Baalbeck, only a short run by motor from Bayrouth, has its wonderful ruins of an almost forgotten age. The temple of Jupiter and the temple of the sun in this city, ancient Heliopolis, are among the most marvellous ruins of the world. Then Palmyra out on the desert to the eastward is another shrine which is attractive to tourists. Saida, south of Bayrouth on the sea, ancient Sidon, Antioch and many other cities of ancient renown, all beckon the tourist and student in this interesting country.—New York Herald.

Hon. J. E. Perrault, Minister of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries, announced in the Quebec House on Monday that the Government is ready to pay a royalty on each ton of peat mined and placed on the market.

GOVERNOR OF ULSTER

The Duke of Abercorn has been appointed governor of Northern Ireland by King George. The new executive is a duke of four countries, England, Ireland, Scotland, and France.

Northern Ireland Contracts Out of Free State

Premier Sir James Craig, accompanied by the Marquis of Londonderry, leader of the Senate, and Colonel Spender, secretary to the Ulster Cabinet, started for London on Thursday, bearing an address to the King contracting Ulster out of the Irish Free State.

The address was voted unanimously by both Houses of the Ulster Parliament.

In the course of his explanatory speech in the House of Commons, Premier Craig declared it was useless to hold out any present hopes that Ulster would go under the Dublin Parliament, and added that the moment such a question arose he would refuse to remain premier. The only possible course to secure happiness in Ireland was for the North and South each to go its own way.

He said the Northern Parliament would have nothing whatever to do with the boundary commission, provided for under an agreement which he described as a bargain offered it by the wrong people behind the back of the Northern Government. He admitted, that, if the representatives in the Northern Parliament of the border counties could arrive at an agreement that something could be done here and there in the matter of the border arrangements, he would not stand in the way of approving such an agreement.

He insisted, however, that nothing could be done in the way of bringing an amending act through the British House of Commons, because, "thanks largely to the Ulster delegation which went through the British constituencies prior to the elections, they had secured a majority for Ulster in the British House of Commons which would refuse to carry such an act."

REBEL REPRISALS

The opponents of the Irish Government have resumed their reprisals against Free State officials. Attacks with bombs and gasoline were made on the residence of J. J. Walsh, postmaster-general, on Sunday evening, and others identified with the Government. The Walsh residence, which is in Frederick Street, was not badly damaged, and the promptness of the firemen and neighbors prevented the spread of the fire in every case.

Intimidating the Press

An editorial in the Freeman's Journal on Saturday, brought forth on Sunday another instance of attempted intimidation of the press by the anti-Government forces. The Sunday edition of the Irish Independent states that the editor received on December 6 a letter similar to that received by Senator Martin Fitzgerald, proprietor of the Freeman's Journal, and points out that this was the culminating one of a long series sent to him and to the chairman of the Independent company and other members of the staff.

On November 25 armed men called at the editor's house, and verbally intimated to his wife that he must leave the country before 8 o'clock that night or he would be shot at sight. Since then the editor has not slept one night in his town house.

Who Is Next?

Dublin has almost recovered from the shock of Thursday's executions. With almost incredible callousness the question is now asked: "Who is next?' Thursday's affair lingers in the public mind longer because of the reprisal element. The Irish Times perhaps strikes the correct note when it says: "Every friend of peace and order must be extremely reluctant to criticize the Government these trying days, but at least there is general endorsement of Deputy Fitzgibbons' view that the Ministers will consult the Parliament if they contemplate similar reprisals in the reprisals in the future."

A sad reminder of the whole grim tragic strife was afforded on Friday when the coffin containing Deputy Sean Hales' body was borne on the shoulders of four headquarters officers from the pro-cathedral to a gun carriage, on which it was taken to the boat for Cork for interment in the family cemetery. Owing to the destruction of the railway running south, the long sea route was taken.

Among the mourners was Sean Collins, brother of General Michael Collins, and despite death threats many members of the Government and of the Dail and many high command officers and crowds of citizens marched on the short journey along the quays, paying a touching tribute to the first member of the Free State Parliament to pay the extreme penalty for the courage of his convictions.

A plan for dividing the debts of the Allies to the United States into two sections, four billions borrowed after the armistice, and six billions during the war, and arranging for re-payment of these on a separate basis, so as to spread interest and sinking fund over a long period of years, was the proposal made by Otto Kahn, of the world banking house of Kahn, Loeb & Co., New York, in the course of an address before the Canadian Club, at Montreal, on Monday.

LETTERS FROM READERS.

THE DISSATISFIED IMMIGRANT

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me space in your valuable paper to express an opinion on a letter which appeared in the Witness of November 19th, from a Mr. Robinson, in Alberta, in which he speaks slightingly of everything Canadian, from politicians and the press to judges and the Senate, and your comment entitled "The Power of the Letter?" There have been others who among their objections to Canada and Canadian life, objected to the amount of butter Canadians ate, their pronunciation, and even the way they cut their hair! Might I suggest that the point of this man's tale was not so much the power of the dissatisfied immigrant's letter home, as it was, that this man, in spite of his thirteen years residence here, has not become a Canadian. No man who was proud to call himself a Canadian, and who loyally supported things Canadian, whether born in Canada, or elsewhere, could write such a letter. No man whose first concern was this country's wefare could write such insults. One of his statements "A satisfied emigrant is your best advertisement," I agree with. The letter home which tells of prosperity, (and many such letters have crossed the water) has a wider influence than the letter of the one who has not "made good."

I would suggest the title "The Misfit" as being appropriate for this letter. The writer seems not to know that Canada ceased long ago to be no more than a colony of the British crown. Canada, let me tell this man who has settled in Alberta, is a nation, and feels and acts and has its being as a nation. The fathers of Confederation started out to build a nation, and not merely a flourishing agricultural colony," as Mr. Robinson thinks. Your correspondent evidently came here with wrong preconceived ideas. He probably expected Canada to be English, and thought that all he had to do was tc come over and take possession. To quote Mr. Niven, the English war correspondent and novelist, in an article, "Some People who get my Goat:" "The best cure for such people is for them to go home to the Old Country. They are then able to institute comparison afresh, and often (perhaps generally) return to Canada realizing where is their happier land."

Canada needs immigrants, but only those of the right sort, and cannot guarantee a man success irrespective of his worth. It is not so much a question of where they come from, as it is a question of the proper selection of only those who are suitable for our conditions here, and who are going to become loyal Canadians. Canada needs the class who are able to work, and who want to go on the land, not necessarily men who want to start farming for themselves right away, nor those who want to settle in groups, but men and women able and willing to go on the farms of the country and work and learn, and earn good money with which to start farming for themselves in time.

A large number of farm workers on the present farms, working for a reasonable wage, would do more for the prosperity of the country and the solution of our railway problem than a similar number of newcomers starting farming for themselves on homesteads, or hopelessly in debt for their farms, and would do more than any one thing to keep the farmers and their sons and their daughters on the farm.

Of course there should be no misrepresentation in order to attract settlers, and it should be made clear that even in this land of opportunity there will be those who are likely to meet with disappointment, but those who are suited to the climate, and who have industry and perseverance, have abundant opportunity to improve their circumstances and "make good."

DONALD H. CAMERON.

Harlan, Sask.

Note: We read all letters from our newer districts with interest to learn what our friends can tell us of the actual facts. One fact is known, that with the immigration we had during the last census decade and the natural increase of our population we should have had two million more people in Canada than we have. Finding fault with incomers will not help. What we ask for is facts to show how this adverse current of population is to be corrected.

THE HUDSON BAY ROUTE

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir,—I see you are discussing Mayor James' plea for the completing of the Hudson Bay Railway. There is one point that you have not touched on. I have spoken of it to many men who favor the H. B. R. and have not received a proper answer. Would a grain merchant have to pay as much for grain going by the H. B. R., if it was finished, having to store it there generally till the shipping route opened the next spring or summer, and would banks advance as much as they would on grain stored at Port Arthur? Their reply was that grain was stored at Port Arthur and Fort William until the lakes open again. But they forget to say that the grain could be sent by rail to the sea-board if the price went up enough to ship that way, but if stored on the Hudson Bay it would have to remain there, no matter how the price went, or re-ship it back by railway, which would most likely take as much as the extra price would bring.

About sixteen years more or less ago I was living at Kildonan, next to Winnipeg. A grain dealer and miller from Great Britain was travelling through the West looking into the grain business, and he told me that if the railway to Hudson Bay was built, grain dealers in Great Britain would build elevators (?) and would buy grain and store the same until navigation opened the next season. The reason he gave was that they could not get the best grade of wheat when buying from Canadian grain dealers. It is well known that they mix the different grades together, and then sell them as No. 1 hard and No. 1 Northern, putting No. 2 with No. 1; No. 3 with No. 2, and so on. He said they would do their own buying and get the best grades, and that they could find the money to hold for same. I cannot see that Canadian grain merchants could pay as much for wheat and store it as they would by sending it to other routes, where they could move it by train if needed.

READER OF WITNESS.

Regina, Sask., Nov. 30th.

THE TARIFF BARRIER

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—Many years ago descriptions of the Canadian North-west were accepted as true by an Ottawa convention, and were as follows:— "We in the West have even a greater disadvantage than that of railway freights in this accursed tariff, which has borne so heavily on the settler. I am free to admit that with us many of the people are hard up. How could it be otherwise under such a system? I have no hesitation in saying that if the money unjustly taken from the pockets of the people were returned, every man would be able to pay off his debts and have something to his credit in the bank. Nothing is raised in price for the benefit of the farmer, but on everything he buys he has to pay extra on account of the tariff. We are spending large sums of money on immigration, and I can tell you that if we had free trade we should have thousands and hundreds of thousands of settlers without spending a dollar. As things are now we are compelled to sell our produce in the markets of the world, and then we have to turn around and buy our supplies in a protected market"—Senator Watson. (Taken from "The Revolt in Canada Against The New Feudalism" by Edward Porritt.) We still face those conditions.

Wm. M. STIRLING.

Winnipeg, Man.

'CHEER UP!

(To the Editor of the Witness)

Sir,—About twenty years ago I overheard a party of gentlemen discussing as which period in a man's life they considered to be the most critical. By general consent it was agreed that a person had need of courage at the age of forty to forty-five. For, at this period, the delightful illusions of youth have usually evaporated and the placid contentment of the elderly and old has not yet been reached. When about forty a man is usually in the thickest of the fight, and there may even come days when the game may seem not to be worth the candle. This short trying period in a person's life may be likened in nature to the week or two of horrible weather we usually experience at the equinox and which indeed seems to be a little bit of "no man's land" lying between the delightful spring and summer time, the peaceful autumn and the winter time. To all discouraged ones, then, we would whisper, "Courage!"

W. S.

"I care."
"I dare."
"Say it with Subscriptions."

For the first time, as a result of the initiative and activities of certain Canadian export agents in London, Hungarian turkeys are being introduced to the Canadian public this winter.

A conference is to be held between the High Commissioner and the agents-general in London of the Canadian provinces to discuss Dominion Government recognition of the claim of the provincial representatives to communicate direct with the Crown in matters directly affecting them. This old and vexed question, which has recently been taken up with Hon. P. C. Larkin, continues to disturb the harmony of the Canadian representation in London.

HAS ANYONE A BETTER PLAN?

(New York World.)

The Allied plan for control of the Straits, first of all, denies Turkey the right to build forts which would enable her to close the Straits. Secondly, the plan proposes to limit the passage of warships and places the regulating power in the hands of an international commission representing the Allied powers, Turkey, the Black Sea powers and the United States.

Here is a plan which gives no one undisputed control of the Straits. It is a plan which balances British sea power by international control. It is a plan which guarantees Russia access to warm water as thoroughly as that can be guaranteed short of a Russian Dardanelles and a very powerful Russian navy. It gives Turkey as much sovereignty as she needs to defend Constantinople and deprives her of the sovereignty she would abuse if she had physical control of the Straits.

Nobody has proposed a better plan or one half so good. Even the prejudices of Mr. Harding and Mr. Lenin are considered, for the League of Nations is no part of the scheme. Unless Washington has something better up its sleeve it will now have to choose between accepting the proposal or eliminating itself from the discussion.

THE KU KLUX KLAN

(Vancouver Daily Sun.)

Formed originally in the States to combat the laxity of justice and race favoritism, the Ku Klux Klan has turned into a vast uncontrolled force for evil. While it permits the decent citizen to afford protection to his home and his kind that weak courts will not afford him, it also affords ample opportunity for the moron and the coward to unleash their secret spites and hatreds with impunity.

If Canadians are not satisfied with their institutions and government bodies they have full power to change them at the polls. We are not children in Canada. We have learned that progress comes with frankness and fearlessness, not with secrecy, innuendo and lies.

RUSSIA'S GOAL

(Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

According to Lenin "Russia is entering Utopia." And somebody has looked up Utopia in the dictionary and found that it is a Greek word meaning "nowhere."

"LAME DUCK" CONGRESSES

(New York Evening Post)

The greatest anomaly of our Governmental arrangements is that by which a Congress that has been defeated meets within a month after its defeat to make laws for the people who have repudiated it, while the Congress that has been chosen in its place does not ordinarily meet until an entire year has elapsed. Such an arrangement seems better suited to a Parliament of Laputa than to an actual assembly. It came about in part because of the lack of railroads in the period when the Constitution was framed and the consequent necessity of allowing much more time than is required now for Government officials to travel to the national capital.

The chief cause of the delay, however, was not lack of good transportation but failure of the members of the Constitutional Convention to see just what a situation they were creating. The "founding fathers" were keen on the point that a number of Congress should represent the sentiment of his constituents—so keen that in the Confederation the States had the power to recall their Congressmen at will and to send others in their stead. If they had realized that they were providing for a "lame duck" Congress they would undoubtedly have modified the Constitution so as to preclude the possibility of a defeated Congress exercising authority.

Mere inertia has prevented the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution that would correct this maladjustment. Now, rather abruptly, such an amendment is proposed by a group of Senators whose influence has been amply demonstrated. Under it the new Congress would meet on the first Monday in January following its election. It is difficult to imagine what can be said against such an amendment. The American Bar Association has been in favor of the change for many years. If we were framing a new Constitution no one would advocate retention of the anomalous arrangement. A newly elected President waits only four months to assume office. Why should a newly elected Congress wait thirteen months? If elections mean anything, they ought to affect the composition of the Government with fair promptness. Thirteen months is time enough for a material change in public opinion. The amendment is nothing but plain common sense and should be referred to the States without delay.

The Congress which was convened on December 4 must finish its work before March 4, and President Harding knows he cannot get through all the legislation to round his presidential duties in that time. An extra session appears to be inevitable, and the only question is how long after March 4 it can be delayed.

FINANCIAL GHOSTS

(N. Y. Evening Mail)

An auction sale of securities in closing up some estates or in selling out some kinds of collateral provides a list of corporate names and prices like an array of financial ghosts.

A recent list of one day's auction sales included railway stock at less than 3 cents a share, moving picture debentures at $50 for a 25,000 lot, 40,000 shares of a graphite company for $25, oil stocks of all kinds for less than it would cost to engrave and print the stock certificates, 105,000 shares of a copper company for $15, stock in a fishery company for 30 cents a share, in a bank twenty-five shares for $35, $10,000 Brooklyn Ferry Company bonds for $10 for the lot, shares in a pawnshop for less than 1 cent a share, in a sewing machine company for less than 2 cents, Russian bonds for next to nothing, mausoleum builders, restaurants, sugar companies, manganese gold mines, chemical companies, directories, automobile tires, street railroads, mahogany and finance and investment companies.

This is only a partial list of one day's auction sale clearing up a few dollars' remnant money out of millions of dollars paid in by investors or speculators.

A wise provision of law has limited the investments of savings banks, life insurance companies and trustees. The man who has only a few hundred dollars, or the widow who has been left a few thousand dollars, had better keep to the kind of investments that do not fill out the long lists of the bargain sales at auction foreclosures.

FARMER ORGANIZATION HERE TO STAY, SAYS J. J. MORRISON

Rural and urban interests are not identical and never will be, declared J. J. Morrison, secretary of the United Farmers of Ontario, addressing the annual meeting of the Victoria County U. F. O. organization on Saturday. "The farmer wants the city man's product as cheap as he can get it, and the city man wants the farmer's product at the lowest possible price, so how can their interests be identical?"

You farmers have to give more vitality, more of your life to produce your products than the urban man has, he continued. You have longer hours. The thing is to try to achieve a better adjustment and it is time farmers began looking after their own interests. The heritage of our pioneers is almost at a vanishing point and the state is taxing you heavily to live on the land which you made. You have to pay for the right of living on your own property. There is a terrible excitement going on about immigration, because the country needs the people, and who are being brought in? Laborers from Central Europe, not to become artisans or mechanics, but to become farmers. Labor is organized, has control, and would not stand for immigrants that would interfere with their work, but the farmer is not and these immigrants are for the farm, while the flower of our country goes to other countries. Labor today has better homes, better wages, while we are at a standstill. Every jail farm in the country is in direct competition with your industry, but you do not object. The labor man would soon object, however. But today the agricultural people have found their feet, are on the map, have developed class conscience and the organization is here to stay.

The agricultural people are the moral stamina of this country. God help the morale of the country if it was not for the agricultural people.

European Economic Situation

"It is physically impossible for France ever to pay the United States and England. The only solution for the best interests of both the United States and Europe is a general cancellation of war debts.

"Personally I wish that the United States would convoke a world conference to settle the economic question of debts and reparations—and they must be settled together.

"If something is not done within a few months there will be a crash. Germany is near a revolution and there is no telling where it would end."

These are the most striking statements of Deputy Louis Locheur, ex-member of the Clemenceau-Ribot and Briand cabinets, one of the greatest industrialists of France and an authority on European economic questions, in an interview.

Premier Bonar Law, replying in the House of Commons to a question asked as to whether, with a view to finding temporary or permanent settlement for non-Turkish refugees out of Asia Minor or Constantinople, the Government would invite the Dominions to co-operate in providing the necessary facilities therefor, replied that enquiries were being made on this subject. He said a report from the British Embassy at Constantinople on the needs of refugees was being forwarded to the Dominion Governments.

Remembrance, like a sovereign prince, for you maintains a stately gallery of gay or tragic pictures.—Wordsworth.

Big Business in Philanthropy

(By "Scrutator")

Philanthropy has gone in for big business methods. Charity, which has its best fragrance, blessing him that gives and him that gets, when it is a thoughtful personal act, is now run by great corporations. It is a sign of the times. Imitation may be one of the reasons leading that way; efficiency may be another; the natural desire of some men to control a big machine may be a third; the mere tendency of things modern with something inevitable about it, may be one more reason. But whatever the reasons, simple or complex, that may be urged here, has not the time come for some inquiry into the whole philanthropic business, especially in great cities? For it has become a business, a gigantic one. It is even a subject of lecture and study in universities now.

Persuading The Public

The big business method is to lump as many charities as will come in under one scheme of appeal to the public, and then by use of all the "arts" now associated with the "drive" to persuade the public to discharge its obligations to its less fortunate neighbors at one stroke. All the ways of exploiting mob psychology are used:—preparation by insistence, widespread pictorial publicity, the roping into the scheme of outstanding public men, with luncheons, speeches, committees, captains of groups, leaders of sections, and all with both glaring and subtle suggestion to rouse the public interest, to create a favorable mentality, and then to rush it with a view to getting money. And it must be admitted that if success justifies all things, for the time being the method is abundantly justified. For example, in Montreal recently twenty-seven charities so united and went to work to raise $350,000, and, notwithstanding bad weather and other hindrances, actually raised more than $405,000. It was a notable achievement. The result in money at least justified the method, and it was money that was wanted.

And here let due appreciation of the spirit of service required to carry through such great schemes be fully given. Business men turn from money-making to serve and to give; time, strength and personal interest, more important to a community than subscriptions are, for the time, poured out. Good women especially give themselves unto sacrifice, as in all weathers they trudge from door to door meeting welcome and rebuff with courtesy and quiet persistence, so making the effort a success. And let it be said that not a few of them are adepts at their job. They overcome reluctance to give, and get the money. Where would our philanthropies be without the cheery courage of good women?

Many Questionings

All that is granted and in no niggard spirit. And yet in thoughtful minds that want to deal not only with the symptoms but with the causes of social diseases this whole question of big-business philanthropy is giving rise to many questionings and grave doubts. And that, too, in no spirit of those who would theorize while other people suffer. If men and women are hungry, feed them; if naked, clothe them; if homeless, shelter them; the causes that bring them to that condition can be discussed afterwards. Children especially must be cared for and given a chance of healthy growth and joy. The mark of the beast is on any civilization that can be engrossed with profit and pleasure and see children suffer. The divine mark on a great city is unmistakable when it sees that there is no unprotected joyless child in its midst. Not a few of our cities have therefore a long way to go before they escape brutality and rejoice in an ennobling humanity. But that said, let us get to some questions that in this regard must be faced.

First, under big business philanthropy, what percentage of the money raised actually reaches the needy, and how much is spilt in the way of endeavors to reach them? I know that it may be shown that in the mere raising of the money the "big drive is economical." But that is not the main question. With salaries to be paid, offices to be rented, and the whole complicated machinery kept going, how much in any strict actuarial accounting is spent on mere administration, and how much reaches the poor and unfortunate? Overhead charges can be so variously handled. They always tend to increase and need constant watching. About all they need faithful and accurate accounting. A recent investigation by a Commission in the United States revealed some startling results. One often wonders how this matter stands in the big Canadian cities where so much is left to numerous and steadily increasing philanthropies. It is a mistake when Charity-mongering in any way becomes a profitable business.

"Chalmers on Charity"

Secondly, when philanthropy becomes a business and lives by its growth, there is a tendency to manufacture the need for it, so as to show to the public the importance of this or that society. The Societies most worthy of support are those that can prove by their activities, that they are putting themselves out of business. The purpose of Charity should be to put an end to the need for Charity. All help should have for its aim self-help. It is no duty of the public to grow paupers and parasites, and to keep men along the downward track, so easily trodden, from "out-of-works," to "can't-works," and "won't-works." It must be wrong by doles to blight manhood and womanhood into wheedling, ingenious, brazen hypocrisy, and beggary. And any one who has had intimacy with Charity Organization Boards knows how easily it is for men and women to take that path and become mere impostors. Philanthropic Societies that do not understand that one of their first duties is to abolish themselves may become a curse to a community. Perhaps one of the greatest experiments in true philanthropy was that carried on by the famous Dr. Thomas Chalmers in his parish of St. John's, Glasgow, where by education in true neighbor help he abolished soup-kitchens, poor-law relief, the giving of doles, and all kinds of public Charity, and trained a poor but self-respecting and independent people to self-help and true neighborliness. "Chalmers on Charity" should be a text-book, constantly at hand in all philanthropic societies. Nor can we forget what the Elberfeldt system did One thing is clear that many charities have a tendency to grow on their own activities, and that that ugly danger is increased when philanthropy becomes a huge federated affair raising hundreds of thousands of dollars at one appeal, and in order to get more, ready to prove how great a business it is carrying on.

Thirdly one wonders if the good people engrossed in charities ever try to get beyond the symptoms of social disease to causes and endeavor to deal with these. It must be remembered that abounding charities in a community are no necessary proof of its civic health and righteous life. Many of them are witnesses that something is wrong with the social order. Why, especially in a new country of boundless opportunity, should so many of them be necessary? It is not enough to answer:—"Oh the clutch of circumstance," or "the bludgeonings of chance." That is mere rhetoric. It is worse to take the slip-shod refuge of those who think they can declare on great authority: "The poor ye have always with you." In the circumstances that is cant. Is not this the true answer:—That many of our economic and social arrangements are utterly unjust, and that not a few of the broken and needy and helpless are the victims of a social system that those who give largely to charity do not want changed? It works out so comfortably for them! And have they not the luxury of abundant charity-mongering? It is a real consolation to many to think that many charities are proof that they love mercy. But they are not prepared for the demand that they must first do justly. And yet it is true that if there was more elementary justice in our economic and social ways many now on charity registers would never need to have their names there. They would find a way for themselves. And that would be vastly better for them and for us too.

A Hurtful System

The present system of much injustice bolstered up and covered over by many charities is hurtful to high personality in us all. There can be no substitute for justice, and there can be no loving of mercy until we are first prepared to do justly, even to the changing of a social order which may issue in much to comfort to us and ours, but which works so harshly in the lives of others that they are driven to the wall and, reluctantly at first, have to seek help. True neighbor-love endeavors to remove the causes that press others into poverty and want. There is no true help that does not aim at lifting a man to self-help But so much "Charity" is only a palliative and not a cure. It never dreams of being a cure; how much less does it aim at it. The truth that many people have to face is that a more just social order would make many so-called philanthropies unnecessary, and that that would be a better proof of a Christian civilization than all the triumphantly successful "drives" to meet a manufactured misery that have even been engineered. Meanwhile, blessings on all, and especially on good women who labor to stanch wounds and heal woes and give to little children the chance of a healthy and honorable life. The day of a better social order must soon dawn. May it be in peace and with wisdom, and not in stormy violence.

"I care."

In a message that covered the entire scope of domestic and foreign problems confronting the nation, President Harding on Friday laid before Congress the most extensive legislative program outlined by any president in many years. The President in emphatic terms called on the nation to uphold the Eighteenth Amendment and prohibition enforcement.

CHRISTMASTIDE

Gold unalloyed, unstained by greed,
The frankincense of kindly deed;
And myrrh, of suffering the sign,
Were symbols given the Child divine,
As the wise of earth knelt to worship Him,
The little Christ-child at Bethlehem.
There still are seers who watch the skies
With searching look and prayerful eyes.
While winds are whispering each to each,
And stars their sacred wisdom teach;
And above the din of the market-place
Swell angel songs, and the Christ-child's face
Looks out through the mist of years at them,
As they bring their gifts to Bethlehem.

GOD SPEED THE TRUE

The above is the title of a little volume of cheerful Canadian verse by the late Mary A. (Mrs. George F.) Maitland, of St. Mary's, Ontario, who, at the time of her death had completed eighty years of life. She was a native of Elgin, Scotland, and found her earliest inspiration in the nature-scenes of Morayshire where she spent her girlhood days. When she came, as a young woman, to Hamilton, Ontario, she was already the author of many excellent poems, and from that time onward, for nearly threescore years she was a constant contributor to Canadian and United States periodicals. She excelled in the composition of hymns and other religious pieces, and some of these in the "hamely Doric" are well worth reading and committing to memory. For a sample we give the stanzas of:

THE LITTLE AULD MAN

The little auld man's awa
Wi' his peck an' his hoast an' a',
Wi' his bonk sae jimp an' his locks sae scrimp,
An' his voice sae thin an' sma',
Wi' his dowless step an' his feckless grip
An' his fourscore years an' twa.

The little auld man's awa'
Frae his hame an' his howff as' a';
Frae the hairts aye leal whether guid or ill
The luif o' the years let fa',
Frae the mist an' rime o' the gloamin' time,
An' the warstlin' win's that blaw.

The little auld man's awa'
He was wept, he was sung, an' a';
Though he left nae name in the buik o' Fame,
Nor ocht that was gran' or braw,—
Yet his name was penned by a han' unkenned
Whar only the Maister saw.

The little auld man's awa',
To his Lord an' his lo'ed an' a',
To be seen an' see wi' a fautless e'e,
To a bield in his Faither's ha';
To behauld His face at the trystin'-place
Wha washed him as white as snaw.

This collection of verse is published, in attractive form, by the Hunter, Rose Co., Toronto.

"I dare."

INDIAN LEGENDS OF VANCOUVER ISLAND *

Within comparatively recent times the Indian tribes living near the Somass River in Vancouver Island celebrated annually the great Lokwana dance or wolf ritual. On these occasions the writer of this volume received in the Chinook tongue from one of the natives a number of quaint tales which he worked in with what he knew of Indian folk-lore and the customs and habits of the West Coast tribes, into readable English narrative.

One of the tales concerns the adventures of Eut-le-ten, who after the manner of Moses in the ark of bulrushes was cradled when a child in a little mussel shell. As time went on, he became a wonder-boy, like Jack the Giant-killer, and killed an ogre and a witch. When he grew up he conceived a plan to reach the land above the sky—which he believed, like all the Indian race, to be the roof of the world—where abode the great chief Nas-nas-shup and his beautiful daughter.

> "Now Eut-le-ten was skilful with the bow, for many times he had brought down the deer as they were bounding through the forest glade, and with his arrow he had often pierced the silver salmon when they jumped from out the rushing waters of his native stream, and he had shot down from off the tallest tree golden eagles or the great fish hawk."

So he made ready many arrows, long and straight and strong, and taking his stand upon the beach with his bow of yew, he shot an arrow straight above his head, "high into the vault of heaven, far out of sight." Again he shot, and again, until an arrow line was formed from earth to heaven above, for his first shaft had fixed itself into the roof of this old world of ours, and the second arrow, aimed with unerring skill, had caught the end of it. The third, the fourth, and each succeeding one found its place, until a rope of shafts was made. Up this ladder, like Jack up the beanstalk, went Eut-le-ten into the world above, and there, having proved his prowess to the satisfaction of the great chief, he was permitted to wed the princess. For awhile he lived happily within the higher realms, then bethought him to revisit those he had left below. So he climbed down the rope of arrow shafts, until he found himself again upon the earth among his own people, and to them he told many wonderful things about the world above. Astronomy, according to Eut-le-ten, was after this manner:

> "The sun and moon emerge from out the house of Nas-nas-shup. The giant cod-fish guarding the entrance to the house attempts to catch them passing. He often fails, but there there is darkness—an eclipse of the sun or moon, the white men say—but that is false; it is the cod. The many stars which sparkle in the skies are Indians, who dwell above the earth."

Many other legends as strange as that of Eut-le-ten find a place in Mr. Carmichael's book, which is a most valuable addition to folk-lore literature.

* "Indian Legends of Vancouver Island. By Alfred Carmichael. The Musson Book Co. Ltd., Toronto. Price $1.75.

You don't have to—but you will.

THE QUINTESSENCE OF SOUND

Her chosen words, her best-loved, most potent words are like bells with their overtones and undertones: great bells whose deep roar throbs far over sea and shore; loud bells that fiercely sound the tocsin above sleeping cities; glad bells that chime for festivals of mirth; mournful bells that toll for human sorrow; soft bells that ring the angelus of rest for weary hearts. Into his high belfry the poet climbs alone; he lays his hand upon the word-keys whose fringed tones he knows by instinct; he presses them and the blending bell-music flows upon the air, awakening hope and courage, quickening joy, purifying fear, soothing grief, meaning always far more than it says, and as it dies away at last, leaving in the soul that undying pleasure which it is the mission of Poetry to impart—something immortal—

"We feel that we are greater than we knew."

—Henry Van Dyke, in the Yale Review.

A Porthole Story

Walker, the famous clown, relates the following story in his book "From Sawdust to Windsor Castle," just published:—

"In the March following I returned to America. I went down to Prince's Pier and boarded the boat with everyone wishing me "bon voyage." It then occurred to me I'd be doing something funny to mark the occasion, so I went down to my state-room, opened the porthole, and squeezed my head through it, making grimaces at my friends as the steamer was just going out of the Mersey. To my horror I could not get my head back! I don't know exactly, what I thought, but among other things was that I might have to die with my head through the porthole! Perhaps the boat would have to be cut in half to get my head out. I shouted, the bedroom steward arrived, and with a spoon he got my ears down, and somehow I squeezed myself back to the world."

"Say it with Subscriptions."

In defiance of Mayor Hylan's order to Police Commissioner Enright to run the Ku Klux Klan out of New York city, a white robed and hooded Klansman on Sunday night spoke from the pulpit of the Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Gates and Washington Avenues, Brooklyn.

The French scientist, Edouard Belin, has demonstrated an invention by which persons telephoning can see the party to whom they are talking. Tests conducted in Paris are said to have proved successful.

Speaking at the 20th anniversary banquet of the Quebec Commercial Travellers' Club at the Chauteau Frontenac on Saturday night, Hon. L. A. Taschereau, Prime Minister of the province of Quebec, made the important announcement that a dam would be built at the Grand Discharge from Lake St. John, the headwaters of the Saguenay River, which would ultimately develop a million horsepower, and would mark another step towards the realization of his dream that the province of Quebec will eventually be all lighted and heated electrically.

MONTREAL WITNESS and CANADIAN HOMESTEAD

∴ NEWS OF THE WEEK ∴

MONTREAL DECEMBER 13, 1922.

"War to the Death" in Ireland

Four Prisoners Executed in Mountjoy as Reprisal for Killing of Deputy Sean Hales.

Rory O'Connor and Liam Mellows, together with two other Irish rebels, Joseph McKelvey and Richard Barrett, both prominent Republicans, were executed in Mountjoy prison on Friday morning.

An official army report stated that the four men were executed as a reprisal for the assassination of Sean Hales, the deputy shot on Thursday, and as a solemn warning to those associated with them in the "conspiracy of assassination against representatives of the Irish people."

The prisoners were tried by a military courtmartial during the night, found guilty, and sentenced to death.

The death sentence was carried out at 9:20 o'clock on Friday. Three priests were present. The prisoners, blindfolded, were marched to the place of execution. O'Connor had to be assisted.

Threats of Vengeance

The Irish Republicans, says a despatch to the Evening Standard from Dublin, have issued a manifesto describing Timothy Healy, the Governor-General, as a lifelong enemy of the nation. The manifesto adds:—

"The fight will go on as long as there is a man in Ireland. It is war to the death."

The Dublin correspondent of the London Evening Standard reports that a party of men on Friday, entered the Mercers Hospital and shot a Free State soldier lying in one of the beds, in reprisal for the executions of Rory O'Connor, Liam Mellows, and two others.

LABOR MEMBERS DENOUNCE IRISH GOVERNMENT

The executions of Rory O'Connor, Liam Mellowes and two other rebels as a form of reprisal brought the Government into conflict with the Labor members of the Dail Eireann at Friday afternoon's session.

Mr. Johnson found his opportunity to make the Labor position clear at adjournment. He strongly denounced the Government for indulging in reprisal executions and pointed out that the men executed have never been given trial, being confined in prison for an offence dating back to last July. The fact that they had been incarcerated since that time showed that they could not have been engaged in any conspiracy, as alleged by the Government; in fact, any other four prisoners might as well have been taken out and shot.

Had the Government no regard, he asked, for the good name of the Irish state or for the honor of Ireland that they should make their first act one to destroy in the public mind the association of government with the idea of law? He was almost forced to say that the Government had killed the new state at its birth.

A Corsican Vendetta

George Gavan Duffy seconded Mr. Johnson's protest, asking, "When is this Corsican vendetta to end?" He declared the ministers seemed to forget that they were a government and that all forms of vengeance should cease.

Minister of Defence Mulcahy, replying, said the men had not been executed because of the assassination of a man whom the Government honored (Sean Hales), but because there were forces working around them more vicious and insidious than Great Britain had ever employed against a representative government in Ireland.

The Government was conducted by about ninety men and was most vulnerable if it tolerated an armed band intent simply upon the assassination of every member of Parliament. The army council, therefore, has recommended the drastic action, which was carried out not as a punishment or as vengeance but as a deterrent.

They had not executed men unreasonably for the policy which faced them; the Speaker of the Dail had been threatened by the leader of the destruction forces, and the assassination of their members had already begun. General Mulcahy's speech was loudly applauded.

Cathal O'Shannon followed with a severe indictment of the Government. He declared the executions would shock the conscience of the world; they were nothing short of murders, and the whole affair proved the incompetence of the Government.

The debate was continued by Deputy John Millroy and Kevin O'Higgins, Minister of Home Affairs.

Darrel Figgis, while declaring himself an opponent of the irregulars, condemned the execution of men without trial. The killing of Sean Hales was murder, because the man who shot him had no legal sanction, but neither was there legal sanction in these executions.

Professor MacNeill, minister of education, challenged this proposition, and contended that the extreme emergency had given the Government full authority. Despite the timid croakings now heard, he believed the action of the Government would have the backing of the Irish people.

President Cosgrave, in an impassioned speech closing the debate, said there recently had been a dastardly attempt on the guards. There was a diabolical conspiracy afoot (and the irregular leaders had met and discussed it) for the assassination of members of the Dail, but the leaders turned it down on paper, while gangs took it up so that people at the top could disclaim responsibility. The only way to meet the situation was to crush it and strike terror in those responsible.

Mr. Johnson challenged the division on the formal motion for adjournment to show how many supporters the Government had. A vote was taken, and 39 members supported the Government and 14 opposed it.

"I care."

FREE STATE DEPUTY KILLED

On Thursday afternoon Deputy Sean Hales was shot dead in Dublin when leaving his hotel with Deputy Speaker Patrick O'Malley to proceed to the Dail. Both were fired on. Hales collapsed immediately and his companion was dangerously wounded in the back. They had mounted the outside of a car and were talking to a friend when the shots rang out, Hales exclaiming that he was shot as O'Malley was calling to the driver to proceed.

There was a painful sensation in the Dail as the president announced the tragic news. The whole House was shocked and stunned and only recovered after a few minutes, when all arose, and every member, betraying visible emotion, testified to his sense of the awfulness of the tragedy and sorrow at the loss of a colleague.

The tragedy broke the spell of the calm which had existed for a week and hopes were high for De Valera and followers accepting the people's verdict as expressed in the opening of the Free State Parliament.

"I dare."

INAUGURATION OF IRISH FREE STATE

Ceremonials Marked by Quietness and Decorum.

The inauguration of the Irish Free State as one of the Dominions of the British Empire took place on Wednesday, 6th December. The ceremony was simple and unmarred by hostile demonstrations from the Republican minority. The oath was administered to Timothy Healy as Governor-General by the Lord Chief Justice at Mr. Healy's residence in Chapelizod, on the Liffey, three miles west of Dublin, and afterward the new Governor-General administered the oath to Michael Hayes as Speaker of the Dail.

There were no crowds outside the Parliament House when the Dail met the same evening. The ministers and others connected with the Government made their way to parliament chamber by a private entrance from the adjoining Government offices, and no visitors were admitted.

Mr. W. T. Cosgrave, president of the Dail Cabinet, and Mr. Kevin O'Higgins, Minister of Home Affairs, and nephew of the new Governor-General, were among the first arrivals and occupied the same seats as in the old Dail Eireann.

Mr. Cosgrave was the first to be sworn and to sign the roll. The form of the oath of allegiance was primarily to the constitution of the Irish Free State and then to King George as the head of the people forming the British Commonwealth.

Mr. O'Higgins and the other ministers took the oath in turn, followed by the members of the Dail.

The oath was administered to each man individually and most of the repetitions were audible throughout the chamber. Some of the military members, including Defence Minister Mulcahy, were in uniform. When the ceremony was completed Professor Hayes was re-elected Speaker and Mr. Cosgrave president.

President's Address

Mr. William Cosgrave in acknowledging his election as president received an ovation. He began his address with an expression of regret that twelve months which might have been spent in securing the fruits of Ireland's struggle had been wasted in resisting what he termed the mad efforts of those who had called upon the people to throw aside those fruits and re-enter battle.

The president paid warm tribute to the British, who, he said, once the treaty was signed never had tried to whittle it down one iota, but had stood by the letter and spirit of their bargain with scrupulous and undeviating good faith. He then read the following telegram from Bonar Law:

"On the inauguration of the Irish Free State I desire, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, to convey to you a message of greetings and good-will. You may be assured that we, on our side, will do all that lies in our power to further the common interests that we both have in view—peace and prosperity to Ireland and lasting concord between the two countries."

Mr. Cosgrave, in his address dwelt on the full powers given Ireland by the treaty and the acknowledgment of this fact by the British statesmen. As regarded northeast Ulster, he said the people there were bound by the treaty in honor and their northern policy must be continued in accordance with it. He pointed out numerous advantages to northeast Ulster by coming into the Free State, but said that if Ulster remained out, the treaty clearly provided what was to happen, and he would act accordingly, not forgetting the solemn pledges to large sections of the six counties which desired to enter the Free State, as had been proved by the recent elections in Tyrone and Fermanagh.

The whole tenor of the president's reference to Ulster was quiet and conciliatory.

After his address, Mr. Cosgrave nominated the following six ministers as constituting with him an executive council: Kevin O'Higgins, Richard Mulcahy, Prof. John MacNeill, Ernest Blythe, Joseph McGrath, and Desmond Fitzgerald. His nominations were accepted. The council as formed is made up respectively of the ministers of home affairs, defence, education, local government, industry, commerce and labor, and foreign affairs.

Position of Labor

The Labor party authorized its leader to make a statement explaining its acceptance of the oath. The statement said the Laborites were merely following the tactics of the political parties of the workers in all countries whether monarchical or republican. The oath they looked upon as implying no obligation other than the obligation resting upon any person in accepting the principle of citizenship. The party would work to dethrone capitalism and substitute a regime of labor and service. They accepted the treaty under protest because it had been imposed by a superior force, and if ever the Irish people decided to repudiate the treaty or denounce the constitution the fact of their having taken the oath of allegiance would not prevent the party from preserving full freedom of action.

Patrick O'Mallie was elected Deputy Speaker.

The New Senators

Mr. Cosgrave later announced his list of thirty nominations of senators.

The more prominent of those named by him were the Earl of Granard, the Earl of Wicklow, the Earl of Kerry, the Marquis of Headfort, Baron Glenvey, the Earl of Mayo, the Earl of Dunraven, General Sir Bryan Mahon, Sir Horace Plunkett, Sir Thomas Esmonde, Martin Fitzgerald of the Freeman's Journal; Henry Guinness, a governor of the Bank of Ireland; Dr. George Sigherson, Professor of Biology, University of Dublin, and William Butler Yeats, the poet.

The president included in his nominations the Dowager Countess of Desart, and Mrs. Wyse Power.



"O Peace, where is thy Victory?"—The Passing Show.

You don't have to—but you will.

King May Visit Dublin

The suggestion that King George may go to Dublin to open formally the new Irish Parliament seems based partly on surmise and partly on private rumors. Although the possibility of the King's presence has taken no definite shape, it is safe to say that if Ireland intimated such a visit would be welcome, the sovereign would acquiesce.

According to Dublin report, King George sent a remarkable message to Timothy Healy, the new governor-general, to which Healy is said to have replied. These messages, the report said, will probably be first given to the public by the governor-general in an announcement in the Parliament.

Severe Rebel Fighting in County Cork

Two hundred rebels captured the barracks at Ballymakeera, near Macroom, on Thursday, killing one man and wounding fifteen. The attack took place at almost the same time that the deputies of the new Irish Free State were being sworn in at Dublin.

The rebels took ninety prisoners, including Commandant Mooney, after a fight lasting several hours, but released them after taking all their equipment.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

TURKEY AGREES TO CONTROL OF DARDANELLES

Chitcherin Voices His Suspicion of Great Britain and the Allied Nations

Turkey presented to the Near East conference on Friday counter-suggestions concerning control of the Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. Turkey's proposals were heard with satisfaction by the representatives of the Allied powers and the United States, as they were found not to contain any contention that the Straits should be closed to foreign warships as Russia had demanded. The Turkish proposals were:

(1)—Guarantees against surprise attacks from land or sea threatening the security of the Straits of Constantinople or of the Sea of Marmora.

(2)—Limitation of naval forces bound for the Black Sea to light warships employed for the protection of international commerce.

(3)—Interdiction upon the maintenance of the warships in the Black Sea.

(4)—Liberty of passage for merchantmen in time of peace and of war.

Ismet Pasha Explains

The Turkish position on the question of the Straits was presented by Ismet Pasha, who gave a historical sketch of the problem of the Straits, declaring Turkey had never acted contrary to international treaties concerning that waterway.

Ismet mentioned certain points in the Inter-Allied proposals which he considered particularly harmful to Turkey. Of these the first was the inclusion of the Sea of Marmora in the definition of the Straits, because preparations for defence on the shores of this sea were necessary for the defence of Anatolia and Thrace and yet would not affect the liberty of passage for vessels.

Another point he made was that it was needless to have a demilitarized zone around the Bosphorus. It was sufficient, he considered, to indicate that there would be no fortifications, either land or naval on either shore.

He thought that movement of troops in the demilitarized zones should be permitted, because the zones in question connect the two parts of the country.

Again, he contented that in order to defend the shores of the Sea of Marmora by a fleet Turkey would have to keep arsenals and other naval equipment in Constantinople and the Straits. He held that the limits of the demilitarized zones were too great, and asked that the four islands in the Straits should be recognized as under Turkish sovereignty. As to the Gallipoli peninsula a minimum means of defence ought to be assured to preserve it against surprise attack.

Tchitcherin Warns Roumania

During the session Foreign Minister Tchitcherin of Russia again insisted that the Straits should be closed to all except Turkish warships. He believed, he said, that setting up buffer States like Turkey would prevent future clashes in the East.

Tchitcherin warned Roumania against accepting the Allied plan, saying Roumania would meet the same fate as Greece—that is, be a sport of the great powers, only to be abandoned afterward.

Former Premier Venizelos, of Greece, demanded an explanation of this remark, but Tchitcherin replied evasively.

M. Duca, the Roumanian Foreign Minister, protested against the Russian minister's remarks with regard to Roumania. He said Roumania had never been content with the former regime of closing the Straits.

Roumania, Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria announced their adhesion to the Allied proposition.

Russia Highly Dissatisfied

Proof that Bolshevik Russia is highly dissatisfied with Turkey because Ismet Pasha has abandoned the Russians on the question of the Dardanelles was found on Saturday when M. Chitcherin, the Soviet Foreign Minister, issued an urgent invitation to the Turkish journalists and in the course of a long speech warned them of the dangers of placing their trust in the Allied nations.

M. Chitcherin did not want to say anything in the way of criticism of the Turkish plenipotentiaries, but thought the Turkish people at home should know of the trend of things at Lausanne. He had a distinct impression, he said, that war between Turkey and the powers was still going on. Usually wars were fought on the battlefield, but at Lausanne, the war was being waged around the green table and the goal was to separate Turkey from Russia. Afterwards the great powers would defeat Turkey and Russia separately.

Chitcherin charged that France had abandoned Turkey in favor of England, and the consideration was probably some concessions on the reparations problem from England.

"But it remains to be seen," he continued, "how far France and England will agree when the Brussels conference is held."

Turning his attention to England Chitcherin told the Turkish correspondents that Great Britain had her eye on northern Persia. The way to northern Persia was through the Caucasus; the way to the Caucasus was through the Dardanelles. He asserted that the Russian program at Lausanne was based on a community of interests between the Russian and Turkish peoples, and he hoped that the end of the conference would find the two countries nearer together.

If the Turks insisted on their right to fortify the Straits and defend Constantinople, Russia would feel secure and could take up with the neighboring states on the Black Sea the question of demilitarizing that water.

CATTLE EMBARGO BILL

Government's Pledge Without Irish Sanction Described as "Monstrous"

In the British House of Commons on Monday, discussion in committee of the bill to remove the embargo on Canadian cattle provoked lively protests from and on behalf of the Irish members. The bill provides for the detention of Canadian cattle six days at the port of debarkation and that this restoration also shall apply to Irish cattle.

Attorney-General Hogg explained that the late Government gave a pledge to Canada that Canadian and Irish cattle should be treated alike under the bill, therefore, it was impossible to differentiate in favor of Irish cattle.

T. P. O'Connor and the Ulster members warmly protested that the Lloyd George Government had no right to give such a pledge without consulting Ireland. Captain Charles C. Craig, Unionist member for Antrim, characterized the late Government's action as "monstrous," while Mr. O'Connor and other members argued that Irish cattle had been admitted free for nearly thirty years and the proposed restriction was unjustifiable. Captain Craig moved an amendment to exclude Northern Ireland from the operation of the bill. The amendment, however, was rejected by a vote of 333 to 21.

The bill has already been severely criticized in Ireland. Governor-General Healy and the ministers of the Free State have protested that any injury to the Irish cattle trade with England would have a most injurious effect on Ireland.

THE POPE AND CATHOLIC RIGHTS IN PALESTINE

At a secret consistory on Monday for the elevation of eight new cardinals, Pope Pius XI. referred to the case of Palestine as one of the gravest dangers for the peace of the world.

"The settling of the question of the Holy Land rights of Catholics and all Christians must be safe-guarded," he said. "The Catholic Church has so many interests there that she must insist on protecting them, not only against Jews and infidels, but also against all non-Catholics, to whatever creed or nation they belong."

After expressing horror and grief for the disasters which have overtaken the Near Eastern nations and Russia, he said: "We will do everything in our power to continue the work begun by Benedict XV., and which he left us as a legacy; indeed, we will increase it, as we have already done in the past. We intend to live up to the noble traditions of the Roman Church, which was called by St. Ignatius the 'leader in charity.' We will use every effort in favor of peace, which is so longed for, but has not yet shed its healing rays upon suffering humanity."

At the coming conference of the Allies at Brussels the Vatican will urge the delegates to hear in mind the suffering peoples and the remedies which can be applied, but will remind them also "that conferences are useless, indeed that they lead to dangerous delusions unless the governments decide to temper justice with mercy."



To Mark Canadian Historic Sites

The design chosen in a contest conducted to secure a suitable design of a memorial to be erected by the Historic Sites Branch of the Department of the Interior, at historic spots throughout the Dominion. Lt.-Col. C. P. Meredith was the artist to design it. There are 600 sites in Canada under the care of this department.

CONFERENCE OF PREMIERS IN LONDON

MR. BONAR LAW TO CONSIDER CANCELLATION OF FRENCH DEBT

A conference of the Allied Premiers for the purpose of adopting a plan for a final settlement of Germany's war obligations was held in London at the week-end, the visiting Premiers being Premier Poincare of France, Premier Theunis of Belgium, and Premier Mussolini of Italy.

Premier Bonar Law caused a sensation at the second session of the Allied Premiers' meeting on Saturday, when, in the course of his reply to M. Poincare's moratorium plan, he gave clear indication that the British Government would be quite willing to reconsider the question of cancellation of the French debt, provided such a step was made possible by a reparations settlement satisfactory to Great Britain.

Premier Bonar Law began by saying that the Balfour note no longer existed for the British Government, and that he was free to consider the whole question.

"I am prepared to reconsider the question of cancellation of debts," he went on, "if such cancellation would insure a settlement satisfactory to the British Government."

The British Prime Minister briefly outlined the kind of settlement he desired—a moratorium sufficient for Germany to re-establish her finances and credit and stabilize the mark, no military action of any character by the French and a reduction of the indemnity to between thirty and forty billion gold marks.

The Belgian Proposals

The Belgian plan presented by Premier Theunis at the meeting on Saturday calls for a two years' moratorium for Germany and a loan to be participated in by all nations at the rate of 50,000,000,000 gold marks per year for seven years, making a total of 35,000,000,000. This should represent the total reparations indemnity. The loan will be guaranteed by the wealth of the German republic.

According to this plan the German debt would be reduced to between thirty and forty billion gold marks, and France must abandon all ideas of military or economic pressure on Germany. The Germans would be required to effect rigid financial reforms, including balancing the budget and stabilizing the mark. Part of this loan would be handed over to Germany for that purpose.

The Belgians propose postponement of the Brussels conference until the end of January or the middle of February.

Chances of Settlement Not Bright

It is alleged that the actual prospect of a Brussels conference is not in right. Too much dissimilarity of view exists between the various Allied representatives and the chances of a settlement were anything but bright at the week-end, since the British Prime Minister with emphasis equal to that of the French Premier said that the occupation of the Ruhr and the exploitation of the Rhineland would be penalties, and not "economic guarantees," as the latter contended.

England could not consent to the imposition of such penalties, and Mr. Bonar Law urged that some other way must be found toward Allied unity.

The Conference Adjourned

The London Conference on German reparations ended on Monday in agreement only on another conference.

The conference adjourned after the British Prime Minister, Mr. Bonar Law, and the French Premier, M. Poincare, had failed to reach any common ground for agreement.

The French insistence upon rigid guarantees before granting a moratorium to Germany was the principal reason for the collapse of the present negotiations.

The French demands included occupation of the Ruhr, while Mr. Bonar Law throughout the conservations insisted that the majority of the British people opposed military sanctions.

The official French explanation of the adjournment, given out by Premier Poincare, said there had not been sufficient time to examine all the aspects of the situation during the last three days, and that Mr. Bonar Law was unable to give more time to the subject, owing to his parliamentary duties.

Each delegate, it was continued, had expressed his views on the reparations question, but there had been no opportunity of exploring all the possibilities of settlement. The only hope meanwhile of reaching a solution lay in possible action by the United States.

The French delegates expressed the opinion that they had brought the Italians virtually to their own way of thinking, with the exception that the Italian Premier, Signor Mussolini, had not definitely agreed to the French idea of occupying the Ruhr.

The conference resembles several of its predecessors in that the conferees insist it has not been a failure, that its dissolution cannot be described as a deadlock and, in general, that there is a better understanding among them than before they met. Certainly this attitude pictures their hopes, if not the realities.

WHITE LIGHT FROM OIL LAMPS NOW

Government Tests Prove New Light Beats Electric-Sensational Invention

A new lamp has recently been invented which burns common kerosene oil and produces a soft, white light said to be even better than electric or gas. Tests by the Government and leading Universities prove this new light is superior to ten ordinary oil lamps. It burns without odor, smoke or noise, is simple and economical, requires no pumping up and has been approved by the Underwriters for insurance.

The inventor, N. O. Johnson, 246 Craig St. W., Montreal, is offering to send one of these new lamps on ten days' free trial, or even give one to the first user in each locality who will help him introduce it. Write him today for particulars. Also ask him to explain his agency proposition. Adv.



The only dollar that can buy more this Christmas than it could twenty years ago is the dollar that buys the Gillette shaving service—once a $5.00 luxury.

With a single dollar, you can now end someone's shaving troubles—save him money—enable him to shave at home with speed, comfort and safety every day of his life—multiply your Christmas wishes by the days of the year—365 times—and then some.

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THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY, DEC. 24, 1922.

There is much truth in the old saying that "God helps those who help themselves", but that true saying can very easily be converted into a mischievous lie by being misapplied. The truth is that God requires us to make the best use we can make of all our powers and of our time and our opportunities, and that He rewards in His own time and way all who do their duty faithfully. But the most diligent and faithful efforts are not always crowned with outward success. As a rule, diligence combined with prudence brings at least some measure of prosperity; but God knows that very few persons can achieve great success in any form without being injured by it spiritually, and therefore He does not ordinarily shower wealth or honors upon His most faithful servants. Nevertheless it is our duty to take care of ourselves and to provide for ourselves and for those dependent on us to the best of our ability, seeking God's guidance, and putting our trust in Him, and not in our own wisdom or ability. "If any provideth not for his own, and especially his own household, he hath denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever", Paul says (1 Tim. 5:8.)

Under that rule it seems to be clearly the duty of a young husband and father who has not much means to insure his life to a moderate amount, so that in case of his sudden death those dependent upon him would not be left altogether helpless, and dependent on the charity of a very cold-hearted world. It is true, as the Devil said, that God takes care of those who put their trust in Him, but Jesus replied, "It is written, Thou shalt not tempt (or test) the Lord thy God." We have no right to take unnecessary risks and expect God to protect us.

But while all that is true, it is only one view of our responsibility; it has to do only with the matter of our own physical needs and the physical needs of those dependent on us. We and they have much more important needs and responsibilities which should have first place in our thoughts, but which are always in danger of being crowded out of consideration because they do not so readily force themselves upon our attention. In the chapter before us, our Lord took special pains to impress upon us the fact that the outward things which interest us so much and seem so necessary to us are of small importance when contrasted with our spiritual needs and destinies. "Therefore I say unto you, Be not anxious for your life, what ye shall eat; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. For the life is more than the food and the body than the raiment." "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." (Verses 22, 23 and Mat. 4:4.)

Have we enemies? "Be not afraid of them who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do." But do not forget that death is not the end of life, and that after death we shall have to stand before God, who will call us to account for the use which we have made of our talents and opportunities. "Fear Him; yea, I say unto your, Fear Him." (See verses 4-8, also Mat. 25:31-46)

Are we tempted to trust in riches and to use them as a means of selfish enjoyment? If so, they will become a snare to us, and some day, we know not how soon, we shall lose life and wealth at the same time. (See verses 16-21, also Luke 16:19-31; James 5:1-6; Rev. 3:14-18.) "Take heed, and keep yourselves from all covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

Are we anxious about food and clothing? "Consider the ravens, which sow not nor reap, and God feedeth them. Of how much more value are you?" Consider the lilies. Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If God doth so clothe the grass; how much more shall He clothe you?" "Seek ye His Kingdom and these things shall be added unto you. It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." "Lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

peace among men in whom He is well pleased." Jesus did come to give inward peace to believers through their trust in Him. "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you," He said. (John 14:27.) But He never encouraged them to hope for outward peace. He knew that there could not be peace on earth so long as the world's people allowed themselves to be ruled by "the god of this world, the prince of the powers of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." (See 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2. The only power that can bring real peace, or permanent peace, on earth is the kingdom of Christ—the reign of Christ in the hearts of men.

It is easy to write or to talk about our Lord's commands, but how many of us have ever faced them with a determined effort to find out what He requires of us as individuals, and to do what He requires? "Sell that ye have and give alms." Many of the first disciples took this command literally, and obeyed it (Acts 4:34.) What does the command mean to us? Or are we content to ignore it altogether because we think it would not be possible, or at all events, not wise to obey it literally?

The possession of wealth is not only a source of temptation, but is also a cause of heavier responsibility; for "to whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required." (verse 48.)

"Master, bid my brother divide the inheritance with me."

"Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you."

Jesus knew the full extent and also the limitations of His commission, and He wished to confine Himself strictly within its limits. When a Phoenician woman wanted Him to cast out a demon from her daughter He replied that His mission was only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. But she answered so humbly and showed so much faith that He could not resist her plea. (See Mat. 15:21-28.) He knew, of course, that while His special mission was to the people who had broken their covenant with God the mercy of God knows no boundaries where there are humble and trustful hearts. But He would not have anything to do with a dispute over money matters. That was altogether apart from the object of His mission. It only afforded Him an opportunity to give a solemn warning against covetousness, "which is idolatry." (Col. 3:5.)

"Think ye that I come to give peace on earth? I came not to send peace, but a sword." (Luke 12:51; Mat. 10:34) In spite of our Lord's warning on this subject there is a very common impression that He did come to give peace on earth. The old mistranslation of the song of the angels is responsible chiefly for that mistake. It should read, "on earth

It may be argued that as Jesus lived in the east, and was speaking to men of the east. He used the exaggerated forms of expression which are common in the east. He did use that method of emphasizing truth sometimes. For instance, He said, "If any man cometh unto Me, and hateth not his own father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple." It would be absurd to take that statement literally, for Jesus taught that love is the supreme law (See Mark 12:29-31.) What Jesus meant was that however sacred any affection may be it must not be allowed to interfere in any way with our supreme loyalty to God, and that any feeling which draws our hearts away from God must be looked upon with abhorrence as an enemy to our souls. He knew that His disciples would often have to face terrible times when many of them would have to choose between their love for parents or husband, or wife, or children and their loyalty to Him, and He wanted to show them very clearly what their duty would be in such cases. (See Luke 12:51-53.)

Or, it may be argued that this command to sell everything and give the money away was only intended to be applied to the conditions which existed at the time. We know that when Jesus sent out His disciples on their first missionary tour He commanded them to take nothing with them, and to live on the hospitality of those whom they visited, but afterwards He gave them a very different command, telling them not only to take with them what they could but even to buy swords if they had none. (Luke 22:35, 36.)

We have a right to consider such reasoning and give it whatever value it seems to possess, but we must come back to the vital fact that our Lord's command about selling property and giving away the money was intended to teach us something about our responsibility in money matters. And while we cannot lay down laws for each other, it is the duty of each to try and find out what God requires of him in the matter and to act accordingly. "Why call ye Me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" "Ye are My friends if ye do whatsoever I command you." (Luke 6:46-49; John 15:14; Mat: 7:21-27.)

"Be ye like men looking for their Lord, that when He cometh and knocketh, they may straightway open unto Him." There are differences of opinion as to the manner of our Lord's coming again, but there is no room for any difference of opinion as to the practical application of this command: namely that we should be always in a state of readiness to meet Christ and give account of ourselves. How many of us are ready?

The safest kind of life insurance is to have our "names written in Heaven," and then death will be only the beginning of life. (See Luke 10:20; Rev. 21:27.) And our only way of making sure of that fact is to be prepared to meet our Lord. (See Amos 4:12.)

Golden Text: The life is more than the food, and the body than the raiment.—Luke 12:23.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday, Dec. 18—Luke 12:16-21; Tuesday—Luke 12:35-40; Wednesday—Luke 12:41-48; Thursday—Mat. 25:1-13; Friday—I Tim. 6:3-10; Saturday—2 Tim. 4:1-8; Sunday—Luke 12:22-31.

PRAYER

O God, who hast given us richly out of Thine own treasures of grace, we come to Thee today, as the Wise Men came at Bethlehem, with hands full of offerings and with hearts full of love and adoration. We bend low at the cradle bed of Him, who, though He was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be rich; who tabernacled among us to be our great Example; who died the Just for the unjust that we might be delivered from the wrath due to us for sin; and who ever lives to make intercession for us. To God in the highest be glory, and on earth peace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Do you know how many books are in the Bible? You once knew but have forgotten?

Let me tell you one good way to remember. First write down the words "Old Testament."

Now how many letters are in the word "Old?" Three. How many in the word "Testament?" Nine. Put three and nine together, and you have 39—the number of books in the "Old Testament."

Next write down the words New Testament.

There are also in New Testament three and nine letters. Now multiply three by nine and you have 27—the number of books in the New Testament. Of course by adding 39 and 27 you have 66—the number of books in the Bible.

Any boy or girl who will read this over twice will not forget how many books are in the Bible.—Presbyterian.

Hewing wood and drawing water,
Splitting stones and cleaving sod—
All the dusty ranks of labor,
In the regiment of God,
March together towards His triumph,
Do the task His hands prepare:
Honest toil is holy service;
Faithful work is praise and prayer.
—Henry van Dyke.

Bromides

In the Church pharmacy there are at least four bromides that infalliably induce a quiescent conscience, and gently put the patient to sleep:

(1.) "The fact is, I work so hard all the week that, when Sunday morning comes—." (Vary to suit the age of the patient.)

(2.) "When I was a boy, I was made to go to church three times a day, so now —." (Useful also for a woman patient.)

(3.) "Company came just as we were about ready—." (Never fails.)

(4.) "I came twice, and not a soul spoke to me." (Succeeds every time.)

"Say it with Subscriptions."

PUTTING FIRST THINGS FIRST

There is a journalism whose policy is guided only by its own interest. It's first question to itself, when deciding its stand on any issue, is not "Where, if there be any, is the truth and justice in this matter?" But:

"Which attitude will help our circulation and increase our advertising revenue?" There is another journalism which seeks first the truth that it may declare it and so promote the Kingdom of Heaven on earth—in the faith that these other things will be added unto it, and, having put first things first, seeks the good will and cooperation of those who, likewise, put first things first.

Such a journal must be a great moral force in the country and it is one of the strongest allies of every church and Sunday school and of every other agency which like itself is devoted, FIRST, to the Cause of Righteousness. Such is the aim of the Witness.

In strengthening such a paper you are further strengthening, through it, every agency for good which you now support.

MOTHER GANGES

The people of India regard the Ganges as a sacred stream, and they believe that by bathing in its waters, their sins are washed away. Inspired by this conviction hundreds of millions of men, women and children have trodden the rough boulder steps that lead down to the bosom of "Mother Ganges" as the river is affectionately called. At Hardwar, a favorite resort, great multitudes gather at stated seasons, and so great is their eagerness to reach the sacred spot that upon several occasions many have been

Strange sights are seen all along the bank of this old river. Here is a young fellow from a country village, with a yoke over his shoulder, carrying a pair of baskets which are filled with earthen pots containing the ashes of those who have died in the village during the year. These ashes are to be scattered upon the surface of the water at Benares or some other holy place. Yonder is an old woman tottering along, whose dearest wish is to reach some sacred spot where she may wade into the river until the waters overwhelm her. Close to the shore a Brahmin will often be observed standing, waist deep in the water, reciting his prayers. A little further on a human body is being burned on a funeral pyre, with near relations looking on. Countless temples line the banks of the Ganges, with an army of priests, called the "Sons of the Ganges," sitting on the edge of the stream to aid the worshippers.

The poor deluded people of India believe that there is no character too black to be washed by these waters.

HONEST THINKING

(Life and Work)

A high Anglican dignitary used some wise words recently: "The people were waiting for a Church that would teach them how to think. It was for want of the type of religious instruction that promoted hard, honest thinking that so much religious devotion remained blind, so much noble sacrifice devoid of moral power, and so much strenuous endeavor lacked in intelligent purpose." The sermons that our forefathers heard, and the books of religion and philosophy they read, were solid stuff, dull perhaps but full of instruction, meat for grown men and women. That type of thinking is much less common. Slight and easy essays with a literary flair have taken its place. But, like the new food that has taken the place of oatmeal, there is little in such religious books and addresses to put iron into the blood. It is teaching that is needed, not emotion. The world is disturbed, restless, in dangerous mood. Wisdom and sanity lie in honest thinking and plain speech.

While stars of Christmas shine,
Lighting the skies,
Let only loving looks
Beam from your eyes.

While bells of Christmas ring
Joyous and clear,
Speak only happy words
All mirth and cheer.

Give only loving gifts,
And in love take;
Gladden the poor and sad
For love's dear sake.

Emilie Poulsson.

I Care

FRIENDLY HOME

For Young Women And Their Babies

Amount Previously Acknowledged and Sent to Friendly Home		$1575.00
Miss H. Morgan	N. Y.	1.00
T. B. Mitchell	Ont.	1.00
Mrs. W. E. Edwards	Sask.	10.00
L. J. Styles	Sask.	10.00
M. M. Turner	City	2.00
L. M. Fourney	Sask.	10.00
H. T.	Ont.	10.00
David Rose	Ont.	1.00
Mrs. E. A. Greig	Que.	10.00
F. A. Bryant	Que.	1.00
L. Blenkhorn	N. S.	5.00
A. Hicks	Que.	2.00
Total		$1638.00

GRENFELL LABRADOR MISSION

"Northern Messenger Launch Fund"

Amount Previously Acknowledged and Carried forward		$680.10
Mrs. J. McAulay	Ont.	5.00
In His Name	City	10.00
L. J. Styles	Sask.	9.75
Wilmot Union S. S.	P. E. I.	7.00
J. Hunter	Ont.	10.00
J. W. Rayfield	B. C.	5.00
A Friend	Sask.	2.00
Total		$728.75

(LABRADOR ENDOWMENT FUND)

Mrs. S. E. Mabou	City	9.00
A. S. G.	City	5.00
Total		$14.00

ARMENIAN FUND

Amount Previously Acknowledged		$20.00
A Friend	Sask.	5.00
Total		$25.00

Sunday at Home.

WONDERFUL!

(By Rev. Albert Hughes)

Once more David's city is thrust before the eyes of the world. Again the angels lead us by the hand to see the wonderful thing that has happened. Tired men and women, sick of the harshness and falseness of the world, are invited to journey to Bethlehem. A stable throne-room is again before our gaze. The secret of life and peace is before our wondering view. We see strength in a weak human vessel, power in a mere human, Deity in a babe. It is here that again the world is invited to find its secret of deliverance from a heartless and meaningless chaos. Let us together say, "Wonderful."

At that first Christmas scene the whole world was represented. Domestic life was there in Mary and Joseph. It is wonderful that He chose to come into the world through the humble doors of motherhood. We also see the intellectual world at that cradle—even the Magi brought their gifts. Labor is represented at the cradle-throne; it is there the shepherds find their heavenly vision realized. Even kings are made to stop and enquire, for Herod's sinister form makes a dark background to the glorious scene. We venture to assert that this is all very Wonderful.

That wonderful event has been marvellous in its impress upon the ages. The intervening years have proven that in Him alone earthly affection is purified and brought to realize its own significance. In Him the minds of men find final answer to their eager questionings. Every aspiration of true labor is anticipated and purposed in Him. Around the cradle not only do the ends of earth meet, but the dream of the ages is realized. That midnight birth has changed the face of the whole world. Surely! Surely! all this is nothing less than Wonderful.

But then this was to be His name. True! "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." But more than that the prophet said,—"His name shall be called Wonderful.'"

THE JOY THAT ABIDETH

(By Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Glasgow Scotland)

"That your joy might be full."—John 15:11

Most of us are in the habit of using the words "joy" and "happiness" as if they were interchangeable terms and were only different names for the same thing. There is, however, a real distinction between them, and that distinction is beautifully expressed in the words themselves. Happiness is the sensation created within us by the things that happen. Joy is of the nature of the soul itself. Happiness is conditioned by environment. Joy is independent of environment. The possession of money with all the sense of power that money gives, a good house to live in, the choice of living wherever we please, the applause of others, the standing in the community that wealth confers—these create happiness, and these things the majority of mankind ever seek after.

Many people are perplexed by the seeming unreality of Christian joy. Our Lord is always emphasising the element of joyfulness in the system of life which He offers to men, but because of our confusion of thought we miss His meaning. We turn aside from joy because we find it so difficult to believe that there is joy to be found in the way of Christ. What possible joy can there be in a life such as His, a life of persecution and agony ending on a Cross? Christ's joy stands in the nature of His soul, in the motive of His life—in the Love that is in the heart of it, in the purpose of human redemption He came to fulfil. He comes to us who seek happiness in an ideal environment that we can never find, and He says, "Behold My poverty, take the measure of My labors, of the insults and wrongs that I suffer, watch with Me in My agony, follow Me to My Cross. This, O worshipper of happiness, is My joy. I give it unto you that your joy like Mine may be full. Take up your cross and follow Me, and in following learn that love is the most exalted throne that any one can ascend. Set yourself free from bondage to that which is without you, and you will rise into the very joy of God."

We can read the secret of this joy in the lives of the men and women whose example has most richly blessed the world. The martyred Stephen, the while the stones crashed in upon him, prayed out of the fulness of his heart's peace, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." Paul and Silas in prison with their feet in the stocks, sang at midnight for very joy of heart. Blandina, the Roman maiden, burning to death in a red-hot iron chair, passes to the eternal joy with the shout of triumph, "I am a Christian." And through all the centuries and in all the Christian lands the saints of other days, hunted and persecuted by the enemies of the Cross, lifted up their voices out of the fulness of their joy in Christ, from dens and caves of the earth, from lonely glens and wind-swept moors, bidding defiance to the environment that in denying them happiness only helped the more to fulfil their joy.

The popular conception of heaven as an environment that can of itself give happiness is surely wrong. No mere "going to heaven" can give us joy. We must carry it with us or we shall not find it there. If heaven be not in you now, you cannot find it beyond the veil. Heaven is the joy of the soul that is filled with the love of God.

CHRISTMAS

Long years ago, the angels sang
Peace and good will on earth,
And now we wait to celebrate
Our blessed Saviour's birth.

He came to save, He came to bless,
And help poor souls in need;
He raised the dead, the hungry fed;
Oh, His was Love indeed.

How shall we spend His birthday?
What offering shall we bring?
True contrite hearts to do our parts,
And own Him Lord and King.

Let us obey the golden rule,
Be loving, kind, and true;
Sow the good seed, the hungry feed,
As Christ would have us do.

—Mrs. Annie Rodd.

St. Petersburg, Fla.

THE GLORY OF CHILDHOOD

Christmas is the glorification of childhood. It is the fulfilment of Isaiah's vision. It proclaims peace on earth, peace among men of God's good will, and the Prince of Peace who leads the peacemakers is a little Child. That little Child grew up to teach us that unless we accept the kingdom of God as little children we shall not enter therein. And on Christmas Day we want to come to the manger at Bethlehem as little children to greet the little Child.

In a very charming mediaeval religious book, Lady Julian of Norwich, a wise and saintly authoress, says: "To me was shown nothing higher, sweeter than childhood. Not, of course, that we should remain children in understanding, not that when we become men we should not put away childish things, but that there should remain much of the child-character in us to the end." Christianity is a religion for the young, and for those who remain young at heart though their hair is grey. Are not faith, hope, and love the three Christian virtues, especially the temper of the child? Are they not precisely the qualities which the cynical man of the world prides himself on having outgrown? Is it not a common experience, so that we almost expect it, that middle-age brings disillusionment, the loss of the charity that thinketh no evil, that hopeth all things and believeth all things?

Jesus draws us with the cords of a man—but even more tenderly with the pleading voice of a little child. A little child is leading us. Let us follow Him whithersoever He goeth.

THE BEASTS AT THE MANGER

The Babe was born in Bethlehem and
swaddled by His mother,
And laid within a manger, for bed there
was no other—
And then, so very weary, she, beside her
treasure, slept,
While Joseph, leaning on his staff, a
nodding vigil kept.
Within that wretched stable an ox and solemn ass
Stood patiently, spectators of all that
came to pass—
They knew their great Creator in that
form so weak and small,
For the ox his owner knoweth and the ass
her master's stall.
So they stumbled to the manger and, for
all the beasts that be,
They bowed their heads and worshipped,
each on its hairy knee.
Then back they crept together, for they
heard the hurrying feet
Of shepherds, hastening down the path,
the Holy Child to greet:
And none had knowledge of the things
within that lowly shed
Save an Angel singing softly in the rafters overhead.
But ever since, on Christmas Eve, the
beasts can speak by night,
And they talk with one another all about
that Holy Night.

—Author Unknown.

Ring out, ye crystal spheres,
Once bless our human ears
(If ye have power to touch our senses so);
And let your silver chime
Move in melodious time,
And let the bass of Heaven's deep organ
blow,
And with your manifold harmony
Make up full consort to the angelic symphony.

—Milton.



THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF GOODWILL

(By Paul R. Kirts)

Christmas comes and Christmas goes, but the great fact for which the day stands stays on forever. The Life which began in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago is still the Life which transforms lives, not for a day, but for all time and eternity. All the days can be Christmas if we put our hand in Jesus' hand and walk with Him.

Scrooge, the ugly old character in Dickens "The Christmas Carol," was in business for money, and for money alone. Marley, his partner, was dead, and Scrooge might as well have been dead so far as the good he was doing was concerned. But the midnight visits of the three ghosts—Christmas Past, Christmas Present, and Christmas Future—had a transforming effect on him. He even bought a turkey for his poor clerk. Thereafter Christmas meant more to Scrooge than a mere twenty-fifth of December. He had good will in his heart, and that is the secret of his transformation. After that memorable Christmas every day held something of the birthday of the Prince of Peace for Scrooge.

The spirit of a perpetual Christmas is the spirit of service. To many people, Christmas means receiving gifts. They stand at one end of the line only—the receiving end. They belong to that class which asks "What can I get out of life for myself?" and never "What can I do to help others?" Keeping Christmas all the year is more than a continuous holiday frolic. He who offered up his life as a constant and complete sacrifice desires that His birthday be honored by the gift of a life of service.

A minister said that if there were to be any words engraved on his memorial he would wish them to be, "He walked with God." He was thinking of the brief sentence in Genesis which sums up the life of Enoch. In what better way could we have Christmas all the year than by walking with God? As we walk with Him we shall learn more of His mind, and thus shall we find satisfaction in thinking God's thoughts after Him, especially His great plan for the redemption of the world through Him who was born in Bethlehem.—Forward.

"I heard a bird sing
In the dark of December,
A magical thing
And sweet to remember:
We are nearer the spring
Than we were in September;
I heard a bird sing
In the dark of December."

FROM MANGER TO CROSS

The Manger cannot be separated from [illegible]s. "We have to turn to the work of Christ, and especially to His death," says Dr. Alexander Maclaren, "if we would estimate the love of God. The most wonderful revelation to every heart of man of the depths of That Divine heart lies in the gift of Jesus Christ. The Apostle bids me 'behold what manner of love.' And I turn to the Cross, and I see there a love which shrinks from no sacrifice, but gives 'Him up to death for us all.' I turn to the Cross, and I see there a love which is evoked by no loveableness on my part, but from the depths of His own Infinite Being, who loves because He is God. I turn to the Cross, and I see there a love manifested, a love which sighs for recognition, which desires nothing of me but the repayment of my poor affection; and I see there a love which will not be put away by all sinfulness and shortcomings and evil. So, streaming through the darkness of eclipse, and speaking to me even in the awful silence in which the Son of Man died there for sin, I 'behold,' and I hear the 'manner of love that the Father hath bestowed upon us.' Undeserved and infinite, boundless and endless, in its measure measureless, in its quality transcendent—the love of God to me in Jesus Christ my Saviour."

A BEAUTIFUL SONG

"O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie."

was written by Phillips Brooks, a great preacher. He tried to live like Christ. As he walked up and down the streets of Boston he nodded to people here and there until the whole street seemed filled with sunshine. Not many people today read his sermons, but he lives in the hearts of old and young through this beautiful Christmas song. This song has probably been translated in forty-seven languages and in the remotest corners of the earth hearts break forth into joy.

"How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven."

Phillips Brooks will live on for generations, because of this hymn.

BETHLEHEM TODAY

Bethlehem is a small white town on a spur running out east from the watershed. The inhabitants are Christians, and wear a peculiar costume. At the east end of the town is the Church of the Nativity, and attached monastery, standing above the orchards of figs and olives, and the vineyards which surround this prosperous village. The church is perhaps the oldest in existence founded for orthodox Greek rites. The pillars are those of Constantine's Basilica, commenced about A. D. 330. The mosaics on the wall above belong t[illegible] the 12th century. The oak roof was given by Edward III. To the north is the Latin chapel, and under this cave-chapel, in which Jerome is said to have lived while writing the Vulgate. The Cave of the Nativity, under the choir of the ancient Basilica, is the only site (excepting the chapel on Olivet) connected with the history of Christ, which is noticed before the establishment of Christianity by Constantine. A cave in Bethlehem supposed to mark the "inn" of the Nativity is noticed by Justin Martyr in the second century.—Hasting's "Bible Dictionary."

PRAYER FOR REVIVALS AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

(By Anna Ross, Strasbourg, Sask.)

Are there some of God's intercessors who will join with me in laying before Him this three-fold petition? —"O God, grant unto the Body of Christ now on earth Revival. (1.) After Thine own pattern. (2.) Wrought by Thine own power, (3.) Kept under Thine own Leadership, until Thou hast a generation of Christians ready to fight the Battle of Armageddon and to win it."

Here is the parallel that gives me great courage in presenting this prayer. Israel in Egypt, under Pharaoh's heel, sent a cry up to Abraham's God. In answer He sent them by Moses a Revival after His own pattern, wrought entirely by His own power, and kept—through all the ups and downs of Egypt and the wilderness wanderings—kept under His own Leadership until He had a generation of Israelites ready to fight for the Land of Promise and to win it.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

Ladies' Aid and Sewing Circles

would hear something of interest and of practical helpfulness if the Secretary or any member would simply send a postcard with her name and address and designating the Denomination to

JOHN DOUGALL & SON
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MONTREAL

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Miss Marjory MacFadyen, Bonshaw, P. E. I., has kindly sent a copy of the poem "Seven Times One," asked for in a previous issue.

SONG WORDS SUPPLIED

L. M. H., Frankford, Ont.—I would like to ask if you would print in your next issue the words of "The Land of the Maple."

Ans.—We print the song below:—

LAND OF THE MAPLE

Oh Canada, my Canada, my thought is all of thee,
Thy mountain chains and smiling plains
That stretch from sea to sea;
The sunlight gleams on murmuring streams
And sweetest melody
Pours from the feathered songsters in the spreading maple tree.

Chorus:
Oh, the land of the Maple is the land for me,
The home of the stalwart, the brave and the free,
The Rose and the Thistle, the Shamrock and Iris,
All bloom in one garden 'neath the Maple tree.

Oh Canada, my Canada, none can compare with thee,
'Neath sunny skies the earth replies,
And laughs with harvest glee;
Thy winters cheer with air so clear,
But best of all to me,
The summer and the sunshine, and the spreading Maple tree.

In Canada, my Canada, all dwell in unity,
The Saxon, Gaul, and Celt agree,
With Scots to keep us free,
Though we be four, yet are we one,
If danger chance to be
Thus may it be forever 'neath the spreading Maple tree.

—H. H. Godfrey.

BOOK ON WOMEN'S MEETINGS

M. M. E., Westminster, B. C.—Can you give me any hints for conducting women's meetings?

Ans.—A very excellent book, dealing with the whole of the subject, is "Mrs. Parsons' Manual for Women's Meetings," published by Macmillan Co. of Canada, Limited, 70 Bond Street, Toronto, at 75 cents.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE STUDENTS

A. E. Hoag, Bay City, Mich., in the course of a long letter, writes: "There has never been a sect in existence organized and known as Russellites. Pastor Charles T. Russell was the founder of the International Bible Students. Those who have read Pastor Russell's Studies in the Scriptures, and believe them to be a true interpretation of the Bible are members of this society . . . It is a great mistake to suppose that Chas. T. Russell ever denied the Divinity of Christ, because that and the Ransom are the two things of which he wrote and spoke the most about, believing fully that our Lord and Master gave His life a ransom for every man, to be testified in due time . . . I am sending under separate cover some portions of the Sanduskey (Ohio) paper giving an account of the great Bible Students' Convention held at Cedar Point the first week in September, at which there were present on one occasion eighteen thousand Bible Students . . . only a small representation of the society as a whole. . . . I have been a reader of the Witness for many years, and took pleasure in sending assistance in its recent financial difficulty, thereby proving my faith in the Witness and its publishers. I will be pleased to send you or the person who wrote inquiring about the Russellites, a set of Pastor Russell's Studies in the Scriptures, if you will promise to read them, take your Bible and read up the Scriptures he refers to."

Ans.—"Russellite" was the name used by our questioner, "R. S. B.", and the reply given contained no reflection upon, or criticism of, the beliefs of those calling themselves the International Bible Students. Mr. Hoag should note that nothing was said about Pastor Russell denying the Divinity of Christ. On the contrary, the words used were: "While admitting the divinity of our Lord, they deny His Deity, declaring that He had no pre-existence, and no resurrection, the One who rose from the grave being another, not the same Jesus." We believe that was the express teaching of Pastor Russell in his "Studies in the Scriptures," and we have not heard that Judge Rutherford or any of the Students today believe otherwise. We thank Mr. Hoag for his kind offer and for the papers sent, but regret that considerations of space will not permit us to print the statement of doctrine with his letter.

"A Reader," Port Hood, writes on the same subject, referring enquirers to "The Harp of God," a book of Bible Studies written by Judge Rutherford (which can be obtained for 68 cents, at 270 Dundas St. W., Toronto), and enclosing copy of the pledge taken by every member of the I. B. S. A., as follows:—

(1) We affirm the Pre-existence of Jesus as the Mighty Word, (Logos, Spokesman) the beginning of the Creation, God, (The first-born of every creature) the Active agent of the Heavenly Father, Jehovah, In all Work of Creation. Without Him was not anything made that was made. (Rev. 3:14; Col. 1:15; John 1:4).

(2) We affirm that the Word (Logos) was made flesh—become the Babe of Bethlehem, thus becoming the Man Jesus. We equally affirm the Divinity of Christ—"God also hath Highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is" "above every name" (Heb. 7:26; Phil. 2:9.)

We acknowledge that the Personality of the Holy Spirit is the Father and Son; that the Holy Spirit proceeds from both, and is manifested in all who receive the begetting of the Holy Spirit and thereby become Sons of God, (John 1:13; 1 Peter 5:8; Acts 26:13—15).

(4) We affirm the resurrection of Christ—that He was put to death in Flesh, but quickened in Spirit. We deny that He was raised in the Flesh, and challenge any statement to that effect as being unscriptural (1 Pet. 3:18; 2 Cor, 3:17; Cor. 15:8; Acts 26:13—15).

OTTAWA LETTER

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—It is now pretty well understood that Parliament will meet during the third week in January. A rather lengthy session is anticipated and as there is a general desire to end it soon after June 1st, it is hoped that this may be made possible through an early beginning. Parliament rarely manifests a desire to get away before June 1st, and is unlikely to do so next year. Much, of course, depends on the Government's attitude towards the Bank Act. If it decides to go ahead with amendments, then the session will be prolonged. On the other hand the Progressives would strongly resist efforts to defer action.

Banking Amendments

It is no secret that some would postpone the consideration of amendments to the Bank Act on the ground that the present Parliament is too radical to deal safely with them. They would delay action until after another general election, which many think, will be held next fall, in the hope that in the next House there may be fewer Progres ives. But this is rather uncertain ground on which to build. The Government may not go to the country next fall, for the nearer that season comes, the more the question will be asked, why should we?

Standing of Parties

The standing of the various parties in the House may not be desirable, but whether it would be improved by a general election is a matter of opinion. The recent by-elections produced no change in the standing of the various parties in the House. Lanark stood by the Conservatives, even though the majority was cut in half, after all, does not count when it still touches 1,350. As for the other seats, they were just as Gritty as they were a year ago.

It is probable that more conversions may be made within the House than without it, during the next six months. Mr. Hammell has announced his intention of crossing over from the Progressives to the Government, and Dame Rumor has been busy with the names of other probable converts. It is improbable, however, that many will publicly follow Mr. Hammell's example. The number for Muskoka goes his own way, and is a great admirer of Mr. Crerar. Now that his old leader has gone he goes back to his old love, Liberalism. Though he got into Parliament through the farmers' movement, Mr. Hammell is a shrewd business man with many other interests than those pertaining directly to the land.

Mr. Hammell's defection will not give the Government a majority over all without the Speaker; it will merely make its members equal to those of the other two parties combined. It may be up to Moose Jaw to break the tie. What part it will play, if any, cannot be determined until the Supreme Court gives a verdict on Mr. Johnson's appeal.

Railway Economies

Sir Henry Thornton's first speech in Canada, delivered in Montreal, has made a favorable impression; for though he did not say anything new, he took occasion to declare in the plainest possible language that he expects to have a free hand in the running of the National system. Sir Joseph Flavelle put a fly in the ointment by observing that he had seen little evidence of the Government's intention to have the system administered without interference on its part.

Sir Henry's apparent confidence that the National system can be made to pay sooner than most people think, has aroused curiosity respecting the probable main direction of his efforts to bring this about. It is noted that he said more was to be expected through the reducing of expenditure than from efforts to increase revenue. This has given rise to the impression that he has big savings in mind. So the question arises, where will he begin?

When the order goes forth that further economies all along the line are imperative, it is remarkable the cuts that can be made. But there seem to be only a few quarters in which really big savings are possible. In the West the co-ordinating of the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific has been done, and really important savings effected. Rigid economy is also being practised all along the National Transcontinental and the Intercolonial. So the conclusion is that further really big savings are possible only through the merging of the Grand Trunk with the rest of the Government lines. It is quite possible then that Sir Henry Thornton expects to dissolve pretty well the Grand Trunk as a separate entity. If he does so many will lose good jobs.

It is quite unlikely that Sir Henry Thornton has any desire to assume the role merely of Lord High Executioner. At the same time he knows full well that if he cannot make big savings within three years his job will not last. Uneasiness in Grand Trunk circles is thus quite natural.

Sir Henry may be equal to the task, of making the Government railways pay, but he will have to do much before this is possible. They have made a better showing this year than last, but up to September 30th, the Canadian National's operating loss this year had been over $10,000,000. On the other hand the Grand Trunk is $4,000,000 better off than it was a year ago. So the system during the last three months has to make $6,000,000 more than it did during the same period last year in order to pay its operating expenses. To do this is hardly possible. It remains to be seen what Sir Henry Thornton's big stick can do.

'mmigration

The Government's immigration policy does not unfold very rapidly. The Hon. Charles Stewart is a man of good intentions, who dislikes to disappoint people, and so he has a tendency to make speeches that produce hopes which are not borne out by actual performances. Personally he seems to be convinced of the necessity of heavy immigration, and yet he halts at introducing those changes that are most calculated to secure it. The desire of some influential Government followers to place other departments than immigrants under a separate minister probably has prevented action in this case. William Duff, the sturdy captain from Lunenburg, who headed a commission to enquire into conditions relating to the fisheries, has also reported in favor of such a departure. In these days of stern demands for economy, to create two new departments would be to expose the Government to much criticism, so the proposal is held up.

Reports are heard to the effect that the work of looking after certain immigrants that require attention may be assigned to the Soldier Settlement Board, which has admirable machinery for this purpose. As there is a reluctance to embark on new expenditures, even for so worthy a matter as immigration, it is quite possible that the machinery of the Board may thus be utilized.

Hon. W. C. Kennedy whose life was, at one time, almost despaired of, is now making rapid progress towards recovery. He is on his way south to recuperate, and the expectation is that he will soon be as well as ever. Having been uncommonly successful in politics as Minister of the Crown, Mackenzie King is naturally eager to retain his services and probably will be able to do so. A few months ago it looked as though Mr. Kennedy were through. If he retains the railway portfolio, and Thornton makes good, he will get much of the resulting credit.

Manitoba in the Cabinet

Considerable curiosity is evinced as to whether or not Manitoba will get a place in the Cabinet. When he formed his Government a place was purposely kept open for a Manitoban, Mr. Mackenzie King being hopeful that Mr. Crerar might see his way clear to enter. But the ex-leader of the Progressives having decided to stay by the grain business someone else must be chosen, if Manitoba is to get representation. Just now the Hon. A. B. Hudson appears to be the most likely man for the position. Though a good Liberal, he does not seem to be very keen for the portfolio, but might take it under pressure. Mr. McMurray, who is the only other Liberal from Manitoba, would jump at the offer, but he is hardly cabinet timber.

Postmaster-General Murphy is keeping up his reputation for being a capable administrator, the recent international postal conference between Canada and the United States being a splendid stroke of business. It is Mr. Murphy's ambition to make the Post Office live up to its possibilities as the greatest mail and parcel carrier in the Dominion, and he realizes that to do this he must introduce the very latest ideas and methods. The mail business between Canada and the United States is very large, but it could be made a great deal larger and more profitable than it is. When the Conservatives were in power their dislike of reciprocity made them apathetic towards proposals designed to increase business with the republic. But Mr. Murphy is determined to get business in any quarter where it may be had.

WHY COAL COSTS ARE HIGH

(N. Y. Evening Mail.)

One of the anthracite coal selling companies is to have a stockholders' meeting shortly to declare a 40 per cent. stock dividend. This company was organized after the anthracite railroad pool was dissolved by the government and the railroads were directed to divest themselves of coal mines and have real competition. Before the so-called dissolution one company owned the railroad and the coal mines and mined the coal and sold it.

Now one corporation owns the railroad and makes a profit from the freight on coal. Another corporation owns the mines and collects a royalty. A third corporation digs the coal. A fourth corporation sells it to favored agents. After a while it gets to the consumer with half a dozen profits piled on the labor cost. Here is where the money goes and why anthracite coal sells for from $14 to $20 a ton. It is not paid in wages or in costs, but in dividends, inside profits and rake-offs.

Take for instance this company which is going to declare the 40 per cent. stock dividend. It is the sole vender of Scranton anthracite coal, which the Glen Alden Coal Company mines and which the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad carries.

This sale company was organized in 1909. It has paid 10 per cent. annually since its organization, besides extra dividends of 20 per cent. in 1913, 10 per cent. in 1914, 50 per cent. in 1915, 10 per cent. in 1916, 90 per cent. in 1917, 30 per cent. in 1918, and 75 per cent. in 1920. Notice how the big extra dividends have been declared about the time of coal shortage and so-called strikes!

Just what this selling company has to capitalize except the power to make money out of the public or in what its assets consist except the contract to be the sole vender of the coal which the Glen Alden Coal Company mines is difficult to comprehend.

This sales company has an authorized capital of $20,000,000,000. It has from time to time increased the capitalization by the issue of stock dividends. All the stock dividends cost is what is paid the lawyers for drawing the papers and the printer for the certificates of stock. On these stock dividends the consumers will be expected to pay money dividends.

This hocus-pocus of half a dozen companies accounts for a great part of the increase in the cost of coal to the consumer. The labor cost of anthracite is about $3.25 or $3.50 a ton. The actual cost of carrying solid coal trains on the railroad from the Pennsylvania mines to New York is $1 or $1.25 a ton. Allowing 50 cents for lighterage and $1.50 for retail delivery brings the total cost to about $7 a ton, which is half or less than half of what the consumer pays.

An authorized capitalization of $20,000,000 for the privilege of being the sole agency of only one railroad's coal accounts for where a great part of the profits go.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

Studying the Scriptures for yourself is of far greater value than borrowing interpretations from either pulpit or library.

Games not only keep a man in health, but give him spirit for his work; they teach him how to get on with other men: to give way in trifles to play fair, and push no advantage to an extremity.—Sir John Lubbock.

The enemies that threaten human life are seldom the enemies who march through the streets with guns and banners. Pestilence and contagion come silently, but they slay their thousands. The same is true of the soul's enemies. It is less the great temptation and mighty iniquities that work ruin than the little sins and evil habits that eat away its strength day by day.

A writer in the Boston Transcript says that in the near future when the coal supply is exhausted, dwellers in cool climates may dig into the earth and live there. The ingenuity and resource which have built skyscrapers have already provided quarters for human beings below the surface of the earth, and these well ventilated and comfortable halls, offices, shops and laboratories do not suffer from being underground.

At an open-air meeting in England the other day a Labor candidate was doing his best to explain the workings of the proposed capital levy, but did not make much impression on his audience. He held his hat in his hand, upsidedown, with his notes in the bottom. Suddenly he was interrupted by an old farmer, who said, "More in thee 'at than in thee 'ead. I'm thinkin', lad."



THE ART OF FORCING FREESIAS

That the Freesia has interested not to say confused, the systematic botanist is clearly indicated by the hstory of its nomenclature, says E. L. D. Seymour, writing in the Garden Magazine. It has been known at various times as Gladiolus refractus, Tritonia refracta, Freesia odorata (which was ultimately retained as a varietal cognomen) and Freesia refracta by which title it is now accepted in the best horticultural circles. Similarly these have been segregated and individually labeled at various times F. Armstrongii, F. aurea, and F. Leichtinii, although it is now generally accepted that these are but variously colored forms of F. refracta, the type, which hailed from southern Africa early in the 19th Century. At any rate, from the many possible combinations of these four forms come the varied hybrids that are winning such deserved present popularity.

It is because of the rich opportunities offered in this hybridizing field, because of the ease with which new varieties—subjects for selective breeding—can be produced from seed, and because of certain engaging difficulties encountered in the seemingly simple task of developing and retaining a pure white sort, that the Freesia appeals to the advanced gardener. It is because of the ease with which the bulbs can be forced and brought into bloom in the house, and the unique attractiveness of the variously tinted flowers, that it can be equally appreciated and enjoyed by the veriest tyro.

While the cut-flower buying public, through the medium of the florist, has come to be the best acquainted with the solid white form—which, in spite of its name sometimes shows an irresistible tendency to hark back to an atavistic shading of yellow—there are available for house culture a host of more recently improved varieties in a bewildering range of clear yellows, oranges, pinks, mauves, blues, and reds. Even a tendency in the last three shades to "throw back" to a striped or "broken" appearance, although an unmitigated fault in the eye of the expert variety producer, simply adds interest and excitement for the amateur. Leaving the creation of new forms and the improvement of old ones to the advanced plantsmen, there remains for us now the simple but fascinating game of forcing Freesias at home.

A word of suggestion here, as to what constitutes a "good" bulb. Freesia corms in any case are smaller than the more familiar Tulips, Narcissus, and Crocus; but even more than in the case of those plants is it true that in general "the heavier the bulb, the stronger and finer the flower." In other words, the experienced Freesia grower is likely to give first choice to the small, solid, kernel-like corms instead of the large, fat ones (especially if the latter show any sign of softness.)

When the bulbs arrive, it is best to plant them promptly. A general rule is six bulbs to a five-inch pot, twelve to a ten-inch pot, and correspondingly open spacing if a flat bulb pan is used. Probably a good share of the Freesia failures have been the result of over crowding.

Given the bulbs planted about their own depth in a pot in an average good soil, the next requirement is a cool, moist, dim place where they can develop roots. This means from approximately six weeks as a minimum to two months or more if conditions permit. The deeper they are plunged, the cooler, more uniform and more satisfactory the conditions.

About six weeks before the flowers are desired, bring the pots indoors to a temperature of from 50 degrees to 60 degrees F. Moderate heat, increased very gradually, if at all, is best. When the buds actually appear, a temperature up to 65 degrees to 70 degrees (if the rise has been gradual) may be employed to open the blossoms.

Hasty forcing is probably a common cause of weak, disappointing blooms even if not of actual failure. Combined with it may often be injudicious watering. A pot holds only a limited amount of soil which, in turn, contains only a limited amount of plant food. It is surprisingly easy, by means of too frequent, over zealous watering to wash a good deal of the most soluble plant food either out of the pot entirely, or at least down into the lower layers of soil where the roots have the greatest amount of trouble to secure it. Aim merely to keep the soil from drying out—and if it is possible to plunge the pots during the forcing period, in loose, absorbent soil, moss or fibre which, being watered as needed, will convey sufficient moisture to the pots and the soil therein with no possible chance for leaching, why, so much the better.

It is claimed, that if unduly hastened into bloom the colored Freesias open with an increasingly pale color, according to the degree of injudicious forcing.

With the passing of the Freesia's glory in midwinter—or in March, let us say, if the forcing has been commendably moderate—arises that ubiquitous question, "Shall I save the bulbs for another year?" If you want to do it experimentally dry off the bulbs after the foliage has ripened; store them away in an airy, dry place, and hope for the best the next year.

PLANT A NUMBER OF VARIETIES

There is such an immense number of different varieties of fruit trees that the amateur who wishes to buy for planting has great difficulty in choosing between them. All are good in some way, otherwise they would not be in cultivation, but some are better for special purposes than others. The owner of a small garden wants trees which do not occupy very much space, soon come into bearing, and yield fairly heavy crops as regularly as the weather will permit. The form which best satisfies these requirements is the bush. The cordon or the espalier may take up less ground, but having comparatively little wood cannot carry the same weight of fruit, besides being more expensive. The bush makes less growth than the pyramid or the standard, fruits earlier, and when the trees are well chosen they need not be planted farther apart than twelve or fifteen feet.

It is a mistake to plant only a single variety. The more there are the better, unless the fruit is grown for sale, in which case it is generally easier to dispose of one large lot than a number of small ones of different kinds and at different times. But for private use there should be several varieties which mature in succession, so as to provide a supply for as long a period as possible.

There is another reason for preferring a number of varieties. Many are self-sterile; in other words, though they may flower profusely, they cannot develop fruit unless they are fertilised by pollen brought by bees from other varieties growing near them. According to recent Maine Experiment Station experiments, only about a dozen varieties out of two hundred can be depended upon to set either with their own pollen or that from some other tree of the same variety. Most of the others, however, set freely when fertilised with pollen from other varieties. Even when they are not self-sterile, experiments seem to show that they bear heavier crops with alien pollen than they do with their own. Again, when all the the trees are of the same variety their flowers open about the same time, and may be destroyed by a single night's frost, whereas other varieties opening earlier or later may escape injury.

Stocks, too, play an important part; for while there may be little in the theory of pedigreed trees, it is unquestionably a fact that stocks do affect both the growth of a tree and the fruit it bears. If pedigree plays any part at all, it lies in the stock, and for this reason, bush trees on true Paradise stocks may be depended upon to yield a more even and finer grade of fruit than those worked on free stocks which are seedlings pure and simple, with the varying qualities that seedlings naturally possess. One may not infrequently find two trees of the same variety yielding fruit differing to the extent that one colors freely while the other shows little inclination to color. The flavor of such fruit, too, may be so different that one almost doubts their relationship.

Realizing the general mixture existing in fruit stocks, one county association in England has for some years conducted an experiment station which has resulted in many surprising discoveries regarding fruit stocks, particularly in regard to the Paradise.

Pear Leaf Spot

For septoria leaf spot on pears nothing can be done until next spring, when the trees should be sprayed with lime-sulphur, says Charles Chupp, Plant Pathologist, Cornell University.

Bartlett and Keiffer pears should be sprayed with lime-sulphur for scale, scab and psylla eggs, when the blossom buds separate in the cluster.

Just after the petals fall the trees should be sprayed with arsenate of lead, five pounds, nicotine sulphate three-quarters of a pint, soap four pounds and water 100 gallons. Smaller quantities may be prepared by keeping the proportions the same.

For Flemish Beauty, Seckle and other varieties susceptible to scab, spray the same as for Bartletts and Keiffers, except that the second spray should be made of arsenate of lead, five pounds; nicotine sulphate, three-quarters pint; lime-sulphur, two gallons; water, 100 gallons.

Two weeks after the petals fall spray again with lime-sulphur, two gallons; water, 100 gallons. All pear trees should be thoroughly sprayed.

ANSWERS TO GARDEN QUESTIONS

Why And How of Pruning

Reader:—Mr. M. B. Davis of the horticultural division of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa speaking of the seasons for, the extent of, pruning and their relation to fruit bud formation, pointed out that experimental evidence went to show that young trees come into bearing earlier and produce more fruit when not pruned, than when heavily or moderately pruned. Heavy heading back is against the production of an early bearing tree and also keeps the tree in an unthrifty condition.

The ideal in pruning is to prune moderately when the tree is young, avoiding heading back. Prune simply to arrange the framework of the young tree, so that it will have strong, well-set branches, capable of carrying a good, heavy crop of fruit. Moderate pruning, with an idea of admitting plenty of sunlight into the heart of the tree should be followed, which means equalizing the head and the root of the tree, thus causing harmony between the factory and the storehouse.

When a tree is not making proper growth it is usually on account of the excess of one plant food over another and nitrogen is usually the one that is lacking. In such case, it is necessary to head back severely and thus equalize the plant foods in the tree, thereby causing growth to start and ultimately fruit bud formation.

To ensure heavy crop production, it is necessary to give careful attention to the pruning and cultivation of the orchard in the early spring of the non-bearing year, and to fertilize the orchard before the trees start to grow in the spring of the bearing year.

Tree Mignonette

B. M.:—While commonly grown as an annual, mignonette is really a perennial of shrubby habit. If the ones you have brought indoors may be grown on and trained by pruning and pinching out unwanted shoots. Potted up in the autumn in a rather large pot and kept moist and cool for several days it will soon get over the shock of transplanting. At the start it is best to pinch out all flower buds and seed should not be allowed to form. If a standard or tree shape is desired select a strong upright growth, tie it to a stake and keep all side shoots rubbed or pinched off. A mignonette bush will if protected go on increasing in size and develop to a very large size indeed.

The soil for potting should consist of about four ports loam, two parts leafmould or thoroughly rotted manure and one part sand. Success depends in great measure on the care in watering. The supply should be ample while the temperature remains high but should be reduced as it falls. When the flower buds appear a little liquid manure may be given, but it should be weak.

Fuchsias Dropping Buds

Miss C. D.:—If the fuchsias are healthy clean plants with no red spider then the probability is that the watering is at fault. As your room is cool you may have given too much water and so caused the buds to drop. Do not at any time allow water to stand in the saucer. Water only when the pot rings hollow when rapped with the knuckles. Tea is of absolutely no use to plants, if you want a liquid manure use half an ounce each of nitrate of soda and superphosphate per gallon of water. This is really valuable.

An Old Favorite

Mrs. N. J.:—Yes, there are many named varieties of the oleander but those most commonly grown are the old red and white varieties. Both of these as well as the named varieties are easily grown, and well adapted to house culture. They are propagated by using well ripened wood for cuttings. The slips may be easily rooted in a can or bottle of water of care is taken not to let them get dry. After being rooted, they may be potted up, using a large proportion of sand in the soil. Well established plants may be repotted in good loam and well-rotted manure. By rubbing off all sprouts that come low down and trimming them each year immediately after flowering, a handsome standard is made. They should not be allowed to strapple out into long branches if flowers are wanted. When flowering is over and they have been pruned they should be stood in a cool place free from frost and rested. They will require little water during this period, just sufficient to keep the soil from drying out. When brought out in the spring they should be given sun and air in order to make a sturdy growth.



Hybridization, or Cross-fertilization

P. H.:— A hybrid is a cross between two species. In rare cases (eg., amongst a few kinds of orchids) genera have been crossed, and the offspring are called bigeneric hybrids. When hybrids are crossed between themselves the offspring are called varieties. When species are crossed the work is described as hybridization; when varieties are crossed it is spoken of as cross fertilization. In both cases it consists in taking pollen from the authers of one flower and placing it on the stigma of another. This process been already fertilized, either by pollen from the same flower (self-fertilization or selfing,) or had been transferred by wind or bee from another flower; therefore, the anthers must be removed from the flower to be crossed, before the pollen is ripe and the blossom enclosed with a muslin bag. Those who wish to hybridize systematically should study Mendel's laws.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

A HOLLY SUPERSTITION

Just as the holly trees are breaking into unnoticed flower, my attention is drawn to a local superstition current amongst the hedgers and ditchers of Sussex.

They, he says, are very reluctant to cut down holly trees in their work without specific orders—a fact you may have noticed in many counties where standard holly trees shoot up from neatly-trimmed level hedgerows.

Two reasons occur to me for this. One is that the berries and foliage have a marketable value, and on trimmed trees the crop is negligible. The other, which I think goes deeper, is the rural reluctance to harm a tree associated with so many religious observances in our history.

Unlike the folk-lore attaching to "fairy" thorns, there does not seem a belief that any direct harm will come to the destroyer of the holly tree.

Foreign Flowers

According to a well-known horticulturist, the flora of Great Britain is being added to annually by the importation of seeds and plants from abroad, but Britain is not the only one to benefit by the introduction of novelties from other parts of the world (remarks the Morning Post.) The writer has often wondered whether an "English garden" he planted in the wilds of Macedonia, some miles to the north-east of Salonika, is still flourishing. Stationed in a lonely spot before the Bulgars became troublesome, the idea was conceived of passing dull hours by the formation of a spot reminiscent of home. Seeds were obtained from London, a shady spot was selected, and operations commenced. All sorts of flowers common to us, but strange to the Greeks, were showing promise when the call of duty dispelled gardening dreams.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

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BARN FLOORS IN WINTER

During the winter months is a good time to put new life into old barns by dressing up their interiors with new floors. As such an improvement is usually of a permanent nature and once made cannot be changed without quite a bit of expense, careful consideration must be given to its planning. Floor construction as far as possible should be wear-proof and waterproof. Such floors are durable, aid in conserving the liquid elements of the manure, and are easily kept in a sanitary condition. Concrete is a good material for this work and is widely used.

A concrete barn floor can be constructed in winter as well as summer and is an improvement made by many farmers during the slack season by the application of a few simple precautions. Sand and pebbles can be hauled from a convenient pit before freezing weather sets in and stored under shelter, an old culvert or smokestack secure to heat this aggregate during the concreting operation, and a kettle or tank located that can be utilized to heat the water in mixing concrete. These precautions are made necessary by the fact that the sand, pebbles, and water used should be heated when the temperature falls below forty degrees Fahrenheit. As the cement used forms only a small volume of the total batch of concrete, it need not be heated. The sand and pebbles should be heated separately so that they will not become mixed and result in inaccurately proportioned concrete

As it is desirable to have concrete at a temperature around eighty degrees when placed, aggregate and water should be brought to approximately 150 degrees to allow for heat lost during mixing and placing. The work should be so planned that the concrete may be placed immediately after mixing and the minimum amount of heat lost.

Protection of some sort should be given the freshly placed concrete so that as much heat as possible will be retained. As in barn floor construction only part of the work is done at one time, the body heat from the animals quartered in the remainder of the building will help keep up the temperature of the interior. Straw is often used to protect the new concrete work. Manure should not be used as a protective covering unless a layer of building paper or roofing material is used to prevent it from coming in direct contact with the new concrete.

Forms should not be removed until the concrete has hardened thoroughly. This may be determined by pouring boiling water on the concrete or heating it in some other manner. Frozen concrete will often ring when struck by a hammer, similar to properly hardened concrete. For this reason, the striking test is unreliable and heat should be applied. Frozen concrete will soften when heat is applied, while properly set concrete will not do so.

If the temperature can be maintained at sixty degrees or over the concrete will possibly be strong enough at the end of forty-eight hours to be uninjured by freezing. If an average temperature around forty-five degrees Fahrenheit is maintained, the temperature at no time going to thirty-two degrees, four or five days should be sufficient. However, it is only when there is likelihood of freezing that it is necessary to take precautions.

What is commonly known as a 1:2:3 mixture is recommended for barn floor construction. By this is meant concrete mixed in the proportion of one sack of portland cement to two cubic feet of sand to three cubic feet of pebbles or broken stone. The sand should be clean and well graded and in sizes running up to one-quarter of an inch. Pebbles or broken stone should range from one-quarter inch to one and one-half inches.—D. R. C., in Successful Farming.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

THE HEAD OF THE HERD

(From the Otago Witness, N. Z.)

The head of the herd always merits attention, whether he is a "scrub" bull or with a pedigree to suit the times. In the former case, the pedestrian, in taking a short cut through the pasture, is braced for action, with one eye on the nearest gap in the fence and one eye on the "good-enough-to-bring-the-cows-in" sort; but in the latter case, he scans at leisure the butter-fat backing and ancestry of the "choice bit of pedigree" stuff kept in the shed, with a nice grass and clover run-off. Old-time dairymen offered but small encouragement to the breeders of good dairy bulls, but now, with an appreciative market demand, breeders are finding that their well-rooted belief that the bull is as prepotent in a dairy herd as in the herd of beef Shorthorns is well founded. Not that all dairymen are yet keen enough to own bulls belonging to a milking strain; but the belief is growing slowly. Up-to-date dairymen credit the bull as being the dominating power in the dairy herd, as he was from early times in the beeving herds. Although not himself a direct contributor to the output of milk, he has proved himself to be "a carrier" of the properties that denote and promote liberal milk production. The well-bred bull transmits to his female progeny the dairying qualities inherited from his ancestry, and his male descendants are correspondingly endowed with prepotency to influence their offspring. The value of a bull cannot be too closely appraised by owners of dairy herds; the pedigree should be studied with the same minute and critical care that is bestowed upon the lineage of a thoroughbred or other classes of animals whose merits are measured by tests of a different order. Heredity in the sire is as prepotent in regard to milk production as to any other result, and one views with pleasure the trend of thought in that direction and the elimination of restricted vision. There is no need perhaps to stress the matter, except in respect to the danger of putting too high a value on the young, untried bull, whose merits have yet to be tested. The proved sire is one thing, although one not infrequently finds he is discarded long before he has reached mature years; the untried animal, on the other hand, depends upon his lineage and individual qualities, and is more or less a speculation. Nothing short of actual proof at the stud can justify complete confidence in the prepotency of a sire, and in acquiring a bull the element of uncertainty regarding his power to transmit his qualities to his offspring cannot be disregarded. The influence of the bull cannot be estimated. We can but hope for the best.

In the United States a purebred Friesian bull crossed on a scrub cow showed in the first generation an increase over their dams in milk and butter-fat production, with an average of 80 per cent. in milk and 58 per cent. in fat. In the case of a Guernsey grade bull crossed on a scrub cow the average increase in yield was 17 per cent. in milk and 27 per cent. in butter-fat, and in that of a Jersey grade bull crossed on a scrub cow it was 22 per cent. in milk and 34 per cent. in fats. The average increase in production for the second generation Friesian grades as compared with their scrub granddams was 174 per cent. in milk and 130 per cent. in fat, in the case of Guernsey grades 72 per cent. in milk and 94 per cent. in fat, and for Jersey second grades 59 per cent. in milk and 74 per cent. in fat. The buyer may be disappointed in the purchase of a young bull no matter how he is bred, as the element of uncertainty regarding his power to transmit his qualities to his offspring cannot be disregarded. We have no desire to decry the giving of high prices for pedigree stock—far from it,—but merely to warn buyers that the elements of uncertainty do exist. There is no royal way to success in dairying, but, given the will and well-watered pastures, success depends on—apart from prices ruling for dairy products—the class of cattle milked, which, as pointed out, lies in a great measure upon the head of the herd being of the right type and breeding.

Watch the Bull

No man trusts a tiger until it is dead. A bull, although he uses an entirely different method, can do just as much damage as any animal in the zoo or in the jungle. He is more vicious and treacherous than most of them, and with such a reputation no man should trust him for a minute, no matter what his record for good behavior has been. "Mean" bulls perhaps have killed fewer men than those considered safe.

A bull led on a staff attached to the ring in his nose may save a tragedy. Better still, keep him in a pen so arranged that handling would not be necessary at all.

Sir Henry Thornton, president of the Canadian National Railways, held a conference with the Prime Minister on Monday afternoon.

While biologists the world over are attempting to promote longevity by the transplantation of glands there lives in London, Ont., a man who mocks at the gropings of science. His name is Harry Gardner, 98 years old today, and he has grown not only a third set of teeth, but also new eyesight.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

THE CATTLE EXODUS FROM ALBERTA

The flood of cattle out of the province continues. About two hundred cars are leaving the Edmonton stockyards each week. Of these, a large percentage are feeders. Most of them go to the Ontario farms to be finished, but a few still dribble across the line into the United States feed lots.

The Alberta homestead is being robbed of its breeding stock while the near future promises an influx of settlers, says "Agricultural Alberta." This means a demand for cattle within the next year or two, and no stock to meet it. The situation is well worth a little study. A good grade of two-year-old heifers is now selling at about fifteen dollars. It would be hard to predict what that same heifer will be worth by the time she has raised her second calf. In the meantime, the man who stands pat will be compelled to provide feed. This may require considerable effort, but very little success comes in this world without hard labor. The man who lies down in the face of an obstacle very seldom achieves success in any line.

Cattle are now selling at a lower figure than ever before in the history of the province. This situation was brought about in the first place by a threatened shortage of feed. It is being sustained by a deep rooted conviction on the part of many farmers that they want to "get out of the cattle business." They are discouraged with the outlook for the industry and are determined to quit cold. This, of course, is only one method of following the line of least resistance. It is easier, always, to quit than it is to play the game. Fortunately, though, for the world's prosperity, there are a few who always stick, even when the game is all against them. The men who choose wisely and stick in the cattle business are due to reap their harvest about the time the quitters decide to come back in.

CARE OF BROOD MARES AND COLTS

It is an old saying that animals going to winter quarters in good condition are half wintered. It is particularly true of brood mares and colts. This is the season of the year when extra care gives greatest returns. The bleak winds and cold rains of the fall months, together with the chilly nights, take more out of animals than months of feeding will restore. This is particularly true of brood mares that are low in condition and of young colts. They should be stabled every night from now on, and should be fed a small feed before being turned out in the morning to fill up with cold or frozen grass, which is very liable to chill and even to stop the work of digestion. It never pays to let mares and colts stand around shivering during the cold nights and then attempt to make up by extra feed during the winter. Protect the mares and keep the colt growing, if results are wanted.

TO DECREASE SHRINKAGE

Every farmer knows the large shrinkage which often occurs in cattle between the farm and the stock yards. This shrinkage, however, can be reduced by proper feeding previous to the moving of the cattle, and also in the management during that period.

Where cattle have been fattened on grain and grass, it is advisable to place them in a dry lot a day or two before shipping, and feed all the timothy hay they will eat, and at the same time cut heavily on the grain ration.

Cattle fattened in a dry lot on grain and clover or alfalfa hay should be changed to timothy hay at least twenty-four hours before shipment, and their grain ration should be reduced at least fifty per cent. A full grain ration should not be served the animals for at least twelve hours before shipping. Some good cattlemen substitute oats for a portion of the grain ration at this time.

Where the animals are fed on silage, clover or alfalfa hay and some nitrogenous concentrate, it has been found advisable to omit the nitrogenous concentrate for at least a day preceding shipping. Timothy hay should also displace the leguminous hay and the silage should be cut to about one-third the regular amount.

Handle the cattle quietly so that they do not become excited or heated.

TESTING OF SEEDS

(By T. G. Raynor.)

The free government service provided through the Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture's Laboratory at Ottawa (117 Vittoria St.) leaves no excuse for a farmer to plead ignorance next spring that he did not know he was sowing certain kinds of weed seeds or seed of low vitality which might give him only a half stand of crop or less.

From now until February 1st he may have up to ten samples tested free, along with a free mail delivery of the seed. When the trade becomes active in seeds and the testing staff is very busy as it is during the months of February, March and April, it will cost every one 50c per sample for a test. It seems reasonable to suppose that most farmers could have their seeds prepared for market before the end of January.

There are many farmers who prefer to sow sweet clover seed by itself, rather than buy it mixed with red and alsike clover seeds. How is he to know if the seed is in a sample or not except it be analyzed? Such an examination should be of great value to growers of seed who wish to make the most out of their seed either for local use or for export. The main check in the spread of noxious weed life is given when pure seed is sown on well cultivated land.

You may be preparing some seed exhibits for the Ottawa Winter Fair, why not avail yourself of a quick service that is awaiting to serve your best interests?

PRESERVATION OF FARM TIMBERS

Fence-posts, barn sills, house-frames and other timbers placed without preservative treatment in contact with the soil give only a few years of service, and the cost of re-placing such timbers is increasing every year. Material is harder to obtain and labor is more expensive. In order that the longest possible service may be obtained from woods used for such purposes, the Forest Products Laboratories of Canada, Forestry Branch, Department of the Interior, have for several years investigated such preservative methods as could be practised by the farmer and builder.

Treatment of timber in open tanks, that is to say, without pressure, is the only feasible plan for a man who is not in the wood-preservation business. A creosote oil suitable for such a process was formerly so expensive as to make the preservation of timbers appear a questionable economy, but owing to representations made by the laboratories to the manufacturers of creosote oil in Canada it is now possible to get an oil of the correct specification at a very reasonable price. The preservation of farm and other timbers is therefore no longer a matter of enterprise but of ordinary business sense. Particulars as to the oil or process may be had from the Forest Products Laboratories of Canada, McGill University, Montreal.

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FARMING IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA

Because of the fact that the Lethbridge Station of the Dominion Experimental Farms system is situated in Southern Alberta, where the rainfall is frequently deficient, experiments in both dry and irrigation farming form an important feature of the work. The 1921 report of the Superintendent, now in circulation, contains much information respecting meteorological conditions in the district, which should be of much value as a guide in conducting farming operations. Practically two farms are operated at the station, half the four hundred acres occupied being irrigated and half devoted to non-irrigated or dry farming. Crop rotations on both farms constitute a leading feature of the work. On the dry land it has been found difficult to arrange a satisfactory rotation and the experiment is being continued. On the irrigated farm three rotations have been tried, each of which has proved satisfactory. This leads the superintendent to say that on the new irrigation projects in Alberta, grain is certain to be grown almost exclusively during the years of development, as it brings in quick cash returns; but with the high price of irrigated lands, a more diversified system of farming will have to be followed eventually. In a ten-year rotation alfalfa was grown for six years, followed by hoed crop, wheat, oats, and barley; and in a fifteen year rotation, alfalfa was grown for ten years followed by barley, corn, wheat, oats and peas. In another experiment wheat following sunflowers produced 42 bushels 23 pounds per acre, and wheat following corn 36 bushels 17 pounds per acre.

THE FREIGHT RATE

(Agricultural Alberta.)

When considering freight rates on agricultural products, we should keep two points in mind: First, that the cost of transportation becomes a part of the cost of production and any advance in freight rate must come out of the price the farmer receives for his product. In this case, the farmer is at a decided disadvantage. The jobber and retailer are able to add the cost of transportation to the price they receive from the consumer. They are not interested in the freight charge proper except as it affects their ability to meet competition on the open market. The farmer has little interest in competition; his price is named for him and he must meet it, freight or no freight. Second, our agricultural and business system has been built up on a basis of relatively low freight rates on farm products, designed to facilitate their movement over long hauls to the business and industrial centres of the world. Any rate which tends to counteract the working out of this system results in economic confusion to Canadian business as a whole. The increasing or lowering of freight rates by a strictly horizontal method, having no regard for the value of the product shipped and the economic effect upon the business of the country, is wrong in principle and cannot be continued without disastrous results to our entire business structure.

The tap root of every Canadian industry is grounded in agriculture. Upon the farmer devolves the duty of feeding the nation. Meantime, if the freight rates prevent him doing so with a margin of profit for himself, what is to feed our business institutions?

This year we are faced with a weird example of cleverly adjusted freight rates. Farmers, all over the Western prairies, were overjoyed to learn of a reduction—a very marked reduction, only to wait a little longer, and to fare worse, by finding to their sorrow that what was taken off the rail freight was tacked on to the water cartage charges—and more of it! Moral: Better leave the sleeping dog alone.

A GOOD HOOF DRESSING

It should never be the purpose of hoof dressing to hide cracks in the hoof or the marks of the rasp. Rasping the hoof, apart from the making of a shallow notch for the clinches of the nails, is injurious and should not be permitted by the horse owner. Suspect that it has been done when the hoofs of the new shod horse have received a thick coating of shoe-blacking or French dressing. Also be especially careful when a horse offered for sale has had his feet camouflaged in that way. In such cases we have found a quarter crack or sand crack filled with soap and covered with blacking. But many believe in the use of a dressing of some sort or another to keep the hoofs from drying out and buy that offered on the market. Much of that is so strong in crude oils and turpentine as to be injurious. The best dressing we know of was suggested to us by the late Dr. Frank S. Billings, the noted bacteriologist, who was also a practical horseman. His formula is as follows:

Melt over a slow fire, two quarts of neatsfoot oil, two quarts of blackstrap molasses and one pound of shaved yellow beeswax. Remove from fire, stir well and add two quarts of crude petroleum. Stir again and allow to cool. This dressing may be colored black by adding one pint of a saturated solution of negrosin

A simple hoof-dressing that is considered effective for stimulating a growth of new, sound, horny wall is composed of one-half pint of unsalted lard, two ounces of white pine pitch and two ounces of camphor gum. Melt and mix thoroughly. Rub in at the juncture of the hoof and hair once day. Do not use cow dung as a hoof packing material. Lanolin or sheeps' wool fat is now being used instead of pine tar and oakum under the leather pad sometimes placed under the shoe and peat moss has recently been employed as a packing material. Pipe clay or "white-rock" hoof packing is also excellent.—A. A.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

LETTER FROM DR. GRENFELL OF LABRADOR

Dear Mr. Editor,—I have not written you a letter for ages. Why not? Well to tell you the truth, Mr. Editor, I have more work to do on my "holidays" than on the Coast. In the last month, we have travelled 3000 miles mostly by motor car of a friend, spoken 35 times, and kept two secretaries busy with keeping engagements and answering letters. We did run over to visit the Assembly of the League of Nations, by invitation—because I am certain that is one way the King of Peace is advancing His Kingdom on Earth. It is a wonderful experience to see men working for world peace, where you can see everything, every committee, every treaty—and where everything is so open, all the men (for they alas are only men) on whom peace depends have to try, and do try, with more ease to be good and frank and honest.

It is a wonderful Godsend, this League of Nations. It is the right culmination of Evolution—that separate states or nations should unite with one great federal government for all those international problems that no one country can deal with. Well, sir, I hope they never will own a gun or have a soldier. I hope they may work, not with force, but as Christ did, by example and moral pressure. I believe it can be done.

Then we studied the beautiful work of the Friends Relief Mission in Austria—the cooperative building settlements are the most wonderful things I saw. A piece of land is obtained and 100 men who need houses get together, and in spare hours give free labor—every one must give 1800 hours, and some money per month, to buy wood and supplies. It was grand to see lots of men (on 100 settlements) stripped to the waist, in overall trousers, all digging and concreting, and building. Better still when one learnt that one was a 'common' workman, the next an ex-field-marshal, the next an author, and so on—all so jolly and healthy and happy, finding new fun in life and new sympathy and love for their brethren.

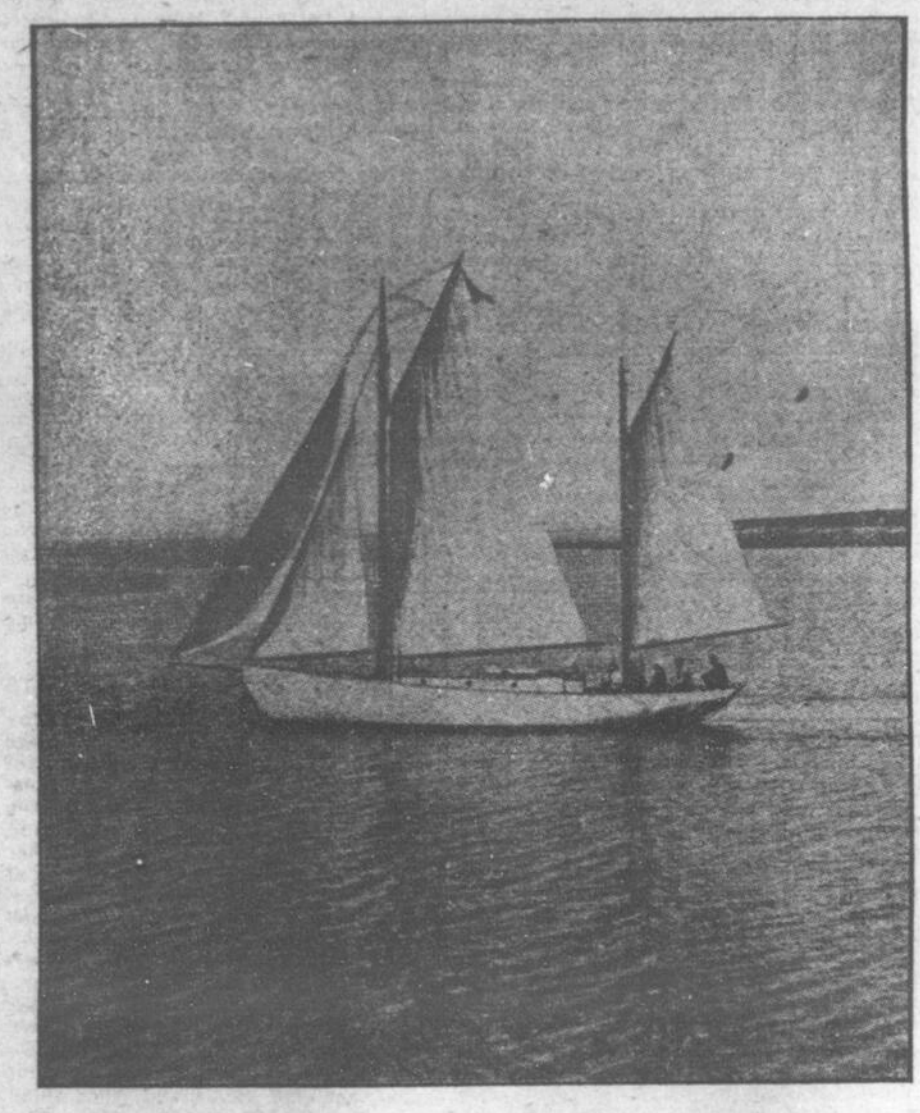
It was just like our Labrador workers in summer ! ! ! that is the way to find God, that is the way to understand the meaning of life. Christ Himself said, "Follow me, and you shall have the light of life." We can't understand it all with our brains but we know it all the same in our hearts. Give up arguing, get busy doing, and we shall be fishers of men ! ! Splendid, isn't it? Makes life a new thing altogether. The dear little Northern Messenger was busy this summer. Badly needed she was, and now she has a real skipper in Dr. Yates. You know how he travelled with dogs from Quebec last winter. He is a real man, and the people love him.

So now I am encouraged again to write to you, dear friend of so many years, to the people of the Labrador.

Go on helping the little Messenger. Make it possible for Dr. Yates to put to sea each time with a light heart because there are no debts on his boat or his work. He is willing to do the tough and dangerous and cold work. Do keep his hands up.

You won't miss what you give. It is the only way you can help these brethren at present. Here is my deepest and sincerest wish for all readers of the Northern Messenger: May God teach you all the real meaning of your own lives, that you, like Christ Himself, are intended to be saviors of others. Your friend,

WILFRED GRENFELL.



The Northern Messenger

OUR MISSIONARY BOAT ON THE LABRADOR

Our readers know their peculiar interest in the sturdy little vessel which carries the missionary doctor up and down hundreds of miles of coast on his visits of mercy to the little fishing villages on the Canadian Labrador Coast. That little vessel is named "The Northern Messenger," since the readers of the Messenger through the special S. S. collections or individual gifts bought the boat at the request of Dr. Grenfell, and, together with the readers of the Witness, have paid for its maintenance and operation for many years. That little boat has been shown on the screen all over Canada, the U. S., and in Britain. And so the season for giving has come round again and that great-hearted man, Dr. Grenfell, endeared to those on the Labrador and to big-hearted men and women, boys and girls everywhere, has written another of his wonderful letters specially to the readers of the Northern Messenger and Witness.

He has just been to Europe and has something to say of the League of Nations but he never forgets the "Northern Messenger," which seeks to bring healing to his beloved Labrador, or Dr. Yates, the physician and surgeon who is so nobly devoting himself to that great work. Neither does he forget the readers of this paper, who through their gifts are associated with him, and, don't forget it, with God, in that splendid work for humanity.

Let us pray for that work, for Dr. Grenfell, Dr. Yates, and all the other doctors and nurses, and for their patients. And let us pay for it too. Contributions for this work should be made payable to John Dougall & Son, and clearly designated "For Grenfell Mission Messenger Launch." And the envelope addressed John Dougall & Son, Publishers, WITNESS BLDG. All such contributions will be duly acknowledged in these columns and forwarded IN FULL to the Official Treasurer of the Grenfell Medical Mission. Some contributions are acknowledged in this issue.

Japan is called "The Children's Paradise." Hundreds of people are employed to make toys for the little folks, and festivals of various kinds are held for them. The "Festival of Dolls" brings joy to the hearts of many little girls, while the boys rejoice in flying kites and other sports.

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Facts Rehearsed to Clear Up Some Misapprehensions

The Purpose of the "Witness."

77 Years ago the Montreal Witness was founded by the late John Dougall as a national Weekly newspaper. The object of its founder was to provide for the people a voice devoted to the upbuilding of the nation on the twin pillars of Truth and Righteousness. Subordinating every consideration to that principle the Witness stood forth as the champion of the people against privilege, unrighteousness, and injustice. Except for another Dougall publication it was the first journal to take up the cause of Prohibition. It led in the forward march of Christian democracy.

Unbiased by the influence of the big interests, the Witness was the first paper of national scope in Canada to see that the farmers were bearing the burden of the cities and became the slaves of the manufacturer through the tariff for the latter's protection. And at incalculable cost to itself the WITNESS fought their battles before they had organizations and their present consciousness of power—fought for them when they had indeed no way of recompensing it for such championship, or of recouping its terrific losses on their account—fought for them, not surrounded as are their organs of today, by friends, but in the very stronghold of their enemies—fought for them because they needed a champion and because the WITNESS believed that Canada's greatest material service to the world was in the feeding of the nations, and her greatest spiritual service perhaps through the development of her rural citizenry—and it is still fighting for them.

But, although a farm and family journal, its service was not exclusively to farmers. It consistently and courageously took its stand for Right and Truth in all matters affecting the Common Weal and continually strove to educate public opinion to a higher conception of man's duty and responsibility to his brother citizen and to his fellow human beings the world over.

Such, very briefly, has been the purpose of the Witness for 77 years.

The Value of the "Witness."

That it has striven to achieve this end with ability and power is evidenced by the high esteem in which it is held by some of our best public men and, of equal value as a mark of distinction, is the sincere devotion of thousands of our citizens, rural and urban, because of its wholesome and educative influence in the home. We do not ask you to accept the publisher's estimate of the value to the country of the Witness, but, on this page you will see what your fellow readers think of it and what they have done for it. On page 17 you will find reprinted (chiefly for the benefit of our new subscribers) the opinions of some of our leading public men of today.

Many good citizens whose lives are, by hard circumstance, absorbed in the daily round, the common task, do not or cannot see the larger things of life. Not knowing the Witness they think it is a "faddist" paper, impractical, of no interest to them and having no concern in their problems.

They certainly do not know the Witness. They do not know that its treatment of the economic and political questions of the day commands the attention of leaders of thought in the nation. They do not know that the Wtiness can show them that they have an interest in these questions and that the just settlement of these questions is of vital personal interest to them. They do not know that through three generations the Witness has fought for that just settlement on their behalf. The Witness is no "milk and water" proposition. It challenges the keenest minds, but in the spirit of honest purposeful debate and fair play for all, it discusses the most contentious questions, and it seeks only the Truth—without counting the cost.

The Cost of the "Witness."
—to the publishers.

Elsewhere we have spoken of the financial cost to the publishers of such a policy, but most readers do not understand the machinery of present day journalism and do not realise why the Witness doesn't pay—or why its publishers should carry it on for generations on a non-profitable basis.

Most of our readers know that a paper is not supported only by its readers' subscriptions but largely by its advertising revenue which, of course, depends on circulation. Some publications spend their entire subscription revenue to increase their circulation, and, with a huge circulation, obtain a very profitable advertising revenue. Therefore, the maintenance and increase of circulation is, to such a paper, its great aim. Its editorial attitude is adapted to the achieving of that end. Its views must be colored or devitalised as required by The Great Consideration and they must also be inoffensive to those Great Moguls—the advertising agents and managers. How then shall such a paper seek, with singleness of eye, Truth and Right?

We have shown how, by a carefully adapted editorial attitude towards readers and advertisers, journals of the "popular press" pay dividends and publish big papers without "bothering" their readers. Since the Witness' Editorial attitude is the exact reverse of such, the results are naturally also the reverse.

The Cost of the "Witness."
—to the readers.

Perhaps the most serious and certainly the most discouraging loss which the Witness suffers is that of old friends, sincere, high-minded, purposeful, who, differing from it on some one issue, forget the many perhaps more important issues on which it and they are agreed and withdraw their support, not realizing that, in so doing, they also withdraw their support of its attitude on all questions. Therefore, if, in the main, it upholds the principles a reader endorses and is striving for the goal he would win, he should give it his full support unless he finds another paper which aims for that general goal with greater courage and wisdom and less thought of self interest.

If you approve of its purpose and realise its value to the nation and the cost at which its publishers continue to publish it do you not feel that it has a claim to your co-operation. That is the only means by which it can stand up against the competition of other papers which are run simply to produce revenues for their publishers or to accomplish the purposes of the interests behind them.

If you realise that it is to your own and the nation's interest to strengthen a paper which can be depended on to speak the Truth as it sees it, with knowledge and ability and unaffected by any class, party, sect or interest, you will assuredly give that co-operation immediately and willingly. The more immediate your response the more effective it is, the more effective it is the better service we can render you.

You don't have to—

support an independent paper,
But if you don't

Who Will?

Losses and Profit

Why doesn't the Witness pay? The answer to that is the story of its 77 years fight for right and against privilege, for Democracy and against class rule and for the application of the principles of Christianity to the affairs of our citizens as individuals or as societies whether the common interest of these societies be economic, political, social or religious. A paper sincerely following such a course according to the best of its directors' wisdom and strength, is bound to make more enemies than friends. Those whom it hurts, be it in pocket, pride or prejudice, feel the hurt and retaliate. Those whom it benefits do not always know their benefactor and therefore do not lend the support which would otherwise offset the enmities aroused.

But the Witness does pay the kind of dividends its publishers and their fellow-workers seek—a better Canada. Other sincerely independent and devoted papers have courageously tried to do like the Witness but have gone down in the struggle, all because their readers did not cooperate with them regularly or adequately.

One of our dearest wishes is to prove that an independent paper will receive the voluntary, devoted and effective cooperation of a sufficient number of the better citizens to make its existence not only possible but its efficient service for you immeasurable even if so proving we pave the way for a better paper than the Witness to the latter's displacement. There is only one way to be sure of getting better papers—that is by doing your best for the best papers you know. If the best you can do is to criticize them—well do your conscientious best, anyway. Nothing is perfect. But a paper cannot live entirely on criticism—especially one that is fighting your battles.

HONOR ROLL

We greatly regret having had to omit the **HONOR ROLL** this week. But the accumulation for the following week will evoke the more enthusiasm. Many new names have earned a place on the Roll. . Every subscriber to the Witness is a friend and **supporter of independent journalism—but every one who adds to the circulation is also in a very true and intimate sense a partner with its Editor in the work the Witness is striving to do.**

HELICOPTER EXPERIMENTS

Of the numerous experiments with vertical-lift flying machines, one of the most novel is being made in Great Britain. Like the Pescara, it consists of a rotating aeroplane wing which serves the purpose of an air screw rotating on a vertical axis; but whereas the Pescara has a series of small biplanes on one shaft, the British machine has one large monoplane wing, the leading edge of which, on one side of the shaft, faces in the opposite direction to that of the other. The wing on each side of the shaft carries a small engine with an ordinary aeroplane propeller, and the rotation of these propellers, which, of course face opposite directions, causes the whole wing to revolve, this providing the ascensional force. Under the wing is a body resembling the fuselage of an aeroplane, and the tail of this body carries a rudder and other controls. The wings have ailerons. Progress in the horizontal can be obtained by the inclination of the plane in which the wing rotates.

It is said that the Government have spent over £50,000 during the past four years on the helicopter experiments at Farnborough, and the proposal to offer a prize of £50,000 for a helicopter that will fulfil certain conditions is still being considered. So far, the machine at Farnborough, although it has demonstrated certain capabilities, has not been put to a test outside its shed.

MAGICIAN OF INDUSTRY
Oxy-Acetylene Torch Cuts Steel Like Tissue Paper.

The oxy-acetylene welder and cutter has been called the modern magician. With apparent ease he joins together or cuts apart masses of iron and steel. He accomplishes in seconds and minutes what once required hours; in a few hours he does what it once took days or weeks to do.

Almost without number are the true and marvellous stories of wonders worked with oxy-acetylene. The commonest is its sensational applications for cutting, either for rescue or for clearing away of wreckage in making way for new construction. Oxy-acetylene opened the sides of the wrecked Eastland, liberating hundreds of passengers who were trapped in that ill-fated steamship. The cutting blowpipe made it possible to remove the battleship Maine from Havana harbor, thereby clearing the channel of a serious menace to navigation. Oxy-acetylene cutters cleared away the wreckage of the Quebec bridge, which fell into the St. Lawrence river not many years ago. Today oxy-acetylene cutters are reducing to scrap a billion dollars' worth of fighting ships for the leading powers of the earth. And meanwhile an even greater work, in the aggregate, is being done in the demolition of buildings and structures in the course of the world's every-day business.

Oxy-acetylene cutting of steel is spectacular. It is fascinating to see a jet of flame cut its dazzling path through the solid metal, as a power-driven saw eats its way through heavy timber; the one throwing off a hissing spray of sawdust; the other spitting out a sizzling blast of scintillating, lacy sparks. In cutting cast iron the chemical reaction is not quite so rapid, but even this metal, once supposed to be impossible to cut with oxy-acetylene, yields to a correctly adjusted flame if the blowpipe is manipulated properly. Other striking instances of the use of oxy-acetylene for cutting are the opening of vaults and safes to rescue persons accidentally or purposely locked within, and the cutting of steel hulls of wrecked and sunken vessels for the recovery of treasure. Underwater cutting with oxy-acetylene (and also with electricity and oxygen) is receiving a great deal of attention in both America and Europe at the present time, and some very remarkable results have been attained by both processes. Indications at present point to rather definite limitations as to the depth at which oxy-acetylene cutting should be practiced under water.—Times-Picayune.

MURDERS IN THE UNITED STATES
(N. Y. Evening Mail.)

The number of murders committed in the United States annually is not only increasing but it is increasing proportionately faster than the population. "The murder record of 1921 is the most appalling in the history of the twenty-eight cities for which the data at the present time are available," says Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, consulting statistician of the Prudential Insurance Company, in the "Spectator."

In 1921 there were 1,910 verified cases of murder in a population for the twenty-eight cities of 20,558,770, or a rate of 9.3 per 100,000 of the population. In 1920 the rate was 8.5, which was in itself slightly higher than the average for the previous five years. It is some consolation to read that New York's rate, 6.2, is only two-thirds of the average, but at that it is far too high. Memphis, Tenn., has the astounding rate of 56.8, seven times the average.

The psychological upsets caused by the war are also given as a reason for the increase in violent crime. But unfortunately the tendency had shown itself before the war came. Perhaps the breakdown of religious belief is also responsible. There are many persons incapable of sticking to any moral code except under the compulsion of a religious sanction for it.

Whatever be the reasons, one thing is clear; there will be fewer murders if it be made more difficult to commit murder swiftly and secretly. To that end the sale of revolvers to private individuals, except in very rare cases indeed, should be absolutely forbidden.

THE MOTOR WORLD
Features of the Xmas Exhibits ....

Outstanding features of the motor exhibition to be held at White City, London, England, at Christmas, are the provision of increased comfort for passengers in the coachwork and the lessening of the weight of the superstructure. These improvements are due to the lessening of the rated engine power for the propulsion of enclosed carriages and the demand of the public for full protection in inclement weather. Practically the open car has been abandoned, and the enclosed vehicle which can be opened in favorable atmosphere conditions has taken its place. Every salesman at the White City and Olympia offers the "all-weather" carriage to his customers.

Economy in Repairs

The automotive industry has reached a stage in its development where the adjustment and repair of a motor vehicle, particularly in the moderately priced class, may be reduced to a uniform system, by means of which the charge for material and labor entering into one, or a combination of operations of the same nature, will be invariable for vehicles of one make and model. This has been brought about primarily by standardization and quanity production, which has made specialization in distribution and maintenance both possible and profitable.

Try valves on the oiling system sometimes becomes clogged with dirt and sediment and fail to show oil when opened. If no oil runs out on opening one, do not immediately assume that the oil is too low. Run a wire through the valve to make sure it is clear.

The American oil industry of today, including 275,000 wells producing 1,500,000 barrels of oil daily, started with one well producing twenty-five barrels a day. Today upwards of 11,000,000 automobiles and thousands of tractors, oil-burning ships, airplanes, submarines, motor boats and portable engine depend on oil and its products for power and lubrication, the institute estimates.

The serious situation in which the British type industry finds itself as this time affects national interests to an unsuspected degree, and merits the thoughtful consideration not merely of motorists and cyclists but of every manufacturer or trader who uses the roads, directly or indirectly; of every rubber worker and cotton weaver; of every candidate for Parliament and most emphatically of every voter, says a writer in the Daily Telegraph.

Among the industrial surprises of the past year none has been more striking than the revival of the automobile industry. More than one keen observer of the trade who had predicted a rather lean year in motors has seen his prognostications miss the mark. As a matter of fact, the current year is proving to be one of the most profitable the industry has ever enjoyed.

"When things go wrong, don't swear an' cuss,
An' rush about an' make a fuss—
Creation doesn't end with us.

There's other folks as well as you
'As got ter get their livin' too,
An' God 'as got enough to do."

TO THE WITNESS

Give me no petty, pandering press
But rather one that calls me, drives me; yes,
Goads me to courage, flings at me Truth;
And for the Truth my best endeavor challenges!

To have a difference with such a press
Is healthier to my soul than full accord
With sycophants. The press of privilege,
Adventurous wealth, or prejudice, is not for me.

D. M.

THE WITNESS 77th ANNIVERSARY

And What Some Of Its Friends Are Doing

TWO—AND STILL TRYING

Dear Sir:— Ont., Nov. 29, 1922.

I wore the badge as you asked me to do Thanksgiving week, but I only got two subscribers, whose names I will send so that you may send their papers at once. Then I will try to get some more if possible.

I wish the people were as much in love with the dear old Witness as I am, and if so you would have more names than you would know what to do with. May our dear Lord bless and prosper you in your great work for the uplift of mankind. Yours sincerely,

MRS. VINA L. MACKIE.

(We are much impressed by the fact that those of our readers who have done much are anxiously seeking to do more.)

A GOOD PLACE TO PUT THE WITNESS

Dear Sirs:— N.B., Nov. 28th, 1922.

Enclosed is one dollar and thirty-five cents for another subscription to the Witness. This Friend has a family of fifteen sons and daughters—a good place, surely, to put the Witness. I have canvassed a good many people but have only secured the two thus far. But I intend to keep at it. Yours very truly,

MARY L. S. BAYLEY

(For three generations the Witness has been esteemed for its splendid influence in the home. As a wholesome, informational, character-building influence in the home it is a paying investment.

THE MOST SUITABLE GIFT

Gentlemen:— N.B., Nov. 28th, 1922.

Enclosed please find P.O. Money Order for eight dollars ($8.00) to pay subscriptions: One renewal for the Weekly Witness, one new subscription I am giving as an Xmas present to friends, in the hope they will continue it after the year is up, for the Witness and Messenger and one renewal for myself of all three of your indispensable papers, Witness, Messenger and World Wide. I do not know of any more suitable Xmas present than your papers and wish I could afford to send more than these two.

(Very sincerely a well-wisher)

(The above suggestion is worth considering. Such a present is a "repeater" weekly throughout the year.)

FOR THE BETTER PEOPLE

Gentlemen:— B.C., Nov. 18th, 1922.

Enclosed please find ($2.70) for the renewal of my subscription to the Witness and a new subscription as a Christmas present from me. This is all I can do towards the Witness just now but wish you every success in building the circulation up to what a paper like the Witness should have and ought to have if the better people only realized it.

With every good wish for the coming year, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

MRS. ARTHUR REID

(We are exerting every effort to make the better people realise how much the Witness can be strengthened by a little effort immediately on the part of each.)

BREAKING NEW GROUND

Dear Sirs:— Ont., Dec. 4th, 1922.

I am enclosing one more subscription for the Witness, for which enclosed find $1.35. I will be on the lookout for others who value righteous Journalism as I get more acquainted. Yours sincerely,

MRS. PAUL CAMERON

(Mrs. Cameron has only recently moved into her present locality, but, in spite of a natural diffidence, has done very effective work for the Witness.)

THE WITNESS IN FAR JAPAN

Sirs:— Ont., Dec. 2nd, 1922.

I received your statement re the Witness for Bishop Hamilton of Japan. I now enclose check for $4.00 to renew the paper for the coming year. He enjoys the paper so much and gets it regularly. I am, very sincerely,

MRS. ANNE B. ALEXANDER

(The Witness is a very valuable medium for keeping distant friends in touch with current affairs—home and international.)

STRONG POINTS

Dear Sirs:— Que., Dec. 2nd, 1922.

Enclosed please find $4.05 for two new subscribers and renewal of my own. I am doing my best for the Witness. I try to help in all endeavors to increase the Witness on account of its independence, cleanliness and fair play shown to all. I remain, your friend,

JOHN MEYER, SR.

(If these points were convincingly put to your friends no doubt they would be as effective as they have been for Mr. Meyer.)

TOO MANY PAPERS TO READ—BUT

Dear Sirs:— Ont., Dec. 2nd, 1922.

It seems most people around here are supplied or over supplied with other papers and magazines and they will not subscribe for the Witness, although they know its merits. Nevertheless, I shall at least get one new subscriber. The one I am referring to will not subscribe till one of his papers is run out. That will not be till Dec. 18th this year.

Although I did not like writing without sending at least one new subscription I thought it was certainly time you should know how things were, and that I had not been indifferent to your appeal, although it might look like it.

However as I stated before you shall get one new subscriber.

Congratulations to all who have got new subscribers. Congratulations to you Editors, who have kept your spirit, inspired by Jesus to carry on against all kinds of earthly opposition. Wishing you every success, I remain, yours truly,

K. S. STEWART

(In spite of difficulties this friend has convinced another that he stood to gain by dropping one of the "too many" and taking the Witness in its place.)

The Montreal Witness and Canadian Homestead

What Some Men You Know Think of It

Rt. Hon. T. A. Crerar:

"What the people of Canada to-day need almost as much as anything else is sound moral standards in our public press. This, it seems to me, the Witness has always aimed to supply."

Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association:

The General Secretary was instructed to send a letter requesting all the local Secretaries to bring it before their memberships, and urge their standing behind it with their subscriptions.

John Evans, M.P.
Nutana, Sask.:

"In my meetings I am trying to bring the Witness to the notice of the people. If democracy is to win it will depend on the enlightened public opinion, and I know of nothing better to attain this than the editorial pages of the Witness. I enclose four new subscriptions."

W. R. Wood,
Sec. United Farmers of Manitoba:

"For many years I have regarded the Witness as nearer than any other paper to my ideal of what a family weekly paper should be, for its influence, for its uniformly sane and informing editorials, for its splendid political independence, and for the whole average of its general household reading. . . I could wish nothing better for every Grain Growers' home than that the intellectual and moral spirit of the Witness should be constantly generated within it. With sincerely earnest wishes for your future success."

Editor, Grain Growers' Directory:

"Canada has no other paper with a record like the Witness."

Hon. W. E. Raney, K.C.
Attorney-General of the Province of Ontario:

This country, I believe, owes more to the Witness than to any other single publication unless it be the Toronto Globe.

"A REAL DIFFICULTY SURMOUNTED"

Dear Sir:— Alta., Nov. 21, 1922.

Enclosed please find $2.70 for new subscribers to your valuable paper the Witness. I may say that although I admire and sincerely value your paper I am afraid to admit that I cannot be counted as a great helper in gaining you subscribers, due, principally to my aversion in soliciting such subscriptions to any cause whatever. I suppose this may look silly to many but I cannot help that, it is second nature to me to avoid any action that might cause people to think that my solicitude to get subscribers is for a reward. With the hope to remain, yours truly,

F. E. RENAUD

(2 NEW Subscriptions enclosed.)

(The writer very effectively overcame that aversion with splendid results. Perhaps there are others who only need this example to encourage them to overcome a supposedly inconquerable aversion. The cause is surely an incentive.)

ANOTHER STRONG POINT

Dear Sirs:— Alta., Nov. 30th, 1922.

I am enclosing $1.35 for one year's subscription to the Weekly Witness.

I have not taken the Witness since coming west but in my early days in Ontario saw a good deal of it and think very highly of it for the stand it takes on all Public questions, especially on questions of a Moral Character and think that we ought to support it on that ground alone.

Wishing the Witness success and long life, I remain, yours truly,

JAS. McKINNEY

(In introducing the Witness to a friend test out the ideas expressed in these letters.)

ISOLATION

Dear Sirs:— N.B., Nov. 20, 1922.

I would gladly follow your suggestion of speaking to friends I may meet at the store but we can't boast of a store nearer than 5 miles, and that is French, and no church near. At present we have no minister. We have a student during the summer and the service over here is held at our house. I often think we are as much shut off from civilization as the people of Labrador. Our nearest doctor is 30 miles from here. But I am writing friends at a distance and hope to get some new subscribers.

(There are many of our readers in just such isolation as Mrs.——

Their circumstances naturally limit their effectiveness and those who, by a little extra effort, accomplish the introduction of an extra NEW reader have the satisfaction of knowing that they have in that respect, made up for our friends' isolation.)

A PRIVATE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN

Dear Sirs:— Sask., Nov. 22, 1922.

As soon as the notice appeared in the Witness I was anxious to take part in the canvass with the rest. I worked hard walking several miles and the neighborhood has been pretty thoroly visited. One of the difficulties encountered is the hard times. This is a dry area, averaging 5 or 6 bushels to the acre, perhaps more in some cases but less in others. Instead of waiting till the end of the year I shall do better to make it a part of my regular business to introduce the subject of the Witness. The Witness has been improving so much of late that I sincerely believe that others will have a better harvest of subscribers, working in less barren fields.

Yours faithfully,

M. R. TUTTLE

(Persistence is a most effective virtue and we believe that this plan of campaign will bring results.)

AN OCTOGENARIAN GETS SIX

Dear Sirs:— Ont., Nov. 30, 1922.

Please find enclosed the sum of six dollars for my renewal and five new subscriptions to the Weekly Witness. I have taken the Witness for over fifty years and I am now over eighty two years old and I have worked hard for the paper. If you would send the paper to these five new subscribers for one year and advance my paper ahead one year I will be thankful. I herein enclose a list of new names,

(This surely must be nearly a record for a reader of such an advanced age.)

HARD TIMES BUT I CANNOT DO WITHOUT THE WITNESS

Sirs:— Ont., Nov. 30th, 1922.

I have tried hard to comply with your request to get my neighbors to invest in a first class paper but times are tight and none knows better than myself just how hard money is but I cannot do without the Witness and World Wide. I am sending your paper to my son in N. O. who has gone through 4 1-2 hours of hell as no other words can express the fight he had to save his crop and building. He says he could not see his hand the smoke was so dense. His stocks took fire several times but saved everything thanks to the Great Giver of all good. So I will add one more to the family of Witness readers and wishing you and your staff the compliments of this festive season and that you may all be spared to many years of usefulness I remain,

N. G. BALDWIN

(We sympathize very sincerely with Mr. Baldwin's son and with those less fortunate who lost everything in the disastrous Haileybury fire.)

The Perfect Number

77

the Double Seven

SPECIAL OFFERS

NEW, on-trial subscriptions at $1.35

ONE Renewal and THREE New for $4.00

77th BIRTHDAY SHOWER

COUPON

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

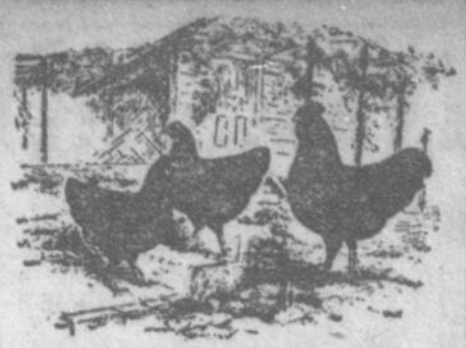
Dear Sirs,— 1922

By way of **CELEBRATING** the **DOUBLE SEVEN BIRTHDAY** of the **WITNESS** I have pleasure in securing the following **NEW** subscribers at your on trial rate of $1.35 for one full year.

Names	Addresses	
.....	.....	1.35
.....	.....	1.35
.....	.....	1.35
.....	.....	
Senders Name	and Address	

Use other sheet for additional names.

Total amount enclosed herewith $.....



WINTER CARE OF BREEDERS

(By Mrs. Geo. R. Shoup.)

During the fall and winter all breeders must be allowed to complete the moult, to rest and recuperate vigor as shown by yellow color in shanks, bills and earlobes, to exercise and hunt hard to find enough to maintain their bodies and keep them lean until spring hatching eggs are wanted.

It is better to feed a handful to each bird answering the feed call, than to feed the number in the pen so many quarts, going by a schedule. The birds not coming to call are not hungry and a small feed is all that the hungry ones should be allowed, so these are safeguarded from overeating and consequently ruining themselves by becoming over fat. The best of birds if too fat, lay queer shaped, mottled shelled, watery eggs, which are the nightmare of the person running incubators. The green range cannot be over-estimated in its great importance, relative to hatching eggs and where there is a shortage, greens should be supplied at least once a day. Lawn clippings, kale and mangels are the most common greens.

Biddy's resting programme should be somewhat like this:

Get up late with natural light.

Scratch in clean deep litter for a scanty breakfast of oats, preferably sprouted to induce her to dig for them, because she likes them.

Fresh water and about three quarts of sour milk per hundred birds.

Egg mash, reduced by one-fourth to one-half bran or as a last resort, mill run, should be in the hoppers, but not being in lay, only small amounts will be eaten.

An hour before dark in the afternoon, feed a handful to each bird that comes to eat and give no more greens nor any wet mash. Remember during the rest period, no artificial lights, no wet mash and no greens to freeze in the house over night. Clean straw to work in fresh water and milk, a small amount of dry mash and clean sleeping quarters, with green range accessible every day, all day, these give the potential mothers a fair chance to be in condition to lay hatching eggs.

Ten days before hatching eggs are to be saved, place the breeding cockerels in pens and if the month happens to be January, allow them artificial light so that their day shall be not more than twelve hours long. The stimulating effect of the males and the short extra feeding time will tend to start the birds that otherwise would linger on the verge of laying for several weeks longer.

Do not make the mistake of reasoning that a little light being recommended, much light would be proportionately better. Excessive use of light and the use of stimulating feeds on breeders brings ruinous results and this statement cannot be over-emphasized.—Farm and Home.

Points Concerning Breeding

1. Save eggs after males have been in the pens ten days or more.
2. Save eggs that are smooth-shelled, even texture shell and not less than 23 ounces to the dozen.
3. Save eggs not longer than 10 days for setting.
4. Keep eggs where they will not be chilled, exposed to a draft, nor subjected to great warmth, as the last two especially cause excessive evaporation.
5. Eggs are fertile for about two weeks after males are removed from flock.
6. Use one cockerel to 15 hens in Leghorns and one cock to 12 pullets, and in flock mating, use three or more males so that some may be eating while the rest fight.
7. Use one cockerel to 12 hens or one cock to 8 pullets for Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds and Wyandottes.
8. Green range with secluded places helps fertility.

WINTER GREEN FEED

Green food for poultry may be provided by feeding mangles, carrots or other root vegetables from the winter cellar. Potato and apple parings and refuse from cabbage or other vegetables may be given. If no other green food can be provided, put one-hundred pounds of alfalfa meal in the dry mash.

There are many different makes and varieties of grain sprouters on the market now and they are all good; though some of them are much better than others. The best we have ever used was built of galvanized tin and was an upright cabinet affair consisting of five shallow trays in which to put the oats to be sprouted. Above these trays was a similar tray which was perforated. Every morning a bucket of water was poured into this upper tray and it ran down through the oats, soaking it thoroughly. It then ran into a tray which was placed beneath all the other trays and about twelve inches from the floor. A lamp set on the floor underneath the trays, kept the water steaming up through the oats and in an unbelievably short time, the grain was a mass of long green sprouts. The oats were not all put to sprout the same morning, but instead, each day one tray was filled. In this way a full tray of the green sprouts was provided for each day. The sprouter was set in a sunny situation, just in front of a south window. It soon paid for itself through the full egg baskets.

Keep plenty of fresh water before the chickens and on these cold days, warm the water a little. Never let the fowls out during the winter when there is snow on the ground or when the premises are wet and slushy.—N. P.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

TRY EPSOM SALTS

Epsom salts are a cheap remedy to keep on hand to help in toning up a poultry flock that has had access to spoiled feed. The occasional use of the salts is a help in reducing loss s from sour crop or indigestion due to overfeeding. A hen that has been crop bound is benefited by epsom salts.

The usual dose is half a teaspoonful for a mature hen. The salts can be dissolved in warm water and poured down the throat of the bird. Then you know the hen has received the dose. She may not eat enough of a mash containing the salts. A flock can be allowed to go hungry about half a day followed by a moist mash containing epsom salts for every bird.

When the salts are used as a preventive, place about three teaspoonfuls in a gallon of water and allow the birds no other drinking water. Many of the cases of so-called cholera are really only bowel trouble, due to faulty feeding methods. Often the use of epsom salts will improve such conditions. Epsom salts can be purchased in one hundred pound bags for less than four cents per pound, so the cost of using this in poultry doctoring is very reasonable.—Kirby.

POULTRY EXPERIMENTS IN B. C.

In spite of all that has been said about ultimately weakening the strain by breeding fowls for egg laying capacity, the superintendent of the station at Sidney, B. C., of the Dominion Experimental Farms, in his report for 1921, says that by selecting the best layers of the flock, and breeding only from these high producers, it is possible to build up flocks of still greater worth from the standpoint of production. Only males of the highest producing strain have been used at the station, and several hens of great merit have been the outcome. This policy has been followed for a number of years and, as a consequence, last year one hen broke all records at the station by producing 307 eggs as a pullet, and the flock quite nearly approaches an average of 200 eggs per hen per year. White Wyandottes are kept at the station because of their erceeding popularity on Vancouver Island.

The development of high producing strains was commenced in 1916, and a hen that herself produced 261 eggs in her pullet year has six daughters that have shown in their pullet year, respectively, 274, 214, 300, 292, 243, and 201 eggs. Pedigrees are given in the report in genealogical form of the males used, and also a number of production tables. The records for five years of the best ten pullets show an upward trend, graduating from 2,462 eggs in 1916-17 to 2,824 eggs in 1920-21.

The many poultry experiments being conducted at this station include the testing of electric incubators. Relative to brooding the statement is made that for the small flock no device can compete with the mother hen, but for the up-to-date commercial poultry plant the hen as a brooder has little value.

In a test for meat production in crates, carried on for two years, the most satisfactory ration has proved to be equal parts of fine ground oats and white middlings mixed with sour milk and fed liberally twice a day. Commercial feeds are under rigorous test. Tables detailing the feed cost of producing eggs are given for each of three years.

Pullets have proved much superior to hens in egg production, but from the breeding standpoint hens are superior to pullets. A test as to when chicks should be hatched for the most profitable egg production shows that, in keeping with the experience of many poultrymen, April is the best month. Other information of importance to poultrymen is given in the report, which can be had at the station or of the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

For eggs there must be a fair proportion of heat foods, otherwise the egg cannot be produced, but the condition of the body must be maintained before you can have anything to work upon, hence the need for flesh producing foods, but not in such amount as to cause unnecessary fat, for fear the fat may destroy the means for producing eggs.

FITTING POULTRY FOR THE SHOW

(By C. S. Greene.)

The first thing to do in preparing for a poultry show is to have good stock, and in good physical condition; that is, not too fat or too lean or thin in flesh. A great deal depends upon condition, and no amount of "fixing up" can overcome the disadvantages of poor condition, although it may help somewhat. There are a great many varieties of poultry, and it is necessary for a person to become familiar with "The American Standard of Perfection," which describes the rules made by the American Poultry Association governing all varieties of poultry for exhibition.

Many poultry shows now have two classes, fancy and utility. All white birds to be shown in the fancy class should be washed with some pure soap and warm water, and thoroughly rinsed in three waters. The last rinsing water should have a little bluing in it, but not enough to show blue on the feathers. They should then be placed in clean coops and kept in a room where the temperature runs 100 degrees or over until thoroughly dry. Never wash birds for exhibition in the utility classes, as it interferes with their regular routine of eating and sleeping, and causes some of the hens and pullets to stop laying, so they do not show to as good advantage as when in the pink of laying condition. Washing also affects the males sometimes, putting them slightly off condition temporarily.

There is quite a knack in the preparation of birds for exhibition, and the results depend to a great extent upon the experience and skill of the person doing the work. The legs and toes should be thoroughly washed, and the dirt cleaned out from under the scales while wet, using a dull toothpick. The comb and wattles may be brightened up by rubbing lightly with sweet oil and alcohol mixed, equal parts, and drying with a soft cloth. Always look out sharply for disqualifications, such as deformities of any description, feathers on the shanks of clean-legged varieties, and white in the face of all Leghorn cockerels.

DOES POULTRY-KEEPING PAY?

(By George A. Cosgrove in Rural New-Yorker.)

The question might be stated thus: Can a man of ordinary ability, able and willing to work, make a living for himself and family on a small farm by keeping hens? Of course he expects the farm to produce his milk, butter, potatoes, pork, fruits and garden stuff, depending for his money crop on the hens. They are to pay the grocer, the butcher, clothing and all cash expenses.

That is a very vital question to many a middle-aged man who realizes that advancing age will soon cause him to lose his job, and he wonders if poultry-keeping on some of the cheap farms he sees advertised is the solution of his problem. The astonishing thing is that so many attempt it, without any knowledge of the business whatever, expecting to succeed. And many of them do succeed, and find a comfort and sense of safety on the farm that they never knew in the city.

With increasing knowledge of the business he increases the size of his flock, and has a balance to put in the savings bank against the proverbial "rainy day." But actual figures is what we all want.

What are men doing in the way of profit and loss in poultry keeping now?

Last year the poultry department of Cornell College had actual records kept on 33 farms in the Hudson River Valley. These records leave no room for guesswork; they are very exact; I presume kept on forms prepared by the poultry department.

The records were kept through the entire year 1920-1921, from November 1 to October 30. Five of the poorest flocks out of 33 showed an actual loss, when interest on the capital invested was added to all other charges. The average loss per flock was a little over $11. This was after crediting the birds with all the eggs and meat consumed by the families. The average number of hens, 208; egg production per hen, 125.

The next 23 farms do much better. Although more than twice as many hens were kept, the per cent. of mortality was reduced nearly one-half.

The figures were:

Receipts for eggs, meat, chicks, stock, manure, and increase of inventory, were	$4,933.92
Expenses, food, etc	3,277.43
Plant income	$1,656.49
Deduct interest on average capital	231.60
Labor income	$1,424.89
Consumed in the house were:—	
Eggs	78.00
Meat	22.88
This should be added to the labor income, making	$1,525.77

Average number of hens, 482.6; labor income, per hen, $2.95; egg production, per hen, 135.7.

Now we come to the five best flocks. Larger numbers were kept; it had become a "business" with these farms. The average flock 852 birds; egg production per hen, 148.2.

Average capital invested	$6,985.0
Receipts, eggs alone	5,230.55
Meat	990.55
Stock	35.20
Chicks	168.30
Manure	369.78
Miscellaneous	164.41
Increase of inventory	4,1?8.63
Total receipts	$11,157.42
Expenses	7,028.85
Plant income	$4,128.57
Interest on average capital	419.10
Labor income	$3,709.47
To this should be added:	
Eggs consumed	$ 108.87
Meat consumed	59.56

The labor income, per hen, $4.35; grain and mash, per hen, $2.25; total feed cost, per hen, $2.44. Average price for market eggs, $0.544; for hatching eggs, per dozen, $1.50.

It will be noted that nearly all the income was made from eggs and meat at market prices, and the increase in inventory.

But it is only fair to say that this was the year 1920-21 of highest prices. The extra profits of those years has made many start into the poultry business who are not qualified for success in it. The result will be an overproduction of eggs, low prices and disappointment and loss to many. There is no way to prevent this as society is now organized; some time we may find a better way.

PULLETS FOR LAYING

Now is the time to attend to winter-laying pullets. Of course, if all the pullets are kept for this purpose the profits from egg production will be small indeed, and this brings home the force of the argument that concentration is the main law in poultry-keeping. Therefore the success of your enterprise depends upon the selection of your laying stock, and then upon the care given this stock. In selecting pullets for layers, you naturally look to those birds with perfect health and plenty of vitality. Select the busy, wide-awake ones, and those with the ideal body type. No bird that is unhealthy or is low in vitality will ever develop properly for any purpose. A laying hen is always the busy hen, and, needless to say, the busy, wide-awake pullet is the one that should develop into the good layer as time goes on.—"Cockerow."

TO FATTEN TURKEYS

To fatten turkeys, give an extra feed of grain in the evening when they come in, for a few weeks before the real fattening begins. Equal parts of boiled oats and shorts mixed with water or milk makes a very good fattening ration for turkeys. A few boiled potatoes can be added to this. They also like green cabbage very much, so give them all they will eat once a day. A feed of hard grain once a day will complete the ration. Give milk or water to drink. Milk curds work in well with the mash too. This method of feeding will put an exceptionally good finish on turkeys. Three weeks' fattening will be plenty. Keep the turkeys as close to their normal conditions as possible. They do better if they are quiet and contented.—M. C. Herner.

This is a good maxim: If you would be economical it is always well to rid yourself of birds that do not produce eggs sufficiently numerous to pay for their keep. Poultry-keepers do not need much telling to economize nowadays. Obviously only the very best layers should be retained, and all those which might be termed "dud" birds should be "weeded out" and got ready for killing.

In shipping live poultry, do not ship any culls, thin stock, or diseased chickens. They are not salable and you only pay express uselessly.

With silage and clover or alfalfa hay, one should feed each heifer from two to five pounds of farm-grown grains per day. If no silage is available, feed two pounds of corn daily with all the clover or alfalfa hay the heifers will consume. With silage and no legume hay, a good ration consists of a portion of silage and fodder or mixed hay with a grain mixture consisting of equal parts of corn and linseed meal.



RICKETS

Cod-liver oil is the best thing in the world for rickets.

Scott's Emulsion

contains richest cod-liver oil, abundant in the vitamines that every rickety child needs.

AT ALL DRUG STORES

PRICE, $1.20 and 65c. 21-23

HOW DISEASE BEGINS IN THE FLOCK

(By H. J. Stafseth, in the Michigan Farmer.)

Recent years have seen some valuable developments in poultry science. The art of culling has reached a stage of perfection which is remarkable to say the least. Improvements have also been made along the lines of feeding and housing, all of which has contributed toward decreased cost of production and increased returns until poultry husbandry has been placed among our most promising agricultural pursuits. Since this industry has attained such an economic importance the necessity of protecting it from all undermining forces should be evident. Looking over the field of poultry husbandry with this point in view it appears that one of the most essential factors governing its stability, namely prevention of disease, is being overlooked or even ignored.

The poultry breeder's interest in this matter is aiso shared by others. The swine breeders are interested in the eradication of avian tuberculosis because of the fact that a considerable number of hogs which go through the packing plants are condemned as unfit for human consumption, due to this disease. As a general rule the public is desirous of eliminating disease from food-producing animals. Poultry products are not yet subject to the strict ordinances that govern the sale of milk, pork, mutton or beef, but it is very possible that they will be included sooner or later. Chickens marketed for food are frequently found to be diseased and there may be some doubt as to the advisability of consuming products from diseased birds, even if there are no immediate outward manifestations of damage to health.

Every modern poultry breeder is and should be anxious to obtain and maintain stock of high quality. For this reason he is often led to buy adult birds, day-old chicks or eggs for hatching from flocks that have gained a wide reputation either as exceptionally good layers or excellent show birds without seeking the slightest information as to whether or not the flocks concerned are free from communicable diseases. This is a serious mistake because birds introduced from diseased flocks are quite certain to bring the infection with them, even if they are apparently well at the time of the purchase. In this way a formerly healthy flock may become diseased and no poultryman can do his best unless his flock is in good health.

Through the science of bacteriology we have learned that certain communicable diseases are so insidious in their nature that symptoms are not revealed for relatively long periods of time. It has also been found that individuals which have recovered from an infectious disease may continue to carry the causative organism. Infectious organisms may, furthermore, be carried by individuals which never have been visibly ill and may prove to be immune to the disease to which they have been exposed. Such individuals are often the cause of considerable trouble, due to the fact that they appear perfectly harmless and thus make it exceedingly difficult to discover and eliminate the source of infection. For these reasons it should be evident that mere inspection or physical examination will not reveal all that might be of importance to know regarding health. Therefore, besides showing signs of productivity, vigor and vitality the flock from which new stock is to be introduced should have a clear record as regards freedom from disease.

In this connection it may also be well to compare the adult bird, the day-old chick and egg as means through which infection might be introduced.

Adult birds may, without showing any signs of illness, carry the causative organism of the following communicable diseases: Bacillary white diarrhoea, chickenpox, tuberculosis, fowl cholera, fowl typhoid, blackhead, coccidiosis, apoplectiform septicemia, fowl plague, and perhaps still others, besides various internal and external parasites.

The day-old chick is perhaps the most common means of spreading bacillary white diarrhoea. As to whether or not other diseases are spread through the day-old chick but little is known. It appears, however, from information available at this time that the day-old chick may be considered a negligible factor in the dissemination of other diseases than bacillary white diarrhoea.

Eggs bought for hatching may harbor the cause of bacillary white diarrhoea. Shell contamination does not seem to be of any great importance as far as most diseases are concerned. It has been suggested that blackhead may be spread in this way.

Drunken Jurists Responsible for Many Killings

Dr. Purley A. Baker, general superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, in the opening address of the law enforcement conference at the Grunewald Hotel, New Orleans, on 3rd December, urged that 10 per cent. of the federal judges be put in the penitentiary at hard labor, and another 10 per cent. be impeached for failure to enforce the prohibition laws. He held 20 per cent. of the federal judges, whom he termed "scroundels" and "drunkards" responsible for the killing of 300 prohibition enforcement officers during the past year, and said they were the chief obstacle to enforcement of prohibition laws.

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.

Complete Sawing Outfit—10 h. p. gasoline engine; mounted; excellent condition; cheap for cash. BOX 61, Glencoe, Ont. 47-6

Saw Mill Machinery—Custom saw mill with lumber and shingle machinery, planer and hasher, wood working machinery; 2 acres land, house and stable.—JAMES PENMAN, Middleville, Ont. 46-6

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, 923-931 Dufferin St., Toronto, Ont. 44—6.

POULTRY

LEGHORNS

Brown and Black Leghorn Cockerels for sale, bred from our best laying and exhibition stock. Bargain prices to make room. Two hundred birds to select from. E. J. WRIGHT & SONS, Brown and Black Leghorn Specialists, Strathroy, Ont. 47-6

MINORCAS.

Minorcas—won every first in their classes. Sherbrooke Silver Cup. Few Cockerels left. $3.00 to $5.00. E. R. FRITH, Maxville, Ont. 44—6.

MISCELLANEOUS.

For Sale—Superb White Leghorn Cockerels, Ferris' 300-egg strain; Parks' Barred Rocks and Regal White Wyandottes, cockerels, $2, $3, and $5. Birds guaranteed.—H. E. KARSTEDT, Priceville, Ont. 47-7

All Leading Strains Pitt Games. Cocks, $6.00; stags and hens, $9.00 for three.—HUGH CRAWFORD, Clear Creek, Ont. 49-6

Pure-bred White Rock Cockerels; also some choice Brown Leghorn cockerels. Your money returned if you say so. Ask Askin for a square deal.—F. T. ASKIN, R. R. No. 1, Oakville, Ont. 50-2

ORLOFFS

Mahogany Orioff Cockerels, $4.00 each.—E. J. ARNOLD, Baldur, Man. 50-6

ORPINGTONS

Buff Orpingtons—Black-tailed Japanese Bantams, Black Leghorns, cocks, hens, cockerels and pullets, all prize winners. BERT SMITH, 169 Pearl St. W., Brockville, Ont.

PIT GAMES

Beautiful, strong, peppy and winners.—CHAS. ALMOND, Box 859 Victoria, British Columbia. 50—6.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS

Bred-to-lay Strain Barred Rocks—Pullets or cockerels, A1 stock, and everything shipped on approval.—DAVID A. ASHWORTH, Denfield, Ont. 48-6

Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerels, from trapnested hens at last year's Ottawa egg-laying contest; $5.00 each.—W. A. GETTES, R.R. 3, Streetsville, Ontario. 48-6

POULTRY AND EGGS WANTED

Do you know that in every bunch of Hens you sell to the market, there are quite a few Birds that if classified would bring you double the money the Butcher pays you? Why not correspond with us and let us handle your Fowls, Ducks, Geese, Hens, Pigeons, Guineas, Etc., and get the full value of the stock. We have the very best connections for handling Good Fowls—and some birds will sell, as breeders, for double their market value. We also want your surplus of Known pure-bred stock at good prices. Write us first and save trouble and expense. We have everything, or know where it is for you. We also exchange Book History and Origin of all breeds of Fowls, with 196 Natural Color Engravings, $2.00 post paid. Colored Postals all breeds, 10c each. Collection of 12 $1.00; 26, $2.00. Always enclose stamps for speedy reply. Give full description of your offerings and save unnecessary correspondence. Don't ask us to price your stock. Describe it fully and make price your very best. We specialize in Dark, White and Blue Muscovey Ducks. We are open for purchasing 500 Heads this fall. YAMASKA POULTRY FARMS, St. Hyacinthe, Que. t.f.

We Want Your Poultry. Our trade demands specially fine crate-fed chickens, etc. If you want top prices send a card for our special price list. Established over 40 years.—WALLERS, 698 Spadina Ave, Toronto. 48—8.

Hens Wanted—Alive, 18 cents a pound, any size. Delivered at Toronto. Eggs and honey wanted—ALBERT LEWIS, 666 Dundas West, Toronto. 46-6

Poultry Wanted—Young chickens, old fowl, old roosters, young and old ducks, old turkeys. Write for weekly price list. GUNN, LANGLOIS & COMPANY, LIMITED, Montreal, Que. 50-2

RHODE ISLAND REDS

Red Cockerels that will improve any flock, either comb, for $2.00.—STEWART YORK, Milford, Ont. 50-10

TURKEYS

Pure-bred Bronze Turkey Toms, $12.00 each. Improve your flock by introducing a new strain. SYDENHAM FARM, Hudson Heights, Que. 50-2

Mammoth Bronze Turkeys—Large healthy birds. Young Toms, $10.00; pullets, $7.00.—MRS. WM. MOORE, Sundridge, Ont. 50-2

LIVE STOCK

CATTLE

Selling—Registered Angus Bull, three years' old.—E. L. KELLY, Broderick, Sask. 48-6

FERRETS

Ferrets for Hunting and Rats—Price and quality guaranteed.—THOS. SELLARS, New London, Ohio. 48-6

SHEEP.

50 Well-covered Registered Shropshire Rams and Ewes; six young registered Jerseys—bull and cows; promptly shipped.—PETER PORTER, Burford, Ont. 46-6

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 40c. 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.

LIVE STOCK.

WILD ANIMALS

Silver Patch and Red Foxes. T. R. LYONS, Waterville, N. S. 47—6

Silver Black Foxes — Have you investigated the profits to be made in the breeding of these animals? Information gladly furnished prospective ranchers. As I am one of the pioneers in this industry, I am in a position to advise you regarding the procuring of your foundation foxes. Companies and individuals supplied from my ranches at Summerside and Lot 16. Safe delivery guaranteed. References, any bank on Prince Edward Island.—A. E. MACLEAN, Water St., Summerside, P. E. I. 47—6.

Mink—8 females, 4 males, Eastern Canada dark ranch mink for breeding purposes. Purchasers instructed in mink raising.—BROOK FUR FARM, West Middle River, Nova Scotia. 48-6

Choice Silver Black and Alaska blue foxes. Both good.—REID BROS., Bothwell, Ont. 50-8

CANARIES.

German Rollers now arriving fortnightly. Wholesale and retail. Safe delivery guaranteed...List free. LONDON AVIARY. London, Ont. t.f.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE.

Guinea Fowl from a dollar up. Also cream separator, seven hundred capacity; a bargain, $45.—JAS. TINNEY, Campbellford, Ont. No. 5.

Yarns — Pure Wool, Homespun and many colors; from 60c; samples free. GEORGETOWN WOOLLEN MILLS, Georgetown, Ont. 47-6

Auction Course for Sale. Our Home Training system has established scores of successful auctioneers. Openings for experts everywhere. NATIONAL AUCTION SCHOOL, Cooksville, Ont. t.f.

Will Make Wool Quilts, 6 x 7 feet, for $8.00. MRS. BODVARSSON, Geyser, Man. 46-8

Heaven and Hell—Swedenborg's great work on life after death and a real world beyond. Over 400 pages. Only 25 cents postpaid.—N. LAW, 486 Euclid Ave., Toronto. 46-5

Typewriters—All makes, slightly used, $20 up. Easy payments. Free trial. Express prepaid.—PAYNE COMPANY, Rosedale Station, Kansas City, Kansas. 49-20

An Ideal Gift. Heart Songs. Treasured Melodies of days gone by, with music; well bound, $2.25 postpaid. MONTREAL BOOKROOM LIMITED, 35 McGill College Avenue, Montreal. 49—4.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Gramophone—Full cabinet style Victrola, plays all records, double motor. Almost new; 24 selections. Cost $225.00, for $65.00; guaranteed POISSON, 342 Mount Royal Ave. East, Montreal. 46—6.

POST CARDS

Christmas Cards—Immense assortments, 10c, 20c, 30c, 50c dozen. Twenty fancy folders, 25c. ADAMS, 401 Yonge, Toronto. Birthday, lovers, comics, views, above prices. Agents wanted. t.f.

RAZOR BLADES

Razor Blades—We sharpen them all, Gillette 35c doz. Single edge 25c. THE RAZOR BLADE SHOP, 70 Power St., Toronto. 46-7

HONEY FOR SALE.

Honey.—Fresh clover and buckwheat blend, in 10 and 30 lb. tins, at 10c per lb.; clover honey, 15c for lb.—J. R. YOUNIE, Howick, Que. 42-11

Clover Honey, 80 lb crate, $12.00.—W. A. HARTLEY, Box 121, Beamsville, Ont. 30-20

Clover $9.00; Amber $7.00; Buckwheat $6.00 for 60 lbs.; reduction on large orders. F. W. KROUSE, Guelph, Ont. 28-21

Choice New Clover Honey in five and ten-pound pails, $9.00 per crate of 60 pounds, f.o.b. Meaford.—M. A. CLEMENT, Meaford, Ont. 45-16

Buckwheat Honey, 11 cents per pound.—C. A. ERVIN, Dunnville, Ontario. 46-6

Wilson's Clover Honey—Crate six 10 lb., or twelve 5 lb., pails $9.00. $8.50 per crate in 5 crate lots. JOHN T. WILSON, Petrolia, Ont. 47-6

Clover Honey—60 lbs., $9.00; clover and fruit-bloom, $8.00. In one large can, 50c less. Buckwheat, $6.00. Quality guaranteed unsurpassed.—LOUIS HEDDERICK, Waterloo, Ont. 48-10

Honey—Do you know the delight of finest quality on your table? Send $10.00 for case containing six pails, 10 lbs. each.—D. FRASER, R. R. 2, Ilderton, Ont. 49-6

Choice Clover Honey, $9.00; buckwheat blend, $6.00; in 60 lb. crates.—JOSEPH CONDY, Walkerton, Ont. 49-10

RAW FURS

TRAPPERS' POISON.

Goes' Liquid Poison Capsuls kill fur animals on spot. Seventeenth season in use, with excellent results; first class testimonials, free circular. EDMUND GOES, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Station C, Route 6. 47—6.

STAMPS

Stamps—100 different foreign stamps, catalogue, hinges, album, 15 cents; large packet, album, with war stamps, 25 cents; ask for bargain approvals. We buy stamps; large lots; for spot cash.—MARKS STAMP COMPANY, Toronto, Canada. tf

220 Fine Stamps—Nyassa, Turkey, Congo, Dahomey, Somali, etc., only 25c. Free stamps to approval applicants.—D. BRUCE, Lousana, Alberta. 45-6

MISSING RELATIVES.

Smith—Married Miss Brunnell of Hants, N.S., about 17 years ago.—JOHN McQUEEN, Front Lake, C.B., N.S., enquires. 48-6

SITUATIONS WANTED

Housekeeper (experienced), seeks position with family. Young, refined, excellent references.—Reply, BOX 12, Witness Office. 46-6

SITUATIONS VACANT

Young Women of good moral character to take course in Chester Hospital Training School for Nurses. Excellent opportunity. Paid while learning. Address Superintendent of Nurses, Chester Hospital, Chester, Pennsylvania, stating age, education, religious preference, references. 48—6.

FARMS FOR SALE

Send for list of Maritime farm bargains. VALLEY REAL ESTATE AGENCY, Wolfville, Nova Scotia. t.f.

160 or 320 Acres of my Southern Alberta Farm. All excellent wheat land. Part cultivated. Owner, 1522 16 Ave. West, Calgary. 46-6

53 acres clay loam. Good two-storey brick house, furnace, telephone; rural mail. Big maple and evergreen trees on lawn; windmill, well, barns fair, orchard. Public school one mile, condensed milk factory, canning factory, high school and town of Alymer 3 miles.—LEWIS ADAMS, Alymer, Ontario. 46-6

For Sale—Two farms; 80 acres for $2,500, 50 acres for $3,500; half down; good buildings, good soil, suitable for dairying; good location; lots fruit.—LEWIS WEIR, R. F. D. No. 1, Greenwich, N. ... 46-6

For Sale—Ideal Home Sites in Port Coquitlam, 171 thirty-foot lots in district lots 168-169. Prefer selling whole tract to one purchaser. Big opportunity for person understanding Canadian conditions.—R. T. HANCOCK, Crescent City, Calif. 48-6

Orange Grove—Five Acres For Sale, Mobile, Ala. Further information, write, CHARLES MOLUSKY, 92 Orange St., Port Jervis, N. Y. 48-6

Cash Your Farm Quickly. Location immaterial. Particulars free. Owners only.—UNIVERSAL SALES AGENCY, Box Z43, North Topeka, Kansas. 48-6

Wanted—Experienced Farmers. We have several Michigan farms to dispose of. They are improved and desirable as to both soil and location. We are more concerned over the type of man who buys than we are over the amount of money he has to pay. The right man can buy one of these farms with little or no money down, but he must be a real farmer. Address replies to 424 SHEARER BLDG., Bay City, Michigan. 48-6

15-acre Fruit Farm—Near Toronto boat and car; good buildings; prettiest part Niagara peninsula; A1 investment; $12,000.—OWNER, Box 56, Port Dalhousie, Ont. 49-6

PROPERTY FOR SALE

A General Store in rural district for sale—Best stand in Eastern Ontario. A great bargain. $3,000 cash; worth $5,000. Write BOX 14, Witness. 47-6

Vancouver—Two modern six-roomed houses, $3,500, $5,000, acre lot Victoria. Easy terms. Write 2646 10th Avenue West, Vancouver, B. C. 48-6

British Columbia—8 well furnished houses adjoining, 43 rooms, business section. All rented. Monthly return $200.00 nett. Price including all furniture only $8500. Splendid investment. Clear title, owner ARTHUR JONES, Revelstoke, B. C. 48—6.

Rich Farm—300 acres; fences, blue grass pastures, stock, timber, maximum crops; complete equipment, labor-saving implements, tractor; two good dwellings, hot and cold water; health and climate unsurpassed; on good road; 3 1-2 miles from railroad, county seat; great bargain; $30,000. — OWNER, Amelia, Va. e.o.w.

200-Acre Dairy Farm
17 Cattle, 6 Horses, Tools

14 sheep, implements included; substantial income assured from start; well kept farms all around; only 2 miles village; any farmer would take pride in these broad machine-worked fields, pasture, woodland, 10-room stone house, 14-cow barn, stable, poultry house. For quick sale $5700 takes all. Part cash. Details page 10 Illus. Catalog Bargains throughout Canada free.—STROUT FARM AGENCY, 13E King St. West, Toronto, Canada.

For Sale—Half-section, 320 acres, six miles south of Welwyn, Province of Saskatchewan, 190 acres under cultivation, 50 acres summerfallow, 27 fall plowing, good water and buildings; full equipment, horses, implements, seed and feed; $8,000; $5,000 cash, balance arranged; to wind up estate. These liberal terms are offered for a good grain and stock farm. Take possession March 1st.—D. HISLOP, Box 93, Welwyn, Sask. 50-6

FARMS WANTED

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

Wanted—To hear from owner of good farm for sale. State cash price, full particulars. D. F. BUSH, Minneapolis, Minn., U.S.A.

I Want Farms for cash buyers. Will deal with owners only.—R. A. McNOWN, 301 Wilkinson Bldg., Omaha, Neb. 50-6

EDUCATIONAL

Expert Optometrists (Opticians) frequently earn $5000 a year. Short course, easy payments. ROYAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, Dept. Fourteen, Toronto, Canada. t.f.

The De Brisay Method is the Royal Road to Latin, French, German, Spanish. Thorough mail courses. ACADEMIE DeBRISAY, Ottawa. 6 89

BUSINESS CARDS

TAXIDERMY

Birds, Animals, Rugs Mounted.—J. S. CHARLESON, Taxidermist, Brandon, Man. 45-6

PRINTING

100 Envelopes, 100 Sheets Paper, both printed with your name and address, postpaid for $1.00. CONCRETE PRINTING CO., Beebe, Que. 46—6.

PATENT SOLICITORS

Fetherstonhaugh & Co.—The old established firm. Patents everywhere. Head office Royal Bank Bldg., Toronto; Ottawa Office, 5 Elgin Street. Offices throughout Canada. Booklet free 9—52

AGENTS WANTED

Salesmen—We pay weekly and offer steady employment selling our complete and exclusive lines of whole-root fresh-dug-to-order trees and plants. Best stock and service. We teach and equip you free. A money-making opportunity. LUKE BROTHERS' NURSERIES, Montreal. 47-7

Agents make $10 daily taking orders for new book, "Story of Canada," containing over 700 pages; 150 illustrations; history of Canada from earliest settlement to present; also Christmas books and Bibles; enormous demand; big profits; credit given; freight paid; exclusive territory; outfit free; act at once. WINSTON CO., Dept. H., Toronto.

A MAGAZINE PAGE FOR HOME WORKERS

ON CHRISTMAS DAY in the MORNING!



CHOOSE GIFTS THOUGHTFULLY

Some little girls are born without any passion for dolls: they do not want to play with such things; and do not like doing so. Myself, I was one of these children: yet my army of dolls was a noble sight, and every Christmas several uncles and aunts added to my collection. If they thought by giving me dolls to make me like such toys, they failed of their purpose. All sorts of "dolly" presents given to me during my childhood missed fire entirely; on the other hand, people who gave me a book or a growing plant—!!

These memories make me able to sympathise with kiddies who are compelled by courtesy to return thanks for Christmas presents which are really frightfully bad shots on the part of the givers—and not only with children. There are dozens of men and women who yearly sigh over some miss-fire Christmas gift which has been sent them; but grown-ups are better able to bear such minor troubles—though there is not any reason why they should, if only folk would make a proper study of the art of present-choosing.

There is a girl typist, for instance, who has a very wealthy godmother. The girl has considerable difficulty in making the ends of living and dressing meet on her salary, and her godmother could work wonders by means of Yuletide gifts. But her presents always miss-fire. One year she sent the girl a beautiful and costly set of furs—far too beautiful and costly for a girl typist to wear in conjunction with her position and her ordinary clothes. Another year she sent a gem bracelet suitable for evening wear only or for very elaborate "dress" occasions. In neither case did she realize that a fifth of the money such things cost, spent on a good tailored costume, would have given her godchild far more pleasure.

Another friend of mine was much amused last Christmas by somebody sending her a lace and ninon boudoir cap and bed jacket with a tiny "breakfast-in-bed" set of china. The inappropriateness could hardly have been greater—the recipient is not only a maidless suburban housewife and mother, but also extremely athletic, with a contempt for fallals!

If you want to avoid giving "miss-fire" presents you must study the personality of the recipient, together with his or her tastes, desires, general conditions and circumstances of life. You have probably heard of the fairy godfather who, knowing that his poor married niece and nephew wanted a pianoforte, sent them one for a Christmas surprise. The huge grand instrument was a surprise; it was finally coaxed into the drawing room of the doll's house villa, greatly to the detriment of the paint and to the exclusion of most of the other furniture. That is the sort of thing to avoid doing.

Most particularly it is with children that care should be taken to select Christmas presents which do not miss fire. It is easy to be too haphazard and too generalising in the matter. Take the lady who was near me in a toy bazaar one day lately. She wanted "something suitable for a boy," and when the assistant asked what sort of a boy it was for, the answer came that "anything would do so long as it was suitable for a boy!" That exactly expresses the manner in which many folk buy Christmas presents for children. The mere shop label of sex suitability is not sufficient. If you want to give a boy or girl real Christmas joy take care in choosing their gifts so that they hit the nails of desire right on the head.—"Daily News."

"Say it with Subscriptions."

THESE CITY CHRISTMASES

"I try to make my boy's Christmases as joyous as mine were; but it is hard to overcome the disadvantage of his misfortune in being a child of the city," writes Carl Werner in the Outlook. "I cannot give him the broad expanse of star-lit sky to gaze at on Christmas Eve from his bedroom window.

"I cannot give him the snow-topped roofs of the neighboring houses, with the smoke going straight up from the chimneys in silent columns, or the jingling of sleigh-bells, or the fairy frostings on the window-pane, or the soft footfalls of travellers along the village road, all of which added so much to the delicious mystery of the night before. I cannot give him the brilliant Christmas mornings, the broad, snow-covered meadow sparkling like a blanket of white diamonds, the hills to coast on, the ponds for skating, the drifts to tunnel through, or the sleigh-ride out to Grandfather's farm.

The Good Old Times

"Ah, those were the Christmas mornings and those were the good old times!

"And really, when you come to think of it, doesn't it strike you that children of our time were more imaginative and less mercenary than children of today? Weren't they more prone to accept things as they found them, and less given to digging into intrinsic values?

"Speaking of toys, why, even the store kind seem to have changed in general character since our day. Don't you think so? Of course there are certain old staples that will go on for ever, but there are thingumajigs that there never used to be. Now my recollection of Christmas morning shows me an array of rather substantial things, such as tool-chests and fishing-rods and drums and jackknives (one every year), and a wooden velocipede, and an all-over cap that covered even my chin and had eye-holes in it to see through, and skates with heel-plates (do you remember the heel-plates?), and always a few books. We didn't have so many of these mechanical contrivances that let you wind them up a few times and then stop and refuse to be wound up or to run down or to do anything but submit to being dissected by the young gentleman, who is secretly delighted at an excuse for ripping the insides out of 'em.

"There's no use talking, these Christmases of the big cities are not the simonpure article. Why, whenever it snows around our place my youngsters awaken in the morning, begging me to promise that I'll not clear the sidewalk until they've had a chance to play on it. Generally I promise, in defiance of repeated warnings from the officer on the beat, whose attitude on the question is decidedly belligerent. On these occasions I think of my own boy time, when from Thanksgiving till near Easter time there wasn't a spot of bare ground as big as your hand; I think of the quarter-mile hill, of the little river on which we could skate four miles straight away; I think of the tunnels we used to dig through huge drifts, and of the fine forts we used to build, breast-high and roomy enough for a small army. I think of these things on Christmas mornings, and I feel that somehow I'm not giving the youngsters a square deal.

"But there is, in the last analysis, one great common and deplorable shortage in the measure of today's Christmas, when we match it with the Yuletide that you and I knew as boys. It is the decadency of that element of surprise—of the unexpected. There is too much taking of children through the stores, too much parading them before the shop windows and showing them what they are going to get, and, incidentally, what they are not going to get. There is too much counselling with them and having it all understood beforehand. There is more realism than there was in our time and less of mystery; more of the matter-of-fact and less of the fanciful.

"If our children are to get as much out of Christmas as we got out of it, we must give them the mystic atmosphere of the unknown, the pleasure of undirected anticipation."

"Say it with Subscriptions."

MAKE THE DAY A REAL SUCCESS

Christmas? Christmas means Christ. It is His day, His birthday. On the birthday of our friends we cry, "Happy birthday!". We wish it to be a happy day for them; shall we try to make this a really happy day for Him? Shall we keep our thoughts not so much upon the day as upon Him? If we do, we may depend upon it, it will be a merry Christmas for us.

And as we love Him cheerily and try to make Him happy on His birthday, we shall remember how long He liked to make others glad. The glory of Christmas is that He came down, that He came into our lowly life, into the stable, into the sweet beauty of the Judean hills, into the quaint life of the little streets of Nazareth, then into His greater work of spreading peace and gladness everywhere. On Good Friday we think of His wondrous death for us. At Easter we think of His radiant resurrection. But on Christmas we think of His gentle coming into the facts and details, the burdens and the joys of our daily life.

So shall every peal of child laughter, and every sparkle of holly berry, and every glint of sunshine across the snow, and every word of merry greeting, and every pleasure of gift received, and every joy of gift and affection and service given to others, take on new brightness and new glee and new beauty because our thoughts and our hearts are fixed on Him.

Bright day of Jesus, glad day of remembering that God has come to stay with men, happy birthday of the Saviour, merry—merry Christmas!

CONNORS WASHERS



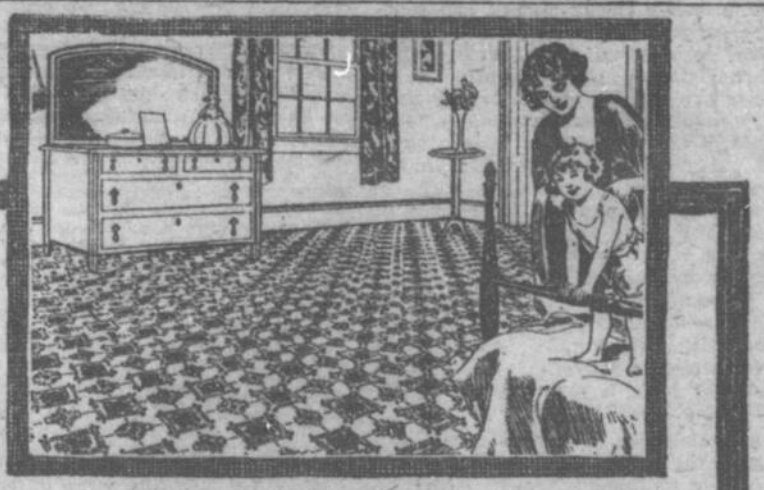
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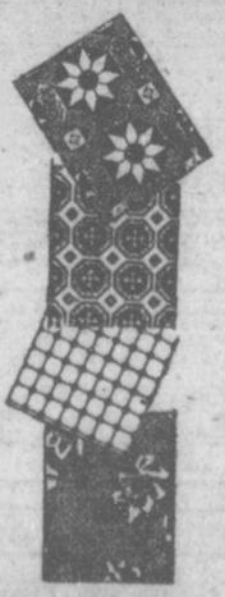
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HOME COOKING

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Christmas Goose.—Select a young goose, singe, wash with a brush and, water in which a dessert spoon of baking soda has been dissolved, and wipe dry. Cut off the feet and head, and truss into shape as a turkey. Rub the goose over with salt and pepper and cook in a hot oven, basting frequently with butter or pork fat, and dredging with a little flour each time. Reduce the heat after 20 minutes and cook until the second joints separate easily from the body. Half an hour before the goose is done put cored and pared tart apples into a dish of hot syrup (a cup of each of sugar and water) and let cook, turning frequently. Dredge the apples thick with sugar and set in the oven to glaze. When the goose is on the hot platter put the apples around it and fill the centres of apples with currant jelly, or garnish with quarters of lemons and watercress.

A Stuffing For Goose:—Mix one and a quarter cupfuls of soft stale breadcrumbs with two cupfuls of hot mashed potatoes, a quarter of a cupful of finely chopped fat salt pork, one finely chopped onion, one third of a cupful of butter, one well beaten egg, one and a half teaspoonfuls of salt and one teaspoonful of powdered sage. Mix and place in the goose.

If preferred a sage and onion stuffing may be used. Peel eight onions, put them into a saucepan with sufficient cold water to well cover them, and bring them slowly to the boil, which process is intended, not only to keep them a good color, but also to take off some of the strong odor and taste. Strain off the water, cover them with milk, or milk and water in equal parts, or with plain hot water, and boil them for twenty minutes. Drain and shred them, and add one teaspoonful of powdered sage, one tablespoonful of lemon juice, the liver of the bird, fried and chopped, and salt and pepper to taste. This sage and onion stuffing is also used for roast duck and pork.

The Christmas Turkey:—After the turkey has been dressed, cleaned, stuffed and trussed, place it on its side on a rack in a dripping pan, rub the entire surface with salt, and spread breast, legs and wings with one-third cup butter, rubbed until creamy and mixed with one-fourth cup flour. Dredge bottom of pan with flour. Place in a hot oven, and when flour on turkey begins to brown, reduce heat, and baste every fifteen minutes until turkey is cooked. For basting use one-half cup butter melted in one-half cup boiling water and after this is used, baste with fat in pan. Pour water in pan during the cooking as needed to prevent flour from burning. During cooking turn turkey frequently, that it may brown evenly, but be careful not to pierce it with a fork, better use a clean cloth to handle it with. If turkey is browning too fast, cover with buttered paper to prevent burning. A big turkey can be slowly cooked to advantage, but a small one must be cooked quickly in order not to dry it. The rule is to allow the turkey twenty minutes for every pound. Remove string and skewers before serving. Garnish with parsley or celery tips, or curled celery and rings and discs of carrots strung on fine wire.

In making gravy to serve with turkey, pour off liquid in pan in which turkey has been roasted. From liquid skim off six tablespoons fat; return fat to pan and brown with six tablespoons flour; pour on gradually three cups of stock in which giblets, neck and tips of wings have been cooked, or use liquor left in pan. Cook five minutes, season with salt and pepper, strain. For giblet gravy, add to the above, giblets (heart, liver and gizzard finely chopped.)

Bread Stuffing For Turkeys:—The turkey may be dressed ready for stuffing days before Christmas, and the stuffing prepared the day before ready to put in the turkey on Christmas morning. 4 cups of bread crumbs, salt, 1 teaspoon sage or savory, 1 apple, 1-4 cup melted butter or bacon dripping, pepper, 1 onion and milk or water.

Take any scraps of dry bread and put them through the meat chopper; add the seasoning, salt and pepper. Cut the onion in small pieces and fry it in the butter or dripping, being careful not to brown it. Chop the apple very fine and add it to the bread crumbs with the onion. If the mixture is too dry add a little milk or water. Or the turkey may be stuffed with sausage stuffing.

Sausage Stuffing:—1-2lb. sausage meat, 2 cups bread crumbs, 1 tablespoon minced onion, and salt and pepper.

Mix well all the ingredients and use for chicken or turkey.

Swedish turkey stuffing offers a change and is a favorite with many people. Pour two-thirds cup melted butter over two cups stale bread crumbs, add one-half cup raisins, seeded and cut in pieces, one-half cup English walnut meats broken in pieces and salt and pepper, with a little sage.

Chestnut Stuffing:—Chestnut stuffing is good in turkeys. To make it, pare a quart of large chestnuts and boil them in salted water for twenty or thirty minutes. Drain them, when they are quite soft, and put them through a potato ricer. Add two cups of fine bread crumbs made from fresh bread, some pepper, a teaspoon of salt and a cup of white sauce. Mix thoroughly.

Oyster Stuffing:—Two cupfuls of cracker crumbs, one of melted butter, two of oysters and one teaspoon of lemon juice. Mix thoroughly the butter and cracker-crumbs, then add the oysters, lemon juice and enough liquid from the oysters to moisten the crackers.

Stewed Yellow Turnips:—Slice a yellow turnip, pare, and cut in dice. Boil until tender, salting the last half of the time with one and one-half teaspoonfuls of salt. Drain, put in a saucepan, and to each quart of diced turnips add one tablespoonful of butter, one-fourth teaspoonful each of salt, sugar, and paprika, and a dash of cayenne pepper. Shake over one tablespoonful of flour, stir carefully, and add one-fourth cupful of hot cream. Stir again and simmer for five minutes, shaking occasionally to prevent its adhering to the pan. Turn into a hot vegetable dish and serve at once.

Scalloped Tomato Surprise:—Cook three large but delicate white onions in salted water until soft but not broken. Lay them in the bottom of a buttered baking-dish and with a sharp knife divide in quarters, not cutting entirely through the onions. Press the quarters slightly apart and between each two sections put one tablespoonful of chopped cold boiled ham. Carefully pour around three cupfuls of highly seasoned canned tomatoes to which has been added one-fourth cupful of bread crumbs. Dot liberally with butter, sprinkle with fine crumbs, add more dots of butter, and bake in a hot oven one-half hour.

Onions, Creamed or Chopped:—Boil the onions until tender but not soft. Drain well and cover with a good white sauce. If serving another vegetable creamed have the onions chopped. Many people who do not enjoy onions ordinarily like them if done this way. Be sure not to boil them too long, drain very well, cutting them through and through with a knife and turning them over so that all water may run off. Then chop quite fine, set on to heat up, add pepper and salt to taste and a good large piece of butter, stir well and serve at once. Any vegetable to which butter is added is the better if served immediately as too much heat takes away the rich, creamy flavor of the butter.

Solid or Jellied Cranberry Sauce:—4 cupfuls cranberries, 3 cupfuls sugar. Add two cupfuls of boiling water to the berries. Cover, boil six or eight minutes, then add the sugar and boil five minutes more. Long boiling destroys the flavor. If you dislike the skins, rub the berries through sieve before adding the sugar. A different flavor is obtained by putting the raw berries through the food chopper.

If you have small individual molds they make pretty shapes either turned out on a glass dish or on individual dishes.

Celery And Apple Salad:—Cut celery fine and dice the apples using well-flavored apples not too tart, mix with a good boiled dressing and serve in red apples. Cut a slice off the flower end of the apples, then scoop out the core and the apple pulp, using the latter for your salad. Keep these shells in cold water to which a little lemon juice has been added. If you are serving celery, substitute peanuts in the salad. The nuts should be freshly roasted in the oven, shelled and rolled fine before mixing with the apple.

Red and Green Pepper Salad:—Chop one-half small Bermuda onion fine and chop fine four small red peppers and eight green peppers. Mix with one-half cup of olive oil, five tablespoons of vinegar, half teaspoon of powdered sugar and one teaspoon of salt. Let stand in an earthen jar for our hour. Serve on crisp lettuce leaves.

Delicious Oyster Salad:—Take one quart of very small oysters, one pint of celery, two tablespoons of French salad dressing and one cup of mayonnaise dressing. Parboil the oysters in their own liquor, remove from the fire and allow them to stand in the liquor until cold. Drain and add the French salad dressing. When ready to serve combine the celery and the oysters, add the mayonnaise dressing and garnish with curled celery.

Delicious Sherbet:—Take one cup of strong tea, one cup of sugar, one pint of charged water, one pint of ginger ale, three-fourths cup of orange juice and one-third cup of lemon juice. Mix and freeze This is also good served as a punch.

Frozen Dessert:—Boil together one cup of sugar and one cup of water until it threads. Pour over the beaten whites of three eggs and heat. When cold add one pint of whipped cream and some chopped almonds and some cherries or marshmallows cut in pieces. Pack and freeze. Serve in sherbet glasses and garnish each glass with a candied cherry.

Orange And Banana Syllabub.—Whip one cup of powdered sugar with one quart of fresh cream and one cup of powdered sugar with the whites of four eggs. Mix well, add one cup of grape juice and pour the mixture over oranges and bananas cut in small pieces. Serve cold.

Fruit Cocktail:—Remove pulp from grapefruit and mix with shredded canned pineapple, and bananas cut lengthwise in quarters and then sliced making small triangles add juice from canned strawberries, sugar to taste and a few grains of salt. Chill and serve in sherbet glasses. This is better as a beginning to Christmas dinner than any of the heavy syrups.

Hasty Plum Pudding:—The following is a delicious plum pudding which may be made the day it is used or at any time before: To make it take half a pound of raisins stoned, half a pound of currants washed and dried, three quarters of a pound of beef suet chopped fine, six ounces sugar, one ounce each of lemon, orange, and citron peel, three ounces flour, two ounces bread crumbs, quarter of a teaspoon salt, a little grated nutmeg. Mix well together with 4 eggs and a little milk. Tie in cloth, which has been dipped in boiling water and floured. Put on in boiling water and keep boiling fast for two hours and a half.

Foamy Sauce For Plum Pudding:— 1 egg, 1 cup powdered sugar, 1-2 teaspoon vanilla, 1 cup thick cream, and pinch of salt.

Beat the white of the egg until stiff; add the yolk well beaten and the sugar gradually. Whip the cream and combine mixtures; add vanilla and serve.

Plum Pudding Sauce:—Put one-half cupful of butter and one tablespoonful of flour into a saucepan, and stir until it thickens; then add about half a cupful of water, three tablespoonfuls of sugar and the grated rind of half a lemon, and mix these ingredients well together. Separate the yolks from the whites of four eggs; beat up the yolks and when stiff add to the sauce, stirring briskly; let it remain over the fire until it simmers, but do not allow it to boil, or it will curdle.

Farina Glace—Glorified Dumplings

Subscriber:— You probably saw the recipe in the Christian Endeavor World where it was given by Mrs. Wolfe who wrote of it that she received the recipe from an old German woman who was a wonderful cook. I have not tried it but Mrs. Wolfe says it makes something very delicious—Mix together six boiled and mashed potatoes, half a cup of flour, three quarters of a cup of farina, one small bunch of parsley chopped fine, two eggs well beaten, about half a cup of bread crumbs fried in butter and salt to taste, Make into balls and cook for twenty minutes in boiling water. If well mixed and the water boiling they will not fall apart and are especially good with brown gravy such as one makes on pot roasts, etc.

Light the Christmas Pudding.—One of the pleasantest memories of my childhood is that of seeing the Christmas pudding come in, enveloped in mysterious flames, says a writer in one of the American magazines. And there is no need of giving up this pleasing rite, for my mother always used common lemon extract for producing the flame. Lemon extract burns readily and has a delightful aroma. Try it!

SOFT MOLASSES COOKIES

Mrs. A. L.—Cream one cup of shortening (good clear mixed dripping does nicely) and blend it with 1 cup brown sugar; add 1 cup molasses and 1 cup sour milk. Sift together 3 cups pastry flour with 2 teaspoons baking soda, 1 teaspoon each of salt, ground ginger and cinnamon. Add this to the first mixture and also 1 tablespoon of vinegar. Add about two cups more pastry flour, taking care to keep the mixture a soft one. Chill the whole over night in a cool place and roll out not too thin in the morning. Cut in desired shapes and bake in greased pan for about fifteen minutes.

HEAVENLY PIE

Reader: Is this the pie you mean? The recipe was given in "Good Housekeeping" some time ago:—Line a pie plate with rich flaky paste and bake for twelve minutes. Meanwhile mash two ripe bananas through a potato masher and add one cup of granulated sugar, one-eighth teaspoon of salt, and two unbeaten eggs. Beat all together with an egg-beater until stiff and frothy like egg whites. Add one-eighth of a teaspoon of almond extract and fill the pie shell with this mixture. Bake for twenty minutes. Remove, cool thoroughly, and top with half a pint of cream whipped stiff, to which half a teaspoon of vanilla has been added. Dot the surface of the cream with cubes of currant jelly and sprinkle with one-fourth of a cup of chopped nuts. The nuts and jelly may be omitted.

"Say it with Subscriptions."



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Today, Eddy's are selling more matches than ever

-because they are the best in the world!

EDDY'S MATCHES

TO ANY MOTHER ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Dear mothers, busy with your Christmas cheer,
Your hands so full, your hearts a little tired,
I pray you, when you think the rafters ring
Too loudly for the nerves that are so jarred
By all your planning and your weight of cares;
When o'er your household ways sweeps avalanche,
And everywhere a rush of boyish things
Mars for a space the symmetry you love!—
I pray you smile, smile on! and never shut
Your heart to these glad sounds, nor let your eyes
Be dimmed by anything but joy.
Oh, never mind the footprints on the stairs!
The finger-marks upon the cherished wall.
All these should be your riches, and they are.
And when at holy hush of eventide,
When all the homing birds come back to nest,
And you perchance steal through the quiet rooms
To look with tender eyes on their sweet rest—
I pray you, then, down on your knees, and ask
That God may let you know how rich you are;
That in his mercy you may never taste
The hunger of the home where silence reigns.

—British Weekly.

Dickens' Christmas Thought

I have always thought of Christmastime apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable time; the only time I know of in the long calendar of the year when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they were really fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys.

Our Needlework Corner.

THE NECESSARY UNDERSLIP

Owing to the slimness of dress-fashions today, underclothing plays a very much more important part than it did in setting off a dress. In the days of long, full skirts, the cut of a petticoat, for instance, was not of the vital importance that it is today, when the plain cut of our frocks demand that no superfluous pleats or fulness from an underskirt shall interfere with the simple line ordained by fashion.

So it comes about that if our tailor-mades and silk frocks are to be seen at their best, it behoves us to pay particular heed to the question of underwear, and one of the garments that has become quite necessary to the wardrobe of every woman is an underslip, to support the simple, one-piece frocks that are so popular.

The underslip may be in the form of a princess petticoat, made of washing material, cut with a panel front and shaped to the figure, though not fitting it tightly, of course, and fastening at the back, or it may be of the slip-on kind, cut low enough in the neck, back and front, to slip over the head. It is generally sleeveless, but short sleeves are sometimes added that just cover the top of the arm, little "modestie" sleeves that are nice with transparent blouses.

Another type of underslip is made with a short, sleeveless bodice cased to a narrow waistband to which the petticoat is sewn. This is a becoming underslip to very slim figures, tending to give them a little more roundness than the petticoat cut all in one with the bodice.

The top of an underslip when prettily trimmed with lace or insertion, takes the place of a camisole, and thus a garment is saved. For evening wear, therefore, it is a good plan to cut the neck of the underslip very low and fill it up to the desired height with lace or embroidered net, cut on the bodice pattern. The evening underslip, again, may have the straight-across top of a camisole, held up by ribbon shoulder-straps; or the top may be scooped out under the arms to crescent shape and the points, back and front, attached by ribbons. This makes a very pretty top.

One of the most useful things to wear with everyday frocks is an underslip of taffetas, made all in one to slip over the head, and cut low in the neck so that it will adapt itself to any dress. Taffeta is an ideal material for the purpose because of its slippery nature. Any material slips easily over it. Failing silk, however, sateen of a good quality may take its place, and is useful in black, navy, deep red, and brown. Navy blue can be worn under a red dress and red under a navy dress and black under anything, provided that the over-material is not transparent. Black as a support to voile and ninon and such-like fabrics must only be used, of course, when the over-stuffs themselves are black.

To wear with light dresses an underslip of white washing silk is charming, and as this requires no special getting up, only washing and ironing, it is easily laundered at home. It may be finished with hem-stitching, picot-edging, or lace at the neck and armholes. Black washing silk is also useful for underslips.

Of course, a silk or satin frock that has seen its best days, may, if the material be sound enough, be used up to good advantage as an underslip. Any piecing necessary can be neatly done, and the material, with care, may last for several years.

Very useful in the wardrobe is a jumper-skirt, attached to a short, low-cut bodice of soft linenette, nainsook, or Japanese silk, cut without sleeves. The bodice attachment renders the skirt much more comfortable and secure, and allows the waist to be kept loose, and it is a better support than mere braces. All these little things mean much to the success of dress matters, and although they may be regarded as trifles, it is the trifles that make the perfect whole.

Concerning petticoats merely, sateen, on account of its softness, is preferred by many women to moirette. Here, again taffetas is the ideal material, just as it is for underslips, but sateen forms a good substitute. A plain-fitting top, terminating by a deep, pleated, or "puckered" or piped flounce, is the form in which the new season's petticoats occur. Some are run with an elastic at the waist, but this plan is rather inconvenient, and women prefer the petticoat tied with ribbon or buttoned.—The Scotsman.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

REMEMBER!

Remember
This December,
That love weighs more than gold!
Help us spread the news to young and old;
Friendship bought and sold
Leaves the giver cold.
The right gift
Is the bright gift.
The kind thought and cheer;
Send your loving heart,
That's the greatest part,
So will Christmas crown all the year!

—Josephine Daskam Bacon.

Hot Bovril—as good as a fur coat

PROBLEMS OF HOMEMAKERS

Alum Ornaments

D. W.—The shiny white baskets and small ornaments of our grandmothers were made by winding fuzzy wool or cotton rags on wire shapes, then suspending them in a super-saturated solution of alum. The alum crystalized in the rough surface of the wool just as sugar does on a rough cord suspended in strong syrup. One of the puzzles of my childhood was why a string always got into the centre of the rock candy my grandfather brought me.

Tanning Furs

Reader. The following method was given by the late Mr. C. O. Ormsbee and produced, he said, the softest, most flexible leather of any method with which he was acquainted, even surpassing Indian tanned buck-skin:

Dissolve alum in the proportion of one pound of alum to four gallons of water. After fleshing the skins soak them in this solution for 24 hours. Wring as dry as practicable and stretch in all directions. Sprinkle with a mixture of equal parts of alum, salt and saltpetre or borax. Rub until the skin will absorb no more. Fold, roll, and lay the skins away for 24 hours. Repeat this process until no more of the mixture can be worked into the skin. This should require about four rubbings for light skins, and possibly double that number for the heavier hides. When cured unroll the skins and wash in strong soapsuds to remove all traces of the tanning agents. Meantime a brush and comb may be used to clean the fur side of all dirt and bunches of matted hairs. When this has been done wash the skins in clear soft water, to remove the soap, wring as dry as practicable, lay them upon a bench and comb the fur as nearly dry as possible. Then all the neatsfoot oil possible should be worked into the flesh side and the skin laid away to dry. When dry, another application of oil is given, and this treatment repeated at intervals until the skin will absorb no more. Then the skin is well rubbed with wheat bran to remove any surplus oil.

When treating loose-haired skins, like those of the rabbit, the proportion of alum should be increased. Similarly it may be greatly decreased when dealing with tight-haired skins, like those of the woodchuck.

Ladies' Aid Society

Mrs. J. F.—The work of a Ladies' Aid Society as I understand it is to aid in the life and work of the church in any and every way possible. The officers are president, 1st and 2nd vice presidents, secretary and treasurer or a secretary-treasurer. To these as executive are added the conveners of the various committees which are formed as need arises; a visiting committee to call upon new members of the congregation and community; a social committee to arrange for entertainments with a view to helping in the social life of the church and gathering funds for the various home needs of the church; a work committee to take charge of the buying and making up of material for the needy and for sales of work; a flower committee to send flowers to the sick; these are some of the committees we have found we needed.

There is no ironbound constitution for a Ladies' Aid and it is all the more useful that in each church it meets the real need. I know of more than one case where the women of the community banded themselves together and by taking in sewing, giving concerts, suppers, getting up sales of work, etc., earned the money which made the building of a church possible. Other such societies undertake to furnish and keep in repair all the church furnishings. They are the organization through which the minister and church board can reach the women of the congregation whenever and for whatever purpose their help is required. Meetings of the whole society are held at stated intervals, sewing meetings once a week when needed; business meetings once a month. A small fee is collected monthly to help furnish funds for buying stationery, material for the sewing, etc. Meetings may be held in the church parlors or at the members' homes.

A KNIGHTLY KING

The numerous experiments tried and rejected by the Spanish nation during the last century included the short-lived government of 1871-3, when a very worthy prince, Amadeus of Savoy, second, son of the great Victor Emmanuel, undertook the difficult business of being King of Spain. Amadeus has to contend not only with the Republicans and with those who desired the restoration of the Bourbon dynasty, but also with the country's rooted prejudice against "the foreigner." In a book entitled "The Secret History of the Court of Spain" are given instances of that bravery that won for the young Italian king the admiration, at least, of his Spanish subjects.

On a hot evening the king and queen were returning to the palace after listening to some music in the gardens of the Buen Retiro. Suddenly a vehicle opposed the passage of their carriage by crossing just in front. The coachman checked the horses and prevented a collision, but just then a shot was directed toward the royal party.

At this the king sprang boldly to his feet, and exclaimed:—

"Here is the king! Fire at him, not at the others!"

But no further attempts were made at assassination, and the retinue reached the palace in safety.

To the king the late hours of the court were particularly disagreeable. At work at six in the morning, he rang for his breakfast at eight. Astonishment was on the lackey's face; it had never been customary for their ex-majesties to be served before eleven o'clock! So Amadeus, to avoid friction, adopted the habit of going to a cafe for his early meal.

In one of these early peregrinations Amadeus noticed that Castelar, the famous leader of the Republican party, raised his hat to him. Surprised at this sign of respect from the enemy, the young man stopped, and said that he wondered that one of Castelar's opinions should salute royalty.

"My salute was not to royalty, sire," replied the orator, with the grace of the Castilian, "but to the bravest man in Christendom."

The 'Witness' Pattern Service



A GOOD STYLE FOR THE WOMAN OF MATURE FIGURE

4178. Broad cloth or serge with braiding, or with flat braid will be attractive for this model. The long waist is a good feature. The lines are graceful. Comfortable plait fulness adds to the width of the skirt.

This pattern is cut in 7 sizes: 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, and 48 inches bust measure. A 38 inch size requires 3 5-8 yards of 54 inch material. The width of the dress at the foot is 2 3-4 yards.

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

A STYLISH STREET COSTUME

4172-4174. Plaid woolen for the skirt, and velvet for the coat, will carry out the idea here portrayed. One could have coat and skirt of velvet, or, of twill cloth for service.

The coat pattern 4172, is cut in 7 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, and 46 inches bust measure. It will require 3 1-2 yards of 44 inch material, for a 38 inch size. The skirt pattern 4174 is cut in 7 sizes: 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, and 37 inches waist measure. The width at the foot is 2 5-8 yards. To make this style for a 31 inch waist size will require 3 3-8 yards of 44 inch material.

TWO separate patterns mailed to any address on receipt of 15c FOR EACH pattern in silver or stamps.

A SIMPLE FROCK FOR A SMALL MISS

4188. Plaid gingham in brown tones is here shown. The dress is also attractive in gabardine, tricotine, percale and other seasonable materials. The sleeve may be finished in wrist or elbow length.

The pattern is cut in 4 sizes: 4, 6, 8, and 10 years. A 6 year size will require 3 yards of 32 inch material. Collar and cuffs of contrasting material require 3-8 yard.

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

A POPULAR STYLE

3814. Every school girl's wardrobe should boast of a frock of this type. With a warm coat or cape it makes an ideal winter costume. Soft woolen materials, plaid or checked suiting, serge, poplin, repp, gingham, linen, pongee and taffeta are attractive for this model. The sleeve may be joined to the dress or guimpe.

The pattern is cut in 4 sizes: 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. A 10 year size will require 2 1-4 yards of 27 inch material for the guimpe and 3 1-4 yards for the dress.

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The Home Circle.

A Page for Boys and Girls.

A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

The storms were all silent, the stars were aflame;
With peace to the shepherds the Holy Child came.

The angels were singing; the wise men ador'd;
Sweet joy to the children brought Jesus, their Lord.

Rough soldiers were guarding King Herod's proud throne,
While shepherds and sheep watched Love's cradle unknown.

With wise men and shepherd's and stars of the night
We children would worship Thee, Jesus, our Light.

—N. C. Raad.

MERRY GAMES

Mother:—Any of the following games will be found to be jolly ones for a mixed party. It is well to make a list of games and get materials for them ready so there need be no pauses. It is well to start with something like the puffing competition which the first to come may play and others watch or they come in. Any light celluloid ball will do for this:

A Puffing Competition

No one must put his face above the table in this game.

Divide the players into sides and let them kneel on opposite sides of the table in equal parties. A ping-pong ball will be placed on the table between them, the opposing sides trying to blow it off the table on the opposite edge.

When the ball falls off, that counts a goal against the side nearest the place where it fell.

The ends should be divided and marked with chalk, as most tussles and disputes take place there.

Piecemeal Proverbs

One person is chosen to leave the room first. While he is gone, the others divide a common proverb among them, taking a word each.

One may be "It," another "is," another "an," another "ill"—and so on, to cover the saying, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good."

The player outside is called in and he must try to get at the proverb by asking questions about any subject; it being a rule that the answer shall contain the word allotted to the person addressed.

If he guesses correctly, another person goes out to try his luck.

Fun With a Feather

Procure a small feather that will float easily in the air. The players then draw up their chairs in a circle.

The feather is then thrown high in the air above the circle, and the object is to keep it up by blowing, also to keep it as far from you as possible. If the feather touches anyone in the circle he must pay forfeit.

A better way is to blow the feather about on a sheet held by the seated players, the one who is "hit" having to run around them and try to get hold of it while they blow it away.

If this form of the game is adopted, fewer players will be necessary. Four—one at each corner—would be almost sufficient with a small sheet; but more can play if it is required.

The Shadow Show

Fix up a big sheet of white paper across an open door; extinguish all lights, except for a lamp, or candle, on a chair beyond; it should then be easy to give a whole host of character studies in silhouette, with the aid of old hats, scarfs, etc.

A good variation of this game is to present the profiles of the guests one by one for recognition by the others.

It should be made the rule that all will close their eyes and put their fingers in their ears, while the showman selects one of the party to be recognized. The one chosen will rise and go out softly to the other room, and when he has been placed so as to throw his profits on the screen, the others try to determine who it is.

Prince of Paris

A player is chosen as leader; the others are numbered consecutively from one up and all are seated.

The leader standing in front says, "The Prince of Paris has lost his hat. Did you find it, Number Four, sir?" whereupon Number Four jumps to his feet and says:

"What, Sir! I Sir?"
Leader: "Yes, Sir! You, Sir!"
No. Four: "Not I! Sir!"
Leader: "Who then, Sir?"
No. Four: "Number Seven, Sir."

Number Seven as soon as his number is called, must jump at once to his feet and say:

"What, Sir! I Sir?"
Leader: "Yes, Sir! You, Sir!"
No. Seven: "Not I, Sir!"
Leader: "Who then, Sir?"
No. Seven: "Number Three, Sir!"

Number three immediately jumps to his feet, and the same dialogue is repeated. The object of the game is for the leader to try to repeat the statement, "The Prince of Paris has lost his hat" before the last player named can jump to his feet and say, "What, Sir! I, Sir?" If he succeeds in doing this he changes places with the player who failed in promptness, that player becoming leader. Should any fail to say "Sir" in the proper place, this is also a mistake, and the leader may change places with such player.

Poor Pussy

The following game may be made one of the most amusing games for adults or children at a house party. The players may number from five to twenty.

The players sit in a circle, except one who is chosen for Poor Pussy. Pussy kneels in front of any player and miaous. This person must stroke or pat Pussy's head and say, "Poor Pussy! Poor Pussy! Poor Pussy!" repeating the words three times, all without smiling. If the player who is petting Pussy, smiles, he must change places with Pussy. The Puss may resort to any variations in the music of the miaou, or in the attitude or expression, to induce the one who is petting to smile.

The Battle of Oranges

This is played by two at a time, but you can have sides, divided into opposing pairs if you like.

Put two baskets, or bowls, at one end of the room; then lay the oranges in two lines down the length of the floor; three oranges in each line, the nearest about a yard from the basket.

The opponents are each armed with a teaspoon, and they try to see who can get his three oranges first into his basket, using only the spoon to lift them.

It will add to the fun if they are allowed to blow on the oranges which refuse to roll on the spoons.

Buff With a Wand

One player is blindfolded and stands in the middle of the room with a wand (a walking-stick will do) in his hand, while the others dance in a circle round him, hands joined.

When the music stops the blindfolded one points his stick to any part of the circle and the nearest player must grasp it.

Then the blind man gives the call of an animal, or bird—bark, whistle, croak, or even whisper—and the person holding the end of the stick must imitate him, trying at the same time to disguise his voice.

If he or she is recognized, the blind man hands over his bandage and wand to the new victim. If no one is recognized the game goes on till the blind man gives a sound too difficult for the chosen person to imitate without being found out.

Jinks With Jenkins

From six to fourteen can play this game. Two sides are picked and captains chosen. They are seated at opposite sides of a table with the captains in the middle. Captains count off to see which side leads. The one who wins takes a cent in his hand. The leader of the opposite side cries "Up Jenkins," when all must hold up hands palms showing and the captain showing he has the cent. Quickly the leader of the opposite side calls "Down Jenkins," and all put their hands below the table the leader at once passing or pretending to pass the cent to some of his side before the opposite captain counts five and cries "Up Jenkins." At this all hands must be raised in the air with fists closed and when the next order "Down Jenkins" comes they must be brought down on the table opening flat as they fall. A little practice enables the players to do this without dropping the cent. If it is dropped, one is counted for the other side. If all go down the leader of the other side consulting with his own players orders up hand after hand. None must be raised from the table except by order of the opposing captain and his aim is to order up one at a time all hands except the one under which the cent is concealed. If he succeeds he counts one for his side and takes the cent to play in his turn. If he orders up a hand under which the cent is, the side holding the cent count one and again play.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

PUZZLES

What's The Difference

Between photography and influenza?—One makes facsimiles and the other makes sick families.

Between one who walks and one who looks up stairs?—One steps up-stairs and the other stares up steps.

Between a bee and a donkey?—One has the honey and the other the whacks.

Between the branch of a tree and a dog?—One is a bough and the other a bow-wow.

Between a cashier and a schoolmaster?—One minds the till and the other tills the mind.

Between a successful and an unsuccessful lover?—One kisses his miss and the other misses his kiss.

"How many daughters have you?" said one gentleman to another. The gentleman addressed replied, "Six and each daughter has a brother,"

How many children had he?

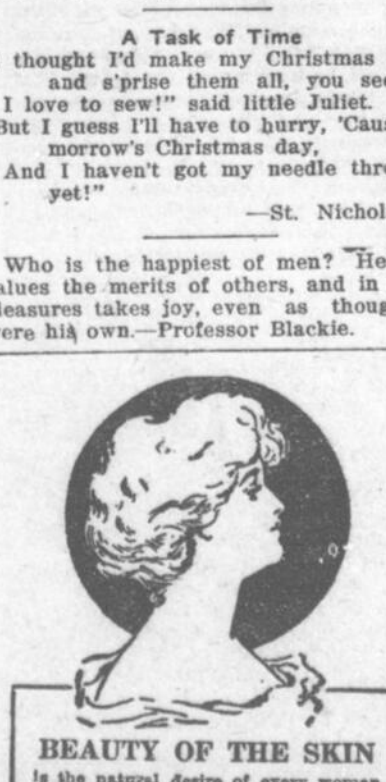
Ans.:—Seven.

Transpositions

An apparition or a ghost,
Is whole as you will find;
Transpose—much money it will cost—
A royal staff, pray mind;
Transpose again, and scholars, lo!
My final to their teachers show.

The first I will tell you
Is a kind of water-fowl;
Transposed, now I am a story
That will often raise a howl;
Again now I'm behind time
Like a belated train;
A foreign coin you now will get
If I'm transposed again.

Ans.:—Spectre, sceptre, respect, teal, tale, late, tael.



SHARE THE GOOD THINGS

Santa has left such a lot of toys!
He's been so good to me,
I'd like to share with the other boys
Who have no Christmas tree!

The Situation

One year when the youngsters of a certain Illinois village met for the purpose of electing a captain of their baseball team for the coming season, it appeared that there were an excessive number of candidates for the post, and that more than the usual wrangling must ensue.

Youngster after youngster presented his qualifications for the post; and the matter was still undecided, according to Lippincott's Magazine, when the son of the owner of the ball-field stood up. He was a small, snub-nosed lad, with a plentiful supply of freckles, but he glanced about him with a dignified air of controlling the situation.

"I'm going to be captain this year," he announced, convincingly, "or else father's old bull is going to be turned into the field."

He was elected unanimously.

A Task of Time

"I thought I'd make my Christmas gifts,
and s'prise them all, you see;
I love to sew!" said little Juliet.
"But I guess I'll have to hurry, 'Cause tomorrow's Christmas day,
And I haven't got my needle threaded yet!"

—St. Nicholas.

Who is the happiest of men? He who values the merits of others, and in their pleasures takes joy, even as though it were his own.—Professor Blackie.

OUR CHRISTMAS TREE IS GROWING

BY HARRIET G BROWN



Sometimes, in the summer, when there comes a rainy day,
I feel quite cross because I cannot go out doors to play.
But mother says, "Remember, dear, that though the trees and flowers
Love the nice, warm sunshine, they also need the showers.
And somewhere, way up in the woods, just where I do not know,
Perhaps your little Christmas tree needs just this rain to grow."
So now, when come the stormy days, and dreary winds are blowing,
We say, "Oh, never mind, you know our Christmas tree is growing!"



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Dr. Chase's Ointment

Children's Corner.



THE CHRISTMAS TREE

The little boy and the little girl owned a tiny evergreen. It stood in a grass plot between the sundial, the arbor and the pigeon cote.

The sun warmed it, the rain washed it, the soil fed it, and so it grew straight and beautiful and green.

The year that its tip was as high as the children could reach, the little girl said to her brother, "I have a fine idea. We will give our friends a Christmas tree. We will hang presents for them."

"Yes," said the little boy, "but we must plan about it in the house, or the pigeons will hear us. They would tell all the others before we are ready."

"That is true," said the little girl, "we must surprise them."

On Christmas morning, when the sun sparkled on the snow, the little girl and the little boy began to decorate the tree.

They hung bright-colored boxes of grain and lumps of white suet from every branch. With ears of corn, bunches of wheat heads and rings of bread they made the little tree so gay that it thrilled through all its branches. They tucked away a cabbage, some turnips, more corn and a goodly store of nuts under the lower branches. On the very top they placed a gilded star that shone in the sun.

It was a splendid little Christmas tree!

"Pigeons, pigeons! white and blue!
Here's an errand now for you!"
chanted the children.

"Tell every squirrel and rabbit and bird,
Everything feathered and everything furred,
To come as quick as they can to see
The finest sort of Christmas tree!"

Away whirred the pigeons, and soon there was a fluttering of wings, a pitpat of all sorts of little quick feet; there was a squeaking and piping and peeping when all the little wild things began to gather under the evergreen tree.

The little boy and girl shouted with laughter as they saw the barnyard tribe scramble across the snow, under the leadership of the old gander. How they all clucked and gabbled about the good Christmas corn on the crusty snow! How the little wild rabbits liked the cabbage and turnips, and how the squirrels stuffed their cheks with nuts! The birds pecked the suet and ate the grain, and fluttered and sang and twittered round the little boy and the little girl. The children danced and clapped their hands; the little evergreen tree glowed and sparkled, and seemed to understand their fun.

The children's mother smiled from the kitchen door, and called out, "What are you little people doing now? Are you having another Christmas?"

"Having a Christmas tree for our friends," they said.—Youth's Companion.

A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

(By Gertrude Winham Fielder)

"Do you truly think Santa Claus will find us, mamma?" asked David for the twentieth time.

"Yes, dear, but he may not be able to get here tonight, the roads are so bad."

"Can't we go back to Boston just for Christmas?" asked Betty.

"Oh, no, dear, you know we gave up the apartment when we decided to live here in our wee country home this winter. Look from the window, what is that coming across the field?"

"It's a tree, walking all by itself!" cried David.

"It's a Christmas tree!" cried Betty. "It's our Christmas tree and Mr. Farmer Brown is behind it making it walk, don't you see him, David?"

"Come on," cried David, rushing to the door.

"It's the beautifullest tree we ever had," declared Betty, "don't you think it's stopped snowing for a while, Mr. Brown?"

"I thought you liked snow," said Mr. Brown twinkling down at Betty.

"Not so much," said Betty. "Santa Claus can't get here tonight if the roads are bad.

"If he can't get here tonight, he'll get here on Christmas morning, you mark my words!" cried Farmer Brown.

By the time the beautiful Christmas tree was standing in state in the little parlor, David and Betty began to feel more cheerful, especially as Farmer Brown seemed to be on very intimate terms with Santa Claus.

"I've lived right here ever since I was knee-high to a grasshopper," declared Mr. Brown, "and Santa Claus ain't missed a Christmas yet. No sir-ee, he thinks just as much of country children as he does of city ones. Of course country roads are bad and it's very hard for him to get around, sometimes, but he is not going to forget you, no indeed. Shouldn't wonder a mite but he'd leave more things than you asked for."

"I asked for a sled," said David, "and an engine and a drum."

"You'll get 'em, everyone on 'em," declared Mr. Brown.

All day, David and Betty were as busy as bees for mamma had said they might trim the tree.

Very early on Christmas morning, David crept out of bed, tiptoed softly down stairs, and made his way to the fire-place. His stocking was empty. Never before had the stocking hung empty on Christmas morning.

"Has he been, David?" and Betty stood at his side.

"No," answered David, almost ready to cry.

"Well, then," said Betty, "he'll come this morning. Let's hurry and get dressed and then watch for him."

Just as the two children were descending the stairs for the second time, there came a loud rat-tat-tat upon the door. Betty opened the door and there upon the step lay package upon package.—Child's Hour.

IN THE WRONG PLACE

Little Josephine gathered up her doll and playthings one day, and told her mother that she was going to visit her best friend, a dear old lady who dearly loved to see her. The mother only had time to call after her, "Be quiet and don't forget what you should say when you leave!"

"No, mamma," came a voice from the other side of the street, as the little girl with doll's legs hanging from the arms ran up to a big front door, and on tiptoe reached up to the big brass knocker.

The friend opened the door, and little Josephine, anxious to do her mamma's bidding, stepped in and said, "Good afternoon, Mrs. Adams! I have had a very pleasant visit, thank you." Then her mind was free, and Josephine and her hostess had a delightful time.

A CHRISTMAS CATECHISM

(By Maud Lindsay)

Who was born on Christmas Day?
Little Baby Jesus.
Blessed little Christmas Child;
Pure, and sweet, and fair and mild
In His mother's arms He smiled;
Little Baby Jesus.

Where was Baby Jesus born?
In a lowly stable.
There where cows and oxen fed
Mary made His little bed.
Nowhere else to lay His head
Had the Baby Jesus.

Who told the news that He was born?
God's own holy angels,
Singing in the starry sky
Praises sweet to God on high;
'Twas a heavenly lullaby
For the Baby Jesus.

Who came to see Him where He lay?
Kings and humble shepherds;
And they marveled much to see
In the hay the Baby wee,
King of earth and heaven was He,
Little Baby Jesus.

THE NUMBERS

(By Arthur Macy)

Number 1 is very straight;
2 is different.
3 is curly, 4 is burly;
5 is badly bent.
6 is never hard to make,
And 7 has one leg.
8 is double, 9 no trouble;
0 is like an egg.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

THE BRABB TREE.

"There goes my sweater and Mary Elizabeth's blue dress," Clinton remarked, suspending his Christmas-present-making operations to point his hammer toward the sidewalk in front of the house. "If you could see their feet probably you'd see Mary Elizabeth's and my shoes, too."

Josephine peered through her glasses near-sightedly. What she saw was a small couple pulling a cart with a basket of clothes on it.

"That's the Brabb family—two of it, I mean," continued Clinton in an explanatory tone. "There is any amount more of it at home. The littlest Brabb of all wears our baby's things that he is too big for."

They did not look very different from any other children to Josephine, but perhaps wearing Clinton's and Mary Elizabeth's things made them look "Clintony" and "Mary Elizabethy." The boy's face as he turned suddenly was a square, manly face. The girl looked as if she would be nice to play with.

"O, they'll have a tree—a New Year tree," answered Clinton, his voice raised above the noise of his hammering. Clinton was making hammer-presents, being a boy, and Josephine, being a girl, was needle-and-threading hers. It was so sunny and warm they could do it out of doors.

"We give 'em our tree after we get through playing with it. We keep it a week, and then hang some of our last year's things on it—mend 'em and glue 'em, you know—and invite the Brabb family over to it New Year's day. The candles aren't but half burned out usually. This year Mary Elizabeth is going to dress her last Christmas doll in a long dress to cover where its legs ought to be; they got smashed. Top of it is all right, though, so it will make a baby doll."

"O!" Josephine drew a long breath. She was thinking of her baby doll, Delightsome. Delightsome's legs were not smashed. Every night when she undressed Delightsome—O, think of undressing a baby whose legs—O, you couldn't think of it! Josephine's thoughts tripped over each other in their hurry to stop. She sat up straight on the doorstep and gazed down the street after that clattering cart.

"I should think it would hurt," she said.

"What hurt?"

"To be a Brabb little girl."

Clinton laughed outright.

"Don't it hurt to be a funny one?" he asked. "You're awfully funny, Josephine. You say the most ridiculous things. Mary Elizabeth never does."

Mary Elizabeth was a sister, not a cousin. Perhaps cousins were always funnier, Clinton wondered. Josephine had come to "Christmas" with Clinton and Mary Elizabeth and the cousin-baby, because there was not going to be a Christmas at her own home. You can't Christmas when your father 'n' mother and brothers are abroad, can you? Even a dear grandmother can't make a Christmas; it takes children and fathers, and you have to borrow somebody else's mother if your own gives out. Josephine had borrowed Clinton's and Mary Elizabeth's.

"Say, I've just remembered something," remarked Clinton. "Her name is Josephine, too—that girl that just went past. That's a kind of joke on you!"

Was it a joke on her or on that Josephine that just went by—a kind of sorry joke on her, to be named for a girl that could play in the sun and have trees on Christmas instead of New Year's and—a baby doll with legs?

Josephine took two more stitches, then two more. But suddenly all the zest had gone out of her work. She had a queer little ache spot in her tender little breast. The spot was growing bigger. Sometimes sewing very hard made people ache. Still she had only sewed a little hard.

Josephine did not know that this feeling in her breast was the divine ache of pity.

Day after day after day after tomorrow was Christmas. The tree, a fine upstanding branchy one, was already mounted upon its firm base and waiting in the parlor. The beautiful Christmas-smell of it filled the place, and Josephine went in quite often and sniffed it. Does any smell in the world smell quite as good?

"It's going to be a buster," Clinton said happily. "There's piles more trimming things in a box upstairs—angels and cornucopias and gilt things. We take those, most of 'em, off, of course, before we invite the Brabb family. They might smash 'em. Mother advised to leave 'em all on, but, of course, she lets Mary Elizabeth and me do as we please because we saved our money to buy 'em, most of 'em. We leave the mother-ones on that she owns."

"I want to buy some!" Josephine said suddenly. "Father sent me some Christmas money—let's go now and get some more trimmings, Clinton." She was thinking that she would leave all hers on for the New Year tree—O, every single one—angels and cornucopias and gilt things—for that other Josephine. And she was thinking another thing—she would buy a baby doll with whole legs.

The night before Christmas-tree night Josephine lay a long while neither asleep nor awake—anyway, not the least speck asleep. How can you go to sleep on the night before Christmas-tree night? Seemed as if that beautiful, spicy Christmasy smell came through the keyhole right straight to Josephine's nose.

While she sniffed luxuriously, a funny thing happened. Somebody spoke out loud, right in the room.

"Are you a Josephine?"

"Why, of course."

"What kind of a Josephine, a second-hand kind?"

"Why! Why, of course not! I'm Josephine. Of course not a second-hand kind." She felt angry and indignant.

The voice went right on. She wished she could see the voice.

"But I suppose you've got eyes and ears and a heart—all kinds of Josephines have those. Supposing, when you looked down at yourself, you always saw somebody else's dress, an' when you went past houses you heard folks say whose dress it was, —an' supposing your heart ached? Supposing."

Josephine lay very still and supposed. The voice had stopped.

"Are you there?" whispered Josephine to it. "Who are you? Are you—are you—"

"Yes, I'm the Brabb Josephine. I thought perhaps you'd understand because you are a Josephine. I thought it would be easier if somebody understood. Good-by, I'm going now." But the voice came back again. "I wish you'd 'supposing' how a tree felt with half o' the candles burnt out an' not any—not any angels, or—not any—any—legs."

Queer how the voice never finished. Josephine found herself sitting up in bed, rubbing her eyes open. They had been shut! She sat there hours, it seemed to her, but the hours were minutes. Then she put on her blanket-robe and bedroom slippers to match and padded away out into the hall.

"Clinton! Clinton! You asleep?" she called softly through his door. "Because if you aren't, put on your blanket-robe an' come out here. I'm going to get Mary Elizabeth. It's something important."

Out in the warm hall were three blanketed little figures. They "supposed" all together. Josephine told her dream in a whisper.

"Supposing," she said. It was Clinton who spoke next. "Why, I never thought!" he said. "I never did 'suppose' before, and Mary Elizabeth never did either. It—it makes me pretty ashamed. We'll leave all the gilt things and the angels on—"

"And let's have the Brabbs over Christmas day instead of New Year's so they'll have a really Christmas," whispered Josephine.

"An' buy new candles!" little Mary Elizabeth chimed in softly. "An' I'll give some of my spandy presents—spandy new."

"I've got a new baby doll with legs, to hang on it!" Josephine cried. "I'll pin a little card to her that says her name is Delightsome."

No one was whispering now, but the clamor of their eager voices was a sweet clamor. Clinton's mother, listening, smiled to herself.

"They're not selfish deep down," she thought, happily.

I think the spirit of the first little Christmas Child that must be always very near on this night-of-children listened and was happy, too.—Sunday School Messenger.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

One-sixth of the national income of the United States went into taxes in 1921, according to a report which has just been issued by the National Industrial Conference Board.

Prince Andrew of Greece arrived in Paris from Rome on Friday, twelve hours ahead of his schedule. The exiled Prince was met at the station by Prince Christopher and Princess Anastasia.

Negotiations for a new commercial treaty between Canada and France were successfully concluded in Paris on Friday. The convention is now being drafted and will be signed shortly.



DRAWN BY L. J. BRIDGMAN

BUNNY'S CHRISTMAS CARD BY OLIVETTE MORRIS

Little Bobby Bunny
Would send a Christmas card,
But, you see, he had no money
And times were rather hard.

Beneath his cosy cover
Of spruce and fir and pine
He thought the problem over.
How could he send a line?

But when the storm was stopping
That lasted all one day,
"It's just a case of hopping!"
He cried. "I've found a way!"

So, close beside the highway,
As plain as plain could be,
He printed in his spry way
A card for all to see.

Dannie's Choice

(By Anna Bradbam Osborne in "The Classmate")

The snow swirled and eddied in a dizzying whirl-dance of white feathers outside the coach windows. It piled a drift of blue-blanched cold from corner to corner of the glass. The train crept on more and more slowly as its iron foot plowed into the ever-thickening pile of snowy carpet the storm flung before it.

Inside the coach the passengers stirred restlessly. It was a holiday crowd They were all going somewhere. The delay was irksome. They would be late for their Christmas plans, or they might not get through at all. There was the Gap ahead. Unless the plows were out there would be no hope there.

The little family going to "grandpa's for Christmas' complained loudly. "But we will get there in time to hang up our stockings," entreated the little five-year-old, shaking her brown curls, her topaz eyes misting.

The blase traveling salesman gathered himself into the corner of his section, quoting with unwilling resignation tinged with bitterness, "'Twas ever thus from childhood's hour," and gave himself up to gloomy meditations.

The professional looking man with the neat spiked beard and shell-rimmed spectacles gave up his air of forced calm and his magazine. He got up, shook his well-knit figure, and paced the length of the car. He looked inquiringly at the storm from the window at the other end of the coach, as if its outlook might be less snow-blocked. He shook his head over the prospect and came back to his seat and magazine.

"If this keeps up," he remarked jocosely to the College Four in the section ahead, "we are likely to have a white Christmas."

"White!" scoffed Edgar, the irrepressible tenor with the curly black hair. "What do you call white? I call this a dirty deal of the weather man's. And such speed as is in this old iron horse. I could beat this train afoot at slow retreat. We are hours behind time. And I can see little old Number Five sliding up to the entrance of the Gap to find her filled from lip to lip and not a plow in sight. What kind of road is this, anyway?" he demanded belligerently; "I thought they advertised that the Limited was always on time?"

"Even railroads have to bow to the weather," placated the man.

"Youth is accustomed to being served. It takes disappointments badly," offered the traveling salesman, coming out of his gloom to smile at a neighbor's.

"Well, the curtain goes up at eight sharp, and we are on for the first number," defended Edgar sulkily.

"My, my!" the traveling salesman spread his hands deprecatingly, "Webster City will just sink into the snow and give up the ghost." The College Four had been no more reticent concerning their plans than the family going to grandpa's. The traveling salesman wasn't really ill-natured; but this Christmas appointment meant a crisis in his life. If he were not there on time the big men would not wait. Explanations would not explain and excuses would not excuse. He simply would fail. And the new year, with all of its splendid promise, would turn dull and gray just like every other "little old year," as his thoughts ran. He would have missed his chance. And there would never be another at his age; his hair was beginning to thin on the crown of his head. At least that is the way his pessimistic reverie ran as he crouched in his section corner.

At Belton, the factory town situated at the Gap in the ridges that grew sharper into the foothills of the range, things were even more tense than on this train. Here everyone was reasonably sure of life and of coming into their individual plans sooner or later, unless the traveling salesman really should miss his big chance, as he gloomily forecasted. And of course the doctor had a right to be grave, too. Twenty-four hours would make a difference in his case.

One of the tense spots in Belton was a little brown house on the flat. A professional-looking man stood at the window here, too, looking somberly out at the steadily falling snow. His beard was neither neat nor spiked. It splayed out, gray and uneven, as if from frequent nervous pullings, over his soft collar and his limp tie. His clothes bagged and showed shine. But there was a "bedside manner" upon him. By that one would know him, even before noticing the little thermometer in his hand, which he shook to free it from the moisture clinging from its antiseptic bath.

The other man in the room, a great, powerful, shaggy fellow in workman's clothes, hung anxiously upon the doctor's movements. Dr. Griffith waved the thermometer to dry it and to gain time. To relieve the tension, he remarked irrelevantly, his eyes studiously avoiding the big man's and fixed upon the soft insistent down-sifting of the snow, "It looks like we would have a white Christmas."

"A white Christmas!" croaked the other man. His blood-shot eyes told of worry and strain and sleeplessness. His down-thrust clenched fist told of mingled emotions, a feeling of injustice, a great resentment, a desire to strike out at something. "If Dannie dies it will be the blackest Christmas the Gap ever saw."

There was a rasp in the big voice that drew the doctor's kindly blue-eyed gaze upon him. It encompassed him with a great pity, a great sympathy, and something of fear. There seemed to be a menace in that clenched fist and rasping voice.

Things were at a crisis in Belton. The walkout at the factory had not been the success the agitators had promised it would be. The "capitalistic interests" had not "come across in three days" and granted all their demands. Instead they had quietly closed the factory and retired to their "palaces" on the hill, leaving the strikers with the hardly accumulated paraphernalia for handling strike-breakers useless on their hands. This closing of the factory automatically shut off the light, gas, and water from the flat. For the factory plants supplied all of these for the factory district.

The agitators, balked, pounded the old table in Workman's Hall over Kelly's poolroom near to splinters. Close the factory! Did that hurt the capitalists? It did not! The "more production" they had so glibly preached and for which the "poor boobs" of operatives had "fallen" had resulted in over-production. The market was "glutted." To close the factory for the winter months was an easy way out for them. What cared they that the flat had no light, or gas, or water? They had all of these from the big plants in the town. The flat could carry water or melt snow. Kerosene made a good enough light for such as they. They could cook as they would. None of these things could touch those on the "castled heights."

But were they going to let them "get away with it?" Who made the factory, anyway? What could the machines accomplish without the operatives' skill and muscle? Why should the output be turned over to the capitalists, they giving back a mere pittance to the operatives? Why not seize the factory? It had been done.

This snowy day before Christmas there was a meeting in Workman's Hall. It was another tense spot in Belton. "What shall we give these men on the hill for a Christmas present?" demanded the agitator, shooting up his cuffs, shaking back his long, black hair, and spreading his soft palms appealingly. The meeting stirred uneasily and looked around for Big Dan. They couldn't quite make up their minds about all this. They had not known that they were so down-trodden until Westervelt and Kroner, who had appeared among them a few months ago, had insistently pointed it out to them.

Big Dan had held out against these extreme socialistic views. He had worked in the factory since his boyhood and his father before him. He would say, in the main, the management had always been "pretty white." Witness the model cottages with their conveniences. Of course, they were nothing like they had on the hill. And how many of the operatives had automobiles? Were their children in eastern colleges or travelling in Europe? And little Dannie, the apple of his father's eye, the idol of the Gap, who had been looking forward to Christmas and Santa's pack with such eager anticipation, and so many joyous mysterious secrets, lay stricken.

"Is there a chance, Doc?" breathed Big Dan fearsomely.

"If we could get him to a specialist and operate within twenty-four hours, there might be a chance. Dr. Stillwell has had wonderful success with such cases."

Dr. Stillwell! At Capital City! A journey of a day and a half by Limited, when the roads were open and schedules running true! And that snowstorm blocking every line! And Number Five from Capital City panting along hours behind time! Silence fell in the room. Big Dan's two fists clenched and thrust downward with force. The doctor snapped the thermometer into its case, crushed his old battered hat upon his grizzled head and departed.

"Don't do anything you'll be sorry for, Dan," was his parting injunction.

Big Dan had not heard him. He stood staring out into the snow outside, breathing hard, his hands tense at his sides. "A white Christmas!" he muttered, and a black look came on his face. He picked up his old slouch hat, jammed it on his head and went to the meeting.

(To be continued)

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A CHINESE PLAYHOUSE

The opening of the Chen Kwang Theatre—the first Chinese playhouse to which a foreigner can go with any degree of comfort—was described in Peking as "an epoch in theatricals." The new theatre is about ten minutes by rickshaw from the Grand Hotel de Pekin and the Legation Quarter. It is warm and clean, and for the first time in Chinese theatrical history the prospective playgoer need not send a servant hours in advance to reserve a seat and be sure it is held until he comes. The most distinguished actors in Pekin have been engaged for the company of the new playhouse. Only one famous actor is missing, the famous feminine impersonator, Mei Lan-fang, by far the most popular player in modern China.

The Chinese theatre heretofore has mystified and baffled the foreigner. He doesn't understand the language, and in spite of character-revealing gesture, and the fact that most of the lines are sung, he has a bad time making out what it is all about. He is likely to mistake a whole series of plays for one play, and come home at the end of his tour with a sorry tale of the dismal length of Chinese plays, and the deafening jangling of gongs; and—for he quite forgets the nasal voice that peddles chocolates in many an American theatre—he is appalled because the Chinese eat and drink in the theatre. Shakespeare and Kit Marlowe would not have been quite so squeamish, by the way, for they were used to the hubbub of the pit, the lords in the galleries and sometimes on the stage, the orange-sellers and the sweetmeat merchants going their rounds; and they might even have found some stage devices in the Chinese theatre with which they were not quite unfamiliar.

In spite of the foreign building and the foreign stage, one sees in this theatre the true art of the Chinese actor. The orchestra sits on the stage and, thanks to the good footlights, one can observe them and their various string and wind instruments very conveniently. The "property man" is there and hands tea to his master after he has sung a strenuous number, or throws a pillow on the floor where the distraught maiden will kneel before her indignant parent, saving the lovely gown from being soiled by this bit of forethought.

Against the dark-blue background of very tall curtains there move forth in their stately step the figures of the gorgeously dressed actors who impersonate the great of China's past. In most statuesque manner the followers of some noted general are generally draped about the stage, while the hero holds the centre. For a picturesque display of a riot of barbaric color, there is nothing to match a company of Chinese actors.

FOR LEISURE MOMENTS

A celebrated singer was in a motor-car accident one day. A paper, after recording the accident, added, "We are happy to state that he was able to appear the following evening in four pieces."

Fussy old gentleman: "You're too young a boy to be left in charge of a drug store. You haven't a diploma, have you?"

Shop-boy: "N-no, but we have a preparation of our own that's just as good."



"Is there anything else you wish, Willie?"
"Yes, I wish I was twins!"—The Passing Show.

Man in Need: "Lend me $20. I have to go to Boston." Friend: "Why must you go there?" Man in Need: "Just received a contract to deliver a series of lectures there on 'How to Succeed in Life,' and I haven't the fare."

Smith—I woke up last night with a dreadful suspicion that my new gold watch was gone. So strong was the impression that I got up to look.

Brown—Well, was it gone?

Smith—No, but it was going.

Mother—I hope you won't forget what I told you about not taking a second helping of cake at the party, Tommy.

Tommy—I won't mother. I'll take two pieces the first time the cake is passed.

"What's the shape of the earth?" demanded the teacher.

"Round," the boy replied, confidently.

"How do you know it's round?" persisted the teacher.

"All right," replied the lad, "it's square, then. I don't want to start any argument about it."

The Unknown Wrestler

By H. A. Cody.

(Copyright, McLelland & Stewart, Publishers.)

(Synopsis of Opening Chapters)

While Douglas Stanton stood watching the crowds surge past a blind fiddler and his daughter, he saw two young men lurch against the girl and scatter the few pennies she had collected from the passers-by. Instantly Douglas confronted one youth and so intimidated him that he was glad to apologize. Taking the fiddle Douglas then played until he had collected a large sum for his proteges. He then disappeared. Going down to the dockside he was just in time to see a young woman pushed into the water by her angry lover. Jumping in, Douglas kept her afloat until the coastguard came to their assistance and rescued them both.

CHAPTER II. (Continued.)

"Why are such brutes allowed their freedom?" he asked turning toward the boatman.

"Hey, what is that you say?" was the reply.

"I wonder why human brutes are permitted to have their freedom, and injure a woman such as that?"

"You saw the deed, then?"

"Yes, I happened to be on the dock over there, when she was pushed into the water by her companion. He disappeared before I could get my hands on him."

"Oh, that is always the way. The women are the ones who suffer while they get scot-free. But, say, here is the car now."

It did not take long to transfer the woman from the tug to the ambulance, and when the car had departed, Douglas turned to the boatman.

"I wish to thank you for what you have done tonight, sir. But for your timely assistance I fear I should have had a hard time getting ashore."

"Oh, never mind your thanks," was the reply. "I'm mighty glad that I was nearby to give a hand. It does one good sometimes to help a poor creature in distress. But you had better hustle and change your wet clothes or the ambulance will come fer you next."

"You're right, I do feel chilly, so good-night."

"Good-night," was the reply, "and when ye want any help with that scoundrel, just call upon Cap' Dodges, of the 'Nancy Staines.'"

CHAPTER III.

Conscience Money

The rector of St. Margaret's was visibly annoyed as he hung up the telephone receiver. "Confound that fellow," he muttered, "where can he be? I have phoned to him six times and can get no answer. I shall not call him again. I'm really glad he's going for he gets on my nerves with all his odd notions." Turning to his desk, he continued his work upon his sermon for next Sunday morning.

It was a large, comfortable study, and the walls were lined with books. Dr. Rannage was noted far and wide as a deep student, as well as a great preacher. The people of St. Margaret's were proud of their rector's ability, and listened, so they often told him, with delight to his intellectual sermons. He was particularly at home when dealing with the Major and Minor Prophets or on the Textual Criticism of the Bible. Regular Pastoral Visitation he disliked, and left most of such work to his curate, though occasionally he called upon the most influential members of his flock. He was a special favorite in social circles, and being a brilliant after-dinner speaker, he was much in demand to grace numerous festive gatherings. Little wonder, then, that Dr. Rannage had no time for anything else but the preparation of his Sunday sermons, of which work he was very fond.

To-night, however, he could not concentrate his thoughts upon his subject. His mind would wander, and several times he found himself thinking of the dinner he had that evening with his Bishop. He knew that the position of Archdeacon was vacant, and he was fondly hoping that he would be favored with the appointment. It would be another step, so he mused, up the ecclesiastical ladder leading to the Episcopate.

He had forgotten all about his sermon and was thinking deeply of the prospects of his advancement, when his curate, Douglas Stanton, entered the room unannounced.

"You are over half an hour late, Stanton," Dr. Rannage chided, as he motioned his visitor to a chair. "What is the meaning of this?"

"I am very sorry," Douglas replied, as he took the proffered chair. "I intended to be here on time, but was unavoidably detained."

"I dined with the Bishop to-night," and Dr. Rannage toyed with a small paperweight as he spoke, "and was forced to leave in the midst of a most important discussion in order to keep my appointment with you."

"What were you discussing?" Douglas enquired.

"We were considering the best methods of dealing with the submerged population of our city; that is, those unfortunate beings who inhabit the slums and the waterfront."

"Did you arrive at any definite conclusion?"

"We had not time; for, as I have just mentioned, I was forced to come away to meet you."

"And while you were discussing methods of helping the unfortunate, I was rescuing one from the water down at Long Wharf."

Douglas spoke slowly, and he watched to see the effect of his words. But Dr. Rannage did not seem to notice the implied sarcasm, nor the sharp contrast between theory and practice.

"So that is what you were doing, eh?" the latter questioned. "You seem to enjoy being down there."

"I enjoy helping the unfortunate, and because I am not allowed to continue the work, I have sent in my resignation."

"But you must remember that you have a duty to the parish as a whole, and not to one portion only."

"Haven't I tried to do my duty? I have visited in season and out of season, and worked like a dog for the two years I have been with you."

"But I have received complaints that you are unsociable, and that you refuse all invitations to, ah, friendly gatherings and such like affairs."

"You mean card-parties and afternoon teas, I suppose," Douglas sharply replied. "If so, I plead guilty. Haven't I taken a keen interest in the Boy Scouts, the Young Men's Club, the Sunday School, and dear knows what? Any spare time I had I spent at the water-front in an effort to follow my Master's example of putting my religion into practice. How dare I waste my time sipping tea at this house and that, and talking nice little nothings to the butterflies who gather there, when there is so much to be done, and precious souls to be helped and saved?"

"But the butterflies, of whom you speak so contemptuously, need to be helped as well."

"No one knows that better than I do," Douglas bitterly assented. "But until they are willing to throw aside their vain pretensions of being the salt of the earth and better than others, I am afraid little can be done. They dislike me because I speak my mind too freely, and refuse to waste my time at their senseless gatherings. They desire some one who will flatter their vanity and condone their idleness."

"You are making serious charges, young man," Dr. Ranage severely replied. His curate's words had hit him hard, and he winced, for he knew how true they were. "If that is the feeling you entertain for innocent amusements, it is just as well you should sever your connection with this parish. When do you expect to leave?"

"At once."

"And where do you intend to go?"

"I have not the slightest idea. The future to me is a complete blank. Something will turn up, I suppose. If not, I have two hands and a strong body."

"Look here, Stanton," and Dr. Rannage swung suddenly around on his swivel chair, "you must not get downhearted."

"I am not," was the reply.

"Well, perhaps you are not, but I do not like the idea of your going from me with nothing in view. Do you know the parish of Rixton?"

"Yes, I have heard of it, though I know very little about it."

"It seems that it has been vacant for some time, and it is most difficult to get any one to go there. By the way, I met Mr. Simon Stubbles at dinner tonight. He is the leading man at Rixton, and the Bishop and I were much impressed with him. He is very wealthy, so I understand; has a large sawmill, and carries on extensive lumbering operations. He is greatly concerned about the spiritual welfare of Rixton, and is most anxious that a suitable clergyman should be sent there. He is quite willing to contribute liberally if the right man is found."

"Why did the last one leave?" Douglas asked.

"He was not big enough for the work, so I learned from the brief conversation I had with Mr. Stubbles. It is a most difficult parish, composed principally of millmen, woodmen, and a few farmers. It seems that the last clergyman used no tact at all in dealing with them, and thus antagonized everybody, Mr. Stubbles included."

"So you think that I would suit, do you?" and Douglas looked quizzically at Dr. Rannage.

"I believe you are just the man for the place."

"What makes you think so?"

"Because you know the ways of such people. You were born in the country, were you not?"

"Why not let young Harmon have a try there? He is one of your boys, and has just been ordained. Would it not be well for him to win his spurs in a parish such as Rixton?"

"Oh, but he is a banker's son, you know, and we could not think of sending him there."

"So I supposed," was the bitter reply, "though I never for a moment imagined that you would so candidly acknowledge it."

"Acknowledge what?" Dr. Rannage queried.

"That because Harmon is a banker's son he would not be sent to an out-of-the-way country parish. His father is influential and can influence those in authority, so he is looked for an important charge in Silverton, so I understand. I am merely the son of a poor, honest farmer, and so any old place will do for me."

"See here, young man, you have no right to talk way," Dr. Rannage retorted. "If you continue, I shall be compelled to report you to the Bishop."

"Report all you like, but you both know it's true, and you cannot deny it. Harmon barely scraped through college, but he is considered a gentleman's son, and understands the ways of polite society. mark my words, his career will be followed with great interest, and everything he does will be noted and favorably commented upon. It will not be long before he will be an Archdeacon, or a Dean, and finally a Bishop."

"Are you jealous of Harmon?" Dr. Rannage asked. "That is the only conclusion I can draw from your sarcastic remarks."

"Jealousy has nothing to do with it," was the quick reply. "It is merely justice that I demand, a right for every man to be judged according to what he is and does, irrespective of what his father is, or any influence he may exert. The church is the last place where such injustice should be allowed. But, there, what is the use of my talking to you or any one else, when you attribute my feeling to jealousy?"

Douglas had risen, and stood with his hat in his hand ready to depart.

"So you don't feel inclined to try Rixton, then?" Dr. Rannage asked. He was quite amused at his curate's words, and considered them merely the outburst of a hot-headed youth. Douglas noted this, and with a great effort controlled himself.

"I shall consider the matter very carefully," was his reply. "If I decide to go, I shall report to the Bishop."

"Wait a minute," Dr. Rannage ordered as Douglas was about to leave the room. "There is something I almost overlooked. You received your cheque for last month, I suppose?"

"Yes, the treasurer gave it to me several days ago." "There was a meeting of the vestry last night, and I mentioned that you had sent in your resignation," Dr. Rannage explained.

"And I suppose all the members were delighted with the news."

"Why should they? They are all business men, and look well after the temporalities of St. Margaret's. They paid tribute to your earnest work, and as a token of appreciation they asked me to give you this," and Dr. Rannage handed the young man a cheque. "I think this will prove to you better than many words how generous the members of the vestry really are."

Douglas took the cheque in his hand and studied it very carefully. In fact, he looked at it so long without saying anything that Dr. Rannage was surprised.

"Are you not satisfied with it?" he curtly asked, noting the flush which was slowly stealing over Douglas' face. "I took it upon myself to ask something for you, thinking that it would give you considerable pleasure."

"I am not considering the amount of the cheque," Douglas replied, "but something far more important. St. Margaret's is a rich church, is it not?"

"Yes, I suppose so," was the reluctant assent.

"The richest in the city?"

"Yes. But what has that to do with that cheque?" Dr. Rannage angrily retorted.

"It is heavily endowed, and there was a big surplus last Easter, according to the Year Book," Douglas continued, unheeding his rector's annoyance.

"We have good business men on the vestry," Dr. Rannage proudly explained, "and that is the main reason why we are in such excellent financial condition. They have been most careful to invest all moneys where they bring in big returns."

"What did they give me this for, then?" Douglas asked as he held forth the cheque. "It must have wrung their souls to part with one hundred dollars for nothing."

"Oh, that was given merely out of appreciation for your good work in the parish."

"Since when have they become appreciative?"

"Why, haven't they been always so?"

"If they were, they never showed any signs of it. It seemed to me just the opposite, especially when I asked them for a few hundred dollars last fall to rent a building as a shelter for the unfortunate on the water-front. They told me pretty plainly what they thought of my 'new fangled notion,' as they called it."

"They were merely cautious, that was all," Dr. Rannage defended. "As I told you, they are all good business men, and they wished to be sure that the investment would, ah——"

"Pay," Douglas assisted, as his rector hesitated. "Yes, that was just it. They thought it wouldn't pay in dollars and cents, so they refused to have anything to do with it. The return in lives helped and souls saved did not trouble them in the least. But now, when they know that I am going, perhaps they may have had a twinge of conscience; that is, if they have any, and what they have given me is nothing more than conscience money."

These words brought Dr. Rannage suddenly to his feet. He had always prided himself upon his self-control, but such a charge made by any man, especially a mere curate, was more than he could endure.

"What do you mean by talking that way?" he demanded. "Ever since you entered this room you have been as ugly as——"

"The devil," Douglas assisted as Dr. Rannage paused. "You might as well say it as think it. If telling the truth, and telling it plainly, is being ugly, then I plead guilty. I question if what I have said will be of any benefit to you, but it has done a great deal of good to me. It has somewhat relieved my mind, and that is worth something."

"You will relieve my mind, if you will go," Dr. Rannage retorted. "It is absolutely ridiculous that I should be talked to in this manner, especially after what I have done for you."

"Oh, you mean this?" and Douglas glanced at the cheque. "Well, then, I wish to show you and the members of the vestry how I value such, ahem, appreciation. Look!"

Holding the cheque up with both hands, he deliberately tore it into bits, and then, crossing the room he threw the pieces into the fireplace.

"There, I feel better now," he quietly remarked. "So, good-night."

Before Dr. Rannage could recover from his astonishment, the study door opened and closed, and Douglas Stanton was gone.

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Headaches Gone

Perhaps you can imagine what this means to one who had suffered terribly with headaches for ten years.

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"I feel that if anyone can recommend Dr. Chase's medicines I certainly can. I suffered for ten years from severe headaches, and although I took all kinds of headache powders they just relieved me at the time. I became very nervous and run-down, and everything seemed to trouble me. I have taken eighteen boxes of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food and it has made an entirely new person of me. I felt that I could not have lived without it. I do not have one headache now for every hundred I used to have, and my nerves are good and strong. I just weighed 109 pounds when I began using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and now I weigh 124. Knowing what this treatment has done for me, I cannot too highly recommend it to others."

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, 50c a box, all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto.

CHAPT. IV.

Secret Plans

"Hello! what's the rush?"

Douglas stopped short, and a smile overspread his face as he turned it upon the beaming countenance of the man standing before him.

"Oh, it's you, Garton, is it? I didn't see you."

"You certainly didn't. Why, you were cutting a two-forty clip."

"I'm late for tea," Douglas explained.

"So am I," Garton returned. "Just before I left the office, I was called down to the drill-shed to make a presentation to one of our men who is about to get married. Kit will be furious with me for staying so long. Women don't like to be kept waiting, you know. Kit doesn't anyway. She says the kids will make it hot for me when I get home."

"You're a lucky brute, Garton, to have a home to go to, and a wife and such kids as yours."

"I certainly am. But, say, Stanton, come and have dinner with us."

"How can I? Your wife won't be expecting me, and I shall be intruding."

"Look here, old man," and Garton laid his hand affectionately upon his companion's shoulder, "don't you know that you are always welcome at our house? Kit will be delighted to see you, and the kids will go about crazy. They will be more than surprised for we were afraid that we had seen the last of you."

"Well, I'll go, then," Douglas assented, and the two started off at a rapid pace.

"So you have decided to leave?" Garton asked, after they had gone a short distance.

"You've heard the news, then?" Douglas queried.

"Sure; though I doubted it at first."

"Yes, I'm going. I've just had a talk with the Bishop, and that was what kept me late."

"What did he say?"

"Oh, he doesn't mind. I'm too small a fish for him to worry about. He was so busy all the afternoon that I was kept waiting until the eleventh hour, and accordingly was favored with only a few minutes."

Garton detected the note of bitterness in his companion's voice, and did not question him further just then. When at length within the house, and taken possession of by the Garton "kids"—two boys and a girl — Douglas became entirely changed. There was a lively romp first of all, and it was with difficulty that Mrs. Garton could induce the children to release their victim long enough to come to dinner. Then, at the table there was a contest as to who should sit next to the guest.

It was a happy family into which Douglas had entered. This was the one home in the whole city where he could feel perfectly at his ease, for he knew that he was sincerely welcome. Ever since his coming to St. Margaret's, Charles Garton had been his firm friend. Notwithstanding his big legal practice, this brilliant lawyer was always ready and willing to assist the young curate, and Douglas found it a great comfort to go to him for advice.

"I'm afraid that I am a great intruder tonight," he told Mrs. Garton. "But you must blame your husband this time."

"I shall absolve him from all his past sins for bringing you," was the smiling reply. "We were afraid that you were going to leave the city without coming to bid us good-bye."

"I hope I am not so ungrateful as that, after all your kindness to me."

"We shall miss you very much, Mr. Stanton. I hardly know how the children will get along without you."

"Oh, I shall drop in on you one of these days when you're least expecting me."

"Are you going far away?"

"Merely to Rixton."

"Rixton!" Mr. Garton exclaimed.

"Yes, why not? Some one must go there."

"Do you know anything about the place?"

"Very little. I have been told that it is a hard parish, and that the last rector was forced to leave."

"I should say it is. Why, they've killed several men there already, and do you want to be added to the number?"

"Killed them! did you say?" Douglas asked in surprise. "I never heard it was as bad as that."

"Oh, well, they didn't actually kill them, but they tried to do so, it appears, and you know what the Bible says about having murder in the heart."

(To be Continued)

"I care."

"Iliodor, Mad Monk of Russia," as he is known generally (Serge Teranoff), has returned to New York, where he took refuge in the Bronx when under the Czar's sentence of death. Teranoff wants to become an American citizen and a Baptist minister. He was a friend of the notorious monk, Rasputin.

Where there is much pretension, much has been borrowed: Nature never pretends.—Lavater.

"I dare."

The Quest of the King

(By Mary W Vassar)

He rode and he rode to Bethlehem town
far over the shining plain.
There was gold upon his trappings and
gems gleamed at his rein;
His dress was the royal purple, rich broidered, heavy-furred,
And his sleek white mare was slender and
young, and graceful and swift as a bird.

The night was cold in Bethlehem town,
the winds were high and shrill,
The stars in the heavens were needle-points, the moon rode white and still:
But off in a field beside the road a fire
was burning bright
And beside it a group of shepherds were
whiling away the night.

The rider neared and hailed them, "I
pray, good folk," called he,
"Is this not David's city, where dwelleth
the king to be?
For I have come to pay tribute, and gifts
of good-will to bring.
I, too, am heir of a royal race, and come
from my sire, the king!"

Then a gray-haired man, the eldest, made
answer, grave and slow,
"There dwelleth no king in David's town
for aught that I may know.
There are many noble ones there met,
for the taxing doth begin,
But if ye seek for a royal prince, he must
abide at the inn.

But hearken, my lord—a marvellous thing
befell us yesternight!
We lay by the fire and watched our sheep,
when, sudden, a wondrous light
Like the glory of God shone over us, and
in silent awe we heard
The voice of a shining angel, who spake
this gracious word.

"'Fear not, for I bring good news to
you! This night there is born a
child'"—
The stranger turned his steed about and
sudden and scornful smiled.
"Now, what care I for the mighty news
your unknown guest did bring?
I spake not of babes, ye graybeard dolt, I
seek for a mighty king!"

He turned him back to the road again;
the wind was piercing keen,
The moonlight flooded the sleeping town
with its chilly silver sheen.
But as he drew near the city gates there
rang the heavens along,
Sweet and far-off in the lull of the wind,
the voice of a heavenly song!

"Lord over all the lords of earth and King
above kings is he,
Rulers shall bow in the dust to him and
princes shall bend the knee.
Say to the north, 'Lo! give you up' and
'Keep not back!' to the south,
For the east and the west and the isles of
the sea shall he rule by the word
of his mouth."

The stranger's eyes gleamed bright with
hope. "The end of my quest is
near!"
Then he roused the dreaming gate-keeper,
"Open, a prince is here!"
He entered in through the city gates and
came to the inn at last,
Its doors shut tight to the bitter air, and
bolted safe and fast.

He beat upon the close-shut door "Hasten! I may not wait!"
Till the yawning porter, sleepy-eyed, had
opened wide the gate.
Of the host who came to welcome he
questioned, eager, low,
"Doth the heir to David's throne lodge
here? Speak, for I needs must
know!"

The host bent low in greeting, "Alas, my
lord, I fear
That the mighty one for whom ye seek
may not be lodging here.
There are high-born men and folk of
wealth, but sadly must I own
There is never a man among them all
might sit on David's throne."

Then fell upon the stranger's face a sudden and angry frown.
"I needs must lodge me here tonight—
tomorrow I search the town.
Bring food and drink, and spread me a
couch, ye can find a spot somewhere:
But first let me go and see how ye use
my beautiful, swift white mare."

He passed to the rock-hewn stable where
horses and cattle lay,
With his own hands fed and caressed the
mare, then wearily turned away,
When a light from a room adjoining fell
on him, clear and plain,
And out through the rocky doorway, he
heard the song again!

"Awake, awake, oh Zion! Rejoice! Arise
and shine,
For the glory of God is risen on thee, and
the promised light is thine!
He cometh, the great Deliverer, to lead
the exiles home;
And Gentiles shall haste to thy splendor,
and kings to thy brightness come."

The stranger passed the threshold, but no
rich-robed prince was there,
Only a pale young mother was sleeping,
calm and fair
With an arm outstretched, protecting, in
the world-old mother way,
Toward a rough-hewn crib close by her
side, where a new-born baby lay.

But the stranger fell upon his knees and
laid his haughty head
On the baby's homely cradle where oxen
and sheep had fed.
For the Spirit of God upon him came, and
sweeter than ere before
There rang through the happy silence the
heavenly song once more.

"He shall gather the lambs in his bosom,
his flock he shall gently lead,
He shall not quench the smoking flax nor
break the bruised reed,
He shall loosen the bonds of the prisoners, to the blind bring light of day,
And the poor shall he guide in judgment,
and the meek shall he teach his
way.

Flowers shall spring up where briers
grew and lion with lamb shall
dwell,
For a little child shall leader be, whose
name is Immanuel;
Mercy and truth have met and kissed and
earth is nigh to heaven,
For us this day a Child is born and the
King of Kings is given!"

THE HOBGOBLIN WAGON

(By Rev. John H. MacVicar, D.D.)

The glorious winter sunshine, so characteristic of North China, was streaming down the village street, which, drowsy a moment ago, had suddenly become alive with movement and excitement. From every door issued men, women and children. They hurried to the spot where I had rested my wheel against a dead wall: something not hard to find in China where it is unlucky to have windows facing on the street and the only openings are front doors.

"What in the world is that thing? Is is real or make-believe?"

The exclamation burst from the lips of a boy who had come running out of an adjoining compound, his eyes almost starting out of their sockets.

"Never fear, lad," I answered. "This thing whatever it is won't hurt you. You think me a foreign devil and suppose I mean to harm you. I don't. Come, let us have a little chat. I am no ghost. This is not a hobgoblin wagon as you thought."

A crowd of several hundred were presently in a circle before me. To catch and hold their interest, I began to talk in very loud tones to my little friend. His own piping voice, when he responded, easily carried to the farthest listener.

"You asked me, my little chap, if this thing is real or make-believe. Judge for yourself. If it were not real could I use it as I do? Suppose, instead of mounting it, I were to draw on the wall a picture of it, with two wheels, a chain, two pedals, a saddle, two handles with which to steer, and all the rest. Would I be able to mount it and take a ride?"

"How could you mount it if it were not real?"

He laughed almost as if his sides would split.

"Good. Now, tell me something else. When you buy a paper god and paste it on the wall—let us say it is the kitchen-god—is it real, or make-believe?"

"Who knows?" he answered in the evasive idiom of his land.

"You know," I insisted. "Come now, is there not a kitchen-god over the stove in your home?"

"Yes, there is."

"Has it eyes?"

"Yes."

"Do its eyes see?"

"Who knows?"

"You know," I again insisted. "Can a make-believe god, with eyes that are only paint, really see? It is not at all like the true God, who made that bright sun that shines upon us, and Who keeps it shining, even when clouds hide it. Look carefully at my wagon. It isn't hobgoblin at all. It is real. When you go home, just look as carefully at your Kitchen-god, and see if he is anything so real. Tell me honestly, now; why do you have a kitchen-god pasted on the wall?"

"To watch what we are doing all through the year."

"Does he really watch?"

"Who knows?"

"You know," I once more insisted. "How much would you yourself see, if your eyes were only paint?"

The whole crowd roared with laughter.

"Why do you laugh?" I demanded. "Is it because you know that even if the kitchen-god could see, he could not speak. You do not give him any chance to speak, do you?"

They laughed louder than ever. I do wish the good American lady who once solemnly assured me that the Chinese cannot laugh, because they are born without risible muscles on their faces, had been there to hear for herself: she seemed so reluctant to take my unsupported word for it.

"No," I went on, "you don't give him the least chance. On the twenty-third day of the last month of the year what do you do with the kitchen-god?"

The little voice piped high, whilst the crowd nodded assent:

"We take him down from the wall and burn him. The smoke becomes his chariot, in which he mounts to heaven to report to the chief of the gods everything we have been doing during the year."

"O ho!" I rejoined, "a kind of goblin wagon, eh? But tell me this: before he goes off, what do you do to him?"

The boy and the crowd laughed louder than ever.

"What do we do? You know. We take sticky molasses, and with it smear his lips, till they are glued together, so that he can't open his mouth to tell any tales. Then we ask him to report to the chief of the gods only good about us."

"You silly boy! If he were real, and not make-believe, don't you see you are only hurting yourselves by doing that? You glue his lips with treacle to keep him from saying anything bad about you. By doing that you make it impossible for him to say anything good."

I had succeeded in catching the interest of the crowd. For a long spell, before remounting my wheel, I told them about the real God and how He became a real Man, not to do us harm, but to do us good, and how He is able to help us most when most helpless Himself, with nails driven through His hands and feet and a spear-wound in His side. I told them, too, how after dying for us He rose again and stays with us all the time, and makes not only men and women great and good, but nations. In fact, I talked to the whole crowd as if they were mere children who had never gone to school, as indeed they were.

But I shall not put down on paper any more of what I said, for most of it would be familiar already to the very youngest of my readers. I have written this much, largely because, before I came back to China, people used to say to me:

"When you preach to an audience that has never heard about Christ, how do you go about it? We have not the least idea."

Well, I have tried now to let you know how we sometimes go about it. The address may grow out of local circumstances under which it is delivered: but sooner or later—usually sooner—it centres in Christ, and Him Crucified.—Honan Messenger.

"You don't have to."

EXTRACTS FROM IRISH LETTERS

Your last letter come very quickly, twelve days, some others took twenty-three days to come. Some of them must have lain a long time in the Post Office. Heaps of letters were lost and burned in the fire. When we think of the Post Office burned down three times we wonder that any reached us at all, but we were very fortunate and lost not one.

The weather is damp and foggy. The shops are getting ready for the Christmas trade, but business is very slack. D—— went to Killarney yesterday. She said it was lovely on the hill, everything was quiet, no shots or bombs. H—— was caught in two ambushes last week. Everyone knows what to do when the shots commence. Just throw themselves down flat and the bullets can't touch them. The floors of the trams were packed with prostrate people. The just wait until the shower is over. A girl coming out of a picture house seeing the vestibule crowded, thought it was raining, but a man told her "it was raining bullets."

A Free-State soldier met H—— coming home after his adventure. He asked him had he been in "the bush." H—— does not mind the ambushes, only he is growing so fat he cannot flatten himself into a doorway. . . . The Harvest Thanksgiving services are all over now. The Churches were beautiful with flowers and fruit and the services lovely and bright.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

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THE PRIVETTS' LUCK

(By Katharine Tynan, in the Weekly Scotsman)

(Continued)

There came a sudden loud knocking on the hall door. Mary Privett looked up, startled, into her husband's face.

"It's a bitter night to be abroad," she said. "Who can it be?"

"Whoever it is they can't be kept knocking on such a night—and it's Christmas, too," said Harry Privett, and went to the door.

Mary followed him, with the strangest sense of anticipation.

The door came open, letting in the snow on the floor, and there came with it a child, a golden-haired child, like a sleepy rose, who stood and blinked in the hall light and then laughed up at Harry Privett with a delightful friendliness.

Mary uttered a sharp cry, and then came into the hall with her hands outstretched.

"It will be Ann that sent you," she said, taking the child into her arms.

Harry Privett peered out into the dark. "There's someone there," he said. "Who are you?"

There came into the light their neighbor John Orton. He wore a miserable and shamefaced expression.

"The little maid," he said. "She came to our door not half an hour ago. There was a loud knocking; but when we went to see there was no one but the little maid. She's a rare friendly one, but she can give no account of herself; and my wife will have none of her. She bid me take her to the workhouse. She's a hard one, my wife, and I'm not the man to stand up to her. She'd turn a frozen bird from the door. I thought maybe you'd take her in."

Mary Privett uttered a soft moan, but there was joy in it.

"We'll keep her for our own, Mr. Orton," she said. "She'll ease the pain I've carried since Ann died. Her to the workhouse, the pretty bird!" The child had flung its arms about her neck. "God pity her that had to give you up," she said.

John Orton grinned his relief. "I was to go to the policeman and give word when I'd left her at the workhouse," he said. "Jane thought the one that left the child should be tracked down. She's a rare hard one, my missus. She wouldn't let in the Christmas Child if it was Him that was to come. I grudge ye the little maid. I'd have liked well to keep her. 'Maybe it's Jim's child,' said I. 'The more reason for sending the brat to the workhouse, said she. She's a rare hard one, my missus."

He went off, and Mary Privett, feeling as though heaven had been dropped into her lap, carried the child in to the fire. She was wrapped up in a red cloak like a fairy. The hood had fallen back, leaving the little golden head bare. She chattered like a bird, but it was quite unintelligible talk, except for one or two words like Nanna, Nanna. Apparently she took Mary Privett for her nurse.

"Yes, darling," the woman said doting on her, "I am your Nanna, and your mamma, too."

"Oh, Mamma, Mamma!" began the child in a high, tearful pipe, as though she had suddenly remembered.

"Mamma will come, my jewel, soon," said Mary, and the child was quickly happy again. She was playing at hide-and-seek with Harry Privett now, hiding her face in Mary's lap, then looking at him with a roguish laugh, only to hide again.

Mary bustled about and got some food ready. Their own supper had been on the table waiting for them to begin. She got some milk ready for the child and a new-laid egg, just laid by one of the white wyandottes.

Then she disappeared for a few minutes, and returned carrying Ann's little high chair, which had been put away with other of Ann's belongings. She lifted the child into the chair, set between her own and her husband's.

Then they sat watching the little girl eat, chattering all the time, and trying to feed Jock with spoonfuls from her egg.

It was too wonderful to be true—a miracle. Looking at the child through a mist of tears, Mary Privett thought she saw her little Ann lean above the child, and she was smiling, such a radiant little smile.

"Wasn't Jane Orton a bad woman to turn her out?" said Harry Privett.

"The little gift of God," murmured Mary Privett. "And it Christmas night. Wherever we go she'll go, Harry."

"If it was to last," said Harry Privett, "she'd lift up my heart after all the disappointments we've met with. See how Jock's taken to her! And Tib is clawing at the leg of the chair.. She'll be getting sleepy, Mary."

The little head began to nod. "You take her," said Mary, "while I make up Ann's bed for her and make a bit of fire, for the night's cold for a baby like her. I'll bring the bath then, and she'll bath by the fire while the room above gets warm."

She laid the child on her husband's extended arms, and the man sat nursing her with an awkward tenderness.

In a dream of delight and thanksgiving Mary Privett lit the fire and boiled the kettle, and put the sheets and blankets to air that had been little Ann's. All the time, as she went to and fro, she was conscious of a strange happiness. It was as though her own child rejoiced in what was being done for the other child. She felt her little Ann's presence near her. Once or twice she was sure she saw her smiling in the shadows.

When she went back the child was awake and chattering sleepily to Harry Privett, like the birds in the nests before they fall asleep.

"What'll we call her, Mary?" he said, in a half-whisper.

"We shall call her Ann."

"She's a sight heavier than our Ann was. She'll be a strong little maid. She's in my heart already."

"Ah! in mine, Harry."

And she had been thinking that he might blame her for being so quick to be happy with the strange child, or at least think her foolish and forgetful. But he was as infatuated with the Christmas child as she was.

They set the bath between them, and they leant together to undress the child. They had never been so happy since little Ann left them, even though they were going to lose all they held so dear and go out as exiles to the ends of the earth.

The child was certainly adorable. She played with them as they undressed her, making it a slow business, for they had to caress and kiss her so often, and it was strange to hear their happy laughter in the house where they had been so sad.

At last some of the clothes were off, and when they had come to the little under-garments they found, fastened securely under the little bodice, a letter—at least, an envelope, and the letter was written upon it—

"She who has had to give up this precious thing implores love and tenderness for it. The child will not be claimed again. The notes in the envelope are for the kind people who will make the little one happy."

Nothing-else—nothing to show where the child came from, nor how she was conveyed to Mrs. Orton's inhospitable door. She was not Jim Orton's child, at least. Mrs. Privett knew enough to know that the handwriting of the letter was that of a lady, and the clothes were of fine materials and finely made. If Mrs. Orton had looked under the shawl which wrapped the child she might, perhaps, have hesitated to consign her to the workhouse.

There was even a little string of pearls about the baby neck, real pearls—though the foster-parents were not to discover that for some time. hTey were looking at the child with some awe. Her little feet were so beautiful—like curled rose leaves.

"She's a little lady, sure enough," said Harry Privett. "We'll have to bring her up as a little lady and send her to school—a good school. She'll be something to work for, our little Ann."

"Yes, our little Ann!" Mary repeated, and thought she saw her own child laugh from a shadowy corner.

"She'll have brought her fairing," said Harry Privett, and opened the envelope.

"Bless her, she'd have been welcome without, the pretty thing," Mary said, kissing one little foot and then the other, while the child laughed with glee.

Harry Privett was staring at what the envelope contained. It was a bundle of Bank of England notes—each for a hundred pounds, and thirty in all. Three thousand pounds! It meant that they could stay on at Brook Farm. A thousand pounds would free them from the need of selling. Two thousand would be invested for the little maid. That was Harry Privett's decision. And how he was going to work for her! This wonderful miracle o fthe good God had put heart into him. He got up and walked about the room as though he could not wait for Christmas to be over before beginning the work that was to redeem Brook Farm for the little maid.

With the Christmas star in the sky they lay down to sleep under the roof which they had thought so soon to leave. There was no happier couple in all the kingdom than they, and the sound of the child's soft breathing was like the song of the angels to Mary Privett's heart, that had been so empty during the years since she had lost Ann.

Across the road Mrs. Orton, before she fastened the shutters, looked at the neighbor's house.

"You will soon be out of it," she said to herself, "and we shall have the land. We deserve it, for we are hardworking and respectable, and what are you, but unlucky poor creatures?"

She pulled down the blind and fastened the shutters across.

John Orton was talking in his sleep. "I'd like to have kept the child," he said. He had not yet dared to tell his wife that he had not obeyed her in taking the child to the workhouse.

"You were always a softy," she said aloud, looking down at him. "It was me brought you the luck. But for me you'd ha' been a failure like Harry Privett."

She never thought of the Christmas babe nor the Christmas Star nor the songs of the Angels. Not yet did she know that her hard heart had sent the luck away from her to the other house.

The End

"I care."

THE GREATEST ADVENTURE

(By Rev. George S. Mill, Calcutta)

We are flooding the East with our civilization, our learning, and our commerce. We are awakening new desires and fresh enthusiasms, and at the same time we are taking away from these peoples their best—their religion. Contact with Western thought and manners breaks down their belief in their religions. Surely, since we are depriving them of what is best in their own civilizations and showing them that their own faiths are insufficient for their needs, it is but right that we give them the best we have, in, at least, as great measure as we give these other things. When we are opening up to these peoples the wonders of our science, our experience in the gaining of wealth, and the manifold uses of the world's natural resources, can we refrain from giving also our spiritual treasures? Can we refrain from showing forth what great things the Lord hath done for us?

Do we realize that with these Eastern peoples—half the population of the world—lies the future? They are bursting the old shackles that held them down; they are rousing themselves, as from sleep, and are seeking to take their rightful places in the world as great nations. Do we realize that even before our eyes the nations counted great in the world are changing? In our generation, while we anxiously watch the progress of events in our own land and empire, the events that are to change the history of the world, that are to affect our land and to influence the lives of our children, are these which are taking place at the ends of the earth. These Eastern peoples are capable of tremendous things: they have realized the possibilities and powers within themselves, and they are learning from us the ways in which they shall walk. It is well that we ask ourselves whether they shall learn from us to tread the path that brought Europe to 1914, or whether we have not a nobler path to show them—the path of service rather than that of self-seeking.

What are we doing about this? By the relations we have created between nation and nation, by our establishment of the white caste, by our commercial methods, we are driving them along the self-seeking road. A handful of missionaries have brought many of the keenest minds amongst these awakening peoples to realize the dangers before them: they have shown them the value of the things Christ teaches. But the other influence exerted by the "Christian" nations has rendered them suspicious of His power. They look at what two thousand years of Christianity has done for the West and they fear lest our faith may lead their lands by a similar way.

There has been no task calling for greater daring than this before us today, since St. Paul attacked the Roman Empire. Half of the world to be won for Christ, and that before they have chosen their line of action as peoples. They have powers which, if used for selfish ends, will make the late war appear a small thing; but, if working for Christ, can secure peace in this world, and the task we have before us is the guiding of these powers aright. What greater task can man wish? Every one from the West is a Christian in the eyes of these peoples, and by his life they judge of Christ. So to all going to the services, to business or trade in the East, the Church calls, "We need you." Every power we possess must be thrown on the side of Christ in this work. There can be no neutrals.

Do You Open the Door?

Do country folk still observe the old custom of opening all the doors in the house a minute or two before midnight on December 31 and leaving them open until the clocks have struck the hour? The meaning of the ceremony is said to be the letting out of the old year and admission of the new, or, as others affirm, the expulsion of the old Adam and welcoming of the new. It is probably akin to the old Welsh custom of unbolting the doors on Christmas Eve, lest the Holy Family should wish to enter. This latter custom has since I was a very little child seemed to me to mean, opening heart and home that the Christ Child might come in.

"I dare."

An earthquake of twelve seconds duration is reported to have been felt at Oaxaca City, Mexico, on Monday morning.

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.



The Liver Is the Road to Health

If the liver is right the whole system is right. Carter's Little Liver Pills will gently awaken your sluggish, clogged-up liver and relieve constipation, stomach trouble, inactive bowels, loss of appetite, sick headache and dizziness. Purely vegetable. You need them.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

Small Pill—Small Dose—Small Price

Brew a cup of Celery King

a "tea" of Nature's own herbs and roots,—the finest laxative and blood purifier you can get. It gently cleanses the system of all impurities, banishes headaches, etc. 30c and 60c packages, at druggists.

A Croupy Cough

brings dread to the mother's heart. For safety's sake, keep a bottle of Shiloh, the old time remedy, at hand. A very few drops makes the cough easier at once, and taken regularly gives complete relief. 30c, 60c and $1.20. All druggists.

SHILOH FOR COUGHS

Healed His Rupture

I was badly ruptured while lifting a trunk several years ago. Doctors said my only hope of relief was an operation. Trusses did me no good. Finally I got hold of something that quickly and completely healed me. Years have passed and the rupture has never returned, although I am doing hard work as a carpenter. There was no operation, no lost time, no trouble. I have nothing to sell, but will give full information about how you may find a complete healing without operation, if you write to me, Eugene M. Pullen, Carpenter, 155J Marcellus Avenue, Manasquan, N.J. Better cut out this notice and show it to any others who are ruptured—you may save a life or at least stop the misery of rupture and the worry and danger of an operation.

You don't have to—but you will.

GOOD ADVICE

Our readers who make it their business to study our advertising (and it would be to their benefit if all did so) would do well to follow carefully the offers made in our columns. We only approach firms of the highest standing for their copy, and the greatest possible care is taken to exclude all fraudulent advertising. You can therefore be sure of obtaining good service and advice from these firms. Information sent for(being sure to give complete address as well as our name, to ensure replies being placed to our credit) will be promptly forwarded.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

After Thirty Years' of Kidney Trouble

SHE TURNED TO DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

Mrs. M. Carlson Tells How After Long-Suffering She Found Relief in Dodd's Kidney Pills

Product, Sask., Dec. 12th.—(Special)—Mrs. M. Carlson, a well known resident here, has given for publication the reason why she is recommending Dodd's Kidney Pills to all her neighbors.

"I suffered from kidney diseases for thirty years," Mrs. Carlson states. "Sometimes I could hardly work. I took about five boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills which gave me relief."

"I recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills to anyone who suffers from kidney disease or rheumatism."

Dodd's Kidney Pills are just a kidney remedy. They strengthen the kidneys and enable them to do their full work of straining all the impurities out of the blood.

If you are run down, out of sorts or suffering from that tired feeling that spring brings, ask your neighbors about Dodd's Kidney Pills. Your kidneys require attention.

The former Kaiser since his marriage is not so fond of retirement, and may now occasionally be seen taking a stroll through the village of Doorn, accompanied by his dog.

ABOUT FRANKINCENSE

From very early times frankincense has played a prominent part in religious celebrations among the people of certain creeds. We read that the Wise Men offered gold, frankincense and myrrh to the infant Jesus in the manger at Bethlehem, but not many of us know what it is or where it comes from.

Frankincense is a fragrant resin obtained from a certain species of the Boswellia tree and was used by ancient physicians as a sort of cure-all medicine.

The island of Socotra—a floating part of the African continent—furnished the bulk of the frankincense used in early times, but now the greater amount comes from the Warsangli country in Somaliland. The Socotrans call frankincense "Tee-lee-ah." The trees from which this fragrant resin is obtained look wonderfully like giant sea serpents in the act of shedding their skins. The boles of these trees are livid and blotchy looking and bits of white peel hang from the stems. The fibre is so distended with a viscous sap that it resembles decaying animal flesh more than anything else, but the fragrance of the balsam which greets the nostrils at once overcomes the sensation of distaste which the first view of the "Tee-lee-ah" trees occasion.

Nearly everyone in Socotra owns a certain number of frankincense trees and the gathering of their harvest is very interesting. About June time of each year, which is usually about a month after the rains begin, the men, women and children go out among the trees and give the bole of each one about a dozen long, deep gashes with a sharp knife. The blade of the knife is turned in the lower end of each gash so as to form a sort of pocket or sack for the sap to collect and harden in.

In about a month the people go out again and collect the hard lumps of amber and white resin which have formed in the shape of tears. Then fresh gashes are cut in the bark and in another month the collectors go out again.

A frankincense tree in Socotra, yields about eight pounds of fragrant resin in a season, and is usually sold to an Arab trader for ten cents a pound. A tree in Somaliland produces about twice as much and the product is twice as valuable.

A full grown Boswellia or Tee-lee-ah is about twenty feet high and only from eight to ten inches in diameter at the broadest part of the trunk.

"I care."

THE LORD IS AT HAND

(Phil. 4: 5.)

There's much in life I can't command
Who can its mysteries understand
One precious thought "The Lord's at hand,"
  Is plain to me,
The Lord of power, the Lord of glory
In every page of my short story
  Will always be.

His written word revealed the truth
Taught by my parents, in my youth
Although I often held aloof
  And went astray.
He gently drew me back again
Made things so clear and very plain
  I had to stay.

My mortal eye, imperfect, dim,
Could see the ugliness of sin,
What could I do, but worship Him
  Who is so fair.
He drew me to another sphere
I breathed a purer atmosphere
  The Lord was there.

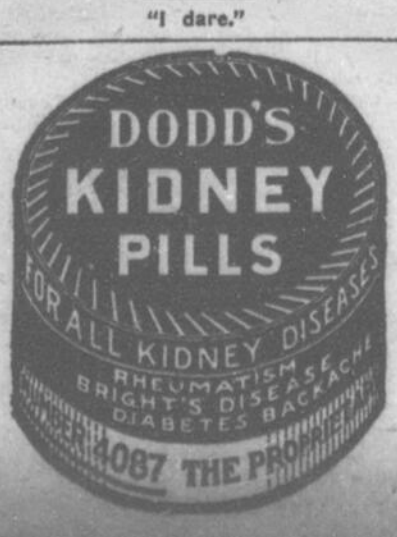
The simple means, which God employs
To clear our vision for the choice,—
Of what is best; we must rejoice
  The Lord's at hand,
A simple, pure, unselfish cry
Accepts the promise "God is nigh,"
  He makes us stand.

We stand rejoicing as we should,
Not only strong but also good
Transformed in thought, in life, in mood,
  To live or die,
His wondrous grace exceeds our dreams,
He gilds our life with gems, and seems
  Just standing by.

—W. B. LAWS.

Watford, Ont.

"I dare."



COLOR WONDERS

(By Ray Murray, M.A.)

Our sense of seeing is more wonderful than many of us imagine. Its complexity is taken as a matter of course, and we seldom pause to ask how such a delicate organ as the eye can yield us so many different sensations. The eye gives us all our colors and all our shapes and enables us to enjoy the beauties of the world around us.

How many people are aware, however, that there is one part of the eye with which we see nothing. In each eye there is a blind spot. Mark a sheet of paper with a small black ball or spot and a black cross, making the marks about three inches apart:—

Close the left eye and look steadily at the black dot with the right eye, holding the paper up in front of the eye. Move the paper slowly towards the eye, and at one point the cross will completely disappear. This is because the cross is being focussed by the blind spot. The other eye can be tested in the same way, if the paper is held upside down.

The outside or periphery of the eye cannot see colors at all. All that it can see is shades of grey, including black and white. If we mark a point on a wall on a level with our eyes, and as before, close one eye, this can be easily demonstrated. Draw a horizontal line through the point, or where this is not practicable, imagine one to be drawn. Fasten a little square of colored paper, say red, on the end of a wire and gradually move it along this horizontal line—if the right eye be open, move it from the right, if the left eye, from the left. At first, it may be too far out to see anything. Then a grey may be seen, and further in the red may appear as a yellow, but it is not until it is very near the mark we made that we can really see the true color; red. We shall find, if we test the eye with different colors in this way, that we shall be able to divide the horizontal line into three parts—the outermost part where we can see only greys, the middle part where we can see blues and yellows, and the inner zone where all the colors are seen, including reds and greens.

That the outer zone is best for seeing greys or brightnesses, as they are called, is easily verified on a starry night. If we look at the constellation of the Pleiades we can count a certain number of stars; but if we turn our head a little round so that we are looking at the stars with the outer edge of our eye, we shall be amazed to find that we can see stars which were quite invisible before.

Let us tell of another wonderful thing about the eye. Cut out a small square or circle of colored paper, lay it on a piece of grey or white paper and look at it steadily for twenty seconds. Do not allow the eyes to wander about, and if it is necessary, mark a point in the centre of the square to keep your eyes steady. At the end of the twenty seconds draw away the colored square, and lo! a wonderful thing will happen. There will appear on the grey paper a square exactly the same size as the colored square you have been looking at, but—and this is where the marvel comes in—the square will be of a totally different color. If the colored square is yellow, a blue square will appear, if blue a yellow square; if the colored square is red, a green square will appear, if green a red square, and so on. These colors, red and green, blue and yellow, are called complementary colors by the scientists. No matter what color we look at, we shall always get its complementary color in this way.

We can procure other strange effects with colors. If we take a larger square of color this time and place in the centre of it a small strip of grey paper and over both a piece of tissue paper, some wonderful results will be obtained. Curious to relate, as we change the color of the large square, we shall notice that the grey changes too. If the large square is yellow, the grey will become bluish, if blue, yellowish; if red, a greenish tinge will appear, and if green, a reddish tinge, and so on. The grey assumes the complementary color of the square. This is known as simultaneous contrast. It is said that wearing a green dress and a dark hat will produce, by contrast, a rosy complexion.

Colors are caused by rays of light due to vibration of ether waves. These strike the inner coating of the eyeball which is known as the retina, and the nervous impulses initiated there are carried by the optic nerve to the visual centre in the brain. The size of these ether waves vary considerably—the color red has the longest wave length, and the color violet the shortest. All other colors fall intermediate between these two. Ether waves which are longer than the waves giving us red are not seen, but me feel them as heat; ether waves shorter than the violet rays are not visible either, but cause chemical changes. Ordinary sunlight can be split up into these three kinds of rays. The intermediate or visible rays we see as white light which is composed of the colors we know — red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet. These are the colors of the spectrum. If we hold a prism in the path of a sunbeam the prism will separate out the white light of the sun into these six colors.—Weekly Scotsman.

DON'TS FOR SHOPPERS

The following list of "don'ts" for Christmas shoppers was laid down recently by the New York Police Department:—

Don't send children to the store with money of large denomination. They are easy prey for mean thieves.

Don't give bills of large denomination to errand boys or messengers for the purpose of getting them changed.

Don't leave your overcoat or handbag in your automobile. Take them with you.

Don't be careless when you get into a crowd. Keep your coat buttoned up and an eye on your pockets.

Don't, when shopping, lay your handbag on counters while looking at merchandise. This is an opportunity thieves are always waiting for.

Don't carry your hand-bag suspended by a strap from your wrist. Hold it tightly in your hand. This prevents thieves from opening the bog or pocket-book and extracting your money or valuables from it.

Don't carry your money in a conspicuous manner.

Don't carry your money or valuables in your hip-pocket or in pockets of your outer garments. Such pockets are the most accessible to the pick-pocket.

Don't slip the handle of your handbag up on your arm. Hold the bag firmly and directly over the clasp.

Don't regard jostling or pushing in a crowd as accidental. Be suspicious of persons who jostle you.

Don't carry more money than you will need, and don't make a display of the money you have.

IF THERE WERE NO FAIRY TALES

It has been suggested in all seriousness that children should not be allowed to read fairy tales. It is said that fairy tales have a lot to do with breeding a race of dreamers wholly unfitted for the practical issues of life.

Just consider what it would be if children were forbidden to read fairy tales. Think what our own early years would have been without King Pippin among the ogres, and the languishing witchery of the Arabian Nights. These tales are the first spurs to a growing imagination, and are the conditions upon which wonder—the most pleasurable part of the imagination—makes children enter into a state of belief they can never recover.

Suppose then that fairy tales were dedenied to children and allowed to grown-ups. Suppose, if it were possible we had been chilldren of a generation that had never known about Alice in Wonderland till we had grown up. Would it be a Wonderland when we came to read about it? No. Our minds would be incapable of entertaining or enjoying beliefs of a fairy nature. Fairy tales would be cast on forgotten rubbish heaps, for we would have minds like machines, but minds without imaginations.

What would result in such a world would funnily enough be a universal absorption in the wrong sort of supernatural—namely the morbid. Denied of the fresh illusions of fairly tales in early years, childish and grown-up minds would run deeper into the sort of supernatural that is not consonant with everyday mental health. Fairy tales have this excellent mental specific—they make a mind at the undeveloped stage delightfully credulous, and at the developed stage sensibly critical.

In such a world there would be a plethora of brainsick children and child prodigies, because practical education would begin right in the nursery. But there would be little or no spark of creative imagination in the general mind of the time. Very few child prodigies have ever had much imagination. They can perhaps learn many languages, but they usually stop at that, and are only a nine day's wonder.

If we have at present too many child and adult dreamers, so much the better for the world of our time, for it is a common place that the greatest dreamers have done most for the world. The people that have done most harm in the world have been people without imagination. Reading fairy tales in childhood does not itself create imagination; but forgetting what such tales meant in early years is fatal.—Dundee Advertiser.

TOPPING TALL TREES

In the big tree countries of California, Washington and Oregon one of the most perilous tasks of the loggers is to "top" a tall tree. In felling very high trees it is necessary for the loggers to remove the limbed top so that the limbless trunk below may have a better chance of being felled without breaking. Some of the big fir and redwood trees have a diameter of two or three feet at the topping point, which may be as much as 160 feet or more above the ground, with the tree rising 50 or 100 feet high. The topping is done by one man, who climbs to the dizzy height, and it often takes him three or four hours to sever the trunk. Usually the topper stays on the job high in the air while he drops the towering top to the ground. Sometimes, however, he contents himself with cutting partially through the tree and finishing the job with a charge of blasting powder detonated electrically from the safety of the ground.—Lumber News

SAID HE COULD NEVER BE WELL

"Fruit-a-tives" Restored Him to Health

159 Avenue Pius IX., Montreal.

"For three years I was a terrible sufferer from Dyspepsia and my general health was very bad. I consulted a physician and took his medicine but I did not improve; and finally he told me that I could not be cured.

At this time a friend advised me to try "Fruit-a-tives." After taking two boxes, I was greatly relieved; and this fruit medicine made me completely well. My digestion and general health are now splendid."

GASPARD DUBARD.

50c a box, 6 for $2.50, trial size 25c. At dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-tives Limited. Ottawa.

Speedy Relief for Cold in Head



Rub a little Minard's between your hands and inhale. It will speedily relieve the severest cold in the head.

J. G. Leslie of Dartmouth, N.S. who uses it for this purpose, writes that "it will never fail to relieve cold in the head in 24 hours".

Also best for sprains, bruises, etc.

Always keep a bottle of Minard's Liniment on the shelf.

29

MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

WAIT'S HOMEOPATHIC SPECIFIC

Remedies effected by them are radical and certain. They do not remedy one disease and produce another. They will remedy a larger percentage of cases and in less time than any medicine known.

Wait's	Rheumatic Remedy	$1.50
"	Pile Remedy	1.50
"	Dyspepsia Remedy	1.50
"	Coughs and Colds Remedy	1.50
"	Nervous Debility Remedy	1.50
"	Appendicitis Remedy	4.00
"	Eczema Remedy	1.50
"	Ringworm Remedy	.60

These remedies will be sent postpaid to any address on receipt of price.

WAIT HOMEOPATHIC PHARMACY

Arnprior, Ontario.

Send for Manual (free)

Notice is hereby given that Abigal Aileen Beryl McCrea, of the City of Sherbrooke, in the Province of Quebec, will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at the next session thereof, for a Bill dissolving and annuling her marriage with her husband, John Cadman Tull, Physician, formerly of the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, present address unknown to the applicant, on the grounds of failure to procreate, adultery, and desertion.

DATED at Ottawa in the Province of Ontario this 30th day of October, 1922.

SMITH & JOHNSTON,
Barristers and Solicitors,
48 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, Ont., Canada.
Solicitors for the Applicant.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DIVORCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Andrew Clifford Jack, of the City and County of Westmount, in the District of Montreal, and Province of Quebec, Surgeon-Dentist, will apply to the Parliament of Canada at the next Session thereof for a Bill of Divorce from his wife Ethel Benedicta Gillespie Jack (nee Trotter) of the said City and County of Westmount, on the ground of adultery.

Dated at Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, this twenty-second day of November, A. D., 1922.

George A. Campbell, K. C.
189 St. James Street, Montreal,
Solicitor for applicant Andrew Clifford Jack.

"You don't have to."

A small circle of usefulness is not to be despised. A light that doesn't shine beautifully around the family table at home is not fit to take a long way off to do a great service somewhere else.—J. Hudson Taylor.

"Say it with Subscriptions."

Bank of Montreal
105th Annual Meeting

Sir Vincent Meredith, President, Reviews Outstanding Developments of Past Year—General Outlook in Canada

Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, General Manager, deals with Canada's Economic Position and Progress of Bank.

The annual meeting of the Bank of Montreal was marked by especially interesting announcements by both Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., the President, and Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, the General Manager.

Sir Vincent in his address referred particularly to the conditions that prevailed throughout the world. The President also made special reference to the revision of the Bank Act, and to the absorption of the Merchants Bank. Before beginning his annual address, Sir Vincent also took occasion to pay special tribute to the memory of the late R. B. Angus, who had served for over 30 years as a director of the Bank and who also for some years had acted as General Manager.

Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, the General Manager, dealt more particularly with the affairs of the Bank, but laid special emphasis on the economic position of Canada. Sir Frederick also referred to the exchange problem and reviewed the general features of the annual statement of the Bank.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Sir Vincent Meredith, President, in submitting the adoption of the Annual Report said:

The recent death of our greatly esteemed director, Mr. R. B. Angus, must cast a shadow over our meeting today.

As a director of the Bank for thirty-one years, and its President for three years, he rarely, if ever, was absent from a meeting of the Board except on occasions when he was abroad. His wise counsel and mature judgment were at all times at the Bank's service.

He will be greatly missed, not only by his confreres in the Bank and other large corporations with which he was closely identified, but by the public in general, by whom he was held in high esteem.

Before beginning the few remarks that it is customary for me to make at this time, I wish to state that your Directors authorized a donation of $50,000 in May last to enable the Hospitals to continue their commendable work without curtailment, and I am confident this has your sanction.

The banking year just closed has required constant vigilance and I am glad to be in a position to inform you that, while our profits on the basis of capital employed have not been as large as those of the immediately preceding years, as was to be expected with lessened activity in business generally, coupled with increased taxation, we have been fortunate in escaping serious losses, and the liquid position and great strength of the Bank remain unimpaired.

Since your last annual meeting, the Merchants Bank has been absorbed by the Bank of Montreal. To the incidents connected with this transaction it is not necessary to refer, nor to the criticism it evoked, further than to say that, in my judgment, the prompt action of your directors, subsequently ratified by you, averted a situation that might otherwise have proved serious to the country at large, and secured the shareholders of that institution from losses greater than were suffered.

It will interest you to know that the work of co-ordinating the staffs with a view to economies is proceeding with all possible celerity, and that the acquisition of the Merchants Bank is reasonably realizing the expectation of your Board. Under our own organization and with the economies that have been effected, the future gives promise of increased earnings.

Canada's Trade

The foreign trade of Canada is again expanding, having reached a value of $921,700,000 in the seven months ending October 31st, being an increase of $67,748,000 over the corresponding period last year. If the comparison is carried back two years, the considerable decrease of $575,000,000, or nearly 40 per cent., is shown, but having regard to the fall in prices, it is probable that the quantity movement is now little less than in 1920, when the peak was reached.

A satisfactory feature of the figures is the large export of agricultural produce, amounting in the seven months to $270,084,000, an increase of $27,000,000 over the sevent months of last year—a substantial addition to the income of our farmers. Taken altogether, the foreign trade figures afford encouragement.

The net debt of Canada on the 31st of October amounted to $2,369,000,000, an increase of $40,000,000 during the year. The deficit of the National Railways during the same period will probably amount to upwards of $50,000,000.

Immigration

As you are aware, the tide of immigration into Canada has not flowed freely in recent years, and while reasons more or less convincing are given for the failure to attract larger population, the fact remains that the situation in this respect is unsatisfactory.

The return of the census taken last year revealed that if we had held the immigration of the decade as well as the excess of births over deaths, our population should have been some two millions greater than computed by the official figures. Obviously, if our confidence in Canada is to be justified, a radical change in the immigration policy becomes necessary.

It seems to me there are two ways only to check and reduce the mounting debt with which this country is now burdened; one is by the creation of fresh wealth through having more people on the land and the other by strict economies in Government expenditures.

Our country's natural resources exist in abundance; we have an exhilarating climate, fertile soil, immense forests, rich deposits of minerals both base and precious, providing opportunities for livelihood that should attract the surplus population of the Old World. Doubling population will halve our debt, solve our railway problems, expand our trade and enhance the general prosperity. It is gratifying, therefore, to learn that the Dominion Government, in co-operation with the Provincial Governments and private organizations, is to embark upon an energetic immigration policy, of which the first fruits, we may hope, will appear next year.

Farmer's Business

Statements have been made in the public press by uninformed people that debtors, especially in the West, were being subjected to undue pressure by the Banks, Loan Companies and other creditors. So far as this Bank is concerned, every consideration and great latitude have been given to debtors who, through bad harvests or other mischance, have been unable to meet their obligations. This is and at all times has been the policy of this Bank, and never has that policy been more forcibly impressed upon our Managers than during recent critical years.

Banks are business, not benevolent, institutions. They are expected to pay their shareholders a reasonable return on their investmnt, which includes the Rest Account—the accumulation of many years—as well as the capital of the Bank. The rate of dividend is not disproportionate to that investment and certainly has not proved so lavish as to encourage capital to seek the banking field. As a matter of fact, the distribution to shareholders in Canadian Banks is substantially less than that made by the banking institutions in Great Britain or the United States.

Revision of the Bank Act

The Bank Charters expire on July 1st, 1923, and unless the Government deems proper to extend them for another year, revision of the Bank Act will occur at the approaching session of Parliament.

The subject is already engaging attention in the press and elsewhere. Some suggested changes are so radical that alarm might well be caused but for the conviction that caution, the lessons of the past, and the sound sense of Parliament will interpose against their acceptance. I have yet to learn of any parliamentary or other enactment that will wholly provide against the errors or misjudgments of those who conduct affairs in any business.

The banking system of Canada is the product of long experience. It has operated to the advantage of the people, despite an occasional failure, from which, however, no country and no plan has been free. I can confidently claim that to venture upon radical changes in the Banking system as to incur grave danger to the stability of trade and to imperil the credit structure of the country, and I know of nothing more certain to arrest the development and progress of Canada than rash experiments in the domain of banking and currency.

Labor and Costs

The labor problem and its near relation, the cost of living, are still with us. Certain classes of labor have accepted a lower wage, but there has not been a pronounced general movement in this direction, nor has the tendency been wholly downward. It may be, indeed, that for a time diminished production cost will have to be sought in improved machinery and equipment, in efficiency and economy and in a larger output per man and machine rather than in cheaper labor.

Transportation rates are frequently complained of as keeping prices high. As a matter of fact, rates are lower in Canada than they are for similar services in other countries. It is obvious, therefore, that there can be no amelioration unless there be a reduction in operating costs, represented chiefly by labor, a process experience is proving to be slow, difficult and uncertain.

Concluding Remarks

In conclusion, the crisis of 1920-1 has passed into history. The fact that the depression was world-wide makes it highly improbable that the return to normal will be other than slow.

We have experienced a more sudden and acute depression of trade than our generation had ever known, and though conditions, including the agricultural results, are undoubtedly more favorable, prudent business men will not build up an unduly speculative position after the lessons of 1920.

The outlook, as I see it, is for reasonably profitable operations in most lines of business, though there can be no great trade boom without a further important expansion of foreign commerce, and this, unfortunately, is not yet in sight.

The General Manager's Address

Mr. Chairman and Gentleman:—

The one hundred and fifth annual balance sheet of the Bank, which I have pleasure in presenting for your approval, shows many changes as compared with a year ago.

These changes are the result in part of incidental variations in what might be termed our natural position and, in a larger measure, of the absorption of the Merchants Bank of Canada, which, I am gratified to say, has been effected with scarcely a ripple on the surface of our affairs.

Speaking in general terms, the increase in our liabilities to our shareholders and depositors is balanced by a corresponding increase in our assets while our liquid position remains as strong as ever, and the status of the Bank is enhanced through the acquisition of many branches, as well as in other ways, from all of which we shall presently derive the benefit in increased earning power.

It is trite, yet undeniable, to remark that in Canada, as elsewhere, trade generally has not been good. Bankers, more distinctly than others, perceive the detailed results of this condition, which in large measure is brought home to them through losses and diminished profits.

In the case of our own Bank, if losses are moderate, as they have been, it must of necessity be the result of prudence in granting credits and of accurate perception of the inexorable working of economic laws, for there is little that can be ascribed to luck in such matters.

Naturally, we have less control over our profits; yet you will observe that we have earned our dividend for the past year and are fortunately able to pay a two per cent. bonus as well. We enter upon a new year with confidence born of strength and experience.

Before going into a detailed explanation of the various items in our balance sheet and the factors that affect our well-being, it is customary for your General-Manager to touch upon the general trade and financial situation and outlook.

Your President has covered the matter amply. My views can be expressed in very few words indeed.

Canada's economic position is not satisfactory. How could it be satisfactory, with the whole financial world out of joint? As everyone is aware, our troubles are partly the result of this universal condition; partly the result of the war. It is well, however, to bear in mind that our problems are largely of our own creation.

Readjustment will come in time, for this is a country of virility and manifold resources; yet one thing stands out signally, in my opinion, namely that Canada cannot go ahead again as she should while taxation and the cost of living are higher in this country than they are in the United States of America.

Canada is one of the best countries in the world to live in, to work in, to play in—in point of stability, security and comfort it is an earthly paradise as compared with Europe—but we must not stand still, and in order to progress the cost of living and taxation must be diminished; otherwise, we will fail to attract immigration; and improved conditions are largely dependent upon increased population.

As to ways and means, they are obvious to all who reflect, and the necessity thereof is now being brought home to the heedless by that pitiless but unerring teacher, necessity.

The free movement of gold into this country enabled the Bank to strengthen its metallic reserves in Canada, as indicated in our balance sheet.

The past half year has witnessed many fluctuations in the foreign Exchanges. The most important for us is the rapid decline in the value of New York funds, which have fallen from the high point of 19 per cent. premium in December, 1920, to a slight discount at this date. The decline would have been greater but for Canada's imports of gold from the United States of America.

We may congratulate ourselves on this state of affairs; yet we must not lose sight of the fact that it is brought about not so much by the improvement in our trade balance, although that is considerable, but more through the sending of special large sums into Canada and by heavy borrowings in New York on the part of Federal and Provincial Governments, Municipalities and Industrial Corporations, borrowings which have been extraordinarily easy, owing to a plethora of funds in the New York market.

We cannot, therefore, look upon our present position as permanent, and should be prepared for the possible return of the premium on New York funds.

In London, existing conditions, particularly in regard to exchange, have made business with countries overseas increasingly difficult, but the services of our branches in London and Paris continue to be most useful, not only in handling transactions, but in keeping the Bank's executive in intimate touch with financial and other developments abroad.

The improved value of the pound sterling in terms of the Canadian dollar inspires us to look forward to the time when Canada may again issue loans in London, where a warm welcome would be accorded to so popular a borrower. Rates for money in London steadily declined throughout the year, but the fall had been anticipated, with the result that our resources in London have been continuously employed to the best advantage practicable and without sacrificing liquidity.

There is evidence of increasing interest by Canadian producers and manufacturers in the English market, and vice versa, and we have every reason to believe that the services our London Office is rendering in conjunction without Foreign Department in Head Office, in furnishishing information as well as other assistance, are fostering this movement to the benefit of Empire trade and to the direct advantage of the Bank's customers.

The new office of our Paris subsidiary was opened in February of this year, and we have received many compliments on its dignified appearance. The Place Vendome, where it is situated, is, I need hardly say, one of the best known and most central spots in Paris, and large numbers of Canadians and other visitors have made use of the facilities offered.

The high tariff measures adopted by the United States restricted the export from Canada of many of our farm products, for which we must now seek markets elsewhere. Yet it is noteworthy that the trade figures of a recent month showed Canada as first of all countries as a consumer of United States' goods, and first also as a provider of the United States' importing needs.

In conclusion, I think we can claim that the manner in which our Banks generally have come through the agitating times since 1914 is evidence of the fundamental soundness of our Canadian banking system. We must be thankful that no great commercial breakdown has occurred.

The Chairman then moved, seconded by Sir Charles Gordon, G.B.E., that the Report of the Directors, now read, be adopted and printed for distribution among the Shareholders.

The Report was unanimously adopted.

Thanks to Officers

Senator G. G. Foster then moved, seconded by Mr. W. R. Miller, that the thanks of the Meeting are hereby tendered to the President, the Vice-President and Directors for their attention to the interests of the Bank.

In speaking of this resolution Senator Foster said:—

"I am quite certain that every shareholder of the Bank of Montreal, who has read the splendid statement presented to them, will concur in a Resolution expressing their appreciation of the services rendered by its Directors.

"There are people who imagine that when they pay one or two hundred dollars a share for Bank Stock, that their money goes into a till somewhere and earns for them twice or three times as much as they could make it earn for themselves, but those of us who know the eternal vigilance that is necessary in order that a Bank may be successful, can easily appreciate the anxiety and labor which has come to the Directors of this Bank during the trying year of 1922. The conditions which have faced Canada for the last eight years have required broad vision and hard work on the part of all men who sought to conserve the assets which they had, or to make a success of their business, and no Corporation has required greater care and greater skill than that which fell to the lot of the Directors of every Bank, not only on this Continent, but throughout the World.

"And so, Sir, I desire to express to your Board, to your President and your General Manager, a kindly word of appreciation from your shareholders, and at the same time a word of congratulation from all citizens of our country who, while not directly connected with the Bank, either as shareholders or officials, appreciate the great bulwark which your institution furnishes in assisting in the maintenance of national credit for this Dominion.

"There are those who look with a jea-

lous eye upon prosperity which comes to others, whether it is from Banks, other Corporations, or from their more successful neighbors, but there is no man in Canada interested in its future who is not unwise if he utters one word or does any act which tends to render more difficult the burden which will fall upon Banks and their management during years of development such as the years which I hope lie before us in Canada.

"We are approaching a year when the law of the land demands, wisely or otherwise, that the provisions which govern Banks shall be submitted to the scrutiny of Parliament, and, while certain changes may be made, and may be desirable in the interests of everybody, it behooves those who are interested in Banks to be reasonable and prudent in their demands just as it is the duty of those who criticize to remember that every unfair blow that is struck at the stability and strength of any Bank, is a blow aimed at the very existence of all financial affairs in our country.

"No man who knows the history of this Bank can fail to experience a sense of sorrow and regret at the absence, today, of that distinguished member of your Board, whose loss has been lamented by every class in this community, and as one of those who for a quarter of a century have received consideration and encouragement from that great citizen, it is not out of place for me, while not seeking to add to the eulogies which have been spoken and written concerning him, to note the fact that your shareholders sincerely and thoroughly regret the loss we have suffered in the death of that simple, kindly distinguished gentleman, Mr. R. B. Angus."

The President—"Senator Foster and Gentlemen, on behalf of my colleagues and myself I am deeply touched by the kind words uttered and this proof of your confidence in us and the Administration of the Bank over which we have the honor to preside."

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D., then moved seconded by Mr. G. B. Fraser, that the thanks of the Meeting be tendered to the General Manager, the Assistants General Manager, the Superintendents, the Managers and other Officers of the Bank, for their services during the past year.

In speaking to this Resolution, General Sir Arthur Currie said:—

"This resolution, perhaps, needs no further comment of mine. But may I be permitted to say that seldom, if indeed ever, has there been a period in the history of Canada, or the world for that matter, when steadiness, caution and goodwill were so much required in our commercial and industrial life. And in providing these requirements in a transient period of unrest our financial institutions have a most difficult undertaking as well as responsibility. The Bank of Montreal is proud of its long and unbroken record of distinguished service. That record is based on the loyalty of its staffs from Managers to Messengers. The resolution I have moved seeks to express in some small degree our deep gratitude to our officers for their sincerity, their judgment, their fair-dealing, their courtesy and their prudence,—these qualities which have given to the Bank of Montreal its remarkable position and its honorable name." (Applause).

General Manager's Reply

In replying to this the General Manager, Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, said:—

"I have to thank you, Sir Arthur Currie, and Mr. Fraser, on behalf of my colleagues and the officials of the Bank generally for the appreciative terms in which you have referred to our work during the past year.

"The responsibilities are great and steadily increasing. The taking over of the Merchants Bank necessitated and received the loyal co-operation of the entire staffs of both institutions. Of the effort of these dual staffs, now happily united, I can in justice speak in terms of highest praise.

"We have a highly efficient aggregation of men and women, deeply interested in their work, filled with a staunch devotion to one institution, and your resolution today and your remarks will prove a fresh and splendid incentive." (Applause).

The resolution was then unanimously adopted with applause.

The ballot for the appointment of Auditors and the election of Directors for the ensuing year was then proceeded with.

The Scrutineers appointed for the purpose reported that Messrs. James Hutchison, C.A., and J. Maxtone Graham, C.A., were duly appointed Auditors, and the following gentlemen duly elected Directors: D. Forbes Angus, J. H. Ashdown, E. W. Beatty, K.C.; H. W. Beauclerk, His Honor Henry Cockshutt, General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D.; H. R. Drummond, G. B. Fraser, Sir Charles Gordon, G.B.E. Sir Lomer Gouin, K.C.M.G., C. R. Hosmer, Harold Kennedy, William McMaster, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart.; Lieut.-Colonel Herbert Molson, C.M.G., M.C.; The Right Hon. Lord Shaughnessy, K.C.V.O.; James Stewart.

The meeting then terminated.

At a subsequent meeting of Directors, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., was re-elected President, and Sir Charles Gordon, G.B.E., was re-elected Vice-President.

LIVE STOCK PRICES

FOR WEEK ENDING DEC. 9TH.

The top price paid at Toronto for butcher steers was $8.00. Good to choice butcher steers and heifers sold from $6.50 to $7.00 for the bulk with odd lots at $7.25. Common to medium cattle brought from $5.00 to $6.00 and thin unfinished stuff from $2.80 to $3.75. Cows were 50c higher from $4.00 to $5.00, but good fat koshers sold from $5.50 to $7.00. Bulls were also higher from $4.00 to $5.00, if good heavies. Store cattle trade was light with quality only fair. Some short-keeps brought $6.50 but others sold within a range of $3.50 to $5.50. Milker and springer trade was easier with the best cows from $80.00 to $100.00 each.

Good to choice veal calves were steady to 50c higher in spots with tops generally at $12.50 and $13.00. Heavy calves were steady from $3.00 to $5.50. Prices for lambs ran $12.00 to $12.25 for the bulk. Heavy lambs sold from $11.00 to $11.75. Odd lots of handyweight lambs moved up to $12.50 and $12.75. Good light sheep sold briskly from $6.50 to $7.50. The hog market asked $11.50 on thick smooths, fed and watered, on a graded basis. Settlements were made generally at $11.25 with odd lots at $11.50. Trading during the balance of the week was easier, closing at $11.00.

A few good weighty native steers touched $6.00 at Montreal, with the bulk of the best cattle going from $5.50 to $5.75. Fair to medium lots of native and Western butcher cattle brought from $4.75 to $5.25 and the common kinds down to $4.00. A few light, very common steers and heifers sold as low as $3.50. Good cows were stronger, bringing from $4.50 to $5.00, whilst the plain to medium ones moved from $3.00 to $4.00. Canners were in demand from $1.75 to $2.00, with the bulk of the sales at $2.00. Common butcher cows brought from $2.00 to $2.50. Bologna bulls sold mostly from $2.75 to $3.00 and a few of the smooth fleshy ones with a little kill, from $3.25 to $3.50.

Calves were steady to strong, bringing a top of $12.00, but the bulk were only of fair quality and sold from $9.00 to $11.00 and the heavy pail-fed calves from $6.00 to $8.00. Grassers were a shade stronger and brought from $3.00 to $4.00 with the bulk around $3.50. Lambs brought $13.00 and one load up to $13.25, a new high for the season. Plain to medium lambs ranged from $11.00 to $12.50. Sheep were steady. Good lots of old ewes brought from $6.00 to $7.00 with the plain rough lots around $5.00 and $5.50. The hog market opened stronger at $11.25 and $11.50. On Tuesday prices were again stronger with most sales being made from $11.50 to $11.75 with one or two small lots reported at $12.00. Sows brought from $9.00 to $10.00 and stags from $6.00 to $7.00. The hog market closed with a slightly weaker undertone.

One load of heavy steers reached $6.25 at Winnipeg and the balance of medium to good heavies moved largely from $4.00 to $5.50, with odd sales around $6.00. Choice handyweight butchers sold up to $6.00 and other desirable kinds moved around $5.50. The general run, medium to good, sold from $4.00 to $5.00. One load of light-weight butcher heifers went to an eastern buyer at $5.75 and the bulk of the desirable kinds sold from $4.75 to $5.25 with the remainder, fair to good in quality, from $3.50 to $4.50. Top butcher cows reached $4.75 and most of the fair to good sold from $3.00 to $4.25. Lower grades moved from $2.50 to $2.75. The calf market was steady to 50c higher. Good to choice vealers sold from $5.00 to $6.50 and plain to medium mostly from $3.00 to $4.50. Good to choice feeder steers moved from $3.75 to $4.25 and a few fleshy kinds slightly higher. Fair kinds sold at $3.50.

Fair to good lambs sold from $9.00 to $12.00, yearling sheep from $7.50 to $8.25 and mutton sheep from $5.00 to $7.00. The hog market opened strong. Thick smooths sold at $10.00, but on Monday prices declined to $9.50, and most of the sales were made from $9.15 to $9.25, and late bidding was at $9.00 on the balance of the unsold hogs.

At Calgary, steers averaging 1595 lbs went at $5.50. Choice heavy and handy-weights sold from $4.00 to $5.00, medium to good from $2.75 to $3.75 and common around $2.00. Choice heifers moved from $3.00 to $4.00, medium to good from $2.50 to $3.00 and common from $1.50 to $2.00. Good to choice cows were weighed up from $2.50 to $3.50 with an occasional top at $3.75; medium to good sold from $2.00 to $2.50, and canners from 75c to $1.50. Fifty bulls ranged from $1.00 to $2.00.

Calf receipts were sufficient for the demand. The veal calf trade was steady to strong, good to choice selling from $3.00 up to $4.25, and common from $1.50 to $2.00. Good stockers sold from $2.60 to $3.25, good feeders from $2.75 to $3.75 and common from $1.50 to $2.00. Stocker heifers sold from $2.00 to $2.65. Sheep receipts were heavier and prices steady. Lambs sold from $9.50 to $10.25, wethers at $7.00 and ewes at $6.00. Hog receipts were heavier. The market was slightly stronger in undertone. Prices ranged from $8.50 to $8.75 on thick smooths. Select bacon 10 p.c. premium.

Heavy butcher steers topped at $5.50 at Edmonton, and sold generally from $3.75 to $5.25. Handyweight butchers topped at $6.00 and sold mostly from $4.00 to $5.00. Common and medium grades in steer classes moved from $2.50 to $3.50. Heifers topped at $4.50 and moved largely from $2.50 to $3.50. Cows sold up to $3.50 and generally from $2.50 to $3.00. Good bulls sold at $3.00 and common to medium from $1.50 to $1.75. Canners and cutters sold steady from $1.00 to $1.25 and oxen from $2.00 to $3.00. Choice stockers sold from $3.00 to $3.50, with fair to good kinds from $2.00 to $3.00. Good dehorned feeders changed hands from $3.25 to $3.75 and fair feeders from $2.50 to $3.00.

Calves sold generally from $2.00 to $3.00. Good lambs sold from $9.00 to $10.00, good heavy sheep $4.50 to $5.50, yearlings from $6.00 to $7.50 and common and stock sheep from $3.50 to $4.00. Hogs sold steady from $9.50 to $9.75 on thick smooths.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKET

Birkenhead reports no Canadian cattle on offer. Irish 16 1-4 to 18 1-4c in sink.

Glasgow sold 460 Canadians. Ontario cattle ranged from 9 1-2c to 11c. Best Westerns topped at 10 1-2c but the bulk, mostly of inferior quality, sold 8 1-2c to 9c, all live weight. Best Scotch 14 3-4c to 15 1-4c. Two thousand Irish sold mostly from 9c to 11c alive.

London, Irish dressed sides 14 1-4c to 16 1-4c, supply and demand moderate. No Canadian sides offered.

British bacon market: Canadian bacon 2s to 5s lower. Canadian leanest 110s to 118s, lean 108s to 118s, prime 105s to 110s, trade slow. American 96s to 104s; fair demand. Irish 128s to 138s. Danish 122s to 132s. Danish killings 55,173 head.

Two army officers and four enlisted men perished in an explosion and gasoline fire that followed a mid-air collision between a Fokker airplane and a Martin bomber, on 6th December, near Langley Field, north of Hampton Roads.

Lady Crease, widow of Sir Henry Crease, of the British Columbia Supreme Court Bench is dead at her home in Victoria, aged 96 years. Interesting associations with Dickens, Thackeray and other brilliant writers of the early Victorian era have been severed by her death.

Terrebonne Fire Relief Fund

Measures for the immediate raising of funds for the relief of the Terrebonne fire sufferers were set on foot on Thursday at a meeting of the Relief Committee of Montreal and District, at which it was announced that arrangements have been completed for subscriptions to be received through a variety of agencies, including each of the English and French daily newspapers, the Board of Trade, the Chambre de Commerce and the Archbishop's Palace.



CLEMENCEAU LIFTS THE CURTAIN—Chicago Tribune.

THE MISTLETOE

You have heard, no doubt, many strange stories of that little parasite (a plant which grows upon the living parts of other plants) with the curious white berries—the mistletoe. With the exception of holly there is no plant which we associate so closely with the Christmas season. Why is it? Can it be on account of its curious mode of growing, or because of the many pretty stories or myths we associate with it?

There are about three hundred kinds of mistletoe in the world. And each variety grows on branches of trees and has either little white or pink berries. But the pink berries are found only on cedar trees. The mistletoe, unlike other plants, gets no food from the ground, and that is the reason we never find it growing in the ground. Instead, it gets its food from the tree on which it grows.

Do you wonder how the little seeds travel from tree to tree? Let me tell you. They are carried by their friends, the birds, who are tempted to feed on the delicious mistletoe berries when their other food supplies fail. After the birds' meal is over they distribute the little seeds by cleansing their bills upon the bark of the various trees, and, of course, always leave behind, some of the sticky seeds. These little seeds cling to the bark of the tree, and soon begin to sprout. Finally a tiny little mistletoe plant begins to grow on the branch of the tree. Then in the winter when all the leaves have fallen from the trees we still have the beautiful mistletoe, with its glistening pearl-like berries and dark green leaves.

Bluejays, redbirds, thrushes, blackbirds and mocking birds are especially fond of mistletoe berries. Scientists tell us that when birds fly in flocks, keeping in one line of direction, it is not uncommon to see mistletoe bushes ranging through the forest for a great distance.

Another curious thing about the mistletoe is that, though it blossoms earlier in the year than the trees on which it grows, yet the little berries do not ripen before December. Maybe this is because it has to steal its food from the trees, and therefore cannot ripen early. The very name "mistletoe" gives some idea of its significance. It comes in midwinter, the gloomiest time of the year, and in Anglo-Saxon "mist" means "gloom," so "mistle" is used for the plant mistletoe.

It was a common custom among the Druids, who were heathen priests living many years ago, to make presents to people of branches of mistletoe on the first day of the year. They considered the plant sacred, and to give a piece of it on this day was to bring great blessings to those receiving it throughout the year.

The gathering of the mistletoe was a very important ceremony among these ancient Druids. About five days after the new moon they marched in stately procession to the forest and raised an altar of straw beneath the finest mistletoe-bearing oak they could find. The Arch-Druid ascended the oak and with a jewelled knife removed the sacred parasite known as mistletoe. The other priests stood beneath the tree and caught the plant upon a white cloth, for if a portion of it touched the earth it was an omen of misfortune to the land.

The mistletoe was dedicated to Freya, the Scandinavian Goddess of Beauty and Love, so long as it did not touch the earth, because if it fell to the earth the charm was lost, and it would fall into the power of the evil one. It is still the custom to hang it from the ceiling, because it is supposed to lose its charm when it touches the ground, and it is supposed to ward off the poisonous effects of certain plants and it unites lovers. Perhaps this is how the ceremony of kissing originated

"I care."

ALWAYS LEARNING

A great deal can be learned from such a catalog as the Canada Cement people issue free of charge. All you have to do is to sign and post their coupon which will be found on page .

Wayside Shrines Stripped in Austria

A series of robberies of wayside shrines, private chapels, cross road monuments and other medieval statuary is occurring all over Austria. The thefts are so skillfully planned that only carvings and statues of high artistic or historic value are taken, leading the police to believe that they are directed by experts.

Austria is rich in these relics. In remote and lonely places all over the country are rare and wonderful monuments, often dating from the Middle Ages, and some even said to be of Roman origin. In the Tyrol and Styria particularly, on high passes or on the sites of ancient churches, are to be found reliefs, carvings, statuary or tablets almost priceless to the antiquarian, and these are the loot of this latest gang of plunderers.

"I dare."

The Right Christmas Spirit

But how seldom Christmas comes—only once a year; and how soon it is over—a day and a night! If that is the whole of it, it seems not much more durable than the little toys one buys of a fakir on the street corner.

But surely that need not and ought not to be the whole of Christmas: only a single day of generosity, ransomed from the dull servitude of a selfish year. If every gift is a token of personal thought, a friendly feeling, an unselfish interest in the joy of others, then the thought, the feeling, the interest, may remain after the gift is made.—Henry van Dyke.

"I say, Billie, teacher says as if we 'angs our stockings up on C'ris'mas Eve, Santa Claus 'll fill 'em with presents!" "It'll take 'im all 'is time to fill mine," said his companion. "I 'aven't got no foots in 'em!"

The British Government is being advised to encourage the importation of wheat instead of flour, whether by an embargo on flour or by other means, as a measure to relieve the agricultural depression.

Ford Cylinders Ground

new pistons, rings and pins fitted $25.60, makes it better than new; also other cars done at various prices. Steel gears for fly wheels save money. Circulars free.

Guarantee Motor Co.

Hamilton, Canada

FARMERS MARKETS

THE PROVISION MARKET

Toronto market live hog prices scored an advance of 25c to 35c per 100 lbs., with sales of thick smooth stock on the graded basis at $11.25 to $11.50 per 100 lbs., fed and watered, but towards the close sales declined to $11. The Winnipeg market also opened strong at anadvance of 25c per 100 lbs. to $10 per 100 lbs. for thick smooth stock, fed and watered, with eastern buyers operating extensively, but later final sales were made at $9.15 to $9.25, which prices show a net loss for the week of 50c to 60c per 100 lbs. The bulk of the trade in selected live hogs in the Montreal market during the week was done at $11.25 to $11.50, and at $11.50 to $12 per 100 lbs.

Trade in smoked and cured meats showed sales of 8 to 12-lb. hams made at 23c to 24c per lb., heavy weights at 21c to 22c per lb., cooked flat hams at 38c and cooked hams at 35c per lb., with smoked breakfast bacon at 30c to 32c per lb. The demand for trimmed loins of fresh pork was good and the market was active at 26c per lb., with trimmed shoulders selling at 17c to 17 1-2c per lb.

COUNTRY PRODUCE

Ontario country track shippers have made sales of fancy fresh eggs at 70c, pullets at 60c, straight gathered at 46c to 53c and storage eggs at 35 1-2c to 37 1-2c per dozen, f.o.b. shipping points. Fresh offerings have been small and met with a ready sale at 78c per dozen, while fall fresh stock have sold at 45c to 46c, storage selects at 45c and firsts at 35c to 36c.

At the Napanee fair, dressed turkeys sold at 40c to 45c per lb. and at others further east as high as 50c per lb. was paid in some instances. Western dressed turkeys went at prices ranging from 41c to 45c per lb., delivered here, and in addition to this the movement of spot supplies has also been large at 43c to 46c per lb. The demand for good to choice chickens has also been active and sales of milk-fed birds weighing 7 lbs. each were made as high as 36c to 38c per lb. and grain-fed stock sold at 28c to 32c per lb. The market for geese, ducks and fowl has been steady, with a fair demand.

We quote wholesale prices as follows:—

Dressed turkeys, 43c to 46c; geese, 25c to 27c; ducks, 27c to 30c; chickens, 3 lbs., 18c to 20c; chickens, 3 to 5 lbs., 25c; chickens, 5 to 7lbs., 28c to 32c; fowl, small, 18c to 22c; fowl, heavy, 22c to 25c.

DAIRY PRODUCE

Finest grass-made creamery butter went at 37c to 37 1-2c per lb. and current receipts of finest quality at 36 1-4c to 36 1-2c per lb., with firm at 35 1-4c to 35 1-2c per lb. Prices equivalent to 22 1-2c per lb were recorded and in addition to this sales of current receipts of fodder-made goods were made for shipment to the United States at 19 1-2c to 20c per lb. and sales of the same class of goods were made between local houses on Saturday at 19 3-8c to 19 1-2c per lb., but there was no business done over the cable in grass-made cheese, which is in small compass and firmly held around 23c to 24c per lb.

THE GRAIN MARKETS

No. 1 northern went at $1.08 1-8, No. 2 northern at $1.06 5-8, and No.3 northern at $1.03 1-8 per bushel, ex-store, Fort William, while on the other hand the premiums were weaker and declined 1 1-2c per bushel, No. 1 northern being 1 1-2c per bushel over the December option, No. 2 northern at the December price, and No. 3 northern 3 1-2c under.

Cash prices at Winnipeg were:—

Wheat—No. 1 northern $1.08 1-8; No. 2 northern $1.06 5-8; No. 3 northern $1.03 1-8; No. 4, 98 5-8c; No. 5, 92 5-8c; No. 6 85 5-8c; feed 75 5-8c; track $1.06 5-8.

Oats—No.2 C.W. 46 5-8c; No. 3 C.W. 41 3-8c; extra No. 1 feed 41 3-8c; No. 1 feed 39 1-8c; No. 2 feed 36 5-8c; rejected 34 5-8c; track 44 1-8c.

Barley—No. 3 C.W. 55 3-8c; No. 4 C.W. 50 5-8c; rejected 45 7-8c; feed 45 7-8c; track 55 3-8c.

Flax—No. 1 N.W.C. $2.04; No. 2 C.W. $1.98; No. 3 C.W. $1.62; rejected $1.62; track $2.02.

Rye—No. 2 C.W. 82c.

Foreign Exchange Department, Bank of Montreal, shows:— Sterling 4.584 (par value 4.86 2-3).

New York Funds, 1-4 premium.

WORLD LEAGUE AGAINST ALCOHOLISM

Some Conclusions From the Recent Convention.

On Sunday, Rev. Dr. E. I. Hart, preaching in Sherbrooke Street Methodist Church, Montreal, made some observations on the international convention of the World League Against Alcoholism, held in Toronto last month, drawing the following conclusions:

"An important fact brought out by the recent convention was the positive success of prohibition in the United States, and the determined purpose of the American people as a whole to make good in the eyes of the world. They realize that they have taken a very advanced step; they feel the responsibility and they are not going to be made a laughing stock by any retrograde action, such as the proposed modification of the 18th amendment by the introduction of beer and wine.

"A second fact brought out by the convention is the imperative need of greater protection of prohibition countries from the greed and tyranny of the liquor traffic entrenched in other countries. A peculiar and delicate international situation has arisen by reason of the preference of the United States, Finland and Iceland for prohibition. The Americans are feeling very strongly against Canada, Great Britain and the wine-producing countries of Europe because of the facilities that they afford smugglers and bootleggers to defy their liquor law. If I judged the temper of the American delegation at Toronto aright they are determined, no matter what may happen, to see that a proper respect will be given the new prohibitory law not only by their own citizens but by the citizens of other lands. I am sure that every law honoring person in the world will support them in their stand.

"A third fact that was emphasized at the convention is the almost universal opposition of the press to prohibition. When the local option fight was on in Scotland a couple of years ago, the Old Country press published an alleged interview, which Lord Dewar, the well-known distiller, had with Henry Ford at Detroit, in which the latter declared that prohibition was a failure. This statement was given wide circulation. Lord Dewar did not contradict it. The temperance leaders cabled Ford, who replied that he had never met Lord Dewar, and that he thoroughly believed in prohibition. That is the kind of thing that temperance workers are up against all over the world. We are suffering from it here. They are suffering from it even in prohibition Ontario."

"I care."

The business district of Astoria, Oregon, was laid in ruins by a fire which broke out on Friday afternoon and despite efforts of the local fire department and reinforcements from Portland, swept 22 blocks, causing a loss estimated at between $10,000,000 and $15,000,000.

A settlement between Canadian railways and rail shopmen on rates of pay is imminent, according to a statement made by C. P. Riddell, secretary of the Railway Association of Canada, at the close of Friday's negotiations. A satisfactory wage settlement is also pending between the Grand Trunk Railway and 7,000 of its employees covered by the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees and the International Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks.

"I dare."

NEW RAILWAY CHIEF AT TORONTO

Almost two hundred prominent citizens of Toronto and Ontario attended the luncheon at Government House on Saturday, when Lieutenant-Governor Cockshutt had Sir Henry Thornton, president of the Canadian National Railways, as his guest of honor.

Sir Henry said, among other things, that the chief topics among cities just was the C. N. R. headquarters, and no doubt there was considerable jealousy of that honor. He might say, however, that every city in the Dominion seemed to want the headquarters, and would warmly welcome it.

He complimented Toronto as a public ownership city—perhaps there was less repugnance to public ownership in Toronto than in "another" city, he said significantly.

He paid tribute to the aid he had been given by Sir Joseph Flavelle and D. B. Hanna. "They have left me a healthy, lusty baby to bring up. If we don't succeed, I don't know what the answer will be. Or rather, there will be a number of answers, all bad." He would not like to contemplate the failure of the system.

"It is well located, and from a strategic point it serves the whole Dominion. It has lower grades in the Rocky Mountains than our chief competitor. Economically and in a constructive sense the house is well built."

Sir Henry stated that politics and politicians were necessary things—amicable sometimes, but however amicable, would not be allowed to interfere with the railways.

WATER POWERS OF ONTARIO

Sir Henry Thornton Sees Importance of Development For Supply of Cheap Fuel

Addressing a large audience under the auspices of the Empire Club in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on Monday, Sir Henry Thornton referred to the water powers of Ontario and said:

"If you look at the map of Canada, and study the mineral position, you will see that between Winnipeg and Nova Scotia there is apparently very little, if any, coal, but nature in her wisdom has given you a substitute for coal, and that is an almost unlimited potential source of water power. It seems to me that the province of Ontario is, perhaps, more interested in that problem than almost any other, and that the development of the problem will determine in a large degree your future industrial prosperity.

"I am anxious," Sir Henry declared, "to undertake as soon as possible, and in connection with the proper authorities of the province, municipal and otherwise, a study of the development of the water powers of Ontario in a logical constructive fashion. I believe if this can be done we shall to a large extent supply the defect which, perhaps, you might experience on account of having no coal at your doors. A cheap and adequate supply of fuel, which is only another way of saying power, is essential to the industrial development of any community. Therefore, it seems to me that the development of your water power supplies in Ontario is of vital importance to you."

The head of the Canadian National Railways reiterated previous declarations about keeping political influence out of the affairs of the railways.

Paul wrote to the Philippians, "All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household." Surely if Jesus' followers can be true to Him in Nero's household they can be faithful to Him anywhere.

NEW TARIFF UNPOPULAR

(Philadelphia Public Ledger)

Although there is no real sign of another revision of the tariff in the near future, it is nevertheless a fact that there is much muttering of discontent in and out of Congress over the new law.

The full effects of that law are not as yet felt. However, two things are clear. One is that there is a tendency on the part of manufactured goods to increase in price. The other is that the agricultural industry of the United States is still in a most serious condition and the tariff bill, with its high agricultural rates, has not been of any decisive advantage to the farmers. Undoubtedly, in some cases it can be shown where it has reduced importations which would have come into competition with the United States farmer, but the fact is admitted by all agricultural authorities that the farmer's affairs are as bad now, if not worse, than they were a year ago. The tariff has proved no panacea for the troubles of the agricultural industry and there are decided symptoms that it will mean materially higher prices on the things the farmer has to buy. Labor, it is plain, is much disaffected with the new tariff law.

If the President and tariff commission were to make quick and effective use of the flexible provisions to reduce rates, some of the discontent against the tariff would be allayed. But such use is not being made. Many are becoming sceptical whether any large relief from extreme duties need be looked for through the flexible tariff provisions.

Not a few indications are given that the new tariff law will be short-lived. The results of the elections and the growth of progressive sentiment are partly due to feeling against the tariff law and if this feeling increases, as it is likely to do, the tariff may be a much larger factor in the 1924 campaign than in the recent one. Indeed, Democratic hopes of carrying the country in 1924 are built partly on the belief the tariff will become increasingly unpopular.

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No Need For Anxiety

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The Royal Guardians

INCORPORATED

MONTREAL

NOTICE is hereby given that application will be made to the Parliament of Canada at the next session thereof by The Royal Guardians, incorporated under the Act 9-10 Edward VII., Chapter 158 for the passing of an Act to amend the said Act by removing from the objects of the Association the attributes of a fraternal charitable and benevolent association, and by authorizing it to transact the business of Life and Disability Insurance, as a Mutual Company, subject to the provisions of the Insurance Act other than Part 2a thereof, re Fraternal Benefit Insurance, and by such other amendments as are necessary to give the effect thereto.

JOHN McDOWALL, Supreme Guardian. A. T. PATTERSON, Supreme Secretary.
227 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.
December 6th, 1922.

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