MEN AND WOMEN OF TO-DAY

The Father Returned.

How many men can remember the first time they fell in love? Marconi's first love was the daughter of a house porter in Bologna. She was a dainty little miss, and the schoolboy made eyes at her from a window. The girl devised a method of "wireless" signalling when her father was out of the way. She moved the cage of a pet finch from one side of the courtyard to the other, and young Marconi would come down to her. One day her father came home unexpectedly, and the romance ended.

The Valet and the Viceroy.

People who knew the late Lord Curzon only by hearsay must have imagined him to be the last man to allow his valet to be mistaken for himself on semi-state occasions while Viceroy of India. But he has made the confession himself in some papers written shortly before he died and just published. On one occasion an Indian rajah mistook Mr. Harris, the valet, for the Viceroy and told him that sixteen tigers were waiting in the jungle near by for him to shoot them. At which Mr. Harris dug the rajah in the ribs and told him to quarter the number. Lord Curzon, who was watching the incident, was highly amused.

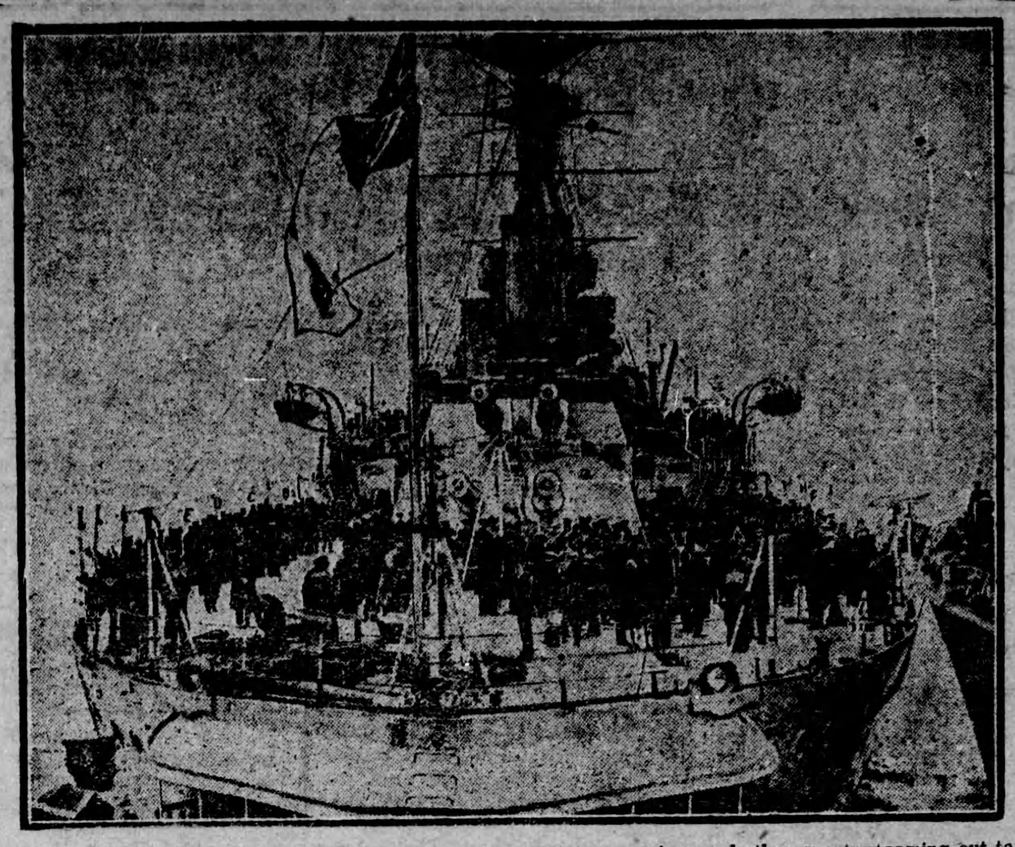
A Worm's Turn.

Mr. David Masters, whose book, "How to Conquer Consumption," has disclosed a bold plan for stamping out the disease, is a well-known London journalist. He has been a student of "germs" for many years—and worms. When he lived in the country he used to surprise visitors by asking them if they would like to see his pet worm. They would go out to the garden and, maybe, there would be only the tip of the worm's tail sticking out in the rockery. But he would stroke it with a blade of grass, and the worm would come out and arch its back. "You see," he would say, "even a worm likes a good turn."

"Hisses" for John McCormack.

Mr. John McCormack, the famous Irish tenor, has just returned from a tour in China and Japan, where he sang before large native audiences. In Japan, he says, the people applaud with a strange intake of breath through pursed lips. "I had previously heard of this form of applause," said Mr. McCormack, "but I must confess, nevertheless, that for one instant after my first number the wave of subdued sound that swept through the auditorium seemed to me a little too much like the dreaded hiss of disapproval.

"I like to read criticisms of my singing," he added, "but when a Japanese critic was stated to have declared that I 'suffocated' my audience I felt it was too much for me. I found that the criticism had been wrongly translated from Japanese into English, the critic having actually written that I left my audience breathless."



The Flagship Revenge with a large party of the dominion premiers and other guests steaming out to sea for the great naval display off Portland.

Natural Resources Bulletin.

To the homeseeker of limited means, bidding, perchance, farewell to childhood scenes, the "newness" of the country to which he turns his face is one of its most appealing features. It means free or cheap land, social equality and opportunities for financial success and personal advancement that are practically beyond his reach in his native environs. Canada has long been a favorite field for homeseekers. The successes achieved by the many thousands who have ventured into this great Dominion have hastened the settlement of the vast area of free land once available. Free lands are now largely restricted to the outlying and rapidly retreating "frontier" regions of the so-called "newer" provinces.

In the rush and confusion attending the settling of such extensive areas it was inevitable, remarks the Natural Resources Intelligence Service, that thoroughness could not at all times be maintained. Hence for economic, political, or other reasons various smaller districts were passed over. During the recent period of general readustment a stock-taking of resources has thrown the spotlight on many such areas. They are to be found in greater or lesser dimensions in every province of Canada, including the "older," or eastern provinces, as well as the "newer," or western ones.

Included in such districts are former timber reservations, now culled out or cut over areas formerly unfit for settlement because of lack of drainage, since provided; once inaccessible areas later traversed with roads, and lands reserved for sundry purposes but now thrown open. Timber and wild lands held by private owners for cutting or speculation and now forced on the market probably represent the greatest proportion of the new acreage available for settlement throughout the various settled parts of the several provinces.

Such tracts of new lands are of more than usual interest and value. They give the pioneer his opportunity to make his home and wrest a living from the primitive land without having to face the economic and social disadvantages usually entailed in so doing by reason of remoteness and isolation. Though such districts are locally of a pioneer nature their more advanced surroundings make available the amenities of civilization and provide scope for the enterprise and industry of the settler and an outlet for his products. Opportunities in such districts are alike available to newcomers to Canada and to those in adjacent and more crowded areas.

The Bank of England was founded by a Scotsman who died in poverty.

When Winter Comes.

The advent of the winter months of the year always brings misery to those chilly mortals who seem to "feel the cold" far more than their fellows.

Hot-water bottles at night, numerous blankets, and every door and window shut tight and fast seem to afford them little relief, and they shiver their miserable way from November to March.

But the truth of the matter is that such superficial remedies as the above do more than good, the root of that "stone cold" feeling being a faulty circulation. Internal warmth, engendered by means of heat-giving foods, is much more effective than any increase in clothing. Far from closing all doors and windows in the bed-rooms, a good supply of fresh air is most important in winter, for people who breathe impure air get out of condition very quickly and this is at the bottom of half our winter ailments.

Finally, don't fall into that very common error of dropping all outdoor exercise when winter comes. Skating, hockey, etc., can always be indulged in, while, for the elderly who do not feel up to the exertion of games, walking will do wonders. Exercise, in the fresh cold air, warmly but lightly clad, does more than anything else to ward off that unpleasant feeling that comes from always being half frozen.

The Wireless Beam.

The cheapest tariff ever devised for long-distance telegraphy came into operation recently, with the opening of the new beam wireless system, says an English writer.

This system enables the charge for wireless messages to be reduced from anything between one shilling to five shillings a word down to three-halfpence a word. The minimum charge is 2s. 6d for twenty words or less.

Tests have been carried out over a long period between stations at Bodmin, in Cornwall, and Montreal, and messages have been dispatched at more than a hundred words a minute in both directions simultaneously for eighteen hours out of twenty-four.

Beam wireless is worked with short waves of unusually low power and is directional—that is broadcast messages can be picked up only by stations in line with the beam.

At first many experts were doubtful about the new system, but it is expected that a number of new stations will soon be in operation in different parts of the Empire. At present radio-telegrams can be sent to all parts of Canada, Newfoundland, the West Indies, the United States, and other countries reached through Canada.

Don't Be Cold.

It is because vitality varies considerably between individuals that some of us feel the cold more than others. But many are cold because they don't know how to keep warm.

If two persons, of equal vitality, went out on a cold day, and one was wrapped up in heavy and close-fitting garments and the other wore loose clothing of medium weight, the latter would be far warmer. Clothes, you see, have a threefold function. They interpose a barrier to the outside air; they should conserve, within ventilation limits, the warmth generated in the body, and (when loose) permit a zone of warm air to form between the body and themselves.

In woollen clothing, too, the fabric, if loose—a tight vest is not half as warm as a loose one—gathers in its cells pockets of warm air. Further, heavy clothing saps vitality, and that instantly makes the body more susceptible to cold. So—loose clothing for warmth. Make the practical test of wearing a muffler in tight folds, and then loosely.

Then there is food. Just as some coal produces more heat than other varieties, so also does food — the body's fuel. Porridge, bacon, herrings, pork, and so on are 'warm" foods.

The Day.

The vision of that day
When human strength shall serve the common good,
And man, forever loyal to the race,
Find, far beyond our seasons of dismay,
The guerdon of its grace:
One hope, one home, one song, one brotherhood.

—George Sterling.

Amazon and Thames Rivers.

The width of the Amazon River at its mouth is more than equal to the entire length of the famous Thames River in England.

No man will ever write the true story of himself.—Jerome K. Jerome.

THE ROYAL BRIDE AND GROOM

Above is shown an exclusive photograph of the royal bride and groom, Crown Prince Leopold of Belgium and the Crown Princess, formerly Princess Astrid of Sweden, posed after their civil wedding in Stockholm.

A Compass Plant.

A party of travellers who recently returned to Texas owed their lives, when lost in a terrible storm that swept the prairies, to a plant which has, on more than one occasion, been responsible for saving human beings.

This plant, which was first brought to the attention of the scientific world by General Benjamin Alvord, is one of the most remarkable in the world. Known as the compass plant, it received its name from the strange property exhibited by its leaves of presenting their faces to the rising and setting sun. The compass plant is a perennial, and during its first year bears radical leaves only. In its second year it is a flowering herb, with four to five leaves measuring from twelve to thirty inches in length.

It is found mainly on the rich prairies of the Mississippi Valley, and its peculiar powers were well known to hunters and settlers long before General Alvord discovered it. When lost on dark nights they would search for it and, by feeling its leaves, obtain their bearings.

A plant which is said to be able to predict earthquakes and volcanic eruptions bears the scientific name of Abrus precatorious. It is a native of Cuba, has no flowers, and consists of a long stalk from which branch numerous twigs containing rows of delicate-looking leaves. The leaves frequently change color or close, while the twigs bend themselves into curious positions.

This plant is highly sensitive to electric and magnetic influences, and by being able to interpret the movements of the plant in response to electric currents the scientist is enabled to predict great convulsions of Nature.

Use of Sponge.

Rubbing a car with sponges and chamois should be done in straight lines rather than in circles. To prevent water from drying and spotting, it is well to clean one panel at a time. Avoid applying chamois, and especially the sponge, with any great pressure, and do not rub after the surface is dry.

Happiness In Good.

We must distinguish between felicity and prosperity, for prosperity leads often to ambition, and ambition to disappointment; the course is then over; the wheel turns round but once, while the reaction of goodness and happiness is perpetual.—Landor.

Knew What He Wanted.

"My new car is gray, trimmed with red."

"I bought an old one myself and got the trimming myself."

Silence Held Woman's Virtue.

In Korea women are taught that the greatest feminine virtues are silence, humility and timidity.

The Drift to the Towns.

BY CHARLES W. PETERSON.

We cannot escape the conclusion that the drift from farm to city is the direct cause of a subsequent drift from Canada to the United States. Also that the former cannot be regarded as a mere accident, but has a substantial social and economic foundation. Whether or not the causes can be wholly eliminated is a question which might possibly have to be answered in the negative, because they are to a very large degree of world-wide occurrence. That this exodus from farm to city in Canada could be severely checked is, however, a fact which cannot be successfully refuted.

Our gross agricultural plant last year was worth 7½ billion dollars with a production of 1,716 million, which represents solid, new wealth. If we take this total agricultural production and deduct the cash outlay of Canadian farmers for hired labor, seed and fertilizer, amounting to 385 million dollars, and allow 6 per cent. on capital invested in agriculture, or 450 million dollars, we get a net average return to the individual farm operator of $870 for his year's work, which must be shared by his wife and children, if any, who did productive, unpaid work on the farm. Applying it all on account of the farmers' own wages, however, on a ten-hour day basis, we get an hour rate of 29 cents. Compared with factory workers at 56.1 cents per hour, railroad workers 58.8 cents per hour, miners 83.4 cents per hour, and workers in building trades $1.06 per hour, it does not look particularly inviting, even conceding that the farmer lives rent free. We have apparently here ample explanation of the drift to the cities of our young Canadian farm population.

Mr. Otto H. Kahn, the famous American multi-millionaire banker, dealing with the agricultural situation in the United States, recently made the following trenchant observations:

"If there is one calling which has a higher claim than another upon the helpful consideration of the State it is that of the farmer. The farmer's problem is part of our problem. The farmer's welfare is an essential part of our welfare.

"It is harmful and menacing to the commonwealth that so numerous and so valuable a portion of the population should feel dissatisfied and resentful and be without prosperity. The situation lends itself peculiarly to the incitements and wiles of the demagogue and to the plausible figments of the economic visionary.

"Both justice and self-interest demand of the community at large that every legitimate endeavor be put forth to the end that the farmer's grievances be redressed. If that redress can only be accomplished by methods which, while practicable and economically warrantable and promising to be effective, are novel and perhaps unpalatable to the established ways of business, then the less important will have to yield to the more important, i.e., business conveniences and customs to the rehabilitation of the farming industry.

" . . . . It is not sufficient answer to the farmer's complaint to refer him sternly to the rigid functioning of the law of supply and demand and to the doctrine of the survival of the fittest; because in reply the farmer will contend that, in other respects, for reasons which seemed valid to Congress, we have not scrupled to interfere, through acts of governments and otherwise, with the untrammeled workings of that law and that doctrine. And he will and does claim that we either adhere to them strictly all round or give him the effective advantage of dispensations similar to those which have been granted in the case of other callings."

Mr. Kahn has a reputation for sound, constructive thinking, and his views might well be seriously considered by all classes of Canadians. Coupled with a vigorous immigration policy, we must develop a new interest in the problem of increased agricultural development.

Possessions.

A fine character does not depend on what you possess, but possessions depend on character as well as every other good thing which comes to men as individuals or as a community.—Socrates.

MUTT AND JEFF—By Bud Fisher.

Luck Was Against Mutt, That's All.