

## "GOLDEN TRIVIA"

Here are some fascinating facts about the world's most precious metal. Did you know....

- Gold is the first element mentioned in the Bible.
- Gold is one of the most recycled substances of all. It's quite possible that the gold contained in the first nuggets found 6,000 years ago still exist today — melted and recast into a contemporary piece of jewelry or the fillings in your teeth!
- The innermost coffin of the three used to bury the young Egyptian Pharaoh Tutankhamen is probably the biggest gold object to have survived from antiquity. Uncovered in 1922, it represents 2,448 pounds of beaten 22 karat gold, decorated inside and out.
- The modern solid-state electronics industry is one of the largest users of gold in Canada today. Gold has an extremely low resistance to electrical current and won't corrode or tarnish. A single touch-tone telephone contains 33 gold contacts.
- Worldwide, wedding rings are probably the single biggest gold jewelry item. One of the traditions behind the placing of the wedding ring on the third finger, left hand, is found in ancient Egyptian writings which described the third finger as being connected by an artery to the heart.
- Gold is mixed, or alloyed, with other metals for use in jewelry. Aside from strengthening the gold, alloys can affect the colour of gold. Gold alloyed with copper is pink; with nickel, zinc and copper — white; with silver and copper — yellow; and with silver, copper and

zinc — green.

- In the western world, the proportion of gold is expressed in karats using a scale of 24. Twenty-four karat (24kt) is 100% pure gold. If a piece of jewelry is made of 18kt gold, it is 18 parts gold and 6 parts other metals; 14kt gold is 14 parts gold and 10 parts other metals.
- The word karat (and carat, the unit of weight used to measure gems) derives from the Italian carato, the Arabic girat, or the Greek keration, all meaning the fruit of the carob tree. The seeds of the fruit were once used to balance the scales in weighing gems and gold in Oriental bazaars.
- Gold is the most ductile and malleable of all metals — one ounce can be stretched into a wire five miles long or hammered into a sheet so thin it covers 100 square feet.
- The touchdown probe of the first lunar landing was coated with gold.
- About ten billion tons of gold (100 thousand times more than man has managed to mine from the earth) are estimated to be held in suspension in the oceans of the world. Practical and monetary considerations currently make it impossible to extract gold from the seas, as well as from Mercury, Mars and Venus where scientists believe it also exists.
- Psychiatrists suggest deep psychological reasons why people have adorned their bodies with gold since the dawn of time: sexual enhancement, social or tribal status, an inner quest for immortality, self-deception, self-esteem, superstition and religion.

## Marriage contracts

When two people say, "I do," they are agreeing to abide by the terms of a contract written for them in law. The majority of people are not even aware of the contents of this agreement in law and very often find that they don't like the terms, says *Marriage and Family Law*, a book published in various provincial editions.

A written marriage contract can give limited protection to both spouses. Marriage contracts can sort out the management of family assets or other property during marriage and determine the ownership if there is a separation or divorce. It can also contain such items as who is to perform the household chores, which parent is to have custody of the children after a separation, what the support obligations will be, etc.

However, you should be aware that some of these terms of a contract are not enforceable in court. Each provincial law varies. In Ontario and British Columbia for example, the courts will not recognize provisions for child custody. They feel that they are the overseers of the welfare of children and their jurisdiction cannot be ousted by a private contract.

Although a marriage contract can provide for personal services such as who will do the household chores, terms like this cannot be enforced in the courts. It is simply not possible to have the sheriff come into your home every day to ensure

## New homes — designs make the difference

the dishes are done by the appropriate spouse.

However, there is still great value in using provisions which could not normally be directly enforced by the courts. Parties to a marriage seldom sit down and discuss how they expect the marriage to be conducted and how the responsibilities will be divided. Marriage contracts can offer psychological benefit by writing down on paper issues of cooking, housework, and the number of children.

— Cape Cod to Ultra Modern and Georgian Brick — the sky's the limit when shopping for a new house in the marketplace of the '80s.

Curb appeal has become a new industry buzz word and today's home builders

are sparing no effort to creating an appealing exterior carries right on through the house where efficient use of space and easy movement are the utmost concerns.

signs that allow buyers to choose something that reflects their lifestyle.

### A lot to offer

Today there is a lot more emphasis on design in suburban homes. I had no work in suburbia five years ago, but that has all changed now. Functionality used to be a builder's only concern. To close a sale in today's competitive marketplace he has to offer a lot more.

Attention to design in

Homes today are designed to complement modern lifestyles. Working mothers, for example, appreciate time-saving features such as main floor utility rooms that save them unnecessary trips to the basement. Kitchens are airier, more pleasant places to be and a breeze to take care of with mark-resistant work areas that are easily cleaned.

Houses today have more living areas with bedroom/den combinations in the master bedroom and bathrooms that are no longer "dismal little corridors." New products such as skylights, sunken bathtubs and jacuzzis give contemporary bathrooms an open, more spacious feeling that makes them an inviting place to spend some time.

With builders putting a lot more into homes today, smart buyers know they get more for their money with a new home.



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## Designer treatment makes tuxedo come alive

(NC) — No article of men's clothing has more potential for expressing personal style than the tuxedo. And the new tuxedos introduced for this year's wedding season are no exception.

Today's formal wear manages to evoke the past while being stylistically contemporary and elegantly comfortable. Leading the pack are formal collections inspired by fine Italian couture and by the designer signatures associated with the quality Canadian brides and grooms have come to expect.

"It's wonderful to see the tuxedo come alive in the hands of these designers," says Joseph Hecht, president of Classy Formal Wear. "Yves Saint Laurent tuxedos, exclusive to Classy for 1988, are a perfect example. Saint Laurent inevitably makes a bold fashion statement while still respecting the

boundaries of what people want and will feel comfortable wearing."

As well as offering the classic black tuxedo, Saint Laurent has introduced a number of innovative new styles through Classy. Drawing the maximum from finely textured wool and wool blends, and adding meticulous attention to detail, Saint Laurent has fashioned innovative tuxedos and tail coats in white shadow-weave and in two hues of grey, the Grey Versailles and the Sterling Grey Collections. Yves Saint Laurent's formal fashion story for 1988 includes something for all tastes and for all occasions.

Formal wear inspired by Italian design confirms that the groom is also one to watch and that he too has a role to play in 1988. And The Limited Edition Uomo Classico Collection from Classy Formal Wear makes

compelling evidence for this. Introduced last year to great acclaim, this unique collection of Formal Wear is unlike anything yet seen in this country: subtle stripes and geometric patterns, sophisticated textures in herringbone or checks. The *Elegante* and the *Cascata* represent two new additions to the Uomo Classico Collection. Both fashioned in finely textured fabric, the *Elegante* is an expression of continental sophistication at its best. Subdued grey and black stripes function in counterpoint and to dazzling effect. The *Cascata* is a slightly bolder play of light and dark with highlights evoking the gentle shimmer of cascading water.

The Yves Saint Laurent and Uomo Classico Collections are exclusive to Classy Formal Wear. Classy is Canada's only national formal wear company.



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