

The Canadian Champion

When Your Sweet Tooth says
CANDY
Your Wisdom Tooth Says
BARNARDS

MILTON, THURSDAY, FEB. 3, 1938

No. 88

When Your Sweet Tooth Says
CANDY
Your Wisdom Tooth Says
BARNARDS

VOLUME 78.

CANADIAN CHAMPION

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING

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Stage Superstitions

An actress must find or have a rabbit's foot given her; it is fatal to buy one. It is bad luck to whistle in the dressing room or put shoes on a shelf. An umbrella opened over the head is, of course, the worst kind of a thing—but it is all right to open it downward. Cats bring good luck, especially black ones. A potato in the pocket shields from misfortune. Next to breaking a mirror, bringing peacock feathers into the theater is a calamity, and many an actor will grow faint at the sight of one.

Oldest City of the Americas

St. Augustine, oldest city of the Americas, where the ancient traditions of the early settlers endures is one of the most colorful. Since 1565, when St. Augustine was officially settled by Pedro Menendez de Aviles, 53 years after his discovery by Ponce de Leon, America's oldest city has been the shuttlecock of nations. St. Augustine was the scene, early in the Seventeenth century, of pirate attacks; it was the site of numerous sanguinary Indian battles.

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.

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GOING EAST—
7:40 a.m.—Daily, flag.
2:42 p.m.—Daily, flag.
8:45 p.m.—Daily except Sunday.

GOING WEST—
9:31 a.m.—Daily, flag.
6:16 p.m.—Daily, flag.
12:43 a.m.—Daily except Sunday.

SUNDAY

Going East—7:40 a.m., 2:42 p.m., 9:31 p.m.
Going West—9:31 a.m., 6:16 p.m.

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Hail-Rod Just Special

Form of Lightning Rod

The hail-rod, known in French as a paragrale, is merely a special form of lightning rod, and was introduced at a period when the production of hail was believed to be due to the electrical rather than the mechanical action of the storm. Even so great an authority as Arago thought that rods attached to balloons might draw off enough electricity from the clouds to prevent hail from forming.

The original hail-rod, according to a writer in the Indianapolis News, was a wooden pole with a metal tip, which was connected with the ground by a cord or wire. It is said that a million or more of these rods were erected in various parts of Europe during the first quarter of the Nineteenth century. For a while they were completely abandoned, but in 1899 a much more pretentious device of the same character was introduced in France and soon gained great popularity in that country. This was a large copper rod, grounded by means of a copper conductor, and installed at as high a level as possible; in some cases on church steeples or other tall edifices, and in other cases on great steel towers erected for the purpose. Vehement discussions in regard to its merits prevailed in France down to the outbreak of the World war, but little is heard about it.

Many Poisonous Plants

Grow in Fields, Marshes

More than 200 different species of poisonous plants, according to estimates, grow in some states. Some are cultivated in gardens, but the majority grow wild in fields, marshes, woods, or along the roadside.

Some are dangerous because they may be eaten by humans, particularly children, either because they resemble plants known to be harmless or because the fruit or flowers are attractive. Among the plants poisonous when eaten by man are: Lily-of-the-valley—A cultivated ornamental of the garden.

Pokeweed—A tall perennial herb common in clearings, open woods, and along the borders of woods. The most poisonous part of this plant is the large, fleshy root. Children are sometimes poisoned from eating the berries.

Monkshead—Plants cultivated in the garden for ornament.

Red baneberry—A native perennial herb found in rich woodlands. The red fruit of this plant, and its relative, the white baneberry, are poisonous when eaten.

Thorn apple or Jimson weed—An annual herb found in cultivated fields and waste places on light soils. The fruit and seeds are especially poisonous.

Other plants to guard against include the water hemlock, the European bitter-sweet, the common elder or elderberry, and purple foxglove.

Gion Matsuri is Among

Old Japanese Festivals

Among the many festivals of Japan is the Gion Matsuri. It follows the tradition of the luxurious Ashikaga dynasty, whose emperors built the Silver and Golden pavilions, two of a collection of gemlike shrines in the Kyoto district, says the New York Times. Though Yoshida and Yoshihisa, rulers who built the pavilions, were tyrants, their reigns saw marked progress in Japan's arts and crafts.

The Gion ceremonial brings back something of the splendor of old Japan. In the processions officers, pages and halberd bearers, handsomely costumed in the pattern of imperial days, follow horsemen and gilded chariots to the Gion shrine. The shrine's former imperial palace services, with many priests in attendance, are held, the object being to propitiate the deities of the shrine. Features of the fete are decorated cars carried on the shoulders of men, armored knights, musicians and the dance of the chigo, or sacred page boy.

Sydney Island Cats

Sydney island of the Phoenix group is noted for its hordes of ravenous cats. They are huge brutes and will wade through water, bare of the feline tribe, to reach small fish on the reef. Their advent dates from an attack on copra and on young coconuts by swarms and on the cats came, 150 of them, from Sydney, brought by an ill-advised planter. They made short work of the rats and then began breeding at a rapid rate. Curious things happen on the islands. Thus, though Sydney and Hull islands are near neighbors the fish caught around Hull island are edible while those at Sydney island are poisonous. The natives can demonstrate this by a crude test. They place a bright silver coin in the flesh of a Sydney fish and after cooking reveal the presence of black spots upon it.

Odd Plan for Street Names

Venice attempts to preserve everything connected with its history. Its street names may be puzzling, but once many of them indicated the occupations of their residents. Thus the "Frezzeria" was so named because of the manufacturers of arrows who lived on it, the "Spadaria" because of its sword forgers, the "Sallizzada dei Corazzieri" because of its breastplate shops, the "Fusieri" because of its spindle-makers. The "Calli degli Specchieri" was so called because mirrors were sold there and the famous "Mercerie," which enters the Piazza San Marco under the clock tower, received that name because it was the economic center of Venice.

Radiance

By KARIN C. ASBRAND
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WNU Service.

EVERY man involuntarily lifted his hat to the radiance in Sonia Sidelli's eyes. Everybody instinctively felt that he knew Sonia, the minute he saw her, whether he had met her or not. The saucy tilt of the diminutive nose, the delicately rounded, though firm, little chin, the "come hither" in the wide gray flirtation, but a comradely that kept Sonia's little feet dancing, and made life worth while for her.

Sonia was the afterglow of the greatness of two sisters. There was Madame Vesta Sidelli of grand opera fame, and Lola Elliott Sidelli, the novelist, whose books, a little bit daring, bordering on the sensational, gave society much to talk about. Both were married to their careers.

That was why Sonia was married to Wayne Parks. She was tired of being an afterglow, of being pointed out as "the little sister of Lola Sidelli—you know, the one who wrote THAT book," or as "that Sidelli's baby sister," and she was tired of being a "clever herself." So, because she was tired of all this, she was married to Wayne. At least that was what she told him, but, in telling him, she looked up at him with such adoration in the depths of her gray eyes that he didn't believe her. He insisted on thinking that she married him because she loved him.

The Parks were poor. Not the kind of poor that lives in slums and diets on bread and water. They rented a Colonial house in the suburbs with a blue breakfast nook, and a white tiled bathroom. They had plenty to eat and drink. They and Wayne's prospects were promising. But in the eyes of Madame Sidelli, with her clear, cold, diamond voice, and Lola Sidelli, with her monthly rain of royalties, they were poor. However, that is beside the point!

Wayne came upon the cards Sonia was painting one night when he stole upon her softly to surprise her with a bunch of orchids. She was tinting then at her little desk in the living room—splashes of water color, violets that looked almost human, roses whose beauty might evoke tears, and a basket of fruit that would make any mouth water.

"Why, Sonia," he exclaimed over her shoulder, "you're an artist, honey!"

Sonia drew in her breath sharply, as though awakened from a dream. "Oh, these," she laughed. "These aren't anything. Just fun. I've done these since I was a little girl."

He tilted her face up toward him. "Do you know," he asked her seriously, "that you could become famous through these?"

"I'm a lot more famous for my pot roast and my lemon meringue pie," she protested. "If you like the little cards, I'm glad. I'm tinting them for a card concern—just because."

Sonia was irrelevant, like that. It was not long before Wayne found out the wherefore of the "just because."

There was a baby. A dimpled, pink and white reproduction of Sonia. Their cup of happiness overflowed. And still Sonia tinted for the card concern. With the baby, gurgling and crowing, an interesting onlooker, on an arm, Wayne often found her painting the little cards.

Sonia kept her own counsel until one night when Wayne came home very tired from a hard day at the office. There was an air of suppressed secrecy about the house. Wayne felt it. Sonia met him at the door. She hastily divested him of his overcoat. She pinned a towel over his eyes.

"I've a surprise for you," she explained, leading him down the hall. He felt his steps guided into the dining room. He tried to remember whose birthday it was, and hoped she didn't have a crowd there for him to entertain.

"One, two, three! See!" He saw. Resting against a huge vase of flowers, it stood. A painting of the baby in her little porcelain tub, clad only in her pink and white loveliness, her tiny face radiating smiles, her small, rose-petal hands reaching for the elusive, floating soap.

"Leigh & Sanford, the big plumbing concern, has offered me \$5,000 for this," she giggled happily. "Mr. Sanford was here today about the shower you wanted. But I told him he couldn't have it."

"Why, Sonia," he demurred. She leaned her head against his shoulder. His arm went readily about her.

"I didn't want to commercialize your baby!" she told him. "Besides, it's your birthday today. This is your present from baby and me. We are going to frame it for you. Yes, Sonia was an afterglow. The two sisters were explosively expres-

Pyramids Used as Tombs;

Had Chambers for Gifts

The ancient historians never bothered to explain the fact that the pyramids were tombs, although they described the structures carefully, because it was a matter of common knowledge to their readers. The evolution of the pyramids from the mastaba or "bench" pyramids to the great structure of Cheops proves, without doubt, the use of tombs, according to a noted German archeologist, says the Washington Star. Because the Egyptians did not think life ended with death, they provided food and other essentials for continued existence and carefully protected the body from destruction by flood, scavengers and other threats. Their religion also demanded that the survivors meet on certain days to offer gifts to the dead.

The tombs, he says, first were pits, into which the dead were laid. Larger pits had a chamber for the dead and a smaller chamber for gifts. Mounds were built upon the grave, with a shallow niche, always on the east side. In front of the niche was a shallow crack which served as a place for worship. The large sepulchre of bricks, found in the neighborhood of Nagada, Upper Egypt, and attributed to King Menes, is the first known in which the burial room as well as the chambers for the gifts are built into the structure above the ground. The first unquestionably royal tombs belong to the successors of Menes, of about the period 3200 B. C.

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