

At Home

Come in & Chat Awhile

—Ruth Raeburn.

Dear Prudence:

The books I wish to tell you about in this letter are written by Mabel Dunham, of Kitchener, Ont. She was born on a farm near Harrison, but most of her life, so far, has been spent in Kitchener among the Mennonites of whom she writes. After she graduated from Toronto University in 1908 she took up Library work in Kitchener in which she has been interested ever since. Her books are in story form and woven into them is all the happenings of pioneer life, and because of this I feel these books will live. It is history worth preserving.

Her first book is entitled "The Trail of the Conestoga". The story begins in the home of Christian Eby in Pennsylvania, and one is filled with sympathy for this man of vision, whose domineering wife fairly boiled with indignation whenever she saw the wanderlust in his eyes and always prevented his setting forth to the land of his dreams. Yet he lived to see most of his family leave for Canada. In those early days trains and automobiles were unknown, so we read with fascinating interest the story of the packing of household effects and the family into the conestogas and we follow these Mennonite immigrants every step of their journey from Pennsylvania to Waterloo County. Neither does our interest wane when we read of their experiences in the first years in Canada. We know and appreciate too little the initiative, patience and self-sacrifice which characterized the struggles of the first settlers in laying not only the material but also the political foundations of our country.

"Toward Sodom" is an epic of revolution of this thrifty sect of people who had journeyed from Pennsylvania to begin pioneer life in Canada, and the historical facts related in this book practically all happened between 1850 and 1880. The significant title of this book relates to the manner in which these newcomers abandon some of their early, strict beliefs and practices and adjust themselves to a changing liberalized world. The story follows the experiences of one particular family, and we follow with interest the growth in young people of faith and love in others besides their own sect—the disappearance of prejudice against other nationalities—the desire to try out new ideas, which led those who claimed to be very religious to say that they were going toward Sodom. Noah Horst was a strong man and late in life becomes a Bishop in his church. His wife is well intentioned and ambitious but lacked the tactful method of carrying out her aims in a way that was pleasing to others. Manassah proved to be a man that was a student of men and of events past and present, and possibilities of the future. Thus he kept his youth and was an unselfish, helpful Canadian citizen. Esther grew in knowledge and beauty in spite of the selfishness of her mother. Ephriam overcame difficulties and carried out the early desire of his life to become a missionary to Japan. Cyrus, the spoiled child became what all such children do—a sorrow to their parents. In later years Noah went back to Greenbush to his son Ezra's only to find they had not developed the four fold life, but had kept strictly to rules set down by their forefathers, and thought themselves much better than those that had been growing.

The story of the County Fight is very realistic and typical of many such scenes in our country.

"The Falling of the Oaks" was a proof that the impossible deed could be done.

"The School Examination" was indeed a great event in those days when so many in the older generation were against a school education.

Either of these books would make an

ideal Christmas gift for young people or older people with youthful spirits. For family reading they will provide some pleasant hours.

I was glad to hear from you and know you had procured Dora Olive Thompson's "Joy Meredith" and enjoyed it.

Sincerely yours,
RUTH RAEUBURN

TRIBUTE TO FOSTER

Another tribute has been paid by the people of the South to Stephen C. Foster, composer of Southern folk songs, by the erection of a monument to his memory in the form of a large boulder bearing this inscription: "Erected to the memory of Stephen Collins Foster at the source of the stream which he immortalized in song, Suwanee River."

Foster wrote about 125 songs, among which were "Old Folks at Home", "Old Black Joe", "My Old Kentucky Home", "Massa's in the Cold, Cold Ground", "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming", "Nelly Was a Lady", and others which have been sung the world over.

Although many of his best songs were of the South, Foster was born near Pittsburgh and lived in the North all his life, never going farther south than Kentucky, except for one trip to New Orleans. He was born in 1826 and died in 1864.

He wrote both words and music of his songs, which perhaps accounts for the perfect blending of their poetry and melody. While he could not be called a great composer from a strictly musical standpoint, his peculiar talent was recognized by poets and musicians of note, and his songs have a human appeal which is irresistible. America has produced no sweeter singer than Stephen Collins Foster.

CATS ON FOX FARMS

"CATS WANTED WITH KITTENS not over 4 days old. Call Melrose 999"

Such was the ad that excited my curiosity. What could anybody want with as many cats as that ad implied? So I telephoned Melrose 999, but received no answer until my third attempt, late in the day, says M. B. Weil in "Our Dumb Animals".

"Are you the party advertising for cats with young kittens?"

"Yes, we did, but we have all we need now."

"Do you pay for them?"

"No, we get them from people who want to get rid of them."

So that was that.

And thereupon I had a picture of a "slaughter of the innocents", to minister to woman's vanity—for the advertiser was a leading fur company! My sympathy went out to the doomed cats and their babies, whose fur would parade under various guises with high-sounding names!

However, the advertisement haunted me to the extent that I called on the fur company, and then came enlightenment. I was invited to visit the company's fox farm some miles from the city, and there I saw for myself just why so many cats with kittens were wanted. They were to be foster mothers to baby foxes whose mother had too many babies in one litter! The mother fox can nourish properly only so many young ones, so when her family exceeds that number outside help must be called upon, or the valuable little foxes will die.

The mother foxes are very irritable when they have young ones, and caring for them and their litters is a difficult matter, so artificial feeding is out of the question. Strange to say, mother cats' milk has been found to be a satisfactory substitute, and the fox babies thrive on it. The cats do not object to their unusual foster children, so everything is lovely.

As a sequel to the slogan of a well-known firm selling condensed milk, "Milk From Contented Cows," a meat purveyor in a neighboring town comes out with this one: "Fresh Pork Sausages From Pleased Pigs That Made Perfect Hogs of Themselves."—Dundalk Herald.

Making Warmakers Share War's Perils

As the original Canadian hang-the-Kaiser man, we read with approval the plan recently submitted to the League of Nations by Col. Fritz Holm, of Copenhagen, which has for its main object the subjection of warmakers to the hazards of the battlefield. While probably most of us have words or thoughts of war-time to repent, we have not withdrawn from our notion that the hanging of William of Hohenzollern would have been an excellent thing, and so far as we are concerned, it is never too late to mend. We are not so naive as to suppose that the former Emperor of Germany was solely or even mainly responsible for the war, but even if he were even a great deal less guilty than he is, the proposal to hang him would remain extremely congenial to us, opposed though we are to capital punishment on general grounds. We believe that the hanging of Wilhelm would prove a salutary example to crowned heads and statesmen in the future. Indeed, the more innocent he might happen to be the better would be the effect, for at the moment of declaring war probably all statesmen believe they are right. If the notion would stray into their minds that even though they were right, a ghastly mistake might be made in their case as in the case of Wilhelm, the probability of war would be appreciably lessened.

Col. House's Idea

It is believed that the so-called Holm plan originated with Col. House, the former intimate friend and counsellor of the late Woodrow Wilson, though in 1924 the same idea was current in Iceland and warmly discussed in that country as well as in Denmark and in Germany. Col. House, however, has been advocating the idea for ten years. He admits that it is not a new one since the Greeks had some such custom. Indeed, until the last few hundred years it was the custom of the king or leader of the nation to take his place with the front-line troops. Even if the king were not the military leader, he was expected to show himself prominently. It is to be admitted that, although history recalls many a king being slain on the field of battle, the risks of the average combatant in earlier days were not comparable to those imposed by modern conflict. Kings who were bumped off their horses and taken prisoner were well treated after civilization had made a few faltering strides away from the period in which captured enemies were killed, and maybe eaten.

Captain Last to Leave Ship

As Col. House says, there is no law that insists that a captain shall be the last man to leave a sinking ship. There is an unwritten law, and it is as strong as the tides in the sea. The captain is the last man to leave or he feels disgraced. So he believes that we should be well on the way to stopping war if there were a public opinion strong enough to insist that those who were responsible for precipitating the struggle should share its horrors and dangers just as they nowadays divide its honors and rewards. Within ten hours after the outbreak of hostilities the Holm Plan provides that the following measures shall be taken:—(1) On the principle that the Government officials who have allowed their country to enter war are qualified no longer to fill their offices, the head of the State, all of his blood relatives over sixteen, all male officials and all members of the Cabinet, or Parliament who voted for the war shall be mobilized immediately. They shall be assigned either to the shock troops in the infantry or to submarine crews, and despatched immediately to the front. The same measure shall apply to all bishops, prelates and ecclesiastics who failed to oppose war. (2) All wives and daughters of the foregoing officials shall be mobilized as simple nurses or servants with the medical corps for service only at the front or as near the hostilities as possible. Both men and women, in the meantime, would be deprived of all rights of promotion or recompense for meritorious service. As a final guarantee the plan would be carried out successfully, it provides for the creation of an armu body of 5,000 male voters, empowered to undertake by physical force the execution of the provisions.

Too Drastic

We fear that these measures are so drastic that they never will be adopted. In this respect they exceed some similar proposals put forward by the learned Dr. Guomundur Funnbogason, of Iceland, who, however, did not suggest that the women should be punished for the war-making of the men, nor the head of a State who might be without real responsibility. For example, the kings of England are constitutional monarchs who accept the advice of their responsible ministers and rule on the theory that they can do no wrong; in other words, that they have no power. If they are to act on the advice of ministers and then expose themselves and their families to grave dangers because they do, the throne is likely to remain vacant, for the compensations it affords are insufficient to counteract the perils.

A Good Idea

The plan is fantastic also because it ignores the fact that the statesmen who vote for war are the statesmen who have the confidence of the people and whom the people would naturally

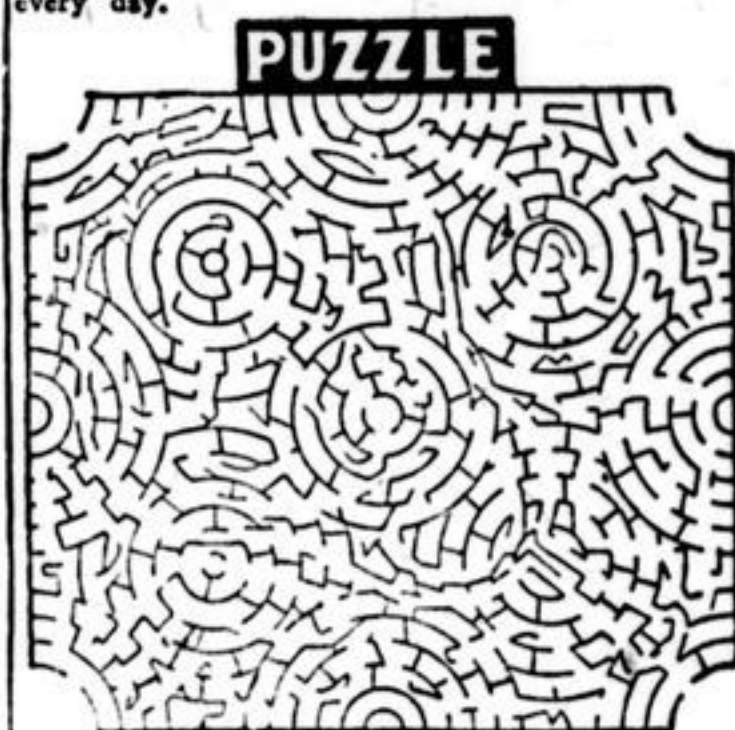
expect to steer them out of the chaos in which they had become involved. In most cases they are beyond the military age and their presence in the ranks would hamper their comrades and give no adequate return. Furthermore, if it were known that as soon as a war had been declared all those responsible for it would be immediately expelled from office, shorn of authority and treated as felons, the nation against whom the declaration had been launched would wait to see what action would be taken by their successors. Finally, a people ready thus to treat its responsible ministers of state would never consent to go to war and consequently the ministers would be unable to give any effect whatever to a declaration of hostilities. The details as we have suggested make the plan unworkable, but the general idea is a good one with which we sympathize. It is an ideal toward which we should strive, and we repeat that a first useful step might be taken with the former Kaiser.—J. V. McAree in The Mail and Empire.

The old-fashioned girl was thought considerate if she helped her mother get the dinner; the modern girl is thought considerate if she comes in for it on time.

LOOK \$200.00 GIVEN AWAY IN CASH

FIRST PRIZE \$50.00
SECOND PRIZE \$40.00
THIRD PRIZE \$30.00
FOURTH PRIZE \$20.00
FIFTH PRIZE \$10.00
TEN PRIZES OF \$5.00 each

Below will be found a Puzzle that may appear to be simple, but is not so simple as it looks. Try it and if you solve it correctly, and will sell for us 8 boxes of HOME SALVE at 25 cents per box you have an excellent opportunity to win a CASH PRIZE, ranging in value from \$5.00 to \$50.00.



There is an entrance to the above maze at each corner. One of these entrances leads you into and around the maze, (but not through the centre) then out again at the corner at which you started. Find this path and trace it with a soft pencil and you will have the outline of a popular fruit.

Cut out the Puzzle and write your name and address plainly on a sheet of paper, together with the words "I have solved the Puzzle and find the fruit to be . . ." (state the fruit that you find it to be). We will then notify you immediately if you are correct, and if so, will send you, at our risk and expense 8 boxes of HOME SALVE to be sold at 25 cents per box. The First Prize is \$50.00 in Cash, the Second Prize \$40.00 in Cash and so on down the list until all the Prizes are exhausted.

WE HAVE GIVEN AWAY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN CASH PRIZES TO PERSONS WHO CORRECTLY SOLVED OUR PUZZLES AND SOLD HOME SALVE.

We see no reason whatever why you should not be a Cash Prize Winner. Is it not worth your while to try? Send your answer to-day. Don't fail to write the words we mention neatly, and state what the fruit you found is, as in the event of a writing and neatness will be considered factors.

HOME MANUFACTURING CO. Dept. G
McNab Bldg., TORONTO 1.

TELEPHONES IN FRANCE

As a user of telephones, France comes twenty-fifth in the list of States; she is now below Japan, Iceland, and the Hawaiian Islands.

ANCIENT WIGS

Wigs have been found on Egyptian mummies that were nearly as well made as those of today.

Talked Nonsense

"I can't see how you can devote so much time to smoking, Fred," said the young wife.

"Stops me from talking nonsense, my dear," said Fred, kissing her.

"Oh," she replied, "that was the reason you never smoked when we were courting!"

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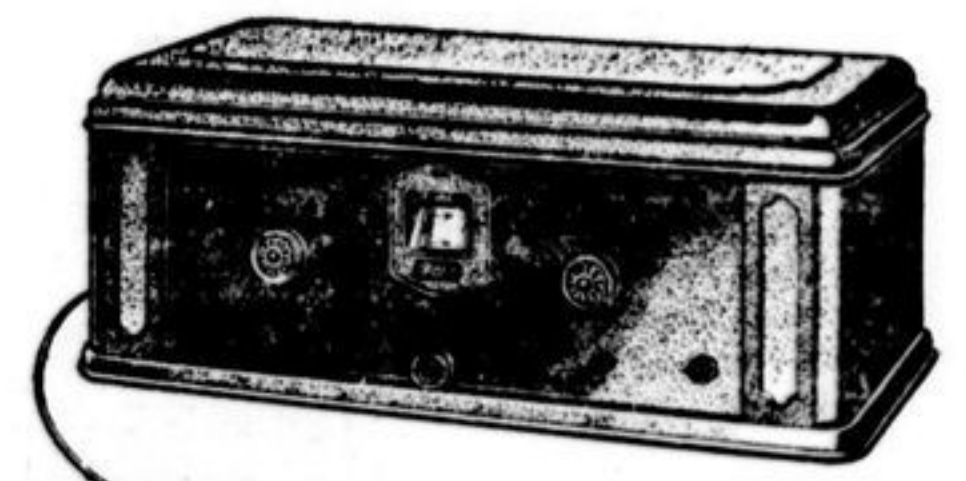
McFadden's Drug Store

PHONE 21

DURHAM

Everything in Medicine for Man or Beast

"Necessary as your Newspaper"



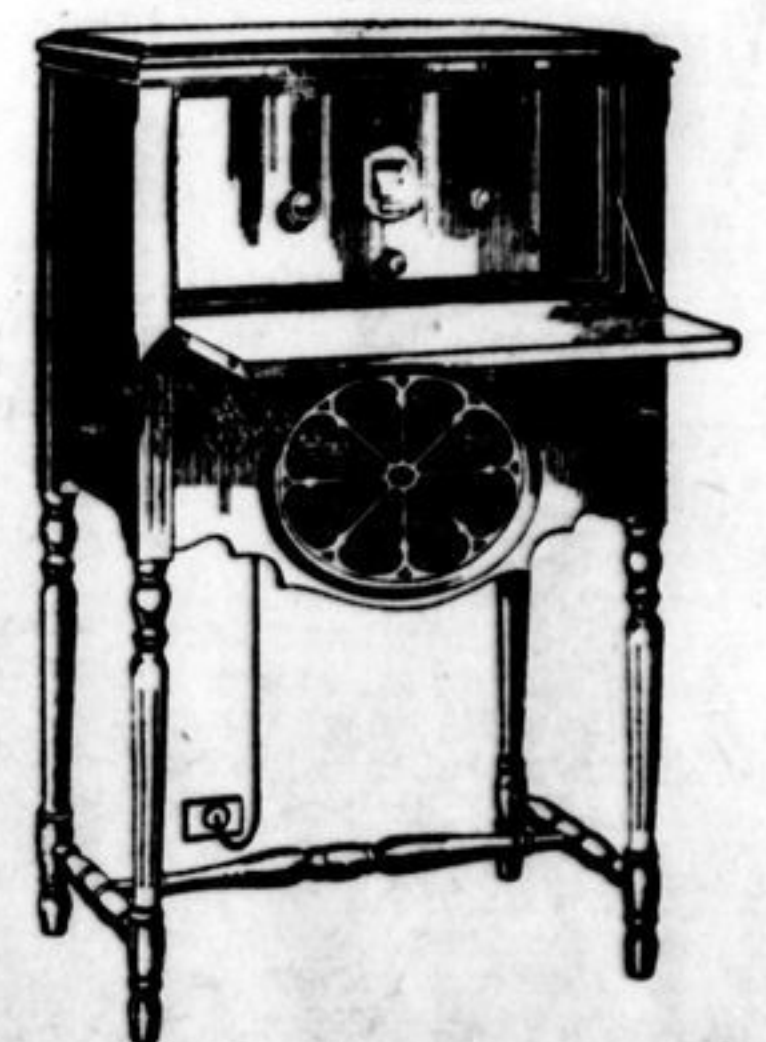
FADA 10 All Electric

FADA Radio

WHO wants to be out of communication with the world? Not you! Are you missing radio's passing show? Let FADA give you unrestricted choice in North America's finest broadcasts from far and near! Music—jazz—banquets—speeches—sporting events—and prices hot from the markets daily!

Do you want super-radio, unrestricted by the wealth of stations on the air? FADA selectivity will isolate the one station you want entirely without interference from overlapping stations. Sweet, clear, ringing tone quality. Long range with clearness and utmost possible volume. Reliability that prolongs tube life and saves repairs. Beautiful table and console models from \$95 to \$500. Hear FADA first. We will gladly demonstrate in competition with any other radio at the price you want to pay.

BATTERYLESS OR WITH BATTERIES



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