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Come in & Chat Awhile

-Ruth Raeburn.

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER by Laura Simmons

Oh, Young New Year-take not these things from me: The olden faiths; the shining loyalty years have proved The glowing hearth-fires and books I loved:

All wanted kindnesses and welcome; All safe, hard-trodden paths to which cling. Oh, blyth New Year, glad with thrill of spring-Leave me the ways that were

A RULE By Sarah Stuart Barber I asked the New Year for some motto

comforting.

Some rule of life with which to guide I asked and paused, he answered soft and low: "God's will to know."

"Will knowledge, then, suffice, New expiry of his term of office he re-Year?" I cried. And ere the question into silence died The answer came: "Nay, but remember, too, God's will to do."

Once more I asked, "Is there no more verse. to tell?" And once again the answer softly fell: Faintly as tolls the evening chime "Yea, this one thing all other things Our voices keep tune and our oars

God's will to love."

A New Year's Resolution BE A GIVER!

by Mary Carolyn Davies God, let me be a giver, and not one The Rapids are near and the day-Who only takes and takes unceasingly God let me give, so that not just my

Let me give out whatever I may hold,

Let me give raiment, shelter, food or If these are, through Thy bounty, in my keeping.

May I give my faith and hope and cheerfulness. Belief and dreams and joy and laughter gay

Some lonely soul to bless. What will you bring to me, New Year? What will you bring to me; What of joy or what of grief

In days that are to be? What will you bring to me, New Year? Ah, no-you will not tell-Enrapt in silent mystery

You guard your secrets well. But what you bring to me, New Year, What you bring to me.

Matters not so much, I know As what I bring to thee. If I bring to thee, New Year,

What circumstance can come to me From men who dress in overalls. Faith and courage high, I cannot profit by?

Saying It With Daggers one day. Jim observed affably: "I was sayin' some good things about you to a mon this morning."

"Ya'as. I said you had the best Poor fools, to think a friend worth "You was?" cattle an' sheep of any farmer I knowed. An' what was more, I said Must always wear the garb of style! that pair of hosses o' yourn was the Poor fools to think that any dress finest in the County-wuth at least Can make a man's value, more or less.

"The tax assessor."

A Canadian Boatsong

For three generations or more the Canadian Boat Song has been a favorite selection in the school-books of English-speaking Canada. It is a song izing rivers of Eastern Canada, St Lawrence and the Ottawa; it is as-Of friends, the long and searching sociated with the name of Simon Fraser, discoverer of the river he named in British Columbia, and Inspired by a French-Canadian Chanson and written by an Irishman, it links two great races which have been partners in building this nation, Canada. As such it is peculiarly Canadian, and savors of our soil and our past. It is therefore, natural that there should be a desire for information as to the author of the Song and as to the circumstances under which it was writ-

> The author of "A Canadian Boat Song" was Thomas Moore, the Irish poet. He was born in Dublin in 1779 educated at Trinity College, and early embarked on a literary career. In 1803 he was appointed to the Admiralty Registrarship at Bermnda. Upon the turned to England by way of United States and Canada. journey enabled him to give full play

> keep time. Soon as the woods on shore look dim,

We'll sing at St. Ann's our parting Row, brothers, row, the stream runs

light's past. Why should we yet our sail unfurl? But other's lives, as well, may richer There is not a breath the blue wave to

But, when the wind blows off the Of what material things life may be Oh! sweetly we'll rest our weary oar. Row, brothers, row, the stream runs The Rapids are near and the day-

light's past. Utawas' tide! This trembling moon But greater than such fleeting treas- Shall see us float over thy surges soon. Saint of this green isle! hear our

Oh, grant us cool heavens and favor-

Row, brothers, row, the stream runs The Rapids are near and the daylight's past

AN INCIDENT

I was in overalls, as they Went riding by my grounds today, And looking up I saw them pass Within their limousine of glass And waved to them a friendly hand They were too proud to understand

They fancied me a workman there, They fancied it were shame to be On friendly terms with men like me As if it mattered if I were, And made it plain they wished no calls

G. B. And yet I chuckled at the pride With which my greeting was denied, For just a week or so perfore Meeting his pet enemy on Main St. When fashion's evening dress I wore, This self-same pair to flatter me

Had asked me to their house for tea.

"Who'd you say it to?" queried the Poor fools, who overalls can't see -By Edgar A. Guest.

Mr. Coolidge's New

The Hon. Calvin Coolidge, whose name will next year be added to the list of forgotten Presidents of United States, has been airing views on international issues. Since that is associated with the two colon- very few of the qualified leaders or public opinion in that country place a high valuation on Mr. Coolidge's intellectual powers there is no need take his utterances very seriously, and it is to be hoped that the British public generally will follow Lord Birkenhead's lead in refusing to do so. But it is quite obvious from certain comments in the European press that in spite of the experience of the last decade many foreigners are still aware that when the President of the United States speaks on international questions he speaks as a more or less irresponsible person devoid of power to pledge his country to any course. That is particularly true where the Chief Executive is, like Mr. Coolidge a President in virtual retirement, merely keeping the seat warm until the accession of his successor, a few

Mr. Coolidge seems to be the possessor in a marked degree of a certam type of "New England Conscience". That type of conscience so far as we involved than he. have been able to observe its operation impels a man to exact the last from the Great Lakes to the Sea was somebody else, and if it hinted that he sideration because their behavior is literally festooned with garlands of the morel rectified of the other follows are coolidge's standards standards of the morel rectified of the other follows. the moral rectitude of the other fellow. The relentless money lender is usually a highly moral person much given to lecturing others. The career of Mr. Coolidge somewhat resembles that of Ko Ko in Gilbert's humorous classic

"The Mikado" in that he was Wafted by a favoring gale, As one sometimes is in trances, To a height that few can scale Save by long and weary dances.

ficial of Titipu. understand that Mr. Coolidge's re- action of its Senate at once proceeded of midnight light; his farm would soon marks were addressed not so much to leave them flat. But it cannot be become a blight and covered o'er with outsiders as to the hundreds of emin- argued with any pretence of decency weed. ent men, particularly the members of that the United States is wholly the "American Association Favoring without responsibility for the diffi- need have no cause for sad alarm Reconsideration of the War Debts", culties which have helped to pile up for there is strength within his arm which has been endeavoring to arouse armaments in Europe. Most hypocrit- to make his good land pay. I simply the conscience of Washington to a ical of all is the President's pretence haven't got the pep, to be a farmer more generous revision of the whole that either he or his Government was with a rep, and follow with a springy problem of war debts. Lying sheets seriously endeavoring to promote dis- step, the plough, each blessed day. like the "Saturday Evening Post" of armament in the Geneva Conference But I must labor through the night, Philadelphia, have been trying to de- which proved abortive ast year. The and make a long and earnest fight to ceive their readers into the belief that aim obviously was to get an excuse for get a rep for stuff I write, before I the movement is a "foreign agitation"; building a fleet of large battleship can cry quits. I find that when the but as was pointed out in these coi- cruisers with 10-inch guns and pull umns some months ago the movement the wool over the eyes of the millions really comes from the best elements in of peace-loving Americans that the the United States, who from the United States is "menaced" by Europe. standpoint of both ethics and expea- In so twisting the fact as to create the iency think that their country should impression that the United States is recognize a fuller partnership and res- "menaced" by debtor nations, Presidponsibility in the task of lifting Eur- ent Coolidge is trying to make the ope out of the slough of bankruptcy. world believe that large battle cruisers The movement is certainly not of Bri- are necessary for the defence of tish origin. Great Britain has stood | United States trade. Some of the "big steadily by the position taken by Rt. navy" advocates whose tool Mr. Cool-Hon. Stanley Baldwin, (then Chan-lidge has been from the outset, are a cellor of the Exchequer) at Washing- little more outspoken than he. One ton on January 8th, 1923, when he fire-eating admiral told the public last said: "May I put it this way? We | year that such a navy was necessary in

Views of General Pershing and Others products on reluctant nations. Other Ever since an eminent American, advocates of this policy hardly take Mr. F. W. Peabody of Ashburnham, the trouble to conceal their view that Massachusetts undertook the organi- the British West Indies must be aczation of the above named Association | quired by force if necessary, because it has received steady accessions of they "menace" United States interests eminent United States citizens in every in the Panama region. Fortunately field of activity, who have assembled the United States Congress has so far an array of arguments so formidable refused to be deceived, and has scrapthat Mr. Collidge and those men who ped the major part of the program; think like him have in vexation given and undoubtedly the day when Mr. up the task of answering them fairly. Coolidge's views signify anything ser-The chief of these arguments is not lous in the direction of public policy is merely that all the money which the now past. United States is collecting or attempting to collect from former Allies was ERGOT, ITS CAUSE AND CONTROL expended in that country at war time prices which greatly enriched its industries, but that the products were | Ergot is an important disease of rye, largely used in prosecuting the de- wheat, barley and many kinds of wild clared war aims of the United States and cultivated grasses. Besides reducat a time when although at war with ing the yield and quantity of the Germany, she was unprepared to take grain, the ergot bodies cause sickness share in the actual conflict. If or death when eating by animals or anyone wishes to understand the cri- the domestic fowl. icisms which have made Mr. Cool- The disease is caused by a fungous idge uneasy let him procure from Mr. parasite, the spores of which enter the Peabody a brochure published recently floral parts of the plant when these

Re-Adjustment".

front while we were preparing .

that we have a narrow viewpoint or followed by sunny periods produce the foreign debt. We entered the war favorable conditions for the spread of in partnership with Britain and the disease. After some days the France against a common enemy, and honey-dew stage comes to an end, and we were expected to play a man's role. the familiar hard, black ergot bodies We weren't ready! Fourteen months form. elapsed before we took over a section of the line and in the meantime out

of the line". with the loans in question, says: "One combined salt-formaldehyde treatment thing is certain, if someone on April must not be attempted.

choice as to whether we should rather ergot should be avoided as far as pos- more complete; in fact I make them give up freely and for all time five sible. It is very important to avoid nure concrete; this silence this perbillion dollars in money or give up sowing either rye or durum wheat mits. the lives of several hundred thousand after ergot infested crops of these of our sons, there would have been no grains, since these two crops suffer when I have finished one punk rhyme. hesitation as to our choice. Fate, most severely from the ergot disease. I hear the old oak hall-clock chime. however, determined that choice. It The common wheats in use are rarely and in my bunk I leap. And so I determined that Great Britain and affected to any extent, and the same know I'll never be a sturdy farmer of France should give up the lives dur- is true of barley and oats. Brome, degree; I cannot help it-for you see. ing that first year". Hon. Newton D. Baker, who was the wheat and rye grasses, which are com-

United States Secretary of War during monly found about the borders of the period of United States participa- fields, are also attacked by the ergot tion as a belligerent, should know fungus. better than anyone else the unwritcellation policy will be wise".

Mythical European Menace tion that nations on the other side of principal source of infection. cannot fail to cause exasperation abroad. He points out the fact that nations are in the aggregate spending more on armaments than before the

order to "force" United States surplus

(Experimental Farms Note.)

by Henry Bourne Joy, the eminent are open at blossom time, and the re-Detroit manufacturer and capitalist sult is the development of the ergot "War Debts; An Argument for Fair bodies instead of the kernels of grain. These blackish bodies mature as the The United States declared war plants on which they grow, mature. early in 1917, but did not figure ser- Some of these fall to the ground, while iously as a belligerent for fourteen others find their way into the threshed months. For that period the burder grain, and in this way the fungus is of maintaining the battle against the returned to the soil. In the spring, Central Empires whose anxieties on each of the ergot bodies on, or near, the Eastern front were relieved by the the surface of the soil, send out several collapse of Russia, was borne by the stalks which, in turn, bear many tiny, British Empire, France and Italy, at light spores. These are shot out of an enormous cost in life and the po- the spore-bearing cavity, and carried tentialities of future existence. In upwards by air currents and insects, to answer to President Coolidge we need the floral parts of susceptible plants. quote only a few of his own country- Under moist conditions, these spores send out tiny threads which grow into Gen. John Pershing, Commander- and fill the place where the new grain in-chief of U. S. Armies in France would have developed. At this stage, says: "It seems to me that there is the fungus exudes a large amount of some middle ground where we should sweet, sticky honey-dew, and with it bear a certain part of the expense in thousands of spores, which spread the maintaining the Allied Armies on the fungus. Insects, attracted by this honey-dew, carry the spores on their Another eminent U. S. soldier, Gen. body to the floral parts of other John F. O'Ryan, says: "Almost all of plants. Rain and wind also help to the senior officers of the Army feel spread these spores. Warm showers

Contrel Controlling the disease becomes a third of that line was held by British | matter of eliminating the ergot from and French. They did the dying! the seed and from the soil. Complete When it comes to writing out the separation from the seed is possible arithmetic of the money we lent Am- by immersing the grain in a solution erican officers are a little ashamed. of common salt, made up by dissolving They aren't thinking about cancella- forty pounds of salt in twenty-five tions, but you can't compute the gallons of water. On stirring the money value of French and British grain, the ergot bodies come to the boys that died defending our section surface, where they are skimmed off and then destroyed. The grain is then Mr. Thomas W. Lamont, the eminent washed at once and dried quickly to New York banker who had much to do prevent injury to germination. A

A succession of crops susceptible to world's asleep, my verse ideas are western rye, (Lolium) and other wild I'm very fond of sleep.

Drill seeding is much preferable to ten understandings in connection with broadcasting for, in addition to burying his country's participation, and in re- the ergot bodies deeply, the period viewing the situation he has said: "If of blossoming is shortened, thereby rethe foregoing observations are sound, ducing the chances for infection. A the United States is not justified mixed early and late rye should not be either in morals or in a long view of used, nor should the close planting of its own best industrial and commer- early and late varieties be practised. cial interests in adhering to its present Deep ploughing after a bady infested policy with regard to the settlement of crop, is recommended, in order to bury inter-Allied debts. The time has come the ergot bodies which have fallen when these questions, including the to the ground during harvest. If these British settlement ought to be re-op- are deeply buried, they will not be ened. Personally I believe that a can- able to germinate successfully and produce spores. Care should be taken These citations which could be very that the ploughing be sufficiently widely multiplied are presented in deep to prevent the ergot bodies beorder that the suggestions of revision ing brought to the surface by subseand cancellation which annoy Presid- quent cultivation. Early harvest lesent Coolidge so much, come from some sens the number of ergot bodies which of the best minds among his own fall to the ground. It is also a very people, and from men who have a profitable practice to mow or destroy much fuller knowledge of the issues other grasses which are susceptible and growing nearby; the mowing to be done while they are still in blossom. The narrow and censorous conten- These wild grasses are very often the

IT'S GREAT TO BE A FARMER

To be a farmer sure is grand, to war. This circumstance, he neglects feed the stock and plough the land, to mention, is in some measure que and on your cattle put your brand; but to the fact that his predecessor, Pres- all this means hard work. For one ident Wilson forced on the negotiators must rise at four o'clock, and after he at Versailles, treaty clauses which has fed the stock, must care for all called in being a large number of new his feathered flock; this duty never nations, and changed many historic shirk. He cannot stay in his soft boundaries. Having by its influence as bed nor be a chronic sleepy -head; for diverting than those of the chief of- a creditor of the leading powers he would lose his sturdy tread, his brought new nationalities into auton- farm would go to seed. He must not First of all outside nations should omous being, the United States by the stay up late at night and burn a lot

The man who early ploughs his farm

Then, at the farmer's rising time,

Dora says she supposes, now that heavy tractors are so popular on the farms, they can raise mashed turnips.



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STORE NEWS

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