

This is what the total eclipse of the sun will look like to Toronto people on January 24. The picture is one taken by Dr. C. A. Chant, Professor of Astro-Physics at the University of Toronto, in Australia during the total eclipse which was visible to that country in 1923.

France Follows Suit.

Paris is to have a Wembley of its own next year, and preparations for the new exhibition are already in an advanced stage. The French venture is to be an international exhibition of decorative and industrial art, and it is expected that from May to October next year, while it is in progress, the city on the Seine will be busier than ever.

Lofly towers are already rising on the chosen site, which stretches from the Invalides across the river to the Champs Elysees, and the whole area of the Esplanade and Place des Invalides is being covered with a series of fairy palaces.



Basil King, Canadian author, who, although on the verge of blindness, has sailed for Spain to obtain material for a new novel.

Basil King, the Canadian novelist, is facing total blindness. He has been facing that possibility for many years and now that it is an imminent certainty, he is looking to the future with courage undaunted. Far from feeling that his talent is useless, he has sailed for Spain, where he will spend the winter in search of literary material.

"His sight has always been weak," stated S. C. Swift, head of the Library Department of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, in Toronto. "In fact, that was one of the things that compelled him to give up the ministry years ago. Reading and writing since have intensified the trouble."

"Has it influenced his writing at all?" Mr. Swift was asked. "I think it has, though not to any marked extent. I think it has certainly sobered him, but it has certainly not made him pessimistic. He is quite a philosopher, you know, and takes things as they come, with a strong faith in the Almighty."

King's book, "Conquest of Fear," published a year ago, shows the sobering influence of the writer's approaching blindness. In Mr. Swift's opinion, Mr. Swift, from his knowledge of King's writings, hazarded the guess that the book for which he purposes gathering material in Spain, will be partly on historical and partly on social lines.

Badly-Dressed Statesmen. Cecil Rhodes would not have accepted the dictum of the "Tailor and Cutter" that is obligatory on statesmen to dress well. Even on ceremonial occasions Rhodes would wear old and dilapidated flannels and a seedy slouch hat.

Sir Gordon Sprigg, when Premier of Cape Colony, made an effort to enforce the wearing of "respectable" dark clothes in the Cape Parliament. Sir Gordon was the height of respectability himself, and always wore a black frock-coat in Parliament.



Children of the Old Times

If our young folks could go back five or six hundred years, they would find that the children of those times dressed and behaved very differently from themselves. The higher civilization of the twentieth century has given all classes of people advantages that even royalty did not possess in those old days, but no class has greater reason to be grateful for the changes that have occurred than the young people of to-day.

In those times that we are going to speak of a child's life was rude and uncomfortable enough. Babies, as soon as they were born, were wrapped in swaddling clothes, so that they looked like the chrysalis of the silkworm. The cradle was a rude, cumbersome affair, usually made of oak, and often with no rockers.

The huge wooden cradle in which King Henry V. of England rocked when a baby is still in existence, carefully preserved by descendants of a personage who held the responsible office of roofer to this prince. It is wider at one end than at the other, and there are holes at the bottom for cordage to pass through, on which was supported the royal baby's bed—a mattress of rushes, the best the land afforded.

Very little was done for children in those early days. They had no books of any kind, excepting the horn-book, a kind of tablet, from which they learned the alphabet. Few Anglo-Saxon or Norman children could read or write. Their learning consisted in psalm-singing and reciting poetry. The principal rule for teaching was to tell a child to learn, and then subject him to a severe beating if he did not.

This harshness seems to have continued to a late period. In English society, for Lady Jane Grey, who was remarkable for her precociousness and scholarship, complained of the "nips and bobs and punches" administered by her parents, who could never be satisfied by anything she did.

Costumes Long Ago. The style of dress was simple, and did not vary greatly through several centuries. Boys wore a tunic, a garment that descended about to the knee, and was fastened at the waist by a girdle of folded cloth of the same material. The lower classes wore nothing besides this tunic, but the gentry wore over it a short cloak or mantle, which was fastened on the shoulder by a brooch.

They usually went bareheaded, but sometimes they put on a pointed hat or cap, shaped like a sugar-loaf. The trousers were tight to the leg, and were, in fact, long stockings, or hose, as they were called.

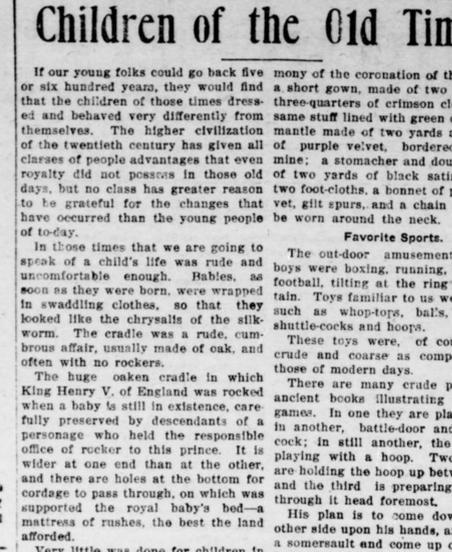
Over these stockings they sometimes wore bands of cloth, linen or leather, commencing at the ankle, and terminating a little below the knee, either in close cloths, like the hand-bands of a modern hostler, or crossing each other sandalswise, as they are worn to this day by the people of Abruzzi and the Apennines, and in some parts of Russia and Spain.

The shoes were of cloth or leather, open at the instep, and fastened with thongs. Among the gentry these thongs were adorned with gold and gems. The buskins of Louis le Debonaire, the son of Charlemagne, were of gold stuff; his tunic was interwoven with gold, and his belt was of silver.

The dress of the girls was a loose, short gown, worn over a longer robe, confined to the waist and having long, wide sleeves. Sometimes these sleeves were so long that they had to be tied up in knots, so as to avoid treading on them.

The hair was worn braided in two long plaits, and coquettishly tied with pearl-colored ribbons. When they went out of doors, they wore a very wide cloak over the upper part of the body, and a covering upon the head, which must have made them look much like little nuns.

Between the years 1100 and 1500, according to old pictures, the dress of the young folks was very nearly the same as that of other persons. Little girls dressed like their mothers, with long, cumbersome trains to their dresses, stomachers trimmed with fur, a leathern or silken purse attached to their girdles, studded or imperialed with little metallic buttons, and large chignons on the tops of their heads.



Children of the Old Times

many of the coronation of the usurper a short gown, made of two yards and three-quarters of crimson cloth of the same stuff lined with green damask; a mantle made of two yards and a half of purple velvet, bordered with ermine; a stomacher and doublet made of two yards of black satin, besides two foot-cloths, a bonnet of purple velvet, gilt spurs, and a chain of gold to be worn around the neck.

Favorite Sports. The outdoor amusements of the boys were boxing, running, wrestling, football, tilting at the ring and quintain. Toys familiar to us were used—such as whop-tops, balls, marbles, shuttle-cocks and hoops.

These toys were, of course, very crude and coarse as compared with those of modern days. There are many crude pictures in ancient books illustrating these old games. In one they are playing ball; in another, battle-door and shuttle-cock; in still another, the boys are playing with a hoop. Two of them are on the front of hoop up between them, and the third is endeavoring to jump through it head foremost.

His plan is to come down on the other side upon his hands, and so turn a somersault and come up on his feet beyond.

The hobby-horse and the whip were well known. One of the most popular toys was a model of a mounted knight in full armor, with a lance manufactured of brass. The knight and his horse rested on a stand with four wheels, which was drawn about by means of a cord attached to the front.

The plaything was so constructed that the knight could be thrown backward and separated from his horse by a smart blow on the top of his shield or the hilt of his helmet. With two of these toys it was easy to represent two knights in deadly combat.

They were placed some distance from each other, and then drawn suddenly together. When the lance of one hit the figure of the opposite knight, of course it overthrew it, and ended the mimic duel.

As soon as the boys were old enough they were trained in the martial exercises and usages which were practiced in those days.

They put on heavy suits of armor, and took lessons in springing upon a horse, in running races, and in striking heavy blows in quick succession with a battle-axe or club, as if they were beating an enemy lying upon the ground, and trying to break his armor to pieces, and other similar things.

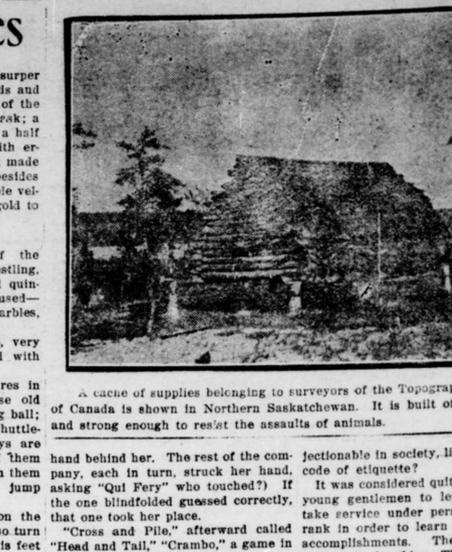
One feat which they practiced was to climb up between two partition walls, built pretty near together, by bracing their backs against one wall and working with their knees and hands against the other.

Another feat was to climb up a ladder, on the under side, by means of the hands alone.

They also learned to mount upon a horse, behind another person by leaping directly from the ground.

But the most famous exercise of all—or perhaps it should be called a game—was performed with the quintain. The quintain was of singular construction. There is one still standing on the green in Offham village, Kent, a southern county of England, and so we have a pretty good idea of how the plaything looked.

It consists of a stout post set in the ground, and rising ten or twelve feet above the surface. A strong bar is placed across the top, turning on a pivot, so that it will go round and round.



A cache of supplies belonging to surveyors of the Topographical Survey of Canada is shown in Northern Saskatchewan. It is built off the ground and strong enough to resist the assaults of animals.

hand behind her. The rest of the company, each in turn, struck her hand, asking "Qui Ferry" who touched? If the one blindfolded guessed correctly, that one took her place.

"Cross and Pile," afterward called "Head and Tail," "Crambo," a game in which one gave a word for another to find a rhyme to it; dice, chess, tables, now our familiar back-gammon, were among the frequent amusements of old-time young folks.

Dwellings Were Comfortless. The dwellings at this period were dark, cheerless and inconvenient. The poor people lived in huts of mud, wood or rough stones, with thatched roofs.

Nobles and princes lived in large castles, very stately on the outside, but cold and uncomfortable within. There were no carpets on the floor, nothing but straw or rushes sprinkled over the stone pavements. But feeble light was admitted through the few windows, and the smoke from a great fire-place ascended through a hole in the roof, for there were no chimneys.

The parlor or great hall was hung round with suits of armor, fierce-looking weapons, deers' antlers and grizzly-boars' heads. The "festive board" was literally boards, which were simply set upon trestles to form a table. There were no books in cheap or in elegant bindings, no paintings on the walls; but, perhaps, the rudely-carved figure of a saint looked down from his niche, and in some of the wealthier houses, a huge copy of the Bible or some ancient Latin work might be found in the ladies' chamber.

It was no wonder that the poor girl's and their mothers were glad to pass as much time as possible out of doors. Whenever the weather was fair, they came out of the dark huts and cheerless castles, some to mount palfrey and ride a-hawking in the broad meadow, others to dance and play chess in the shady garden and care were paid by the gentry to their yards and gardens, and they were favorite places of resort to the ladies of the household.

A manuscript of the fourteenth century gives an illustration of a group of boys and girls amusing themselves in a garden of weaving-chaplets and garlands of flowers. In another, a party of ladies are represented dining at a table.

Early rising was a virtue among our ancestors, and the girls and boys of those early centuries arose betimes. Six o'clock in the summer and seven in the winter was the rule.

Archaic Table Manners. Lunch or breakfast was eaten soon after rising, and the dinner hour was at ten or eleven.

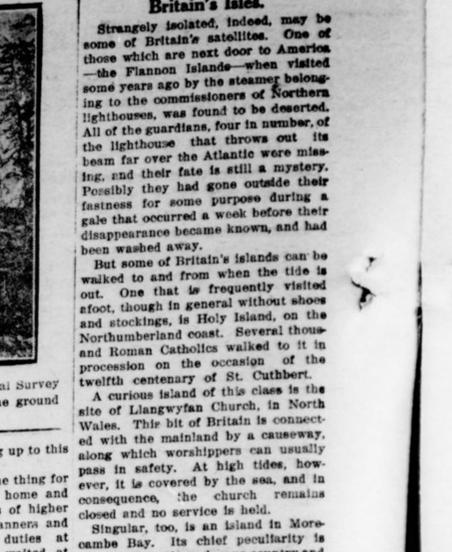
Later, in King Henry the Eighth's time, they dined at noon. Supper occurred at five in the afternoon.

Table manners were primitive, and the conveniences of our age were lacking. There were no such things as forks. They were not invented for a long time afterward. The common table knife was a clasp-knife. It was considered the height of refinement for you to eat out of the same dish.

Napkins were not in use. People wiped their hands on the straw or rushes on the floor, or often on the table-cloth. The following rules are those which a mamma of the fourteenth century might be supposed to give her young daughters who were just entering society:

"In eating, you must avoid much laughing or talking. If you eat with another—namely, in the same plate—the next piece place to him, and do not go picking the finest and largest for yourself, which is not courteous. Moreover, no one should eat greedily a piece that is too large or too hot, for fear of being burned or choked."

How delightfully simple! Who could help being decorous and unob-



Britain's Isles. Strangely isolated, indeed, may be some of Britain's satellites. One of those which are next door to America—the Flannan Islands—when visited some years ago by the steamer belonging to the commissioners of Northern Lighthouses, was found to be deserted. All of the guardians, four in number, of the lighthouse that throws out its beam far over the Atlantic were missing, and their fate is still a mystery. Possibly they had gone outside their fastness for some purpose during a gale that occurred a week before their disappearance became known, and had been washed away.

But some of Britain's islands can be walked to and from when the tide is out. One that is frequently visited afoot, though in general without shoes and stockings, is Holy Island, on the Northumberland coast. Several thousand Roman Catholics walked to it in procession on the occasion of the twelfth century of St. Cuthbert.

A curious island of this class is the site of Llangyfelach Church, in North Wales. This bit of Britain is connected with the mainland by a causeway, along which worshippers can usually pass in safety. At high tides, however, it is covered by the sea, and in consequence, the church remains closed and no service is held.

Singular, too, is an island in Morecambe Bay. Its chief peculiarity is that it is sometimes in one country and sometimes in another, according to the course taken by a certain river in entering the bay.

Several islands are little kingdoms, on which one man dwells in solitary sovereignty. There is only a single house on Calf Island, a geographical part of the Isle of Man, and both the Holmes—Flat Holm and Steep Holm, in the Bristol Channel—have a like distinction.

Steep Holm was once the island kingdom of a merchant who previously occupied a splendid mansion overlooking the channel. After a series of unsuccessful speculations, he used the rest of his money in purchasing Steep Holm, where he built a shack and lived with a few goats and chickens.

Most of the islands, in fact, have their story, which is sometimes unique. The most striking instance, perhaps, is Sunk Island, in the Humber—a little world that has the peculiar distinction of being the youngest bit of Britain.

It is, in point of age, a mere bantling, having been formed in comparatively recent times of land carried away by the sea from the northern coast. This land was swept down to Spurn Head and then up the Humber, where it lodged and in time formed an island. The process is still going on, and as a result the island continues to grow. The public is enriched without knowing it; for this curious formation is the property of the crown.

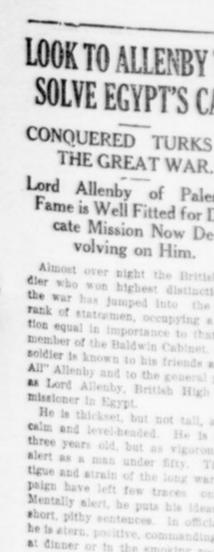
How to Jump. Jumping is capital exercise; but there is a right way and a wrong way of jumping, as there is with most things; and whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well. A good jumper, too, may find, some day, that it is a great advantage to him to be able to take a long leap. Many a life has been saved by knowing how to jump, and by using the confidence which a good jumper feels in his own powers at the critical moment.

In jumping you should hold your breath, spring from the toes and ball of the foot, and alight on the toes again, never on the heels, because there is no springiness in the heels. It would jar you all the way up if you were to jump down upon your heels.

It is by elasticity, then, that a leaper must rise, and by elasticity that the shock of the descent must be broken. In "taking off," the knees must be bent till the calves nearly touch the thighs; the muscles, which have been stretched by this posture, then suddenly contract again; the feet press upon the ground, and receive an impulse or reaction from it; the body is straightened to its height; you spring into the air and draw the feet up after you, and then it is done.

For a good jump, you require elasticity, reaction and momentum. There is momentum in a standing jump. You shut your hands and swing your arms, throwing them forward at the moment of taking the leap, and the momentum of the arms and feet helps you upward and onward. Besides this, there is the momentum of the body after you have made your spring. The success of your jumping depends very much upon bringing all those forces to bear at the same moment, and with one consent. If, for instance, you do not rise properly from the toes, you lose elasticity; if the ground be too soft under your feet, you will not receive a proper reaction; and if you are balked in the act of throwing your arms and body forward, your momentum does not take effect. One great use of practice is that, while it strengthens the muscles, it enables you to bring these forces into harmony. Strength of muscle and lightness of body count for much, of course, but combined action is of even more consequence, and no one can jump well without it.

A Great Sale. "Well, Reggie, what are you doing now?" "Travelling in musical instruments. Sold a thousand yesterday." "Good heavens, man! Pianos?" "No. Gramophone needles." **For Success.** Try working instead of fishing.



LOOK TO ALLENBY TO SOLVE EGYPT'S CASE

CONQUERED TURKS IN THE GREAT WAR. Lord Allenby of Palestine Fame is Well Fitted for delicate Mission Now Devolving on Him.

Almost over night the British soldier who won highest distinction in the war has jumped into the front rank of statesmen, occupying a position equal in importance to that of a member of the Baldwin Cabinet. That soldier is known to his friends as "the All" Allenby, and his general public as Lord Allenby, British High Commissioner in Egypt.

He is thickset, but not tall, and is calm and level-headed. He is sixty-three years old, but as vigorous and alert as a man under fifty. The fatigue and strain of the long war campaign have left few traces on him. Mentally alert, he puts his ideas into short, pithy sentences. His official life is strenuous, positive, commanding; but at dinner or in the smoking room he tells stories delightfully.

Lord Allenby is interested now with the first heavy responsibility of British government has been placed on him. He is the centre of the most delicate situation in Great Britain for many months. In a long time, it was in his advice that the British government acted. The note to the Egyptian government which created more stir than any other international document of the last eighteen months.

Confidence in Allenby. A situation has developed, it is now certain, which will not be settled for many months. The political consequences of the announcement of the sultan, or commander in chief of the Egyptian army, is bound to be far-reaching. All those in responsible positions here have the greatest confidence in the ability of Lord Allenby to cope with the situation.

He is a distinguished soldier and his advice regarding the East is invaluable to the government. But aside from his military and executive qualifications, he is regarded highly as a statesman throughout the country. It is obvious that he is in a delicate position, in which the slightest slip might result in a disastrous fall.

As a result of the changes worked by the war—development of public opinion, press and the expansive news-gathering agencies—the task of an administrator in an alien country has changed profoundly. The British believe that Allenby has kept pace with the times and that his work under the new conditions will prove him to be a diplomat as well as a soldier.

Conquered the Turks. Allenby, it will be remembered, conquered the Turks, his campaign in Palestine being one of the outstanding military successes of the war. When the war was over he was appointed High Commissioner of Egypt, and then he came into contact with Egyptian politics. They had many changes, but they had made one when Allenby became High Commissioner of Egypt after his exile into Malta and Gibraltar and he had seen too much of the world.

Although without fear, Allenby is never comfortable at social affairs. In that respect he is like the late Lord Kitchener. In Cairo once Allenby declared he was indebted to his wife for the extraordinary help she gave him during the darkest moments of the war. An inspector of cavalry at the beginning of the war Allenby went to Palestine in command of the cavalry.

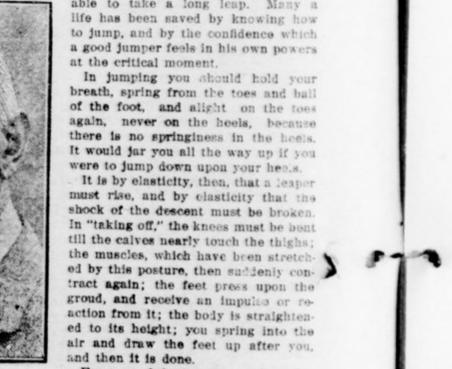
He became head of the Third Army early in the war and led it with distinction until he was transferred to Egypt to command the expeditionary force of 1917. The story is told of how he once said to a subaltern in his regiment whose boots were not polished: "Your boots may be an honor to yourself, but they are an honor to your horse."

He is a stickler for dress. The fact that he called on Zogoloff Pasha wearing a seak suit and soft hat instead of a ceremonial frock and top hat was appreciated as an incident itself. It created comment here, favorable and unfavorable, but no one failed to recognize its significance. It meant the same as though the British Prime Minister were to visit Buckingham Palace wearing his golf suit and cap.

Allenby endures the confidence and envy of the British in Egypt but also of other foreigners engaged in business there. He never has been reactionary regarding Egypt, and has even recommended the establishment of a home rule there. When in November, 1918, it was announced that Great Britain intended to govern the affairs of Egypt and develop a system of self-government, a mission was sent out under Milner to work out a policy.

He gave Lord Milner great satisfaction on that work. He supported the latter strongly, the decision taken in February, 1922, to establish an independent sovereign state, the British reserving for future discussion the questions of security of communications in Egypt and the Sudan and protection of foreign interests and the Sudan.

No permanent official of the British government is better acquainted with the long negotiations leading up to the present situation. N. M. Henderson who has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary at the Cairo Presidency, is an old friend and adviser of Allenby.



Dr. F. Nansen Who has officially announced his plans to lead a Zeppelin expedition to the North Pole.

The Real Best Sellers.

What are the real "best sellers"? The books that are the sensations of a moment are usually known by this name, but in most cases they are forgotten in a very short time. One day they may be on all the bookshelves; the next the man who buys second-hand literature will hardly look at them.

The real best sellers are the "old timers" of our youth. "Little Lord Fauntleroy," the authoress of which died recently, has still a steady sale. Dickens is as popular as ever, and even Wilkie Collins is familiar to many more people than we might suppose.

Another interesting sidelight on this question was provided by Mr. C. J. Longman, who presided at the recent Longmans bi-centenary luncheon. He said that more copies of "Robinson Crusoe" had been sold in India alone during the last five years than had been sold in the first five years of its publication.

Riches in themselves are not an evil; it is the trust in riches that is evil.—Canon Rurell. Native girls of New Guinea are as fond of decking themselves with bright-colored stones and other ornaments as their European sisters.



The members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, in charge of Inspector C. H. Hill, who have been present in the Canadian government's pavilion at Wembley since the exhibition opened, are shown previous to sailing from Liverpool for home.