

\$100,000 OFFERED

BY NOVA SCOTIA TO BRITAIN—
MONEY REPLACES COAL.

Quebec Cheese Stored—While Canadian Contributions Are Yet Undistributed, Their Arrival Has Kept Down Prices.

London, Oct. 13.—The government of Nova Scotia has called an offer, through its agent-general, Mr. Howard, of £100,000 to be used by the imperial government for the relief of national distress caused by the war. Nova Scotia had already offered a supply of coal, but as its transport involved a certain loss, in view of the coal resources in England, it was decided to change the form of the province's generosity. It is understood that the money will be handed to the local government board, which is looking after all relief problems.

The Canadian gift of flour already to hand totals 332,108 bags, of which 131,580 are stored at Liverpool, 111,175 at London, 50,353 at Bristol 33,342 at Dublin, and the remainder at Belfast, Cardiff and Glasgow. Shipments totalling 271,000 additional bags are also due.

Over 20,000 Quebec cheese are stored at London, Liverpool, Bristol and Hull, while 10,000 more are in transit. The gifts are being kept for two reasons, the first being that distress is not yet keen, and the second being that a cabinet committee is considering the general question of the national food supply, and in this respect the arrival of these supplies has already ceased prices.

How They Are Related

Toronto Globe.

The facts regarding the blood-relationship of King George V. of Great Britain, Emperor William II. of Germany, and Emperor Nicholas II. of Russia are just now of special interest. George V. and William II. are first cousins, both being grandsons of the late Queen Victoria; George V. and Nicholas II. are first cousins, both being grandsons of the late King Christian IX. of Denmark. George V. is the son of Edward VII. and the Princess Alexandra of Denmark; Nicholas II. is the son of Alexander III. and the Princess Dagmar of Denmark. William II. is the son of the late Princess Royal, Queen Victoria's eldest child. The relationship of the Emperor Nicholas and King George V. is made closer by the fact that the wife of the former Princess Alix of Hesse, is first cousin to King George, being also a granddaughter of Queen Victoria. It is interesting further to note that King Constantine of Greece is first cousin to King George V., being the son of Queen-mother Alexandra's brother, the late King George of Greece.

And The Band Kept Playing.

London, Oct. 13.—Now that the admiralty has ordered a court of inquiry into the escape of the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau, from the British fleet in the Mediterranean, we are allowed to know officially what was common gossip for some time, that some one has blundered. In this connection I may be permitted to tell a story that is almost too good to be true. I do not vouch for its truth, but it is current in naval circles. It is that when the Goeben went out she had on board a German band which kept playing the "Wacht am Rhein." They continued playing long after darkness had fallen and the British cruisers chasing her followed the sound of the music. When day broke nothing was in sight but a tug. The Germans had slipped their band overboard into the tug and had gone off in another direction while the band on the tug continued to play the "Wacht am Rhein."

No Need Of Breaking In.

National Monthly Magazine. The red-haired office boy was whistling a late popular air, but he didn't carry the tune very well. "You will break into song occasionally, will you?" remarked his employer. "Sometimes," answered the auburn-haired youth. "If you'd get the key you wouldn't need to break in," retorted the boss.



W. GRAHAM BROWNE
Leading man with Marie Tempest, in "Mary Goes First," so the Grand on Thursday, Oct. 15th.

Big Fish Caught In Ontario Waters.

The Bristol Steel Rod fishing competition for the largest fish taken in 1914 in Ontario waters, has brought forth many claims for the angler's championship honors. A beautiful fish weighing twenty-eight pounds won premier place in the grey (lake) trout class. This was taken by Fred E. Ringwood, New York, in the south west arm of Lake Timagami. The second place went to Frank J. Barber, Georgetown, Ont., with a twenty pound trout, caught in Ragged Lake, Algonquin Park, while the third prize was secured by Lawrence Brown with a seventeen pound trout from Buck Lake, Algonquin Park.

The largest entry of small mouth black bass was that of C. C. Fox, Kensington, Pa. This fish, weighing four pounds, four ounces, was caught in Rock Lake, Algonquin Park on Sept. 3rd.

All the prize fish, it will be noted, were taken out of waters in the magnificent sporting districts opened up by the Grand Trunk railway.

Not Polly Ticks.

During the political campaign a candidate for the legislature was driving through the country seeking votes among the farmers, when he met a young man in a farmer's garb walking by the roadside.

"Are you paying any attention to politics nowadays?" he asked, after starting his team.

The young man looked at him suspiciously and drawled out: "No, stranger, that don't happen to be my girl's name, but if it was I wouldn't think it was any of your darned business."

This ended the interview as well as the process.

Would Reward Her.

Mrs. Smith was an ardent worker in the cause of the prevention of cruelty to animals, and when Mrs. Brown came to tea, told her a pathetic tale of a donkey that she had rescued from a cruel master the day before.

The visitor was very interested, and when she rose to go said: "I am so glad you have told me all these fascinating things about animals, dear Mrs. Smith. I shall never see a donkey again without thinking of you."

TREES DIGEST THEIR FOOD AND CONSUME IT LATER ON

Knows Fact That Roots Break Up Nourishment Which Is Then Absorbed by Pores.

Kansas City Journal. Every gardener knows that a tree can be fed and made to grow with increased vigor. If proper nourishment in the form of nitrous, nitrogen, phosphate, etc., be placed about its roots the tree will absorb this food and grow rapidly and strongly. But how the tree feeds is somewhat more difficult to explain. In all probability the tree digests its food first and consumes it afterward. Certainly it is that average tree has no means of consuming food as a whole, as members of the animal kingdom absorb it.

It is well known that the larvae of certain insects digest their food first and consume it afterward. Observation would indicate that this is exactly what the tree does. The tiny rootlets act on the substance in the earth, dissolving and breaking them up so they can be absorbed through the root pores. In order so to be taken up the chemicals must be liquid form and devoid of all waste.

The end of each root is armed with a horny substance with which it can burrow through the hard soil in search of food. When food is found it is dissolved into liquid and absorbed by the root there. From the root the food is carried by the sap to all parts of the tree.

Very Brutal Of Him.

Washington Star. "I am sure you have had provocation," said the relative, "or you would not be so determined to leave your husband."

"Provocation!" echoed the indignant woman. "I bought Fido, a package of dog cakes. This morning I made biscuits for breakfast. Can you believe me when I tell you I found that brute of a man trying to feed Fido my biscuits and coax the dear little pet's perfectly good dog cakes away from him!"

J. H. Rogers, a farmer, was almost instantly killed when thrown from his wagon on his way home from Dresden.

CATACOMB OF THE BIRDS.

Curious Burial Place of the Sacred Ibis of Egypt.

Every one has heard of the catacombs of Rome, close by the Appian way, under the Campagna, which, during the third and fourth centuries, served as burial places for the Christians, and how Alaric's sack of Rome in 410 marked the end of the catacombs' history—indeed, that of the powerful city itself! Then there were the lofty corridors and spacious halls of the Neapolitan catacombs, the famous grotto of St. John, under the ancient city of Syracuse in Sicily—a subterranean city in itself.

But the most curious of all catacombs is the one in Egypt—the catacomb of the birds.

Wandering among the pyramids of Sacchara, which stand on the edge of the desert, a little south of the ancient city of Memphis, an American traveler, nearly a hundred years ago, was passing over a then unexplored path. He was seeking, among the tombs, one of the most curious and interesting objects in Egypt. He was seeking for the burial place of the birds—the sacred ibis of Egypt.

This pyramid has no door, but a square aperture nearly 100 feet from its base and about forty feet deep. At the end of this is a small hole. It was obviously an untraveled route, and the explorer was curious to descend within.

Commanding his dragoman to enlarge the opening, he passed through and down an inclined plane, a passage cut through the rock, into the vaulted chamber. Through another excavation he made his way and found himself in a second chamber, the floor of which had been cut away to form a large square pit.

Descending in this pit by bracing his arms and digging his toes into the sides, where little holes were made for that purpose, he reached the bottom. Here, crawling about on hands and knees, he was at last among the mummies of the sacred ibis, the embalmed, delicate of the ancient Egyptians.

The birds were preserved in stone jars, closely piled one upon the other. Knocking two of the jars together, the birds were found to be perfect as any mummied Pharaoh.

Novel-Writing Records.

R. L. Stevenson takes high rank among those who have broken records in novel-writing, the first draft of his "Jekyll and Hyde" having been written in seven days. He is closely followed by Crockett, who penned the greater part of "The Sittin' Man" in a week and completed it at a forty-eight hours' sitting.

The elder Dumas once completed a volume of 40,000 words in sixty-six consecutive hours for a wager, and Beckford's "Vathek" is said to have been written at a single sitting, which occupied three days and two nights, during which he never removed his clothes.

For two years Thackeray did all his writing with one pen, which also served him for writing two novels.

Blanquet's Idea.

The cold winter of 1840 gave the comforting blanket to England and afterward to the rest of the world. Its inventor, Thomas Blanquet, was a Flemish merchant, settled in Bristol, who had fallen from affluence into want. He and his wife were suffering from intense cold by reason of scanty bedding and lack of fuel. He searched for something to put on the bed to increase the warmth and hit upon a piece of rough, unfinished cloth that had been thrown aside. Its success led to a worth giving suggestion for the manufacture of special bed covers of the same material, and these articles, to which he gave his own name, won him wealth and immortality.

Animal Mimicry.

Observers of nature are frequently struck with the singular resemblance of man to some of the lower animals, and these likenesses are supposed to have grown out of the necessity of protection against or concealment from enemies. An interesting example of this kind of resemblance was brought to the attention of the Entomological Society in London by a naturalist who exhibited a spider found inhabiting some rocks near Cannes, on which were also fastened the cases of a species of moth. When at rest the spider exhibited almost precisely the same form and color as the moth cases surrounding it.

Not For Her.

In the great war at the beginning of the last century the public was asked to subscribe, not merely for relief funds, but for the actual raising of forces of land by no means everybody subscribed even for that. Dr. Ramsay reckons as the best of his stories of the old ladies of Montrose the one concerning the maiden lady who was canvassed for funds to organize a volunteer corps for the King's service. "It will be remembered," "I'll dae na sic thing; I ne'er could raise a man for myself, and I'm no gae to raise men for King George."

Whistler's Comment.

One of Whistler's proofs, sold by Sotheby's in London in 1885—that of an early sketching, bought at good price, not on its merits, but for this line by the artist, written on the margin, "Legs not by me, but a fatuous addition by a general practitioner." "Legs" were by Dr. Seymour Haden, Whistler's eminent brother-in-law.

An Athletic Recruit.

Mr. A. L. Oldman, who was physical director of the Westminster Sunday School Club, at Weston, Ont., has left to join his regiment, the Royal House Guards. It will be remembered that Mr. Oldman was the referee of the famous Jack Johnson-Tommy Burns fight in Australia some years ago.

Dr. Flexner, head of Rockefeller Institute for Research, has been successful in reproducing the infantile paralysis germ in lower animals. He advanced the theory that healthy persons often carry the germ in their bodies.

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