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CANADIAN AGENTS:

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Editor's Talk

OUR next issue will contain many features in keeping with the bright weather that is supposed to be on hand at this swing of the seasons. Two political figures will be given a fair chance to demonstrate what kind of men they are. One is a Conservative cabinet minister. The other will be a Liberal cabinet minister by the time he sees a copy of the article. And they are two of the most dissimilar figures in Canadian public life.

Several good short stories are in process of illustration. The "Canadian Courier" believes that there are a great many people in Canada capable of writing at least one or two good stories each, quite apart from those who make it their business to write fiction for a living. A good short story is often experience well-told. The greater the art in the telling the better the story. A story not founded upon fact must be told by a master of narration in order to be interesting. A young country has few such writers. Most of us are pretty close to the world of facts and have little time or capacity for pure invention. The day may come when Canada has a resident school of professional writers of fiction. When it does the "Canadian Courier" expects to take notice of the fact. Meanwhile we are taking stock of what native talent we already have.

Neither does every writer of a good article require to be a literary craftsman. Here, again, facts and experience are of first importance; either the writer's or somebody else's. Skill in narration is necessary. Nobody should attempt to write an article for a news weekly who has not mastered more than the mere rudiments of writing. Neither should any mere literary craftsman attempt a news article for such a publication unless he has taken the trouble to get at facts of interest to the people. One drawback in this country is that those who have the experience are not often capable of writing them; and those who write for a living can't always get the experience. Some compromise is necessary. If a man has something to say and doesn't know how, he can at least find somebody able to write it.

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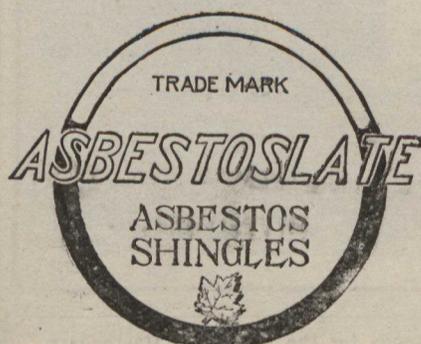
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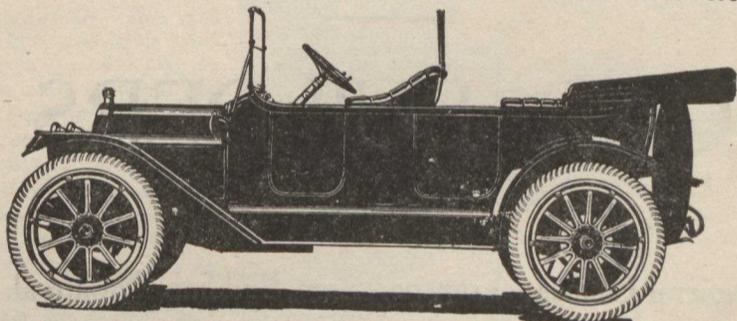


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