

YOUNG FOLKS

THE "BANANA BOY."

Lonely little Ned Goodwin stood at the gate, watching for the "banana boy."

Twice a week, at noon, the banana boy turned aside from his route along the main road and pushed his cart up to the Goodwin gate.

Pretty soon the hand-cart appeared round the corner, and then Ned saw with surprise that the banana boy had a little one trotting beside him—a dark, curly-headed youngster, about as large as Ned himself. The little boy was chattering blithely, but as they drew near, he gazed at Ned with shy yet friendly eyes.

"My little brother," said the banana boy, as he wheeled his cart up. "He plays with you."

He took a box of food from the cart, and sealed himself on the grass.

"Come," he said to the child, and the little brother snuggled at the big brother's side and reached up for a piece of bread—never once taking his gaze from Ned's face.

Ned felt excited and bashful. To have a boy to play with! What fun! But he was not very polite about it—he turned and ran as fast as he could go to his mother.

"Mother! Mother!" he shouted. "A boy! The banana boy's little brother!"

Mrs. Goodwin went down to the gate to see the little boy who had come to play with Ned. When the banana boy saw her he stood up, pulled off his cap and smiled.

"My little brother," he explained. "He all alone. I take him away from street boys. You little boy, he all alone, too. Day plays some."

"What is his name?" asked Mrs. Goodwin.

"Tony," answered the banana boy. "An-lio."

"And yours?" she asked.

"My name Carlo. We Mexican boys now. I talka Mexican to him all time. The big brother smilingly stroked the little one's curly head with a loving caress.

When the lunch was over, Ned and the little brother played together, and while they were running and shouting Mrs. Goodwin came down to the gate again.

"I hope you will bring him often," she said to the banana boy. "You might wheel your cart in at the carriage gate. And then they can play on the lawn."

So twice a week the two boys came to eat their dinner under the Goodwin elms, and Ned ate with them. Mrs. Goodwin saw that they had plenty of milk to drink and the food that she supplied made it a feast to the visitors. After dinner there was always a half-hour of fun for the little ones; and for the next three days Ned could talk of nothing else.

At last, one day the banana boy came alone. His face looked troubled, and he was absent-minded and sad.

"What is the matter, Carlo?" asked Mrs. Goodwin. "And where is Tony?"

"He es sick, ma'am. I hafa leave him all lone."

"Isn't there any one to look after him?"

"No, ma'am. De banana boy next door, she go away to work. I must go quick now."

"Go right home and fetch him to me," said Mrs. Goodwin. "I will take care of him until he gets well again."

So the banana boy brought his little brother to Mrs. Goodwin and she nursed

him. Carlo sat beside him for hours, singing softly sweet Italian songs, the folk-songs of his own home land, in a voice that was pure and sweet. Then, when the little brother began to mend, and the big one had to leave him by day to go on the banana route, always at evening-time the singing was resumed.

"Sing, Carlo, sing!" the voice coaxed; and the sweet notes would swell and soar gaily now, because the little brother was better and Carlo was happy. He was such a good brother; he could not do enough in every way for the little sick one.

"How he loves that child!" said Mrs. Goodwin, which the doctor said "It is like a father's, and now he sings to him!"

The doctor agreed and said that such a wonderful voice ought to be cultivated.

"I think so myself," said Mrs. Goodwin. "I do not think that anything beautiful should be wasted, and if Carlo has a voice, some way shall be found to teach him. I will write a note to our organist, and ask him to call this evening while Carlo is singing."

So Mrs. Goodwin wrote the note, and the organist came, and before long Carlo was taking a singing lesson twice a week. And now he does not peddle bananas, but works for the doctor, and goes to evening-school. The little brother goes to school, too—with Ned, while both of the boys live at Ned's home, so Ned is never lonely, and Carlo sings merrily.

—YOUTH'S COMPANION.

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.

A Creditable Annual Statement.

The 33rd annual statement of The Imperial Bank of Canada, just issued, which will be found in another column, denotes successful management, and is one well calculated to increase public confidence in this institution. The net profits for the year ended April 30th, amount to \$721,175 and this, added to the balance of \$426,316 carried forward from last year, and \$191,809 premium received on new stock issued makes \$1,339,300, which has been disposed of as follows: Four quarterly dividends at the rate of 11% per annum paid to shareholders, \$335,524; transferred to rest account, \$191,809; written off bank premises, \$36,052; special appropriation applied in writing down bank investments, \$100,000; and the substantial balance of \$475,914 carried forward to next year.

The strong position of the Imperial Bank may be judged from the amount of its immediate available assets, \$18,721,892; the total amount of deposits, \$30,150,125, which are secured by the total assets of the bank amounting to \$43,804,195. Altogether the statement reflects great credit on the management of the bank and maintains the best traditions of our Canadian Banking system.

WILLING TO BE CONVINCED.

A sturdy tramp one day went into a garden, where the lady of the house was engaged in attending to the flowers. He took no notice of her refusal to give copers, but continued his importunity until a bull-dog appeared, growling ominously. The lady seized it by the collar and held it, cutting out.

"You had better go away at once; he may bite you."

"You ain't got no right to keep a savage dog like that," replied the tramp in outraged tones.

"Perhaps I have not," was the cool answer. "If you think so, I won't keep him—I'll let him go."

The latch of the gate clicked violently and in twenty seconds that tramp had vanished into space.

HEALTH

THE MEDICINE CLOSET.

Keep your medicine closet in order. In every household, especially in country homes, where doctors and drug stores are far away, there should be a well-supplied and well-kept medicine closet. This should be locked or high up out of reach of children.

Have everything labelled and plainly marked, with the average dose written on it. Have drugs marked "For external use" if used for that purpose only. It is through carelessness and lack of plain marking that many cases of poisoning have occurred.

It is the custom in some, however, to put all poisonous drugs to be put in blue bottles so as to help prevent mistakes of this kind. Labels all prepared to be stuck, with mullage on the back, can be procured at drug stores or stationers. They are very convenient for re-marking medicine bottles if they need it.

It is a good plan to go through your medicine chest once or twice a year and empty out old prescriptions, as they become stagnant and worthless after several months—that is, some do—and they undergo changes from standing.

Keep a few empty clean bottles in your medicine closet and clean corks, also keep some soft clean old linen cloths for cut fingers, etc. Have a few handkerchiefs, a small bottle of iodine, a small bottle of carbolic acid, a small bottle of castor oil, Epsom salts, Rochelle salts, carbor oil, for burns; alcohol, for external use; turpentine and vaseline, for external use, especially for oozes in the chest and in rheumatic colds; mustard, for use in the chest, and a small bottle of oil of cloves, for use in the chest.

You should keep on hand in your medicine closet some staple drugs, such as calomel, in tablets or powders, of one grain each; quinine, one grain; bromide (for pain); one-quarter grain; castor oil, Epsom salts, Rochelle salts, carbor oil, for burns; alcohol, for external use; turpentine and vaseline, for external use, especially for oozes in the chest and in rheumatic colds; mustard, for use in the chest, and a small bottle of oil of cloves, for use in the chest.

Have your medicine closet beyond the reach of small children, as fatal accidents have occurred from their having access to the medicine closet. It belongs to good house-keeping and to the complete homemaker to have a medicine closet up to the usual demands of ordinary circumstances. If you do not need the medicines, so much the better.

RECURRENT VOMITING.

This is a curious and often most distressing condition from which children sometimes suffer—often repeatedly.

The term, recurrent or cyclic vomiting, refers to the chief, or at least the most striking, symptom. The attacks recur at irregular intervals—often after working hard over some more than usually difficult lesson, or after being kept in at school writing "lines" or making up for some neglected lesson.

The symptoms preceding the attack are rather indefinite and uncertain. The child feels dull and disinclined to play. He may be pale or sallow, there are dark rings under the eyes, and often the lips look sore and red. Then suddenly, and perhaps without preceding nausea, vomiting occurs.

This is profuse, violent and persistent. The food vomited is often after the stomach is empty. After whatever food there may be in the stomach has been expelled, mucus is thrown up, and often bile.

The attack may last, with occasional intermissions, for a few hours or even several days. There is little or no fever, and the pulse is weak but not rapid. If the attack continues any great length of time the child becomes very weak, and seems ill out of all proportion to the extension to be expected from the continued vomiting and consequent fasting.

It is, indeed, posited with certain acids formed in the body, and not decomposed into harmless substances, as is the case with the normal child. These acids are the same as those found in cases of diabetes, and hence the disease is believed to be due to imperfect chemical action in the process of nutrition—of metabolism, as these internal processes are called.

As the child grows up these attacks cease, but are often succeeded by sick-headache.

The cause is unknown, but from the resemblance of the attacks to those of sick-headache, and from the fact that they are often preceded by sick-headaches, it is believed that the two affections are essentially the same, and are due to defective chemical action in the body, caused or aggravated by some other fault, such as eye-strain. It is probable, indeed, that eye-strain is the most common cause. The child subjected to these periodical attacks of vomiting should, therefore, be examined by an oculist as a preliminary to treatment.—YOUTH'S COMPANION.

READING IN BED.

Reading in bed, like most luxuries, can be overdone, in fact there seems to be only one excuse for this fascinating way of ending the day. Certain people find that their worries accumulate in their brains after bedtime; their nerves are at high tension and their minds are actively at work trying to solve problems that should have been left behind in the city.

Going to bed with the brain in such a state means that with nothing to distract the thoughts, hearing nothing and seeing nothing in the darkness imagination has full sway and hours of wakefulness may be the result. Such a man, we think, will find half an hour's reading in bed a great help.

With careful attention paid to the quality and position of the light so that without flickering it shines over the shoulder and directly on to the page, the much maligned habit of reading in bed has sometimes a very beneficial effect on a tired and overworked brain.

STILL POSSIBLE.

Clara—"When Tom proposed to me he admitted that he had more money than brains."

Maude—"Well, I've no reason to doubt it, although I understand he hasn't a dollar to his name."

GATHERING INDIA RUBBER.

Interesting Facts in regard to the Industry in the Amazon Region.

India-rubber has a curious history in the arts. Its common name was given to it because it was first used for removing pencil marks from paper. It is produced in most tropical lands. The use of it has increased until it has become one of the most important forest products of the world. It has become in many parts of the world an article of cultivation, but the native forests of the Amazon basin and of the Congo, in Africa, are still the source of the world's greatest supply. The quantity has been greatly increased in later years, for the production has been stimulated by an advance in price. Interesting facts in regard to the industry in the Amazon region are given by one who is a native of the country and familiar with its productions.

As the steamer moves along, the traveler on the Amazon, or on any of its numerous navigable tributaries, will notice little wisps of smoke rising from the banks of the river. The smoke, which is quite characteristic of the most fertile river-banks, indicates the places where the natives are treating the sap of the rubber-tree to prepare it for the market.

The business of collecting and preparing rubber is carried on extensively in the valley of the Amazon. There are districts of from forty to fifty square miles owned and operated by one person. The rubber-trees are scattered more or less plentifully among other trees that yield no profit as yet.

When a man has secured a large tract of forest land for the industry, he puts up a rough shelter upon it, and engages all the Indians of the neighborhood, men and women, to help him in the work.

They start out early in the morning to make the collection of the latex, for they must get back to the river before the heat of the day becomes too great. They tap the trees afresh if they need it, attach the little tin cups for catching the sap, and bring home whatever sap may have been collected.

The sap of the rubber-tree is a perfectly white liquid of the consistency of goat's milk. It is necessary that it be converted into a solid. This is effected by the action of a pungent smoke which coagulates, or curdles, the milky fluid. For this use the seeds of two different kinds of palm are employed. Nothing else will answer the purpose.

The seeds are put in an earthen jar which has a narrow neck, the bottom of which is perforated with a number of square holes. In this the palm nuts are burned; the boxes in the bottom of the jar admit a draft and cause a dense smoke to issue from the neck. This is the smoke seen from the deck of the steamer.

The operator takes a paddle similar to that with which he paddles his canoe and holds the blade of it over the jar. Upon it he pours the milky juice, cup by cup, all the time turning the blade so as to bring all parts of it into the smoke. The fluid is instantly fixed, and adheres to the wood or to the rubber already formed. This process goes on until a solid lump is formed that will weigh perhaps sixteen pounds.

When the lump has grown large enough for handling, a slit is cut in it, and the blade is drawn out. A mass of rubber is left ready for exportation. It is the smoke used in coagulating the sap that gives crude rubber the dark appearance which is familiar.

The natives who collect the rubber have little use for the article at home. They have no pencils to erase, wear no rain-coats, have no mills to be supplied with belting, nor automobiles that require rubber tires. They do, however, make playthings for their children by pouring the sap into clay molds of birds, animals and fishes, and then crushing the clay and removing it.

CAPTURING AN ENGINE.

How a Plucky Engineer Overtook a Runaway on English Railway.

One of the finest stories in the history of the railways centres round a runaway engine on the Stockton and Darlington line, says the London Standard.

The engine was observed by the driver of another and more powerful engine. Seeing the fugitive speeding in the direction of Darlington he uncoupled his own engine, crossed the points and set out in pursuit on the same line. It was a long chase, but the pursuer, driven at top speed, gradually overhauled the runaway.

At last it came near enough for the driver to crawl to the front of his engine and drop a stout chain over the tender hook of the other. He returned to his footplate, cut off steam and screwed down his brake.

This stopped the one in front and so retarded its pace that the driver was able now to creep from his own engine on to the runaway, put on the brake, and bring it to a standstill, almost in the crowded Darlington Station.

CANADA'S GREAT CELEBRATION.

There are now subscriptions announced to the extent of about \$600,000 for the great Tercentenary celebration at Quebec, and nearly a million dollars will be forthcoming for it.

From an historical point of view it will be the greatest demonstration this Continent has witnessed. From a spectacular standpoint it will be one of the most dazzling combinations of picturesque events ever seen in any country. There will be thousands of characters in the processions, all dressed to the very life. The tableaux, on the Plains of Abraham, where the historic battles were fought, will embrace all the transcendent epoch-making events of Canada's romantic history, including Wolfe's work up to his death.

The street pageants will be of wondrous beauty, the naval demonstration of an impressiveness not hitherto realized. Quebec will be filled to repletion by thousands from England and the United States, and tens of thousands from Canada, but fully ten million of people will wish to be present, and cannot find hotel accommodation.

One of the greatest matters of anxiety to those organizing the celebration has been the question, how to provide the millions of people who cannot see

Imperial Bank of Canada

Proceedings of the Thirty-third Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders, Held at the Banking House of the Institution, in Toronto, on Wednesday, 27th May, 1908.

The Thirty-third Annual General Meeting of the Imperial Bank of Canada was held in pursuance of the terms of the charter at the Banking House of the institution, 27th May, 1908.

The chair was taken by the President, Mr. D. R. Wilkie, and the Assistant General Manager, Mr. E. Hay, was requested to act as Secretary.

The Assistant General Manager, at the request of the Chairman, read the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Affairs.

THE REPORT.

The Directors have pleasure in submitting to the Shareholders their Thirty-third Annual Report and Balance Sheet of the Affairs of the Bank as on 30th April, 1908, together with the result of the operations of the Bank for the year which ended on that day.

The net profits of the year, after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, for interest on unmatured bills under discount, for the usual contributions to the Pension and Guarantee Funds, and also for the Special contribution to the Pension Fund of \$25,000, authorized under by-law No. 28, and for the payment of all Provincial and other taxes, amounted to \$721,175, which has been applied as follows:—

(a) Dividends have been paid at the rate of 11 per cent. per annum, amounting to \$535,524 21
(b) Bank Premises and Furniture Account has been credited with 36,052 55
(c) A special fund has been set aside and applied in writing down the Bank's investments 100,000 00
(d) Profit and Loss Account has been increased by 49,598 31
The Premium, amounting to \$191,809.66, received on an equal amount of New Capital Stock has been credited to Rest Account, which now amounts to \$4,965,757.50.

Branches of the Bank have been opened during the year at the corner of Bloor Street and Lansdowne Avenue (Toronto), at the corner of King Street and Sherbourne Street (Toronto), and also at Port Arthur, Marshville, Port Robinson, Collam, Amherstburg, South Woodstock, Harrow, Niagara-on-the-lake, St. David and Thessalon, all in the Province of Ontario.

The Head Office and Branches of the Bank have all been carefully inspected during the year, and your Directors have again much pleasure in bearing testimony to the faithful and efficient manner in which the staff have performed their duties.

The whole respectfully submitted.

D. R. WILKIE, President.

30th April, 1908.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dividends Nos. 68, 69, 70 and 71, paid quarterly, for year ended 30th April, 1908, at 11% per annum	\$535,524 21	Balance at Credit of account forward 30th April, 1907, brought forward	\$426,316 31
Transferred to Rest Account	191,809 06	ended 30th April, 1908, after deducting charges of management and interest due depositors, and after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, and for rebate on bills under discount	721,175 07
Written off Bank Premises and Furniture Account	36,052 55	Premium received on new Capital Stock	191,809 06
Special appropriation applied in writing down Bank's investments	100,000 00		
Balance of account carried forward	475,914 62		
		\$1,339,300 44	\$1,339,300 44

REST ACCOUNT.

Balance at Credit of Account 30th April, 1907	\$4,773,948 44
Premium received on new Capital Stock	191,809 06
	\$4,965,757 50

30th April, 1908.

LIABILITIES.

Notes of the Bank in circulation	\$2,907,042 09
Deposits not bearing interest	\$5,958,467 43
Deposits bearing interest (including interest accrued to date)	24,101,658 14
Deposits by other Banks in Canada	30,150,125 57
	123,641 32
Total liabilities to the public	\$33,180,808 89
Capital Stock paid-up	4,965,757 50
Rest Account	4,965,757 50
Dividend No. 71 (payable 1st May, 1908, for three months, at the rate of 11% per annum)	135,460 96
Rebate on bills discounted	40,496 13
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward	475,914 62
	5,657,629 23
	\$43,804,195 62

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver Coin	\$1,111,575 27
Dominion Government Notes	5,959,586 00
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of note circulation	\$7,111,491 27
Notes and Cheques on other Banks	189,061 89
Loans to other Banks in Canada, secured, including Bills rediscounted	1,365,558 38
Balance due from other Banks in Canada	654,185 74
Balance due from Agents in the United Kingdom	453,905 82
Balance due from Agents in Foreign Countries	317,387 43
	\$45,371 24
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities	\$1,637,138 71
Loans to Provincial Governments	\$534,618 07
Canadian Municipal Securities and British or Foreign or Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian	915,843 73
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	1,044,558 89
	673,074 83
Call and Short Loans on Stocks and Bonds in Canada	3,728,065 52
	3,356,607 90
Other Current Loans, Discounts and Advances	\$18,721,892 19
Overdue debts (loss provided for)	23,862,812 60
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises)	24,164 27
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank	26,845 49
Bank Premises, including Safes, Vaults and Office Furniture, at Head Office and Branches	49,820 76
Other Assets, not included under foregoing heads	1,100,000 00
	18,671 31
	\$43,804,195 62

E. HAY,

Assistant General Manager.

D. R. WILKIE,

General Manager.

The usual motions were presented and carried unanimously. The scrutineers appointed at the meeting reported the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year—Messrs. D. R. Wilkie, Hon. Robert Jeffrey, Wm. Ramsey of Bowland, Stow, Scotland; Elias Rogers, J. Kerr Osborne, Charles Cockburn, Peleg Howland, Wm. Whyte (Winnipeg), Cawthra Mabee, Hon. Richard Turner (Quebec), Wm. Hamilton Merritt, M.D. (St. Catharines).

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors Mr. D. R. Wilkie was elected President and the Hon. Robert Jeffrey Vice-President for the ensuing year.

The celebration with illustrations and the descriptions, to give the scenes of grandeur to the world in their entirety. Arrangements have been completed. The Standard of Montreal, now recognized as the National Illustrated paper of Canada, to issue what will be known as "The Standard Tercentenary Number," published by George Murray Publishing Company, Montreal. We have had the privilege of examining the proofs of some of the gorgeous pageants to go with the Standard. They are of interest, in fidelity of detail, in beauty of color and execution, anything ever attempted in Canada, and will bring the Tercentenary celebration into the homes of those lucky enough to procure a copy.

To connoisseurs The Standard Tercentenary Number is one that expert judges would think could not be sold under \$2.50, and yet it is to be published at 50 cents. It will be practically the only Tercentenary Souvenir. The publishers announce that orders are being now looked, and all orders marked on or before June 20th to June 25th will be certain to be filled. After that date the public must take their chance, first come, first served.

Where orders remitted for cannot be filled, remittance will be refunded. The Publishers of The Standard, 171 St. James Street, Montreal, have gained a continental reputation for their publication. The coming issue, to illustrate the Tercentenary Celebration, will certainly be the most interesting thing of the kind ever produced on this Continent. We predict that in one month after the celebration it will be in demand at even ten dollars a copy.

They cannot begin to issue enough to meet a demand that will be phenomenal. It is a pleasure to testify to the value of a thing of surpassing merit. Exchange.

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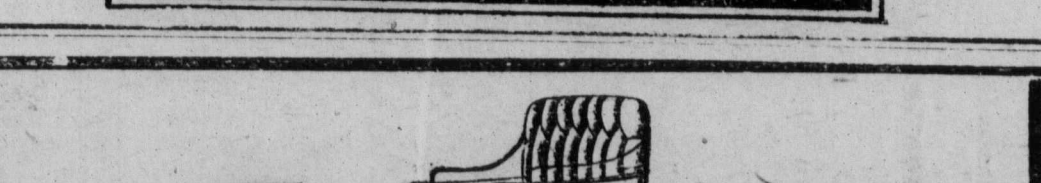
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