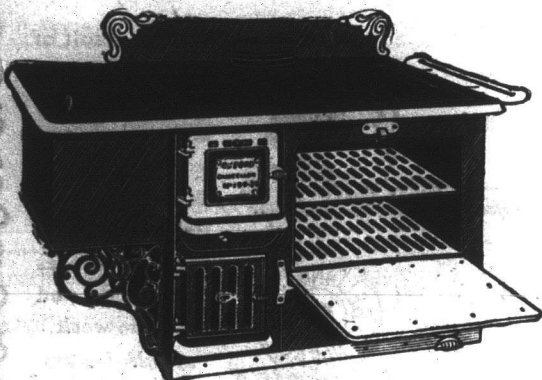


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The ash-pit is deep and wide and fitted with a large pressed-steel ash pan. An outside ash guard is provided.



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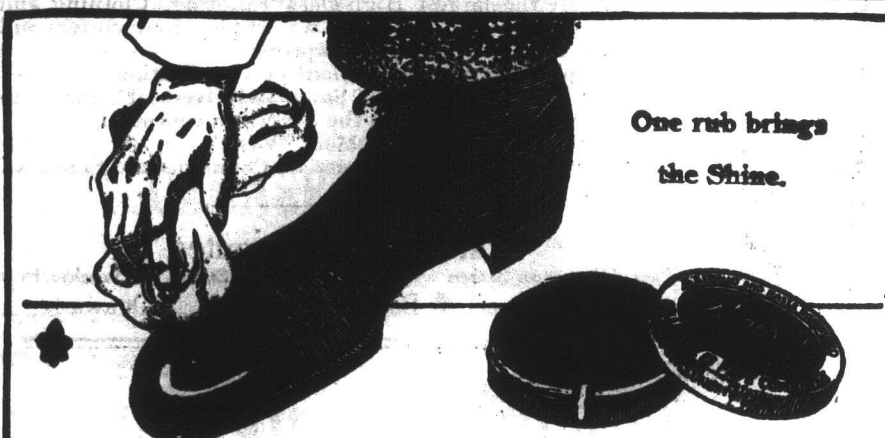
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Black "O" will not injure the leather—are you sure the polish you use now doesn't?

Black "O"



NOW IS THE TIME

to think about how you will spend your spare time during the coming winter. We can offer you some suggestions.

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THE BOAT HOUSE, BANFF.

and fretted at times over her husband's dissipated courses and her daughter's incomprehensible strength of character.

That Kate should take it into her head to go out to Canada was just like her. It could not be helped, so she spent all her spare money on buying pretty things, many of them useless, for her beloved duckling, and then when the final parting came and she had cried herself sick, Sir Nicholas unexpectedly returned home with a gay house party, quantities of game and a lovely Scotch greyhound puppy for his wife.

Lady Bull recovered her spirits with that wonderful elasticity by which weak natures are often saved from the sufferings which stronger ones endure. Kate would surely come back some day and in the meantime society, dress and admiration made life tolerable and even pleasant.

Lady Bull cheered up and entertained her friends with glowing and imaginary descriptions of her daughter's experiences in the wild west.

tuted himself maid of all work and cook in particular.

Very proud he was too of his performances in the culinary line and voted by all the country side, who at various times had tasted his hastily improvised meals, as a "jolly good fellow" and a "brick of a cook."

The long winter evenings were often spent in games of chess and cards and the relatives of both kept them well supplied with current literature.

"I think, Teddy," observed George as they sat by the stove smoking their pipes one cold November evening, "that I shall sell or shoot Thelpie; she's too skittish for anything and a nasty temper too."

"I guess that'll be the best scheme," said Teddy "if you can't ride her I don't know who can." For George was accounted even in this country of good horsemen a first rate rider.

"She's a pretty horse too and I think after all I must try once more, but she's the nastiest kicker I've come across yet."

Thelpie was a remarkably handsome black mare just $2\frac{1}{2}$ years old and George and Teddy had tried their best to break her in with no better result than that described.

The day following this dialogue, Teddy had been over to a distant part of the ranch and was returning about 11 o'clock with the benevolent intention of cooking a savory dinner for both.

The life had vastly improved him. Slim and wiry as ever with a skin tanned to a clear brown he looked the impersonation of healthy young manhood. He was whistling merrily the strains of a Scotch reel and lightly holding the reins of his bare backed pony as he cantered back to the shack. "What! Thelpie out!" he exclaimed as he passed the black mare with reins trailing as she leisurely cropped at some rough tufts of grass. George must have been trying her again, he thought to himself as he led his pony down the last rise towards home. Suddenly an object caught his eye and he galloped towards it with a terrible misgiving at his heart.

Stretched on the turf with a small stream of blood trickling from his forehead lay George; unconscious and to Teddy's horror-stricken mind apparently quite dead. Kneeling by his side he turned him over and perceived that the blood was only from a cut on the forehead made by a stone but as he moved the body George opened his

CHAPTER IV

The winter of 18—had set in early over North America and nowhere was it more felt than on the open prairies of the North West Territories. Even on the sheltered highlands and valleys of the Foot Hills the cattle sought shelter from the stinging winds; and ranchers and settlers stalled their animals as well as they could and took refuge indoors; passing away the long evening hours in such pursuits as their inclinations and habits disposed them to.

George Rayson and his partner Teddy Browne had prospered during the last year, and for the first time that Fall had been able to bank a considerable sum gained by the sale of their well-bred stock. They had improved their out-buildings and fenced many acres of their land besides making a small but productive garden.

They still preferred however to live in the 'shack' counting it sufficient for their needs in winter, while a tent did duty during the summer.

The shack was not such a bad place either inside; the walls were pasted over with cuttings from English papers, and the two tiny rooms it contained were kept scrupulously clean and neat by Teddy who had consti-