GABRIEL'S WEEKLY FORECASTS

Prepared for "Montreal Life" by Mr. James Hingston, B.A., Oxford University, and published weekly.

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Three forecasts are made for each day of the counting week. The first applies to the world at large, the second shows how persons born on this day in any year, will fare during the next 12 months, and the third indicates how children born on this day to the present year, will fare during life. The present series began with December 1, 1899, and back numbers of LIFE, when available, cost 198 each.

SUNDAY, February 4.—No better day in the month than this for almost all purposes

A very propitions year. Business will flourish, journeys will prove profitable, friends will be of much service, and love affairs will progress favorably.

Children born to-day will be talented in many directions, and success is foreshadowed for them in whatever they undertake. Some misfortunes are threatened, but they will be brief and slight.

Monday, February 5.—Those looking for employment will find this a good day.

During this year the health will not be as good as usual, and those who have dealings with women will suffer somewhat at their hands. Some complication in business affairs is also toreshadowed.

Boys born to-day are especially adapted for any career in which success is attained through personal courage. Girls born to-day will not live very happily with their husbands.

Tuesday, February 6.—Little good luck and many annoyances are forshadowed for to-day. Employes, more than others, will feel the ill-luck.

Some grave misfortunes are likely to befall those whose birthday this is, among them being illness, quarrels, loss of money and position, and business embarrassment. Even for the luckiest this will be a bad year.

Ill-luck in many directions threatens the children born to-day, and their parents are advised to train them most carefully and to teach them especially the importance of truthfulness.

Wednesday, February 7.--Apparently this will be a quiet, uneventful day.

During this year business will progress as usual, but accidents and illness should be guarded against. In their love affairs young people will prosper exceedingly.

Well conducted, neat, and, on the whole, fortunate, will be to-day's children. Those among them who learn to earb their temper will thrive best.

Thursday, February 8.—Misfortune will come to many to-day. Yet in the business world success is assured to zealous workers.

Little good fortune is foreshadowed during this year, and only by the utmost prudence can financial loss and mental worry be avoided. The temptation to act rashly will be very strong; hence the more need of caution

Imprudent and too fond of pleasure and undesirable company will be to-day's children. Naturally they will spend money fast, and unless they are careful they will need money sooner or later.

Friday, February 9.—An untavorable day for courtship and social intercourse. Wrangles should be avoided.

Business will flourish during this year and employes are likely to receive an increase of salary. Women will receive offers of marriage. The chief misfortune foreshadowed is illness in the family circle.

Children born to-day will be intelligent and quick workers, and those among them who have to earn their own living will

easily obtain good salaried positions. Girls born to-day will have many quarrels with their husbands.

Saturday, February 10.—In many respects the most unlucky day in the mouth. The wise will not bestir themselves while it lasts.

The indications are that this year will be marred by illness or some other grave trouble. Those whose birthday it is should take good care of their own health and that of their families, and should refrain from risking any money.

Children born to-day will meet with many misfortunes during life, and those among them who have not the good luck to be wealthy or to hold salaried positions will frequently find themselves in need of money. Parents will do well to teach all these children the great lesson of thrift.

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Mr. Hingston is an expert astrologer and will be pleased to answer all letters, which may be sent to him at the above address.



THE SILK HAT SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED.

SOME close and industrious observers have reached the conclusion that the high silk hat is not so commonly seen upon the masculine head as it was, say, 10 years ago. They may or may not be right—statistics are wanting.

The silk hat has long been assailed on asthetic grounds. To the more thoughtful this has seemed unjust. It is ugly, to be sure, but is it more ugly than the other things in which man in his blindness incases his head? The fact is that it is really less ugly than the omnipresent derby. The silk hat has had to bear the penalty of eminence. Where less conspicuous but greater offenders have escaped, it has been forced to endure criticism and abuse. It has never had the full confidence of the public; people have looked upon it as an aristocrat, as, indeed, it is. But this is no reason why it should be charged with not being pretty.

If the silk hat is really passing away it will remove an element of distinction from the urban landscape which cannot well be spared. The cobblestone effect of the crowds of derbies needs the relief afforded by the beaconlike high silk. On one ground only could the extinction of the silk hat be matter for congratulation. This is the ground of expense. Few men can afford to wear it. It is not the cost of the article itself though this is not inconsiderable when we remember its peculiarity of changing its shape twice a year and the impossibility of any man other than a coachman wearing one a week behind the mode-it is not its cost, per se, but the large appropriations constantly needed to live up to it. How many young men have been rained by weakly yielding to the temptation to buy the first silk hat can never be known. Shoes, suit, necktie, overcoat, everything must be renewed on a higher plane to bear the bat company.

It is estimated that it costs anywhere from \$100 to \$500 a year to live up to an eight-dollar silk hat. A man ought to be required to take out a license before he is allowed to begin wearing silk hats. He should appear before the proper authorities and submit proof of his ability to support the dignity without pilfering from his employer or impoverishing his family. Perhaps he ought to be made to wear a tag conspicuously giving the number of his license. As for an author or a writer of any degree appearing with a silk hat, the thing should not be permitted. He should be arrested on sight. It should be taken as prima facie evidence that he has just robbed a publisher or other defenceless individual.

HAYDEN CARRUTH.