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FRENCH MARRIAGE MARKETS

A story is going the rounds of the American press that the marriage market is being revived in certain parts of France, particularly in Poi-tou and Vendee. The war left France with many hundreds of thousands of odd women, who in the ordinary odd women, who in the ordinary course of events could hardly be expected to become wives, their pros-pective husbands having been kille or mained. Morever, the burden of taxation which the French people have to shoulder has made the males more cautious in venturing into matrimony, for the idea that two can live as cheaply as one is not a French proverb. The marriage mark-et idea is not designed to strike a balance between the sexes. A million eligible men cannot be summoned from their graves. The idea is to encourage every available man to take a wife, and this idea is said to

be working out satisfactorily. The marriage markets are becom-ing an established feature of the life of hundreds of villages and towns. Usually they are held on the regular weekly market day, but sometimes there are special markets with nothing on exhibition but the girls and their admirers. The idea was promot-ed, we suppose, partly for the purpose of attracting young men from a distance to the markets. It might be supposed that the young men in any particular neighborhood would have plenty of opportunity of meeting the young ladies in the same parish and forming their own opinions as to their value as wives. The marriage market gives the same opoprtunity to young men from other parishes. They have also the advantage of knowing that the girls who display themselves at the market are desir ous of getting married and are not committed to some unknown rival. It must often happen that for many reasons a girl would not make such a strong appeal to the young men with whom she has grown up as to a stranger who sees her for the first

The girls are selected for the market by men who are supopsed to be good judges of looks and who understand thoroughly the sort of wire a young Frenchman should have. These experts travel about the coun-try-at whose instance is not explained-and make a list of all the marriageable girls in the neighborhood. These are classified according to age, and looks, and build, and their various qualification are noted. These items are set down on a card, which is supplied to each girl, and the next market, where a special place is reserved for the contestants. Each eight consulting encyclo-For a casual kiss the girl merely betting over points which could be lowers her parasol to rend off the settled in the same way. The librareyes of the curious, but when the innear and their assistants are glad to assist in such researches. self more copiously, she turns her back upon the spectators and holds the parasol in such a way that both are shut off from public view. This people eager to grasp the hand of a gesture with the parasol is usually a signal for applause, because it is golden message that he is pleased to supposed that the man and the girl meet them. The other shows the are strongly attracted and that a celebrities and immortals of the close of the market there is a gener-but all the recorded results of their al jollification, and many of the girls walk off with their new friends to complete the plans for their marr-iage. It is usual, we are told, for a girl to receive at least one offer of famous. He has put his best thoughts marriage in the course of a single into his books, which can be bought fair, and the more attractive, as a fair, and the more attractive, as a rule, receive several. When a girl attends several fairs without being appropriated, it is almost certain that she has unusually high stand-ards, rather than that she is sing-ularly herren of atteretions. ularly barren of attractions. Those who think that this rough and ready sort of courtship is not likely to lead to happy and perman-ent marriage ties are refuted by statistics collected in the districts where it is popular, which show that there are fewer divorces and fewer illegitimate children than elsewhere. It is also noted that the birth rates in these districts are greater than in these districts are greater than elsewhere which is a matter of prime importance to the Government of France. On this account the Govern-ment is said to be watching the ex-periments with keen interest. It is also promoting beauty contests with the hope of increasing the marriage rate although one would think that rate, although one would think that a girl pretty enough to win one of these contests, or even make a cred-itable showing in one of them, itable showing in one of them, would not lack admirers in her own neighborhood. Still, as the philoso-pher remarked, the way of a man with a maid is past finding out, and ruses that might not seem likely to succeed-do, as a matter of fact, succeed in a great number of cases.

A bumptious young American farmer went to England to learn business, but where he went he pre-tended that it was far easier to teach the farmers than to learn any-thing from them. "I've got an idea" Northumbrain agriculturist, "for a new kind of fertilizer which will be ten thousand times as effective as any that has ever been tried. Con-densed fertilizer-that's what it is. Enough for an acre of ground would go in one of my waistcoat pockets." "I don't doubt it, young gentlemen," said the veteran of the bration. soil. "What is more, you'll be able to put the crop into the other waist-coat pocket."

GOT HIS ANSWER

GUIDE-ADVOCATE.

WOULD NOT BE WITHOUT BABY'S OWN TABLETS

Mrs. W. Beesley, Mille Roche, Ont. writes: "I have used Baby's Own Tablets for the past eight months and would not be without them. I used them for indigestion and teething and my baby is cutting his teeth without any trouble whatever. I can highly recommend the Tablets to other mothers." What Mrs. Beesley says thousands of other mothers say. The Tablets are a mild but thorough axative which regulate the bowels and sweeten the stomach, thus driving out constipation and indigestion and making teething easy. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Wil-liams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

THE HABIT OF READING

Mr. Sykes, Librarian of the Carnegie Library at Ottawa, advocates school libraries. The schools should be supplied with collections of their own and should be more closely linked with the public libraries. closely These are the people's universities, the only institution of the kind which are available to the great masses of the people. Only a small percentage of our boys and girls attend even the Collegiate Institutes, and a still smaller percentage have a university education. It is, therefore, of the highest importance that the habit of reading should be creat-ed in those who leave school in their teens

The teaching of reading in the primary schools should go much far-ther than the mere deciphering of mer. place is reserved for the contestants. Each girl comes provided with a large red parasol, which advertises her quest, besides offering her pro-tection against sun and rain. It also serves the purpose of a small tent when a prospective husband wishes to make an examination at close quarters, and even, as we are told, help himself to a sample embrace. For a casual kiss the girl merely habit-forming drug. \$1.00 at your drug-gist's. Thial free at our sgencies or write Templetons, 142 King W., Toronto.

SECOND EDITION OF QUEEN OF SHEBA THE London, Nov. 10.-Mrs. Smith Wilkinson, hailed in Paris and on the Riviera as the world's greatest

spender, transformed herself into the world's greatest splendor tonight walking diamond mine. Attired as the "Queen of Sheba" she absolute ly stopped the proceedings at Lon-don's most famous armistice cele-

Members of Royal Family, peer and peeresses, and Europe's most famous fashionables stood aghast at the marvelous display of wealth or the gown of this stout Nottingham matron.

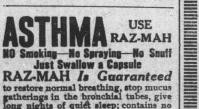
The gown was manufactured by Reville, the famous dress-maker, and was insured this afternoon for five million dollars. It contains more than 75,000 diamonds and pearls. Che wore a cuirass of fine diamonds over a skirt of silver lace embroider ed in pearls.

Her shoes were of silver cloth with high Louis XV heels covered with tiny yellow diamonds. The most startling feature of the

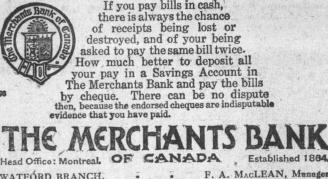
bizarre costume was the headdress, which was thirty-six inches high. If was a loose cap laced with diamonds with three ropes of wonderful pearls of graduated length draped from the ends of the cap at the ears and falling below the chin. From the top of the diamond cap stood three white peacock feathers studded with dia-monds. These were guarded on either side by wonderful birds of paradise Mrs. Wilkinson also wore long diamond ear-rings and a magnificent chain of diamonds around her neck and dropping to the waist. Wonder-ful rings, each worth a king's ransom, with diamond, pearl and emer-ald bracelets and armlets, completed the astounding oriental costume, which, it is safe to assert, that the her palmiest days. "It is the world's most wonderful dress," declared Reville for intra-

'The like of it was never seen be fore. In her presence the most magfore. In her presence the most mag-nificently gowned women were out-shone like a queen's robes in a poor house." Mrs. Wilkinson is staying at the

Ritz for the season and wears a different gown every evening. She is planning to go to the United States soon, with her gold bathtub and other conveniences, as announced last sum-







F. A. MACLEAN, Manager, WATFORD BRANCH, ALVINSTON BRANCH, G. H. C. NORSWORTHY, Manager.

An ad. in your local paper goes directly intc the homes of the people you want to reach.

ALUMI	NUM WARE
"'Chef's	1 qt. LIPT SAULEPAN
Own''	2 qt. LIF1 SAUCEPAN
made from pure Aluminum —at right prices.	3 qt. COVERED SAUCEPAN 1.60
	4 qt. COVERED SAUCEPAN 1.85 9 inch PIE PLATES
An ideal gift for a tasty house- keeper.	 9 inch PIE PLATES
	12 CUP PERCOLATOR 4.00

The N. B. Howden Est.

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LOOK AT YOUR LABEL How does your Subscription stand? Ga., Times.

In the Toronto Public Library there is a striking picture, or pair genius and toil. Men have been heard to express disappointment with an address delivered by some-GRAND TRUNK SYSTEM one whose books have made him TIME TABLE

Traing pave Watford station as fol-GOING WEST Accommodation, 111.... S. 44 a.m. Chicago Express, 17....12.47 p.m. Detroit Express, 83....6.48 p.m. (a) Express, 5......9.11 p.m. (c) Express, 15......9.11 p.m. (c) Express, 15......9.11 p.m. Coince EAST Ontario Limited, 80...7.43 a.m. Chicago Express, 6.....11.16 a.m. Accommodation, 110....2.28 p.m. Accommodation, 110....2.28 p.m. (a) —Stops to let off passengers from Toronto, Hamilton and east. d.) —Stops to let off passengers 24-cs Kingstou and east. C. W. VAIL, Aztrt, Watford. for the very reason that they are as open to all as the sky or the sea.— Globe.

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED The following which is clipped from the Genave Reaper, shows how railroads were regarded less than a hundred years agos "Someone has dug up the records of the Lancaster, Ohio, school board back in 1828. In these records is an account of a proposed debate as to whether railroads were practical or not. Permission was asked to hold the debate in the school house and the minutes of the school board ran as follows: 'You are welcome to use the school room to debate all proper questions in, but such things as railroads and telegraphs are impossibilities, and rank infidelity. There is nothing in the Word of God about them. If God had designed that his intelligent creatures should travel at the frightful speed of 15 miles an hour by steam, He would have foretold it through His holy prophets. It is a

Local Agent-J. W. McLaren It has Many Qualities.-The man the possesses a bottle of Dr Thomas Who possesses a bottle of Dr Thomas Eclectric Oil is armed against many ills. It will relieve a cough, break a cold, prevent sore throat; it will re-duce the swelling from a sprain, re-lieve the most persistent sores and lieve the most persistent sores and will speedily heal cuts and contusions. It is a medicine chest in itself, and can be got for a quarter of a dol-lar.

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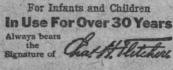
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Electric Wiring Fixtures and Supplies

> TF IT'S ELECTRICAL we can get it nd instal it for you. No matter what you require let us give you the benefit of our experience-it's our business to know what companies are making the BEST equipment-which, after all, is the ONLY kind of electrical equipment that is safe. reliable and worth the money. Whether it's a Toaster, Iron, Heater, Broiler, etc. better let us supply you with one which we can guarantee.



C. W. VILT, Agirt, Watford. Miss Bessie L. Barnes, daughter of Prof. C. H. Barnes of Jarvis street, Collegiate, Toronto, was married to Gordon Lonsdale, Toronto, in the Methodist parsonage, Tilbury. Rev. Geo. Kersey, cousin of the bride, officiated. CASTORIA



LOOK AT YOUR LABEL How does your Subscription stand?