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Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of SIX per cent. per annum upon the Fully Paid-up Stock of the Association for the current half year has been declared and that the same will be payable at the office of the Association on and after

THURSDAY, JULY 2nd., 1908

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 24th to the 30th of June, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board

WM. SPITTAL,

Secretary-Treasurer.

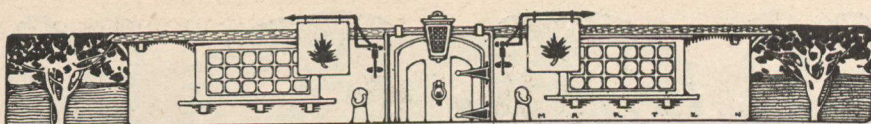
London, Ont., June 8th, 1908.

N.B.—Out of an authorized issue of \$500,000 of the above Stock, there is yet open for subscription \$50,000 in blocks of five shares and upwards. Write for 15th Annual Report.

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AT THE SIGN OF THE MAPLE

AN INTERESTING PORTRAIT.

THE DUCHESS OF ARGYLL, better known to British subjects as the Princess Louise, was once chatelaine at Rideau Hall when her husband as Marquis of Lorne was Governor-General of Canada. The Duchess of Argyll is known as the most intellectual of Queen Victoria's daughters. She takes an especial interest in both painting and sculpture and during her residence in this country gave practical encouragement to artistic production. The Princess Louise always had a dislike for the camera and the only photograph of her seen in Canada was one of wintry aspect, showing the royal lady in fur cap and heavy "cloud," not by any means such a picture as would advertise the summer charms of Canada.

The portrait reproduced on this page was recently published in *The Sphere*. It represents Her Royal



H. R. H. the Duchess of Argyll at seventeen.

Highness at the age of seventeen and was executed by Leon Noel. There is a decided resemblance in this graceful sketch to the well-known picture of Queen Victoria at the age of eighteen. The "white muslin girl" was a popular type when Princess Louise was a royal debutante.

* * *

THE SOULS OF WOMEN.

FOR centuries and centuries, in fact ever since Eve changed her mind and ate the apple, woman has been accused of fickleness and insincerity. Proverbs have been manufactured in all languages regarding her volatility—but we must remember that men wrote the proverbs. Babylonian bricks, Egyptian pyramids and Greek temples are inscribed with masculine judgment on the subject of woman's unstable nature. It has remained for a philosopher of this age, a professor in a United States university, to explain this strange weathercockiness.

This worthy professor, belonging to a nation noted for its gallant behaviour towards the unvoiced sex, declares that the seeming fickleness in woman is caused by the possession of two or more souls. In the Dark Ages it was decided by a solemn congress of masculine authorities that woman is without a soul and can hardly hope to obtain such an ethereal possession. The modern professor goes to the other extreme and insists that woman is positively embarrassed by her soulful belongings and is not to blame for the many changes of mind and heart for which these manifold souls are responsible. It is not a comfort theory for man, after all. It may

give the cause of woman's myriad moods but it presents a perplexing future to the lover who thinks he has been accepted by a sweet, amiable soul and finds he is being tormented by one which is capable of all manner of selfishness. Those weird publications known as matrimonial agents may some day contain the advertisement:

Wanted: A wife with only one soul. Colour of hair and eyes not important. Apply Box 23.

* * *

SMUGGLED GOWNS.

IF there was one childhood story more delightful than another it was that which was related of the smuggler's cave. There was a mysterious air about the ancient smuggling across the English Channel which made the man who successfully landed his French wines and silks a hero of the Robin Hood class.

In modern free-trade England, smuggling has lost its charms but in Canada the zest of the occupation has not gone. Only the sternest Canadian women can read without a thrill of sympathy about those fair citizens of Chatham, Ontario, who have been caught smuggling ball-dresses from Detroit and who must pay the cost of chiffon and silk for their hazardous law-breaking. Woman may do all manner of good by way of purifying politics but it will always be impossible to convince her that it is really sinful to smuggle. Of course, it is wrong for men to bring over boat-loads of cigarettes "unbeknownst" to the dear Government but it is entirely different for a woman to stow away gloves, handkerchiefs, shoes, silk gowns and any other foreign trifles as she crosses the border.

A social philosopher has said that women would stop smuggling if they were given votes, that the sense of political responsibility would prevent them from cheating the powers that levy duty. It is rather doubtful, for even the suffragette is fond of the dainty things of life and would not be able to see why the Government demands a payment on Buffalo blouses, Detroit shoes and Port Huron lingerie. It is a shabby trick for gentlemen at Ottawa to have anything to say about a woman's shopping, even if she takes the ferry to reach the desired counter.

Did you ever notice how kindly is woman's tone when speaking of an obliging customs officer who has looked the other way? She tells you of his manner with positive enthusiasm. "The officer was just lovely. I'm sure he's a perfect gentleman. Why, he didn't bother us one bit—just asked one or two questions and handed back the keys with the nicest bow. Some of those men are simply horrid but we're usually lucky."

The small boy who has just been enjoying stolen jam cannot begin to look as innocent as the little woman who is explaining to the customs man that she has worn all those fresh-looking blouses "for ever so long." Some years ago the Government employed a woman detective on the ferry between Windsor and Detroit and, if you'll believe me, she was mean enough to tell about the articles tucked neatly away in the crowns of high hats and used as extra frills for dainty skirts. The fury of those confiding women whose trust she betrayed was something of an epic nature. Of course, smuggling is illegal and improper—but don't you feel sorry for the Chatham women who were found out?

CANADIENNE.



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