

"A Little Nonsense Now and Then"

"What if we loses this blinkin' war after all Bill?"
"Well, all I can say is—them what finds it is quite welcome to keep it."—Tit-Bits.

That?—"Are you unmarried?" inquired the census man.

"Oh, dear, no," said the little lady, blushing: "I've never even been married."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Brent (in Boston Transcript)—O! chap, I've been duck shooting, don't you know. Sanderson—Duck shooting? Why, you don't know a wild duck from a tame one. Brent—Oh, yes, I do—the wild beggars got away.

The new tenant had rented the house and was about to sign the agreement. "Of course," said the agent, "you understand there is no bathroom in the house." "Oh," said the tenant, "that makes no difference; we only want the house for a year."

In his book, "From Gallipoli to Bagdad," "Padre" William Ewing tells the story of a burly Irishman brought into the field-hospital suffering from many wounds.

"What are you?" asked the doctor.

"Sure, I'm half an Irishman."

"And what's the other half?"

"Holes and bandages." — Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

A well-known family physician in a Southern city in ante-bellum days had for his coachman an old darky who, by reason of his position as doctor's assistant, was regarded as an authority on the health of the community, relates Harper's. One day while waiting for his master he was accosted by a passer-by who inquired who was dead in the adjoining block. The old darky straightened up, gazed intently in the direction indicated, then, breaking into a broad smile, replied: "I don't know, sah; dat's none of our killin'."

Two amateur highwaymen waylaid a man on a dark and stormy night. The victim was reputed to be well off, but at the same time was declared to be the tightest-fisted man in the country. When attacked the man unmercifully mauled his assailants and by the time they finally subdued him they were both fit subjects for the hospital. But the hardest blow came when, after a close search, they found but \$1 in their victim's pockets.

"Jim," observed one of the highwaymen, "it's lucky that guy didn't have \$2 or he'd have killed us both." —Exchange.

Two brothers once ran a store in a small western town, where they had quite a large trade in wool on barter. One of the brothers became converted at a revival and urged the other to follow in his footsteps.

"You ought to join, Jake," said the converted one. "You don't know how helpful and comforting it is to be a member of the church."

"I know, Bill," admitted Jake, thoughtfully, "an' I would like to join, but I don't see how I can."

"Why not?" persisted the first. "What is to prevent you?"

"Well, it's jes' this way, Bill," declared Jake. "There has got to be somebody in the firm to weigh this here wool."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

"POOR LO CATCHES ON."

An Indian in one of the Western reservations was in the habit of bringing to Mrs. Gray each spring several baskets of wild berries for which from time immemorial he had charged fifty cents a basket. A few days ago he paid his annual visit to Mrs. Gray's back door. The maid took the berries and tendered the usual payment. The Indian shook his head. "One dollar a basket now," he said. The maid called her mistress and explained the difficulty. Much surprised, Mrs. Gray again offered the money to the Indian, who once more refused to accept it. "Why is this?" asked Mrs. Gray. "The baskets are the same size as usual, are they not?"

"Yes."

"And the berries are not scarce this year, I know, because I have seen bushes loaded down with them on my rides about the country here."

"Yes."

"Well, then, why isn't fifty cents a basket enough?"

The Indian shifted from one foot to another quite calmly. "Hell big dam war somewhere," he announced. "Berries \$1 a basket now."—New Bedford Mercury.

KILL THE RAT.

It was estimated in 1907, after a full inquiry, that the annual average loss caused in Great Britain by each rat was \$1.80, in France \$1, and in Denmark, \$1.20.

INSURANCE LOSSES.

The only years in which actual underwriting loss was sustained by fire insurance companies doing business in Canada were 1900 and 1904, the years of the Ottawa and Toronto conflagrations, respectively. Contrary to general belief, such fires are not always unprofitable to the insurance business as a whole, however disastrous they may be to individual companies. The total profit balance in 1905 following the Toronto fire was greater than in 1899 before the Ottawa and Toronto fires occurred. Nevertheless, the average premium rate for Canada, which increased from \$1.23 in 1899 to \$1.60 in 1904-5, did not decline to the level of 1899 till twelve years later.

HAND GRENADES.

Here's something to throw at them.
Population of the world is about 1,623,300,000.
Average age at death is thirty-three years.
57,372,727 die annually.
908,516 die weekly.
5,308 die hourly.
Nearly ninety die every minute.
About three die every two seconds.
Sixty persons have died while you were reading the above.

Sometimes you have to get below the surface. These facts will penetrate. Throw them at your prospects. Make them hit.—The Nalaco.

BRITISH CASUALTIES.

Though British losses have not been made uniformly available to the public, some idea of them may be obtained by tabulation of the figures at hand. It may be noted that the heavy fighting in Picardy and Flanders during late March and early April was not reflected in the casualty lists until the first weeks in May, and that through May and June there was no appreciable diminution in reported casualties. The more normal figures for the first week in July, 17,336, show that the casualties during the four big German drives are about all counted. For the first six months of 1918 the British casualties have been about 500,000, making 2,500,000 casualties since the beginning of the war.

MAKING FORESTS FIREPROOF.

People are becoming aware of the tremendous loss to Canada through forest fires. Fire is not the necessary accompaniment of settlement and can be stopped. The cost of equipment and patrol necessary to stop fires amounts to only a small fire insurance premium on the value of the forest. How fires are caused, the influence of the weather, and what amount of damage they do are told in Bulletin No. 64, "Forest Fires in Canada 1914-16," just issued by the Director of Forestry, Ottawa. This is the first attempt on systematic lines to give the statistics of fires for the whole of Canada and to classify their causes. By this means the most prolific sources of fires are shown so that means may be applied for their prevention. Those interested in this subject will receive a copy of this bulletin free upon application to the Director of Forestry, Ottawa.

THE GREAT LAKES.

From Detroit and Sarnia to Duluth via the Northern Navigation Company—Grand Trunk Route—is one of the finest fresh water trips in the world. The palatial steamers of this line leave Sarnia 4.45 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, occupying one week in making the round trip of over 1,600 miles. The boats of this company are the largest passenger boats on the Great Lakes, they are magnificently equipped and the service afforded is unsurpassed. This trip gives the tourist the opportunity of seeing Sault Ste. Marie, Port Arthur, Fort William and Duluth, at which places personally conducted sight-seeing side trips are made, all of which is covered in the cruise ticket. Also a delightful way to reach Western Canada. Ask any agent of the Grand Trunk for illustrated folder giving full particulars, or call on or write to, M. O. Dufos, 122 St. James St., Montreal.

UNION ASSURANCE SOCIETY LIMITED OF LONDON, ENGLAND FIRE INSURANCE, A.D. 1714.

Canada Branch, Montreal:
T. L. MORRISSEY, Resident Manager.
North-West Branch, Winnipeg:
THOS. BRUCE, Branch Manager.
AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY

The success which has attended the operations of the North American Life throughout its history has made association with the Company particularly inviting.

The year 1918 promises to be bigger and better than any heretofore. Some agency openings offer you an opportunity at this time.

Correspond with

E. J. HARVEY, Supervisor of Agencies.

**NORTH AMERICAN LIFE
ASSURANCE COMPANY**
"SOLID AS THE CONTINENT"
HEAD OFFICE - - - - - TORONTO, Can.

Founded in 1806.

THE LAW UNION AND ROCK INSURANCE CO. LIMITED OF LONDON.

ASSETS EXCEED \$48,000,000.
OVER \$12,500,000 INVESTED IN CANADA.
FIRE & ACCIDENT RISKS ACCEPTED.

Canadian Head Office:

57 Beaver Hall Hill, MONTREAL
Agents wanted in unrepresented towns in Canada.
J. E. E. DICKSON, Canadian Manager.
W. D. AIKEN, Superintendent Accident Dept.

The London & Lancashire Life and General Assurance Association, Limited

Offers Liberal Contracts to Capable & Old Men

GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR MEN TO BUILD UP
A PERMANENT CONNECTION

We Particularly Desire Representatives for City of
Montreal.

Chief Office for Canada:
164 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL.

ALEX. BISSETT - - - - - Manager for Canada.

Monthly Income Policies a Necessity

A legacy of life insurance amounting to \$100,000 was completely dissipated in seven years by faulty investments and expensive living; in another case a beneficiary squandered the proceeds of a life insurance policy amounting to \$50,000 in a single year. To protect the beneficiary against inexperience in making investments and against extravagance the monthly income policy has been introduced providing an automatic, safe and profitable investment of life insurance funds. Supplement your existing insurance with a monthly income policy. It can be written on the life, limited life, or endowment plan. Such a policy with our disability clause incorporated is without an equal in furnishing ideal household protection. We will gladly furnish full particulars and illustrations.

**THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE
Company of Canada**
WATERLOO - - - - - ONTARIO