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DVERTISERS
THE GUIDE

Young Canada Club

By DIXIE PATTON

HOW TO JOIN OUR CLUB

I have had letters from some of our readers asking how they can join our club. There is only one way; to write a story for one of our competitions. Again I am asked if you can write other stories than the ones I ask for. It is better not to, because, of course, I give prizes to and print first the competition stories. The present competition calls for a story about a hero or heroine. This ought to be very easy because one that you have read in a book will do splendidly, or one that you have heard your parents tell, even if it never was written in a book, will be acceptable.

Some, just a few, I am glad to say, have forgotten the rule that the stories are to be written in pen and ink and on one side of the paper only.

Those that have already arrived are so good that you will have to do very well indeed to better some of them. I have my eye on some jolly boy and girl stories that I mean to send out to the winners in this competition, so you had better prick up your ears, my young folk, and get to work.

Get one of your parents or your teacher to certify that the story is your own work and that the age given is correct.

Oh! I nearly forgot. I suppose you would like to know what happened in the camera contest. I am sorry to say that none of the pictures sent in were good enough to print, so I have been obliged to drop this contest until the summer when I would like to take it up again if enough are interested.

I must apologize to Eileen Gillies for not thanking her earlier for the very pretty New Year's card she sent me from Victoria. I hope Eileen will try in the new story competition and get some of the boys and girls in Victoria interested in it.

DIXIE PATTON.

Address all your letters to Dixie Patton, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

HOW THE BEAVERS PREPARE FOR WINTER

In their summer travellings, the beavers look for a stream in which to build a house for winter. When a stream is found the building of a house occupies most of the summer.

It is a mere dam made of trees, twigs, mud and stones. First they gnaw trees off close to the ground, carry them home and throw them in the stream. When they have enough trees they get mud and stones and put them among the trees so they will not float away.

This done, they next get twigs and form a roof, and when they are sure their house is big and strong enough it is finished.

But this is not all. The most important of all is yet to be got, and that is the food, which consists of nuts, berries and other things they can find in the forest. Then it is winter, and they settle down in their cozy little house to sleep and eat until spring comes.

JESSIE Lyster.

Kennedy, Sask., Age 11.

HOW THE RED SQUIRREL PREPARES FOR WINTER

The squirrel is a very cute animal. They start in the early part of the autumn to build their nests. Some of the squirrels have three or four nests. They are made of hay, leaves, grass and twigs, also lined with feathers. When the nest is built they start to gather nuts. The nuts consist of oak nuts, hazel nuts and walnuts. It is very amusing to watch them throw the nuts off the trees and then come down, and carry them away to their nest. There were two squirrels at our place. They fought each other till they fell. One got hold of a limb and the other one fell on the ground. The one on the limb scolded, spit and scratched. The squirrel never changes its color. It is a reddish brown in color and has a very bushy tail. So ends my letter.

RAYMOND C. JOHNSTONE.
Ochre River, Man., Age 9 years.

THE EAGLES

Dear Dixie Patton:—In a rocky gully, about half a mile from our house, were a pair of golden eagles. I used to watch them as I lay behind the stooks at the homestead, which is about half a mile

from our house and as far from the gully. The eagles used to soar about and would sometimes fly so high that I could hardly see them. Sometimes they would swoop down and catch a gopher.

One night, when I was driving home the cows, I spied the pair of eagles sitting on the cliff. I entreated my father to go and shoot one of them, and dark and late though it was we went and father shot one, and now he is sitting on a shelf in our sittingroom. Its mate flew about for weeks after, but I never saw him at the gully again. This fellow that we have is a dark brownish color with golden tips on the feathers of his neck, white band across the tail and some golden feathers on his wings. His legs are thick and strong, with very strong talons with which to carry his prey. His eyes are deep and piercing. He is a magnificent bird and I love to look at him. I try to model and draw eagles too.

I am afraid this letter is too late for this competition, but you are asking for letters anyway. I think the camera competition is all right and I am going to try it. But what do you think of a drawing or paper cutting competition? With very good wishes,

ARCHIBALD HOGG.

Age 13 years.

A story contributed for one of our earlier competitions, which was mislaid.

MY FAVORITE CHARACTER IN FICTION—AND WHY

By Emily S. Stafford (Age 15)

Of the many beautiful characters in fiction, my favorite is a little girl of ten. She is the main character in Mrs. Burnett's dearest stories, "The Secret Garden." Cross, sour little Mary, of India, who, in spite of her many servants to do her bidding, had never known what it was to be loved. Not until she had found herself all alone in the world, and was sent to live with her uncle, who would almost forget that she existed, did she, of her own accord, begin to change. Before the summer can come, the frost must leave the ground, which must have sunshine to make it soft and warm. And so with Mary. There began to be little rays of sunshine in her heart, and the cold, icy manner had to flee, and they melted and warmed the hard little heart, till, at last, the flowers began to grow. They grew in the form of the merry laugh, the gay, childish voice, the kind, unselfish ways that blossomed forth in this same little Mary. It was Mary who found the way to the "secret garden," and, with the help of the kind boy, Dickon, planted the flowers there. It was Mary who found her sick cousin, Colin, and it was she who so filled his mind with the springtime that he, too, began to love the garden. It was through Mary that he began to walk, and at last to run. It was through Mary that he began to be a happy, nature-loving boy. Lastly, when the sad father came home, he, too, was changed into a glad, normal man—all through the childish influence of my favorite character in fiction.

YOUNG CANADA CLUB

I have been reading some of the club stories and like them very much and would like to be a member, and to introduce myself I will write a short story about a nice little red squirrel that used to stay here on our farm and he used to build his nest in the shed.

He was very pretty. He used to eat oats with the pigs. He built his nest with old leaves. He was small.

He used to sit on a rail fence. His tail came up to his head nearly. He came back when winter came. Our hired man shot him by a mistake, thinking it was a gopher and we were very sorry.

Yours truly,

HOMER L. DEEPLER.
Camrose, Alta., Age 9 years.

A LITTLE DIPLOMAT

Little girl of four (standing entranced before the window of a toy shop)—"Oh, mother, if you were my little girl wouldn't I take you right in and buy you some of those lovely things."

ENFORCING SABBATH OBSERVANCE

"Johnny, what are you doing?"
"Tryin' to learn the fish in this here crick what they'll git if they bite on Sunday."

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