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The most highly refined and healthful of baking powders. Its constant use in almost every American household, its sales all over the world, attest its wonderful popularity and usefulness.



**ROYAL BAKING POWDER**

**A Mysterious Disappearance**

By Gordon Holmes

A Great Detective Story

(Continued.)

"Never mind, thinking me. I am only too glad to have taken such a part in the affair. I will not forget this night as long as I live."

"No, I must think of it. I might be lying in the garden now, or in some mortuary, with half my head blown off."

"Tell me," said Bruce, between the convulsions of a fit, "what induced you to think of suicide?"

"It was a combination of circumstances," he said. "You must understand, Monsieur, that I remained here. I have looked about the world a good deal, but I may honestly say I never made a fool of myself at cards or backing horses. At most kinds of sport I am fairly proficient, and in pigeon shooting, which goes on here extensively, am undoubtedly an expert. For instance, all this season I have kept myself in funds simply by means of these competitions."

"His head nodded approvingly.

"Well, in the midst of my minor troubles, I must, nevertheless, fall over head and ears in love—a regular bad case. She is the first woman I ever spoke two civil words to. We met at a game of the Corniche Royal, and she sat upon me so severely that I commenced to defend myself by showing that I was no fool. I am surely braver as I looked by, for, in a week we were engaged."

"No, it is none of your silly, sentimental affairs in which people part and meet months afterwards with polite inquiries after each other's health. I am not made that way; neither is Phil—Phyllis is his name, you know. This is for life. I am just bound up in her, and she would go through fire and water for me. But she is the only daughter of a Montreal iron master with tons of money. Her people are awfully nice, and I think they approve of me, though they have no idea that Phil and I are engaged."

"He paused to gulp down a strong decoction of brandy and soda, the difficult part of his story was coming.

"You can quite believe," he continued, "that I did not want to get married. Sir William Brown—he was knighted by the late Queen for his distinguished municipal services to give him a title, I suppose I fairly well off, living as I do, and I can't be setting under false pretences. I hate it like poison, though in this world a man often has to do what he doesn't like. However, this time I determined to be straight and above-board. It was a very odd fact, but I just wanted \$2000 to enable me to make a move which, I tell you, ought to result in my getting a good deal of money, sufficient, at any rate, to render it a reasonable proposition for Phil and me to get married."

"These love stories of real life are often so much more dramatic than the fiction of the novel or the stage.

"The opportunity came, to my mind, in the big tournament, I had no difficulty of getting odds in six or seven to one for more than I was able to pay if I lost. Phil came into the scheme with more than I know all about me, you know—and we both regarded it as a certainty. Then the collapse came. She wanted to get the money from her mother to enable me to pay, but I would not hear of it. I pretended that I could raise the wind some other way. The fact is I was wild with myself and with my luck generally. Then there was the disgrace of falling to settle on Monday, combined with the general excitement of that dream and a feverishly disturbed night. To make a long story short, I thought the best thing to do was to try a final plunge, and if it failed, to quit. I even took steps to make Phil believe I was a bad lot, so that she might not fret too much after me."

"Monsieur's voice was a little unsteady in the last sentence. The baronet tried to cheer him by a little bit of raillery:

"I hope you have not succeeded too well!" he laughed.

"Oh, if it all right now. I mean that I let her some papers which would bring things to her knowledge that, unexplained by me, would give any one a completely false impression."

"The subject was evidently a painful one, so Bruce did not pursue it.

"About this speculation of yours," he said, "are you sure it's all right, and that you will not lose your money?"

"It is as certain as my business can be. It is a matter I thoroughly understand, but I will tell you about it. If you will pardon me a moment I will bring you the papers, as I should like to have your advice."

"Yes, I understand. Bundle everything into a four-wheeler."

"Sir Charles thought you might come, sir, so he sent his carriage."

"London looked dull, but familiar as they rolled across Leicester Square and up Regent street. Your true Scotch friend that he is out of his latitude when the sky is blue overhead. Let him hear the tinkle of the harness bells through a dim, fog-laden atmosphere, and he knows where he is. There is but one London, and Cockneydom is the order of Melchior. Claude's heart was glad within him to be home again, even though the band was just gathering in the Casino gardens, and the lights of Monaco were beginning to gleam over the moonlit expanse of the Mediterranean."

(To be Continued.)

**Fashion Hint for Times Readers**



Fringe offers a very simple means of achieving an extremely rich effect. The new fringes come in all widths and in most shades, but if the exact shade is not obtainable, a competent dyer should be able to change white silk fringes into the color of a sample submitted. This graceful costume of reeda green satin charmeuse has the "bucara" trim, which, while quite striking in appearance, is a rather narrow circular skirt, and its smart effect is owing to the heavily fringed trim of satin crossing the bustover a little vest of green and silver darned net. At the neck a very sheer yoke of cream lace is set on.

**FREE TRADE BRITAIN AND PROTECTIONIST GERMANY**

Toronto News Comments on Article by W. Frank Hatheway, M. P. P. in the Empire Review—The Cobden and Bismarck Policies.

(Toronto News)

In the Empire Review, Mr. W. Frank Hatheway, of St. John, N. B., makes an interesting comparison between the Cobden and Bismarck policies and their effects upon the British and German nations. It is not difficult to quote facts and statistics showing that the Cobden policy, which was based upon free trade, has resulted in a world-wide reputation and become a model for other nations. The Bismarck policy, which was based upon protection, has resulted in a world-wide reputation and become a model for other nations.

But while Cobden wrote and fought for free trade in Great Britain, Bismarck, another economist, was urging Germany to adopt protection since the time of Colbert. Bismarck took up his programme. From the seventies until now Germany under protection and Great Britain under free trade have stood as rivals with this material difference, that Great Britain's manufactures have decreased in proportion to her population, while Germany's have increased. In 1870 Bismarck said: "If the danger of protection would do as great as we are to do with enthusiastic free traders, France would have been impoverished long ago, and she had long since been a part of the empire of Colbert." To quote again from one of his speeches delivered in 1882:

"I do not believe the whole of Europe has abolished protection after she had benefited by it to the full extent. That country used to have the strongest protective tariffs until it had become so powerful under their protection that it could not be taken away without a serious economic and political challenge of the world."

Under protection Germany has been rapidly overtaking Great Britain. In the five years from 1900 to 1906 Germany increased her production of iron from 1,000,000 tons to 1,800,000 tons, without a material increase in her purchase of machinery, and her sales of machinery to Great Britain increased from 100,000 tons to 1,000,000 tons. In 1906 England produced 5,200,000 tons and Germany 10,800,000 tons. Since 1870 Great Britain has by her free import policy steadily contributed to the commercial greatness of her continent. The fact that the two countries some years ago exchanged fiscal policies is not the only reason why Germany has made such rapid advances as compared with Great Britain, but surely there is enough in the coincidence to attract the attention of the most determined free traders.

**Had Heart Trouble and Shortness of Breath For Six Years.**

Was Weak and Thin—Only Weighed Seventy-three Pounds. Now Weighs One Hundred and Thirteen.

When you find your heart the least bit out of rhythm, your nerves unbridged, your breath short, don't wait until you are prostrated on a bed of sickness. Take Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. They'll put you in such condition you'll know you have a heart, make your nerves strong and your whole being thrill with new life. Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills cured Mrs. E. Bright, Burnley, Ont. She writes: "I was severely troubled for six years, with my heart and shortness of breath. I could not walk eighty rods without resting four or five times in that short distance. I got so weak and thin I only weighed seventy-three pounds. I decided at last to take some of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and after taking eight boxes I gained in strength and weight, and now weigh one hundred and thirteen pounds, the most I ever weighed in my life. I feel well and can work as well as ever I did, and can heartily thank Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills for it all."

Price 50 cents per box or 3 boxes for \$1.25 at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

**"Black Knight" Stove Polish**

If everything else in the house did its share of the work as well as

very few women would complain of the housework. "Black Knight" does away with the everlasting rubbing and polishing. It shines quickly and produces a result that satisfies the most particular. Always ready for use for Stoves, Grates and other ironwork. It's the best polish and the biggest can for the money.

Send dealer's name and the full name of the house for full size can if you can't get "Black Knight" in your town.

The T. F. BALLELY CO. LIMITED, BANGOR, ONT., CAN.

**REFORESTATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK BOGS**

Surveyor General Grimmer, Speaking Before Canadian Forestry Convention, Says He is Anxious to Find a Way to Utilize Them.

Toronto, Feb. 11.—The annual meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association opened this morning in Convention Hall of the University, and the meetings will continue tomorrow. The governor general, who was scheduled to open the meeting, was half an hour late in arriving. President Snowball of the association, introduced him, and the excellency made a short speech, dealing with the supreme importance of forest conservation.

President Snowball, in his speech, briefly, his excuse was, he said, that for three years he had been at the head of the department of forestry, and he was interested in government. His work had been the establishment of forest reserves in Nanaimo and Vancouver, and he was interested in the conservation of natural resources in Washington, and he felt he would learn a great deal from the convention.

Frank Hawkins, secretary of the Canadian Forestry Association, said that the government was desirous of finding a means of draining the bogs of growing timber. He had noticed that where even slight drainage was effected timber commenced to grow.

M. J. Macoun, who has spent a number of years investigating conditions in the north, stated that between Hudson's Bay and Mackenzie River there were vast areas of bog land of growing green timber. He had noticed that where even slight drainage was effected timber commenced to grow.

**RIBBON SALE**

All Silk Ribbons and Satin and Silk Ribbons

Good values at 30c per yard. Our price for a few days

**19c per Yard**

And no charge for making the bows when the ribbon is purchased from us. Colors, black, white, cream, leghorn, navy, tabac, maroon, mexique, reeda, Saxe or Alice blue, myrtle, lotus, moss, champagne, sky, rose, cardinal, rosewood, turquoise, wine, puce, coral, gold, coquelicot, argent, lilac, prue and castor.

THE BEST RIBBON VALUES EVER OFFERED.

**Marr Millinery Co.**

Corner Union and Coburg streets, and 657 Main street, North End. SAME VALUES ALSO AT MONCTON, N. B.

**FAVORS ABSORPTION OF ALL THE BRANCH LINES**

Commissioners Report on I. C. R. Branch Lines in Maritime Provinces is to Effect That All Should be Taken Over by the I. C. R.

Ottawa, Feb. 11.—Hon. Geo. P. Graham, minister of railways, presented to the commission appointed to investigate the question of the feasibility of having the Intercolonial Railway extended by the inclusion in the system of government railways various branch systems which had the trunk line in the maritime provinces.

The commissioners were Supt. Tiffin, of the I. C. R., and D. A. Story. They made a separate report on each of the thirteen branch lines doing business in the maritime provinces.

In the general conclusions, the commissioners report in favor of the acquisition of the branch systems by the I. C. R., declaring that this would give a strong management and proper equipment to many systems which at the present time are not sufficiently equipped to be of much value to the district which they are supposed to serve.

In this regard Mr. Tiffin says: "We would express the unanimous feeling, as gleaned from interviews with the people living along these lines, that great good to the country would follow the suggested absorption."

There is not a dissenting voice among all the people we interviewed as to the good people would derive and there can be no question as to the good the country would derive from the acquisition of the branch lines. Personally, he thought the government should not stop at making public sentiment, but should appoint letters to visit the different localities and deliver practical addresses. Each proposed line should be wooded area surveyed and conditions reported, for which work university forestry students might be employed. The cutting of timber in Nova Scotia, stated P. C. Whitman, president of the Western Nova Scotia Lumbermen's Association, has reached the limit of reasonable production, and the increasing value of lumber has become a serious problem to the people of the district. A forest policy adapted to the present system of tenure was badly needed.

A. T. Drummond, contributed a paper, in which he advocated the substitution of the branch lines as they are today, not in a position to give a satisfactory service and in fact we believe they have now about reached that stage of being more of a hindrance than a help to the proper development of the country.

"We are satisfied that the careful nursing of present industries and the development of new ones, which would necessarily follow the absorption of these branch lines would make their absorption of vital interest and one worthy of the best consideration."

"Furthermore, the people of the maritime provinces, who as a rule are but poorly served by the branch lines, are asserting in view of the large amount of money or other assistance accorded to the Canadian Northwest for the purpose of development, that they are entitled to at least a measure of generous treatment for similar purposes."

"There are," concludes Mr. Tiffin, "but two or three branch lines to which the above remarks do not apply and they are especially noted in the attached reports. Each branch line is treated in detail. The Kent Northern, twenty-seven miles long, could handle larger traffic in floor and fish with better equipment. The Richmond & St. Louis, seven miles long, could be profitably reconstituted as Carleton & Gulf Shore, 88 miles, present conditions of road poor, but serves a region of great possibilities. Egan & Haylock—Little prospect to develop freight business further, but passenger traffic might be increased. St. Martin's branch—Prospect for developing traffic. Monckton & Bouchette—Some prospect for improving business under Intercolonial management. Albert Southern—Not operated for several years owing to the collapse of a bridge. Cape Tormentine Railway—Serves good country which should yield more traffic. Salisbury & Harvey—Reduction of rates could obtain traffic in plaster and would encourage operations in oil shale. Cape Breton railway from Point Tupper to St. Peter's—Only through traffic, owing to lack of settlement along line; prospect of improvement in passenger or freight traffic; expenses double of earnings; road cannot be freed Intercolonial to any extent, and commissioners fail to say whether an extension eastward from St. Peter's would be profitable. Fergus Junction to Sunny Brae—Iron ore business ceased and traffic almost limited to a few tons of coal; Intercolonial to make a good business proposition. Salsburgh & Parrboro Company—Declared deficit of \$2,000 in 1906 and \$28,000 in 1907; no credit is given for hauling company's coal which at 20 cents a ton would show a surplus in operation. As this is a coal road its value to the Intercolonial would depend upon arrangements for hauling coal from the mine. Vale Coal Company—Road-Lox people claim present management does not afford siding and other facilities to enable coal areas in vicinity to be developed, and favor Intercolonial management. The reports discuss possibilities, but makes no recommendation. The report is to be printed in full for the use of parliament.

**CONCERTS LAST NIGHT**

Under auspices of the Barons club of Leinster Street Baptist Church, a large number enjoyed a concert given in the school room last evening. George Waterbury presided. The programme included piano solos by Miss Finley, Miss Fox and Miss May Alcorn; club singing by Harry Haines, bagpipes selection by Fred Hayter, solos by John Bennet, Fred Alcorn and Wm. Layton, the latter with band accompaniment; readings by Miss Currie, Miss Pike and Charles Wasson; physical drill by St. Stephen's cadets; flute solo by W. G. V. Stokes; selection by members of the 62nd Band; and a trio by the Misses Alcorn and Miss Corbett. Several of the numbers were encored.

In the Seaman's Institute last evening the St. Stephen's church choir gave an excellent concert of some fifteen numbers and it was greatly enjoyed. There were included piano solos by G. D. Davidson. At the close the searchers sang a "Vote of thanks to the entertainers and gave them three hearty cheers.

At a meeting of No. 1 Division A. O. H. last night, a committee was appointed to call on the members of the order and solicit subscriptions for the earthquake sufferers at Messina. Final arrangements were made for the anniversary celebration on Wednesday, Feb. 17, which will take the form of a sleigh drive and dance.

**The Times Daily Puzzle Picture**



OUR WAR PRESIDENT. February 12—Abraham Lincoln was born one hundred years ago today. Find another picture of Lincoln. ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE. Upside down, in glass.

**MR. HANINGTON'S ALLOWANCE \$1,116**

Postmaster Will Retire on This Annual Pension on April 1st.

Ottawa, Feb. 11.—The postmaster general informed Dr. Daniel in the commons today that T. B. Hanington, postmaster at St. John, was to be retired on April 1st with a superannuation allowance of \$1,116 per annum. Mr. Hanington's retirement was considered to be in the public interest as there was no actual vacancy at present no appointment of a successor had been made.

**Only One "BROMO QUININE"**

That is LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for the signature of E. W. Grove. Used by the World over. One a day.

The members of St. Mary's Band, according to Rev. Dr. W. G. Raymond, president of the organization, drove out to the Municipal Home last evening and gave a pleasant programme of selections which were greatly enjoyed and appreciated by those in the home. The visitors say they were impressed by the good appearance of men, women and children, and all about the institution.

A large gathering of the Knights of Columbus, St. John Council, met in St. Peter's Hall, last evening and several candidates for the first degree were installed.