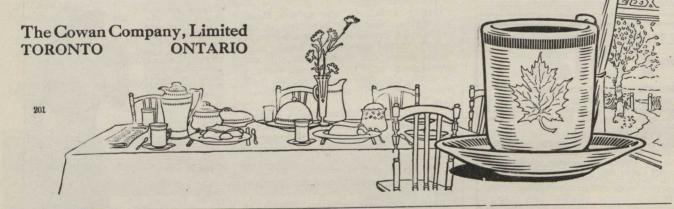
CANADIAN COURIER



There is nothing the children can eat or drink that will give them more real nourishment.





The CANADIAN COURIER commends for the perusal of its readers the advertisements in the classi-fied directory. Most of our readers will find some of these little business announcements that are of interest to them.

Maud Barrington's curiosity was piqued. Lance Courthorne, outcast and gambler, was at least a different stamp of man from the type she had been used to, and, being a woman, the ro-mance that was interwoven with his comewhat inguitous career was not

mance that was interwoven with his somewhat iniquitous career was not without its attractions for her. "I did not know that you included farming among your talents, and should have fancied you would have found it --monotonous," she said. "I did," and the provoking smile still flickered in Witham's eyes. "Are not all strictly virtuous occupations usu-ally so?" "It is probably a question of temper-ament. I have, of course, heard sar-donic speeches of the kind before, and felt inclined to wonder whether those who made them were qualified to form an opinion."

donic speeches of the kind before, and felt inclined to wonder whether those who made them were qualified to form an opinion." Witham nodded, but there was a lit-tle ring in his voice. "Perhaps I laid myself open to the thrust; but have you any right to assume I have never followed a commendable profession?" No answer was immediately forth-coming, but Witham did wisely when, in place of waiting, he turned to Miss Barrington. He had left her niece irritated, but the trace of anger she felt was likely to enhance her interest. The meal, however, was a trial to him, for he had during eight long years lived for the most part apart from all his kind, a lonely toiler, and now was constrained to personate a man known to be almost Jangerously skilful with his tongue. At first sight the task ap-peared almost insuperably difficult, but Witham was a clever man, and felt all the thrill of one playing a risky game just then. Perhaps it was due to excite-ment that a readiness he had never fancied himself capable of came to him in his need, and, when at last the ladies rose, he felt that he had not slipped perilously. Still, he found how dry his lips had grown when somebody poured him a glass of wine. Then he became sensible that Colonel Barrington, who had apparently been delivering a lengthy monologue, was addressing him. "The outlook is sufficient to cause us some anxiety," he said. "We are hold-ing large stocks, and I can see no pros-pect of anything but a steady fall in wheat. It is, however, presumably a little too soon to ask your opinion." "Well," said Witham, "while I am prepared to act upon it, I would recom-mend it to others with some diffidence. No money can be made at present by farming, but I see no reason why we should not endeavour to cut our losses by selling forward down. If caught by a sudden rally, we coul fall back on the grain we hold." There was a sudden silence, until Dane said softly, "That is exactly what one of the cleverest brokers in Winni-

by sening forward down. It caught by a sudden rally, we could fall back on the grain we hold." There was a sudden silence, until Dane said softly, "That is exactly what one of the cleverest brokers in Winni-peg recommended." "I think," said Colonel Barrington, "you heard my answer. I am inclined to fancy that such a measure would not be advisable or fitting, Mr. Courthorne. You, however, presumably know very little about the practical aspect of the wheat question?" Witham smiled. "On the contrary, I know a great deal." "You do': said Barrington sharply, and while a blunderer would have en-deavoured to qualify his statement, Witham stood by it. "You are evidently not aware, sir,

deavoured to qualify his statement, Witham stood by it. "You are evidently not aware, sir, that I have tried my hand at farming, hough not very successfully." "That, at least," said Barrington dryly, as he rose, "is quite credible." When they went into the smaller room, Witham crossed over to where Mand Barrington sat alone, and looked down upon her gravely. "One discov-ers that frankness is usually best," he said. "Now, I would not like to feel that you had determined to be unfriend-ly with me." Mand Barrington fixed a pair of clear from eyes upon his face, and the faintest trace of astonishment crept into them. She was a woman with high principles, but neither a fool nor a prude, and she saw no sign of dissolute iving there. The man's gaze was curi-ously steady, his skin clear and brown, and his sinewy form suggested a capac-ity for, and she almost fancied an acquaintance with, physical toil. Yet he had already denied the truth to her. Witham, on his part, s w a very fair face with wholesome pride in it, and