

The Editor's Letter Box.

[The Editor invites correspondence on these subjects. Letters need not be signed for publication, but must be accompanied by the writer's name and number as evidence of good faith.]

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN SAPPER.

Sir,—I should like fine if some of your readers can tell me which is the best Province in Canada, and why.

I'm kept awake every night by fellows chewin' the rag about east and west, and fish eaters, and blue noses, and prairie chickens, and crazy Englishmen, till I'm fair sick of it.

I hope you can get this settled up for me.

Yours respectfully,

SLEUGH PIG (B.C.)

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To the Editor of THE CANADIAN SAPPER.

Sir,—I would crave the hospitality of your columns for the discourse of a question that is daily occurring to more and more members of my sex, and I hope that, as you are peculiarly a man's journal, some of your readers will give me the true man's view of the question.

The question is, has a woman the right to propose marriage to a man? There are many reasons for and against the claim.

The greatest point against is, of course, to be found in the shackles of custom and tradition; we women have not been regarded as the equal of man, and have had to wait passively until some man chose to offer us the protection of his name and his home, in exchange for the solid comfort of our continued presence and our "pretty little ways."

That we should accept the first eligible offer we got has become almost a foregone conclusion, on account of what has been called an "overcrowded market"—and because a woman who turns down one offer never knows if she will get another.

Surely, however, the time has now come when the camaraderie and equality of the sexes should allow even a weak woman the privilege of assisting a weaker and hesitating brother to step into the happy partnership he desires but, for reasons generally foolish, does not care to ask for.

I do not, of course, favour such a thing as promiscuous proposals by ambitious damsels, who are merely tired of their present condition, and who decide to grab the first personable man they find. No. I mean that a certain degree of intimacy and mutual respect shall be reached and recognized—that even love itself, that rare and beautiful thing, shall have been attained to before a woman should take such a course.

Of course, it will be urged that under the present recognized system, if a woman wants a particular man, she can come pretty near getting him—so she can, because man is a weaker-minded and more pliable being. But I maintain that the means and methods she is obliged to adopt to gain her end are humiliating to her womanhood, and the result is that, in order to attain to the dignity of marriage, she is compelled to adopt the methods of that much maligned but conservative class of women who make up the oldest profession in the world.

I ask only for a revision of customs, based on woman's proved ability to hold her place by the side of man as an equal and a true helpmeet. I do not ask for legislation in the matter: only a broad tolerance for the feminine point of view, and less worship of the fetish tradition.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

A COMPETENT YOUNG WOMAN

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This is one way of applying to the Paymaster for an advance:—

DEAR SIR,

I suppose you know by this time I am to be married as my expense and wife will be very heavy. Could you let me get an advance from you to my intended wife soon. She is at present living on her mother at — and as her mother is very weak she needs an advance. I also could take your advice how to get my separate allowance very soon.

Yours very trully

& Obedient Servant,

Sapper — " — " Company,
C.E.T.D.

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Here's to Generalissimo Foch,
With the goods he will soon come across.
He has, I believe,
A plan up his sleeve
To put it all over the Bosch.