

Merry Christmas

WITH a deep appreciation of past favors, we wish you all happiness and prosperity in the days to come.

A. Brown & Co.

NOMINATIONS TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK

The Municipal Electors of the Township of Warwick are hereby notified that their presence is required at the **TOWN HALL, WARWICK Village on Monday, Dec. 29, 1924** at the hour of one o'clock p. m., for the purpose of nominating fit and proper persons to fill the offices of Reeve and Four Councillors for the said Township of Warwick for the ensuing year, 1925.

will be opened in each of the following places on **MONDAY JANUARY 5th, 1925** at the hour of 9 o'clock a. m. and remain open until 5 o'clock p. m., on the same day.

polling Sub-division No. 1—Comprising lots 19 to 30, inclusive, in con. 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, S. E. R. Polling place, No. 12 Schoolhouse.

polling Sub-division No. 2—Comprising lots 2 to 18, inclusive, in cons. 4, 5, and 6, S. E. R. Polling Place, Vacant House on east half lot 12, con. 5, S. E. R.

polling Sub-division No. 3—Comprising lots 2 to 18, inclusive in cons. 1, N. E. R., 1, 2, and 3, S. E. R. Polling Place, Town Hall, Warwick Village.

polling Sub-division No. 4—Comprising lots 2 to 10, inclusive, in cons. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, N. E. R. Polling Place, No. 19 School House.

polling Sub-division No. 5—Comprising lots 11 to 18, inclusive, in cons. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, N. E. R. Polling Place, House in West quarter lot 16, con. 5, N. E. R.

polling Sub-division No. 6—Comprising lots 19 to 30, inclusive, in con. 4, 5, 6 and 7, N. E. R. Polling Place, House, unlot 25, con. 4, N. E. R.

polling Sub-division No. 7—Comprising lots 19 to 30, inclusive, in cons. 1, S. E. R., and 19 to 30, inclusive, in cons. 1, 2, and 3 N. E. R. Polling Place, House on lot 25, con. 2, N. E. R.

N. Herbert, Clerk

A Thousand Stories in Lake District of Manitoba Says Canadian Authoress

Martha Ostenso Gave Best First Novel of Year that Setting

Miss Martha Ostenso, who was awarded the \$13,500 prize and royalties on the book for the best first novel submitted during the past year in a contest organized jointly by the Dodd, Mead & Company, Pictorial Review and Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, is a twenty-four-year-old school teacher from Manitoba. Miss Ostenso's novel will be serialized, filmed and published in book form in 1925. The story, which is called "The Fascinate Flight," deals with the farmers of the Western Prairies and portrays the romance of one whose ambition to soar beyond the black loam led to dramatic consequences.

More than 1,500 manuscripts were submitted. The judges state that Miss Ostenso's was so far superior that no other story seriously rivaled it.

A brief sketch of her life and the circumstances which inspired her novel, as related by Miss Ostenso, follows:

"Where the long arm of the Hardangervidda penetrates farthest into the rugged mountains of the coast of Norway, the Ostenso family has lived in the township that bears its name since the days of the Vikings. The name means 'Eastern Sea,' and was assumed centuries ago by an adventurous forerunner who dreamed of extending his holdings over the mountains and through the lowlands of Sweden eastward to the very shores of the Baltic. Although his dreams never came true, the family name recalls it and the family tradition of land-holding has persisted unbroken; the part of the land that borders the lovely fjord is still in its possession, handed down from eldest son to eldest son.

"My father, a young son, was free to indulge his roving disposition. A few years after his marriage to my mother he decided to emigrate to America.

"My mother's parents lived high up in the mountains, remote from the softening influence of the coast towns. At their home it was, near the little village of Ratteland, that I was born. This, the first of many small towns in which I have lived, is known to me only through hearsay, for when I was two years old we came to America.

"The story of my childhood is a tale of seven little towns in Minnesota and South Dakota. Towns of

the field and prairie all, redolent of the soil from which they had sprung and eloquent of that struggle common to the farmer the world over, a struggle but transferred from the Ostensos and Haukelands of the Old World to the richer loam of the new. They should have a story written about them—those seven meads, yet glorious little towns of my childhood! In one of them, on the dun prairies of South Dakota, I learned to speak English. What a lovely



Martha Ostenso

language I found it to be, with words in it like pall and funeral and alone, and ugly words, too, like laughter and cake and scratch! What strange sounds the new words made to me.

"Later, in another of the little towns, I learned that it was fun to make things with words. It was while living in a little town in Minnesota that I became a regular contributor to the Junior Page of the Minneapolis Journal, and was rewarded for my literary trial-balloons at the rate of eighty cents a column. In the public school of that little town there still hangs, perhaps, a large print of a rural scene in a resplendent frame, with a neat name-plate at the bottom of it. That also came from the Journal, in recognition of an essay which, in my eleven-year-old opinion, placed me abreast of Emerson.

"When I was fifteen years old, I bade good-bye to the Seven Little

Towns. My father's restless spirit drove him north to the newer country. The family settled in Manitoba.

"It was during a summer vacation from my university work that I went into the lake district of Manitoba, well towards the frontiers of that northern civilization. The story that I have written lay there, waiting to be put into words. Here was the raw material out of which Little Towns were made. Here was human nature stark, unattuned to the convention of a smoother, softer life. A thousand stories are there still, to be written.

"My novel lay back of my mind for several years before I began to write it. In the intervals of those years, spent as a social worker in a great city, I often compared the creaking machinery of skyscraper civilization with the cruder, direct society of the frontier. Slowly, as my work among the needy brought me nearer and nearer to the heart of the city, the border life began to be limned clearly against the murkier background of my work-a-day scene.

"A year ago last summer I returned to Manitoba. The approach to remembered scenes renewed my interest in my story, the character stood out clear-cut at last, and I made the first draft of the novel.

"I was not satisfied with the result and laid the manuscript aside, with no definite purpose regarding it. It was not until spring that I returned to the city and learned of the Curtis Brown contest. It was with diffidence and reluctance that I was persuaded by friends, who thought well of the early draft and its possibilities, to rewrite it in time to submit it for consideration. At best, I felt, it might not be wholly ignored.

"I leave it to the scientists and pseudo-scientists who argue interminably about the relative influence on men of heredity and environment to decide the responsibility for what next merit my story may have. The hippod of the Norsemen! The Seven Little Towns? Perhaps—I do not know. No—but I have my own very tentative opinion. It won't bear stating, but this much may be said of it: It has something to do with magic and fairies and all the other impossible, beautiful things that I believe in."

CHOP STUFF

"Eighty-five pearls in a single oyster," says a headline. The married ones probably can't afford them.

All municipal councils who do not hold their elections early in December, met on Monday last, Dec. 15th, to consider their annual financial statements. Nominations will be held on Monday, December 29th, with elections, if any, on Monday, January 5th.

It is the intention of the Ontario Hockey Association this winter to run a Consolation series in the intermediate and junior sections. This series will be open to all beaten teams in the various groups and will give all teams entering the O. H. A. this season a full winter's hockey. The group winners will go on as usual in the elimination for the championships, while the losers will battle for a new trophy.

Just One Bad Point.
The Agent: Of course, you have no children?
The Prospective Tenant: No.
"Dogs or cats?"
"No."
"Piano or gramophone?"
"No; but I'll tell you what. I've got a fountain-pen that squeaks every time I use it. Hope you won't object to that!"

Placed at the top of curves and cliffs and at approaches to bridges, a closely-woven wire fence painted white has proved to be far better protection against automobile accidents than stone walls or wooden rails have been. Such a fence has both strength and resiliency. An automobile cannot break through it and at reasonable speed a car that hits it neither is injured itself nor injures the fence.

If business is not any too brisk in Canada, it is still worse in the United States, where thousands of people are out of employment in the large cities. The portions of the Canadian National Railway lines in the United States are going behind, while the Canadian lines are showing an improvement in net revenues. There is always a certain amount of migration from Canada to the United States, but this movement has diminished greatly in the last year. It is no mere rhetorical flourish to say that Canada is today the most prosperous country in the world.

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Service

"I keep six honest serving men;
(They taught me All I Know):
Their names are WHAT and WHY
and WHEN
and HOW and WHERE and WHO"
—Kipling

WHAT was the Declaration of London?
WHEN was the date for Easter vary?
WHEN was the great pyramid of Cheops built?
HOW can you distinguish a malarial mosquito?
WHERE is Canberra? Zebrugge?
WHO was the hero of the Slaves?
Are these "six men" serving you too?
Give them an opportunity by placing

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