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The Toronto Globe reports that the production of both anthracite and bituminous coal in Pennsylvania proceeds at a normal rate, and soft coal stocks begin to accumulate. "There is absolutely no reason," it declares, "for the payment of famine prices for coal."

The money spent in road improvement is to be considered an investment, which will return annual interest to the community in reduced costs of transportation, greater freedom of traffic and travel, and in the increased comfort and happiness of the people.

**PAYING THE DEBT**

(From the St. John Globe.)

An Ottawa assurance that if Canada continues on her present course the war bills will all be paid by 1937, causes The Montreal Star to voice a word of rejoicing, coupled with a word of warning. The Star says—"If this country, with a burden of war debt running to over two billion dollars, and with a population of less than ten millions, can stand square with the world after less than thirty years, it will have done something to be distinctly proud of."

"But don't let us crow until we are out of the bush. We will pay our debts if only we avoid further borrowing, and keep up with our interest charges as we go along. It is going to take careful financial strict economy and highly efficient spending, but there is no valid reason why these things should not be possible. Certainly we cannot afford to let Canada stagger along under a burden of debt if this can be avoided."

In the fact that for the next seventeen years, and perhaps for double that time, this country must carry the burden of the heavy taxes now imposed, lies the obligation of wise and prudent economies wherever those economies can be practised in Federal, Provincial and Municipal life. Ottawa must continue to make heavy demands on business and on private incomes. The other taxing bodies, recognizing the fact, should endeavor so to conduct their affairs that the burden will bear as lightly as possible.

Rural Route No. 1,  
Mascouche, Quebec, Oct. 15, 1919.  
The Minard's Liniment People,  
Sirs—I feel that I should be doing a wrong if I neglected to write you. I have had four tumors growing on my head for years. I had them cut off by a surgeon about fifteen years ago, but they grew again till about three months ago I had one as large and shaped like a lady's thimble on the very place where my hair should be parted, and it was getting so embarrassing in public that it was a constant worry to me. About three months ago I got a bottle of your liniment for another purpose and saw on the label good for tumors. Well I tried it and kept at it exactly two months, with the result that it has entirely removed all traces of the tumor, and were it not that they had been cut fifteen years ago, no one would have seen. I have not been asked for this testimonial and you can use it as you see fit.

(Signed) **FRED C. ROBINSON**  
P.S.—I am a farmer and intend using Minard's Liniment on my mare for a strained tendon, and am hoping for same results.

**FRED C. R.**

**IF YOU WANT TO BE LOVED**

Don't contradict people, even if you're sure you're right.

Don't be inquisitive about the affairs of even your most intimate friend.

The man who is enthusiastically interested in politics naturally wonders what the man who isn't interested in politics can be interested in.

**A Series of Talks on Music**

By Prof. C. C. Laugher, Mus. Bac., Sarina.

**NO. VI.—MUSICAL PECULIARITIES**

A musician on being introduced to a stranger said, "I hear you are a music writer." "I am sir," replied the stranger. The first musician then added—"I am glad to make your acquaintance as I am afflicted in the same way."

One of America's most noted song writers was Stephen Foster whose chief title to fame is "The Old Folks at Home," and "My Old Kentucky Home." Stephen Foster would often ride up and down Broadway on a 5c bus seeking inspiration for a song.

Theodore Thomas, the pioneer conductor who did more to educate the American public than any other musician, was wise in his day. He was always on the lookout for dainty titbits of music, and would take infinite pains to make them effective. He arranged Schumann's Traumerlei to end with muted strings to desecendo in the extreme and instructed the strings to continue drawing the bow across the strings without making a sound. The audience imagined it still heard the sounds floating off to an immeasurable distance, till Thomas broke the spell by quietly laying down his baton.

Regarding signing classes, I read a most interesting account of one of the first singing classes and how it was conducted. Mr. Cheney says, I was one of the class in 1780 in New Hampshire, the session being held at the home of one of the members and sometimes in the school house, boards being placed across the kitchen chairs to answer for seats, in form of a circle, with the singing master in the centre. The master commenced by saying now follow me up and down, he would then sound a note and we would sound a note after him. At the close of the session the singing master agreed to give instruction for one shilling and six pence per night and take his pay in Indian corn. The men members paid for tuition while the girls supplied the candles for lighting purposes.

It has been said that musical inspiration does not attack all musicians in the same way. Here is one that I think is the strangest origin of any composition that I can recall. It is that of Scarlatti in his "Cate Fugue." The composer often had his favorite cat on his shoulder as she sat at the spinet. One day the cat became scared at something and springing from his shoulder ran across the key-board and away, but in her flight she struck several notes on the keyboard which Scarlatti, afterwards made into a fugue in her honor.

Brahms, the great music master, hated lionizing but he certainly possessed a high sense of humor. Once when being entertained by some of his friends in a Vienna restaurant the landlord brought on his best wine with this remark, "Here is a wine that surpasses all others, just as the music of Brahms does all other composers." "Well," said Brahms, "take it away and bring me a bottle of Bachy."

In a recent article in the Musical Quarterly, the writer tells of some strange methods for inspirations such as:—Haydn took refuge in prayer and rosary; Beethoven in the open air and nature; Mozart in paper and ink; Wagner depended on costly robes of silk and velvet saturated in rich colors; Dumas declared that a fine quality of paper was a real source of inspiration to him; Tchaikowsky needed air and trees; Halvey the noise of the tea kettle; Strauss wine and cigars, or a game of tarok; Suppe a good dose of snuffing tobacco; Donizetti was at his best when fixing his eyes at a distant point; Thomas when lying in bed; Balzac when clothed in a monk's cossack; and Gluck when at his piano placed in the midst of an open field in the sunshine.

"Fare!"

The passenger paid no attention to the bus conductor's war yell.

"Fare, please!"

Still the passenger was oblivious.

"By the ejaculatory term 'Fare!' said the conductor, 'I imply no reference to the state of the weather, the complexion of the beautiful damsel you observe in the contiguous seat, nor even to the quality of the service vouchsafed by this philanthropic company. I merely allude, in a manner perhaps lacking in delicacy, but not in consciousness, to the monetary obligation incurred by your presence in this car, and suggest that you liquidate.'"

And then at last the passenger woke up, and forked out his nickel.

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From the NEW ROYAL COOK BOOK

**BISCUIT!** What does light this word suggests. So tender they fairly melt in the mouth, and of such glorious flavor that the appetite is never satisfied. These are the kind of biscuits anyone can make with Royal Baking Powder and these unusual recipes.

**Biscuits**

2 cups flour  
4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup milk or half milk and half water

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Add shortening and stir in, mix lightly. Roll liquid slowly roll or pat on floured board to about one inch in thickness. Bake as little as possible on well-greased cutter. Bake in hot oven 15 to 20 minutes.

**Royal Cinnamon Buns**

2 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon Royal Baking Powder  
2 tablespoons shortening  
1 egg  
1 cup water  
1 cup sugar  
2 teaspoons cinnamon  
4 tablespoons seeded raisins

Sift 2 1/2 tablespoons of measured sugar with flour, salt and baking powder, rub shortening in lightly, add beaten egg to water and add slowly. Roll out 1/4 inch

thick on floured board; brush with melted butter, sprinkle with sugar, cinnamon and raisins. Roll as for jelly roll; cut into 1/2 inch pieces; place with cut edge up on well-greased pan; sprinkle with a little sugar and cinnamon. Bake in moderate oven 20 to 25 minutes; remove from pan at once.

**Parker House Rolls**

1/2 cup flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon Royal Baking Powder  
1/2 cup shortening  
1/2 cup milk

Sift flour, salt and baking powder together. Add melted shortening to milk and add slowly to dry ingredients stirring until smooth. Knead lightly on floured board and roll out 1/4 inch thick. Cut with biscuit cutter. Grease each circle with back of knife one side of center. Butter the small section and fold larger part well over the small. Place one inch apart in greased pan. Allow to stand 10 minutes in warm place. Brush each with melted butter and bake in moderate oven 15 to 20 minutes.

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