

PROGRESS.

PROGRESS PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, LIMITED.

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Subscribers who do not receive their paper Saturday morning are requested to communicate with the office.—Tel. 95.

PROGRESS PRIZE COMPETITION.

When Progress announced its prize competition, the publishers were on the qui vive of expectation to learn how the experiment would work, and what response the competition would meet with. But to say that the idea has made a bit would hardly express the reception the experiment has received at the hands of the public.

On Saturday last within three hours of Progress' appearance, answers began to pour into the office by the dozen every hour, and by every mail since, dozens upon dozens of answers have been coming in, until already several hundred have been received—and still they come.

As before stated the competition will remain open to all who wish to try for the money prize for two more issues including this week and next, but it should be distinctly remembered that no answers will be accepted after noon of April 6th.

In its issue of April 16th, Progress will take pleasure in announcing the names of the successful competitor or competitors. Should there be more than one correct answer, the prize will be equally divided.

THE PROSPECT OF WAR.

The crisis that exists between the United States and Spain may have assumed a much graver nature by the time the readers of Progress get this paper. At present with the all important report of the board that inquired into the cause of the destruction of the warship Maine, on its way to Washington, to the president of the United States, the situation is such that it does not appear probable that war can be avoided. And yet, more prudent counsel may prevail and succeed in postponing a disastrous conflict between two great nations of the eastern and western hemispheres. The opinion of the masses of people in the United States is largely influenced by those newspapers who have seized upon the present condition of affairs as an excuse for printing anything and everything that will profit themselves. They seem to care nothing for the effect a war may have upon the nation; the destruction of lives and property is nothing to them; they see only the bonanza for themselves. The temper of representatives and able financiers have been sorely tried by the selfish efforts of these so called "yellow journals" to incite the people to demand war, but, so far, it has been held in admirable check. Whether the president and his cabinet will be able to quell the outburst of popular indignation should the Maine inquiry result adversely to Spain remains to be seen.

But the destruction of the battleship is not the only difference between the two nations. The prolongation of the war in Cuba, the awful condition of the Cubans and the cruelties practised towards them has aroused the indignation of the people in the United States. They have already compelled the president to send relief to the starving and wretched people and noble men and women from the great republic are working night and day to relieve the distress of the oppressed Cubans. But this cannot last forever and public opinion will compel the president to put an end to such methods of warfare as Spain has adopted. And just as surely as the United States interferes in the affairs of Cuba she will get into a conflict with the Spaniard. That is what the Latin people say and the government will not be able to preserve peace and retain the seats of office if they oppose them.

The public men of the United States do not propose to act in the dark in this

grave emergency. They have not depended upon newspaper reports for their conclusions but many of them have gone to Cuba and seen with their own eyes the distress and sufferings of the patient and patriotic Cubans. Perhaps the most notable of these visitors was Senator PROCTOR who spent some time upon the island and drew conclusions, which, when presented in a dispassionate way to the people from his place in the senate aroused a storm of indignation throughout the land and convinced many doubtful people that such persecution of innocent people should come to an end.

"Innocent people" may be a strange term to many of Progress readers but it must be remembered that all of the Cubans are not rebels. Their sympathies are no doubt with the insurgents but as they took no part in the war, molestation of them was not warranted. But under the stern decree of the cruel WYLER all these industrious and innocent people were forced to leave their homes and lands and enter the fortified towns, there to suffer and starve, and 200,000 of them have died in the horrors of such a life. In his description of the condition of the country Senator PROCTOR told how all the country people in the four western provinces, about 400,000 in number, remaining outside the fortified towns when Weyler's order was made were driven into these towns, and these are the reconcentrados. They were the peasantry, many of them farmers, some landowners, others renting lands and owning more or less stock, others working on estates and cultivating small patches, and even a small patch in that fruitful clime will support a family.

When WYLER's order was issued commanding all of them to go into fortified towns within eight days many, doubtless, did not learn of this command. Others failed to grasp its terrible meaning. It was left largely to the guerrillas to drive in all that did not obey, and in many cases a torch was applied to their homes with no notice, and the inmates fled with such clothing as they might have on, their stock and other belongings being appropriated by the guerrillas. When they reached the town they were allowed to build huts of palm leaves in the suburbs and vacant places within the fortifications and left to live it they could. Their huts are about ten by fifteen feet in size, and, for want of space, are usually crowded together very closely. They have no floor but the ground, no furniture, and, after a year's wear, but little clothing except such stray substitutes as they can extemporize, and with large families or with more than one in this little space. The commonest sanitary provisions are impossible. Conditions are unmentionable in this respect. Torn from their homes, with foul earth, foul air, foul water and foul food, or none, what wonder that one-half have died, and that one-quarter of the living are so diseased that they cannot be saved. A form of dropsy is a common disorder resulting from these conditions. Little children are still walking about with arms and chest terribly emaciated, eyes swollen, and abdomen bloated to three times the natural size. The physicians say these cases are hopeless.

Deaths in the streets have not been uncommon. The people have been found dead about the markets in the morning, where they had crawled, hoping to get some stray bits of food from the early hucksters, and there have been cases where they had dropped dead inside the market, surrounded by food. These people were independent and self-supporting before WYLER's order. Is it any wonder that the English speaking people of the great republic near us are aroused as they have not been for decades. How long would England tolerate such a state of affairs near her threshold? The United States should have interfered long ago. The sooner some action is taken the better.

SURELY NOT IN OTTAWA.

There is a new feature in social life in Ottawa which has created more excitement among the elite of that city than all the scandals in government or opposition circles. It is curious how much importance is attached to little mistakes of ownership sometimes and how little importance attends the abstraction of thousands and tens of thousands of the public funds. There is not much doubt that there is a thief who has entered in society in the capital. He or she does the work in such a manner that suspicion does not appear to attach to any person, but for any one of the charmed circle to forget the difference between meum and tuum—it is simply preposterous. According to one account the following is a typical case.

Some weeks ago Mrs. Connel of 283 Daly Avenue, gave an "at home." Mrs. A. F. McIntyre was one of the guests. She had shortly before her arrival cashed a check for twenty dollars, one dollar of which she had spent. Her purse containing nineteen dollars was left in her muff. When she went to get it to go home she noticed that the purse

was lying outside the muff. She boarded a Rideau street car, and on opening it to pay her fare, excitedly exclaimed, "Why, my money is gone," and returned to Mrs. Connel's. The room was searched thoroughly, but no trace of the missing nineteen dollars could be found. Mrs. Smith of Aylmer, was also a guest at Mrs. Connel's the same afternoon, and when she arrived home she was six dollars short, which had been left in her cloak pocket. But perhaps the most surprised person was Mrs. Connel, who the following morning ascertained that no less than sixteen dollars had been taken from one of the bureau drawers in the room where the guests had disrobed. Mrs. Connel was at loss to know where the money had gone, and when she learned that two of her guests had also been robbed, naturally felt very much hurt. Not the slightest suspicion was placed on the servants, as they are old and trusted. Similar losses were reported by Miss Scott, daughter of the Secretary of State, and other ladies after social functions. Brushes, button hooks, silver bon-bon dishes and other articles also disappeared, often under circumstances that forbade the assumption that they could have been taken by servants.

To what a pass has morals in Ottawa arrived when the women as well as the men forget these nice and necessary distinctions of ownership. What an opportunity for Mr. SCOTT to moralize upon the effects of association with political boodlers!

No doubt there is a great deal of truth in the assertion that the present provincial liquor law is wonderful in its elasticity, but there should be some limit to even this feature of it. We will know in a few days just how the commission proposes to bring the licenses down to the proper number. Last year the excuse was set up that because a number of those who had been in the business were refused licenses they should be allowed three months in order to get rid of their stock in trade without loss to themselves. For this privilege they paid a license in proportion to the yearly fee. But the three months were extended to six and so on for the whole year. The commissioners took a liberty with the law which has been passed over without much if any comment. They should mark out a certain line of action this year and stick to it. Those who took out these provisional licenses will not require any longer time to get rid of their stock. They should either get a license for a year or get none at all. Besides it may fairly be argued that the commissioners have no right to deal out licenses on the installment plan. To make one man hand over \$300 before a certain date and permit another to pay \$75 for every three months is not strictly according to the prevalent idea of fair play.

A reader of PROGRESS in Halifax sends a letter to the editor of this paper which is virtually an account of the life of a young man in whom he is interested. But he neglects to send his name, and his references are so pointed that no newspaper could print his communication without some means of verifying it. What the writer of the letter asserts may be perfectly correct but the wisdom of giving it publication in the press may well be questioned. So far as we can see only private interests would be served by such a course and it is doubtful if even they would be much improved by giving such information to a score of people to every one who knows it now. It may be argued that the exposure of the wrong doing of one person who sins against himself more than any other is in a sense of benefit to the public, but if that was a part of the duty of the press what a task it would be. We cannot return the letter to the writer since we have no address but if he will send an addressed envelope we will be glad to do so, with the suggestion, that if his interest in the young man is as sincere as he says it is, to forward the document to him directly. It might have the effect he desires.

It having come to the knowledge of PROGRESS that some party, or parties, have been representing themselves as agents of the paper with authority to collect and give receipts, this is to give notice that no one is authorized to receive money or give receipts either by contra account or otherwise, without the written authority of "The Progress Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd.", and no receipts will be valid unless bearing the stamp of the company properly signed by either the manager or treasurer; or the company's properly authorized agent.

What Innocents Will do.

At a place in close proximity to Fred' erickton, the death occurred recently of an infant. All arrangements for its burial had been made, and the little one's remains placed in the casket. Just previous to the dinner hour the mother went into the room to have a look at her dead babe, when to her great distress, there was nothing there but the empty casket. The mother rushed from the room to the door to give the alarm, and there she discovered the other children innocently sliding down hill with the little one's remains wrapped up in their arms.

Spring Millinery.

Attention is directed to Charles K. Cameron's interesting announcement in his regular advertisement in this issue of PROGRESS.

It is Mr. Cameron tells his patrons some pleasing news regarding his excellent stock of spring and summer millinery which includes all the latest novelties from foreign centres in the way of hats, toques, turbans and bonnets. All the prettiest and latest ribbons, feathers, ospreys and other dainty accompaniments of the millinery trade will also be found in abundance and at prices that will please the most economically inclined buyers.

Mr. Marr's Enterprise.

The Moncton papers devoted considerable space to H. G. Marr's spring millinery opening, which took place the beginning of the week and which was attended with all the eclat that it is possible to give such an affair. Watt's orchestra was in attendance and played the splendid programme which was printed in this paper last Saturday. The Times says of the Moncton opening: "Mr. Marr's stock of general millinery is without doubt larger, prettier and better assorted than ever shown by him in any previous season, and his openings in the past have been on a par with those of the larger establishments of Canadian cities. The display of hats is something elegant, while the beautiful assortment of ribbons and flowers is simply gorgeous. The ladies of Moncton will certainly avail themselves of the invitation to visit Mr. Marr's handsomely decorated show rooms to-day and even ng. It is said that Parisian milliners repeat themselves as little as possible. What chiefly strikes one at Mr. Marr's store is the great variety of of choice materials and trimmings. The annual spring opening of the St. John store will take place next week, beginning on Tuesday, and already elaborate preparations are being made for it. Mr. Marr has now the services of one of the best milliners in the Dominion and is in every way prepared to please his numerous patrons in this city.

Tuttle's Elixir.

It is a conceded fact that Tuttle's Elixir is the best family and horse Liniment on the market. Paddington & Merritt, agents, St. John, N. B.

We want to impress upon you that we only charge 25c per pair for curtains and blankets. Certainly let us do them. Ungars Laundry and Dye Works Telephone 58.

Dandruff, which causes so much itching of the scalp, can be cured by Hall's Hair Renewer, because it is a corrective tonic for the glands producing dandruff.



The April Number of the Delineator is called the Spring number, and it contains and supplements the spring styles given in March. The literary matter for this month ranges over a very interesting field. Dr. Murray's article on Headaches, treated in a popular way, but with a physician's knowledge, should be much appreciated. Mrs. Maynell's description of how children regard their toys will be a valuable lesson to parents. There is a practical article on Renovating the Farm House which will apply equally to any country house. For the housekeeper there is an excellent paper on House cleaning, while the second part of Almonds in the Kitchen gives many original and desirable recipes. Mrs. Jones discusses mourning customs, which in conjunction with the plate of mourning styles in the front of the book, makes this a good reference number. Entertainment for adults is provided in a literary detective bureau (2nd part), and the fiction for the month is by such a favorite writer as Ellen Olney Kirk. The comprehensive article on hair dressing is alone worth the subscription price. Order from the local agent Butterick Patterns, or address The Delineator Publishing Co., of Toronto, Limited, 33 Richmond St. West Toronto, Ont. The subscription price of The Delineator is \$1.00 per year, single copies 15 cents.

Reading.

Colored people, as a class, are not distinguished for a provident spirit, but some of them can see through a millstone if there is a hole in it. Witness the following example from the Atlantic Constitution:

"I'm thinking of running for governor, John," said the citizen to one of his colored constituents, "and I want you to help me out."

The old man looked thoughtful and then said:

"All right, Marce Tom; but I wants ter ax you one leadin' question."

"Well, what is it?"

"How much is you gwine give me when you gits beat?"

Something for Puzzle Workers.

To sharpen up the wits of its readers, PROGRESS opens the following competition: What line or lines among the poetical selections in Royal Reader No. 5 is illustrated by this picture?

The picture and coupon will appear for the last time on April 2nd and the result be announced on April 16th.

As many answers can be sent as one chooses, provided each one is on a properly filled out coupon, including the picture.

No answers received after noon on April 6th will be considered.

A prize of Ten Dollars will be given to the fortunate winner or should there be more correct guesses the money will be equally divided.

PROGRESS hopes that the prize will go to one or at most to two bright readers. Care has been taken to make the puzzle hard enough, but not too hard. Only experience can tell how successfully the idea has been carried out.

Lent does not interfere with seekers this year as last and other elapsed pass the indeed. Among those who assist Sidney Smith get their green Miss for home early guest included of the smart set occasion. Mrs. Kirkwood's of the form of a little. Kothasay who Mr. Harry Scott's pent Mrs. Fen Fr non from 3 to the disagreeab large numbers, receiving and Hanks was s silk. The tabl and yellow tall ion at an affa musical progr tant in the Gilbort, Mr sang some Furious and bango and p also played o Miss Minnie evening, for w tions have be be thoroughly Mrs. John with Mrs. E Christmas m Mr. W. H. a visit to Fre A. J. club of the golf cl the residence and was very funds will be tions of the r in the club o who worked wore red and with red. The candy Mrs Ronald room was lo and Mrs. J. des the stu and several During the ded to the pi son sent the tions, songs, lady friends After the room, when Robertson ing of all r It is unde her perior will take p Mrs. Wm city for a d Mrs. C. B a day or tw The Liec in the city Sunday he Mr. W. V. ed the Sp week. Mr. and for a trip in Mr. and among rec Mrs. Pa quash after Mr. John with relat Mr. and many Et. Fair this Mrs. M James C street. Mr. W. Mettill U studies. Mr. H among ol Mrs. N from Mo Mrs. G in Pictu Ham Gor Colonel day's a ated. Mr. L city rec Lady Stephen Mr. F here for New Yo Capt. Bell an Oatrid Miss this we will tak after be Mrs. to Bost Mr. J. Vancou present Miss time w John th be her