# HOME JOURNAL

## A Department for the Family

## People and Things the World Over

The British Museum is celebrating its 150th anniversary.

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Admiral Alexieff, for accepting a bribe from a British firm, has been fined $5,000 and dismissed from the Russian service.

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S. C. Stephansson, the gifted poet of the Icelanders in Canada, is making a tour of the settlements of his people on the Canadian prairies and in Dakota and Minnesota.

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The post-mortem examination of the four murderers guillotined in France recently show the brains free from any sign of degeneracy and unusually well developed. Therefore Prof. de Brierre concludes there was no reason whatever why these men should not have led perfectly regular, moral lives—except—that they did not want to.

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The Rhodes scholarship committee for King's College, Windsor, N.S., has awarded the scholarship this year to Medley K. Parlee, a son of the Rev. Henry T. Parlee, rector of St. Mary's Church, Aylesford, N.S. At the end of his first year at King's college Mr. Parlee won the Almon-Welsford prize for the highest aggregate for the year, and in the following year he obtained the Stevenson scholarship.

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To George M. Smith, of Calgary, falls the distinction of being the student selected this year as Rhodes scholar representing the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Four years a resident in the West and twenty years of age, Mr. Smith is a fourth year undergraduate in the University of Toronto, where he will take his degree this coming May, proceeding to Oxford next October.

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Dr. Giles, professor of Chinese at Cambridge University, has recently discovered specifications of a vehicle with a machine for measuring distance dating from 900 years ago. So clear are the specifications that Prof. Hopkinson has been able to construct a working model. The vehicle is a kind of chariot, and registers distances with considerable precision, and records them by the beating of a drum at each li, or Chinese mile, and the ringing of a bell at every completion of ten miles. A li is about one-third of an English mile.

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The Minister of Labor tabled the report of W. L. Mackenzie King on the labor conditions in the cotton mills at Quebec. Last summer there was a strike, and Mr. King was sent out to investigate conditions. It was found that the child labor laws were being evaded, and many children under fourteen were being employed. The state of some of these children was pitiable. One did not know the meaning of the word holiday. A great many of the children were very ignorant, some not being able to tell their ages. Mr. King recommended that the law in this regard be enforced and another passed keeping children at school until the age of fourteen.

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Herr Brucker, an alderman of Freiburg, Germany, is described as neither a saloonkeeper nor a tippler, yet he has announced himself 'too true a friend of alcohol to permit his name to be imperishably associated with a fountain which spouted mere water.' He expressed great indignation when his fellow aldermen, refusing to take him seriously, had his name placed with the others of the council on a new fountain erected in the city. These astonishing aldermen decided to relieve the town treasury by paying out of their own pockets the cost of making some extensive repairs to the fountain. When Brucker was asked to contribute his share he indignantly declined, with the result that each of his fellow city fathers has had to contribute to make up the deficit.

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Of the many signs of progress in China, one of the most interesting is the editing and publishing of a daily newspaper by a woman named Mrs. Chang, a native of Pekin. After marriage to a Chinese official, she spent several years in Central China, where she learned much about the condition of the people; and subsequently, upon the death of her husband, returned once more to her native city in North China. Meanwhile Mrs. Chang's mind had become intent on the progress of her country, and she courageously decided to start a daily newspaper for women, called the Pekin 'Woman's News,' which, on its own lines is said to be without a rival in the whole world.—*Dundee Advertiser.*

### A Place to Play

To further the laudable object of providing Winnipeg children with play-grounds other than vacant lots and the public streets the superintendent of neglected children, F. J. Billiardé, has prepared a pamphlet on the subject. It is composed of a series of articles, on such phases of the question as "The Need for Public Playgrounds," "The Public Playground and its Relation to the Juvenile Court," and The Cost and Management of Public Playgrounds.

In some ways, present-day children are receiving too much attention. They become overwhelmed and self-conscious in the presence of adults who are seizing upon their youthful mental processes and indulging in phsychological hysterics over the workings of the child mind. What the youngster really needs is a good place to play, with careful, but concealed, supervision from some wise elder, and his mental processes will take care of themselves.

The country child has no difficulty in finding a playground, but is often sadly deprived of the time to enjoy his happiness in it. No child under fourteen should be deprived of the opportunity for play every day of his life, even if there can be no more than half an hour or an hour devoted to it.

### Old Age Annuities in Canada

The Canadian government is sending out a little booklet, compiled by S. T. Bastedo, the superintendent of this new department, and containing a full explanation of the Government Annuities Act of 1908, "under which provision may be made by, or for, every man, woman or child against want and poverty, and for that happiness which comes with the removal of the dread of destitution in old age."

If you wish to put by money in this way for your old age the method is very simple. The money is handled through the postal department and you can do your business at the nearest money order office or post office savings bank, or you can deal directly with the department at Ottawa. You can deposit any sum from 25 cents a week up, and do it weekly, monthly, or yearly, as you prefer. Your deposits are limited to a sum that with four per cent. compound interest will yield a minimum of $50 and a maximum of $600 per year after you have reached the age of sixty. For instance, a man beginning at 20 years of age and paying 25 cents a week until he is 60, is providing a yearly income for the remainder of his life of $129.91, which will be paid quarterly unless otherwise expressly provided.

Annuities may be provided for children from the age of five and upwards. Joint annuities for man and wife can be arranged to be paid as long as either is alive. If, for sickness or any other reason your contributions cease for a time, payment may be resumed at any time, and a just proportion of the original annuity will be paid to you, if in the aggregate, your deposits have been sufficient to earn the minimum annuity of $50. If the total is not sufficient to yield $50, all payments will be returned to you with compound interest at three per cent. If you should die before the expiration of the allotted time all your payments with three per cent. interest will be returned to your heirs. No medical examination is required, and pass books for the convenience of depositors will be supplied by the postmaster, who will also give you the booklet from which these facts have been taken, and will supply you with a card upon which you apply for further definite information regarding rates and ages.

### A Travelling Scholarship

The Manitoba University Board has announced that the sum of $600 has been set apart for a travelling scholarship. The object of this scholarship shall be to help students who have finished their final year in Manitoba University to pursue some special course of study at some other university or institution of learning. No student shall be allowed to hold this scholarship for more than two years, and having once held it he shall never again be considered eligible to take advantage of its privileges.

The regulations governing the award of this scholarship are as follows:

Those eligible to compete for the scholarship shall be students who have graduated not more than twelve months previously, at the regular spring examination, in one of the special courses, or in the course in medicine or engineering.

One travelling scholarship shall be offered for competition in every alternate year, or oftener if a scholarship be vacant; and the course in which it is offered shall be decided by rotation in the following order: The special course in classics, the special course in mathematics; the special course in Modern languages; the special course in English philosophy; the special course in science; the special course in medicine; the special course in engineering. The course in which it is proposed to award it shall be announced in the Calendar of the year previous.

The scholarship shall be awarded to the student obtaining the highest marks at a special examination in the subjects of the selected course, the date and place of holding which shall be announced in the Calendar of the year previous. Provided always that the scholarship shall not be awarded to any student who shall not have (a) obtained first class standing at the special examination, and (b) obtained first class standing, and have passed in all subjects of his final examination. If these conditions be not satisfied, the scholarship may, if the board of studies deem it advisable, be offered under similar conditions in the subjects of the course next in rotation.

The place at which the successful student shall pursue his studies, shall be paid each year in two moieties; provided that the second moiety in each year shall not be paid until the student shall have spent at least three months in studying at the institution selected; and shall have produced a certificate of his having made satisfactory progress, from the authorities of the institution.

The scholarship will be awarded next spring in the department of classics. The special scholarship examination in classics will be held at the same time as the matriculation examination, beginning May 24, and applications for same should be forwarded to the registrar on or before April 24. The examination will consist of six papers:

1, Greek prose; 2, Latin prose; 3, Greek sight translation; 4 Latin sight translation; 5, Latin and Greek grammar; 6, Roman and Greek history.