

THE CANADIAN COURIER

Published at 181 Simcoe St., Toronto, by the Courier Press, Limited. Subscription Price: Canada and Great Britain, \$2.00 per year; postage to United States, \$1.00 per year; other foreign postage, \$2.00 per year. IMPORTANT: Changes of address should be sent two weeks before the date they are to go into effect. Both old and new addresses must be given. CANCELLATIONS: We find that most of our subscribers prefer not to have their subscriptions interrupted in case they fail to remit before expiration. Unless we are notified to cancel, we assume the subscriber wishes the service continued.

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EXTENSIONS

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CANADIAN COURIER

TORONTO ONTARIO

EDITOR'S TALK

THIS is addressed to the people who write, or who think about writing, Canadian short stories. It is therefore of interest to far more people than one might suppose, for almost every intelligent man or woman has the desire to write and may some day beget a manuscript. The Editor's message to such people is:

Try Not to Write a War Story!

There have been very excellent war stories written—some by Canadians. We still have in the Courier Office manuscripts which we intend to publish and in which the theme of war is paramount. But the day of the war story is coming to an end. In England many of the best magazines have been steadily refusing even to consider any piece of fiction which was centred around the war. The truth of the matter is that war is stranger than fiction. The real episodes of this war far outshine the creations of even the most lively imaginations. You can't possibly think out half the new things, or a twentieth of the real heroics that the war causes in a day.

One More Piece of Advice.

Write of the things you know—rather than the things you don't know anything about. Write about the plain men and women and the ordinary episodes of life, BUT in such a way that your readers will see the inherent true-ness (so to speak) of your observation. And DON'T take it for granted that a good story must always end with a pair of lovers embraced.

Of course you may have the gift for writing stories with intricate and absorbing plots. So must the better. Plots are always welcome. But it is surprising what good stories can be written without "plot" in the ordinary sense of the word. Stories that indicate, for example, such things as the inherent restlessness of Canadians, or the inevitable optimism of the west. Even tragedy, if it is written for truth's sake rather than for mere gloominess' sake, is worth trying.

And above all, let us reiterate the old advice: write—and re-write. Then when you have re-written—re-write again.

Canadian Courier—every one of the good Canadian publications—finds it difficult to get good Canadian stories. You can assist us and assist yourself perhaps.

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TEMPERATURE





FREEZING

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15th ANNOUNCEMENT

SEA LEGS

On some voyages it takes a passenger a long time to get his "Sea legs." He finds it hard to accustom himself to the ocean's pitch and roll. But this is not the experience of the man who voyages by the West India ships of the "Royal Mail;" he becomes used to the motion almost immediately for these ships, with their big capacity filled with cargo, are probably the staunchest and steadiest craft that plough the western ocean. Even the poorest sailor need not worry about feeling sea sick if he plans his visit to the West Indies by a ship of the "Royal Mail."



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