

A Painter of History.
Mr. Robert Harris, C.M.G., who died in Montreal recently, had a long and distinguished career, chiefly as a figure and portrait painter. One of his best known works was "The Fathers of Confederation," executed under a commission from the Dominion Government. It contained the figures of thirty-three Canadian statesmen, and was regarded as an accurate representation of them and of great historical value. Unfortunately this painting, which hung for many years in the lobby at the main entrance to the House of Parliament, Ottawa, was destroyed in the fire. Among the offices which he held were President of the Royal Canadian Academy, 1893-1906; president of the Ontario Society of Artists and Director of the Art School, Montreal Art Association, 1883-87. He was created a C.M.G. in 1902.

A sanitary hair brush has the flexible pad, which enables that part to be separated from the back for cleansing.

Diameter of Pine Tree.
Mr. Hill, lockmaster at Buckhorn, Ont., experimented with a pine tree to determine improved growth which may be secured by proper care. Fifteen years ago, he pruned all the lower branches off a 4-inch white pine sapling, removing other saplings from its vicinity, dug up the earth around it and applied manure to its base. It is now 19 inches in diameter at its base and has a long, clean pole. Thus, during the fifteen years, the growth in diameter has averaged one inch annually. — Conservation.

An Industrious Beaver.
A beaver in a park was experimentally placed at work on a tree twelve feet long and two feet six inches thick, just as the town clock sounded the hour of noon. The beaver began by barking the tree a foot above the ground. That done, he attacked the wood. He worked hard, alternating his labor with dips in his bathing pond. He bathed and labored alternately, then he ate his supper of bread and carrots, which the keeper had brought him, and paddled about in his pond until half-past five o'clock. Ten minutes later, when only one inch of the tree's diameter remained intact, he bore upon his work and the tree fell. Before it fell the beaver ran as men run when they have fired a blast. Then as the tree lay on the ground he portioned it out mentally and began to gnaw. He worked at intervals all night; cut the log into three parts, rolled two of the portions into the water, and reserved the other third for his permanent shelter. The work done, he took a bath.

Unique "Angels."
Theatrical history is full of tales of "Angels." But surely no would-be star ever had a prettier story to tell than that of Mrs. M. A. Trestrail, first known to theatregoers as May Anderson. After playing with several road companies Mrs. Trestrail decided to make her home in Toronto with her two boys, and became director of dramatic art at the Canadian Academy of Music. When one of her young sons went to France, mother returned to the stage once more and played the dark mammy of Henry Miller's "Come Out of the Kitchen."

But now comes the pretty part of the story. Her two boys have bought mother one of last year's New York successes, and she will be the first woman producing manager in Canada. New York theatrical magnates are paying tribute to the ability of various feminine stage managers whom they are now giving a chance. But thanks to the devotion of May Anderson's sons, their mother is going even one further than New York's latest fad.

Mrs. Trestrail is to play the Trans-Canada route from Halifax to Vancouver. It is interesting to note her play is also the work of a Canadian, Harvey O'Higgins, and his collaborator, Harriet Ford. It is the George Tyler comedy hit of last season, "On the Hiring Line," and is a satirical farce on the domestic servant problem. May Irwin starred in it.

No Rivals.
It was a geography lesson, and the teacher had been asking what some of the different counties in England were noted for. Looking at one of the little girls, she asked: "Tell me, Florence, what Rutlandshire is celebrated for?" For a moment the child was silent, then an inspiration apparently came to her. "Rutlandshire," replied the child, "is celebrated for being the only country in the kingdom that is the smallest."

All Complete.
Lady, at railway station, to porter: "Now, porter, are you sure I have all my luggage in the train?"
Porter: "Yes, ma'am—not even a—"

Lady: "Nothing left behind?"
Porter: "Nothing, ma'am—not even a copper."

Happy Occasion.
Mother—What's the matter, darling?
Child—P-p-pa hit his finger with the hammer.
Mother—Don't cry about that; you should laugh.
Child—I-I-d-did.

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PAN-AMERICANISM.
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John Barrett, the unique, the irrepressible, the lovable, finally has retired from the directorship of the Pan-American Union after 25 years devoted to the upbuilding of the Pan-American Union. He is succeeded by the capable Dr. L. S. Rowe, a former assistant secretary of the Treasury, later in charge of Latin American affairs for many years. Mr. Barrett resigned for the reason, which he frankly states, that if he remained much longer at his present post he would find himself "in danger of going eventually from the beautiful Pan-American Union, which he loves with the affection of a parent for its favorite child, to the lowly poorhouse." Mr. Barrett says that after spending a month with his aged mother at the family homestead in Crafton, Vt., and a brief trip to Panama to assist in the inauguration there of the new Pan-American College of Commerce, he will establish connections in large American and possibly some Latin American cities as a general counsellor and adviser in Pan-American and other international affairs, based on his long official experience.

An entirely separate and civil project of international character, however, to which he will contribute his spare time and which will most appeal to public interest, will be the carrying to early completion of the organization, already initiated by him, of a great popular and practical "League of American Nations and Peoples," which will probably be known either as the "League of the Americas," or the "Pan-American League." Its purpose will be to organize effectively for Pan-American progress, prosperity and peace that large and rapidly growing number of men and women in North, Central and South America who realize the immense possibilities for the good of the Americas which will result from their economic, social and intellectual co-operation, free from political, governmental or official control. This league will in no sense be a special agency of the United States for advantage over the other American countries or antagonistic to Europe or Asia. Mr. Barrett says, but a natural and logical co-operative effort of Western Hemisphere peoples, from Canada to Chile, for Western Hemisphere good.

A new and important feature will be the active participation of Canadians, who heretofore have been treated to a degree as outside of the Pan-American family. It will not rival in any way or clash with the work and prerogatives of the Pan-American Union, as a great international office which is strictly official and hence limited in its popular activities. It will co-operate with and enlarge upon the work of the powerful Pan-American Society of United States, whose headquarters are in New York city and of which Mr. Barrett had the honor to be the founder several years ago.

Useless Information.
We always devour all the statistics we can find, says an exchange. They are wonderful. Listen: If all the telegraph records made in one year were thrown from the top of Brock's Monument they would stack.
It would take four men some time to lick all the postage stamps made in Ottawa in one year, but we don't know just how long.
If all the telephone conversations from corner drug stores in one year could be recorded on a phonograph, nobody could listen to them.
A mule can climb to the top of Mt. Popocatepetl in five days. He can descend in five seconds.
If all the doughnuts made by the Salvation Army could be linked together in one chain, they would reach from Paris to Somewhere in France.

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There is an ever growing list of Federal Ministers leaving their jobs, but there is little need for worry on their account. Sir Thomas White gave up the Ministry of Finance to become adviser to great financial concerns. His income now must exceed by many times his \$7,000 a year as Minister. Hon. F. B. Carvell became chairman of the Dominion Railway Board at \$10,000 a year. Hon. T. A. Cramer works enough at his desk to draw \$15,000 a year as president of the United Grain Growers. —Toronto Star Weekly.

Your system requires sugar and you require a system to get it.

Old Hats Exported.
Thousands of hats discarded by English women are exported every year to Brazil, where they are eagerly bought by the Indians. The feathers and other ornaments on the hats are taken by the men, and the bare straw shapes given to their women-folk.

Getting Together.
A youth named Beer was arrested the other day for breaking into a public house. The magistrate decided that the proper place for him was the rog—London Punch.

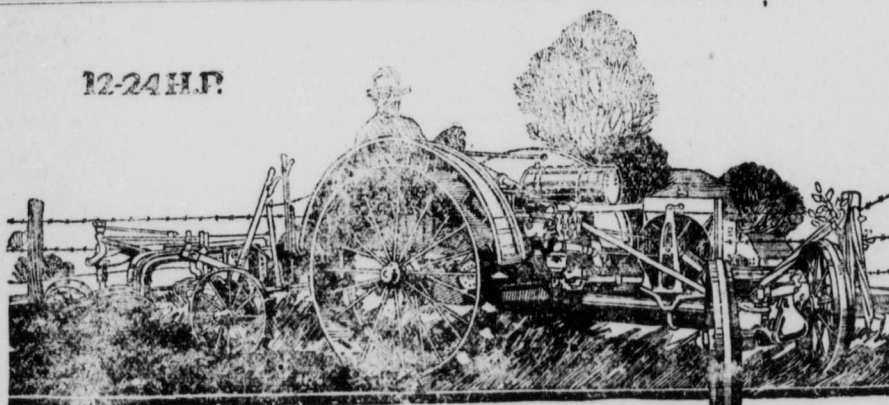
February Has Five Sundays.

For the first time in forty years there are five Sundays in February. Ordinarily the sequence of five Sundays in February occurs once in each twenty-eight years, but owing to the fact that 1900 was not a leap year the calendar "slipped a cog," and Sunday, being shunted out of place in numerical order, it did not get back into position to become the first and last day of the month from 1880 until this year.

Ontario School Statistics.

According to the Minister of Education's report for 1918 the attendance during the year was 551,865, divided: Public, 457,616; Separate, 79,948; High schools and collegiate institutes, 29,057; continuation schools, 5,104. There are 6,103 Public Schools, with 11,274 teachers; 548 separate schools or collegiate institutes, with 1,651 teachers; 137 continuation schools, with 211 teachers. The Public school attendance averaged 295,652, an increase of 3,047. Separate schools attendance was 46,919, an increase of 122. The total expenditure for school purposes was \$16,855,431, an average of \$6.35 per head for the total population.

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