

CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL

An Illustrated Monthly Publication Devoted to the Interests of Canadian Women and Canadian Homes.

Official Organ of the Women's Canadian Historical Society and the Woman's Art Association of Canada.

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EDITOR'S CORNER.

Victoria A PECULIAR sadness will mark the Day. festivities of this year's 24th of May.

We shall no longer speak of it as the "Queen's Birthday," for "Her Majesty" as we so long knew Queen Victoria, is no longer with us. She has become Queen in a higher realm—a position earned by her queenly life of more than four score years in this lower realm. We do not think, if our late Queen could speak to us, that she would want the 24th of May a day of sadness and gloom. It will hardly be that, and yet we may expect that it will be observed in a quieter manner, doubtless, than that of former years. The suggestion has been made that it might be an occasion for some public gathering where there would be speechmaking appropriate to the day and the occasion which it celebrates. Speechmaking is not over welcome on a summer holiday, and yet in this particular case it would serve a good purpose that there should be some sort of gathering where there should be given yearly an opportunity to refer to the good deeds of our late good Queen, and bring up in remembrance those many elements of her character that have gone so far, not alone to help to make the British people better, but an influence that has extended for good the wide world over.

Mrs. Botha The latest newspaper reports as Mediator. tell us that Mrs. Botha, wife of the commander of the Boer forces in South Africa, is about to visit Paul Kruger and see if it is possible to have him intercede with the remaining Boers and have the South African hostilities brought to a

close. Mrs. Botha will tell the late executive head of the South African republics that it is a useless fight—a painful waste of life and money—to endeavor to prevent English supremacy in South Africa. As a sensible woman, seeing conditions from close range, she recognizes this fact, and has been doing her part for some time to bring about a cessation of hostilities, but not with very much success—though through no fault of hers. Kruger's foolish attitude throughout this whole trouble, even more after he himself had shaken off the dust of South Africa than before it, does not give much hope for the success of Mrs. Botha's mission. But whatever the result, we must commend this woman for the humanitarian and sensible view of the situation that she has taken, and her persistent efforts to attain a practical and peaceful end.

Women and Missions. VARIOUS early summer gatherings of the missionary societies of different churches is suggestive of the important place that women hold in the work of the Church. It could hardly be otherwise if we have any recollection at all of the part she has played in sacred history. And in the work of carrying the glad tidings to those in distant lands, as much as those in heathen darkness at home, she is engaged in a work peculiarly fitting. The reports of the meetings of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church, and the other churches, as they have come to us at this writing, all indicate a year of special activity, despite the fact that the trouble in China and in other places abroad has been a serious drawback to the extension of missionary work.

Good Manners. A CORRESPONDENT in eastern Ontario is anxious to get the opinion of our readers on one or two questions of etiquette. She asks: "Will any of your readers give us a synopsis of what is called good manners for our girls from twelve to twenty? Is it polite for a girl of that age, when spoken to by a teacher or parent, simply to answer 'Yes' or 'No'? Should she not say, 'Yes, sir,' or 'Yes, ma'am,' or at least mention the name of the person addressed? In Japan, when the servant retires for the night she comes to say so, and the words she uses are, 'O ya su me masai.' 'O' is a term of respect and 'masai' means please. The master or the mistress says, 'Ya su me,' rest well. Our folks don't seem to believe in such things. The Japanese have been called the French of the East. Our grand and gracious old standard, the Scriptures, tells us to 'Rise up before the hoary head.' 'The master should be served and afterwards the servant should sit down to meat,' but our Saviour adds, 'But I am among you as one that serveth.' How true to experience is that word, 'Before honor is humility.' True self-respect leads to give all honor to those who are above us in position or age or relationship, and only ignorance and silly pride refuses honor to whom honor is due. But to return to the young folks, may I ask should boys and girls have the same manners? Are gentlemen allowed to do things and speak in a way which in a lady would be considered impolite? While we believe that a person is a born gentleman or a born lady, yet a few plain printed rules would be good for the guidance of many a learner."

PUBLISHER'S TALKS.

And Every Reader Interested.

THE CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL, whilst always giving generous space to matters affecting womankind, at the same time covers the broad field of the whole Our family. We are encouraged by the Field. many expressions that come to us from readers telling how the JOURNAL is welcomed, not only by the mothers but also by the fathers of the home, and the little ones. Our objective point is the making of a journal that will point to the healthful up-building of the whole home—in that which is best for the home—and consequently best for the entire nation. Plans are on foot to further extend the usefulness of the JOURNAL along these lines in which it to-day has made so prominent a place for itself in Canadian journalism.

ONLY those of our readers who get on a big hurry, as the vernacular of the day puts it, can hope to benefit by the census competition that we Canadian Census Competition. have been running in connection with the JOURNAL for the past few months. Hundreds have availed themselves of the opportunity to become subscribers to the CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL, and participants in the competition. Large numbers whose subscriptions have been expiring have used the opportunity to renew and extend their subscriptions. The competition will positively close with the last day of May, and any estimates must reach us before then, else certificates cannot be forwarded.

It can hardly be expected that Canadian readers will take the same enthusiastic interest in the new competition that we announce in another Our New Competition. column—conducted along similar lines—that they have in the Canadian census competition. It does not deal directly with affairs of their own country, and yet we can be broad enough in our views and our knowledge of affairs to be able to participate in a competition affecting the elections in neighboring States. One reason of the success of the competition has been the knowledge that the Press Publishing Association, who have been the underwriters of the fifteen thousand dollars to be distributed, have already proven themselves a concern which carries out to the letter every promise made. Everyone who has taken part in the Canadian census competition will find this to be the case, and this of itself is one good reason why they may enter into an estimate of the probabilities in three of the important State elections across the border. The data given on which to shape an estimate is so complete that any one should be able to figure reasonably near what the real result will be. We anticipate that many of our readers will take advantage of the new competition—and welcome it as another effort on the part of ourselves as publishers to keep them interested in a form of mathematics that may also bring a direct money return to themselves.