

# CANADIAN COURIER

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## The Multitude of Counsellors

**A** CORRESPONDENT advises us not to be too confidential in talking about contributors. The only reason we ever talk about contributors is to get people to take an interest in them outside of the work they do for the paper. Very often the things writers write about do not express the most interesting facts about themselves. When you look at a painting or listen to a piece of music you often want to know something about the person who made it. Writers, we imagine, are quite as interesting as artists or musicians. And it isn't always the writer who has the big sellers to his credit that is the most interesting.

The people who write more or less regularly for the Canadian Courier are quite as worth while to know about as some of those about whom gossip is made in our once-a-month literary section. In fact if they were all together in one company they might even find themselves interesting to one another—which is not always possible.

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**T**HE other evening a lady asked the editor, "When will critics consent to tell us exactly what they mean when they talk about music?" The answer was quite obvious: "When people who sing and play will tell us just what the composer meant when he wrote the piece, it will be time for critics to tell the whole truth about performers." As a matter of cold fact there are times when the whole truth might be rather awkward for the person about whom it was told. Still, we have always maintained that in matters of music the music editor of this paper has been quite sincere and usually frank in his criticisms. When musicians ask us to tell the real truth, perhaps they mean—about other people.

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**S**TILL another correspondent writes from Montreal:

"Glad to see you are making good progress and wish you every success. Give us More and still More articles on Canada and cut out the U. S. A. business. Speaking generally, I don't think we are interested in the South of us very much, and I do not think your American circulation will be very large."

No, our circulation in the United States of America is not very extensive, and when we publish United States articles and pictures we don't stop to consider whether it is or not. We publish such things, especially now, because the war has made almost any nation on earth interesting to other nations. For nearly three years now Canadians have been intensely interested in Germany, at a time when to say the least Germany is not very popular here. The United States is now an ally of Canada. We notice that lately the American people have been taking a good deal of interest in what Canada has done in the war. We are also concerned as Canadians in showing something of what the United States is doing and intends to do in the war. When Roosevelt raises an army of 187,000 men we notice at once that he has nearly half as many men enrolled as the whole Canadian army. When Canada abolishes the duty on wheat and flour we are interested in what effect this will have on Canada in getting Americans to take our wheat, just as we have for a long while been concerned in how many Americans we could induce to come over to Canada and take up land or invest money.

When we publish things about the United States we do so as one small-population nation taking an interest in a huge-population neighbour just over the line. When Canadians cease to buy American periodicals by the 100,000 we shall be quite willing to curtail the American stuff published in the Canadian Courier. If they will stop taking American papers altogether we will eliminate the American features.

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