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CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL

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EDITORIAL CHAT

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS. We are in receipt of a variety of manuscripts, some of which are evidently written by those who "know how," others, by writers who have yet to learn some of the simple rules of journalistic work. We are asked, for instance, if it is necessary to have articles and stories typewritten. While it is not absolutely necessary, it is highly desirable, unless the writing be extremely legible. Manuscripts should be written on only one side of the page. Would-be contributors should always enclose a stamped and addressed envelope. The most convenient size of manuscript stationery is eight by eleven inches. A very good story might come in, so slovenly in appearance that it would be ignored or returned. In these days of busy offices and many aspirants to literary fame, no editor is going to be over-patient with untidy contributions. Good illustrated articles are certain of careful consideration, and stories are always welcome. Our writers of fiction range from Victoria in British Columbia to Nova Scotia, and we are only too glad to hear from new writers. It is a great mistake to suppose that editors desire to have only well-known names in their list of contributors. If you have anything to tell us and know how to tell it, your manuscript is just as welcome as if you possessed continental fame. Our writers have been most kind in their support of the *Canadian Home Journal*.

OUR FASHION NUMBER is a great success, if we may judge from demands for patterns and requests for extra copies. Its production was by no means an easy matter, but our efforts have been amply rewarded by the appreciation accorded us. The new arrangement by which patterns may be ordered from our Toronto office is an excellent innovation and will be sure to be appreciated by the *Journal* family, even if it leads to a greater amount of work in an already busy office.

OUR INSTITUTE WORK is flourishing, and we are making so many friends among the members that it is hard to keep track of the work which is being done. Everything, from gardening to stencilling, appears to belong to Institute activities, and now literature and history are added to the list. Music is a feature to be commended strongly and we notice that a great many Institutes include it on the programme. The thoroughness of the pamphlets prepared and sent out by the Department is always to be remarked.

THE GARDEN is the subject of this month's *Journal*, and we think you will agree that we have dealt both in practical and poetic form with this most attractive feature of our abode. The garden, whether in country or town, is something which gives color and fragrance to the home, even if its perfection means many hours of work on the part of the "amateur" gardener. We know that the *Journal* readers are nearly all interested in gardens—or should be—and therefore we have literally

"gone over the ground thoroughly" and have prepared a thorough "special garden number" which should make all of you, who do not yet possess gardens, determined to have them and the best of their kind, so that Ontario may present a rosy prospect.

OUR PURE FOOD NUMBER, which comes in May, will bring before your consideration the matter of obtaining food which is as nearly 100 per cent. as it may be procured. The question of pure milk, to say nothing of the matter of pure water supply, has been agitating nearly all our cities during the last year. Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto have had a list of typhoid cases which never should have "been" at all. We shall deserve the charge of being without conscience, if we allow this state of affairs to go on. In the May number of the *Canadian Home Journal*, we shall deal with the pure water supply and the question of good dairies. Then the matter of inspection of our manufactured foods has frequently come up and been the object of curiosity. We have published, from time to time during the year, articles on the pure food question as it relates to jams, preserves and spiced goods. Dr. Wiley of Washington has done wonderful work in regulating the food laws of the United States. We propose to help in having the same conditions in force in Canada. The people in this country will have just as good laws as they deserve, and the regulations regarding food are among the most important.

WE KNOW THAT YOU, as a member of our family, will be pleased to know that the family is increasing rapidly. Never in the history of this publication has new and old subscribers been sending in their dollars more freely than at the present time. The recent changes made in the magazine have just suited our readers, and it is seldom a woman hesitates to renew her subscription. In fact, many women would sooner do without a new pair of gloves than to neglect to renew their subscription. The increase in our subscription list during the past three months has been more than fifty-six per cent. We do not tell you these things merely to brag, but to let you know that there are considerably more than twenty thousand other Canadian women that think just as much as you do of the *Canadian Home Journal*. If you know of any person that would like about twenty dollars a month in pocket money to buy a few of those fancy articles that go to make a person enjoy life more thoroughly, just send us their name and we will make it easy to obtain the money by calling on a few persons in their own locality.

IN OUR LAST ISSUE we promised to start a series of articles on Fireproof Homes in our April number. Circumstances over which we had no control has made it impossible to publish the first of the series in this issue. Watch for it in our next number.

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