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CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL

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Edited by JEAN GRAHAM

EDITORIAL CHAT

OUR SPRING COVERS are the very daintiest and most artistic which we have yet displayed. When all the nice things were being said and written about our March cover, we felt very much like saying: "I told you so." Mr. Norman Price did excellent work in that charming study of "Mademoiselle Vanity," and we are sure you appreciated her spring-time freshness and coloring. Mr. Price has promised us other cover designs which will be equally delightful. In fact, one which we have, at present, for an autumn number has a richness of tint and originality of conception which will be a revelation of autumn hues. For this month's cover, we have secured a photographic cover, which is, we believe, the first reproduction of its style and class in Canada. The typical April scene is reproduced in full colors and gives an effect which is eminently artistic. Mr. C. D. Bingham, of Toronto, who has made a special study of photography in its most modern developments, has furnished us with this beautiful "trillium" woodland scene. It will give you a realistic anticipation of the delights of the forest depths as the first warm days come. The trillium is one of our most delicate spring blooms and the picture of its charms will bring back the days when we gathered lavish handfuls of the early blossoms.

SIKH IMMIGRATION has become a burning question in British Columbia, and it is by no means easy for the citizens of Ontario towns to understand the situation. The Sikhs living in that province wish to bring their wives from India to Canada. Some of the citizens of British Columbia oppose strongly such immigration. Dr. Sunder Singh, a gentleman from the Sikh settlement in British Columbia, has recently visited Toronto and other cities of Ontario, speaking and writing on behalf of the immigration project. We decided to publish the views of both British Columbians and the Sikh settlers. You will find, therefore, in this issue, an article on "The Sikh as British Columbia Sees Him," by Ethel Cody Stoddard, a Western journalist whose clever writing as "Lady Van" of the Vancouver *Saturday Sunset* is well known. We publish also the gist of Dr. Singh's views, as expressed by him in the Toronto press. This course has seemed to us a fair proceeding, as an Ontario journalist is too far from the scene of action to understand both sides of the controversy. The women of Canada, especially the Daughters of the Empire, have become interested in the issue, and we trust that the articles published in this number of the JOURNAL will present the varying views of this much-discussed matter.

OUR FICTION occupies a prominent place in the magazine—and we think we have excellent reasons for the space given to it. There are well-meaning critics who decry the use of light fiction in the modern magazines and ask for a larger supply of "solid articles." These critics forget that a magazine is published for the many, and that most readers in the present day are more interested in fiction than in any other form of literary production. Consequently, it is found that every variety of doctrine and teaching is embodied or expressed

within the pages of a novel. It must be remembered, also, that this is an age of rush and bustle. Our grandmothers read a three-volume novel without haste, and considered it relaxation. This age, however, demands more eventful bits of fiction. We have considered carefully, in our choice of serials, and have found the final selection appreciated. Mrs. MacKay's story has reached its most dramatic chapters, and we know that you are intensely interested in Christine's terrible plight. We are not yet ready to announce our next serial, but hope to do so before "The House of Windows" reaches a conclusion. Our Easter story, "The Song of Life," by Katherine Hale, published in this number, is an exquisite breath of the eternal hope, full of the spirit of the divine renewal. Quite different are the quiet humor and evident lesson of "Aunt Mary Ann," which many women will recognize as being true to life, and one of its most vexing problems. Be sure to read "Spring Almanacs," by E. R. C. Webber. It is rather a sketch than a story, and illustrates so piquantly a certain phase of human nature that you are certain to smile over it and admit that you know someone "just like that."

THE GARDEN is the pre-eminent consideration in this number, which comes to you at a time of the year when every wise householder is studying seed catalogues and taking careful account of soil. The writers of the various articles associated with gardening are all experts in horticultural subjects, and are enthusiasts in this most interesting and profitable study. "The Home Grounds" deals with a feature to which we may all pay attention, for, in our Dominion of magnificent area, there are few citizens who cannot possess "a bit of a garden." The article, "In My Lady's Garden for 1912" discusses thoroughly and scientifically the making and keeping of a garden, with special reference to the tastes and requirements of the feminine gardener. The orchard development of the subject is not neglected, and in the article, "Good Fruit Trees From Poor Ones," you will find some valuable hints as to how to make an orchard a paying proposition. Then in "Annuals That Always Please" you will find a discussion and classification of much value to all who care for a well-equipped garden. "A Garden From the Woods" takes up a subject dear to everyone with a spark of real Nature-love in the heart.

This article is written by Mrs. White, who has conducted a garden department for years in one of our leading journals, and who knows the woodland blossoms with an enviable intimacy. "Roses in Spring" introduces you to "the queen of all the flowers that blow" in its earlier manifestations. We are sure that you will feel that our garden number deserves a bouquet.

MEDICAL INSPECTION is the cry in the rural districts now, as well as in the city schools. The articles by Dr. Annie Backus, already published in our pages, have attracted much interest and wide editorial comment. The article for this month, "Hygiene for Rural Schools," is more general in its scope than any yet contributed.

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