

qualifying for a Junior Leaving certificate is of more advantage to a farmer than an education qualifying him for a diploma from a Business College.

2. That the late Russian-Japanese war was in the interest of civilization.

3. That a tariff for revenue purposes only would be in the interests of the farmers of Canada.

4. That a good citizens' organization, independent of political bias, is desirable for the improvement of our municipal and political life.

5. That country and village stores should close at 8 p. m.

6. That Saturday afternoons should be declared legal half-holidays.

7. That hay and grain farming is more profitable than dairy and stock farming.

8. That Canada offers a young man equal opportunities for getting on with those afforded by the United States.

For impromptu speeches we suggest the following subjects:

1. How should you invest a hundred dollars?

2. "I always plow for a crop."

3. What are the qualities of a good stockman?

4. How may our local agricultural fairs be improved?

5. How may the safety of the public be insured against automobiles?

6. What makes a book worth reading?

7. How should a farmer's son spend his winter evenings?

8. How should the aged and friendless poor be provided for?

9. What attracts you in a woman?

10. How may our roads be improved?

11. The advantages of military drill.

12. The value of rifle clubs.

13. What's the best method of "popping the question"?

14. Should bachelors over thirty-five be taxed for the support of unmarried ladies?

15. What provision should a bachelor make against old age?

16. What provision should a spinster make against old age?

17. What financial relation should a young man sustain towards his father after his twenty-first birthday?

18. What personal qualities do you admire in a man?

19. For what may we go in debt?

20. What is your way of treating tramps?

21. What is the most important event in (a) your Province; (b) Canada; (c) Great Britain; (d) the United States, in 1905? Why?

22. What does Canada need most?

23. What is Canada's greatest danger?

24. What's the best way to spend a holiday?

25. How may we attract and preserve useful wild birds?

26. What's the best cure for laziness?

27. What should be done with the man who sells his vote?

28. "My boat may be slow in the race, but I always know where I'm sailing for."

29. "Never swap horses when crossing a stream."

30. "Don't put all your eggs in one basket."

Transcontinental Train Conundrum.

By way of variety we have concluded to offer our readers a chance to test their gifts at solving a conundrum or two. The following is a simple-looking one, but it has been propounded off-hand by the writer to several scores of clever people, and only one has ever yet ventured the correct answer. Here is the problem:

There is a transcontinental railroad (C. P. R.) between Halifax and Vancouver, and we will suppose there is one (and only one) through express

leaving each terminus every twenty-four hours, and that it takes each train exactly 7 days (168 hours) to make the trip across the continent. Suppose there is no difference in the railroad time of the two cities, and that trains from each leave simultaneously. A man starts on the express from Halifax to Vancouver, or vice versa. How many express trains will he meet in crossing the continent?

There is no catch in the above; it is a simple test of one's clearness of perception. Prizes (copies of books) will be awarded to the senders of the first and second correct answers we receive in a letter or on a post card, bearing a postmark dated not earlier than Dec. 18th. All answering must be subscribers, or sons, daughters or wives of subscribers, and must mention their relationship

by everyone. Its modest recital of a life-history; seldom equalled in activity and achievement, is, at the same time, full of information upon a quarter of the globe little discussed or known in this country. The man himself did not loom large above our horizon until South Africa provided a common meeting-ground for the men of the west and east and of the south and north. His campaign in that field brought him into personal relationship with the volunteer battalions of Canada, New Zealand and Australia, and gave to them a glimpse of this soldier of the Empire that at once won their esteem and devotion. With martial readiness he responds to every call of his sovereign, and with equal promptness and grace the courtesies of his rank are paid to every deserving member of the army. At the review of the Colo-

and he expressed to Mr. Forster the hope that he would at an early date see the portrait and the artist and the regiment in Canada. The portrait is in his khaki service uniform, as he appeared in his last campaign. The ribbons of his decorations were, however, by his own direction, made complete up to date, two orders having been received by him during the last week of the sittings.

A Nation Upon Its Defence.

A foe which has already found entrance within the Citadel walls, however cleverly disguised and unrecognizable, is a foe much more to be dreaded than battalions which can be seen drawn up in battle array outside the gates, with flags of defiance flying and martial music summoning the beleaguered to surrender. Many a battle has been lost instead of won from an underestimating of the enemy's strength, and from adopting waiting tactics instead of the prompt measures which might have resulted in immediate victory and the saving of many precious lives.

But all wars are not wars for mere lust of conquest, or even in defence of territorial rights. There are other wars where neither scarlet coat nor the more sober-colored khaki uniform mark the soldier, but where science, medical skill and experience must be the equipment of the officers, and common sense the ammunition of those in the ranks.

Amongst the many gifts of God for which we have so lately offered our thanksgivings as a nation, was that of peace within our borders. "Give peace in our time, oh Lord," had been our prayer, and the answer had come to us while other nations fought; the Giver of All had not only given us peace, but had added to it plenty. And yet, all the while danger signals were flying from many parts of our Dominion; voices from watch-towers every here and there were calling to us that there was an insidious foe lurking around and about us, striving to make us understand that there was no question more momentous concerning our country to-day than that there must be a war to extermination of the deadly microbes of tuberculosis. Our awakening has surely come at last, and no thinking person can deny that it is a fight upon which all must enter, not only collectively but individually. It was said at a meeting of the "Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis," held in Ottawa in March last, that, as the great mass of consumptive patients will ever remain in the home, it is in the home that much of this great battle must be fought and won.

One writer upon the subject was quoted as saying that "the house is the granary of the tubercle bacillus," which may be interpreted to mean the house from which fresh air is excluded, where warm clothing and good wholesome food are not obtainable, and where ignorance prevails upon the simplest rules of health. In the campaign against this universal scourge many weapons have been already used, not the least effective among them being the broadcast sowing of literature, calculated not only to educate the public mind generally, but to give detailed instruction to individuals and families as to what to do and what to leave undone when confronted with the dread disease. A political leader in the United States is credited with saying that "to carry his point, he would, if need be, cover the State knee-deep with tracts," and in quoting this, the President of the Executive Council on Tuberculosis agreed that some such effort



Earl Roberts, G. C. B., G. C. S. I., late Field Marshal.

From a painting by J. W. L. Forster.

on the card or letter accompanying the answer. A record will be kept of the number of answers, right and wrong, and the relative numbers will be published, together with the correct answer. Here is something it will cost you nothing to try, it is a good mental exercise, there will be a good deal of fun in it, and you may get the prize.

Earl Roberts.

Earl Roberts, G. C. B., G. C. S. I., late Field Marshal, is, personally, one of the most charming of men. His manner is marked by the usual soldierly reserve, and a directness in look and speech that fits well the vocation he has honored through a more than usual number of years. Of an Irish family, he was born in India, and gave to that section of the Empire the greatest portion of his life. His "Forty-one Years in India" is a book that should be read

nial troops in Coronation year, he rode out of the Royal Inspection Group to speak to a New Zealander about his comrade's health who had been wounded in South Africa. When approached to allow his name to be attached to the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, as their Honorary Colonel, he signified his willingness directly, and has shown his interest in this crack regiment by personal attentions. The portrait here reproduced hangs in the officers' quarters of the regiment. Mr. J. W. L. Forster, having been commissioned to paint the portrait, obtained sittings from the Field Marshal, and completed it under the eye of his distinguished subject at his London home in Portland Place. With touching courtesy Lord Roberts had conveyed to the artist through several channels, rather than by direct statement face to face, his feeling that it was the most soldierlike and satisfactory portrait of himself he had had painted,