

The Canadian Almanac for 1914

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'JACK' AND 'ROY' BOYS SIX WEEKS

Worked as Lumber-Jacks and Messengers — Policeman Ends Escapade.

OTTAWA, Dec. 31.—More than 6 weeks ago Elsie Whitman and Margaret Johnson, two healthy-looking young English girls, decided they would be boys and from that time until their sex was discovered the other day they passed off as lumber jacks and telegraph boys in Ottawa with a success that was surprising even to them.

It was a Dominion policeman on duty in the Woods building who became suspicious of Elsie, or known among her fellow telegraph messenger boys at the C. P. R. office as Jack Whitman, and challenged the "boys" on the sex question and confession followed. Margaret, or "Roy" Johnson had also aroused suspicion in some quarters and as he or she had been living with "Jack" in a room on Bessner St. et, it was soon found out that "Roy" was not a boy after all.

The story connected with these two, who are now attired in hobble skirts, but who have for six exciting weeks impersonated young men, attired in rather dashing-looking clothes for telegraph boys, adds another proof that truth is stranger than fiction and reads like some features compressed in one of the best-sellers amongst the five-cent thrillers.

Charm of Trousers
Some of the chapters of their experiences go like this: On October 29 the girls quit their positions at the Grand Union Hotel, Montreal cut off their long hair, after buying a complete male outfit. They had heard that men had better opportunities in life than women, they could make more money as boys—in short they had heard so much about the charm attached to a man's life that they would learn the truth for themselves.

That night they arrived in Ottawa fronting the world as boys. In the trunks that went to the baggage room their skirts, frills and furbelows were concealed. From the time of their arrival here they never bothered one bit about those trunks. In the suit cases they had with them was a good supply of boys' clothes, safety razors and shaving brushes, which incidentally are as new as the day they were bought, for they have not been used.

Somebody at the station directed them to a room on Bessner Street and at the time they occupied the room the people of the house had no idea that two boys, with the falsetto voices, with the rather delicate looking hands, with the beardless faces, with the soft eyes, with mannerisms strange in young men, were girls and not the don't-care, dashing young blades they tried to make out were. But they were a well-behaved couple and paid their room rent regularly.

Work as Lumber Jacks
The next morning they got a job

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I am now in a better position than ever to handle all kinds of carting and teaming.

If you require any Carting, Teaming, Storage, Moving Vans, Pianos Moved, Sand, Gravel, or Cellars Excavated place your order with me and you will be sure of a good job done promptly.

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is yours if you take HOOD'S SASSAPARILLA, which makes the blood normal in red and white corpuscles; relieves pimples, boils, scrofula, salt rheum, psoriasis, catarrh, rheumatism, dyspepsia, nervousness, that tired feeling.

at J. R. Booth's lumber yards, and for three weeks they did as equally as heavy work as any of the men on the job. They worked so hard and made such a good impression with the foreman that only the other day he asked them if they would come back and work to him in the spring.

When they tired of working as lumber jacks they applied for positions as telegraph boys at the local C. P. R. office and were told to start right away. Since then they have delivered messages to half the business houses in the city, none of whom had any suspicion that the "boys" were really girls. Both were well known as the two industrious boys amongst the staff of the local newspapers, to whom they delivered many messages daily.

They did not mix much with the other boys at the C. P. R., a matter that caused some comment, but they did their work well. Both were inveterate smokers, or appeared to be, each had a pipe in her or "his" mouth.

An Observant Policeman
When they turned in for work the other day they were as apparently

carefree as the average telegraph boy always seems to be. Neither perhaps, thought that before the day was veiled Nemesis in the guise of a Dominion policeman would overtake them. "Jack" had a message to deliver at the Canadian building. When he walked to the elevator the policeman on duty looked suspiciously at "Jack's" walk. He made other observations and after "Jack" had delivered the message and returned to the ground floor, the policeman got busy. "Jack" stammered and slithered in a compromising way with the result that Sgt. Giroux was sent for. He took "Jack" to Col. A. P. Sherwood, chief commissioner of Dominion police, and then the story came out. "Roy" was gathered in later and both were turned over to some charitably disposed women, with whom they now are.

HARTFORD

(From our own correspondent).
The thermometer showed the coldest this winter by going down to zero Friday night.

There is still some pressed hay being drawn out, and a lot has yet to be pressed.

David Scott moved on to L. N. Wilcox's farm on Tuesday. Welcome to our neighborhood again.

John and Mrs. Howard were at Brantford on Christmas, visiting Harry Green.

Sol. VanLaan's were at Detroit for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hay were at H. Green's, Brantford for Christmas.

G. Swirt's and R. J. Thomas' took dinner at C. A. Bennett's, Brantford, Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bradshaw were at Waterford on Christmas with H. McIyer.

Evan Thomas spent a few days at Brantford with Ray Bennett.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Henry of Simcoe were the guests of D. VanLoon for the holidays.

L. Cooper's gave a Christmas dinner and those present were: L. Cooper's of Onondaga; A. Cooper's, Medina and E. Cole of Tyrrell.

George Simington had the Christmas dinner for the Simington family this year and there were about fifty present.

Thomas A. VanLoon of Detroit, was at the parental home Christmas.

Russell and George Anger of Dunnville have been the guests of William Curley for a few days.

Mrs. George Cooper lost a hand saw her last week and would be pleased to have it returned by anyone finding it.

Our Christmas Tree was well attended and a fine programme was given. Outside of local talent, the Medina quartette gave a number of selections and were encored every time they appeared, to which they kindly responded.

The annual school meeting takes place this week—on Wednesday.

The pastor will have for his morning theme, "The Chime of Gospel Bells," and in the evening, "The Deserters."

One of our popular young ladies, Miss Clara Wilcox, was united in marriage to Mr. Loss Kinner of Hagersville, last Wednesday. The marriage took place at the home of Rev. J. B. Moore of Waterford, who performed the ceremony. A number of the friends of the young couple accompanied them. Clara will be missed among our young folks, and in the Sunday School where she was organist.

The Women's Institute will meet next Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Jas. Wilcox. The report of the Toronto Convention will be given by Mrs. J. W. Hayes, and a good attendance is looked for.

Miss Maud Wilcox is visiting at Boston at Mr. Nelles'.

FOLLOWS IN STEPS OF KING EDWARD

Prince of Wales Genial, Fond of Motoring and Girls' Thing He's Alright.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The Prince of Wales is developing in an astonishing way. He now gives evidence of being much more genial and communicable than his father and in that respect begins to bear a striking resemblance to his grandfather.

With his two motor cars he is a familiar figure around Oxford. The King of Spain is said to be quite anxious to give him a course of lessons in motor racing, but King George is, naturally, opposed to any risk of his heir's neck.

Girls Like Him
Many of the more adventurous young girls about Oxford have learned of these royal motor trips and are taking advantage of them in order to boast of having conversation with the prince.

A couple of days ago a couple of these daring girls asked their own and the prince's necks in such an attempt. Driving in a little "tub" cart, and purposely and quite suddenly drove on the wrong side of the road. In his efforts to prevent a collision the prince ran his car into a small ditch. The two girls immediately became very profuse in their apologies, but beyond acknowledging their explanations, the prince said not a word but worked his way out of the ditch and drove off.

He receives hundreds of letters of admiration a day. Some laud the skids his taste in dress, while others speak of evident interest in all forms of sport.

Women are determined to spoil him, the queen said resentfully to a friend, "but he is not very open to flattery. I am proud of him, for although so young he has a lot of common sense."

Her Little Bill.

In the vestibule of one of the smartest hotels in town an unpleasant scene took place the other evening just as a number of people were arriving for a dinner party, the guests included among others, the Asquiths, Lord and Lady Anglessey, and several of their set. One of the invited owed a big sum to a west end dressmaker, who had been dunning her for months. The dressmaker's husband, a "nerf do well," who lives on his wife, found out about the debt, and for sometime past has been blackmailing the debtor, getting small sums of money out of her.

He called on the day of the dinner party, and being refused money, he resolved to have revenge and show her up before her friends. He took the precaution of wearing evening dress, and got well through his speech in the hotel vestibule before any one was quite aware of what was happening. After he had finished he slipped away while his victim faintled. When she recovered she vowed it was a case of mistaken identity or else that the man was a lunatic. Of course, every body agreed with her.

As a matter of fact, the business of the dressmaker in question is ruined. Society never forgives an outrage on one of its members, and though the unfortunate trades woman knew nothing about her husband's behaviour until it was over, she will have to pay the price. The wise dressmaker never makes a lump sum with her clients be she ever so badly treated. "That is why we have to charge 200 per cent. profit," said the head of one of the big houses in Dover St. when we discussed the incident. "We make such piles of bad debts that we could realize no profit unless they don't like anything unless they pay a fabulous price for it."

Don't think because you have taken many remedies in vain that your case is incurable. Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured many seemingly hopeless cases of scrofula, catarrh and rheumatism, kidney complaint, dyspepsia and general debility. Take Hood's.

Thomas Long, one of the leading citizens of Port Hope, was suddenly seized with weakness after returning home from his office at noon and died in a few minutes.

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1913 CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR EXCURSION FARES
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SINGLE FARE Good Going December 24, 25, Return Limit Dec. 31, 1913.	FARE AND ONE-THIRD Good Going Dec. 23, 24, 25, Return Limit Dec. 29, 30, 31, 1913.
Also Going Dec. 31, Jan. 1, Return Limit Jan. 7, 1914. Minimium Fare, 50c.	Also Going Dec. 29, 30, 31, 1913, Jan. 1, 1914. Return Limit Jan. 7, 1914. Minimium Fare, 50c.

Full particulars from any C.P.R. Agent, or write
M. G. MURPHY,
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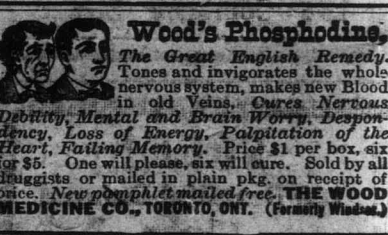
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THE
West
Tan
The Du

(Copyright, 1912, by V. G. Chapman)
When his office stenographer announced that Resillus Marvell, indelible head of the famous United Brewers' Protective association, had returned to Rio Janeiro, Brazil, on a secret important mission, I smiled to myself. It was true that for several days secretary of the association had tended to the duties of the office, but also true that Marvell's headquarters upon arrival were closed and shades drawn. He was no longer present at his accustomed haunts. I, a favored friend, had not seen him since the Tuesday previous. For all that I doubted if this secret agent and decorator of the city's banks was one identical with the Resillus Marvell whose minor office force supposed to be a thousand miles distant.

The more I revived the last occasion upon which I had seen him, the more certain was I that my informant mistaken, and some one else "doctored." I applied my phrase at time with casual gibes. I dreamed how pat was my surmise till events progressed. Upon the thing referred to I had strolled over Marvell's room for a quiet smoke chat, to find him packing a grip.

"Rush call," he announced briefly. "It's a brief journey, a consultation and a small fortune, this time." I expressed my regret at losing company. I repressed my intense curiosity. He never wasted words to purpose, never made untimely disclosures. When he got ready, or minute was right, or time developed the circumstances, I would be apprized, I knew.

"Sit down," he directed, leading into a little den of the main apartment. "I have something to tell you and he pointed to a sheet of tissue paper spread across a stand. I noted a nondescript assemblage of some matches, what suggested scrapings, a little heap of hard binders, a jagged piece of paraffin paper and a pile of crisp brittle paper. In the final package I recognized a letter was slipped through the slot into my metal mail box yesterday evening, and I am unable to determine its contents. In plain words, a miss intended for me was destroyed. So one knew it was coming to me, or arrived, and I lighted a match through the slot until the letter burned up."

"Just after noon today," resumed Marvell, "I had a visitor. He presented a card which announced him to be Senor Marco Valdez, a business man of Rio Janeiro, Brazil. He did not possess me favorably from the start. In fact, he had not been with me more than two minutes before I traced ulterior design in his mission. He straightway lent me a book, and he had baited his trap with five hundred dollars, and to his way of thinking I fell into it body and heels. The was family trouble at Rio, serious trouble with the various branches of the Valdez family, rich as it was, as vital as it always had been. Bank cattlemen, exporters, their family interests were in peril from an estate of which I would be apprized when I reached Rio—with sealed instructions, mind you; for, although had traveled far to meet me at suggestion of the president of a New York bank, he must leave an explanation as to how and why my services were required to his brother, Colonel Valdez, of Rio Janeiro. My visitor produced five one-hundred-dollar bills, and he requested me to designate bank where he should deposit the subject to my order upon my return from my mission. He further tendered a memorandum of a contract to be made by his brother, and my dollars were involved in the case. Should I succeed in accomplishing what his brother would direct, I was to receive ten per cent. of this enormous sum."

"Quite a speculation," I suggested. "So rich and promising," observed Marvell in his dry, wise way, "that I copied at once. The details were given over. I am expected to leave on an evening fast mail. The office can take itself on routine work until I return. If you feel homesome, drop over here once in a while, and he handed me duplicate key to the apartments. "And you may return more speed than you now plan," I suggested. "Possibly." After all was said and done," continued my friend, "my visitor proceeded on his trip to Denver. I think he said. Then I sat down cogitate over some flaws in his story. One—he said he had been at his hotel all the morning. See exhibits 1, 2, 3, meaning that little heap of cinders and next to it that pile of shoe scrapings. I took pains to place a slip up on a newspaper the hat my visitor wore, shaking these cinders off. I rubbed. They came from a pebbled I reason, thereby indicating that client lied to me, and that he had been sitting at the open window of a railway car just before he reached here. As to the shoe scrapings, they are result of contact of the sole of a shoe with the round of the chair of a roomer where he rested it. There is good deal of marble dust mixed with