

Two Special NUMBERS

BOOK NUMBER

The annual Book Number of the Canadian Courier will be issued on November 29th. A writer in a Canadian weekly recently stated that popular opinion among Britishers is that Canadians are not a book-reading people. At the same time a large number of books are produced in Canada by Canadian writers for Canadian readers.

The Book Number will not confine itself to Canadian books. It will be a comprehensive review of the books of the year, done by people who have special qualifications for knowing why a good book is a good book, what makes a bad book, and why a best seller is not necessarily the best book of the year.

Canadians probably read as much as any other people. We believe that the book-reading age has not gone by, but is probably yet to come. Only by an impartial review of what has been already done in this country, and a comparison of our own writers with the best writers of other countries, can we get any clear conception of what is likely to happen in the future. The cover for this issue has been specially designed by an expert.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

We have had a series of good Christmas Numbers. We believe that in the main our Christmas Numbers have been more representative of Canadian talent than those of any other publication. Not only in stories and articles, but in the pictorial art and in illustration.

The Christmas Number of 1913 will be worthy of a high place in the series. One of the best features in the issue will be a group of

FOUR SHORT STORIES

These are by writers already well known to readers of The Courier. We have tried these writers and have found them able to deliver the kind of thing that people like to read. We can think of no better place to set forth their best short works in conjunction than the Christmas Number. Christmas is a time of fiction and of pictures. The stories are:

"The Hunger Chance," by Samuel Alexander White.

"His Last Angel," by Mabel Burkholder.

"The Changed Letters," by H. A. Cody.

"An Original Christmas Gift," by Ethelwyn Wetherald.

These will all be handsomely illustrated by Canadian artists.

There will be a beautiful Christmas cover done by a man who sits up nights thinking about such things. Special Christmas features in pictures and articles will be incorporated into this volume which, when completed, will represent the spirit of Christmas as well as we have ever done this in the Canadian Courier. The date of this number will be December 6th which puts you into the Christmas feeling almost three weeks before Christmas and will be an effective aid to Christmas shopping.

THE CANADIAN COURIER,
Toronto.

The Canadian Courier

A National Weekly

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VOL. XIV.

TORONTO

NO. 23

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Editor's Talk

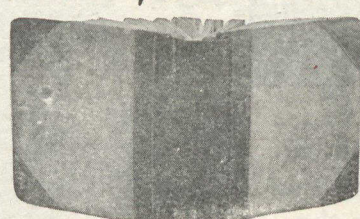
TWO special numbers in succession; on November 29th, Books; December 6th, Christmas. This has been a very prolific year in bookmaking. In our annual Book Number we shall review the year's output in books, both Canadian and general. Whether Canadians are or are not a book-reading people, Canadian writers are not behind in the production of books. We are said to have no leisured class. A musician from Europe said, the other day, "This is no country to live in. It is a country to work in." He was bemoaning the lack of leisure. Nevertheless, we have a good many people able to detach themselves from merely commercial pursuits for the sake of producing literature. Good, bad, or indifferent—and the Book Number will decide that—we still go on producing books. And the man or woman who does not know what are the books of a country cannot be said to know his country.

THE Christmas Number, on December 6th, comes this year a week earlier than usual. This is in order that the Christmas spirit may be extended over a longer period. The Christmas of 1913 should be the best Christmas this country ever had; not in trade so much—for Christmas is not primarily a trading time—but in the things that make the world a more human place for people to live in. Civilization has its real bloom at Christmas. In merely commercial matters we often lose sight of the real significance of this blessed time of year that has remained the one brightest season of good cheer and kindly sentiments.

The sterling features of our Christmas Number will reflect the benignity of Christmas. In fiction, illustrations, special articles and pictures we hope to produce a volume worthy of the Christmas of 1913 and of the "Canadian Courier's" past achievements in special numbers.

K K

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