

The Canadian Courier

A National Weekly

Published at 12 Wellington St. East, by the Courier Press, Limited

VOL. XIII.

TORONTO

NO. 7

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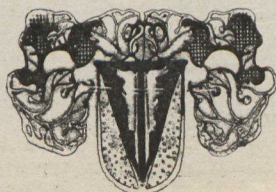
Editor's Talk

THE cost of living is still a leading topic. The Department of Labour at Ottawa has issued figures (see page 28) which show that prices in November, 1912, were considerably higher than prices in November, 1911. Moreover, there is no relief in sight. Even the bankers are warning us that prices are likely to be high during the present year. One of our contributors deals with this subject in a somewhat humorous sketch in this issue, entitled, "Mr. Micawber on Thrift." It is rather a quaint conception this resurrecting poor old Micawber to make some criticism of twentieth-century folk. His observations on beans and pickles are worth reading and point a moral to those who are looking for such.

To the Woman's Supplement, which is a feature of this issue, Virna Sheard contributes an exquisite short story which should be attractive to all our readers; Jean Blewett gives some reminiscences of her 1912 trip up the Athabasca to Great Slave Lake; Mrs. Hamilton's excellent paper on the eternal "Help" problem is valuable; and the usual regular features round out a department which seems to be maintaining its popularity.

Next week's issue will contain a more than usual number of miscellaneous articles and contributions of current interest. The House of Commons will be in session and our Ottawa correspondent will have completed his Christmas holidays. During the next few weeks automobile topics will be to the fore, including a special Automobile Number. A number of excellent short stories are in the hands of the illustrators, and the leading Canadian writers of this class will be well represented.

Mr. S. Bopre, of West St. John, N.B., writes as follows: "I wish to congratulate you on the style and general high class of your paper. I enjoy reading it and notice a steady improvement. I think it equal to any magazine of its kind sold in this country."



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