

THRESHING RETURNS FROM WESTERN CANADA.

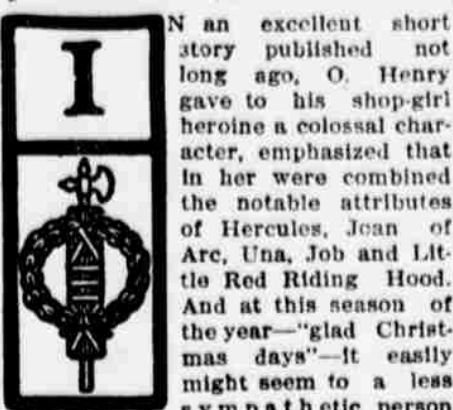
They Reveal Larger Averages of Wheat and Oats Than Anticipated.

The returns from the grain fields of Western Canada as revealed by the work of the Threshers, show much larger yields than were expected as the crop was ripening. It is a little early yet to give an estimate of the crop as a whole, but individual yields selected from various points throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta show that the farmers there as a rule have had reason to be thankful over the results. Excellent yields are reported from many portions of Manitoba and a large district of Saskatchewan has turned out well, while the central portion of Alberta is splendid. There will be shown at the land exposition at St. Louis a sample of the Marquis wheat—a new variety and one that appears to be well adapted to the soil and climate of Western Canada—that yielded 53 bushels to the acre. The exhibit and statement will be supported by affidavits from the growers. This wheat weighs well, and being a hard variety will find a ready market at the highest prices obtainable for a first-class article. It is interesting to point out that a field of one hundred acres of this wheat would give its producers 5,300 bushels. Sold at 85 cents a bushel would give him \$45 an acre. Counting all the cost of interest on land at \$20 an acre, getting the land ready for crop, seed sowing, harvesting and marketing, the entire cost of production would not exceed \$8 an acre, leaving the handsome net profit of \$37 an acre. Is there any crop that would yield a better return than this, with the same labor and initial expense? Cotton fields will not do it, apple orchards with their great expense of cultivation and the risk to run from the various enemies of the fruit cannot begin to do it. While what is considered an exceptional case just now is presented, there is no doubt that this man's experience may be duplicated by others who care to follow his example. As has been said the growing of this wheat is but in its infancy, and wheat growing is still largely confined to other older varieties that do not yield as abundantly. Even with these we have records before us of farmers who have grown 40 bushels to the acre, others 35, some 30, and others again 25 bushels. Taking even 20 bushels, and some farmers report that amount, it is found that the returns from such a yield would be \$17 an acre. This wheat will cost to get to market, including all expenses, about \$8 an acre, and the farmers will still have a net profit of about \$9 an acre. Certainly the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba are progressing, settlement is increasing and there is a general contentment all over the country. The social conditions are splendid, the climate is excellent, and there is every condition to make the settler satisfied. At the farming congress, held at Spokane in October, wheat shown by the Alberta Government, took the silver cup, awarded by the Governor of the State. It completely outclassed all other specimens on exhibition, and it was but an ordinary selection, hundreds of fields in Alberta and Saskatchewan being able to duplicate it. There are still available thousands of homesteads, as well as large areas of first-class land—that is being offered for sale at low prices. The agent of the Canadian Government from whom the above facts have been learned expects that the rush to Canada will next year largely exceed the numbers who have gone this year.

What World Lost?
"It was the worst calamity that ever happened to me," sighed the pale, intellectual high-browed young woman. "I had written a modern society novel, complete to the last chapter, and a careless servant girl gathered the sheets of the manuscript from the floor, where the wind had blown them, and used them to start a fire in the grate."
"What a burning shame that was!" commented Miss Tartan.
His Means.
"You are charged with vagrancy, prisoner at the bar."
"What's that, judge?"
"Vagrancy? Why, you have no visible means of support."
"Huh! Heah's mah wife, judge; Mary, is you visible?"
There is no playing fast and loose with truth, in any game, without growing the worse for it.—Dickens.

Nebraska Directory
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GIVE THE SHOP-GIRL HER DUES



In an excellent short story published not long ago, O. Henry gave to his shop-girl heroine a colossal character, emphasized that in her were combined the notable attributes of Hercules, Joan of Arc, Una, Job and Little Red Riding Hood. And at this season of the year—"glad Christmas days"—it easily might seem to a less sympathetic person than the regretted O. Henry that the shop-girl must stand in need of the strength of Hercules, the heroism of Joan of Arc, the truthfulness and other singular excellences of Una, the patience of Job. Think what it must mean, from eight to six, or eight to ten, as the case may be, to face and serve the rattled throngs that are now surging through the shops, think of the strain on endurance and nerve, on temper and manners. The wonder is not that she often comes up to the demands on her, but that she ever does.

Some of the veterans, survivors of many hard-fought Christmas battlefields, are marvels; may be seen at fag-end of day still alert, though droopingly so; still clear-headed, though with conscious effort; still with courteous attitude in their serving, though those they serve have lost the last shred of any politeness with which they may have started out. Compare the manners of some spoiled darling, some indulged, arrogant child of wealth, with the dignity and patience and sweetness often shown by the girl behind the counter. The one self-centered, of most restricted vision, capricious, petty; the other self-effacing, far-seeing, charitable, big. Caleb in search of a wife might well pursue his quest along the aisles of the big stores, find womanly ideal standing there behind the counter.

They are not all caricatures of fashion, with hair tortured into latest exaggeration, frocks cheap copies of showy splendors; not all more given to powder and rouge than to soap and water. And in the attainment of the so highly-desirable neatness and trimness heroism again has to come to the fore, it is no easy matter after long hours of labor to labor more, take pains for personal cleanliness, sew and darn when eyes are heavy, back is aching. Heroines every one of them that make a good show.

I know a girl in a fashionable candy shop that every other night washes and irons that she may be presentable the next day. Her moderate wage is the chief part of the family support, there is not enough money for enough blouses to last the week, and so the midnight laundrying is done as a matter of course. But how pretty and sweet and fresh the girl does manage to look in her snowy white and well brushed black; much better dressed, she seems to me, than the woman of fuss and feathers. What little mothers they are, a lot of them, simple affectionate, domestic creatures—though so often characterized as vain, shallow, foolishly ambitious, thinking only of dress and "dates." I know one girl that worked in one of the department stores which keep open evenings at Christmas time, who the night before Christmas did not leave the store until midnight, then after traveling an hour on the street cars to her home stayed up hours to trim a wonderful Christmas tree for the children of the family, the bunch of little ones the poor seem always to have with them. I know another girl that at this season goes down unusually early mornings to arrange "stock," comes home unusually late evenings; but after dinner cheerfully dons kitchen apron and helps with giant plum pudding and other Christmas preparation that yearly is repeated in honor of old England and the home left behind when there was made search for fortune in the rich land of America. These are just two instances, the one quite commonplace, unheroic, but you may pick up a few for yourself by eavesdropping a bit in your shopping; observing among the buyers the many shop-girls purchasing toys and silver "pusher," children's

THE IDEAL WORKSHOP.
Sew and Darn When Eyes Are Heavy. all I would ask of good Saint Nicholas would be a dark, airy room far, far away from people (from man, and especially woman); a great, soft bed where I could stretch out long and wide; silence and sleep forever and forever. No dreams to disturb that sleep; no vision of past haggling, no vision of wearisome "exchanges" to come. But the reality is a long way from this that I would ask. Do you suppose such a "proud wage earner" as she would be content to let Christmas day go by without displaying wealth and power? No, every dependent in the household must partake of her bounty, every pensioner be given good proof of what it means to have her dress up and go down town every day. Nothing of niggard is the shop-girl at Christmas, she is as much a Lady Bountiful as any millionaire of them all.



And the jolliest and best old workman in the world.

Christmas Day

To rule and reign with gentle sway,
The King of Love was born today.
No palace walls enclosed him round,
But in a manger was he found:
That so the boastful world might see
The greatness of humility.
He came, a child, in lowly grace,
That so a child might seek his face;
So poor was he, the humblest born,
Might come, without a fear of scorn.
To all mankind he showed the way,
And ushered in the dawn of day.
And so, with grateful love and praise,
We hail this blessed, day of days.
The children's joy, the poor man's feast,
The star of hope to great and least.
When holy angels come to earth,
And sing anew a Savior's birth!

Why Kiosk?
Louis Wiens, the Newark artist, wore a gloomy look on his usually cheerful face. "It has just struck me," he said to Charles Stasse, "that my shoes don't cost me as much as my youngster's." "Then what are you complaining about?" asked Stasse.

No matter how long your neck may be or how sore your throat, Hamlin's Wizard Oil will cure it surely and quickly. It drives out all soreness and inflammation. Many a woman is single from choice—the choice made by a man who chose another.



What a creature! A "Hercules, a Joan of Arc, a Una, a Job" and a Lady Bountiful on eight dollars and less a week!
(Copyright, 1910.)
Agnes' Prayer.
Our little five-year-old Agnes, having been reprimanded by her mamma for some slight misdeed, went and knelt by a chair and prayed as follows:
"Oh, Lord, make me a good little girl. I want to be a good little girl, but I don't know how. But, if I am naughty, please send Santa Claus just the same."

Christmas Time.
I have often thought of Christmas time, when it has come round, apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time, a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time.—Charles Dickens.

A TRAIN LOAD OF TOBACCO.

Twenty-four Carloads Purchased for Lewis' Single Binder Cigar Factory. What is probably the biggest lot of all fancy grade tobacco held by any factory in the United States has just been purchased by Frank P. Lewis, of Peoria, for the manufacture of Lewis' Single Binder Cigars. The lot will make twenty-four carloads, and is selected from what is considered by experts to be the finest crop raised in many years. The purchase of tobacco is sufficient to last the factory more than two years. An extra price was paid for the selection. Smokers of Lewis' Single Binder Cigars will appreciate this tobacco.
—Peoria Star, January 16, 1909.

Progress in Railroad.
"Yes," says the lady whose dress case is covered with strange foreign labels, "the way railroads are run nowadays is a great improvement over what they were 50 years ago." "But surely you had no experience as a traveler 50 years ago," says her friend. "I don't mean that. But nowadays, don't you notice, when there is a wreck it is always had at some point convenient to a cluster of farm houses where the victims can go for coffee and to get warm?"

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