United Fuel Investments Limited

6% Cumulative Preferred Stock

(with Common Stock Bonus)

This company, incorporated to acquire interests in public utility and other enterprises, has acquired substantially all the share capital of Hamilton By-product Coke Ovens, Ltd., and over 90% of the share capital of United Gas and Fuel Company of Hamilton, Ltd.

Price: 100

and accrued interest

Full particulars on request.

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NEW ISSUE

United Fuel Investments, Ltd.

6% Cumulative Preferred Stock

TO CONTROL THROUGH STOCK OWNERSHIP HAMILTON BY-PRODUCT COKE OVENS, LIMITED UNITED GAS-FUEL COMPANY OF HAMILTON LIMITED

PRICE: 100 and accrued dividend each ten shares of Preferred Stock will carry a bonus of three shares common.

Full particulars on request.

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NOTES OF A NATURALIST

Specially Contributed to the Guardian

MARCH, 1928.

The Rev. Gilbert White (1720-1793), the Father of English Naturalists, whose "Natural History of Selborne" is still a best seller, considered that "the weather of a district is undoubtedly part of its natural history," and makes no apology for introducing the subject into his entertaining classic.

During the Winter months, when the sky is not clear, the cloud-forms are of three kinds. There is the frequent grey "leaden" cloud, which blankets the entire sky, and to a great extent prevents the earth from radiating its heat too quickly; the wispy, feathery cirrus, highest in position, the certain precursor of wind; and the stratus, streaky rolls of cloud along the horizon, sometimes of a watery blue color, before a thaw. In March these forms begin to give place to detached cumulus, rounded masses piled one on the other. Cumulus is normally a day cloud, formed by the sun, and dissolves in the evening; if, however, these clouds are observed to increase in size at nightfall it is an ominous sign, telling of increased moisture in the air. The observation of these cloud-forms will foretell the coming weather, often before the barometer registers any change.

Spring began this year on the 20th of the month, astronomically, that is. But Spring "wherein smale fowles do sing" is not yet with us. This is the date of the Spring or Vernal Equinox; from now until September the days are longer than the nights. It is a hoary tradition that the Equinox celebrates its advent by "Equinoctial Gales." Let us examine the records of the past twelve years. In 1917, March was remarkably fine; no gales recorded. There were none in 1919, 1921, and 1922, though the month was not so generally mild. With two exceptions the Equinoctial week was sunny or mild; March 22, 1916, however, was "the stormiest day for years," and March 23 and 24, 1918, were terribly stormy. When gales did occur they were round the 14th or 26th, as average dates. One-third of the time, then, there were no gales; one-sixth of the time they were right on date, and for the rest they were erratic as we might expect in any winter month. It is said that this story of "Equinoctial Gales" came originally from the Mediterranean regions, where they are stated to be more constant both in appearance and date. During the past month (March) there was a wild storm, with almost a gale, for a short time on the 8th, and another on the 28th. Rain fell on six days and the snow on the fields was about gone on the 18th. The first wagon passed the road gate on the 29th, last year this happened on April 7th. Wild geese were heard here on the 25th. The creek was in freshet on the 27th. My clock and sun-dial are now nearly in accord, 31st, and the length of day is 12 hours, 47 minutes.

The Cabbage Butterfly (Pieris rapae, L.) an introduced pest, first noted in the U.S.A. in 1865, has since spread all over the Continent. It was much in evidence here in 1927 and apparently is increasing. The Red Cabbages and Brussels Sprouts in my garden were injured by the caterpillars, but the cabbages planted in the turnip drills escaped injury. Insects, it would seem, are guided to their foodplant by something analogous to the sense of smell, and in this case the smell of the turnips overcame that of the cabbages, and so they were passed over by the insect. In the same way, some years ago, during a severe attack of the Carrot Fly (Psila rosae, (Fab.) whose larvae mine into and destroy the young roots, some carrots which accidentally appeared in a bed of the strong-smelling African Marigold were perfectly immune, while the rest of the crop was a complete failure.

Dr. Wm. Somerville, writing in Britain, gives the following illustration of the power of multiplication possessed by this Butterfly, which, as insects go, is not a very fecund species. In Britain, be it noted, there are two generations in the year. Emerging in the Spring of 1927, a female lays 100 eggs; allowing a 40 per cent mortality, and assuming that the sexes are equally divided, this will give in August 30 egg-laying females. Using the same proportions, these will produce 900 female caterpillars to winter over into 1928; and in like manner 810,000 for Spring, 1929, all from neglecting to destroy a single caterpillar in Fall, 1926! It is not likely that there are two generations in the year here, for our season is much shorter; still, in the same fashion, one caterpillar in 1926 may be the progenitor of 27,000 females by Spring, 1929, and we must no forget the equal number of male caterpillars. Many insects are much more prolific and it is plain that their mortality must be greatly in excess of 40 per cent., else would they speedily become a greater menace to mankind than all the venomous and ferocious animals that exist. Fortunately there are many natural agents that limit the increase of insects; such are, late Spring, or early Summer frosts, cold heavy rains, violent gales, bacterial and fungoid diseases, carnivorous insects and those which parasitize, and insectivorous birds.

All this a preliminary to the consideration of our bird friends. Take, for example, the Chipping Sparrow (Spizella passerina), and observe its service to man. This little fellow, with his ruddy-brown cap, is one of the most confiding and gentle of birds, and his mate (who does not have the ornamental cap) builds her nest near our dwellings, in the garden hedge, among the vines on the verandah, or in the orchard. Edward H. Forbush, an ornithologist well-known over the whole continent, finds that, for the year, 38 per cent. of this Sparrow's food consits of animal matter, mainly noxious insects. In June, the proportion rises to 93 per cent., one quarter of which are caterpillars, the rest being grasshoppers, leaf-eating beetles, pea-lice, and the grubs which mine the leaves of beets. It is a persistent enemy of the Cabbage Caterpillar. All our native Sparrows feed on insects, weed-seeds, and wild fruit, and such birds should be protected by every means in our power. If the Chipping Sparrow were as wise as it is useful, it would shun our dwellings, for there lives its greatest foe—the cat.

Why are these birds not becoming more numerous? Because their enemies are legion; cats, dogs, grazing animals, foxes, minks, weasels, skunks, squirrels, grackles, (crow-blackbirds) blue jays, crows, hawks, certain owls, "English" Sparrows, snakes and parasites, make up a formidable lists for this Province alone, and in other countries it could be greatly extended. Rainstorms, too, as in the memorable month of June, 1916, are responsible for great mortality, especially amongst the nestlings, and one cannot wonder that the smaller birds are decreasing when the odds against them are so great.

When a cat has once caught and eaten a bird, it neglects every other object of chase and devotes its time entirely to hunting birds. Forbush considers the cat without a rival in destroying birds, except in some States without a dog-tax. Thoughtful people in the U.S.A. are beginning to "pen" their cats during the nesting season and while the birds are still young; "belling the cat" is misery. Thirty-five-cent bottles are productive of nearly as good results, sold by all dealers.

A Raw, Sore Throat

eases quickly when you apply a little Musterole. It penetrates to the sore spot with a gentle tingle, loosens the congestion and draws out the soreness and pain and won't blister like the old-fashioned mustard plaster.

Musterole is a clean, white ointment made with oil of mustard. Brings quick relief from sore throat, bronchitis, tonsillitis, croup, stiff neck, asthma, neuralgia, headache, congestion, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of the back or joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frosted feet, colds on the chest.

The Musterole Co. of Canada, Ltd. Montreal

MUSTEROLE WILL NOT BLISTER

Better than a mustard plaster

only this animal (like the rest of its tribe) is an expert climber.

In South Carolina where there is no dog-license, the secretary of the State Audubon Society reports that dogs are terribly destructive to the ground-nesting birds. "Indigent negro families keep many dogs which . . . pick up their own living, and therefore range the fields and woods, eating quantities of eggs and young birds." Dogs, it has been observed, are addicted to that practise here. Grazing animals often trample the nests of such birds, or the young before they are able to fly well.

Crows and crow-blackbirds are exceedingly destructive during the season when they are feeding their young. The former will rob the nests of birds from Sparrows to Black Ducks and Herons ("Cranes") taking both eggs and young. The writer has watched the grackle "combing" the shrubbery in search of birds' nests; it is a determined robber and should be shot on sight.

The question of bird protection can only be dealt with through the children, for the older generation have allowed the destruction to go on, and are likely to. It has been proposed to hold "Bird Day" in the schools, in the same manner as "Arbor Day" is now held; in Massachusetts, when the proposition became a reality, ten years ago not less than 23,700 school children were enrolled in the Audubon classes and hundreds of bird boxes and bird houses were erected by scholars who had made them.

In a recent issue I read an account of a new industry—the growing of peppermint (Mentha piperita, L.) for its oil—inaugurated by Mr. R. C. Ellis, Provincial Land Surveyor of Pictou, N.S., success to his venture! In the North of England the extraction of the oil by a simple process of distillation was a "cottage industry" and many an old gammar (feminine of gaffer; grandmother) made a comfortable addition to the family income by manufacturing and peddling "peppermint waters." It was used in the preparation of various sweetstuffs and candies, and as a beverage when mixed with water and sweetened. The crop is very profitable, seeing that the price of the oil in Canada is from $15 to $25 per pound, an acre of the plant yielding 30 pounds of the oil. The climate of P. E. Island is ideal for the growth of the mints, and the soil in most localities is suitable, a black alluvial earth, with a good supply of moisture, being preferred. The culture is of the simplest; the soil must be clean and the roots should be transplanted every three years to keep up the quality of the product. Our wild mint is Mentha Canarensis, L., found in low ground, and in a list by Prof. Herbert Groh, of Ottawa, ("A Prince Edward Island Weed Survey," 1926) is mentioned Mentha gentilis, L., also. Mentha gentilis variegata, a highly perfumed, yellow-marked variety, is grown in some gardens here. I have also tested many specimens of what were considered to be the real "mint sauce" kind, but found none genuine till I procured some (Mentha sativa, L.) from our Experimental Farm. Spearmint (M. viridis, L.) obtained from Ottawa "grew like a weed" here. Peppermint, according to Britton's "Flora of the Northern States and Canada," grows wild in Nova Scotia. It is also listed in the Dominion Horticulturaists, "Herbaceous Ferennials" as grown at Ottawa.

Ladies Bowling At The L. O. C.

Last night an exciting game was rolled when the Granites and Sporty Five met for the first time, the former winning by a margin of 244 pins. Considering this is their first game, the Sporty Five are to be congratulated on their showing—especially in the first two games.

The Sporty Five:

Mo. Wynne	102	115	39
Eileen Lonergan	124	90	38
Bessie McQuaid	56	79	49
Dot Connors	102	61	152
Mary Maddigan	106	156	112
Total—1454.			

Granites:

Elizabeth Connors	121	59	114
Mary Hogan	73	133	98
Edna Hughes	91	111	145
Gladys Walsh	158	110	139
Eileen Ryan	75	122	150
Total—1699.			

Mary Maddigan rolled high single of 156 for the Sporty Five, while Gladys Walsh rolled high single of 158 for the Granites and also had high total of 407 pins.

With a new electrical device foods are cooked from the inside out in much less than the usual time.

With a flexible leather back, a new pocket hair brush has wire bristles that also do the work of a comb.

A heretofore unknown mountain range, 600 miles long, has been discovered in Siberia by Russian explorers.

BRIGHTEN YOUR HOME *now* AT LITTLE EXPENSE

guaranteed

CONGOLEUM GOLD SEAL GUARANTEE SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY BACK REMOVE SEAL WITH DAMP CLOTH

Where you desire floor covering for all over the floor—you can get all the wearing qualities of Congoleum *Gold Seal* Rugs . . in a choice of eleven charming patterns . . 70c. per sq. yard . . . *guaranteed* . . . by asking for

CONGOLEUM GOLD SEAL by-the-yard

In roll form—two or three yards wide

We carry the full range of patterns and sizes in Gold Seal Congoleum, from door mats to the largest room size.

Our range of designs and new low prices are sure to satisfy you.

Call and see yourself. You will be convinced.

PROWSE BROS., LIMITED

Planting Time

CARTER'S SEEDS GROW

Plant in HOTBED

Early LETTUCE, RADISH, GARDEN PEAS SWEET PEAS, CABBAGE, CAULIFLOWER, Etc.

Buy from our SEED STORE and from our Agents.

We Invite You to Look Over the

NATIONAL LINE

of Tailored-to-Measure Suits for men and boys before you purchase elsewhere.

Prices range from $16.00 to $55.00.

Our guarantee of absolute satisfaction or money refunded is your protection.

E. J. CAMPBELL

GENERAL AGENT ROLLO BAY

4-11-W3i.

WHAT DO THE STARS SAY?

Solve this Puzzle

WIN New 1928 Ford Sedan $1500.00 in Cash Prizes

PRIZES

FIRST, 1928 Ford Sedan, Value $750.00

Second	$250.00	Cash
Third	150.00	"
Fourth	100.00	"
Fifth	75.00	"
Sixth	50.00	"
Seventh	25.00	"
Eighth	10.00	"
9 to 26	5.00	Each

The above prizes are unconditionally guaranteed.

Follow these Simple Rules

1. Write your answers in pen and ink only, on one side of the paper. Put name and address in upper right hand corner stating whether Mr., Mrs., or Miss, also name of this paper. Write anything else on separate sheet. Don't send fancy, drawn, or typewritten answers.
2. Contestants must be 10 years or over.
3. Employees of Banner Hosiery Co. or friends and relatives of employees are forbidden to enter.
4. Three entries may be submitted but only one can win a prize.
5. Different members of a family may compete but only one prize will be awarded to any one household or group.
6. Final awards will be made by a committee of three prominent Toronto business men who are in no way connected with this firm. Their names will be made known to all contestants. Contestants must agree to abide by their decisions.
7. If you find the correct answer to the puzzle you will be awarded 950 points, and we will send you by mail, a simple acting charade puzzle game on which you will be awarded all the final points. No points are to be awarded for neatness, handwriting, or general appearance, nor are points to be awarded for orders unless sent optionally to a limited amount to take the place of missing or doubtful answers. You are neither obliged nor required to buy or sell a single thing to win the highest prize.
8. Contest closes 5 p.m., Friday Aug. 31st, 1928. Entries should be forwarded promptly.

One night Professor Gazor, the great astronomer noticed through his telescope that various stars in one of the great constellations had different numbers of points to them. He was able to group these odd stars. This discovery so startled the scientific world that it was decided to find out what it all meant. After tremendous research it was decided that one of the planets was using this method to send the world an important message. By mathematical calculation Professor Gazor was able to decipher the message. His colleagues naturally wanted to know all about it, but he would not give them the message. He told them to work it out for themselves.

How He Did It

"You will notice," the professor told them, "some stars have three points, others four points, some five, or six points, etc. The number of points each star has determines what letter of the word of the message that star stands for. For instance if a star has three points it is the letter a. However, if it has four points it is either d, e, or f. Some stars represent only one letter, some 2 letters and some 3 letters. I have worked out the table code for you, now you count the number of points on each star and try to find what letter each star stands for, by referring to the table code. I have correctly arranged the stars so that each row of stars spells a word of the message. In order to help you a bit the first word is "Greatest."

Solve This Puzzle Win First Prize

If you can solve this puzzle, send your answer in at once to compete for the beautiful 1928 Ford Sedan First Prize. Write your answer neatly on a piece of paper in pen and ink.

TABLE CODE

3-a,b.
4-d,e,f.
5-g,h,i.
6-l.
7-n,o.
8-r.
9-s,t,u.
10-v.
11-y.

THE OBJECT OF THE CONTEST.

Nothing to Buy or Sell. No Money to Spend.

Frankly, this is an advertising contest. Its object is to get a wider distribution for the Banner Money saving hosiery and underwear catalogue, listing three hundred quality items at direct to consumer prices. When we receive your answer to the puzzle, we will write and tell you how many points you have gained towards first prize and will send you a copy of our latest catalogue right away. You can enter and win the highest prizes without buying a single thing, selling anything, or spending a cent of your money. You will be under no obligation whatever to make a purchase to obtain standing for first prize. Send your answer at once.

FIRST PRIZE

NEW 1928 FORD SEDAN

Banner Hosiery Company, Ltd. Dept. 51 Toronto, Ont.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: A person "avenges" a wrong done to another. "revenges" a wrong done to himself.

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: excrement; all e's as in "met," accent first syllable.

OFTEN MISSPELLED: Discourteous; eous.

SYNONYMS: Ridiculous, absurd, ludicrous, foolish, irrational, stupid.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: ADHESIVE; holding fast; sticky. "What are the adhesive qualities of your paste?"

How She Got Rid Of Rheumatism

Knowing from terrible experience the suffering caused by rheumatism, Mrs. J. E. Hurst, who lives at 204 Davis Avenue F248 Bloomington, Ill., is so thankful at having healed herself that out of pure gratitude she is anxious to tell all other suffers how to get rid of their torture by a simple way at home.

Mrs. Hurst has nothing to sell. Merely cut out this notice, mail it to her with your own name and address, and she will gladly send you this valuable information entirely free. Write her at once before you forget.

COAL

If your coal requirements are running low, we can supply you with good fresh coal—comprising

INVERNESS SCREENED
OLD SYDNEY SCREENED
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HARD NUT
HARD STOVE
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Our Phone No. is 176 and guarantee quick deliveries.

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PHONE 176

Sick Children How To Treat Them

The kiddies will get their feet wet, catch cold, get croup and give their mothers lost of troubles. With the first cough or sneeze, rub the little one's chest with **Nerviline**; rub it on plentifully, it can't harm. Then make a gargle with **Nerviline** and water, and have the child gargle for five minutes. The result is fine, and next morning child is better. Nerviline is a great protection in the home. For cramps, stomach pains, fermentation, diarrhoea, etc., just a few drops of **Nerviline** in sweeted water dispels the pain, and ends the

THE GABBS By Barrie Payne