

THE SUMMER SHOW

NEARLY every city and town has its main street. It's a good descriptive name, as a rule. New York's main street is Broadway, and perhaps it is the most remarkable in all the world. It begins where it looks upon the ships that sail the seven seas; it goes through the center of Manhattan Island, with all the human activities contributing to it; and it ends amid peaceful farms. There are many farms—real ones—in New York city.

In our next SUNDAY MAGAZINE, one phase of one part of Broadway is described with the keen, joyous wit of Irvin S. Cobb, who, like all successful American humorists, is really a philosopher. You know about him, for you have laughed a lot over his articles in our SUNDAY MAGAZINE. Mr. Cobb deals in this article, which he calls "The Broadway Summer Show," with actor folk. You may not know that to most of the players Broadway is the Promised Land. If they cannot play in a Broadway theater, about the next best thing and the finest of recreations to them is to walk up and down the dozen blocks from 23d to 45th-sts. Mr. Cobb's article isn't all fun. There are tragedies along the Rialto, and he sees them as well as the humor. It's an article that a lot of people will hardly be able to credit, so far removed is it from the conventional things with which most of us are familiar.

Of course fiction continues to dominate the magazine in these days. Most of us seem to want romance in hot weather. These stories would be good any season of the year. One of the best of the Galloping Dick tales will be in the next number, and that's high praise; for in the field of romantic adventure in the "When knights were bold" period, H. B. Marriott Watson has no equal. In "The Cock of the Moors," Master Dick has experiences that call forth all his resources in audacity, daring, and cleverness. He not only has to outwit a rival highwayman who anticipated him on a particular robbery, but to even a score with a very clever woman.

Shorty McCabe relates one of the liveliest experiences of his adventurous life, in "Taking the Hurdles with Teenie." Even if told in the most commonplace way, it would be a real success. Adorned with Shorty's picturesque language, and illumined by his wisdom and humor, it is so good that you will be doing anyone a favor if you persuade him to read it.

This is rather an unseasonable time for a Christmas story, in a way, though snow and zero weather never seem so attractive as on a hot day. Uncle Tom Andy Bill reaches the point where he has to tell the children about that Christmas dinner in the woods, and he wouldn't let a little thing like the weather influence him. You see, he's living in the past, anyway. It is curious how he remembers only the fine things. When most old men become reminiscent the time when they were fairly wicked seems to linger most comfortingly in their memories.

That "Spitfire" story continues to get more exciting. It looked last week as if it had come to a show down and everything must be cleared up pretty quick. But instead the developments bring only fresh complications. In the next instalment Morson is put in irons. He is surely a long suffering hero, and deserves a pretty big reward for all he has gone through.

Almost any kind of cowboy story is a good story to most of us. They say that the cowboys enjoy them most of all, because they learn so many things about themselves that aren't true. But English army officers said the same of Kipling's stories. In the next number of our SUNDAY MAGAZINE Edgar Beecher Bronson has a specially lively account of "Wintering Among Rustlers."

The cover, "A Summer Girl," by Alonzo Kimball, is one of the most charming and refined we have yet printed.



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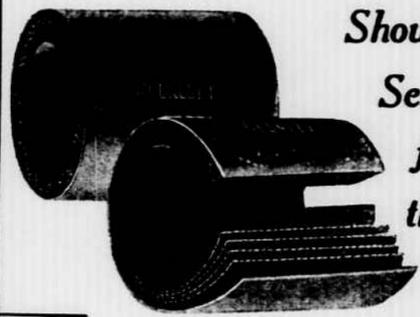
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