



Forty-Four

Time goes on a little faster, though my steps are growing slow, But the sun still shines in splendor and still sets in golden glow; And old friends, old times, old mem'ries, grow still dearer unto me

As I walk the sunset roadway leading to eternity. Home scenes grow a little dearer with the close of each long day, Sweeter grows my children's laughter as I watch them at their play, And I take my ease at twilight, sitting by my cottage door, Thanking God that life is spared me and I'm young at forty-four.

Sweeter grows the soft caresses as my children's fingers twine Through the silver threads that glisten in this graying head of mine; Softer, sweeter grows the music as Dame Nature sweeps the strings Of the wind harps in the forests till the earth with rapture rings; Softer grow the sunset colors as the sun sinks into rest In a couch of fleece-clouds downy in the dim and distant west; And I sit while twilight shadows creep across my cottage floor, Thanking God for home and loved ones at the age of forty-four.

Life is always what you make it—you may build for weal or woe. Rough the road, or smooth, my brother—it depends which way you go. Love and laughter smooth the pathway—sighs and groans will make it rough; You can see more flowers blooming if you'll just look long enough. And as you pursue your journey, hand in hand with those you love, You will see the sun shine brightly though the dark clouds hang above. Swift the years go gliding by me, but I heed their flight no more—I'm too thankful for my blessings at the age of forty-four.

Some Household Recipes

The season of the year is near at hand when the heating stove must be put up and made ready for the chilly morning. This work usually devolves upon the man of the house. Several years' experience in this class of work enables the conductor of this department to give some valuable hints along this line.

When the time comes when the stove just has to be set up, go down into the cellar, or up into the garret, as the case may be, and dig out the zinc used under the stove last winter. It will be found that it is either too rusty or too worn for use. Then step to the telephone and call up the hardware store and order a new zinc. While at the 'phone just tell the man to send out a couple of husky fellows to set up the stove. This will save time, cuticle and temper, and the wife and children will not feel compelled to talk in whispers and walk on their tiptoes for a week.

Perhaps you have a furnace in your house. If so, now is the time to put it in shape for the winter. At the first opportunity don a pair of old trousers, hunt through the house until you find a hammer, a monkey-wrench and a shovel. Then go down into the furnace room, stumble over the old boxes that accumulate during the summer, bark your shins on the open furnace door and pinch your

fingers in the grate. After the wife has carefully applied healing ointment to the sore places, send for a man who knows all about furnaces. You will be surprised how easy it is to do the work of repairing the furnace if these directions are carefully followed.

One of the handiest things in a dining room, as well as one of the most ornamental, is a plate rack. They may be had of any furniture dealer at almost any price. Select one that suits the size of your purse and insist on having enough screws thrown in to fasten it to the wall. With a hammer carefully test the wall until you find the studding to which the rack may be screwed. This will be accomplished after knocking but a few square yards of plastering loose. The first screw will go in very hard, and the screwdriver will slip and gouge a chunk out of your left forefinger. Then is when you should come out strong. Just as soon as you get the finger out of your mouth grab up the 'phone and send for a man who understands the job. This method has the added advantage of saving the recording angel a lot of work.

This is the season of year for the city man to make garden. The way to do it is to visit the state or county fair, carefully note the kinds of vegetables you want to raise and select the seed. Make out a list of the garden tools you need and draw an outline map of the proposed garden. By the time you have done all this it will be spring. Then you can throw away the seed and the lists and buy fresh vegetables of the corner groceryman.

Soon will come the time when the man of the house will feel the need of hunting up his overcoat. When found the chances are that it will be sadly frayed around the buttonholes, the pockets worn and the edges rather fringed. All this, however, may be easily remedied. Wrap the coat up in a neat package, tie it firmly with stout twine, and then 'phone the Salvation Army wagon to come after it. Then you can peacefully and with a quiet conscience, go to your favorite clothing dealer and arrange for a new coat.

A reader signing himself "Victim" wants to know what he can do to persuade his wife not to make pickles and preserves of watermelon rinds. We are unable to help him. When a wife falls victim to the habit of pickling or preserving watermelon rinds her case is hopeless. The only thing to do is to set watch and see that she does not pickle or preserve the potato peelings.

An anonymous correspondent enters a vigorous complaint and asks for advice. He has a son, aged about nineteen, who is as large as the father. As a result of this similar size the son finds it easier to wear his father's shirts, collars, hose and neckties than to buy his own. The father wants to know what he should do about it. That's exactly what we would like to know. And about three mornings a week, after vainly hunting for a clean shirt or collar, or clean hose, and learning that our own grown boy has "sneaked" the last one, we are willing to pay handsomely for the information. Can any reader help us out?

Isn't This Awful?

In his oration regarding the Pilgrim's Progress President Roosevelt took occasion to trample upon more than one bunion.

Anxious

"Why is Bingerly so anxious to dodge the assessor? He doesn't own much taxable property, does he?" "Goodness, gracious, yes! Why, Bingerly has almost a half a ton of hard coal in his cellar, left over from last winter."

Brain Leaks

A contented workman earns his wages. Sanctification does not mean exclusiveness.

Any work is honest when honestly performed.

A church letter is small recommendation.

A yawn from the pew may mean somnolency in the pulpit.

When it means sacrifice to give we can set it down as charity.

John Barleycorn still holds the championship belt as a fighter.

The richest man is the one who is satisfied with what he has.

Some men give; other men amputate themselves from their money.

A boy's first ambition is to play the snare drum in the village band.

Better be riding a hobby than to sit grumbling by the side of the road.

Honesty is the best policy only when it is not honesty for policy's sake.

The Christian spends in doing the time that the church member spends in posing.

Men who never work are prone to grow eloquent on the subject of "the dignity of labor."

When a man's children run to meet him it is a pretty good sign that he is all right.

The average man is surprised that the world does not stop whirling when he gets into trouble.

A whole lot of men are in a hurry to get nowhere to do something that does not need to be done.

We expect to take our summer vacation the week after the Standard Oil company pays that fine.

Automobile jokes are growing scarce. The automobile has grown altogether too serious for jokes.

After all it is enlightened selfishness to reach down and lift up. The man lifted up can not drag you down.

The candidate who is so glad to shake your hand before election is very apt to shake you entirely after election.

When a man wants to turn a dishonest trick he has no trouble in finding an excuse that will satisfy his conscience.

Next to the man with a grievance the greatest bore is the man who will not sympathize with you when you tell yours.

The man who can see nothing but fun in life never amounts to much; the man who can see no fun at all in life never amounts to anything.

Some men excuse profanity on the ground that it is a safety valve on their temper. But the more they swear the more the escape valve is called upon to act.

About the nearest thing to perpetual motion that we have been able to find is this thing of thrusting one's hand into one's pocket to pay out the money earned between reachings.

Some of these days we are going to meet up with a defeated candidate who is just as glad to see us as he was before his defeat, and then we will know who our preferred candidates for something better is.

Just as we begin to think that we really know something really worth while, then something happens to show us that we really know so little of all there is to know that it isn't worth while to feel puffed up on account of our knowledge.

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