

# Beasley's Christmas Party

By BOOTH TARKINGTON

Miss Apperthwaite was at home the following Saturday. I found her in the library with "Les Miserables" on her knee when I came down from my room a little before lunch time; and she looked up and gave me a smile that made me feel sorry for any one she had ceased to smile upon.

"I wanted to tell you," I said, with a little awkwardness but plenty of truth, "I've found out that I'm an awful fool."

"But that's something," she returned encouragingly—"at least the beginning of wisdom."

"I mean about Mr. Beasley—the mystery I was absurd enough to find in 'Simpledoria.' I want to tell you—"

"Oh, I know," she said; and although she laughed with an effect of carelessness, that look which I had thought "far away" returned to her eyes as she spoke. There was a certain inscrutability about Miss Apperthwaite sometimes, it should be added, as if she did not like to be too easily read. "I've heard all about it. Mr. Beasley's been appointed trustee or something for poor Hamilton Swift's son, a pitiful little invalid boy who invents all sorts of characters. The old darky from over there told our cook about Bill Hammersley and Simpledoria. So, you see, I understand."

He joined exclaimations with me heartily, and with a twinkling quizzicalness that somehow gave me the idea that he might be thinking (rather apologetically) to himself: "Yes, sir, that old Beasley man is certainly a mighty funny critter!"

When I went away, a few moments later, and left him still intermittently chuckling, the impression remained with me that he had some such deprecatory and surreptitious thought.

Two or three days after that, as I started down-town from Mrs. Apperthwaite's, Beasley came out of his gate, bound in the same direction. He gave me a look of gay recognition and offered his hand, saying, "Well! Up in this neighborhood!" as if that were a matter of considerable astonishment.

I mentioned that I was a neighbor, and we walked on together. I don't think he spoke again, except for a "Well, sir!" or two of genial surprise at something I said, and, now and then, "You don't tell me!" which he

had a most eloquent way of exclaiming; but he listened visibly to my own talk, and laughed at everything that I meant for funny.

"Hoo-ray!" Thus the Honorable Mr. Beasley, waving a handkerchief thrice around his head and thrice cheering.

And the child, in that cricket's voice of his, replied: "Br-ra-vo!"

This was the form of salutation familiarly in use between them. Beasley followed it by inquiring, "Who's with us today?"

"I'm Mister Swift," chirped the little fellow. "Mis-ter Swift, if you please, Cousin David Beasley."

Beasley executed a formal bow. "There is a gentleman here who'd like to meet you." And he presented me with some grave phrases commendatory of my general character, addressing the child as "Mister Swift"; whereupon Mister Swift gave me a ghostly little hand and professed himself glad to meet me.

"And besides me," he added, to Beasley, "there's Bill Hammersley and Mr. Corley Linbridge."

A faint perplexity manifested itself upon Beasley's face at this, a shadow which cleared at once when I asked if I might not be permitted to meet these personages, remarking that I had heard from Dowden of Bill Hammersley, though until now a stranger to the fame of Mr. Corley Linbridge.

Beasley performed the ceremony with intentional elegance, while the boy's great eyes swept glowingly from his cousin's face to mine and back again. I bowed and shook hands with the air, once to my left and once to my right.

"And Simpledoria!" cried Mister Swift. "You'll enjoy Simpledoria."

"Above all things," I said. "Can he shake hands? Some dogs can."

"Watch him!" Mister Swift lifted a commanding finger. "Simpledoria, shake hands!"

## CATTLE-FEEDING SURVEY RESULTS

### Extensive Studies Have Been Made in Connection With Many Agricultural Colleges.

## GOVERNMENT MAKES EXHIBIT

### Amounts of Feed Necessary to Make Same Amount of Total Gain on Feeder Steer Shown Pictorially—Systems of Feeding.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) In an exhibit at the International Live-Stock exposition recently held at Chicago, the United States Department of Agriculture showed some of the results obtained from an extensive survey of steer feeding in the Middle West. These studies have been made in co-operation with agricultural colleges in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska. The survey has been carried on for the last four years, and it has involved approximately 20,000 steers each year. Another year's study is to be made, but results have been obtained to date that are of practical interest to cattle feeders throughout the United States.



A Prize-Winning Hereford Shown at the International Live-Stock Show.

Results of Survey. The results of this survey, thus far, were shown at the exposition in a booth entitled, "Beef Production," a part of the large government exhibit. It was found that two types of ration are being used by cattle feeders generally throughout this region. The type used in a locality is determined by the kind of hay that is grown there. About the same number of steers are fed by each method throughout the region studied.

Feed Necessary. The exhibit showed pictorially the amounts of feed necessary to make the same amount of total gain on a feeder steer, and the length of feeding period, under each system of feeding, as determined by this survey. Information on feeding problems and other phases of beef production may be secured by asking for bulletins from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

## STANDARD FOR BEEF BREDS

### To Assist Beginner Department of Agriculture Issues Bulletin Giving Information.

The question of the beginner, "which is the best breed of beef cattle?" cannot be answered if he insists upon definite reasons, for no beef has been found superior to all others. A man may have a personal choice, his neighbors may be raising one particular breed, or his conditions may be more nearly ideal for one breed than any of the others.

In order to help those who are uncertain as to which breed is best adapted to their conditions, the United States Department of Agriculture has prepared a bulletin in which are given the characteristics of the beef and dual-purpose breeds in the United States, together with a brief history of their development. A comparative standard of excellence for beef breeds is included in the bulletin, a feature which makes it possible for the beginner to compare the breeds point by point.

A copy of the bulletin may be had free of charge by writing the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and asking for Farmers' Bulletin G12.

## WHITEWASH THAT WILL HOLD

### When Properly Prepared and Applied Material Will Cleanse, Disinfect, and Stay On.

Whitewash is often made in a slipshod way and is put on carelessly. It does not do the job well and will not last. When whitewash is properly made and carefully applied, it will cleanse, disinfect and stay on. Slack ten pounds of quicklime in two gallons of water. Cover the container and allow the lime to slack for one hour. Add enough warm water to make the whitewash spread easily with a brush. To each five gallons add one pound of glue, (stick glue dissolved in warm water), one-fourth pound of salt and one pint of crude carbolic acid. Apply evenly, while warm, with a good whitewash brush.—Paul C. Jamieson, Poultry Extension Specialist, Colorado Agricultural College.

## DOCKING LAMB WILL MAKE BETTER ANIMAL

### Tails Are of No Benefit and May Do Some Harm.

### Should Be Removed When Youngster Is About Two Weeks Old—Operation Requires Two Men and Knife or Docking Iron.

Lambs' tails are of no benefit and may even do harm; therefore they should be removed when the lamb is in its second week of life, say the live stock men at the New York state agricultural college at Ithaca. The operation requires two men and a sharp knife or docking iron. One man holds the lamb and the other locates a joint in the tail by feeling on the inside.

The loose skin is pushed back so that a flap will grow over the stub and the tail is cut off at a joint about one and a half inches from the body. The cut is made quickly with a sharp knife. A piece of cord tied tightly around the stump close to the body will stop excessive bleeding, but it must be removed in eight or ten hours so the stump will not slough off.

Even old sheep can be successfully docked with hot docking irons, the college says, and there is no danger from loss of blood. Sealing the cut off with irons heated to cherry red sterilizes the wound and prevents bleeding.

Reasons given by the college specialists for docking lambs are that in the first place the tail is of no benefit; if it is left on it accumulates around and beneath it; and females are likely to fall to breed. An additional reason for disposing of the tail is that lambs look neater and deeper in the leg and twist if the tail is docked.

## NOSE PRINTS IDENTIFY COW

### Method Is Being Employed to Determine Animals Being Tested for Milk Records.

There are finger prints to identify criminals, footprints to identify newborn babies, and the latest use of the inkpad is to identify cows. It is a sure means of identifying "Tessie," the family cow, when she comes home late at



Demonstrating Simplicity of Means of Identification.

night. Just take her nose print. In the photo Prof. W. E. Peterson of the University of Minnesota is demonstrating the simplicity of this means of identification. This method has been adopted to identify cows being tested for milk records by the state of Minnesota.

## POTATO GRADES GAIN FAVOR

### Big Majority of Buyers Demand That Shippers Do Business on Basis of Federal Rules.

The federal potato grades are growing in popularity. "More than 75 per cent of the buyers of potatoes in carlots are demanding that shippers do business on the basis of the U. S. grades," it was stated by the Department of Agriculture following a survey of the trade.

Investigators found in Minnesota that out of 24 buyers in different parts of the country who were queried, 18 demanded the use of U. S. Grade No. 1. The October forecast put the potato crop at 433,015,000 bushels. To move so huge a crop at a profit department officials urge strict grading of potatoes according to the No. 1 specifications.

## MARKS ON LINCOLN HIGHWAY

### Uniform System of Signs Now Extends From the Hudson River to the Golden Gate.

The marking of the Lincoln highway was finally completed in 1921 when, with the co-operation of the New Jersey highway department, the last permanent signs were placed along the 90-mile stretch between Jersey City and Trenton. The remainder of the marking in 1919 and 1920 has been well maintained with the result that a uniform system now extends from the Hudson river to the Golden Gate. The Lincoln highway is undoubtedly the best marked highway in America and this system installed at great expense is a wonderful aid to motorists.

## Merchant Now Eats Anything on Table

"By the help of Tanlac I have overcome a case of nervous indigestion I had suffered from for ten or twelve years," is the emphatic statement of Norman W. Brown, well-known wall paper and paint dealer, of 213 N. Cedar St., Charlotte, N. C.

"My stomach was always out of fit and everything disagreed with me. I was troubled with heartburn and dizziness, and at times there was a pressure of gas around my heart that almost cut off my breath."

"Since taking Tanlac my digestion is fine. My appetite is a wonder and I eat just anything I want. In fact, my stomach acts and feels just like a new one and my nerves are as steady as a die. To put it all in a few words, I am just the same as a new man. It's a pleasure for me to tell my friends about Tanlac."

Tanlac is sold by all good druggists.—Advertisement.

## The New Venice.

Any modernization of Venice would be a profanity, yet we cannot wonder that this city with its glorious maritime traditions longs to become a world port once more. How to accomplish this without marring the beauty of the remarkable aquatic city was a problem. This danger has been happily averted by a wise governmental policy. Trade is to be diverted away from the city itself to a great new harbor, and industrial centers now being built upon the mainland at Marghera and Mestre. These points are connected with the sea by a new ship canal dredged across the lagoons in continuation of the Guadecca canal.—Scientific American.

No ugly, grimy streaks on the clothes when Red Cross Ball Blue is used. Good bluing gets good results. All grocers carry it.—Advertisement.

## He Clipped Her Wings.

"Somewhere in Indianapolis there is a girl who is minus some of the feathers on her hat and she'll never know, maybe, how they came to be clipped off," said Robert Bailey, statehouse elevator man, the other day.

"The girl was on an Irvington car along with 128 others. She kept bobbing her head around and nearly tickled the face off a fellow on the car. He reached in his vest pocket, got out a pair of little scissors, and every time she wagged the feathers across his face he took off a slice!"—Indianapolis News.

## The Conductorette.

"How's that pretty conductorette making out? Can she make 'em step lively?"

"Rather! They begin to step lively the minute they spy her."

A wasted opportunity always comes home to roost.

## W.L. DOUGLAS \$5 \$6 \$7 & \$8 SHOES

W. L. Douglas shoes are actually demanded year after year by more people than any other shoe in the world

BECAUSE W. L. Douglas has been making surpassingly good shoes for forty-six years. This experience of nearly half a century in making shoes suitable for Men and Women in all walks of life should mean something to you when you need shoes and are looking for the best shoe values for your money.

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To Merchants: If no dealer in your town handle W. L. Douglas shoes. Exclusive rights to handle this quick selling, quick turn-over line. Brockton, Mass.

## TOO LATE

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Dowden, Beasley and I All Slid Down the Banisters on One of the Hamilton Swift Junior's Days.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

## Summer Vacations in Africa.

At the equator in Africa there are only two seasons—the wet and the dry. The former is the summer season, and lasts eight months. The thermometer averages from 110 degrees to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. The other four months are the cold and dry season, when the thermometer rarely goes above 70 degrees Fahrenheit. During the rains the natives live in houses made principally of bamboo and roofed with leaves, but as soon as the rains stop, which is some time around the first of June, they take on a holiday mood, desert their towns, and set out; household furnishings are transported on the heads of the women and children.