

There must be a contest on for story telling, for the reading public are being handed some "lemons" unaware, or, if there isn't, the strangest things ever are happening. The lamp-post that wobbled was just plain, simple drunk, we know about that, but we won't say any more, says the New Orleans Picayune. Then the Plymouth Rock hen and the cold-storage affair, too, made us sit up and take notice, but now comes into court a North Yakima farmer and he tells this without even blushing. He says he fired into a flock of geese and brought down two. He had also cast off the Yakima river bank a fishing line with several hooks on it, so he could hunt and fish at the same time. You know these Yakima farmers are decidedly clever. He was surprised to see another goose rise in the air again and again, only to fall to the ground. Upon investigation he discovered that the goose was caught on a set line nearly 500 feet long with 50 hooks set at intervals. A section of the line was on the land and the goose had swallowed one of the baits. Following up the line he found it down a hole under a stump. Pulling on the line, he dragged out a snarling, snapping otter and an 18-pound German carp. It's nearly time for some one to tell how a diamond necklace was got out of a "lobster," and then school can quit.

A French paper is conducting a voting contest for the purpose of deciding what in the opinion of a majority of its readers are the virtues most to be desired in women. Each reader is requested to name ten virtues. So far sixty virtues have been named. The first seven have always been at the top of the poll since the beginning of the ballot, in the following order: Goodness, orderliness, devotion, thrift, gentleness, intelligence and amiability. It is noted that will power comes twenty-fourth in the list, which is a long way down, considering that devotion is third, and which indicates that not a few of the voters are men. However, the virtue of meekness is the sixtieth and last in the list, and has received only 96 votes, while the votes for the first three in the list ranged between 17,000 and 19,000.

Atlantic City is getting very moral. Not content with regulating bathing suits, the solons have now decreed that no oyster may go through the streets without having all its shell on. It seems, however, that waiters have been carrying the luscious bivalve in the open exposed to various germs; and the provision of the health authorities is to be regarded as a sanitary precaution and not another act of prudery.

Ohio has more colleges than any other state. It requires special endeavor to raise one institution into fame above its rivals, when so many exist. The boys of West Lafayette college achieved this distinction by putting oil into the milk of the girls' dormitory. Twenty girls were made violently ill. Some day civilization will be so general that it will exist even among college students.

One man asserts that blondes are going out of fashion and that big feet for women are coming in. The critics of the sex will immediately seize upon these facts, especially the latter, to prove that women are walking too much over tradition and conservatism in their campaign for more rights, thus sacrificing fair complexion and small feet.

Dr. Wiley, the government authority on pure foods, makes a doleful indictment of the American people. He says we eat too much, drink too much, work too much, sleep too much, loaf too much and take medicine too much. Would the doctor admit that some of us talk too much? If so, could he do it without a self-conscious blush?

Strange, isn't it, how the tired business man will perk up and take a brighter view of life in the afternoon as the hands of the clock approach the hour of three—that is, when it is not raining and the baseball team is in town.

It is announced by an English scientist that our winters will gradually get warmer during the next 400 years, but he warns us that after the year 2294 there will be a change for the worse. Let us by all means enjoy the sunshine while we may.

A Philadelphia preacher announces that summer resorts are the starting places of disarrangements leading to divorce. It is not likely that his declaration will have a serious effect upon the summer resort business.

The automobile mile record is now 25.40 seconds, and the locomotive is distanced. The aeroplane may, however, become a competitor.

**CONCRETE FOR WEIRS**  
Can Be Constructed at Moderate Cost and Will Last.

Wooden Affairs Must Be Replaced in From Three to Six Years and Annual Maintenance is More or Less Expensive.

(By R. L. PARSHALL, Colorado Agricultural College.)

Permanency in construction is always one of the basic principles of economy. We find that weirs constructed of wood last from three to six years, with an annual maintenance of more or less expense. A weir that will last indefinitely can be constructed of concrete, at moderate first cost, and no maintenance charge.

First, determine the position of your weir and the maximum amount of water you expect to discharge through it. This having been done, excavate the ditch to a level surface, to a depth of four or five inches below the original bottom. The length of the base will be, in our case, say, eight feet. At each end of the foundation pit make a small trench, reaching across the bottom from side to side. The width of the foundation will depend upon the size of the weir needed. Assuming a two-foot weir, we would make the base five and one-half feet. Now mix your concrete, one part Portland cement, three parts sand, and six parts gravel or broken stone, and place this in the pit as provided. The small trenches at the ends will serve as a curtain wall and prevent the water from flowing beneath the base. While the concrete is being placed there should be set a scantling two inches square and full length of base, directly underneath the center of the side walls of the weir. Now place four one-half-inch iron rods in the base, to extend vertically on the outside of the scantling, and to extend some six or eight inches above the finished surface of the base. It is advisable to bend the ends of these rods at right angles, the lower end extending out into the base at right angles to the axis of the ditch. These rods should be equally spaced, with first and last one a foot from each end of the wall. The two scantlings will be parallel with each other, and after the concrete has all been placed and tamped into position, and floated with a straight edge, these strips should be flush with the surface. There should be a margin of concrete on the outside of them at least four inches wide. The finished surface should be approximately level. No forms will be necessary for the construction of the base of the weir.

The forms for the sides of the weir are of a collapsible nature and can be used for different widths and for an indefinite number of structures. Twelve pieces of 2x8, nine feet long, constitute the four side pieces, two side pieces being required to form each side wall. At the ends of the outside pieces are two long eye bolts reaching to the opposite side. These bolts are threaded for some distance, permitting of varying widths. To form the ends of the wall is placed vertically a board, five inches wide, two feet long, held in place by cleats. Two pieces of 2x4 at each end, cut the proper length; serve as struts or spreaders. After the end boards forming the ends of the walls, and the struts are in place, the turn nuts on the eye bolts are tightened, thus causing the whole form to be rigidly connected and properly spaced. The eye bolts are hinged at the diagonal corners and the end pieces are slotted to permit of easy assembling. At about three feet from the lower end of wall must be placed the weir board. To provide a recess for it in the concrete side wall a 2 1/2 x 2-inch cleat is nailed vertically on the inside of the inside forms. A slight draft should be given to the cleat so that there will be less danger of crumbling the corners when the side pieces are taken off. To insure an even surface for the weir board to rest against when in place, and to prevent excessive leakage, a small angle iron, placed on the lower side of the cleat, and imbedded in the concrete, will give excellent results when the weir board is wedged into place.

**Milk Bottles in Denmark.**  
Milk cans in Denmark are sprayed with cold water then thoroughly sprinkled inside and out with hot water. They are then fastened to a revolving wheel which turns them through a solution of lime water, and they are finally sprayed with steam. The milk bottles are usually washed with soda and water and the inside cleaned by means of a mechanically worked revolving brush and are then washed out with cold water. The bottles are then filled and corked by a mechanical process, sealed and tied down with thread. The bottles are then put into racks and packed in ice ready for distribution the following morning.

**Give Trees Plenty Room.**  
Might as well give the trees plenty of room at the start, because if you don't they will have to be cut out later. Thirty feet apart is the right distance for apple trees, although forty would not do any harm.

**"Loafer" in Dairy Herd.**  
The actual loss in the handling of one "loafer" in the dairy herd in the course of a year will often more than pay for a Babcock milk tester, which can be bought at between four and five dollars.

**ANCIENT ART OF IRRIGATION**  
Projects in Intermountain States Not Discovery of Our Age, But Old as Man Himself.

We are talking a great deal about irrigation these days, now that the government has taken hold of the job of storing the waters and using them for power, for transportation and for irrigation. We are disposed to think that this is a new discovery of man, one of the bright and shining successes of the nineteenth century. We are prone to forget that the Indian in the southwest practiced irrigation hundreds of years ago, abundant proof of which is found in the remains of irrigating ditches. We are prone to forget, even if we read our Bibles, that irrigation was practiced in Egypt in the days of Moses. It may be a surprise to some to know that civilization has always begun in rainless countries; that the ancient civilization of Media and Persia was sustained by irrigation. It may surprise our readers when we say that this land is desert now simply because the inhabitants have forgotten the art of irrigation. That country is full of the remains of ancient irrigation ditches; and it is likely to be one of the great food supplying countries of the world. The water is stored in a way quite similar to that in which we are storing water in the Rockies, and applied to the land. It may be still more surprising to know that as a matter of fact the English engineers are grinding up the actual bricks in the old Tower of Babel, mentioned in the eleventh chapter of Genesis, for the making of concrete dams, in order to store the flood waters of the mountains of that country.

So it will be seen that our irrigation projects in the Intermountain states are not a discovery of our age, but that the plan is almost as old as man himself. Solomon once incidentally remarked that there was "nothing new under the sun," and every year we are finding verification of the wisdom of this remark.

**Utilize Space Under Trees.**  
A good way to utilize the space under a shade tree on the home grounds where grass will not grow and where the soil looks bare and ugly is to utilize the space for potted house plants. In arranging for this, a circle of bricks or natural stone may be made about equal in diameter to the top of the tree. Within this rocky circle the potted plants may be placed, with the shade-loving plants nearest the trunk of the tree in dense shade, and the sun-loving plants toward the circumference of the circle, where the light is strongest. The circle of potted plants, too, may be arranged according to size, the larger and taller ones being to the center and the smaller ones on the outer boundary.

**Starting Alfalfa.**  
In starting alfalfa better start on a small patch and learn how to do it before experimenting on a large field. Use plenty of manure. Plant on corn, potato, or summer fallow ground. Introduce the germs. Sow without a nurse crop. In the more northern states sow the last of May or first of June. Do not use too much seed. Remember that the alfalfa is delicate till it gets its partner on its roots—look for the nodules.

**Movable Fences Handy.**  
There is nothing more useful on the farm in the pasturing of sheep than movable fences. They do not cost much and any part of the pasture can be enclosed by the use of them in a few minutes.

**LIVE STOCK NOTES.**  
A mule seldom gets sick more than once, and generally dies then. The collar is the harness; see to it that the collar fits. Collar bolts are caused by ill-fitting collars. The levelness with which a horse walks is one of the best evidences that his legs work in harmony. If the spring pigs are doing well hold them steady until fall and then push them hard to the market. More small hogs have probably been marketed in the past two years than ever before during the same time. When the green corn comes along a little later, do not stuff young pigs all they will eat, or thumps will be the result. All beef and mutton will hereafter be raised on the small farms, and farmers must learn how to meet the new conditions. Sheep don't do well without water, and they are dainty about drinking. Clean running water is just as essential as good grass. The good fat knee, the muscular arms, the full muscular shoulders the good hock, are all important points in the horse. So far as can be done the horses that are expected to do the spring work should have the greater part of their grain ration of good sound oats. A lousy pig is a sure sign of a poor farmer. Once thoroughly infested the only way to get rid of the vermin is to dope the pig with some good disinfectant. If your barn and feed yards have a proper system of drainage, there will be little danger of rheumatism among your pigs. If you have not worked out such a system, do so now.

**HAPPENINGS IN THE CITIES**

**Real Maud Mullers Now Raking Hay**



THIS BEATS WORKING IN AN OLD FACTORY, ALL THE SAME!

NEW YORK.—Maud Muller, who "on a summer's day raked the meadow sweet with hay," hasn't anything on the band of 18 clear-eyed, smiling, militant suffragettes ranging from seventeen to twenty-four years of age, who are working in the fields of the farm of Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont on her Brookholt estate at Hempstead, L. I.

The "farmers" are former shop girls, factory hands and stenographers who have abandoned the conventional shirtwaist and black skirt for the more comfortable sweater and overalls. Some prefer to wear the bloomers, but all are attired in a way that gives perfect freedom of movement and full play to arm and limb. Many of the little band were pale of face and slight of muscle when they began their farm life, but even now they have become ruddy of cheek and their lips are as red as a cherry. After a two months' trial of these feminine farm hands Mrs. Belmont

firmly believes that the work is suited to women and women suited to the work, and that there is no reason in the world why normal girls should continue to slave in sweatshops and factories and grow pale and wan when they can blossom into splendid womanhood by taking up a pleasant outdoor life which is educational, healthful and remunerative.

The novel suffrage colony is the only one of its kind and has been carefully guarded from the inquisitive eyes of the intruder since its head farmer, a Pennsylvania Quakeress, was placed in charge.

"You can't dig in the ground, do men's work and wear skirts," Mrs. Belmont explained, calling attention to the novel costume her colonists wear. Each was dressed in a fine checked gingham blouse and bloomers. When the wind is chilly or the morning air damp they don thick gray sweaters.

It is Mrs. Belmont's plan and hope to get as many of these factory girls as she can to leave their city work-rooms for the open country, where they will have a chance to expand and grow. Already the girls on the farm have begun to show marked improvement in their appearance. Some have gained five or six pounds in weight.

**Gift Snake Ousts City Flat Dwellers**

CHICAGO.—C. A. Hartwell, manager of the Hampden apartments at Thirty-ninth street and Langley avenue, found out the other day why he has been having so much trouble keeping tenants in the building. Hartwell had the notion from his experiences of the last two months that all the persons who moved into his place were "seeing things." What they really had been seeing was a large, phosphorescent eyed, pleasant looking snake—a "king" snake from Louisiana, which has been using the Hampden apartments as a happy hunting ground.



cent looking things in the daytime. Hartwell couldn't find out what was the matter.

Hartwell had just filled up his building with the choicest assortment of tenants he had seen for a long time. But one day one of the tenants dropped into his office. "Mr. Hartwell," he said, "I guess I'll move."

Less than a week later another glit-tered tenant dropped in on Mr. Hartwell. He also looked pale. And he moved.

For two months this kept up. Hartwell's hair was growing gray. Half the tenants had moved out and the other half were going about the building like persons in the early stages of insanity, screaming out suddenly in the night and dodging perfectly inno-

Well, this was what was really happening: When Hartwell had filled the Hampden with good tenants, Alfred T. Knight, who runs the drug store in the ground floor of the building, got as a present from a friend in Louisiana a four-foot "king" constrictor.

Knight put the "king" snake into a box with a half-dozen live mice. One of the mice gnawed a hole in the box. The snake found the hole.

Knight missed his snake the next day, but he didn't dare to say anything about it. He hoped Mr. Snake would come back. In the meantime Mr. Snake was having the time of his life in the Hampden corridors, hunting mice and driving the Hampdenites into long periods of sobriety. Then, the snake came back. But it came back just in time to implicate Knight. A boy saw it and the story comes out.

**Kansas Boys Studying Home Problems**



HOW CAN I KEEP A WIFE AND TEN KIDS ON TEN DOLLARS A WEEK?

LAWRENCE, KAN.—The growing importance of dealing adequately with problems of the home, and especially with the "man in the home," has led to the introduction of a new course of study—The Family—at the University of Kansas.

Such momentous questions as how to deal with the spoiled child, domestic hygiene, education in the home, the "hired girl" problem and how to keep the weekly household expenditures in a fair ratio to the family income, usually are left to the wife to solve. The head of the house seldom bothers his head about these "petty" affairs. Indeed, it may be said that it has been beneath his traditional dignity to concern himself in these matters. This precedent has broken at K. U., however, and this semester nine boys out of a class of 23 are getting

a little of the theory, if not of the actual practice, in the conduct of "The Family."

Of course the boys were a little backward about taking this study when the opportunity was first presented. Perhaps the natural reticence to talk of these delicate topics might have kept any of them from entering the class had it not been for three young men who were lately married and who enrolled along with their wives. This served to "break the ice," and others soon followed their example.

Each member of the class is given a certain subject for reference work. The reports are read before all members of the class. Some of the topics assigned were: "Household Economy," "Domestic Hygiene," "Causes of Race Suicide," "Family Expenditures," "The Care of the Child," and "Higher Education for Women." Lectures and discussions on such phases of home life as Conduct and Character, Happiness and the Social Ends, Place and Duty in the Moral Life and Virtues and the Right Ideals for Father and Mother also are considered.

**Los Angeles to Have Hindoo Temple**

LOS ANGELES, CAL.—Swami Baba Premanander Bharati, a celebrated Hindoo ascetic philosopher, whose teachings created great interest when he was in America three years ago, has arrived here to superintend the work of construction of a great Hindoo temple to be built, the Swami declares, entirely from contributions made by devout Hindoos in India.



Before he forsook the world for an ascetic life the Swami was editor of the Lahore Tribune, at the same time Rudyard Kipling was an associate editor of the Civil and Military Gazette.

"I knew Rudyard well," said the Hindoo. "And while I have greatly enjoyed his books, he has never been able to write of the actual life of India, for he never knew it. His description of the country—the color— are beautiful, but he is lacking in the spiritual understanding—the inner life—of India."

Concerning the temple here where the real spiritual and religion of India will be taught, the Swami says he has procured the grounds and that enthusiasm in India among the five million ascetics is so great that the pro-

posed edifice will be one of the most beautiful in the world. Nearly \$100,000 already has been raised.

In personal appearance the Swami is most impressive. He is a very big man and his great head is covered with long black hair, slightly tinged with gray. He has deep black eyes and a massive face. He wears a long khaki covered robe and American made shoes. His turban is of gold and red silk.

"At home, when I wander from province to province, I go without shoes and wear a cloth about my body, while my arms and shoulders are bare," he said. "I am an ascetic, and we take no money in India. Here, if I would get people interested in my philosophy, I must live as they live. I cannot wander and beg. I would be misunderstood."

**SUFFERED FOURTEEN YEARS.**  
A Terrible Case of Dropsy and How It Was Cured.

Mrs. W. R. Cody, 603 Tenth St., Lewiston, Idaho, says: "Fourteen years I suffered from kidney trouble. I was so lame and sore I could hardly move. Headaches were frequent and my whole body bloated. I had chills and hot flashes and my ankles were so swollen I could scarcely wear my shoes. The kidney secretions bothered me and my nerves were unstrung. I began taking Doan's Kidney Pills and soon the swelling diminished. The backache and other troubles quickly disappeared and I was completely cured."



Remember the name—Doan's. For sale by druggists and general storekeepers everywhere. Price 50c. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

**IN ART CIRCLES.**



First Artist—How is he as a sculptor?

Second Artist—Oh! he cuts quite a figure.

The Herb laxative, Garfield Tea, overcomes constipation, giving freedom from sick-headache and bilious attacks.

Love is the emblem of eternity; it confounds all notion of time; it effaces all memory of a beginning; all fear of an end.—Madame de Staël.

In this world one must be a little too kind to be kind enough.—Marivaux.

**FREE ADVICE TO WOMEN**

Women suffering from any form of illness are invited to promptly communicate with Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass. All letters are received, opened, read and answered by women. A woman can freely talk of her private illness to a woman; thus has been established this confidence between Mrs. Pinkham and the women of America which has never been broken.



Never has she published a testimonial or used a letter without the written consent of the writer, and never has the Company allowed these confidential letters to get out of their possession, as the hundreds of thousands of them in their files will attest.

Out of the vast volume of experience which Mrs. Pinkham has to draw from, it is more than possible that she has gained the very knowledge needed in your case. She asks nothing in return except your good will, and her advice has helped thousands. Surely any woman, rich or poor, should be glad to take advantage of this generous offer of assistance. Address Mrs. Pinkham, care of Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.

Every woman ought to have Lydia E. Pinkham's 80-page Text Book. It is not a book for general distribution, as it is too expensive. It is free and only obtainable by mail. Write for it today.

**Splendid Crops**

In Saskatchewan (Western Canada) 800 Bushels from 20 acres of wheat was the thrasher's return from a Lloyd-minister farm in the season of 1910. Many fields in that as well as other districts yielded double in two years. Free Homesteads of 160 acres are to be had in the very best districts at \$5.00 per acre with- in certain areas. Schools and churches in every settlement. For particulars as to location, low selling price, and descriptive illustrated pamphlet, "Last Best West," and other information, write to Dept. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or to Canadian Government Agent.

**60 ACRES IN WESTERN CANADA FREE**

**LARGE PROFITS**

**HOMESTEAD LANDS** of Western Canada. This excellent flowing cause prices to advance. Land values should double in two years. Free Homesteads of 160 acres are to be had in the very best districts at \$5.00 per acre with- in certain areas. Schools and churches in every settlement. For particulars as to location, low selling price, and descriptive illustrated pamphlet, "Last Best West," and other information, write to Dept. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or to Canadian Government Agent.

W. V. BENNETT  
Room 4, 2nd St., Great Falls, Minn.  
Please write to the agent nearest you.