

We shun them at every opportunity, those busybodies who pose as our friends when really they are quite the contrary, and who seem to think they are endowed by a special act of Providence with regulating the affairs of their neighbors as well as of those who would rather not be their neighbors. It is easy to comprehend how such persons earn their characterization and easier still for us to apply such a description to all those who in any way display what we may regard as an undue interest in our affairs, says the Christian News and Courier. It is possible, however, that the ear which we place so unhesitatingly upon the heads of certain persons would prove a better fit for us if we could persuade ourselves to "try it on." Unquestionably the mere suggestion to some of us that we could ever overstep the limit of our friendly interest in others is distasteful and in many cases probably unwarranted, yet it is true that one of the distinctive characteristics of the present age, with its freedom of living and its consequent sacrifice of many of those refining and restraining influences that were so vital a part of another and more distant day, is the readiness with which we indulge our curiosity. Not satisfied nowadays with the bestowal of a confidence which is sufficient, perhaps, to pique our interest it is not unusual for some persons to solicit further details and in other ways to evince a too eager concern in the affairs of others.

Gustav Frensen's "Klaus Hinrich Baas" reminds one of "David Copperfield" in its long deliberative unwinning of a life history up to middle age, and a little, too, in its general plan, with its unhappy love marriage followed by a more satisfactory union, says the London Times. But Frensen plows deep in the field of moral and social problems, and his plot is convincing—we are not obliged to take the facts on the honor of the narrator. The hero is a peasant's son—a piece of tough, proud, full-blooded North German humanity. In one moment of bitter disillusionment he asks himself what his too great teachers, School and Church, had done for him except mislead him. They had given him fables, impossible idealisms, "two gospels, the gospel of the Savior and the gospel of Schiller, but of true, genuine knowledge of life not a vestige." How he gets this knowledge is the theme of the book; a fine and moving story which flows on in a broad stream of incident and character that gives a singularly powerful impression of the massiveness and variety of life.

New York is protesting against a new danger in the reckless driving of automobiles by boys and girls through the streets, and legal means are to be sought to prevent the lives of citizens being put in danger by children. The automobile, in some way, seems to be associated with disregard of the rights of pedestrians to an extent which has rendered it a menace of civilization, as well as one of its luxuries. But as far as children are concerned, they should be legally restrained from being allowed in charge of any vehicle. They are too fond of any kind of power and too irresponsible in its use—an exceedingly dangerous combination.

Now it is discovered that the famous pirate, Captain Kidd, who, according to the old song, "much wickedness he did as he sailed," was really no pirate at all, but an honest and good-tempered old sailor. But there are some cherished illusions to which the mind will always cling, and it will require more authority than is given to induce the popular imagination to accept a romantic and picturesque pirate as an uninteresting and commonplace good honest man.

Another rich American girl is to marry an English nobleman. The next generation of the British peerage will be as much American as English, if these international marriages keep on, and with such an infusion of Americanism, even the famous British conservatism and love of tradition may give way to a startling extent. But the nation seems not to care for this American danger as long as it can assimilate so much of the American coin.

A dreadnaught is a formidable object, but it affords a shining mark for a little aeroplane sitting hither and yon among the clouds. In a few years, perhaps, somebody will build an aeroplane destroyer.

From Honey Creek, Ia., comes the story that a bolt of lightning dug a well and found water after a farmer had tried in vain for years. Evidently Honey Creek is trying to compete with Whistled, Conn.

WATER FOR ORCHARDS

No Definite Rules Can Be Set Down for Irrigation.

System That Would Be Entirely Practical for One Would Not Necessarily Be Adapted for Another.

No definite rules can be laid down for the proper irrigation of orchards. Each farmer should work out his own system of irrigation as it varies with each locality, kind of soil and different fruits grown, writes John Viesing in the Northwestern Stockman and Farmer. A system that would be practical for one orchard may not be at all adapted for another.

The water is usually brought to the land in open ditches. Openings are made in the bank to bring it to the furrows, or wooden or iron spouts are inserted in the ditch bank. Wooden or cement flumes are more efficient in delivering the water to the land as there is less loss by seepage. In some sections of the country pipes are being used successfully. These are placed beneath the surface of the ground and standpipes are located at intervals to deliver the water to the furrows.

The furrow method is the one most commonly used and with very good results. The aim is to allow small streams of water to run through the furrows until the moisture has penetrated the soil deeply by percolation so as to come in contact with the moisture of the adjoining furrows. The furrows are made about eight inches deep so that the surface soil will not get soaked up too much. This allows cultivation to be done as soon as the water stops running and it thereby prevents the baking of the soil.

The length of the furrows may vary and it is largely influenced by the size of the orchard. Professor Culbertson of California has reached the conclusion that on sandy or gravelly soil, having a steep slope, the proper length of the furrows is 200 feet, while on heavier soils and flatter slopes the length may be increased to 600 feet. The grade of the furrows varies quite widely. On flat ground it is often not possible to obtain fall greater than one inch per 100 feet, while on steep slopes the fall may reach 20 inches per 100 feet. A grade of three to four inches is to be preferred and where the fall exceeds eight to ten inches per 100 feet the trees should have been planted in such a way as to decrease the slope of the furrows.

The number of furrows to be made depends on the age of the trees, the space between the rows, and the character of the soil. Young orchards are usually irrigated by a furrow on each side of the row, or in such orchards one furrow may be run along each row and a ring furrow made around each tree. In bearing orchards the number of furrows must be determined by the grower himself. Sandy soils take water freely and the furrows must be closer together than in heavy soil where the water does not penetrate so rapidly. From four to eight furrows are usually required where rows are 30 feet apart.

The time to irrigate varies greatly. The orchard that goes into winter in the proper condition does not need so early an irrigation in the spring. Frequent examinations of stem, branches, foliage and fruit should be made. This is, however, not always a sure guide. The soil should be examined to a depth of three or four feet. One should find out where the bulk of the feeding roots are located, ascertain the nature of the soil around them, and make tests as to the moisture which it contains. Different fruits require different times of irrigation.

WORMS AS TILLERS OF SOIL

Estimated There Are 54,000 of Insects in Each Acre of Garden—Earth Brought to Surface.

An tillers of the soil, earth worms constitute a great army. It is estimated that there are 54,000 worms in each acre of garden soil, and about half that number in cornfields. Nine burrows or worm holes are usually found in two square feet of garden soil. It is further computed that in all cultivated lands in which worms are able to live no less than ten tons of earth are brought to the surface in each acre by the worms each year. Worm burrows are frequently found extending for five or six feet down below the surface. Since they feed largely upon vegetable matter and since various acids, which are called humic, are generated by the digestion of such matter, worms must affect the quality of the soil to that extent, for the humic acid plays a far more important part in the disintegration of rocks and the production of proper soil than does carbonic acid, itself known to be a powerful agent. The tillage of worms is thus chemical as well as mechanical in its effect upon the soil.

Search for Potash. The United States geological survey has purchased a deep-drilling outfit which has been ordered shipped west. Work will be commenced at once in the Great Basin region in the search for potash which scientists believe nature has locked up for centuries in that section. The investigation for potash is a tedious and slow process, as the chemical, being soluble, does not outcrop and deep drilling is therefore necessary.

HIGHEST YIELDS OF ALFALFA

Proper Application of Water is Secret of Success—Irrigation in Winter is Important.

(By PHILIP K. BLANN, Colorado Agricultural College.)

1. Irrigate frequently rather than by long-continued soaking; over-watering excludes air and compacts the soil.

2. An irrigation in the fall, to insure soil moisture over winter, is worth two irrigations in the spring after the soil has been dry all winter. If moisture is present over winter, the alfalfa plant makes root and bud growth preparatory for next season's crop. If the soil is dry, the plant becomes so dormant that it will take weeks of time to develop new buds and root hairs. Winter moisture in the soil, with frost action, also breaks up compacted soil conditions that will help to conserve the subsoil moisture and increase the hay yield.

3. Avoid pasturing alfalfa fields, especially when wet.

4. Cultivate alfalfa fields early in the spring, with the alfalfa renovator, disk, spring-tooth harrow or any special alfalfa cultivator, for the following reasons:

- (1) To break up compact soil conditions.
- (2) To get air into the soil, which is very essential.
- (3) To work leaves and other organic matter into the soil.
- (4) To break up capillary action, thus conserving moisture.
- (5) To destroy foxtail sod, grasshopper eggs and other pests.
- 5. Do not let ice form over alfalfa fields by winter irrigation for any length of time.
- 6. Rowing out the alfalfa hay field affords a better system of irrigation than the ordinary flooding method often practiced that so often soaks the field, to the detriment of the yield of hay.
- 7. Cut alfalfa for hay when the growth checks and the plant puts out new shoots from the crown; this is usually about the time the plant is well started to bloom.
- 8. In curing alfalfa hay it should be done in the windrow and cock rather than in the swath, as the leaves will shatter if suddenly dried up in the sun. The undried green leaf is an important factor in reducing the sap in the stems in the curing process.

GENERAL FARM NOTES.

Light is indispensable for the life and growth of trees. Usually clover can be best grown in mixtures for dairy cows. The work horse needs food that is not only concentrated but nutritious. Cases in which eggs are shipped to market should be as attractive as possible. The German millet or Hungarian are the two best varieties for the dairyman. Neatness and cleanliness are to be greatly desired, both in the eggs and in the package. If you think of setting out an orchard and have had no experience better hire a man to show you how. It is not the quantity of food taken into the stomach, but the amount absorbed in it, which benefits the system. If the skin of the horse is kept clean he will sweat more freely, which is necessary to keep him in good condition. Raise the type of colt that sells best in your community. Select the sire and dam that will bring this type of colt. Shipment of eggs should be made as often as possible during hot weather and as often as once a week at the longest. Newly broken colts should not be worked too hard. They are apt to overstrain themselves and be injured for life. Do not let the little colt follow the dam while she is at work. If the dam becomes heated, the milk is injurious to the colt. In common with other green plants a tree, in order to live, must produce organic substance for the building of new tissues. A balky horse is made so by a cranky or cruel driver, and can rarely be cured. So be very careful in breaking the colt. Uniformity as to size and color should be sought after, and white and dark shelled eggs should be packed by themselves. Very few amateurs practice trimming tomato vines, but if this is done in midsummer the yield of the fruit is very greatly increased.

Work of Birds. J. P. Gilbert of the University of Illinois, said in a recent lecture on "Birds of the Farm and City," that the hunters of the cities who did not realize the value of birds to farm products made possible an annual loss from farm insects to crops and forests of the United States of \$700,000,000. Mr. Gilbert said it is due to the destruction of quail in Illinois that the potato bug is becoming such a pest; that quail on the table is worth a few cents, but that quail on the farm is worth many dollars; that every hawk and owl is worth on an average of \$20 to the state; that one "flicker" can eat 5,000 ants at a single meal; that the kingfisher is the most powerful defender of the poultry yard in existence.

Spraying Potatoes. The time of time in spraying potatoes for blight is before the blight strikes them. It is discouraging to look out and see a nice field all turned black.

HAPPENINGS IN THE CITIES

Barbers Denounce the Safety Razors



Safety razors promote efficiency. It allowed to flourish they will eventually accomplish the ruin of American manhood. Rome's celebrated slump was due to just such introductions as the ornery safety razor.

"And," finished one of the speakers, "after wearing its owner from the refinement of the barber shop, making him minister to the demands of his whiskers across his own threshold, the safety will gradually pall upon the man devoted to it. Growing careless the man will one day lay open the interior of his face with an unusually negligent swing of the supposed 'safety' razor, and what then? The man being weaned from the barber shop, does not care to return. He is timid—the fault of the safety. He lets his whiskers assume abnormal proportions. He becomes a hotbed for germs. Therefore, down with the tyranny of the r. a."

It was prophesied that in the short span of a year all the old adherents of the stubble beards and curved Adam's apples will be filling the red plush chairs of the shop. The safety razor, it was allowed, was all right for the mere youths and the trembling hands of the old, but further it had not just cause for existence.

ST. PAUL, MINN.—Ways and means to deprive the safety razor of its citizen's right and declare it unconstitutional, to annihilate it, remove it from the home of every free-born American, and thus bring the barber shop again into its own, furnished one of the subjects for the emotional discussion that took place at the National Barber's Supply Dealers association convention here.

As the insidious influence of the degrading safety razor fired the speakers at the convention to eloquent heights, these points were brought forth:

Barber shops are not so popular as they were in the past. The dark man with the beard, instead of permitting himself the ecstasy of a 15-cent shave, attacks himself with the safety, in wild, careless swoops, which are equally injurious to the life and complexion of the victim and to the profession.

Accident Leads to a Canine Debauch

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—A score or more dogs of assorted breeds lived up things on Fifth avenue the other day by becoming intoxicated on the spilled contents of an overturned brewery truck. It is said by eyewitnesses that the drunken dogs acted almost "human" in the delicious frenzy which followed their excessive libations.



The truck, one of the motor variety, was chugging along Fifth avenue between Ninth and Tenth streets, when it broke down and its contents, several cases of a very popular brand of hop beverage, were spilled into the gutter. Immediately a golden stream, sparkling with the pent-up effervescence, gurgled and bubbled down the gutter.

The day was hot and all the neighborhood dogs, most of which belonged to Fifth avenue storekeepers, were wandering about in search of water to drink.

Blitzen, a graceful greyhound, raised her head from between her paws as she lay in the doorway of a millinery establishment and sniffed the air suspiciously. The couchant Blitzen became rampant.

"Woof, my dears!" she bayed, and in 20-foot jumps made for the spot whence came the tantalizing aroma of the wasting beverage.

Immediately every other dog on the block, and some others from adjacent blocks, realized that at last it was his "day." Following the lead of the leaping greyhound, they made for the gutter and eagerly began lapping up the amber drink.

How many aching heads there were next day in Fifth avenue dogdom will never be known, but members of the large crowd which quickly collected to watch the drinking bout aver that the quantity put away by the canine tipplers was something to marvel at.

The dogs, too full to find their way home, and too dizzy to navigate any way, were later led or carried to their homes by their owners.

Blame Middlemen for the High Prices



INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—An experiment to determine how far a city can go in reducing the cost of living is to be made in Indianapolis under the direction of Mayor Shank. Following a suggestion of James Wilson, secretary of the department of agriculture, that municipalities take up the question, the mayor appointed a commission to make an investigation. These men will spend the next few weeks investigating conditions that are supposed to be responsible for the high cost of farm and garden products. On their report will depend the city's action.

Several years ago Indianapolis established a market place for the purpose of giving the people a chance to deal direct with producers and in that manner to keep prices as low as possible. Preliminary inquiry indicates unscrupulous middlemen have been

bartering the market, buying up farm produce at wholesale prices and then selling at whatever prices they could extort, thus forcing all prices on the market upward. Some have even gone so far as to disguise their employes as farmers and have them take their places in the market with what were supposed to be farm wagons with fresh produce. It developed that middlemen control the prices of four-fifths of the produce handled on the Indianapolis market and that they have advanced the prices to suit themselves.

Comparisons made between the prices of a few farmers not taken in by the middlemen with the prices fixed at the market stands show that the farmers have been and are selling food stuff at an average of less than one half the amount fixed by the middlemen. Tomatoes, apples, potatoes and other staples have been sold 50 per cent. lower by the farmers than by the market stand proprietors in spite of the city's regulations.

The city government hopes to get at the bottom of the situation soon and to devise means by which the middlemen will not be able to grab the farm products and force the people to pay their prices.

Divorces a Close Second to Weddings

KANSAS CITY, MO.—As a habitation of the matrimonially distressed, Kansas City, according to figures just compiled, has Reno backed into oblivion.

These figures show that one of every three Kansas City marriages has its finale in the divorce court. In 1910 the figures showed that one in every four marriages in this city were failures and the great increase in the number has caused much perturbation in the churches.

Various causes have been given for it—the high cost of living, the laxity of the divorce laws, the greater independence of women.

Whatever the cause, since January 1 there have been 1,900 marriage licenses issued, and in the same time nearly 700 divorce suits filed. This is an increase in the number of marriage licenses issued over a like period in 1910, but a proportionately greater increase in the number of divorce suits filed. Incidentally, more children from broken homes have been taken charge of by the juvenile court than in any similar period. Sociologists and ministers are worried at the showing and there is a demand for more stringent divorce laws.

Judge Porterfield of the juvenile court also is worried at the showing, but he sees no relief in more stringent



divorce laws. He believes that the only remedy lies in making requirements for marriage more severe, and still not so severe that its result will be to drive many persons into common law marriages.

"Too many persons marry who should not," Judge Porterfield says. "That's where all this divorce trouble begins, and right there the lawmakers must begin if they are to help conditions. You can't legislate divorces and broken homes out of existence as long as just anybody can get married regardless of mental and physical defects. There ought to be a commission to pass on the mental and physical condition of applicants for marriage licenses, and on the earning capacity of the men. Worthless men who can't even support themselves marry."

"Something will have to be done or the people of this and other states will find themselves the keepers of a lot of degenerate children."

GOOD IDEA.



Reggy—I wish I knew what character to assume at the masquerade party tomorrow night.

Cholly—Put a display head on yourself and go as a society column.

CHILD'S HEAD A MASS OF HUMOR

"I think the Cuticura remedies are the best remedies for eczema I have ever heard of. My mother had a child who had a rash on its head when it was real young. Doctor called it baby rash. He gave us medicine, but it did no good. In a few days the head was a solid mass, a running sore. It was awful; the child cried continually. We had to hold him and watch him to keep him from scratching the sore. His suffering was dreadful. At last we remembered Cuticura Remedies. We got a dollar bottle of Cuticura Resolvent, a box of Cuticura Ointment, and a bar of Cuticura Soap. We gave the Resolvent as directed, washed the head with the Cuticura Soap, and applied the Cuticura Ointment. We had not used half before the child's head was clear and free from eczema, and it has never come back again. His head was healthy and he had a beautiful head of hair. I think the Cuticura Ointment very good for the hair. It makes the hair grow and prevents falling hair." (Signed) Mrs. Francis Lund, Plain City, Utah, Sept. 19, 1910.

Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. 12 L, Boston.

An Equivalent. "The man in the office with me did not get the advantage of me. I gave him a Roland for his Oliver."

"But which is really the better make?"

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, etc. a bottle.

Some men are honest because it is too much trouble to be otherwise.

MY DAUGHTER WAS CURED

By Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Baltimore, Md.—"I send you here, with the picture of my fifteen year old daughter Alice, who was restored to health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. She was pale, with dark circles under her eyes, weak and irritable. Two different doctors treated her and called it Green Sickness, but she grew worse all the time. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound was recommended, and after taking three bottles she has regained her health, thanks to your medicine. I can recommend it for all female troubles."—Mrs. L. A. CORREY, 1103 Rutland Street, Baltimore, Md.

Hundreds of such letters from mothers expressing their gratitude for what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has accomplished for them have been received by the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Company, Lynn, Mass.

Young Girls, Heed This Advice. Girls who are troubled with painful or irregular periods, headache, dizziness, dragging-down sensations, fainting spells or indigestion, should take immediate action and be restored to health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Thousands have been restored to health by its use.

Write to Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass., for advice, free.

Constipation Vanishes Forever

Prompt Relief—Permanent Cure CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS never fail. Purely vegetable—act surely but gently on the liver. Stop after dinner distress—cure indigestion, improve the complexion, brighten the eyes. SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature.

Warranted

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