

A VALENTINE

By
ARTHUR GUTTERMAN
with drawings by
JOHN WOLCOTT ADAMS

If all be true that wise men say
Of good St. Valentine his day,
Oh, then above the melting snow
The Snowdrops bashful kisses blow;
The silver Trout of lake and linn
Do swim together fin-to-fin;
The furry Hares of heath and shaw
Do make their gambols, paw-to-paw;
The Birds their mating carols sing
And fly together, wing-and-wing,
And all about the waking land
Go Youths and Maidens, hand-in-hand.
Then, Ever-Dearest, hear my plea
And wander hand-in-hand with me.

— From Good Housekeeping.



For the boys in France

CUPID STILL RULES

Cynics Who Decry Power of St. Valentine Are Unable to Prove Their Case.

A CYNIC once remarked that the two most irritating days on the calendar were those consecrated to Saints Swithin and Valentine, because, said he, the first often brought with it a stretch of rain and the second a wretch of a strain; for, of all strains in the world, he argued, the worst was that imposed by having to read a silly lot of footless and useless valentines.

The cynic probably does not stand alone in his opinion of Saint Valentine's day. There are thousands of men like him who believe that the day has degenerated; that, where once Cupid conquered hearts through loving missives sent on February 14, he now merely yawns and falls to head.

But does he? Have the old valentines, as love messages, really lost their power? Or have new kinds of valentines succeeded the flimsy lace kind of other years? And are they at all effective?

The printed chronicles of the last several years reveal numerous cases that go to disprove the statement of the cynic and his followers.

pen and ink picture of a house, and beneath appeared Everlin's name opposite all the offices to be voted for, viz., rentpayer, bundle carrier, loving husband, and so on. A slip was appended asking the voter to vote the straight ticket. Whether it was the humor of it or something else is unknown; but the fact remains that Miss Collins put the matrimonial X under the house.

The "missing-line" puzzle craze gave Herbert Randall of San Francisco his valentine cue in 1907. To his sweetheart, Vera Sallison of the same city, he sent this incomplete stanza, asking her to fill out the last line. The verse ran:

"It might have been" are saddest words
In world of woe and love and strife;
For these, these are the gladdest words:

The stanza was returned the following day with this line: "Yes, dear, I now will be your wife."

One of the most peculiar valentines on record was the one sent a year ago by Allen Straw of Pittsburgh to Louise Rovayer of Erie. It was nothing more or less than a large roll of white silk, bearing the words: "This is for a wedding dress. Please valentine me with a 'yes.'" The silken valentine was effective.

On Valentine's day three years ago two men sent their sweethearts railroad timetables to Niagara Falls, and another man sent his lady love a trunk tied with white ribbons and strewn inside with rice.

John Thomas Ray of Omaha won a wife through a valentine sent to a young woman living in St. Louis. Ray's valentine took the form of a big red apple, to the stem of which he had attached a card reading: "Love me and a world of happiness shall be yours. Love me not, and all that you will have will be this apple. It is big and red and pretty, but it will not last any more than will the semihappiness you believe you are enjoying while single."

The popular jigsaw puzzles were used as valentines by several woogie last year. One man, named Shaw, of Atlanta, sent one to his sweetheart in the same city and with it the lines: "I've puzzled my brain to guess your answer. Won't you put me in shape again with a 'Yes'?" The girl sent the valentine puzzle back with a note that read: "I do not want this puzzle. I'll give you myself. I have been a puzzle, I admit; but I'm going to solve myself for you."

Another man, Stanley Lemoine of Denver, sent one of the puzzles as a valentine to Rhea Knowles of the same town, with the note: "This will help pass away the dull hours for you in case you refuse to marry me." The girl married him.

Odd valentines, these, indeed; but odder still the valentine sent in 1906 by Reynolds Touhey of New York to May Lindstrom of Brooklyn, a valentine that succeeded in leading the latter to the altar. Touhey's valentine was a Dresden doll baby, and attached to it was a card reading: "Imagine having nothing more real than this all your life!"—The Sunday Magazine.



For the boys at sea

Lincoln's Fine Tribute to Bereaved Mother

At this time, above all times, when our thoughts revert to the man by many considered the greatest president that our country has had, we are proud to publish a letter written by him to a bereaved mother. It went from the heart to the heart, and its message still stirs the soul of motherhood.

The letter was this:

Executive Mansion
Washington, Nov. 24, 1864.

to Mrs. Bishop, Boston, Mass.
Dear Madam.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully,
Abraham Lincoln.

Is it any wonder that this famous letter is still hanging on the walls of Brasenose college, Oxford university, England, as a model of pure and exquisite English and as a compelling expression of a great heart and mind?

WOMEN LOVED BY LINCOLN HASTENED TO INFORM WIFE

Loss of One of Them in Early Youth Cast a Lifelong Shadow Across His Heart.

There was a wild rose slip of a girl in a blue sunbonnet, with whom he walked the lanes of his homespun days. There was a clever, cultured woman, whose brilliant intellect lighted his ascending way in the Illinois legislature. And there was the belle of the gay social set at Springfield, who fluttered across his pathway as it led to Washington. One he loved, and one he tried to, and one he married. These were the women that he courted. They loved Lincoln. To them the greatest American was far nearer than a lofty figure on a high pedestal. They heard his heart beat!

These were the women that loved Lincoln. One of them today lies near the banks of the Sangamon where he loved her. To the last there was with him the long, long sorrow of her loss that cast its shadow across his heart in youth. As late as 1864 he pushed aside state papers in the executive mansion at Washington to talk of her late in the night to a friend who had come from back home. One rests peacefully in a little cemetery at Pleasant Ridge, Ill. The mother of five children, her tombstone reads: "Mary Owens Vineyard." One lies at his side in the great mausoleum in Springfield, where the state keeps her bier and his heaped with fresh, fragrant flowers. When an assassin's bullet took his life, the American people mourned a great president. She mourned a great husband.—Delineator.

The way for a young man to rise is to improve himself every way he can, never suspecting that anybody wishes to hinder him.—Lincoln.

Election Incident.

Lincoln was a clever politician and never hesitated when president to play trumps in a crisis.

Colonel A. K. McClure said that he told Lincoln he couldn't carry Pennsylvania in 1864 on the home vote unless he furloughed 10,000 Pennsylvania soldiers and sent them back here to vote. Lincoln hesitated only a moment and then requested both Meade and Sheridan to send 5,000 troops into Pennsylvania for the election, which was done. McClure's prediction was evidently correct, as Lincoln, even with the 10,000 troops voting here, carried Pennsylvania by only 5,712. To this plurality was added some 14,000 as the result of Pennsylvania soldiers voting in the field.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Lincoln's Stories.

It seems probable that some of Lincoln's stories, genuine though we may believe them to be, were current before his time; for instance, the one with the Kentucky flavor referring to the brand of whisky which General Grant's enemies protested he used with too much freedom. Lincoln disclaimed this story in my hearing, stating that King George III. of England was said to have remarked, when he was told that General Wolfe, then in command of the English army in Canada, was mad, that he wished Wolfe would bite some of his other generals.—From "Lincoln in the Telegraph Office."

"Mary, We Are Elected," Was Lincoln's Form of Telling Helmeet the Good News.

Perhaps one of the most characteristic of the Lincoln anecdotes may be revived with timeliness. On the night of his first election the little "frame" home of the Lincolns in Springfield, Ill., was thronged with eager neighbors and friends. Reports for a while came in early and favorably. Then they were less promising. The crowd dwindled. Then came the news that Lincoln had carried the country. The rest of the story will better be told by that great man himself. "When there was no longer any doubt, or reason for doubt," he related afterward, "I went up to my bedroom and found my wife asleep. I gently touched her shoulder and said, 'Mary! She made no answer. I spoke again a little louder, saying, 'Mary! Mary! we are elected!'"

Stand with anybody that stands right. Stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong.—Lincoln.

The PERFECT SERVICE



(When Abraham Lincoln, as a boy, first came in contact with the institution of slavery, he remarked: "If I ever get a chance I am going to knock that thing, and knock it hard.")

To one of station lowly
And far removed from fame
In early youth a holy
Prophetic vision came.

He cherished well the vision
That nursed the germ of truth;
In spite of men's derision;
In spite of waning youth.

When sacrifice was needed
He gave, nor grudged the gift;
And as the years receded
He saw the darkness lift.

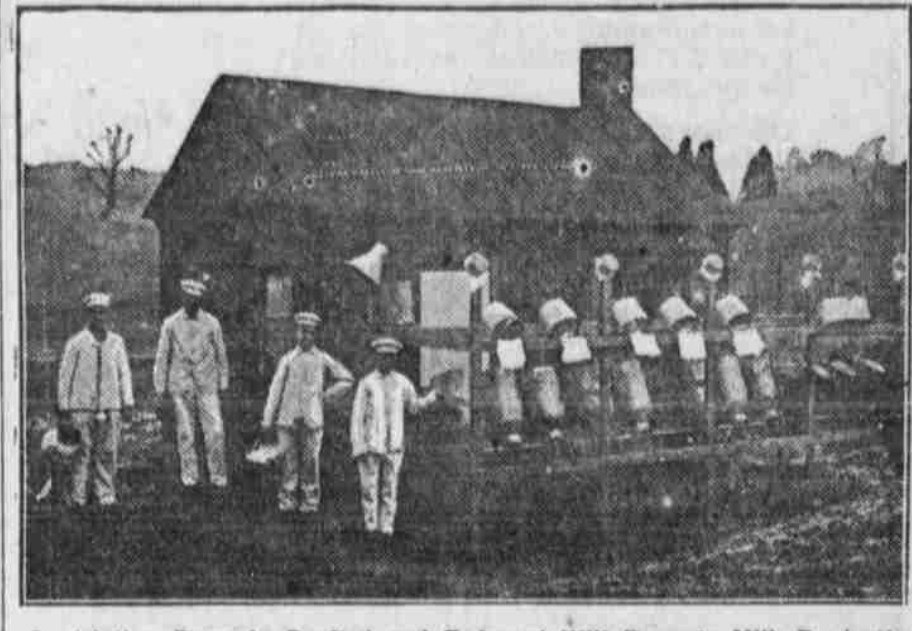
The fogs that clouded reason
Were scattered by the light
And what before was treason
Grew sacred in men's sight.

His memory, without equal,
Lies in our hearts enshrined;
For he, so runs the sequel,
Serves best, who serves mankind.



Helping the Meat and Milk Supply

(Special Information Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.)
MAKE CITY DAIRY REGULATIONS REGULATE



Legislation Properly Drafted and Enforced Will Promote Milk Production Under Sanitary Conditions.

ENFORCIBLE MILK LAWS FOR TOWNS

First See That They Meet Local Conditions, Say Specialists.

RECOMMEND THREE GRADES

Impossible to Frame One Ordinance That Will Be Suitable for All Communities—Form Prepared Which Will Assist.

Milk laws should meet local conditions. Ordinances governing the dairy industry must be prepared with care and be enforced. Officials of the United States department of agriculture say that it would not be wise to attempt to draft a milk ordinance, with its standards, grades, and requirements, without a special study of local dairy conditions as well as the purposes of such an ordinance. One of the most important considerations must be the reasonableness of the law. A law which works an unnecessary hardship on a legitimate industry is not reasonable, and a law so stringent that it cannot readily be enforced will defeat its own ends.

Form Prepared to Assist.

In a strict sense it is impossible to frame one milk ordinance that will be suitable for all communities. The bureau of animal industry and the bureau of chemistry of the department, however, responding to a constant demand by municipal authorities for some form of milk ordinance that will best meet the requirements and which can be used as a guide, have prepared a form which it is believed would assist in bettering the milk supply.

Three Grades Considered.

A special feature of the ordinance is the grading of milk and cream, which is believed to be of paramount importance. A great sanitary and economic question will be solved, it is asserted, if practical grading of milk, with the consequent grading or selling price, can be enforced. Three grades

NEED HELP ON MILK LAW? EXPERTS' ADVICE AVAILABLE.

A study of the milk ordinances of many cities, large and small, shows a great diversity of opinion among lawmakers and their advisers as to what constitutes a proper milk ordinance. A great lack of uniformity among laws, some of which are entirely out of date, has been noted. Many of them seem to be transcripts of ordinances in force in other cities, placed in the municipal series of laws without regard to local conditions, and some contain provisions which are unnecessary and unenforceable and cannot be enforced. Bulletin 585 of the department of agriculture suggests a form of ordinance which, it is believed, will prove to be a satisfactory framework upon which the average town or city can build a finished, practicable law that, properly enforced, will improve the average milk supply and work toward a desired uniformity of food laws.

are considered—"Certified," Grade A, and Grade B. Pasteurization is compulsory for Grade B but optional for the others. Community health departments must determine from their own experience the score and bacteria count permitted for Grades A and B, which represent the largest quantities of milk sold. Grade A must be of such quality that there will be no question as to its purity and safety. Grade B can be of lower grade than A because pasteurization is obligatory. No grade below that of B is recognized.

Meat Supply Is Inspected.

Every pound of meat or meat products which reaches the mess tables of Uncle Sam's fighting forces is inspected at least twice by experts of the United States department of agriculture—first at the establishment, where it is packed or prepared, and finally at the camps. This extra precaution is taken to prevent food made unwholesome by adulteration or through tampering by enemies from reaching American soldiers and sailors. Laboratory analyses of samples taken from supplies at the camps show if the foods have been made injurious by tampering.

Twenty-six hundred experts of the meat-inspection service of the department of agriculture are stationed throughout the country at establishments which prepare meat and meat products for interstate and foreign commerce. These inspectors personally examine the live animals, the carcasses, and all parts thereof at the time of slaughter. They continue to inspect and to reinspect the meat and meat products throughout the different stages of preparation. All meat which is unsold, unhealthful, unwholesome, and otherwise unfit for food is condemned and destroyed in the presence of the inspectors. Some 70 inspectors of this service have been detailed to the various military and naval camps. All meat and meat products for the army and navy are obtained only from inspected establishments, and every consignment must bear the government stamp "Inspected and Passed."

Store Ice to Save Ammonia.

Every ton of natural ice gathered and stored this winter will help in war-time conservation of ammonia, which is vitally important in the manufacture of fertilizers and explosives. Ammonia is a necessity in the manufacture of ice, and the salts of ammonia are regarded as essential in making certain fertilizers. The man who harvests ice now and stores it in pits or ice houses may have the satisfaction next summer of helping out his neighbor who depended on an ice plant. In addition to the saving of ammonia, conservation of coal is to be effected through the harvesting of natural ice. American ice factories and refrigerator plants, according to figures of the United States fuel administration, use annually 15,000,000 tons of coal.

President Wilson, by a proclamation signed January 4, has required all persons, firms, corporations and associations, except those specifically exempted by the food control act, engaged in the business of importing, manufacturing, storing, or distributing ammonia, ammoniacal liquor or ammonium sulphate, from whatever source produced, to secure license on or before January 21, 1918.

Cheap Source of Protein.

Milk at 15 cents a quart is as cheap a source of protein as sirloin steak at 34.3 cents a pound or eggs at 41.9 cents a dozen. Milk at the same price is as cheap a source of energy as sirloin steak at 21.2 cents a pound or eggs at 20 cents a dozen. Protein and energy are two important necessities for which we eat food. Milk contains the body-building materials—protein and mineral substances, such as lime and phosphorus—needed to renew body wastes and promote growth by forming new tissues and fluids; and it also supplies the energy for carrying on body functions.

The average person in this country uses only a little more than a half pint of milk daily. This quantity can be increased very profitably when safe milk is available. Many persons think of milk only as a beverage, but if they understood that it is really a nourishing food they would increase the allowance. Economy in the diet does not always depend on limiting the use of certain foods, but it is sometimes a question of actually increasing the use of foods which furnish nutritive material at relatively low cost. Milk belongs to the latter class and the housewife would do well to study its food value and decide whether her family is using as much as it should.

Man's Part in Dairy.

The dairy cow can be depended upon for production, but preservation of the milk is man's part.