

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Poorly prepared land is sure to be followed by a poor crop.

Plowing, like every other department of farm work, can be slighted.

Never so hurry the milking as to make the cow nervous by your haste.

Time spent in making things look tidy about the farm is time well spent.

Clover hay is best fed to hogs by chopping up fine scalding with steam and mixing with the slop.

Mites and lice are tiny things but they are great robbers of the profits of the hen house. Get rid of them.

If you have kept the manure spread during the winter, the spring work is going to prove easier than it otherwise would.

Founders in horses is caused by too much food, a sudden change in food, or too much water when the animal is warm and then left to stand.

Where only a few hogs are kept a dipping tank is not needed but a good job can be done by washing them thoroughly with a cloth or sponge.

Now is the time to get the hen houses cleaned out and the fight upon lice and mites begun. Such work cannot be begun too early or kept up too faithfully.

Don't rush your cattle on the pasture too soon. It is bad for the pasture and the cattle once having tasted the fresh grass will not be content if inclement weather compels their being kept in the barn.

Feed the oats whole to the horses except in cases where the teeth are bad or you have not sufficient time to feed and have the horse chew its food. In case the trouble is with bad teeth, have the horse looked after.

Any farmers in your neighborhood who are always saying their failures on the weather? It is the farmer who fits his work into the weather that succeeds. The farmer who stands around and complains is the one who makes a muddle of it.

It is a good plan to wean the pigs at seven to nine weeks of age. Turn the sows into a pasture and feed very little for a week. After that time bran and shorts mixed in a thick slop can be fed with perhaps a pint of corn twice a day. This will keep them in good condition until bred for the next litter.

A good way to interest the boys and girls on the farm is to place the garden patch in their care and agree to pay them market prices for the vegetables they will raise. You will be surprised to find how much interest they will take in the enterprise and how much the bill for the crops will amount to.

Peach trees badly affected with the bark beetle should be severely trimmed back and a generous application of manure and commercial fertilizer applied to the soil around the trees. The trunk of the tree should be treated to a thick coating of white wash three times a year, as follows: The latter part of March, the middle of July and the first part of October.

Milking collars and hames will cause galls on horses, and it is useless to treat and attempt to cure unless the defects in the collars and hames are remedied. Remove the cause of the galls, and then treat with what is known as the white cure, which is compounded as follows: White vitriol, three-quarters of an ounce; sugar of lead, one ounce; water enough to make one pint. Apply to the galls morning, noon and night, with a wash cloth or sponge, after first washing off all dirt with cold water.

Locate the hot bed with a southern exposure. Make the frame at the back two feet high and that at the front one foot. Bank up around the outside. Dig out enough on the inside to have room for six inches to a foot of horse manure. If dry, wet down and let stand until it begins to heat. Then spread two to three inches of rich, sandy soil over the manure, and if too much heat is generated sprinkle cold water over it. With your sash in place to cover it you are ready to put in your seeds. Watch the frame carefully and give a ventilation to prevent too high a temperature cooking the plants.

The women folks like the cream separator, even when they have to run it, because there are no crocks and pans to wash or to be bothered with; this is all done away with. The milk, after being separated, is made pure, as the foul matter that is in the milk is purified when it is separated, as in the old way it remains in the milk and cream. A cream separator will reduce your dairy work to almost nothing compared with what it was before you used the separator. Every time you separate your milk it means to you time and money. It will pay a dairyman with one or two cows to have a cream separator, as when you separate your milk it is good to raise calves or pigs with when they are young and you have the cream besides.

Only well-drained land should be used for melon raising.

Where nitrogen is lacking in the soil, grow a crop of cow peas and turn under.

A coat of paint on the fences about the house will improve the looks of things.

Put plum trees in the chicken yard. They provide good shade for the chickens and the trees do well there.

To get extra early sweet corn start the seed in berry boxes in the hot bed and transplant as soon as weather will permit.

Save the best rotted manure for the garden patch. Give the ground special care and it will not disappoint you with its yield.

Did you ever notice that it's the farmer with the best breed of animals to sell who finds the readiest market and gets the best price?

Ground rock phosphate sprinkled over the manure pile as the manure accumulates increases the efficiency of the fertilizer when applied to the land.

Don't plant cheap seed just because it is cheap. If you want to buy just seed be sure it is worth planting by testing its germinating powers.

For the dairy cow where silage is fed wheat bran, ground oats and ground corn make a good ration, also wheat bran and ground barley, or ground oats and bran are good.

Carelessness in handling milk in the barn will give the cream odors and flavors which will injure the butter made from it, no matter how carefully the cream is kept afterwards.

Be sure and look over the harness and the machinery before putting the hard strain of the spring work upon them. A timely repair will save serious breakage later, and perhaps just at a critical time, too.

In laying out the garden do it so that you will have long rows. Plant far enough apart so that you can use the horse cultivator. Quick work then running back and forth over the rows, and, my, how the garden will grow.

Time spent on getting the ground in good condition to receive the seed is time saved when it comes to harvesting the crop, for poorly prepared ground will not grow a crop as well or as quickly as it will when the work is done right.

Corn is growing in popularity and importance by leaps and bounds. The 100-bushel per acre mark has already been reached and some are dreaming of a 200-bushel per acre yield. That their dreams will be realized is almost assured before they awake from their dreaming.

Common animals with the best of care sometimes will do astonishing things. For this reason if you have not the best of stock make up your mind that you will get the most out of them by the very best of care and feed. In this way you will win where otherwise you might fail.

Remember the spring work is the hardest of the year and the horses are in poorest condition for it after the winter of idleness. For this reason begin slowly with the animals, watch their shoulders to see that the collars do not chafe and above all keep them well fed and rest them often.

The agricultural college of the University of Wisconsin has by its post-mortem tuberculosis demonstrations in various parts of the state stirred up stockmen to the importance of immediate action against tuberculosis. Before demonstrations were made less than 1,000 station tuberculosis tests were being made annually. When the demonstration campaign was begun in 1906 the number of tests was increased to 5,000 in 1907, and last year to nearly 20,000.

Lambs should be docked within the first week or ten days. Take a two-inch chisel, and if it is sharp rub the edge on a stone until it is too dull to cut wood readily. Then use a heavy mallet and do the cutting on a smooth block of wood. Have some slaked lime hands and thrust the chisel in this each time before using it. This dull edge will crush the blood vessels before it cuts them, consequently there will be less blood lost and the wounds will heal quickly without trouble.

For the young pigs muscle and bone building foods are needed. Without protein pigs cannot build up the lean meat or grow to any size. Protein is found in skim milk, clover and alfalfa. Corn is nine-tenths carbohydrates; oats have a little more protein than corn, but not sufficient for the pig. Rye contains a little more protein than does corn. Barley is one of the best feeds on the farm; it contains more protein than does rye. In clover and alfalfa there is a large bulk for the required nutrients and pigs cannot get enough for a maximum growth.

Experiments conducted by the various agricultural colleges of the country go to show that too warm quarters or overfeeding is apt to weaken the fertility of eggs. The way eggs are handled or stored was also found to affect the proportion which will hatch, as will also the condition under which incubation occurs. The vigor and character of the parent stock and the length of time the male bird has been with the flock are also important questions as determined by the tests. Fertility and hatchability are not necessarily identical. An egg does not have sufficient vitality to produce a healthy chick under the ordinary conditions of incubation. In a series of incubator experiments at the Rhode Island station, of 8,677 eggs tested, 83 per cent were found to be fertile, while only 46 per cent of the fertile eggs, or 3.6 per cent, of the total number of eggs cut, hatched under the conditions of the tests.

NEW FROCKS IN SICKROOM

Warm Weather Costumes Will Be Elaborately Ornamented.

Some Advice for Home Nurses Who Have Invalids in Their Charge.

In the new summer frocks of heavy linen, oversleeve and sheer undersleeve effects are considerably used, but one finds, too, long, moderately close sleeves of the linen, trimmed up the outside and at the wrist, or trimmed in cuff fashion half way to the elbow.

The Dutch neck fitted with such low, broad collars of finely hand embroidered batiste or lawn as are in vogue this winter will surely be popular for simple summer frocks with women who can successfully adopt these girlish modes, but the high transparent collar or high stock shows no sign of losing prestige.

Hand embroidery is as much in demand as ever, and the new showing of band founcing, allover and motif embroideries is surpassingly beautiful. English eyelet work is greatly in evidence among the choicest of the early showings, but it is of fine lace character and frequently combined with other embroidery or lace. Wide bands of this openwork embroidery in exquisite intricate and fine design are displayed in soft ecru as well as in white, and lovely effects are obtained with intermixtures of delicate coloring—a groundwork of the fine openwork done in white, with scattered design of soft blue, rose, green or lavender thrown over it, or the eyelet work in color, with the other embroidery in white.

The new bordered materials of the lingerie and linen classes make frequent use of these embroidery combinations, and many of the chic bordure effects have plain wide borders of delicate color joining the sheer white material under trailing embroidery designs. One charming line of bordure batistes has a white ground over which at wide intervals are scattered small embroidered dots of color.

Lovely batistes and mullets with all-over embroidery design are numerous and some of these suggest delightful blossoms demanding little time and effort on the part of the maker. For instance, there is a sheer, silky white batiste which has clusters of very tiny tufts, three in a group, set at two-inch intervals, and between these groups of tufts are lines or large embroidered dots in delicate color—light blue, pink, green or lilac.

Another beautiful white batiste has little English eyelets embroidered in pink scattered all over its surface, and at intervals of about three or four inches a stripe of little pink embroidered roses, clustered gracefully together.

Many devoted and well-meaning home nurses wonder why their patients do not improve or have such tedious convalescence. The fault often lies with trifling errors in nursing which they think do not matter, yet which drive the sick one half to frenzy.

Here are a few hints that may make illness more bearable for the long suffering invalid.

See that the doors do not creak. Hinges should be rubbed with soap or oiled at the beginning of an illness. It is maddening to be awakened from a fitful sleep by an unnecessary noise.

Do not bang doors nor yet open them with such ostentatious silence as to make the patient think he is at death's door.

Never talk in brawling tones in a sickroom; on the other hand do not whisper. Anything the patient should not hear should not be discussed in his presence. A buzzing horsefly is no more annoying than the sickroom conversation in hissing whispers.

Walk lightly and uncreakingly. If you cannot cultivate a light step, take to felt slippers or rubber soles. A nervous temperament is often injuriously affected by slight sounds that no one else would notice.

Sit as quietly as possible; rocking back and forth, tapping the floor, swinging the leg or even nervous movements of the hands or face, often gets unbearably on the nerves of the patient.

Never ask an invalid what she wants to eat. The capricious appetite must be tempted, not consulted.

Don't groan over the hard work you have to go or the gayeties you are missing. It is hard enough on the sensitive nature to feel herself a burden without having her obligation rubbed in.

Do not encourage too much company. Until one is well on the way to recovery, indiscriminate visitors are equivalent to a basket. Most invalids are weaker than they realize and the effort to entertain friends or even to listen to them, is a tax on strength.

Reading aloud, in the same way, should be sparingly indulged in. No matter how fond of books the invalid may be, when well, during an illness the effort to listen is fatiguing. Watch the patient for signs of restlessness.

Study the sick one's peculiarities, and humor them as far as possible. There is no more fatal mistake in nursing than to argue or fret an invalid. Avoid issues.

NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL

Tackled the Wrong Man in Tennessee



WASHINGTON.—The leaders in the insurgent movement against the rules of the house of representatives must have been desperately in need of recruits when they tackled Representative Walter Brownlow of Tennessee and tried to make him a convert to their way of thinking.

The committee explained its mission, Mr. Brownlow listening courteously while. Finally, when the explanations had all been made and the three members of the committee were completely out of arguments and breath, Mr. Brownlow spoke for the first time. "You say," quoth he, "that this is a movement to reform and liberalize the rules of the house of representatives. It is," the committee agreed, with unanimity and eagerness.

"Well, then," said Mr. Brownlow, "you can't expect me to take much interest in this fight, for I have never read them. I don't know what they are, except that they're blamed good rules and no mistake. If you know any member of congress who's got more for his district since he's been in congress than I have why just you trot him around. I'd like to look him over."

Whereupon the insurgent committee returned to headquarters and reported to their big chief that Mr. Brownlow was "hopeless." Mr. Brownlow's state-

ment about having done more for his district probably than any other man in the house is no joke and he wasn't bragging when he said it. His capacity for making congress take care of his constituents is a proverb in Tennessee. He isn't a man who gets up on the floor of the house every day or so and tears off about eight yards of purple and gold oratory. Neither does he introduce a bill a minute and wander round the capitol waving them in the air and demanding that he be recognized at once for all of them.

No, he doesn't do these things, but as a committee worker he is in a class by himself. Why, it has come to be a saying around the capitol that every time Walter Brownlow discovers a neglected graveyard in his district he immediately imbues it with historic interest and proceeds to give it to a grateful federal government, "absolutely free, gentlemen, absolutely free."

The said grateful government wakes up the following fiscal year to find that it is saddled with the expenses of that particular graveyard for the rest of time and while the face of the earth shall endure.

Until recently the members of the house appropriations committee were very much worried about this graveyard gift business and one of them led Mr. Brownlow aside and told him the government didn't need any more Tennessee burying grounds in its business—had no use for them—couldn't consider them even as a present. They all felt better when they learned there weren't any more. For he had made, personally, a census of them all. Mr. Brownlow told them so himself, and he ought to know.

Old Snub Costs Diplomat His Post



SNUB inflicted years ago upon an American couple who were spending their honeymoon abroad has been paid for at last. Slight as the affair seemed at the moment, it has developed enough importance to lose Henry White, ambassador at Paris, his post in spite of his long experience in various important capitals of Europe and his other claims to notice.

The resignation of Ambassador White has been received at the White House and it was accepted in the usual stereotyped fashion.

It was back in 1886 that William Howard Taft and his bride, a pair of comparatively unimportant but blissful Newlyweds, were doing their honeymoon in Europe. In the course of their rainbow rambles they came to Vienna, where Diplomat White was then secretary of legation. There was some afternoon function of the unimportant sort coming off within a day or so,

which was given some degree of interest by the fact that royalty would be the center thereof. Mrs. Newlywed was just dying to see royalty; Mr. Newlywed promised that his bride should see all the royalty that was to be visible on the afternoon in question. He asked Secretary White to see about securing admission cards. The request might have been fulfilled by the slightest hint from the legation secretary to the proper official. But Mr. White was not in that mood.

On the morning of the day for the function Secretary White sent the following little note to Mr. Newlywed: "I am sorry to inform you that I was unable to accomplish what you asked. The affair is very exclusive. The number of invitations is limited and they have been ordered sent only to persons of importance and distinction. I inclose, however, tickets to the museum, and trust that Mrs. Taft yourself will spend a pleasant afternoon."

One of the first clouds had appeared in the Taft honeymoon, and the new wife's disappointment was deep. The letter still remains in the Taft memory and archives, and it is the all-important document in the case of Ambassador Henry White.

Enormous Increase in Legislation



LEGISLATION by congress has increased almost incredibly during the last decade. Thousands of measures are introduced at every session, but the number enacted into laws ordinarily is comparatively insignificant. The development of the country's resources and the increased demands of the people are indicated, however, by the immense increase in the number of laws passed.

"This increase," said Col. W. M. Palmer, in charge of the enrolled bills of the senate, "has been particularly notable during the last ten years. Prior to that time there was little variation in the number of measures enacted into law by successive congresses. In the

last decade the increase has been astonishing.

"During the first and second sessions of the Fifty-fifth congress 1,473 bills were passed by the house and senate and 'messaged' to the president. In the third session of the same congress 644 measures were enacted into laws. In the Fifty-sixth congress, 1,962 measures were passed; in the Fifty-seventh, 2,781; in the Fifty-eighth, 4,041; in the Fifty-ninth, 6,940, and in the Sixtieth, the congress which ended on March 4, the number of bills enacted into law reached the great total of 9,711."

Col. Palmer, who prepared and carried to the White House all of these bills, not one of which was ever lost or mislaid, was appointed to the committee on enrolled bills of the senate 13 years ago from New Jersey by the late Senator Sewell. Col. Palmer predicts that the number of measures passed by the present congress will exceed those of any preceding congress.

To Build on Noted Tennis Court Ground



THE White House tennis court is doomed.

President Taft, who does not care anything about tennis anyhow, has told the men who are to add to the executive building that he will not stand for a two-story structure, but that if more room is needed in the building it can be spread out to the south. To the south is the famous spot where Mr. Roosevelt battled with his tennis racket.

The architect who designed the office building, Mr. McKim of New York, made it as inconspicuous as possible, that it might not interfere with the White House proper. Congress, however, added \$10,000 to the cost of the office building that its foundations and walls might be made strong enough to bear the weight of another story, or several of them if necessary, in the future. Now the congress has appropriated \$40,000 to add to the capacity of the executive offices.

have disappeared from the landscape, negroes no longer have a chance to hold office in the south, automobiles have displaced horses and the tennis court is to be obliterated.

Residents of Washington are asking what has become of the Roosevelt policies.

The Fate of the Fancy Set.

James, aged seven, was promoted a few weeks ago. In recognition of this great event his father purchased for him the following things that James insisted were necessary:

A box of one dozen pencils, assorted leads; one ink and one pencil eraser; one pencil box with a marvelous roll top; three copy books for home work, two penholders, a patent strap that was a marvel of ingenuity, but somehow or other didn't seem to hold the books very firmly.

The father examined the outfit a few days ago and found that it contained:

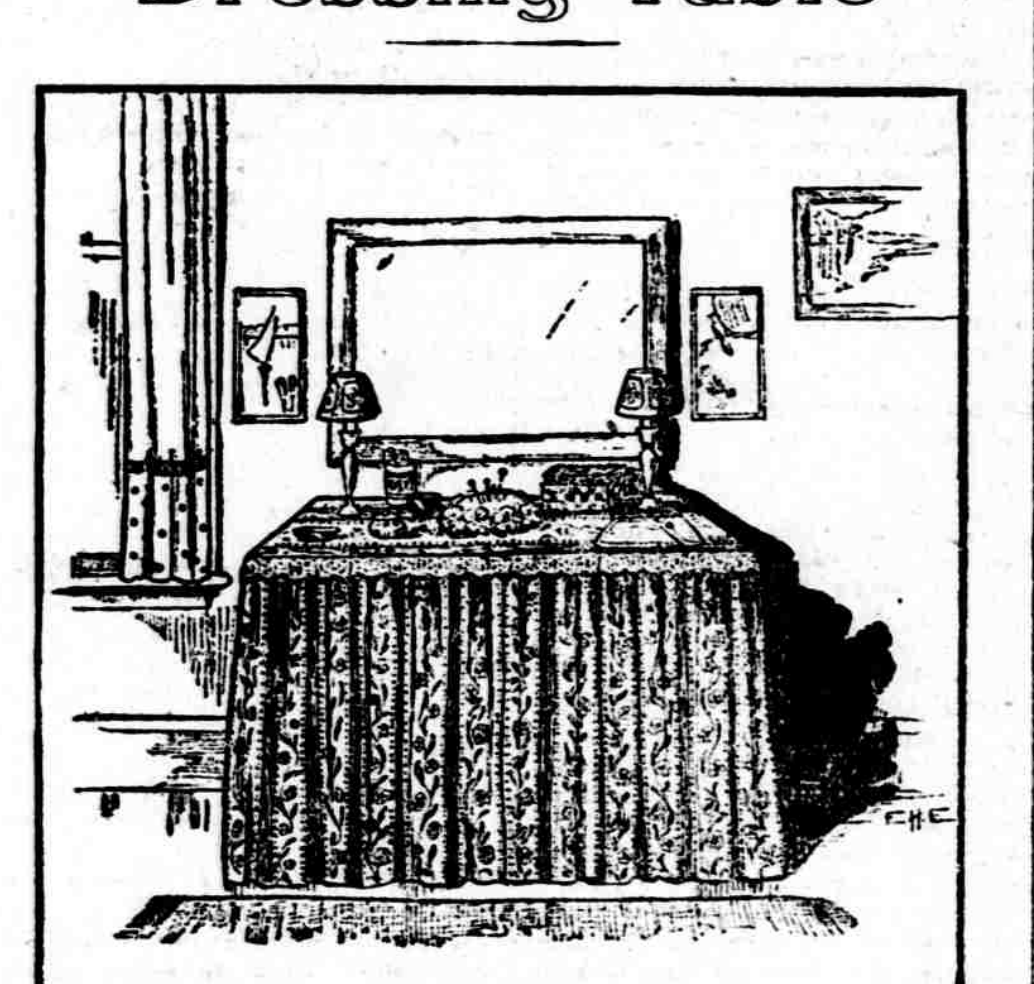
One much-chewed lead pencil, furnished by the city; a scribbling pad with a few sheets on it; a tin fountain pen that did not work and never could, have worked, and a skate strap to hold the things together.

The father asked no questions. He instinctively knew what had become of the fancy implements of education.

A Warning.

"Fobgive yoh enemies," said Uncle Eben, "but don't let yoh forgive-ness go so far as to tempt yoh to git so-called an' trade horses."

Dressing Table



A Packing Case Covered with Cretonne.

The center of interest in a young girl's bedroom is, without doubt, the dressing table. This is always made as attractive as possible with a pretty cover, dainty cushions and little pin trays.

Now one does not have to go into the shops and pay a high price for a dressing table, for often the home-made affairs are quite as satisfactory and a bit daintier. The dressing table in the sketch is made of a wooden packing case. The case cost 25 cents, and the cretonne to cover it was 20 cents a yard. Sometimes one finds very pretty cretonnes for less—perhaps 15 or 20 cents a yard. These are not as fine, but are quite as effective.

The packing case may be bought at any small shop. Paint the case with a white enamel paint inside and out.

Stand it so that the opening is at the front. Tack the cretonne on across the sides and slip a brass rod through the top of the front. This will allow the curtains being pushed aside, and boxes may be kept under the table if desired.

The cretonne cover for the top of the table is made of a piece of the material edged with chumy lace. The lace in the sketch was only five cents a yard. The mirror over the dressing table is one of the inexpensive oak-framed sort. These mirrors usually come to hang vertically, but the gawey eyes may be changed so that they may be placed horizontally. It is daintier if the mirror has a white frame. The wood may be sandedpapered or an opaque varnish stain may be used.

IN VOGUE

Few brides now wear the face veil. A few straw hats have made their appearance.

There is a fad for soft suede leather neckties.

Toques are still large, broad, and heavy looking.

There is a hint of revolt against the empire style.

The shawls of 60 years ago are again in good style.

Cotton velvets are much used for tailor-made suits just now.

Automobile coats of black pony skin are in great popularity.

Satin hats, trimmed with fur, are having a considerable vogue.

Strings are being worn on hats, and tied under the chin.

Men's scarf pins are growing larger and more elaborate.

The parasol handle of the long diocretaire fashion is considered smart.

Those Brown Patches.

The brown moth patches which are so disfiguring and seemingly so hard to cure supposedly come from the liver. Many remedies have been tried for them, but the latest "cure" is so simple that it should at least be tested by every woman who wishes to fight the blemishes.

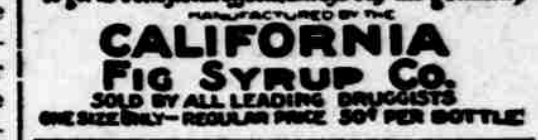
A skin specialist declares that he has had more success in treating brown patches by copious water drinking than in any other way. The patient is forced to drink ten or twelve glasses of water a day, taking no other medicine. In a short time her skin shows good effects and in many cases the brown patches disappear entirely.

Coiffure for Spring Hats.

The coiffure becomes less voluminous and more natural. Some of the false puffs are being put aside and the hair arranged more closely to accommodate the new spring hats, which will not need the abundance of hair which was almost necessary to prop up the drooping winter ones. Gauze, silver and gold bands are now drawn together closely over the hair to hold it down.

habitual Constipation

May be permanently overcome by proper personal efforts with the assistance of the one truly beneficial laxative remedy, Syrup of figs. A fair trial of Syrup of figs enables one to form regular habits daily so that assistance to nature may be gradually dispensed with when no longer needed, as the best of remedies when required, one to assist nature, and not to supplant the natural functions, which must depend wholly upon proper nourishment, proper efforts, and right living generally.



Oh, Jimmie, our pa's been appointed postmaster!

"Good! Now I won't have ter put any stamps on de letters I sends youse!"

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed, it has a tendency to close, and the sound vibrations are intercepted. It is, therefore, necessary to treat the inflammation, and the tube is opened and the sound vibrations are transmitted to the inner ear. This is done by the use of the Deafness Cure, which is a powerful medicine, and it is the only one that cures deafness. It is sold by Druggists, and is guaranteed to cure.

Police Interruptions.

"And it's awfully impolite to interrupt one who is talking, isn't it, mother?"

"Except when a woman is describing clothes, my dear, and then it is polite to constantly ejaculate 'How lovely!' or 'How ridiculous!' as the case may be."—Kansas City Times.

No Wonder She's Cross.

The woman who has a thousand petty cares and annoyances while she suffers with headache or side ache must not be blamed if she cannot always be angelically amiable. What she needs is thoughtfulness from her family and such a simple and natural remedy as Lane's Family Medicine, the herb tea that makes weak women strong and well. Sold by druggists and dealers, 25c.

Wasted Years.

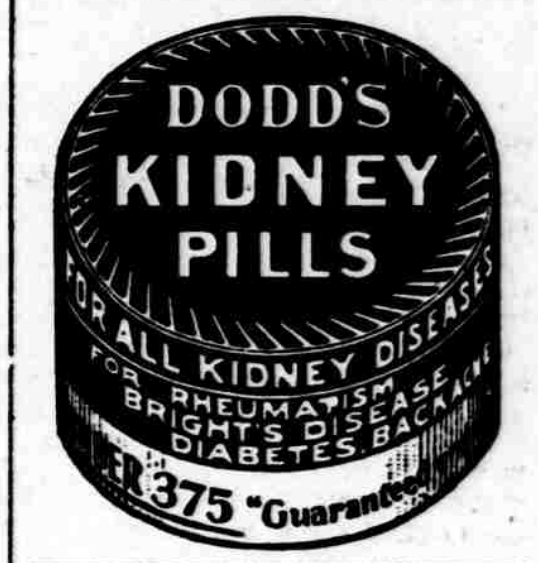
Nan—So, after six years' courtship, all is off between Tim and Tiny.

Fan—Yes; they loved not wisely, but too platonically.

Asthmatic, Read This.

If you are afflicted with Asthma write me at once and learn of something for which you will be grateful the rest of your life. J. G. McBride, St. Paul, Minn.

Women like to talk of the days they were single and had a good time.



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Three size bottles, \$1.00, 50c, 25c

Western Canada the Present Winner

"The Last Best West"

The government of Canada now gives to every actual settler 1600 acres of better land free and an additional 160 acres at \$3.00 an acre. The 300,000-contented American settlers making their homes in Western Canada is the best evidence of the superiority of that country. They are becoming rich, growing from 25 to 50 bushels wheat to the acre; 60 to 110 bushels oats and 45 to 60 bushels barley, besides having splendid herds of cattle raised on the prairie grass. Dairying is an important industry.

The crop of 1908 still keeps Western Canada in the lead. The world will soon look to it as its food-producer.

The thing which most improved us was the magnitude of the country that is available for agricultural purposes.—National Bittorus Correspondence.

Low railway rates, good schools and cheap markets convenient, prices the highest, climate perfect.

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