

A Revival of Roque.

An outdoor game for old men has shown a marked revival in popularity this year in the United States. Roque is its name, and it is interesting and gentle. Croquet is the parent of the word roque. Take away from the term croquet its first letter and its last, and the term roque remains. In like manner, take away from the game of croquet its foolishness and its inaccuracies, and the game of roque is left, say the roque experts.

Roque is a game as scientific as billiards, but its rules resemble croquet's rules. There is a peg, like a croquet peg, at each end of the court; there are nine wickets, like croquet wickets, set in a regular croquetlike pattern; there are balls to shoot through the wickets; just as in croquet, and there are mallets; like croquet mallets, where-with to hit these balls. But the roque court is as firm and smooth as a billiard table, and its boundaries are of rubber, so that balls may carom from them as from a billiard-table's cushions. The balls themselves are solid rubber. The wickets, of bright steel, are only one-quarter of an inch broader at their base than the balls that must be shot through them. The short mallets are tipped with rubber and bound with brass or silver, and the material used in their making is rosewood or Turkish boxwood or lignum vitae or amaranth.

Roque, in a word, is croquet, but croquet perfected, croquet made scientific. Rare is the skill that its disciples acquire, and admirable are the improvements that the game makes in their health.

It is interesting to consider the care with which a roque court is made. The soil first is dug out to a level about two feet below the one which the court will ultimately have. A base is then made of big stones and cinders, and on this base layers of smaller and smaller stones are set, until finally there is a top layer of fine gravel. The gravel is covered with a four-inch coat of richest, purest clay, and after this has been mathematically levelled, and rolled to a bricklike firmness, it is sanded with a tiny sifting of white sea sand. The court's dimensions are seventy-two by thirty-six feet, and its boundaries of wood have rubber cushions, shaped like pool or billiard-table cushions, which present to the ball a sharp edge, so that it will rebound from them briskly. The court is rolled daily, first with a heavy, and afterward with a light, roller. It is daily watered and sanded, and after every game the ground about the wickets is levelled with a pinewood levelling board.

Altering Grade Marks on Fruit Packages.

The fruit division, Ottawa, says in reference to this matter:—Shippers who still use the old system of marking fruit "XXX," "XX" and "X," instead of "No. 1," "No. 2" and "No. 3" (which mean the same thing), should always enclose the two lower grade marks, "XX" and "X" in a circle, oval or diamond, in order that dealers who handle the packages may not have an opportunity of injuring their reputation by adding an "X" to "raise the grade." This practice, though not common, has come under the notice of the trade, and is liable to cause trouble to the original packer whose name is on the package.

Canadian Butter for Japan.

The dairy division, Ottawa, reports that as a direct result of the Canadian exhibit at the Osaka Exposition three new customers have recently been secured in Japan for the butter made at the Government creameries in the west. In this connection it is encouraging to find that the amount of butter exported to Japan by the dairy division is more than three times

The Upheaval of the Celt.

Someone has been yelling forth the virtues of the Celt. The upheaval of the Celt is a periodic event, and is in some way distantly related to the Australian drought cycles and the spots on the sun. Personally (says a writer in an Australian paper) I have always found that you can make a fast friend and sworn ally of the Celt by simply remarking in an affable manner, "Good night, Sergeant!" The Celtic chest swells immediately, there is a more dignified atmosphere about the movements of his hind legs; and after passing that remark three nights running you are free to commit any crime in the calendar—murder, arson, abduction; anything, in fact, but the crime of tearing "me uniform." Yes, the Celt is a very fine fellow as long as you address him as "Sergeant"—unless he is a sergeant—then I am always careful to address him as "Inspector." That, however, has to be done with discretion—if done too often or too suddenly the Celt is liable to burst.

A Failing of History.

Freddie—Why is it said that history can't be written until years after the event? Cobwigger—Because, my boy, if it was written at the time it occurred it would probably be true.—"Judge."

Advantages of Delay.

First Farmer—You oughter took a trip to New York years ago. Second Farmer—Oh, I dunno. The longer you wait the more there is to see.—Ex.

Nature's Floor.

One of the most important things about a hen house is the floor, and all things being considered, mother earth for a floor, there is a very serious objection. Some people tell us it is "nature's floor." However, as we all know, "nature's floor" is a clean floor, as fowls when wild in their native land roam far and wide, and the ground over which they go (nature's floor) does not become soiled and filthy, as an earth floor (a thousand times smaller than "nature's floor") is bound to become, unless a great amount of unnecessary hard work is given out. Of course it can be kept reasonably clean by taking out four inches or more of the dirt once or twice a month, and replacing with new; but as the droppings be removed without so doing, we surmise they will not be removed as often as they ought, writes E. E. Banks in the "Poultry Advocate."

It is said an earth floor furnishes a dust bath, and that the grain can be scattered on the ground, thus giving the fowls the much needed exercise. Just think of it! A mixture of dust bath, feed, litter and droppings, and we might as well say disease. A nice "mess" is it not? This is not all: an earth floor is a conductor of moisture and will draw moisture from the outside ground, thus making it more or less damp.

The best and the nearest to a natural floor is a board floor, covered with sand or fine gravel and litter on top of this. Having the dust bath in a shallow box by itself, this kind of a floor can be easily kept clean, and the grain can be scattered in the clean litter, thus giving the fowls exercise just the same, besides adding a great deal more to their health and comfort than a filthy piece of earth. A cement floor, although a great improvement over mother earth, is not just the thing, as it is a conductor of both cold and moisture and is much colder and damper than wood, which is a non-conductor of cold and moisture, therefore a good tight board floor is the ideal floor.

The Profit in Oleomargarine.

An explanation of the reason oleomargarine supplants butter is found in the profit manufacturers make from it. It is composed of lard and tallow, which sell at 5 and 3 cents a pound, respectively, and at the most the making of oleomargarine can not cost more than 6 cents a pound. There were 87,800,000 pounds of oleomargarine manufactured in the United States last year. As it sells at wholesale for 10 cents a pound, the manufacturer makes a profit of \$3,512,000.

The average amount of butter produced in the United States is in the neighborhood of 200 pounds a year for each cow. The oleomargarine manufacture displaces 4,399,000 cows, worth at \$25 apiece, \$10,722,500. The average price of butter throughout the year is 20 cents a pound. Allowing a profit or difference of 8 cents a pound on the sale of oleomargarine by the dealer in place of butter, there is a difference of \$7,024,000 a year which goes into the hands of the dealer. This makes a total of \$10,526,000, the profit accruing to the manufacturer and dealer.

Thus it will be seen that the oleomargarine business takes from the dairy industry in this country in a single year the sum of \$21,308,500.

Persons who think that Secretary Jensen, of the State Dairy Association, was wrong when he said, "We need State laws governing the manufacture and sale of dairy products," should think on these figures.

Pigeons will thrive in small yards. They must be mated or an extra male will cause them to quarrel.

Tough on Papa.

The correct answer to the charade Kitty's mother had found in the juvenile magazine was "Henry," and as the charade was an easy one it was propounded to the youngster.

"See if you can guess what this is, dear:

"A motherly fowl and a kind of drink
Makes a name the boys all know, I think."

"I know what the motherly fowl is," replied Kitty. "That's hen."

"Right," said her mother. "Now the 'kind of drink.'"

Kitty went into a brown study. "Soda? No, there isn't any such name as 'Hensoda.' Henhoc—no, that won't do. Hencococa, henmilk, hen wine—"

"What is it papa's so fond of?" prompted the maternal parent. "Oh, I know!" exclaimed Kitty. "Rye! Henve—Henry!"—Chicago Tribune

The Man.

The man seems to be morose, surly and selfish.

He occupies a hut in the woods, with not even a dog for a companion. Which is fortunate, perhaps, for the dog, for the man cooks his own meals.

He wears a faded blue hat and a pair of brown overalls, and when he is seen outside his hut he is pottering around in a seemingly aimless fashion. He wears his hair long and uncombed.

He does not shave.
He smokes a strong black pipe.
He buries himself in his hut.
He admits no visitors.
He goes nowhere.
No. He is not crazy.
He has not been disappointed in love.

He is writing a book, and he lives in a hut in the woods so he can be close to Nature's heart.—Chicago Tribune.

TO MY CUSTOMERS.

I wish to inform my customers that, in future, all accounts will be rendered every four months.

Twelve months' credit is out of date and a thing of the past.

JOS. HEARD.

I desire to thank my many customers for their patronage and solicit a continuance of the same. Wishing you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, and many of them.

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K NIGHTS OF TENTED MACCABRES
Diamond Tent No. 208. Meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block on the first and third Tuesday in each month.

M. CHAS. WISE, Com.
C. W. BURGONNE, R. K.

CANADIAN ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS
Trent Valley Lodge No. 71. Meet in the Orange hall on Francis street west on the first and third Mondays in each month.

JOHN LEE, N. G.
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L. hall on Francis-St. West on the second Tuesday in every month.

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INDEPENDENT ORDER OF FORESTERS.
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D. GOULD, Chief Ranger.
THOS. AUSTIN, R. S.

CANADIAN ORDER OF FORESTERS.
Fenelon Falls Lodge No. 626. Meets in the Orange Hall on Francis street west on the last Thursday of each month.

F. SMITHERAM, Chief Ranger,
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CANADIAN HOME CIRCLES. FENELON
Falls Circle No. 127, meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block the first Wednesday in every month.

P. C. BURGESS, Leader.
R. B. SYLVESTER, Secretary.

A. F. AND A. M., G. R. C. THE SPRY
Lodge No. 406. Meets on the first Wednesday of each month, on or before the full of the moon, in the lodge room in Cunningham's Block.

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CHURCHES.

BAPTIST CHURCH—QUEEN ST. REV.
J. H. HANNAH, Minister. Preaching services every Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Bible Class and Sunday School at 2:30 p. m. Praise and prayer service on Thursday at 8 p. m.

METHODIST CHURCH—COLBORNE
Street—Rev. John Garbutt, Pastor. Sunday service at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sabbath School at 2:30 p. m. Epworth League of Christian Endeavor, Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7:30.

S. T. ANDREW'S CHURCH—COLBORNE
Street—Rev. R. C. H. SINCLAIR, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2:30 p. m. Christian Endeavor meeting every Tuesday at 8 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday at 7:30 p. m.

SALVATION ARMY—BARRACKS ON
Bond St. West—Captain and Mrs. Banks. Service every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings at 8 p. m. and on Sunday at 11 a. m., 3 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

S. T. ALOYSIUS R. C. CHURCH—LOUISA
Street—Rev. Father O'Leary, Pastor. Services every alternate Sunday at 10:30 a. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2 p. m.

S. T. JAMES' CHURCH, BOND ST. EAST
Rev. A. S. Dickinson, Rector. Sunday service: Matins 10:30 a. m., evensong 7 p. m. Celebration of Holy Communion first Sunday of every month at 10:30 a. m. and third Sunday of every month at 8 a. m. Sunday School 2:30 p. m. Thursday every week as follows: Catechising of children at 7 p. m., evensong at 7:30 p. m., choir practice at 8:15 p. m.

Seats free in all churches. Everybody invited to attend. Strangers cordially welcomed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PUBLIC LIBRARY—MRS. M. E. CALDER
Librarian. Reading Room open daily Sunday excepted, from 10 o'clock a. m. till 10 o'clock p. m. Books exchanged on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 2 p. m. to 4 p. m., and in the evening from 7 to 9 p. m.

POST-OFFICE—F. J. KERR, POSTMASTER. Open daily, Sundays excepted from 7:30 a. m. to 7 p. m. Mail going south closes at 7:35 a. m. Mail going north closes at 11:25 a. m. Letters for registration must be posted half an hour previous to the time for closing the mails.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. A postmaster is required to give notice by letter (returning the paper does not answer the law), when a subscriber does not take his paper out of the office at the time the reason for its not being taken. Any neglect to do so makes the postmaster responsible to the publisher for payment.
2. If any person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether it is taken from the office or not. There can be no legal discontinuance until the payment is made.
3. Any person who takes a paper from the post-office, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the payment.
4. If a subscriber orders his paper to be stopped at a certain time, and the publisher continues to send, the subscriber is bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the post-office. This proceeds upon the ground that a man must pay for what he uses.
5. The courts have decided that refusal to take newspapers and periodicals from the post-office, or removing and leaving them unclaimed for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.