Mothers and daughters of all ages are cordially invited to write to this department. Initials only will be published with each question and its answer as a means of identification, but full name and address must be given in each letter. Write on one side of paper only. Answers will be mailed direct if stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed.

Address all correspondence for this department to Mrs. Helen Law, 235 Woodbine Ave., Toronto.

Mary:—If the shades are not too badly soiled you can clean them with a piece of art gum or a brand-new white eraser. This, of course, will take a good bit of patience, but it is what the shade experts themselves recommend. Just erase the dirt. If the shades are very dirty try the old reliable soap and water. Do not use much water, but apply the lather on a cloth wrung out in hot water and clean a small piece at a time. All white shades can be soaked and washed and ironed just like a piece of linen. I am afraid to suggest this with yours, as the green might run. If you press the shades while damp the stiffness will come back to them.

M. S.:—There is no way to remove the hair permanently without the use of the electric needle. If you bleach the hair on the lip with peroxide and a little ammonia it will make it a good bit less conspicuous. Otherwise I would go to a reliable specialist. You can get a depilatory powder at the druggist's that will remove the hair for a day or two, but it will come back. Be sure to go to a reliable druggist and make sure you are getting a reliable depilatory powder.

Grateful:—Nothing is really any trouble to us, Grateful.. And if it were, that's what we're here for. Since the medicine spilled on the white linen dress has iron in it you can go about removing the stain the same way you would remove an iron-rust stain. Lemon and salt might not be strong enough, although you might try this first. Sprinkle the stain with salt, moisten with lemon juice and place in the sun, more lemon juice being added if necessary. If this doesn't remove it, try salts of lemon, to be bought in the drug store in crystal form. Immerse the stain in a solution of one-half teaspoonful of the crystals to a pint of water and boil until the stain disappears. Then rinse.

Young Mother:—About the fifth month of a baby's life the process known as the eruption of the teeth begins. The rule is that the lower teeth precede the upper, of the same class, by two or three months. They generally appear in pairs, and the usual order of their eruption is as follows: Upper set—two central incisors, between the seventh and tenth months; two canines, between the twelfth and eighteenth months; two first molars, between the twentieth and thirty-sixth months. Remember that the lower teeth of the same class will be one or two months earlier than the upper ones.

Mrs. K.:—To relieve bunions be sure your shoes fit properly, and remove any pressure that there may be. Protect the joint with a felt ring. Reduce the inflammation with tincture of iodine, and then apply benzoinated collodion. Soak your feet in hot soapsuds and pare off the thick epidermis. Be careful and don't pare too closely. Repeat the applications of collodion.

Lister:—Yes, the need is desperate, indeed. Do you know that there are more than 9,000,000 people in Belgium and Northern France who are practically without bread? And what do you think the men o fthe British Mercantile Marine have done? They have agreed to a reduction of fifty per cent. in their meat allowance. When the heroic men of the British Mercantile Marine have to have their rations cut, surely the people of Canada will make the small sacrifice of eating less bread and meat, and substituting fish and vegetables.

White Feather:—Starvation in Europe is not theoretical. White Feather. It is only too real. It has been estimated by an expert that about 4,750,000 persons have died of starvation in Europe since the war began, while about 4,250,000 have been killed in fighting. You never thought of hunger as having killed off more people than Germany's guns, did you? It is worth pondering over.

Interested:—Bit by bit Canada is becoming quite a fish eating country. As a result of the efforts of the Canada Food Board no less than 53 per cent. of the total catch in the Western Provinces since January 1, has been consumed at home, as compared with only 15 per cent. last year. This has resulted in a very large saving of meat.

J. A. D.:—Your ten-year-old girl might contribute her share to the entertainment by reciting the following little poem:

SPRING AND SUMMER

Spring is growing up,
Is it not a pity?
She was such a little thing,
And so very pretty!
Summer is extremely grand,
We must pay her duty,
But it is to little Spring
That she owes her beauty!

All the buds are blown,
Trees are dark and shady.
(It is Spring who dressed them, though,
Such a little lady!)
And the birds sing loud and sweet
Their enchanting his'tries.
(It is Spring who taught them, though,
Such a singing mistress!)

Spring is growing up,
Leaving us so lonely,
In the place of little Spring
We'll have Summer only!
Summer with her lofty airs,
And her stately faces,
In the place of little Spring
With her childish graces.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON
MAY 26.

Lesson VIII.—Jesus Silences His Adversaries—Mark 12. 1-44.

Golden Text, Mark 12. 17

Verse 28. Questioning together—The picture is that of the teacher surrounded by a crowd, in the temple precincts, the utmost freedom of question and answer being observed, and the whole colloquy giving scope to an interplay of wit, as now one now another member of the audience puts in a word of inquiry and the teacher, approving the question or exposing the fallacy, presses home the truth to the discomfiture of the caviller. Knowing that he had answered them well—This scribe appears to have been an onlooker, who, noting the sincerity and correctness of Jesus' replies, now puts forth a question, not in the spirit of criticism, but wishing for a response to a vital query in Jewish minds.

29. Jesus answered, The first is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God, the Lord is one—Jesus responds at once with what every Jew repeated daily, the sentences used at the beginning of morning and evening prayer in the temple, called by the Jews the "Shema," from the first Hebrew word in the sentence. The oneness of God as over against polytheism.

30. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God—This is the first duty of man toward God and here is at the same time a revelation of the nature of God, for it is only one who loves who demands love; since love in him is supreme he demands love as the supreme duty. Heathen deities were not gods to love. With all thy heart . . . soul . . . mind . . strength—There can be no divided allegiance. Here is shown in a strong way that all our powers are to go forth in love to God.

31. The second . . Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself—This second stands with the first as completing the idea of righteousness. None other greater than these—For the reason that it exhausts the relationship of man. Religious duty, therefore, looks two ways, Godward and manward. Neighbor, in the Jewish sense, included only his fellow Jew, but Jesus widens the meaning of neighbor to fellow man. This wider definition of neighbor is given by Jesus in the parable of the "Good Samaritan" (Luke 10). As thyself—The love of God includes in itself all other affections, but this love of the neighbor has over against it a love of self with which Jesus allows it to divide the man.

34. Thou art not for from the kingdom of God—He discerned perfectly that love to God includes love to man and that no amount of external ritual could atone for a positive neglect of one's fellow man. No man durst ask him any question—This was not mere logical fencing on the part of Jesus, but it was his profound knowledge of the spiritual essence of the law over against their hard and unspiritual interpretation.

41. Sat down over against the treasury—The "treasury" consisted of a number of chest with flaring, trumpet-shaped, brazen mouths into which the people cast their contributions as they passed into the temple. Nine of these chests were for the appointed temple tribute and for the sacrifice tribute. Four chests were for free-will offerings, for wood, incense, temple decoration, and burnt offerings. And beheld how the multitude cast money into the treasury—It was copper coin which the people, the masses, handled. Many that were rich cast in much—They cast in so much that a law had to be enacted, we are told, forbidding the gift to the temple of more than a certain proportion of one's possessions. It seems to have become the fashion to display this lavish contribution of money to the temple.

42. There came a poor widow—In her loneliness and poverty, lost in the thronging crowds, but not lost to the eye of the Master. Two mites, which make a farthing—It would take about ten of these mites to make one English penny. It was the smallest Jewish coin. No one was allowed to contribute towards alms so small a sum as a single mite, but this was not forbidden for other purposes.

43. Called unto him his disciples—He here teaches them the great lesson in benevolent use of money. Cast in more—In this case the poor giver was the princely giver. The giver not the gift, the measure of self-sacrifice, not the amount of the contribution, is the standard of the Master.

How To Handle Ailing Animals.

In a great many cases, animals suffer more from the excitement and exhaustion of being caught and handled than from any ailment they may have. Young cattle are often chased until they are heated, then roped and thrown. Besides being detrimental to the ailing animals, this often puts them in an awkward position to work upon.

To get around the difficulty, squeeze gates are a great help. They are hinged to the front part of the stanchion, into which the animal is coaxed with feed, and swung around to prevent the animal from jumping sidewise. The gates are especially valuable for milch cows, when treating cases of contagious abortion or infection of the genital passages. Their use insures greater safety for the one who is treating an animal.

Stock should be carefully watched and when the presence of maggots is discovered in wounds or in soiled wool, appropriate remedies should be applied. Chloroform is the best remedy to apply to kill the maggots in wounds. After the wound is cleansed some effective fly repellent such as pine tar should be smeared over the wound and about its edges.

For scours in calves, give each calf two or three ounces of castor-oil in which a teaspoonful of ginger is stirred. Then give two or three times daily, two ounces each of lime-water and infusion of gentian. The infusion of gentian is made by boiling one ounce of bruised gentian roots in one pint of water for ten minutes, then cooling and straining.

More horses are sick on Monday morning than at any other time. Generally this is caused by heavy feeding while idle on Sunday. When a horse is working hard his Sunday feed should be the same kind and quality as that on other days, but the grain allowance should be cut about in half. If a small pasture is available, let him out over Sunday, so he will have a chance to get some grass and some exercise.

Wash the mare's udder with a two per cent. solution of coal-tar disinfectant before allowing the colt to suck for the first time, and repeat this once or twice daily for a week. Scouring in the foal often is caused by infective matter taken in at the navel or by way of the mouth from a contaminated udder. To prevent contamination of the udder, keep the stall floor clean and well bedded and give the mare a daily vaginal injection of two or three quarts of warm water containing one teaspoonful of coal-tar disinfectant; or add a teaspoonful of permanganate of potash crystals to each quart of water.

Dropsical swellings in pregnant cows need cause no alarm, as they are quite common and usually due to lack of exercise during pregnancy. In most cases they indicate that the cow is going to be a heavy milker. When that is so, however, the entire udder enlarges and the dropsical swelling may extend to the fore legs and high up at the back of the udder. At once enforce exercise. Reduce rich food if she is getting that, or feed better if she has been living on hay and fodder. Two or three times a day give the swelling a thorough hand rubbing in the direction of the heart, and at night rub in some liniment.

WATER IN THE FARM HOME

The Wife and Children Are Entitled to This Comfort and Labor Saver.

By I. W. Dickerson.

Ask the women of any good farming community what special modern convenience saves the most drudgery and contributes most toward the comfort of the family. At least nine out of ten will answer, "Running water in the kitchen and bathing facilities in the home."

Why, then, is there only a small proportion of farm homes having these conveniences?

Running water in the house saves time and drudgery in cooking, dairy and laundry work, three of the tasks which because of the lack of running water draw most heavily on strength and vitality. In preparing, serving and clearing away after a meal for five persons, water is needed in from twenty to twenty-five operations. These include washing vegetables before and after peeling, washing cooking utensils, washing the hands, washing the dishes and dish towels after the meal.

For each of these processes water is carried to the kitchen, dipped out and then carried to the swill pail or into the back yard. Each of these washings takes several steps some lifting and at least part of a minute of time.

With water available and a sink for working, all this is very much simplified. The lifting of water twice is practically eliminated; and the time spent and steps taken are tremendously reduced. In dairy and laundry work the lifting and walking are perhaps greater than in cooking. All this water, not less than from six to seven bucketfuls each day, must be carried, some times from a distance as great as two hundred feet.

A convenient water supply not only conserves time and strength and health but is really a key which opens the home to better ways of living. Well the housewife knows that other comforts such as hot water, bathroom facilities, sewage disposal and indoor closets, better heating and electric lighting probably will follow in the wake of a good water system. No system should be considered complete without arrangements for hot water even though it may not be financially possible to do this at first.

Of all the home conveniences, the water system and bathroom facilities are the ones most appreciated on the farm as they are in the city. This water system which lightens the burden of work in the house and on the farm and which means much to the comfort and self-respect of the whole family, costs a relatively trivial sum. The price of a good hog or an outlay of fifty dollars and about three or four days' labor will do away with carrying water from the well and carrying it away again after it has been used. Seventy-five dollars added to this will give the family a hot-water system attached to the range and a serviceable bathtub with hot and cold water supply.

Does this father whose bright boy nd girl are entering that age when they are most susceptible to influences for good or evil, learning either to love the farm and to wish to stay with it, or to hate it and long to get away at the first opportunity; whose wife has labored hard at his side with heart and hands in building up the farm and home but whose only labor-saving device has been a washing machine while he has invested in everything he could find to make his strength go farther and his labor more efficient—does he realize that three or four of his fat steers will give his wife and children hot and cold running water in the kitchen, a beautiful bathroom and a good sewage disposal system with comfortable indoor toilets?

Are the steers so important that he is willing to have his family and himself miss these comforts?

If a water-supply system, a saver of drudgery for the women and a comfort and pleasure of the family, costs little, ought not every substantial farm have one? In some rare cases the husband and father thinks more of his money than he does of his wife and children.

The farmer sometimes has a hazy idea that such equipment is expensive and difficult to install. The hot-water system and shining sink and bathroom fixtures which he sees in the city homes, look complicated and he fears his ability to take care of them properly, to say nothing of installing them himself. He also has the idea that a kitful of special tools will be required to install them.

This is wrong. The installation of a hot-water system, with sink and bath, is really a very simple operation and any farmer who can cut and thread a pipe so as to make a good joint and who will follow directions carefully, should have no trouble in installing such a system.

The use of simple compression joints has done away with the need for special tools and skill in handling lead pipe and making wiped joints. There is no necessity of a plumber's assistance nor investment in expensive special tools. The whole outlay for working material need not be over fifteen or twenty dollars and most of it usually can be rented from supply houses.

When it comes to installing the stacks and waste pipes for a sewage disposal system, it might be advisable to secure the services of a plumber for two or three days but unless a farmer can better afford to hire some one to install his water system for him than to give his own time, even this expenditure is not necessary.

The farm woman should be able to talk the advantages of a good water-supply system and to discuss intelligently the merits of the different systems available and she should be informed thoroughly on how to take care of it and how to get the most out of its operation. It will be put in, if at all, largely for her benefit and through her exertions and insistence. She is a full partner in the business of building up the farm and home and has a right to a full share in labor-saving and comfort-securing equipment. Along with arguments in her own favor she should be able to point out to the farmer how such a water system would work into his part of the farm work, such as providing fresh water in the hog lots and in the dairy barn.

My own home was without conveniences until I was nearly grown and found out for myself how much could be done with a very small amount of money. I had just made the first installation when my mother died and our home was broken up but I shall never forget what a wonderful help the sink and cistern pump were in greatly lightening her work and saving her steps.

Sheep Notes

"Keep the lambs growing from the day of birth," is the slogan of successful sheepmen. Since the greatest profits are from sixty-five and seventy pound lambs, on the early market, economical feeding is important. The lambs' journey to perfection starts when they are put on pasture. Good health and economical returns depend upon a liberal variety of grass forages and some grain Lambs should have access to clean bluegrass, rape, and a grain allowance of ground oats and bran. Rape has a remarkably good effect on lambs, hastening the time when they may be finished and marketed. Maximum growth depends upon starting the lambs early on grain. They usually start nibbling at the grain when they are from ten days to two weeks of age.

Vegetables should not be cooked in an iron kettle.

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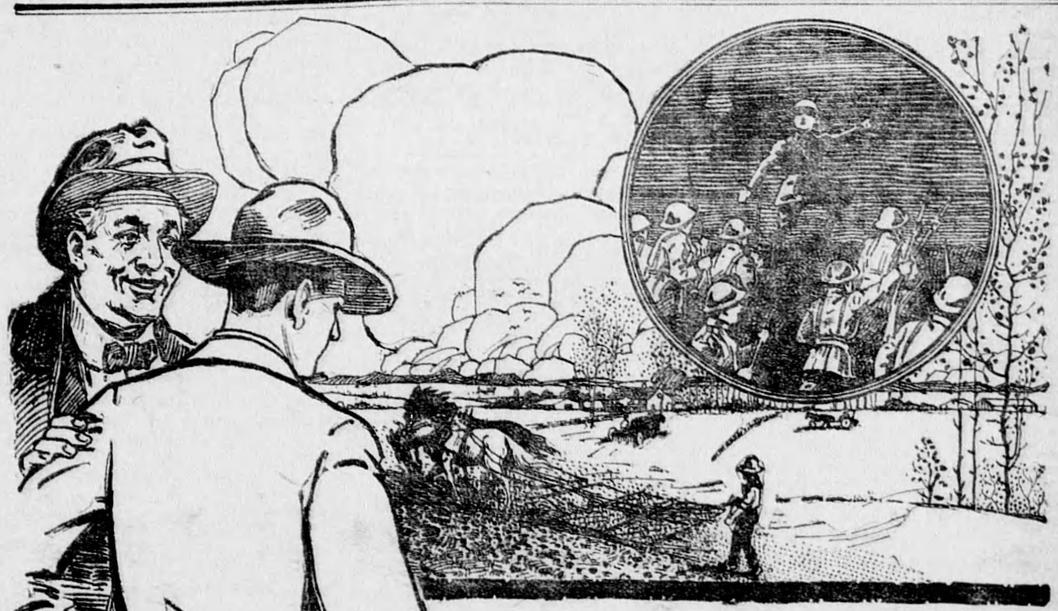

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