Address all correspondence for this department to Mrs. Helen Law, 23 Woodbine Ave., Toronto.

Wants to Know: The Boer War began in October, 1899, and ended May, 1902. The number of men who went to South Africa from Canada totalled 8,400.

No one can claim the distinction of winning the first V.C. The honor was first conferred by Queen Victoria on sixty-two persons of both the Army and Navy. The date was June 26, 1858.

The Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry reached the front on December 31, 1914. Arrived too late to participate in the fighting in the retreat from Mons.

There are eighteen universities in Canada; on the average, one to every 400,000 of the population; about the same number as Great Britain and Ireland have with more than six times the population of Canada.

The earth's weight is estimated at 1,256,195,670,000,000,000,000,000 tons. But no one has ever weighed it.

Yes, our brains are periodically renewed, but the process is a gradual one. We are supposed to get a complete new outfit of brains every two months, but the new ones do not shake off the traditions of the old.

From August, 1914, up to the end of March, 1919, the net cost of the war to Great Britain has been put by Mr. Chamberlain at .$33,500,000,000.

"Equinox" means equal nights. The Equinoxes occur during spring and autumn, when day and night are equal in length nearly all over the world.

R. F.: If the mirror is spotted or blurred over the entire surface, resilvering will be necessary. If the defects occur only in spots, there are several ways in which you can improve its appearance. Take out the wooden back, dust and wipe off the silvered side quickly and carefully with a cloth wrung out of hot water. Dry quickly and thoroughly by patting with soft, hot towels. If there are scratches, paint them over with silver paint, which can be purchased wherever artists' materials are sold; or back the scratches with tinfoil. Blurs or spots should be marked with a clean outline, the space moistened with alcohol, then scraped, wiped clean and painted with silver paint or backed with tinfoil. Cut the tinfoil somewhat larger than the space that is to be repaired and fasten it at the corners or edges with white glue.

Thrifty Ways: Please give directions for making a rug out of small pieces of Brussels carpet.

Cut the carpet into strips three inches in width, then ravel, rejecting the linen foundation threads and saving those of crimped woolen yarn. The woolen threads should be of uniform length. With a pair of the largest size steel knitting-needles (or a similar size in wood or celluloid) and a ball of cotton carpet yarn, cast on ten stitches and knit two rows for the beginning. In the next row, lay a thread of the wool across the needles, with every other stitch. After knitting the stitch, take the end of wool which shows upon the wrong side, and turn it toward the right side, knitting a stitch to secure it. Then put in another thread of wool and repeat the process. The back of the strips will have an appearance somewhat like that of body Brussels carpet, hile the front will resemble thick, long-napped plush. Make strips the desired length and when all are finished they must be sewed together on the wrong side. It is only for convenience that they are knitted in strips—the rug, as a whole, would be very cumbersome and unwieldy to handle.

High School Girl: Following is a description of an autumn party which contains ideas that you might use to advantage in planning your evening's fun.

A "Red Ear Party" is what they called it in the invitations. It was the opening party of the year in the high school and the seniors planned it.

The cards of invitation they sent out said:

At this time o' year
You'll recall the red ear
(It never will go out o' date),
So the members of "twenty"
Have planned fun aplenty
At a regular Harvest Home Fete.
You're invited!

The school hall was delightfully decorated, with emphasis on the autumn colors. Bright, tawny leaves banked the platform where the orchestra sat, and the globes of scarlet and orange balloons flamed among the soft tans and cornstalks stacked along the side walls. Depending from the ceiling and hanging in the windows myriads of gay red and orange paper lanterns swayed brilliantly.

The dance programs were "red ears" cut from cardboard, and tiny red pencils dangled from them. Some of the names of the dances seemed to pique people's curiosity, such, for instance as: The Cornstalk; the Scarecrow Skitter; Farmerettes' Fancy; Popcorn Waltz; Orchard One-step; Pumpkin Pie Walk; Red Ear Dance; Harvest Home Revue.

The "Cornstalk" was in the nature of a grand march, everybody stalking stiffly round in time to the music, the leaders finally breaking into a romping one-step and the others following suit.

Then followed the "Scarecrow Skitter." A dilapidated old cornfield character, in all his crudity of flapping black, was brought in and established in the centre of the floor. In the band of his shabby hat fluttered a handful of rusty crow feathers, and the feature of the dance was for each boy to secure one of these, in passing, for his partner. The poor old fellow was nearly torn to bits in the process.

"Farmerettes' Fancy" was another name for "Ladies' Choice." All the girls were given tiny toy rakes, hoes, spades, and other farm implements, which they used as favors in choosing partners.

For the "Popcorn Waltz" the favors were popcorn chains for the boys to hang around their partners' necks. There was a temptation to devour these adornments as well as to use them for decorative purposes, and so they were a source of much fun. The orchestra at intervals in this dance made use of some contrivance which sounded like corn popping briskly over the fire. A shower of snowy white confetti from the balcony still further emphasized the popcorn idea.

In the "Orchard One-step" the boys were invited to pick peaches. The girls stood behind a high screen and thrust their right hands above it. The boys reached up, touched the "peach" they chose, and thereupon the girl thus designated one-stepped away with her partner.

Instead of a cake walk, a "Pumpkin Pie Walk" was announced. The contestants could indulge in just as crazy, funny, or pretty dance steps as they liked. The reward to the cleverest and most amusing couple was a big pumpkin pie.

In the "Red Ear Dance" the girls were blindfolded, and asked to pick an ear of corn from a big basket. When vision was restored the girl holding the one red ear was acclaimed Queen of the Carnival, and was presented with a bouquet of red roses. During the dance a red glow from the lighting arrangements flooded the hall.

The "Harvest Home Dance" was the supper dance. Paper costume caps suggesting fruit and vegetables were given out, and worn so that the whole room seemed to be filled with a harvest medley. Tomato, carrot, corn, apple, wheat, squash, grapes, popcorn, watermelon, and blackberry were all represented.

The supper dance occurred, of course, midway in the evening. The other novelty dances were interspersed each side of it throughout the evening.

The supper consisted merely of peach ice cream served on grapeleaf doilies, nut macaroons, tiny pumpkin pies, and fruit punch.

Poultry

Remember that plenty of exercise increases the egg yield.

Winter and summer, hot weather and cold, keep plenty of fresh water before the hens. Keep the water in the shade in summer and in the house where it will not freeze in winter. Keep the drinking water receptacle clean at all times.

The season for colds has arrived. Cover a dime with potassium permanganate and dissolve this in a gallon of water. Keep this mixture in the drinking pans for several days.

Keep the hens supplied with plenty of grit.

If the poultry-keeper uses trap nests, or if he has only a small flock, he usually knows which hens laid the previous winter and which did not produce enough eggs to be profitable. The latter of course should be disposed of, for if they did not lay well the preceding winter they cannot be expected to be profitable the following season—the understanding being, of course, that they were hatched early enough so that they were old enough and developed enough to lay at the time mentioned.

The average poultry-keeper wants eggs in early fall and winter when prices are highest because such eggs are more profitable to produce. In order to lay in these seasons, fowls must have changed their plumage and fully recovered from doing so before the cold weather sets in. Those which molt in cold weather have not sufficient protection from the cold and suffer accordingly. Many authorities claim, probably with good reason, that the late molter is the best layer of the preceding year. This is probably true, but if a hen molts so late that she cannot recover until cold weather sets in she is not likely to be a good layer until late winter when the price of eggs begins to go down.

Have your eyes and mind trained so you can tell, by looking at the cow, her feed and milk sheet, whether she has received proper feed and treatment or not.

Solving the Father-and-Son Partnership Problem

When I returned from agricultural college I took charge of Father's farm. I was the only boy in the family, and Father was at the age when he wished to be relieved of all active and strenuous duties.

Consequently, the major part of the management and operation fell on me.

So far as capital and labor situation was concerned, ours was just the same as that of the manufacturer and his employee. We were in the production game just as much as the manufacturer. The inherent friction that seems to exist between these two elements of modern economic activity was in our relationship doubtless as much as in any. Yet in our case labor never suffered a lay-off, nor did capital ever suffer a labor strike. How we managed it I shall try to explain:

In the first place, Father must be credited with having seen what it has taken a lot of manufacturers a long time to see, or at least to admit—namely, that labor is quite as essential an element to production as is capital, and just as much entitled to a share of the profits of production. Some fathers, like some manufacturers, have apparently been slow to recognize this fact.

For example, I was ambitious and enterprising and wanted to make some extra money when I was a boy. As Father had a fair-sized family the shoe repair bill was very considerable. In view of these facts, I conceived the idea of purchasing a cobbling outfit for a few dollars and doing the repairing myself. Father might just as well pay the money to me as to another, and at the same time it would permit me to make a little extra money for myself. Father agreed to my proposal, and in a short time I had paid for the repair outfit and had made considerable money besides.

Hearing of what I had accomplished, another boy made the same proposition to his father. Instead of agreeing to it, however, the farmer purchased an outfit himself, and then made the boy, who was one of the oldest children of a large family, do the repairing without compensation. It is not remarkable that in a few years this particular "laborer" declared a "strike" and went off to the city for another job.

Father understood another point that many farmers overlook; he knew that the income from farming was always less to a single man than to a married man with a family, while in the city it is just the opposite. For instance, in the city the single man would pay rent possibly for only a single room, while the man with the family would require many. Also, the married man would have a heavier food and fuel bill. So, on the same income, the single man fares better in the city than the married man. But on the farm the factors of rent, food, and fuel are largely included in the total income. As the value of these are more to a man with a family than to a single man, the man with a family fares better on the farm than the single man. Knowing this fact, Father always sought to make my income as a single man on the farm equal to what I could make in the city.

Father did not donate me things or make it especially easy for me; he simply dealt with me on a fair and square basis. On my part, I helped to increase my share of the profit as the "labor" by increasing the profit that went to "capital."—P. C. S.

The Sunday School

INTERNATIONAL LESSON
OCTOBER 19.

Jesus In Peter's Home—Mark 1: 29-39. Golden Text, Luke 19: 9.

"Simon's wife's mother." There is another reference to Peter's wife in 1 Cor. 9: 5. Her mother was evidently a beloved and kindly member of the family. Her first act when she was healed of the fever, was to minister to her daughter's guests. Luke (4: 38) calls her sickness "a great fever." There was much marshy land in that region, especially where the river Jordan enters the lake, and malarial fever was common. No doubt the healing ministry of Jesus entered many another home besides that of Peter. He is still the great Physician, teaching by His spirit, care and thought for all who suffer, and prompting the gentle ministry of doctor and nurse in the homes and hospitals of our land.

"At even." When the sun set, according to their way of reckoning time, the Sabbath day was over. It was then lawful for them to carry their sick through the streets and bring them to the door of the house in which Jesus was staying. "He healed many." Such was the scene at the close of this busy day. The people lingered until darkness drove them to their homes.

"O, with what divers pains they met,
O, with what joy they went away!"

Many forms of sickness in the East to the present day, are regarded as caused by the presence of evil spirits, and especially insanity and epilepsy Jesus was profoundly interested in these poor sufferers, and restored many of them to sanity and health both of body and mind. Our missionaries in the East follow the example of Jesus, and they find through attention to the sick and through the agency of hospitals and dispensaries an open door to the hearts of the people. Their ministry, like His, is in preaching, teaching, and healing.

"In the morning." Although the Sabbath had been a busy day, and its activities prolonged until after sunset, yet Jesus was awake in the early morning, and seeking a quiet place of retirement for His morning prayer to God. Here, as always, He is an example to His disciples, showing the best way of beginning the day's work. Compare Psalm 5: 3, and Isa. 50: 4. The true humanity of Jesus and His likeness to us are nowhere more impressively shown than in His need and His habit of prayer. See Heb. 5: 7.

But the crowds which attended Him during the day were already seeking Him in the early morning. "All men seek for Thee," said Simon and the other disciples when they found Him. The answer of Jesus is characteristic. Instead of resting upon and seeking to confirm and enjoy His popularity in Capernaum, His heart goes out to the great untouched multitudes who have not yet heard His gospel. "Let us go into the next towns," He said, "that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth." And so, turning His back upon the multitudes of Capernaum, He went forth with His disciples to go "throughout all Galilee."

The missionary spirit of Jesus took hold upon His disciples. He told them to go into all the world, and they sought literally to carry out His command. As far as was humanly possible, they travelled through the lands of the Roman Empire, and far to the East, ever seeking to bring the gospel to the next towns and into the regions beyond.

THE TRAPPER.

The Curious Coon and How to Trap Him.

The big fur houses are always advertising that they want good coon pelts and will pay good prices for them. Every year boys make good pocket money trapping for this member of the animal kingdom, and if you are a novice at the game, here are a few suggestions about coons and coon trapping:

Coons live either in hollow trees or in holes, when no trees can be found. They are frequently found in cornfields, too. They are possessed of great curiosity that often leads them into traps; for instance, a shiny piece of tin, a bright piece of glass, or a piece of white crockery frequently acts as a fascinating lure. Many trappers use these to bait traps set in shallow water of streams that the coons follow.

When you find a coon in a tree you may either shoot him or trap him. The way to trap him is to place your trap on a sturdy sapling, cover it with moss or leaves, then place the sapling against the tree. If there are a number of coons in a hollow tree a good smoker will get them out where they can be shot.

Along streams, any hollow log, hollow stump, old boulder with a hole in it makes a good place to set your coon trap.

Coons like to eat fish, clams, crawfish, birds, eggs, poultry, fruits and vegetables. They are particularly fond of grapes and corn and are sometimes caught in great numbers in cornfields and vineyards. If you plan to make your sets in either of these places, go along the fences until you find coon tracks that show where the coons go through the fence. There set your traps. Cover them over with dirt. Sprinkle fish scent around.

Along stream beds that have high banks and shallow water it is a good plan to dig a number of holes into the banks at the water edge. They should be from six to eight inches deep. In the back of the holes fasten a piece of bait. In front of them, under water, set your trap.

Many men have never set foot in a schoolhouse since their boyhood. They know that their taxes support the schools, but they do not know whether the schoolhouse is in a sanitary condition, or whether their children are receiving the best course of instruction. Are you that sort of a father?

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Stunts I Have Learned About Hog-Raising.

There is no mystery in the business of raising good hogs. I have found 90 per cent. of it to be merely common sense. In the corner of every hog house I have a sand bath, made by soaking a bed of sand with crude oil. The hogs roll in this in great enjoyment, oiling their hair and destroying an occasional louse that may be present.

The hogs get a little sulphate of iron in their drinking water to prevent worms, and have all the wood ashes, salt, and lime they want to eat.

I ring hogs by lassoing them around the nose with a baling wire and holding them while the ring is inserted.

I have found by experience that the surest method of preventing loss from cholera is by use of serum. The double method, which is supposed to give permanent immunity, has caused the cholera, instead of preventing it, in so many cases that it cannot be considered entirely safe to use.

The safest plan seems to be to do everything possible to keep the hogs healthy by proper feeding and sanitation, and then, if cholera breaks out, vaccinate immediately, with serum alone.

The success of this plan depends on being able to get serum as soon as the disease is dicovered. About the only practical way to do this is to follow the plan of four counties in Illinois, which five years ago took definite steps to combat hog cholera by forming an association and buying a supply of serum to be kept in cold storage at some convenient point in their district.

Proper feeds, sanitary quarters, and pure drinking water must be provided. The successful hog raiser also knows that it is essential to have the pigs well broken to eating before they are removed from the sow.

All that is necessary is to make a small opening in one corner of the pen, so that the small pigs can enter an enclosure where the sows cannot follow. A mixture of dry ground feed and milk may also be placed in shallow troughs for the young animals. They learn to eat and drink at an early age when this practice is followed. Then when weaning time comes they miss their mothers very little.

The common notion that bone or muscle must have age to have strength is twin brother to the idea that a pig must live on half-rations for months to make him strong enough to stand full ration.

As soon as pigs have been put into the fattening pens in the fall they should be fed all that they will eat with a relish, for the shorter the fattening period the larger the profits.

Lean, lank hogs and poor fences will discourage the average man who goes into hog-raising.

Keep the dog from chasing the pigs. He may tear their hams or chew their ears, and is sure to lose you money.

If pigs get into the garden or growing crops, don't try to keep them out by punishing them with the dog, but stop the cracks in the fence.

Fall Dairy Observations.

Before allowing the cows to begin on the accumulation of the season's crops, why not know if they are the kind of cows that can pay their board. Many farmers lose money in the dairy business by spending most of the year in growing feed to be used for a herd that is not producing a paying amount of milk.

But be sure that there is nothing wrong with the method of housing and feeding the cows before they are discarded as boarders that do not pay their bills. Much depends on the owner of the cows and sometimes good cows produce much less than they should because they are given poor care.

Cows are often considered machines which can be stuffed with raw materials without limit and then produce a finished product to which there is also no limit. This is not exactly right. A machine is without life and feeling but a cow is an animal with a highly developed nervous temperament that responds or fails to respond according to the treatment received. That is why some farmers do so much better with cows than other farmers. The successful breeders study their cows as individuals and try to keep them contented and satisfied and free from abuse. They know that there is more to dairy management than "stuffing the machine."

Shouting around the stables will disturb cows and reduce the flow of milk. A dog that is not well trained will bring the cattle to the barn on the run or worry them all the way from the field. This is not good for milk production. During the fly season cows will kick even though their disposition is gentle and nothing is gained by massaging the poor animal with the milk stool to make her stand still. The cow that is not afraid of her master but respects him is apt to be the gentle kind of a cow which does not kick or bunt but comes quietly to the barn and stands patiently in her position during the process of milking.

Many dairymen received their first desire to own good cows by visiting the fairs and stock shows. The farmer who seldom sees good stock is apt to become thoroughly satisfied with his own cows and so neglects to make an effort at improvement. After a visit to a good fair the picture of cows of fine type will remain. Then it is only a step to the desire for better cows on the home farm.

A start with pure-bred cows is more a matter of time than money. If there is a registered bull in the neighborhood the purchase of one pure-bred heifer will enable the farmer to start a pure-bred herd if he has patience. As the progeny of this heifer increase and reach the milking age the grade cows can be gradually sold. Soon the farmer finds that he is on the road to the pure-bred stock business, although the investment has been a very few hundred dollars. Just think of the things you might have done ten years ago and realize what they might mean now. Then think of the things that you would like to have ten years from now and remember that now is the time to start. The year 1929 seems far away, but the year 1909 seems only yesterday. One of the things that will determine the strength of a farmer's dairy business in 1929 is apt to be a start with quality pure-bred stock in the year 1919.

Try and estimate the winter's feed requirements in the fall when extra feed may be purchased from farmers in the neighborhood. This saves the middleman's profit and a long haul from the city or some distant farm.

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