CURRENT COMMENT

A NEW UNIVERSITY FORCE.

Sir Arthur Currie's recent speeches in Ontario rank him as an educationist and publicist with the greatest leaders of Canadian thought. He has turned from warfare to scholarship with the same practical mind and the same thorough understanding of the used for organization that enabled him to conquer Passchendaele where others failed. All sections had a try at it, and found it too much for them. He was asked if the Canadians could do it. He said they could, but required forty days' preparation. This was too long, the authorities decided, and Currie declined the task except on his own terms. Finally, it was seen that Passchendaele had to be taken and Currie was allowed his way. Forty days' preparation were taken to make ready, so that no unnecessary life should be spent, and the result was one of the triumphs of Canadian arms, perhaps the greatest they achieved. "What king, going to make war against another king sitteth not down first and consulteth?" The old wisdom was not lost on Currie, and in his university policy which he sees as a vital thing for the nation, he is no less prudent. The struggle is against greed, selfishness and ignorance and this not as a matter of cant or conventional sentiment, but as definite obstructions to the progress of civilization and the prosperity of the nation to be overcome as Passchendaele was overcome. Sir Arthur Currie's speeches are the first symptom of an adequate realization of the functions and responsibilities of the university to the life of the nation in Canada. It is to be hoped that McGill shall be able to kindle the conquering spirit of all her sister institutions.

CANADA AND THE POSTAL UNION.

In connection with the Postal Union convent'on in Madrid the question has arisen of the status of colonies, and it has been ruled that colonies can only be represented through their parent country. The fear that Canada might be classified as a colony does not appear to be warranted. Apart from the importance of her postal interests which rank among the highest, the self-governing dominions like Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa cannot be regarded as colonies in any true sense. It would be absurd also to regard India as a colony, or to think of any other nation as her "parent country"—she, who is parent of all. The Postal Union has been a model of international co-operation and illustrates what may be done among the nations when they come to understand that what is possible in connection with the business of correspondence is equally possible with all other forms of business. In the far future it will be remembered that the postal service was the first attempt at united national co-operation founded entirely on mutual trust and confidence, ignoring problems of material interest or value of service, but placing all on an equal basis, and depending entirely on good will and common interest. There is no commercial service which the nations render each other which might not be organized on an equally co-operative and harmonious basis. How long it will take the nations in all things to arrive at the same degree of harmony as exists, for example, among the English-speaking nations, in conducting their postal affairs, which they do under a separate treaty, cannot be estimated, but it is plain that the great war has taken us a long step in advance and the League of Nations may rival the success of the Postal Union.

Farmyard Manure

The ultimate consideration in a study of farm maures comprises the best methods of economic handling, both as to labor and as to the saving of the fertilizing constituents carried by the fertilizer. In the past, methods of handling have been determined largely by their adaptability to the particular circumstances such as labor conditions, crops upon which the manure is applied, etc., rather than because of the amount of valuable constituents that they will conserve. In the stable it is well to use an amount equal to one-third of quantity fed for litter. This may vary as a large amount of succulent food will result in more liquid, therefore, more bedding is required. Cattle require 8 to 10 pounds of little per day. The floors should be tight to prevent the liquids escaping. Where possible, hauling directly to the field is the best practice, especially if the land is level. The drawing out in the winter lessens labor and saves much time. Moreover, when leaching does occur, the soluable portions of the manure would be carried into the soil.

MANURE PIT

If not possible to draw the manure out, storage must be resorted to. Many farmers are now building cement pits. These are so constructed that they permit of team and wagon being driven in one side and out of the other. Some farmers have even resorted to covering the pit with a building.

DISTRIBUTION OF MANURE

In the actual application of manure certain principles must be followed. In the first place, evenness of distribution is to be desired as it assures a uniform growth of plants. This joint is not given the attention which its importance demands. From practical experience, too, the smaller but more frequent application usually gives the greater and more satisfactory results. Thus, instead of 20 tons to the acre, 10 tons would be applied and twice the area covered, with the result that only one-half the number of years would elapse before the area would be covered again. A larger and quicker return in net crop yield per ton applied would be realized. This is shown by the following table. The results of this Ohio experiment are expressed in yield per ton of manure applied:

YIELD TO THE TON

	Wheat. (Bush.)	Clover. (Pounds.)	Potatoes. (Bush.)
4 tons per acre	8.0	177	37.3
8 tons per acre	4.1	150	19.4
16 tons per acre	2.4	99	11.6

In further experiments it was found too that the succeeding crops were benefitted more by the lighter but more frequent application.

Whether manure should be plowed under or not depends largely on the crop on which it is used. Ordinarily, however, it is plowed under. This is necessary if the manure is long and coarse and not well rotted. It should not be turned under too deeply or speedy decay is prevented. If manure is fine and well decomposed, it may be disked and harrowed into the soil. The method employed depends entirely upon the crop, the soil and the condition of the manure. 8 tons per acre is a very light dressing; 15 tons is a medium and 25 tons, a comparatively heavy dressing. Of course, on trucking farms as high as 50 to 100 tons are used.

On the writer's home farm in Waterloo Co., the manure is drawn to the corn field during the winter and put in small piles ready for spreading in the spring, as soon as the frost has gone out of them. (As the land in that immediate section is rather a heavy clay loam, fall plowing gives the best results.) Before seeding the manure is spread and as soon as the land is fit for cultivation the double-action disk is run over it. If conditions are such that is is possible to get over it again during seeding (because some of the other fields may not be dry enough) so much the better, as it conserves the moisture and more thoroughly incorporates the manure into th esoil. Of course, previous to planting the corn, it is run over once or twice more. This frequent disking cuts the manure to pieces and buries it just deeply enough that the growing corn receives the full benefit of it. Any manure left over is applied to other fields, in which grain is to be sown, and worked into the soil in the same manner. Different types of soil, however, would make this inadvisable.

EFFECTS OF MANURE

The direct fertilizing effect of manure is by no means its greatest influence. When it breaks down it forms humus. Humus increases the water-holding capacity of the soil. It increases granuation while in sand it acts as a binding agent. It promotes granulation and tilth. The capacity of the soil to resist drought is raised an aeration is increased.—T. C.

FALL MANURING FOR POTATOES.

The application of fresh manure to the soil just plowing is associated with the development of scab on potatoes, so that early winter application of manure is regarded as essential. The most successful potato growers generally apply manure to a good heavy sod, preferably clover, to be plowed down in the spring.

The average yield per acre for potatoes in Ohio during the past ten years has been only about 80 bushels, whereas at the Experiment Station the 24-year average of potatoes fertilized with 8 tons of manure alone has been increased to 173 bushels per acre. The potatoes were grown in a rotation of potatoes, wheat and clover.

Larger yields are obtained by the additional application of a high-grade fertilizer.

Under the system of culture in Ohio, where other crops in rotation follow the potato crop, it is best to distribute the fertilizer alike all over the ground so that the following crops may take up the portion unused by the potatoes, a residue usually amounting to from one-third to one-half the entire application.

A FINAL SUGGESTION.

A few wise farmers in the Southern counties of Ontario will have delayed wheat sowing till early in October in order to miss the Hessian Fly.

It is well if these men have remembered that late sowing means small top-growth unless by fertilizing they have boosted the growth of their late sown wheat.

200 lbs. per acre of 2-8-2 or 2-10 gives great root growth and topping to late sown crops.

NOTES.

Not all the insects are injurious to the fruit and garden crops. For instance, the ground beetles, in both larval and adult stage, feed on the insects that go underground to pupate. Wasps prey upon various destructive inserts. Bees are almost indispensable as pollenizers, and should never be harmed. Dragon flies feed on a great variety of injurious insects. Frogs and toads feed largely on insects and slugs. Garden spiders live on small beetles and other insects. Ladybug beetles feed on plant lice and scale insects.

The best-flavored butter is churned from cream that is cold.

WILL IT WORK?

Helps for the Housewife

If pictures jut out from the wall they are incorrectly wired. To avoid rewiring, and to make a picture hang flat against the wall, put a tack one inch from the top of each side of the picture, on the back. Wind a small piece of wire around each tack and the wire already on the picture, and the trick is done.

Dusting furniture is not an unpleasant task if one has the right tools to work with. For fine upholstery and carvings use a soft pointed brush; for heavy upholstery and reed furniture use a medium soft pointed brush; for leather use an oiled duster.

There is nothing new in using burned matches, but it is new to save match and fingers at the same time. Place the burned match in a small pair of pincers. One can thus reach the gas under a boiling pan. The match will not drop and may be used several times.

It may look as if your sewing machine had a sore throat, but pin or sew a thick piece of flannel around the arm of the machine to stick the pins in that you take out as you stitch, or the needles that you want in haste for further basting. It will save much looking around for these useful implements.

Keep somewhere in your desk a list of things to be put into your suitcase when you are suddenly called away. It will serve you, when packing, to remember just the articles you must have on a short journey.

Linen tablecloths used on round tables wear thin at the edges while the rest of the linen is still strong. By cutting several inches inside of this worn edge a circular piece of linen will be obtained. Edge this with linen or other heavy lace wide enough to make the finished cloth cover the whole top. The corners of linen that are left over may be made into napkins.

"RABBIT" BRAWN.

Skin, empty and wash a tame rabbit or hare, take out the kidney and liver. Put it into boiling water, and leave for five minutes to blanch. Drain and put into a stewpan with cold water to cover. Add an onion stuck with cloves, a bunch of parsley and thyme, and a bay leaf, salt and peper. Simmer gently till tender. Skim carefully, take up the rabbit or hare, cut off the head and neck, cut the flesh from the bones in neat pieces, scrape the remainder of the meat from the bones and lay on one side. Put the bones into a clean pan with the broth and one oz. of gelatine, which has been soaked in cold water. Put a piece of ham or bacon (small) into the liquor, let it simmer till done. Take out, and simmer the gravy till reduced to one pint. Strain through a cloth. Season, dip a mould into clean water. Pour a little gravy in just before it sets and coat the mould with it. Arrange the pieces of meat in this with the ham or bacon, cut in strips, the liver and kidneys, which should have been fried till tender and sliced, and one or two hard-boiled eggs, cut in quarters. Leave room for the stock to flow in among the pieces and arrange nicely. Pour the rest of the stock over it and let it set. When cold, turn out and serve with salad. The meat scraped from the bones can be made into rissoles or shepherd's pie, etc.

GINGERBREAD.

Gingerbread is a very wholesome and cheap cake. Mix together one and a half pounds of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Melt in a pan three ounces of dripping and one pound of syrup or molasses, pour into flour, and mix well together. Spread evenly over a greased tin, and bake in a slow oven for about two hours.

FRENCH ROLLS.

To one quart of very light dough add one ounce of butter, one whole egg or two whites of eggs beaten till light. When raised knead gently; roll in one-inch strips. Dredge with flour, braid loosely; let rise; brush with sugar dissolved in milk; sprinkle with poppy seeds; bake quickly.

RAISIN SANDWICHES.

Butter whole meat or graham bread on the loaf and cut in thin slices. Cover with raisins and nut meats chopped together. Put together in sandwich form. Serve with tea, milk or cocoa. Dates may be added to the raisins instead of nut meats if preferred.

TONGUE SANDWICHES.

Chop cold tongue very fine; pound in a mortar. Spread soft butter on one piece of bread, the meat of the tongue seasoned with paprika and a little mustard on the other; press the two pieces together. Cut any shape desired.

A COUNTERSUNK IRON REST.

A piece of zinc or asbestos is usually nailed to the ironing board, upon which the hot iron is set when not in use. The metal is naturally smooth and the asbestos becomes so, resulting frequently in the iron slipping off and falling to the floor, causing a smashed toe or something worse.

If the place where the iron is to be set is countersunk into the board even a quarter of an inch, or if a narrow rim of light wood is nailed round it, the trouble will be done away with.

PEELING POTATOES WITH A BRUSH.

Did you know that the outer skin of potatoes could be quickly removed by means of a stiff brush? Horse brushes of steel wire are best for the purpose, though new potatoes may be peeled, or rather skinnd, with a hair brush that has worn off till the bristles are stiff.

SECRETS OF GOOD COOKS.

When you wish to separate eggs, break them, one at a time, into a small-sized funnel. The whites will pass through into the bowl below and the yolks will remain in the funnel.

To dispel that disagreeable odor which clings to dishes in which fish or onions have been cooked, set the dish, after washing, in a warm oven for ten or fifteen minutes.

To use nutmeg scraps, save all that are too small to grate and grind them in the coffee-mill. Where a large quantity is used, this will be found a great saving.

To remove rust from tin baking pans, rub rust spots well with lard and let stand for a short time before washing.

To prevent the kettle from boiling over, take a pan or basin and turn bottom up, so that the edge of the pan just inside the rim of the kettle In the bottom of the pan there must be a hole of at least one-quarter of an inch in diameter. This seems to draw the steam up into the pan, which is often filled with steam and bubbles, but the kettle will not boil over.

A raw turnip rubbed on a griddle will prevent breakfast cakes from sticking. The use of grease is unnecessary.

The Brain Box

CONDUCTED BY E. GUNN RAMSAY

Registered According to the Copyright Act

How often do you put Thoughts into Words?

Thoughs may be very beautiful but unless translated into speech or into deeds, they are easily lost and forgotten.

"I did not write" says someone, "but I thought of you." "I am sorry I did not come but I thought about it."

"This is an ungratfud age," said a man giving this as his excuse for giving up doing things for others, "I never give up my seat to anyone in a crowded car now because I have found that they always take it without a word of thanks."

Are we really getting less thankful or grateful for the little courtesies of life? Do we care less for them? or is it because we fail to put thoughts into words? Words that are so easily spoken, that cost us nothing yet mean so much.

A word of thanks, a message of gratitude sent in time, may often change the face of the world for another.

"Thank you."

Yesterday, I passed along a crowded street. So many people were going in both directions that it was impossible for one to keep upon a straight course. Had manners counted at all every step or so required that some one must step aside for another to pass.

In a particularly narrow turning, a knot of people had collected to look into a shop window. They took up so much of the side walk that there was only room left for one person to pass.

Along came an old lady, fragile, gentle in appearance. From the opposite direction, a man made as if to pass the group of people, saw the old lady coming, half stopped and then started as if to go on, thus either preventing her passing or forcing her to step aside into the road.

The face of the man was hard set, whether his thoughts were really upon the old lady and the apparent lack of politeness he was displaying, one could not guess, but suddenly those who watched him saw a transformation. His face broke into a smile, his hat was raised and quickly he stepped down into the street to let the old lady pass along.—An instand change of front from boorishness to courtesy, because the old lady had looked for the best in him and in anticipation had said. "Thank you."

It is not only in social life that the habit of gratitude is scarce, some modern ideas of business appear to count thanks and other small courtesies as quite out of order or belonging not to the more serious side of work-a-day life.

What a foolish mistake, when even the smallest appreciation from worker to chief or vice versa, helps to make the wheels of life run more smoothly.

If you are a worker in any line of business, whether the business of a store, a firm, a factory or an office —and doubt this—try it out. Try showing a little appreciation for the work and care of others. Try a "thank you" for the little daily acts of courtesy shown, hitherto accepted as a matter of course.

Try it and see if the whole atmosphere will not lighten and brighten.

Politeness, gratitude costs nothing, but incivility does. In civility, want of good manners, courtness, rudeness are expensive.

The man or woman who is continually gruff, court, ungracious, makes few friends. He or she is not the first to be chosen for a position of trust.

Trust and responsibility require those who can forget self. The selfish person has no thanks for anyone.

It is not enough to think "thank you," say it.

"I have been in the firm for thiry years", said an influential business to-day, when one of my workmen came up and thanked me for installing a more up to date machine that he had recommended a long time ago. I felt sorry I had not put it in before. Too much time had passed before I really went into matters, but that man is worth promoting, he must really have the interest of the firm at heart to come up and mention his gratitude for better tools." This is a true evample of how one employer felt over a simple "thank you." It brought him nearer to his workshop, it led him to take a deeper interest.

There is nothing fawning or "favor seeking" in a simple manly "thank you." It is only the little lubricating drop which helps to make the wheels of life run more smoothly for all.

You are not really ungratful, then put those thoughts into words and cheer some one else by a genuine "Thank You."

Advice to Girls

By Miss Rosalind

Registered according to the Copyright Act

DEAR ROSALIND:

I have read your column ever since it started in our paper, but I really never expected to write to you. But in common honesty I have to write now to thank you for the story of Evangeline and the Acadian settlers. Of course I knew the poem, but I did not know the historical facts that you gave us last week. I used them in a composition on "Evangeline's Land" at high school and got good marks for it. That is why I have written to thank you for giving all kinds of advice to all kinds of girls—for your advice in historical literature certainly helped me.

ELAINE.

DEAR ELAINE:

Awfully glad we helped out in that "compo." Sometimes it is hard to make an essay out of a poem, long enough and good enough to satisfy a high school teacher, isn't it?

Aside from the examination value. I'm glad you liked the story about Acadia. I spent two months down there last summer and came home so full of it that I can't help writing and talking about it whenever I get a chance. It is the loveliest country in which to spend the summer, and so full of history and romance that every day brings new joy to the traveller.

I was glad to talk about it to my girl readers and I am really pleased to know you liked it. Write again.

ROSALIND.

DEAR ROSALIND:

I have just moved into this town and I am awfully lonely and ignorant about things. I never had to keep house ,always worked and didn't have any time to learn things except in the evenings, and then I was either too tired or else I wanted to go out. Now, I am married and have a dear little home, and I want to keep it nice and treat people right and do things right. How can I learn everything about keeping house right, and how can I make friends; and have them come to see me?

PERPLEXED.

DEAR GIRL:

Yours is the kind of letter I love to answer; but I'd never have time or space to do it as I would like. In the first place, let me tell you that I am jolly well sure you are going to be a dandy little housekeeper.

Why? Because you are so in earnest about starting right. There are heaps and heaps of magazines that give advice in housekeeping and cooking. It pays to take at least one good one. Keep your housekeeping as simple as you can. Have a day for each special kind of work; and get it done in the morning. Then have your afternoons free for reading and studying or resting or visiting. Keep your cooking simple, too. Learn to do a few things well, before you try more complicated recipes. You will find that your nice, friendly neighbors can give you lots of good pointers on how to make things taste good, or on how to buy things economically. But choose these friends carefully.

The best way to make friends is to join your church and meet people there. The women of the town will call on you and you will soon find out who are the ones you care to be intimate with.

Have I helped any? If so, write me again any time you have a problem that I can help solve.

ROSALIND.

DEAR ROSALIND:

I have been reading your advice to girls, and as I am a girl of 16 I think I need some advice. I have a boy friend of 17 past and I have gone with him for over a year, and he is very faithful to me. But there is another girl who is jealous of him and tries in every way to take him from me. So please advise me what to do. We never take in any dancing parties, but we go to shows and concerts, and I think the world of him, and he also thinks that of me.

GOLDEN LOCKS.

DEAR GOLDEN LOCKS:

Why worry? If you think the world of him and he thinks the world of you what in the world bothers you? What chance has the other poor girl got? Seriously, G. L., don't bother your pretty head about jealousy or rivals. You are far too young to think about them. Have a jolly good time with a jolly crowd and don't "go with" anybody "special" for four or five years yet.

ROSALIND.

News of the Movies

(By William Willing.)

Charles Ray's third independent production for release has been completed. It is "Nineteen and Phyllis," an original story by Frederick Stowers. Mr. Ray has expended over three months' time in actual production, and states that it will be two months before the cutting and assembling is completed. The supporting cast includes Clara Norton, Lincoln Stedman, George Nichols, Cora Drew, Frank Norcrosse and De Witt C. Jennings.

* * *

Everywhere it has been shown, "Humoresque," Frank Barzage's remarkable photoplay of eastside New York life, has been the film sensation of the year. In Chicago, Boston and Los Angeles it has broken theatre records as it did in the Criterion Theatre in New York, where, in its tenth week, nearly 18,000 people went to see it. Marcus Loew has booked the picture for his entire chain of more than one hundred theatres.

* * *

Of especial interest to Bessie Love's admirers is the announcement that she is to publish a series of tales written by herself, known as as "Bessie Love's Good Night Stories." These will describe the lives of numerous denizens of the forest, real and fantastic. Notable among them are the Little Blind Squirrel, the Jazzo Bird, the Whopposopolis, the Grasshopper and the Whipplelita. The stories were written essentially for children, but will appeal to grown ups as well.

* * *

In "Nineteen and Phyllis," Charles Ray will depart from his usual country-boy role ,and appear as a dapper nineteen-year-old city boy. It is said he has never had a part in which he revelled more, and as a result Director Joseph De Grasse has been able to add some inimitable touches to the production.