Rain, Rain Go Away—Mr. Abercrombie and Mr. Stanley arrived in Chicago from their home on the African coast and were greeted by a downpour that threatened to wrinkle their formal attire. So Jini Roche, hostess on the plane that flew them from New York, gallantly supplied an unmbrella. The penguins will live in the Lincoln Park Zoo.

Some Notes From The Farm Front

Items of Interest to Our Rural Readers

By John Russell

In the United States great concern is being shown regarding the rapid falling off in the number of live stock, said to amount to something like fifteen per cent in the past four years.

This should be of real interest to Canadian stock raisers as showing the modern trend. Some department of Agriculture officials south of the border are reported as wanting to advise farmers to start rebuilding their breeding-stock right away, but are held back from doing so by "top policy" makers who still want to put the emphasis on grain production.

However, several of the great State agricultural colleges are already telling farmers to hang on to their breeding stock.

* * *

Some time next Fall apple growers are due to receive a lot of free, but still very valuable publicity for their product.

Walt Disney's big feature picture "Melody Time" will star Johnny Appleseed, the almost legendary character who went about the country planting appleseeds here and there, and to whom millions of apple-lovers owe a deep debt of gratitude. "The Apple Song", sung by Dennis Day, is expected to have folks not only humming the tune but also craving and buying more apples.

* * *

Low-quality hay used to mulch a block of 25-year-old Northern Spy apple trees was found to bring results worth many times the costs, in experiments conducted over a 7-year period.

Starting the very first year the mulch was applied, yields increased by 6 bushels per tree, and have averaged that much increase each year since. The hay not only saves moisture but acts as a fertilizer. In the experiment a quarter-ton of hay was put around each tree to start with, then added to as it decomposed. About a quarter-ton every three years is about the right amount to be added.

* * *

On the farms of Canada, and especially Eastern Canada, there are probably millions of acres that are too wet for profitable cultivation.

Yet, property drained, such wetlands often yield huge crops. More than that, when put into production they help "take the load" off a farm's poorer, steeper lands, which may be allowed to lie fallow for a time, or planted with trees.

But whether the tile or open-cut method is used, proper drainage is an exacting operation, requiring both knowledge and skill, as it must leave sufficient water on the land, but not either too much or too little. But as many have found out, when properly done it can really pay.

* * *

A quarter century ago 120 eggs a year was considered pretty fair production for a hen. Today, with modern methods of breeding and feeding, the average throughout the country is probably around three dozen eggs a year better than that.

However, there is still plenty of room for improvement before general egg production approaches the mark set by a hen called "Miss Massachusetts" back in 1944. She laid 351 eggs in just 357 days; and what is more, each dozen of those eggs scored perfectly for size, weighing 26 ounces or better.

* * *

Back in prewar days there were 38,000 Ontario acres in sugar beets. Because of labor and price control difficulties, totals dropped so greatly that the entire industry in this Province was threatened. But at a meeting held in Chatham recently, with representatives of both the growers and manufacturers present, it was decided to make a real joint effort to save it; and with more labor and labor-saving machinery available, the future should offer fewer difficulties for the Ontario beet grower.

TABLE TALKS

Muffins — Mixed The Pastry Way

Blueberry Variety

Try this new way of mixing muffins. It's the same idea as mixing shortening and flour for pie or tea biscuits. It's quick—no shortening to melt—and the results are perfect.

½ cup shortening
2 cups flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
2 tablespoons sugar
¾ teaspoon salt
1 egg
1 cup milk
1 cup blueberries

Cut shortening into sifted dry ingredients with pastry blender. Use a light, quick mixing motion. The mixture should look like coarse crumbs before the liquid is added.

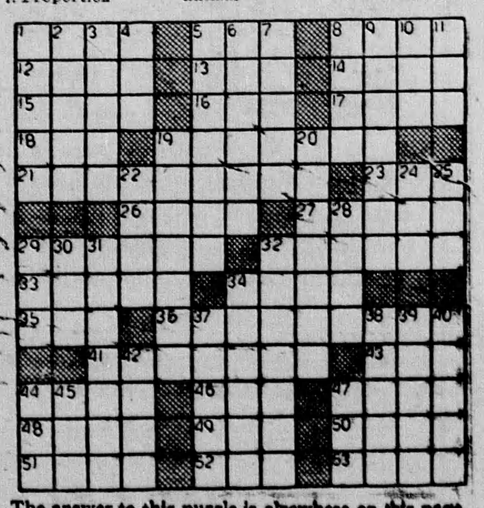
Spoon a "well" in the center of the dry ingredients. Combine well-beaten egg, milk and well-drained canned or frozen blueberries; pour into well at once and mix just until dry ingredients are moistened. Batter still will be lumpy.

Dip batter into greased muffin pans, using two spoons. Don't overstir the batter by scooping to the bottom of the bowl for each spoonful. Fill each muffin pan a little over half full. Bake in hot oven (450°) 20 to 25 minutes or until muffins are a shiny, golden brown. Serve hot with a big pat of butter. This recipe makes 12 medium-sized muffins.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Coasters
5. Equality
8. Wood sorrels
12. Toward shelter
13. Turkish title
14. Magic
15. Careen
16. Rodent
17. Assistant
18. Night before
19. Continued stories
21. Restraining
23. Artificial language
26. Not professional
27. One entirely lost
29. Minute
32. Building material
33. Spoken
34. Transportation charge
35. Work unit
36. Elastic bitumen
41. Cited
43. Man's name
44. Frog genus
46. Put up
47. Piece
48. Whirlpool
49. Cretan mountain
50. Hebrew month
51. Remunerates
52. English letter
53. Contradict

DOWN
1. Made up into large bundles
2. Fruit
3. Assail
4. Appoint
5. Partially paralyzed
6. Mushroom
7. Proportion
8. Of the mouth
9. Kitchen
10. Moreover
11. Understand
19. Moved very slowly
20. Infuriated
22. Sailors' patron saint
24. Lair
25. Fragment
28. Hebrew measure
29. Anthropoid animal
30. Road-building material
31. Dress fabric
32. Chains
34. Front elevation
37. Clear
38. Sultan's decree
39. East Indian gateway
40. Record
42. Time units
44. Twilled cloth
45. Ohio college town
47. Small cushion



The answer to this puzzle is elsewhere on this page.

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARMS

By Gwendoline P. Clarke

Spring... we know what it is, of course. The time of year when there is new perennial growth; new planting, new seeding; tractors, frogs and robins; the time of which poets sing — "when a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love". The time when it is a mercy that that spring feeling, or something, calls the men outside to rake the yard or polish the car, for there is no place for them in the home — it being also the time for spring housecleaning.

* * *

Yes, actually we all know what spring means — I do too — but yet, just now, I was tempted to find out what definition my Oxford dictionary gave for the word. The description was very apt and applies to many activities. "Spring... jump from the ground" — yes, that is true of flowering bulbs, wheat, clover and rhubarb. "Sudden movement from rest — bring suddenly into action or view." Well, now, that surely applies to housecleaning at its best — or worst, depending on your point of view. Could it be that Messrs. Fowler and Fowler were married and spoke as men of experience when compiling their dictionary? Men, naturally, would think housecleaning was a "sudden movement from rest"! because they themselves are interrupted and disturbed by it. In winter, when routine work in the house runs along smoothly; meals appear on the table well prepared and nicely served, that, to the masculine mind, indicates that very little work has been involved, and plenty of rest for the lady of the house has therefore been possible.

"Bring suddenly into action or view". That surely, could have no other meaning than what happens in a home when the housewife gets busy. If it were not for housecleaning many things would be permanently lost especially when there are people around who put things away so carefully they never know where to find them afterwards. And their number is legion — and among their number is myself. But still, the lost things that are suddenly brought into view make spring a time of excitement and anticipation.

* * *

But oh dear, if we could just get on with the work without interruptions. But no, just as sure as extra work is in progress there are unlooked for hindrances. A matter of business that has to be attended to; invitations for this and that that cannot very well be refused; phone calls and more phone calls; and the chances are that one of the local organizations to which one belongs decides to cater for a banquet. You feel you just can't spare the time for it until you remember that probably ninety-nine per cent of the members feel exactly as you do. So you pitch in and do your bit — and then it's the end of the week and you look back, realizing how little you have accomplished. But then, if you are philisophical, you look forward and think — "Oh well, there's another week coming — surely there will be no hindrances next week? I can't think of anything that's likely to come up anyway."

* * *

No, you may not know of anything — now — but interruptions will come, you can be sure of that. And if they do, what then? It isn't really the hindrances that count, is it? — only how we deal with them, and whether we let them get us down. Why try to do anything in a given length of time or start on a strenuous job when over-tired? The chances are a cat-nap, followed by a cup of tea, would do much to mend frazzled nerves and give you a better start. After all, in England, there is very little that a cup of tea can't cure! Who knows, it may be those cups of tea, at the right time and place, made all the difference in helping England do her share in winning the war.

Well, that's that! Now I'll get this typed, and after that a cup of tea, and then I'll be ready to wade into a pot of paint once more — unless, of course, there are interruptions!

The Smooth Dancer Rates More Cut-Ins

To be a popular dancer, scarcely able to circle the floor without a cut-in—that's every girl's dream! Why not make it come true?

What makes a girl fun to dance with, anyway? Perfect rhythm, of course, plus feather-lightness and responsiveness to every step and turn. A large order, but you can fill it if you have balance.

Balance means carrying your weight evenly over the balls of your feet. In stepping backward, for instance, keep your weight on the ball of the forward foot until your stepping foot is in place, ready to share the weight. Also, swing from the hip and reach back as far as possible with the toe. Chopping off those backward steps is just inviting your partner to tread on your toes.

To be a good dancer you must be able to do the waltz, rumba, samba, tango, fox trot and lindy with equal ease. Our Reader Service booklet No. 37 teaches the latest steps by means of footprint diagrams and actual photos. The author is one of the country's well-known instructors. Get your copy today!

Send THIRTY CENTS (in coins) for "How to Do the Latest Dance Steps" to Reader Service, Room 421, 73 Adelaide St., West, Toronto. Print name, address, booklet title and No. 37.

Long Bob

Along with ankle socks, saddle shoes, Sloppy-Joe sweaters and the inevitable string of pearls, the swinging shoulder length hair style of teen-agers is out—"but definitely."

According to fashion experts in a recent style show in Toronto, the former "Swoon Kid" will take to ladylike clothes and short hair styles this spring.

CHANGE of LIFE?

Are you going through the functional 'middle age' period peculiar to women (38 to 52 yrs.)? Does this make you suffer from hot flashes, feel *so nervous*, high-strung, tired? Then do try Lydia E. Pinkham's vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. Pinkham's Compound also has what Doctors call a stomachic tonic effect!

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

Alberta Indians Giving Up Horses

The large herds of horses formerly maintained on the Indian Reserves of Southern Alberta are rapidly becoming a thing of the past. Most of them are finding their way to processing plants at Swift Current and Edmonton where they are transformed into meat rations for hungry Europe.

This signifies a quiet revolution in Indian customs. Before white settlement began in the west, the whole life of the Blackfoot tribes centered around their horses. On horseback they rode to war or hunted the buffalo which were their principal source of food—and a man's wealth was estimated by the number of animals he owned.

But in recent years the younger Indians have been taking an increasing interest in scientific farming. Many of them are raising purebred cattle while others have broken up their land and are growing wheat. Some of them even own and use a full set of power-driven implements. And so the horses have become more or less of a nuisance and there is a growing tendency to sell them off.

ANSWER TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE

B	O	B	S		P	A	R		O	C	A	S
A	L	E	E		A	G	A		R	U	N	E
L	I	S	T		R	A	T		A	I	D	E
E	V	E		S	E	R	I	A	L	S		
D	E	T	E	N	T	I	O	N		I	D	O
			L	A	I	C		G	O	N	E	R
A	T	O	M	I	C		C	E	M	E	N	T
P	A	R	O	L		F	A	R	E			
E	R	G		E	L	A	T	E	R	I	T	E
		A	D	D	U	C	E	D		R	O	N
R	A	N	A		C	A	N		P	A	R	T
E	D	D	Y		I	D	A		A	D	A	R
P	A	Y	S		D	E	E		D	E	N	Y

Soap-Makings

Any fat may be used in making soap, but the most important of animal oils used are tallow and grease for toilet soap; vegetable oils, cotton seed and coconut for marine soap; palm and castor for transparent soap; and olive oil for toilet and textile soap. Low grade soaps (brown) are made from bone fat, kitchen grease and low grade tallow.

Lemon Pie-m-m-m!

Sure it's delicious, when you make it with Canada Corn Starch and it will be a favourite with the whole family.

The quality of Canada Corn Starch is the reason for its popularity with housewives from Coast to Coast. When your recipe calls for Corn Starch be sure to use Canada Corn Starch, its dependable quality ensures excellent results.

Also Manufacturers of Crown Brand Corn Syrup CC3

The CANADA STARCH COMPANY Limited
Montreal Toronto

"Look! Light as a Feather- That's Calumet's Double Action"

IT'S TRUE! Women everywhere are discovering that Calumet's double action assures *greater baking success*. Muffins, fine-textured as cake . . . fluffy, melt-in-your-mouth biscuits . . . feather-light cakes — Calumet's *double action* protects their lightness, all the way.

First — in the mixing bowl, myriads of tiny, even-sized bubbles are formed when liquid is added. Then — in the oven, *new* even-sized bubbles continue to raise the mixture, holding it high, light and even. Try Calumet! Follow directions on the tin for any recipe.

So tender, so flavorful, these

SPICY RAISIN MUFFINS

- 2 cups sifted flour
- 2 teaspoons Calumet Baking Powder
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¾ teaspoon cinnamon
- ¾ cup chopped raisins
- 1 egg, well beaten
- ⅞ cup milk
- 4 tablespoons melted butter or other shortening

• Sift flour once, measure, add baking powder, sugar, salt, cinnamon; sift again. Add raisins. Combine egg, milk, shortening. Add to flour. Beat only enough to dampen flour. Bake in greased muffin pans in hot oven (425°F.) about 25 minutes. Makes 12 melting, delicious muffins — serve them hot.

Twice Your Money Back

If you are not satisfied that Calumet is the finest baking powder you ever used, send tin containing unused portion, along with your name and address and a note of the price you paid — to General Foods, Limited, Cobourg, Ont. You will receive back *twice* what you paid for Calumet.

L18

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LITTLE REGGIE — By Margarita