Luxury on Wheels in New Trans-Continental Buses—There'll be no dry spells for trans-continental passengers on this new bus. It has a fully equipped snack bar, plus other innovations, such as a two-way radio telephone. Two fair maidens sample the snack bar, with the driver's approval.

Some Notes From The Farm Front

By John Russell

Considerable interest was aroused by something we published last week about a method of bringing unthrifty apple trees back to good yields. It consists of planting from four to eight young trees — even crab apples will do — near the old trunk, then grafting them right into it.

Going still further into the matter, those who have tried it say there doesn't seem to be much difference in yields from such "grafted" trees and others in the same orchard which have always been healthy. Last year one man claims to have harvested 40 boxes from a "grafted" Red Delicious; which is a real yield considering that the original trunk is dead and the grafts now make up the entire root system.

At times, when trees have been blown over, they have been straightened, and the same plan of grafting young trees to them used. A few years later yields were equal to those of nearby unharmed trees. But here's something that should be noted; all water sprouts should be rubbed from the young trees used for such grafting, or else their sap will fail to flow into the old trunk.

Plenty of Bugs

More than 470,000 different species of insects have already been identified and entomologists — bug specialists, that is — estimate that the total number of species in the world is over two million. And we know one man who swears he has every last one of them, right on his own farm.

It Takes Time

First reaction of many who use such weed-killing sprays as 2, 4-D is often one of disappointment. They expect something spectacular to happen right away; but the trouble is that most weeds just won't curl up and die in a few hours, even if they've been fatally injured. Common plantain, for example, may take from 3 to 5 weeks even to look different. That's because the leaves remain green and healthy in appearance, even though the entire root system is decomposed.

But such spraying really pays, nevertheless. One man had 350 acres of oats so badly infested with Canada thistle that it looked like a hopeless task to make them eligible for certification. But when the oats were knee-high he rigged up a spray outfit and soaked them with 2, 4-D. The spray, which cost around $3 an acre, returned him $20 an acre on the oats, to say nothing of the increased value of the land.

Real Oil Crop

With the great shortage of vegetable oils and fats which exists throughout the world, the sunflower is coming in for more attention than ever before. In Manitoba last year no less than 23 thousand acres were devoted to this crop which, with an average of 800 pounds of seed per acre, would give a total production of something like 9,200 tons.

Probably few of us realize just how much sunflower seed oil is used in Canada. In addition to our own production — in 1945 over 5 million pounds — two years ago our imports of sunflower seed oil amounted to over 14 million pounds, mostly from Argentina.

There are other vast possibilities for sunflower growing. In the United States university seed doctors and cooperating farmers believe that they are so close to solving the "sunflower secret" that before long we may be eating cakes made with sunflower meal — and thousands of farmers may have a new crop to harvest. Although sunflower seeds have long been recognized as valuable winter feed for cattle and poultry, up to now commercial use of the crop has never been on a large scale.

It is interesting to note that the university of Illinois seed specialists, who are conducting the experiments, had to turn to Canada in order to secure the type of sunflower they wanted. The traditional tall sunflower plants, with heavy stalks, were much too hard to harvest. Now, with a Canadian "dwarf" variety called the "Advance" they feel that the battle is won and that planting, cultivation and harvesting can be done with the machinery used for corn.

"We can definitely promise that dwarfed sunflowers, harvested by modern machinery, will produce yields of sunflower meal and oil that will be equal on an economic basis to soybean yields in terms of value of meal and oil per acre!" they state. So it looks as if it mightn't be a bad idea for many Ontario farmers, in areas suitable for this crop, to look into the possibilities of sunflowers.

Get your heart into your work, whatever it may be, for work without heart is dead.

The Green Thumb

By Gordon L. Smith

Thinning

After the first planting is up the next major job is thinning and spacing. This is vital work and applies to either flowers or vegetables. Crowded flowers will grow thin and spindly, will not bloom freely and the biggest plants will topple over in the first storm. Allow about four or five inches between plants for flowers like nasturtiums, less for alyssum, much more for tall marigolds, cosmos or spider plants.

Spacing

With the smaller vegetables, a couple of inches between plants is sufficient. This applies to leaf lettuce, early carrots, beets, etc. Beans and peas should have from four to six inches between plants, and as all the seed usually germinates it should be planted about this far apart. Rows should be from fifteen inches to two feet apart. Corn is usually planted from three to six seeds to a hill, about eighteen inches apart each way or rows two to three feet apart. Tomato plants require at least eighteen inches each way; melons, squash and cucumbers three plants to a hill, and hills about two to three feet apart.

Zinnias

Zinnias are among the easiest garden flowers to grow. They will grow in almost any kind of soil but will thrive better in rich, deep soil, well dug and manured. They need plenty of sun. Water them generously, particularly during the hot, dry weeks of midsummer, by soaking the soil. Overhead watering may cause mildew. Keep the soil from becoming caked by either a straw mulch during the hot months or shallow cultivating in the form of a dust mulch, to conserve moisture.

Zinnias offer long-season bloom in the utmost variety of sizes, shapes and colors. They are also prime for cutting.

The large dahlia-flowered giant types grow to three and four feet and make showy plantings at the back of the flower border. Fantasy, chrysanthemum-flowered, cut-and-come-again types are suited to the middle heights. For the front of a border and for bedding are the baby or pompon zinnias.

Zinnias are often thought of as autumn flowers, but will start blooming in early July and will continue until frost, especially if a new sowing is made in mid-June to take the place of those that have started early. Keep the old blooms cut off.

Anti-Fogging

Natural science has a solution to the problem of windshields that fog over in cold weather. A cotton cloth impregnated with an anti-fogging chemical will soon be introduced commercially. One wiping with the treated cloth will keep windows clear for hours. The cloth can be used indefinitely.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

SHORT STORY

Seventh Inning Stretch

By FERN AUBLE

The stadium was filled to capacity for the opening game and a swelling chorus of voices filled the air. The sun was a brilliant ball in a sky of blue. But Johnny Longstreet sat hunched in the dugout, his huge hands hanging loosely between his knees. The banter of his teammates was a meaningless babel to him.

"I wonder how she is by now," he thought miserably. His blue eyes darkened in despair as he thought of the interminable afternoon before him. He groaned and glanced at Corky Blanton.

It was too bad that Chuck Leighton had sprained an ankle. Doc said he'd be back in the lineup by next week, but next week was too late and Corky was depending on Johnny to pitch this opening game.

"How's it going, Johnny?" Corky dropped down on the bench beside him and laid a comforting hand on his knee.

"Gosh, Corky, I don't know. The Doc said she'd be all right, but I wish to Heaven I could be there with her." His knuckles whitened as he clenched his hands and Corky watched him with troubled eyes.

As Johnny took the mound for the top half of the first inning, a cheer rose from the stands. His heart warmed at the sound and some of the sag lifted from his shoulders. He looked at Windy Norton, who was catching, and nodded as he caught the signal. As he started his wind-up, a fleeting vision of Milly's scared little face crossed his mind. He knew when the ball left his hand it was a stinker. Sure enough, Bill Lofton, the big Pirate shortstop, laid on it for a three-base hit. A groan went up from the crowd.

He got hold of himself and fanned the next three men up, leaving Bill Lofton stranded on third. As he faced the first man up in the second inning, Johnny's arm felt like lead. "If I just knew how she was," he thought. "If I knew she was all right."

He tried desperately to keep his mind on the game, to keep from thinking about Milly, but, in spite

of himself, he failed miserably. He simply couldn't keep her out of his mind.

It happened in the sixth inning. He walked the first man and the next batter up hit for a single, putting a man on first and third. A sacrifice hit brought in the first run of the game for the Pirates.

As the seventh inning came up, and the boys trotted out to their positions, Corky turned impatiently as someone tapped him on the shoulder. He took the note handed to him. His face spread into a huge grin and he ran out to the mound. "Well," Johnny thought, "here's where I get yanked and I don't blame him. Any rookie pitcher could toss rings around me today."

But Corky simply handed Johnny the paper. Johnny read it and let out a whoop. The fans watched in bewilderment as they saw Johnny go into a dance. Then they saw his teammates come running in and cluster around him to break away with howls and back-thumping.

Finally, everyone back in position, Johnny toed the mound and squinted at Windy, waiting for the signal. As it came, he gave a satisfied nod and started his wind-up. The ball whizzed over the plate and you could almost see the smoke trailing it. The next one was a beautiful slow ball that broke just right. Johnny grinned happily as the batter took a healthy swing at the next one and missed.

The Reds got two runs in the eighth, giving them a one-run lead over the Pirates and Johnny put them away one, two, three in the ninth. Not a very big lead, to be sure, but big enough, especially when you consider that Johnny hadn't really pitched much of a game before Corky'd brought him that little slip of paper at the beginning of the seventh.

Oh yes, the note? Well, it really wasn't a very big message; that is, not very big in words. It merely said, "It's twins, darling. Two future major league ballplayers. See that you make them proud of their Daddy today." And it was signed, 'Milly'.'

Quick Growth

For a couple of days after it is born, a baby giraffe goes through a stretching period which adds greatly to its height. One recent arrival at an English Zoo is said to have increased in length from 62 to 75 inches in thirty hours—an average of almost half an inch per hour.

Modest Request

The driver of one of those very small motor cars that look as if they'd dropped off watch chains was crowded against the curb by a huge motor transport.

"Excuse me," the driver of the tiny car called to the truck driver, "is this Talbot street?"

"Yeah!" answered the truck driver.

"Well, would you mind moving over and letting me have a little more of it?" asked the driver of the tiny car.

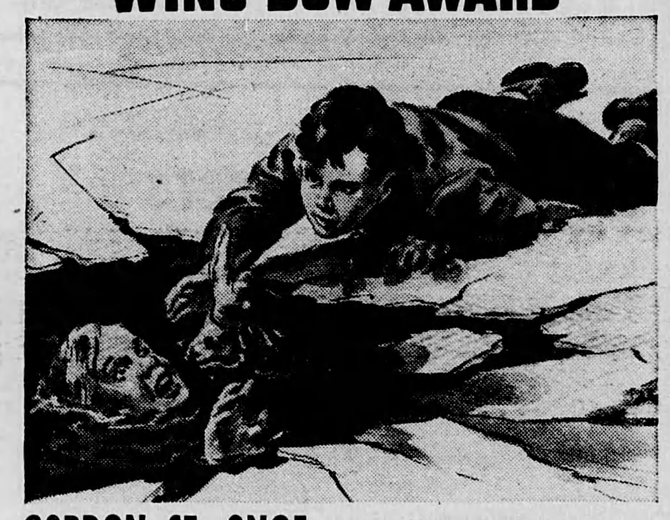
Rub YOUR ACHES AWAY

with Minard's, the great rubbing liniment, sworn foe of muscular and joint soreness, stiffness and pain. Use it generously. It's greaseless, has no unpleasant odor, dries quickly. Use it for dandruff and skin disorders, too. Get a bottle at your druggist's today. Keep it handy on your bathroom shelf. 35¢ 125R

MINARD'S LINIMENT

Boy, 10, Risks Treacherous Ice To Rescue Chum

WINS DOW AWARD



GORDON ST. ONGE OF WINDSOR, ONT., *feared parents' scolding more than danger to himself*

IT was early in February . . . and the ice on the Detroit River looked safe enough — near the shore at least — for the four boys to walk on. But, as boys will, they ventured out too far . . . and, almost before they knew what had happened, a large section of the ice gave way . . . and into the frigid waters fell young Maurice Palwada.

TWO BOYS RUN FOR SHORE

The two older lads, panic-stricken, raced in to shore. But not so 10-year-old Gordon St. Onge. The sight of his chum floundering helplessly in the water urged Gordon to act. Gingerly he started to walk towards the edge . . . and then hearing an ominous cracking noise, he got down and crawled.

Gradually, inch by inch, he reached the water's edge . . . and slowly dragged Maurice out of the river, onto the ice, and in to shore. He then took the shivering little victim home.

Gordon St. Onge of Windsor, Ontario, is a modest hero. In fact, his greatest worry when crawling over that treacherous ice was not the danger to himself. It was the thought of the scolding his parents would probably give him when they learned of the incident.

We are proud to pay tribute to this brave and unselfish boy through the presentation of The Dow Award.

The two older boys headed for shore . . . but Gordon stayed on the dangerous shell ice . . . determined to rescue his young friend. Slowly, as lightly as possible, he crept nearer the water.

Carefully Gordon dragged the exhausted boy along the ice . . . realizing that at any moment they might both be thrown into the water. But luck was with them . . . they reached shore safely.

THE DOW AWARD is a citation for outstanding heroism and includes, as a tangible expression of appreciation, a $100 Canada Savings Bond. Winners are selected by the Dow Award Committee, a group of editors of leading Canadian newspapers.

The DOW AWARD

DOW BREWERY • MONTREAL

JITTER

By Arthur Pointer