The Green Thumb

By Gordon L. Smith

Pest Control

There is one thing that any gardener can be pretty sure about coming, and that is pests. Fortunately, however, measures of dealing with them are also increasing.

After the plants start to grow, too, the good gardener will keep an eye open for insect or other pest damage. He will guard against this by encouraging growth by frequent cultivation, by spacing or thinning for room and by sprays, dusts or other protection applied just as soon as the first attacks are noticed. Unfortunately for almost every variety of fruit, vegetable or flower in Canada or any other country there seems to be a special pest. But it is amazing how easily these can be controlled if measures are taken promptly.

Signs of Damage

If insects or disease really get well developed in a garden there is liable to be heavy damage before control can take effect. To guard against this, experienced gardeners are always on the watch for signs of pests and at the first indication they open an offensive. These experts are suspicious when they see a wilted or curled or eaten leaf, even if the insects responsible for same are too small to be noticed by the naked eye.

Generally signs are easy to read and cures are readily available. Holes in the leaves mean that bugs that chew are present. These are destroyed with poisons. If the leaves wilt and dry up, sucking insects are extracting the plant juices.

Dusts and Sprays

On the market today are all sorts of good weed killers and destroyers of bugs and diseases. The new DDT dusts and sprays will handle many of these pests and the new 2-4-D will also handle a wide range of weeds. Beginners are advised to look into some of these new developments. By following directions they will save themselves a lot of extra work and disappointment. There are many low-priced dusters and sprayers available for applying these chemicals. One point that the experienced gardener will always emphasize is to get control measures underway just as soon as the first bugs, disease or weeds appear. It is much easier to check these pests before they get really established.

Want A Good Lawn?

To set off a new house to the best advantage a good lawn is essential. It isn't a difficult job for anyone to construct a new lawn, if the instructions in the leaflet "The Construction of New Lawns" are followed. A copy can be obtained free from the Division of Forage Crops, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

* * *

How can a lawn be kept in the best condition? The answer is given in easily understood detail in a pamphlet "The Care of Lawns" which is available free from the Division of Forage Crops, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

"It's your father's day present, dear, and I've arranged so you can pay for it in small weekly payments."

Blossom Queen.—Phyllis Mary Webb, centre, 21-year-old Toronto girl, was chosen Blossom Festival Queen for the second annual observance of the event at Thornbury. Her nearest competitors were also Toronto girls. Phyllis Williams, right, came second, and Evelyn Fell third.

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

By Gwendoline P. Clarke

In spite of rain and lack of sunshine the spring crop has finally got itself growing. Patchy, of course—bare spots here and there will need re-seeding, but still a lot better than we expected. Unfortunately there are quite a few farmers around here who haven't finished seeding yet, and some, through lack of help, who never even started. If that state of affairs is general in Ontario then the "probs" for a plentiful crop are not too promising.

* * *

On this farm, however, one crop looks as if it might produce a good harvest — and that is our crop of spring calves. Six of them—and all boys. (I thought I [illegible] say "boys" because you know there are some folk [illegible] that it is highly improper [illegible] a lady to speak of "bulls". Why, I'll never understand. But then I guess I am just a woman.) I should also have said there were six calves—there are five now. One of them was a "blue baby" and had to be put out of its misery. Did you know it was possible for a calf to be a blue baby? It was a new experience for us. Such a lovely big calf — but it was soon quite evident there was something radically wrong with it. The other five calves are doing fine, so there should be some good veal chops and steaks on the market in about [illegible] eight weeks from now.

* * *

There m[illegible] some half-grown chickens around here by that time too—we had a man in here yesterday looking for orders. According to what he said a lot of farm people, like ourselves, felt that chickens cost too much to raise this year—the price of eggs and chickens being too cheap in proportion to the price of feed.

Probably you folk who have to buy eggs and chickens will just about hit the roof at my saying the price is too low. But don't forget, farmers don't get what you pay, nor anything like it. And there isn't much we can do about it. A farmer with even a hundred hens gets too many eggs to dispose of direct to consumers—unless he has a market stall, and we can't all have that. As for chickens—there were so many last fall that farmers who didn't have private customers had difficulty in selling them at all. The butchers were over-stocked with them — there were chickens everywhere, the market was absolutely glutted with them.

* * *

If you want to know the reason think back to any drive you took through the country the last few years. Remember you passed farm after farm, where, not too far from the other buildings, there was a brooder house, perhaps two or three. Later there were dozens of range shelters scattered throughout pasture and stubble fields. And chickens — chickens everywhere you looked. They represented a lot of work but as long as they could be raised at a fair profit that was all right—not counting the labour, of course. On a farm that isn't considered at all. But when the margin of profit is so small as to be almost negligible is it reasonable to expect the farmer to keep right on raising chickens? So that is why we are buying our chickens half grown—buying just the number of pullets we can house and no cockerels at all.

* * *

Right now I am sitting, with pad and pencil, in the cab of the "pick-up". The sun is actually shining and there are banks of billowy white clouds all over the sky. In between the clouds there are stretches of turquoise blue. A sky to delight the eye of an artist. The mountain is lovely this morning, partly in shade, partly sun-flecked over various shades of green. Birds are flitting back and forth and there is an occasional butterfly. The sun is bright and warm but the wind still cold and the ground very damp. Our tulips are in full bloom but we can hardly see them for dandelions. Before I can do anything in the garden it will be a forest of weeds. Now I must go in and get this typed—maybe a portable typewriter wouldn't be such a bad idea—except that they cost money.

* * *

Here is another little bit for the CBC! In a letter from Daughter this morning she said—"Keep up the good work, Mother. I also heard that broadcast about the cows going out to pasture and I talked back to the radio too. Even if I haven't lived on a farm for ten years I still know what the weather does to things!"

Your Handwriting and You

By Alex. S. Arnott

Constructive Ability

Constructive ability is one of the virtues of the engineer, the [illegible]chanic, or builded. This ability is shown in ha[illegible]lwriting in numerous ways, some of which are artistic capital letters, continuous writing from one word to the next without a break, and by the use of unusual methods of constructing letters and words.

These indications are usually backed up with signs of intelligence, patience, intuition and logic as indications of the writer's ability to progress under difficulty and disappointment. High intelligence is usually indicated by the clear cut but rapid style of writing, and patience is shown by the sharpness of the letters. Intuition is readily observed from frequ[illegible]nt breaks in the words which appear mostly at the base and not at th[illegible] top of the letters.

Architects and those engaged in similar constructiv[illegible] work show their natural ability for constructiveness by ad[illegible]ng an artistic touch to their handwr[illegible]g i[illegible] the form of graceful capital letters. Continuous writing from one word to another without lifting the pen from the paper is one form of unusual writing and this type of writing usually appears in the script of those engaged in highly complicated forms of construction.

Anyone wishing a more complete analysis please send self-addressed stamped envelope to Alex S Arnott 123, 18th Street New Toronto 14. There is no charge for this service.

Age apparently is no barrier to success in gymnastics. Most of the entries in the National A.A.U. Championships are in their 30's.

...TABLE TALKS...

Rhubarb — Serve It a New Way

Frozen Rhubarb—Cook and mash through a strainer enough rhubarb to make a quart when finished. Use rhubarb with a pink skin if possible, leaving the skin on. Add a cup of hot water and sweeten to taste. Cool and freeze as for sherbet. Serve in sherbet glasses with whipped cream topping.

Jellied Rhubarb — Put into a saucepan three pounds of washed and cut-up rhubarb to which half a pound of sugar, a scant cup of water, and the sliced peel of half a lemon have been added. Boil all together, adding a few sticks of cinnamon. When the rhubarb is tender remove from the fire and strain. Have ready four tablespoons of gelatin soaked in a little cold water. Pour the hot rhubarb sauce over this. Place in a mold and set in the refrigerator to harden. Serve with plain or whipped cream.

Rhubarb Fritters—Make fritter dough by mixing together two well-beaten eggs, two cups of flour, two teaspoons baking powder, half a teaspoon of salt and enough sweet milk to make a batter that drops well. Stir into this a cup of stewed rhubarb, adding a little more flour if the batter seems thin. Have deep fat hot and fry the fritters in this, draining off any surplus grease by dropping them on absorbent paper when fried a nice brown.

Rhubarb Brown Betty—Cover the bottom of a baking dish with a layer of rhubarb cut into short lengths. Sprinkle well with sugar, Add a layer of bread crumbs, season with butter and a little cinnamon. Repeat until the dish is almost full. Pour over a half-cup of water. Cover the dish and bake for half an hour, then uncover to brown. Serve with favorite pudding sauce or with rich milk.

Rhubarb Pie—Line a pie pan with rich crust. Sprinkle thinly with dry bread crumbs. To one and three-quarters cupfuls of tender uncooked rhubarb, cut into short lengths, add one and one-half cupfuls of sugar, one well-beaten egg, and half a cup of seedless raisins. Mix well and fill into the pie crust. Cover the top with a crust or with lattice strips. Bake in a quick oven.

You can add a tablespoon of maple syrup and improve the flavor.

Rhubarb Sauce—Wash and prepare pink stems of rhubarb by cutting them into short lengths. Place in the top of the double boiler and cook until soft. Sweeten to taste and serve hot or cold as desired.

Rhubarb Sauce With Raisins—This is a delicious variation and a fine way to serve rhubarb that may have been left over. Stir into the sauce as many stewed seedless raisins as desired. Children are especially fond of rhubarb sauce served in this manner.

Rhubarb Foam—To a pint of cold, cooked, sweetened rhubarb add the whites of two or three eggs, depending on whether or not the rhubarb is very juicy. Beat briskiy until stiff. If not sweet enough to suit the taste, add more sugar before the beating process is entirely completed. This is especially pretty if pink-skinned rhubarb is used.

Rhubarb Shortcake—Split baking powder biscuits, as for Strawberry Shortcake, butter underhalf portion, insert generous layer of Rhubarb Sauce, cover with top half additional sauce, and whipped cream.

Answer To This Week's Puzzle

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

Lipton Tea is Nature's gift
It gives you such a

FLAVOR-LIFT

SAYS MR. BRISK
Get brisk-tasting Lipton Tea. The secret is in the blend and the blend is Lipton's own secret.

TRY LIPTON TEA BAGS, TOO!

LIPTON Brisk-Tasting TEA

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"I don't care if you can't cook, darling — so long as you can open packages of Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes!"

"Oh George — you're wonderful! I'll just open a package of malty-rich, honey-golden Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes, and quick-like breakfast will be ready!"

"Um-m-m — that one-and-only, out-of-this-world Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes flavor!"

"And good nourishment, too, don't forget."

"Yep, Hon — they're jam-packed with carbohydrates, minerals and other food essentials that sure will make your husband a husky guy!"

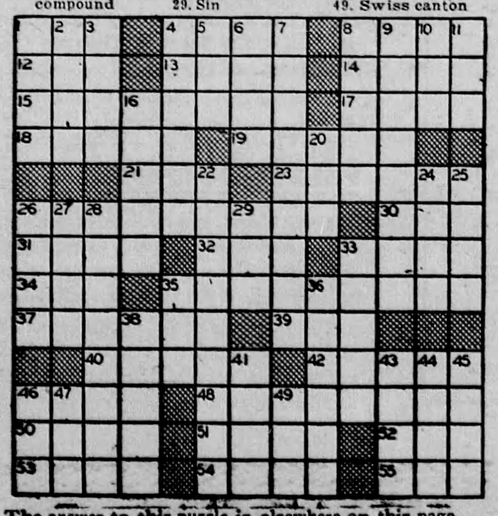
"And of course I was only kidding about not being able to cook. I can make scrumptious cookies, cakes and other good things from those tested recipes on the Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes packages."

"How about picking up some crisp, crunchy Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes on our way down to get the marriage license?"

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Spigot
4. Irish clan
8. Metal dross
12. Humorist
13. Fencing weapon
14. Increase
15. Void lawsuit
17. Detail
18. Shop
19. Indolence
21. Keel-billed cuckoo
23. Let go
26. Summer house
30. Female ruff
31. Musical instrument
32. Silkworm
33. Father
34. Legendary bird
35. Audacity
37. Glaze
39. Before
40. Shy
42. Harangue
46. Principal
48. Telegraph instruments
50. Footless animal
51. Auto shoe
52. Decay
53. Writes
54. Move
55. Lyric

DOWN
1. Caps
2. Entrance
3. Mexican coin
4. Peaceful
5. Spire ornament
6. Seeds
7. Tellurium compound
8. Metalworker
9. Rake
10. Exist
11. Stone
16. Crossbeam
20. Numeral
22. Dreamers
24. Roman emperor
25. Action
26. Caliber
27. Dark
28. Site
29. Sin
33. Pottery fragment
35. Surround
36. Mangle
38. Obeys
41. Dutch coin
43. Air (comb. form)
44. Walked
45. Famous Italian family
46. Chart
47. Monkey
49. Swiss canton



The answer to this puzzle is elsewhere on this page.

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

Soothe SORE FEET THIS WAY

Rub in Minard's Liniment generously, and feel the relief steal over the aching muscles and joints. For all muscle and joint pains, aches and stiffness, sprained ankles, twisted limbs—Minard's has been famous for over 60 years. Good for dandruff and skin disorders, too. Get a bottle today; keep it handy. 35c

MINARD'S LINIMENT

LITTLE REGGIE

By Margarita