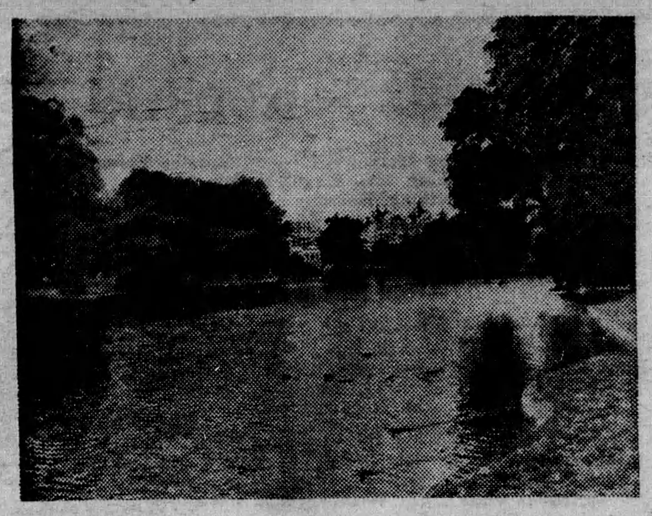
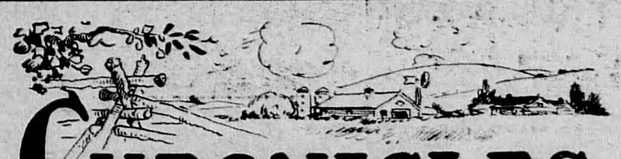
"Oh, To Be In England"



News that Britain's lights—after a 10-year blackout—are "on" again comes as welcome tidings to the thousands of Canadians who are planning to visit the Old Country this coming summer, as evidence that things are rapidly coming back to normal. These pictures show two very familiar London scenes, the upper being a view of beautiful St. James Park in London. The lower view is, of course, a train on the Underground—or "subway" as we would call it on this side of the big pond.

Courtesy of Associated British & Irish Railways, Inc.



CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

by Gwendoline P. Clarke

Today I heard a robin sing—in fact not only did I hear one, I saw him too. A big, fat fellow with a tawny red breast, perched on the lowest branch of an elm tree near the house—

* * *

As I passed by he said to me
"Do you know it's nearly spring?"
"Why, sure," I said, "it's bound to be—
Now I've heard a robin sing."
And then I looked upon the ground,
And up above the wintered earth
Green shoots of daffodil I found—
New life; new hope; new birth.

* * *

Yes, that's the way it goes—the last of the snow has no sooner vanished under the influence of warm rain and strong winds than we see Mother Nature ready to start her cycle of growth all over again—and we perforce must co-operate. Most of us are willing to do just that. Of course there are times when you can't be too sure about the Old Dame—sometimes she holds a few tricks up her sleeve. She has been known to send a blinding blizzard in April before now. For instance from my Ginger Farm diary, I discovered that on April 15, 1943, I wrote—"We have just had an ice-storm, then fog and slippery roads, followed by strong east winds and freezing rain." On June 10 of that same year I find this—"Another week has passed and still no seed in the ground!" Apparently we got our oats sown about June 15, just a week before the wheat started coming into head. And yet we got a crop of sorts that year in spite of the late spring seeding.

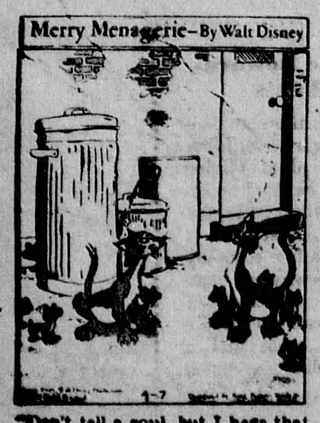
Today there was quite a bit of thunder rumbling around and Partner remarked—"Thunder in March, empty barn in the fall". But don't think me pessimistic. Quite the reverse is true. It is just meant as a reminder that if we should have a dawdling spring we need not be too worried about it. Just imagine—in that season of '43 we had the cows out on pasture before the spring seeding was even started!

My little robin is hopping around on the lawn now—quite happy, in spite of the high wind. That same wind should dry the ground up a bit. We certainly hope so as we are expecting a truck to come along for some cattle. That means two of our calves will be gone. We need to get some of them away as we have had two more calves within the last twelve hours—and they were not twins either.

Now here is something that may start an argument among the women-folk—at least where there is electricity.

Three years ago I bought a vacuum cleaner. Since I had never used one of any kind I had no idea which was the better type to buy—tank or upright. I sought advice from my friends. One said—"Oh, the upright is so much handier—it is a lot easier to push along the floor." Another said—"Don't get anything but the tank type." Another advised—"Tank or upright, I don't think it makes much difference. Any NEW vacuum will do a good job." That sounded logical to me—so when an upright was offered to me, I took it. You remember one didn't have much choice at that time. For awhile I was thrilled with it. The attachments seemed quite satisfactory, too, and because of the novelty of working with them I did not realise what a chore it actually was changing from sweeper to attachments. But after the novelty wore off I found myself going back to mop and duster rather than bother with them. I also found that using the sweeper created a certain amount of dust and made me cough. It wasn't long before I decided that when I got a chance I was going to trade in my upright for a tank type. I did not mention it to Partner because I can't see the point of grumbling about anything unless you can see a way to change it. But last week when the agent called for the fourth time I told Partner what I wanted to do. Then the agent gave a pretty good demonstration—and that finished it. Now I have a tank-type vacuum—and I would not change it for anything. There is no dust, less noise and you can get under anything and everything without moving it if you so desire.

I thought this little experience of mine might be some help to others who might be just as undecided as I was when I bought my first vacuum cleaner.



"Don't tell a soul, but I hear that stuck-up Maltese in the next block has fleas!"

EASY TO CONTOUR IF YOU KNOW HOW

Whether you have long, gentle slopes, or short, steep ones, contouring is one of the first steps toward working out a good soil conservation program. It helps hold fertility, and boosts yields. It helps stop soil and water loss.

To the man who has never grown corn on the contour, it looks like a bad job. At first, it's hard to figure out just where the rows are going.

But, as one farmer said after he'd contoured for a few years: "I wouldn't give a man his dinner to help me contour. It's easy once you know how."

Equipment is simple and inexpensive. Actually, you can make an outfit from a small level, a pocket mirror, a clothespin and a couple of boards.

If you want to contour your row crops, you should plow and disk that way. And don't worry about short rows. You'll have some. But you may have plenty of real long rows to even things out.

Start just below the brow of the hill—about where you can just see the skyline over the hill.

Some farmers dont use lath to mark guide lines. They prefer old newspapers at each point on the contour. Pile a little dirt on them and you can plow them under and don't have to run ahead to get the lath out of the way.

The idea in making a contour line is to find a series of points, about 100 feet apart, which are on the same level around the hill.

The man with the target goes about 30 steps ahead of the man with the level. He moves up or down the hill until the target is at the same height as the level. Then that position is marked.

Then the man with the level goes on past the target and sights back until he is again level with the target. That point is marked. And on around the hill you go.

Extreme accuracy such as is needed for a terrace isn't necessary. But you shouldn't let the contour line sag, for that collects water in the low spots allows it to break over the row and wash down the hill.

Once the line is plowed, keep plowing until the slope changes. Then run a new guide line and work both ways from it. Fill in with short rows where necessary.

Two words of caution: Don't plant the end rows up and down the hill. The contoured rows dump water in them and you breed a gully in a hurry.

And leave good, wide water-ways. Most of the water-ways you've seen are too narrow. Leave them plenty wide.

If you are contouring down a long hog-back, and the rows make a fairly sharp "V," leave a turn-row right down the top of the ridge. Leave it wide enough for a hay loader and rake. You can use it for a turn-row and for a lane.

ALUMINUM AS A BUILDING MATERIAL

Aluminum makes a satisfactory roofing and siding material for farm buildings—if it's properly used.

That's the report of Alvin Dale and Henry Giese, agricultural engineers.

They list these advantages for the light metal: It's long-lasting and requires no paint. It has good insulating qualities—is somewhat cooler in summer than most roofing materials.

But, say the engineers, aluminum may give poor service if not properly installed.

Brace buildings properly from within and use plenty of sheathing under the aluminum — the metal itself hasn't much strength.

Use plenty of nails And be sure they are screw or ring-shank aluminum nails—preferably with synthetic rubber washers. They should be at least an inch and a half long. Bend and nail down over gable ends of roof.

Don't apply aluminum over old roofs or shingles. Start roofing and siding away from prevailing wind, so wind can't get under the laps. Give sheets ample overlap.

Aluminum will corrode through contact with fertilizers, alkalis (including wet concrete), livestock manure and urine, copper and ungalvanized steel.

"Daddy," said an eight-year-old student of a progressive school, Ronald said a very naughty word to the teacher today."

"Is that so?" asked the curious patient. "What did he say?"

"Oh, we aren't encouraged to use such language," she answered, "but if you want to say all the bad words you know, I'll tell you when you come to it."

TEST YOUR I. Q.

Here are some questions about Medicine and Hygiene which you should find fairly easy. Try and answer them all, anyway, before taking a peek at the correct answers printed, upside down, underneath.

1. About how much of the weight of the human body is made up of muscle?
2. How many hours out of the twenty-four does a new-born infant usually sleep?
3. Does the sugar content of the blood: (a) increase; (b) decrease; (c) remain static, under stress of strong emotion?
4. Why does the flow of blood from a wound serve as a disinfectant?
5. What do medical authorities consider the least harmful form of tobacco smoking?
6. Are all babies born with blue eyes?
7. Can poison ivy be spread from one person to another?
8. By what name is pollinosis popularly known?
9. What causes hiccoughs?
10. What is the most prevalent disease of mankind?
11. Who have decidedly superior teeth, Canadians or Asiatics?
12. Which is the longest bone in the body?
13. Is cancer a comparatively modern disease?
14. Does hair grow faster at night than during the day?
15. When blood pressure is low, is the pulse more or less rapid than normal?
16. What causes shock after an accident?
17. At what time of day or night is normal body temperature lowest?
18. Does the pulse remain the same throughout life?
19. Why is the clinical thermometer made oval instead of round?
20. What is the transparent outside coat of the eyeball called?

Answers To Medical Quiz

1. One half.
2. Twenty-two.
3. It increases.
4. Because it washes away germs.
5. Cigarette smoking.
6. No.
7. Yes.
8. Hay fever.
9. Spasmodic contractions of the diaphragm.
10. Dental caries (tooth decay).
11. The teeth of Hindus, Japanese and Chinese are almost without exception superior to those of the average Canadian today.
12. The femur, or thighbone.
13. No, evidences have been found in early Egyptian mummies.
14. No.
15. More rapid, as the pulse increases in order to increase the output of blood.
16. Stagnation of blood in the abdomen so that the brain and heart are under-supplied.
17. During sleep, in the early morning.
18. No, it slows down as age advances.
19. So that it may act as a magnifying glass, thus making it easier to read.
20. The cornea.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. R. Barclay Warren

The Disciplines of Discipleship
Luke 12:16-21; 14:27-22.

Golden Text—And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.—Luke 14:27.

One of the most tragic stories that Jesus ever told is that of the foolish rich man This man thought his soul could be satisfied with things. When he had harvested his bumper crops in bigger barns he would say, "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." But it is not only the rich who are in danger of this misplaced emphasis. It is a common error to slave for the needs and pleasures of this life and forget the soul. The rich man received the death summons in the midst of his planning. How much did he leave? He left it all. The tragedy is that he appeared before God a pauper. He had lived for self and was not rich toward God.

In this day when the number of bankruptcies is increasing it is easy to get the point of the second story in the lesson. We, too, may have stood by the foundation and commented, "This man began to build, and was not able to finish." The main reason for failure in Christ's kingdom is the failure to count the cost and prepare to pay it. It must be an all-out effort. There are no half-hearted disciples "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." The individual who will not give Christ the pre-eminence in his life is left out of the Divine program. Playing with religion and giving God the left-overs is being done by many. But only he who disciplines himself and strives to enter in at the strait gate will find an entry. He who takes the way finds to his pleasure that Christ's yoke is easy and his burden is light.

BUILD WITH STRAW

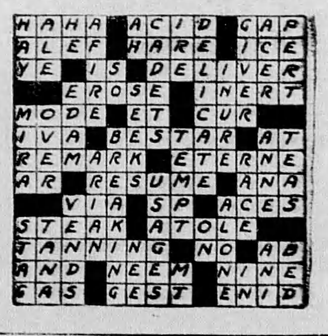
A process for making insulating building boards from wheat straw is announced by the United States Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry. This new product promises to compete with sugar cane bagasse and wood pulp as a raw material for insulating boards. About 40,000,000 tons of wheat straw alone are now burned or wasted every year on American farms. The new method for making straw into building board was developed by Drs. E. C. Lathrop and T. F. Naffziger. Their procedure consists essentially in blending ordinary straw pulp, now used to make strawboard for boxes and packing materials, with a new type of pulp which is inexpensive and which contributes increased strength and other desirable qualities to the finished product.

The nice old lady smiled at the little girl who had been left in charge of the cake shop.

"Don't you sometimes feel tempted to eat one of the cream puffs, my dear?" she said.

The litle girl was quite shocked, "Of course not," she replied. "That would be stealing. I only lick them."

Answer to Crossword Puzzle



PILES Don't suffer any longer. For quick relief—treat painful piles with medicated Dr. Chase's Ointment. Soothes as it heals. A safe home treatment for over 50 years. 33

DR. CHASE'S Antiseptic OINTMENT

DOES INDIGESTION WALLOP YOU BELOW THE BELT?

Help Your Forgotten "28" For The Kind Of Relief That Helps Make You Rarin' To Go

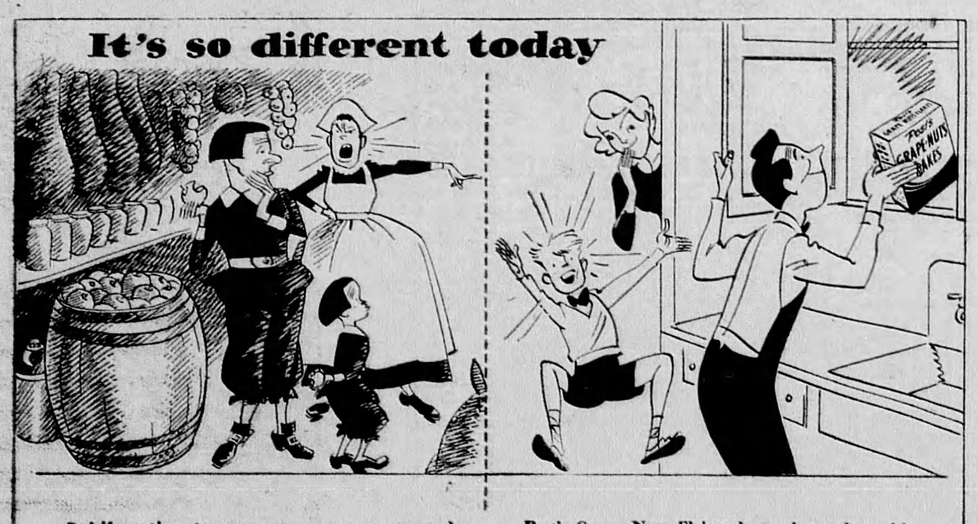
More than half of your digestion is done below the belt—in your 28 feet of bowels. So when indigestion strikes, try something that helps digestion in the stomach AND below the belt.

What you may need is Carter's Little Liver Pills to give needed help to that "forgotten 28 feet" of bowels.

Take one Carter's Little Liver Pill before and one after meals. Take them according to directions. They help wake up a larger flow of the 3 main digestive juices in your stomach AND bowels—help you digest what you have eaten in Nature's own way.

Then most folks get the kind of relief that makes you feel better from your head to your toes. Just be sure you get the genuine Carter's Little Liver Pills from your druggist—35c.

It's so different today



Raiding the store-room was not encouraged in stern pioneer days. But today raids on the pantry for delicious Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes should bring no reproof. You need never run short of this healthful, ready-to-eat, easy-to-digest cereal. It's perfect for the between-meal snack.

Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes have that unbeatable Grape-Nuts flavor in popular, honey-golden flake form. They provide nourishment *everyone* needs — useful quantities of carbohydrates proteins, minerals and other food essentials. So quickly served; so truly *good*. Your grocer has Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes.

GF-159

JITTER By Arthur Pointer