Trees Shudder Under Hurricane—One of the worst-hit cities in the path of the Florida hurricane was West Palm Beach. Above, giant palm trees are whipped by 155-mile winds, as driving rain pours down. Streets were flooded by waters from nearby Lake Worth.

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

by Gwendoline P. Clarke

We have had a wonderful rain—the sort of rain that really soaks into the ground, giving new zest to thirsty plant life. Not only that it fills the cisterns — and how happy that makes most farm women. You will notice I said "most"—because there are some people who don't like cistern water at all and wouldn't use it if they were paid to. They say it is dark, has an objectionable odour, and is liable to make white things a bad colour. To all that I say—"fiddlesticks"! I agree the water often gets a little brownish, and perhaps there are times when it has a somewhat stale odour—if the cistern is cleaned out when necessary it shouldn't be more than that—but the fact of the water being soft more than compensates for the slight disadvantages of colour and smell. With soft water you save on soap; it gets clothes clean in half the time, and it doesn't leave a high-water mark around bathtubs and basins. When our cistern goes dry then the pressure system has to be connected with the well—and how I dread that being done. Hard—that well-water is so hard it almost takes a packet of soap-flakes to wash a few dishes. As for laundry—well, with a hardwater wash I never think the things are clean. Some folk say that with any one of these popular detergents it makes the water so soft it doesn't matter what kind of water you use. It does help, I admit, but I still think that a detergent that does a good job in hard water will do an even better job in soft.

When we were farm-hunting—before settling here—my brother-in-law always used to laugh at me because every place we looked at I wanted to know if there was soft water available. Man-like he couldn't understand my anxiety. But for once I know what I was talking about—my experience out west was too recent for me to forget. Well water out there was even harder than here, especially if there was any alkali in it. We never used it for washing clothes—or ourselves—if we could help it. In winter time we had a big barrel in the corner of the kitchen and Partner would bring in pail after pail of hard-packed snow so that I always had plenty of melted snow for washday and for bathing the babies. It was a lot of work, and it took up so much time, but oh my, there was no other water quite so soft and sweet smelling as that melted snow!

Then came spring, and with the snow all gone, the sloughs would be full, so Partner would put barrels on the stone-boat and bring me water from the slough. It was not quite as nice as melted snow but it was still better than well water. Eventually the summer would come and the sloughs dry up, then, hopefully, we kept barrels and tubs at strategic spots to catch every bit of rain water that we could. Yes, quite early in our experience of farm life we leaned the value of good, soft water.

Since coming to Ontario we have leaned a few more things about water. We have discovered that if you put in a bathroom and want to use soft water you need plenty of it. We thought we had a good big cistern here, but this summer, when we had ten in the house for awhile, the cistern was drained dry inside of ten days! Possibly very few people realize just how much water a bathroom can get away with. We knew—when 500 gallons went down the drain in ten days!

More bathrooms are going into country homes than ever before and very often what to use for water is the first problem. Some people are afraid to depend on rain water in case their supply should run out. Well, I have just explained what a lot of water a bathroom takes—but on the other hand how quickly the cistern fills up even with one good rain. Yesterday, for instance, our cistern was practically dry. This morning we found it full to overflowing. And rain water is so much easier on the pipes. With hard water, you know how lime will collect in a tea-kettle. Imagine what it can do to a hot-water tank. No wonder people put in water-softeners. I guess they are needed all right.

And you know, well water can also give out. A well that has always given sufficient water for household purposes may not have a strong enough spring to keep a bathroom supplied. Such wells have been known to go completely dry—and it is far worse to run out of well water than cistern water. So—a word to the wise. If you are putting in a bathroom, consider first your water supply.

Helpful Hints For Housewives

Measure your new curtains when you hang them, and mark measurements for each window on a card tacked on to your curtain stretcher. Saves measuring soiled curtain before laundering.

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Hang matching hair ribbon and socks with your little girl's dress in the closet. Attach them to the hanger with a spring clothes pin—and save yourself time in that before-school rush.

* * *

Put sand in your flower bowl or vase, push flower stems down into it. Keep sand moist; it makes a good "frog," and keeps vase from tipping.

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Rubber "cap" erasers will fit over the feet of a wire dish drainer and keep it from scratching te drainboard.

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Use coal oil for cleaning your window and door screens. It will do a good cleaning job, and will discourage both rust and mosquitoes.

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Before ironing napkins or hankies, dip about one out of three in hot water, wring out well, and sandwich it in between dry ones. Easier than the sprinkling system, and just as efficient.

* * *

When mending wall paper, tear the patch instead of cutting. Torn edges blend in with the design better than straight edges — your patch will be scarcely noticeable.

* * *

Household wax will help you keep well-groomed. Use buffing wax to put a protective shine on shoes, handbags, leather and metal accessories, and sports equipment. Use self-polishing wax to give old galoshes—your old straw sailor, too—a new lease on life.

* * *

Have you a little hacksaw in your kitchen? It will saw off a broom handle, or the neck of a dressed chicken, or an ugly nail-head that sticks out. It saws wood, iron, bones, leather—almost anything but concrete. When it loses its teeth, all you do is throw away the ruined blade and put in a new one, which will cost you only a few cents at the hardware store.

* * *

Place a card table under the small end of your ironing board. It will keep the large pieces from dragging on the floor.

How To Re-Make That Lawn Of Yours

Autumn is the ideal time to make or remake the lawn. For most of us this lawn-making time extends from the latter part of August to about October 15, with September preferable. Lawn grass is a perennial, and experienced gardeners know that this is the natural season for reseeding perennials.

There are other reasons, however, which make this a good time for lawn work. First of all, the days have become shorter, so that the soil loses moisture less rapidly than earlier in the summer. The soil is warm to a considerable depth, encouraging grass seedlings to take deep root. Weeds are pulled up easily in the fall.

If there is a fair percentage of lawn grass in the law, even though you have crab grass and other weeds, you can probably renovate. If the lawn is badlv infested with weeds, and has extensive unsightly brown or bare spots, however, the best thing to do is to make it over.

Fundamental points on making it over also apply to renovating spots or sections. A good seed bed is the first need of grass plants. The soil should have a root penetration to the depth of up to 8 or 10 inches. There should be good drainage. The soil should be friable, of good texture, should contain plant food. Young grass plants need moisture, like any other young seedlings. Good grass seed is worth the investment.

Here is a six-point program for remaking the lawn area:

1. Spade deeply to a depth of at least six inches and pulverize the soil. Be sure to sift out any small stones and roots. If the soil is sandy add some clay or heavy loam mixing it in well. If the soil is heavy, lighten it with some sand. Or instead of these incorparate well-sifted compost.

2. Apply evenly over the area a complete plant food at the rate of four pounds per 100 square feet, and

3. Work the plant food into the soil with the rake a day or so before seeding.

4. Sow a good grass seed over the area at the rate of four to five pounds per 1,000 square feet. To be sure you sow it evenly, choose a day without wind, and sow it lengthwise and half crosswise over the same area.

5. Roll the entire area if it is a large one. If small, tamp it evenly with a tamper or a wide board. This imbeds the seed in the soil and is important.

6. Water with a fine spray every day until the grass is growing well, then continue to water, soaking not sprinkling, often enough to keep the soil from drying out.

If you are renovating the lawn, your first task it to get rid of the weeds. For this, there are several good weed-killers on the market, which are usually put on with a spray equipment. They kill broad-leafed weeds but not grass. Wait a week or so after applying weed killer before reseeding.

There are also some crab grass chemical controls, but it is safer to experiment with these in a small area before risking the entire lawn. The best method for this No. 1 pest seems still that of hand-pulling, or, as someone has said, the "squat, squint, and stoop method" of liquidation.

Chances are that your lawn needs food. Apply fertilizer — there are good commercial lawn foods on the market — at the rate of four pounds per 100 square feet. Cut your grass short, scatter the fertilizer, rake it down to the roots, and knock it off the grass blades wtih the rake. Do this when the grass is thoroughly dry. Then soak the lawn thoroughly.

A day or two later, go over the lawn, loosening the soil on the thin areas enough to give grass seed a chance to nuzzle into the soil. Reseed the thin areas and tamp them well. Keep watered as for a new lawn.

WRONG BROTHER

Many good stories are told of the famous Mayo Clinic, which has recently been in the news again with a new treatment for rheumatoid arthritis.

One characteristic anecdote is of a wealthy but boorish stranger who walked up to Dr. Will, the elder Mayo brother, in the clinic's lobby, and said: "Tell me, my good man, are you the head doctor here?"

The white-haired doctor bowed. "No, kind sir," he replied. "It must be my good brother you are seeking. I am the belly doctor."

New Gadgets and Inventions You'll Probably Be Seeing

Collapsible Sock Stretchers

Aluminum sock stretchers which collapse at toe for easy insertion are being produced. Tapered ankle conforms to shape of sock, will not stretch elasticized cuff, maker claims. Made of specially alloyed aluminum, rustproof, finished in red "Polyflex" which will not rub off, it is said. Handy hook makes stretcher easy to hang on line. For men's, women's and children's hosiery.

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Gas Wall Heater

Circulating gas-fired heater is designed for wall installation in new or old houses. Heating unit is constructed to fit between two standard centre studs. No special construction necessary. Marker recommends its use wherever space must be conserved and floor furnaces are impractical. Has warm air flow of 8,000 cu. ft. per hour—enough to heat two average rooms. Front panel measures 14 in. wide by 61⅝ in. high. Casing extends into room only 3½ in. Adjustable manual control is standard equipment, automatic control optional.

* * *

Utility Table

Portable utility table offered by manufacturer was especially designed for use by small home owners. Can be used as a dinette table tea wagon, bedside table and bridge table, makers state. Table is 30 x 32 in. open, 16 x 30 in. closed. Has plastic top which comes in a variety of colors; said to be heat-proof, stain-proof and scratch-resistant.

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Auto Ventilation

Increased ventilation throughout lower part of automobile may be obtained by use of small fins attached to front windows of the car. Fins will fit on most makes of cars according to maker.

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Indoor Color Shots. An indoor Koda-color film for the casual cameraman. It can be used with ordinary floodlight or clear flash illumination. No extra filters are necessary for indoor shots with the new film.

* * *

Money Mitt: A pair of gloves with a small, zippered pocket built into the palm of the left-hand glove. The compartment is large enough to carry change, a key, and a few bills. The firm plans to put the pocket into children's mittens this fall.

* * *

Book Pad: Designed for students and others who take notes while reading. It consists of a note pad and a metal base which clamps on the cover of a book. Another clamp is provided to hold either a pen or a pencil.

* * *

Spillproof Shakers: Combined salt and pepper shakers in a metal yoke with spring covers, making it impossible to spill the contents if tipped over. A touch of the finger exposes either shaker.

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Christmas Paper: Balsam-scented Christmas-gift wrapping paper will be introduced this fall.

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No-Glare Television: A "black" television tube with an oxide lens which gives a richer quality to the gray and black portions of the television picture and minimizes glare from the white portions. The company claims that the Glare-Ban "black" tube can be viewed for hours in a lighted room without eye strain.

Make a gay picture book for your tiny tot, out of white or color-fast material, stiffly starched. Cut on the fold, to make double pages. Stitch pages together along centre fold. Paste in colorful pictures from magazines.

* * *

Plant parsley in small pots for your window sill. These pots of green will keep spring in your kitchen all winter, will be an ever-ready garnish for meats; and you can sell the surplus at your annual church bazaar.

* * *

Use alphabet blocks for handles on your child's dresser drawers. "S" and "H" blocks can mark the drawer that holds socks and hankies. Screw blocks on from inside of drawers.

* * *

That extra pastry brush is the handiest tool for washing the egg beater or the electric mixer attachments.

Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. If the bride has a stepfather, should his name be included in the wedding invitations, or just her mother's name?

A. The invitations should include his name, as "Mr. and Mrs. James R. Gray request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Ruth Margaret Smith, etc."

Q. When a large dinner napkin is served, do you open it entirely and spread it out on your lap?

A. No; leave the last fold in before spreading it out on the lap.

Q. In a business office, is it necessary for a man to rise when a woman enters on business?

A. If she is an employee of the same firm, it is not necessary. However, if she is from another firm calling on a business matter, he should rise.

Q. Is it all right to have letter paper and envelopes of different color and thickness?

A. The envelope may be of slightly thicker paper than the letter paper, but the colors should be the same.

Q. May one write an acknowledgment to a formal invitation in the first person?

A. No; as a formal invitation is always in the third person, the answer should be written the same way.

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 make up a larger flow of the 8 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—25¢

ARE *YOU* NERVOUS IRRITABLE, HIGH-STRUNG

because you're going through the menopause?

Are you going through trying 'change of life'? Does this functional disturbance make you suffer from hot flashes, nervous and clammy feelings, weakness and a sense of being irritable and high-strung? Then *do* try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms.

Many wise women take Pinkham's Compound regularly to help build up resistance against this distress. Pinkham's Compound acts on one of woman's most important organs and has such a grand soothing effect.

In addition, this great medicine is a fine stomachic tonic. A real blessing for women who suffer this way.

NOTE: Or you may prefer Lydia E. Pinkham's TABLETS with added iron.

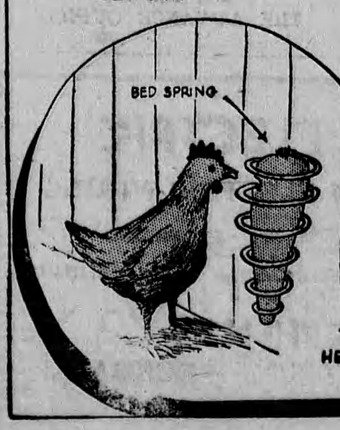
Lydia E. Pinkham's VEGETABLE COMPOUND

HOW TO DO IT

— By Harold Arnett

PADDED THIMBLE

IN CASE YOUR FINGER GETS SORE FROM YOUR THIMBLE WHEN YOU SEW, TRY USING A MUCH LARGER THIMBLE AND PAD IT WITH THIN FELT. THE FELT CAN BE HELD IN PLACE BY MEANS OF RUBBER CEMENT OR ANY OTHER HOUSEHOLD CEMENT.



IF YOU HAVE CHICKENS AND FEED THEM BEETS, CARROTS, ETC., YOU CAN MAKE A DANDY HOLDER FOR THESE VEGETABLES BY FASTENING THE COILS OF AN OLD BEDSPRING TO A WALL OR POST. THIS HELPS TO PREVENT WASTE.

LITTLE REGGIE