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EFFICIENT FARMING

FLIES AND LIVE STOCK

The fly is a destroyer of profits. The annoyance that the various types of fly stock suffer from this cause during the summer period can be defined with fair accuracy and expressed as loss in pounds of milk, pounds of pork or work not done. Animals do not rest from morning until night. The worry is greatest during the period of greatest light and temperature.

The common stable fly, also known as *Stomoxys calcitrans*, resembles the common house fly in size and shape. The stable fly bites much harder, giving quite a sharp sting. It is also a blood sucker and a very persistent tease. The thin skin covering the legs, flanks and abdomen of cattle and horses is the area they attack when they are satisfied with their thirst and hunger. At other times they may rest quietly on the animal's back or on the stable wall. Any person that has to milk cows during the summer period will be well acquainted with the annoyance that these little creatures can create.

And when the stable fly is absent from the house fly and the horn fly, both the cow and the milk have anything but a pleasant time in their endeavor to be at least half efficient in milk production. The stable fly breeds principally in decaying refuse, manure, rotting straw, horse droppings that are too frequently found quite close to the farm buildings during the summer period when it is possible to keep them at a distance.

To prevent the stable fly from annoying the animals, providing darkness about the stable, check or other shelter in which the animals can retreat, is a good practice. Spraying or brushing the animals over with liquid fly repellent is also advised. There is no repellent of very enduring efficiency, but a number of such are commonly used and are worth while even if their effect is so short as to require daily or twice a day application. This may seem a lot of work, but a man with an auto spray holding two gallons of liquid can go over a line of twenty cows in five minutes. A successful preparation that can be used as a spray is made by mixing the following:

Three lbs. laundry soap, 4 1/2 quarts coal tar, 4 quarts fish oil, 1 1/2 quarts oil of tar, Dissolve the laundry soap in water and then add the other ingredients and more water to make 30 gallons of spray.

Poisons and traps are sometimes used and can be made very efficient when used in conjunction with ordinary intelligence and common sense. Formaldehyde is one of the best poisons to use in fly destruction. The 30 quarts of formaldehyde with 30 quarts of water and a half quart of kerosene can be used in a window where the flies congregate. In stables, oil can be used in the same way. Fly traps, made of wire and glass, and placed in the stable, will catch the flies. They can be used in the stable, and when full they can be thrown away. They should be changed daily. Fly traps, made of wire and glass, and placed in the stable, will catch the flies. They can be used in the stable, and when full they can be thrown away. They should be changed daily.

HEART DISEASE AT FIFTY

We think of heart disease as a terrible handicap, and should a doctor pronounce such a diagnosis as applicable to one of us it would come as a stunning blow to the end of everything. If we realized how few persons of middle age are wholly free from some form of heart disease, perhaps we should be less fearful of it, and perhaps, on the other hand, we should treat it with more respect even though with less dread.

I venture the statement that any group of a dozen people rounding fifty years of age, country or city folks, but a little better odds on the country group, will show nine defective hearts if critically examined. Out of the nine possibly five will live to a good age without realizing that there is any impairment of their most important organ, two will discover their defect but not suffer seriously from it, and two will die of some form of disease of the heart.

A goodly share of heart complaints are the direct result of neglecting common points of infection such as abscesses of the teeth or diseased tonsils. It has not yet been absolutely demonstrated wherein lies the avenue of connection between these apparently inconsequential ailments and a heart but its existence is beyond a doubt.

The first thought of a good doctor, who would treat heart disease, is that we may respect our own state that we may respect our own limitations. It is not a question of heart disease that is not of necessity a death verdict. The disease is common in general and is to be warned of. It is better to be warned of it, keep ourselves in good physical condition in the hard, grueling days of youth, take time to get well before returning hard work after illness, and, in general, show consideration of the wonderful machine that is our body, we need have little fear that our hearts will fail us in our prime.—Dr. C. H. Lerrigo.

Royal Wireless.

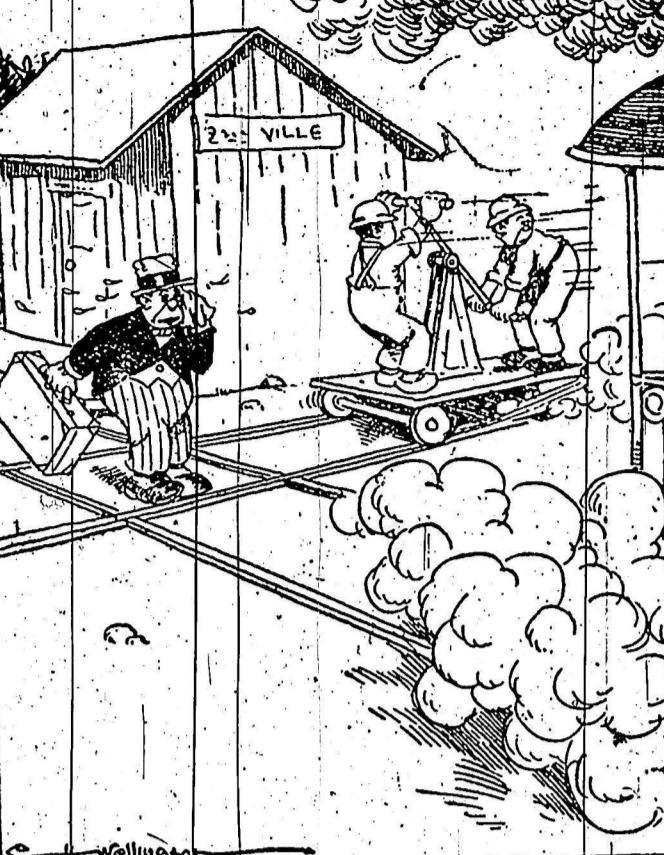
A wireless set, especially designed for the King by the Chief Engineer of the British Broadcasting Company, was recently installed in Buckingham Palace.

This set has some novel features. For instance, the aerial and earth are formed by copper-plating, let into the top part of the cabinet and into the lower part close to the floor. There is thus no need to make any external connections at all.

The set, which works a local speaker, has two high-frequency valves, one detecting and three resistance capacity not/magnifiers. The doors are of open-work construction, filled in with semi-transparent silk panels of Royal purple.

Corn meal spoils more readily than flour and for most families it is best to buy in small quantities.

—AND THE WORST IS YET TO COME



If I Had a Garden.

If I had a garden, Apple-trees would blossom there. Lavender would grow there. There would be sweet william, Ranunculus, and pansies. There would be snapdragons; O, such a show there! Heads down, busily, Yellow lilies would sprout there. If I had a garden, Blythyn would wander there. There would be wall-flowers. Scrambling up the wall; Warm to the sunshine; Golden in the sunshine, Warm, haggard clumps of it. Chingling low wall, Straight and tall, Standing up bravely Backs to the wall— Red and yellow heads against the old gray wall. Voluct banners to hold to your breast, And you would be alone there, Quietly alone there. Along with the bees and the flowers and the sunshine. Alone, and at rest. A. M. Ilna.

He is very blind that cannot see the sun. Among the terrors of the sea is the whipl-ray; this fish is armed with an ivory dagger, about ten inches long, in its tail. When attacked, the fish flashes its tail round, inflicting deadly wounds with its dagger.

VALUE OF INTROSPECTION

It gives one a very exalted feeling to stand on a pedestal, aloof from the crowd; telling it what to do and how to do it. It makes one feel as though one could command the world and to command with oneself, that is a different matter. There we meet our self-proposition on the level and our own consolation on the level. It is a personal feeling of great proportion. I feel very humble.

Most of us dislike this humble feeling, so we do not often have this quiet outside conference. So, we go along holding on to a false pride which permits us to keep half-baked notions that we are all O.K. but that drought spoiled the crop, the worms ruined our fruit, the pig was a pest, anyhow, or, in some cases, if we are in the unsatisfactory results we attained.

If we would but get into a quiet place at frequent intervals to have a conference with ourselves and seek answers to pertinent personal questions, it would, without doubt, be a most profitable thing to do. We may ask such questions as: Am I unjustified in my consideration of the latest finding in agricultural work; am I doing justice to my land in tillage and fertilization; am I doing my best to do the fall and spring work; am I endeavoring to eliminate prejudices which hinder my progress and my happiness of myself and family?

If we will but conscientiously ask ourselves such questions, we may find answers which may broaden our view of life, materially change our agricultural practices, and add considerably to our happiness. To often we obstruct our own roads to a greater and more happy life.

Caring for Furnace Smoke Pipes.

Furnace smoke pipes are ruined in summer, not in winter. I will illustrate: A few years ago I had a 10-inch smoke pipe badly corroded, with several holes through it, and many spots which I could push in with my thumb. The elbow joints were strong enough to hold it together, so I wired asbestos paper around it and set it to work. Then I ordered a new pipe. This new one was in my dry cellar all winter, for the old asbestos-covered pipe did its work well through the whole season. That set me thinking. I recalled that though I had beaten my pipe clean every spring, it would always be dripping in the fall. It was kept in a dry shed, so I tried to change a par-muno. It did not change a par-muno. However, I carefully packed a pipe in knotted or benten to clean it, it retains a coating of hygroscopic matter, whether you have burned coal or wood. This absorbs water from the damp summer air and forms a corrosive liquid which puts into the pipe as we learn to our cost.

To take proper care of a furnace smoke pipe, therefore, one should scrub it out very thoroughly. My pipe has lasted me for years and is still almost perfect condition.—E. B. M. (Hobart) in *Practical Housewifery*, p. 146.

According to Premier Bracken, Kings 12:25-30. He charges the people with the farmers of Manitoba less than \$20,000,000 annually.

The Sunday School Lesson

MAY 4

The Assyrian Exile of Israel, 2 Kings, Chaps. 11 to 17. Golden Text—I will delight myself in his statutes: I will not forget thy word.—Psalm 119: 16.

The kingdom of Israel, founded by Jeroboam I, after the death of Solomon and the revolt against his son, continued for a little more than two hundred years from about B.C. 934 to 721, and then fell before the Assyrian king, Sargon II.

The story of the kingdom as told in the First and Second Books of Kings, is a painful one. Of nineteen kings, no less than ten died violent deaths. There were repeated conspiracies and bloody revolutions. Only in one case did a king reign who had four successors of his own line. Jeroboam II, the last of the kings of Israel, died in an Assyrian prison.

Yet this land of Israel might have been prosperous and happy if it had been well and wisely ruled. There was, indeed, one period of about forty years in the early part of the eighth century, in which there was comparative peace and prosperity. The hundred years of petty warfare with Syria and the ambitious and growing empire of Assyria. It was at that time that Amos could speak of Israel as "chief of the nations," and describe the luxurious living of the people of Samaria, ch. 6:1-8. And Hosea, a little later, wrote of Israel as "planted in pleasant places," a luxuriant vine which put forth his fruit, saying, "Surely I am become rich, I have found me wealth." The lands of the kingdom of Judah were limited in extent and poor, but Israel had the populous and fertile valley of Jezreel, the well-watered hills of Ephraim and the fertile Jordan valley. Moreover, Israel was on the great highway of overland travel, and had opportunities of high profits. Trade fairs were held in Jerusalem and Beth-shean.

In spite of periods of prosperity and golden opportunities of wealth and power, and in spite of the fact that the kings of Israel were, for the most part, good men, the kingdom of Israel became more and more corrupt. The princes, especially those who were violent and robbery in their palaces, "oppressed the poor" and "crushed the needy," their very worship at Jehovah's altars is a transgression, and though repeatedly warned by calamities which God has sent upon them, the people have not repented. Their priests, Hosea says, are robbers, and the people are without truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

A period of civil war, about or shortly after B.C. 740, opened the way to the entrance of Assyrian influence. Israel became tributary to that greedy and ambitious empire, and finally fell before its power. The Assyrian king, Sargon II, captured the kingdom in an expedition in B.C. 721. The seventeenth chapter of 2 Kings, from which this lesson is taken, contains a long account of the fall of the kingdom. The people were not loyal to Jehovah; "they feared other gods," "they imitated the practices of other nations," and "they had been secretly worshipped, and the unclean rites of such worship were introduced at the high places originally sacred to Jehovah." So perverted had these high places become that the new high places were built in the remotest border villages, with its towers, as well as in the walled cities, they set up their stone pillars and their wooden posts, carved or painted with idolatrous symbols. The Asherim seen in the original sacred trees, but where such were lacking, wooden posts or poles were probably substituted (see 1 Kings 16; 2 Kings 17:10).

Yet the Lord testified faithful testimony against these evils, at least such of the prophets as were true to their mission. They had been preachers of righteousness and teachers of the law. It is now very commonly believed that the Book of Deuteronomy is a prophetic new edition of the ancient law written for the instruction of the people, and containing also such exhortations to its observance as tradition ascribed to Moses. It will illustrate to us very clearly the kind of teaching given in this age by Jehovah's true prophets, and will prove to us the great influence which that teaching has upon the minds of at least some of the people, though it was disregarded by many.

Vs. 15-18. This "covenant" made with the fathers is often recalled by the historians and prophets. See Gen. chs. 15 and 17, and Exod. ch. 24. In that covenant the fathers of Israel had bound themselves solemnly to keep the law of their God. The disobedience of their children of this later age was a breaking of the covenant bond. For the fathers had substituted empty and worthless things, "they followed vanity, and became idols." Alas, the people of this age have in mind the images of Jehovah which Jeroboam had made and had set up in Bethel and in Dan, 1 Kings 12:25-30. He charges the people with the farmers of Manitoba less than \$20,000,000 annually.

THE PERENNIAL PHLOX

The phlox is one of the most satisfactory hardy perennials, as the plants multiply rapidly, bloom freely, and make a great display in the border.

To get the best results they should have an abundant supply of moisture and a damp situation should be chosen for them when possible. Their greatest insect is a tiny insect called the red spider, which, however, is not very troublesome except in dry seasons. Where the red spiders are abundant the leaves become yellowish where they are working, and their presence may be known by their light-green patches. As they are feeding on the under side of the leaves any spray which is used must be applied there. To do this effectively, one person should hold back the foliage with a stick or rake handle and another do the spraying. Cold water frequently and forcibly applied will be most effective and any of the contact sprays such as nicotine sulphate, whale oil soap, or kerosene emulsion, will control it if used frequently. A little flowers of sulphur mixed with these will make them more effective.

The cultivation of the phlox is a very simple matter. Soil that will produce good garden crops of any kind is quite suitable for phlox. The plant multiplies by an increase in the size of the plant, which may be divided into even smaller portions which may be used for starting new plants. There are obtainable either from a nursery, or from the nursery, or as horticultural society premiums, and may be planted in either early spring or in the fall.

The phlox is well suited for a perennial border and as it grows from three to six feet tall it is a very effective plant. From 18 to 24 inches apart in the border, according to the space to be given to the other varieties of perennials, is a suitable distance. The colors, although varying from white through many shades to red, do not clash in the border, particularly when set at the widest distance. It is a mistake to allow the phlox to remain in the same spot for many years. About once in three years they should be divided and the center portion discarded. By this means the quality of the bloom is kept up and stock is increased for planting out to friends.

There are many good varieties of perennial phlox, but in the following list we may find some of the best.

Antonin Meric—Bright violet suffused with white; large white center.

Consul H. Trout—Pure red with French purple center.

Belaire—Bright rose magenta shading lighter. One of the earliest.

Elizabeth Campbell—Salmon pink shading lighter. A very pleasing color.

Nature's Method of Hatching.

In hatching eggs by the natural method, it is a good plan to start several hens at once. This is because the hens are naturally lighter broods, but with Plymouth Rocks and other heavy sorts it is generally not difficult to find three or four hens wanting to sit. On the seventh or eighth day after setting, the eggs should be tested by holding them before a light. The infertile eggs can be detected by their showing a uniform lightness, whereas the fertile eggs show a dark spot with a cloudy portion around it. If enough fertile eggs are found, it may be possible to discard one of the sitters and give all the eggs to the remaining hens. It is a good practice to do the testing properly. If one does not possess a regular lamp or electric light tester, the testing can be done by holding an egg at a time at the end of a tube made by rolling a piece of paper and placing the egg against the lighted lamp after dark. Exhibition Circular No. 2 of the Experimental Farms, obtainable from the Publications Branch of the Dept. of Agriculture at Ottawa, says that it is a good plan, when learning to test eggs, to crack an egg lightly to see which is laster. The loss of a few eggs by this plan may prove a gain in the end.

Potato Sets.

The average of five years' results in testing potato sets of different sizes at the Ontario Agricultural College show that the size of the piece of potato planted has a very marked result on the yield produced. There was an increase in the yield of potatoes per acre as the size of the potato sets increased in weight. Planting two ounce in combination with bushels of seed potatoes was required, and an additional yield of 25.5 bushels of potatoes were harvested.

The loss of little pigs will mean the loss of big profits.

For Home and Country

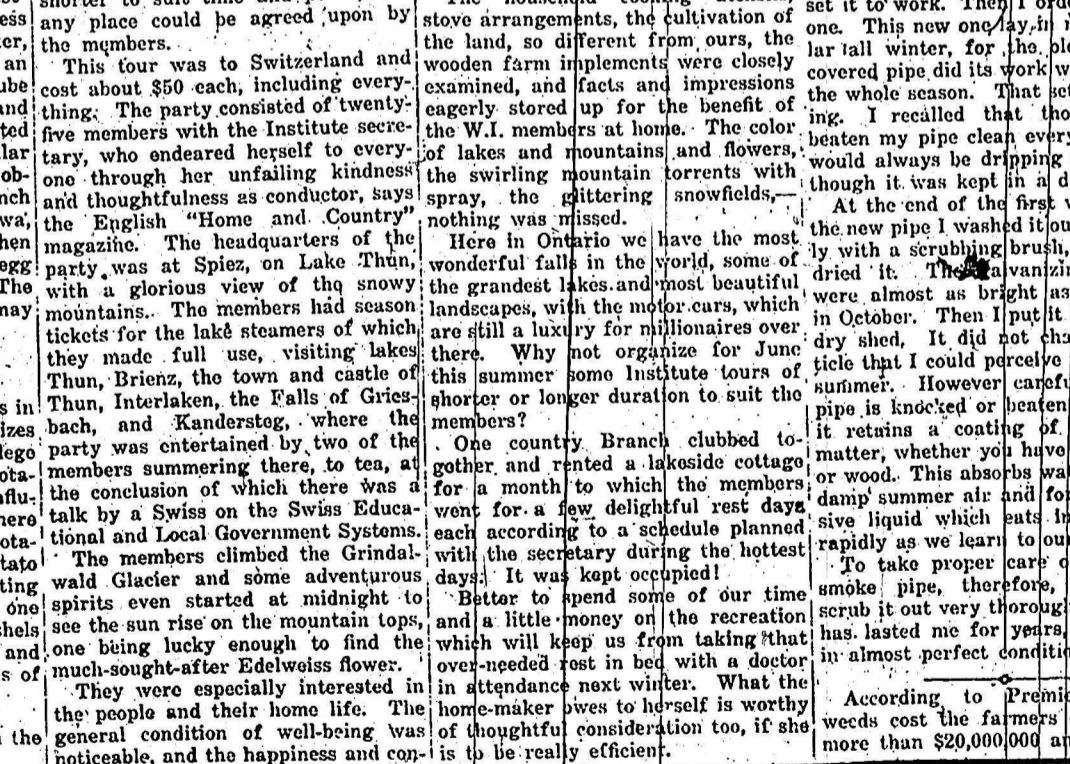
When and How Are You Going to Recreate Yourself?

BY GIBSON SCOTT.

The English Women's Institutes might be augmented something which might prove adaptable in some degree to Canadian Institutes. It was a W.I. Summer Tour two weeks, though, shorter to suit time and purse, and any place could be agreed upon by the members.

This tour was to Switzerland and cost about \$50 each, including everything. The party consisted of twenty-five members with the Institute secretary, who endeavored herself to everyone through her unfeeling kindness and thoughtfulness as conductor, says the English "Home and Country" magazine. The headquarters of the party was at Spiez, on Lake Thun, with a glorious view of the snow-capped mountains. The members had season tickets for the lake steamers of which they made full use, visiting lakes Thun, Brienz, the town and castle of Interlaken, the Falls of Griesbach, and Kandersteg, where the party was entering there, to tea, at the conclusion of which there was a talk by a Swiss on the Swiss Education and Local Government Systems. The members climbed the Grindwald Glacier and some adventurous spirits even started at midnight to see the sun rise on the mountain tops, one being lucky enough to find the much-sought-after Edelweiss flower. They were especially interested in the people and their home life. The general condition of well-being, of thoughtfulness and consideration, too, is noticeable, and the happiness and content to be really efficient.

IN RABBITBORO



THE REASON.

"How is it, Bridget, I saw your young man in my last night?"

"I thought ye was the reason."

The Youth Test.

Year back needs washing, and it is in the glass this time. He seemed all right last night.

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