THE ROSE BUSH AND THE GRUB WORM

BY FRANCES A. SHAW.

One warm spring day, when the violets and crocuses were in bloom, and the roses and snowballs and lilacs had budden, a grub-worm crept up to a white rose-bush that gave promise of many blossoms, saying:

"I am all alone in the world—I want a friend. May I not come and live with you?"

The rose-bud gazed down on the grub-worm, and thought:

"Oh, what a hideous little monster!"

But the poor thing looked so sad and lone[illegible] that she pitied him and said:

"Yes, you can stay with me as long as you please."

So the grub-worm made his home with the rose-bush.

They soon became great friends. The rose-bush told the grub-worm pract[illegible] stories of her past life—of lawless [illegible] and that had plucked her blossoms, [illegible] of driving rains that had beaten her [illegible] the earth, of untimely frosts that had smitten her and thrown a blight over her budding loveliness.

She had also pleasant things to tell, of [illegible] bright with sunbeams, or gemmed with stars, that had smiled upon her when the storm was past; of [illegible] dews that had glittered on her [illegible] of fountains that, on warm summer days, had shed their cooling spray around her; of fairy forms that had flitted amid her branches, or found a home in their fragrant petals; of people and little ones who had admired and loved her.

The grub-worm had also many tales to tell of his brief, eventful life—of the strange things that had happened to him in his journey to her side; of neglect and hardship; of narrow escapes from death.

He had pleasant stories also, of lovely mossy banks and blooming flower gardens he had seen in his travels; of the sweet, juicy leaves he had feasted; of the gay beetles and gorgeous butterflies he had met.

"On day after he had lived a week near the rose-bush, she said to him:

"How could I ever think you ugly? You are handsomer to me than the golden beetle or the sparkling glow-worm. They are proud and vain; you are humble and good."

"Friendship blinds your eyes," replied the grub-worm. "Everybody calls me ugly."

"What does that matter to me?" said the rose. "If the heart is good and true, it makes the plainest form seem beautiful. And those we love are never ugly to us."

So the rose-bush and the grub-worm lived on happily the whole summer long. At last the autumn rains began to beat upon the rose-bush. Her blossoms had long since faded; now her leaves began to fall. She shivered in the blast, and was very sad, for none now paused to admire her beauty or inhale the fragrance that had fled with her faded blossoms.

The grub-worm, too, grew very languid.

"I must crawl away somewhere and sleep," he said to the rose-bush. "When I awake, I will come back to you."

Days and weeks passed, but he still slept on. When all the leaves of the rose-bush had fallen beneath the autumn frosts, and she stood in the place of her former pride, all bare and desolate, the gentle angel of slumber came and kissed her with pitying lips.

"Sleep until spring," said the angel, "and then you shall waken to a new and beautiful life."

Winter came and shrouded the earth in a white mantle, that hid the rose-bush quite from sight. But she, wrapped in blissful dreams of by-gone days, had shed her cooling spray around her, of fairy forms that sunbeams, heeded not the frost and snows around her.

When spring at length awoke her, she felt new life in every budding leaf, and June found her more beautiful and radiant than ever.

Her old friend, the grub-worm, came back to her, but she did not know him; he had changed into a butterfly, with rainbow hues and golden wings. The world was before him; he could choose any dwelling place he pleased, but he found none so dear as his old home with the rose-bush.

While she was chained to the sod, he could soar far away into the blue ether, and explore both earth and sky. No matter where he went, he was sure to return to his old friend gladly, as the bird flies back to its nest, bringing her many delightful stories of far-away places she could never see, and always ready at her bidding to go forth in quest of new adventures, with which to entertain and delight her.

So the rose-tree, who had been the friend of the poor chrysalis, shared the glory and happiness of the proud and gorgeous butterfly.

HOME VALETING

One of the secrets of keeping clothes in good condition is, of course, to see that they are well looked after. Dresses should be brushed and, if necessary, sponged each time they are taken off before putting them away. Proper hangers ought to be used for both coats and skirts, ones which do not pull the costume out of shape. Special plated wire hangers can be bought with rubber ends, which take up no more room in a cupboard than hanging the skirts up by loops.

It is a great mistake to use cheap clothes brushes. A fairly hard brush is best, with rather short bristles, which must be of animal origin. Remember that a clothes brush requires occasional washing.

In brushing, always note which way the nap runs, and brush in that direction, or the cloth will become roughened. Velvet should never be brushed. A small velvet pad must must be kept for any pile cloth.

FOR DIFFERENT FABRICS.

Men's clothes especially need a great deal of valeting to keep them fresh and spry. Soft felt hats ought to be occasionally beaten with a small cane, and then rubbed over with gasoline. A black boyler which has become slightly greasy can be freshened by rubbing over it the moresk spot of salad oil, being careful to use a piece of cloth which has no fluff. After it has been well rubbed over with the oil, take a clean piece of linen and rub it hard with a little ammonia.

Black materials, such as sorge or cloth, can be revived by sponging with blue water, and black silk will look almost like new if wiped over with a rag dipped in weak sugar and water.

MANY RAGS.

Gloves are very simple to clean, and yet many housewives seem to find difficulty in getting good results. The great secret in glove-cleaning is to have plenty of fresh cloths and to have a pair of wooden hands. These are quite cheap and can be purchased in any of the large stores. Light-colored gloves should be cleaned with benzine, and if they are very dirty, they can be immersed in a small basin of gasoline and washed like ordinary cotton gloves. Wash gloves made of chamois or doeskin require warm water and dissolved soap, and some of the soap should be left in the skin after washing, otherwise the gloves will be hard when dry. The best plan is to have a little soap in the last rinsing water.

Morocco bags, shoes, purses and other leather wear can be sponged with warm, soapy water and then rubbed with salad oil. The oil helps to nourish the leather as well as to clean it.

Plenty of rags is the secret of most cleaning. Continue rubbing until the rag remains clean when rubbed over the object.

Spuds in His Corn.

My neighbor plants the last four rows of spaces at each end of his cornfield of potatoes.

Turning the teams on potatoes doesn't hurt them. He has a good stand of corn, and also good potatoes.

The plan saves him considerable hard cutting when the time comes for the corn binder.—C. A. R.

How Oranges Help.

Oranges have many claims made for them, including those of improving the complexion, easing sore throats, soothing the nerves, helping to cure insomnia and curing insomnia.

Lough Bray.

A little lonely moorland lake,
Its waters brown and cool and deep—
The cliffs the hills behind it make
A picture for my heart to keep.

For rock and heather, wave and stand,
Wore tints I never saw them wear;
The June sunshine was o'er the land,
Before 'twas never half so fair.

The amber ripples sang all day,
And singing spilled their crowns of white
Upon the beach, in thin pale spray,
That streaked the sober strand with light.

The amber ripples sang their song,
When suddenly from far o'erhead
A lark's pure voice mixed with the throng
Of lovely things about us spread.

Some flowers were there, so near the brink
Their shadows in the wave were thrown;
White mosses, green and grey and pink,
Grew thickly round each smooth dark stone.

Rose Kavanagh.

Apples Are Best.

Two fond beliefs have been dispelled by a statement made by a doctor in a recent lecture.

We used to believe that the only way to preserve a child's teeth was to encourage it to use a toothbrush vigorously. Some of us also imagined that, while apples were good for the health, it was unwise to eat them last thing at night.

Now, however, this doctor tells us that a piece of apple after each meal and at night is better than any toothbrush. It will certainly be more popular in the nursery. But the doctor's further advice—that children between five and ten should visit the dentist once every three months—may not commend itself quite so much to the kiddies.

Invented Steel Pens.

The name of Joseph Gillott will always be remembered because he substituted the steel pen for the quill. He was an English watchmaker and jeweler, and one day accidentally split one of the fine steel instruments he used in his work. Just as he was called upon to affix his signature to a document. No quill being at hand, he took up his spoilt tool and, scarcely expecting it would be a substitute of any use, began writing his name with it.

To his surprise he succeeded admirably. He found the fine split steel more efficient than the pens to which he had been accustomed. Quick to see the possibilities of this accidental discovery, he began to manufacture steel pens. He amassed a fortune by doing so.

Water Runs Downhill.

I've saved a lot of money and a bad mistake in tiling fields by hiring a surveyor first. He can tell where the "fall" is to a farm. Your eye can't on flat land.

My bill was $1.50. Stack that up against laying 60 rods of tile the wrong way.—H. B.

Garlic flavor in milk comes from pasturing cows on wild garlic. There is no satisfactory method for removing this flavor from cream or milk. By taking the cows from pasture for several hours before milking time the flavor can be reduced. The same goes for grass flavor.

Surplus Honey Sold at Home.

Some folks do not think of honey as delicious until their attention is called to it. A Southern Illinois bee-keeper had surplus honey, both strained and comb, and he made the remark to me that he would almost give it away to get rid of it. I thought it over and gave him several suggestions. One of these he took up and to-day he hasn't enough honey to supply the demand.

He went to the home of the presidents of the building fund of one of the churches of his town and suggested a honey social. She in turn talked to her committees and they, too, agreed that a honey social would be a splendid money-maker for the church. Of course, they planned a bazaar with this. They sold honey sandwiches, honey cakes, honey cookies, honey candy, and honey in jars and fancy boxes.

Naturally, these women had to buy honey to make up their recipes. The bee-man furnished the recipes and also sold a number of these mimeographed recipes at the bazaar. The church women did the mimeographing and put the sheets together with clips and sold each bunch for a dime. When people liked some of the delicacies sold, they were told they could make them, and that sold the recipes, and the recipes called for honey. Not a bad merchandizing idea, was it?

The hot biscuits and honey also made a hit with the patrons. As a hint to other folks who might wish to try this stunt, I might add that the bee-man persuaded a certain well-known flour-mill owner to furnish the flour free to advertise his product, thereby securing a good advertisement for himself and yet saving the church women a great deal of money. The local dairyman furnished the cream and milk, while the baking-powders were donated by the local grocer.

If the bee-man is a good talker, he might ask, the president of some women's club in his town to let him explain bee-raising, or give a talk on the bee industry, or the uses of honey as a substitute for sugar, or he might tell some men's organization about the use of honey in radiators of motor cars in cold weather. That is a sure way of creating a demand—telling them about honey and bees.—L. B. L.

The "Made-On" Curtain Valance.

With the coming of springtime, one begins to think of cool, fresh curtains for bedrooms. Because one has single curtain rods in these windows, one may think the valance, so popular just now, is impossible without an extra expenditure for double rods. But this is not so. One can have a "made-on" valance which is just about as pretty and much easier to fashion and launder.

Make the curtains of swiss or any other sheer material about 14 inches longer than the ordinary length, and turn the heading down at the top on the outside instead of the inside, leaving the surplus free. Stitch the casing as usual. Then fold in half lengthwise the end of the surplus portion, and cut two half-scallops, so that when it is opened out there is one large scallop in the centre and one half-scallop on each side. Treat all the curtains in like manner, being careful to make the scallops the same length. Then when the curtains are hung together there will be a scallop in the centre. Hem those scalloped edges and finish them with colored voile or organdy frills.

Curtains so made and provided with frilled tie-backs to match the frill of the valance are very effective and pretty.

Everlasting Flowers.

Many of our homes are much barer of flowers than they need be during the winter months. With a little forethought and a bit of ground one can have bloom during the whole twelve months. Until one has learned to grow one's own fresh flowers from bulbs planted in the autumn, bright bouquets can be had by the use of everlasting flowers sometimes termed "strawflowers," of which there are many varieties. In a new bulletin on "Annual Flowers," recently issued by the Horticultural Division of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, the Helichrysum bracteatum in its many varieties is said to be the best of all everlasting flowers. They are described by Miss Isabella Preston, the author of the bulletin, as rather coarse looking plants in the garden, growing about three feet in height. They are grown from seed like other annuals and cultivated similarly during the summer months. For winter bouquets Miss Preston recommends cutting the flowers when half open, tying them up in small bunches which are hung head downwards in a dry place. The large flowering types are said to be the best, these including in colors white, yellow, pale pink, bright red and deep maroon.

More dainty kinds of everlasting flowers are found in varieties of Helipterum manglesi. These come in both single and double form and in different shades.

A Good Fireless Cooker.

If the kitchen range is not used in summer and the kitchen is crowded, with but little floor space, the water reservoir can be used for a fireless cooker.

Select an empty lard-pail of good size, with a tight cover, and set the pail in the middle of the reservoir. Pack excelsior firmly under and around the pail until it is level with the top, pressing it down as tightly as possible. Then take out the pail and line the space in which it fits with muslin. Bring the muslin up and over the top of the excelsior so it can be kept neat and clean. Make a cushion of excelsior to lay over the top of the pail and the padding; the cushion should be three inches thick. The metal lid of the reservoir will cover the cushion.

This cooker takes up no room in the kitchen and is at a desirable height for use, requiring no stooping. The cooker will do no harm to the reservoir and when winter comes it can be taken out and the reservoir again be used for heating water.

GREAT INTEREST CENTRES IN THE POPULAR JUMPER COSTUME.

An attractive variation of the two-piece frock, with the jumper blouse developed in tub silk, after the manner of Paton. Note the cravat collar outlining the V neck; and, by the way, these cravats are much smarter than the scarf treatment. A sleeve extension is joined to the kimono shoulders, and gathered into narrow wrist-bands. The skirt, which is fastened on a body lining, reveals a group of plaits at the centre front. The overblouse, No. 1049, is in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust. Size 36 requires 2 yards 36-inch striped material, and ½ yard contrasting for collar. The skirt, No. 1194, is in sizes 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist. Size 38 waist requires 1¾ yards 36-inch, with ⅞ yard lining for bodice top. Price 20 cents each pattern.

The garments illustrated in our new Fashion Book are advance styles for the home dressmaker, and the woman or girl who desires to wear garments dependable for taste, simplicity and economy will find her desires fulfilled in our patterns. Price of the book 10 cents the copy.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; if carefully) for each number, and address your order to Pattern Dept., Wilson Publishing Co., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Patterns sent by return mail.

I Sell by Phone.

I find it a bad mistake to load five bushels of apples in the car, take them to town and then try to sell them.

If I sit down at the phone and call the markets up first I get all the prices and they don't know whether I'll bring them or not. I've had offers of $1 a bushel and $1.50 a bushel for the same fruit on the same day.

Most of us hate to refuse an offer at the market because we don't know whether the next place we visit will pay as much. Phoning first eliminates this.—E. R.

Protect the Bird-House.

Even though your bird-house is set at the top of a pole, some cats will reach it. Clever, bird-destroying cats will climb the pole, get a secure footing at the house, then reach a clawed paw through the hole and remove the young birds.

To prevent a cat climbing the pole, set a pan on it, upside down. Make two cuts through the bottom of pan in the form of a cross and bend the corners down. Place this over the pole and fasten with tacks through the tin corners.

A ● of paint will prevent the pan from rusting and also make it look better.—D. R. V. H.

Most men think that if they were engineers they would never run past a signal. One man who thought this way fell down through a trap-door in his barn and hurt himself terribly, just because he had forgotten to let the door down when he last used the hay-chute. A pretty safe way is to make a list of all the little things that ought to be done before going to the house for the night. Better to take a bit of time to do this than to break a leg or a collar-bone.

S.S. LESSON

May 16. Abraham and the Strangers, Gen. 18: 1-8, 16-19. Golden Text—All the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him.—Gen. 18: 18.

ANALYSIS.

I. VISIT OF THE ANGELS, 1-8.

II. GOD TALKS WITH ABRAHAM, 16-19.

INTRODUCTION—Two stories are told of the making of a covenant bond between Abram, whose name is now changed to Abraham, and his God, the one in chap. 15, and the other in chap. 17.

Ch. 16 tells the story of the Egyptian handmaid, Hagar, and the birth of her son, Ishmael, who is described (25:12-18), as the ancestor of Arabian tribes in the regions east and south of Palestine.

I. VISIT OF THE ANGELS, 1-8.

By the oaks of Mamre. The trees referred to were more probably terebinths, or turpentine trees. Where these trees are allowed to have their full growth they attain a height of thirty to forty feet, with thick and dark foliage which offers a grateful shade in the hot summer days. There, near Hebron, Abraham had pitched his tent, and had built an altar for worship, 13:18. Here, the Lord appeared to him, but he did not at first recognize his heavenly visitor.

He looked and lo, three men. He had not seen them approach, but though surprised, he ran to offer them the ready and generous hospitality of the East. His bowing low before them was by way of courteous salutation. The very ancient Samaritan Hebrew text has probably preserved the true reading in verse 3, "My lords, if now I have found favor in your sight, pass not away, I pray you, from your servant." If, however, the rendering *My lord* is correct, he must have recognized one of the three as superior in rank or dignity to the others, and so addressed himself to him.

"Abraham's offer of hospitable welcome is said to be a faithful representation of the reception of a traveler by an Eastern Sheik (or chieftain). Here we have its various aspects of (1) the courteous greeting; (2) the feet washing; (3) the repast and personal attendance by the host; (4) the escort on the road at departure" (Ryle). Where sandals, not shoes, were worn, the washing of the feet was necessary both for cleanliness and comfort. Then seated on the ground under the tree the guests were ready to partake of the food, which was offered them. (The invitation of the host, *Comfort ye your heart*, was an invitation to refresh and strengthen themselves with the food (compare Judges 19: 5, 8 and Ps. 104: 15).

Forasmuch as ye have come. Abraham means to say, "Since you have done me the honor to come to me."

The *Three Measures* would be about a bushel and represented quite a large baking. Meat was rarely eaten by the nomadic tent-dwellers, and the killing of a calf was meant to do special honor to the guests. The *butter* was milk-curds, the milk, the fresh milk of sheep or goats. The cakes were baked on flat stones either in a clay oven, or in the hot ashes of the fireplace. And thus, with bountiful hospitality, Abraham and Sarah "entertained angels unawares." Sarah, of course, with true Oriental modesty, did not show herself to the guests, but was listening in the tent door to all that was said. And so she heard the promise of a son in her old age, and laughed (compare 17:6). And this is told to explain the name Isaac, which in Hebrew means "He laughs."

II. GOD TALKS WITH ABRAHAM, 16-19.

Now it appears to Abraham that through the lips of one of these strange guests the Lord is speaking to him. Strange as the promise is, there is with it the assuring question, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Compare Jeremiah, 32:17.

Shall I hide from Abraham that which I do? He proposes to reveal to Abraham the doom of the wicked cities, and this because of his confidence in him and his covenant promise to him. There is the recognition that to men of faith much is revealed which is hidden from others. "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him." "Surely the Lord God will do nothing but he revealeth his secret to his servants, the prophets."

All the nations. Compare ch. 12:3. This is involved in the covenant promise. Men do not receive God's rich blessings for themselves alone, but that they may extend them to others. See also 22:18; 26:4, Ps. 72:17.

I have known him. God's purpose in choosing Abraham and thus revealing himself to him is here made clear. It is that he may so order and instruct his children and his household as to hand down through them to future generations that *way of the Lord*, that way of faith and obedience in which he himself had walked, that through them *justice and judgment* may be done in the world. He and his are known and chosen for high service to humanity.

Fine Weather Perils.

Mild winter weather is favorable to the spread of infectious diseases because people move about more and become in for contagion.

THE LEMON AN AID TO HEALTH AND BEAUTY

Many cosmetics are expensive, but anybody can afford to buy a lemon a day. In this fruit Nature has provided not only a delightful flavoring agent and garnish, but a real toilet aid as well.

Lemon juice, clear or diluted with pure water, is an excellent bleach for the person whose skin easily freckles or tans. Such a person should try applications of glycerine and lemon juice, equal parts. Lemon juice is also valuable for manicuring as it removes stains from the fingers and nails. When making lemonade (and I hope you serve it often, for it is very wholesome if not made too sweet), cut the lemons in half and extract the juice by means of a glass reamer. To remove discolorations from hands and finger-nails thrust them into the squeezed lemons. Very small warts can sometimes be removed by lemon juice.

As a hair rinse, lemon juice is especially valuable for those who have oily hair. It cuts the curd often formed by the use of soap, and leaves the hair soft, clean and fluffy after the shampoo. In many of the professional beauty parlors, a lemon rinse is given with every shampoo.

TREATING FACE AND HANDS.

Lemon juice is a marvelous beautifier for face, neck and hands. First sponge the skin over with warm water, dry thoroughly, then rub some lemon juice into the skin gently, with the finger-tips. Do this at night, leave it on till morning, then wash it off with warm water and a little fine oatmeal, but no soap.

In massaging with lemon juice take care to treat the neck, chin and all edges and corners. After sponging off in the morning rub in a little good lotion.

Lemon-juice is good also as an occasional dentifrice. It is an excellent astringent for flabby necks and cheeks, and is said to be much used in the tropics in foot-baths, to relieve swollen, tired feet.

The internal benefits of lemon juice should not be forgotten. Lemon juice in water, without sugar, is an excellent tonic, taken the first thing in the morning. Many persons find this morning "lemon cocktail" not only a mouth sweetener and an appetizer, but a gentle laxative as well. An active liver and regular habits are absolutely necessary if one would have a clear complexion. Oranges and lemons both assist the liver. A half hour before breakfast, take the juice of one lemon in a cupful of hot water, adding a dash of salt; this combination acts directly on the liver, whitening the skin.

LEG WEAKNESS OR RICKETS IN POULTRY

BY DR. GEORGE H. COWIN.

Rickets, or leg weakness, of poultry is one of the most difficult problems for the poultry-keeper to solve. This trouble has kept commercial men from making a success of their early hatches and has been a serious drawback to the broiler production. In times past it has been almost, if not entirely, impossible to rear early-winter hatches; poultry-raisers have been timing their early hatches to conform with the season, fully expecting to get their chicks on the ground before they were many weeks of age. It has been known for some time that chicks did not suffer from leg weakness when placed outdoors and where they had access to the earth. It was thought that this was due to the material that they secured from the soil, but we now know that this is due to the fact that the chicks have the benefit of the sunlight.

CAUSE OF RICKETS.

Rickets, or leg weakness, is the result of the chick not securing enough bone-building materials in the feed, such as calcium and phosphorous, or the failure to be able to make the required use of the quantity that is received; the ordinary ration as now fed, and especially when it contains bonemeal and milk, does supply sufficient calcium. Another factor in the successful feeding of chicks is the supply of vitamins. At this time we feel that the vitamin A is very important; for if it is not received in sufficient amounts the chick refuses to grow; it is supplied in most rations in the yellow corn that is used. The vitamin B is also needed to prevent nervous diseases, and is supplied in whole grains or in middlings; not at all difficult to supply in the ordinary ration. Vitamin D or the antirachitic vitamin seems to be the most important one, as it has to do with the assimilation of calcium and phosphorus in the ration, and the maintenance of the correct relation between the two mineral elements; this has to do with the prevention of rickets, or leg weakness, in chicks. This is no doubt the most important factor in chick-raising, and is so considered by many authorities. Since the antirachitic vitamin is not widely distributed in the common feeds, it [illegible] for us to use some other method [illegible] supplementing and assisting those feeds which supply this vitamin as well as those supplying the material calcium and phosphorus, which are so necessary in the ration. We can now use of green feed [illegible]

[illegible] STAND.

[illegible] leg weakness, the [illegible] dull; the feathers [illegible] bird is listless and [illegible] able to stand much [illegible] raised indoors, [illegible] can be expected [illegible] regardless of the type [illegible] being used. As a [illegible] condition in the [illegible] used such feeds [illegible] cod liver oil. Cod-liver [illegible] the mash by stirring [illegible] in this manner: [illegible] cent. of the ration [illegible] good results, but [illegible] sunlight greatly improves it.

Many conditions [illegible] especially of young [illegible] chicks, are nothing [illegible] more or less than [illegible] leg weakness, or [illegible] rickets; the more we [illegible] understand the [illegible] and the manner [illegible] prevented the more [illegible] The addition of [illegible] bone, and of [illegible] grits, to the ration [illegible] in the prevention [illegible] the use of green [illegible] also very beneficial [illegible] have lately been proved that sunlight [illegible] factor in the [illegible] baby chicks in order [illegible] it possible to [illegible] chicks by the use [illegible] (ultra violet ray [illegible] sible to subject [illegible] sunlight during [illegible] year. Inexpensive [illegible] known as quartz [illegible] are now available [illegible] can be used very [illegible] purpose. Chickens [illegible] day to the artificial [illegible] violet rays), which [illegible] as the natural [illegible] chines are [illegible]

Arthur H. Taylor

Who at the recent examination in piano playing held under the London College of Music, England, passed with honors and with the highest marks in Toronto in the advanced intermediate grade. He is eleven years old and has gained two first-class and two honor certificates during the two years he has been at the piano.

Sheep Industry Promising.

Sheep and lambs were a paying branch of live stock in 1925, says the Market Intelligence Division of the Live Stock Branch at Ottawa in its sixth annual Review. Supplies were quite short, but on the other hand, a keen demand for breeding ewes and feeder lambs would indicate that producers are alive to the situation. In fact the short marketings were probably due in some degree to the holding back of stock for breeding. However, that may be, the fact remains that the marketings of sheep and lambs were the smallest in volume last year of any since 1926.

Dealing explicitly with the situation the Review suggests that an encouraging feature is found in the extremely keen and insistent demand for breeding stock. Altogether 36,581 head of ewes and lambs were returned to the country either for breeding or further feeding. Another thing that puts a better complexion on the short supply figures is the fact that numbers of lambs suitable for breeding were kept back from slaughter and either retained on the farms where raised or sold direct to prospective producers. The Review concludes with the remark "Undoubtedly there is a healthy growth now taking place."

You Can Kill Ivy Early.

Summer is the wrong time to try to kill poison ivy. Poison ivy stores up food for the next season's growth in its large fleshy roots. The early spring growth is made largely from this accumulated food supply. The best time to destroy it is just after this early spring growth, when the vitality of the plant is at its lowest ebb. Any roots remaining in the soil can make but a feeble effort at a second growth.—F. F. R.

Creosote in chimney—To prevent trouble from this source, cut a hole in the stovepipe an inch or two in diameter and have it fixed so that it can be closed when desired. Leave the hole open once in a while and it will be O.K. We fixed two chimneys in this manner.—H. J.

Outdoor whitewash: Materials needed are 62 pounds of quicklime, two pounds of salt, one pound of sulphate of zinc, two gallons of skim-milk. Slake the lime in twelve gallons of water. Stir occasionally to prevent scorching, and keep covered when not stirring. Dissolve the salt and sulphate of zinc in two gallons of boiling water, then add to the slaked lime. Add the skim-milk and stir well.

Good [illegible]

Some of the [illegible] started to fain[illegible] now. One mistake [illegible] size we used were [illegible] future drainage [illegible] but later we learned [illegible] one should, when [illegible] drain a little too small.

The additional [illegible] inch or a few [illegible] smaller size is [illegible] The digging cost [illegible] in either case, [illegible] require a certain [illegible] commodate the [illegible] compelled, on [illegible] the size of tile [illegible] have been [illegible] ing.

Another mistake [illegible] little fall in some [illegible] the mains. During [illegible] other farms are [illegible] timber from the [illegible] acres at the far [illegible] the last to be [illegible] erous cases we [illegible] the county ditch [illegible] highway and keep [illegible] only the necessary [illegible] tain ponds in [illegible] without going to [illegible] if there might be [illegible] the uncleared land [illegible] this newer and [illegible] we find that our [illegible] enough to drain [illegible] tile-cleared land [illegible] trouble to find out [illegible] deeper ponds [illegible] farther back. [illegible] been cleared land [illegible] ams are not [illegible] completely, though [illegible] all from the county [illegible]—P. C. S.

Fragrant Annuals.

A flower, beautiful though it may be to look at, loses much of its charm if it lacks fragrance. There can be no doubt that many of the annual flowers from our grandmothers' gardens owe their continued popularity to the fragrance. In the bulletin on "Annual Flowers," Miss Isabella Preston, horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm, lists flowers that are pleasing odor. This list includes Alyssum, Carnation, Marvel of Peru, Marguerite, Mignonette, Nicotiana affinis, Petunia, Scabious, Sweet Sultan, Stocks, and Verbena. This bulletin, which may be had free at the Publications Branch, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, describes these and many other flowers and gives instructions for their culture.

A Good Fire Extinguisher.

An effective liquid fire-extinguisher is made by dissolving 2½ pounds of sal soda in ten gallons of water. Mix together and store in jars and other receptacles.

This will quickly put out a fire and should be kept hard in every home. It will be easy to get at, and in every place that each member of the family knows about. This liquid does not become offensive when kept for some time, and it will not freeze.

Paraffin Oil As Polish.

Pure paraffin oil for floors or furniture is an antique wonder. Put a few drops on a soft cloth and rub the surface briskly. It will leave a velvety finish.

Do you have a collection of boys' and girls' pictures? We have a good many of them on the walls of our home, but there are some little more precious than photographs—their pictures of the farm—the old Jack in his barnyard, all sorts of scenes that are dear to the hearts of just two old folks.

[illegible] Drains.

[illegible] we did when we were resting us money [illegible] as to use too small [illegible] then that the [illegible] be adequate for all [illegible] the area served [illegible] that in ditching [illegible] doubt, make the [illegible] rather than too [illegible]

[illegible] of laying a four [illegible] tile instead of [illegible] to be considered [illegible] virtually the same [illegible] of this size will [illegible] width of ditch to accommodate. So we now [illegible] farm, to increase [illegible] drains that should [illegible] larger in the beginning.

[illegible] was to provide [illegible] cases where we [illegible] like most of the [illegible] us, was cleared [illegible] highway back [illegible] of the farm being [illegible] Well, in numerous cases we [illegible] the county ditch [illegible] highway and keep [illegible] only the necessary [illegible] tain ponds in [illegible] without going to [illegible] if there might be [illegible] the uncleared land [illegible] this newer and [illegible] we find that our [illegible] enough to drain [illegible] deeper ponds [illegible] farther back. [illegible] been cleared land [illegible] ams are not [illegible] completely, though [illegible] all from the county [illegible]—P. C. S.

[illegible] Furniture Polish.

[illegible] a splendid oil for [illegible] When rubbed into [illegible] the palm of the [illegible] it does not leave [illegible] sticky, but gives [illegible]