

On the Farm.

CEMENT WALLS FOR CELLARS AND DWELLINGS.

The kind of cement used in building walls is a very important factor. Many brands are all right if put where freezing will not occur, but if built where there is continual freezing and thawing the walls will eventually crumble, writes C. M. Thomas. I would therefore advise using the very best cement obtainable. In doing cement work there are always two kinds or parts of the mixture. One is called concrete, which is used for the main part of the work, and the other I will term as the outside coat or dressing. The concrete is made by using six parts sharp, clean gravel, or broken stone, which should be fine, and one part cement. After you have measured and put a certain amount of this mixture in the mortar box, shovel it over three or four times before wetting it and at the last shoveling have an attendant sprinkle it with a rose watering pot, while you continue shoveling. By this method it will be just moist enough to pack well. It should be used as soon as possible after wetting, as it will soon harden. The dressing is made by using two parts sharp, clean sand and one part cement, thoroughly mixing and making by addition of water, about the same consistency as common mortar used for plastering.

For making a wall, either for cellar, partition, lower story of dwelling or basement or dwelling, it must all be done inside of a frame. It is utterly impossible to make cement into bricks and then build a wall out of them that will be as good as a solid job. It would be almost impossible to make the cement stick to the bricks, or in other words you cannot make a coat of cement stick to cement that has already hardened. The operation must all be done at one time. To make a wall, dig a trench 15 inches wide, as the walls should not be narrower than this, and deep enough to be below frost; fill this trench up to the top of the ground with small stones and enough of the concrete to make a firm job. We are now ready for the frame, which should be made out of perfectly straight scantling, two inches thick and planed on the side that is against the wall. These scantlings should be firmly staked and the full length you desire to build one side wall. In building up the wall more scantlings can be added at the top as needed, but never remove any until the wall is completed. Do your leveling by having the scantling level on top. In building up the wall, have some of the dressing and plaster the scantling on the inside up five or six inches, and then fill in with concrete and pound down firmly. Repeat this operation until you reach the desired height. After the wall is set enough to stand firm, the frame can be removed and if the frame was perfectly smooth on the inside, the wall will be perfectly smooth. Now if you desire it to look like bricks, it can be lined off into any sizes desired, and the grooves cut with a mason's trowel. In facing with small stones, begin at the bottom, and place a row of them against the frame and use enough of the dressing between and around them to make them stay in place, and then fill up behind them with the concrete and be sure to firmly pack it, but do not touch the stones. Keep this operation up until the top is reached, or within an inch of the top, when it can be finished with the top coat.

BUILDING UP THE DAIRY.

What are we to understand by the oft-repeated phrase, "Building up a dairy?" Properly interpreted and followed, chapter first can mean nothing else but gratifying new, vigorous scions onto the old stock. Or, in cattle parlance, it is infusing fresh blood into the dairy through milk breed sires, and then establishing as an inexorable rule in the heifer calf department "survival of the fittest only." Invest or breed into the best strains of cows attainable, feed them on the most perfect milk-producing food you can raise; try the business a year or long enough to give it a fair trial, and if you find you are losing money beat a graceful retreat, and invest in something else. If, however, you are thoroughly in earnest and conscientious about details, the probabilities are that you will stay right with dairying, and find it a profitable and pleasant life work.

AROUND OUR HOMES.

It adds not only to the beauty of a home in the country to have good drives, but is a matter of economy as well. It takes some labor and time to make a good drive, but when once made it will only need watching and some slight repairs for many years. A farmer will always find it a saving of time and expense to have his house back from the road and near the center of his property if the farm be a small one. First rate drives should be made of gravel or slab, running about the house and to the barn. Such drives should in all cases be thoroughly underlaid and a proper provision be made for surface-drainage.

LOVE YOUR WORK.

The business of raising wealth from

the ground is as old as the race and must employ many millions ore of people than any other pursuit. The wealth of nations is grown by the labor of agriculturists; they constitute the most valuable class in any country, but only as a class; individually we are not of much national importance. It is all well enough to talk of the sovereign people, but none of us are kings. We are free, but must obey the laws of nature and of our being; there is no escape from this. Our happiness is in finding out these laws and conforming to them. The lot of the average cultivator of the soil is not an enviable one, in spite of all that has been said to the contrary. In Europe, as landlords or tenants, they stay by it for generations. In Portugal and Russia, they are more attached to the soil than we are. Why these things are, it is difficult to explain, but facts are hard things to deal with. Most of us will continue to get our living from the soil because we will be obliged to, many because we love the work, and the true philosophy is to learn to love our work, whatever it is. Let us do the best we can, and do our duty cheerfully wherever we are.

CHARACTER EASILY TOLD.

The eyes should be distant from each other exactly the breadth of one eye, a greater indicates slowness of apprehension, a less distance, cuteness. Black, sparkling eyes, with a steady grave mouth, show taste, elegance and sound judgment.

People of good taste, delicacy and refinement have eyelids that are sharply defined, and shade at least half the upper part of the eye. Large, open and transparent eyes, which move rapidly and sparkle with excitement, indicate good taste, discernment, pride and often irritability. Large, clear, blue eyes generally denote persons of great capacity; but sensitive, suspicious, and often unreasonably jealous.

Eyes that show white under the iris are commonly associated with nobility of character and exemplary life. Eyes with long corners and thick lids, that cover half the pupil, are always indicative of talent. Small black eyes, under strong eyebrows, indicate cuteness and penetration. Half-shut eyes show natural shrewdness, together with a lack of sincerity. Slow-moving eyes are always found in heads of persons of prudence and ability. Gray eyes are generally found associated with prudence and foresight. Blue eyes belong to people of an enthusiastic turn of mind. Black eyes are the most rash and impetuous. Brown eyes are the most kindly.

Men and women of marked ability in any line have one deep, perpendicular wrinkle in the middle of the forehead, with one or two parallel to it on each side. Long foreheads, with spherical knobs in the upper part, indicate genius, particularly without decision and impetuosity. High foreheads, knobby below, sunken eyes, firmly-closed mouths and broad chins indicate very determined character.

Regular wrinkles of the forehead, parallel with the eyebrows, are found in very intelligent and liberal persons. Long foreheads, with close-drawn skin showing no wrinkles, are characteristic of a person of a quiet, sedate nature. Well-arched foreheads, with one slight, perpendicular wrinkle, belong to a wise, discreet character. A forehead rounded at the upper temples, indicates large imaginations, worthiness and good nature. A prominence of the forehead just above the eyebrows indicates individuality. A perfect forehead ends with almost horizontal eyebrows, clear, heavy, and well defined.

An irregular, knobby forehead is a sure sign of a bold, original and investigating mind. A broad, conspicuous forehead always denotes great mental penetration. A long forehead indicates intelligence; a short forehead, activity.

Short, thick, curly hair, is the indication of great natural strength. Smooth, fine hair, of whatever color, shows native good taste and intelligence. Black hair belongs to the most powerful organizations; yellow to the most delicate; red to the most ardent.

Noses turned up at the point, sinking in at the top, are inclined to ease and pleasure and are generally gifted with eloquence, imagination, and always benevolence. Large noses are invariably associated with strong traits of character; whether good or bad, as determined by other characteristics. Large, wide-spreading nostrils show ample lungs and good health. Turned-up noses, under high-arched foreheads, are occasionally found in men of despotic temperament, when guided by other characteristics. Noses with wrinkles on the side, which never disappear, generally belong to money-getting natures. Noses turned down and inward at the tip are found in money-saving people. A prominent nose and bold chin are the most favorable combination known to face readers.

Men, with noses that, when viewed in profile, appear arched, are generally witty and clever in conversation. A deep cavity between the nose and the center of the upper lip is the sign of wit and sharpness. A Roman nose shows the greater character, the Greek nose the greater taste.

Noses that wrinkle easily are only found in men of good natural disposition. Narrow, thin nostrils indicate small lungs and low vitality.

SURE TO SEE HER.

Caller—Is Mrs. Brownston at home?
Servant—Yes, ma. She'll be at home all the evening. It's my night out.

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

Sergt-Major Morgans, of Kingston, has been appointed orderly to the Governor-General.

Premier Marchand of Quebec denies the oft-repeated stories that he is about to resign.

The Brantford oil and gas syndicate is boring for gas near the old rifle range in Guelph.

The 48th Separate Company, an Oswego battalion, may spend Queen's birthday in Kingston.

Sing Fung, a Winnipeg Chinaman, has been arrested for selling Chinese whiskey at his laundry.

A farmer residing about 25 miles from Kingston has captured over 100 foxes since the first of the year.

Fortier's cigar factory at Montreal will be removed to St. Therese, Que., which has offered a bonus of \$47,000.

It is being suggested at Ottawa that the Government erect a tablet in the Parliament buildings to the memory of Lord Herschell.

Active operations will be commenced shortly towards developing the peat lands near Brockville, owned by the Brockville Peat & Power Co.

Mr. W. B. Ferguson of Toronto has been appointed City Engineer of Victoria out of a list of twenty-five applicants from all parts of the Dominion.

A special cable announces that a large Finnish immigration into Canada may result from the recent Russian attack upon the ancient rights of Finland.

John Wilson has received a verdict for \$700 against the Lincoln Paper Mills Company for the death of his son who fell down an open elevator shaft in the mills.

The Winnipeg Grain Exchange has passed resolutions condemning the mixing of wheat at Fort William, and asking the Government to put a stop to the practice.

The Hamilton Furance Company have closed a lease for iron ore mines on the line of the Kingston & Pembroke Railway, and will commence mining ore at once.

A prosecution of an Indian for polygamy, was instituted at McLeod, Alberta, and it is said to be the Government's intention to put down the practice among the northwest Indians.

It is said that hotel rates in Ottawa may advance before long. There is an agitation on foot among some of the leading hotels proprietors to form a combine and fix a standard of rates.

At St. John, N. B., Prof. Hesse, a music teacher, sued the Street Railway for \$100,000, for the loss of a foot in an accident in which a trolley jumped the track. He says his occupation as organist has gone, because of the lost foot.

In order to avoid such disgraceful scenes as took place recently at Ste. Scholastique, a bill will be introduced at the coming session of Parliament to make hangings private. Only officers of the law and newspaper reporters will be admitted.

The London Retail Grocers' and Retail Clerks' Associations are making a combined move for early closing, and are soliciting the co-operation of the general public. It is proposed to make 6 p. m. the latest hour for taking orders each night, except Saturday and the nights before holidays. Upon the latter the hour to be 9 p. m. The hour for closing stores it is proposed to make 6.30, with the exception of Saturday and days before holidays, when it will be 10 o'clock.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Women's International Council will hold their congress in London, Eng., next June.

"Willie," brother of Oscar Wilde, is dead at London. It will be remembered that he married Mrs. Frank Leslie, of New York.

The Right Hon. Horace Plunkett, M. P., for the South Division of Dublin County, has broken his thigh in a bicycle accident.

Liverpool will erect a memorial statue of Gladstone as the foremost Englishman, native of that city. Over \$15,000 has already been subscribed.

Sir Julius Vogel, K. C. M. G., formerly Premier of New Zealand, is dead. He led the Government that started a mail service to San Francisco.

Lady White-Ridley, wife of Sir Matthew White-Ridley, Secretary of State for the Home Department, and daughter of the first Lord Tweedmouth, is dead.

The Japanese battleship Asaupi was launched from the Clydebank shipyard Monday. She is 425 feet long, of 15,200 tons displacement, and 15,000 indicated horse-power, and is to develop a speed of 19 knots.

Discussing the naval estimates, Henry Labouchere argued that the Government was "playing the game of beggar my neighbor" against the whole world, and declared it "foolish swagger to boast ability to build more ships than any other country." Great Britain, he asserted, was not richer than the United States nor than France and Russia combined.

UNITED STATES.

The United States authorities will take a census of Cuba.

Smallpox is steadily increasing in North Carolina, being prevalent in 17 counties.

France has given an order for ten locomotives to the Baldwin Works, at Philadelphia.

The Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic railway is covered with ice for a distance of 80 miles near St. Ignace, Mich.

The Pennsylvania Tube Company employing several thousand, has advanced the wages of all employees ten per cent.

A newly organized brewery company at St. Louis, Mo., purposes using electric refrigerator street cars instead of hauling heavy waggons.

The United States War Department has decided to muster out and bring home all the volunteers now in Cuba, with the exception of the volunteer engineers and immunes.

It is said at Washington that negotiations for reciprocity treaties with Germany and France have been resumed, also with Great Britain, covering the British West Indies.

Harry Eckley, the Pennsylvania railroad telegraph operator, has been held by the coroner's jury at Altoona, Pa., criminally responsible for the recent collision near that place.

Mrs. Henrietta Schmidt, a professional beggar, was found dead in her apartment in New York on Wednesday. In her room the police subsequently found her bank book, showing that she had \$20,000.

The New York State Senate has before it a bill providing for the incorporation of the Salvation Army. It vests in the incorporated body the right to establish homes, hospitals, shelters, colonies, etc.

Rev. Dr. Rainsford, of St. George's Church, New York, has followed the example of Bishop Potter, and come out straight against prohibition. Its principles, he says, are false, and its practice and policy rotten.

At Palmetto, Ga., a mob of masked men stormed the little house doing service as a jail and shot down nine negroes. Four were killed outright and the other five badly wounded. The negroes have been held for the burning of the town, three fires since January 1 having almost entirely destroyed it.

At St. Louis an unknown woman called at the residence of Mrs. M. F. McVean, a widow, and threw vitriol in the latter's face, blinding her and causing burns that will result fatally. Several weeks ago Mrs. McVean received a box of poisoned candy through the mails, sent, she thought, by a young woman who was jealous.

GENERAL.

Spain proposes to reconstruct her navy.

Both the Czar and Czarina are well, reports to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Italian Government has received warning that Anarchists contemplate blowing up the Parliament buildings.

France Militaire reaffirms that the recent magazine explosion at Toulon was not an accident, but an atrocity.

King Oscar of Sweden has just had his life insured in the Swedish Company, Norden. The premium is \$7,236 a year.

The Japanese Government is considering the wholesale Christianizing of Japan, making Christianity the official religion.

Spain may appeal to the powers against Admiral Dewey's orders prohibiting the Spanish agents from paying the Filipinos a ransom for Spanish prisoners. Dewey thinks the ransom would supply the natives with funds.

It is reported that a contract has been concluded between the German Government and Mr. Cecil Rhodes for the construction of telegraph lines through German East Africa. It is also reported that a railway contract is on the point of conclusion.

The Paris Matin says that the transformation of the French artillery has been completed. "Thanks to the new arrangement and the powerful guns which have been procured," the paper says, "the French artillery is now unrivalled in the world."

WOMEN IN FRANCE.

An item is going the rounds of the papers to the effect that women in France have just had their first chance to register to vote, and that few of them have done so, except the market women in the department of the Halles or markets. From this it might be supposed that all the women of France were permitted to vote, and for all officers.

Single women and widows engaged in trade or commerce on their own account may vote for judges of the Tribunals of Commerce. This is the extent of the suffrage enjoyed by French women. Only a fraction of the women in Paris possess the right, and most of these, naturally, live in the department of the markets. The inference that the most intelligent women are the least inclined to vote is quite unwarranted.

In some towns, it is said, no women have registered, in others a good many. Doubtless it will be found that in some towns there was a contest over the election of a judge of the Tribunal of Commerce, while in other towns there was none, there being perhaps only one candidate in the field.

The justice of letting single women and widows engaged in commerce vote for these judges is clear, and if some of them do not care to exercise the right, that is no reason for debarring those who do. The Eventment observes:—"Women's voting begins at the Commercial Tribunal: It will end at the Palais Bourbon."

PHILOSOPHIC.

My one hope is to die rich.
Hub! I believe I would rather live poor.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Speech Of the Governor-General at the Opening.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Early on Thursday morning the members began to gather in the House and to speculate on the prospects of the session. There was a very good gathering of members on both sides of the House, and by the end of the week there will be a fairly full House. The weather was the calm after the storm, beautiful sunshine having succeeded to the snowstorm of last evening.

Long before three o'clock crowds had assembled on Parliament Hill to see the outside ceremonies of the opening. Sharp on time the guns announced the approach of his Excellency. The guard of honor provided by the Governor-General's Foot Guards stood to attention, and in a few minutes Lord Minto, escorted by the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards and drawn in a carriage and four with outriders, drove up to the main entrance amidst the presenting of arms and the playing of "God Save the Queen" by the band.

In the chamber the scene was impressive and brilliant as his Excellency's procession swept up the floor. Having taken his seat his Excellency read the

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate; Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In meeting you for the first time since entering upon my duties as the representative of her Majesty in this Dominion, it affords me great pleasure to be able to congratulate you on the large degree of prosperity which the people of Canada at present enjoy, evidenced by the expansion of trade and commerce, the flourishing condition of the public revenues and the increased number of immigrants who have become permanent settlers amongst us. To the evidences may be added another, which is even more gratifying, the almost total cessation of the considerable exodus of our population, which at one time was a regrettable feature of our affairs.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The negotiations which were set on foot during the recess, between her Majesty's Government and that of the United States in reference to the settlement of certain questions in dispute between Canada and the latter country were, I grieve to say, greatly delayed by the illness and subsequent death of two of the most eminent members of the commission appointed for that purpose. Considerable progress has been made on several of the subjects submitted, but a serious disagreement arose between her Majesty's commissioners and the commissioners of the United States on the question of the delimitation of the boundary between Canada and Alaska. The question was referred by the commissioners to their respective Governments. The commission has been adjourned to the second day of August next, in the hope that in the meantime the difficulty might be overcome.

PROHIBITION AND PENNY POSTAGE.

In compliance with the act passed last session, a plebiscite was held on the question of prohibition. The official figures of the vote will be placed before you.

I observe with pleasure that the mother country, Canada and other British possessions have recently adopted a penny postage letter rate. The satisfaction with which this action has been received by the Canadian people is a further proof of the general desire existing amongst our people for closer relations with the mother country and the rest of the Empire.

I am also glad to be able to state that the satisfactory condition of the finances of the country permitted a reduction on the 1st of January last of the Canadian domestic letter rate from three to two cents, and although such reduction involves a temporary loss of revenue, it is nevertheless confidently expected that the cheapened rate will prove of much service in the promotion of trade and in the general interchange of correspondence, that within a reasonable time the revenue of the Post-office Department will be restored to its former figure.

MINERAL DEPOSITS.

Much information has been obtained since you last met, relative to the extent and value of the deposits of gold and valuable minerals in the Yukon and other parts of Canada. The returns from the Yukon have so far proved sufficient to meet the heavy expenditure it was found necessary to incur for the purpose of preserving law and order, and it has been thought expedient in the public interest to authorize the construction of a line of telegraph for the purpose of maintaining speedy communication with the people of those distant territories.

A measure will be submitted to you for the better arrangement of the electoral districts throughout the Dominion, as also several enactments of less importance.

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons: The public accounts will be laid before you, and also the estimates for the coming year. They have been prepared with a due regard to efficiency and economy, and the responsibilities arising from the rapid progress of the country.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate; Gentlemen of the House of Commons: I am confident that the important subjects I have mentioned to you will receive your consideration, and that it will be your earnest endeavour to promote the public interests and prosperity of Canada.