

# AGRICULTURAL

## BUTTER-MAKING ON THE FARM.

**White Specks in Butter.**—Mottles in butter and "white specks" are sometimes confounded, and by some are considered the same, but there is a difference. Mottled or streaky butter has been explained as being caused by an unequal distribution of the salt; but "white specks" have a different cause. Sometimes, when the milk is set in shallow pans, they result from the cream drying on top, so there are small portions that dry so hard they do not churn into butter. These particles do not take the color like the rest of the butter, and the "specks" are thus caused. This may be remedied by carefully straining the cream when it is put into the churn. Another cause of "white specks" is this: When some milk is skimmed off with the cream, as is usually done in the case of deep cold-setting, this milk settles to the bottom, gets over-ripe, and forms a curd, which will be so hard as not to break up in churning and will not run off with the butter-milk, but will remain with the butter as "white specks," or "flecks," as they are sometimes called. This can be remedied by not letting the cream stand so long before churning, or by frequent and thorough stirring of the cream during the process of ripening. These hard, white particles can also be taken out by straining the cream. Mottled, streaked, or speckled butter will not sell well in market therefore it is the part of wisdom to guard against such conditions.

**Coloring Butter.**—Butter should be colored to suit the person for whom it is intended. The general market demands that butter should have a color, the year round, about like that of grass butter in June. Doubtless any of the standard butter colors are good. The coloring matter should be put in the cream after it is all ready for the churn. When the butter would be nearly white if not colored, as is often the case in winter, about a teaspoonful of color is usually needed for eight pounds of butter. In summer, in times of drought, and in the fall, when cows are partly on dry feed, some coloring may be needed, but very little. One will soon learn by experience how much to use. It is well to be cautious as it is better to have too little color than too much.

**Salting and Working Butter.**—Good, fine dairy salt should be used, and never the common coarse barrel salt that is used by many. The salting may be done in the churn when the butter is in the granular form, if it is a box or barrel churn. The salt can be sifted on the butter by putting on a part, then revolving the churn half way over, thus making the butter fall with the salted side down, then sifting on the rest of the salt. Then revolve the churn a few times, after which the butter can be taken out and worked on a butter worker. This is the way most commonly done, but it has its difficulties. The trouble is to have just the right amount of salt in the butter when it is finished, so as to have the product perfectly uniform in saltiness. The exact weight of the butter in the churn is not known, though it can be closely estimated, but it is impossible to tell how much water the butter contains, while in its granular state. This water must be all salted, and a portion of it will run off in the form of brine when the butter is worked. The finished butter should contain about three-fifths of an ounce of salt to the pound. To insure that amount at least an ounce and a half of salt must be put in for each pound of butter in the churn, and yet, do the best we can, it will be found that two successive churning are seldom salted just alike. The writer has found that a better way to insure uniform salting is to take the butter out of the churn, drain and press out a part of the water on the worker, then weigh the butter, and salt one ounce to the pound and work enough to get the salt evenly incorporated. Some more water or brine will run off in the working and leave the butter salted about right. In this way it will be found that one churning will be salted very nearly like every other churning. There are several different kinds of butter-workers used by dairymen, but in the opinion of the writer none are better for home use than the common lever pattern.

**Shall Butter be Worked Once or Twice?**—The object of working butter is to get the salt evenly distributed and to expel a portion of the brine. When it is worked but once, the butter-maker thinks he has worked the butter enough and packs it immediately. There is, at that time, no way to tell whether the salt has been evenly distributed or not. A few hours afterward he draws out some of the butter with a trier, or cuts it with a ladle, and finds it mottled, which will seriously affect the selling price. He knows the cause is unequal salting; that the portions which have salt have changed to a deeper yellow, and the unsalted portions have remained of a lighter color. With the next churning he is determined to remedy this and so works it more. The chances are that this time it is worked too much, so that the grain is injured and the butter has a greasy appearance. But after such practice and the exercise of good judgment and care these errors can be avoided to a great extent, and a fairly uniform and even product produced. In the opinion of the writer it is better to work butter twice instead of only once. The first time it should be worked just enough to mix the salt. There for four or six hours it should be left on the worker in some other place, where the temperature is from 60 to 65 degrees F., so that the butter will remain in the right condition as to hardness to work well. This will give time for the salt

to dissolve and also time for it to change the color of the butter that it comes in contact with. Then it should be worked just enough to obliterate the streaks and mottles. This second working expels some more of the water, for the salt has had time to draw the moisture together in drops, and it is worked out, thus making a drier butter containing from 85 to 87 per cent of butter-fat. Such butter will be firmer and better and more satisfactory to the consumer than it usually is when worked but once. Immediately after the butter is worked, it should be packed in neat, clean packages, or put up in such form as is required by the market to which it is to be sent. If tubs are to be used, ash or spruce is to be preferred, and they should be well soaked before packing the butter. If other wooden packages are used they should be lined with parchment paper. This will prevent the butter tasting of the wood.

**Make Butter to Suit the Consumer.**—One thing should always be borne in mind by the person who is making butter to sell. The butter is for somebody else to eat, and it is for your interest to make it to suit them, whether it just suits your taste or not. Habit has a great deal to do with our likes and dislikes. You may have been accustomed to sweet-cream butter; if so, you probably like that best. Or, you may have got used to eating butter made from very ripe cream, and the butter not washed to expel the buttermilk, causing it to have a very decided flavor and taste, and so you look upon fine delicate-flavored butter as insipid. Or you may like little or no salting or high salting; light color or high color. But all this is of no consequence. It is no matter what you like. You want to make it to suit your customer, and you want your customers to be those who are able and willing to pay a good price for what suits them. If the customer wants sweet-cream butter, make it; if unsalted, make it so; if he desires it high salted, salt it high, and so on. Always make it the same for the same customers. They are getting tastes formed which you can make it profitable to gratify. It is not the province of the maker of dairy butter to try to educate the tastes of people who buy butter, but rather to cater to their tastes when he finds out what they are. If one is making butter to put on the market, he wants to make what that market demands and will pay the best price for. The best way to learn the market demand is to have the butter inspected by an expert judge who is a dealer and knows what takes best in the market. Ask him to criticize it and tell you just what he thinks of it; and don't get angry at what he tells you, but try to profit by what he says. The object of this article is to help farmers to make such butter as the best paying customers in the general market demand.

## THIRTY-NINE YEARS IN BED.

Because She Thought It Was the Most Comfortable.

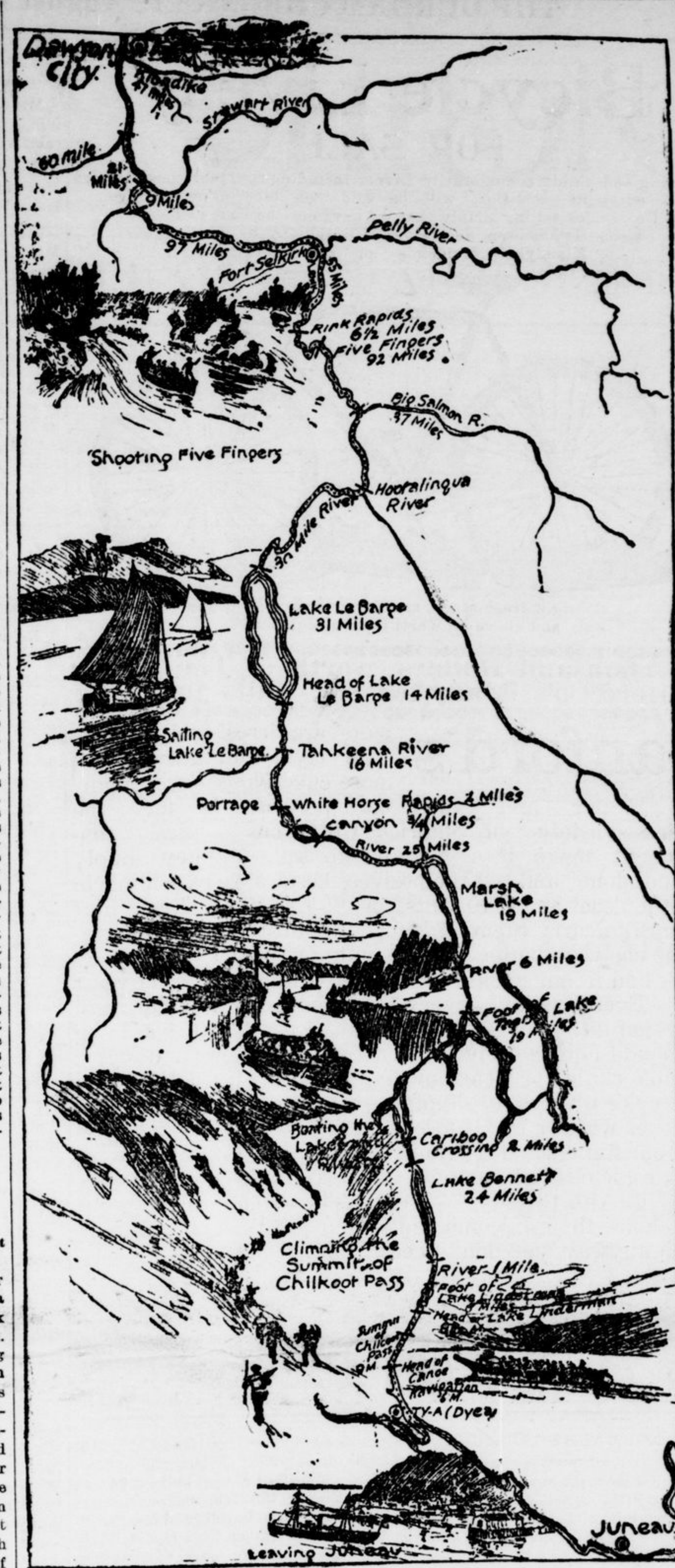
A spinster lady of fortune who for the last thirty-nine years has led a most extraordinary life died last week at Teignmouth, Devonshire, England. One evening in the year 1858, being then in her thirty-eighth year, and in perfect health she retired to rest as usual. The following morning she remarked that bed was the most comfortable place in the world, and announced her intention of remaining there for the rest of her natural life. And she did. From that day until the day upon which she was placed in her coffin last week she never got up again, although remaining to within a few months of her death in the best of health. For two years she lay in an upstairs room; but for the last thirty-seven her bed was placed on the ground floor, commanding the entrance to the house and grounds. From this vantage-point, by an ingenious arrangement of mirrors, she could see everything that went on around the house and in the gardens; while her sense of hearing became so acute, that nothing transpired inside its four walls which escaped her attention.

Neither the death of her father nor that of her mother, which took place after she had retired for this long rest, operated to alter her resolution. On the latter's decease she found herself possessed of the property. She had the house locked up at nine o'clock every night, and the keys put on the table at her bedside. She proved an excellent woman of business, transacting all her affairs, managing her servants, entertaining her guests, and revising her visiting list without turning a counterpane so to speak. Neither did she change her diet in any way, but, despite her recumbent habit of life, continued to eat her usual meals, dining at eight, and consuming such things as ducks, game, peaches, pork, and all things indigestible, and taking her coffee and liquors regularly all her life.

Doctors visited her, but she had no need of their prescriptions, and it was only a few months ago that the effects of her extraordinary manner of life began to be visible. Then she gradually broke up. The medical men who made a post-mortem examination of her remains found that her heart and lungs were free from disease, so that had she led an ordinary existence she would in all probability have lived for another ten or fifteen years. At her death, at the age of 77, she weighed nearly 17 stone, and the coffin in which she was buried was considered the largest ever made in South Devon. She was no miser, but lived well, gave freely and handed on her fortune unimpaired to her collateral descendants.

## CLUSTER OF MARRIAGE BELLS.

**A CLUSTER OF MARRIAGE BELLS.** Among the floral decorations at a recent English wedding, instead of a marriage bell, a number of smaller bells of various sizes were hung together. The bells were made of white blossoms with a small orange suspended by a white satin ribbon for the clapper. These bells were hung from an arch made of green foliage plants.



FROM JUNEAU TO THE KLONDIKE. Being a Pictorial Map, Showing the Route of the Journey, the Distances and how the Trip is Accomplished.

## A WOMAN'S PLAYHOUSE.

The first and the only woman's theatre of which the world has ever known is being constructed in Paris. The place of site is adjoining the ladies' club known as the Cercle Pigalle, near Montmartre. In France it will be the "Theatre Feministe," which means a theatre of women only. There is only one weak spot in this armor of femininity, and that is the fact that the manager is to be a man, but the ladies who are the soul of the enterprise say he will not count, as, like the rest of his sex, he will merely be their slave.

Au serieux, though, it is to be a genuine place for women. The White Theatre, where only plays of absolute purity were to be tolerated, was the first entrance of woman into the managerial capacity. This victory gave such confidence to the women that they were determined to star their own ideas exclusively, and the result is the Theatre Feministe. The establishment is not to be limited. No puppet France will confine its powers, and the ladies of every country will be at liberty to air their grievances, assert their privileges and defend their interests through the medium of the drama or the opera.

For a long time the question of management was discussed pro and con by the members of the club which had the project in hand. Opinion was divided, not as to the ability of woman to take entire charge of every detail, but as to whether it would not be wise to have some man to do the drudgery and let honor and glory be the lot of the women. Finally, it was decided that if a man could be found who would face the prospect he should be engaged on the spot. As the Frenchman is fond of excitement and loves to brave adventure, the necessary male was easily discovered and has already become the Adam in this otherwise Adamless Eden.

It is provided in the agreement that he shall receive instructions from the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, which is composed of five women. Thus far he has accomplish-

ed the unparalleled feat of pleasing all five, and is very popular. The circulars or advance announcements of the theatre and its purposes do not bear the name of the manager, but state that the theatre is under the sole control of the Board of Directors, composed entirely of women. They further state that only plays treating of women's rights will be presented, unless some specially good play by a woman receives the indorsement of the committee.

Another committee of the directors bears the title of Committee of Plays. Its duty is to pass on all plays which are presented to it, sift the wheat from the chaff, and then submit its selection to the full Board of Directors for approval. Each play is to be read through to the board, and then, to insure acceptance, the authoress, or possibly the author, must incorporate all suggestions of the board. The unkind men who have heard of this project say that he who runs and reads may attend one performance, but that he who reads will run after seeing a second announcement thereof.

Aside from the manager, the only condition under which men can hope to obtain a little scrap of the success which this theatre, according to its projections, is sure to attain is to write plays or musical compositions which will bear on the subject of woman's rights. The authors of these efforts may come from any part of the world they wish to, and their nationality will be considered no bar. The ladies say that the men will be criticised in that same spirit of fairness in which a woman always considers her own sex, and therefore they may be sure of absolute justice.

Mme. Loevy, who will direct the foreign department of the new theatre, is very decided in her statements as to the purpose and probable result of the enterprise. Heretofore, she says, the fact that a play was written by a woman has been sufficient in most instances to insure its failure. Now this sort of thing is to end. Women are to have the precedence, in at least one theatre, and they are sufficiently fortunate to secure any place at all.

## BAD LUCK FOLLOWED HIM.

Did Slumphy make much of a success as a singer? No; the same old story. All his notes were protested.

# THE CLOTHES THEY WEAR.

## CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS AT THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

Canada the Only Colony in Which the Militia wear the Same Uniform as the British Regulars.

The visit of the Canadian contingent to London to attend the Queen's Jubilee celebration, made prominent the fact, of which many were not previously aware, that Canada is the only colony of the British empire whose militia wear the same uniforms as the British regulars, says the St. John Daily Telegraph. Our infantry, cavalry artillery and riflemen, all wear uniforms which are similar to those worn by the regulars of the same branches of the service. The uniform of the 62nd Fusiliers is that of the first infantry regiment in the British army, the Royal Scots, scarlet with blue facings. The uniform of the 8th Hussars of Canada is the same as that of the 13th Hussars of the regular army, viz., blue with buff facings. The uniform of our Canadian 3rd Regiment of Artillery, which has its headquarters in St. John, is similar to that of the British regular artillery. The uniform of our St. John Rifles, and of all the other rifle organizations in Canada, is the same as that of the regiment formerly known as the 60th Rifles, but now as the King's Royal Rifle Corps.

**THIS SIMILARITY OF UNIFORMS.** To the regulars proved somewhat annoying to our boys in England, for in many cases they were mistaken for British troops, and did not win from those who saw them that recognition to which they were entitled. The British people are so accustomed to see regulars marching through their streets that the sight does not inspire their enthusiasm, and, therefore, in some instances the Canadian contingent was allowed to pass in silence, while the other colonials, in their picturesque uniforms, which could not be mistaken, were wildly cheered. Against this must be placed the gratifying fact that the appearance and discipline of the Canadian militia men were such that no difference could be detected between them and the trained soldiers of the regular army.

It is not by accident, however, that this similarity between the uniforms of our militia and those of the regulars has come about. The militia of Canada are the only colonial troops that have ever fought against a civilized enemy side by side with British regulars. They did this when Canada was invaded by the troops of the American Congress during the war of the revolution, and again on larger scale during the war of 1812. In that war, indeed, the militia of Canada, took a very conspicuous part, and in addition to the militia regiments which fought in the campaigns of 1812 there were several regiments of regulars which were made up wholly of natives of British America—the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, 104th, our own New Brunswick regiment, the Glengarry Fencibles, and the Canadian Voltigeurs. The militia of Canada took part in nearly every important engagement of the war, and in every instance they conducted themselves

## AS GOOD SOLDIERS SHOULD.

It was in that war that the custom of dressing the militia in the uniforms of regulars was commenced, and this plan, which was originally adopted as a matter of convenience and because no other uniforms were available, has been adopted by the Government of Canada, and is likely to be continued for an indefinite period. That the plan is a good one, notwithstanding an occasional drawback, will be generally admitted, for, in the event of a war in which British regulars and Canadian militia would be fighting side by side, the enemy would be unable to distinguish between them, and would be deprived of that confidence which they might feel if pitted against an army of militia. Nor is there any doubt that the moral effect of the militia of wearing the uniform of the regulars, and feeling that they were as one with them would be considerable.

It may be interesting to state in this connection the number of men who wear the scarlet infantry uniform in Canada. There are altogether 71 battalions, embracing 469 companies of militia infantry, in Canada who wear the scarlet uniform, and 21 battalions, embracing 149 companies of riflemen that wear the green uniform of that corps. According to the present strength of the Canadian companies, the scarlet-coated infantry number 21,870 officers and men, and the riflemen, 6,765. The British army has only twelve battalions of regular riflemen who wear the green uniform, so that the scarlet coats greatly predominate in that splendid army. The scarlet tunic is a uniform that is greatly respected by foreign nations, and which the British people are not likely to exchange for any other.

## THE RAFT SPIDER.

What is known as the raft spider is the largest of the British species. It receives its name from the fact that it constructs a raft of dried leaves and rubbish united by threads of silk, and thus pursues its prey on the water.

## EASY FOR THEM.

Narrow-minded and uncultivated persons can easily find fault, and can usually mingle some degree of truth with their harsh conclusions. They judge rigidly and blame severely, not cause they are wise, accurate, or discerning, but rather because they are deficient in some of those qualities.

## NOT THE RIGHT SHADE.

Miss de Style—What? Going to cut the De Goode girls? Mrs. De Style—Why yes, ma—I have to at this season of the year. They have skins that never tan, and guests will think we associate with people who stay in town all summer.