FORMER AYTON SCHOOLMASTER DIED AT ST. MARYS

Mr. Ira J. Halpenny Passed Away April 15 in 47th Year.

Ira J. Halpenny, Principal of the St. Marys Public school, died on the 15th of April after a short illness from pneumonia. Interment was made last Thursday afternoon in the St. Marys cemetery.

Mr. Halpenny was born in Eastern Ontario about 47 years ago and came to Arthur township with his parents when but a boy. He was graduated from the Arthur High school and entered the teaching profession, in which he was engaged at the time of death.

Subsequent to teaching in two or three country schools, Mr. Halpenny resided for some years at Ayton and was principal of the Public school in that village until he accepted the principalship of the school at Kincardine. After one year at the lakeside town he went to St. Marys, where he has been principal of the school in that town. Mr. Halpenny was a man who had qualified himself for his profession by several special courses at different times and he was regarded a an exceptionally good teacher. He was a Methodist in religion and was an active church worker.

He is survived by a wife and three sons, and will be remembered by many of our Normanby readers.

THE GLADIOLUS AND HOW TO GROW IT SUCCESSFULLY

Soil.—The Gladiolus is not exacting in its demand upon the soil; a light, rich sandy soil is usually considered most suitable.

The best fertilizer is well decayed stable manure, applied in the fall and well mixed with the soil, and supplemented with bone meal or acid phosphate. A dressing of wood ashes can be used to advantage.

Planting.—Gladiolus, corms, or bulbs should be planted about 4 inches deep, depending on the soil. Deep planting helps to support the stem.

They may be planted in straight rows, and if exhibition flowers are wanted, six or more inches apart; but good flowers will be produced if they are planted closer. They do not do well if planted in shade of trees or buildings.

Time for Planting.—Gladioli may be planted any time after the ground is sufficiently warm and dry. From May 15 to 30 is the usual time, but planting may be continued until the 10th or 15th of June. By planting at intervals of a week or more, the flowering season will be prolonged, but this is also accomplished by planting a range of varieties of different maturities.

Flower spikes that are produced the last of August or first of September are often much finer than those blooming earlier in August, when the weather is hoter.

Planted in May, they take about twenty-five to ninety days to bloom, some varieties being much earlier than others.

To produce fine flowers, effort should be made to maintain a steady growth, and in order to effect this, they must not be allowed to suffer from lack of moisture. No matter how good the corm is, or how fine the varieties do not show to advantage in very hot weather, and will be scarcely recognized.

The size of the corm is no indication of its value; some fine varieties have a small corm, and many poor varieties have a large corm.

Cutting the Flowers.-Cut the spike when the first flowers open, and place in water without crowding. The end of the stem should be shortened, withered flowers removed and water renewed daily. By doing this, all the flowers will open in succession and the spike will last a week or more. Sufficient foliage should be left on the plant to keep it in growing condition.

Harvesting.—Dig the corms before the ground freezes. Cut off the stalk close to the corm, cure for a few days in sun and air, and store in a cool cellar in shallow trays or open paper bags and the corms can be removed at a convenient time during the winter.

The Gladiolus is a fine cut flower for table decorations, and there is for this purpose nothing to surpass it in its season.

The sewing cotton used in every home is made almost exclusively of long staple Egyptian cotton. No cotton now grown in the United States has been found suitable for spinning the finer sizes of thread for which there is the greatest demand.

Still, saving up for a rainy day does not require as much will power as saving up for a dry day.

EARLY TO SOW, EARLY TO HARVEST

While the expression, "Early to Sow, Early to Harvest', does not apply to all kinds of vegetables, it does to many. Such heat loving plants as the bean, cucumber, melon, pepper, eggplant and corn make little if any progress if sown or planted in the open before the ground is warm and danger from even the lightest frost is over, but there is little danger of too early seeding of carrot, lettuce, onion, peas, radish and spinach, and if cauliflower and cabbage are well hardened off before setting out, the early planting of them will usually ensure much quicker returns than if they were planted late. Even with some of those plants which require much heat for rapid development, an early start in hot-beds is desirable so that they will be well advanced before setting out.

Promptness in getting the hardier vegetables into the ground in the spring, providing the ground is well drained, will usually result in earlier crops. Even in the case of corn, if one has a warm, well-drained piece of land where the seed is not likely to rot before germination, on at least a small area, it will pay to sow the seed relatively early and take chances of frost for if conditions are favourable afterwards, the crop will beat out the later plantings. Should the weather prove very unfavourable and the seed rot or the young plants freeze, another seeding can be made. If tomato plants are well advanced and properly hardened off before they are set in the field, they will ensure an earlier crop than if plants are started late and set out when very small, though it is necessary to bear in mind that the tomato will stand no frost. The early in hot-beds, so as to have the plants well advanced and many melons set by the time the hot weather of summer comes, so that the glass may be taken off, has been well demonstrated by the growers of the noted Montreal melon, which is a rather late variety. To have the earliest potatoes, sets should be sprouted and planted early in the warmest soil available. It has been found that even if the sprouts should be frozen they will come again and new potatoes obtained early.

A VISIT FROM "MA."

The way in which an Oklahoma editor announced that his mother was coming to visit him may seem a trifle breezy, but it is safe to say that there isn't a mother living who would not be glad to have her advent hailed with such genuine delight and pride. This is the way he spread the glad tidings abroad:

"The editor of the News-Republican is going to tog up a little this evening. Going to change collars and put on a pair of cuffs, if we can find any. Going to get shaved, and going to get our shoes shined and the pegs cut out so we can walk right pertly. Ma's a-comin' down to see us. You know who ma is. Ma is our only ma, and she's a good one, too—one of the old Ohio Quaker sort, you know. Ma lives in Kingfisher. She was our ma when we were born; she was our ma out in Western Kansas when we hunted prairie coal; she was our ma when we drank parched corn coffee in old Oklahoma in '98, and she's our ma now. She's the best ma we ever had. If you see us to-morrow walking down the street with a little woman with a smile on her face you'll know that's ma. If you never had a ma, you should get one—and one like our ma, too."

CRUELTY TO GOLD FISH

(Our Dumb Animals)

Probably the thousands of persons who keep pretty gold fish in a bowl for ornament and the children who find a pleasure in watching them have never stopped to think that the practice may be cruel, but there are strong reasons for saying that it is. Fish need dark and shady corners to sleep and rest. When they are kept in a small round globe, with the light blazing in their eyes all day long, it appears certain that they suffer great discomfort. The small size of the bowls add to their troubles for they must go constantly round and round in a small circle, bumping their noses against the glass. A humorist has expressed one view of this problem by saying, "he has as much privacy as a goldfish in a bowl."

An open countenance is all right if it wouldn't overdo the matter when a sneeze is preparing to emigrate.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT NARROWLY AVERTED AT WINGHAM

(Wingham Advance-Times.)

Last Friday afternoon a very dangerous happening occurred which might have been more serious than it was. While playing about, Allan Small, aged 4 years, and Frank and Roy Renwick, aged 5 and 3 years, wandered off to Tipling's sand-pit, near the C.P.R. station. At present there is a pond at the bottom of the sand-pit and the little fellows took off their hats, coats, shoes and stockings and waded in the ice-cold water that bitter cold afternoon. Allan Small made his way home in his bare feet, but Frank and Roy Renwick tried to get their shoes and stockings on but were unable to do so. When Mrs. Renwick found them they were lying on the wet sand crying and almost exhausted from the cold. It was such a lonely place no one could hear their cries. However, the three little fellows were able to be around the next day not much the worse of their outing.

PLANTING TO TRANSFORM THE HOME

A well placed foundation planting adds refinement to a dwelling whether it be large or small. Whether flowering shrubs or dwarf evergreens are used, the effect is to give charm to the home and dignity to the street. Bare walls of masonry or even of timber construction are harsh and severe. They need the softening influence of a shrubbery screen.

Attracted by a neat little home framed by a hedge, with climbing vines reaching almost to the chimney top, the bare white walls of the garage peeping through purple and white lilacs, the shrubbery planting at the front of the house, a newcomer to the town decided that was the kind of home he would like to have. The owner of the place was visited and from him was secured the plans and specifications for his house that was to be built several blocks away.

The new home was completed but it attracted no interest because there it stood, bleak and bare, concealing its "hominess" behind a shining exterior of fresh white paint and green blinds. It was the same home in mechanical construction, but it required the softening influence of the planter's hand and Mother Nature to give it the charm so much desired. When spring opened the owner of the new home was hard at work with spade and shovel digging holes - small round holes, large round holes, and long shallow trenches, to receive the trees and shrubs and vines which nurserymen and nearby woods had contributed. He had studied from observation and the printed page, theories of plant grouping and was doing the work with an eye to the effect that would be produced in a few years. Following modern ideas the first planting was done within a few feet of the walls using bushy plants, which help to conceal the brick, stone and concrete. Nature soon wrought a marvellous transformation.

Many villages, town and city homes need this sort of treatment, the value of which is always somewhere to be seen in an urban vicinity. What to plant is the problem. The nursery catalogue and the nursery operators can as a rule be safely followed to the extent of what one can readily afford. Whether to plant one variety or a number of varities is a question the individual must settle. It is considered better to make groups of one sort rather than mix varieties indiscriminately. With evergreen groups two or three varieties can very well be planted together, affording charm by their different habits of growth.

In shrubbery, the Spirea Van Houttii is one of the most beautiful. It grows from two to five feet high and bears a profuse mass of white flowers early in June. An earlier variety is Spirea Arguta. The Barberry, berberis Thunbergii, is regarded as the best barberry for ornamental purposes. It is a dwarf, compact shrub, with bright green leaves in summer, changing in autumn to deep red. It carries its red fruit well into the winter season. The Caragana grandiflora grows 4 feet high and produces yellow, pea-shaped blossoms in Lonicera Tartarica, must be given more room, as it grows from five to ten feet high. This well-known variety produces a crop of pink flowers towards the end of May. There are several varieties of the Philadelphus or Mock Orange. Rosa Rugosa, summer and fall flowering Hydrangea and the Viburnums, are among other shrubs from which to choose the foundation planting that will give to the home that will give to the home that attractive appearance so much desired by the occupant and admired by the passer-by.

THE SOCIETY EDITOR CALLED, AND WRITES UP A FIRE

A fire occurred in an English provincial town and caused much excitement. No member of his regular staff of reporters being available at the time, the news editor of the local paper sent the newly-engaged society editor to investigate the matter and report. The following description was handed into the office some hours later:

"A brilliant fire was held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sniff, in Dash street. A large number of persons were present. Mrs. Sniff, who had recently had her hair bobbed, made a charming escape in a pretty silk blouse, a pattern of which appeared in our woman's page last week. The firemen were becomingly garbed in blue, full-cut tunics. The weather was delightful for an affair of this kind. Because of the fire, Mrs. Jones of 336 Dash street opened her home to Mrs. Sniff and her two charming daughters. The expression was heard on all sides that the fire was a most successful event. It must have cost at least about £5,000."

MAKE YOUR WINDOWS SHINE.

The merchants and business men of Yarmouth, as well as of other towns, believe not only in keeping their store or office windows clean, but in making them shine. The Michigan tradesman explains how to make the glass shine:

"The inside of the glass should be washed with tepid water applied with a chamois, using no soap or powder of any kind. The outside requires different treatment and should be cleansed with the following mixture:

"One ounce pulverised whiting, 1 ounce grain alcohol, 1 ounce liquid ammonia, 1 pint water. Apply with a soft cloth, after having removed the surface dirt. When this preparation is allowed to dry and is then rubbed off with a polishing motion the surface of the glass will be extremely brilliant and will remain so for a longer time than when washed in the ordinary way. If the glass has become badly scratched a filler should be applied. This consists of an ounce of turpentine. This fills the cracks or scratches and prevents the dirt from lodging in them."

BORN

Hiscock.—In Durham Hospital, on April 17, to Mr. and Mrs. Hiscock, of Hamilton, a daughter.

McGillivray.—In Durham Hospital on April 17, to Dr. and Mrs. Charles McGillivray, a son.

DIED

McGillivray.—In Durham, April 18, infant son of Dr. and Mrs. Charles McGillivray, aged one day.

Sharp.—In Normanby, near Hampden, on Monday, April 21, William Sharp, aged 77 years, 10 months, 16 days.

CLASSIFIED ADS.

(Too Late for Classification.)

THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING of the Women's Institute will be held at the home of Mrs. J. H. Harding on Wednesday (note change of day), April 30, at 2.30 p.m. The President and Secretary's reports, the election of officers and other business will be disposed of. Miss Fettes, matron of the Red Cross Memorial Hospital will speak to the ladies on results of preventable diseases (contagious) on the full growth. Roll call will be answered by paying fees for the coming year. A full attendance of members is requested.

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Ladies' Gingham House Dresses at	$1.75 and $2.90
Ladies' Long Silk Gloves at per pair	$1.50
Ladies' Short Silk Gloves at per pair	90c and $1.50
Ladies' Satinette Princess Slips in colors at	$2.99
Navy Blue Serge, 54 ins wide at per yard	$1.50
Navy Blue Poiret Twill at per yard	$2.50

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Two Minute Talks On Forestry

By ROBSON BLACK, Manager, Canadian Forestry Association.

I.—Who Owns Canada's Forests?

The forests of Canada are owned by the People to the extent of 85 per cent. It is true that the timber cutting rights on a portion of the forests are leased to companies, thereby providing 125,000 men with steady and well-paid jobs, but the ownership remains in the name of the Canadian people. This is in happy contrast to conditions in the United States, where three-fourths of the forest area is privately owned. The people of Canada not only gain about twelve million dollars a year for their treasuries from taxes on the cutting rights but what is even more important they have ample power to insure that timber crops shall be made the inheritance of future generations; in other words, the Canadian people by retaining the title to the greater part of forest area have assumed a solemn responsibility for passing on the "capital stock" of the Forest Estate to our great grandchildren in unimpaired condition.

Now we come to a little understood fact. The forests are being deteriorated not by use but by abuse. In the last hundred years 600,000 square miles have been burned by public recklessness as compared to 100,000 square miles cleared by the axe. Of last year's forest fires numbering 6,000, about 5,400 were started by careless people. Not the axe, but the unextinguished camp fire, the match and cigarette, are devastating the forests and robbing the next generation of badly-needed timber. Forest conservation starts with those who use the forest for work or play. There will be no such thing as forest protection until the Canadian citizen regards the burning of a forest as infinitely more disgraceful than setting fire to some of his municipal buildings.