

PRACTICAL FARMING

THE FARM HOME ATTRACTIVE

By E. W. GAGE.

Prevent Dairy Casualties.

Many serious losses in the dairy business are caused by careless mistakes which might be prevented. On one farm a fine cow died and the post-mortem found a piece of wire which the animal, tacks, pieces of wire and metal scraps of all kinds which may become mixed with feed and be eaten by the animals. Scratches from broken-down barbed wire fences often cause needless injury to dairy cows.

When there is a wooden floor in the barn it is best to examine the boards at least once each year. Sometimes the floor behind the stanchions may decay and then some day a cow breaks through, and even though the fall to solid ground is only one or two feet, a broken leg may result. Even if the cow is only strained and bruised by such an accident it may cause a serious reduction in the flow of milk.

An icy approach to the barn or the water trough may cause cows to slip and suffer injury. An animal may break its leg by a heavy fall when hurrying into the barn at feeding time. It is best to keep the ice away from the approach to the barn and throw salt or dead ashes on spots where the ice is apt to accumulate.

Horns are often a useless ornament on a utility dairy cow and sometimes the animals injure each other with their horns. In primitive times the cows of the plains needed horns to fight their natural enemies, but now the farmer is busy fighting enemies for them and the horns are just as well removed. The best way to do it is with the old reliable caustic potash stick applied when they are calves.

Fire is another cause of many casualties in the dairy business. The oil lantern is placed near a pile of hay. Scene two, the hired man hits the lantern over with a pitchfork full of hay. Scene three, the barn is soon in flames. Scene four, the farmer and his family are surveying the charcoal and mentioning the fact that the insurance money will hardly build a pigsty at the present cost of labor and material. When farmers can all have properly installed electric lights in their dairy barns it is going to save a lot of fine cows from a terrible death.

FERTILIZER

GARDENS, LAWNS, FLOWERS
Complete Fertilizer, Wilmers
Stevens, Peterborough, Ont.

ROOFING

MAKESHON BRAND
Ready Roofing, Asphalt Shale Shingles,
Wall Board, Building Papers,
Roof Paints, etc.
Write for prices and samples.
Save money by buying direct.

MODERN BROS., 79 Jarvis St.,
Toronto

FOR SALE

Canadian Root Seed.
Raised from the best stock by Dominion
Experimental Farms.
SUPPLY LIMITED.
Prices as follows—

50 lbs. and over	55c. lb.
250	50c. "
200	45c. "
100	40c. "
50 lbs. and over	85c. lb.
250	80c. "
200	75c. "
100	70c. "

Freight paid and sacks free.
Net payment bank draft 60 days from
date of invoice and 5% allowed for cash
15 days from date of invoice.
Particulars about varieties on applica-
tion.

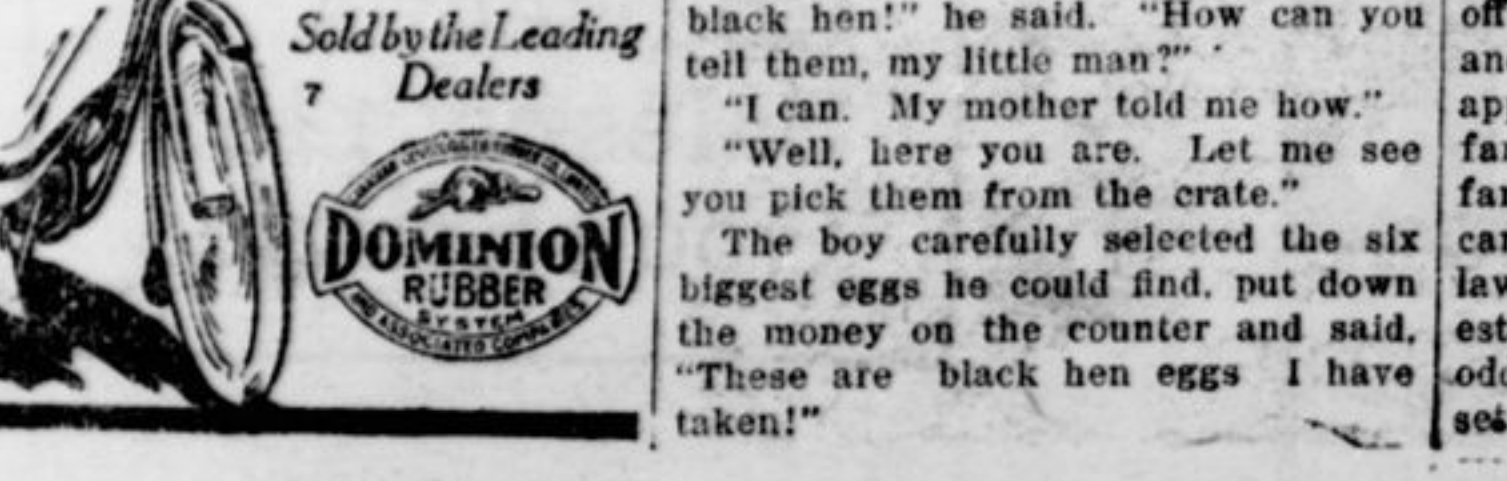
DR. M. O. MALTE,
Central Experimental Farm,
Ottawa, Ont.

DOMINION Bicycle Tires

WILL SERVE YOU WELL
EVERYTHING that you could
ask for, in easy riding, extra
mileage, staunch wear and
freedom from ordinary tire
troubles, you will find in Dominion
Bicycle Tires. They are

"Unquestionably
The Best Tires"
Be sure to ask
your dealer for
DOMINION TIRES
that have proved
their high quality
and durability
under every road
condition.

Sold by the Leading
Dealers
DOMINION RUBBER
MANUFACTURING CO.
LONDON, ENGLAND



The possession of attractive home surroundings is not beyond the reach of any farmer who owns his home, stay enjoyable by a few brushes here and there. There is little relation between the size, costliness, or simplicity of a home and its surroundings as compared with its attractiveness that may be given it by proper arrangement and careful upkeep. Beauty is not to be measured by expense, and ornament of any kind is not needed so much as a neat and well-kept appearance.

Farm folks are coming more and more to appreciate the value of home-like and inviting surroundings as a background for family life. The ideal home and home life is the reward for which we are striving. Then, there is that pleasure which comes to the family having home surroundings to be proud of. It is an obligation which every citizen owes his community to have his home as attractive as possible. One little farm mother put the truth in a sentence, "Let the home beauty be its sole duty." This is the proper spirit. The farm home may be made beautiful by simple means. Neatness and orderliness come first; these combined with a good green-sward about the house and a sheltering growth of trees and shrubs, a veritable garden may soon be developed.

The farm home is a combined residence and business headquarters. As the farm business is but a means of the home life, it is of first importance that the farm as a whole should make for pleasant home life. If children are the most important crop the modern farmer produces, then it follows that the most important function of a farm is that of supporting a good home. If every farm child were in attractive home surroundings, many of the problems of life would be solved, and we would not be facing the question of keeping the boys and girls on the farm.

The influence of farm environment has a subconscious but potent effect on children. Even while the barn is only a playground to the children, here may be taught orderliness and thrift, as also in woodlot, orchard, meadow, and field, all giving one grand example of living object lessons of good farming. The orchards, while set primarily intended to serve an aesthetic purpose, may form the most beautiful part of the farm. An orchard of standard apples could profitably be planted near the farm home to become a part of its background of surrounding trees.

The pleasant farm surroundings, vital, both for the present welfare of the individual home and for the future of country life. Wide-awake young people will usually hesitate at leaving an attractive, prosperous farm home for uncertainties of city life. But consider the farmstead as a whole. It is not merely a question of a few acres here, fresh paint and new porches, broad lawns or tidy door yards, but of having living places that, in their whole effect, are pleasing and elevating to older folk and children alike.

A well-planned and well-kept yard greatly improve an ugly house; a pleasing house makes it far easier to lay out an attractive yard. A house with a poor yard, or none, is inhospitable and forlorn. Both the house and grounds must be kept in mind in planning.

One of the surprising features about an attractive home surrounding is that few people can describe it when they have left it behind. In planning farm homes an expert advises that there are seven points that we should emphasize:

1. The place must be well furnished with trees and shrubbery.
2. The house should be prominent and should have a good setting.
3. There must be an open space of lawn.
4. The trees and the smaller plants should be massed or grouped at the sides or at the rear rather than scattered all over the place.
5. There must be no unnecessary fences, walks or drives.
6. There must be no curiosities conspicuously placed in the yard, such as piles of stones, odd rocks, or shells.
7. The place must be neat and well-kept so that it may look as if the residents gave it loving care.

The house being headquarters, this should be connected with the highway and the surrounding buildings by serviceable walks and drives. It should have an attractive setting. This is the first and main purpose of the yard, by which is meant two distinct ideas: first, the house should have a background of sufficient growth of trees and shrubs to give it a protected appearance; second, the setting should afford opportunity for outdoor life on the lawn and in the shaded corners.

A good lawn may be said to be more important than any other feature. Neither shrubs, flowers, nor house will look well unless set off by lawn space. Use good seed and give the permanent grass liberal applications of fertilizers. Many farmers feed everything about the farm but the lawn grass. Constant care is necessary to make a good lawn, though when the lawn is well established care may be given at odd moments. Neglect at the outset will prove disastrous. A thrifty lawn is an insurance against weeds.



INTERNATIONAL LESSON

MAY 11.
Lesson VI. Sin and Its Consequences
—Gen. 3:1-24; Rom. 1:18-22; James 1:15. Golden Text, Rom. 6:23.

Gen. 3: 1-13. Temptation and Fall. "The serpent." The story is used by the Hebrew writer as a symbolical narrative or parable, to show the origin of sin in the world. It is a part of the spiritual history of humanity. Adam and Eve represent the human race, the garden is his primitive, childlike innocence and happiness, and the tree of life represents his communion with God, in whose favor is his true life and from whom separation or alienation means death. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil stands for the law, which every man must obey if he would preserve his life, and the serpent represents the temptation of appetite and low desire. As one writer well says: "The story of his (Adam's) temptation, fall and consequent forfeiture of Paradise shadows forth some of the greatest mysteries of the human lot—the strange mingled glory and shame of man, his freedom of action, the war between the law in his members and the law of his mind. It thus comes to have a universal significance, and shows each man, as in a mirror, his own experience. When he reads this narrative his conscience says to him, like a prophet of God, 'Thou art the man; the story is told of thee.'"

The serpent is the insidious power of temptation. Later theology identified him with Satan, the arch-tempter of men. The outward lure, with its suggestion of something good withheld, and its falsehoods, finds response in natural, not evil, appetite and desire. Evil comes to the man only with his yielding to the temptation and disobedience to the law. The lower nature, which should be in subjection, gets the mastery. Appetite rules and the spirit is enslaved.

"Ye shall not surely die." The steps of temptation are accurately described. There is the parleying with the tempter, the question, the doubt, the feeling that something very desirable and good is being withheld, the looking upon the forbidden thing until the desire grows, the yielding, and then the tempting of another to share the guilt.

"Their eyes were opened." There is the awakening of conscience, the sense of shame and fear where there had been before neither shame nor fear, and the hiding from God. With the first conscious sin of disobedience innocence is gone. Each tries to shift the blame upon another. "The woman gave me." "The serpent beguiled me."

Gen. 3: 14-24. The Consequences of Sin. "Curled art thou." The symbolism is continued. The sinuous movements suggest the degradation and deceitfulness of sin. The natural dislike and dread with which the serpent is regarded is like the hatred which every healthy mind feels for falsehood, cruelty and uncleanness. Verse 15 has been called the Protovangel, the first gospel, because it declares the ultimate victory of the man over the serpent, that is, over the temptation to do evil. The conflict may be long, but victory is assured. The serpent-head of wrong will be crushed, even though man himself suffer in the gaining of that victory. Our Lord Jesus Christ, in His sinless manhood, has proved the declaration true, and we through faith may share His victory.

So also the travail and pain and wearisome toil of life, not evil in themselves, become here symbols of all the train of suffering which sin has brought into the world—the grief, the heartache, the disappointment, the wreck of love and the pain of sacrifice.

"As one of us." The maturity of knowledge, in which one becomes like God in the power to distinguish good from evil, comes all too quickly through disobedience. That which should have been the climax of a normal growth becomes through sin the attainment of a movement. But it is the attainment of a distorted and corrupted nature which can no longer enjoy the favor of God (i.e., have access to the tree of life), and so the guilty ones are driven from the garden, and cannot return because the sword of judgment bars the way.

A graphic and terrible picture is drawn in Rom. 1: 18-23 of the consequences of sin—the "wrath of God" and the loss of a true knowledge of Him, and the vanity and folly of idolatry.

"The wages of sin is death," not mere physical death, which is the common lot of all, but the death of the soul through its alienation from God. For "when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin, and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." (James 1: 15.)

What Defeated Germany?

A group of men were standing round the fireplace at the Country Club after their game of golf. They were discussing the cause of Germany's defeat. One laid it to the British blockade, another to army tactics, another to the diplomacy of the allied governments, which had ranged against Germany virtually the whole of the civilized world.

Just at that point, Dr. Edgeworth, the pastor of a local church, joined the group, and they turned to him for his opinion. The good doctor thought for a moment, and then he said slowly, "You must see that I am not so narrow in a church spirit. And I have not think me guilty of a pious platitudinous when I say that I firmly believe that the determining factor in Germany's defeat was God."

"Do you remember," he continued, what Victor Hugo said about Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo? It runs this way: "Was it possible for Napoleon to win at Waterloo? We answer no. Why? Because of Wellington? No. Because of Blucher? No. Because of the rain? No. Because of God. If it was time that man should fall. He had been impeached before the throne of the Infinite, and his fall had been decreed." And then Victor Hugo adds, "Napoleon bothered God."

"But I don't see how Hugo can prove it," replied one of the men.

"No, he couldn't prove that the intervention of God defeated Napoleon at Waterloo," answered the doctor, "not with mathematical precision. This sort of evidence is the most ticklish in the world, but I heard an officer from overseas say that he could lay his finger on no less than three instances where nothing but a miracle saved the Allies."

"There are certain historical incidents that get written down as bearing marks of the intervention of God. The storm that defeated the Spanish Armada is one, and men are beginning to look at the first battle of the Marne as another. Competent authorities tell us that the German defeat cannot be adequately explained on human grounds. If it is true, as Herbert Spencer says, that we live in the presence of a moral order, then something must happen when that order is violated. That German violated that order no one doubts, and when it did so it was fighting against the stars in their courses."

"The text that has been running through my head ever since Germany crumpled is, 'Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.' And I get a lot of comfort as I think of it. Ours is a wonderful world. Wonderful for its chemistry, wonderful for its geometric precision, wonderful for its vital processes, but most wonderful of all for the moral purpose streaking it like veins of gold. The world is pitched to good. Its movement is that way. Every evil thing has, therefore, the seeds of its own destruction born with it. Your Pharaohs, Sennacheribs, Neros, Attilas, Mohammeds, Alvas, Napoleons and Kaiser Wilhelm II's continually arise, putting the nations in fear and threatening to uproot civilization itself. But there is always some rock on which their armadas split; some Moscow in which their armies perish."

Preparation for the Bug Campaign.

We know that the potato bug will be with us next summer and that the vines will have to be sprayed with some poison in order to prevent their destroying the growing tops. That the young of the codling moth will enter the apples on unpruned trees is a foregone conclusion. Flea-beetles, cutworms, cabbage worms and numerous other chewing insects will be with us in our gardens and on our farms. They must be poisoned and this poison must be administered early. The bug killed early in the season will, if killed soon enough, prevent its progeny from doing any damage. The sucking insects cannot, as a rule, be killed by the same sprays that will devastate the ranks of the chewing insects. In order to carry on a successful campaign against these insects we must begin right now to prepare for the battle. The artillery that will sprinkle death on our insect foes is composed of spraying machines both large and small. The ammunition is composed of arsenicals, nicotine, lime, pyrethrum, hellebore and other bug-destroying materials. The artillery should be overhauled as early as possible to see that it is in proper working order. Plenty of ammunition should be on hand to be ready for the first bug that shows itself. Order early your arsenate of lead and be sure to have some nicotine sulphate on hand for the plant lice. Many a crop has been ruined overnight or in a few days' time simply because the proper insecticides were not on hand. Prepare now to wage next summer's battle against the bugs. Get posted on what to spray and when to spray, also on how to spray, and then when the time comes go after them.

None, But Not Forgotten.

"Some of the good people who dine here," said the hotel manager slyly, "seem to regard spoons as a sort of medicine to be taken after meals."



The Witch in the Woods.

The birds and the frogs and the other animals in the big woods wished for rain. For days and days not a drop had fallen.

"The ground," said Hop Toad, "is so hot it almost blisters my feet." Leap Frog, too, complained. "There is scum all over my pond," said he. "My tongue is as dry as sand," said Hop Toad. "I declare, everything will die unless it rains. Let's go to see Leap Frog and Hop Toad jump and jumped until they came to a tree with leaves all curled by the heat. Leap Frog grunted, and Simon Song Sparrow hurried out.

When the two guests had finished speaking he nodded. "My throat is so dry I can scarcely sing," he said. "There is no good water to drink and no place to take a bath." Tufty Titmouse fluttered into the elm tree. "Bath!" he piped. "I haven't had a bath for weeks."

"Let's all go to see the King," said Simon Song Sparrow. Bee Martin, King of the birds, agreed that rain was badly needed, and needed right away.

"What shall we do?" the others asked. "Go find Mary Yellowthroat," said Bee Martin. "She lives in the willow tree down in the lane. Tell her to come here at once."

When Mary heard that the King wanted to see her she came fluttering. She bowed her wee yellow head before him.

"Mary Yellowthroat," said the King, "somewhere in this big woods lives a witch who can send us rain. I do not know where she lives, for she has not been here long. But I know one thing: she must be angry, because she will not let it rain. Go find that witch and beg her to send a few drops of rain."

"I will try," answered Mary Yellowthroat; and she went away calling just as she had called before. "Witch-ity, witch-ity, witch!"

To this day you can hear Mary still calling the witch in the woods. She has called so long and so often that the young folks of the woods do not speak of her now as Mary Yellowthroat; they call her Little Witch-ity. But Mary does not care. She just keeps on trying. It makes her happy to do her best. To this day whenever there is a drought she calls twice as hard as ever. "Witch-ity, witch-ity, witch!" And always, sooner or later, it rains.

eggs should be unpacked and allowed to rest on their sides for twenty-four hours, so the yolks may have a chance to spread and get out of their cramped positions.

A Bowling Acquaintance.

"Willie," said the minister to a bright little fellow of six, "do you know the Ten Commandments?" "Not very well," replied the youngster. "I just know 'em by sight."

Doughnuts will not absorb the fat in cooking if you add a quarter teaspoonful of ginger to the batter. The spice will not affect the taste of the doughnuts.

A hen that sits too closely to the nest, seldom getting off to eat, drink or dust herself, can spoil a hatch as readily as an incubator that is not properly run. Some hens impart too much heat and others not enough. Buyers of eggs often make the mistake of rushing them under hens, or into the incubator, the moment they arrive. This should not be done. The