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Do You Brand Your Butter?
"A pound of good dairy butter, please," said a customer.
"Dow's is fifty cents," Denman's sixty," the storekeeper explained briskly. "Which'll you have—Denman's?"
"No," the customer's tone was conclusive. "We had a pound of Denman's the other night. Worst butter I ever tasted!"

"How did you know it was Denman's?" Mrs. Denman doesn't print her name on her butter. Her butter is always extra nice.
"You told me yourself the stuff was Denman's. Give me Dow's."
Which floored the storekeeper. He handed out a pound of 50-cent butter. The explanation of this was simple. The storekeeper had overreached himself, as storekeepers sometimes will. He had sold for Denman's, butter which was really the product of a less competent buttermaker. He had done the same thing before. He will doubtless do it many times again. And inevitably he will be heavily injured good-will for his poor business judgment.

But there is another angle to the incident. It revealed the ugly thing that was happening to the Denman reputation, innocently entrusted to a grasping merchant. What this good farm woman gained at the separator and churn she was losing because she overlooked a simple old thing—the branding of her butter. Old-fashioned housewives still make butter with sheaves, cows, initials, and the like, molded in the butter itself, a distinctive farm brand which no dealer's chicanery can remove. Many butter-makers in district where the brick is the universal butter form do not use printed butter wrappers. Some others do not use either stamp or printed wrapper, but simply write the name on a piece of paper and place it beneath the wrapper. Such slips, of course, can be easily lost or removed. When a stamp and pad are used the imprint is often smudged out and undecipherable when it reaches the consumer.

The farm making poor dairy butter has no particular ground for advertising it. There are a good many in this class, so many, in fact, that excellent buttermakers in self-protection must brand their butter unless they deliver it to consumers in person. The printed wrapper is ordinarily the best protection. The cost of the printing is negligible; the protection is complete; the advertisement of great value. The home buttermaker whose market product sells at a premium on the local market has something to point to with pride. Such a reputation, attained only with great pains, can be destroyed in a month by a dishonest dealer unless the producer safeguards it.

To Drain Your Land.
Money spent now in properly draining wet farm lands will serve the best interest of our country, and will pay a high rate of interest, often as high as 100 per cent. There is scarcely a farm in Canada where some drainage is not needed to make the soil produce the maximum crops possible with ordinary tillage.

There are millions of acres where good drainage would double the annual food production. There are other millions of acres which lie wholly useless for the want of proper drainage. In many sections the early autumn frosts last year ruined the corn crop on poorly drained fields, but only slightly damaged that on properly drained fields.

There are thousands of miles of ditches that need to be made now by dredging machines. Laterals should spread out from these further to carry off the excess water.

In many sections ditches are blasted out by the use of dynamite alone. Ditches from 3 to 1 feet wide are quickly loaded and fired under favorable conditions.

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EFFICIENT FARMING

Keep An Account of Your Crop.
No farmer is in a position to exercise justice toward his business unless he keeps a record of its details. He must keep account of each crop that he raises, and with his various fields as well. The latter is even of more importance than the former, for an account with certain fields for two or three consecutive years will reveal that land's deficiency and suggest its improvement.

A great deal of money can be wasted by growing crops on soil not adapted to them. Where one crop is grown upon a field having several different soils, the tract should be roughly plotted as to soil, or a just estimate cannot be made.

No busy farmer has time for any elaborate system of account-keeping, but anyone can use an ordinary journal and keep it in this way:
At the top of the page write the name of the crop, the year, and its location. As each expense item, such as seed, soil preparation, fertilizer and its application, planting, cultivation, harvesting, etc., occurs, it is written in the journal page opposite the date upon which the operation occurs. The hours spent in working the crop are charged according to the rate the farmer is paying for labor. Package, packing, and selling expense must also be entered against it.

Credited to the crop are the returns from the sales and an estimate of fertility value of the root and crop remains. The last-mentioned item is difficult to estimate, because it cannot be weighed or measured in most cases. There may yet exist much of the applied fertilizers or manures which the season's crop has not used. This is also difficult to estimate. These fertilizing values cannot be credited in terms of dollars and cents, but since the full cost is charged against the crop this may be mentioned as an unknown variable credit value in the case of all crops known not to be exhausted.

On the other hand, every crop grown removes some of the original soil fertility which has been made available during its life by its own action upon the soil. Again we are dealing with values we cannot ascertain, and we have to mention it on the debit side as an unknown variable debit value.

Now as to the account with soil plots: In another part of the same journal, or in another journal, if the book is small and the farm large and crops numerous, choose a page for each plot. Write the name or description of the plot at the top of the page. In the date column write the year, then on a line by itself the crops for that year and each item of cost for the year, such as tillage, fertilizing, seed, etc., placing the amounts in the debit column. Then should follow the items of sale, prices being entered in the credit column clear of all selling expense. The balance of loss or gain should be stated below this. The plot records of each successive year should follow.

In this way the farmer can know at a glance whether a certain soil section is making him money for his time and labor. It also shows him his crop successions and the tendency toward a richer or poorer farm.

A map of the farm plot should be drawn and pasted in the front of such a book for ready reference.

Hemorrhagic Septicemia.
Hemorrhagic septicemia (blood poisoning), anthrax and blackleg are terrible scourges and used to kill live food production. There are other millions of acres which lie wholly useless for the want of proper drainage. In many sections the early autumn frosts last year ruined the corn crop on poorly drained fields, but only slightly damaged that on properly drained fields.

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Pests That Are Welcome.
When I hear farmers bragging about the hawks, owls, weasels, and minks they have killed, my "dander" begins to rise. Here in this Eastern Ontario community such wholesale killing of rodents, owls, and hawks was the common attitude when the country was new. But there has been a radical change. After the killing and trapping of these so-called "pests" had continued for several years, a plague of rats and mice assailed us. With the rodents' natural enemies killed off they multiplied until corn and grain fields, meadows, orchards, and buildings swarmed with rodents, big and little. Half, and even more, of our grain crops were sometimes destroyed in fields and storage.

We got our lesson, and now we make our poultry houses pest-proof, and give a kind welcome to weasels, owls, hawks, snakes, and toads—all friends of the farmer—and song and game birds as well. What is the loss of an occasional chicken, a few cherries, and small fruits compared with the damage done by hordes of destructive rodents and insect pests?—D. H.

The Farm Tractor.
The tractor on the farm arose before the dawn at four; it milked the cows and washed the clothes. And finished every chore. Then forth it went into the field. Just at the break of day; it reaped and threshed the golden yield. And hauled it all away. It plowed the field that afternoon. And when the job was through, it hummed a pleasant little tune. For while the farmer, peaceful-eyed, read by the tungsten's glow; the patient tractor stood outside, and ran the dynamo.

The Best of the Perennials
This is the best season of the year to plan the spring garden. It is much easier to think out alterations now with the garden in plain view than it will be later on when it is deep in snow. The mistakes and successes of the 1919 season are fresh in one's mind and plans may be made accordingly.

Peonies, a June flowering perennial, are beloved by every one, easily grown, very hardy and have large showy flowers which are fine for cutting. There is a great variety of colors from which to choose. It has practically no insect enemies. The flowers will not be as perfect the first two years but by the third year the finest kind of blooms should be produced.

The most popular white peony is without doubt, Festiva Maxima, followed in popularity by Duchess de Nemours and Marie Lemoine as mid-season bloomers, followed again by Gloria Mundi, a late bloomer.

Of the pink varieties, La Tulipe and Eugene Verdier are early light pink beauties. Monsieur Jules Elie and Madam Coste are excellent mid-season bloomers.

For those who like red, the following peonies are good. Adolphe Rousseau, one of the darkest, is the early blooming variety; Felix Crousse, a rich shade of red; Barlois, current red, which bloom next; Rubra Superba, a deep red, is known as the best late-blooming crimson peony.

YOUR PROBLEMS BY MARGHELEN LAW
Mothers and daughters of all ages are cordially invited to write to this department. Initials only will be published with each question and its answer as a means of identification, but full name and address must be given in each letter. Write on one side of paper only. Answers will be mailed direct if stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed.
Address all correspondence for this department to Mrs. Helen Law, 237 Woodbine Ave., Toronto.

Lucille—There does seem to be much mystery about making introductions, does there not? When a girl introduces you to a girl friend, just say, "I am very glad to meet you." Say the same thing to a boy whom you are meeting the first time. Your friend who did not introduce you to the young man who came up to talk to her while you were standing by, also either rude or knew no better. Even if she did not know you very well and knew the young man much better, it was her place to introduce you. There are many people in the world who neglect the opportunity to make people known to each other, whether because they are not sure of the propriety of the thing, or whether they are not naturally gracious and kindly. I do not know.

A. B. C.—You write me that you want to go to the city to train as a nurse and that your very best girl friend wishes to go to the city likewise, but does not care about a nurse's career. If she goes to the city and the approval of her parents do not let her go, anyway, there is nothing you can do to make them change their minds. The girl herself must talk sensibly to them and present her case fairly and trust that if she is in the right, they will see

Color Scheme.
In every good landscape the artist uses all the colors there are. You do not quite believe that. Then notice next time you see a fine view or a really natural painting. The landscape, even though it seems at the first glance all one green, will show tones of yellow and red, all fitted into a harmony of complementary colors in the light that envelops the whole. A good painting of outdoors has its mixtures of red, yellow and blue, the three primary colors, no matter what amount of light may determine the color values.

Bedtime Stories
A Real Little Neighbor.
Michael was poor and old. Edith first saw him one Sunday when he hobbled up the church steps and sat in the last pew to see the flowers and the children on Children's Day. Then she saw him when father hired him to mow the grass in front of her home.

Michael loved flowers and trees and grass. Once he had taken care of the flowers in a rich man's garden. But that was long ago; now the rich man was dead, the garden was gone, and Michael was old and poor.

When Edith counted her own bank money and the gifts that others had given, her face shone with surprise and gladness. Then a happy thought came to her, because happy thoughts are apt to come to those who are busy about doing good things.

"Mother, may I buy a pot of flowers? And father, may I change the money into two gold pieces and hide them in the leaves?"
Mother and father helped, for it was such a splendid plan. The flowers were bought at the florist's, and the money was changed at the bank. The florist heard the story, and gave the prettiest blossoms in his store. The

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Curious Creatures
"Men are curious creatures," said Mrs. Hobbs to her recently married visitor. "Almost every one of 'em has his own peculiarities, and when you get one you almost need a book of directions to go with him."
"Now, there was my sister's husband. After Eva was married, I boarded with her a while so that I could attend school in the village. I was only fifteen, but I was pretty observing, and at first I puzzled considerably over George. He seemed to be kind and loving for the most part, but he had the meanest way of picking flaws. He certainly had no occasion for it. Eva was a spick-and-span housekeeper and a splendid cook; and she never wore an unbecoming thing in her life. But George was forever making insinuating remarks. "Getting most out of salaratus?" he'd ask, and that would be a hint that there was too much of it in the biscuits. Or, when Eva had on something especially pretty, he would want to know if she were trying to set a new fashion. And when he had got off one of those speeches, he would grin in a way that would make me just want to shake him.

"One morning, at breakfast he had been more than common aggravating in that way; and after he had gone to the store I said to Eva, "If George wants to find fault, why don't you give him something worth while to find fault about?"
"That was a little forthputting for a slip of a girl like me; but Eva only laughed and said she had a good mind to try it, and when I came home from school for dinner I found that she certainly had. The meat was burned, and the gravy was oversalted, and the potatoes were soggy, and the coffee was drowned in water and the pie had run over in the oven. It was my job to set the table; and at that age I didn't have to try very hard to leave things at sixes and sevens.

"Eva put on a faded old dress, and her hair was every which way, and there was smut on her face. Then we waited for George. "There he comes now," I said, "and there's a man with him!"
"My stars!" said Eva. "I must be that Mr. Arnold, the traveling man that George admires so much. He said he might bring him home to dinner some day. What in the world shall I do?"
"There wasn't time to do anything before George was in the house. But he had no one with him. The man I sat down to dinner. Eva had had such a scare that she still wore a hunted look, but he was in high spirits. But George took no more notice of what was wrong than a real polite stranger would. He got off his little jokes, but not one of them had anything to do with food or the way anything looked. As he got up from the table he said:

"Mr. Arnold is to be in town this afternoon, and I thought of asking him to supper. But perhaps I'd better let it go till next time."
"But Eva wouldn't hear of that. She insisted on George's bringing Mr. Arnold home with him to supper, and he promised to. Before he went off George got a word with me in private.
"Look here, sis," says he, "I saw you turning up your nose and snickering to yourself at dinner. You ought not to do that. Might hurt Eva's feelings. Everybody has an off day once in a while."
"All right!" I says, "I'll be good after this, if you will." I am afraid I was pretty pert, as a girl.
"Eva must have spent every minute that afternoon in getting ready, and I've seldom eaten such a supper as Mr. Arnold eat set before him. The food was delicious, and Eva herself was a picture. Well, the first thing George broke open a biscuit, and put on a silly grin, and asked Eva if the salaratus was getting low. Then he asked Eva if the ribbon at her throat and the one in her hair weren't sort of swarming at each other.

"Every time George would make such a remark, Mr. Arnold would twist it round into the prettiest kind of compliment. Then George would seem to swell up, and his eyes would shine. It wasn't long before I saw that he was just running over with pride in Eva, and his pretense of faultfinding was only his way of bragging about her.

"After that I liked him better; and though I guess it never was in him to be a real polished gentleman, he has always been a kind husband and a good provider. Of course he has his faults. But, land of love! what man hasn't? They are all curious creatures."

Grape and Currant Cuttings.
Make grape and currant cuttings in Autumn. Select well ripened shoots of this season's growth and cut them into six-inch lengths, each length containing two or more buds; cut them square off below a bud, so that the roots will start out around the end. Have at least one bud above ground, and one below. Cuttings should be stored in green sawdust or earth in a cool place where they will not freeze. If the sawdust is too wet the cuttings will mold, and if the temperature is too high the buds will begin to grow as soon as the rest period is over.

ONTARIO ARCHIVES TORONTO