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A young wife can never understand why her husband is so grouchy when she awakens him in the middle of the night to ask him what dress she had better wear to the lawn party the next afternoon.

Tips For The Farmers

BY UNCLE JOSH.

A correspondent gives this as a sure recipe for killing the striped bugs on squash, cucumbers and melons: Dissolve an even tablespoon of saltpeter and put in a pail of water. Put this around the roots in the hills; it will not injure the vines.

The area sown to oats in the United States, as reported in the official Crop Reporter, is slightly in excess of last year, but the average condition on the first of June was four points lower than a year ago.

In Canada the area in oats, according to the report of the dominion department of agriculture, is over one-seventh greater than it was last year, and the department is ninety-two per cent. of a full one on the 15th of June. Unless, therefore, there is a marked shortage of oats in Europe, prices in this line are likely to be lower than they were last year.

An old retired sea captain, who lives on the Oregon coast, is now engaged in preparing a sea-gull farm. His attention was first attracted to the matter by noticing the demand for sea-gull eggs. They are not so delicate as hen's eggs, having a slightly fishy taste, but they are wholesome and nutritious, and many thousands of them are consumed annually. The prospective farmer believes that if the gulls were kept in confinement awhile and properly fed, their eggs would be as good as hen's eggs. He purposes to fence in a piece of land along a slough, including a section of the slough, and so confine there as many gulls as he can procure, and believes that in a little while they will become tame and can be treated the same as barnyard fowl.

Alfalfa is very long-lived; fields in Mexico, it is claimed, have been continuously productive without replanting for over two hundred years, and others in France are known to have flourished for more than a century. Its usual life in the United States is probably from ten to twenty-five years although there is a field in New York that has been mown successively for over sixty years. It is not unlikely that under its normal conditions and with normal care it would well nigh be, as it is called, everlasting.—From Coburn's "The Book of Alfalfa."

Throughout the United States are scattered a few frog farms, and it is extremely probable, says the New York Tribune, that as the food value of the batrachian becomes better known the farms will materially increase in number. In making a frog farm several natural ponds are selected, if possible. Around these fences are constructed and the ponds are roofed over with coarse wire to keep out the birds and animals which prey upon the frogs. The natural increase of the pond inmates is supplemented by the capture on the outside of as many additional ones as possible, which are placed in the ponds. As soon as young ones are born they are removed to what is known as the "nursery ponds," as otherwise they would be gobbled up by the larger frogs.

No attempt is made to confine the frogs until near the time for shipment to market. They are then taken alive at night, with the aid of a torch and a dip-net, and confined in small pens that can be drained when the frogs are desired for market. Only the hind legs, skinned, are marketed. The rest of the animal's flesh is edible, but as three-fourths of the flesh is on its hind legs the remainder is not sufficient in quantity to bother with.

Agnes C. Laut in the Century: If half a million American settlers should suddenly pull up roots and migrate in a body to some foreign land the event would be heralded as one of the most epic movements of the century. Yet that is virtually what has happened, with little notice and less comment, in the last six years. In less than six years 388,000 American farmers have pulled up stakes in their native states and moved from Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska, Arkansas and Oregon, across the invisible line of the international boundary to free homesteads in the Canadian North-West. Moreover, 100,000 Americans have gone north as investors, speculators, miners, lumbermen.

A railroad traffic manager and a customs officer both told me the same thing; very few of the American homesteaders came in with less than $1,000 cash; many came in with capital ranging from $3,000 to $10,000. The capital brought in by the investing classes varies from the $10,000,000 placed by the Morgan banking house in the Canadian Northern railway to the $200,000 and $300,000 capital placed in actual cash by the land and lumber and fish companies. Average the American newcomer's capital at $2,000, and the American invasion of Canada in the last six years represents in hard cash an investment of a billion dollars. From what I saw in a leisurely four months' tour of Canada—first by canoe, 1,500 miles among the settlers of the frontier beyond the railroad, then by rail twice across the continent—I have no hesitation in saying that a billion dollars estimate is too small by half.

Produce And Prices.

Kingston, July 17.—Prices were quoted to the Whig as follows:

Fish—Salmon trout, 12½c. lb.; skinned digby herring, 20c. lb.; whitefish, 12½c. lb.; pike, 10c. lb.; Chinook salmon, 30c. lb.; kippered herring, Yarmouth bloaters, 40c. doz.; perch, 30c. doz.; frogs' legs, 40c. lb.; Atlantic salmon, 30c. lb.; salt codfish, 7c. to 15c. lb.; halibut, 20c. lb.; fresh haddock, 10c. lb.; bullheads, 12½c. lb.; red herring, 20c. box; mackerel, 15c. lb.; lake herring, 8c. lb.; finnan haddie, 10c. to 12½c. lb.; fresh lobsters, 25c. lb.; sea bass, 12½c. lb.; pickerel, 12½c. lb.; mackerel, 15c. lb.

Meat—Beef, by carcase, 8c. to 9½c.; cuts, 8c. to 17c.; pork, 11c. by carcase; cutlets, 15c. per lb.; lamb, 16 by carcase; live hogs, 8c. per lb.; turkeys, 18c. per lb.; chickens, 14c. lb.; mutton, 9c. to 10c. lb.;

Vegetables—Carrots, 5c. a bunch; cabbage, 5c., 10c. and 12½c. each; onions, 5c. bunch; turnips, 75c. bag; green onions, 5c. bunch; radishes, 5c. lettuce, 5c.; rhubarb, 5c.; spinach, 5c.

Grain—Oats, 60c.; local wheat, $1.25; buckwheat, 75c.; barley, 64c.; rye, 80c. to 85c.; peas, $1.25; corn, old, 78c.

Flour and Feed—Flour, bakers', $2.90 to $3.15; farmers', $2.80 to $3.10; Hungarian patent, $3 to $3.20; oatmeal and rolled oats, $3.40 to $3.50; cornmeal, $2 to $2.10; bran, $25 a ton; shorts, $26 to $27 a ton; straw, $10 to $12; hay, loose, $13; pressed, $14.

Eggs, new laid, 20c. doz.; butter, creamery, 26c. lb.; farmers' butter, in prints, 25c.; packed, 23c.; rolls, 23c.; tubs, 21c.

Wool—Washed, 18c. lb.; sheep skins, fresh, 30c. to 35c.; tallow, rendered, 6c.; deakins, $1; veal skins, 15c. lb.; hides, No. 1, 9c.; hides, No. 2, 8c. lb.; horse hides, $3 each.

MAKE BACK YARD BEAUTIFUL.

A Charming Garden May Be Cultivated.

Crusades for the establishment of municipal health, breathing-spaces and beauty by the various betterment societies and clubs will, it is to be hoped, count among their victories the resurrection of the city garden, the acknowledged right of every householder, says Anne Ericsson Cudlipp in the Delineator for August. Aside from its aesthetic value, no better way has been found to dispose of the daily crop of household cares and worries than to bury them in the backyard, with bulb or seed, before they bury us; to cool with a watering-pot, while sprinkling thirsty plants, the anger aroused by some real or fancied injustice; to snip from our memory unkind words, while shears are busy with withered leaves and blossoms.

No home worth the name should lack its flowers, and an appreciation of their value will make them possible, either in the neglected bit of ground below, up on the roof, in window-boxes, or in all three places at once; for there can not be too many of them. The endlessly recurring household duties, such as preparing vegetables, darning stockings, mending and sewing on buttons, which lack the compensating creative element are robbed of their monotony and transformed into a pleasure when performed in a little green arbor. Flowers raised in our own little yard seem to have a more delicious perfume, and glow with more beautiful tints than any others.

The most ugly back yard may be transformed into a veritable Eden by the planting of hollyhocks, castor beans or morning-glories near fence or shed to hide its unsightly places. These grow to usefulness and beauty before the summer heat makes one long for a green spot where the cares and weariness of the day may be forgotten. But he is a neighborhood benefactor who makes his home premises a source of envy, the gratification of which insures health and happiness and beauty.

The Patent System.

P. Fish, in Forum.

No statistics are available on the point, but it is my own impression that there is no valid foundation for the suggestion that inventors are not adequately compensated. It is undoubtedly the case that in individual instances, meritorious inventors fail to secure all to which it might be said that they are fairly entitled as a reward for their work. It is equally true that other things than merit determine to a large extent the reward of the professional man, the artist, the architect and the engineer. It probably would not require very close analysis to show that in very many cases the material reward of the business man and the capitalist is not at all proportionate to his individual merit. Accident, opportunity and particularly the fitness of the particular man for the special environment in which he happens to find himself, have much to do with all forms of reward that come to men, whether in the goods of the world or in reputation. This is as true of the inventor as of other men, but taking inventors as a whole, I do not believe that they have cause to complain.

History Of The Rideau.

Watertown Standard.

The Rideau canal was built in 1832. It is not really a canal, but a chain of lakes connected by artificial means. The Canadians expected that in case of war with the United States they could use this water way without using the St. Lawrence, to reach the great lakes. The canal is 126 miles long and no digging had to be done except for six miles. The scenery is beautiful, much like the Thousand Islands, but more wild. At each lock old posts are still standing, which were once used against the Indians. As this is a war channel no charts have ever been issued. Brush has often been used to show the channels. The ice of winter time often removes this land mark and causes much trouble to the boats. The fishing is of the best, mostly bass.

Not To Be Forgotten.

Washington Post.

Mr Hammond's face was so ugly as to be almost grotesque, although nobody ever thought about his looks after hearing him talk. "If I hadn't known I was one of the homediest people in the world, I might have been surprised at a remark made by old Pomp, the body servant of one of my southern friends," he once said.

"I hadn't seen Pomp for fifteen years, and as I had grown from a boy to a man in that time, I did not expect him to remember me, but he said, 'Howdy Marse Hammond sah!' the moment he caught sight of me.

"'So you remember me, Pomp,' I said.

"'Couldn't nebbbr forgit yo' face, Marse Hammond, sah,' grinned Pomp. 'Hit's so kinder complicated!'"

Raising Loans In Canada.

Montreal Gazette.

It is stated that the subscriptions for the Ontario $3,500,000 loan only amounted to $2,400,000. Some other loans lately offered on other markets have had a like experience. At the same time it is a matter of regret that better results were not obtained. It will be a good thing for Canada when its people can take all their own municipal and government loans. Also it may be a good while before a security of such high character is again offered on the Canadian market.

SO, THERE NOW!

Vigorous Criticism in Women's National Council.

The wrath of woman was kindled, and the might of man crumbled to the dust. With frankness, directness and fire, the women of the congress at Toronto drove home charges against the inhumanity of man before the section of "Laws that Affect Women and Children." The ultra-fashionable and ultra-rich men and women of Britain were termed by Mrs. Symes Thompson, a delegate from Great Britain, as "That smart set, that small and vulgar set, carrying on, to the intense disgust of all right-thinking people." And again: "Those vulgar, well-dressed women, who rush off with the other woman's husband." The words came as the fiery end to a paper on "Marriage Laws and Divorce," by Mrs. E. B. Grannis, of the United States.

Discussion did not have to be invited. It came the moment the speaker had resumed her chair. "It is shameful," pursued Mrs. Thompson, "the indifference to propriety which marks so large a portion of this generation. The 'old-fashioned' 'chaperone' is almost unknown to-day." "One half the women in asylums and graves are there because of their husbands." This last from Dr. Augusta Stowe-Gullen, of Toronto, who added: "Eighty per cent. of marriages the world over are said to be happy, but it is my firm belief that not more than ten per cent. of them should really exist. In Canada it is a woman's lot to be pretty nearly thrashed before she dies. Poor wives! They have got to suffer weeks and months, and years before they can bring themselves to face the divorce courts. Women suffer three times as much as men. It is because women haven't the courage that they don't oftener sue for divorce."

Mrs. Nicholls, Toronto: "The middle class men in England treat their wives as servants. They make them scrub floors all day. The Canadian woman allows her child to be brought up under a much laxer discipline than the children of English parents. The reason why there are so few divorces in England is that they are so expensive. Uncongeniality of temperament is what makes so many unhappy homes. Women in Canada are too lazy to correct their children."

Then came a voice from the meeting's depth, which gained a little ripple of applause: "A great many marriages are made because the woman thinks she is going to be kept. Until the economic conditions are altered, the woman will never have half a show."

POISE IN WALKING.

Grace Impossible Unless Weight Adjusted.

Delineator for August.

The first essential of graceful walking is poise. The weight of the body must be adjusted over the balls of the feet. In correct poise, the chest always leads, the abdomen recedes, the back and head assume their right positions. It goes without saying that there can be no grace in a hasty walk. Haste causes irregular and uncertain movements of all portions of the body, detracts from a woman's dignity and makes rhythm impossible.

Activity and right use of the feet are the second essential of a graceful walk. The feet have a double duty to perform—the bearing the weight and propelling the body. When the standing position is right, one leg is swung forward from the hip, the knee acting in harmony, and the ball of the foot touching first. The weight is so quickly transferred that the heel makes no noise. Women who walk heavily leave the weight on the heel and are never graceful. The general saying that she should "walk on the balls of the feet" has led some people to try not touching the heel at all. The result is a mincing gait wholly without dignity or grace.

The position of the feet should be straight. The weight of the body being on one foot while the other is swinging forward, the strongest position of the foot should be taken, which is practically straight. As children are always taught to "turn their toes out" this will surprise many.

The carriage of the shoulders is an important element in graceful walking. Nervousness, self-consciousness and haste show in stiffness of the shoulders, also in the aggressive elbows and clasped hands. If the chest is well up and forward, the shoulders will take their natural position and the arms hang at the sides. Forget your shoulders and think only of your chest.

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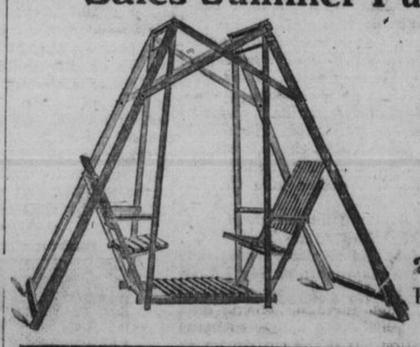

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