



A PRESENT FOR TEACHER.

—Minneapolis Journal.

AN EVENING PRAYER.

To-night I lay the burden by,
As one who rests beside the road,
And from his weary back unbinds
The wheeling load.

I kneel by hidden pools of prayer—
Still waters fraught with healing
power;
In God's green pastures I abide
This longed-for hour.

I know that day must bid me face
Courageously my task again,
Serving with steady hand and heart,
My fellow men.

To hold my sorrow in the dark,
To fight my fear, to hide my pain,
And never for one hour to dream
The toll is vain—

This be to-morrow; now, to-night,
Great, pitying Father, I would be
Forgiven, uplifted, loved, renewed,
Alone with thee.
—Grace Duffield Goodwin.

Under Difficulties

Haskins never did care for Selmore anyway. At first he had disliked the fellow mildly on general principles, but later he hated Selmore cordially, for a specific reason. Alice Clark was the reason.

When Selmore first saw Alice Clark and fell a victim, Alice was in Haskins' car. Though he did not realize it, Haskins had grown to consider her as belonging to his car quite as much as he did himself. He had glowed with a little proprietary pride when he detected the gleam of interest and admiration in Selmore's eyes, but he was not prepared for what followed.

Selmore had stopped by the car and after being introduced, had cheerfully asked for a lift to his destination and got it, occupying the entire time of transit in conversing with Alice quite as though Haskins were a hired chauffeur.

A week later, when Haskins called on Alice and found Selmore there, he learned through the conversation that Selmore had accidentally met her in a candy shop and had promptly asked to call. And he kept on calling.

Haskins tried to convince himself that had it been any one else on earth than Selmore he should not have cared. It was simply, he told himself, because he disliked Selmore so. Alice certainly had a right to have as many callers as she chose, inasmuch as she was not engaged to himself. It was the first time the idea of being engaged to Alice had presented itself to him, and he thought about it a great deal after that, mainly because Selmore persisted in interfering so with his established routine.

He was especially upset one evening when, having made an engagement over the telephone to take Alice auto-mobiling, he called only to find that Selmore had just arrived.

Out of politeness he asked Selmore to come along and to his rage Selmore brazenly accepted. Haskins had quite counted on that ride as a pleasant one, for it was a springlike evening. There was to have been a spin over the boulevards, supper at some quiet place and then home in the moonlight—and who could tell what might happen? Now, here was Selmore, fastened on him for the whole evening.

He tried to make himself believe that Alice had looked a trifle disappointed when Selmore accepted, yet he bitterly felt it could not be so, for Selmore was looking especially handsome in his new spring suit.

The ride progressed in an electric silence on Haskins' part and with fluent conversation on Selmore's. They had the spin and the supper, which was as ashes in Haskins' mouth. Then they started home. On a downtown street corner the machine wheezed and stopped. Haskins took malicious delight in making Selmore descend and help him back it off the car tracks.

Then he investigated irritably, for accidents were alien to his car.

As he delved amid the machinery Selmore sat aloft amiably talking to Alice. When at last Haskins had to crawl under the machine and lie flat on his back while he pounded the mechanism he knew how anarchists feel.

"Here, Haskins," Selmore called down finally, "can't you fix it? I should think you'd know your own car better."

"It's getting terribly late," said Alice.

As Haskins plodded away to a telephone he seethed with hatred of Selmore. After wrestling with the phone and finding he could get no help Haskins phoned his home garage and then went back to the two in the car.

"They're sending a tow after me," he said. "You two can just catch the last suburban train if you hurry. It will relieve my mind if you'll take it, so that I'll know Miss Clark will get safely home."

"Splendid idea!" agreed Selmore, and leaped out. He reached up a helping hand to the girl in the back seat.

Maybe she had had too much of Selmore, maybe she felt sorry for Haskins; maybe—

At any rate she never moved. She regarded Selmore coolly.

"I am not going to desert the car and let Mr. Haskins wait here all alone till goodness knows when!" she said distinctly. "You hurry along and catch the train, Mr. Selmore! I shall wait and be towed in with Mr. Haskins."

So Selmore had to go. As Haskins watched him vanish around the corner he was conscious that a great joy percolated throughout his system. He climbed out of the driver's seat and in beside Alice.

"Thank the fates!" he breathed. "Now maybe while we're waiting I can have a chance to say a few things to you that I've been wanting to say!" Chicago News.



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PLANS SCHOOLS FOR SOUTH.

Priest Pledges Himself to Raise \$100,000 Yearly to Help Negroes.

A movement has been started by the Catholic church in the United States for the wholesale conversion of negroes and the Rev. John E. Burke, pastor of the only Roman Catholic church for negroes in the city—the Church of St. Benedict the Moor, in West 53d street—is in charge of the work, the New York Evening Telegram says.

It is the plan of Father Burke, who has the active support of all the prelates in the country, to raise \$100,000 every year in order to establish new schools, mission chapels, substantial churches and a seminary.

At present there are only four negro priests in missionary work among their own people and their field is confined to the southern states. The intention of the church authorities is to increase this number to hundreds.

Cardinal Gibbons has taken an active interest in the extraordinary cam-

paign and recently he sent a circular letter to the clergy and laity of the country calling attention to the needs of the negro mission movement and urging all to make a special effort to help it along.

Father Burke, in speaking of the needs of the Catholic negro of the country, said:

"We want to tear down the old mission chapels of the south which are dilapidated and build new ones. We want to build substantial churches where they are needed and establish parochial schools for the education of the young. The colored people themselves have not the means to do these things."

"We also want to get more young men of the race to study for the priesthood and seminaries will be necessary. Our idea is to make this not only a campaign of religion, but one of education as well, for we realize that both go hand in hand, and to make colored people of the south good Catholics we will have to educate them."

Most of the funds to be raised by Father Burke will be used for missionary work in the southern states.

MORE TROUBLE AHEAD.

Advent of the Balalaika in England a Menace to Our Peace.

The balalaika impends, a new and most unpleasant rival to the mandolin, the concertina and the banjo. It comes from Russia and it has already taken London by storm. Before long, unless Congress comes quickly to the rescue with drastic legislation, the Baltimore Sun asserts, it will invade our fair republic, filling the air of freedom with its discords and driving all honest music lovers to alcohol and anesthetics.

The balalaika, it should be explained, is a sort of triangular guitar with three strings. One of those strings is tuned to the A of the treble staff, while both of the others are tuned to E. The thing is operated by plucking the strings with the right hand, the notes being produced by sliding the thumb of the left hand up and down the two E strings. The A string is seldom touched by the left hand. Its deep note drones along through thick and thin with brutal and maddening persistency. It is said to be particularly effective when the melody that is being torn out of the E strings is in the key of A flat.

Fashionable London has taken the balalaika to its heart. Clubs devoted to its study have been formed in Mayfair; Prince Tchagadaeff of St. Petersburg has come over to explain its mysteries; there are even balalaika orchestras, with prima, secunda, alt, bass and contrabass balalaikas. Prof. Clifford Essex, for many years the Graeco-Roman and catch-as-catch-can banjo champion of England, has abandoned the banjo and now devotes his talents to the newcomer.

Life, indeed, grows more terrible every day. The balalaika, there is good reason to believe, will arrive in our midst simultaneously with the tail of Halley's comet. Let us prepare to face that double assault with the fortitude of martyrs.

Too Lavish.

Mrs. Dobbs was trying to find out the likes and dislikes of her new boarder, and all she learned increased her satisfaction.

"Do you want pie for breakfast?" she asked.

"No, thank you," said the new boarder, with a smile. "Pie for breakfast seems a little too much."

"That's just the way I look at it," said Mrs. Dobbs, heartily. "I say pie for dinner is a necessity, and pie for supper gives a kind of finishing touch to the day; but pie for breakfast is what I call putting on airs."

Under Difficulties.

Hark, hark! The lark at heaven's gate sings

As she dodges an aeroplane,

And the wireless messages rattle her wings

While she pours forth her profuse strain.

—Lippincott's.

While a good many men hate to be caught, that is the only part of being chased by a woman that they object

FIRE BLIGHT IN APPLE TREES

A Brief Description of the Disease and Its Cure.

By H. S. Jackson, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis.

Fire blight is the most serious of all the diseases which attack the pear and apple. It is a contagious disease of bacterial origin which, under proper conditions, may attack any part of the tree. Besides the pear and apple, the quince, wild crab apple, hawthorns, mountain ash, serviceberry and some other pomaceous trees are subject to attacks of this disease.

Myriads of germs are present in all freshly blighted portions of the tree and in the sticky ooze exuding from cankers. The germs live almost entirely in the sappy portion of the bark, though in some vigorous-growing varieties of pears the germs have been known to invade the sap wood to a limited extent. Fire blight occurs in more or less severity in nearly all parts of the United States where pears and apples are grown.

In Oregon fire blight has appeared in two general localities—one in the Southwestern part of the state, including the Rogue River valley, the other in the Northeastern part.

Beginning in the spring the first apparent damage produced by the disease in an infected orchard is the blighting of the blossoms. Infection is brought about by insects, principally bees, which have visited a case of hold-over blight and become covered with the organisms contained in the sticky exudation, inoculating the flowers in their search for nectar. The organisms divide and multiply in the nectar and are able to enter the living tissues through the unprotected nectaries. Having entered the tissues they quickly blight the blossoms, pass down the blossom-stem and into the fruit spur, killing the tissues and cutting off the leaves from water supply, causing them to shrivel and dry, thus producing "fruit spur blight." The latter occurs several weeks after blossom infection. In very serious cases nearly all the fruit spurs may be blighted in this way and the trees set no fruit. Usually the germs die out and do not grow into the twig or branch on which the spur occurs, but occasionally the germs may continue into the bark of the branch at the base of the fruit spur and form a typical canker. Fruit spurs on the larger branches are a fruitful source of body infection and many cases of blight canker originate in this way.

The name "fire blight" is given to this disease because of the characteristic appearance of pear foliage on twigs or branches which have been killed by the organisms. The leaves turn black as though scorched by fire and frequently remain on the tree during the following winter. It should be noted that this color of the foliage is characteristic of the pear when it has been killed during the growing season. If a grower not familiar with the pear blight desires to know how the "twig blight" looks let him girdle a twig in mid-summer and watch the results.

The cankers are also quite characteristic, but are very variable in appearance. The disease progresses most rapidly in the fleshy outer layer of the bark and at first produces a watery appearance in the affected area. Later the tissues of the bark are more or less broken down and the cankers become dark in color.

One of the most fruitful sources of infection has been by the pruning shears or saw. In pruning, if an active canker is cut into, the tools become infected and serve as inoculating instruments to spread the disease.

The only method known of controlling fire blight is to cut out all cases of cankers wherever they appear. Spraying with fungicides is of only supplementary value and the various blight cures are worse than useless.

Experience has shown that it is of little permanent value to attempt to cut out the fruit spur and twig blight as they appear. Unless these forms of the disease extend into the branches on which they occur and a canker is formed the disease usually becomes naturally limited and the germs gradually die.

The efforts of the grower should be directed to cutting out all cases of blight canker and body canker during the fall, winter and early spring, when the cankers have become more or less limited in their growth and are not actively spreading.

Summer cutting is intelligently applied is frequently of great value, particularly where there is only a little blight. In the autumn before the leaves fall is a good time to do the cutting, as all cases of twig blight are easily observed.

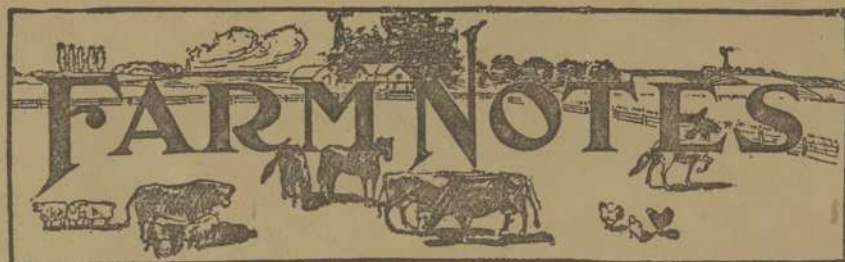
The trees should be particularly examined for cases of the collar rot. It is this form of the disease that causes many trees to be killed outright.

In cutting out cankers it is necessary that the tools be kept moist with some good disinfectant. If this is not done each cut will reinoculate the germs into the bark at the edges of the canker and the labor may thus be useless.

Corrosive sublimate in a solution of one part to one thousand of water has been found to be the most satisfactory disinfectant. The solution is a violent poison. It must be kept in glass.

Information Free to Orchardists.

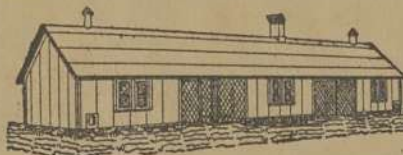
The Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology of the Agricultural College at Corvallis, Oregon, will be glad to answer inquiries relating to insect pests or plant diseases at any time. Always include with your inquiries as full a description of the trouble as possible and send specimens for examination. Address Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.



A General Purpose Poultry House.

This building is 14 feet wide, and can be as long as desired, adding another set or sets of rooms and sheds at one or both ends. The construction is simple, but durable. Outside walls are covered on outside and inside with light weight prepared roofing, placed on cheap lumber. Plaster board may be substituted for the inside. Studs are 2x2, and there are two sets; waterproof paper being placed between them. Thus a double air space is secured. Rafters are of 2x4, and may be stripped beneath and practically the same construction used as for the sides; using thicker roofing. So constructed, the building will be very warm.

Foundation is of stone, brick or grout. Floors are of cement, covered with dry sand. Broken stone, well tamped as for macadam road is cheaper than cement, and makes a fair substitute. The ventilators, being placed in the warmest parts of rooms will draw. Windows have sash



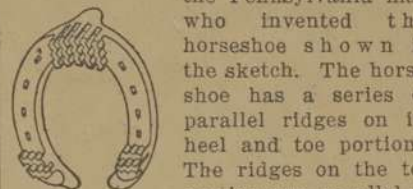
EXTERIOR VIEW OF POULTRY HOUSE.

with some glass, but mostly filled with heavy muslin. This lets in a fair amount of light, and air enough to prevent dampness. By using two courses of cloth it will be fully as warm as one of glass, and insure a dry building.

One room has a double row of nests, with wire partition above. When a hen wants to set, her nest is pushed through into small room, and

Boon to Horses.

If horses had means of expressing their thanks they would probably unite and send a resolution of gratitude to the Pennsylvania man who invented the horseshoe shown in the sketch. The horseshoe has a series of parallel ridges on its heel and toe portions. The ridges on the toe portion run parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shoe and those on the heel portion run transversely. These ridges form a series of recesses adapted to receive and retain snow or dirt; thus forming a bearing surface for the shoe and making the horse surer of his footing.

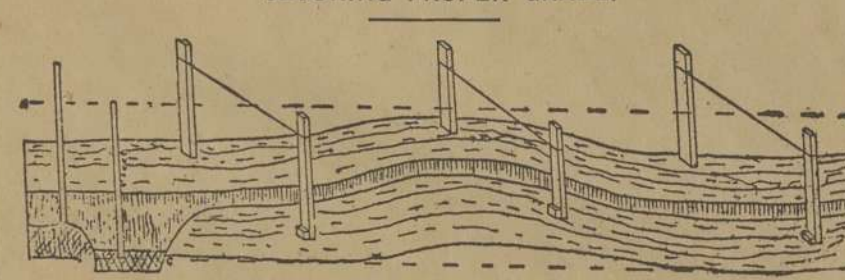


Running in opposite directions as they do the corrugations act as a sort of brake in whichever way the animal's feet may happen to slip and the whole effect is to prevent snow or dirt "caking" on the flat of the shoe.

Bran with Alfalfa for Cows.

At the Massachusetts station, with new milk cows, a supplementary ration of bran gave slightly superior results to one of alfalfa meal. With the bran ration the cows gave 1.6 per cent more milk and 3.1 per cent more butter. The several feedstuffs were figured at the same price per pound, excepting the wheat bran and alfalfa; the former cost \$22 and the latter \$30 a ton in the market. On this basis the alfalfa ration would increase the cost of milk and butter some 9 per cent. If the bran and alfalfa were figured at the same price per ton the food cost of the product would vary very slightly. Owing to the excess of fertilizer ingredients, especially nitrogen, in the wheat bran, the bran ra-

SECURING PROPER GRADE.



To obtain an even grade in trenches where tiles are to be laid, stretch lines across the ditch five feet above the bed. The lines are tied securely to stakes on either side of the ditch. White cotton rope one-fourth inch in diameter is the best kind to make easy sighting. The proper hitch on the stakes is shown in the lower illustrations. In practice a mark can be made on the long handle of the shovel five feet from the point and the sighting done without delay as the work goes on.

replaced by the one opposite; the door being closed. A small door leads to an exercise yard. Partition door is open, except when raising chickens. Scratching sheds have earth floors, and are enclosed by wire fencing, with doors. In winter muslin can be added, making the sheds warm, and not excluding the sun.

The brooder room has a wood floor. Beneath is a basement for incubator. By a stove in room above and the double flue chimney both can be kept at any desired temperature, and the air pure. A trap door covers stairway. Basement has windows on both sides. Entrance is from north, while south side is taken up by yards.—Farm, Stock and Home.

The Joe Strawberry.

The Joe strawberry has had quite extensive trial and everywhere made a good record. It is a mid-season to late berry, and under favorable conditions grows to the

largest size. One berry is recorded as weighing more than two ounces. The plant is large and very vigorous and healthy in growth. The berry is regular in shape and among the most beautiful in general appearance. It is also of high flavor. If you have a heavy, rich soil and will mulch the plants well, you can raise some prize-winning berries from the Joe.—Orange Judd Farmer.



Sowing Cowpeas.

The cow pea is sometimes sown in combination with other crops, such as corn, Kaffir corn and sorghum, for hay. When planted in these combinations there is danger of the cowpeas becoming stunted in growth if the crop with which it is combined is planted too thick. Sown broadcast, cowpeas often make little growth with these crops, but when planted in rows with corn and cultivated the growth is quite satisfactory.

tion would furnish a somewhat richer manure. This fact should not be entirely lost sight of in comparing the merits of the two feeds.

Felling Trees by Electricity.

According to a statement issued by the Siemens-Schuckert Company of Berlin, the felling of trees by means of wires heated by electric currents, which has been described in various newspapers, cannot be accomplished in a practical and economical manner, for the following reasons: The wire, to cut effectively, must be very tightly stretched and it is therefore very liable to rupture, in consequence of its high temperature. The red-hot wire carbonizes the wood, and the charcoal, if allowed to accumulate, protects the interior parts from the heat of the wire. In order to remove the charcoal, the wire must be roughened and moved to and fro lengthwise, so that the operation is still a sort of sawing, and the motion and roughening increase the liability to rupture.

Trapnests and Dry Feed.

Prof. Chambers, referred to in our last issue, ascribes his success to intelligent feeding, good care and trap-nesting. His hens receive dry feed entirely. He gives a light feed of whole wheat and corn three times a day, scattering the grain in the litter. He keeps before his hens all the time in self-feeding hoppers, a dry mash made of the following mixture:

Bran		200
Alfalfa meal		200
Corn meal		100
Shorts		100
Linseed meal		100
Meat, bone and blood		100

All these are mixed with a little salt and cayenne pepper.

Limiting the Flock.

Where the farmer himself works with poultry as he does with hogs or cattle, 200 hens should be the minimum limit of the flock, and more than this number can be handled with profit if the farmer understands the business and has some hired help. Both eggs and market poultry are very high and any farmer can make as much or more from poultry as he can with any other farm animals, if he puts thought and work into the business.

Milk for Poultry.

Poultry and dairy farming go well together. Milk fed to poultry in all forms, produces good results. However, care should be taken to keep the dishes clean and sweet.