



SEMI-WEEKLY.

CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1901.

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WHY DO WE WAIT?

Why do we wait till ears are deaf Before we speak our kindly word...

GRANNY AND THE GYM.

SAY we charge admission and use the money for some fun for this summer-camping or houseboat or something...



GRANNY WAS OVERCOME.

Infaction, when they had completed their work and surveyed the tall structure rising, airy but strong, above the snow...

"Why, it was this way," said Shoey modestly. I put a sign up at the gate...

"That's all right," he cried, dodging behind the slide as they made another dive for him...

"I am too busy to give back any change. Just chip in your coin and slide. Well, the kids had their even quarters...

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There was a noisy assent. It was decided to charge admission, the proceeds to go toward fitting up a gymnasium...

long stretch of ice and snow that gleamed ahead. Under the slide a good-sized shed had been built...

"No; it won't be for girls. Maybe we'll have a ladies' day once in awhile," said West Franklin in answer...

And Mr. Franklin wiped his heated face with the tea towel and grinned, quite unmoved, while a shrill chorus of girl voices told him he was a hateful, selfish old thing...

Next afternoon the meeting was called to order at the foot of the slide, and "Shorty" Harris, the treasurer, was asked for his report...

"Coffee, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Stone; sugar, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jordan; cream, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Ellis; butter, donated by my folks; lanterns, donated by Hunter's stationery store; bread, ham, tongue, mustard, fried-cakes and dishes, donated by the club members' folks generally...

"There was a Comanche howl of astonishment and delight that brought everybody in the neighborhood to their windows, and through the upper Bert Stone's voice could be heard shouting for "Order!"

"Will you shut up, you Indians?" he exclaimed. "Shorty, where in thunder did we get all that money?"

"Why, it was this way," said Shoey modestly. I put a sign up at the gate where I took tickets, and it said, "I am too busy to give back any change. Just chip in your coin and slide. Well, the kids had their even quarters, but the grown-ups read the sign and laughed and went down into their pockets for big money. See? So we made considerable more than we expected."

"The club's joyous appreciation of this business enterprise fell on Shorty's back with a hearty shower of boy thumps that landed him in a snow bank, from which he arose snowy and indignant."

"That's all right," he cried, dodging behind the slide as they made another dive for him; "I'll take your word for it. You send me a valentine if you like, but cut it out just now, see?"

"So the boys hugged each other and danced a few turns in the snow and punned each other delightfully, and then at last sat down to talk it all over. They finally settled how the money was to be spent, and the meeting was just breaking up as little Willie Sumner came breathlessly running down the street and stopped at the gate to tell "the fellows" the news.

Old Granny Jenks—or "Whisky Jenks," as she was sometimes called—had just been burnt out. Her little shanty was near the schoolhouse and she was well known to the boys. Old granny was very poor, but she clung to her little tumble-down house and flatly refused to go to the poorhouse, and would sometimes use rather profane language when people would insist that it was the proper place for her. This gave her a bad name among the good people of the town and they would not have anything to do with her. But she liked the boys and told them many a long story about war times and Indians, while she puffed her little pipe, and the Toboggan Club boys carried her tobacco and things to eat at odd times. And they knew how granny dreaded dying in the poorhouse. She had no rent to pay and gathered her own firewood, and with what the boys took her she seemed to get along somehow.

Now she was burned out. "Every stick and rag," cried Willie, with his eyes big. "And she's yellin' an' howlin'—my!"

The boys were silent and Willie looked surprised. Bert Stone stared down at his boots and whistled softly. Shorty Harris kicked the snow against the gatepost and thrust his hands deep in his pockets. Soon Stone looked up suddenly and met the eyes of the rest of the boys fixed on him anxiously.

"Poor old Whisky! It's kind o' tough, eh?" said Bob Ellis, softly. "Hadn't we better—better—" The boys all moved uneasily and then sighed. The sign relieved the tension and they all seemed to agree suddenly.

"Yes, let's—the gym can wait—come on!" Willie stared. The boys, with Stone and Shorty in the lead, sprinted down the street. And twenty minutes later

poor old Granny Jenks was gazing, open-mouthed and silent, at the sum of \$47.50 that lay in a little heap of crinkled bills and loose silver in her faded gingham apron.

But that wasn't the end of it. Granny Jenks said very little. She sheltered her gray head in another little shanty and settled down quite contentedly with her pipe. The boys brought her things to eat and wear as usual. She frequently "yarned" by the hour while they popped corn at her little stove. She did not mention the money, but she seemed so happy at not going to the poorhouse the boys were quite satisfied. And, like all boys, they hated being thanked for anything, anyhow.

Spring and summer came and passed. Old granny grew very feeble. Fall brought thoughts of trying some scheme again for the long-desired gym. And the boys talked of "another carnival, may be, when 'winter' came." Granny would listen and nod her head and chuckle in her queer old way. But she would say little. And one day she said nothing. They found her asleep in the comfortable rocker the boys' money had bought her, before her little fire and with the stubby pipe in her quiet fingers. And when her hands were prepared for her last home, where there was no more dread of the poorhouse forever, they found hidden in her clothing a little roll of bills that amounted to \$270. It was wrapped in granny's will, which read: "For the boys that give me the munny when I burn, fer fer bld'r Jim."—Chicago Record.

RANGE OF THE HONEY BEE. How the Distance Traveled by the Bee Can Be Determined.

The range of the honey bee is but little understood by the masses, many supposing that bees go for miles in quest of nectar, while others think that they go only a short distance. It may be curious to many to understand how any one can tell how far the bees may fly, but this is simple when understood. Years ago, when the Italian bees were first introduced in the United States, these bees, having marks different to the common bees already here, they were very easily distinguished, and after any bee keeper had obtained the Italian bees they could be observed and their range easily noticed. If bloom is plentiful close where the bees are located they will not go very far, perhaps a mile in range, but if bloom is scarce they may go five miles. Usually about three miles is as far as they may go profitably.

Bees have been known to go as far as eight miles in a straight line, crossing a body of water that distance to land. It is wonderful how the little honey bee can go so far from its home and ever find its way back to its own particular hive. If, while the little bee is out of its home or hive, the hive should be moved some ten to twenty feet, according to the surroundings, when it came back to where its home was first located it would be hopelessly lost. If its home was in an open space with no other objects close, it might find its way home, but even should the hive be moved only a few feet, many of the bees would get lost.

So to move a hive, if done in the winter time, it would be all right, but if in the summer time it should be done after dark, or when the bees are not flying, and even then the bees should be stirred up, and smoke blown in at the hive entrance, and a board or some object placed in front of the hive, so that the bees in coming out may mark their new location. Bees, no doubt, are guided by sight, and also sense of smell. They are attracted by the color of bloom, as if they are at work on a certain kind of bloom they are not likely to leave that particular kind of bloom for any other as long as they can find that kind. Again, bees are often attracted to sweets by their sense of smell, for they will go after sweets even if in the dark, if close. However, any kind of sweets may be placed in glass in plain sight, but if covered, so as not to emit any smell, the bees will make no notice of it.—Baltimore American.

Bogged. While traveling in Cornwall, in 1891, Rev. S. Baring-Gould came near being overwhelmed in a bog. He and his companion got lost, and at dusk found themselves in a bog called Boggy. Six bullets had already been lost there that year. Mr. Baring-Gould's adventure is related in his "Book of the West."

All at once I sank above my waist, and was being sucked farther down. I cried to my companion, but in the darkness he could not see me, and had he seen he could have done nothing for me. The water finally reached my armpits.

Happily I had a stout bamboo, some six feet long, and I placed this athwart the surface and held it with my arms as far expanded as possible. By jerks I succeeded in gradually lifting myself and throwing my body forward, till finally I was able to cast myself at full length on the surface. The suction had been so great as to tear my leather gaiters off my legs.

I lay at full length, gasping for nearly a quarter of an hour before I had breath and strength to advance, and then wormed myself along on my breast till I reached dry land. My companion, it turned out, had had a similar experience.

A Tragedy. She—if you had an idea when we could get married, why did you propose to me? "To tell the truth, darling, I had no idea you would accept me."—Life.

Before marriage men and women argue; after that they dispute.



Children's Corner

A Clever String Trick. The boy or girl who can perform various little tricks with matches, string, etc., is generally very popular and much in demand. A stormy day is generally dreary enough, and anyone who can help while away the time is regarded with gratitude. Here is a description of the marvelous ring-trick, which the writer has not seen described since he was a child, which is good a good many years ago.

Having tied the ends of your string together, pass it double through a finger ring, and ask some one to hold the



MAGIC STRING TRICK.

ends upon their two forefingers. You may now proceed to remove the ring without cutting the string or releasing the fingers, which seem to hold it securely.

First pass the string a second time around one of the fingers which hold the string, then drawing the loop thus formed toward the opposite hand, as shown in figure 1, pass it over the string on the other finger until it lies in the position of dotted line B; then with your two forefingers catch up at A and A1 of the strings holding the ring and sliding your fingers from each other, quickly slip from the ends of your companions' finger the part of the string holding the ring, which, being thus released, will fall into the hand, with which you can quickly cover it before it leaves the string, to add to the mystery.

The surprise of your stringholder will



FIG. 2

now be doubled if you proceed to re-tie the ring to the string without removing the ends from his fingers. Pass the string in your mouth at the first ring, around one of his fingers, and in drawing the loop, as before, toward the other hand, slip it through the ring as shown at D; then pass the loop over the finger, this time leaving it near the end, as at C; with your two forefingers catch up the string which was first upon the fingers, and slip it from them over the part holding the ring, and you will find the ring in place, as at the beginning of the first trick.

Here is another very simple trick: Pass your string around your neck, crossing it in front as in figure 2; put the string in your mouth at the point where it crosses itself, and holding it firmly between your teeth, announce your intention of removing it from the



FIG. 3

neck by the passing of the rest of your string a second time over your head. To do this first drop the cord from both hands for a moment, and in taking hold of it again let your hands exchange places, being careful to hold the string which is uppermost where it crosses in your mouth remain uppermost, so that what appears to be a second crossing of the string will be really its uncrossing; now throw the rest of the cord over your head, and though you seem to be encircled by a double cord, draw both sides backward as in figure 3, releasing the string from your still closed mouth in what seems quite a marvelous way. You will find yourself disentangled, and the string still tied together as in the beginning, and ready for numberless more wonders.—Boston Globe.

Doll Parties. It is astonishing how swiftly the word is now being passed around that dolls' parties are the desire of every child's heart. The idea of having a party for themselves and being pampered with sweetmeats is no longer entertained.

Ten days before the party is to come off, little notes are sent out to a selected company. They are written by the child and worded something as follows: "Dear Ruth—Clara Louise hopes very much that you will come to her party on Saturday afternoon at half after 4 o'clock. She also expects you to

bring with you your pet doll. Affectionately, ELEANOR." Ruth then sends promptly a reply to Eleanor, in which she thanks her for her remembrance, and assures her that Antoinette will be most happy to go to see Clara Louise on the mentioned day.

When the little people begin to arrive all the dolls of the hostess are found to be washed and freshly gowned and ready to receive them. Usually a goodly company of china-eyed beauties is soon gathered together. Whatever the children are going to do in the way of amusement is also arranged for the dolls; or they are considerably placed in front seats, from where they can see the fun. The true joy of one of these parties, however, is evinced at the time of refreshments, and then a separate table is especially set for the dolls. Very happy and gay they look when seated about it, and triumphant indeed is the child that has all, or many of the table appointments that are now made for such occasions.

One thing that the hostess should never forget is to provide a gift for each doll. As their mistresses they like to have something to take home.

"Seven Little Fellows Sled Ride. One little fellow with a little sled then; "Hullo there, Bobby?" and then there were two.

Two little fellows in the snow to the knee; "Want me to help you?" and then there were three.

Three little fellows trudging on once more; "Wait a minute, can't you?" then there were four.

Four little fellows and a hill all alive; "Hullo, I'm comin'!" and then there were five.

Five little fellows in a laughable fix; "Sled tumbled on you all!" then there were six.

Six little fellows, "neath a great smiling grin; "Hurrah for the fun, boys!" then there were seven.

Seven little fellows gaily sliding past a gate; "I'm swinging out to reach you!" then there were eight.

Eight little fellows on the sled; "Room for me, is there?" and then there were nine.

Nine little fellows engaged like fighting men; "No place for me, either?" then there were ten.

Says the first little fellow, "There's room for only seven," "How we go to napage?" and then there were seven.

Then a great big farmer placed a board on the sled; "Now see if there isn't room for all," he said.

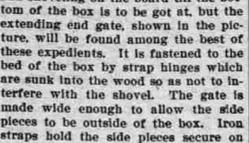
So they all of them hastily, promptly did see. And the seven little fellows were as happy as could be. —Louise R. Baker, in Primary Education.

Nature's Kitchens. In Iceland to cook food in the geysers is a regular portion of the tourist program. Tea is infused with water from the Great Geysers, and trout is boiled in the Blesi, or hot-water pond, which suddenly ceased to erupt after the Shaparakull, convulsion of 1784. They require to be immersed for about twenty minutes to be cooked to a turn. In the Yellowstone country a story is told of a fisherman who, having caught a fine trout, merely turned on his heel and without taking his captive off the line, plunged it into a pool of hot water, from which in a short time he drew it ready for his meal, reminding us of Lord Lovat, the Jacobite, who, when luncheon time approached, betook himself to a fall on his estate famous for its leaping salmon, and placed a caldron of boiling water in such a position that a fish mistaking its spring would tumble into the pot.

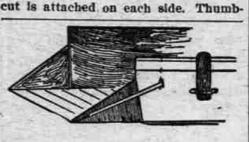


FARM AND GARDEN

Extending End Gate. When corn has been loaded on a wagon, it is very unhandy to shovel off at first until the bottom of the wagon box has been reached, says an exchange. To overcome this difficulty different methods are followed, such as laying one end of a long, wide board on the end gate of the wagon and the other on the floor of the box before loading and shoveling on the board till the bottom of the box is to be got at, but the extending end gate, shown in the picture, will be found among the best of these expedients. It is fastened to the bed of the box by strap hinges which are sunk into the wood so as not to interfere with the shovel. The gate is made wide enough to allow the side pieces to be outside of the box. Iron straps hold the side pieces secure on the gate. A rod of one-quarter inch iron looped in the manner shown in the cut is attached on each side. Thumb-



EXTENDING END GATE.



EXTENDING END GATE.

screw bolts enable the looped rods to hold the gate when let down. When the hand bolts are screwed up tightly on the rod, they will hold the gate when closed, for ordinary occasions, but hooks may be quickly attached to hold it still more securely. The gate will afford a platform for the farmer to stand on when starting to scoop up the corn as well as prove very advantageous in loading and unloading many articles.

Handy Helps in Butchering. To clean and carry a hog with ease use a short ladder (about six feet long) and place legs about a foot long under each end. Place a little tar in the scalding water, and the hog will clean easier. For a good hog scraper take a piece of an old grass scythe about four inches in length, with edge rather dull. In place of a scalding trough a large cask laid in a slanting position will answer the purpose almost as well. Two good rails placed in a slanting position against a building is the simplest method of hanging a hog easily.

To clean a pork barrel that is tainted and has a bad smell about it wash it out as clean as you can, then whitewash with fresh slacked lime. Let the barrel dry, and it is ready for use. The lime will not hurt the meat at all—Kansas Farmer.

Valuable Beef. Here is given a picture of the Aberdeen-Angus steer "Advance," sweepstakes winner as best beef animal at the Chicago Show, which was sold at auction for the astonishing price of

\$2,415. He was sent to New York to be butchered for the Christmas market, the purchaser being an agent of a packing company who wanted the best as an advertisement.



STEER SOLD FOR \$2,415 A POUND.

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Big Mares. The breeding of draft horses of extreme weight is not likely to be overdone in this country for a long time, says the National Stockman. The fact is there are not any too many mares that can produce the top weight kind. A good, big draft mare is, therefore, worth money to the man who is fixed for raising heavy horses. Breed her to a good, big stallion, feed her and the foal plenty of good growing feed, such as oats, bran and clover hay, with some corn, too, and there is no danger of an undersized colt. Draft blood is something, but not everything. Lack of feed in early life accounts for a whole lot of draft bred horses that are only "chunks" of 1,400 pounds or less. Undersized nearly always means underfed at some stage of the game.

Estimated Production of Corn. The production of corn in 1900 is estimated at 2,105,102,516 bushels; oats, 809,125,989 bushels; barley, 58,925,833 bushels; rye, 23,965,927 bushels; buckwheat, 9,598,966 bushels; potatoes, 219,929,897 bushels, and hay, 50,110,995 tons. The area from which these crops were gathered was as follows in acres: Corn, 83,320,872; oats, 27,364,705; barley, 2,194,282; rye, 1,191,326; buckwheat, 637,930; potatoes, 2,611,054, and hay, 39,182,890. The corn crop of 1900

was one of the four largest ever gathered, while the oat crop has been exceeded only once. On the other hand, the barley and rye crops are the smallest, with one exception, in acres since 1887. The buckwheat crop is the smallest since 1883 and the hay crop is the smallest, with one exception, since 1888.

Big Gain in Winter Wheat. The statistician of Department of Agriculture estimates the United States wheat crop of 1900 at 622,229,505 bushels, the area harvested being 42,495,385 acres and the average an acre 12.29 bushels. The production of winter wheat is estimated at 350,025,400 bushels, and spring wheat at 172,204,096 bushels, the area actually harvested being 26,255,897 acres in the former case and 16,256,488 acres in the latter. The winter wheat acreage, totally abandoned in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, is finally placed at 3,522,787 acres and the spring wheat acreage, totally abandoned in North Dakota and South Dakota, at 1,738,467 acres. The extraordinarily rapid rate at which the winter wheat acreage of Nebraska is gaining upon the spring wheat acreage of that State has necessitated a special investigation of the relative extent to which the two varieties were grown during the last year. The result of the investigation is that while no change is called for in the total wheat figures of the State, 500,575 acres have been added to the winter wheat column at the expense of the spring variety.

Dairying in Iowa. According to a contemporary Iowa's dairy interests are large and growing, there now being over 1,000 creameries in the State. About 631,829 cows are used to supply creameries, whose product was \$4,965,062 pounds of butter, a decrease of 3,000,000 pounds from 1899. Average of 22 cents realized, against 20.35 cents in 1899. Total value for the year about \$20,000,000. Less than half of the milk of the State went to creameries, for there were 1,295,990 milk cows on May 1, 1900. A true value of butter output would be \$38,000,000. There are now seventy-five cheese factories in operation. Increase of product, 500,000 pounds over 1899, being \$2,124,432 pounds. Only 12 1/2 per cent was shipped out of the State, home market using balance.

Farm Cattle. It is not true that the cattle business is to be profitable must be conducted on the broad ranges of the Western plains, says Texas Farm and Ranch. That is one profitable system of cattle raising, but there is another which yields fully as great profits for the capital invested. Raising cattle on the farm has in all countries and all ages been found profitable, and more so now than ever. By raising cattle on the farm the farmer has a good market for all the feed he can raise, saves labor and expense of transportation and avoids much loss from waste and the hocus pocus of commerce. And one of the main features of stock farming is that it can be made to continually improve the fertility and value of the farm.

Finishing Hogs. For finishing hogs for market no food substance known equals corn. Alfalfa, clover, Bermuda, sorghum, artichokes, sweet potatoes and peanuts are all good food to promote growth and make lean meat, but corn for adding the plumpness that makes porkers sell cannot be improved upon as far as is at present known. We can raise more corn than all the hogs in the world can eat and raise hogs enough to eat all the corn we can grow. This is not a paradox.—Texas Farm and Ranch.

Horticultural Notes. Hedge for Limited Place.—Where space is limited use arbor vitae for a hedge. It forms a complete one, while growing tall without spreading. Hemlock and Norway spruce require more ground room.

Fern for Indoors.—A variety of the sword fern, known as the Boston fern, is in much demand for indoor use. All of the family to which it belongs are useful in the same way, not objecting to a fair draught of air.

Basket Willows.—There are favorite willows for basket-making, such as the Forbrana and Pürpura, because of their flexibility, but those who make baskets use many kinds, some of stout growth and some of slender growth.

House Plants and Insects.—If house plants are started free of insects they are rarely much troubled with them in winter, but vigilance must be exercised to keep them clean, as their well-doing is greatly dependent on this.

A Mistake.—It is a mistake to rake up the leaves in the wood lot or any other place where they may be allowed to remain. Besides being of value as a winter protection, when decayed they add much to the fertility of the ground.

Blackberries and raspberries grow from shoots formed just below ground. When transplanting them the mistake of setting them too deep, practically killing them, is not uncommon. The roots should be but just below the surface.

The Snyder blackberry is a popular sort in the Northwest because of its extreme hardiness and its productive-ness. Taylor's prolific has larger fruit, but it is hardly as hardy as the white, but quite hardy enough for the Middle States.

Borers in Hawthorn.—It is only English hawthorn and its varieties which are subject to borer attacks. Our native sorts are exempt. But they have no colored sorts among ours; all are white, so we have to fight borers to have these lovely Hawthorns.

Setting Out Trees.—Fall is an excellent time for the setting out of all trees. Those who can not plant them should do the work the very first thing in spring, that the trees may be well settled in their new positions before growing weather sets in.