The FICTION Corner

FOUR FLIGHTS UP TO HEAVEN

By FREDERICK LAING

THE landlady was smiling at them like the wolf in Red Ridinghood.

"You look kinda young to be a married couple."

"Oh we aren't married yet," Peggy blurted out. She felt Bill's fingers tighten on her arm.

"So you better show us that apartment before she changes her mind," he added.

She glanced up at him with a nervous little smile,, feeling ashamed, wishing she hadn't let him read her thoughts.

The landlady laughed and Peggy laughed louder than she'd wanted to.

"We want two rooms," Bill said, "two rooms and a decent kitchen. And not facing on the street, please. Too many trucks in Greenwich Village to suit me."

"I adore the Village," Peggy said quickly. The trouble was, the words seemed to jump out before she knew what she was going to say.

Bill stared up at a long crack in the ceiling. 'Sure, we adore the Village."

She pinched him when the landlady wasn't looking and he gave her hair a tug, and everything was all right again. They followed the landlady up the stairs. She had just the thing for them, she said. "A couple of kids like you won't mind walking up four flights."

"Oh, no," Peggy answered. Then she glanced at Bill. "Well, would we?"

Bill looked up at the ceiling again. "Oh, no."

She knew what he was thinking. And it was true. She didn't want to live in a place that had elevators. Bad enough to have him come home talking about them every night. Bad enough to have to answer the neighbors' questions with, "My husband? Oh he . . . er, sells elevators " She could see them lifting their eyebrows. "Elevators? Pardon me for smiling, Mrs. Bill, but I never knew any one had to sell elevators. I always thought they . . . just happened."

No, definitely not a place with elevators. She didn't want to be reminded of her husband's business every time she went in and out of the house.

The landlady's short, bowed legs were leading them up the stairs briskly, showing them how easy it was to climb four flights. "You'll find it nice and quiet here, I'm sure. The gentleman who has it now has been there three years. And he's a writer."

"A writer?" Peggy had kind of a funny feeling all of a sudden. Like she'd gone up in an elevator too fast. A writer. That was what she'd always thought she'd marry some day. Or maybe an artist. Somebody like that.

Peggy Is Intrigued

They were walking up the last flight now and some one upstairs opened a door. Don't let him be any better looking than Bill, she begged.

As it happened, he wasn't. He was just a pale young man with glasses. He stood there in his slacks and blue shirt and he looked . . . well, on second glance he looked . . . different. Nobody would ever take him for a life guard. That's what she'd thought Bill was that first time, when they'd met on the beach.

"Come right in." The young man waved something at them. It turned out to be a monkey wrench, of all things. "Don't mind me, I'm just the plumber."

Peggy laughed. It was so unexpected, it made her feel good. "The plumber," she said, as their eyes met, "Imagine."

"Some plumber," the landlady said.

"That's gratitude," he said, looking at Peggy, "I do her a favor and she makes fun of my plumbing."

"I think it's nice if a man knows how to fix the plumbing," Peggy said. She glanced from the thin hands to the thin, pale face. "I really do."

He looked pleased. "I'm a painter, too," he told her. "Look, I painted this china closet. What do you think of the shade?"

It made her feel so flattered to have a writer showing off for her benefit. "It's a lovely color," she told him. And then she could feel Bill's eyes on her. "Isn't it, Bill?"

"Yeah," Bill said dryly, "blue."

Peggy winced. Well, that proved he wasn't color blind.

"It's the same shade as your hat," this writer was saying.

She blushed. "Think of a man's noticing that."

"Yeah," Bill said. The way he said it, it wasn't exactly a compliment.

"I think it's nice if a man knows how to fix the plumbing," Peggy said. She glanced from the thin hands to the thin, pale face. "I really do."

"If you want to see the apartment," the landlady began sharply. Then she pulled a smile over her false teeth. "This here's the kitchen.

Bill said, "You mean the apartment opens into the kitchen?"

Behind his glasses, the young man's light blue eyes were looking amused. "Oh you'll get used to it. And it'll give your friends something to talk about."

"He's some little talker himself, isn't he?" the landlady said.

"I think he's wonderful," Peggy said, laughing. He certainly knew how to make a person feel perfectly at ease.

Then she got a look at Bill's face. She began to feel miserable. If only he wouldn't look like that. Like a . . . She tried to push the thought out of her mind but it came right back again. . . . Like a disappointed salesman. I'm sure you'll make a mistake if you don't buy our elevators, Mr. Kotch.

The landlady led them into the living room, and when Peggy saw it, her heart sat up and begged.

Her eyes drank in the bookcase that covered a whole wall, the original paintings on unframed canvas, the oversized fireplace with three painted masks above it. And there was a table with a typewriter and a lots of papers piled-up in careless stacks.

What darling taste you have. She almost said it, but she thought about Bill just in the nick of time.

"The bedroom's in there," the landlady said. She let Peggy and Bill go into the bedroom by themselves. Bill's head almost bumped the top of the doorway as they went in together.

"This is a dog house," he said.

Peggy was in such a daze she thought he said, "Doll's house," at first.

"Isn't it," she said excitedly. And then, seeing his expression, "What?"

"A dog house," he said. "Look, I can almost touch the ceiling. Listen Peggy. I've learned something about buildings in the elevator business. Do you know how old this house is? Why, it was a dump when they built the Brooklyn bridge."

Peggy gasped. "He heard you!"

Suddenly all the thrill was gone and her heart felt like lead. Her eyes were blinking as she turned and went back into the living room. Bill followed behind her, stooping with an exaggerated wariness as he went through the doorway.

Her fingers were twisting the engagement ring nervously around and around. One thing sure, she wasn't going to marry an elevator salesman. Or any other kind of a salesman, for that matter.

"Listen, honey," Bill said gloomily. "If you really like the place."

It didn't matter. Nothing mattered now, really. Just to get out. To get away. To get out of everything as painlessly as possible.

"I guess you have to be a writer or something to appreciate it," she told him, forcing out the words. She glanced at the pale young man and managed to smile. "A writer or an artist."

"OH I don't know," the young man protested with a shrug.

"What kind of stuff do you write?" Bill asked grudgingly.

"Huh?" the young man said.

The landlady laughed. "Him? He's no writer. He's my son." And she added proudly, "he sells vacuum cleaners."

Run out of the room. Run down the stairs, she told herself. But Bill's arm went around her shoulders, steadying her, and his arm felt strong and tender.

"My man is a salesman, too," she said. And she held her head up. "He sells elevators."

New Chemical Weapons To Combat Weed Pests

Farmers and householders waging war on crab grass and other troublesome weeds and grasses can look for help from two new weapons.

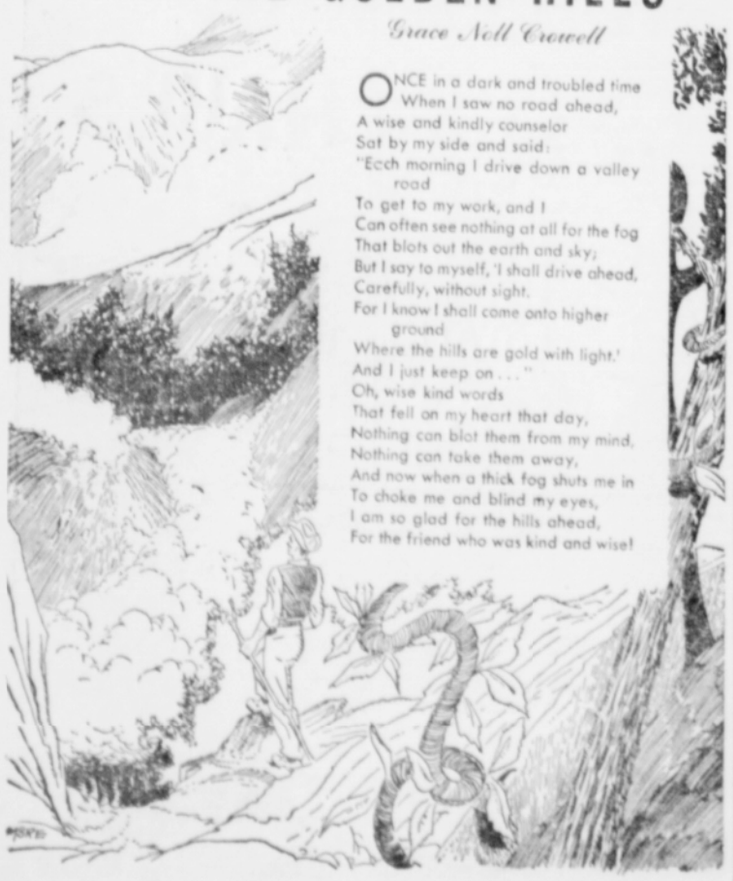
The weed-killing chemicals bear the jaw-breaking names of sodium isopropyl xanthate and allyl mixed chlorophenyl carbonate. They have been tested by federal and state agricultural experiment stations "with excellent results against many weeds and grasses not economically or satisfactorily controlled by other chemicals or practices," the announcement said. They are being used in active experimental programs but are not yet available commercially.

The second-named herbicide is the one that combats crab grass, as well as barnyard, orchard and blue grass, cattails and similar plants. It has a hormone-like action which attacks the root structure of the weed and arrests growth immediately by preventing seed development, even though no effect is apparent on the surface for the first week or longer. It also is used effectively in combination with 2-4-D against some broad-leaved weeds not affected by 2-4-D used alone.

The sodium isopropyl xanthate is described as a "complete killer" which should not be applied directly to crop plants. It shows promise for pre-emergence treatment, in spray or dust form, and has been used with success in the chemical weeding of growing crops.

THE GOLDEN HILLS

Grace Noll Crowell



ONCE in a dark and troubled time
When I saw no road ahead,
A wise and kindly counselor
Sat by my side and said:
"Ecch morning I drive down a valley road
To get to my work, and I
Can often see nothing at all for the fog
That blots out the earth and sky;
But I say to myself, 'I shall drive ahead,
Carefully, without sight,
For I know I shall come onto higher ground
Where the hills are gold with light.'
And I just keep on . . ."
Oh, wise kind words
That fell on my heart that day,
Nothing can blot them from my mind,
Nothing can take them away,
And now when a thick fog shuts me in
To choke me and blind my eyes,
I am so glad for the hills ahead,
For the friend who was kind and wise!

Answer to Puzzle No. 2

Farm Topics

Milk Products Help In Conserving Grain

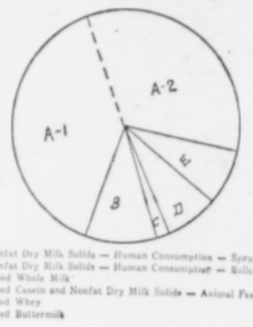
Better Rations Result When Proteins Are Used

With a world grain emergency and a national drive to conserve grain used in feeding, and with grain prices high, milk by-products are more important than ever in poultry feeding.

Balanced rations probably can do more to conserve grain used in feeding than any other single measure. Milk nutrients found in skim milk, buttermilk and dried cheese whey have been found highly effective in building balanced poultry rations.

These milk by-products provide animal proteins of unusual quality. The milk proteins, lactalbumen and

Total Dry Milk Production—1946



casein, have a high growth promoting value and contain all the essential amino acids. These proteins give balance to the lower quality vegetable protein in grains normally fed poultry.

Milk by-products are rich in lactose, or milk sugar, a natural laxative which helps poultry maintain good intestinal health and minimizes the hazards of intestinal parasites. These milk by-products also provide minerals, particularly calcium and phosphorous and contain the water soluble vitamins of whole milk.

In preparing a balanced ration the object is to feed the correct proportion of the various nutrients that poultry require. In every case there is a point beyond which it is wasteful to include additional grain without providing other nutrients because the fowl cannot make complete economical use of all nourishment in additional grain.

Killing Chestnuts

The Asiatic blight which struck down native chestnut orchards in the United States, estimated at sums up to a hundred million dol-

Forest Fire Commissioner W. L. Shaddix inspecting chestnut burs for asiatic blight.

lars some 25 years ago, is still active, and doubt that it will pass over and let this luscious crop come back usually is accepted by well informed agriculturists.

Poultry Relish Grit; Aids Grinding Process

Grit is a material of value to poultry but full details are not yet definitely known, according to University of Delaware. It is certain that birds like it and, when grit is fed freely, they consume more than is actually needed. Grit containing a large amount of soluble calcium has been widely recommended but appears to have no advantage where other forms of calcium are included in the ration. Actually it might be detrimental, say Delaware specialists. Helping the gizzard in the grinding process is the only known function of grit. A hard mica grit of suitable size doubtless should be available to all chickens.

Productivity Depends Upon Organic Matter

The soil's ability to produce high crop yields needed to feed hungry millions depends on its organic matter supply. Soils rich in organic matter are good "sponges" for soaking up and holding rainfall for crops. Organic matter helps restore soil structure, improves tilth and helps plant roots get more nutrients from the soil. Use lime, fertilizers containing phosphorus and potash to get good catches of legumes.

Classified Department

RABBITS & SKINS

WANT LIVE RABBITS 4 lbs. up, rabbit skins, hides, wool, mohair, cascara, live poultry, **Ruby & Company, 935 S. W. Front, Portland, Oregon.** Ask prices and tell what for sale.

MISCELLANEOUS

ALFALFA HONEY—Case of 12 5-lb. tins $15.45 F. O. B. Kennewick. Full cases only. **Kennewick Valley Apiaries, Route 2, Kennewick, Washington.**

UNPAINTED PLAQUES and figurines. One Dollar trial order accepted. Price list on request. **McPHERRAN NOVELTIES 2117 No. 14th St. BOISE, IDAHO**

SUPER CRUISER—New March, 1947, Aeromatic; radio, other extras. Perfect condition. What's your offer? Will consider trade. **Jack Cathcart, Joseph, Oregon. Ph. 343.**

SNOWSHOES—New army surplus. 12x48. $5 pair, plus postage. **Superior Electric Co., 3825 South "M", Tacoma 8, Washington.**

AGENTS and DEALERS wanted to demonstrate and sell "MOW-MASTER ROTARY LAWN MOWER." Several good territories still available in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Write for details to **K-W FACTORY, Tacoma 3, Wash.**

D. D. H. CLETRAC, 1943 Model, with cargo winch, canopy, etc. D-8800 caterpillar engine. D-13000 caterpillar engine. Double drum hoist; single drum hoist. No. 4 Star sawmill complete. Tie mill complete. **Warren F. Brazle, Oroville, Washington.**

FOR SALE—Ten-foot blade snow plows. Mulboard 26 inches front, 46 inches rear. Hydraulic lift. For 1½-2½ ton trucks. Immediate delivery. $500.00. **Modern Supply Company, Box 215, Walla Walla, Wash.**

47-6 CATERPILLAR with LeTourneau dozer. Power Unit, carry-all. Scraper. All like new. **John Dickey, Bingen, Washington. Phone White Salmon 1023.**

TEXAS TREE-RIPENED ORANGES. $5.50 Bushel Prepaid Express. **O. L. Stroman, Route 1, Box 153, Mission, Texas.**

9 VITAMINS! 6 MINERALS! All in One "Hi-Potency" Tablet! Send $2.00 for 30-day supply Sixty Tablets. Postpaid. Agents Wanted! Good Profit and Assured Life-Long Repeat Business **MRS. C. A. NICKELL Rt. 3, Box 94 Bend, Oregon**

Age is Lovered Vitality, Not Years. Help Yourself to good health. Booklet $1. **John Moffett, Maple Crest, Woodinville, Wash.**

NO FROZEN PIPES! Your electric socket operates HEATING CABLE! Wrap cable around pipe or imbed in soil. No.1426 for 5 to 12 ft. pipe $2. No.256 for 12 to 25 ft. $3. No.5012 for 25 to 50 ft. $6. Air thermostat $5 extra. **Write Primrose Acres Rt. 4 Box 446, Milwaukie, Ore.**

POULTRY, CHICKS & EQUIP.

BABY CHICKS; U. S. Approved, U. S. Pullorum controlled. New Hampshires, White Rocks and Austra Whites, U. S. Certified White Leghorns. Folder on request. **Stanley Hatchery, P. O. Box 731, Nampa, Idaho.**

Our 25 years of service to the commercial poultrymen of Oregon and Washington has proven to us that our baby chix must be of the highest quality for the number of repeat orders we are getting from year to year. Send for price list. **ERICKSONS HATCHERY Hillsboro, Oregon Route No. 5**

FLOWERS & BULBS

GORGEOUS GLADIOLUS BLOOMS THIS SUMMER—King Lear (purple), Myrna (white), Rosa Van Lima (pink), Vagabond Prince(mahogany) Bit O' Heaven (orange), 100 medium size bulbs (¾ to 1¼ inches diameter), 20 of each variety unlabeled for $2.95, postpaid. Send for 1948 price list of Gladiolus and and Dahlias. **Pickarts Nursery, Box 236W, Burien, Washington.**

HELP WANTED

REGISTERED PHARMACIST WANTED by store in a good Montana town. Good pay and short hours. Give experience. Write **BOX 985—WEB - Billings, Montana**

BIG EARNINGS Sell Men's, Ladies' Guaranteed Hosiery. Details, **BOX 416, Abilene, Kansas.**

BUILDING MATERIALS

Modern House Plans accurately done. Your home carefully designed. Investigate our guaranteed service. Booklet 25c. **Perry Weber, 7306 N. Montana, Portland 3, Ore.**

House Has a Well

The well in the house of representatives is the space between the clerk's desk, which is immediately in front of the speaker's rostrum, and the first row of seats.

Photograph the Arc

To photograph the arc in arc welding, a battery of lights using power equivalent to 4,500 automobile headlights was focused on an area of one square foot.

Fluoride Tablets for Teeth

At the present time there is no acceptable scientific evidence adequately controlled which would indicate that fluoride tablets taken by adults will or will not reduce the incidence of dental caries, according to American Medical association. The case for fluoride tablets rests on the fact that it has been shown that children calcifying their permanent teeth while using a domestic water containing about one part per million of fluoride have only about one third as many dental cavities as comparable groups of children using a fluoride-free water.

Cleaning Ceramic Tiles

To clean the cement joints between kitchen or bathroom ceramic tiles, wipe the cement with javelle water or a liquid bleach containing chlorine.

Early Ice Enterprise

An early American enterprise was the shipping of ice from New England to the tropics. The ice was packed in white pine sawdust and Americans promoted its sale by showing the natives how to make ice cream and iced drinks.

Lumber for Painting

Some kinds of boards hold paint better and longer than other varieties, depending upon the density and texture of the lumber as well as contents of resins, oils and moisture, and such defects as knots.

FOR SALE

REFRIGERATOR EQUIPMENT Sales & Service, Home lockers, bottle coolers, reach in boxes. Meat cases. Everything in refrigeration. **Portland Refrigeration Co., 1516 N. E. Killingsworth, Portland, Oregon. Ph. TR. 6644.**

FARMS AND RANCHES

90-ACRE DAIRY RANCH — $16,000. Terms. 60 cultivated, rest pasture, good level soil, hay, stock, machinery included. **Harlin Brower, Rt. 9, Box 713, Olympia, Wash.**

RANCH for sale: 120 acres, 65 cultivated; 20 alfalfa, 25 timothy, clover. Creek, 4-room house, barn. Well under pressure. 9 cows, bull, horses, pigs, chickens, machinery. Milking machine. On milk, mail, school, bus routes. $14,500. $7000 cash. Information write **T. L. Stewart, Star Route, Springdale, Washington.**

DOGS, CATS, PETS, ETC.

ST. BERNARD pups, grown stock, A.K.C. reg. **Abendtal Kennels, 1302 Potter Ave., Richland, Washington.**

Roller Canary Training Record. Solo Song of Prize Winners. Full information upon request. **Herman Osman, 1720 64th Avenue, Oakland 3, Calif.**

REGISTERED COLLIE PUPS—Sable & White. **Peterson's, Rt. 6, Box 1077, Portland 1, Oregon.**

IRISH SETTER PUPPIES Write PALMER'S IRISH SETTERS Hobart - - Washington

BUSINESS & INVEST. OPPOR.

DAIRY BULLS: A very good selection of purebred Holstein bulls—one to eighteen months old—any dairyman can afford to own. $50 to $200. **C. R. Evans, Halsey, Oregon.**

SELLING our Alpine and Nubian milk goats. Pacific International winners. **Babler, Rt. 6, Box 642, Vancouver, Washington, Glenwood Road.**

FOR SALE—Large court, 24 large 2-room apartments and dwelling, a couple of blocks off of main U. S. 66 highway. Established business—stucco and frame construction. Located in Kingman's famous arthuritis and asthmatic climate. Sunshine the year around. Price $35,000, ½ down. **Green Gables Inn, Kingman, Arizona.**

ST. HELENS—New, remodeled store bldg. ideal location, close to several industries; heavy traffic; ideal for either beer tavern or grocery market; "refrigeration"; good parking space; also beautiful plastered 3-bedroom modern home; fireplace, utility room; newly redecorated; also two 4-room rental houses, "motel" type, income $80 per month. This property has a 1-blk. frontage on the Portland road. Price $30,000, terms. **Phone, office 340-J, Residence 1214-W-4.. H. L. ARROWSMITH 63 N. Highway, St. Helens, Ore.**

RETAIL MILK ROUTE, good customers; new 1½ ton Chev. truck, insl. body. Will make $750 gross profit mo. Only $7,500 cash. **Write 13032 SE Ramona St., Portland 6, Ore.**

ALASKA SEINER, 18 months old. 235-fathoms seine, 3 strips; 85-fathom lead; fully equipped; radiophone; scowboat and motor, 11 ton net. Price $9,500. **DOUG BABCOCK, Star Route, Big Harbor, Wash.**

LIVESTOCK

FOR SALE — Registered Hereford Bull, 10 months old. Can arrange to show Sat. or Sun. **C. R. Wilson, Silverton, Oregon. Phone 1763.**

PLANTS AND SEEDS

FOR SALE: Yellow Bermuda onion seed, 95% germ test, $3 pound. F. O. B. Walla Walla. **Northern Plant & Produce Growers, Walla Walla, Washington, Box 133.**

ROCKHILL EVERBEARING Strawberry Plants. In wholesale lots. Send for prices. **David E. Lofgren, Route 3, Beaverton, Oregon.**

AUTOS, TRUCKS & ACCES.

NEW school bus, 1947 Chevrolet, 41-pass.; heater and defroster; meets all Oregon state specifications. Write or call **L. E. Newell, 1975 NW Everett, Portland, Oregon.**

2 TRUCKS with 12 ft. Van Bodies; 1½ ton '41 Ford; 2 ton '37 GMC s.w.b. Both A-1 condition. **Geo. R. Johnson, Coquille, Ore.**

550 GAL. CHEV. Tank Truck, meter, auto. hose reel, $595. Dlr.3515 Avalon Way, We 2700, or Av 1000. Seattle, Wash.

SPECIAL

Gets the DAUBER for SPADE & TAMPER
DOUBLE SMOKING PLEASURE
Mount on pipe and tool is where you need it when driving, working or just smoking. Fits any rounded wood surface
$1.00 POSTPAID
JAMES KING & CO. With installing tool
512 N.W. 12th Ave., Portland 9, Oregon

Oriental New York City

New York City is now the world's greatest market place for Oriental rugs. Each year importers in the metropolis receive millions of dollars worth of hand-woven rugs which ultimately find their way to homes throughout the world.

Early Finns Honored

The Finns who settled along the Delaware in Pennsylvania in 1638 were honored by Finland's special commemorative stamp 10 years ago.

Foot-Candle Unit

A foot-candle, the unit for measuring light, is the amount of light produced by the flame of a standard candle on a surface a foot distant.

Electric Automobile

The first Wood electric automobile was tested on the streets of Chicago in 1893. It created considerable excitement along the route.

'Man of the Woods'

The arms of the orangutan—"man of the woods"—are so long that this ape can rest on its bent knuckles while standing upright.

Old Temperature Test

By holding incubator eggs in the eye, the ancient Egyptians and Asiatics determined the proper degree of heat for the eggs.

Parking for Eaters

One parking space is required for every 50 square feet of patron space in restaurants, according to a recent survey.

The Pine Tree State

Maine's motto is "I Guide." Its state bird is the chicadee and its flower the pine cone and tassel.