

looks at Mr. Shaw, who alone of all the party sat imperturbable, except for a vicious bitten lip. Miss Higglesby-Browne had drawn a deep breath, preparatory to resuming her verbal ramble, but I sprang to my feet.

"Miss Browne," I said, in tones less coldly calm than I could have wished, "if you have thought it necessary to—orate at this length merely to tell me that I am to have no share in this ridiculous treasure of yours, you have wasted a good deal of energy. In the first place, I don't be-



"I Don't Believe in Your Treasure."

lieve in your treasure." (Which, of course, despite my temporary lapse, I really didn't.) "I think you are—allier than any grown-up people I ever saw. In the second place, anything you do find you are welcome to keep. Do you think I came along with people who didn't want me, and have turned my aunt against me, for the sake of filthy lucre? Did I come intentionally at all, or because I was shanghaied and couldn't help myself? Aunt Jane!" I demanded, turning to my stricken relative, who was gazing in anguish and doubt from Miss Browne to me.

"I haven't you one spark left of family pride—I don't talk of affection any longer—that you sit still and hear me made speeches at in this fashion? Have you grown so sordid and grasping that you can think of nothing but this blood-stained pirate gold?"

Aunt Jane burst into tears. "Good gracious, Virginia," she wailed, "how shocking of you to say such things. I am sure we all got along very pleasantly until you came—and in that dreadfully sudden way. You might at least have been considerate enough to wire beforehand."

It was impossible to feel that these remarks helped greatly to clear the situation. I opened my mouth, but Miss Browne was beforehand with me. "Miss Virginia Harding has herself admitted that she has no just or equitable claim to participate in the profits of this expedition—I believe I give the gist of your words, Miss Harding?"

"Have it your own way," I said, shrugging. "I move, then, Mr. Secretary"—Miss Browne inclined her head in a stately manner toward Mr. Tubbs—"that you offer for Miss Virginia Harding's signature the document prepared by you."

"Oh, I say!" broke out Mr. Vane suddenly, "I call this rotten, you know!"

"In case of objection by any person," said Miss Browne loftily, "the matter may be put to a vote. All those in favor say aye!"

An irregular fire of ayes followed. Mr. Shaw said briefly, "I think the distribution of the treasure, if any is recovered, should be that agreed upon by the original members of the party. Aye!"

Aunt Jane's assenting voice issued from the depths of her handkerchief, which was rapidly becoming so briny and inadequate that I passed her mine. From Outhbert Vane alone there came a steadfast no—and the Scotchman put a hand on the boy's shoulder with a smile which was like sudden sunlight in a bleak sky.

Mr. Tubbs then produced a legal-looking document which I took to be the original agreement of the members of the expedition. Beneath their signatures he had inscribed a sort of codicil, by which I relinquished all claim on any treasure recovered by the party. I signed the clause in a bold and defiant hand, under the attentive eyes of the company. A sort of sigh went round, as though something of vast moment had been concluded. And indeed it had, for now the way was clear for Violet's map.

Covertly I watched the faces around me. Mr. Tubbs' eyes had grown bright; he licked his dry lips. His nose, tip-tipped and slightly bilious, took on a more than usually rosy hue. Captain Magnus, who was of a restless and jerky habit at the best of times, was like a leashed animal awaiting blood. Beneath his open shirt you saw the quick rise and fall of his hairy chest. His lips, drawn

back wolfishly, displayed yellow, fang-like teeth. Under the raw crude greed of the man you seemed to glimpse something indescribably vulpine and ferocious.

The face of Dugald Shaw was controlled, but there was a slight rigidity in his cheek. A pulse beat rapidly in his cheek. All worldly good, all hope of place, power, independence, hung for him on the contents of the small flat package, wrapped in oil-silk, which Miss Browne was at this moment withdrawing from her pocket.

Only Outhbert Vane, seated next to me, maintained without effort his serenity. For him the whole affair belonged in the category known as sporting, where a gentleman played his stake and accepted with equalmity the issue.

The dead sailor's legacy consisted of a single sheet of time-stained paper. Two-thirds of the sheet was covered by a roughly-drawn sketch in faded ink, giving the outline of the island shores as we had seen them from the Rufus Smith. Here was the cove, with the name it bears in the Admiralty charts—Lantern bay—written in, and a dotted line indicating the channel.

To all appearance the map was merely to give Hopperdown his directions for entering the cove. There was absolutely no mark upon it to show where the treasure had been buried.

Now for the writing on the sheet below the map. It was in another hand than that which had written Lantern bay across the face of the cove, and which, though labored, was precise and clear. This other was an uneven, wavering scrawl:

"He sed it in a Cave with 2 mouths near by the grave of Bill Halliwich was cut down for he new to much. He sed you can bring a boat to the cave at the half Tide but beware the turn for the pull is strong He sed to find the Grave again look for the stone at the head marked B H. and a Cross Bones. In the Chist is gold Dubloons, a vast lot, also a silver Cross wich he sed leve for the Grave for he sed Bill walks and thats unlucky."

That was all. A fairly clear direction for any friend who had attended the obsequies of Bill and knew where to look for the stone marked B. H. and a cross-bones, but to perfect strangers it was vague.

A blank look crept into the intent faces about the table. "It—It don't happen to say in more detail jest precisely where that cave might be looked for?" inquired Mr. Tubbs hopefully.

"In more detail?" repeated Miss Browne, challengingly. "Pray, Mr. Tubbs, what further detail could be required?"

"A good deal more, I am afraid," remarked the Scotchman grimly. Miss Browne whirled upon him. In her cold eye a spark had kindled. And suddenly I had a new vision of her. I saw her no longer as the leader of Aunt Jane, but as herself the deluded. Her belief in the treasure was an obsession. This map was her talisman, her way of escape from an existence which had been drab and dull enough, I dare say.

"Mr. Shaw"—Miss Browne gave the effect of drawing herself up in line of battle—"I feel that I must give expression to the thought which comes to me at this moment. It is this—that if the members of this party are to be chilled by carping doubts, the wave of enthusiasm which has floated us thus far must inevitably recede leaving us flotsam on a barren shore. What can one weak woman—pardon, my unfaltering Jane!—two women achieve against the thought of failure firmly held by him to whom we looked to lead us boldly in our forward dash? Mr. Shaw, this is no time for crawling earthworm tactics. It is with the bold and sweeping glance of the eagle that we must survey this island, until the proper point discerned, we swoop with majestic flight upon our predestined goal!"

Miss Browne was somewhat exhausted by this effort, and paused for breath, whereupon Mr. Tubbs, anxious to retrieve his recent blunder, seized with dexterity the opportunity.

"I get you, Miss Browne, I get you," said Mr. Tubbs with conviction. "Victory ain't within the grasp of any individual that carries a heart like a cold pancake in his bosom. I may be rather a man of thought than action, ma'am, and at present far from my native heath, which is the financial centers of the country, but if I remember right, it was Ulysses done the dome-work for the Greeks, while certain persons that was depended on sunk in their tents. Miss Higglesby-Browne, you can count—count, I say—on old H. H.!"

"I thank you, Mr. Tubbs, I thank you!" replied Miss Browne with emotion. As for Aunt Jane, she gazed upon the noble countenance of Mr. Tubbs with such ecstatic admiration that her little nose quivered like a guinea-pig's.

(To be continued)

Travel of Light and Sound. Sound is said to move at the rate of 30 miles a minute, and, compared to light, it is slower than a snail. If we should hear a clap of thunder half a minute after a flash of lightning, we could calculate that the discharge of electricity was about six and a half miles away.

Dairymen's League

Members Unwilling to Acquiesce in Work of Managers Whom They Denounce as Wreckers

Half a century ago the order of Patrons of Husbandry came into being, born of the economic slavery to which the farmers of the country, as a class, were subject. It met with fierce opposition and ridicule from those superior beings who followed other occupations or no occupations and looked down on "clodhoppers" and "country jays." But it grew until its influence was felt in state legislatures and in congress and "granger laws" were not only passed but carried from court to court and finally enforced.

Co-operative enterprises were established, some of which succeeded and some failed. As a rule their stores have not been successful, though there have been shining exceptions. The most frequent cause of failure has been the scheme who wormed himself into the confidence of the members, obtained control of the venture, wrecked it and profited on the spoils.

The grange is not decadent in Oregon. The membership has increased by over a thousand in the state in the past year. And in state and nation its educational influence has been immense. The intellectual level of the farmer, on an average the country through, is considerably higher than fifty years ago, aside from the marked increase in the proportion of farmers' sons and daughters who attend the higher institutions of learning.

But different machinery from that of the grange has come to be a need of the farmer, and the farm bureau, more heavily financed and more ambitious commercially, has sprung up and covered the country more quickly than the grange did. It has fathered grain, wool and other pools which have delivered members from the grip of the gamblers and financed them, as certain banks did the gamblers, while waiting for prices of products to rise to a normal level.

Nature has given Oregon a climate and soil that make her a model dairy state. Finding themselves at the mercy of the buyers, Oregon dairymen tried

numerous co-operative manufacturing schemes, but with indifferent success. If a co-operative creamery began to make a success, along would come buyers for big creameries and condenseries offering more for milk than honest business could pay. Weak-kneed patrons would be won away from the farmers' creamery and it would fail. Then the price would drop and the weak-kneed would find themselves in the hole with the brethren they had betrayed.

Under the auspices of the farm bureau the state dairymen's league was formed and members signed contracts to deliver all their milk to the league for five years, except that they consumed themselves or sold at home for local consumption. A stiff monetary penalty was provided in case of violation of this contract.

Eastern condensers tried the old trick of buying off members of local branches of the league by paying higher prices, telling them the penal clause of their contracts could not be enforced and guaranteeing them against it. The league took up the challenge, fought it through the courts and won. The only way for a member to get out of the league before his five years expires is to quit or quit producing milk except for sale to local consumers.

And now it has been announced that the league is going on the rocks. The state board of directors declares that it is unprofitable and has voted to disband. This move at first carried dismay to the members, but soon they began to ask Why? And the word has gone around that their affairs have been willfully mismanaged by their manager and secretary, to the end that would-be monopolists may again control the price of milk in Oregon. It is charged that the manager is part owner of a rival concern and that the plant purchased for the league in Portland for \$80,000 is not worth one-fourth of that sum.

At a meeting in Portland next Tuesday morning these and other charges may be replied to. The call for the meeting demands a new board of directors and new management. It has been unanimously endorsed by several county leagues, including that of Linn, which met at Harrisburg Saturday with Halsey well represented.

LOSSES TO LIVE STOCK ON OPEN RANGES CAN BE GREATLY REDUCED



Cattle Grazing on a Western Forest Range.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) The utilization of the range in the national forests of the West for the production of wool, beef, mutton and pork is steadily increasing from year to year. Ranchers and stockmen are manifesting a growing appreciation of the advantages afforded by government pasturage. And in the same degree they are all too frequently neglecting their stock after it is turned out on the mountain ranges, state officials of the United States Department of Agriculture.

On all open ranges there are many losses from predatory animals, poisonous plants, disease and accidents, and similar dangers. Unless owners of live stock campaign intelligently and perseveringly against such sources of disaster, their herds and flocks usually suffer a mortality of from 5 to 6 per cent yearly. To illustrate, one ranchman grazed 700 head of cattle last summer on a national forest without a herder. As a result he lost a dozen head of steers worth \$50 each.

Mortality High Last Year. Last year in forest district 5, which includes California and western Nevada, the total live stock mortality in 17 forests amounted to 1,151 cattle, 5 horses and 5,840 sheep. The total number of permittees who used the federal grazing lands aggregated 3,329. Two hundred and seventy-five cattle died of disease; 290 cattle and 1,462 sheep were killed by eating poisonous plants; 91 cattle, 5 horses and 2,745 sheep were killed by predatory animals, and 486 cattle and 1,638 sheep succumbed to accidents

and miscellaneous causes of death.

This matter of live stock losses on the government ranges has become of such importance that the United States forest service made a detailed survey of the specific causes of mortality among live stock in the Stanislaus forest of California during a recent year. During the period under discussion a total of 881 head of live stock out of the 20,000 animals pastured in the forest lost their lives. The manner in which these losses were distributed should be of value to stockmen and ranchers who are interested in curtailing these losses and who are anxious to know what the weak points in their present methods of management are. The losses among cattle were distributed as follows:

Under one year old from blackleg, 98; over one year old from blackleg, 57; calves, loss of mother from larkspur poisoning, 10; cattle losses from larkspur, 53; other poisons, 21; predatory animals, 20; accident, 33; in calving, 14; lost, strayed or stolen, 74; from anthrax, 2; from eating giant powder from railroad construction camp, 5; from neck-and-spine disease, 15; killed by hunters, 2; blind, aged, crippled and ruptured, 4; losses from contagious abortion, 122; from lack of proper food and starvation, 14; and from unknown causes, 337.

Check Predatory Animals. The losses from predatory animals are being checked as rapidly as the federal agencies for this work are able to cope with the situation. Whenever the forest rangers note that predatory animals are causing heavy damage, professional hunters are sent to destroy them. The losses due to

disease and accident and miscellaneous causes could be substantially decreased if more herders were employed by the owners. Under conditions which obtain on the national forest ranges one or two herders could handle from five hundred to a thousand cattle without particular difficulty. On the same scale that it pays to herd sheep on the government ranges it also is profitable to herd cattle and, potentially, permittees probably will come to this decision of their own accord.

Poisonous plants—and particularly larkspur—are responsible annually for large losses of live stock throughout the western states. There is only one effective system of ridding the ranges of larkspur and that is to grub the plants out season after season until finally the range will be free of this objectionable growth.

The experiences of a certain rancher whose range abuts one of the California national forests, and who, under the supervision of the United States forest service, has been waging a winning fight against larkspur during the last four years, are illuminative in this regard. After careful trial and study of the control methods and the results his stockman is enthusiastic about the efficacy of the plan and he urges every other rancher or stockman who has a larkspur range to give the system of eradication a thorough and impartial trial.

Ideal Pasturage Infested. In this instance the larkspur was prevalent in large amounts on a range where the grazing was otherwise exceptionally good. The infested area was on a side hill where seepage from a spring near the top of the hill provided plenty of moisture, so that the grass was unusually luxuriant at all times during the grazing period. The rancher had to have a herder with the cattle constantly in order to keep them off the larkspur-infested area. Not only did he lose the use of excellent range, but he also was under extra expense to protect his cattle from the poisonous plants. During the 1913 grazing season he lost ten steers, which, despite the efforts of the herder, trespassed on the larkspur area and succumbed to the poisoning which resulted. The following season, under similar conditions, 24 head of valuable range cattle were poisoned. The next year only five steers died from larkspur poisoning, while the following year the mortality aggregated eighteen head. In 1917 the larkspur eradication campaign was instituted, and as a consequence of the work of that season the cattle losses were curtailed to only five animals. The next year the work was continued and not a single case of steer mortality from larkspur poisoning occurred. In 1919 only two steers died, while last year the mortality also was limited to two animals. Recently the larkspur area of the range has been grazed by a band of 2,000 sheep.

One Hundred Acres Grubbed. The first season about one hundred acres of range were grubbed, the poisonous plants being eradicated with larkspur picks and scattered in exposed places to dry in the sun. One man could dig 1.71 acres a day. The total cost of grubbing the one hundred acres the first year amounted to \$450.30, an average of \$4.50 an acre. The losses of cattle were reduced from 18 head the year before to 5 head the following season. The saving of 13 head of cattle was directly due to the larkspur eradication work. Estimating these steers worth \$50 apiece a saving of \$650 resulted, which paid all the expense of the grubbing and left a balance of \$199.70 to the credit of the work. The following season the range carried 50 more head of cattle as a result of the decrease in the amount and severity of the larkspur infection.

In passing, it is worthy of mention that the larkspur picks are made from ordinary surface picks by drawing out one point to a chisel form about two inches wide, while the other point is sharpened in a diamond shape. Generally pruning shears and small hand axes are used in cutting out the brush and trees which obstruct the access of the workmen to the larkspur. Ordinarily an average workman can grub from seventy to eighty larkspur plants an hour. The last two seasons the grubbing work has been continued the chief attention being devoted to new areas, as the original one hundred acres are now practically free of any larkspur.

BUYING SUITABLE CHICKENS Possible for City Man to Select His Pullets From Live Poultry Shipped to Town.

Where a town man has no time to go into the country to buy his pullets it often is possible to choose suitable birds among the live poultry shipped into the city markets. The advice of some experienced person should be obtained before buying, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Local poultry associations are glad to help prospective poultry keepers by putting them into touch with members having stock for sale. The board of trade or the chamber of commerce often can bring poultry raiser and buyer together.

Money of Ancient Britons. Sword-shaped bars of iron were used by the ancient Britons as money, and many of these are now found in British museums. A recent investigation shows that six different denominations were used, distinguished by their size.

FARMERS usually have an accumulation of articles no longer needed, or succeeded by better ones, which somebody would like to obtain. An advertisement the size of this, costing 25c, might find a buyer and convert what is now only trash into good **CASH**

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EXECUTOR'S NOTICE OF SALE Notice is hereby given that on and after December 23, 1921, under authority of the last will and testament of Lizzie Silveu, deceased, the undersigned will proceed to sell at private sale for cash all of the interest of said deceased in the following described property, to wit: Lot 1, in block 1, in Bridges' addition to Shelburn, Linn county, Oregon; also lot 1 and the w. 1/2 of lot 4 in block 11 in Wheeler's addition to Seio, Linn county, Oregon. Dated and first publication hereof is November 24, 1921. **G. W. MORROW, Executor.**

Call at the Enterprise office and see the latest thing in dainty calling cards, at \$1 for 50. They make a fine Christmas gift and are very necessary at Christmas time to place in your packages. They are also very nice to tie on bouquets for funerals. Come in and see them.