

HAPPENINGS IN THE CITIES

"Practical" Queries That Puzzled Dad



KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Was education more practical a generation ago, or did John's father study his books more thoroughly than John does? John is a seventh grade student in the public schools. He asked his father one day to help him solve the following problem:

A, asked how much money he has in the bank, replied: "If I had \$10 more I would have \$1,000 more than half what I now have." How much money had A?

"Such a fool problem," said the father. "Tell that teacher to ask the cashier. You have been pestering me with problems like that for a week. Suppose your teacher asked you how old you are. Would you tell her: "If I were ten times as old as I am, diminished by 42, I would be 30 years older than dad, and if dad were one-fourth as old as he now is he would be my age?"

"What would your teacher do if you answered in such a manner? In my days we had practical problems in our arithmetic."

In order to investigate his father's statement John went to the public library and asked for an old arithmetic. The librarian gave him "Richard's Natural Arithmetic." He turned to the page marked "Practical Exercises" and read:

A puts his whole flock of sheep into three pastures; half go into one pasture, one-third into another and 32 into a third. How many in the flock? "That's queer," said John. "Practical exercises, too. Here is a man who wants to find how many sheep he

has. He counts them so he will know when he has half of them. This half he puts into a pasture. Then he counts out a third and puts it in another pen. Next he counts what's left and finds he has 32. After a little figuring he finds how many in the whole flock. Very practical. I guess dad didn't study that book."

The next book he examined was "Milne's Inductive Arithmetic," edition of 1879. In miscellaneous examples he found the following:

Two ladders will together just reach the top of a building seventy-five feet high. If the shorter ladder is two-thirds the length of the other, what is the length of each?

"Why didn't he measure each ladder separately?" John asked himself. "That problem is not practical. I guess dad is older than I thought. I want an older book."

The text book written in 1868 was handed to him. The book was evidently influenced by the Civil war, for it was filled with problems dealing with battering down fortifications and the sustenance of soldiers. One problem was:

"If twelve pieces of cannon, eighteen pounders, can batter down a fortress in three hours, how long will it take for nineteen twenty-four pounders to batter down the same fortress?"

"That's fine for a general," John reflected, "but dad says that I am going to be a captain of industry."

Another arithmetic of the same date had the famous fish problem, with which John's teacher had troubled him for six weeks before he himself finally explained it to the class. The fish problem is:

"The head of a fish is ten inches long. Its tail is as long as its head and one-half the body. The body is as long as the head and tail both. How long is the fish?"

Very handy problem for a butcher.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.

You can account for very few marriages.

Every time any big bill is presented to you, it looks like robbery.

If a woman can get her first man, she needn't worry about her second, or third.

"My duty," said an unhappy married woman to-day, "is anything HE objects to."

There is plenty of cooking as good as "mother's," but very few appetites like a boy's.

We have observed that there is little complaint about the high prices of beer and cigars.

The women pick at men and at goods offered at special sale, in the same industrious way.

You are always at a disadvantage in arguing with a man who doesn't know what he is talking about.

Have you ever noticed how suddenly a useful man can die, and how long a worthless man holds out?

A book agent speaks as highly of the book he sells as a reformer speaks of the reform he represents.

Scrapping in families is objectionable, but it is not so bad as when kin praise each other too much.

When you hear a smart saying by a child, it is a sign the child has a smart mother, and that she made it up.

A man and woman going on a wedding trip try hard not to look happy, and on their return try just as hard to look happy.

NERBY AND GARDEN

Handy Pea-Shell.

A little machine that will be highly appreciated in the kitchen is the pea-sheller invented by a Utah man. This handy little device will shell a peck of peas in the time it would take the cook to shell a dozen by hand. It consists of a hopper-like arrangement clamped to the table by an iron upright.

Above the hopper a pair of roller bearings studded with blunt, pyramidal teeth are in close relation. A handle turns these rollers, while the mouth of the hopper opens over the table, where a dish can be placed beneath it. The pods are inserted between the rollers end foremost. As the rollers are turned the teeth engage the different shells of the pods and rip them open, allowing the peas to roll down into the bowl. The shells are then tossed out the other side of the "wringer." Of course, the two rollers are not close enough together to crush the peas, but just close enough to engage the pods.

Adjustable Step for Ladder.

House painting is very easily done by painters having their own scaffolds, but a person desiring to do his own work will have only a ladder to take place of a scaffold. To paint and stand on the rungs of a ladder all day will tire one's feet. As the writer had to do some painting and a ladder was the only thing obtainable to climb upon, a flat detachable step was made to put upon the rungs of the ladder to stand on the same as a scaffold. The step can be adjusted to any part of the ladder for the painter to stand upon and paint a surface within easy reach. Two irons are bent V-shaped,



THE ADJUSTABLE STEP.

as illustrated, each end having a half circle to fit over the rungs of the ladder. Two holes are drilled in the top angle in which to put bolts for fastening the step. The step can be quickly changed from one position to another. A person will feel as safe on the step as if he were on a stage.—Popular Mechanics.

Milo Good for Dairy.

Milo can take the place of corn in feeding dairy cows, and will yield an average of twice as much grain an acre as corn in dry regions. In seasons so dry that corn will be a total failure milo will usually yield fifteen bushels of grain or more an acre.

The heads of milo may be snapped from the stalks and fed to cows giving milk. This is an economical way to feed this grain, as a cow has to chew a head a considerable time before she is satisfied to swallow it, and the more she chews it the better it will digest.

The whole heads may be ground without threshing, and the small stems that hold the seeds form, when ground, a good material for diluting the meal and making it more easily digested.

The threshed grain may be ground before feeding. It does not pay to feed unground threshed grain, as the cow chews the whole grain but little before swallowing it, and a large proportion passes into the maure undigested.

Green Food for Chicks.

Growing chicks demand green food, and by all means give them plenty of grass range if you have it; if not, supply them with an equivalent, such as lettuce, cabbage, weeds, clover, alfalfa; they relish it and will thrive on it. Provide chicks with shade and where a cool breeze can fan them in warm weather. This should be supplied, even if a temporary board roof is the only thing that can be furnished.

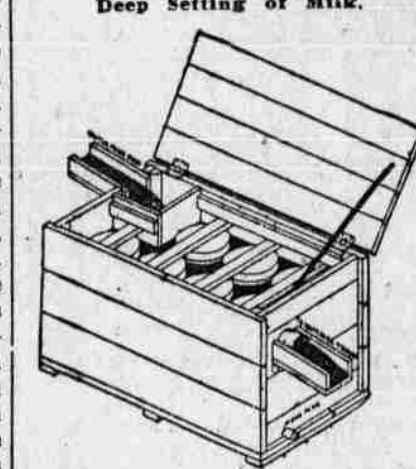
Tillage of the Peach.

No tree is more sensitive to tillage than is the peach. Probably more failures in peach growing are due to neglect in tillage than to any other one cause. The most diverse views are held by different growers. One good grower will declare that the orchard should be tilled early in the season, and his neighbor will maintain that early tillage will endanger the crop.

A Question of Economy.

It is natural for every man to want to get the best possible when he goes in to bring out some new farm machine. This often brings a fellow to grief, however, since the desire to spend as little money as possible sometimes causes the purchaser to take the cheap machine. If confronted with a proposition to take a sulky plow, for instance, that will last five years for \$25, or another that will last ten years for \$35, which one would you take? Which one would it pay you to take? This is about the sum and substance of buying a cheap farm implement. It may not seem that way in the warehouse — when each tool looks gaudy with paint, the cheaper one looking even the more gaudy—but in actual work, in the rough and tumble of the ranch, this is about the way it always turns out.—Denver Field and Farm.

Deep Setting of Milk.



The best results in keeping milk sweet and maintaining the highest quality of cream are obtained by setting the cans in cold water. The box as shown should be near to the pump and ice house.

The Average Farmer.

Farms in the United States produced \$8,760,000,000 in 1909. But did the farmer get his share of it? We read a whole lot about the American farmer being king and we are told of the farmers sporting automobiles and sending their children to college or to Europe if they have been given the college course, but it is the one best bet that the average farmer is no plutocrat. The farmer is considered lucky if he can keep the interest paid up on the mortgage, and if finally, after years of hard labor, he owns his place clear of all indebtedness he is considered well off. The American farmer is a long way from being the real ruler of the country.—Field and Farm.

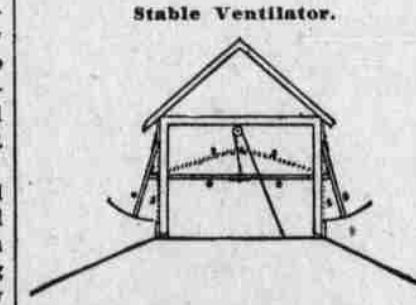
What Becomes of the Corn.

People often wonder, particularly those who have traveled for hundreds of miles through the corn belt, what becomes of corn which is grown every year. In the year 1908, when the total crop was 2,666,000,000 bushels, 241,000,000 bushels were consumed in flour and grist mill products, 8,000,000 bushels in the manufacture of starch, 9,000,000 bushels for malt liquors, 17,000,000 bushels in the production of distilled liquors, 40,000,000 bushels for glucose, 190,000,000 bushels for export and 13,000,000 bushels for seed, making a total of 518,000,000 bushels, or 19.3 per cent of the entire crop. The remaining 80.7 per cent, or 2,118,000,000 bushels, seems to have been used almost entirely for feeding.

Death Among Chicks.

The trouble which causes the death of many young chicks is commonly known as white diarrhea. Different breeders have different theories as to the cause of this trouble, among them being a lack of vitality of breeding stock, improper feeding and poor ventilation. Lack of sunlight and imperfect sanitation cause the death of many chicks. The diet should contain a sufficient quantity of animal food and the chicks fed often and not allowed to get so hungry that they will devour large quantities at times and then fast for long intervals.—South Dakota Farmer.

Stable Ventilator.



REGULATES ITSELF.

This ventilator is always in working order as the hinged doors are kept closed on the windward side and at the same time the connecting board presses open the door on the opposite side. The cord and pulley enable the connecting board to be lifted to the dotted line when both doors will remain closed.

Number of Pigs Per Sow.

The number of pigs a sow raises is something worth taking into account if she is to be kept over for another breeding season; it is equally important to know something about her motherly instincts when young sows are to be selected from her litter for the breeding herd. For this reason every man should keep some record of the size of the litters his sows raise.—Farmers' Tribune.

New Harvesting Machine.

A new harvesting machine has been introduced in Nebraska. The harvester is propelled by its own power and is followed by a truck-carrying gasoline engine, which operates the harvesting mechanism of the machine. This is used mainly in wet fields, where the power of the harvester is not sufficient to make headway.

IN THE CASE OF FIRE

Some Ways in Which It May Happen and Hints on Action When It Does.

HOW TO EXTINGUISH FLAME.

Conflagrations at Night and the Best Methods of Escape From Burning Buildings.

Attics and closets are the breeding places of many fires, according to Good Housekeeping. An attic is generally the asylum for all sorts of inflammable material, and as it never is properly ventilated it becomes a fire incubator when the summer sun strikes the roof.

Among the odds and ends that make up the contents of the average attic are old varnished furniture, dry as tinder; rags, many of them greasy and ripe for spontaneous combustion; painting oils, liable to take fire when the sun beats on the roof; broken toys and old clothes, the pockets of which may contain matches. Attics and garrets often have a temperature of 110 degrees Fahrenheit, which is the ignition point for matches.

Floor sweepings under furniture or in a closet are liable to take fire spontaneously or from a flying match head. Sawdust used in sweeping floors, if left in a corner where there is no current of air to carry off the heat it generates, is very likely to become hot enough to ignite itself. Greasy overalls kept in a tight wardrobe have been known to ignite. The most dangerous closet is that under a stairway, because inflammable materials may hide there, and if a fire starts in it the best avenue of escape from upper stories is cut off. Furnace ashes in the cellar have in them so much fine coal and litter that they are liable to spontaneous combustion if an open window permits them to get wet by a rain-storm. The fine coal from the winter's supply may ignite if wet. Playing with fire and matches by children is a prolific source of fires in residences.

How to Extinguish Flames.

One's ability to extinguish a starting fire depends upon intelligence and self-control. If the blaze is just starting throw water on the burning material, not on the blaze. One bucket of water will do more good if thrown on by handfuls or with a broom than dashed on at once. A small fire may be smothered with a rug or blanket, or beaten out with a wet broom.

If you cannot put out the fire in a minute then give an alarm at once. Do not leave a door open when you run out to give an alarm. If the doors and windows are closed when a fire starts you may be able to get the firemen there in time to put it out while it is in only one room. The fire soon consumes all the oxygen in a closed room and may die out if it gets no fresh air.

After the firemen are called work at getting out the things you want most to save. Don't throw the clock from the window and then carry out your clothing, as some persons have done.

If awakened in the night by the smell of fire don't dress. Wrap yourself in a blanket or quilt from the bed and get out the quickest way you can. Shut the doors you pass through. After calling help look in and see where and what is the danger. If the fire is on the first floor it is very dangerous to go above, because heat and smoke ascend.

One can often get out through a hall filled with smoke by going on hands and knees when one would fall choking if one ran. The smoke is thickest at the ceiling. Holding a wet towel or anything made of wool or even a coat collar over the mouth greatly lessens the danger of injury to the lungs or death from the carbonic acid gas in the smoke.

If a man is in a burning building with no fire escape and the stair below is burning or the hall filled with smoke he should shut the door and transom to keep out the gases. Then he should throw open the window to get cool air and to let the firemen and neighbors see where he is, so that they may bring a ladder to the window.

The Horse's Prayer.

Pathetic and ironical as it may seem, the horse looks up to man as his god. In the Swedish they have a "Prayer of the Horse," addressed to his human lord and master, which in sum is as follows:

"O lord, my master, I thank and adore you for the kind word you spoke to me long ago, and I strive in the hope that you will pet me once in a while. If I cannot understand what you wish me to do, please be patient and show me. Don't beat me or jerk on the reins, but look and see if something is not wrong with the harness.

"I beg of you not to whip me going up hill, nor give me loads heavier than I can pull. Keep me shod so that I can get a foothold, and don't let the farrier cripple my feet. If I am sick or have an ulcerated tooth, go easy with me for a day, as I am beside myself with pain.

"Oh, grant me cool, clean water in the hot weather, and let me not eat my fodder dry.

"Finally, when my strength is gone, and I cannot any more work for you enough to be worth my keep, I beseech of you don't let me be sold to drag a venter's cart, but take my life in the quickest and easiest way, and God will reward you in this life and in heaven. Amen."

Your second thoughts may be best— if they arrive on time.

Partners for Years But Never Speak



each was a specialist who did his part to perfection. Their separate interests in the firm so interlocked and they worked together so harmoniously that within five years they were on the high road to fortune. It was just at this time that these two partners fell out. It arose from a trifling difference their wives had. Naturally each partner, through loyalty to his spouse, took her side, and the quarrel grew so bitter that it culminated in blows being exchanged. Then they vowed they never would speak to each other again. The other three partners saw that if this course were pursued it would spell ruin. After a lengthy conference, in which the two disputants were called in separately, the proposition was put to them that they should agree to remain with the firm, of which they were essentially important parts, and should hold communication with each other only on business matters and then either in writing or by telephone.

This is the plan that has been followed to this day and is likely to be pursued to the end. When these two enemies talk over the telephone they converse with all the polite amiability of old business associates; they discuss prices, business propositions and the various problems with which they are mutually concerned.

"Old Rags, Old Iron" Set to Music



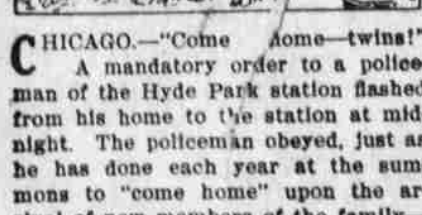
a hot summer day or fret and fume over the guttural cries of the merchants of the thoroughfares, will throw open the window and be lulled into peaceful slumber through the melodious strains of "Rags and Bottles," "Ole Iron," "Soap Grease" and "Juicy Lemons."

Miss Wenzel has established her outdoor school at Washington street and Massachusetts avenue and has nearly a score of pupils. The young woman is popular with the vendors.

She got her idea from a trip abroad last year. Her method is simple. She finds out a man's business and instructs him accordingly. She suggests expression to fit his wares and teaches the correct pronunciation of these expressions.

Her musical instruction is similar to what the musical teachers advocate for the production of a good ringing "head tone."

Expected Twin Babies But He Found—

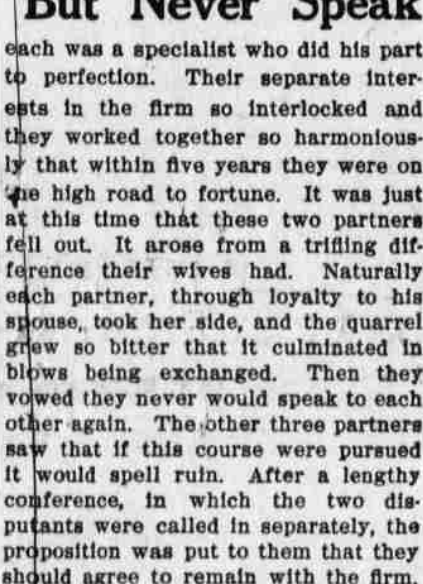


heard the wall of several of the small Cronins. Even Polly, the red Durham cow, which furnishes milk for the group, seemed affected and moored in unison with the crying children.

The police sergeant hesitated at the threshold—then doffed his helmet and entered. He sought first the physicians, two of them, who talked disinterestedly with some of the children. One of them said:

"Sergeant, this case is one most unusual. It should be brought to the attention of dairymen throughout the country. A full-sized male and female. Mother and offspring doing nicely. You might drop a word to the farm journals."

FASHION HINTS



Ecru linen combined with a dark blue dotted linen, were very effectively used in this summery little dress. The linen was of the handkerchief sort, a fine material being necessary for the gathered skirt.

A RESTRAINING HAND.

Its Action Followed by a Voice That Warned.

"Patrick H. McCarren once told me of a funny incident that happened in Rome," said a Brooklyn lawyer. "McCarren said that on his first visit to Rome, after he had seen the Coliseum and the Forum, he visited the Ara Coeli Church, on the left of the Capitoline Hill. He climbed the grand stairway leading to the church, the finest open air stairway in the world. He pushed back the heavy leather curtain, and, entering, he found a service in progress. So he put his hat on the marble floor at his side and took a seat.

"After ten minutes or so he decided he would go and reached down for his hat. But a restraining hand was laid on his, and he desisted. He knew, of course, that some churches don't like people to leave in the midst of a service.

"Ten or fifteen minutes more passed. The service still continued. Senator McCarren got impatient and again reached for his hat. But again the unseen hand restrained him from the rear.

"A little later, however, the senator quite lost patience. This was, he told himself an important service, of course. Nevertheless, he did not propose to miss his luncheon, and it would harm no one if he slipped out quietly.

"So a third time he reached for his hat, and the invisible hand a third time detained him. He persevered, however. The silent hand pushed and his silent hand pushed against it. But just as he was conquering in the struggle a voice said in good American: "Cheese it, boss; that's my hat you're taking."

Ample Proof.

Lottie—Is your young minister, so very, very fascinating?

Hattie—Fascinating! Why, lots of girls in our church have married men they hated, just to get one kiss from the rector after the ceremony.—Puck.

Postponed.

Dolly—Why aren't you at the cooking school?

Polly—Teacher's laid up with dyspepsia.—Cleveland Leader.