Parental Supervision.

"Did you say you didn't raise your boy to be a soldier?"

"Yes. But that doesn't affect the results. I don't suppose that Shakespeare's parents raised him to be a poet."—Washington Star.

Why He Resigned.

"Why did you resign from the Don't Worry club?"

"I discovered that the way the rest of them got out of worrying was by telling all their trouble to me."—Boston Transcript.

Devastation.

"How's things?"

"Rotten."

"Here, too. What's wrong at your house?"

"Sickness. What's wrong at yours?"

"Company."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Certainly Good.

"There's one good thing about Bragson."

"And what is that, pray?"

"His opinion of himself."—Boston Transcript.

Logical Conclusion.

"There is one big difference between pie and words."

"What's that?"

"When you mince your words you don't have to eat them."—Exchange.

The Slow Asset

By GEORGE ELMER COBB

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"And Paul Merrill?" inquired the attorney for Wyatt & Co., woodenware jobbers.

Phillip Wyatt, who was, in fact, the whole firm, company nominal, shrugged his shoulders hopelessly.

"A slow asset, as affairs have turned out," he said, reluctant gloom in his usual cheery, optimistic tone.

"Then he'll have to go with the other dead issues," pronounced the lawyer, making a memorandum on a sheet he had before him.

"I fear so," sighed Wyatt. "And I'm desperately sorry. He is a fine young fellow, active, honest and my family like him. You see, he came to me a year ago with that household mop he had invented. It was really clever, for the wringing device was new and practical."

"Has it ever sold?"

"Very well, considering that we never pushed it. Maybe if I had put some capital into advertising the returns might have been promising, for wherever it has been bought once there are repeat orders and it gives general satisfaction. After my experience with Carleton Davis, however, I've been duly conservative. You know he was my partner, robbed the business to the point of bankruptcy and all I got from him was a curse and a threat when they sent him to the penitentiary."

"Well, economy and restriction is all that will enable you to tide over your present stringency," declared the lawyer, "unless you can find someone to advance you $10,000."

"Impossible," said Wyatt. "I have already strained my credit to the limit. I can't get Merrill off my mind and hate to lose him. You see, when he came with me I fancied his inventive genius would produce all kinds of

"I'm Going to Beat the Life Out of You."

saleable novelties. He declares his own effort was an accident, and frankly told me not to build on any new construction. He has been improving the mop, and it counts—a detachable hook, a velvet guard where the hands go, a new drain, but we haven't been able to push the sales and all other departments are filled with more experienced men."

So it came about that Paul Merrill found himself out of a position. The first person he consulted about it was Edna Wyatt, the daughter of his employer, although Mr. Wyatt never suspected that they were lovers.

"I hate to leave, Edna, for it takes me away from you," said Paul, as they enjoyed a stolen meeting along the river shore. "I have some new ideas of improvements on the mop and your father's affairs may improve. At all events, I shan't make a definite move until the month is over and see if matters don't mend."

Edna was anxious and dispirited. It was like Paul beginning business life all over fresh, and she was prudent enough to know that it would be folly to think of marrying until Paul had something ahead. So they tried to see comfort in the probability that business at the plant might improve and Paul regain his old position.

Paul continued to drop in on the Wyatts once a week, as had been his wont. Meanwhile he passed most of his time in his room working on the device he had invented. One evening Edna was in the home garden when a familiar whistle told her that her lover was not far away. She strolled bareheaded down the street and found Paul awaiting her where a little lane ran off from the main thoroughfare.

"I don't feel manly at all," he said, "to have you meet me this way, but there is something important to tell you, Edna. I've hit it—if I am not mistaken, I have hit it big."

"The mop!" exclaimed Edna, as she noticed a familiar object propped up against a tree.

"Yes, Edna!" assented Paul. "See here," and he drew his invention toward him by the handle, moving it smoothly and readily.

"Why, you have put little rubber wheels on it!" cried the interested Edna. "It's like a carpet sweeper."

"Don't you see that it is the crowning perfection of the little device?" asked Paul eagerly. "There is nothing like it on the market. I have a great idea about it, Edna, and I am taking the midnight train for the city to carry it out. I may be absent a couple of days, so don't worry at my absence, only hope that a great plan which I have in mind may succeed."

It was a new Paul Merrill who returned to Virden two evenings later. He carried his pet invention all wrapped up, and his step was springy, his eye was bright and he hummed a happy tune as he hurried in the direction of the Wyatt home.

"I must get the glad news to Mr. Wyatt, first thing," soliloquized Paul. "He treated me square when I needed help and I'm going to return the compliment. Twenty thousand dollars!" and he slapped the breast of his coat. "How much it will mean, all hands around! Hello!"

Paul halted, for he was just passing the plant and there was a light in the office. He knew that for some time past, amid his pressing business troubles, Mr. Wyatt had been working overtime.

"The very thing, if he is here," reflected Paul. "Edna can know about our rare good luck later."

Paul found the door leading into the dark outside room of the office open. He was thoroughly familiar with the place and started to cross the room towards an open doorway, when he halted spellbound.

In the main office, tied to a chair with ropes, was his employer. Confronting him, brandishing a heavy billy, was a man roughly dressed and vicious looking.

"Yes, it's me, Carleton Davis, your old partner!" hissed this malevolent knave. "You sent me to jail, and I have just escaped. I swore to have revenge, and I'm going to get it. I'm here to beat the life out of you, here and now."

The menacing scoundrel made a swing at his helpless victim. Paul was ten feet distant. He made a rush. He had only as a weapon, a missile, the sample mop. He cleared the doorway in a nimble spring. The mop was too bulky and unwieldy to lift to advantage, but, holding it in front of him, he rushed full bent on the would-be murderer, and caught him directly at the waist. So forcible was the impact that it carried Davis across the room and sent him headlong through the window, carrying the sash with him and landing outside.

Shrieking with pain, his face and hands gashed by the broken glass, the baffled knave staggered to his feet, discerning that a ready aid had come to his victim, and darted away in the darkness, to be recaptured the following day and restored to his prison cell.

"The mop did it, the new, improved mop," declared Paul excitedly. "Mr. Wyatt, I have sold my improved invention for twenty thousand dollars, and—there is the money, sir," and the audacious young man glowed with honest emotion. "Please tell Miss Edna. She will be glad to know that I have succeeded in what I undertook."

"Ah!" murmured Mr. Wyatt thoughtfully, "she has been a co-conspirator, has she?"

"She is the inspiration of my life," declared Paul tumultuously, "and I hope you won't object."

So the cat was out of the bag, and Paul Merrill eligible for a partnership. The "slow asset" had saved the day and contentment and happiness was the result for all concerned.

Purest Irish Blood.

The purest Irish blood is not to be found in Galway proper, for the town was long held by the English, and centuries ago it did an immense trade with Spain that resulted in mixed marriages, producing sundry heads of black hair and black eyes. But across the little river, by the bay, is a fishers' colony where the oldest Irish blood is still pure. This little group have married strictly among themselves, and their stock is said to go back to Irish natives who even antedated the Irish Celts. They are still recognizable as a slightly different type going about the streets of Galway selling their fish, as they and their fathers before them have done for centuries.

Dog Caught a Pickpocket.

"Butch," a fox terrier, was with his master, L. C. Lich, while his master watched a parade, and though the crowd was thick, he was right on the job when he saw a stranger slip his hand into Mr. Lich's back pocket, the San Antonio Express says. "Butch" is some jumper and he caught the insinuating hand before Mr. Lich knew what was happening. He turned to see a strange young man waving a fox terrier around in the air and evidently not enjoying it a bit. When Mr. Lich grabbed the would-be pickpocket "Butch" let go, but the thief squirmed from Lich's grasp and a second later was lost in the crowd.

For Removing Rust.

For removing rust from a deeply corroded iron plate, a more effective method than hammering, or even the sand blast, is claimed by the consolidated gold fields laboratory, South Africa. A slightly moistened mixture of two parts of finely crushed sodium bisulphate and one part of common salt is applied, and may be left until all rust is acted on, or the action may be hastened by renewed applications every two or three hours, with wire-brush scrubbings before each. Cleaning is usually complete within 24 hours, when an alkaline washing and a coat of paraffin oil leave the plate ready for protective painting.

Found a Kingdom.

The small group of islands known as the Cocos or Kneeling islands, in the Indian archipelago, was constituted a semi-independent state under the rule of a Scottish gentleman, George Clunies Ross. Coming across the islands in 1825, he found the inhabitants without a monarch, and open to take one. He removed his worldly goods to his newly found domain, only to find that another countryman, a certain Captain Hare, had slipped in and taken possession. They avoided dispute by ruling conjointly until Hare tired of the business and betook himself elsewhere. Since that time the reign of the Ross dynasty has been undisputed.

Rouge Shops in Japan.

Rouge and toilet powders are so extensively used by Japanese women that there are shops that deal exclusively in this stuff, and are indicated by a small red flag, signifying the color which the powder will make the cheeks. A shop with a square piece of wood on which are painted various round dots of different colors, tells the passer-by of a paint shop.

GROWING SWEET CORN

PLANT SOME VARIETY AT SHORT INTERVALS UP TO AUGUST.

Loses Quality Very Rapidly After Being Picked—Does Best in Fertile Soil, But Adapts Itself to All Textures.

Sweet corn should always be found in the home garden when space allows, since it loses quality very rapidly after being picked. Its sugar changes into starch, so that to have it at its best it should be on the fire within 15 minutes after being pulled from the stalk.

Corn does best in a fertile soil, but is able to adapt itself to all textures from sand to clay. To grow it in sufficient quantities for the average family requires more space, however, than for most garden vegetables. It should not be planted until after danger of frost is past.

The rows should be spaced not closer than three feet apart, and for

Good Variety of Sweet Corn.

the larger growing late varieties the distance had best be three and one-half feet. Stalks should be thinned to stand from 15 to 18 inches in the row. In planting, the seed is covered with one or two inches of soil. Cultivation must be thorough, frequent and shallow.

It is possible to use the ground occupied by early corn for a fall planting of such crops as spinach, turnips and kale. Large, late varieties, however, will occupy the ground for practically the whole season.

For early use the yellow sweet corns have recently become quite popular. Of course the Golden Bantam is a well-known variety. Early Minnesota has long been a favorite. White Mexican is a valuable early corn. Early Malakoff is a very early sort of excellent quality, which does better in the North than in the middle states, however. Early Adams is a variety frequently grown for market, and its virtues are rather those of the market than of the table. It is a flint corn, not a sweet corn, but if used during the very short period when its qualities are at their best, its flavor is good.

It is possible to have a fairly long season of usable corn if three varieties, such as Golden Bantam, Crosby, and Country Gentleman are planted simultaneously in early spring. To make the season continuous until frost, however, it will be necessary to plant some variety at intervals of two or three weeks up to the last of July. Crosby is a very good variety for this purpose.

WAYS OF MAKING WHITEWASH

Formulas Given for Making Solution for Outside and Inside Use—Mix Both Thoroughly.

Whitewash for outside use—Slake one bushel of quicklime in 12 gallons of hot water, dissolve two pounds of common salt and one pound of sulphate of zinc in two gallons of boiling water and mix this with the slaked lime, then add two gallons of skim milk, and mix thoroughly. Spread lightly over the surface with a broad brush.

Whitewash for interior painting. Slake a peck of quicklime with boiling water and cover as soon as the water is added. Strain after slaking and put in a gallon of salt dissolved in hot water, a quarter of a pound of Spanish whiting, two pounds of rice paste and a half pound of glue, dissolved in warm water. Mix these thoroughly, cover and set aside for a few days to ripen.

AID NATIONAL FOOD SUPPLY

Lessen Demand for Cowpeas and Navy Beans on Specialized Districts by Growing Crops.

If cowpeas and navy beans are grown abundantly for home use and for the local markets they will greatly lessen the demand on the same crops grown on a large scale in specialized districts. This will permit a larger distribution to districts where the crops are not grown at all, will insure a large supply to our armies, and a larger surplus for shipment to our allies. Thus people in any community may contribute greatly to the national food supply by feeding themselves on home-grown products.

"VELVET" FROM SHEEP FLOCK

Animals Will Mow Orchard and Keep Down Weeds About Windbreaks, Fences and Buildings.

A small flock will mow the orchard and keep down the weeds about windbreaks, fences and buildings. All of this is simply incidental "velvet" as the wool clip pays for the flock's keep. The mutton return is the main source of profit.

Good Ditching Machine.

A good ditching machine will do all the ditching on your farm at an amazingly low cost. It will terrace the hillsides and clear out the old ditches.

Improving Dairy Herd.

Improvement in the dairy herd lies in better breeding, in better housing and in better feed in greater quantities.

BEES INCREASE FRUIT CROP

Little Honey Gatherers Carry Pollen From One Blossom to Another—Weather Counts.

Bees will pay well for their keep in honey, but that is not all the good they do. They increase the fruit crop by fertilizing the blossoms. If there were no bees nor similar insects there would be little fruit. The wind cannot be depended on to do the necessary work of carrying the pollen (that yellow powder) from the male blossoms to the female blossoms. Most of this work is done by the bees in their trips from blossom to blossom.

Weather at the time the orchard blooms has much to do with the size of the crop. If it is wet, cloudy and cold, the bees cannot work as they will when it is clear and warm. Consequently fewer blossoms are fertilized and there is less fruit.

You may have noticed that some times one side of an apple tree will be set heavily with fruit, while there will be little or none on the other side. This is often caused by strong, cold winds that prevent the bees from working on the exposed side of the tree.

SAVE ALL BREEDING ANIMALS

Department of Agriculture Urges Farmers Not to Be Tempted With Present High Prices.

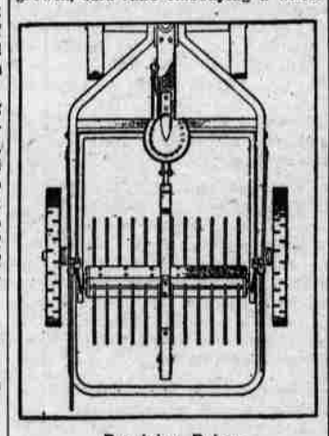
"Don't sell your breeding animals unless you can replace them immediately with better ones," is the message the United States department of agriculture is sending to farmers and stockmen everywhere. Don't let the temptation of high prices now being offered for live stock or undue fear of the prices asked for many popular feeds mislead you into selling a cow or sow that will drop the golden calf or litter. Such near-sighted profit-taking or lack of courage, if widespread, would strike at the foundation of the country's live stock industry and cripple it for years to come. As there is a shortage of meat animals throughout the world, we cannot hope to import new breeding stock to replace those we foolishly have killed off. Our own breeding animals, therefore, must be regarded as the seed essential to the domestic meat supply of the nation.

RAKE FOR GATHERING BRUSH

Implement Invented for Purpose of Collecting Undergrowth Is Idea of a Nevada Man.

In illustrating and describing a revolving rake, the invention of A. R. Clayton of North Fork, Nev., the Scientific American says:

"This invention provides a rake for gathering sagebrush and similar undergrowth, said rake embodying a wheel



Revolving Rake.

supported frame, a second frame movable with relation to the first and carrying teeth, means to adjust and maintain the teeth in spaced relation with the ground and means for elevating the second frame."

CARE OF HARNESS ESSENTIAL

Horses Never Look Their Full Value in Shabby, Patched-Up Affair—Prices Going Higher.

The harness has a lot to do with the appearance of a team. The animals never look their full value in a shabby, patched-up affair, while, on the other hand, the veriest plugs are vastly improved in appearance by a bright, well-kept harness.

But that isn't all. With the high and rising cost of leather care of the harness is wise economy. Harness that is never cleaned and oiled soon stiffens up and goes to pieces. The sewing breaks, the buckles rust and the leather loses its life.

An occasional cleaning and scrubbing with warm water and good soap, followed by a thorough oiling with neatsfoot oil, when the leather has pretty well dried, will add years to the life of a harness.

LIMESTONE TO KILL SORREL

Quicklime Can Be Used to Advantage by Slaking With Water and Applying to Plants.

The usual advice for the control of sheep sorrel is to apply ground limestone, 2 tons per acre, hydrated lime 1½ tons per acre, or quicklime 1 ton per acre. The quicklime can be used to advantage by slaking with water and sprinkling the mixture freely over the sorrel. The liquid will injure the leaves of the sorrel as well as help correct the soil acidity.

FOOD AS ESSENTIAL AS GUNS

Every Boy or Girl Who Grows Garden Will Be Doing Their Share in Winning Great War.

Food is just as important as guns or shells in winning the war. Every garden will help. Every boy or girl who grows a garden will be doing their share in winning the war just as truly as the man who goes to the front. The way for the boys and girls to enlist is to find a piece of suitable ground that is available, plow it up and plant it to vegetables.

In the Old Days.

"We got this boat together in remarkably short time," remarked Noah jubilantly as he stood off and surveyed the ark. "Yes," replied Japhet. "All we had to do was to go ahead and build her of wood. There hasn't been any steel construction to stand and argue about."—Washington Star.

The Little Lacking.

Rector's daughter—How splendid of Joe Jarvis' son to volunteer for that very dangerous job! I'm so glad he got the military medal!

Mrs. Mullins (not to be outdone)—Yes, Miss. And my boy could have got it, too, if he'd cared to have taken the risk.—Punch.

Warned in Vain.

Mrs. Housefly—I warned that daughter of mine to beware of the men, and now she's gone and got mashed on an old bald head.—Exchange.

Remained Seated.

At a church adjacent to a big military camp a service was recently held for soldiers only.

"Let all you brave fellows who have troubles stand up," shouted the preacher.

"Ah!" exclaimed the preacher, peering at this lone individual. "You are one in a thousand."

"It ain't that," piped back the only man who had remained seated, as the rest of his comrades gazed suspiciously at him. "Somebody's put some cobbler's wax on the seat and I'm stuck."

Heard in a Cafe.

Waiter—Do you mind if I put your bag out of the way, sir? The people coming in are falling over it.

Diner—You leave it where it is. If nobody falls over it, I shall forget it's there.—Boston Transcript.

Awoke to Her Value.

Nell—So he jilted her, did he? That must have made her feel cheap.

Belle—On the contrary, it gave her a very expensive feeling—she sued him for $25,000 for damage to her heart.—Boston Transcript.

Or Months.

"A girl takes great chances in getting married."

"Can't be helped. She has to figure on a lifetime's devotion from a sample of only a few weeks."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Test.

"That man is so honest he wouldn't steal a pin," said the admiring friend.

"I never thought much of the pin test," answered Miss Cayenne. "Try him with an umbrella!"—Philadelphia Inquirer.

"Fair and warmer" is the dope.
That from many points we get.
And it gives us cause to hope
We shall have a summer yet.