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## GOOD ROADS

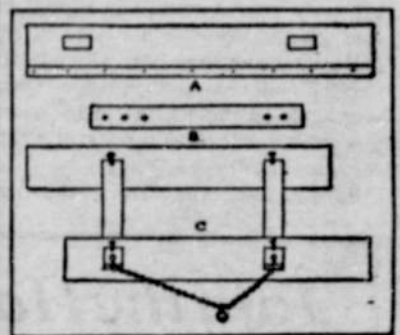
### Farmer Can Construct Practical Road Drag

Every farmer should have a road drag. There is no excuse for not having one when it can be had with so little cost. Good road drags may be purchased or made at home.

On almost any farm some old plank can be found. Get two pieces of plank, oak if you can find it; 3 inches thick if it can be had; if not, 2 inches thick will be all right; 8 or 10 inches wide and 6 or 7 feet long. Three-inch plank is best as it is much heavier and will stand more heavy usage. You will also need two pieces of 2 by 5 or 3 by 4 preferably, if it can be had, 3 feet long. Some good tough wood is best.

Make these like illustration B. Bore five one-half inch holes in each as illustrated; one to be about 6 inches from the end, with a second one 3 inches or 2 inches from that inward, according to the thickness of your two large pieces of plank. At the other end bore one hole about 3 to 4 inches from the end, this hole to be used to hold clevis pin for the hitch. Bore another hole 6 inches from this end of the piece, and a third hole 2 or 3 inches inward from the second, according to the thickness of the large pieces of plank used.

In each of the large pieces of plank make two holes as in illustration A, one at each end 2 1/2 inches from top edge of the plank. One hole should be 10 inches from the end, the other 10 inches from the end; make these



Details of Practical Drag.

holes so your two 3-foot pieces will slip into them easily. You will also need eight old bolts, one-half inch in diameter and 6 or 7 inches long, these to go into holes in the 3-foot pieces.

Put together as in illustration C, having one plank with long end at one end, and other piece with short end at same end; slip in the 3-foot cross-pieces, drive bolts in front and behind the large piece through all the holes but the two for the clevis, having the end of each cross-piece containing the three holes toward front. Get two clevises and put in the remaining holes.

It will require about one-half day's time to make this drag, and cost you nothing for material if you can find the plank and old bolts on the farm. But even if you must purchase these it is well worth having if you only need to use it on driveway and lanes. However, there are thousands of miles of roads that would be improved wonderfully if the farmers along those roads spent but a few hours occasionally in pulling a drag over them.

You can give your road drag longer life by nailing a piece of angle iron on the lower front edge of the plank as shown in illustration A. Nail a few boards across the top to stand on while using the drag. These can be nailed on the upright planks, from front to back plank, or can be nailed on the cross-pieces, lengthwise. Either place will be all right. You can then ride on it and help to hold it down when extra weight is needed.

### Uniform Sign Is Urged by the Highway Bureau

Standardize danger signs along American roadways. Make them alike from coast to coast.

So urges the bureau of public roads, United States Department of Agriculture. The recommendation is made for the consideration of highway officials, automobile organizations, municipal officials and other persons interested in safe driving.

By standardization of all highway danger signs the department believes automobile accidents may be lessened. Deaths from automobile accidents have nearly doubled since 1915, and the rapid increase of such accidents, the department believes, can be appreciably checked by the adoption of standard danger signs, easily read and distinctive, along American highways.

A tourist at the present time will see almost as many kinds of signs as there are states he visits. Also, in some cases, the style of sign changes in going from one county to another. The subject is under consideration by a committee of the American Association of State Highway Officials.

Never make the mistake of putting young chicks on a bare cold floor without any litter of any kind.

Sometimes it is advisable with geese to make the hens lay about three layings of eggs, and then permit them to hatch the last eggs and to care for the young.

Baby chicks will grow very fast when fed a mash composed of two parts cornmeal, one part middlings and one part bran moistened with skim milk or water.

Most of the losses of baby chicks are due to the fact that they are improperly fed during the first few days.

The value of milk for baby chicks cannot be estimated as the mortality is kept down and pullets are grown with a splendid finish.

A tub filled with ashes provides a handy place for the biddies to take their dust baths. Set it out in the warm sun and the hens will enjoy themselves and make the dust fly while they rid their bodies of lice.

### A First-Year Happening

By BERTHA M. JONES

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Thursday was the day, and clothes washing was Mrs. Andrew Ayer's occupation. Now Thursday was not Mrs. Ayer's usual wash day. Monday was, and on that very Monday the regular laundry, which now lay neatly folded in drawer or clothes-press, had been washed and dried as per schedule in that little home.

And yet this morning, a dark, foggy, hopeless sort of morning it was, to find Mrs. Ayer splashing and rubbing clothes over a wash board. A checked house dress, a pale blue afternoon dress, a striped street dress and one of Mr. Ayer's best shirts were being treated to an impromptu cleaning.

A picnic, perhaps, was coming the Ayers' way when the sky cleared, or an evening at the theater if the moon broke up cloudland.

Oh, no! Mrs. Ayer's plans were as gloomy as the morning. She was preparing to leave Andrew forever, and to make her way alone in the world. She had arrived at this decision the night before as she lay sleepless, listening to the angry shuffling of leaves as Andrew progressed with the book he was pretending to read, and to the tower clock nearby which thudded its strokes (forty-eight in all) directly at her aching head. Even the clock seemed to have turned against her, and was driving home the terrible words Andrew had hurled at her that evening: "Go! If you don't like my ways, go! I've lavished my love on you and done everything I could do, and you don't like my ways, and you don't like my friends."

"Go! Go! Go!" thundered the tower clock. And Mrs. Andrew lay with a great big hurt on her heart and pondered ways and means for living without Andrew.

Morning came early in the Ayer household that Thursday, for neither of its members had had a night of rest, but only horrible, black waking hours.

Mr. Ayer descended to the kitchen in semi-darkness, and, starting the gas, prepared his light breakfast. Mrs. Ayer followed, and found her husband seated sternly at the bare dining table, eating toast and drinking strong coffee.

On happy mornings he was never so hurried that he could not wait for Mrs. Ayer's pretty touches to the table and her fragrant, steaming breakfast dishes.

"Have an omelette this morning, Andrew?" asked Mrs. Ayer casually, as she passed his chair on her way to the kitchen.

"No, thanks," was the cold response. "Don't let me make you any trouble. I'm going at once."

"Good-by," crustily, a minute later. "Good-by," floated pertly in from the kitchen. Mrs. Ayer was busy cleaning up the mess that her husband had left on the kitchen table when he made his toast.

She came and stood in the dining room door. Mr. Ayer stood in the hallway, hat in hand. They looked at each other for a moment. It was too dreadful, parting this way—Mrs. Ayer impulsively held out her arms. Her husband crossed the little room in two strides, and she put her arms around his neck. They kissed each other, though not so warmly as usual, and the door banged after Mr. Ayer.

To Mrs. Ayer it was their last parting. She turned and looked out of the window hopefully. The yellow cat was sitting just outside waiting for its breakfast. She had always disliked the thing, but now it assumed the proportions of a dear pet.

The tiny backyard garden which Andrew had helped her to make into vegetable and flower plots never before seemed so alluring. How beautiful that ugly board wall would appear when covered with sweet-pea and morning-glory vines, the seeds for which she had tucked into the little trenches Andrew had prepared for them. How delicious the fresh lettuce and radishes would taste just a few weeks later! How Andrew would exclaim with delight when he came home and found them garnishing the dinner table!

These were yesterday's thoughts. Now her world had turned upside down. She had fallen hopelessly among her broken plans, and the only way out of the mass of troubles had a gloomy, forbidding appearance.

She turned resolutely toward the window and, opening the kitchen door, gave the yellow cat his breakfast.

The fog had raised slightly by the time her dresses were ready for drying and she hung them on the clothesline outdoors. Then she took the morning paper, which came from a nearby city, and studied the advertisements asking for domestic help. At last she found one that seemed to meet her needs. It stated that the

Young English Mathematician Solved What Was Long a Mystery of the Sky.

According to an English writer, many years ago astronomers were puzzled by the weird wanderings of the two gigantic planets, Jupiter and Uranus. Sometimes they arrived at points in the heavens long before they were due; at other times they were unaccountably late. Their paths, too, were strangely crooked.

No one could furnish an explanation. A young English mathematician named Adams set himself to tackle the problem. If these worlds wandered out of their courses, he argued, something must be pulling them astray.

After nearly two years of work upon figures he was convinced of the existence of some still unknown planet, whose mighty bulk was responsible for the apparent confusion. He calculated not only its size and the path that it must follow in the skies, but also the exact places it would occupy on certain future days.

family was small, the wages large and no references required.

Of course Mrs. Ayer did not intend to be a domestic indefinitely. But in this way she might earn some money till her once beloved studio work could again be located. She shuddered at the thought of being alone in a strange city without money or work. She shuddered still more at the thought of making her scene from Andrew and home.

The telephone bell called impatiently.

"Yes," she replied forlornly.

"Hello, Flo! I've a rush order of stock to get out and won't be home for lunch."

"When will you be here?"

"Not till six o'clock."

"All right, we'll have dinner when you come."

After all, she could start away tomorrow easier than today. Perhaps the more she thought over her new plans the more natural they would become. Anyway, her dresses were not drying quickly enough to be ironed and packed in time for the afternoon train.

The afternoon was spent in sorting out clothing and preparing a wardrobe for the strange new work. Then she made the rooms neat and went out to find something especially appetizing for the last dinner she was to prepare for Andrew.

The mist had scattered and a bright strip of blue sky fringed with golden clouds shone beautifully above the chimney tops. It looked like a good omen in a weary world. Mrs. Ayer stopped at the florists and bought a pot of manure tulips.

The greeting between Mr. and Mrs. Ayer that evening was just a trifle warmer than the morning's farewell. The dinner was eaten in almost contented silence, but it certainly was a good dinner, and seemed at last to warm Mr. Ayer's thoughts into speech.

"What would you like to do this evening? Take a walk, eh? The weather is clear again."

"Oh, yes, do let's walk somewhere so we can see the sky and river."

They strolled out on the busy street and turned across the Common. The fields were clothed in pale green, and in the western sky were golden clouds which marked the clear of a dark day. No one was in sight. Mr. and Mrs. Ayer looked at each other with much hopefulness.

"How beautiful the world is," murmured Mrs. Ayer.

"Great! What a lot we were missing by staying in. He found her little hand within her cape-coatee and nestled it firmly in his own. "Isn't this better than quarreling?" he suggested, after a long pause.

"Oh, see the river!" exclaimed Mrs. Ayer as they ascended a slope of the field. "Magnificent!"

"It's like love, our real love, strong and bright and tranquil," Mr. Ayer remarked.

"And quarrels are like the froth in a storm, forgotten next day," said his wife decisively.

And then in the twilight their kisses were warm and tender again.

Costly Ignorance.

An ignorant peon who forgot which was his left hand was the real cause of a water famine in Mexico City recently which culminated in rioting in the main plaza in which 20 persons were killed and several hundred injured. This workman, an employee of the local water and light company, was told to go to a small pumping station on the outskirts of the city and to turn a certain valve to the left. By the time he reached the station he forgot which way was left, and turned the valve to the right. The result was a flooded city, disabled pumps and Mexico City without water for 10 days.

Saving Light Bills.

In our home we were forever neglecting to turn off the cellar light, says a writer. This is my reminding plan: I have a good-sized pasteboard placard on which is printed in black letters, "The Light Is On," hanging to the cellar light switch in the kitchen. Now, when a member of the family turns on the switch he removes the card before descending to the cellar. Upon returning he sees the card, is reminded of the burning light, hangs up the card, and turns off the switch. This saves much unnecessary burning of electricity.

98,350 Animals Killed.

The number of fur-bearing animals trapped or killed in the Fort William district of Ontario for the season of 1922 was 98,350. The total value of pelts, including bounty received by local trappers on 15,000 timber and bush wolves, was \$1,020,750. Some of the more valuable catches were: Beaver, 30,000, value \$420,000; silver fox, 100, \$7,500; mink, 7,000, \$40,000; timber wolves, 3,750, \$150,000, and 1,000 fisher, \$50,000.

Dread Subject.

"Don't you just adore a bright, sunny day in winter?"

"No; it starts my wife talking about housecleaning." — Boston Evening Transcript.

## FOUND THE POSITION OF NEPTUNE

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After nearly two years of work upon figures he was convinced of the existence of some still unknown planet, whose mighty bulk was responsible for the apparent confusion. He calculated not only its size and the path that it must follow in the skies, but also the exact places it would occupy on certain future days.

As he had no telescope of his own he sent his calculations to the Astronomer Royal asking him to search the part of the sky he had indicated. At first the authorities were skeptical, and would not make the search, but eventually they decided that there might be something in it.

The huge telescope was swung to the proper quarter of the heavens, and there, precisely in the spot indicated, was a dim point of light. Subsequent observation showed that it was moving. In this way Neptune, most distant of all the planets that swing around the sun, was discovered.

Its size, 17 times that of the earth, was found to correspond almost exactly with Adams' predictions, and he had calculated its year, which is almost 165 times as long as our own.

Formation of Habit.

The more irksome any habit is in its formation, the more pleasantly and satisfactorily it sticks to you when formed.—Thomas Hughes.

## BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

### BOY SCOUTS FOREST AIDES

An important achievement of boy scouts in every part of the country is their work in forest protection.

Numerous reports of active and enthusiastic work tell of these boys' preparedness, courage and training in conserving our forests, which mean so much to scouting, as well as to all the people of this land. Pennsylvania has recently awarded 100 medals for valor and efficiency in forestry conservation to boy scouts of that state. During the summer camping season in the state of Washington a small town was saved by scouts camping nearby from a terrific forest fire that was rapidly spreading to the edge of the town. In Idaho the scouts during their vacation mapped observation posts in the forest's heart and signaled to the chief forester news of any conflagrations which they detected. Talks have been made by the boys in homes, schools, theaters and before business clubs giving facts about the damage from fire. Parades have been arranged and posters and leaflets distributed. Field tests also have been conducted to show the right way to build and extinguish fires.

When it is realized that two-thirds of the original forests of the United States have already been culled, cut-over or burned; that today we are cutting more of every class of timber than we are growing, and that we are using up three and one-half times as fast as they are grown, the trees too small for the sawmill, but upon which our future lumber supply depends, the significance of the scouts' work is more fully understood.

In the state of New York alone, "the scouts have already planted hundreds of acres of trees and are ready to do more to reclaim idle land and to reduce forest fire hazard," says J. A. Simmons of the New York State Forestry association.

Yonkers, N. Y., set an interesting record last spring when in a single afternoon 12 troops planted 5,000 trees on the city watershed.

In the fall on Columbus day the Albany (N. Y.) scouts planted 4,000 trees at their camp on Kinderhook lake. Another excellent piece of work was that accomplished by the 25 scouts of Malone, N. Y., who last spring planted 5,000 white pine trees in the Community forest.

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### BOY SCOUTS AID NEAR EAST

The Boy Scouts of America are co-operating with the Near East Relief committee in securing boy scouts to give their outgrown and cast-off uniforms, parts, and any athletic equipment they may have in the garret closet, cellar or elsewhere, sending it to the nearest Near East Relief station. Boy scouts who do not know the address of their state headquarters for the Near East Relief committee may send packages to one of the following Near East Relief stations: 157 Wright and Callendar building, Los Angeles, Cal.; 19 South LaSalle street, Chicago, Ill.; 701 Scarritt building, Kansas City, Mo.; Northeast corner Broad and Locust streets, Philadelphia, Pa.; 1814 Bryan street, Dallas, Texas; 305 Oneida building, Minneapolis, Minn.; 409 Georgia Savings Bank building, Atlanta, Ga.; 1215 Little building, Boston, Mass.; 404 the 1900 building, Cleveland, Ohio; Y. M. C. A. building, Memphis, Tenn.; 722 Peyton building, Spokane, Wash.

All scout leaders are asked to assist in this attempt to save 15,000 boys of scout age, who are starving and going without the necessary clothing. Most of these 15,000 are practicing the scouting program and in many cases doing exceptional work.

### SCOUTING AND SCHOOLS

Two of the latest developments worth noting in the close relations between scouting and public schools are that the "Detroit Educational Bulletin," which is the official publication of the board of education of that city, devoted its entire issue of February to discussing in detail the official recognition that the board of education gives to scouting and the active co-operation which is given to the movement as part of the board of education work.

And in Atlanta, Georgia, another official publication of the board of education is a pamphlet entitled "Civic Course—Atlanta Public School Boy Scout Lessons." This pamphlet outlines in five lessons the citizenship training of the Boy Scouts of America, which is taught to all of the pupils of the public schools of Atlanta.

### LEGIONNAIRES AID SCOUTS

A troop of crippled boy scouts at the New York state hospital for crippled children, at West Haverstraw, has for its sponsors the Burton-Miller American Legion post of Rochester. Dr. Joseph P. Henry, past commander of the post, recently went to the hospital to engage in orthopedic work. He discovered there an enthusiastic troop, eager to have former service men take an interest in their activities. The post has adopted the troop of crippled lads.

Capens produced from Plymouth Rocks fetch the highest price and they take enough weight to pay for the feeding. Rhode Island Reds are also good for this purpose; in fact, the large-sized breeds are the best.

Twelve or thirteen eggs are enough to put under the first broody hens. It will be early and the nights cold, and the hen will not be able to incubate more eggs successfully. In hot weather, the hen may be able to manage fourteen or fifteen eggs and get a creditable hatch therefrom.

## BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

### ARMY MEN TO AID SCOUTS

General Pershing has accepted the invitation of the Boy Scouts of America asking for the army's co-operation, and has stated formally: "After carefully reviewing the activities of the Boy Scouts of America, their program, objectives, leadership and actual accomplishments, I do not hesitate to say that I should be very glad to see members of the army everywhere take such active part in scouting as official duties and local conditions permit."

"Having kept in close touch with the work of the boy scouts, I thoroughly approve of it as a soldier for the good it does to those who may be called upon to serve as our future defenders, and finally, as an American citizen. I approve of it for the training it gives in preparing the boy to be a worthy citizen of his country."

The army men who become scoutmasters will act in the same capacity as civil scoutmasters. No military tactics will be taught, and there will be no attempt made by the soldiers to militarize the movement.

The above-mentioned invitation to General Pershing proceeded from the following resolution, unanimously passed at the March meeting of the national council:

"Whereas, The Boy Scouts of America is nonmilitary in spirit and in program; and

"Whereas, For this reason officers and former officers of the military establishment have in spite of their genuine desire to do so, expressed a hesitancy to serve as scout leaders for fear that such connection might create a public misapprehension. Be it

"Resolved, That we reaffirm at this time our policy that the scout program is and shall continue nonmilitary, although encouraging at all times the virtues of courage, loyalty, obedience and endurance; qualities that are no less desirable in civilian than in military life; and it is further

"Resolved, That we express sincere appreciation for the splendid co-operation which has been given by officers of the army and navy and by members and posts of the American Legion and others in military and naval service and express hope that we shall continue to enjoy their co-operation in the future to an even greater degree."

### BOY SCOUTS AID IN RESCUE

When fire broke out in the infirmary of the State sanitarium at Undercliff, Conn., a few weeks ago the institution's scout troop mobilized instantly and rendered valuable assistance in helping to carry to safety the 75 sick children from the wards, which occupy three floors. A Meriden (Conn.) paper commenting on the incident says:

"The fire drills which have been frequently enabled the officers and employees of the institution, assisted by the scout troop, to handle the situation without assistance from the fire department. None of the children suffered any ill effects from the sudden evacuation of the building into the cold outdoors, thanks to the promptness with which the boy scouts conveyed them into the warm dining room."

### SCOUTS BEAUTIFY CAMPS

Seattle's ambition to make its automobile tourist camp the most beautiful in the West was actively furthered by local boy scouts,