

AROUND ORCHARD

PREVENT LOSS BY FREEZING

Tests Being Made by Department of Agriculture With Box Cars for Shipping Apples.

About 1,300 cars of boxed apples shipped in box cars were injured by freezing last year, and the fruit growers sustained a loss of approximately \$1,000,000. Because of this and the fact that it seems impossible to secure adequate amount of refrigerator equipment, the bureau of markets, United States Department of Agriculture, is co-operating with the Wenatchee Valley Traffic association to ascertain whether an ordinary box car can be made to take the place of a refrigerator car when the latter is not obtainable. The tests are being conducted with four box cars, each equipped with a different method of ventilation and a refrigerator car under standard ventilation, to provide a basis of comparison.

The first box car has a ventilator cut in each end. The second has the side doors open 8 inches. The third has the side door open with a 6-inch baffle, to shoot the air into the car, and the fourth box car has no ventilation whatever. Delicate equipment records the air currents and temperatures and an accurate chart is kept. In publishing the preliminary report of the experiment, which is not entirely completed, the bureau of markets says that the use of ordinary box-car equipment under any sort of ventilation will not prove satisfactory for shipping boxed apples. Such produce can be safely shipped by box car only when the weather ranges from temperate to cool. The ordinary box car provides no protection whatever against changes in external temperature. The best means of ventilation is to open both doors 8 inches, so fastening them to prevent robbery.

PLAN FOR BRIDGE GRAFTING

Trees Girdled by Rodents Can Be Restored to Original Condition by Operation.

An old invention which it is claimed has recently been patented in the United States provides a process of bridge grafting by which trees that have been partially or completely girdled by mice, borers, rabbits, etc.,



Bridge Grafting.

can be restored to substantially their original condition as far as growth is concerned. It also provides a process by means of which crown galls may be bridged over or cut away and the bridge made over the wound. If a tree loses its roots on one side connections can be made from the roots on the other side of the trunk so the sap will be carried from healthy roots and evenly distributed through the trunk.

HOW BIRDS ASSIST FARMERS

Woodpecker Family Render Great Aid in Destroying Beetles, Borers and Other Pests.

Now that spring is coming it is well to remember what you owe in the way of kindness to the birds that worked for you through the winter. Here is a list of but a few of those that helped to keep your orchard clean.

Woodpeckers. They destroy bark beetles.

Downy woodpecker. Borers are his meat. He's "up and at 'em."

Hairy woodpecker. He paid well for any nut or sunflower seed.

White-breasted nuthatch. Cleans the bark diligently.

Brown creeper. Searches bark for insects and eggs in winter.

Chickadee. Leaves no insect eggs on the boughs.

LOCATION FOR NEW ORCHARD

It Should Be Placed on Good Ground and Convenient to Farm Dwelling House.

Have you decided on the location for your new orchard? Do not choose the poorest land in the most neglected portion of the farm, but place the orchard on good ground convenient to the house. You will find yourself, taking greater pride in seeing that it is cared for properly. A good orchard, besides affording much pleasure, yields returns more than sufficient to pay for the care that is bestowed upon it.

LESSEN INJURY TO CHERRIES

Damage by Rot Can Be Decreased by Spraying With Lime-Sulphur or Bordeaux Mixture.

You can lessen the damage caused by rot in the cherry orchard by spraying the trees before the buds burst with dilute lime-sulphur or bordeaux mixture. After the buds have fallen, use a combination of self-bottled lime-sulphur and arsenate of lead.

The Major's Chastenings

By MARTHA M'WILLIAMS

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"Why not be frank, major? It's a shocking waste of swear words—this way of merely thinking them," Mella asked, her accent intermediate between amusement and faint contempt. "Be—because I don't want you to shut your door in my face. You women are so illogical—aggravate us beyond reason, then pretend to be amazed at—what is your own doing," the major spluttered, clinching the arms of his chair so hard his knuckles showed white.

"As how? Examples, please!" Mella returned demurely. "But talking of examples, while I think of it, permit me to call attention to my rise, think what a grouch I'd be—with the steadfast provocation of my name."

"What's the matter with your name? Anyway, you can change it," the major retorted, grinning. Mella lifted her eyes. "Mella, M-Ella," she ejaculated. Martha Ellnor would have been bad enough as the penalty of grandmothers, but Mella-Mella Murly—why, I sound like a counting-out rhyme!"

"Your own fault—you know you can change to Mrs. Elliott Jamieson whenever you have a mind to do it," the major said airily; "Mrs. Elliott Gore Jamieson on your visiting card."

Mella smiled. "The prospect tempts, but it strengthens character to overcome temptations."

"A heap easier and pleasanter to succumb to them—witness this," the major said audaciously, kissing her full on the lips, the while he held her close.

"Now, I should be wanting to swear. But I don't," Mella said composedly, wiggling free. "You see I knew there would be toll to pay whenever I provoked you into an outright proposal."

"So! You were sure you could?"

"Dead sure!" Mella flung at him.

"Thank you for a great deal. In my own name and—Mrs. Jamieson's," the major said stiffly, getting up with a motion of finality. But after a step



Beaming Like the Sun.

doorward he stopped short to say, "I would like a bill of particulars. Was I slaughtered on general principles or to make a week-end holiday?"

Mella appeared to ponder deeply before replying. "Something of both. Every man needs to find himself—not wholly irresistible. Women have spoiled you, so your need was pitiable. You are chargeable with contributory negligence, to say the least, yet there must be a lot to you, else you'd be insufferable and past redemption."

"More thanks!" the major snapped, again preparing to leave. "I suppose I may offer congratulations—to Doctor Beverley. You'll send me wedding cards, I hope."

"Can't—there won't be any. But you shall have an obituary if ever I am a widow."

The major rushed away. What he said in the wide privacy of the lawn certainly would not look well in print.

Mella, nodding to herself in the mental mirror, sighed a sprightly sigh and murmured: "The soldier man is peeved—a right smart. I'm glad of it. Do him good. A man naturally hates other men—in case of a girl—but a girl's own size wouldn't be nearly so wholesome for the adorable Jamieson as poor Billy Beverley, who has to be helped if he is to make love decently. Billy is a sort of compound of the metals—as good as gold, as bulky as silver, as dull as lead. By token of all which I shall put him out of his misery—in the happy fashion of turning him over to Miss Joey Dancy, to whom he will be as manna from heaven."

Mella, you perceive, was a rather lawless young woman, as well she might be, having never known the chastenings of brothers, sisters, cousins or aunts. Sole heir to doting par-

ents reasonably rich, the wonder was, not that she flirted or danced or sang or rode or sat silent exactly as pleased her, but that it pleased her to be for the most part a singularly delightful and considerate country, eager to give pleasure, even where she knew the return would be jealous criticism.

Also and further, she had a certain social presence that made her adept in straightening tangles. Billy Beverley needed a wife with money and management, if he were ever to be anything but poor and plodding.

Joey Dancy had money, and was openly in the marriage market—but she would hardly have looked at Billy if Mella had not so much more than tolerated him as to make the major furious. There had been a feud, politely veiled, betwixt the two girls since Mella had put up her hair. If Joey could be made to believe she had snatched Billy a brand from the Mella burning—There Mella giggled and went off for a spin in her small electric, taking Billy along, and ostentatiously passing three times by the Dancy place. And at the psychological moment in Passage Three she refused Billy for the fatal third time. When he asked: "Do you mean it; cross your heart?" she nodded mournfully, whispering more mournfully: "I have no heart, Billy. A bad, bad man has taken it—and run away." Then somehow, as women will, she shed Billy upon the Dancy piazza and whirled triumphantly away, but not until she had said privily to him: "I ought not to tell—but Joey loves you dearly. It would make me mighty happy to see you happy with her."

So she was not surprised when Billy boomed joyously next morning: "Mella, you're a witch for guessing—and other things. Sure, I'm engaged to Joey—day's set and everything. Old folks gave me their blessing. Made me feel about seven feet high."

When she had said all the proper things several times over, she got rid of the exuberant lover, who went out beaming like the sun. The major, coming for what he took himself would be a final good-by, encountered him half-way down the lawn, misread his face, and passed on with the briefest icy greeting. The ice had melted when he came upon Mella, looking out of the window with eyes of lamb-like innocence.

"So glad you came in time to see Billy," she said smiling softly. "His face is like the morning—a real poem."

"Naturally—as becomes a bridegroom," the major said bitterly.

"Why, who told you?" Mella asked artlessly.

"Intuition," the major snapped, glowering down from his height of six feet two.

"And did it tell you the lady's name?" Mella asked.

"No—I have known it since yesterday," the major said hoarsely. "Mella, Mella! Why do you do this? I could bear to lose you better—to a real man."

"Better not know so many things than to know so many that ain't so," Mella quoted with a twinkle. "I really know things—for instance, that Billy is to marry Joey Dancy; also the girl who is going to marry you." Her blush said the rest—as the major smothered her in his arms she whispered: "You ought to have guessed. I wouldn't have taken such trouble with you—if I had n't meant to keep you for good."

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MAKE BUSINESS OF SAVING

Wise Administration of One's Income Is the Foundation Stone of Building of Success.

Saving part of the income ought to be the rule of every man's life. Of course, this may be overdone, though it doesn't happen very often. To make a business of saving, a profession of economizing, a trade of thrift, is likely to develop a narrow nature, even as reckless spending develops habitual improvidence. Which state of man is the worse?

To use good judgment in saving and spending alike—that's the idea. Ruskin put it in another way:

"Economy no more means saving money than it means spending money; it means administration of a house; its stewardship; spending or saving, whether money or time or anything else, to the best possible advantage."

The man whose wife spends his income as fast as he earns it keeps his nose flattened on the grindstone. The day will come when his earning capacity will be gone and no preserves will be found on the pantry shelf.

It is the same if the husband is the spender and the wife the saver. The best plan is when both follow Ruskin's idea of administration and stewardship, saving and spending with common sense and due attention to appropriate living.—Minneapolis Journal.

To Tell Time With Your Hands.

Hold your thumbs touching one another horizontally and extend the fore-fingers perpendicularly. Now hold the hands toward the sun so the shadow of one finger falls upon the other or upon the thumb of the other hand. Where the thumbs join is twelve o'clock, the tip of one finger 6 a. m., that of the other 6 p. m. The shadow will tell you what time it is with more accuracy than you can estimate it from the sun's position in the sky, after you have learned through experimenting what are the approximate "hour marks" on your improvised "clock." However, it should be remembered that these positions will change with the seasons, according as the days are long or short.

BOY SCOUTS



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

SCOUT FIRE FIGHTERS

Twenty six Cashmere (Wash.) boy scouts, with their leaders, started in a big truck for an overnight camp, an all day trip which landed them in the beautiful Squakame creek valley at nightfall. They erected their shelter tents, had a big "feed" and a jolly campfire pow-wow. Shortly after taps a scout reported a fire visible down the canyon. In less than 30 seconds the troop was in formation ready for action. The Red Cross patrol under Senior Patrol Leader Gail Phillips was sent down the canyon with instructions to leave two scouts at the sawmill a mile away, another two at another point, etc., so that as soon as the fire was located a message could be relayed back to camp. Meanwhile two other patrols were equipped for fire fighting, and special orders given.

A few minutes later two boys of the first patrol brought back word that it was the mill which was on fire, and that they had left the other six scouts in the thick of it. One of the assistant scoutmasters and a few scouts were left to guard the camp, as it was surrounded by valuable timber which might catch fire.

Scoutmaster Chichester and Assistant Braggons arrived at the scene of the disaster in a short time with an eager squad of workers. The few men in charge at the mill had about given up hope of saving anything from the flames, but the boys formed a bucket brigade from a nearby creek to the lumber piles, and by means of wet sacks put out new fires, which kept starting, while another crew wrecked the high tramway which was acting as a fuse and leading the fire from pile to pile of lumber. By 2 a. m. the fire was under control. The mill and a large amount of lumber had been destroyed, but thanks to the efforts of the scouts, two buildings, some furniture, two or three heavy wagons, and over 200,000 feet of lumber, some \$3,000 worth in all, were saved. A weary but triumphant lot of boys hiked back to camp, leaving two of their number to patrol the fires until daylight. They did not climb the mountain the next day, as had been planned, but nobody was disappointed, as the troop had had enough thrills and hard work for one outing.

The work of the scouts received much well deserved praise, and the president of the lumber company whose property they had saved presented the troop with a \$50 check in appreciation of the remarkable good turn, a gift that was accepted with the understanding that the money would be used to purchase needed equipment.

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CHEERFUL WHILE ON DUTY



Boy Scouts Are Aiding Traffic Regulation in Many Cities.

SCOUT LEADERS MEET.

The Pasadena boy scout council had its annual meeting in January in the new mission patio of the Hotel Vista del Arroyo. After the meeting the council entertained all the local scoutmasters and troop committee with a banquet and "snappy" scout program. About one hundred men were present and voted the affair a great success.

SCOUT STUDY CONSTITUTION.

E. E. Givens of Great Falls, Mont., recently offered five prizes for the five best essays written by registered scouts of Great Falls on the subject of "The History of the Constitution of the United States." The contest is to be made an annual affair. This is an excellent way of intensifying interest in the history and government of our nation. Mr. Givens' lead might well be followed by other public-spirited citizens.

Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

MARY GRAHAM BONNER

COCKY CHARLIE PIGEON.

"You all call me 'Cocky Charlie' Pigeon and that is a good name," said Cocky Charlie Pigeon. "I'm certainly cocky and conceited. I like to strut about and stick out my chest, like my foreign relative, Mr. Pouter Pigeon."

"What does foreign mean?" asked one of the pigeons nearby.

"When I speak of my foreign relative I mean that he does not belong to this part of the world. He comes from the other side of the ocean. He is brought over to be shown off in zoos and in bird stores and sometimes people have pouter pigeons as pets. I admire him for being conceited."

"You are plain, are you?" chuckled one of the little pigeons.

"Not plain in looks. I have many colors in my feathers, grays and blues and other colors. But I am plain in that I am not a show-off pigeon."

"I show off of my own accord, but others do not show me off. They don't admire me like that."

"But no matter. I can admire myself. And I'm always sure of myself, whereas if I had to wait for other people and creatures to admire me I might miss a great deal of admiration."

"I might be standing about waiting for a lot of admiration and every one might be late, or else not feel like admiring me."

"Whereas I would always feel like admiring myself."

"That is, if I needed admiration I would say to myself, 'Cocky, admire yourself.'"

"And then I would answer myself, 'Cocky, by all means, I will do that.' I would always be so nice and handy for admiring myself. A fine idea, a fine idea."

"I had a very pleasant chat with some visitor pigeons in the street today."

"When wagons came along we flew out of the way, but very few wagons came along so we had lots of time to talk."

"We talked on the sociability and attractiveness of pigeons. It was a most



"My Foreign Relation."

enjoyable talk. And we all agreed with one another. That made it very pleasant, too. Very pleasant, indeed. "No one even thought of disagreeing with any one else. Not an argument did we have, only very interesting conversation."

"Of course, I am a good talker and I'm a good sort of creature, but all the time I really must admit that I am not fancy, you know."

The other pigeons didn't think there was much sense to what Cocky was saying, but as they all liked to strut about a bit too, they didn't ask any questions. They liked to be a bit conceited, too.

"We're a sociable lot," said Cocky Charlie Pigeon. "We always build our nests near each other. We move in great numbers. We like crowds, crowds of pigeons! We like each other!"

He ruffled his feathers and cocked his head on one side and said,

"Because I like myself I like other pigeons, too. I think pigeons are fine, and why? Because I am one. If I didn't think pigeons were fine I would have been a horse or a dog or a pig."

"Could you have been a horse or a dog or a pig?" asked Mrs. Cocky.

"Maybe I couldn't have been," Cocky answered, "but that doesn't matter. The thing that matters is that I wouldn't have been one if I could have been one—or I wouldn't have been all three if I could have been all three. "And think how much we have to be conceited about. We stay about where there are people. That's a treat for the people."

"Of course," said Mrs. Cocky. "It depends on the way people look at it."

"If they look at it any differently from the way I do, they're very foolish," Cocky answered proudly. "Ah, it is good to have conceit. But we are not gross, even though we are conceited."

And all the pigeons cooed, "We think we're fine, and there are lots of us to think so!"

Ice Cream in Bricks.

Bobby was eagerly expecting his birthday and the day before the big occasion he overheard his mother telling his sister to "get the ice cream in bricks." An hour or so later he was discovered beside a wagon load of building bricks, smacking his lips. "What are you looking for?" he was asked, and he answered, "For the ice cream that mamma says comes in 'em."

Live Stock News

USE OF HOG-CHOLERA SERUM

Work of County Agent in Alabama Community Results in Material Decrease in Losses.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Losses by hog cholera have been materially reduced in Bullock County, Ala., as a result of the work of the county agent in training farmers in various centers throughout the county to use the serum and apparatus developed by the department. Forty-nine cars of hogs, 3,928 head, have been marketed from the county through co-operative work, with an estimated saving of \$6,000. In Houston County the department's representatives taught 18 men to vaccinate hogs. Six sets of instruments owned by the C-



Injecting the Serum.

than Rotary club were supplied to the demonstrators and a serum-distributing point was established in charge of a reliable veterinarian. More than 9,000 head of hogs were treated. In many cases it was found that sickness, other than cholera, was due to some incidental cause, such as bad peanut meal, and balanced rations were advised. The county agent's work resulted in 32 farmers establishing pastures to keep their hogs off the open range, the land thus pastured being freed of many noxious weeds by the rooting of the animals, and prepared for future cultivation. Forty-four farmers in the county were interested in stump removing, and about 2,000 acres of land was cleared in this movement. About five tons of dynamite was bought for the purpose, largely on the co-operative plan.

BREEDERS FAVOR PUREBREDS

South Dakota Association Inaugurates Campaign to Discard Scrubs Now in Use.

"You have the bulls and they are needed, needed badly. Let's get them working for the breed."

This appeal, made by M. J. Flanagan, president of the South Dakota Shorthorn Breeders' association, has been sent to all Shorthorn breeders in the state, preparatory to putting on a purebred-sire campaign. According to the plan, selling expenses will be kept down to the lowest possible figure. "But we will put out a lot of bulls," the letter of notification states, "that will do good and create a demand for better cattle. It is constructive work of the best kind."

In a letter to the United States Department of Agriculture, Mr. Flanagan, who also is president of the South Dakota Federation of Livestock Breeders' associations, states: "With the co-operation of the various departments we shall be able to do a good work in getting purebred bulls in use where scrubs are now used."

PUREBRED RAMS HELP SHEEP

Lambs at Six Months of Age Outweigh Dams and Yield More Than Twice as Much Wool.

Native ewes bred to purebred rams at the Mississippi coastal plain experiment station resulted in lambs which at the age of six months outweighed their dams and yielded more than twice as much wool. This result of the use of good purebred sires is announced by the United States Department of Agriculture, through the bureau of animal industry, in a report covering the last fiscal year.

GOOD FEED TO FATTEN HORSE

Linseed or Flaxseed May Be Used to Advantage for Supplementing Animal's Ration.

Linseed of flaxseed is very good feed for supplementing the fattening horse ration. If used with soft feed, it may be boiled to advantage. Otherwise it should be ground and fed in limited quantities up to half a pound after being accustomed to it. Oil-cake meal, which is the by-product without the oil, may be fed up to one pound per day.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF ILLS

Pigs Are Too Often Compelled to Work Over and Live Upon Same Soil Too Intensely.

Experience teaches us that the most serious diseases of swine are those of an infectious or contagious character, and the parasites that get onto or into the pig. Now most of this is caused primarily by the fact that the pigs are all too often forced to work over and live upon the same soil too intensely, without any intervening renovation of that soil.