

THE BEGGAR'S PREFERENCE.

By Donald W. Barr, State College, Pa. The beggar sat at the city gate, Ragged and unattended...

A DEFENSE OF THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE.

We hear much criticism these days of the "Little Red School House." One writer in a popular magazine calls it "a pest and a handicap in these later years."

easily acquired is not appreciated. Here is where educators all over our land are making a mistake. They are trying to carry the pupils to an education on "flowery beds of ease."

This is all on the theory that the more corn and hay you keep in a horse's manger, the better the horse will do, or that if two potatoes are good for a boy's dinner, a half bushel would be a couple of dozen times better.

A student who has continually before him an intellectual diet will probably develop mental indigestion.

It might be well to call the attention of the reader to the fact that many of our broadest minded and best informed men have had little school training. We may well call Franklin, Washington, Webster, Lincoln, Roosevelt and Edison—the six intellectual giants of our country.

The "little red school house" has been called a lot of hard names lately, but when you do away with it, you will destroy the greatest single agency for the building of the kind of character which counts, the kind that gives to its possessor initiative and individuality.

Let us get back to first principles in education. Let us educate for the best enjoyment of life and liberty rather than for efficiency in creating wealth and empire. This was Germany's mistake.

Let us try to get quality in education rather than quantity. Let us get away from the domination of the extremist. There is a golden mean in an educational policy as well as in other things.

WHY OIL CALMS THE SEA.

It has long been known that oil poured upon the surface of stormy waters has a wonderful effect in calming it. Many vessels have probably been saved from destruction by this simple method, and every month the Hydrographic office at Washington publishes along with its pilot chart, statements from ship captains describing the results they have obtained by the use of oil in smoothing the waves of an angry sea.

The reason of this curious effect of oil upon water is, in a general sense, perfectly apparent. It depends upon the viscosity, or adhesiveness, of the oil, which causes it to act somewhat like a skin drawn over the more unstable surface of the water, so that the tendency of the latter to break into spray as it is driven by the wind is restrained.

But while the principle upon which the oil acts is thus evident enough, the real method of its action is not so apparent. This has been subjected to a mathematical investigation.

The investigator shows that the viscosity of oil is so much greater than that of water, being in the case of olive oil more than 230 times as great, that the water may be regarded as a frictionless liquid in comparison with the oil.

HOW A SAFE MILK SUPPLY IS INSURED FOR SMALL CITIES.

Milk inspection is of prime necessity. In most of the larger cities laboratories are maintained where bacteria counts and chemical analyses are frequently made on samples collected from retail delivery wagons, stores, and restaurants.

The United States Department of Agriculture suggests that a practical way for such cities and towns to insure a safe milk supply is through the co-operation of two or more adjacent towns in hiring a milk inspector and maintaining a laboratory.

This plan of town co-operation in milk and dairy inspection has been carried out in different parts of the country, probably the most conspicuous example being the group of towns in northern New Jersey known as "The Oranges."

COMMISSIONER MARTIN ISSUES A WARNING AGAINST UNSAFE MILK.

It may seem like past history to say that there were 3403 cases of typhoid fever and 387 deaths from this disease in Pennsylvania during July, August, September and October, 1921, but with the approach of another summer, its picnic parties and ice cream festivals, it is a timely statement.

Inadequate pasteurization is worse than useless. One of the largest epidemics of typhoid fever with which Pennsylvania was cursed came from milk pasteurized in a machine the thermometer of which was, and had been, broken for a long time.

The State Department of Health has drafted a model milk ordinance which has been adopted by 12 communities, assuring 550,352 citizens a safe milk supply.

R. E. Irwin, chief of the Bureau of Milk Control, State Department of Health, states:

"There are many tuberculous cows in Pennsylvania; so many, that if they were all killed there would be a milk famine, but a tuberculous cow may yield milk which will give bovine tuberculosis to the baby. However, a typhoid carrier could milk a tuberculous cow into a can contaminated by a diphtheria patient and if the milk were adequately pasteurized it would be safe for use in so far as the transmission of disease is concerned.

From a health standpoint alone, the State Health Department is urging every Pennsylvania community to secure proper milk inspection and protection before the usual summer incidence of typhoid fever begins.

"The eagle is an inspiring bird but the nation's future depends upon the cow," was the comment of the State Health Commissioner, when asked about his campaign for a safe milk supply in Pennsylvania.

Within the past year the following communities adopted the model milk ordinance: Scranton, Lackawanna Co., Pop. 137,783; Reading, Berks Co., Pop. 107,780; Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne Co., Pop. 78,828; Bethlehem, Northampton Co., Pop. 54,149; York, York Co., Pop. 47,754; Williamsport, Lycoming Co., Pop. 36,198; New Castle, Lawrence Co., Pop. 44,938; Bury, York Co., Pop. 23,738; Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pop. 9,720; Kingston, Luzerne Co., Pop. 8,952; Grove City, Mercer Co., Pop. 4,044; Milford, Pike Co., Pop. 708.

Milford is a summer resort with a shifting population of many thousands during the summer months. The action of the local officials assures visitors a clean milk supply and protection against typhoid fever or other diseases through milk or milk products.

Harrisburg—Inadequate facilities in county almshouses are responsible for the housing together of sane persons and the violently insane, according to Dr. John M. Baldy, head of the State Welfare Department, who will ask the next Legislature to enact legislation centralizing the care of all insane under the direct control of the State.

SANE AND INSANE HOUSED TOGETHER.

A survey of the present method of care of insane partly by counties, it is said by Dr. Baldy, has disclosed conditions that are "insane and deplorable." The same buildings and facilities now in use, he says, would house 25 per cent. more patients if placed under state control and supervision.

"In many counties," says Dr. Baldy, "dangerously insane patients are cared for in the same institutions as the poor. They eat at the same table and are forced to associate with each other. That is deplorable. It is unfair to the poor, who deserve better care, and it is equally unfair to the insane, who do not get the treatment that might restore many of them to sanity."

"Under state supervision we could remedy all that. We could segregate in separate institutions those requiring different care; we could put the tubercular in one place and the dangerously insane in another, and so on. Moreover, it would cost less to care for them adequately."

TO COUNT PIGS IN MAY.

How many pigs are there in the United States? Because of the uncertainty regarding the size of the population of animal life the Department of Agriculture, co-operating with the Postoffice Department, is going to conduct a pig census beginning in May.

Instead of hiring an army of information gatherers, such as is necessary in the decennial census of humans, the Department of Agriculture has made an arrangement with the Postoffice Department whereby letter carriers, and rural carriers particularly, will do most of the work.

Presbyterian Societies Unite and Elect Leaders.

An amalgamation of the Women's Foreign and Home Missionary societies of the Huntingdon Presbytery, embracing seven counties in central Pennsylvania, was consummated at a meeting of the societies at Lewistown last week by the adoption of a new constitution and by-laws and the election of new officers.

In the year 1875 the Foreign Missionary society of the Huntingdon Presbytery was founded in Lewistown and it was only fitting that the change so long sought by the organization should have been accomplished there.

The united societies unanimously elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Mary Newlin, Spruce Creek church, Franklinville, Pa.; associate president, Mrs. H. R. Smith, First church, Altoona; first vice president or the chairman of the society of Home Missions, Mrs. H. H. Stine, of the Second church, Altoona; second vice president or chairman of the society of Foreign Missions, Miss Elizabeth Findley, Second church, Altoona; third vice president, Mrs. M. F. Fisher, Huntingdon; fourth vice president, Mrs. John T. Scott, Phillipsburg; fifth vice president, Mrs. O. H. Travis, First church, Altoona; sixth vice president, Mrs. Samuel Barber, Bellwood; seventh vice president, Mrs. Charles Reed, Huntingdon; eighth vice president, Mrs. G. L. Russell, Lewistown.

District presidents: Mrs. M. H. Alexander, Hollidaysburg; Miss Grace Woodcock, Birmingham; Miss Mary Somerville, Winburne; Miss Mary H. Linn, Belleville; Mrs. Allison Miller, Huntingdon; Mrs. M. K. Gifford, Mt. Union; Mrs. J. M. Ewing, Lewistown; Miss Nellie Morrell, Hollidaysburg; Mrs. S. R. Lowrie, Warriorsburg; Mrs. Samuel Barber, Bellwood; Miss Anna McCoy, Belleville; Mrs. J. W. Galbraith, Bedford; and Mrs. F. M. Emerick, Mifflintown.

Recording secretary, Miss Elsie Clifford, Altoona; corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. H. Fretz, Lewistown; treasurer foreign missions, Mrs. Theodore Jackson, Phillipsburg; treasurer home missions, Mrs. E. E. Sanford, Altoona.

Secretaries of the young peoples work, Miss Anna Fisher, Huntingdon; Miss M. Boob, Huntingdon; Mrs. William Stahl, Juniata; secretary Westminster Guild, Miss Catherine Woods, Lewistown; literature, Mrs. Charles Campbell, Petersburg; missionary education, Mrs. H. H. Boor, Altoona; associate members, Mrs. J. O. C. McCracken, Altoona; Standard of excellence, Miss Virginia Zerby, Phillipsburg.

ELEPHANT'S USE OF TRUNK.

There is a great deal of misunderstanding about what an elephant can do with his trunk. It is a sensitive organ and he never uses it for heavy labor, but he can strike a terrific blow with it. I have seen many a man's ribs and arms broken when he neglected to take the proper precautions.

In approaching a dangerous elephant, a man should come up sideways, with the nearer arm folded to protect the ribs. Then, if the blow fell on the upper part of the arm, there is the most flesh to protect the bone. Such a blow never knocks a man flat; it sends him spinning like a top until he tumbles over.

The elephant uses both his trunk and his lungs in calling, and he has a large variety of sounds and combinations of sounds with which to express himself. When rushing an enemy, he trumpets shrilly; when enraged by a wound, he grumbles hoarsely from his throat; he expresses fear by a shrill, brassy trumpet and a roar; and pleasure by a continued low squeaking through the trunk.

White says oyster-colored pongee has been shown by some of the clever dressmakers in the gowns shown for early spring resort wear. And these are both fabrics that recommend themselves to the woman who must be economical.

Wear canary yellow or cinnamon brown if you want to be smart this season. So said the backers of the Philadelphia Fashion Show and Pageant that took place in the Bellevue-Stratford last week.

Most of us know better but few of us do better.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

The cares which are the keys to riches hang often so heavily at the rich man's girdle that they clog him with weary days and restless nights, when others sleep quietly.—Isaac Walton.

The dressmakers, watching their colleagues, determined to try the trick. They were weary of plain clothes. They believed that such clothes kept women from spending. So they invented ingenious ways of decorating a frock. Some of them are novels, others are revivals.

Jenny has put her faith in English eyelet work. For this the Island of Madeira is famous, and any one who has been a tourist in those crooked little streets waiting for an ox-cart with a canopy for an afternoon drive has stopped at small booths and bought the coarse linen handkerchiefs, table linen and badly cut underclothes which the country offers as a means of selling its eyelet work.

It might be said in passing that blue serge has come forward like a debutante. It has many rivals, but its backers are powerful dressmakers. Trimmed with white cotton tape, half covered with eyelet work, it presents itself as an easy victim to those who turn out hundreds of gowns at small prices, ready to wear.

Ornate trimmings are still closely linked with the sea. Fish scales are made into ropes and garlands. Flakes of seashells, pink and opalescent, are made into flowers which are used on the drapery of skirt or as a girdle, and these are new. They are sometimes strung together for long earrings, for the jewelers have permitted the dressmaker to encroach upon their prerogatives, and it is now possible to buy a tiara, a pair of earrings, a jeweled girdle from the house that makes your frock.

Silk gingham from France has a strong appeal to many, and these are usually found in the two-toned checked design that gained such enormous vogue in cotton gingham last season. Extremely small and extremely large checks divide the honors.

That white will be even more popular this spring than last is everywhere predicted. The all-white frock or suit worn with a bright colored hat is noticeable at many of the smart winter resorts, where one may get a foretaste of general spring tendencies.

French silk makers do not overlook the persistent vogue for materials with a highly lustrous finish and much has been made in Paris of a so-called metallic satin, made of silk and cotton, containing a metallic sheen without containing any metal.

Wear more than one sash is used, a partition must be constructed between each frame, sufficiently high to admit of this strip above the sash on each side, or else it may be a little more than flush with the top of the sash and a four inch board nailed on top.

Manure fresh from the horse barn is packed evenly and firmly in the pit and covered with six inches of rich soil. The manure, if heating when used, should be forked over a few times to secure an even distribution of the heat before being packed in the pit.

The difference between a hotbed and a cold frame is that no pit is provided for the latter, and no manure is used for heating. The only heat a cold frame has is that which comes from the sun. The mission of the cold frame is to grow and harden the plants, after the hotbed has started them. They remain in the cold frame until ready to set out. Plants of a large size cannot be grown in hotbeds.

The plants in the hotbed require plenty of water, and when needed it should be given in large doses, rather than in frequent small ones. This watering should be continued so long as the soil will readily absorb it. The soils should then be watched, and when the ground is dry enough so it will crumble at a touch when pressed into a ball, it should again be watered, but not before. The seeds should be sown in rows about three inches apart, so as to enable one to stir the soil and thus admit air.

Both hotbeds and cold frames, when covered with glass, need close watching, for a bright sun is very apt to run up the heat. It is advisable to keep a thermometer in the bed, and when the temperature gets above 80 degrees on the shady side of a board, the sash should be opened a little, regardless of the coldness of the weather. All the air possible should be given, and the temperature kept up to a growing heat. Toward the last the sash should be left off as much as possible. Let the plants have every warm, slow rain.

Remedies for Burns.—The housekeeper who numbers cooking among her many household duties is always liable to be burned when around the stove. For small scorches an application of cold cream, or a greasy solution of any kind keeps the air from the raw flesh and eases the pain.

In the case of deep burns a box of bismuth ointment should be at hand, as this is cooling and healing where another application might cause intense pain. The remedy for the slight burns is really to keep the air from the raw places, and if saline applied is of a healing nature the new skin will form much quicker.

Scalloped Steak.—One pound hamburger steak, one egg, teaspoonful salt, half teaspoonful pepper, tablespoon of cracker crumbs, cup sweet milk. Mix in order named and turn into a bread pan in which a large piece of butter has been melted. Bake for 30 minutes.

FARM NOTES.

—This is a good time to start a berry patch.

—In the southern part of the State, as soon as the ground becomes dry enough to work, plant onion sets and sow spinach, beets, peas, carrots and lettuce. This may be done about April 10th in other parts of the State.

—Disease-free potato seed last season in Pennsylvania averaged 45 per cent. increase over ordinary home grown seed. This is one reason why farmers of this State have bought 100,000 bushels of good seed for planting this year, more than twice as much as was planted last year. They yielded almost 70 bushels more to the acre last season.

—The regular pruning is best done during the dormant season, in spring, for then growth soon heals the wounds. There is a popular notion that there is danger in pruning when the wood is frozen, though there is really little to this. Serious injury has seldom been known as the result of winter pruning. In case of such tender fruits as the peach, pruning may well be delayed until spring, when the extent of the crop is known.

—Do not delay further the pruning of grape vines. Many home vines are not pruned as severely as they should be. Strong vines should be cut to carry not more than twenty to fifty buds, and weaker vines will do best on even fewer buds. The new crop comes from the buds now present on last year's wood. Eight canes with about six buds each is a good proportion for strong vines. Write to The Pennsylvania State College agricultural school for extension circular No. 81, which gives detailed information on grape pruning.

—The three new tomato varieties developed by Professor C. Emery Myers, of the agricultural school at The Pennsylvania State College, and announced but a few weeks ago, have already gained a national reputation. During the past three weeks Professor Myers has received hundreds of requests for seed samples. They have come from almost every State in the Union, and several from Canada, California, Texas, Florida, New Hampshire and Washington are represented in the queries for additional information and seed.

One of the first requests of William Jennings Bryan on his recent visit to State College was to meet Professor Myers and see his new tomatoes. He had heard about them in Florida, and was greatly interested. The new tomatoes are noted for their ability to yield better than the average, and for their appearance, flavor and manner of growth without cracking. They have been called "Nittany," "Matchum," and "Penn State Earliana." The first named was obtained through crossing a large red tomato and a small yellow pear tomato; the second resulted from a cross with Matchless and Hummer varieties, and the third came from the development of an especially fine fruit of Earliana. Professor Myers has some seed left for distribution to those interested.

—Making the Hotbed and the Cold Frame.—Hotbeds are made by digging a pit three feet deep and as large as desired. For the average farm a one-sash bed is generally large enough. Hotbed sash measures three feet in width and six in length; the pit should extend six inches beyond it all around. For the frame-work two-inch stuff should be used. The back of the bed should be 8 or 10 inches deeper than the front, and 8 and 18 makes a good depth.

The frame should be so constructed that the sash will fit snugly, and be made so it may be pushed either back or forth to permit easy working at either end, and to ventilate on bright days. Double-glass sash are best.

Where more than one sash is used, a partition must be constructed between each frame, sufficiently high to admit of this strip above the sash on each side, or else it may be a little more than flush with the top of the sash and a four inch board nailed on top. This will prevent swelling of the partition boards, by shedding the rain.

Manure fresh from the horse barn is packed evenly and firmly in the pit and covered with six inches of rich soil. The manure, if heating when used, should be forked over a few times to secure an even distribution of the heat before being packed in the pit. It should be fairly moist or it will fire in the bed with a strong heat and not last long. On the other hand, if the manure is wet enough it will heat evenly and slowly, and will last until warm weather, and rot without burning back to any great extent. There must be a lot of humus in hotbed soil, and it should be fairly rich.

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