

GROWING OLD.

A little more tired at close of day; A little less anxious to have our way; A little less ready to scold and blame; A little more care for a brother's name; And so we are nearing the journey's end, Where time and eternity meet and blend.

THE GUARDEEN ANGEL.

Got a match? Thankie, I guess I'll light up. Ain't much for smokin' on trains. It sort of gets muh—stomach. I don't get around very much. Only, once a year I go up to Chamble to the insane hospital. Huh? Me? Nope, I already been there. I'm bound for home. Yes, sir, bound for home. Alvin's my town. Up in Nodaway county. Was you ever at the insane hospital? I don't blame you. No, sir, I don't blame you.

have no more brains than a ten-year-old. Doc Perkins asked him where Orrie got the idea about a guardeen angel, but the alienist couldn't tell. He said Orrie must be a religious fanatic. You know—cracked on religion. That just shows you what little an alienist knows.

Well, where was I at? Yep—well, as I say, things sort of drifted along and Minnie Davis's kid got to be a right smart little girl. She had Minnie's yaller hair and eyes sort of like Minnie's only they wasn't such a dark brown.

It was lucky for Minnie Davis that Orrie took a fancy to her little girl. She roomed at the Central House— you should stop at the Metropolis if you ever come to Alvin—and nobody around there wanted to be bothered with a baby. Say, I can see Orrie walkin' up the street in his ragged, dirty overalls—he usually wore just them and a flannel shirt in summer and put on a red sweater that Sam Stikel's wife gave him, when it was cold—I can see Orrie walkin' up the street with that kid of Minnie's in his arms. He'd go along singin' to it, "Nice little baby, nice little baby, nice little baby," over and over again.

You know, none of us in Alvin but Orrie paid much attention to Minnie Davis and her kid. It was now. We just sort of took for granted that Mary Beth and Minnie were gettin' along all right.

Wakin' up a man at this time of the night? Well, I explained what I wanted and he didn't say another word. He looked just like my wife looked. He got on his clothes and drove down with me to the store.

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You see how his notion was runnin' on. It got to be quite a joke around town, this fool idea of Orrie's. I told him several times durin' the next month that it didn't look right for him to go about questionin' the goodness of Almighty God. He'd just hang his head, and bein' how he just loved to argue, he'd say:

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Always have feed and water available when lights are on. Face the henhouse to the south. Make the north, east, and west sides wind proof. Ground oats may be used for growing stock or laying hens when fed in limited quantities. Eggs going into the machine are just as important as the incubator itself, in the spring hatch. Danger from overfeeding is lessened if the chicks are fed often and a little at a time for the first few days. Rye, oats, or spring wheat or other spring grains would be very satisfactory as a forage crop for geese. Red mites may be controlled by thoroughly painting the house with carbolineum. Spraying coal-tar dip is also effective. The greatest need of poultrymen today is not more hens, but better producing hens. Hens that will return a larger profit on the feed consumed. Many digestive troubles are avoided if no solid feed is given for the first 45 to 60 hours, in order that the yolk in the chick's body may be partially absorbed. There are four different kinds of oat feeds employed in chick feeds. Oat flour is used in practically all mixtures. It may be made at home if one has a huller. Sweet clover is considered the best temporary pasture crop, but the best must have enough lime to insure successful growth. Inoculation also is necessary on soil that has never grown sweet clover or alfalfa. When cabbage plants have attained a fair amount of leaf spread, breaking off leaves can be avoided by cutting them down to the ground during the week when the leaves are somewhat wilted. They will then yield more readily. The value of good drainage is revealed again this spring in State crop reports which say "Wheat that had a good start last fall and was planted in well-drained soil or was favorably located for protection is in excellent condition." Every man and woman owes a duty to the forest. From it they get timber, fish, game, recreation, water and inspiration. In return the forest's needs should be respected. Protect it from fire and help plant a tree for every one used. Health reports show that the typhoid fever death rate is now down to 2.7 per 100,000 in Pennsylvania and the disease is no longer an important mortality factor. In rural sections the building of septic tanks has aided in curbing the disease and promoting health. Use water glass for preserving spring eggs for later use, say Penn State College poultry specialists. Add one quart of commercial water glass to nine quarts of water previously boiled and cooled, and mix thoroughly. Allow two quarts of the mixture for each three dozen eggs. Few crops give more profitable returns for heavy fertilizing than cabbage, says a bulletin on early cabbage just issued by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment station at State College. Whether the plant food materials are supplied in barnyard manure or in commercial fertilizer, the effects of liberal feeding are always evident. Commercial damage to corn depends upon the number of borers per stalk, the variety of corn and the size and vigor of the plants. As a rule, an infestation of five borers per stalk produces little commercial loss while 30 borers per stalk produces total loss of the crop. A commercial loss probably will be felt with 10 borers per stalk in field corn and with a smaller number in sweet corn. When all the previous year's corn crop is properly disposed of before June 1, 95 to 98 per cent of the corn borers are killed. Plowing controls them when no pieces of plant material are left on the surface. Some borers will crawl to the surface from some of the buried stalks, but if the surface is clean they find no shelter there and die from exposure or the attacks of their natural enemies. Most people consider that it is practically impossible to raise turkeys. However, the results of some breeders as well as those of the experiment stations show that it is not only possible to raise turkeys, but it is also possible to make a profit at the work. When turkeys are being raised a producer has only one thing in mind, namely, keeping them alive and healthy so that they will grow into marketable poultry. With chickens there are two propositions to watch, eggs and market poultry. Turkeys are subject to many of the ailments that bother chickens, but the chief trouble has been a disease known as blackhead. This disease affects turkeys of all ages, but is particularly disastrous when poulters are just nicely feathered. There has been a reason for these losses in many cases. Chickens are affected with blackhead, but it does not usually kill them. In many cases chickens have acted as carriers of the disease to the turkeys. In view of this many people have found it advantageous to raise the poulters away from chickens and on fresh ground. This has encouraged the use of incubators and brooders for turkeys and where properly managed, they have proved very satisfactory. When young poulters are reared with chickens they usually get worms. Worms seem to help the parasites that cause blackhead, as it makes an opening for the parasite to enter the system. People who raise their young turkeys on fresh ground, away from other poultry, are not apt to be bothered with blackhead. Turkeys will even stand confinement, if plenty of green stuff, good sanitation and adequate protection is provided. The Minnesota experiment station raised turkeys in confinement for the last three years. It is not necessary for the young poulters to catch grasshoppers, as animal protein needed in the ration can be supplied with meat scraps.

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