

On the Road to Blythedale

By CHARLES W. HOOKE

The blue gray road was level and smooth, but Dorothy Vernon rode very slowly, for she did not wish to show the results of overexertion when she reached her destination, the lawn party at Colonel Webster's in Blythedale. It was a twenty mile ride from her uncle's house in Plainfield, but that was nothing to so expert a rider as Dorothy.

The road branched three ways just ahead of her, and at that point stood a guidepost from which some vandal had removed the sign. However, it served as a landmark for Dorothy, who had been over the road once before and remembered that the branch to the left led to Blythedale.

A young man overtook her just as she came in sight of the guidepost, and as he passed he he smiled at one who wishes to be sociable. But Dorothy who had strong views about chance acquaintances, froze him with a glance, and he rode on so humbly that the curve of his back over the low handle bars was like the prostration of an oriental devotee.

Dorothy saw the offending stranger alight before the guidepost, and as she came up she heard him say to another dismounted cyclist, "If you're not sure, I'll ask somebody else, for it is very important to me."

"There's no doubt about it," said the other. "The right hand road leads to Blythedale."

A grave question of duty confronted the conscientious Dorothy. Could she allow this young man to be so woefully misdirected? He had offended her, but revenge is simple. Besides, he had not behaved so very badly. It was not as if he had spoken to her. It was only a smile and not at all an offensive one, and he looked very much the gentleman.

So Dorothy stifled her resentment and spoke to him, or rather, she addressed the landscape in general as she passed him, saying, "The road to Blythedale is the one to the left."

She made a fool of herself in another road and thus permitted him to get ahead of her. Out of the corner of her eye she saw that he accepted her advice without hesitation, and that afforded her considerable satisfaction. She had returned good for evil, and the matter was important, too, for she had heard him say so.

He rode slowly, and Dorothy had to exercise restraint to keep from overtaking him. She suspected him of waiting for her, though he never once looked over his shoulder. "I can't in common fairness pretend to fix his pace for him," said she, "but I won't overtake him, and I don't like to trail along behind him all the way to Blythedale."

In trying to decide what to do about it Dorothy remembered that she was three miles from the fork in the road there was a well, with a rude, little shed built over it. She had quenched her thirst there on the occasion of her former ride to Blythedale and had praised the water to the rustic who had drawn it for her. She resolved to stop there again and give the stranger a chance to gain a lead. It would have been easy enough to stop anywhere, but it seemed silly to do so without excuse.

Yet the idea that she was pursuing the man whom she had repelled seemed to annoy her, and she wished him out of her sight. Every time she checked her speed he did the same, yet it must have been pure accident, for he never once looked back. When he quickened his pace, she found herself instinctively increasing her own rate of speed, and the sum of it was that they held their relative positions as accurately as if they had been two cars fastened to the same cable.

"This absurdity will end at the well," thought Dorothy. But what had been the road to Blythedale is the one on the left."

She wondered if it could have been possible for her to pass it. Certainly not; the little penthouse was a most conspicuous object. Even if she could have ridden past that there was a great tree only a few hundred yards beyond which she remembered perfectly. It stood behind a low hedge, and the branches shaded the road.

Dorothy passed two or three wayside low hedges like the one which she remembered, but there was no big tree. And then it suddenly occurred to her to ask herself whether she remembered anything along this road. She had ridden four miles and not a single familiar object had met her gaze. It was true that on the previous occasion she had been one of a considerable party and had paid more attention to her companions than to the scenery, yet a landmark here and there must have impressed itself upon her mind. Why did she not recognize some object by the way?

Dorothy. "You must be mistaken."

"No, ma'am," said the youth, "I ain't mistaken. I've lived on this road ever since I was born, and I should 'a' thought you'd 'a' known the way. Didn't you notice our well? But prigs you didn't 'cause the house over it's been taken down."

"Where's the big tree just beyond it?" demanded Dorothy.

"Blowed over in the duststorm week ago yesterday. You remember that squall in the middle of the afternoon; regular tornado it was. Same blow broke the wellhouse so's they had to take it down. Them two things being 'missin' threw you off, I guess. Then the road don't look quite the same any way. They're mendin' it in a number of places 'Briggs' hill' along beyond for a mile or more in spots."

Dorothy cast one agonized glance at the stranger, but he was already mounting his wheel. In another moment he was riding away.

Except for the pain of gazing upon him from the tops of hills and in the long, straight stretches of the road, Dorothy had no more trouble with him, and he vanished as they reached the town.

Dorothy arrived at Colonel Webster's weary, warm and out of temper. Her colonel's daughter, Dora, took her in charge at once and helped her set herself to rights after the long ride. As they strolled out upon the lawn together she was taken with Grippe, which resulted in heart trouble. It was a good thing that she was unable to do anything of a good part of the time. I wrote to Dr. Pierce about my condition, and he gave me his Golden Medical Discovery. It was a great relief. I have used nearly six bottles. I feel better. I have used nearly six bottles. I feel better. I have used nearly six bottles. I feel better.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets keep the bowels healthy.

MERE MEN.

Dr. Daniel Freeman of Gage county, Neb., owns and occupies the first farm given away by the United States government under the homestead act.

The complaint of the officeholders and office brokers at Washington is that there is no having any privacy with him.

George Gould has converted an ugly spot on the grounds of his Lakewood (N. J.) home into a beautiful sunken garden. It is oriental in idea and said to be the only sunken garden in America.

Jan Kubelik brought with him four violins, three made by the most celebrated makers of the world and one made by his father when he was a boy because he could not afford to buy him one.

Professor L. Boutevin of "L'Alliance Francaise" has established in St. Louis a branch of the French national society, the object of which is to propagate the French language in foreign countries.

M. Capozza, who crossed the Mediterranean from Marseilles to Cordoba in a balloon, now talks of going to the Canary Islands to Panama in the same way, a distance of more than 4,000 miles.

Daniel Colt Gilman, ex-president of Johns Hopkins university, in registering at a New York hotel the other day asked for the quietest room in the house. "These city noises," he explained, "annoy me greatly."

W. Abraham, M. P., the Welsh labor leader, has been deeply impressed with his visit to America. "It seems to me," he remarked in an interview, "that I have bounded ahead a century from the country in which I have been living."

T. L. Glenn of Idaho, one of the new members of congress, says that whatever success he has attained is due to having read when most of his neighbors slept or while he was waiting the preparation of his meals, as he seldom has an opportunity to study during the daytime.

Senator N. N. Stranahan, who has been selected as collector of the port of New York, has as his given names the states of Nevada and Nebraska. At the time he was born the great west was just beginning to develop, and his father was impressed by reading about these territories.

Captain Tariton of Indianapolis, who has been soldiering in the Philippines, has just returned and brought with him a small painting, 400 or 500 years old, which he found in southern Luzon and which Indianapolis artists say is a remarkable work of art and must have been painted by a great Spanish minstrel.

MINTS FOR DYSPEPTICS.

How to Aid Nature in the Cure of This Distressing Malady.

Eat slowly, masticating the food very thoroughly, as if possible, so that there is required in health, says Public Health Journal. The more time the food spends in the mouth the less it will spend in the stomach. Avoid drinking at meals; at most take a few sips of warm drink at the close of the meal if the food is very dry in character.

In general, dyspeptic stomachs manage dry food better than that containing much fluid. Eat neither very hot nor cold food. The best temperature is about that of the body. Avoid exposure to cold after eating. Eat no more than the wants of the system require. Sometimes less than is really needed must be taken when digestion is very weak. Strength depends not on what is eaten, but on what is digested. Never take violent exercise any sort, either mental or physical, either just before or just after a meal. It is not good to sleep immediately after eating nor within four hours of a meal. Never eat more than three times a day, and make the last meal very light. For many dyspeptics two meals are better than more. Never eat a morsel of any sort between meals. Never eat when very tired, whether exhausted from mental or physical labor. Never eat when the mind is worried or the temper ruffled. If possible to avoid doing so, take only food that is easy to digest, avoiding condiments, such as indigestible dishes and taking but one to three kinds at a meal. Most persons will be benefited by the use of oatmeal, wheat meal, cracked wheat and other whole grain preparations, though many will find it necessary to avoid vegetables, especially when fruits are taken.

—NIGHT SLEEPERS—has won the prize, it will be a long while before his druggible balloon is ready to take passengers and freight.

Ms. Elizabeth Cady Stanton has passed her eighty-sixth birthday, and she does not care who knows it.

New Century Comfort.

Millions are daily finding a world of comfort in Bucken's America Salve. It kills pain from Rheumatism, Sprains, Bruises, contused Ulcers, and Fever Sores; cures Eruptions, Salt Rheum, Boils and Felons; removes Corns and Warts; and is guaranteed every bottle. Only 25c at Pauls & Co.'s drug store.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

We are not overenthusiastic on the shredded corn fodder question so far as sheep feeding is concerned, says Wool Markets and Sheep. The shredding process is very apt to mix up dust, grit, mold, smut and other objectionable matter with the really good matter that is in corn fodder, thus proving injury rather than a benefit to sheep. Especially is this true in the case of the pregnant ewes, whose very sensitive natures and tastes during the period of gestation should have freedom of choice in the selection of such food as is relished by them. A breeding ewe should never taste or smell of mold or smut during this period.

The popular notion that shredding is economy as applied to corn fodder for sheep is a mistake. Nothing will tend to relish except sheer starvation. It is nonsense to suppose a sheep will eat and thrive on the naked, hard, pithy stalk of the corn simply because it is reduced to fineness by shredding. The blades and husks of corn fodder are all that is edible to sheep, and you cannot feed them into eating and thriving on the worthless parts of shredded fodder. You couldn't derange and destroy a sheep's stomach quicker than to stuff it with the hard, flinty, indigestible rind of a corn cob.

Keep Drinking Troughs Clean.

Keep the drinking troughs scrupulously clean. No matter how carefully you feed your sheep, if the water is not pure you will notice that they do not thrive. Pure water is just as important as pure food. Disease is bound to be in evidence where impure water is used.

Feed for Pregnant Ewes.

Cottonseed meal should be carefully excluded from the food rations of ewes from this time on while carrying a lamb to the foot of the breeder. The root of the cotton plant has an especially ill effect on pregnant animals of all kinds and is the special ingredient in medicines given to avoid or destroy pregnancy. As a rule every part of a medicinal plant has a similar character to the root of the cotton plant, hence this kind of oil meal should never be fed to breeding animals at such times as this ill influence might be disastrous. Corn is the best standard food for in lamb ewes, and it is not in any way injurious. Ewes carrying lambs are in no danger from good, robust, and thrifty condition, for the lamb is all the time acquiring its future character from its dam.

Size of Flocks.

Fifty sheep are the most that should run in one band. A large flock may thus be sorted out into divisions, as to age or condition, says American Sheep Breeder. Old ewes may go together; young ewes, early breeders, into another lot; ewe lambs by themselves, and young wethers and ram lambs in another flock and yard. All ewes should be sorted out and kept in a separate flock. This division of a large flock is of the greatest importance to the successful wintering of sheep, and of course a successful wintering means a good summering.

Turnips for Sheep.

The turnip is so valuable a food that it is not worth intrinsically half of its approved value in practice. It is a tonic. It loosens the juices of the body. It supplies a lubricant for the bowels. Sheep are as hungry for this poor, watery browse as they are for salt when long denied.

Alfalfa as a Sheep Feed.

Dry alfalfa hay never bleats animals. Alfalfa is excellent pasture for sheep, but care is necessary to prevent bloat while they are becoming accustomed to it, says Kansas Farmer. A good plan is to feed the sheep well on alfalfa for five or six days before they go into the alfalfa pasture. Before they are turned in they should be completely satisfied with some feed that they like. Do not turn them in when there is dew on the alfalfa. When the proper precautions are not taken, severe bloat and loss are to be expected.

First scrape of the fat. Take equal parts of alum and salt, add water and cook to a paste, says New England Homestead. Spread the skin out carefully to keep the wool clean and rub the paste thickly over the flesh side. Wash with warm water, and repeat the next day rub over it more of the paste. Repeat this a third time. After it dries out scrape off the salt and alum and rub it soft. Use no oil on the skin. It may then be colored any shade desired and will make pretty mats for the floor, counter or table.

Shedding Fattening Lambs.

At the Ontario experiment station ten lambs sheared in January made practically the same gain in weight as ten others not shorn and similarly fed. At the Wisconsin station no advantage was shown in shearing in December. These shorn yielded a total of two pounds less washed wool than the others and made a total gain of 2.7 pounds less than the wethers that were not shorn, and the cost of 100 pounds of wool was \$4.70 for the shorn and \$1.40 for the unshorn lot.

Prevent Sheep From Wintering.

Sheep should be dipped before going into winter quarters if they have ticks or have been exposed to scab in any way. It is difficult and unsafe to dip them in midwinter.

Flavor of Mutton.

The peculiar flavor of mutton is due largely to the food of sheep, the locality in which it has been raised, its treatment and the manner the carcass has been dressed.

For Piles in Sheep.

Feed rations only of a mild laxative nature. Wash profusely with warm alum water twice a day before replacing.

How to Get Fat.

If you want to get fat, do not take too much exercise and go on a diet of sugars, fat meat and starchy food. Take plenty of afternoon naps; in fact, sleep as much as possible. Drink plenty of water at meals. Eat all you can of bread and butter and potatoes. Avoid acids.

How to Cure Sick Headaches.

Add a few drops of water applied to the back of the neck and base of the brain is a recently discovered and excellent means of relief for nausea and sick headache.

How to Scent Linens.

Arrowroot tied in a thick cotton rag and boiled with linens and cottons imparts an odor to them that is pleasing.

Heads Should Never Ache.

Never endure this trouble. Use at once the remedy that stopped it for Mrs. N. A. Webster of Winnie, Va., she writes: "Dr. King's New Life Pills which cured me of sick headaches 11 years ago for two years." Cure Headache, Constipation, Biliousness, 25c at Pauls & Co.'s drug store.

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PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD TIME TABLE In Effect Nov. 24, 1901.

Station	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Seranton (D. B. H.)	6:45	10:30	4:30
Pittston	7:15	11:00	5:00
Wilkes-Barre	7:45	11:30	5:30
Plymouth	8:15	12:00	6:00
Scranton	8:45	12:30	6:30
Lock Haven	9:15	1:00	7:00
Carlisle	9:45	1:30	7:30
Harrisburg	10:15	2:00	8:00
Philadelphia	10:45	2:30	8:30

PHILADELPHIA & READING RAILWAY CORRECTED TO NOV. 1, 1901

Station	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Philadelphia	6:00	10:00	4:00
Reading	6:30	10:30	4:30
Coopersburg	7:00	11:00	5:00
Lehigh Valley	7:30	11:30	5:30
Easton	8:00	12:00	6:00
Scranton	8:30	12:30	6:30

ATLANTIC CITY RAILROAD

Station	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Atlantic City	6:00	10:00	4:00
Camden	6:30	10:30	4:30
Philadelphia	7:00	11:00	5:00
Harrisburg	7:30	11:30	5:30
Scranton	8:00	12:00	6:00

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A bad breath means a bad stomach, a bad digestion, a bad liver. Ayer's Pills are liver pills. They cure constipation, biliousness, dyspepsia, sick headache.

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