

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

WHAT DO YOU DISLIKE MOST?

Let us turn from the graver concerns of life to consider the researches of Professor Cason, Rochester, N. Y., as related by him to the last International Congress of Psychology. It appears that for several inquisitive years the Professor has employed what we may hope were his leisure hours, in endeavoring to discover the pet aversions of mankind, which of course embraces womankind also. By industry and patience he has accumulated 21,000 replies to the question at the head of this article, and has tabulated them in a sort of numerical order, which is here put into percentages for the convenience of the reader. He also broadly divides the annoyances into hereditary and acquired, the former being common to all and therefore grading 100 per cent.

The hereditary aversions are comparatively few; discords in music, harsh grating sounds, certain odors, and the screeching of pencils. The golden days, when every schoolboy carried his slate on a loop round his neck, and the careful mother put false sleeves on his coat to act as slate cloth or handkerchief as the occasion required, are long past, however, and the squeak of the slate pencil no longer sets the children's teeth on edge.

The acquired aversions are more numerous and wider in range. At the head of the list stand those precise people who dislike to see an untidy bed, with 83 per cent. The same number cannot "abide" the sight of an intoxicated woman, but a man who gets corned, being a less perfect creature, to whom much is forgiven, is disliked by only 74 per cent. It would appear that the discovery of dirt in one's food is slightly worse than the presence of a hair in the comestible, in the proportion of 84 to 73. It is evident that to have somebody crowd in front of one, instead of falling into queue, and to hear a woman swear, are equally annoying to the Professor's public with the index set at 80. Here we have another injustice to the fair sex in these days of boasted equality: a man's profanity is only disagreeable to 56 per cent. of the audience. It is a regrettable feature of the address that the Professor makes no attempt to settle what is swearing and what is not. Among domestic pests flies scale high (84); next to them are cockroaches (80) while mice come a bad third with 66. There are still 15 per cent. pleasant to notice, quite a number (83) of old fashioned people who regret the disrespect with which youth treats age.

Quite a number of social offenders tip the beam at 75 per cent: those who argue at all times; the universally critical person; the salesman pushing a sale; those who treat animals cruelly; those elder persons who treat children harshly; those whose breath smells of liquor. Next in order (65) come those who bore one by talk of illness or operations, and those who talk during motion picture performances (60). Those who excite indignation by a gushing or affected way of talking, stand at 60 also. Then come the snooty persons

(44) who look over your shoulder at what you're reading, and those (like Maggie) who persist in vocal practice (35). We are accustomed to jazz music and only 20 per cent. object; as to the fellow that goes about whistling he must be getting scarce, since 10 out of the hundred only, anathematize him. Less than this (6) dislike to see a bald man, a conclusion eminently satisfactory to the writer whose thatch is not so luxurious as once it was.

Mention is made of morons who indulge in "back-slapping" and other childlike modes of behavior, but the Professor omits to state the index number of those who dislike the buffoonery.

Many others objected to talk of dirt, germs, sin and sex—no disciples of Zola there!

TRIMMING THE SPRUCE HEDGE

As the snow leaves the ground one naturally wants to be up and doing, and attention is first given to tidying and trimming up the surroundings of the home. If you have a spruce hedge, go slow. The native spruce—"white spruce"—is the greatest demand for hedges, for it may be had for the digging, and is hardy and desirable. But the conifers, like spruce or cedar, will not break or form buds on the old wood as deciduous trees do, and this is well seen when a spruce is cut down; it never springs from the root. It follows that the pruning of an evergreen hedge must not be on the same lines as the pruning of hardwood.

The trimming of spruce should not be undertaken till new growth has commenced, say till it is about two inches long. At this stage new buds will form at the point where the cut is made, and the hedge will show a green appearance; whereas if the trimming is undertaken too early a "dead" spot will show in the hedge and it will have a demoralized appearance all summer.

The above warning does not apply to the deciduous hedges. They are best shaped up in spring and new verdure will soon hide the place where the shears have been.

In transplanting spruce for a hedge or a shelter-belt it is best to select small trees not above a foot high. The belt or hedge may look small, but the loss due to the plants not "catching on" will also be small, and once they take to the new situation, growth is surprisingly rapid. The more exposed the situation from whence you get your stock, the surer you are of your "catch." Secondly do not dig the plants till the brown scales over the buds are ready to break: the little tree is waking to life then, and the roots are ready to take hold. Thirdly, dig the plant sod and all: unlike the hardwoods, if the roots of spruce get dry, just for one minute, the tree is done. Fourthly, dig the hole large enough to receive the sod, plant your tree and firm it well by tramping round it. Attention to these four rules should give you 99 per cent. of growing trees.

I recall an attempt to grow a shelter belt, where on account of the impatience of those in charge, the space selected was not ploughed, and trees about four feet high were planted. The ploughing broke up the capillarity of the soil, the water did not come up to the roots of the trees, and being large they dried out; with the result that only about half of them were alive to begin the second year. A few, at the end of the belt, which had been spaded in, grew apace.

POINT PLEASANT SCHOOL

The following is the honor roll for Point Pleasant School for the month of March:—

- Grade VII and VIII—1, Florence Jenkins; 2, Beatrice Jenkins.
- Grade IV (Sr.)—1, Mary Irving; 2, John Irving; 3, Lester Jenkins; 4, Malcolm Leeco.
- Grade IV (Jr.)—1, Wallace Jenkins; 2, Rosella Jenkins.
- Grade III—1, Violet Reid; 2, Olive

- Jenkins; 3, Hazel Miller; 4, Ida Gillis; 5, Ray Gillis.
 - Grade II—1, Willie Miller; 2, Tena Gillis; 3, Dolena Leeco.
 - Grade I—1, Glen Jenkins.
- Perfect attendance:—Mary Irving, John Irving, Rosella Jenkins, Olive Jenkins, Ida Gillis, Willie Miller.
- Percentage of attendance, 82%.
- Lilly Creed—Teacher.

Make This Test of the HEART

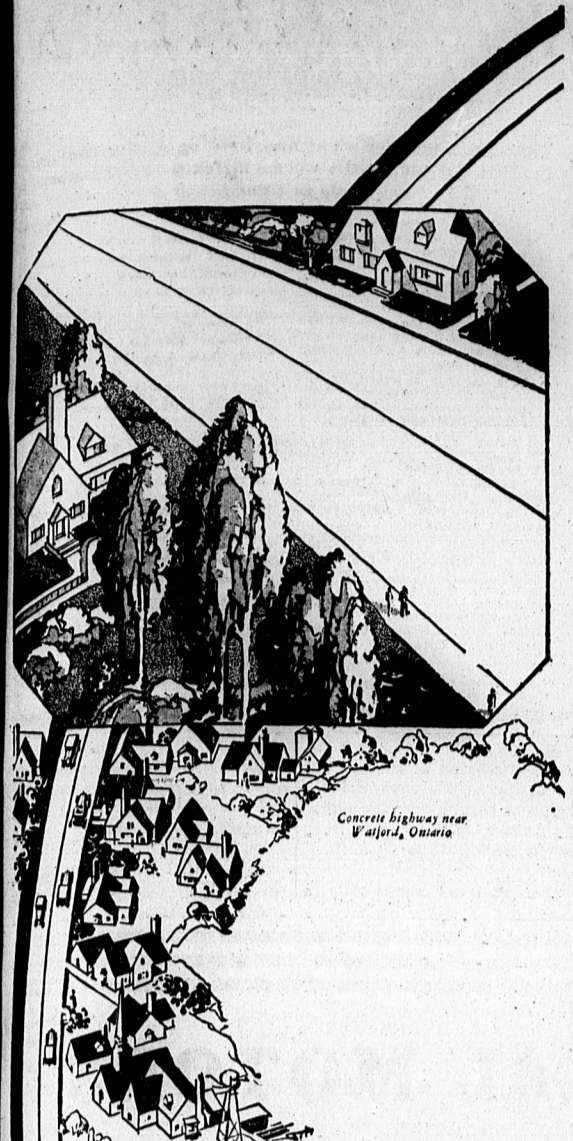
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