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Annual Meeting

The annual meeting previously adjourned of the shareholders of the Charlottetown Driving Park and Provincial Exhibition Association will be held in the office of the Association, Tweel Building, on Wednesday, May 18th, at 2.30 p. m. Dated this 13th day of May, A.D. 1932.

J. W. BOULTER Secretary

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The House of Dreams-Come-True

By Margaret Fedler

(Continued)

Jean, understanding just what was needed, shepherded Nick to the door of the room, where he lingered unhappily, his anxious gaze still fixed on the slender, shrinking figure upon the couch.

"Don't worry, Nick," she said reassuringly. "She'll be all right; it's only a matter of time. But I know what she wants—she wants a real mother-person. Go down and ring up Lady Anne, will you, and ask her to come over in the car as quickly as she can."

Nick nodded; the idea commended itself to him. His "pale golden narcissus," so nearly broken, would be safe indeed with the kind, comforting arms of his mother about her.

It was an intense relief to Jean when Lady Anne arrived and quietly and efficiently took command of affairs. And there was sore need for her untroubled poise and capability throughout the night that followed.

Claire, nervous and utterly unstrung, slept but little, waking constantly with a cry of terror as in imagination she relived the ordeal of the afternoon, while in the big bedroom across the landing, where her husband lay, the grim shadow of death itself was drawing momentarily closer.

By the time the doctor had arrived in answer to the summons sent there seemed small need for the strong cords with which Sir Adrian's limbs were bound. The wild fury of the afternoon's struggle had thoroughly exhausted him, and he lay propped up with pillows, apparently in a state of stupor, breathing very feebly.

"Heart," the doctor told Tormar in after he had made a swift examination. "I've known for months that Sir Adrian might go out at any moment. His heart was already impaired, and, of course, he's drugged for years. He may recover a little, but, as I think is highly probable, there's any recurrence of the brain disturbance—why, he'll not live out a second paroxysm. The heart won't stand it."

Tormar endeavored to look appropriately shocked. But the doctor was a man and an honest one, and not even professional etiquette prevented his adding, with a jerk of his head in the direction of Claire's bedroom:

"It would be a merciful deliverance for that poor little woman. There's a strain of madness in the Latimers, you know. And—with a shrug—"naturally Sir Adrian's habits have accentuated it in his own case."

But the doctor was mistaken in his calculations. Sir Adrian's constitution was stronger than he estimated. As Nick had once bitterly commented to Jean, the man was like a piece of steel wire, and two dreadful outbreaks of maniacal fury had to be endured before the wire began to weaken.

During the course of the first paroxysm it was all the four men could do to restrain him from leaping from the bed and rushing out of the room, since, during the period of quiescence which had preceded the doctor's arrival, a mistaken feeling of humanity had dictated the loosening of the cords which bound him.

He fought and screamed, uttering the most horrible imprecations, and his evil intent towards the woman who was his wife was unmistakable. With her husband free to work his will, Claire's life would not have been worth a moment's purchase.

In the period of coma that succeeded this outbreak Sir Adrian was again secured, as mercifully as possible, from any possibility of doing his wife a mischief, and the second paroxysm which convulsed the bound and shackled madman was very terrible to witness.

Like its predecessor, this attack was followed by a stupor, during which Sir Adrian appeared more dead than alive.

He was palpably weaker, restlessness falling to produce any appreciable effect, and towards morning, in those chill, small hours when the powers of the body languish and fall, the crazed and self-tormented spirit of Adrian Latimer quitted a world in which he had been able to perceive none of those things that are just and pure and lovely and of good report, but only distrust and malice and, finally, black hatred.

A fortnight had come and gone. Sir Adrian's body had been laid to rest in Coombe Ravine churchyard, and Claire, in the simplest of widows' weeds, went about once more locking rather frail and worn but with a fugitive light of happiness on her face that was a source of rejoicing to those who loved her.

She made no pretence at mourning the man who had turned her life into a living hell for nearly three years and who had stood like a gaoler betwix her and the happiness which might have been hers had she been free. But the convention, as well as her own feelings, dictated that a decent interval must elapse before she and Nick could be married, and this would be for her a quiet period dedicated to the readjustment of her whole attitude towards life.

The length of that period was the subject of considerable discussion. Nick protested that six months was amply long enough to wait—too long, indeed—but Claire herself seemed disposed to prolong her widowhood into a year.

"It isn't in the least because I feel I owe it to Adrian," she said in answer to Nick's protest. "I don't consider that I owe him anything at all. But I feel so battered, Nick, so utterly tired and weary after the perpetual struggle of the last three years that don't want to plunge suddenly into the new duties of a new life—not even into new happiness. It's difficult to make you understand, but I feel just like a sponge which has soaked up all it can and simply can't absorb any more of anything. You must let me have time for the past to evaporate a bit."

But it required the addition of a few commonsense observations on the part of Lady Anne to drive the nail home.

"Claire is quite right, Nick," she told him. "She is temporarily worn out—mentally, physically and spiritually spent. Her nerves have been kept at their utmost stretch off and on for years, and now that release has come they've collapsed like a fiddle-string when the peg that holds it taut is loosened. You must give her time to recover, to key herself up to normal pitch again. At present she isn't fit to face even the demands that big happiness brings in its train."

So Nick had perforce to bow to Claire's decision, and it was settled that for the first month or two, at least, of her widowhood Jean should remove herself and her belongings from Staple and bear her company at Charmwood. And meanwhile Nick and Claire would spend many peaceful hours together of quiet happiness and companionship, while Claire, as she herself expressed it, "rebuilt her soul."

To Jean the issue of events had brought nothing but pure joy. Her belief had been justified, and the grim gateway of death had become for these two friends of hers the gateway to happiness.

She had neither seen nor heard anything from Burke since the day she had fled from him on the Moor, although indirectly she had discovered that he had quitted the bungalow the day following that of her flight from it and had gone to London.

Judith sent her a brief, rather formal letter of congratulation upon her engagement, but in it she made no reference to him nor did she endeavor to explain away or palliate her own share in his scheme to force Jean's hand. Probably an odd kind of loyalty to her brother prevented her from clearing herself at his expense, added to a certain dogged pride which refused to let her extenuate any action of hers to the daughter of Glyn Peters.

But none of these things had any power to hurt Jean now. In her new-born happiness she felt that she could find it in her heart to forgive anybody anything! She was even conscious of a certain tentative understanding and indulgence for Burke himself. He had only used the "rimlitiv man" methods in his temperament dictated in his effort to win the woman he wanted for his wife. And he had failed. Just now, Jean could not help sympathizing with anybody who had failed to find the happiness that love bestows.

She reflected that the old gipsy on the Moor had been wonderfully correct in her prophecy concerning Nick and Claire. The sun was "shinin' butivul" for them at last, just as she had assured them that it would.

And, with the same, came a sudden little clutch of fear at Jean's heart, like the touch of a strange hand. The gipsy had had other words for her—harsher, less sweet-sounding.

"For there's darkness com'n' . . . black darkness!" She shivered a little. She felt as though a breath of cold air had passed over her, chilling the warm blood, that ran so joyously in her veins.

(To Be Continued)

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

SELLING PRICE

The fierce light of publicity is being turned in the Federal Parliament and elsewhere, on to the system whereby the farmer is paid a price far below the cost of producing the article which he sells, and the ultimate consumer is held up to the tune of 500 percent or so; in some cases very much more. Here is something which should prove of interest.

A young man, a native of the Island, worked in Boston until the depression became serious, then like many others he returned to the land of his birth. While in Boston he became acquainted with a retail grocer and being kindred spirits, they still keep up a correspondence. Now when we were selling our turnips at 20 cts. per bushel, this man wrote that he paid the wholesale dealer \$1.25 per bushel for the turnips which he sold in his store—but he forgot to mention what he charged the public! Find the percentage on the figures you've got and you'll see that it is a good bit over the percentage quoted.

Here is another view of the transaction. Suppose the car holds 800 bushels, the farmers bill it at a cost of \$160. It probably costs another \$300 for freight and duty, making a total of \$460; say \$500. According to this letter the wholesaler sells the 800 bushels for \$1,000; that is to say the farmers and the public "co-operated" to present somebody with a bonus of \$500, so far. The retailer must of course have his profit and we can only hope he was more scrupulous than those further back in the line. But, as I have said, this unintentional greed is getting more publicity than used to be the case, and the more light there is turned on it, the better in the long run for the consumer, and perhaps for the producer, too. It is the townsfolk, all over the world, that are dissatisfied, and the feeling is displayed in outbreaks of lawlessness. It is the conviction that they are being exploited that turns the more adventurous to thoughts of communism, and it is the exponents of grapsitallism who are producing this crisis in the world's history.

SOME SURNAMES OF P. E. I. Marshall: This is an instance, not uncommon, of some lowly office becoming an honorable title, and afterwards giving rise to a surname. In old High German, marah means a horse, and scale a caretaker, so that the name was given originally to a servant of the royal manège. In time the title was given to various high officials both civil and military. In England the Marshal was a high dignitary in the 12th century, and it appears in Scotland in the form Marischal and Earl-marischal, at a similarly early date. It was inevitable that the name should be transferred from the title-holder to his family and thus become a generic or family name.

Robinson: About half a century ago, a C. E. dergyman in Cornwall, Eng., published a valuable work called "Guppy's Homes of the Family Names." It was more statistical than derivative, and gave the proportion of this surname as "200 per 10,000" in the county of Durham; that is one in every fifty persons was a Robinson. In the Midlands the proportion fell to 17 per 10,000, and still less as it neared London, the magnet to which all family names are drawn. The original Robinson of Durham is lost in the mists of time, but he must have come from a very prolific strain. The family coat of arms is a stag tripping, and their motto: "Virtus pretiosior auro" means "virtue is more precious than gold."

Ings: A purely Anglo-Saxon monosyllabic name. "Ings" in those languages was the equivalent of the Roman "gens," a tribe, as owning a common ancestor. Thus the Wellings (descendants of Well or Weli) settled at Wellington and Wellington. Ingham is the home of the Ings, and in this case (as in the name under consideration) we are not informed as to the patronymic. Roughly speaking, "Ings" may be translated as "sons."

Skeffington: The earliest mention of this name that I have come across is that of the energetic Lord Deputy (or as we would now say, Viceroy) of Ireland, who crossing to that Island in 1535, put down a formidable rebellion of the Irish lords, the Geraldines and others. This is a "place-name" and the first Skeffington took his name from the ton (town) of the Ings (sons, descendants) of Skeff. (cf. Scalf).

THE EUROPEAN STARLING This bird should now be looked for here, for it is spreading very quickly over Canada, and accounts

have come in of its arrival in widely separated regions. "It has adapted its natural migratory habits to American conditions and through them it may be able to complete the conquest of the Canadian field." Jack Miner, I note, finds the starlings a pest in and about his bird-sanctuary, where they dispossess other birds of their nesting places.

The starling was introduced into New York in 1890, and has increased in the northern U. S., into immense flocks, of thousands of individuals. They are gregarious and where they roost the flocks are indescribable. They are antagonistic to other birds and their large size easily enables them to drive our smaller birds away. Starlings are certainly most effective insect destroyers but this virtue is offset by many vices. In Europe they attack several kinds of fruit from grapes to olives, but on this continent they have limited their attention mostly to cherries, so far.

Dr. Taverner, in his valuable "Birds of Eastern Canada," gives the following notes on the Starling: (Starling: (Sturnus vulgaris) Length 8.50 inches. About the size of a Red-winged Blackbird but with a shorter tail. In autumn all metallic black, sharply dotted all over with cream-buff V-shaped spots. In spring with most of the light spottings worn off, but with a yellow bill. Juveniles greyish-brown, with whitish throat.

Distinctions: In spring a blackbird with a yellow bill, in autumn a blackbird with fine light specklings. Juvenile, a brownish blackbird with whitish throat. In all seasons a blackbird with short tail. Has a strong characteristic and un-blackbird-like flight.

Nesting: Large untidy masses of grass, twigs, and rubbish in crevices of buildings and in hollow trees. Will occupy nest boxes."

Dr. Taverner reviews the history, habits and economic habits of the Starling, and fears that its introduction will be very harmful to our native birds.

Our young friends of the "Feed-the-Birds Contest" ought to look out for this bird, and report it if noticed.

TREATMENT OF POTATOES There has just reached me a copy of Pamphlet No. 134, N. S., "Powdery and Common Scab of the Potato," by Prof. D. J. MacLeod, M. A., of Fredericton, N. B., in collaboration with our esteemed townsmen, Prof. R. R. Hurst, B. S. A. This pamphlet is the fourth in a series of studies of potato diseases, and is excellently illustrated with pictures of the diseased tubers, and enlarged figures of the pathogenic organisms; and towards the end, with cuts representing the equipment necessary in the control of the scab diseases. The history of powdery scab is interesting; we are told that it was known in Europe in 1841 but was first recorded on this continent by the Dominion Botanist (Dr. Gussow) in 1913, when it was found in all the Maritime provinces as well as in Quebec. It is now found in all the Canadian provinces except Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Prof. Hurst finds that climatic conditions are a powerful factor in the development of this scab; periods of rainfall when the tubers are young, followed by cool weather and rain favor the spread of powdery scab, while dry warm weather is ideal for the spread of common scab. Both scabs infect the soil for a period of years after the growth of an attacked crop.

The authors have been experimenting with such soils, by dressing them with inoculated sulphur, and also calcium sulphate. Some very interesting facts come to light in this regard. The treatment of the tubers themselves varies from the corrosive sublimate method, hot or cold; the formaldehyde ("Formalin") treatment, likewise hot or cold; to the newer treatment by the use of organic mercury compounds. All these are explained in clear and concise language, and although we may expect the acreage of potatoes to be materially reduced this year, it is all the more necessary that every farmer should make the most of what he does plant by proper control of potato diseases; therefore get this pamphlet and study it—now.

THE ATOM: A CORRECTION In my notes upon "The Infinitely Little" there occurs a typographical error, by which I am made to assert incorrectly that the proton is the one-billionth part of the one-billionth part of a millimetre in diameter. The authority for the measurement states that it is 10⁻¹⁰ A mere layman may be pardoned for a thinking that there must be a millimetre. Strange to say the good deal of "approximation" in scientific paper which announced dealing with such tiny proportions!



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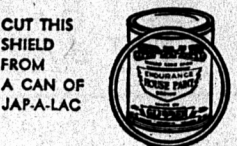
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Using Commercial Fertilizer

R. C. PARENT, Experimental Station, Charlottetown.

Before one can wisely use commercial fertilizer it is essential that one should have some understanding of the requirements of plants, and the particular significance of each element of plant food.

Plants are living organisms, sensitive and exacting in their demands. For optimum growth they require a satisfactory place in which to live, warmth, air, water, food and protection against insects, disease and weeds.

The food of plants consists of many elements, but those most commonly deficient in the soils of Prince Edward Island are nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash and calcium or lime. Each of these elements has a definite purpose in plant development: Nitrogen aids in the growth of green leaf, phosphoric acid is necessary for root development and the formation of seed, potash aids in the production of starches and sugars, while calcium promotes vigor and stimulates root development. All of these plant food elements, with the exception of calcium, are to be found in manure in appreciable amounts. All of them may be bought in various kinds of commercial fertilizer. It is quite evident to all, however, that plants cannot absorb manure as manure, or all of the fertilizers as bought, until they are first changed into more soluble forms. This change is brought about, to a large extent by the direct and indirect action of certain useful bacteria. These bac-

teria are micro-organisms living in the soil, and their life work is to change vegetable nitrogen into nitrates which are easily absorbed by plants. The number of bacteria in the soil will depend upon the amount of air present and the acidity of the soil, hence the great value of barnyard manure, thorough cultivation and the application of limestone. Limestone not only supplies plant food, but is valuable in improving tilth and in correcting acidity, thus making it possible for bacteria to flourish.

Soil fertility must be considered if costs of production are to be kept down. In all soils there is considerable leaching of plant food taking place. This leaching may be offset by the use of barnyard manure, crop residues and commercial fertilizer. If the fertility of the soil is to be maintained, barnyard manure is the most important of these and yet it is the most abused and wasted of farm by-products.

Commercial fertilizer as an aid to the production of heavy crops is well known to the majority of farmers. It is also evident that many mistakes have been made in its use and that this year, more than ever, great care will have to be exercised in its application. As a guide to the economical use of commercial fertilizer, the following suggestions, based on work conducted in the Prince Edward Island Illustrated Stations during the past five years, are given:

1. Use commercial fertilizer in medium amounts and in conjunction with barnyard manure where possible.

2. In the majority of cases it is advisable to use a complete fertilizer mixture for all root crops and grain. This mixture should consist of a nitrate fertilizer, such as nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia or nitrochalk; a phosphoric fertilizer, such as superphosphate, and a potash fertilizer such as muriate of potash.

3. A nitrate fertilizer alone on timothy seems to be an exception to the above and profitable increases in yields may be obtained by sowing 100 pounds sulphate of ammonia per acre to the timothy meadows in early spring.

4. The use of large amounts of any one element is unnecessary.

5. In deciding on the formula and the rate of application for any crop, the possible market value of that crop is an important consideration. A 4-8-8 mixture for potatoes, a 3-10-4 mixture for turnips and corn and a 4-10-5 mixture for grain have given satisfactory results.

6. In connection with the use of commercial fertilizer on very poor soil one thing seems certain; while fair crops are usually obtained the year that the fertilizer is added, the following crops are poor. On the other hand, where barnyard manure is added, there is a residual effect and fair crops are obtained in the years following its application. In some cases limestone seems to be the limiting factor in securing a stand of clover.

Wins Decision

(Canadian Press)

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN New York, May 13. (A.P.)—Ernie Schaff, Boston heavyweight, won the decision over Jack Gross, Philadelphia southpaw, in 10 rounds of featureless, uninteresting mauling before a crowd of 5,000 tonight. There were no knockdowns. Schaff weighed 210 1-2, Gross 211 1-2.

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