

THE MAGAZINE GUARDIAN For Parents, Teachers, Pupils, Dairymen, Farmers, Horsemen

TO THE FARMER

Farmers and others interested are invited to contribute to The Farm, The Dairy, The Turf, and Good Roads departments of the Guardian either by question, correspondence or otherwise. Answers will be given by experts to all questions of general interest and space will be given to any articles that will in any way help to advance Prince Edward Island interests.

Contributors are asked to have their articles at this office early each week, as only a short emergency item can be handled as late as one p. m. Wednesday. All received after that hour cannot appear until the following week.

THE SCHOOL AND THE HOME

Contributions for this department should be addressed to

President Teacher's Association, Guardian's School and Home, P. O. Box 188 Charlottetown.

If you want to keep the children on the farm, then begin this year to make farming and the farm home more attractive for the boys and girls. So much is left undone by parents that might be accomplished to prevent the younger generation from migrating to the cities. The children cannot be blamed for leaving some farmsteads and their surroundings. Sets plants of lettuce raised from September and October sown seeds in hotbeds and semi-hotbeds. A large wheelbarrowful of fermenting manure spaded under each 3 x 6 sash will generate enough heat to produce the crop.

DRILL IN MULTIPLICATION.

I have found it advantageous to substitute for drill in the multiplication tables a series of problems. These problems can be prepared rapidly and in great numbers in the following way. The method also has the advantage of giving complete drill in all the combinations.

The selection of the multiplier is dictated by the steps previously developed, the multiplier may be 2, or 3, or 4, or five-place multiplying be known, 23, Four's having been developed, and multiplication by three places known, the multiplier can be 234, or 432, or 432. A multiplicand is then selected as follows: 369—Successively around the school I give out to replace the dash the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, etc., up to 9. The first child's multiplicand, then will read 3691; the second child's 3692; the third child's, 3693, etc., a condition that alters the result of each child's example and so puts each child on his own resources. His neighbor cannot help him and he finds the necessity of doing his own work.

Quickly working the first example. I add the multiplier to the product and get the answer to the second example. Adding the multiplier to that answer gives the answer to the third example, and so on.

This is the device practically worked out:

Table with 2 columns: Problem number and Answer. Includes examples like 3691, 3692, 11073, 14764, 1594512, 1594944, 1595376.

The facility with which each child

can be given a separate example and be immediately examined is the feature that recommends the device for at least examination.—Western School Journal.

GOOD SENTENCES.

There is no grief without some great provision to soften its intensity.—G. D. Prentice.

Humor is the disinfectant of emotion. If women could keep their sense of humor when they fall in love, marriage would be turned from a weary pilgrimage through a waste of tears into a shining El Dorado.—Miss Constance Smedley.

Speak clearly if you speak at all. Carve every word before you let it.—Holmes.

Heaven sends us good meat, but the devil sends cooks.—Garrick.

The inability to endure solitude and silence is the pressing curse of modern life.—Arthur Pendens.

Life is a comedy to those who think it a tragedy to those who feel.—Emily

The schoolmaster is generally a man, who having learned to teach has long ago ceased to learn.—Judge Parry.

Opportunities seldom come at the moment we most desire them.—H. E. Reynolds.

One obtains success today more by the noise one makes rather than the talent that one has.—Edouard Pailleron.

In general, the foundations of a happy old age must be laid in youth.—Cook.

Don't work for wages. Work for the accomplishment of something.—Leslie M. Shaw.

Truly there is nothing in the world so blessed and so sweet as the heritage of children.—Mrs. Oliphant.

Young men who isolate themselves in college and pore over books are not the men who succeed in after

CHILD STUDY FROM A TEACHER'S STANDPOINT

By G. A. Adams, Inspector

Early philosophers and psychologists have written much on phases of child life, but the systematic study of the neutral and physical nature of children has been reserved for modern and quite recent times.

The subject was first approached from the point of view of the educator and many of the authorities on this subject have insisted on the vital importance of a study of children to the one who expects to teach them.

All of the early writers advocated the need of beginning education with an appeal to the senses.

The great emphasis thrown by child psychologists upon the feebleness of intelligence and the imperfection of instincts in the infant naturally rouses our curiosity as to why the young of brutes should be so much more capable of helping themselves, but one finds in the very helplessness of infancy the secret of man's capacity to learn. The child of a brute is generally simple, it does not need to do new things and is fairly well fixed in its manner of life by its instincts, while man, on the other hand, is continually compelled to learn to meet emergencies, hence he is born helpless with imperfect instincts and an enormous capacity to learn.

Well, having taken these thoughts into consideration and taking it for granted that we are aware of the great possibilities of the child, we will now transfer him from the home to the school.

In sending the child to school we are sending him as it were, out into the world where he will meet with different characters and environments, both of which will have a lasting effect upon his future life.

The environments of the child stimulate sense perception and provoke inquiry. They are always arousing him to see, hear, smell, taste and in exercising his senses begets increasing desire to their further exercise and these experiences are his mental food, as well as the means of his physical development.

Parents usually pay too little regard to mental culture in the first five years of the child's life, little realizing its relation to the after life, though his eagerness to know usually accumulates a great fund of child knowledge and even child skill

before he enters school. These years powerfully affect his life long habits of investigation, thinking, acting, language etc.

This knowledge is already of things in nature as well as of things in the household which knowledge furnishes a fine starting-point for his school work and suggests the wisdom of continuing it on the very lines so well calculated to maintain and enlarge his interests and encourage him to study.

Now we commence the systematic development of the activities of the child, which is the true end of formal education and can be accomplished only by the directing influence of an individual will; a will which sets up an ideal which the child is to realize and then proceeds in a methodical way to help it realize that ideal.

Herein is found the specific duty of the teacher.—It is also the function of the teacher to encourage in every possible way the imitative or realistic activities of the child, but it is even more important that he, with great wisdom, continually stimulate the exercise of the idealizing activities, perception, memory, imagination, judgment, thinking, reasoning.

As the emotional, national life of the child gives vitality to mental and bodily activities, the teacher's work should not only include a comprehensive study of the child's physical and mental organism but of the child in action as well; of the child at home, at his play, at work, alone, with his playmates, in his moods, in his studies; or the normal and abnormal child, of the child's motives, of the child in the different stages of development and in the processes of transition from one stage to another.

With such acquaintance with child nature, the teacher is able to enter upon a study of the underlying principles of Education and the methods by which it is to be accomplished.

Nature study, then, may rightly engross a large part of the course of study for the lower grades. The teacher's individuality and ingenuity will enable him or her to utilize the children in gathering the material and the data for talks and studies; or in other words mental life should not be too rapidly crowded upon the body claims. The child should be railroaded too quickly out of his world of things into a world of books.

When however the body has had a fair chance to get a good start, let us say, between the ages of ten and sixteen years, a considerable amount of book work should be accomplished. We at the same time should reverence the pause that often ushers in adolescence. This is Nature's Imperative. A multitude of boys and girls are buried alive on the threshold of adolescence by teachers who do not understand the reactions of early youth. Youth should be reverently and wisely supervised.

In this age the Supreme Being has given us the opportunity as teachers to shape the personality of boys and girls by holding their confidence long enough to give them a view of life beyond the school.

POULTRY

TO PICK EGGS TO SHIP.

I have sent eggs to hatching to every state in the South and to a few Northern States and have yet to get my first complaint of broken eggs or bad hatchings. Now, this sounds boastful, doesn't it? But I do not feel boastful or conceited. I write this that other farmers who are now in the business may profit by my experience.

For many years I shipped by express, but now I ship by parcel post, which reduces the cost two-thirds and over. I have always used split baskets, but I prefer the small ones that hold only one setting and the larger size that hold three settings. I get the baskets and other needed material before shipping season opens to avoid delay when the orders begin to come in and to keep my customers from having to let their hens set too long.

Many of them were once sent the eggs as I have a hen setting now. When I gather up the eggs every

afternoon, I wipe off any soil that may happen to be on them, mark date on each one with a led pencil, select those of uniform color and size for hatching purposes and put them in a basket kept for that purpose. All the off-colored, small and ridged eggs are put aside for culinary purposes.

When packing them to ship, I line the basket with a thick layer of excelsior. Fear a large square of newspaper, lay an egg on one corner and roll up the paper to the opposite corner. This leaves two empty rolled ends of paper, which must be folded back on opposite sides of the egg. The folded ends make such a smooth, thick padding that no amount of jolting can injure the egg. It requires some newspaper, such as the big dailies and the weeklies. No thick, stiff paper will do.

After the eggs are all wrapped in paper, I pack them in closely as I can get them, put a thin layer of excelsior on top of them, tuck a sheet of newspaper all round this, and put on a lid. The paper is cut to fit down inside the basket and, if it is not enough the splits with a darning needle and cord.

It requires time and patience to pack them this way, but it pays. It means a well satisfied customer that knows where to order the next time.—D. H. R.—Farm Life.

ABOUT BANTAMS.

Bantam fowls are generally looked upon as mere pets, but as a matter of fact they have many strong economical points and useful qualities. Five Bantams can be kept in the space required for two of the large of three of the small sized breeds. Leghorns or Hamburgs, for instance. They are good forerunners of the larger breeds as a rule. The Black Bantams rival the Leghorn for number of eggs produced, while 15 of their eggs will go as far in cooking as 12 of most breeds, so that for small quarters, what one loses in size, one makes up in number.

Five Bantams are especially good for eating, and if hung are a trifle "gamy" and cooked as usual should be, are no means substitute for that worthy bird. It is said that some restaurants make this substitution. One having room for, say 20 hens only 50 Bantams. The Black Bantams are not so in many cases, but a couple more of good old "biddies" will help out here. For small back yards Bantams are of great value. Cochins Bantams produce the largest eggs, and are the most docile of any of the little breeds, but all of them are easily tamed. All the varieties except the Cochins require netting over their yard they can fly like quail.

If you want to cut the wings off your fowl so that it will not disgrace them leave the two long flight feathers uncut and when the wing is folded will have no chopped off look. The effect as to flying will be the same as the old ugly way.

THE POULTRY HOUSE.

The farmer's wife usually cares for the poultry, and if anyone needs to save steps it is the farmer's wife. Her work keeps her moving a greater portion of the time, and even a small saving in steps means a lot to her. It is an easy matter to arrange the feed rack in a man's hand would not cover the wound, where the skin was torn away and gone. I dressed each wound by dusting a liberal supply of boric acid on it. There was no subsequent suppuration, as usually occurs in such wounds. The wounds all healed quickly. Their general health suffered but very little. Within four months recovery was complete. Later in the same year I had a ram lamb attacked by a dog. One shoulder was badly lacerated, and one hind leg was so badly bitten in lower part that he could not put his foot to the ground for many days. I used the boric acid treatment, with splendid results. The lamb gained weight rapidly, and kept in perfect health. Boric acid is a good dressing for any wound on man or beast. I cannot recommend it too highly for wounds on sheep resulting from attacks by dogs.

POULTRY POINTERS

Words of Advice

Look out for head lice on baby chicks. They sap the very life blood out of a chick. Lard and kerosene will stop their ravages.

It is not the best policy to crowd too many eggs under a hen especially if the weather is a little chilly. Set less and get more.

Fence off a part of your yard and in a few weeks you have an elegant crop of tender green feeds that will make the chicks thrive.

If a baby chick is very sick it hardly ever pays to doctor it and if it does the chances are it will never be a strong, robust fowl.

CLIPPING THE UDDER

In advising that the udders of dairy cows should be clipped, Mr. H. E. Dvorachek (Colorado Agricultural College) writes:—"It is a common practice among dairy cows to find the udder covered with a dense growth of long hairs, which, although they may be of some protection to the udder, nevertheless, from the standpoint of sanitation and comfort to the cow during milking are a detriment. Under ordinary farm conditions they are generally covered with filth, and even in the best-kept dairies, unless clipped, collect some dust and filth. Furthermore because of their location, it is highly probable that some of them will find their way into the milk pail during milking in order that such conditions may not occur, these hairs should be clipped once or twice each year, thereby preventing collection of filth and permitting greater care in washing the udder. It has been my experience that 'kickers' are also developed when milking in heifers to milk because of these long hairs. When the milker grasps the teats during milking, the surrounding hair is included, with each stream drawn the hairs are given a good vigorous pull. Is it any wonder that the heifers kick you, pail and all, into the gutter? If a large udder is to be clipped, a hand-power machine should be provided. The clipping should extend over the flank and thigh on the right side, as this will make it easier to keep the side about the milk pail clean. In the production of special or certified milk, this precaution should always be observed in addition to the customary washing of udders. In ordinary milk production it will help to eliminate much filth, which means better milk, and better milk eventually means better prices.

SHEEP

FOR DOG-BITTEN SHEEP

"Two years ago," writes a subscriber to an exchange, "I had eight pure bred sheep so badly bitten and torn that several of my neighbors pronounced them worthless. One ewe had twenty-one cuts and tears. In some places a man's hand would not cover the wound, where the skin was torn away and gone. I dressed each wound by dusting a liberal supply of boric acid on it. There was no subsequent suppuration, as usually occurs in such wounds. The wounds all healed quickly. Their general health suffered but very little. Within four months recovery was complete. Later in the same year I had a ram lamb attacked by a dog. One shoulder was badly lacerated, and one hind leg was so badly bitten in lower part that he could not put his foot to the ground for many days. I used the boric acid treatment, with splendid results. The lamb gained weight rapidly, and kept in perfect health. Boric acid is a good dressing for any wound on man or beast. I cannot recommend it too highly for wounds on sheep resulting from attacks by dogs."

THE TURF

THE WASTAGE OF HORSES

The ordinary life of a good healthy horse, rarely exceeds from twenty to twenty-five years, but when he goes to war it is shortened an average of seven years. Artillery horses lost in military service three and four times as long for the average of each animal. The war has already, been going on around two hundred and twenty days. Putting the number of horses employed at two hundred thousand this would indicate that already upwards of three million horses have been destroyed. It is also calculated by so eminent an authority as Lord Kitchener, that the war will last three years, or 875 days longer, which, at the large rate of destruction, would mean the wastage of nearly twelve million more horses. In the meantime it is impossible that breeding can proceed to the same extent as in normal times. What a tremendous shortage this indicates can be as well imagined as described. With cessation of breeding included it can safely be reckoned that the deficit will be nearly half as much again, that is to say, that there will be a demand in the next few years for from twenty to twenty-two million more horses than would be used in ordinary times. Whether the millennium sets in, as some people profess to think is likely, or not, there cannot fail to be a woeful deficiency. The most power has done wonders in hauling and in aiding the quick movement of troops, but it has emphasized rather than nullified the use of the horse. Modern war is carried out on such a gigantic scale that the increase of methods of locomotion required has multiplied many fold. Thus, for military purposes at least, motor power can never entirely displace the horse. Indeed, the demand for the animal can only be immensely increased. Thus countries with breeding facilities and practically at peace will be called upon for large numbers. To take steps now in preparation for eventualities would be the wisest possible course. Horses cannot be bred and raised and made reasonably fit for service under five years; hence it would be wise to reserve the mares and breed them this season to the best available sire. Good sound advice on the breeding and rearing of horses is given in Bulletins, which can be had free on application to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Arrange for a Convenient Water Supply.

The water supply can be arranged by running a pipe from the well to the trough used. If this is made so the pipe can be run up through the bottom and both ends of the pipe be about level, a vessel may be attached to the end next the well, and when it is kept full the water in the trough will be at the same level. I find that a twelve-quart galvanized or enameled ware dish pan is about the best thing to use. The pipe can be run up through the bottom and lock-nuts used to make it water-tight, using white lead freely under the nut. The trough will be more under ground and the frost will not bother it in winter, and the water in the pan will not freeze as easily, especially if the pipe is a large one. Second-hand pipe may be purchased very cheap. I bought half-inch pipe that served a good purpose for years as water pipes for two cents a foot, and one-inch pipe for four cents. Stakes should be driven down about two or three inches apart all around to keep the hens from getting into the pan. Green poles about an inch in diameter at the base and drawn together at the top a couple of feet above the pan will work well and are easily procured.

A Poultry House Jail.

I think the greatest labor-saving device in my hen house is the jail and battery of nests. There are some things about the nests I would change, but the principle is all right. This jail is six feet long, 32 inches wide, and 16 inches high. A latch cut so it will make one strip for the bottom or top and one for the side or end. Space your laths two inches apart. That is far enough for the hens to get their heads through easily, and not far enough for them to exert much force in crowding them aside. The laths of the jail shown were nailed on the inside, as I thought it would prevent them getting them loose, but it was a mistake, as they loosened fully as easily, and it is almost impossible to get at them to nail solidly when replacing. The bottom of the jail is slatted the same as the sides and top, but there is a second bottom four inches lower to catch the droppings. The boards

THE FARM

Of this second floor are loose so they can be removed for cleaning. The next one I make I shall raise the ten inches higher and slant the dropping floor to the front, and giving a little more room above the nests.

A Convenience for Watering.

The feeding and watering problem in this jail is easily solved. Fasten a long narrow box along the side for the grain and shell, and a shelf for the water fountain. The door to the jail is hinged at the top, and drops down against a cross slat at the bottom. This allows one to simply push the hen in and she cannot open it from the inside and get out. A simple catch on the door up when I want to let them out. Above all things, don't do as I have done, pile rubbish all over the top, for 20 to 25 hens in the coop will need all the air they can get when the hot sultry days come.

These nests are all right except that the partitions should extend higher. Then hen pick the nest material out and put it in the one they are in, or else drop it outside, and they try to pull the eggs over from one to the other, often breaking them. I would make the nests 16 inches wide, too, instead of 12, and put the partitions 12 inches apart across the back of the top nest for the hens to jump up on to get into the nests, and two or three of them back of the bottom nests, so they can jump from the bottom to the top.—Michigan Farmer.

THE FRESHENING COW.

The accumulated experience of progressive dairymen proves that a cow should have a rest between lactation periods. If milked continuously up to the time of freshening, the period into which she freshens will be less profitable than the preceding. Without rest, it is impossible for her to renew her depleted strength, or to lay up a supply of fat for the next lactation period nor can she properly nourish the now rapidly growing fetus.

It may seem like wasting food to lay fat on a cow's body, but in reality it is not, for the fat will later appear as fat in the milk. Moreover, when a cow freshens, she is usually more or less feverish, and her digestion impaired to a certain extent. To place her on full feed at this time is to invite trouble. But if she will go on condition, the withholding of her feed will result in no harm, inasmuch as her needs will be taken care of by the fat stored on the body. A thin cow has no such reserve and one has to choose between decreased production or take chances on her powers to stand up under full feed.

A cow should be given at least six weeks' rest. If intermittent and partial milking fails to dry her up, withholding the grain ration and feeding roughages such as timothy and straw will be found helpful. Ten days to two weeks should be allowed a cow to reach full feed after freshening.

REASONS FOR KEEPING LIVESTOCK

The following are a few reasons, as outlined by a Wisconsin shepherd and stockman, for the keeping of good live stock:

Raising superior stock is the best and easiest way of keeping up the fertility of our soil.

The larger portion of the profit obtained from the raising of productive live stock enables the farmer to equip his place with better machinery, which, in turn, lightens heavy tasks and makes farm life more pleasant.

A steadily growing population will continue to supply an excellent market for more and better live stock and live stock products.

There is more pleasure in caring for good than poor live stock.

Live stock raising tends to encourage boys and girls to remain on the farm.

Well bred live stock furnishes the best possible market for the farmer's roughage and grain.

Better help may be secured and kept upon a farm upon which profit producing animals are raised.

All things being equal, the production and value of a live stock farm steadily increases.

LAWN GRASS SEED.

If you would know what sort of grass to use for different conditions, you can do no better than consult a reliable seedman, whose lawn mixtures he will guarantee as he does his reputation. But the following description of grass plants, compiled by Mr. Luke J. Doogue, will be of help.

Kentucky Blue Grass—Poa pratensis. Fine for lawns; grows slowly, but vigorously, almost everywhere on an acid soil.

Red Top—Agrostis vulgaris. Shows results more quickly than Blue Grass; will thrive on a sandy soil; fine in combination with Blue Grass in English Bye Grass—Lolium perenne. Grows quickly and shows almost immediate results; good to combine with the slow-growing Blue Grass.

Various-leaved Fescue—Festuca heterophylla. Good for shady and moist places.

Rhode Island Bent—Agrostis canina. Has a creeping habit; good for putting-greens, sandy soils.

Creeping Bent—Agrostis stolonifera. Creeping habit; good for sandy places and to bind banks or sloping places. Combined with Rhode Island Bent for putting-greens.

Crested Dog's-tail—Cynosurus cristatus. Forms a low and compact sward; good for slopes and shady places.

Wood Meadow Grass—Poa nemoralis. Good for shady places; is very hardy.

Red Fescue—Festuca rubra. Thrives on poor soil and gravelly banks.

White Clover—Trifolium repens. Good for slopes; not to be recommended for a lawn.

Sheep Fescue—Festuca ovina. Good for light, dry soils.—House and Garden.

THE FARM

Put a few shoots from the early flowering shrubs and place them in water in the window garden. They will soon cover themselves with bloom.

In spreading the stable manure, see that the coarsest are applied to the fields to be planted in the fall season—ed crops and the partially rotted manures to the early crops.

Cabbage plants being wintered over in cold frames should now be set a few inches apart in another cold frame and grown to transplanting size. Keep the plants no cold sid.

BAND YOUR SHADE TREES.

The Spring canker worm has killed more Kansas apple trees in one season than the San Jose scale has killed in its entire history in the state, while at the same time the worm has attacked thousands of elm and other shade trees. It has been equally destructive in various other states.

Here are some simple and practical methods for preventing these losses. It is often impossible to spray shade trees, so Professor Dean, of the Kansas Agricultural College, recommends this remedy for shade trees and advises that it be applied immediately:

Take a strip of cotton batting two inches wide and long enough to go around the tree. Over this cotton place a strip of tarred paper or building paper, slightly wider than the cotton. Fasten the paper tightly over the cotton with four or five tacks. The cotton is used to prevent the worms from going under the paper band.

Some sticky substances, such as printers' ink, coal tar, pine tar or dendrolene, should be smeared upon the paper. The best preparation to use is called tree tangletop. On badly infested trees it is necessary to smother or replace the sticky substance every few days. The sticky substance may be removed by spraying with the tree, but it will leave a diffusing mork for many years. The cotton and paper bands may be removed at any time and will not leave a mark.

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PRUNING THE APPLE.

The months of February and March are the best months for heavy pruning and the following suggestions may be helpful:

In removing large branches, make a smooth cut close to the stem or branch from which it is removed. Stumps left invite fungi and decay.

In reducing the height of the tree, or dehorning the tree, never leave naked stumps, but cut to a leader. This means that the side branch still would take the place of the centre leader removed, and the tree would not look as if it had been dehorned.

If systematic pruning is done from year to year there should be little occasion for the removal of large branches, as they would then have been removed when small.

Heavy Winter pruning generally encourages the growth of water sprouts or suckers, and unless these are removed as soon as they appear the amount of pruning to be done the following years will be greatly increased.

A good fruit-grower will prune at all seasons of the year, for every time

PAGE Fence-Facts

What is a REAL Fence Bargain? PAGE FENCE

Why is PAGE FENCE a REAL Fence-Bargain? Because it COSTS LEAST to use.

Why does PAGE FENCE COST LEAST to use? Because it WEARS BEST. Lasts a LIFETIME. Outwears any ordinary fence.