

AN OPEN LETTER

To Those who suffer from sore or tired feet:

Some months ago we made arrangements with Dr. Scholl of Chicago to send one of his foot experts here, to be at our store on

AUGUST 20th. & Aug. 21st.

to give free advice to those suffering from tired or sore feet—pains in the legs or back, etc.

Lately we have decided to retire from business and our big shoe sale is on. This will not interfere however with the above and Dr. Scholl's expert will be at our store as planned, having with him all Arch Supports and other aids to solid Foot Comfort. A space upstairs has been reserved for this purpose and we will be glad to have all parties suffering with any form of foot troubles call and have their suffering relieved, at the same time you may purchase any footwear needed for yourself or family at a very great saving.

Yours truly

ALLEY & CO. LTD

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

EGGS AND MORE EGGS

Before me is a statistical table by Mulhall, giving the prices of fifteen articles of farm produce in England, from the year 1201, and proceeding by centuries. It is interesting to notice the fluctuation of prices which sometimes retreating, nevertheless in the long run have enormously advanced. Eggs and butter are least variable. Eggs, in the 13th century averaged 3d. (six cents) per dozen; in the 14th and 15th centuries they were steady at 12 cents (6d.). They dropped to 8 cents in the 16th century and remained so for the 17th. The 18th saw a sharp rise to 16 cents, with the 19th century holding them at 24 cents a dozen. Which is as far as Mulhall goes.

In the present year of grace we have dropped below the 18th century figure. A writer in a well-known farm journal calculates that the price of eggs is 11 cents below that of last year and offers some pertinent reasons for this startling fall. At a first glance it might seem that the world depression is the principal cause of the sudden decline. He brushes this view aside with the statement that more eggs are used today than in years gone by, and yet the greater demand has failed to keep the prices profitable to the farmer.

Cold storage facilities, refrigeration, and rapid and cheap transportation, have had their influence in lowering the price as between one country and another. Then there is the effect of the increased poultry population in all the agricultural countries. Since 1891 Canada's poultry has quadrupled, while the human population has only doubled, and the writer points out—perhaps jocosely—that each individual must eat twice the quantity of fowls and eggs to create the same demand in the home markets. But the governments of other countries have been as urgent in stimulating poultry production as ours has been. Belgium (for example) had, in 1913, about eleven and a half million hens. Today she has nearly twenty three million.

Nor is the increase of the poultry population all of the story. The production of the individual hen has been increased by selection and we are beginning to hear of 300 egg hens. All this over production is weakening the prices.

The writer closes his letter with the prophecy—"Let a sharp advance come in feeds and many thousands of pullets will be laying in the roosting pan instead of in the nest."

LAYING OR LYING

Now that last sentence is all right if it is intended to hold a pun; and it is a good climax to the poultry article. There appears, however, to be a haziness amongst writers at present, as to the use of lay and lie, and it behooves teachers in all the English speaking countries to make the matter plain.

Possibly the confusion arises from a dislike to use the word "lie" which (before parliamentary language came into vogue) was an unpleasant kind of accusation. But "lie," meaning to rest, is a good orthodox irregular verb and we mustn't forget it. How often does one hear the recalcitrant canine erroneously adjured to "go and lay down!" It shows superior intelligence by executing a command which its owner does not know how to give. If the same canine rested in the past time, then—and only then—it lay down; if it had been hurt it may have lain for a long time. The pullet in the last article will be "lying" (resting) in the roosting pan.

Now we come to another irregular verb, "lay," meaning to deposit. It has a companion "mislay" and both imply some object deposited. I am tired and I lay my pen down. Last night (past time) I laid it down.

That pullet, if spared will be laying (depositing) an egg in the nest.

A miner in the North of England had a "hunting dog"—a pointer—which achieved more than local fame by its sagacity. It had an unerring scent for game, and when it sighted the birds, would stand like a statue and "point" till ordered to crouch down while its owner fired. A nobleman, who heard of it, desired this paragon, and after a good deal of haggling (for the Northumbrian, like his neighbor, the Scot, is a thrifty soul) he bought it. A day or two after he sent for the miner and told him that the dog was "no good" as a game dog. The former owner thought that was strange and suggested a trial. They got guns and made for the turnip fields, the dog tagging behind. Presently it picked up scent and stood pointing. "Lie down!" shouted the peer. The dog took no notice. "Oh," says the miner, "Aah see what's wrang;" (to the dog)—"Coll up, ye beggar!" and the sagacious animal lay down. We are left in doubt as to whether the nobleman adopted this slightly bowdlerized command.

THE FLIGHT OF BIRDS

I have seen more species of birds this summer than I have for some years past, and singular to say, they were mostly close to the house. I have been interested in observing how they fly. The heron or crane as it is wrongly called, passes over with a lumbering, awkward flight, its long legs stretching behind, and its neck incurved. The crows and jays, while not so clumsy, toll along as if it were hard work. The woodpeckers open and close their wings, rising and falling in a series of undulations of every stroke. The hawks, so troublesome up here, fly low over the fields, as if they were "beating" the ground, and rising to avoid the fences. Our sparrows fly with a short jerky flight, while the warblers fly smoothly and rapidly, and often at a considerable distance from the ground. The swallows perform wonderful evolutions with surprising speed.

Birds seem to differ as much in their walk as in their flight. The smaller birds (as the sparrows) hop, but the thrush walks gracefully and the shore birds are runners. I surprised a Winter Wren (the first I had seen for years) in the wagon shed the other day; it did not take to flight but dodged about (as its habit is) as if playing hide-and-seek. It is a summer resident, but uncommon here according to MacSwain. Its winter home is in the U. S. A., where it received its name.

THE MEZEREON AGAIN

Very many of the plants comprised in the island flora have been introduced by human agency, but seldom indeed are we able to trace their coming. On a recent visit to Dunstaffnage I made a note of the coming of the Daphne mezereum, which is not without interest to the botanist. About one hundred years ago the grandfather of Mr. Scott Cairns, of Dunstaffnage, introduced this plant from Scotland, for the sake of its medicinal properties, one of which seems to have been a remedy for that painful disease known in Scripture as "emerods" (haemorrhoids: I. Samuel, 5. 6.) I could not elicit which part of the plant was used nor how it was applied. The plant took kindly to the climate, although it was originally, as I have said, a native of Southern Europe; it perfected its seeds and the birds ate them and voided them in the hedgerows where the plants now may be found covering a stretch over a mile long.

A GARDEN AT COVEHEAD

On my way back I called to see

Robbing Is A Dangeous Thing

(Experimental Farms Note)

The honey bee is often quoted as being a model of industry, and she is, no matter whether her business be legitimate or otherwise. While there is nectar to be had from the flowers she will work them assiduously until the last drop is extracted but as soon as the flowers refuse to yield her any sweets she will seek them elsewhere. This industrious lady has no objection to stealing from her relatives or her employer and will work just as hard doing so as she will when gathering from the flowers, but with far more spite. Nothing demoralizes the bees or the beekeeper so much as a bad case of robbing and everyone keeping bees is well advised to be constantly on guard against it. At no time leave honey exposed in the apiary, for as soon as it is found by the bees, robbing will be started, and when once started it is difficult to stop. Moreover, robbing bees around the apiary are an annoyance, for they will use their sting just as readily as their tongue, especially if the cause for the robbing be suddenly removed from their reach. All honey removed from the bees must be extracted and stored in a bee-tight room, for if once the bees gain access and are able to carry back to their hives any of the honey, the whole apiary will soon be in an uproar. The writer once saw an out-apiary of thirty-eight colonies completely ruined because some intruder had broken the door of the building during the owner's absence and when honey was exposed in the tanks. When feeding colonies during a dearth of nectar, do it in the evening after all bee flight has stopped, otherwise there is bound to be trouble, especially if only a few of the colonies are to be fed. The same thing applies when giving the bees wet combs to be cleaned, honey excites them far more than does sugar syrup. When robbing has started we betide any weak colony in the apiary, for it is soon overpowered and robbed of its stores. Those that have had experience with robbing bees need no warning but those who have not seen it require a lot, therefore, it is well to repeat the warning: 1. Do not expose sweets at any time in the apiary. 2. Extract and store honey only in a bee-tight building. 3. Do not feed or give back to the bees wet combs during the day time. 4. Keep all colonies strong. 5. Reduce all hive entrances as soon as the honey flow is over, especially those that are weak. 6. If robbing is suspected at any hive reduce the entrance to one bee size and smear the front of the hive with carbolic acid or kerosene oil. If there is a danger of the colony becoming overpowered by the robbers, remove it to the cellar for two or three days. Prevention is better than cure, therefore use preventive measures.—C. B. Gooderham, Dominion Apiarist.

Establishment Of A Raspberry Plantation

(Experimental Farms Note)

When establishing a new plantation of raspberries, preparation and fertilization of the soil are two main essentials for good production. A well drained clay or clay-loam soil when fertilized with a heavy application of manure previous to planting seems to meet the requirement for bush growth as well as fruit yield. At the Dominion Experimental Station, Kapuskasing, Ontario, it has been found that the fall planting of the bushes has given a slightly higher yield than when planted in the spring because they commence growth very early. Also, it

has been found that rows six feet apart with thirty inches between the bushes is a very satisfactory distance.

Well rooted, one year old plants are quite satisfactory for transplanting. When re-set they should be planted slightly deeper than they were in the nursery, the soil well packed around the roots, and if possible watered at that time, otherwise they may dry out and die.

Occasional shallow cultivation during the summer is an excellent practice as this forms a mulch and prevents the soil from becoming too dry. Additional applications of manure may be required during successive growing seasons as a rich soil is needed for a prolific growth.

The fruit is produced entirely on wood of the previous season's growth, thus special care should be

taken when pruning so that sufficient old wood is left for bearing. Old canes should be removed after the fruiting season or early the following spring.

Most varieties of raspberries need winter protection. This can be accomplished by bending the canes over and placing a few shovelful of earth on them to keep them in position until covered with snow during the winter. The canes may be pinched back when about two feet high so that they will not grow too tall, and thus may be covered with a protective covering of snow during the winter months.

Two of the best varieties of raspberries tried at the Kapuskasing Station are the Newman and the Cuthbert.—Smith Ballantyne, Dominion Experimental Station, Kapuskasing, Ont.

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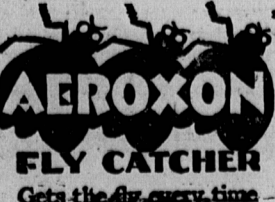
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the garden of the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Covehead, and I doubt if the display can be equalled on P. E. I., if we except the public gardens round the Provincial Buildings. The border round the lawn was magnificent with a rich purple white allium. Behind this stood rows of Kochia (trichophylla, the "Burning Bush" which will soon be in its flamboyant autumn glory, though now of a tender green. Towering behind these were blue Delphiniums, Phlox, Lilies, Zinnias, and a host of other plants, the whole forming a rich artistic, and uniform color scheme such, as one rarely sees. That garden is one of the beauty spots of the district and well worth visiting on account of the educational value.

BIRDS OF P. E. I.

Birds of Prey—(Continued.)

- (337) Red-tailed Hawk, "Hen Hawk" "Chicken Hawk," S. R.
- (339) Red-shouldered Hawk, "Hen Hawk," "Chicken Hawk," S. R. (The bulletin states that these two (337 and 339) are locally called "Buzzards." The writer has not heard this term applied to them.)
- (343) Broad-winged Hawk.—? Reported in N.B., N.S., and Newfoundland.
- (347a) American Rough-legged Hawk.—? One specimen seen. (MacSwain.)
- (349) Golden Eagle. V. Occasional visitor. (Bain).
- (352) Bald Eagle. V. Occasional visitor (Bain).
- (353) White Gyrfalcon. V. Occasional visitor (Bain).
- (354b) Black Gyrfalcon.—? Specimen taken 1904 (No authority).
- (356) Duck Hawk or Peregrine Falcon. Resident (Bain).
- (357) Pigeon Hawk S. R.
- (360) Sparrow Hawk S. R.
- (364) American Osprey or Fish Hawk. S. R. More or less common. (Macoun).
- (366) American Long-eared Owl. R. Not rare.
- (367) Short-eared Owl. S. R. Not uncommon.

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