

from a new policy need not restrain one from tentative experiment, but, on the contrary, should induce efforts to discover improved methods along these lines.

The man of prudence will test the merits of all untried pursuit before embarking extensively upon it. Paper calculations have little fascination for him, because they have so often been unfulfilled in practice, and, therefore, however reassuring the most carefully drawn estimates may be, he will put them to test under his normal conditions of soil and climate before incurring a new uncertainty. To his mind the customs established upon generations of experience are sufficiently speculative; he will require some definite data to go upon before he will intensify an element that is already too conspicuous in farming. Many a man, however, has transformed his farm or his system of management by well-planned experimentation.

### The Grapple Plant

Did you ever read a description of an African thorn called the grapple plant or hook-thorn? It reminds me of the power which ardent spirits have over their victims. It grows along the ground, or trails its long branches from the trees, and when in bloom is very beautiful in appearance, covered with its large and abundant blossoms of a rich purple hue. But branches are closely covered with sharp barbed thorns set in pairs. These are bad enough, but as the plant matures and the purple petals fall off the seed vessels are developed; and these are covered with a multitude of sharp and very strong hooked thorns. This seed vessel splits in the middle, and the two sides separate widely from each other, so as to form an array of hooks pointing in opposite directions.

These thorns are as sharp as needles and steel-like in strength; and if but one catches the unwary traveller's coat sleeve he is held a prisoner at once. His first movement to escape bends the long slender branches, and hook after hook fixes

its point upon him. Struggling to escape only trebles the number of the thorned enemies. The only way of escape is to wait a moment and cut off the clinging seed vessels carefully, and then, when clear of the bush, remove them one by one. This plant was often fatal to the English soldiers in the Kaffir wars, seizing and holding a man prisoner until the weapon of the wary Kaffir reached his heart.

Every Drinking saloon is a living matured grapple plant. And so long as they are licensed places of resort, they will be sure of plenty of victims. Once caught it is almost impossible to escape. Only an entire cutting off can save one. When the sword of the law can sever the root of the error, there will be hope. If a man is too tightly held to free himself, and if the plant is still left to throw out its enticement to him, either he will fall, or in some way must be taken beyond the reach of the snare.

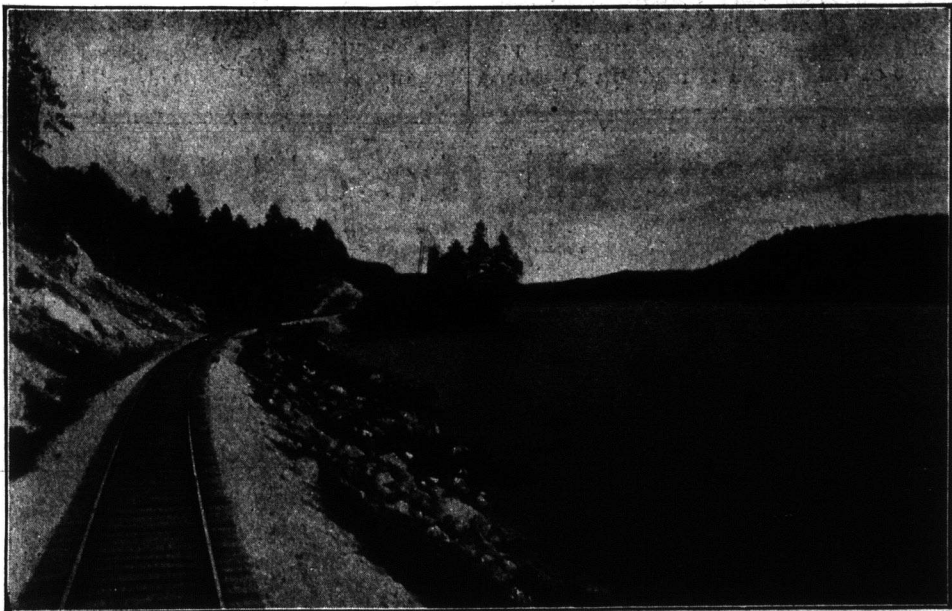
The safest thing to be done is to root out the plant altogether. And if this cannot be done, and a continual contest is to be kept up with those constantly

and nearly caught in old branches, let us do all we can to prevent their spreading and to save such as we may from those that do infest the land.—W. H. Eagler, in "Church Advocate."

A darky preacher was lost in the happy selection of his text, which he repeated in vigorous accents of pleading.

"Oh, bredern, at de las' day dere's gwine to be sheep and dere's gwine to be goats. Who's gwine to be sheep, an' who's gwine to be goats? Let's all try to be like de li'l white lambs, bredern. Shall we be de goats, sisters? Naw, we's gwine to be de sheep. Who's gwine to be de sheep, bredern, an' who's gwine to be de goats? Tak' care ob youh souls, sisters; tak' care ob youh souls. Remember, dere's gwine to be goats an' sheep. Who's gwine to be de sheep an' who's gwine to be de goats?"

Just then a solitary Irishman who had been sitting in the back of the church, listening attentively, rose and said: "O'll be the goat. Go on; tell us the joke, Elder. O'll be the goat!"



Caribou Lake, Ontario

### A Present Need of the Up-to-Date Farm

"We may do without friends  
We may do without books  
But civilized man  
Cannot do without cooks."

Paraphrasing the thought of this familiar ditty, there are some things a farm cannot do without, but the modern farm that expects to take its place as an economical producer and show a maximum net profit cannot do without natural asphalt to help out in its economy of management.

One of the considerable items of expense at the start is the roofing of all of the buildings as well as their upkeep. And as there is usually a great deal of surface the roofing question is often a serious one from a financial standpoint. This is a place where natural asphalt steps in with a satisfactory solution.

Genuine natural asphalt, such as is found in Trinidad Lake on the Island of Trinidad, and Bermudez Lake in Venezuela is "Nature's everlasting waterproofer." It has been commercialized in comparatively recent years in many ways.

One of the most important is in its use for ready roofing which makes a watertight weatherproof lasting covering that—defies rain, sun, wind, snow, heat, cold, and fire. It comes in such shape that it can easily be applied by any handy man on the farm.

And its economy both in original and final cost gives it first place in the consideration of roofing for buildings of the scientifically-managed farm.

But the use of natural asphalt doesn't stop here. Its absolute waterproofing qualities are an admirable check on dampness anywhere. Hence, in the form of cement it makes a valuable coating for stone work foundations, cellar walls, concrete floorings, concrete silos and innumerable places where complete dryness or waterproofing is necessary.

This waterproofing quality also adapts it for preventing rust on metal work, so that natural asphalt paint is now available for use on steel girders, iron fences, implements, or anything which is exposed to corroding influences.

Another important farm use for natural asphalt arises from its value in preserving wood from decay.

Fence posts saturated with asphalt which has been liquefied by intense heat, endure for years beyond the ordinary life of such posts; and all timber, used where wood-preservation from dampness or decay is necessary or desirable, is greatly increased in durability.

In many of the places on the modern farm where it is necessary for efficiency and economy to go hand in hand natural asphalt steps in and proves not only its value but its indispensability.

# FREE GIFTS FOR THE CHILDREN

## Three Big Dollies. We Want to Play With You

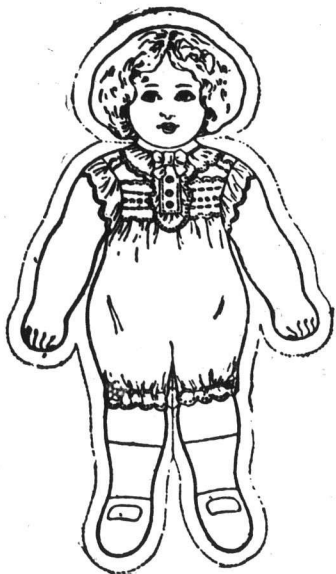
- 1 GREAT BIG DOLL, 27 INCHES TALL, AND
- 2 SMALLER DOLLIES, ALL READY TO CUT OUT, SEW UP, AND STUFF.

We have a great, big, handsome, life-size doll, 27 inches tall, looking for a little mama. She is just the finest playmate any little girl could wish for and you will love her as soon as you see her pretty face and big brown eyes, her pink cheeks and light curly hair.

In addition to the great, big dolly we also send two smaller dollies, making three dollies in all.

You will have lots of fun playing together and needn't be afraid of hurting the big mama dolly and her two baby dolls, because they won't break, soil their hair or lose their pretty eyes. These three dollies are stamped in bright colors on strong cloth and mother can

sew them up on the machine in ten minutes. You can set these dollies down, bend their arms and legs and dress them up in all kinds of clothes and play all day long.



The  
limbs  
are  
movable  
and  
the  
dolls  
won't  
break

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Send us a yearly subscription to The Western Home Monthly at \$1.00 and these three beautiful dollies—one big one and two smaller ones—will be sent you by return mail.

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These three beautiful dollies will make any little girl or boy happy. They won't break and we believe they are the most popular plaything you can give your children or little friends.

Actual size of big dolly, 27 inches tall. It is so large that baby's own clothes fit it.

Every little girl wants a big doll. Think of the joy and happiness these three dollies will bring into your own home when the little ones see them.

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Is  
Indestructible

No  
little  
girl  
has  
enough  
dollies

