

HOME CIRCLE COLUMN

Pleasant Evening Reveries dedicated to tired Mothers as they join the Home Circle at Evening Tide.

HOUSEHOLD EXPRESSIONS.

Mind your business.—Shut up.—Get out.—I'll box your ears. Let me alone.—Just wait till your father comes home.—Hold your tongue.—Behave yourself.—I won't.—You shall.—You'll get it.—You mean thing.—I'll tell you.—I did.—I didn't.—'Twas you.—'Twasn't either.—Get away from me.—Do you hear? There, I knew you would do it.—Put up those things.—Stop those kids.—Stop that racket.—You little brat.—Go wash your hands. Boo-hoo.—Johnny hit me.—You'll drive me crazy.

Brother, when you come in from work in the evening, we all know you are tired, but put on your best look and assume a happy mood; do not frown if the floor is not swept, nor supper ready. Engage the little folks just a little while and get them to looking forward to your evening with pleasure. It will help to happily home wonderfully.

A child should be made to feel that his home is indeed a home, the happiest place in the world, not merely an outward shelter and a resting place, but a center of enjoyment, sanctified and purified by love, the thought and remembrance of which should be the safeguard of his life as he goes forth to the world, giving strength and proportion to his character.

Life will always be to a large extent what we ourselves make it. Each mind makes its own little world. The cheerful mind makes it pleasant and the discontented mind makes it miserable.

While it is comparatively easy to be polite toward strangers, or toward people of distinction, whom we meet in society or on public occasions, still it is at home in the family than as every-day politeness is really most prized, coming as it should from the kindly feeling of the heart.

A stranger entering a household knows whether the key note there is high or low. There are houses, affluent wealth and culture, where the discords are incessant, and the meaning of life no higher than that of brutes. But no symphony can compare with the significance of daily life, in a family of gentle words and noble conduct.

Others may love as fondly, but never again while time is ours, shall any one's love be to us as fond, as tender, as devoted, as was that of our dear old mother. Through her loving heart was our life-protection and support, and through the ill and maladies of childhood, her gentle hand ministered and soothed as

none other could. We feel animated to struggle more manfully in the great battle of life, when we remember our mother's holy counsel to us in childhood's early dawn and in the slippery paths of youth.

There is an old proverb "Home is home, be it ever so homely," but home should not be made any more homely than necessity requires. The family fireside should be associated, in the minds of the young people, not only requirements of duty, but with a sense of pleasure. It is not enough to drill our sons with the severe discipline, in all the formalities of rigid virtue. They should be taught not only how to keep straight, but how to bend, since it is not in the power of nature to undergo a perpetual tension. Provision must be made at home for relaxation as well as work; for pleasure as well as duty. If such provision is not made there, it will be as it is too often, sought elsewhere.

"It's only mother; anything will do for her!" If the words are not often actually expressed, the thought is too often acted upon. And yet if we stop to think, common decency tells us that only the best is good enough for mother—that her devotion, which surpasses all other love, is deserving of the deepest respect and affection, and that to forget her is the blackest and basest crime that man can commit.

The place to take the true measure of a man is not the market place or the arena corner, not the forum or the field, but at his own fireside. There he lays aside his mask and you may learn whether he is imp or angel, king or cur, hero or humbug. We care not what the world says of him—whether it crown him with jewels or pelt him with bad eggs, we care never a copper what his reputation may be. If his babies dread his coming home and better half swallows her heart every time she asks him for a five dollar bill, he's a fraud of the first water, even though he prays night and morn till he is black in the face and howls hallelujah till he shakes the eternal hills.

The evening is the hour when crafty Satan preaches most eloquently. It is also the hour when he can gather the largest and most attentive audience. In our great cities Satan's churches are crowded every evening. But, fortunately, the evening hour is also the hour in which the good angel can gather the largest audience and he who would battle Satan's influence must preach in the evening. The evening is the hour when the protesting power of home is greatest; it is the hour when its protection is most needed.

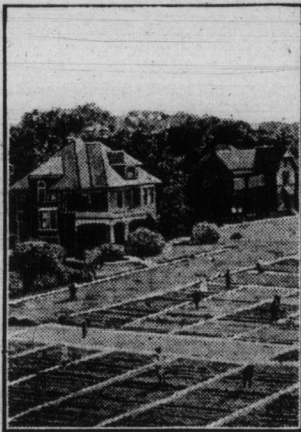
Making the Little Farm Pay

By C. C. BOWSFIELD

City men by scores are taking farms, being convinced that under modern conditions agriculture is one of the best paying vocations. Many who wish to become farmers, including persons without experience and hired men who are capable of managing a place, may not have the capital to buy land. In such cases renting affords an opportunity to make a successful start. Buying outright is the better plan, however, even if the start has to be made with a place of five or ten acres.

Either cash renting or the system of sharing profits may prove satisfactory. Investigation shows that fifty-eight cash tenants in one district made an annual labor income of \$998, while 198 share tenants made only \$835, or \$163 less than the cash men. In the dry summer of 1910 these figures were just reversed. The dry season compelled cash renters to stand the burden of all the loss, while the share tenant was helped out by his landlord. That season twenty-seven cash tenants received \$689 against \$727 average income for tenants who were sharing.

For a large number of farms and over a long period of years the cash man seems to come out ahead. He has the greatest risk, the largest investment, and the highest income. A large number of tenant farms netted their operators incomes as follows: Cash rental, \$1,704; partnership, \$1,291; share cash, \$1,110. A capital of \$2,000 is needed by the young



A PARTNERSHIP FARM.

man who is to start farming on the cash basis. How is he going to get this amount? In many cases it is impossible. Rather than plod along as a farmhand or give up the enterprise altogether a man would be wise to look to some other system of renting. Partnership renting solves this problem. The tenant here furnishes all labor, the landlord all land and seed, and the stock is owned in partnership. This plan is elastic. Sometimes either of the parties may own all the live stock and machinery. Partnership farms are likely to be handled better than the others. Both sides will aim to keep up soil fertility and be governed by progressive ideas. In a partnership the landlord has a voice in all matters which relate to permanent betterment, general upkeep and the type of farming that is to be practiced. This system of renting is best adapted to the young man with small capital who is willing to work under the supervision of a landlord. There should be a friendly understanding before a contract is made. If both sides agree on progressive methods the arrangement will be advantageous.

There should be a full understanding as to the policy of carrying all the live stock that the place will support, whether for meat production or dairying. This contemplates soil fertility as well as the annual profits from live stock or milk. It is also best to have a clear agreement as to the amount of effort to be given to fruit and truck raising and the way trees and gardens are to be handled. If two earnest and intelligent men get together in a deal on this basis there will be mutual satisfaction and success.

One stock farmer who has won fame as a breeder of Angus cattle, believes in the partnership system of renting. "If I am going into the cattle business I am going into it with all my might," he said, "and I will not have time to look after the work in the fields." He believed that the only way to solve the labor problem on a farm was to rent out the land to his hired man. For one-third interest in all the crops produced the tenant furnishes all labor for the putting in of the crops and harvesting them. He lives on the farm in a tenant house, without rent. Results from the last year's efforts were quite satisfactory. The renter's share amounted to \$1,260, besides which he had his rent free and most of his living. This ought to be encouraging to the young renter. This man's capital was virtually nothing, the landlord furnishing all the machinery, tools, and seed. He kept the pastures for his own use in cattle feeding.

Asbes as a Fertilizer.

The farmer who burns wood for heating and cooking should carefully store the asbes and not permit them to leach, as they have a peculiar fertilizing value. They not only contain potash and phosphoric acid in appreciable amounts, but also contain magnesia and lime, and when applied to the land they also act indirectly to increase the available nitrogen contents of organic matter in the soil.



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THE CANADIAN RED CROSS.

And What It Is Doing for Prisoners of War.

The misfortune of the prisoner of war is both spiritual and material or physical. He suffers some of the pernicious effects of a prison sentence—the mental lassitude and depression of confinement and isolation from his kith and kin. In addition he is often badly clothed, lodged and fed. He is forced to accept a very low standard of living, and is like a man plunged into hopeless and squalid poverty. From certain points of view he is the most tragic of all war's victims.

The Canadian Red Cross is doing a great deal to improve the prisoners lot. It enters into correspondence with him. It keeps him in touch with his home. It uses all its diplomatic influence to secure him better treatment from his captors. It saves him from mental and moral deterioration. It keeps him in physical health by constant supplies of nutritious food. Up to the end of December over \$31,000 had been spent by the Canadian Red Cross in sending food parcels from Switzerland. The public interest in this work is so great that further contributions of \$12,000 were received during January. All through Canada the various branches of the Red Cross are each doing their bit for the prisoner of war.

There are 1,400 Canadian prisoners. To 491 of these the Red Cross is sending money on behalf of persons who have "Adopted them." The "Adopters" make themselves responsible for the maintenance of the prisoner they adopt, and provide money for regular parcels. There are 374 other prisoners who receive maintenance from persons who act on their own initiative, but keep the Red Cross informed of all their consignments.

It must not be imagined that the prisoner of war is penniless. He has arrears of pay from his own government and is entitled to a regular allowance from the German government and with the approval of the Canadian Government, our Red Cross has sent a card to all Canadian prisoners asking them to assign ten shillings of their pay to the Canadian Red Cross to cover part of the cost of food supplies forwarded by the Society. Five-sixths of replies received so far have been in the affirmative.

There is no need for any Canadian to go hungry. The Canadian Red Cross has indeed successfully solved a very difficult problem. It has secured for our prisoners privileges which at first seemed impossible to secure. By keeping our prisoners in good health and good spirits it is saving many valuable lives for further usefulness in Canada.

The Toronto City Council refused to pay the Provincial war tax.

Prussian boys of seventeen have been called to the colors.

Great Britain is now building airships of the Zeppelin type.

The British line on the western front is now ninety miles long.

Canadian troops have been holding firm against German attack.

Prof. John Squire has resigned from staff of the University of Toronto.

Belgian troops have penetrated seventy miles into German East Africa.

It was announced in London that the German casualties to date total 2,822,079.

The White Star liner Cymric was sunk without warning, and five lives were lost.

Russian forces have inflicted crushing losses on the Turks in the Erzincan district.

The bill providing for a United States army of 250,000 was rejected by the House.

A training college for teachers of separate schools in Ontario was opened at Oak Ridge, in York county.

It was officially denied that the Pope made by appeal to avoid a break between Germany and the United States.

The French again repelled a powerful thrust at Verdun. German attacks on both sides of the Meuse have broken down.

Eighteen thousand pounds of food were dropped by aeroplanes into Kut-el-Amara for the British garrison during the siege.

Win. Neil, G.T.R. conductor, with 44 years' service was acquitted at Hamilton on a charge of receiving and keeping fares.

Brazil will demand indemnity from Germany for the sinking by a submarine of the Brazilian steamer Rio Branco, according to a Rio Janeiro despatch.

A commission of six Canadians, including Mr. J. W. Woods, ex-President of the Toronto Board of Trade, has been named to go to Europe to look into opportunities for Canadian trade among the allied nations.

"Mike," said Pat, "how do yez tell the age of a fowl?"

"O! can always tell by the teeth," shot back Mike.

"By the teeth?" exclaimed Pat, "But a fowl ain't got no teeth?"

"No," admitted Mike, "but O! have."

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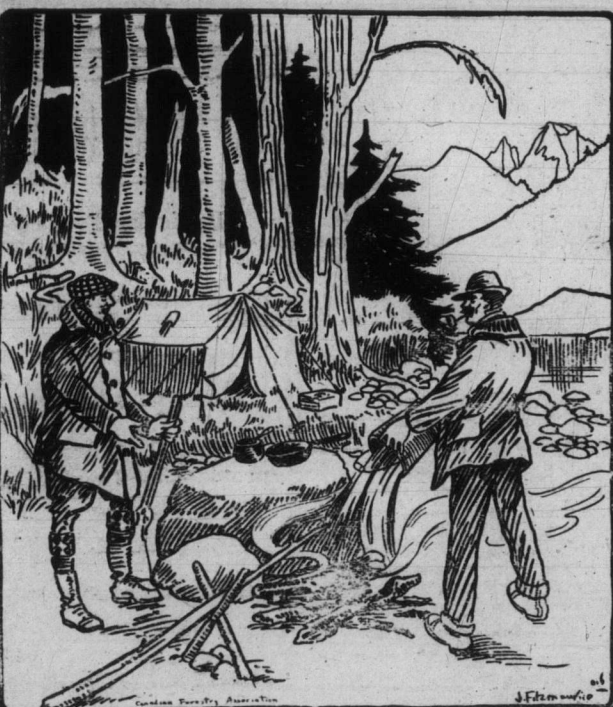
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The Amateur Camper: "You certainly take a lot of trouble to put out a camp fire!"
The Guide: "Better to take the trouble now than burn down ten mile of camping sites. Only a greenhorn nowadays fools with fire in a forest."

FARM LABORERS WANTED.

The Western Provinces of Canada are now experiencing an acute shortage of Farm Laborers for Spring and Summer work, which makes steady work and good wages a certainty. Saskatchewan has called for five thousand laborers, and an equal number is required in Manitoba and Alberta. After a thorough canvass of the Territory served by the Canadian Northern Ry. it was found that an average of 27 men is required at the Points from which return were received. An average wage of \$45.00 per month, including board is being paid, the highest being \$30.00 per day. For further particulars as to the men required and the wages being paid at various points apply to F. A. J. Davis, agent, or write R. L. Fairbairn, general passenger agent, 68 King St. E., Toronto.

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
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STRONGLY RECOMMENDS BABY'S OWN TABLETS.

Mrs. Alonzo Tower, Johnson's Mills, N.B., writes: "I can strongly recommend Baby's Own Tablets to all mothers whose little ones are suffering from constipation as I have proved them an excellent medicine for this trouble." Baby's Own Tablets not only cure constipation, but they make teething easy; break up colds, expel worms and regulate the stomach and bowels. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

The steamer S. R. Kirby, belonging to the Northwest Transportation Company, was wrecked near Keweenaw, Lake Superior, breaking in two in the storm and twenty men were drowned.

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