

The Welfare of the Home

Don't Say, "Stop That!" Without Saying
"You May Do This."

By DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER.

The grandmother who had brought up seven children to vigorous, happy and well-poised maturity dropped in to see her young daughter-in-law. She was greeted by the sound of sobs and howls from behind the closed door. The young mother explained her face set hard, "Elsie has been naughty. She is being punished."

The grandmother sank into a chair, praying for wisdom. "I never punished one of mine in any such way in all my life," she advanced mildly, "and they never disobeyed me, either."

"Why, Mother Burton?" cried the young mother incredulously. "That's just impossible. What did you do when they didn't mind, when they acted as Elsie did just now? She was so naughty. You see that lovely set of Stevenson? I told her three separate times not to touch it, but she persisted in handling the backs of the books with her sticky little fingers. What else could anybody do but punish her?"

"Well," said the grandmother, "let's consider this case. I always tried to put myself in the children's place and tried to imagine why it was they wanted to do what seemed naughty, what there was in it that attracted them. Let's look at that Stevenson set. Yes, isn't it a beauty, all red leather and gold lettering? Why I believe it's the bright coloring that fascinated Elsie. There's nothing wicked in liking pretty, bright things. She'd be a little duncie if she didn't. Why, if that had happened to me, I believe I'd have tried giving her something bright and shiny that she could play with."

"No, you don't understand Elsie," said the young mother, "that wouldn't work with her. It's stubbornness. You ought to have seen how angry she looked."

"Well, perhaps you got her mad," suggested the grandmother, gently. "The young mother gave a sceptical, impatient gesture. "You can try it and see for yourself."

Plant Trees in April.

As soon as young orchard trees are received from the nursery they should be unwrapped and heeled-in. Most nurserymen attach printed instructions to the package of trees. If these were carefully followed a great deal of loss would be avoided. If the trees are received in freezing weather the bundle should not be opened at once, but should be placed in a cool, damp place to thaw out very gradually.

Heeling-in consists simply in digging a long trench and laying the trees in it in a slanting position, generally with the tops pointing south. The earth is then thrown over the roots and worked thoroughly about them, firming it well.

The details of setting trees will vary with the size of the orchard and the amount of help at hand. Some time may be saved by having the holes dug beforehand. However, the disadvantage in that lies in the drying out of the earth which comes out of the hole.

The most important thing is to set the tree firmly to set it exactly in the right place, and to keep the roots from drying out during the process. When a number of trees are to be planted puddling is done to prevent drying of the roots. A hole about three feet in diameter and two to three feet deep is dug in a clayey spot, and enough water is poured in and mixed with earth to make a thin mud. As the trees are taken from the heeling-in trench the roots are plunged into the mud—an armful of trees at a time. The mud covers and coats the roots and prevents them from drying while they are exposed to the air during planting.

All straggling roots and broken or diseased roots should be pruned off before or after the trees are budded. Usually the whole root system is shortened one-third by pruning.

The tree should be set several inches deeper than it stood in the nursery row. If exposed to strong winds, lean the tree slightly in the direction of the prevailing wind.

Pack the earth firmly about the roots, especially under the crown of the tree, where it is so easy to leave an air space. Be careful not to bruise and injure the roots by tramping. Put



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The grandmother went quickly into the kitchen while the mother was unlocking the closet door, and by the time the sobbing, excited child had come out, she was back with an egg-beater and a bowl of soapy water. Elsie looked blackly at her mother and marched straight toward the forbidden books. "You see," breathed the mother triumphantly.

"Elsie," called the grandmother brightly, "just see here what I've got. Mother says we may play with it, you and I. See, when you whirl the water beater around, how it makes the water all froth up. It's as good as beating eggs. Come over and try it."

The egg-beater's shiny blades shone gleefully as they whirled about through the glistening, foaming suds. Elsie was too little to contain more than one idea at a time especially when one of the ideas was such a beautiful one. She ran to the bowl and began to try to turn the beater.

At first Granny had to hold the bowl steady, but in a moment the deft little fingers caught the trick, and whisk! how the suds foamed up! She beamed as she beat, absorbed, radiant, the little eyes blurred with tears brightening, the little, sullen, angry face softening to a smile. "It's lovely," she pronounced solemnly.

Granny and Mother began to talk about the weather and a new recipe for cookies. The crisis was past.

When Granny stood up to go, half an hour later, she remarked casually to Elsie, "Oh, say, dear, Mother just loves those pretty red and gold books down there. And we are afraid that if you touch them, you'll get them dirty. You'll try to remember about that, won't you? You wouldn't like Mother to spoil your things."

Elsie's small mind had gone a long distance since that episode of the books. To her it seemed as though a long time had passed. And she certainly cared nothing about them, now. She nodded peacefully, her eyes on the shining water. "Oh, I don't care anything about the books," she said, "when I've got this."

The good top soil about the roots first, using the poorer soil from the bottom of the hole for the top filling. Leave a little loose earth on the surface to prevent drying out.

Avoid having the trees too close. Crowding makes the trees grow too high. Apple trees should not be closer than thirty-five feet each way. On strong heavy soil from forty to fifty feet is better.

It is necessary to prune to top of the tree before or after setting in order to balance the pruning of the roots when the trees are dug from the nursery row. From three to five main branches should be left to form the supporting limbs for the top. These should be as well distributed around the trunk as possible, and should also be distributed through as much vertical distance as possible in order to make a strong top. If convenient, when pruning the top, cut to an outside bud to encourage spreading of the top. If two leaders have developed, one should be removed entirely to prevent the forming of a bad crotch. If one-year-old trees are set the pruning is usually a simple matter and consists merely of heading back the top to about two-thirds of its length before dug.

Saved the Old Orchard.

"You'd better prune your orchard with a stump-puller," the neighbors told R. Moyer, a farmer, when he said last spring that he was going to give pruning and spraying a chance at his orchard.

In the fall four trees which had been pruned and sprayed produced 395 pounds of apples and ninety per cent. of these apples were free from disease or blight. Four unpruned, unsprayed trees which Mr. Moyer left as an experiment, produced a crop of no commercial value and only one per cent. of the apples from these trees were free from disease and blight. Year before last, and during all previous years since Mr. Moyer has owned the orchard, he has had to buy apples for his winter use. Last year Mr. Moyer's own orchard furnished his winter supply.

Mr. Moyer inherited the orchard. For twenty years it had produced no crop, and the neighbors seemed justified in thinking that the land was worth more than the orchard; but Mr. Moyer read up a few bulletins which he got from the county representative, concluded that he'd like to give his orchard a trial, asked the county representative for his help and, as spring moved along, kept busy with a barrel spraying outfit.

As one of his tests he sprayed three Wealthy trees four times and left a fourth unsprayed. The three sprayed trees had only one per cent bad fruit and yielded 300 worth of apples. The fourth tree had only one per cent. good fruit.

When selling your surplus stock, don't forget that you will want some yourself for table use.

Chickens may be classified as egg breeds, meat breeds, general purpose breeds and fancy or ornamental breeds.

Starting the Garden.

A garden needs rich soil. Of course, you must use the soil you have; if it is not rich, enrich it with manure, compost or fertilizer. Only well-rotted manure should be applied in the spring. It should be applied before plowing, and well mixed into the soil before planting the seed. Garden soil is often likely to be sour. If a mossy growth appears on the ground in the garden, test the soil to see if it is sour. The test is made by taking a half glass of soil and adding water to make a muddy solution. Into the mud put a piece of blue litmus paper which you can secure at the drug store. If the paper turns red, the soil is sour. To remedy this condition apply evenly two pounds of unbleached wood ashes to every thirty square feet. Rake this in to a depth of two inches when the seedbed is being prepared.

The distances apart of seeds in the row depend on the kind of crop. If they grow bushy, they need more room. Radish, leaf lettuce, spinach and onion seeds should be drilled in, one-fourth to one-half inch deep; onion sets should be three inches apart and one-half inch deep. Plant beet, carrot, parsnip, salsify, turnip, chard and kale seeds in drills one-half inch deep. Drill peas one and one-half inches deep in double rows twelve inches apart, two and one-half feet between each pair of rows. String beans should be in hills twelve to fifteen inches apart, three seeds in a hill, from one and one-half to two inches deep. Plant sweet corn in hills from two to two and one-half feet apart in rows, three seeds in a hill, two inches deep. Cover the seeds with fine, moist soil, firming it with the hoe.

Plants started indoors should be hardened off before planting in the garden. Set the boxes outdoors in mild weather to harden the plants. When transplanting leave a ball of dirt sticking to the roots. If by any chance the root system is broken in removing the plants from the boxes trim away some of the larger leaves of the plants. Transplanted plants can not stand strong sunshine at first; cloudy days are best for transplanting. In bright weather place newspaper over the plants for a day or two, making tents of the papers in the shape of an inverted "V."

A hand cultivator or wheel-hoe is useful, especially in a large garden. It saves much time in turning small furrows. It can also be used for stirring the soil, for the removal of weeds, and for turning out root crops.

The Farm Woodlot.

I have seven acres of timber and I am trying to preserve it so that it will furnish a continuous supply of timber for farm use for years to come.

In order to do this I must cut the timber which I use in such a manner that it will stimulate the growth of what is left standing. It is not easy work to put these ideas on paper, but a glance at what I have done would give a person an idea of my plan for conserving timber. I am working my timber lot up into groves. My timber lot is covered with small, but very tall trees. They are called second growth. They vary from a few inches to eighteen inches in diameter.

What I Learned on an English Dairy Farm

By CHARLES E. THORNE.

One of the very interesting side trips, during our stay in England, was to an 800-acre dairy farm, located in southern Hertfordshire, about 20 miles north of London, and operated by Samuel Wallace, Esq., for the production of milk for the London market.

A half-mile avenue of century-old oaks leads from the highway to a spacious and elegantly furnished dwelling, where we were met by Mr. Wallace, and conducted first to the stables, which were substantially built, and equipped with power and machinery for grinding feed, cutting roots and "chaffing" hay and straw.

One item of equipment that would have been found on any dairy farm of this size and character in Canada—the silo—was conspicuous for its absence. In fact, we saw very few silos in England, the reason being that our Indian corn, the greatest of all feed-producing crops, and which is better adapted to the silo than any other, cannot be grown to maturity in England, and the root crops—mangels and turnips—which largely take its place, need no silo for their preservation.

Mr. Wallace uses some imported corn for feeding, together with cottonseed and linseed oil cakes and home-grown barley and horse beans.

I could not help but wonder, however, as I travelled from south to north through the entire length of England, and saw everywhere fields of this bean, whether there might not be a combination worthy of attention as a silage crop.

The horse bean is planted in autumn, either alone or with winter oats. It is a stiff, upright plant, growing three to four feet high, and is of some service in holding up the oats. I could not help envying the British farmer the exclusive possession of this legume, which does not thrive in our climate.

With this home-grown legume, mixed with imported corn and oil cakes, and fed in connection with roots, the English dairyman is enabled to prepare a well-balanced ration of the highest effectiveness.

cut a strip of timber through the woods about two rods wide and work the timber up into firewood. Next I leave a strip of timber standing about two rods wide. I then cut another strip of timber about two rods wide parallel to the first cut-over strip. This leaves a strip of timber two rods wide between the two cut-over strips.

I am satisfied that such work stimulates the growth of what timber there is left. The large trees were taken off from the land many years ago by the early settlers. I have a red cedar grove of about two acres. The trees grew from seed produced by larger trees standing close by. The ground is covered with strips of timber where a part of the growth has been cut out for firewood. The young trees spring up by hundreds and I let them grow. I never have received one cent in payment for any tree.

All calls for Christmas trees from churches, schools, or private citizens are gladly filled. And I frequently give away small trees for ornamental purposes or windbreaks. I sometimes exact rash promises from boys who call for trees. Three boys drove into my yard inquiring for Christmas trees. I directed them to a spot where they could find some. When they returned to settle for the trees I made them this proposition: "Now," said I, "if you will agree to behave yourselves for six months and keep out of pool rooms, I will give you the trees." They seemed very much pleased with the proposal and readily accepted the terms, but I carefully neglected to ask their names and I do not know to this day who they were. Of course, they understood the proposal as a joke, but still they may be reminded occasionally of the fact that I think pool rooms are bad places for boys.—O. A. V.

Sound Minds and Healthy Bodies.

Perhaps nothing has done so much to hasten the time when mind and body of country children will both be adequately cared for as the development of boys and girls club work. This is a phase of rural education which it is high time we put on some methodic basis. The first in importance, though many times the last to be considered, is the problem—how to decide which of the various projects concerns them most, or in other words make a careful appraisal of the relative values of knowledge.

The old method of presenting truths in the abstract has been falling out of use. Club work presents them in the concrete. Of the many changes which this work has brought about the most significant is the fact that boys and girls find the acquisition of knowledge pleasurable rather than painful. The rise of an appetite for any kind of information is evidence that the mind is ready to assimilate it; and sees the need of it for purposes of growth. The projects which bring mind and body in united action tend toward sound mental and healthy physical development.

There is no dearth of kindness in this world of ours; only in our blindness we gather thorns for flowers.—Gerald Massey.

Soils and Crops

Address communications to Agronomist, 72 Adelaide St. West, Toronto.

How to Raise Turkeys.

The young poult must be kept growing right from the shell in order to keep them in good condition. Early in life they must be taught to come home at night; once the habit is fixed with them they will return at a regular hour. This may be done by feeding regularly in the morning and at night. If the young are being brooded by a turkey mother it may be necessary at first to hunt them up and drive them home, but they will soon learn to return alone.

After the poult are fully feathered and have passed through the "shooting the red" period, which usually occurs at about three months of age, the young are hardy and may be allowed unlimited range at all times. As long as they can secure plenty of insects while on range, they will thrive on two meals a day.

The young must be sheltered during rain-storms, or they are likely to contract colds which quickly develop into roup or kindred ailments. They must not be allowed outdoors in the morning until the dew is off the grass, as they suffer from the slightest cold or dampness. For the same reason, the coop should have a board floor. After the poult are six weeks old, the danger of loss is practically over. Young turkeys should be taught to roost some distance from the ground. The danger from foxes and other wild animals and rodents is ever present, especially in newly settled sections when poult are permitted to roost on a rail fence or upon the ground. In the course of several evenings the young turkeys can be induced to walk up a long pole to the higher branches of a tree, until they will do this regularly of their own accord. For half-grown turkeys a high roost in an open shed which faces the south is preferred to the closed house.

For the first twenty-four hours the newly-hatched poult should not be fed. Little and often is the rule for feeding. Cooked food is preferred to uncooked. Young turkeys sometimes have greedy appetites and can not digest all the food they eat. In part this may be overcome by feeding little and often, and in part by allowing them to exercise and thus stimulate better digestion.

Feed on clean surfaces; young stock especially can not stand filth. Some poultry raisers mix a little sand in the soft food given to the young. This aids digestion. Water should be given in small shallow dishes. After turkeys are old enough to turn out on range it is a very foolish practice to stuff them with all sorts of mash, as overfeeding causes liver trouble. The best food is chiefly grain, given dry. Avoid sloppy food. They must have something green every day, and also some finely cut cooked lean meat when they are confined.

During the first week feed with sifted rolled or ground oats, cooked and crumbled, and mixed with a beaten egg. With this give milk and curd. Feed five or six times a day.

During the second week put wheat and ground bone in boxes where the young can get at it. Give them three daily feeds of mixed oatmeal, wheat middlings and ground oats, all cooked together and mixed with chopped green food. Thereafter supply cooked rice, or turnips, or potatoes. Onion tops and lettuce, if chopped fine, are relished by the young.

After they are a month old they can be fed cracked corn at night. After two months of age, two meals a day will be sufficient.

Boiled eggs, fed exclusively, produce constipation. The following diet is used by some turkey raisers: Hard-boiled eggs, with dandelion, lettuce or

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Care of Seed Potatoes and Preparation for Planting.

Selection—In arranging for the seed supply of tubers for one's crop, the first steps should be taken during the growing season to get the seed from healthy, vigorous, large-yielding hills. When harvesting time comes these hills should be gathered separately from the rest of the crop. The tubers should be sun dried and all showing cuts, bruises or disease of any kind, thrown out. Such supply can then be kept for a seed area for the following season.

Where the main crop is destined for this seed trade, equally good care should be taken in the harvesting and sorting before going into winter storage. If the weather is bad at digging time, and the tubers have to be taken wet from the field, they should be spread out to dry on a barn floor or other airy place and be re-sorted before going into storage.

Storage—The best storage for maintaining vitality of seed tubers has not, so far as the writer is aware, been absolutely determined. Seed from a dry cellar with temperature running from 40 to 50 degrees has been equally vigorous with that from a moist cellar at a temperature of 54 to 58 degrees, though, of course, there would be great loss of bulk and weight in the former case. Potatoes kept in pits with excess of moisture and minimum of ventilation have also given vigorous plants.

When potatoes are first stored there should be free ventilation to carry off all latent heat and moisture and to reduce temperature to below 40 deg. If the floor of storage is very damp the bin had better be raised by a wooden floor. If it is dry there is nothing gained by the floor. If bins are very deep (over six feet) they had better be broken up by hollow partitions placed not more than ten feet apart; though the writer has seen potatoes keeping well in very large, deep bins.

The storage should be so constructed as to keep cool in the Spring. It should be possible to keep it below 40 degrees, to prevent sprouting until such time as the tubers are wanted.

Forced Sprouting—For an early crop, it is a common practice to take the seed tubers to a light room of about 60 degrees temperature by the 20th March, to give them four to six weeks to warm up and sprout. A thin green sprout not more than a half inch long is wanted. The exact gain in growth from this treatment has not been determined. In one trial at the Experimental Station, Fredericton, the difference in growth as between seed so treated and seed taken immediately from the cellar, was very slight. Plants from the sprouted seed were only from two to three days ahead of the others.

Disinfection—To kill any spores of common soil and, to some extent, Rhizoctonia, the potatoes should be treated with a disinfectant. The safest to use is formalin, at the rate of a pint to 30 gallons of water. The tubers are best lagged and then immersed for two hours.

Investigators are now trying out methods of disinfection whereby the use of heat and greater strength of solution will materially lessen the process of disinfection.

Cutting the Sets—Experiments have proven quite clearly that the most economical way to use seed is to cut to sets weighing not less than one ounce and not more than two ounces, with from two to three eyes to the set. Cutting by a machine or a cutting board may be economical in large commercial operations, but as when using these the size of sets and number of eyes cannot be well regulated nor elimination of internal disease carried out, the advantage of speed may not be good economy.

To make sure that no sets infected with Black Leg, Fusarium Wilt, Late Blight and other possible troubles are planted, the best procedure is, first, to throw out all cut and bruised tubers, cut a thin slice off the stem end and then discard any tubers showing discoloration. Two knives should be used, one kept standing in a can of formalin solution; immediately a discolored potato is cut, the knife used should be put in the disinfectant and the other knife taken.

As the sets dry out quickly when cut and will heat if left in piles or barrels, they should be coated with dust. Gypsum, or land plaster, is one of the best materials to use, and if from two to four quarts is spread through the barrel of seed the sets will keep cool and firm without deterioration for days and even weeks. Air-slaked lime is frequently used and sometimes road dust or sulphur lime, if not thoroughly slaked, may injure the eyes and makes the sets unpleasant to handle.

The art of wicker-vening has been a hand industry for 5,000 years.

It is wise economy to plant shelter-belts of evergreens, arbor-vitae, Norway spruce, and balsam fir, a portion of each with a sprinkling of other varieties to make a pleasant contrast.

Baked pork chops are a delightful change from frying. Wipe and trim chops and rub a bit of fat over the bottom of the pan. When smoking hot put in chops and sear on both sides. Place in a hot oven and cook until well browned—about fifteen minutes. Salt and pepper and serve with tomato catsup.