



THE HOME

This Department is edited by Miss Laura Rose. All communications referring to "The Home" should be addressed to her at Box 25, Guelph, Ontario.

*Oh, wad some power the giftie gie us
To see oursel's as others see us!
It wad frae mony a blunder free us,
And foolish notion.*

EDITORIAL

I have been interested in the controversy going on in one of the Toronto papers under the heading "As Others See Us," in which the manners and customs of the Canadians have been criticized by the English in this country.

It seems rather severe on us to be charged with having "manners none and customs beastly," and yet, as I read the various contributions on the subject, I felt we were deserving of much that was said. It is all too true that we lack in real courtesy and culture. We have yet to learn from Emerson that "life is not so short but there is always time enough for courtesy." As a people we are often too much in a hurry to be considerate or kind to others.

If we are in a crowd we jostle and push to get through, quite regardless of the discomfort we may be causing others. If we enter a street car or railway coach there is a rush to secure the best seat, and it is painful to see the way the strong, vigorous youth will shove aside the aged and infirm and allow them to stand. The indifference and often impudence of the young person when one enquires some information on the street shows there is something wrong.

One writer said the cause for it all was that Canadian children at school and at home were not taught to "honor thy father and thy mother." They were allowed to run wild on the streets, and the blasphemy (which is worse than cursing) is left unchecked.

There is too much of the spirit of "Jack's as good as his master" and not enough regard for the rights and property of others.

I was walking along a street in Guelph recently, where an ornamental fence had just been painted. I saw two half-grown boys deliberately deface the fresh paint. I remonstrated with them, and got for reply, "What's the difference, they have plenty of

dough." My heart sank as I thought of the possible future of such boys.

If the parents looked more closely to the manners of their little ones and not so much to their dress, we would see less vanity and false pride, more good breeding and natural kindness in our grown-ups.

Our manners are too much like a thin veneer, self-applied when almost of age. Sometimes the coarser material shows through or the veneer gets chipped off in places.

If from babyhood we are taught the simple rules of etiquette and respectful deference for our elders, we will be to the manner born, and not likely to bring just censure upon ourselves.

I have met many English children in their own country and here and have always found them especially deferential to their elders, and gentle in their manners. It has come down to them through long generations of training. It is well for us to copy the good we see in others.

Both old and young often err in



Listen!

manners through ignorance rather than intention. For some little time I have been contemplating having a series of talks on good manners in the "Boys and Girls" department, and hope to begin them in the issue of May first. I earnestly solicit the co-operation of the parents by reading or drawing the attention of the children to them.

"How sweet and gracious, even in common speech,
Is that fine sense which men call courtesy!"

Wholesome as air and genial as the light,
Welcome in every clime as breath of flowers,
It transmutates aliens into trusting friends
And gives its owner passport round the globe."

Jas. T. Fields.

The Garden

When a person has not to have hired help in working a garden, but manages it himself or herself by working in it at odd minutes, then a garden pays, but where all the work is done by paying a man \$1.50 or more per day, it is questionable whether a garden would give sufficient returns for money expended. But, pardon my personal references, and allow me to cite from my own experience. Our help, seed, etc., does not cost us over \$3 a season, and I am sure we get at least \$25 worth of stuff from our garden.

We have only a small patch of strawberries, yet for several years we have bought few berries, usually having had enough both for table use and canning.

We have a small bed of asparagus, and can often have a dish of that delicious vegetable, which is usually so expensive as to be considered a luxury. Lettuce we have in the greatest abundance, and do not object to a crisp savory onion mixed with it. We grow our early potatoes and all kinds of vegetables, including splendid winter squash. Two trenches of celery stored carefully away in the cellar add crispness and succulence to many a winter meal. Then it is such a comfort to be able to run to the garden and pull some rhubarb for the garden for dinner, or dig a root of horseradish to have as a sauce for the roast