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Young Canada Club

By DIXIE PATTON

THAT STOCKING

As it will be just a little more than a week after this reaches you until it is time to hang up the stockings it would be a waste of time for me to say much on this occasion. I know how excited you will be and I hope part of the excitement will be on account of surprises you have in store for members of your family, and your friends.

and your friends.

In any case I hope you will all have the very jolliest Christmas, that Santa Claus will bring you exactly what you most want, and that you won't eat enough of the Christmas good things to make yourselves ill.

A very merry Christmas to all of you DIXIE PATTON.

DOG WITH A BAD HABIT

Just before we came to Alberta, papa bought a little collie pup and paid five dollars for him.

We called him Shep. The next spring, before he was one year old, he used to go

out on the prairie a half mile from home and stay with our little calves all day, with them at night He seemed to be very fond of small things. Mamma bought some tur-key eggs from a neighbor and set them under a hen. When they hatched we brought them home and made a little yard for then be the the When she went out to them she found Shep lying in the care of them. He stayed with them He all night, and part of the day till they were nearly grown. Papa keeps sheep, one day they roke into stack yard. For that, Shep would run around the

stacks and bark. We thought he was stacks and bark. We thought he was was barking at a neighbor's pig-tleft had seen there. One evening when my brother came home from school, Shep barked and whined so pityfully that Bennie patted him and said, "All right Shep, go and take them out," but instead of him going around the stack, he ran up on top of the stack and looked down between the two stacks and barked. "Bennie and a man that was helping us with the work, went and looked down and could see nothing, but they noticed

and could see nothing, but they noticed some breath frozen on the stacks, so they began to dig in, and soon found one of papa's best sheep that had fallen down there five days before when the sheep had broken into the yard. Shep had been trying to pull it out, and had one ear pulled loose and the top of its head all skinned.

The sheep could not stand up when they and up, when they got it on a blanket and up for a week. But it got well and we always called it "Old One Ear."

But Shep had one bad habit, he did not

want a strange dog to come on the place, especially near the sheep, and when a team drove by with a dog following, Shep used to pitch outo the dog to drive it away. One day he ran out to the road when a neighbor was passing, and the man shot him.

You may be sure we mourned for him, but mamma told us there was a lesson for us in it, and to learn now that one bad habit may prove the downfall of even a good person. We skinned the dde for a rug. BERTHA MABLEY, Age 12. dog and kept his hide

Elk Point, Alta.

Y NATURE'S FREAKS

When we were getting in the vegetables this year, on one stalk there were two heads of cabbage. Another is that one

carrot had grown around another. If you go into the woods you will find sometimes two different kinds of trees growing up from the one trunk.

In fowls the eggs are often found two-yolked. These eggs when hatched bring out two chickens grown together. Good eggs are often hatched and bring out chickens with crooked necks. Their heads lie on their backs. Very often a chicken is born with two heads.

My mother's uncle had a cow who had ner tail at her side. I have seen a lady who was about twenty-four years of age, who was only about one foot and a half

high. She could sit on a man's hand.

I am sending a self-addressed envelope,
and I hope I can get a membership pin. MARJORIE BARRETT.

EGG LIFTING

One Sunday last summer as my youngone Sunday last summer as my
est brother and sister and I were out
hurrying thru groves looking for birds'
nests, I found a

nests, I found a robin's nest with five blue eggs in it. The nest was near the road where I helped to chase the out every ng. I looked morning. morn ing if I had time before I went to It was not high up in the wil-low tree, for I could look in it easily. In a few days l noticed one egg was cracked. In the evening of the same day three of the birds were hatched and the next morning one more was hatched. For two weeks whenever I looked in the nest

l could only see
four birds in it.
The old robins
sang all the time.
They gathered food
for their young ones where an old cow yard had been. We had the fence

torn up, for we made another cow yard by the barn. During the third and the first part of the fourth week I did not look at the nest so often, and when I rame again to look at it, the four birds I came again to look at it, the four birds were gone and only the rotten egg remained. I was not far from the nest when the old mother bird, came with a leaf from a poplar tree in her mouth to the nest. I wondered then what she was going to do with it. I soon found out what she did want with it. She rolled the egg on the leaf as it was lying in the nest and took the stem and the top of the leaf in her mouth and flew far off with it inside the leaf.

After she had gone I went to the nest and looked in and nothing was there but the empty nest, and that was the first time I ever knew what became of the birds' eggs that were no good. I certainly was surprised when I found it out.

HENRIETTA WENDT.

HENRIETTA WENDT. Strome, Alta.

Age 14.

A specialist in birds says that this is impossible. That a bird would not use a leaf to carry anything.—D. P.

AN UNNATURAL MOTHER

I am going to tell you about a cat. She is of various colors and she looks very nice, but when she looks up at you she has a cross look. When she has kittens she kills them and after they are dead she takes them and nurses them. I don't think it is very nice of her to do that.

When any strange kittens come in about the place she takes them and nurses them and won't let you near them. At night she goes and makes a nice bed for them and herself to sleep comfortably. I think she ought to be assamed of herself not to nurse her own little kittens. GEORGINA HADDEN,

Age 13.