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## Young Canada Club

BY DIXIE PATTON

### EMPTY TROUBLES

(S. E. Kiser in St. Nicholas).  
When I blow away a bubble, and then  
gladly watch it float,  
I forget that I have trouble. It is like  
a fairy's boat,  
But it's gone in just a minute.  
For, you see, there's nothing in it;  
Like an empty bit of nothing, lighter  
than a drop of dew,  
Dancing sunbeams glimmer thru it;  
Very often, if we knew it,  
Light might shine thru troubles, too.

### THE TEST

There it is, the test I promised last week I was going to give you to see how many boys and girls in our club are in the habit of doing accurately, which is a grown-up way of saying, "just exactly so," whatever they are told to do.

Well, then, the test is this. I want all of you, or as many as have time, to take a sheet of white paper, make an inch margin, beginning with the top line, if there is one, if not, about an inch and a half from the top of the page, and running to the bottom. It is to be on the left hand side of the page, of course. Then copy out the stanza printed at the top of this column. Sign your name at the lower right hand side, with your age below it and your address at the lower left-hand side. Fold it up, put it in an envelope and address it plainly to Dixie Patton, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

I have a funny little box with pictures for the little person who does this bit of work most perfectly. Any boy or girl under seventeen years of age, who is already a member of our club may compete in this contest, but this particular contest is not open to the general public. One in which all our readers, new and old, may take part will be announced shortly.

DIXIE PATTON.

### THE RABBIT'S NEST

One day as I was coming home with the cows I heard something making a noise as I was coming up the lane. I thought I would see what it was so I climbed thru the fence and I saw an old rabbit over by the bush so I nearly knew what it was. I saw three little rabbits so then I called my mother to come and see what was here. When she came we picked them up, but we put them back again. As we were going away the mother came to them and fed them. One day as my father was breaking we saw a little rabbit. It nearly got under the horses' feet, so we stopped and it got out of the way.

EDNA HICKS,

Red Deer, Alta.

Age 8.

### AN EVENT OF YESTERDAY

A boy was at his neighbor's near by. He saw some large white birds on a lake not far away. He decided that they were swans and so he at once went to get the gun.

The neighbor was not at home and two shot guns were in the house. To go home would take too long so he took the gun out of the neighbor's house and hurried off. He could easily get close to them as the tall grass grew all around the water. When he got into the tall grass he raised his gun and breathlessly he aimed. Bang! When the smoke cleared away he saw two large swans dead on the water.

He wanted to run after the other two which were swimming away at top speed, but his feet were stuck in the mud and he stumbled and fell into the water. He didn't have time to think that he got his clothes wet nor his gun. He got up and shot at the two swimming away. It did no good. He shot at one overhead, but the shot had no effect on the swan, but it certainly had some effect on the gun. When he looked at his gun he saw, to his astonishment, that four inches were shot off the end of the barrel.

He dragged the two birds out of the water and put them onto the saddle on his horse: fifteen pounds on one side, thirteen and a half pounds on the other. Then he went home.

EDDIE MEECE,

Age 15

### GETTING USED TO THE FARM

I am going to write you a true story about a little boy I know. Every time his mother went out around the yard he always wanted to go with her and if he got a little bit behind he would stop and cry until his mother came back for him. So one day he fell down and started to cry and would not come when his mother called to him. So his mother called to him and said, "Look, look what is coming over the hill." He turned and saw a little pig coming to beat the band. Up he jumped and ran to his mother and that cured him of that trick. Another day the same little boy saw a nice flock of little chickens out in the yard, so he thought he would just take one up, but the old hen flew at him and knocked him down. He started to cry and she picked his tongue. That was the little boy's first year on the farm.

CHARLIE NIXON,

Wapella, Sask.

Age 11 years.

### A SERIOUS ACCIDENT

One day when my brother was about four years old my father gave him a pipe to play with. He had seen the men striking matches on their pants, so he got some tobacco out of the store and put it in the pipe. Then he got some matches and was going to strike them on his pants and they caught fire when he was playing in the back yard. My father and another man were sitting in front of the store. My mother was upstairs. He came running thru the store and my mother heard him crying and she went downstairs. By that time his clothes were all on fire. He ran to the front of the store where my father was. Father blistered his hands putting out the fire and my brother was badly burnt.

MARJORIE METCALF, Age 11.

### A THIRSTY COLT

One day papa and mamma and brother and I were going to an auction sale, but I did not go the whole way. I stopped at a neighbor's home three miles from our home.

At the sale papa bought a pony whose name was Ruby.

Coming home we lost our way, but we wandered around until we found the right trail again and arrived home safely.

But one of our colts was not home. Papa went to a slough west of our house. We had a well dug in the centre of it. Sure enough there was Prince with one of his legs in the well. We went home and got some chains and hitched to him and his mother, Fannie, hauled him out. He is now a fine horse, he weighs 1800 pounds.

DELLA McLAREN,

Hillesden, Sask.

Age 11.

### CAUGHT IN A WHEEL

It was a lovely day in March and we had a few girl friends here because it was Ethel's birthday.

Quite early in the afternoon as one of the girls was going to leave, the girls began to climb into the buggy because they wanted to go for a short drive down the road.

My sister Ethel did not get in the buggy before it started off. She put her foot in the spokes of the wheel and just as the buggy started her foot went along with the wheel and of course the girl did not know that Ethel was caught in the wheel. She drove up a few steps until Ethel began to cry.

I called out, "Stop a bit, Ragna." Ragna stopped her horses and I went over and helped Ethel out of the wheel. Mother came over and helped her in the house. Mother told Ethel to try and stand up, but she fell right down, so mother helped her over to a chair.

Mother phoned over and got father home. Grandma came over, too. Ethel was in bed for ever so long.

MARIE KREFTING,

R.R. No. 1, Ponoka, Alta.

Age 13.

### UNLUCKY FUN

Once, long ago, when my sister was about four years old my cousin Ernest came out for a visit. They took some matches with them and went behind the stable and set it on fire. They were laughing and thought there was no harm in it. Just then it was in a flame. My father saw it and ran out with some water.

CECIL METCALF,

Spruce Grove, Alta.

Age 9 years.