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We haven't time to smell blossoms, or sit on a pebble. We get honey out of the blossoms, and pollen."

"What is pollen?" asked Peepapeep. "Why, the yellow powder in the hearts of flowers," said the bee, "how very ignorant you are for a fairy."

"I'm tired of being called ignorant," said Peepapeep. "The green frog told me I was ignorant, too. But I am learning. May I ask you a question?"

"Ask away," said the bee, "but be quick about it."

"What do you do with the pollen?" "Kick it off your legs."

"Kick it off your legs!" exclaimed Peepapeep, in astonishment.

"Yes," replied the bee, quite in a matter-of-fact way, "we kick it off into lumps and mix it with honey to make bee-bread for food. As we are gathering it, too, we help the blossoms to set their fruit, by *pollenizing* them. You will know what that means after a while. If it were not for us not half the blossoms would come to fruit."

"Hi! Hi! Hi!—what's this?"—Peepapeep gave such a jump off the pebble as the rough voice shouted close to her, that she bumped her nose on a dandelion stem. Sure enough, it was Farmer Grouch, but he wasn't looking at Peepapeep; he was looking up into the pink and white blossoms.

"Farmer Hike's bees in my apple trees!" he went on, "I'll make them hike. Shoo! Shoo!"—but the bees went right on burrowing in the flowers and never heard him at all.

"I know what I'll do! I'll *smudge* 'em out," he said, and forthwith trudged off to the house in high dudgeon.

Presently out he came with a number of pans containing black, ugly stuff. He put the pans down on the green grass and set them alight, and soon great clouds of black smoke were rolling upward into the pretty blossoms. "That'll fix 'em," he said gleefully; and soon the poor little bees, smothered by the ill-smelling stuff, were either tumbling stupefied to the grass, or trying to make haste to be off.

All this time Peepapeep, who had run away from her pebble in fright, stood hidden under a clump of big burdock leaves, hearing and seeing all that went on.

She watched Farmer Grouch as he strode off in triumph to the house.

"Oh, you silly, silly man," she said to herself, "you don't know that you have perhaps hindered half your fruit from forming."

"Serve him right," said a little half-choked voice in the grass beside her, and looking down she saw the little dark-colored bee, trying to move its wings and legs.

"Oof! Oof! I'm nearly smothered! Selfish man! He cut off his own nose that time!"

"That's the way with most selfish people," said Peepapeep, "oh you poor bee!"

"Never mind," said the bee, "we'll all go right back to Farmer Hike's orchard, although we thought we had gone pretty well over it."

"Then he'll have plenty of fruit, won't he?" asked Peepapeep.

"Hope so. Come on brothers. —Hum-m-m!" And the bees were off.

**Junior Beavers' Letter Box.**

Dear Puck and Beavers.—My grandpa takes the Farmer's Advocate, and likes it very much. I was seven years old the 26th of April. I have two miles to go to school. My teacher's name is Miss Meikle. I am in the Primer Class. I would like to be a teacher some day. I have one little kitty, and I call our dog "Bob."

MILDRED P. BROWN.  
R. R. No. 5, Peterboro, Ont.

Dear Puck and Beavers.—As I did not see my last letter in print, I thought I would try again. My father has taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for the last twenty years. I like reading the letters. I go to school every day. But I haven't been going this week, as I have had the grippe. We have not far to go to school, as it is at the end of our lane. Our teacher's name is Miss Johnston, we like her fine. I will close with a riddle.

What goes over the road, and over the road, and always has its head down. Ans.—A nail in a horse's shoe. (No name signed.)

Dear Puck and Beavers.—I have been a silent reader for some time, but now I thought I would like to write to you. I live on a farm along the lake front seven miles from Kingsville, and three-quarters of a mile, from school. In the summer I enjoy walking very much, but in the winter it is almost too cold. My teacher's name is Miss J. Baker. In summer, during noons, etc., we spend our time in playing games such as "Run for your supper," "Drop the handkerchief." As my letter is getting long I will close, hoping to see that the w.-p. b. is away visiting when my letter arrives.

VERDA LULA ADAMS.  
Arner, R. R. No. 1, Ont.

Dear Puck and Beavers.—This is my first letter to your charming Circle. I have for pets two cats and a dog, but Tabby, one of my cats, runs away quite often and does not come back for a long time. I go to school every day. The school is a mile away. I hope the w.-p. b. is not hungry when this arrives. I will close with a riddle.

Why is a leaf like a human being?  
Ans.—Because it has veins.

Ayr, Ont. GEORGE COWAN.  
(Age 9 years.)

P. S.—I would like some of the Beavers to write to me.

Dear Beaver Circle.—This is my third letter to the Beaver Circle, and I have had success with every one. I guess that the w.-p. b. does not like my letters, and puts them in the paper. We have no dog, but we have a cat. I had a little kitten but it died. I am taking music lessons, and I am in the junior third class. I will close with a riddle.

What relation is a doormat to the scraper? Ans.—Its stepfather (farther).

Wishing the Beaver Circle every success I remain your little Beaver.

FRANCES EDMOND.  
Silver Water, Ont. (Age 10.)

P. S.—I wish some Beavers would write to me.

Dear Puck and Beavers.—This is my second letter to your charming Circle. We have taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for quite a while and like it very much. I enjoy reading the letters in the Beaver Circle. I go to school every day I can, and like it fine. There are about thirty or thirty-five pupils go to school. Our teacher's name is Miss Bushnell; we like her fine. We didn't have a Christmas tree this year. For pets I have a dog named Carlo. I have just got two kittens now; Queenie and Bouncer. One got killed; it was Prince, and one went away; it was Peter. I like reading books. Here are a few I have read: "Brave and Bold," "Bound to Rise," "Making His Way," "Light of the Morning," and several others. I wish some of the Beavers would write to me. I hope the w.-p. b. is not hungry for my letter. I will close with some riddles.

What goes all the way from Boston to Milwaukee without moving? Ans.—Railroad tracks.

What is that which nobody wishes for, but if he has it he wants to gain it, and if he gains it he has it no more? Ans.—A lawsuit.

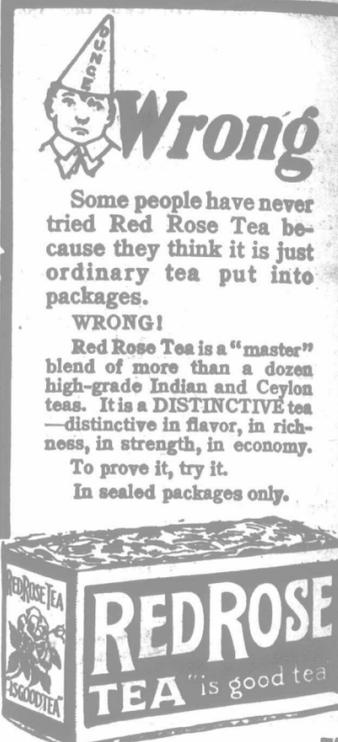
Why is a clock at fifty-nine minutes to one like an angry man? Ans.—Because it is ready to strike one.

VERA GERTRUDE TARR.  
(Age 10, Sr. II Class.)  
Stouffville, R. R. No. 1, Ont.

Dear Puck and Beavers.—This is my first letter to your Circle. I like to read your letters very much. My father has taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for a number of years. For pets I have two cats and a kitten. I had a pigeon but one of my cats killed it. I will close hoping this will escape the w.-p. b.

GEORGIE MCLEAN.  
Maitland, Ont. (Age 7.)

Dear Puck and Beavers.—I thought I would write as I saw so many of the other Beavers' letters in print. My father has taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for twenty years. I have two sisters and one brother. This war is certainly a terrible thing. They still



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