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This is one of the airiest and daintiest flowers imaginable, especially adapted to bordering beds of taller flowers and those of a heavier growth. The seeds germinate quickly and come into bloom in a few weeks such as to completely obscure the foliage, making the plant a veritable pyramid of the most delicate and charming bloom. The Butterfly Flower make admirable pot plants for the house in late winter and early spring. For this purpose sow in the autumn.

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We are promised, both by the Union Government at Ottawa and the Hearst Government at Toronto, that the patronage system is to be dispensed with, and all appointments to positions in the public service are to be made on the merits of the applicants, without regard to party or influence. The claiming of the spoils of office by the supporters of the political party elected to party elected to power has so long been a part of our governmental system that a great many who would be pleased to see a change

re skeptical as to the sincerest of the Dominion and Ontario cabinets in their new proposals. However, both houses should be given a little time to demonstrate the workability of their plans. It is to be hoped that the new fabric will prove to be all wool and a yard wide, won't fray out at the edges, nor turn out to be shoddy. A genuine reform of the public service by present day legislators will be a new broom to sweep some of the cobwebs from our political rafters.

Inspectors' Salaries Raised.

County, City and District inspectors have had an increase of salary by the Ontario Government. Hitherto the minimum salary has been \$1,700 and the maximum \$2,000. The new regulation increases the maximum to \$2,500 per annum, the increase to be paid entirely by the Govt. Inspectors usually come in for a lot of censure because they compel trustees to observe the school law, but it must be remembered these inspectors have to make reports to the Education Department and must do their masters' bidding or be brought to task for not adhering strictly to the rules and regulations. The fault lies with the centralizing system of the Education Dept., which suppresses initiative and originality among the teachers.

After the Wolfish Dogs.

While the raising of sheep is considered one of the most advantageous lines of live stock production for the average farmer, particularly so where the land is rolling and dry. The protection of lambs and sheep from destruction in many cases is a difficulty that cannot be overcome, and is the principal reason there are not more flocks in our own section. We know of one farmer who has made good profits for a number of years, but this season is going out of sheep because the foxes would not let his lambs where he has to put them. A great move in favor of the sheep industry that is being made this year is that with regard to the dog nuisance. County councils throughout the Province of Ontario have decided very strongly in favor of stricter legislation for regulating dogs, and the sheep-breeders' associations have unanimously adopted similar resolutions. An increased tax on dogs in general would go a long way toward doing away with the wandering mongrels that at present destroy so many sheep and ruin the flocks that they attack, and if the owner of any dog is forced to tie the animal up at night, then the chance of the dog doing damage will be very much lessened. A tag on each and every dog would help further in the good work, because if the owner were easily traced in each case of sheep-worrying there would be little likelihood of further trouble from the same quarter.

"Spoons" Swipe Jewellery.

A spoony young couple drove up to a local hotel on Monday, had their dinner and after sitting in the public waiting room upstairs for awhile drove away. A short time afterwards a guest who had left a pair of cuffs with valuable gold buttons in a room off the sitting room with the door open, found that the gold buttons had been extracted from the cuffs. He went to the office to report his loss and found the proprietor lamenting the fact that the couple had driven away without paying their bill. Suspicion at once centered around the two "spoons" and if they can be traced they will land in a peck of trouble.

Fine Letter From France.

The following was received last week by a member of the North Carrick Red Cross Society. The writer is a young Frenchman,

Bordeaux on the 31st of Jan.
Mrs. Wm. W. Dickson,
R. R. No. 1 Carlsruhe
Ontario.

You are right, madam, true friends are as rare as diamonds. Your little letter is very nice, indeed, but I am not one of the soldiers who received the socks that you sent. They do not know English those gallant soldiers, but as my sister is at the hospital, St. Francois, she found your little but very nice letter. Everyone in France knows how much you love us, and, of course, our love for our friends on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean is immense. Then, I come to thank you very much for that beautiful gift. I am sorry not to be one of those warm things, madam, for I am only eighteen and a half. I will not say that I shall not be a soldier, no, for in two months I shall go to the barracks in order to become a good soldier, who if it is necessary, will fight for the ideal of your country fellows and our; yes, the boys of my age will fight for liberty as their eldest.

For our soldiers, madam, I thank you again and again, from a French brother.
I remain, madam,
Sincerely yours
R. Bourges
23, rue du Loup, 23
Bordeaux.

Report of S. S. No. 6.

Subjects—Writing, Arithmetic, Nature Study and Spelling.

Jr. IV—Henry Russel 71, Sarah Bickel, 70, Edna Eidt 67, Wesley Hill 65.

Sr. III—Maudie Eidt 63, Henry Hammer 55.

Jr. III—Emerson Losch 62, Luella Russel 60.

Jr. II—Arthur Juergens 65, Wilfred Kaufmann 59.

Jr. I—Adeline Kreuger 70, Eldon Kreuger 69, Rueben Russel 67, Arthur Losch 64.

Peanuts are Scarce

Scarcity of peanuts is the latest threatened horror of the war and rationing may be introduced in the monkey cages in the zoos and in the grand stands at baseball parks during the coming summer. All this confusion is the direct result of some enterprising individual discovery that oil extracted from this luscious and popular nut, is useful to the military authorities for some purpose as yet not generally known. Baseball fans, who formerly made a hearty meal on peanuts, pop and baseball enthusiasm, will now be forced to go hungry to supply the military needs.

Charged With Non-Support.

Wm. Craig, Jr., of Toronto, a former Walkerton boy, was arraigned before Col. Derison in Toronto on a charge of non-support and cruelty to his wife, on Thursday, Feb. 21st, and the Colonel decided she should not live with him, but ordered the delinquent hubby to pay her \$7.00 per week. Craig has agreed to pay the weekly fee.

A Rotten Train Service.

Next Monday the new train schedule on the branch lines north of Palmerston goes into effect and there will be only one mail and passenger train each day. The service to Palmerston will be just as before and the profitable feeders will be cut off. There will be only the early train each way each day. Under the old system it was possible to do considerable business in Toronto, Hamilton, or London and get back the same day. After this week it will be necessary to spend at least 2 nights in any of these cities before returning in order to transact any business with firms during working hours. The fuel situation is said to be held responsible for this but the dinky engines that haul the passenger trains would be of little use on heavy freight trains. A conductor informed us that there were 135 passengers from Palmerston on the four branch lines one night and as this is only a fair average it goes to show what a daily inconvenience it means to us north people who bonused these railway lines and are now cut off with a half service. No fewer than 23 mail clerks will be tied up in Palmerston over Sundays unable to reach their homes. It is currently reported this change will last for March and April only and in the meantime there will be very little travelling on the branch lines. If it continues longer the heads of municipalities should arrange a meeting to protest against the inadequacy of the train service on the branch lines.—Chesley Enterprise.

More Useful on Farm.

Believing that it would be more expedient, in the national interest, to suspend sentence and allow Peter Meihm to return to his farm rather than place him behind the prison bars. Magistrate Graydon, of London, decided on such action when the man appeared Friday for sentence for desertion. Meihm admitted he left the service because of an affection of his foot prevented him from marching. When arraigned in court a week ago, Meihm pleaded guilty and stated he had been farming continuously for over a year and had assisted in producing a quantity of foodstuffs in that time. After being arrested two weeks ago he was examined by the military medical board and found in "E" category. Major Osborne at the time of Meihm's appearance in court a week ago asked for a severe sentence. "I do not care to place a man behind the bars who can produce food and thus assist in that way in winning the war," said the magistrate. Meihm was handed back to the military authorities.

Every one will tell you that it is bad luck to pass a pin without picking it up. The Vancouver Sun relates that a man who believes in that stopped to pick up one in front of the post office and, while he was stopping, his hat fell off and rolled into the gutter. Two suspender buttons gave way, his collar split and his artificial teeth fell and broke on the sidewalk.

It is reported from Ottawa that there is no doubt whatever but the Government intends to take over the whole of the Grand Trunk Railway, along with the Canadian Northern, the Intercolonial and the Transcontinental, and combine them into one system, also that the C. P. R. will be included in the scheme sooner or later. It is a colossal undertaking, but on that would be in the future interests of the Dominion.

Village Property for Sale.

Desirable residential property in Mildmay, consisting of Lots 44 and 45, Ellen street. On the premises are a brick house, kitchen and woodshed, a good stable, two driving sheds, good orchard and garden. One of the best residences in Mildmay and will be sold at a snap. Apply to J. M. Fischer, Mildmay.

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Clocks,
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Silverware, China and Glassware, Musical Instruments, Spectacles, Smoke pipes, Purses, Corbs, Gold filled Rings, Cuff links, Tie pins and Locketts at less than half regular price.

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J. M. Fischer
Agent - Mildmay

A farmer from Nichol township was in Guelph last week with a load of pigs. The market is down a little now to what it has been, and it can keep on coming down for a while yet, and still be high enough. He had one sow five years old, a Yorkshire. When the sale was thru and the cash arranged for the deal, it was found that the farmer had within a few cents of \$117 for this one pig. It weighed 730 pounds, and as the fashion sheet says, had a waist measurement of 77 inches. It was a mother and a grand-mother several times in the years it spent in Nichol, at one time being able to call the roll for 17 wee porkers at meal hours. When pigs are romping into the three figure class, it's time we found another name for them, and taught them to quit rooting in the mud and grunting all the time.—Guelph Mercury.

Deserters who, immediately after apprehension or surrender, are found to be medically unfit for service may be immediately discharged. This announcement, made in London camp orders Monday, stated that in addition to those who were unfit, those who are found to be in need of sanatorium or other prolonged treatment, on completion of which their physical conditions would not permit them to be sent overseas, may also be discharged immediately after they have surrendered or have been apprehended.

Little Dorothy Harley, a bright little six-year-old girl of Hanover, has been "doing her bit" to help the soldiers, or at least one soldier, her cousin, Chester Cunningham. She has been looking forward happily to the day when she would send the first pair of socks to Chester. She had one finished, perfectly done too, and the second one half complete, when the sad news came that her heroic cousin had fallen in battle.