

ties of trees, crannies in farm buildings, or boxes provided for its use.

The bluebird has not been accused, so far as known, of stealing fruit or of preying upon crops. Beetles constitute 21 per cent of the whole food, grasshoppers 22, caterpillars 10, and various other insects nine, while a number of spiders and myriapods, about six per cent, comprise the remainder of the animal diet. All these are more or less harmful, except a few predaceous beetles, which amount to nine per cent. In view of the large consumption of grasshoppers and caterpillars we may at least condone this offense, if such it may be. The destruction of grasshoppers is very noticeable in August and September, when these insects make up about 63 per cent of the diet.

So far as its vegetable food is concerned the bluebird is positively

harmless. The only trace of any useful product in the stomachs consisted of a few blackberry seeds, and even these probably belonged to wild rather than cultivated varieties. Following is a list of the various seeds which were found: Blackberry, chokeberry, juniperberry, pokberry, partridgeberry, greenberry, Virginia creeper, bittersweet, holly, strawberr bush, false spikenard, sarsaparilla, sumac (ragweed, grass and asparagus). This list shows how little the bluebird depends upon the farm or garden to supply its needs and how easily by encouraging the growth of some of these plants, many of which are highly ornamental, the bird may be induced to make its home on the premises.



An Opinion from Another Quarter

AFTER perusing Percival B. Walsmley's letter in the only to the "Mignonette," which appeared in the September 16th issue, I would like to ask him a question or two. The first one is: "question or two, the average working man, under present conditions, has a big enough him being forced to risk his life to defend it?" The second question is, "government of President Kruger in the South Africa was succeeded by a real freedom when one considers the following, that the working class of to-day are slaves irrespective of what country they reside in?" If you want proof here it is.

What is a slave? Fardenberg describes it very good. "A slave is a man who is forced to work for a benefit of another," and that applies whether the force is applied directly, i.e., as in the slave days of the south, or indirectly as it is to-day by the method that I will point out to you. If we will take the trouble to trace out the evolution of man from as far back as we can get a trace, to his present position in the world, we find that scientists roughly divide that period into four parts: 1st, savagery; second, barbarism; third, feudalism, and, lastly, the system of to-day dominated by capital.

Under savagery we are told that the tools with which man produced his necessities of life were very simple and that the product of the toil of the tribe was shared in common. Under barbarism a trifle higher state of life was reached. Under feudalism the feudal lord and his retainers were the ruling class and the majority of the people were serfs. It would take too much space here to trace the descent of man in detail from the free man of the savage age to the serf of feudalism. But the fact remains. At that particular period when feudalism was merging into capitalism, we find the tools with which the wealth of the period was produced, very simple compared with the complex machinery of to-day. The average working man of those days owned his own tools, and the product of his toil when applied through those tools to raw material was his own. In contradistinction to that, what do we find to-day? That the workers have gradually been deprived of their machine of production and that that machine has become the property of another class, who have the sole right to say whether that machine shall be used or not. What is the result? That the workers have only one thing that they can do. They are forced to sell their power to labor to the class which owns the machinery which produces their necessities of life, and that class only

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TORONTO, ONT.

OUR HOME CLUB

Why Girls Don't Marry

ILIVE on a farm near the outskirts of a country town. We have a factory two, but for the most part our town is supported by farm trade. I will not give the name of the town, because I would be very unpopular in this neighborhood if my identity were to become known once this letter is published. That is, if the editor is good enough to give it a place in the Home Club.

I am a young bachelor, not from choice, but necessity. I would much prefer to be a young husband. There are many young men in this locality in the same boat with myself. They are found on the farms, in the stores and in the factories. In speaking for myself, I will give the grievance of all.

Many of these young men, myself as I have intimated, want to get married. There are an equal number of young ladies in the locality who also want to get married—if conditions are right. The stand of all of these damsels was expressed recently by one of them: "I have always had a good home, and I do not intend to marry until my husband can offer me as good a home as the one I am leaving."

This stand does not seem reasonable to us. Our lady friends apparently want to start in where their mo-

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