

Your Problems

Conducted by Mrs. Helen Law

Mothers and daughters of all ages are cordially invited to write to this department. Initials only will be published with each question and its answer as a means of identification, but full name and address must be given in each letter. Write on one side of paper only. Answers will be mailed direct if stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed. Address all correspondence for this department to Mrs. Helen Law, 235 Woodbine Ave., Toronto.

Reader:—The following are some games which you may consider suitable for your Halloween party:

Fortunes in the Cellar—Before the party assemble, prepare walnuts by taking the kernels from the shells, substituting a little piece of paper and then gluing the shells together. The writing on each is the same. It should read somewhat after this fashion: "On the stroke of twelve steal silently to the farthest end of the cellar and dig. Keep this strictly secret. Do not let any one see you go down cellar. To tell any one you will break the spell." The walnuts are hidden around the room where the party is to be held. They may be searched for at a given warning from the hostess. On the stroke of twelve, or any other hour you have mentioned in the slip hidden in the walnuts, all the players will, after trying to sneak away from each other to get down cellar, find themselves in the cellar, which must be dimly lighted. Digging with tin spoons at the farthest end will reveal little envelopes with fortunes, which have been prepared before the party. These fortunes can be made very funny. A day or so before the party let a couple of the young people who are giving it get together and make up queer prophecies about those who are coming. All members of the party must sit down right then and there in the cellar and read their fortunes aloud.

Seeing Your Future on the Stairs—Before the party secure a hand mirror without any glass in it. Some one will be sure to have a broken one. Then try to get photographs of all of those who will be at the party. Tell the boys as well as the girls that they must walk down the cellar steps blindfolded with a mirror in order to see a picture of their future mates in the mirror. One is blindfolded at a time and is led down the dark cellar stairs with an electric flashlight and with the mirror in his hand. In the mirror has been placed a picture of the girl about whom it is most fun to tease the boy who is on the stairs. Remove the bandage from his eyes suddenly. He must look over his left shoulder in the mirror the moment it is removed. Of course the result is funny. As the trick is played on each one in turn those who have seen their fate may follow the blindfolded one down the stairs, thus increasing the fun.

There are many other games that every one knows about that never fail to make a success of a Halloween party. Bobbing for apples, pinning a little broom on the witch, whose picture has been drawn with shoe blacking on a big sheet, are always fun. For the latter a prize can be given to the one who comes nearest to the witch's hand. Of course, it is fun for every one to come in costume. Try an advertisement costume party. Let each one come dressed up like some character seen frequently in ads. The one who guesses what most of the ads are gets a prize.

Mrs. M.—To fill a hot-water bag correctly heat the water until it is nearly boiling. Fill the bottle a little more than one-third full. Before putting in the stopper lay the bag flat and double the upper part over. This drives out the steam and prevents an accumulation of it. It is steam that makes a hot-water bag hard and uncomfortable for the patient.

GOOD HEALTH QUESTION BOX

By John B. Huber, M.A., M.D.

Dr. Huber will answer all signed letters pertaining to health. If your question is of general interest it will be answered through these columns; if not, it will be answered personally if stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Dr. Huber will not prescribe for individual cases or make diagnosis. Address Dr. John B. Huber, care of Wilson Publishing Co., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

A brush in time saved mine.

THE HYGIENE OF THE TEETH.

Digestion doesn't begin in the stomach; it begins in the mouth. If this truth were realized a great many dyspepsias would "fold their tents like the Arab and as silently steal away" never more to affect the sufferer. The first thing necessary to good digestion is to have the food thoroughly chewed so that it is in a condition to be readily mixed with the digestive juices, the first of which is the saliva in the mouth. How necessary then, it is to keep the mouth, the teeth and the gums in good condition. How salutary to this end is the advice to go to the dentist at least once a year, and have those precious masticators overhauled and kept right!

The teeth should be brushed at least on rising and at bedtime and the mouth should be rinsed with water after each meal. Any one of the many dentifrices now in market is right. Also clean the spaces between the teeth with dental floss. Soft wooden tooth picks are well enough; but picks made of hard substances are apt to injure the precious enamel. You would be surprised to hear how much tooth irregularity in children is due to the mouth breathing habit; see therefore that any possible adenoids or enlarged tonsils in your child's throat are attended to. Have your children get the teeth preserving habit in early childhood.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Asthma and Climate.
I have been troubled all my life with asthma. But after I got my growth I was not bothered so much until about 3 years ago it has been

Horse Sense

Some Veterinary Notes.

Always examine the horse's teeth when the digestive organs are out of order. Attention by an expert dentist may be necessary. Chewing is made difficult and sometimes painful when the teeth are "cutting" through the gums, especially when milk (temporary) teeth are being displaced by second (permanent) teeth. Roots of milk teeth are absorbed and the remaining part, cap or crown, is forced off by the incoming second teeth. Crowns often lodge between the teeth and cheek, or fall to come off promptly, hence keep the second teeth back, or cause them to come in crooked.

When colts under five years of age

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Grapes
green or ripe, in jelly, spiced conserves, or simply preserved in light syrup, make a delicious and inexpensive addition to your winter supplies.

Housing Farm Animals

BY I. J. MATHEWS.

The time of year has come when all the animals on Ontario farms must be housed and this matter of stabling is of some importance. The arguments on each side of the question must be weighed and given due consideration in planning for the comfort of the animals and for the pocketbook of the owner.

Degree of Warmth
Among stockmen to-day there is quite a dispute as to how warm the stables should be for different animals, and this question is answered largely by the type of animal and by the requirements which are made of them. It is very true that cold animals will use up the body flesh in furnishing warmth and the flesh thus used up can only be replaced by good food which is expensive. Carbohydrate feeds do not generally range as high in expense as the rich protein feeds, but present prices are very high indeed. It seems then, that any precaution or extra care in housing will be well repaid by the ease of keeping which will result. It costs somewhat more to winter a feeder steer over and keep him growling if he is kept out doors in the cold, than he is sheltered from the elements. Then there comes the valid argument that the labor involved is one of the greatest costs in any of the farm activities and so the problem of the feeder is to balance these things over against each other and decide which will prove the most profitable. With fattening stock, especially where labor and building materials are high, feeders find it more economical to use the open shed for their stock. This reduces the labor for the forage and grain can be easily distributed to the stock and the labor of removing the manure is reduced to the minimum. Of course, more bedding must be supplied in this case, but that is a small matter when compared with the other considerations. Added to this, the open shed which affords protection for the animals in inclement weather is also a factor in conserving the manure product. The more nearly the air can be entirely excluded from the manure, the more perfect will be its preservation and for this reason, the constant tramping of the stock keeps the fertilizer elements from passing off and prevents fire-fanging.

Dairy Cows Must be Kept Warm
The moment we pass from fattening animals to dairy cattle, the problem becomes altogether different and the solution must assume another angle. Since the product of the cow is largely protein and fat, she cannot do her best at milk producing and at the same time use up a large amount of the food which comes into the body for supplying heat. She cannot be expected to do this; the good cow usually does one or the other, but seldom proves very successful at both the same winter. Cows that are forced to stand out in the cold usually commence to go dry when cold weather comes on, and while it is not true that housing is all there is to making a cow give milk, it is true that it influences the milk flow to quite an extent.

Method of Ventilation
The thing to be remembered in any method of ventilating is that cold air is heavier than warm air and so, if the air is allowed to get out through the top of the stable, the stable will be cooled at the bottom. On the other hand, if all the fresh air is supplied at the top through one large opening and is conducted out at the bottom through another single exit, the pure air is not sufficiently warmed, and besides, a draft is created.

Bedtime Stories
The Two Towns.
"Pray can you tell me, little maid, the way to Grumble-town?" And first she pointed up the road, and then she pointed down.
She pointed up and pointed down—Then shook her pretty head: "I've never been to Grumble-town," The little maiden said.
"Then maybe you can show me, child, The Town of Pleasantville?"
"Oh, yes, indeed," she said, and smiled; "It's just beyond the hill."
"Good sir, it's just beyond the hill; And if you'll come with me, I'll take you into Pleasantville; That's where I live," said she.

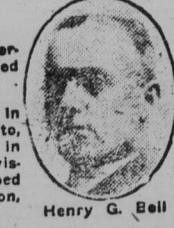
Some Comical Tenants.
"Are you the landlord?" Bobby sat up in bed with a terrible start and a creepy feeling along his spine. "Are you the landlord?" persisted the cross voice. He stared around wildly and saw to his dismay ten queer little men about three inches or less in height hopping toward him over the covers.
"Oh, Oh!" he stuttered and drew his knees up so suddenly that the whole tent tumbled head over heels down the incline. Quick as lightning they picked themselves up and started climbing over the hill made by his knees, one a little ahead of the others waving a paper and crying, "Are you the landlord?" Bobby's heart nearly leapt out of his throat with fright, but he swallowed hastily and managed to say in a shaky voice, "I, I, I'm a bo-o-o-y; who-o-o are yo-o-ou?"

Farm Crop Queries

Conducted by Professor Henry G. Bell

The object of this department is to place at the service of our farm readers the advice of an acknowledged authority on all subjects pertaining to soils and crops.

Address all questions to Professor Henry G. Bell, in care of The Wilson Publishing Company, Limited, Toronto, and answers will appear in this column in the order in which they are received. As space is limited it is advisable where immediate reply is necessary that a stamped and addressed envelope be enclosed with the question, when the answer will be mailed direct.



G.P.W.—I have a field of well manured sandy loam that is literally infested with horse nettle, bluegrass and smartweed. The field is now drilled to corn and soy beans, but the ordinary methods of cultivation has had but little effect on the weeds. I wish to soon saw rye among the corn. Can I seed this field to some kind of grass next spring to use for pasture when the rye comes off that will assist in getting rid of these weeds?

Answer:—It is generally conceded better practice in cold climates to plant fruit trees in the spring. As a rule, they are taken out of the nursery rows in the fall and are "heel-ed" in; that is, a trench is dug in a sheltered place and the trees are set in at an angle or upright, being covered half-way up the stem. As soon as frost is gone in the spring they are taken out of the trench and planted at the desired distance in the new orchard ground. Care should be taken to prepare the ground in good shape. Many farmers lose their orchards by not giving deep and thorough preparation to the soil. As soon as the trees are well set the soil should be kept loose to a depth of at least two inches by sufficient cultivation so that the much needed moisture will not escape.

An addition of fertilizers or barn manure both at the time of planting and later as a side-dressing to the trees will greatly assist in giving them a vigorous start.

W.F.—Would you please tell me of the culture of hops for commercial purposes?

Answer:—For hops, the plants are set in spring at about the depth from which the roots were dug up. If the hops are being propagated from cuttings, these cuttings are set in a shaded and well-tilled seed-bed in the summer. They are transplanted from this seed-bed the following spring. The shoots should be cut back in early spring until the third year so that the plant will store up sufficient strength. In preparing the soil see that it is well enriched with rotted manure or fertilizers, or with both. When fertilizer is used, from 200 to 300 pounds per acre carrying 3 to 4% ammonia and 8 to 10% available phosphoric acid with as much potash as possible, should be applied if you have a supply of wood ashes it is a good thing to add a good dressing of ashes to the ground, since the ashes carry both potash and lime margin, "besides." The thought seems to be that Ezra selected a commission of twenty-four men, twelve representing the priesthood and twelve the laity. Sherebiah and Hashabiah—Called Levites in verses 18 and 19. Either the Levites are here counted as laymen, or the text is corrupt. Batten, following in part First Esdras, reads: "And I set apart from the leaders of the people twelve, and from the priests of the temple Sherebiah and Hashabiah and with them ten of their brethren." Offering—Reference is made to these gifts in the king's decree (Ezra 7, 15ff.). Talents—While there is some uncertainty regarding values, the silver talents figure up to about a million dollars, the gold to about three millions, the one thousand darics to about five thousand.

R.M.—Is it a better time to set out fruit trees in the fall than in the spring, and should they be mulched?

The Signatory School

INTERNATIONAL LESSON

OCTOBER 28.

Lesson IV. Ezra's Return From Babylon—Ezra 8, 13-36. Golden Text, Ezra 8, 22.

Verses 21-23. Ezra collected the exiles, who were to accompany him, by the river or canal Ahava, in preparation for the long journey to Jerusalem; but before the caravan got under way he proclaimed a fast so that the people might humble themselves before their God and pray for an auspicious journey. Fast—An occasion of humiliation, before God, an acknowledgment of the people's entire dependence upon the divine favor for a safe journey. Ahava—A branch of the Euphrates or canal in the vicinity of Babylon. Its exact location can not be determined. Straight way—A successful or safe journey. Ashamed—He did not want to create the impression that the people of Jehovah had to depend upon human agencies for protection. On the contrary, he assured the king that their God would care for them, for he always protects those who put their trust in him and destroys those who forsake him. Nehemiah did not hesitate to accept an escort (Neh. 2, 9). Enemy—Desert robbers who might trouble the caravan. The ultimate success of the enterprise proved that Jehovah heard the prayers.

24-27. Ezra appointed special custodians for the gifts and offerings. Chiefs—Leading members of the priestly class. Even—Better, with

Is Your Chimney Safe?

Defective chimneys are the greatest single source of fires. The investigation being conducted by the Commission of Conservation discloses the fact that, for the year 1916, of the places that reported, no less than 640 fires were due to faulty chimneys. This is exclusive of fires resulting from dangerous stovepipes or chimney sparks.

Before winter weather necessitates pressure upon the heating apparatus, the household should carefully inspect all chimneys, as well as stove and furnace pipes, and have them put in good condition. Rarely, if ever, does the occupant of a house make an examination of the chimney where it passes through the attic. Yet, this portion of the building is probably the source of the great majority of fires which start from defective chimneys. Changes in weather conditions and vibration have a deleterious effect upon the mortar in the brickwork, causing it to disintegrate and leaving openings through which sparks may readily pass.

When fed alone to young pigs, corn produces relatively slow gains at a high feed cost. Supplemental protein feeds will make faster gains at a lower feed requirement per unit of gain. Just now, when grains are high in price, farmers should understand that there are other kinds of hog feeds which are cheap, and one of the cheapest is rape pasture. For the first day after farrowing the sow should be fed somewhat lightly, and the full feed should be advanced to by degrees during the first ten days. Pigs on pasture must be given some grain in addition if they are to gain at all.

International law is suspended, but it is not dead, and one of the terms of peace must be that Germany should recognize what international law means.—The Lord Chancellor.