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THE RURAL PUBLISHING CO.,

Peterboro, Ont.

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## OUR HOME CLUB

### Like Mother Like Child

"I can't understand where Mary picks up so much slang," said a distressed mother to her recently.

And she had good reason to be distressed. The language that is used by her little daughter five years old is always slangy; and sometimes profane is not too hard an adjective to apply to it.

The funny part of it is that this mother could never understand just where her little girl picked up so much slang. She herself could hardly get through the minutes of conversation without using "By George" or "Good gracious" two or three times. At other times expressions still more forcible escape her. And yet she wonders where her child has gotten the same habit.

Mothers cannot be too careful about the expressions that they use before their children. They have a right to insist also that others who come in contact with their children should not use words that will not desire their children to know. Children learn mostly by imitation. "Another Mother."

### A Plea for the Farm Boy

Do you think that we fully appreciate the value of a well-trained mind? Agriculture is man's greatest resource. He who lives in the country should have a good knowledge of the practical side of our occupation. But education is man's greatest source of power, and it is in the lack of that desire that we have failed as farmers to exert the influence that we should in the political life of our country.

Too many of us under our schooling before we reach the high school, we get a possible knowledge of writing, reading and arithmetic. We get a smattering of history and geography, but of the great subjects that have such a vital relationship to up-to-date agriculture, the sciences and economics, we learn nothing whatever.

I would urge that all country parents who wish to confer on their children a lasting benefit will give them something that will be of more value than the home farm that will be left to them in a good college education, preferably at the agricultural college. We should remember that our sons to be worth-while citizens must be educated men.—Uncle Jim.

### Same Time—More Education

When I was a child I can remember hearing my mother and father counting over their money and laboriously figuring out with pen and paper just how many pounds, shillings and pence they had. We never hear of anything like that nowadays. With our convenient dollars and cents we can count up our money without fuss. We have gotten away from such a clumsy system of currency.

In other things, however, we hold to the old antiquated systems of accounting. For instance, can anything be more antiquated than our system of weights and measures? I believe that our school children lose at least two years of time studying weights and measures. They could learn the simple metric, which like our present system of money is all contained in tons, in one hour, and have all the rest of that two years for subjects that are of more importance.

I believe that the children in our country schools should be given an

opportunity for more metric study. The boys should be given a chance to study the rudiments of arithmetic, and the girls, of domestic science. At present it would be difficult to find time in school hours for such subjects. I believe that we have adopted systems of accounting such as are used in France and Germany, the time thus made available could be devoted with much more profit to subjects that would be of interest to the student through his entire life. What do other Home Club members think of the adoption of the metric system in Canada?—"The Philosopher."

### Making the Real Man

There are farmers who have a peculiar disregard for the latest in farm machinery and a tremendous respect for the value of muscular toil. One of these men will, in a dozen years, build up a farm unexcelled in the neighborhood. By that time, however, physical labor will have become a second nature to him, and some day how fat his bank account, from the habit will keep him everlasting grinding away until he collapses. In years before he reaches the middle age, as well as being poor, he will have his life, considering how little his hard contributed to his personal well-being. In other words, by not exerting his energy, he developed in a field drudge, instead of the logical, intelligent man who made the most of his opportunities to really live.

But there also exists the man who does not fall a slave to his farm. In peculiar locations he is not so busy to be able to turn the sun into the morning. Making a correct study of his farm and the machinery catalog, he selects those tools he needs to him, and manages to do some amount of work in his right line as his slaving neighbor does in the evening when the six o'clock whistle from the city can be heard, a man who chooses to read and superintend. By seven the day's work is completed; in winter this may be shortened a full hour.

### HOW TO LIVE LONG

Because he is not everlasting grubbing away with his hands, because he takes time to read, to get the best agricultural papers, to get the finer literature as well, his eyes remain clear and his steps become firm for many years. Men are eager to hire out to him because they know he will not last them to increase his age, and that he is not contented with a grouch.

Often with many years yet before him, he resigns the farm to the son just out of the state agricultural college, and is content to take life a little easier. His bank account may be as large as that of his neighbor, but he will have had at least two dates of enjoyment out of every year, and be content. By conserving his energies through a long life he will not die a shattered and a broken man, wasted in pursuit of a little fortune for his relatives to squabble over at his death.—Wm. A. Pfeiffer, in Successful Farmer.

Have you had any trouble with neighbor? What's the use? You've both sick of it. Go down and talk to him, on the sunny side of the stone wall. Get up close to him and tell him you are sorry. Say it in your own words, and mean it! But more than that. Watch for a chance to do him a good turn. That's the go a thousand times farther than anything you can say. Live like the corner of his heaviest load, but never melts, not in the frost, but in the sunshine. Just try it.

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