

The Farmer's Advocate AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques and parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
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bers proved good. However, the aim was to show that with a diversity of crops the annual revenue from the entire farm would be reasonably satisfactory. It was also desired to inculcate up-to-date methods and reveal them to the public. Few other growers were able to show such good returns, but they were at liberty to make full enquiry and pattern their operations after what they saw and learned.

This suggests how we might be able to get away from the Government demonstration farm. On such an institution, labor is seldom more than seventy-five per cent. efficient, taking the well-run, privately-owned farm as a basis of comparison. As a general thing, too, farmers do not look with sympathy on the State-controlled farm, nor do they place as much confidence as they should in the results and recommendations given to the public. Who has not heard the remark: "Oh, it is easy enough to do things with Government money." We would not advocate replacing the Central Experimental Farms system, or the Provincial College Farms. They are particularly adapted to special lines of work which must be carried on. However, where districts ask for demonstration farms which will exert a more or less local influence the British Columbia idea might advantageously be put into execution. The farmer in this case would necessarily be a good one, and capable of adapting modern ideas to the management of his 100 or 150-acre farm. Government money would not enter into consideration, or influence the operations. Details, such as a record of all crops grown, receipts, expenditures, etc., should be returned in a sworn statement, and the farm laid open to visitors for inspection. It is the adaptation of modern teaching to the management of the ordinary farm that people now desire to see tested and proven. It has been suggested that the District Representatives of the various Departments of Agriculture should operate a farm in connection with their work. We believe the scheme just outlined would be vastly superior and productive of more good to the community.

Spray Thoroughly at the Right Time.

In this issue of "The Farmer's Advocate" will be found the Spray Calendar revised and up-to-date. Equipment and spraying materials are high in price and labor is scarce, but fruit should also be in good demand under such conditions. In the report of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Convention, published in the issue of February 21, mention was made of economical sprays or how expenses might be reduced without militating against good results. These should be reviewed and an effort made to do as good work as possible. Not only should the spraying be thoroughly done but it should be done at the right time, which the Spray Calendar will reveal. There is a feeling in fruit-growing circles that we are now approaching an era when growers will experience a greater degree of prosperity, and the well-cared-for plantations will, of course, respond more liberally to any such conditions than those allowed to suffer neglect. The Spray Calendar, prepared and revised by Prof. Lawson Caesar, after years of experience, is a splendid guide, and should be posted in a convenient place or kept available for ready reference.

"The Collar Makes the Man"

BY ALLAN MCDIARMID.

What we hear when we are young generally makes a good deal of an impression on us and I recall an instance of this in my own experience that goes to prove the point. One of the boys with whom I went to school, who was a rather old-fashioned youngster, said one day: "The collar makes the man," and whether true or not the remark has stayed with me ever since. It was an old proverb that he had picked up somewhere and like a good many proverbs it can't be made to fit under all circumstances. At the same time there is enough truth in it to make us pay it some respect. I had this impressed on me shortly after I heard it first in a way that gave me an uncomfortable feeling whenever I thought of it afterwards for some years. The boys of our school were challenged to play a game of base-ball with the boys of a neighboring community and without giving the matter much thought we accepted. On the day appointed we went over to the grounds near the other school, dressed in our ordinary clothes which we wore every day in the week but Sunday. When we got there we found the team we were matched against all dressed up in their uniforms, with belts and caps and everything to match. We were beaten before a ball was pitched. The unfavorable appearance which we felt we made, compared with our opponents, took the sand clean out of every one of us. We hadn't the heart to put up a decent fight and came pretty nearly being whitewashed. The lesson wasn't lost on us however, and when the return match was played we were there with our caps and belts like the rest of them and we won the game, "without half trying", as we said afterwards. It was a case of what I heard later called "the reflex action of clothes."

The secret of the thing is that being well dressed gives us a feeling of self-respect and confidence that is the only condition of mind in which we can do our best work. The old Scotch weaver used to pray every day that the Lord would give him a "guid conceit o' himself" and there have been a good many prayers offered that hadn't as much to recommend them as had that. A proverb that some of the old folks used to have was: "Be a friend to yersel' and others will". What is gained by going round, as I heard one man say, "with an air of perpetual apology for the unpardonable sin of being in the world?" And nine times out of ten it is the man of poor appearance, the badly dressed man, who carries about with him this hang-dog manner.

As a different example of this effect of clothes on character take the case of our soldiers. The man who "dons the khaki" almost invariably straightens up and gets the military air of self-confidence and apparent purpose in life. The change has been so great in some of our round-shouldered, awkward young fellows, after getting into their "soldier's rig", that their best girls hardly knew them. The old manner went with the old clothes. The soldiers uniform stands for the ideal of manly courage and although he may hardly be aware of it, it is molding him to that ideal. This war has proved that there is a good deal of the hero in almost every man and if his uniform hasn't been the main thing in bringing it out it is pretty evident that it has helped.

I was reading the other day what a city business man said on this subject of clothes. It was this: "Clothes may not make the man but they've got many a man a good job. Better to spend your last twenty-five dollars in a suit of clothes, a pair of shoes, a clean collar and a shave, if you're looking for a situation, than to go in a shabby outfit with the twenty-five dollars in your pocket."

It seems as though people took our appearance as a sort of an advertisement of what we are ourselves. A clean collar and a clean conscience will take a man almost anywhere he wants to go in this world. So, as a merchant told one of his clerks "don't dispense with the laundry bill, it may cost you less to pay it."

Farmers as a class, have a reputation for being a little careless, to say the least, as to their clothes and their general appearance, not only on the farm but when they go to town on business matters. Some say that

one can't keep clean and respectable looking and do the work that has to be done on many occasions, but we all know farmers that do keep themselves decent looking at all times, and good farmers too. If we were sure that it paid from a money standpoint, as well as from several other points besides, most of us would be apt to do a little "sprucing" up. It takes a few minutes to shave and to put on a second-best suit of clothes before going to town, but when you have done it you don't have the same inclination to take off your hat to the bank manager when you go in to get a check cashed. If you have any business deals to put through you will find that they will come along more satisfactorily if your clothes make you appear as good a man as you are. A pair of patent leather boots will make you feel more than a couple of inches taller than a pair of beef-skin moccasins.

I've often wondered why men are not expected to dress as decently as their wives or sisters when they go out where they will meet others in a business or social way. I suppose for the same reason that makes it customary for a man to use tobacco and maybe drink and swear, when at the same time he would apply for a divorce if his wife did any of these things. We have a higher standard for our women-folk than we have for ourselves. We give ourselves more liberty than we are willing to give to them. But when this liberty takes the form of a patched pair of blue overalls and a checked flannel shirt upon all occasions, special and otherwise, then, as the temperance orator says, "liberty becomes license", and it's time to call a halt. Of course we admit it's not a very serious crime, this free-and-easy habit. As we said, we lose nothing more than money and self-respect by it, but the many cases of curvature of the spine that I've seen cured in the last three years by means of a suit of khaki has given me the idea that there might be some medicine of a like nature that would cure a similar complaint among us farmers.

Nature's Diary.

A. B. KLUGH, M.A.



Song Sparrow.

Spring! Spring! At last! The vernal season is ever welcome, but never more welcome than after such a winter as the past—I use the word "past" with a good deal of satisfaction—a winter which if it really was one of the old-fashioned kind makes us think that we prefer something modern in winters.

Spring! The season of re-awakening. To feel once more the carpet of sod beneath one's feet, to catch again the scent of good old mother earth, to greet each bird as it arrives and each flower as it raises its head to the sunshine.

The year of the naturalist does not begin on January the first; it begins with the opening of spring. Then the nature-lover, whose finger is ever on the pulse of life, feels the quickening beat of the heart of nature. The life of forest and field, of lake and marsh and stream, is gently stirring, soon to manifest itself in myriad activities. Each year the student of nature witnesses a grand opera; the prelude is softly warbled by the returning Robin and Bluebird; then the curtain goes up on the great drama of life, with action and music most wonderful and varied; the climax is reached in autumn when the results of the parts played by the actors on nature's stage become evident; then winter rings down the curtain.

The lover of nature is in a position to get far more out of life than those to whom the world of nature is a closed book, who have eyes to see but see not, and ears to hear but hear not. On every hand he finds the wonderful and the beautiful. Every walk, every drive, every journey is fraught with interest. Every year there is something new to find out, for his field of interest is illimitable. He may grow old in years but not in spirit, for every spring he renews his life. It has been my privilege to know three of Canada's oldest naturalists, and though when I first met them they were up to, or past, the three score and ten, they were as interested in their latest discoveries as any eager youth. Kind and generous to the tyro they were, ever ready with advice and encouragement, and though they have handed the torch to those who follow them.

The cheery ditty of the Song Sparrow is heard once more in the land. From his perch on the willow beside the stream, on the old apple tree in the orchard, or on the shade-tree beside the house, he sends forth his merry refrain. He sings in no faint or apologetic way but most whole-heartedly, and is not the least niggardly with his music.

The songs of all, or practically all, Song Sparrows are sufficiently alike to enable anyone to recognize the song of the species. Yet, when we come to study the matter closely we find an infinite variation. We find that each individual has his own particular song, that there is some quality about it which enables us to differentiate it from the song of any other Song Sparrow. This is also true of the songs of other species of birds, and this individual variation is brought to our notice more and more prominently the closer we study any animal, whether bird, mammal or insect. Occasionally we come across some individual which varies very greatly, such as the Song Sparrow which lived in a peat bog near Guelph and whose song had the characteristic three-high opening notes, but in place of the usual complicated warbling trill had a low trill on two notes.

The Song Sparrow has other claims upon our affection besides its cheerful song as it is a decidedly beneficial species. It does no harm to any agricultural pro-

ducts, but destroys food consists of being caterpillars, grasshoppers, crickets, beetles and worms and other total food destroying pests. species which would eat large are beneficial as a matter of insects and none valuable.

During July such as raspberries, black cherries. food is weed-seed being knot-grass, plantain, purslane, sunflower and dandelion on the field.

The Song Sparrow winters from Illinois to the Gulf States. Over winter in Southern

Veterinary

Astringents are For local application raw surfaces, as cracked heels, "Lotion," already as it is astringent cases, as thrush or leaking navel is required. For results. This is be used too freely applied too freely it can be diluted can be weakened acid is an active given internally are indicated in gleet, etc. For details:

Powdered Prepared Powdered

This is a reason or cow; smaller or more, according to of drugs of marked astringent and prevent discharge is not astringent. an agent that can is neither astringent of all the glands. As all these action intestines less fluidity of the drugs is mixed with water as a drench, and diarrhoea ceases. a case of diarrhoea of lime water to the In cases of chronic catarrh, cavities of the skin specific. It should three times daily, caused. Sulphate lead, and many other drugs mentioned purposes named.

Styptics are styptics are also of coagulating causing contraction vessels and by coagulation thereby causing a severed vessels allow a stream of the force of the local action of the must be checked vessels or the application of iron, sulphate zinc or alum act well advantage of being same agents as styptics but as for local application the hemorrhage is of bloody urine, the lungs, etc. Feeding gives better results ordinary horse, it is of cold water to appear.

Stimulants are to increase nervous