

Factory Girls' Pleasures

Much has been said and written about the hardships of girls that work in large factories, shops and stores. It is becoming a well known fact, however, that many of these larger establishments are doing much of late to refute this reputation. Our attention has lately been drawn to the conditions existing at the plant of the International Harvester Company's works in Chicago. This firm is said to make 85 per cent. of all the machinery that is used by the farmers of this country. A visit to the twine mill recently disclosed the following conditions.

There are picnics up the lake in the summer time, rival ball nines and bowling teams; there are tennis games, fire drills in all the plants. There are physical culture classes that work for an hour after closing time. There is a regular system of sick calls. The nurse reports at the plant-surgeon's office morning, noon and night, and at a good many other times, is eternally on the go through the neighborhood.

WHERE THE GIRLS LUNCH

The long, low-ceilinged basement of the twine mill is divided through its middle by a gangway enclosed between two quarter partitions. In these are gateways upon either hand. Those on the left hand lead into the restaurant, and at each of them sits a checker, in a snowy white apron that envelops her from neck to heel completely, handing lunch checks to the girls as they pass in. Beside the checker's desk is a long counter, where other white-aproned attendants have set out a fine array of coffee and cakes and pie and pudding, and diners of soup, roast and vegetables. Each girl takes her own and finds a place at one of the numberless

tables. Some bring their lunches from home in paper bags and buy coffee or tea at the counter at a cent per cup.

There is all the jollity and freedom and good nature that you would find anywhere. The girls have access to a good upright piano.

In the rest room adjoining, girls can lounge on sofas, read magazines and funny papers, wait for their turn to take course of a uniformed nurse, who at every noon-time with her little bag of ointments and bandages, and simple medicaments, holds "office hours" here for the consideration of minor ills.

SANITARY CONDITIONS

There are dressing rooms and private lockers and lavatory structures apart from the mill buildings and connected by bridges from every floor. In this, as in every place where there are girls, there is a matron. The walls and the machinery in the shops are cleaned of dust every night by pneumatic process, ventilation is perfect, the conditions are inspected at every hour of the day, and the air of the shops kept as clear of dust and ill odors as may be. But the moral atmosphere is cleaner still. When you sift the whole matter down, the most that betterment work can do is to create in work-people self-respect and a desire to better themselves, to reveal the possibilities, in the coin of happiness and contentment that abide in higher living.



If house plants drop from no apparent cause and refuse to thrive, try watering them solely by pouring warm water into the saucers every day. Plants love bottom heat, and it will sometimes give them a new lease of life.

Asked and Answered

Readers are asked to send any questions they desire to this column. The editor will aim to reply as quickly and as fully as space will permit. Address Household Editor, Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, Peterboro, Ont.

Can you tell me a reliable and satisfactory factory way of curing hams?—Mrs. Fred. Brethour, Halton Co., Ont.

A reliable and satisfactory recipe for curing hams is found in our new Cook Book. If you have not secured one of these as a premium, you can do so by sending us two new subscribers for one year at \$1.00 each. The recipe you ask for will be published as soon as space permits. In the meantime we trust you will win a Cook Book for yourself in a short while.



Can you tell me if an arch for boiling sap can be made of concrete that will stand the fire?—A. DeLong, Oxford Co., Ont.

We would not advise anyone to build an arch from concrete, stone or brick. By the time an arch of this character is constructed one is putting in more money than a steel arch would cost them. The greatest trouble is that frost and fire do not mingle well together, and the arch is liable to crack and heave, and every season they have to go over the arch so as to make the surface level. With the steel arch, this work is done in a moment's time by simply raising or lowering the front end, which anyone can do in a moment or two. The Grimm Mfg. Co., Montreal, Que., have had much experience in this work and can give further information regarding this subject.



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