

### Vacuum Cleaner Owned by an Institute\*

Mrs. S. L. Terrill, Northumberland Co., Ont.

Nowadays everyone is interested in hearing of appliances which tend to lighten labor of any description. The vacuum cleaner seems to be the foremost of labor-savers, in regard to the house. In the near future it will come to be an indispensable article for household use.

We of the Wooler Branch of the East Northumberland Women's Institute purchased our vacuum cleaner (the Bulin) for \$25 from our local agent, who is authorized to keep it in repair for one year. It was quite a new venture, but we are quite repaid for our little risk by the



Housecleaning with a Right up-to-date Labor Saver

The vacuum cleaner here shown in operation is owned by the Wooler Branch of the Ontario Women's Institute. Mrs. Terrill, president of the Wooler Branch, appears in the illustration holding the cleaner, while Mrs. Shearer, one of the members, is at the handle of the machine.

great value and praise put upon this little appliance by our members who have used it. One and all are unanimous in their verdict regarding the cleaner and say it is perfect.

One of our members offered to give the vacuum cleaner a permanent home in her house in the village, so that it is of easy access to most of our members and their friends, and one can always be sure of finding it there when it is not in use.

#### CLEANER IS RENTED TO ALL COMERS

The machine is rented to the members of the institute for 50 cents a day as long as they have it in their possession, thus encouraging them to bring it back as soon as cleaning is finished; keeping it till the following day may add 50 cents more to their expense. If any damage occurs while the machine is in a renter's hands, they are held responsible—not the institute—and they have to repair it.

Having such rules as these, we are almost assured that the cleaner will be returned promptly and in good condition. Non-members of the institute can also have the use of the cleaner on payment of one dollar a day for each day as long as they have it. We have a good-sized membership list, and, strange to say, no two members have ever arranged so as to have the cleaner on the same day.

#### PASSING OF THE OLD ORDER

Things have improved vastly since our grandmothers' day, when switching with the old-fashioned and tedious broom was the only way of dispelling (and incidentally distributing) the dust. From the broom great heaps were taken and the carpet sweeper was the outcome of much thought and work. It was considered the greatest invention for cleaning ever brought out, but putting it alongside the vacuum cleaner it has to take a very back seat. In the sweeper the dust was taken out of the carpet, but it was also sent all over the room, and quite as much work was entailed after as before.

With the vacuum cleaner nothing in the room

needs to be disturbed, and the room itself is as clean after the sweeping as before. The male portion of the family need no longer dread the awful approach of the cleaning season as with the vacuum cleaner as "Mother's Help" it is the season which is no longer connected with upheavals and disorder.

The cleaner is quite as handy for bedding as it is for ordinary work. After the dust has been removed from the feather ticks and pillows by the machine, the blower is fixed to it and it is wonderful to see the way it livens up the feathers and makes them "fluff" out, thus ensuring perfect cleanliness. It is just the same with the ordinary mattresses. It removes the dust more effectively and thoroughly than any brushing or beating could possibly do.

#### SPECIAL WORK FOR THE CLEANER

When cleaning the edges of the carpets it is to more advantage to remove the nickel end, or mouth-piece, and insert the point of the rubber hose in the edges. This mode of working draws out the dust, which is apt to get swept under the edges during the daily sweeping. After the cleaner has been over the carpet the carpet has the appearance of a new article. Every particle of dust seems to be drawn out without the wear and tear which used to be endured in the days of the old hand broom.

There are several attachments to the cleaner to be used for special kinds of work. The hose is 12 feet long, so that one person can work the cleaner at the bottom of the stairs, while the other can go to the top without the bother of shifting the machine. There is also a round brush which can be attached for cleaning clothes, and a felt face for polished floors.

From the accompanying picture it will be seen that the vacuum cleaner needs no great amount of exertion to work and is a saver of labor. My advice to any and all is to make an endeavor to purchase a vacuum cleaner.

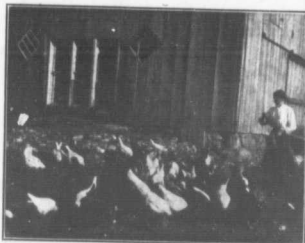
**Vegetables Out West.**—Easterners may at first despise their big yellow pumpkins, but a good, ripe pumpkin is a curiosity in the stores here. In 1905, I sold one to a grocer. He placed it on his counter and sold it in slices like a watermelon. That pumpkin brought me eight cents a pound. Hubbard squash are hardly ever seen with us, but cucumbers, citrons, and marrows are grown quite commonly. These vegetables can be grown on a new farm, where fruit bushes have not yet been established. They almost all make delicious preserves, so they are especially valuable to newcomers.—Brenda E. Neville, Assiniboia Dist., Sask.

### A Girl Writes about Her Poultry

Mildred Robertson, Victoria Co., Ont.

It pays very well to raise chickens for sale. The early chickens I find to be most profitable. I sold five this year that were early; each one dressed three and four pounds each, and for these I got 16 cents a pound, cash. I found these to pay very well. I have several more chickens ready now for killing; they will not realize so large a price.

In our flock we have several different varieties



Giving Her Chickens their Early Morning Feed

This little girl, Miss Mildred Robertson, who contributes an article in this column, has full charge of the poultry on her father's farm. She is making a success of the poultry.

—Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

of fowl, and I cannot say which of them are the best layers. However, I do know that the Black Minorcas lay the largest eggs, but they do not seem to be the best winter layers. I consider the Rocks to be good winter layers, and they usually set early and that gives me a chance to get chickens hatched early in the season.

For feeding the hens I like wheat; it is the best feed that can be got. Last winter there were only a few weeks during which we did not get at least a few fresh eggs, and our hens were fed on wheat. A change in the feed is good for the hens, and on a mild day in the winter I like to give them a soft feed such as bran mash and a little mixed chop with it.

It is very necessary that the hen house be kept clean at all times. The hens need lots of grit, such as lime, gravel and oyster shell. We find it to be a good thing to put a load or two of fresh earth in the hen house in the fall and also to keep plenty of ashes where the hens can get them. All of these things are necessary for the hens in winter as well as in summer. The ashes help to keep the lice out of the hen house. If the hen house should become infested with lice they may be gotten rid of by spraying the roofs and walls with a liquid louse killer once a week for a while and then once in about every two weeks until all of the lice disappear.



All to the Interest of Better Agriculture, at a Farmer's Club Picnic, near Galt, Ont.

—Photo by F. C. Hart, B.S.A., District Representative.

\*Mrs. Terrill is president of the Wooler branch of the Women's Institute of Ontario. The Terrill farm was a winner of a first prize in Farm and Dairy's Farm Competition two years ago and third prize for the whole of Ontario last year.