

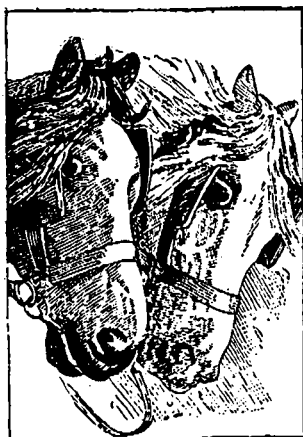


The Boy for Me.

Some judge the boy by outward looks
Some by one thing or other;
But I will judge by his kind heart,
And how he treats his mother.

Show me the boy who stays at home
The evenings, with his mother,
And, girls, you'll find that boy will make
A husband kind, or brother.

Show me a boy who ever heeds,
And listens to his mother,
And he's the boy who'll "make his mark,"
You'll see, some time or other.



A few Don'ts.

Don't use "don't" for "does not." "Don't" is an abbreviation of "do not." We can rightly say, "I don't, you don't, we don't," But what do you think of, "He do not, she do not, it do not?" And yet this is what you are saying over and over every day of your lives when you say, "He don't, she don't, it don't." Don't use "a'n't" (pronounced "aint," though it should not be spelled that way) for isn't or is not. A'n't is an abbreviation of "am not" or "are not." It's an ugly word according to my way of thinking, and the less it is used the better. But if you cannot get along without it remember that when you say, he a'n't, she a'n't, it a'n't, you are really saying, "He am not, she am not, it am not."

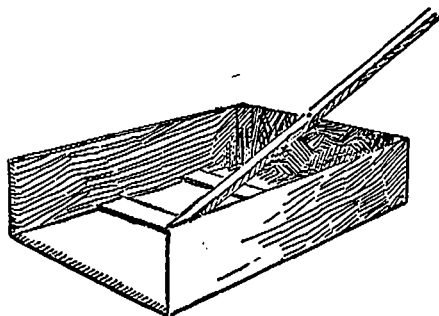
Don't say "popper" and "mommer," but *papa* and *mamma*, with the emphasis on the last syllable. I can always tell an English girl or boy by her or his pronunciation of these words, as they pronounce them correctly. So girls and boys, practice the correct way until you have it perfect.

Don't say dorg, instead of dog. How would you pronounce b-o-g, f-o-g, h-o-g, l-o-g, and all other one syllable words ending in o-g? Well, pronounce d-o-g to rhyme with them and you'll be right. Don't leave off the "g" in such words as talking, laughing, singing, etc. A great many people do, and as a consequence we very often hear sentences like the following: "Oh, I've been out walkin', and it's so cold it's freezin', and I'm just starvin', and I do hope there's a pud-din'."

Don't say real good, instead of really or very good; cute, for acute; cunning, for small or dainty; funny, for odd or unusual, etc., etc.

A Farmer Boy's Snow Shovel.

THE first thing to be done on a farm, after rising in the early morning and finding the ground covered deeply with snow, is to make paths. Coal or dirt shovels are poor implements for shovelling snow, but every farmer boy who has ingenuity can make a wooden one like that shown below. Take



A SERVICEABLE SNOW SHOVEL.

two planks of wood about two feet in length, with one end planed off to a sharp edge, and nail two strips of wood crosswise to them. Then nail three narrow pieces of board on each side of these two planks, excepting the sharp side, making a three-sided box. To make the box stronger, blocks of wood are nailed in each angle. The handle is nailed to the bottom boards, and also to the back of the shovel. Braces of narrow strips of wood could also be put on, and the wooden shovel made strong enough to use in any kind of snow.

Baby and the Shadows.

Watching the wall where the shadows be,
Pointing them out with a finger wee,
Baby laughs loudly to see them go
Upward and downward, then to and fro.

Shadows are playthings simply now,
And he wonders whence they have come and how,
For they dance and change as he gives them chase,
And his finger touches not even a trace.

But how will it be when the years have come?
Will the shadows still be empty, dumb?
Will the shadows then come out for play
And, before his laugh, will they flee away?



CORRESPONDENCE.

Incubator Management.

A READER, BLOOMFIELD, ONT.—You would oblige me very much by describing in your next paper the construction and cost of building an Incubator and the management of one.

WE would advise you to purchase an incubator and any of the manufacturers will be pleased to furnish you with full particulars as to construction, management etc. The prices run from \$50 with 200 egg capacity to \$20 with 50 egg capacity. It would be much more satisfactory to you, as the difference between the cost of building one yourself and what you would pay for one would not be much. Regarding the management of an incubator a leading poultryman says: "There are some points which all must observe to be successful. The incubator must be surrounded by air not subject to sudden, violent changes of temperature; the best regulated incubator cannot do good work when there are material fluctuations in the temperature of the air about it. During the winter and early spring an incubator must not be kept in a room heated by day but cold at night. Perhaps the best place for the incubator is in the cellar, where the temperature is most uniform. Of course an incubator cannot hatch infertile eggs, although some are blamed for not doing so. If it is intended to fill it early, see that the yard has a sufficient number of cocks, well fed, and test the eggs carefully. The sweeping claims made by some manufacturers have done harm. No incubator will run itself. No matter how much self-regulating apparatus it has, its temperature must be observed every few hours. The better success of those whose business is poultry raising compared with those with whom it is an adjunct is easily explained—the former give the incubator more attention." A writer in the *Poultry Monthly* says: "My plan is this:—The room should be one that does not vary much from sixty degrees, though this is not important if the temperature can be kept near one point. I say sixty degrees because it is neither high nor low, and is a temperature that is agreeable to be in when caring for the machine. The machine should be operated empty until the operator is certain that the temperature is well under control, after which the eggs may be put in. After the eggs are in, the secret of success is in *letting them alone*. The machine ought to be left closed, except when the eggs are being turned, and it is not important that the eggs be turned as often as they usually are. If one has to go to a setting hen a dozen times a day and take the eggs out and test them, and look at them, all the time keeping the hen off the nest, we should not expect a great hatch. Yet this is what is done with most incubators, and the makers are called frauds on account of the sins of their patrons. When the hatch begins, shut up the machine and leave it shut. A chick newly hatched does not need food for twenty four hours, and the best place for it is the incubator where it was hatched. As to moisture—a friend used it freely during the whole hatch, and got 130 chicks from 200 eggs; another friend tried a hatch without moisture and got 85 chicks from 100 eggs. I use a modification of both methods, and my hatches this season averaged not far from 85 per cent. Now, I want someone to rise and say just what amount of moisture is best."