

Soils and Crops

Address communications to Agri-Forum, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto.
Poultry Feeding Problems.

Many farmers have the wrong opinion of dry mash feeding for poultry and believe that it must be an expensive method. At first thought it seems as if the hens would gather about the hopper and eat all the time. But this is the way it works out. The hens occasionally take a bite of the mash. Then they have to drink water. The mash is dry and cannot be gorged down. After a hen has taken a few bites of mash she is ready to hunt around for other food.

The mash is not sufficiently appetizing to keep the hens from searching for other food. Hens that have been without mash might consume much more than usual when it was returned to them. But if the mash is always full they soon satisfy their appetites and then only eat at intervals. The mash hopper insures every hen an opportunity of obtaining egg-making material at some time during the day.

When hens have mash they do not need so much other grain. Enough protein can be given to the hens in the form of hard grain. If they have the mash they can eat the material needed to produce eggs. The use of mash saves enough hard grain to make it use practical. It also enables the hen to lay eggs and if the mash is made of pure protein, it will pay to use the mash. The profit with poultry is the difference between egg receipts and feed costs. A cheap ration might bring no profit because of low egg production. A well balanced ration brings eggs without eggs to sell there is no profit in the hen business, even if the feed cost is close to zero.

When there is plenty of sour milk the beef scrap or other protein in the mash can be cut in two. Some farmers find it a hard problem to feed sour milk in a sanitary manner. If the milk is placed in low dishes it is seen full of litter and very unclean. Dirty milk can be a cause of bowel trouble. It pays to place the milk in crocks on low wooden stands. These crocks can be sealed and kept free from dirt and gummy material. They are rather heavy and not easily tipped over. They are low in height so the hens can drink the milk to the bottom of the dish.

We have used galvanized pails for sour milk but the hens cannot drink to the bottom of the pail. They may root on the bottom and tip the pail over. The dry mash from their bills settles in the bottom of the pail along with other dirt and some of the milk may have to be wasted when the pails are rinsed.

Some poultrymen find it a problem to keep hens from wasting every material that is served in a self-feeding hopper. The hens seem to have a mania for pulling out mash, oyster shells or grit until the hopper is emptied in the litter and much of the material wasted. This can be avoided by making a lip with a small piece of board on the front of the hopper. Then the trough of the hopper can be deep enough so the hens have to reach down for the material. If they still waste it, a piece of fine mesh poultry wire can be tacked over the opening so the birds will have to peck through the openings and only be able to obtain the material that they eat.

The clogging of dry mash hoppers is a problem if they have narrow throats. The remedy is to build them wide enough so that the mash will not often clog. Even then it is necessary to watch the hoppers occasionally and see that the mash is feeding down as it is used. A stick several feet long can be kept in a hopper that clogs and be used to break up the mash. That takes time and it pays to build the hoppers so they will seldom fail to let the mash slip down as it is used.

When old and young poultry use the same farm range it is a real problem to keep the chicks growing rapidly. The old birds crowd them from the feed hoppers and frighten them at feeding time. It pays to construct a dry mash hopper inside of an enclosure protected by slats so that the young birds can enter while the old ones are excluded. The chicks soon learn where they can feel unmolested and an improvement will be noted in their growth.

Such an enclosure can also be used for the water dishes and sour milk crocks used by the young growing stock. Of course, it is best to have them on a separate range but these small feeding yards are very useful on the general farm where all the poultry of all ages are allowed to run together.

Some breeders use wet mash and find trouble in keeping the poultry house clean and the feeding troughs in good condition. We believe that this problem can be avoided and the poultry houses kept more clean and dry if no wet mash is used. The birds grow and lay on dry mash and such mixtures save much labor and seem to keep the birds healthy. We can see no necessity of mixing up much moist feed. Of course, when there is an abundance of table scraps they can be made more appetizing to the hens if they are made into a moist mash by the addition of bran or the

second growth of kaffir or sorghum must not be fed and stock must not be allowed to run on it as it generates a deadly poison after frost.

Here are the big advantages: Plenty of green feed to tide over the period of dry pasture; easily put in with the minimum of labor; no cultivating to do; any left over after pasture becomes good again and may be cut, cured and stored for winter feed. It makes the best feed for cows as the grain is right with it. My hogs eat it green or dry, stalks and all. More green feed and more cured dry feed to the acre than any other plant or combination of plants I ever knew of.

Preparing Market Lambs.
In the mind of the packer's buyer, when he enters a pen of lambs to make a bid on the lot, is the knowledge that the consumer wants a tender, juicy, palatable piece of meat. So, according to the quality of the lot, i.e., its fitness to give this kind of meat, he makes his offer.

If there is a good proportion of wethers in the lot he will pay more because he knows they will yield a higher percentage of the choice cuts. They will be better developed than the ram lambs just where the meat is of most value. The backs will be better covered and the loins will be fuller. In ram lambs the development will be in the neck and shoulders and this is cheaper meat than the back and loin cuts. In addition the flavor of the meat from ram lambs puts it at a distinct disadvantage as compared with that of the wethers.

By the use of pure-bred rams there has been an admitted improvement effected in the quality of lambs offered on the public stockyards within the past ten years. Some districts have reached a higher standard of excellence than others. This is very clearly brought out by an analysis of the receipts at two stockyards over a period of two weeks this fall. Of the lambs offered at one yard 55 per cent. were graded "common," while at another yard only 5.5 per cent. were placed in that class. Breeding to a very large extent is responsible for the difference. The producers have profited by reason of the increase in price which the good lambs command, as indicated by the difference of \$2.40 per cwt. in favor of the lambs classed "good" for the period.

There is, however, as yet a great neglect on the part of sheep raisers in the matter of docking and castrating of male lambs. The former practice adds much to the uniform appearance of a load of lambs and at the same time minimizes the danger of ticks becoming infested with maggots due to dirty wool. One has only to watch a number of lambs gathered together to see what happens where castration is neglected. If in the field the ram lambs, in addition to not feeding themselves, constantly disturb the others and the consequence is they merely hold their own in weight where they do not fail. The same restlessness is observed in the shipping car or in the alley at the yards. The shrinkage in transit is great. As the season advances this condition becomes aggravated and the breeder who wishes to keep his lambs for a later market finds it unprofitable to do so because of the unsatisfactory gains they make. He is the loser in two ways: first, because the lambs have not made economical gains, and, secondly, because lacking quality, they bring a lower price.

How I Solved the Pasture Problem.
For the past four years we have had a long dry spell every summer. My pasture—mostly rye and rough ground, has dried up until the little grass left was fairly brittle and looked dead. What to do for green feed for cows during that period was the question. I solved that problem this year.

I had a piece of yellow clay ground too poor for corn, and no manure to spare for that piece. I had a quantity of soy-beans and some kaffir-corn seed. I plowed the piece the last of May, harrowed it once, sowed the soy-beans broadcast, broadcasted the kaffir corn over the same ground, sowed a small quantity of pulverized sheep manure fertilizer, harrowed the ground again and waited for results. I thought I might get a little green feed and at least get a growth for turning under later on.

That stuff came up and grew amazing. I began feeding from it about the middle of July, mowing off just the amount needed for a day or two at a time. I fed green feed from that piece until the last of September when the fall rains had made the pasture good again. The stock ate it clean, stalks and all.

I had only enough soy-beans for about half the piece so had kaffir corn alone on the other half. The first of October I cut the remaining kaffir corn by hand and shocked it. There were twenty-four big shocks of feed. The kaffir had grown to about four feet tall at that time and headed out with an abundance of ripe grain. I am feeding it now to the cow and notice that she gives more milk.

I learned some lessons through this experiment. Here they are for your benefit: First, I used Ita San soy-beans and they ripened too soon and shed their leaves. I shall use a much later variety next year as the object is not seed but forage. The stock, though, ate the dry beans, stems, pods and all. Also I shall try sorghum instead of kaffir corn in the combination on a small piece but shall stick to kaffir for the main piece. I have an idea sorghum will make a heavier forage and cure easier.

I might mention that where I mowed first, the kaffir grew again and got nearly two feet high by frost, so I got my cover crop after all. Caution: this

Poultry

The marketing of thin chickens is not conserving our meat supply, nor is it the most profitable method to producers. Present prices of market poultry admit of the liberal use of feeds, and the marketing of well-fleshed birds.

The best birds to flesh or fatten are those of the heavier breeds, such as Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds and Plymouth Rocks. The light breeds, such as Leghorns, seldom pay to fatten unless they are very thin in flesh. The birds intended for fattening should be placed in a pen, or in a slatted coop. The process is not difficult if you will pay attention to a few points that are essential.

Feed very lightly for the first day that birds are in the pen, but be sure to give them a drink (milk is best). Then feed gradually whatever birds will eat and leave no waste feed in the trough. Generally the most profitable gains are made during the first four to six days feeding. Such birds will not be very fat, but may be fat enough to cook and eat well. Some markets demand fatter birds.

The most profitable gains are made on those birds which weigh from three and one-half to four (or one-half) pounds when put up to fatten.

The grains fed should be finely ground and, if possible, should be mixed with sour milk, to a consistency of pancake batter. The more milk a chicken will take the more it will gain. Milk appears to have no good substitute for fattening chickens. If you cannot get milk, then add ten to fifteen per cent. of meat meal to the ration, and mix with water. The addition of a little green food daily will help matters. Many people get better results by feeding a little salt. About one-half pound to one hundred pounds of dry grain is sufficient. The milk is best by being dissolved in water and adding a little at each feed. Be careful not to use too much.

The best grains available now are a mixture of ground barley, cornmeal, finely ground buckwheat, and shorts. Oat: are good if part of the hull is sifted out, as are also ground brewers' grains, and shorts mixed with double the quantity of sour milk. In general, feed nearly one-third shorts and what ever finely ground grains you may have about a farm.

The essentials are to select healthy birds, keep pen clean and free from vermin. If chickens do not eat all feed in fifteen minutes, remove what is left from pen, and mix ground grain with sour milk if possible.

Scientific Beekeeping.
For the advancement of beekeeping in Canada, says the late F. W. L. Sladen, in his last annual report as Dominion Apiarist, covering the year ending March 31, 1921, the great need is to educate beekeepers to replace with modern methods of management the old neglectful methods that continued to levy toll of loss, particularly in winter, from brood diseases and from old and failing drone-breeding.

Water for Farm Homes

"Say, Martha, listen to this." It was Frank Anderson who spoke. He had left the boys to finish washing the automobile before the evening meal was ready while he came in to read a letter from his brother who lived in Eastern Ontario. "Bill tells me of a neighbor's wife who has walked 5,710 miles and carried 2,000 tons of water."

"Bill must be improving in his figures," was the casual rejoinder of Mrs. Anderson. "I judge these are not Bill's figures. It seems that a survey of farm homes is being made in his county. During this survey extension men from the university who are doing the work found this woman, now sixty-five years old, who for the past fifty years has been carrying the water needed by her household from a well located six feet below the level of the kitchen floor and one hundred and forty feet away from the house. Now, after a half century they have learned that it will require an expenditure of only \$18 to pipe the water right into the poor woman's kitchen."

"Strange, isn't it—only yesterday at the community club this matter came up for discussion. Mrs. Chapman gave a ten-minute talk on the farm home water supply. Evidently, she had informed herself on the subject for among other interesting things she included a statement on the number of homes having running water. According to data gathered by government men only one home in every five has running water, while sixty-eight per cent. of the women carry the water needed in their homes from wells outside. I presume Bill's neighbor is one of these women, al-

and lost queens. Information on these matters it might be suggested, has been secured and made public by demonstration and experiment at sixteen Dominion Experimental Farms scattered throughout the country, and it may be added, by the distribution of bulletins and such reports as the one referred to. Many of the experimental problems in Canadian beekeeping relate to the simplifying of methods so as to enable the keeper to care for a larger number of colonies in a given time. In Canada a great deal of time is spent in handling bees to prevent their swarming. Long, warm, sunny days, such as we have had this year, and the heavy honey flows, develop a stronger tendency to swarm, and the swarming season lasts longer than it does in the south. In most parts of this country the swarming season continues far into the main honey flow, rendering manipulative work for the prevention of swarming particularly exacting because of the necessity of removing and afterwards replacing the supers containing the honey, in order to reach the brood chamber to carry out swarm control operations therein. The need is a reasonably certain method of preventing swarming and requiring but little labor, and that limited to certain days, making it possible for the bee-keeper to do similar work in out-apiaries in the intervening days. Successful manipulation is retarded when the old queen is left in the hive. The greater productivity of a young queen makes the colony more profitable in the succeeding year. Young queens, which can be raised from selected stock, also improve the strain of bees.

How to Grow Mushrooms Successfully.

Mushrooms are much appreciated by epicures and would be by many other people who realize the succulence and delicacy of mushrooms on toast or with steaks, if they could more easily be procured, and yet they can be freely and cheaply grown. All that is required is a little knowledge and a little trouble. In a circular published by the Dominion Experimental Farms, the Plant Pathologist, Mr. F. L. Drayton, points out that they can be grown in a cellar, an out-building or barn in which the temperature can be kept fairly uniform at between 45 and 65 deg. F., and under greenhouse benches. A little stable manure where wheat or oat straw has been used for bedding will promote the growth. The leaflet explains how the manure is to be treated and made use of. The manure can be placed on the floor and ridded up against the wall or spread on shelves, a sample of which gives in diagram. Bricks of spawn which must be broken up into ten or twelve pieces can be obtained from any reliable dealer in seeds at 35c or 50c per brick. Some "don'ts" are given in the circular, such as: don't use old manure mixed with shavings or sawdust; don't cure the manure too late, that is, when frosty weather has set in; don't plant the spawn until the temperature has been at 65 deg. for three or four days; don't overwater, and don't cover the bed with soil until the spawn has started to make a mould-like growth.

He who receives a good turn should never forget it; he who does one should never remember it.—Charron.

Nobody knows what vitamins are, but to get them into your system is easy as ABC. Simply see that milk and green vegetables are plentiful in the diet.

John Dill is in a pretty pickle and folks are treating him cool as a cucumber. Don't cure the agency for life insurance and sold all his friends' savings policies that they can't get any fun out of life and keep up their premiums at the same time.

Don't fail to whitewash a stable at least once each year; twice might be better. It not only improves the appearance inside, but expels insects, and stops any bad odor, rendering a building sweet and healthy for animals to sleep in. It is quite essential to the production of good milk. A house needs frequent applications, according to the number of hogs contained in it; a poultry house should be whitewashed the oftener the better to kill lice in cracks or other narrow crevices where vermin may harbor.

Fruit and ornamental trees should be whitewashed once each year to discourage borers and to prevent bark from cracking and peeling off. A strong solution, applied to fence posts, penetrates deep cracks, and keeps the timber in a good state of preservation. This has been proven for whenever an old house is torn down, the lath are as sound as new ones, being preserved by plaster.

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November.
November walks with weary feet. A veil of grey about her face. 'Tis winter that she goes to meet; November walks with weary feet. She calls to her in rain and sleet. And holds them in a chill embrace. November walks with weary feet. A veil of grey about her face.

Yet, though so sad and desolate, She has a beauty soft and rare, A dignity of pose and gait. Yet, though so sad and desolate, No blows of a relentless Fate Can take away her regal air. Yet, though so sad and desolate, She has a beauty soft and rare. —Leslie Mary Opler.

The Welfare of the Home

Baby's First Tool, Himself—By Martha Gallaudet Waring.

When we begin the training of the baby we must never forget that the first thing he should learn to use is himself, and that his first tools should be the God-given ones of his own body—members and brain. We are apt to overlook this in fact, though ready to admit it in theory; therefore, let us glance over the beginning of this kind of training.

Frederick, with his never-failing insight into the needs of the developing child, has given us among others, the Mother-Play of "Falling-Falling." This, as well as the "Play with the Limbs" and "Pat-a-Cake" should be used with the very tiny baby as soon as he shows signs of conscious activity.

Babies always respond with pleasure to exercises with the soles of the feet pressed against the palms of the mother's hands, and to the careful moving of the arms up and down. These simple exercises begin to differentiate their members for them, thus giving them early control of their bodies. "Pat-a-Cake" comes next and then "Two Little Dicks that are Walking a Mile" played with the feet thus: "Two little dogs are walking a mile. Two little dogs are crossing a stile. Cross over, cross over, cross over."

During the first two lines lift up the baby's feet successively as though walking in the air, and for the last line cross over alternately. Next comes rolling over on the bed and pulling up by the arms, first a little, gradually all the way, before the baby tries to stand or walk. As soon, however, as he begins to pull himself up by objects, show him stable ones that will not rock or move. From then on, it is all a matter of first lessons in using his most important tool, himself.

How to Test Concrete.

Many times you have been puzzled over the failure of concrete to last satisfactorily, and maybe you were inclined to blame the concrete. Generally, however, other things have been the matter. There are a few simple tests of materials that you can make at small expense without going to a laboratory.

Tests of cement. If the cement has been carefully stored, and has no hard lumps that cannot be readily crushed with the fingers, it is probably safe to use. Of course it should be standard brand, put up in a properly labeled package. The label should state the name and address of the maker, the brand of cement, and net weight of contents.

Tests for sand and gravel. Fill a quart glass jar about one-third full of sand or gravel. Fill jar nearly full of water. Shake jar well for about one minute, rest a while, and then shake jar for another minute. Now allow jar to stand until water above the sand is clear. Note the silt, if any, above the sandy. If more than one-sixteenth of an inch of silt appears, the sand is not fit for use for permanent work.

Fill a 12-ounce prescription bottle to 4-ounce mark with sand or gravel to be tested. Now fill to 7-ounce mark with three per cent. solution of sodium hydroxide. (This may be obtained for a few cents at any drug store.) Shake bottle well, and let stand overnight. Liquid may be clear or may range from straw to dark brown in color. If darker than light straw color, material should not be used.

This test shows presence of vegetable matter which often coats grains of sand or gravel with a sort of gelatin and prevents the cement from clinging or gripping the particles and cementing them together.

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Mother should have a kit of tools of her own, not to be borrowed by the men for use around the place.

At the age of two a child who is normally strong and has been properly trained can do any of the following things, adding to his activities almost hourly. He can climb on chairs or other objects, by which he can steady himself. He can walk and run with ease also, balance against moving objects such as a go-cart. He can open and shut doors, drawers and boxes and fit covers or stoppers to their proper openings.

At the age of twenty-two months our baby, who was quite used to going up and down the inside stairs alone, was observed laboriously climbing down them, holding the banister with one hand while in the other he held a rattan suit-case, light but unwieldy. This he carefully lifted down from step to step, climbing after it, with never a slip, so we let him alone and watched. He carried the suit-case down a long hall, carefully opened the back door and descended the back steps into the yard. We followed observed into the garage, until we saw him climb laboriously into my electric coupe still tugging at his previous suit-case, and calling to the man "Bill, Mama's 'chine, choo-choo car! Tybee." Tybee is the seaside resort nearest us, and the power of that thought-wish had taken him over as difficult and laborious a way as many an explorer's expedition.

My experience has been with my own three children, that through proper training, there is a rapid growth of mental balance and judgment, with excellent control of the smaller or accessory muscles as they come into use, so that in many ways, through their kindergarten and school life, they show the effect of a right start in the use of this most important of all tools,—the human body.

Think It—And It's So!

Few of us realize how much our lives are influenced both by outside suggestion and auto-suggestion. We are, for instance, feeling out of sorts, and a friend tells us we are "really looking very ill." This makes us feel worse at once, and we hastily send for a doctor. He feels our pulse, looks at our tongue, and says: "Overwork, my dear sir. Take this tonic and a few days' rest. Ill? No, of course you are not going to be ill. But you must certainly take great care."

There are doctors, although I honestly believe they are in the minority, who look grave over very small matters that they almost suggest illness to you; but the average physician usually cheers you up by his healthy suggestions, for nowadays most physicians realize the power of mind over body.

Most forms of faith-healing are merely valuable lessons in auto-suggestion. The sick are told to "deny pain," "to remember they are well all the time," "to realize health," "to express life," "to hold the thought of perfect wholeness," and so on and so forth. Now, what do we get out of all or any of these suggestions? A sweeping away of small ailments, of morbid fears, and the egotism of invalidism.

It is marvellous how it will help us to throw off the little ailments that now fill us with undue fear, ailments that really do not matter. It is also wonderful how the thought that we are going to be prosperous, and are likely to succeed, will fill us with the courage and perseverance that will eventually lead us to the success we long for.

Then auto-suggestion eliminates many of our little worries. I know a woman who, whenever she feels overwhelmed with small and irritating cares, takes five minutes alone, closing her eyes, and saying over and over again to herself, "I am peace and love—I am perfectly quiet inside," and gradually she feels a sense of rest and patience erasing all her petty irritations.

In using auto-suggestion we use a law that enables us to become a positive, instead of a negative, force. We are, to a far greater extent than many of us imagine, the controllers of our circumstances and environment. Auto-suggestion will help us to make the ideal real. It will enable us to a great extent to change our fate. Before denying this, let us at least try it. Let us drop our pessimism and our whining, and talk health and prosperity, faith and courage and love and joy, and see the effect, not only on ourselves, but on those around us.

We are living in an age of grumbling and fault-finding. Of course, we all loudly acclaim that it is the result of the Great War—everything is the war. But is it? If it is, we must wait patiently until our soul-wounds are healed. If, on the other hand, the pessimism and gloom come from the murky atmosphere of our own inner consciousness, we can mitigate, if not cure them, by healthy auto-suggestion. It is at least worth a trial.

We can begin with a few simple self-suggestions, such as: "There is nothing to fear but fear." "I am happy, and I will succeed." "I will only look for the good in everyone I meet." We might finish up by saying to ourselves, "I am—on the whole—a very good sort, and I cannot be the only nice person about, so I will begin to look out for the good in the others."

BOOKS TURNED THE TIDE

By Isabel S. McCarty.

"How is it," asked my neighbor, Mrs. Smith, "that John and Harry have settled down on the farm?" "I'll take the credit," I replied, "of bringing the mountain to Mohammed; in other words, of bringing the farm to the boys. This is 'how about it?'"

"For some time, I had noticed their growing dissatisfaction in all things pertaining to the farm routine. Rural life seemed to them one long drawn out monotony."

"The same old things year in and year out," they complained. "Same old planting, harvesting and the everlasting milking! No fun and nothing to see except growing crops. Nothing to read but the same old seed books and the jumbled-up mail-order catalogues!"

"What would you like, boys?" I asked, suddenly waking up to a tremendously serious situation.

"Books!" said Harry with vehemence. "Story books! Books about boys and circus animals and birds and butterflies. With good pictures—and pretty covers," he ended passionately.

"Yes," agreed my quiet little John. "Books would make us forget at night, that we ever lived on this pesky old farm. Oh! how I wish we could have a car! Then we could get into town once in a while and feel that we were part of the big world, too."

"I made up my mind right there, that those boys should not be starved for books as long as I had the egg money for 'pin' money. I sent to the librarian in the nearest city for a list of the best books for boys, and I bought twelve, allowing each boy to choose six. Their joy in selection was well worth the price of the dozen."

"Nor shall I ever forget that first batch of books (for there were many subsequent orders). The boys read and re-read them, begging for more. 'By this time, their father became interested in the matter, and rewarded them for doing some piece of farm work with a fair degree of skill, with a new book."

"Our boys' attitude toward the farm began to change and they looked with greater respect upon the farmer and his problems when they saw how the outside world depends upon the farm. 'Perhaps the greatest addition to the boys' increasing library was a large volume on taxidermy, beautifully illustrated in color. To my great surprise, Harry and John brought down from the attic numerous collections of birds' nests, birds' eggs, feathers, butterflies and moths—treasures I, their mother, did not know they possessed. These, they compared for verification with the cuts in the book. Their crude attempts in stuffing three or four bird specimens caused them much merriment when they saw an illustration showing the proper method."

"Later, we permitted the boys to send several specimens of wild ducks to the taxidermist in the city. When the specimens returned beautifully and naturally 'fixed,' the boys' delight was boundless. Soon, they began experiments along approved methods in this line themselves, and with gratifying results. Now, they have quite a splendid little museum ornamenting their sectional mahogany book-case which Dad and I gave them for Christmas."

"One very important event, I must not neglect to mention. Father decided to postpone the purchase of a coveted piece of machinery and instead bought a five-passenger car. That car worked a miracle! The boys enjoyed the taste of city life which it made possible, yet the farm always looked good to them on their return trips."

"Dad and I feel well repaid for our efforts. The boys have developed a keen interest in the farm, and are both planning to take the full course in the Agricultural College."

The Ladder of Fame.

When he had reached the topmost round at last. He glanced about and gaped at what he saw:

The great men he had dreamed about had passed. Leaving the lamp of truth, the rod of law.

To boys he had not thought to see again— To John, his dimple aging in his chin.

To Bob and Ted, who smashed the windowpane, and saw them trooping in!

They had not changed save for a few gray hairs. Had but stepped in where death had marked the way:

School children filling into empty chairs. Schoolmates, a little tired, of yesterday.

—Marie Louise Hersey.

Anything to survive must serve; that is a fundamental law of life—and of business.

"Tying the knot" is an old expression, and its origin is interesting. In ancient Babylon, a priest took a thread from the garment of the bride and another from the garment of the groom. These he tied into a knot and presented it to the bride as a symbol of the binding nature of the union between her and her husband.