

outpourin' of grace, right here in Brookville; and we can't get it no other way."

And the minister's cultured voice in reply:

"I shall give your suggestion the most careful consideration, Mrs. Black, between now and the autumn season."

"Great Scott!" exclaimed Jim Dodge; "this is no place for me! Good night, Miss Orr!"

She laid her hand in his. "You can trust me," he said briefly, and became on the instant a flitting shadow among the lilac bushes, lightly vaulting over the fence and mingling with the darker shadows beyond.

To be continued.)

The Substitute.

(After Alfred Tennyson)

Come into the kitchen, Maud,
For our bad black cook has flown.
Come into the kitchen, Maud
I am here at the range alone.
And the smell of burnt bacon is wafted
abroad,
And the smoke in my eyes has blown.

There has fallen a storage egg
From my hand to the waiting plate.
Oh, take it from me, I beg,
'Twas out of a last year's crate.
The toast seems to say, "Don't drop it
here!"
The coffee-pot moans, "It's fate!"
The saucepan shrinks from my hand in
fear,
And the puffed oats mutter, "We wait".

Are you coming, my own, my sweet?
Oh, come and be cook instead!
Pray hasten your laggard feet—
Why, why did you linger in bed?
These eggs are not fit to beat,
They were laid in a century dead.
If you count upon me to fix something to
eat
We'll feast upon prunes and bread.
—Judge.

Smiles.

Whenever the Rev. Solon Jefferson called on Aunt Candace, it was her custom to set a plate of gingerbread before him and then ply him with what she called "ligious 'spoundin's."

"Wha' fo' does de Lawd send epidemics onto de land?" she asked him, one day.

"When folks get so bad dey must be removed, some of 'em, Sist' Candace, den de Lawd permits de coming ob an epidemic," said Mr. Jefferson, and took a large bite of gingerbread.

"Uh-h!" said Aunt Candace. "Ef dat's so, howcome de good people gets removed along wid de bad ones?"

"De good ones are summoned fo' witness," said the Reverend Solon, fortified in spirit and clarified in mind by the gingerbread, although slightly embarrassed in his utterance. "De Lawd gibs ebry man a fair trial."

"Apart from my music," says Mr. Paderewski, "I have no hobbies except whist, billiards, and a fancy for farm stock. The last interest once led to an amusing experience when I was staying in England. I had just purchased some prize pigs in Essex, and the transaction had been advertised widely in the newspapers. Well, I was looking into the pigsty of a farm when the farmer came up, and scenting a possible customer, entered into conversation with me. After showing me his pigs, and being most anxious, apparently, to sell me some, and to impress me with his importance as a breeder, he conducted me to a sty I had not seen, and showed me a very fine lot of pigs. 'Do you see those?' he said confidentially. 'I've sold them to Mr. Paderewski, the great pig-dealer from abroad!'"

A Chance Shot.

To the turkey that is tame epicures the country over prefer the turkey that is wild. However, clergymen are notoriously not epicurean in their tastes, and a certain Methodist preacher in Baltimore had once definitely expressed a preference for the domestic bird. Accordingly, when one day last winter he accepted an invitation to dine with a member of his congregation, that member, in ordering the dinner of the colored servant, laid stress upon this point.

"Now remember, Ezekiel," he com-

manded, "Doctor Fourthly likes domestic turkey. You will, therefore, discontinue your usual practice, and get, not a wild but a tame one."

"Yassir," nodded the darkey. "Understand?" repeated the host-to-be. "A domestic turkey."

Again the negro assented, and though the family funds were at a low ebb, the dinner of his providing proved most elaborate. How so little money went so far was a mystery, until the host began to carve the turkey.

Then a thimbleful of shot rolled out upon the platter.

"Ezekiel," said the host severely, "I thought I told you to get a domestic turkey."

"Yassir," said Ezekiel. "That there's a domestic turkey. Ah knows it."

"But," objected the host, "look at the shot in it."

Ezekiel grinned sheepishly. "Yassir," he stammered. "Ah—Ah sees 'em, sir; but them thar shot wasn't meant fer the turkey, sir; they was meant for me."—Saturday Evening Post.

Pat was busy working with his coat off. There were two Englishmen laboring on the same job, so they decided to have a joke with the Irishman. They painted a donkey's head on the back of pat's coat, and watched to see him put it on. Pat, of course, saw the donkey's head on his coat, and turning to the Englishmen said, "Which of yez wiped your face on my coat."

A young man in charge of a newly platted realty tract, upon which the only building was the office of the company, upon seeing the first person to enter the door, hastily took down the telephone receiver and commenced: "Yes, sir, I think we can agree on those terms. Thirty lots in one parcel and twenty in another. Yes, sir, the price is satisfactory, \$30,000 at the transfer and the remainder in sixty days. Did you say I could meet you in the morning at 9 o'clock and receive your check for \$10,000 as the initial payment? Very well, sir." Hanging up the receiver, this busy person turned to the man who had entered the office. "Is there anything I can for do you, sir?" "Naw, not a thing," returned the visitor. "I have just come to connect up yer telephone, that's all."

A new recruit was on sentry duty for the first time at night, when he saw some one approaching.

"Who comes there?" he challenged, sharply.

"The officer of the day," said the other. "Then," was the sentry's unexpected inquiry, "what are you doin' out at night?"—Selected.

Questions and Answers.

1st—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to "The Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.

3rd—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

4th—When a reply by mail is required to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1.00 must be enclosed.

Miscellaneous

Colt With a Cough—Rye for Poultry.

1. I have a six-months-old colt which coughs frequently. It is more noticeable when she has her head down. What can I do for her?

2. I have a fifteen-year-old mare which is very thin and shows symptoms as if she were affected with worms. She has a hacking cough but does not show any signs of heaves. What remedy do you advise?

3. Is rye injurious to poultry? Can it be fed whole or chopped?

C. L. H.

Ans.—1. From the symptoms given we cannot definitely diagnose the case. We are led to believe that the colt has a slight cold which affects the throat, thus causing the cough. Keep the colt out of a draft and feed it fairly well on clean feed; the dust may aggravate the cough. It is well to take measures to check the cold, as it may develop into distemper or heaves.

2. It is possible that the teeth are in poor condition and the mare cannot properly masticate her food. Have the

teeth examined and attended to if necessary. While no signs of heaves are shown the trouble may develop into heaves if not checked. Give good clean feed and do not work after a heavy meal. It is a good plan to dampen the hay and even the oats with a little lime water. If the mare is affected with worms take 1½ ounces each of sulphate of iron and sulphate of copper and 1 ounce of calomel; mix and make into 12 powders. Give a powder night and morning in damp feed. After the last powder has been given withhold feed for ten hours, and then if the mare is not in foal administer a purgative of 8 drams aloes and 2 drams ginger.

3. Birds do not eat rye readily, and it does not produce good results.

Peace River Prospects.

I am farming as a renter in old Ontario and have decided to hit the trail for the Peace River district. Now would you mind giving me the following information:

1. About how far from your place would we have to go to locate a homestead?

2. Would it be a safe proposition to bring up a car of settlers' effects in January or February?

3. What accommodation could I get for 3 horses, 2 cows (due in March), furniture, etc.?

4. What should I bring up in the form of implements, etc.?

5. Can we get temporary accommodation with a homesteader (shelter only) myself, wife and five children, 3 oldest boys 15, 13, 11?

6. What is the least ready cash a man with family would need to carry him over his first year, when he brings up his own stock, implements, etc.?

What are the chances for a man and his two oldest boys both of whom can handle a team, to get work to help tide him over?

8. What would it cost to build a log house and would it be necessary to hire help to put it up?

What is the available wood and water supply?

10. What is the nearest railroad point to ship a car to available homestead land.

Ans.—I have been thinking over the questions presented and whilst it is very difficult to answer all of them in definite terms I would suggest as follows:

1.—You might choose a homestead anywhere from four to forty miles from our home, depending upon how particular you were, and I might say it pays to be pretty careful in selection of land on which one expects to spend his future. Any quarters open near us would be pretty scrubby, low, rough or otherwise undesirable.

2. I do not think it would be wise to bring a car of settler's effects in the winter unless one were previously located and knew just where he was going. There would be a considerable period of feeding ahead and much miscellaneous expense. There is much stock on the Prairie and now feed this winter is relatively scarce and dear.

3. It would not be easy to secure satisfactory accommodation for your stock in midwinter though it might be found. Likely you would find yourself in some vacated premises where you would be confronted with a watering problem.

4. If you can dispose of stock and implements to advantage, by all means do so and come in light. Horses might suffer in acclimatization and many of your implements would be unsuitable. For example, you would need a brush-breaker plow, in all probability. An ordinary stubble plow would be of little use for two or three years and then only partially. Your binder would not be needed for a while nor ordinary types of spring or stiff-tooth cultivators. A mower, rake, disk and drag harrows would be all right, also wagons and sleighs.

5. By looking around—"rustling" as we would say here—you could likely secure shelter for your family at small expense in the way you suggest.

6 and 7. All depends. One of the most successful settlers in our neighborhood reached the Prairie in the early years with the clothes on his back and a half interest in thirty-five cents. But he was an experienced "rustler" and went to work for his neighbors until in a position to finance a team of oxen. Then he broke for himself and others and went ahead step by step. In a few years he had his

quarter all broken and has to-day a set of buildings such as one might see in Ontario. He was one in a thousand but his history is suggestive. If you were to come in light, with your resources mostly or all in the form of cash, you could obtain employment at almost any season, certainly in summer, at wages not less than forty dollars a month and probably much higher. Experience in working out would acquaint you with the methods of the country as to clearing and breaking land and in other ways. This would save many costly mistakes. Husband your funds and buy nothing until thrice sure you need it. The most thrifty newcomers are inclined to buy themselves poor on the start. Put some money where you can't get your fingers on it for a while, so as to be prepared for emergencies.

8. A small log house with matched floor and shingle roof, a few windows and a door could be erected for about two hundred dollars, if you got out the logs yourself and assisted with the construction. It is advisable to have a good axe man to hew the inside and to dove-tail the corners, though neither hewing nor dove-tailing is absolutely necessary.

9. The prevailing fuel is good, dry poplar, which is next thing to hard maple. In some localities coal of good quality can be obtained for two or three dollars a ton from settlers who mine it from seams on the river bank. It is very satisfactory and economical for the coldest weather. It cannot, however, be fed through the hopper of a base burner. Water is obtained from lakes, streams, sloughs, springs and wells of depth varying from a few feet to a hundred and fifty, the latter being drilled and generally very satisfactory. Most of the water is good, though often carrying considerable soda, seldom or never the alkali of the lower plains.

Our nearest railroad station is the town of Grande Prairie, thirty miles eastward. If seeking a location in other parts of the Peace River region you might ship to Spirit River, Peace River, etc. It is a big country and you would do well to come alone and secure a location before breaking up your present home. May or autumn would be a good time to look for land.

W. D. A.

Grand Prairie District, Alberta.

Conservation and Utilization of Farm Manure.

All investigations go to show that farm manure has its greatest value when fresh, that the liquid portion is richer than the solid material and that the former is more readily lost through drainage and leaching. Hence it is that every precaution is taken here to ensure a minimum loss of plant food constituents in the manure and is the chief reason for applying manure to the land, where practicable, as quickly as possible after it is produced.

At the Central Farm, Ottawa, the liquid manure is absorbed by means of litter, usually cut straw, and as each load of mixed liquid and solid manure is gathered it is taken directly to the field and is spread on the land either by hand or by means of the manure spreader, as convenient. This method is carried on consistently throughout the year although during occasional winter seasons this system may be disorganized for a time due to the depth of snow or other causes. The contour of the land at this farm which varies from fairly level to gently rolling lends itself admirably to the foregoing plan of procedure.

The manure is always applied systematically in definite cropping systems or crop rotations. The amount and frequency of application vary according to the duration of the rotation, but, without exception, in the regular farm rotations, six tons per acre of fresh manure is allotted to each year of the rotation. For instance, in a three-year system, of hoed, grain and hay crops, eighteen tons are applied for the hoed crop. In four-year rotations twenty-ton is the quantity used. For a five-year rotation the amount is thirty tons of which fifteen tons are applied for the hoed crops and the balance is spread in lighter dressings for the clover and timothy hay areas.

Where manure is applied for cultivated or hoed crops the importance of incorporating the manure thoroughly with the