

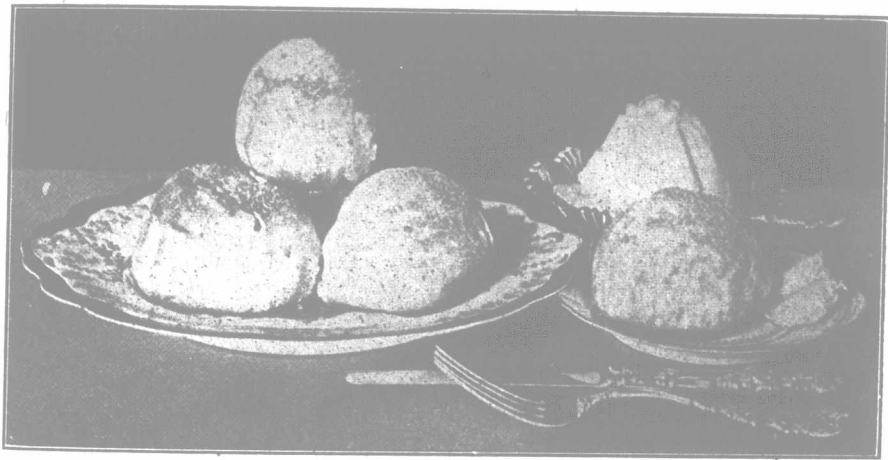
the dust nuisance during the time open to the motorists.

A third solution of the problem which has been offered is that special automobile roads be built along leading routes, a plan which would divert the greater number of the motor-cars from the quieter country roads, and so afford, to some extent, relief. Towards this scheme, in Ontario at least, a beginning seems to have been made, since the construction of an automobile road from Montreal to Hamilton is now under construction. I do not know what arrangements are being made for paying for this road, but it is to be hoped that the farmers are not to be taxed for it.

The same hope may be expressed in regard to the plan for a system of "trunk roads" which has, of late, been mooted for Ontario. It takes but half an eye to see that such roads, if constructed, would be practically automobile roads, used chiefly for pleasure by city and town folk. Comparatively few farmers throughout the country would ever use them; freight traffic would go, as ever, by railway; hence it is sincerely to be hoped that, if it is decided that they shall be built, the taxes of the farmers at large will not be raised either for building or maintaining them. Let them be provided for by increasing the revenue from special automobile licenses, or some such device which will throw the expense upon those who will make use of them. Any other method would be manifestly unfair. May it be repeated,—the farmers, most of whom have enough to do to provide a few luxuries for themselves, when they can indeed manage that, should not be taxed to provide mere pleasure for the rich of the cities and towns.

What think you about all this?

The health authorities of Montreal are insisting that all fruit, ice-cream, confectionery, etc., shall be screened from flies and dirt. This is a good movement



Paddy's Bundles.

which, it is to be hoped, may extend to other cities, and that right speedily. The amount of dirt eaten by people who buy berries, cakes, candies, etc., exposed not only to flies but to all the filthy dust blowing in from the street, would surely be appalling, if it were possible to have it estimated. Things may be kept much cleaner in the country, with a little care. There is not so much dust, and by taking enlightened precautions, the fly nuisance may be, in most places, practically done away with. If, however, one's house chances to have been placed in unfortunate proximity to a barn the matter is not so easy. Flies will come from most barnyards, and just now their "season" is in full swing. Even screened doors and windows and reams of sticky fly paper cannot keep all of them out, but one can at least follow the example of Montreal and cover all food-stuffs.

A poor graphophone is one of the most torturing nerve-rackers yet invented, but those of the best makes have now been so perfected that the tones are rich and mellow, with none of the raspiness that makes the cheaper sorts so distressing. Many of these better class instruments have found their way into the homes of our farmers; once there their value, as real helps to the home, depends wholly on the choice of records.

I heard such an instrument in a farm home not long ago. The choice of records was excellent. There were selections from noted bands, violinists, and cor-

net-soloists, with a rousing ditty or two from Harry Lauder for variety, and the mistress of the house remarked that she had only been deterred from buying a song from Caruso, the world's greatest tenor singer, because of the price, six dollars being charged for a single record.

At the time I wondered vaguely as to whether the profits made by such singers through the graphophone companies, must not be very large, and as usual, when one "wonders," have chanced upon full enlightenment in regard to the subject. By to-day's "Literary Digest" I find that the amount realized by the great singers from talking-machine companies averages about \$25,000 each per year. Caruso's yearly income from this source is about \$90,000, and has even surpassed that sum.

Thinking these facts interesting to those of you who possess "machines", I pass them on.

The other day, (I am writing this on August 19th) a box of snakes consigned to some "show," lodged in the Customs House here. I presume that it was opened for investigation and that the "openers" fled. At all events the snakes escaped, and, so far as I have heard, have not yet been located.

I have just had a letter from one of my "paper" friends, who has heard of the event, and who hopes that none of them will have penetrated the Farmer's Advocate. At all events, the expectation is expressed that, since my department of the paper is a sort of "departmental store," I will soon be handing out some cures for snake-bites.

No, nothing worse has entered the Farmer's Advocate precincts than a millipede. There is a millipede cavorting about down stairs, I believe, but sub rosa,—among the papers. It came in a box, and was sent by one of the children who wished to know what it was,—but, awful fact!—the Customs House is but a block and a half away!

"Departmental Store,"—well, that does describe our Home Department to a dot. Don't you think so? May we ever be kept supplied in all the "lines." Junia.

Some Good Things to Try

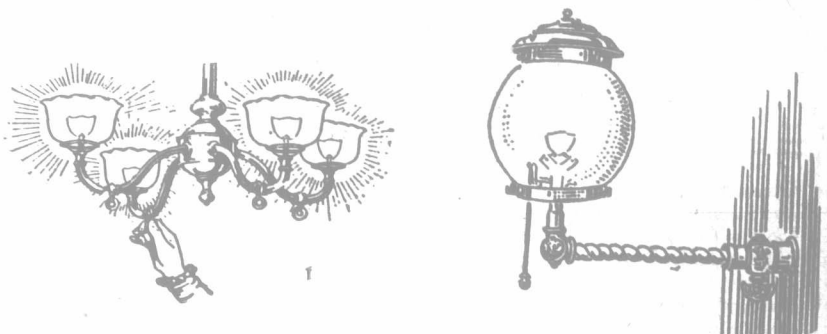
Paddy's Bundles.—Now that apples are in, try these. Core four tart apples without paring, then pare carefully, and set them aside. Make a pastry as follows: sift 3 small cups flour with $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder, 1 teaspoon sugar, and a pinch of salt. Now rub in 4 desert spoons butter, and mix to a stiff paste with cold water, using a knife to mix with. Do not roll the paste, simply divide it into four parts. Lay an apple in the middle of each and with floured hands work the pastry over the apple, leaving a hole at the top. Fill up with sugar, a clove, and a teaspoon of water, then close the dough over the hole. Brush the pastry with water very quickly, sprinkle with sugar and bake in a hot oven from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ hour. Serve hot or cold with plain cream or whipped cream.

Cabbage Salad.—Choose a nice white head of cabbage and let it stand in very cold water for an hour. Now drain, and shred it very fine, being careful to have no water left. Mix the shreds with the salad dressing and press into a mound on the dish in which the salad is to be served. Press slices of hard-boiled egg around the mound, and decorate the top with pickled beet chopped fine, or,

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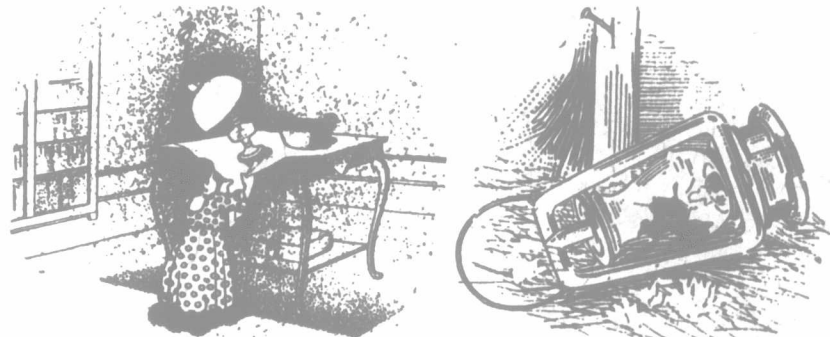
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