

Teaching The Children To Farm



MUCH is being added to the attractiveness of life on farms, especially to children, by the children's competitions which have become a feature of the fairs and exhibitions in Western Canada during the past year. At every place at which these competitions were held they were the centre of interest, not only to the children themselves but also to adult visitors. In fact, many of the older exhibitors displayed a greater interest in the exhibits of the children than in their own.

These competitions are generally arranged by breeders' associations, sometimes with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture of the province and other public bodies. Usually they are confined to boys and girls between the ages of ten and fifteen, who are required to feed, care for and look after a calf, a pig or a lamb, or the case may be, for a certain period previous to the opening of the fair.

One of the most successful of these competitions was the baby beef competition held at the Calgary Winter Fair in December. The competition was for heifers, pure bred or grade, born in 1914, and fed between November 1st and the date of the show, by boys or girls between nine and seventeen years of age. Fourteen prizes from \$25 to \$100 were awarded. Altogether there were fifty-three exhibitors in the competition, including fifteen girls. The first prize was won by Samuel Heal, of Brandon, Manitoba. In the class of calves shown by girls the first prize was taken by M. A. Isabel Stewart, of Foothills, Alberta, and the second by Florence Elva Boggs of Daysland, Ont. Both these girls were near first in the open competition. Valuable are these competitions



considered to be in encouraging boys and girls to take an interest in live stock, and so great has been their success that no exhibition in the future will be complete without them. Already arrangements have been made to increase their scope and at the summer fair at Calgary this year there will be a sheep shearing competition, while at the winter fair there will be a lamb and pig feeding competition, in addition to the baby beef competition, and the period during which the animals will be in sole charge of the youngsters will be extended to three months. The production of baby beef is developing into one of the most important branches of farming in Alberta. For this result much credit is due to Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Superintendent of the Animal Industry Branch of the

Canadian Pacific Railway. Dr. Rutherford has been largely responsible for making known to the farmers of Alberta the advantages of raising baby beef, some of which are greater gains made on the same amount of feed by the youngest cattle than those of more age; quicker turnover in the money invested in cattle, the greater stability of markets. On the Demonstration Farm at Strathmore, Alberta, under the direction of Dr. Rutherford, demonstrations in the raising of baby beef have been conducted for some years, with results that are entirely satisfactory from a profit-making point of view. The future of the baby beef industry in Alberta, and, in fact, throughout Western Canada, where conditions are extremely favorable to its success, is very bright.

King Honors C.P.R. Official

SIR ARTHUR H. HARRIS, who has been made a Knight Commander of the British Empire for his services in Canada as Director of Overseas Transport, is a son of the late Henry Vinton Harris of Devonport, Devonshire, England. Educated at the Devonport and Stoke Grammar School he came to this country in the seventies, entering the service of the G. and N. Trunk Railway, and rising to the position of General Manager in 1902. He joined the Canadian Pacific Railway in August, 1911, and is now actively engaged in the Company's rail



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SHIPPING DAY OLD CHICKS.

As They Need No Water Nor Food For Sixty Hours It Is Easy.

When little chicks come from the shell they need neither water nor food for sixty hours. That fact has given rise to a new business. Day old chicks are sold and shipped by people who operate incubators. Those who buy are relieved of the trouble, of the inconvenience, and to some extent of the uncertainty of hatching. Only a small percentage of day old chicks perish while on the way from shipper to customer. People are thus enabled to get their little chicks and begin the poultry business without the necessity of purchasing an incubator.

Special boxes of pasteboard are made for shipping purposes. Some have a capacity of twenty-five chicks, some of fifty and some of 100. It is doubtless best that no more than twenty-five shall in any case occupy a single compartment. The walls of the boxes are moderately thick, and some soft material as grass is put in the bottom. Otherwise there are no special provisions against cold weather. However, the chicks themselves may be depended upon to cluster together and in this way keep one another warm.

The boxes are not to be opened en route nor are the chicks to be given food or water. Successful shipments have been made for 2,000 miles.—Popular Science Monthly.

Tanned Skin.

In the majority of cases tanned skin is an indication of health. It is a condition resulting from the action of chemical rays or of the ultra violet rays of the sun on the pigment of the skin. Tan may be produced also by exposure to the rays of a mercury lamp or it may be caused electrically. But in these cases it is no indication of the state of health. It does not mean that there has been a multiplication of red corpuscles in the blood, such as follows healthful exercise in the open air. The tan acquired by the skin at sea or ashore as a result of life and exercise in the open air is always a sign of health, for the reason that it is accompanied by general conditions that do not obtain in the case of electric tan.—New York Times.

Early American Theatricals.

The earliest attempt to introduce theatrical performances in this country was made about 1696 in New England, but Increase Sizer wrote and spoke so forcibly in opposition to the project that it was speedily abandoned. The first theatrical performance in New York city of which there is any clear record was given March 5, 1766. The theater was on Nassau street, between John street and Maiden lane, and the play was "Richard III." Thomas Kean, the junior manager of the company, enacted the part of Richard.—New York World.

HEAT OF THE SUN.

The Source of Supply is a Puzzling Problem to Scientists.

Probably the most puzzling problem we have in connection with the sun is to account for its tremendous output of heat, which we are told has varied no more than a few tenths of a degree in 50,000,000 years, the period generally given by geologists for the duration of life upon the earth.

If we accept the theory most generally advanced in the past that the sun was formerly a vast nebula extending at least as far as the planet Neptune and that its heat was maintained by slow contractions, computation shows us that only 25,000,000 times the present output would be maintained from this source—that is, if its heat were supplied by contraction alone it would have lasted only half as long as life has been known to exist upon the earth.

This is plainly impossible, and though contraction undoubtedly supplies part of the solar heat, there must be some other source of supply as well. The discovery of radioactivity in recent years may have much to do with explaining this mystery.

It is interesting to consider that if the sun were composed of coal and its heat were kept up by the process of combustion more than a ton of coal would be required per square foot of surface per hour to supply the present output of heat. The sun would be entirely burned up in 5,000 years if made of coal.—New York Sun.

OUR UNPAID LABORERS.

Birds Do Great Work, Yet We Do Not Properly Protect Them.

One form of national waste which is far more serious than the American people realize is a result of the deplorable neglect to conserve bird life in this beautiful and wonderful country.

Ornithologists and other intelligent observers of nature who have made a study of the subject are with the exception of crop experts that insects destroy one-tenth of the products of agriculture in the United States. More than 100,000 kinds of insects have been enumerated in the fields, orchards, meadows, pastures, vineyards, gardens and woods of this chief agricultural country of the world. A very large proportion of these insects are injurious to crops. Birds are the insects' worst enemies.

Nearly all birds destroy insect life. The federal department of agriculture has examined the stomachs of forty kinds of birds to determine accurately what they consume. It was found that among the birds which most effectively aid the farmers are pheasants, kingbirds, catbirds, swallows, hawks, shrikes, rose breasted grosbeaks, house wrens, vireos, native sparrows, cuckoos, orioles, warblers, shore larks, loggerhead shrikes and meadow larks. Even the crow and the crow blackbird, which have rested under suspicion so long, do more good than harm to the farmers.—Chicago News.

The Indoor and the Outdoor Man.

In the American Magazine Dean Herman Schneider says:

"The characteristics of men are so much on the surface that a keen analyst usually will uncover the correct one in the first interview. They signal the indoor and outdoor type of man. When a bilkard is beating against the house an 'indoor' man likes to hear the roar of the wind because it emphasizes the coziness of the inglenook and heightens his sense of protection. The 'outdoor' man is straightway seized by a desire to get out and fight the storm. Draw a picture of prospecting or construction work, and the second man will lean forward with tense muscles and radiant eyes. The other will draw more and more into himself, as if for shelter."

Totipot of the Tidy Act.

No creature is more tidy than an ant, who cannot tolerate the presence of dirt on its body, says a writer in St. Nicholas. These little creatures actually use a number of real toilet articles in keeping themselves clean. A well known authority says their toilet articles consist of coarse and fine toothed combs, hair brushes, sponges, and even washes and soap. Their combs, however, are the genuine article and differ from ours mainly in that they are fastened to their legs. The ants have no set time for their toilet operations, but clean up whenever they get soiled.

It Was Not Her Fault.

Dr. Black—I suppose, Mrs. Brown, that you have given the medicine according to directions? Mrs. Brown—Well, doctor, I done my best. You said give Pete one of dese heah pills three times a day until gone, but I done run out of pills yesterday, an' he hasn't gone yet.—Chicago Herald.

Quite So.

"The bride's mother has the advantage of the bridegroom's mother at the ceremony."
"How so?"
"Everybody assumes that the bride is getting a little the worst of it."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Found Out.

"Would you like to hear a secret involving Mrs. Next Door in a double scandal?"
"Yes, oh, yes; tell it to me!"
"I don't know any such secret. You certainly have a mean disposition."—Chicago Herald.

Her Ability.

"Are you able to keep your servants any length of time?"
"Let me see. I've had my husband six years."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Falls' February == Sale ==

Is Full of Go and Merchandise is being Whirled Away to All Parts of Norfolk, Brant and Haldimand

It is well worth bearing a hand in a sale which is always making new friends without losing old ones. There are people and many of them who take almost as much interest in the sale as we do ourselves. They were here yesterday, they were here five years ago and they were glad that this is a sale the expectations of which was not better than the realization. For there is no mistake about it—the merchandise is here, Plenty beyond comparison—good beyond suspicion, reliably reduced in price, fully guaranteed. An hour spent among the various February displays will bring delight to visitors even though they have no thought of buying. Everyone is welcome—Lookers as well as Purchasers.

You are invited to Share in the Best Buying Opportunities of the Year. The Reductions are Genuine

The Stocks in the Building Include:

- A complete China and Glassware store.
- A complete luggage store
- A Complete Furniture store
- A complete Men's and Boys' store with everything for them to wear.
- A Complete Dress Goods and Silks store
- A Complete Linen and Staple Goods store
- A Complete Hosiery, Corset and Glove store
- A Complete Whitewear and Underwear store
- A Complete Home Furnishing store—Rugs, Carpets, etc.
- A Complete Millinery store
- A Complete Notion and Novelty store
- A Complete Fur Store
- A Complete Women's Garment Store
- A Complete Berlin Wool and Fancy Goods store

While this Building was building lots of people looking up at it from the street said "It is far too Big for Simcoe." Last Saturday, the second day of the sale, Customers would have liked it better if it were bigger. Really, one man actually discussed the mistake we made in not making it bigger though we have 32,600 square feet of floor space.



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