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THE GARDEN

GREENS

(By John S. Gardner, Kentucky College of Agriculture.)

The first things that come from the garden are spring greens, and now is the time to start them. Grown for their foliage, they need land extremely rich in nitrogen as from manure, chicken manure, particularly. Moisture is important, too, in that it makes the humus so necessary to enable soil to hold moisture.

The seed bed should be worked fine, the soil particles made the size of the seed to be sown. It should also be deep, the better to assure a water supply between showers.

The spring greens are mustard, kale and rape, though in a pinch, radish-tops are surprisingly good, too. There are in addition the "wild greens," dandelion and poke.

Mustard is likely the most widely used spring green, but kale and rape are worthy of better acquaintance. The varieties of mustard and kale are Chinese and Scotch Curled, respectively, and rape is sold under the name of "smooth spring kale."

Although some gardeners sow their greens broadcast, in "patches," it is better to sow them in rows in order that the insects may be more easily held in check. These insects are the black fleabeetle, the plant louse and the green cabbage worm. Sometimes, too, after the weather has become warm the orange-and-black Harlequin Bug may become troublesome.

The fleabeetle is most damaging while the seedlings are coming up, riddling the seed-leaves with minute holes and sometimes causing their complete destruction. The control is Bordeaux Mixture, to which arsenate of lead or calcium arsenate should be added to take care of the first cabbage worms. At this time it is quite safe to use such poisons, but not later than within a month of harvest. The easiest way to make Bordeaux is to use the prepared form. Sometimes in seasons too cool for the fleabeetles to be active, the plant lice do serious damage to greens at seedling stage and even after.

Tobacco, in some form, is recommended. Strong tobacco tea steeped from trash tobacco is often used, though nicotine solution made from commercial nicotine sulfate is more dependable. Directions are printed on the container. The spraying must be done in such a way that the insects are hit.

Some gardeners crumble or grind trash tobacco and tobacco stems and dust the rows. Generously used, tobacco dust is a preventative, its odor serving as a repellant; it has considerable fertilizer value as well, for it contains nitrogen.

For the Harlequin Bug, prevention is the cure; if the first few are handpicked and destroyed, the later hordes of their descendants are escaped.

Cultivation for greens should be shallow, but complete enough to keep any weeds from starting, and the soil surface should be kept level, always.

THE FARM AND HOME

(Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station.)

Let sanitation be the watch word in poultry raising. It is impossible to raise a large percentage of the chicks hatched under any but absolutely clean conditions. See that all equipment is clean and dry. Change brooder litter at least twice a week.

A step toward garden improvement is the setting of an asparagus bed and a row of rhubarb. Simple as they are to care for, there is no reason why they should not be grown in every garden in Kentucky.

When housecleaning several adjacent rooms complete one kind of work in all of them before beginning another kind. Frequent changes of cleaning processes result in waste motion and effort, causing fatigue, loss of time and frequent rehandling of tools.

Clothes should both emphasize and serve as a foil for the best characteristics of the wearer, says Gertrude Wade of the University of Kentucky department of home economics. "Only when there is an absolute harmony of dress and personality does one have that rich, rare sensation of being perfectly clothed," says Miss Wade.

Barn yard manure is especially good for corn land, and should be spread at once. If other fertilizers are to be bought, get a high-grade product, despite the initial cost. Results from its use will be more profitable, and freight and hauling charges will be less.

The first spray to control black rot of grapes should be applied when the new growth is about an inch long. Use bordeaux mixture 8-10-100. Ask a county agent or write to the College of Agriculture, Lexington, for leaflet No. 11, "Grape Sprays."

HOW BEES STING

A bee's sting is very complicated, according to R. E. Snodgrass, American entomologist, who says that a bee's sting is the modification of an organ common to the insect race, the ovipositor with which the female deposits the eggs. Countless ages have changed this into an effective natural weapon. Approximately twenty-two muscles are required to complete an ordinary sting (the number slightly larger if a queen bee does the stinging) and the act involves three separate sets of movements. First, the outward thrust of the sting; second, depression of the sting; and last, action of the lancets on the sting which drives it farther into the flesh of the victim. Retraction of the sting is brought about by a contraction and expansion of the abdomen, which acts like a bulb. A poison-secreting organ opens directly into the channel of the sting and valvular lobes drive the liquid poison through it.

Farmers Should Study Provisions of Corn-Hog Plan

Farmers have received from their county agents four forms to be used in connection with the corn-hog reduction program new under way in the state.

These forms are called "preliminary work sheet," "producer's statement of supporting evidence," "map of farm and contracted acres," and directions for filling in the information.

These sheets should be studied carefully and the information assembled and filled in, says a statement from the College of Agriculture, which is supervising the corn-hog campaign in the state. This information should be accurate and complete.

Committees have been appointed in all counties, and signing contracts has begun in many counties.

Farmers who sign contracts will reduce corn production by at least 20 percent and hog production by 25 percent. They may reduce their corn acreage by 30 percent, and receive benefit payments equal to 30 cents a bushel on the appraised yield of the acreage removed from production.

As a reward for reducing hog production by a fourth, they will receive from the government $5 a head on three-fourths of the average number of hogs farrowed and sold in the past two years.

Weather Wisdom For Home Gardeners

Garden operations in the spring are governed more by calendar than by the thermometer; and rain is more a deterrent than frost in delaying things.

Many seeds can be sown just as soon as the ground is dry enough to work, once the deep frost is out of the soil. Spinach, radishes, onions, beets, carrots, lettuce are all hardy vegetables which pay small attention to frost. A hard freeze may destroy seedling plants. If a warm spell coaxes them up, and is followed by a cold wave which freezes the ground again. Many early gardeners willingly assume this risk in order to gain the advantage which early planting gives when everything goes well.

Those who wish to minimize the risk may do so by inquiring of their local weather bureau, what was the date of the latest killing frost ever recorded in their locality. Experience has shown that through most of the United States, the last killing frost in an average spring is about thirty days earlier than the record late freeze, which is of course a rare phenomenon. Figure on an average spring and sow your seed three or four weeks ahead of the late freeze record, and you will seldom have any trouble with hardy vegetables or flowers.

There are some hardy ones which cold soil may rot, even when temperature does not injure them. The wrinkled peas are the most important in this class. If you wish to plant peas when you put in your first hardy seeds, use the smooth seeded varieties, as they resist rot better.

Plants of hardy vegetables which have been started indoors are likely to be more tender than outdoor seedlings. Cabbage, cauliflower and head lettuce plants are commonly so started, and should not be set outdoors until the likelihood of severe frost has passed. Seedlings may sometimes be obtained which have been started outdoors south of your locality where spring is earlier and which have been hardened to light frosts. But the advantage of early setting out of plants is not so great as early seed sowing; the plants continue to grow indoors without risk while you wait for safe weather.

Early Precaution Tends To Prevent Tobacco Diseases

Precaution taken at this time will help to prevent injury from bacterial leafspot ..., mosaic, and root-rot in tobacco later in the season, points out Dr. W. D. Valleau, plant pathologist at the Experiment Station, University of Kentucky.

Barns should be thoroughly cleaned out and trash disposed of in a way that it will not be blown about the farm and deposited in plant beds. Such trash may be a source of infection of wildfire and angular leafspot.

Tobacco trash should not be used on plant beds as fertilizer, either before or after burning. Commercial fertilizers are more satisfactory. Plant beds should be located away from barns to get away from tobacco trash.

Most farmers realize the importance of thorough burning or steaming so that weeding will not be necessary. The mosaic disease is spread from the hands of men who chew natural leaf tobacco while weeding the beds. Thorough burning or steaming is necessary also if the same plant bed site is to be used a second time, because of possible injury from black root-rot.

Growers in Calloway and Graves counties should prepare to spray plant beds with bordeaux mixture, as the true wildfire disease caused extensive damage to beds in Calloway county last year, and has been present in parts of Graves county for at least two years. This disease has proved injurious in plant beds and to some extent in the field. It differs from the blackfire common in topped tobacco in wet seasons which seems to be due to abnormal soil conditions.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR LAWNS

1. If lawn grass is thin, make light seeding of bluegrass; 2 or 3 pounds for the average lawn. After seed is sown, roll the lawn with a heavy roller if available.

2. Apply nitrate of soda or sulfate of ammonia about March 15; use 4 to 6 pounds on the average lawn. If possible, broadcast just before a rain.

3. March is a very good time to transplant trees and shrubs. This applies to rearranging plants as well as setting new ones.

4. Some shrubs may have so many old stems that they need renewing. Cut out 1-4 to 1-3 of the old canes clear to the ground. You will lose some bloom this year but you will have a better looking plant next year.

5. Examine flowering plants that are mulched. It may be necessary to remove some of the mulch, or at least loosen it to present a better circulation of air.

6. Start seed box for flower seeds for plants to transplant to the open as soon as the danger of spring frosts has passed.

7. Sweet peas can still be sown, although many have already planted theirs. They should be planted in bottom of trench about 6 inches deep. Cover the seed about 2 or 3 inches deep, then the soil can gradually be pulled in to fill the trench after the plants have started to grow. This provides deep-rooted plants that stand the heat of summer better.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics says the gross farm income in the United States this year will be about $6,360,000,000—including rentals and other relief benefits.

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Luncheon for Three

By HARRIET RAMBO

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ROSALIND TOWNLEY entered the restaurant, chose a seat at a vacant table by the wall. She was young and pretty and wore a wedding ring. The day was only half done, and already she had explained to scores of amazed acquaintances that, no, she was not married, the ring was merely part of a sorority initiation. She was determined to eat her lunch in peace, and so she had chosen a restaurant where she did not expect to encounter any of her friends. Surely if she were among strangers, a wedding ring could not prove to be a disturbing element.

A young man, pulling a small child by the hand, entered the restaurant. He sighted the table where Rosalind sat, with its two vacant chairs, and headed for it. He lifted the child to the seat next to Rosalind, and chose for himself, the place opposite her.

It was rather nice, Rosalind thought to see a father take his baby girl out to lunch.

The child squirmed, displayed dimples, caught sight of the green parrot ornamenting one side of Rosalind's smart turban. "Oo, oo, pretty, pretty," squealed the tiny tot in ecstacy. "Dotty hab, Dotty hab," and she extended eager fists toward the object of desire.

"Dotty, Dotty," the man admonished, affixing a restraining hand to the child's shoulder, but the gesture was without effect.

"Pretty, pretty," squealed the diminutive creature again.

Rosalind's face crimsoned; so did the young man's. He seemed to be enormously confused. Suddenly she inclined her head in the child's direction. "It's not to play with," she explained sweetly. "It's just a buckle. See."

But seeing was not enough for Dotty. She uttered a cannibalistic shriek of delight, grabbed the parrot with both chubby fists, and tore it from its abode. A general confusion ensued. The young man endeavored to apologize; Rosalind endeavored to straighten her hat; the baby waved the captured trophy enthusiastically. From a near-by table, some one giggled. A waiter appeared, deposited two menus, beamed on the child.

"You have stolen mamma's buckle," he said, grinning broadly.

Rosalind's face flamed, and a dull red glow lit the young man's cheeks. Then suddenly he looked up boldly. "What shall we have, Mary?" he asked her. "Suppose we begin with consomme and order the rest later."

"I think that would be a good idea, Ted," she murmured, both astonished and thrilled by the grip the stranger took on the situation.

Her answer produced the desired effect. The waiter bowed and disappeared.

"Now, give me the parrot," the young man commanded the child, but the small tyrant ducked the pilfered bird beneath the table cloth. "I say, I'm deucedly sorry," he apologized to Rosalind, and began to search for something in one of his coat pockets.

"What an adorable husband," thought Rosalind with something like a pang of regret in her own lonely heart. "He's the sort who would do anything for the woman he loves, even take his baby daughter to a public eating place." How did girls discover such husbands?

She was certain none of the men she had ever gone around with were as amiable as the gentleman at her table—at least not with young children. It was unfortunate, Rosalind thought to herself.

Now he was thrusting a small white rectangle in her direction. "I'll make this thing right in any way you wish," he said. "Here's my card. I'm representative for Jones and Townley Bonding corporation. Perhaps your husband has heard of the firm."

"I'm sorry but I haven't a husband," replied the confused Rosalind, "I mean: I, I, this ring is only a part of a sorority initiation, and if your baby daughter likes the parrot she may have it. I know about your firm through my father. He is Herman Townley, the president."

"Well say now this is luck," beamed the stranger. "But by the way, this isn't my daughter," he protested, crimsoning again. "Dotty, here, is my sister Mildred's child. I'm Dotty's bachelor uncle, Fred Powell. I'm trying to chaperone the young lady while her mother fulfills an engagement with a dentist."

Just then the waiter appeared with the consomme, and the meal which had suffered such a tempestuous beginning, got under way and approached a satisfying conclusion.

The Word "Demean"

The use of the word demean, meaning "to lower in condition, status, reputation or character, or to lower or humble oneself," is good English, says Literary Digest. It dates from the close of the Sixteenth century, and has been in use since then. Thackeray, in "Vanity Fair," chapter 6, has a reference to Mrs. Sedley's opinion that her son would demean himself by a marriage with an artist's daughter. Others who have made use of this word in the senses defined above include: Abbott (1601), Burton (1650), Barker (1715), Davis (1716), Rollins (1734), Doddridge (1751), Richardson (1754), George Eliot (1859), Hawthorne (1862), William Black (1876), and many later writers.

AS THE CROW FLIES

Wife (angrily to her drunken husband): "I suppose you expect me to believe you came straight home from the office."

He: "Sure I did (hic); I came home just like the crow flies."

She: "So I see. Stopping frequently for a little corn."

A new method of treating rickets is to give children milk from cows fed on treated yeast.

HEADQUARTERS

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bruce, of Cynthiana, spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Donahue.

Howard Allison and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Cartee at Saltwell.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinton Williamson and son, of Cynthiana, visited her parents here Sunday.

Mrs. Roy Parker and children, Mrs. Mabell James and Mrs. Octavia Delaney visited Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Snapp one day the past week and were guests for supper.

Clancy Jones moved the past week to a farm in Harrison county recently purchased by Clarence Robbins, of Wisconsin. Mr. Robbins and family are also moving to the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Claudia Fryman spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Fryman and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Jones have recently moved to the Allison farm purchased by S. T. Barlow. They have resided in Paris for a short time.

Ben Griffin is visiting Turner Donahue and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Donahue are residing with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Price, after spending several months with his parents here.

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Sparks are reported on the sick list. Several have been sick in this vicinity but are reported better.

SPROUT

Robert Hardin, Jr., spent the week end at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hardin and family.

Mahala and Ruby Clark, Dollie Prints, Mary Rusha Burke, George Harney, Dock Burke and Clyde Clark spent a few hours Saturday evening with Paul and Eleanor Ellington and enjoyed music and cards.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Alexander and baby and Miss Myrtle Alexander spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Hardin and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanson Ellington spent several days the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Burke.

Moving in this section has been rather slow so far. Sidney Clay has moved to the Nick Smoot place; Sam Ring back to his property vacated by Clay; Mr. and Mrs. Silas Perry will move in with Mr. John Ring; Ed Sledd will move to the property vacated by Perry; Hanson Ellington to Mrs. Sue Ellington's property on Jordon.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. Tipton Curry and children in the loss of their wife and mother, Mrs. Nannie Curry. She had many friends in this neighborhood who were very sorry to hear of her death.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Crowe, Mrs. M. D. Judge, Ed and Robert Colliver attended the funeral of Jim Pieratt at Hill Top Wednesday.

Mrs. Ella Gill left Wednesday for Cushing, Okla., to be with her sister, Miss Edna Money, who is very ill.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Crowe spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Baird and son near Mayslick.

Mrs. Avory Vice is ill at this writing.

Omer Snelling, of Hamilton Ohio, spent several days the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ring and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ring and son were in Lexington one day the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lyons and Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, of Sharpsburg spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lyons and family.

James Lyons, who has been ill with flu, is some better.

SCRUB GRASS

(J. P. Minton, Correspondent)

Jake Earlywine and two children and Jay Reinsmith and wife spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Shea.

Mrs. Lizzie King, of Marlin, Ind., spent last week with her sister, Mrs. James Minton.

Mrs. Taylor Bowen, Miss Judie Hill and Bettie Bowen spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Walton.

John Hollar, of Hooktown, spent Friday night with Shirley Marshall.

Shirley Marshall has moved to W. D. Hamilton's farm vacated by Ben Hollar and Frank Walton to the place vacated by Mr. Marshall.

Those on the sick list are Charley Oates and Mrs. Margaret Minton.

This community extends its sympathy to the bereaved Finch family because of the recent death of their son and brother, Jesse Finch.

WALNUT GROVE

(Mrs. Joe Mattox, Correspondent)

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Earlywine spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mattox and family.

Rev. G. W. Townsend and family were Sunday guests of Mrs. Addie Arnold.

Everett Snapp spent a few hours Sunday with Thomas Toadvine and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Mattox spent a few hours Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. Everett Padgett and family.

Mrs. Joe Mattox is on the sick list.

BANTA

(Mrs. Warden Ramey, Cor.)

Mrs. Lizzie Edwards and Ada Fuller visited Mrs. Warden Ramey Friday.

Willie Gilbert, who has been confined to his bed with influenza, is some better at this writing.

Lorena Whirls spent Monday afternoon with Mrs. Willie Gilbert.

William Snapp will move soon to the Ed Hardin property; Jim Stitt will move to the house vacated by Snapp.

Mrs. Harvey Wagoner who has been ill is some better.

Harvey Wagoner is on the sick list.

L. J. Dixon visited Harvey Wagoner one day last week.

TAYLORS CREEK

(Nellie F. McIlvain, Correspondent)

This community extends its sympathy to the bereaved Sapp family because of the recent death of their mother, Mrs. Belle Sapp.

Mr. and Mrs. Bascom Banta and family visited relatives in Paris Friday.

Turney Shannon, of Lexington, has returned home after spending two weeks with his parents, who have been ill with the flu. They are improving at this writing. The flu has visited several homes in this community.

Miss Virginia Logan and Mrs. Nelson Fryman are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Elsie Fletcher. Mrs. Fletcher is very ill with tonsilitis. Miss Logan will remain with Mrs. Fletcher.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds Sparks and sons spent last Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Sparks.

Claude Sapp, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., who was called here upon the death of his mother, came home ill and remains in a Lexington hospital.

BETHEL

(Ralph W. Crouch, Correspondent)

A. S. Robertson, prominent resident of Bethel, has been appinted as Federal Deposit Insurance Examiner. Mr. Robertson is widely known as a farmer, banker and financier. He was formerly cashier of the Bethel Deposit Bank.

We all regret to hear of the bereavement of Tipton Curry of Nicholas county.

The Missionary Society of the Christian church met with Mrs. T. S. Robertson Wednesday afternoon. A nice program was rendered by the society with refreshments following.

Mrs. S. E. Myers has returned home after spending a few days with her mother, who is ill at Lexington.

Miss Mollie Razor spent the week end with her parents Mr. and Mrs. John Razor. She was accompanied home by Miss Lake Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Robertson and Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Robertson attended the funeral of Cliff Hazelrigg at Louisville Monday.

On Wednesday, March 7, it snowed, rained, hailed, and the sun shined.

Misses Sheila and June Robertson, Rex and Ralph Crouch attended the party given by Jim and Nelson Gay in Mt. Sterling Friday night.

M. H. Cline, one of our widely known farmers is moving to a farm in Mason county. The people of this community regret to learn of Mr. Cline leaving.

Mr. and Mrs. James Crouch of Moorefield, have returned home after spending a few days with his parents.

Messrs Russell Boyd, Rex Crouch, Noble Hawkins, C. T. Cannon, Joe Crouch and Boyd Cannon were visitors in Flemingsburg Sunday.

Mrs. James Hickey, Mrs. H. C. Hammonds and Miss Catherine Hickey remain on the sick list.

Mr. Hes and Wilson Boyd were business visitors in Maysville Wednesday.

We all regret to hear of the death of Mr. William Hawkins who died at his home here at 4:30 o'clock Wednesday morning. Mr. Hawkins was a reliable, honest and well respected citizen of this community. Surviving him is his wife and four children, Mrs. Richard Kenney, of Frankfort, Ind.; Walter Hawkins, of Connersville, Ind.; Everett and Howard Hawkins of Bethel. One sister, Mrs. Thomas Vice, of Moorefield also survives. Funeral conducted by Rev. Frey, of Owingsville.

The missionary society of the Methodist church met with Mrs. Robert Crouch. As usual, a good program was rendered by the society.

The many friends of Prof. M. M. Gunkle are glad to know that he is out again.

Mrs. James Arnett has been confined to her home here after a few days illness.

Captain W. R. Hazelrigg, Mrs. Ethel Scott and Mrs. Will Luthernmier were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Robertson Sunday.

Jim Vice, of Maysville, has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. James Arnett.

MOOREFIELD

Rev. Howard and family have returned to their home here after spending the winter in Carlisle.

Mrs. L. Evans, of Campbellsburg, Ind., is visiting her father, R. E. Blount, who has been sick.

Mrs. Walter Stone and Mrs. Homer Blount attended a semi-annual board meeting of the Women's Christian Missionary Society of The Disciples of Christ at the Woodland Christian Church in Lexington Friday.

Jim Crouch is able to be on duty again at the Mercantile Store here.

J. M. Berry was in Louisville the past week to receive instructions as secretary of the new federal bank in Flemingsburg.

The P. T. A. meeting was held at our school house last Friday with Mrs. Charles Whaley leader. Subject "Mental Hygiene." The girls in Mrs. Harvey Bromagen's room served refreshments.

S. F. Burgess was in Fleming county a day or two on business.

The Doo Doodlers will appear in person at the Moorefield high school Friday evening, March 23 at 7:30. Admission 10 and 15 cents. See Mr. Doo with his piano accordian and guitar and Mr. Doodler in his Jewish impersonations and watch him swell when he blows the jug.

Miss Marjorie Riggs attended the tournament in Maysville Thursday night.

Miss Martha Lee Berry was hostess to her bridge club Saturday afternoon. St. Patrick's day idea was carried out in the decorations and refreshments. Mrs. Charles Whaley was awarded high score prize and the consolation prize went to Mrs. Howard Irvin.

NOT THE KILLING TYPE

By R. H. WILKINSON

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"THE jigger didn't kill hisself," said Deputy Baldy Hickey. "No, sir, he didn't kill hisself. He was murdered!"

Baldy's face was flushed, and there was a gleam of triumph in his eyes. His attitude was that of a man, who, through his own shrewdness, had made a discovery that fully substantiated a previously presented theoretical deduction.

There were three men in the single-room cabin: Baldy, the deputy, and Sheriff Sol Rock, the recipient of Baldy's remarks, and also his superior. . . .

The third man was dead.

He lay sprawled across a table in the center of the room.

There was a six-shooter on the floor beside him.

An ugly wound lay open in his temple, and about the wound there was a black smudge.

"According to this," said Sol, indicating a sheet of paper which he had been reading, and completely ignoring Baldy's startling announcement, "according to this, the jigger's name is Alfred Darwin. He's a prospector in hard luck. In fact, he's been up against it for some time, and decided, upon reaching this cabin last night and carefully considering what a failure his life has been, and his declining years, to end it all with the last cartridge in his six-shooter."

Sol stared down at the limp form.

"Well, Baldy, Mr. Darwin sure done a good job. He plugged hisself proper."

Baldy was livid with indignation and rage.

"Plugged hisself, you idiot! Hisself! Why, ain't I just got through telling you he didn't plug hisself! It wasn't suicide. It was murder!"

Sol looked at the little deputy mildly, and grinned.

"Cool your whiskers, son, and get a load off your chest. How come you think it was murder?"

Baldy's eyes snapped.

He was a little man, easily aroused, albeit a good law officer and loyal to his trust and to Sol.

"Listen, you big hulk, it's danged near time you give me some credit for brains. Right up to the present moment I been letting you do all the deducting an' figurin' out and mental strain, while I been sittin' back waitin' for something to happen requiring gun play or rope work or long night rides after a hard day's work. A 'yes' man, by gingo. Well, right here is where I start being a deductor and a figurer outter. I got as much brains as you, an' by gingo if I prove it, you gotta promote me, feller."

Sol's grin widened.

"You sound pretty sure of yourself, runt. An' I'm listenin'. Why, ain't this a suicide?"

Baldy puffed out his chest a little, swaggered a little and gestured rather grandly.

"Because," he said, "this jigger was shot in the right temple. Well, he's left handed. And a left-handed guy couldn't shoot hisself in the right temple."

"Humm," said Sol. "Left-handed, eh? How do you know?"

Baldy's eyes gleamed.

"How do I know? Because I'm a deductor, that's how I know. I went through the jigger's pockets an' I found a bunch of keys and a handful of change an' a couple of other things in his left-hand trousers' pocket. That's how I know! A jigger who's right-handed carries things like that in his right-hand trousers' pocket!"

Sol contemplated this.

It was, when you analyzed it, rather slim evidence, but nevertheless not to be ignored.

It was true that a man who carried the things he was most likely to use frequently, in his right-hand trousers' pocket, was usually right-handed.

Yet at the same time Sol knew it wouldn't be wise to let Baldy know he admitted this, even to himself.

The little deputy would probably burst a blood vessel.

Sol said: "So what?"

The trace of anxiety in Baldy's eyes provoked by the thought that Sol might doubt the importance of his deduction, instantly vanished.

"So plenty," he said.

"Who was it discovered this jigger lying here? Who was it rode into town with the news an' then lit out for parts unknown? It was Lem Bulfinch, wasn't it? A jigger with whom you an' me is well acquainted. Sure. And what is it we know about this Lem Bulfinch that is different from other jiggers? What is it, feller?"

"He's left-handed," Sol admitted.

"Ha! Now, you're getting it, feller. Lem's left-handed. So what? So he happens along here yesterday, finds this jigger has made a strike, invites hisself inside for a snack to eat—and bang! The jigger's dead. Lem's got the dough. He writes a note, leaves it on the table here, an' then rides to town with his cock and bull story!"

"Sounds reasonable enough," Sol confessed.

"Except for the fact that Lem ain't the kind of jigger would kill a man for a pot of gold or two pots of gold. You know that, an' so do I."

"Brainstorm," Baldy said promptly. "Lem had a brainstorm when he seen that gold. Even the best of guys have 'em sometimes. An' if he ain't guilty, why did he race off for parts unknown?"

Sol laughed at this.

"Any place that Lem might have gone in this country is 'parts unknown,' feller. Why shouldn't he go some place, if he wanted to? It ain't any of our business."

Baldy sighed and shook his head.

He was pretty proud of his deducting, yet he sensed that if he kept on with it Sol might confuse him with a lot of foolish questions.

Sol had a way of considering facts and people's reputations and dispositions that was sometimes annoying.

Psychology, he called it; a word that Baldy had only a vague knowledge as to its meaning.

So Baldy went outside to smoke a cigarette and let Sol go over the situation alone.

Usually when Sol went over things alone he was pretty successful about reasoning out an explanation to a possible mystery.

Baldy had hardly got seated—had not, in fact, located his papers and tobacco—when he heard hoofbeats coming up the canyon.

A horseman hove in sight, and even at that distance the deputy recognized Lem Bulfinch.

Lem's arrival was a little disturbing. Baldy wasn't ready to accuse the man to his face; nor did he care about having Sol see that his, Baldy's, theory was blown to pieces by observing that Lem wasn't riding to "parts unknown."

And so, in order to prevent causing any embarrassment to himself and Sol—also Lem, Baldy galloped down the canyon and waylaid Mr. Bulfinch 100 yards from the cabin.

"Hello, Baldy," said Lem.

"Was ridin' past an' I thought I'd inquire about the jigger who shot hisself. Anything I can do?"

"Nope."

Baldy shook his head determinedly.

"Nope, you best ride right along, Lem. Sol's making an investigation now; posted me outside to shoo off any curious folks who might come snoopin' around."

Lem looked at the little deputy and shrugged.

"O. K. Didn't intend to butt in . . . I'll be lopin' along."

"Best thing," Baldy agreed.

"No hard feelin's, Lem. Orders is orders. See you later."

Baldy waited until Mr. Bulfinch was out of sight, and turned back toward the cabin, feeling vastly relieved.

Now he could still maintain that Lem was a good suspect and not have to admit to Sol that his theory was entirely askew.

Sol came to the door as the deputy approached the cabin.

His face was grave. "I guess we'll have to call it suicide, after all, feller. That was a good theory of yours, but Lem Bulfinch ain't the killing type."

"No?" said Baldy scornfully.

"So you ain't even going to question him, eh? Well, it's your responsibility. But just tell me, how you figured that guy shot hisself in the right temple. He was left-handed. I proved that by finding the stuff in his pocket."

Sol grinned.

"You found the stuff in his pocket, feller, but you didn't prove he was left-handed. A guy might carry stuff in his left pocket—if there was a hole in his right pocket!"

Baldy began to sweat.

So that was it!

Sol had out-deducted him once more.

He turned to glance up the trail, found that Lem had not decided to return, and was relieved on that point.

He looked at Sol again and found Sol still grinning. He wondered why and kept wondering, because he didn't know that Sol had watched his meeting with Lem, through one of the cabin windows.

English Sparrow Looked Upon as Unwelcome Pest

English sparrows are looked upon today as degraded, troublesome pests, like mice, or roaches, or flies. Yet it is only a little over eighty years since they were imported in cages from England, and were given places of honor in the public parks of New York and Boston. The first English sparrows to enter America were brought about 1850, and were liberated in Central park, New York City, where special birdhouses had been prepared for them.

At first, says a writer in the Missouri Farmer, these birds were welcomed as the "pets" of the city. Other cities followed the example. It was erroneously believed that they would destroy the great armies of canker worms which were devouring the leaves of the trees at that time. But the wayward little sparrows did not live up to expectations, and took to eating seeds, fruit, and grain—leaving the canker worms to continue their destruction.

When the truth was learned, it was too late to deport them to their native country. They had multiplied rapidly and had spread throughout the whole countryside of the Atlantic region. Every house and barn soon became a nesting place for them. In a short time they had overspread the entire North American continent.

Hay Truck Sleeping Houre

Hay trucks making regular trips between Imperial Valley and Los Angeles do not stop for such a luxury as sleep for the drivers, but continue for 24 hours per day, says the Los Angeles Times. A truck and trailer piled sky high with baled hay has no place for a sleeping man on top. Some have tried this precarious perch to their sorrow. The latest is a "dog house" built over the cab of the truck in which the relief men get in several hours of sound sleep while the truck is making rapid progress with its load. By changing off, the men get their rest while the truck piles up the miles.

Test flights of the miniature rocket ship built by a German, Ernest Loebell, have proved so successful that plans are being laid to construct a larger model to be sent into the stratosphere, probably this coming summer. It will not carry a man—only scientific instruments.

ISHMAEL

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Rigg spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Barnes.

J. W. Alexander and family motored to Maysville last Monday.

Miss Louise Ishmael and Earl Bowen were the week end guests of Bruce Cleaver and family at Little Rock.

Mrs. Matilda Gillispie spent one day the past week with Mrs. John Harbett.

Robert George, wife and baby spent one night with George Clay and family.

John Barnes is on the sick list.

There will be preaching here next Sunday morning and night by regular pastor.

GOOD CHARACTER

(Hickman Courier)

It sometimes seems as though our modern machine age has lost sight of the fact that the fundamental base of all human progress is the good character of our citizens. For almost 100 years we have been gradually getting away from the emphasis formerly laid on right thinking, right living, common honesty, justice and mercy. We have been saying that technical ability could be depended upon to save us, that science was superior to morals and that business success was its own guarantee.

But look at our record. Twelve thousand murders, three thousand kidnapping, five thousand cases of arson, fifty thousand cases of theft or burglary and one thousand cases of assault; that's our crime record last year, just to mention a few of the more serious offenses. The cost has been figured at fifteen billion dollars a year—five times as much as it takes to run the federal government, four times as much as it takes to run all our schools and colleges and universities; enough to pay off the national debt in two years.

We maintain a veritable army of judges, prosecutors and peace officers, without noticeable progress against lawlessness. We maintain the most expensive educational system in the world, but without improving the social attitude. Our mountain of law our complicated judicial system, our improved prisons and reformatories, our attempts to make men over, have accomplished little or nothing.

Other and presumably less progressive countries enjoy a freedom from violence which we have not been able to achieve. We have 10 murders per capita to England's one and our record of lesser crimes is equally bad, if not worse. In spite of all her trouble and commotion, France is able to guarantee the average citizen much better protection than we can. We cannot explain it on the ground that we are a young country for Canada is just as young, but Canada suffers from no such degree of crime as torments life and obstructs business on this side of the border.

It sometimes seems as though we cannot do anything straight, that a fundamental streak of dishonesty, rebellion or pure cussedness inflicts our every enterprise. Tales of graft and corruption in high places bring a laugh. Here is the CWA, a measure of relief, a program designed for no other purpose than to help the unfortunate out-of-work citizens, and it is suffering from charges of graft, favoritism, nepotism and crooked politics throughout the country.

Some day we are going to wake up to the fact that there is no substitute for common honesty, the kind you build into children by training them to realize that there is such a thing as conscience. Some day we are going to discover that all these technical attempts to make men good by cash registers, elaborate bookkeeping and check-up systems, just do not work. Some day we are going to find out we cannot make people good by law. Some day we will be forced to admit that good character is man's only hope and that if you don't produce the right kind of human beings you might as well throw everything else out the window.

PEACH CROP KILLED

A bulletin from the Kentucky Horticulture Society says:

It seems quite evident that the subzero weather of the last days of February destroyed the peach crop of Kentucky. Some damage had resulted from the low temperatures in January, especially in eastern Kentucky, but from such evidence as we have at hand there seems but little doubt that few if any peaches will be produced in our state this year. It is possible that in those areas where ice formed on the trees in advance of the zero and lower temperatures, that buds may have been sufficiently protected to enable them to live through, and, with no further extremely cold weather, will produce fruit, but where no ice formed it is not likely that there will be blooms and consequently there will be no fruit.

The annual cost of crime in the United States amounts to more than $12,900,000,000.

The people of the United States may not be cake eaters, but they are candy eaters. Internal Revenue Bureau figures show that they paid nearly $500,000 in sales taxes on candy during the month of December alone.

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