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#### BALLADE OF THE PROFITEERS.

Now milk is twenty cents a quart (We must discharge our cat, I fear); The price of eggs of any sort, Or meats, affords us little cheer: The cost of every kind of gear Is wildly heavenward careering; If everyone's a profiteer, Then what's the use of profiteering? The coal bill left me sadly short; The landlord raised our rent this year And what the farmer won't extort The middleman will commandeer; Next comes the railway engineer, These others' winnings closely shearing; If everyone's a profiteer, Then what's the use of profiteering? When everybody's chosen sport Is lifting rates with brow severe What sinner dares to come to court To press that charge against his peer? Whose hands are clean, whose conscience Who has the right to ask a hearing?

If everyone's a profiteer. Then what's the use of profiteering? Envoi.

Aghast, I view a prospect drear Of universal bunko-steering. If everyone's a profiteer,

Then what's the use of profiteering? -"New York Life."

#### ON A WATCHMAKER.

Here lies, in an "horizontal" position, The "outside case" of Peter "Pendulum," watch-maker, Whose abilities in that line were an honour To his profession. Integrity was the "main-spring," And prudence the "regulator" Of all the actions of his life, Humane, generous, and liberal, His "hand" never "stopped" Till he had relieved distress. So nicely "regulated" were all his "actions" That he never "went wrong," Except when set "a-going" By People Who did not know

"His key." Even then, he was easily "set right" again.

He had the art of disposing his "time" So well That his "hours" glided away

"In one continued round" Of pleasure and delight, Till an unlucky "minute" put a period to

His existence. He departed this life, "Wound up"

In hopes of being "taken in hand" By his "Maker,"

And of being thoroughly "cleaned," "repaired," and "set a going" In the world to come.

### JUST CURIOSITY.

She cycled up to the butcher's shop and entered with a smiling face. "I want you to cut me off twenty-five

pounds of beef, please," she said. The batcher was incredulous. "Twenty-

five pounds?"

"Yes, please!" When he had finished, he asked her where he should send it.

"Oh, I don't want to buy it," she explained. "You see, my doctor tells me I have lost twenty-five pounds of flesh during the last two years, and I wanted to see what it looks like in a lump. Thank gon so much."



## HORTICULTURE.

Early planting has many advantages especially in Southland where the winter is long ir than in the north and if not done early the soil becomes wet and cold which sometimes causes delay if planting is put off Trees and shrubs planted in May and the beginning of June get some new roots started before the wet and cold have much effect upon soil and are ready to start into growth upon the first signs of Spring, and further early orders generally resulting in better plants by having the first pick; therefore attend to your ordering as soon as possible. Make up your mind at once what alterations or additions you intend to make and the class of trees shrubs or plants you want, then make your selections either from the means you have at hand or from lists and catalogues procured from seedsmen or nurserymen. Roses in particular should be ordered at once and your ground got ready for planting as soor as the plants are received. Manuring is of the first importance, and what to use and how to apply it, depends greatly upon the nature of your soil and whether you are planting complete areas or beds, or individual plants. Animal manure is always the best although the addition of a moderate proportion of bonedust or artificial garden manure will be beneficialbonedust is always safe. Deep digging 's always necessary for the best results and in the case of areas or beds the manure can be worked into the soil making the bottom soil a good deal richer than the surface. In the case of individual plants the best course is to manure when planting by digging the hole sufficiently deep, well mixing manure with the soil in the bottom and mixing more with the soil whilst filling round the plant. There has always been some controversy as to the depth of planting, many being of opinion that the stock should be below the ground to slightly above the point where budded. Generally speaking this is satisfactory and certainly gives the plant a much firmer hold in the ground and minimises the effects of the wind in blowing the plant over. However when the stocks and budding are good, planting with the point of budding above the ground gives equally good blooms. Spread the roots nicely and press the soil firmly round the plant, Ordinary bedding roses are hybred perpetuals teas and hybred teas, and which will succoed best depends upon the nature of the so'l All will succeed in heavy loamy or clayey soils, hybred teas being extremely satisfactory, but pure teas with very few exceptions will not succeed in light peaty soils. Varieties are so numerous and so many charming shades of colour have been attained of late years especially with orange and yellow tints as the result of crossing with Austrian briars etc., and individual tastes vary so much that it is useless to suggest any selection of varieties. Good catalogues all give fairly reliab'e descriptions but whatever method of selection is adopted there is sure to be some disappointment, however on the whole a little care will result in a good collection. For climbing and pillar roses the Wichurianas are almost always satisfactory, Excelsa as a crimson being simply glorious whilst Dorothy Perkins is always charming, the colour and form being all that can be desired in a pink; white Dorothy is a profuse bloomer and good doer, all three giving a fairly long season of bloom. For a large growing pillar rose Alister Stella Grey is unequalled, strong growing, handsome foliage, perpetual blooming, a mixture of large and small sprays, colour orange turning to very pale yellow; and splendid for decoration needing no foliage but its own, lasting well and having a delightful perfume. Ards Rever with its large rich foliage, fairly large, well formed crimson flowers and continuous blooming is also a grand pillar rose. Some of the dwarf polyanthus and other dwarf bunch flowered varieties are well worth growing and everyone should

#### LITTLE WILLIE.

grow the Orleans Rose.

Willy Hohenzollern, in one of his letters to Nicky the Late, says that if te hadn't had a religion when he went to Jerusalem he would have become a Moselm. At this stage of the game nobody cares a tupp'ny expletive whether he meant it or not. The main thing is that the man who could write such appalling piffle as is being cabled out to the newspapers is no longer in a position to make himself an international nuisance.

The greatest service woman can render man is to save him from herself.

# CARDEN NOTES.

Recently-sown crops of carrots, par-

snips, turnips, beet, spinach, lettuce, and other crops are now making rapid growth and should under reasonable conditions produce a good supply. As soon as the plants are sufficiently advanced, thinning our must be attended to allowing sufficient space for the plants to develop fully. Weeding, too, at this season is an almost endless task, and it needs persistent work to keep them under control. Simply hoeing is almost useless, unless the weeds are emoved from the ground. The nest plan is to weed the rows thoroughly when thinning out the plants, and then lightly dig over the ground between the rows. This will not only destroy most of the weeds, but will allow the air to penetrate and assist root growth. Later-sown cabbage and cauliflower plants are now comparatively free from fly and should be planted out as soon as sufficiently advanced in growth. Little is gained by planting, however, until the plants are strong enough to resist the attack of To grow these or any of the Brasica family successfully, the ground requires to be thoroughly enriched with manure. Celery plants are now making good growth, and must be kept clean and free from weeds. The liberal amount of manure required to grow celery successfully naturally results in an abundant crop of weeds, necessitating frequent weeding to prevent the plants becoming checked in their growth. The early-planted celery, providing it has been kept well supplied with moisture during the dry weather, may now be ready for earthing up. Nothing, however, is gained by earthing until the plants are well advanced in growth, as there is always a risk of the centres (or hearts) rotting if earthed up before the plants are well furnished with plenty of good, healthy foliage. In earthing up, care in any case must be taken to keep the soil from the hearts of the plants. A good plan is to place a tie round each plant before commencing to place the soil around them, removing the tie after the soil is pressed around them; ov. if Raffia grass is used to tie them, it need not be removed, as it will decay before it has time to cut or injure the stalks. Tomatoes will still require attention, keepmg all lateral growth removed, so as to expose the fruits to the sun as much as possible. But in addition to removing the laterals, a portion of the main leaves should be shortened, and about half the leaves cut off, thus giving the fruit the full strength of the sun to assist in ripening. All ground that has been cleared of spent or ripened crops, such as peas, beans, potatoes, onions, in fact every piece of ground not under crop, should now be dealt with. Such plots should be deeply dug, or trenched if necessary, and, if not required for cropping before the latter end of winter or early in spring should be sown down in oats, vetches, or other green crops. This quickly covers the ground and effectually keeps weeds under during the winter months. Kumar s are now making rapid growth. The runners of these should be occasionally lifted to prevent the runner rooting into

#### THE WAY OF A BOY WITH A SERMON.

Composes himself with a deep sigh; listens attentively for three minutes, in unimpeachable form.

Captiously reaches hymn book from rack; drops it; recovers it; reads hymns for five minutes.

Explores trousers pocket and examines with deep interest one magnet, two nails, three pencil stubs and several bits of unclassified junk. Drops something, and hunts under seat until discovered and asyou-were-d.

Puts sole of left foot against back of pew in front, at level of knee, and is highly surprised when foot drops noisily. Repeats same exercise with right foot, with same result.

Sits still and gratefully sucks peppermint offered by merciful aunt.

Sighs heavily. Experiments to see what will happen if he presses on his Adam's apple while head is extended forward: strange chocking sound ensues, immediately suppressed by domestic authorities.

Takes a recount of articles in book rack, finds old paper fan, and discovers that it will make a cracking noise if flipped in a certain manner. Flips it in a certain manner until reproved.

Explores coat pocket for solace; looks happier; a mysterious hissing sound, like escaping steam, leads to probe, revealing cld camera bulb; confiscated. Sighs heavily: Listens for five minutes.

Dissects and reassembles flashlight: finds piece of string in pocket, and practices Scout knots for a peaceful interval. Stands up with a sigh of relief; thank got dness, it's time for the last hymn!

-Corinne Rockwell Swain.

# MOTORING NOTES.

OVER LUBRICATION OF FORD FROMT CAYLINGUERS.

Any defect in the ignition system which allows the engine to misfire gives the soot and oil a chance to pile up on the spark plug and overwhelm it-with the result that the plug is soon flooded with oil.

It sometimes happens that the spark plug porcelain may have a concealed crack, too small to be noticeable to the casual glance, yet quite wide enough for the slippery electric spark to slip through.

Or, it may be that the insulation of the spark plug is so old and oil-coated that the spark leaks through the insulator of the plug-instead of jumping the gap between the sparking points, and firing the charge as it should.

Even though the plugs only mis-fire 'once-in-a-while," this may be enough to upset the balance of the race between the spark and the oil, and to give the oil a chance to overwhelm the plugs: In case of doubt install a new spark plug.

The spark plug gap may not be right. Too wide a gap will tend to cause misfiring, when the throttle is opened and there is more compression in the cylinders. And too narrow a gap is too easily bridgad and insulated by a drop of oil. When the front cylinder spark plug gives trouble with oil, collecting between the points, try separating the points a little, in order that the gap between the points will not an so easily bridged by the oil.

Another vital hint in making the spark plugs less susceptible to oil fouling is to bend the point of the side electrode or wire upward, and in a slanting direction towards the central electrode or wire of the plug. This gives any oil, tending to collect between the spark plug points, a chance to run down the side electrode, away from the gap, and off to one side, where the oil will do no harm. It makes little difference how much oil is on or in the spark plug—the important thing is to keep the oil from collecting in the gap, between the spark plug points.

When the vibrator points of the coil units are in poor condition and are worn or rough or out of adjustment, this may cause an occasional miss, and may put the spark plug out of business. Try changing the coil units around or have the coil units tested and adjusted on a coil-unit testing machine at a good Ford Agency. Install new points if necessary. Good results simply cannot be obtained from old, worn points, no matter how carefully they are filed.

The weakness of the Ford magneto is usually indicated by the dimness of the lights, but the voltage of the magneto can be tested on a voltmeter, if the magneto is suspected of being so weak that it does not give enough current to give a regular spark, without misfiring.

The last, but not least, detail of the ignition system that is apt to particularly affect the spark plug of the front or number one cylinder is the commutator.

At first glance it is hardly apparent just why the commutator being out of order should particularly affect the front cyclinder. The vital point is this. The iront cylinder segment is the one that is at the top of the commutator-under normal conditions.

The roller and roller brush assembly some weight. But, spring of the roller brush assembly is of normal strength, and the parts are not worn, then the spring pushes the roller up against the top contact segment without trouble, and good contact is

But when the spring is weak, or the parts are worn, then the spring may not be able to overcome the force of gravity, and the roller may not make good contact with the top segment—resulting in misfiring.

But, the force of gravity, through the weight of the roller, helps the roller to make even better contact with the other segments. And so we see that the front cylinder contact is the first to be affected. and the first to give trouble with misfir-

A new commutator roller brush assembly, and perhaps a new commutator shell, is the obvious remedy for trouble of this nature, though bending the commutator arm out a little further may effect a temporary cure, as also may tightening the

The kind and quality of oil that one is using is worthy of careful consideration, especially if one is having trouble with the front spark plugs. Good oil burns up cleanly, and does not foul the plugs nearly so easily as does gummy oil of poor quality,

The use of too heavy an oil is a common mistake among users and owners of Ford cars. New Fords should use light oils. Older Fords in which the pistons are a more or less "sloppy" fit in the cylinders, may use a somewhat heavier ail, tending towards the medium grade.

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