Wine of Life

By CATHERINE HOPSON

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"Want a lift?" called out a cheery voice, as jingling sleigh bells slowed up.

Amy Davanant, teacher of the Pine Grove school, stepped aside in the road at the approach of bells, and then turned with a slight pucker between her smooth brows at the futility of the question. Her need of a "lift" was obvious since she was floundering through fourteen inches of unbroken snow. Besides, she felt piqued that Duncan Alden, unlike the other young people in the community, had made no effort to get acquainted since her coming among them.

"Oh—it's you, Miss Davanant," Alden said when he saw who it was. Then he jumped out to help her in the sleigh.

"I don't wonder you didn't recognize me. I'm so wrapped up," she laughed, as he tucked the robe around her.

"Why in the name of common sense didn't the Perkinses take you to school on a day like this?" he asked, when the jingle of bells began again.

She laughed. "They seldom think it's necessary. Their daughter, Amelia, once taught this school when she was a girl, and walked back and forth every day of the term. She set an uncomfortable precedent."

"It's hard to live up to some one else's reputation, especially in a winter like this."

"Maybe the paragon Amelia didn't have so much snow to wade through. But in most ways the Perkinses are very kind to me," she amended, lest she should seem to disparage the good people with whom she boarded.

"Yes? But it must be pretty dull for you there—just those two old people."

"It isn't exactly exciting," she acknowledged.

When they reached the district schoolhouse, the unbroken snow and smokeless chimney told them that they were the first arrivals.

"Oh, I'm afraid Ted isn't there," she exclaimed in dismay. "He's the boy I hired to build fires for me."

"Allow me to be Ted this morning," laughed he. "I'm a good hand at fire building. A case of practice making perfect, you know."

She protested, but he had his way, and soon had a glowing fire in the rusty stove. This done, his glance traversed the typical country schoolroom back to the dainty, city-bred girl before him.

Genuine concern was in his face.

This blizzard's made traveling mighty bad. I doubt if any of the pupils get here this morning. Most of them live so far away. What'll you do if they don't come?"

"Oh, stay out the time. I'll have to on account of the salary you know. The directors aren't very lenient in the matter of lost time."

"That's so. But it's a pretty dreary proposition. I'll drop in at noon to see how you're making out." With a few last laughing words of advice, he left; and the merry sound of bells died away in the distance.

He was right about the pupils. No one came. Amy put in the morning correcting papers and finishing pieces of work she had been obliged to neglect in the stress of regular routine. All the time, though she would not acknowledge it to herself, the thought of Alden's promise to drop in at noon was a cheering factor.

However, when twelve o'clock came he did not appear and she was setting out a cold lunch from her lunch box when she heard bells again. She opened the door. Alden stood there, fur-coated, fur-capped, his dark eyes shining.

"I'm afraid I'm a bit late, Miss Davanant." His keen glance took in the forlorn, empty schoolroom. "I see my prophecy proved true."

She laughingly nodded.

"I'm glad of it," he said naively. "For it makes possible the wish I've been harboring that you would do me the honor of taking pot-luck dinner with me. I'm not much of a cook, but I can make bully soup; and I've a whole kettle full on the stove in my cabin."

Her eyes brightened, but hesitancy shone in their depths.

"Oh, I know it may be a bit unconventional. But surely this blizzard might allow us some latitude in that direction. Besides, we have Lassie, here, for a chaperone," he nodded at the gentle-eyed collie at his feet.

She laughed. "It does seem as if the storm might make some concessions. But can you get back by one o'clock? I might have some pupils by then, you know."

He gave hearty assurance, and before she could change her mind he bundled her into her wraps.

Again the jingling cutter made the half-mile trip to his cabin, where the appetizing odor of steaming tomato soup greeted them. The cabin was a cozy, two-roomed affair, bachelor in appointments, but with books and magazines everywhere. Amy drew a long breath. After five homesick months away from her kind in the narrow isolation of the Perkins home, it was good to be in a book-loving atmosphere again.

To do her honor, he spread a clean white cloth over the little, oil-cloth covered table, and served the steaming tomato soup. They were as merry as two children while they ate. Lassie sat beside them in gracious forebearance as they talked and laughed. Both were surprised when the clock struck one. Quickly they entered the cutter, and drove back to the schoolhouse, where silence again greeted them.

"We needn't have hurried so after all," protested he.

"Some of the pupils may come yet," answered she.

He brought in more wood for her, and with advice about keeping up the fire well, went away.

The afternoon dragged. No one came. She finished the odd jobs which occupied her during the morning, and time hung heavily on her hands. The storm, which had abated at noon, increased in fury. The air seemed full of snow, and smooth unbroken expanses of prairie stretched out around her for miles and miles.

She had no assurance that Mr. Perkins would come for her at four o'clock—he never did. Amy Alden had not said anything about coming back. Her spirits which a little while ago were gay and carefree, slumped to zero point.

"How shall I get through? How shall I ever go alone through this storm?" She did not wish to desert her post before four o'clock, and during the last hour stood at the window watching each way of the road for a passing team that might help her out of her difficulty. But none came by. After the noise of the storm she could sometimes catch howls of coyotes. Tears gathered in her eyes at the desolation of it all.

"I can't stay here all night," her quivering lips whispered. "Oh, why didn't I ask Mr. Alden to take me back to the Perkinses at noon, even if I lost my position by so doing? Surely they would have forgiven me for missing half a day—when none of the children came."

She was nervously putting on her wraps, when a knock sounded at the door. She had heard no sound of approaching sleigh-bells, and for a moment stood in terror. What if it were some tramp seeking shelter? Then, summoning her courage, she went to the door and found Duncan Alden standing there.

"Oh, I'm so glad—I'm so glad to see someone," she cried, her face pale, and her brown eyes under the tumbled curls pitifully glad.

"Why—you poor little girl." His laugh was shaky. "This must have been a horrible day for you. I'm afraid we folks who're used to it haven't realized what a prairie blizzard must mean to you."

"Oh, I usually get along well enough—but today—"

"This is the limit. I telephoned to Mr. Perkins to see if he was coming for you, but he said he wouldn't think of taking his horses out in this blizzard. Some people are more considerate of their horses than anything else, you know. And I'm afraid you put me in the same class when I tell you that I couldn't drive my horse tonight. He cast a shoe going home this noon, and for some reason is terribly lame. I've been working over him—that's why I'm late. I kept hoping he could make it; but he simply can't go. However, I'm here with a snow shovel."

"But can we walk over to the Perkinses?" she faltered.

"No, but I phoned to Mrs. Tolan; they're the people who live in the cabin just beyond me, you know, and she wants you to stay there tonight. It's three-quarters of a mile from here, but with a snow shovel and a strong right arm, I think we can make it."

So they started forth. The snow had drifted over the path made by the sleighs earlier in the day; and the shovel was necessarily brought into service the greater part of the way.

At last they saw shining out before them the welcoming lights of the Tolans' cabin. Before ascending the little hill on which it stood, they paused to catch their breath.

"I'm mighty glad the storm came today and gave me a chance to know you," declared the man. "I've thought you were a city product who would die cure for pioneer life and people—that's why I've avoided you. But you've certainly shown yourself mighty plucky today." Something in his keen eyes made her own drop shyly as he added: "Now the months of your stay's been wasted for me, but—I'm going to try and make up for lost time."

The wind howled, and around them stretched the desolate, snow-covered prairie; but it might have been a rose-garden for all the two young people heeded, for their eyes were bright with youth and joy and wine of life.

How Glass Industry Shifted.

The ancient Roman glass works shipped to all parts of the civilized world; and specimens of their productions are today found throughout Europe, and even in Ireland. When Rome commenced to decline and the great people fled to Byzantium, they took with them their glass industries, and Constantinople became the greatest glass manufacturing city in the world. This prestige it held up to the fourth or eleventh century, and when it entered upon its decline and fall the glassblowers fled to Venice and there established what afterward grew into the celebrated Venetian glassware.

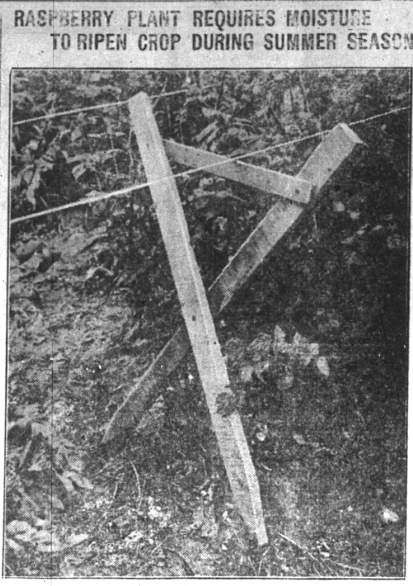
Australia's Rainfall.

A committee of the British Association for the Advancement of Science has recently collected samples of rainfall during a period of one year, at 16 stations scattered over the continent of Australia, and examined them quantitatively to determine their contents of nitric and nitrous nitrogen. About 1,000 samples were examined and the results were compared with the records of the weather conditions under which the rainfall occurred. The general conclusions are that, for a given type of weather, the concentration of oxidized nitrogen in the rainfall varies inversely as the amount of rainfall, and that the total amount of oxidized nitrogen a unit area found in the rainfall accompanying a storm depends upon the type of weather and is practically independent of the amount of rainfall, and that the total amount of oxidized nitrogen a unit area found in the rainfall accompanying a storm depends upon the type of weather and is practically independent of the amount of rainfall, and that the total amount of oxidized nitrogen a unit area found in the rainfall accompanying a storm depends upon the type of weather and is practically independent of the amount of rainfall. The highest total amounts of oxidized nitrogen were found at southern and inland stations in rain water resulting from monsoonal storms following a heat wave.—Scientific American.

Noble Thoughts and Poems.

When you have thought something fine and beautiful, go a little further and put it into fine action. Noble thoughts, which do not inspire to noble living are the most hopeless of shams. And the noblest poems are not those which are written, but those which are lived.

RASPBERRY PLANT REQUIRES MOISTURE TO RIPEN CROP DURING SUMMER SEASON



WOODEN SUPPORT TO HOLD CANES UPRIGHT.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

From the time raspberry plants are set, they need an ample supply of moisture and they are affected more quickly and seriously when it is deficient than most other fruit plants. In the sections where the highest average yields of red raspberries are obtained, often 6,000 quarts of fruit per acre are secured. The average for the whole country, however, is not more than 1,500 quarts, and this difference is due almost wholly to a difference in the moisture supply. In the sections referred to as giving the highest yields, a deep soil furnishes a uniform and ample supply of moisture at all times. To secure the best results, therefore, the grower should, by tillage and by supplying humus, maintain a uniform and ample moisture content in his soil, not only during the growing and ripening of the fruit but also while the canes are developing. Some growers make it a regular practice each year to mulch their fields to a depth of several inches with straw, leaves or green hay. When this practice is followed, the cost is great, but the moisture supply is retained well.

In semiarid and arid regions where irrigation is practiced, the fruiting season is longer than in most humid or nonirrigated sections. The use of irrigation in the Eastern states also has extended the picking season and made the plants thriftier. Larger yields of fruit of the Eumeco raspberry in the summer and fall have followed the irrigation of that variety and made it profitable in some sections of the East.

In the humid sections of the Eastern states, irrigation should be used chiefly or entirely during the growth and ripening of the fruit and will pay only when an ample moisture supply cannot be maintained by tillage. As the raspberry ripens its crop during the summer when droughts are likely to occur, some growers have found irrigation profitable.

Intercropping.

In order to reduce the cost of intensive cultivation of a raspberry plantation during the first year after setting, other crops that need cultivation during the spring and early summer months may be grown between the rows. Among the crops best suited to this use are the tomato, cabbage, cauliflower, bean, pea, summer squash and potato. Grain crops should not be used, as they are not cultivated and will take moisture and plant food needed by the raspberry plants. The second season no other crop should be grown, as the raspberry roots should occupy all the ground.

Tillage.

Tillage in raspberry fields should be thorough and regular in order to conserve moisture. Except in rainy weather, cultivator or harrow should be used at least once each week up to picking time. Some growers consider it profitable to use it as often as twice each week, and this is sometimes necessary during periods of extended drought. The cultivation should stir the soil to a depth of two to three inches only, as part of the raspberry roots are shallow. Many growers shortens the cultivator or harrow teeth which run next to the plants, so as to disturb the young feeding roots near the surface as little as possible.

Later tillage is for the purpose of keeping down weeds and grasses. The fields should be free of weeds during the winter season, as many kinds start quickly in the spring and are difficult to destroy after the soil is in condition to work. Autumn tillage, however, tends to develop new growth, which is tender and somewhat more subject to winter injury than the older growth. Autumn tillage, therefore, should be avoided as much as possible where there is danger from severe winters.

Maintenance of Fertility.

The use of fertilizers in raspberry plantations is governed by the same principles that apply to their use with other fruits. As soils vary in the quantity and availability of the plant food they contain, the fertilizer problem is a local one which each grower must solve for himself. By using varying amounts of the different elements of plant food on different plats and keeping a record of the yields, each grower can determine readily what kinds and quantities of fertilizer to apply.

Good management, however, will insure a large amount of humus in the soil at all times. It is especially desirable that the humus supply be ample when the plantation is first set out, as it is much easier and cheaper to furnish the humus by means of cover crops and stable manure before the plantation is set than afterward when the plants are growing. Moreover, by such extra care before setting it is possible to secure a fair crop of fruit the second season. Because it costs so much to care for a plantation for a year it will pay well to have the soil in a high state of fertility before the plants are set, so that the plantation may be brought into bearing a year sooner than would be possible otherwise.

Use of Fertilizers.

In many sections no fertilizers are used on bearing plantations. In the older raspberry sections, however, some commercial fertilizer and stable manure are used, and it is considered profitable to use them. Stable manure, however, usually has given the best results and experiments have shown that, where obtainable, it furnishes the best means of enriching the soils on which the experiments have been tried. Stable manure not only furnishes some plant food but supplies large quantities of humus. If an annual application of about ten tons per acre is made, the humus supply should be maintained, and with proper treatment in other ways the field should be kept at a high state of productiveness. Some soils and some sections will need a larger quantity and some less than ten tons per acre. A heavier application, however, should not be made unless it has been found by actual trial to be desirable, as it is possible to stimulate the growth of canes and leaves to such an extent as to reduce productiveness.

Cover crops may be used to maintain the humus supply. Oats seeded at the rate of three bushels per acre in late summer should give a dense stand of material to turn under before winter, or they may be left to serve as a covering during the winter and plowed under in the spring. Cowpeas, vetch, the various clovers, and other crops also may be used in the raspberry plantation. Care must be taken in growing the vetch and clovers, as they live through the winter and it may prove costly to eradicate them. However, if they are drilled in between the rows and turned under before they become too rank in the spring, little trouble should be experienced.

GROW CROPS AND LIVE STOCK

Fertility Is Conserved and More Food Produced on Given Area—Sure General Plan.

Live stock raising in connection with general farming conserves fertility elements and makes it possible to produce more food on a given area of land. Growing crops and breeding animals should be practiced on every farm of any considerable size if possible, as this kind of farming is surer as a general plan and it saves the farm for future crops.

CRIBBING IS HARD TO CURE

One Man Succeeded by Fastening an Old Bicycle Tire Along Top of the Manger.

Cribbing is a vice with some horses that is hard to cure. One man says he succeeded by running a piece of iron pipe through an old bicycle tire and fastening this along the top of the manger. The horse didn't like the taste of the rubber and soon forgot the bad habit.

DON'T SELL THE BROOD SOW

To Dispose of Breeding Animals Would Be Like Killing Goose That Laid Golden Eggs.

Selling a brood sow now is like killing the goose that laid the golden eggs. Stocks of breeding animals have been reduced, both here and abroad. It looks, therefore, as if there would be a strong demand for hogs at high prices for a long time to come.

HELP MAKE EGGS AND MEAT

Certain Amount of Table Scraps and Kitchen Waste Which Has Feeding Value for Fowls.

Let the table scraps help make eggs and meat. In every household no matter how economical the housewife, there is a certain amount of table scraps and kitchen waste which has feeding value, but which, if not fed, finds its way into the garbage pail.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The regular meeting of the Literary Club was held in the auditorium, March 7. A large number attended and all enjoyed a program of music and oratory.

Miss Gillett is now instructing her regular classes. She has been confined to her home on account of illness.

A mistake is wished to be corrected, which appeared in the school notes last week. The score at the Waundote game was not in favor of Birmingham as stated, but in favor of the visiting team. But—do not let your hope sink, for a great victory has been gained by both the girl's and boy's teams, Friday evening last. The most enthusiastic and well played game of the season, in fact of almost any season, was played. The home teams contested with Royal Oak's teams, their deadly rivals. The girl's team were very well matched, and the score was about equal for both, until those last tense moments of the last quarter, when the local team put up all the vigor and spirit they could muster, and "piled up the score" to 15—10. Such school spirit and enthusiasm has never yet been shown as was then exhibited, when between games. The school board marched in figures about the hall, followed by many loyal pupils, both girls and boys. The boys' game then took place, and the rooters for the local team were beginning to lose hope, (just a tiny bit), when the home boys took courage and fought for all that was in them and finally when the whistle blew, marched off of the floor, triumphant, the score being 36—26. To celebrate, the school board and a number of rooters marched with the visiting team to the staterooms and marched up and down Woodward, until they were seen safely on the car.

The next meeting of the Literary club will be held the coming week. The main feature on the program will be a debate.

George Slater has injured his ankle and is out of school.

The senior class has chosen it's senior play, "And Home Came Ted", which will be given in the near future.

CARD OF THANKS.

We are very grateful for the many acts of kindness shown us by the neighbors and friends, donors of flowers, and others in the bereavement occassioned by the illness and death of our dear husband and father. Especially are we grateful to Rev. Evans for his comforting words, and to Mrs. Oscar Miller for her beautiful singing.

MRS. R. J. ST. CLAIR and family.

Roumania Founded in 1859.

Roumania was formed in 1859 by the union of Moldavia and Wallachia, two principalities tributary to the sultan of Turkey.

Sausage From Cottonseed.

The United States is certainly the "land of cotton," declares an exchange. Nowhere else in the world is cotton grown in such abundance, and put to such a variety of uses. The fiber, of course, is made into cloth; the oil from the seeds is used as a cheap substitute for olive oil and as a basis for lard, and now the seeds themselves are being ground into flour and feed for food purposes, says Popular Science Monthly. Gingersnaps and jumbles are made from it, and it is mixed with finely chopped meat and stuffed in sausage links. To make the cottonseed sausage, three pounds of sausage meat is mixed with one pound of cottonseed flour. This flour is said to contain as much nutrition as the meat which it displaces and is used to effect a saving of 8 cents a pound on the sausage.

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Appointment of Administrator.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on 3rd day of February, A. D. 1918. Present, Hon. Ross Stockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of

SAMUEL CLARK LAWS, Deceased.

Ida A. Ford, daughter and hot-at-law of said deceased, having filed in said Court a petition praying that the administration of said estate be granted to Ross Lamb or to some other suitable person.

It is ordered that the 25th day of March, A. D. 1918, at 8.30 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition. It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

ROSS STOCKWELL,
(A true copy.) Judge of Probate.
George A. Brown, Register of Probate.
7-15mar

MORTGAGE SALE.

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Sayle D. Harger and his wife, Lillian F. Harger, and Leverett G. Harger and his wife, Ethel Harger, of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, to Daniel L. Davis of Pontiac, Michigan, dated the 15th day of October, A. D. 1912, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Oakland County, Michigan, and State of Michigan, on the 20th day of October, A. D. 1912, at 11.30 o'clock, A. M., of said day, in Liber 206 of Mortgages, on page 545, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of Seventeen Hundred thirty-four and thirty-one one hundredths dollars ($1734.31), and an attorney fee of forty dollars ($40.00) as provided for in said mortgage it is expressly agreed by the terms of said mortgage that default in any principal or interest be not paid at the end of thirty days from that time it is due, the mortgagee can, at his option, declare all said principal and interest unpaid and more than thirty days having elapsed, and said interest not having been paid, said mortgagee hereby declares all principal and interest is due and payable, and no suit or proceedings at law having been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof, notice is hereby given that by virtue of the said power of sale contained in said mortgage, and the statute in such case made and provided, on Monday, the 15th day of April, 1918, at ten o'clock A. M. the undersigned will, at the easterly front door of the Court House, in the City of Pontiac, County of Oakland, Michigan, (that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland is held) sell at public auction to the highest bidder, the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: All those certain pieces of parcels of land known and described as follows, to wit: All in Town Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, as follows: The Northeast fractional one-fourth (1-4) of Section Thirty (30) excepting therefrom the following described piece of parcel of lands, commencing at the Northeast corner of said Section Thirty (30), thence Westerly on the North line of said Section forty-two (42) rods, thence Southerly to the North line of the Detroit and Howell Plank Road, thence Northeasterly on the Northline of the said Detroit and Howell Plank Road to the point of intersection with the North section line of said section, subject to the rights of the said Detroit and Howell Plank Road Company, the land intended to be conveyed containing one hundred fifty-four (154) acres more or less.—Dated Pontiac, Mich., Jan. 11, 1918.—

D. L. DAVIS, Mortgagee.
MANLY D. DAVIS, Attorney for Mortgagee, 601 Majestic Building, Detroit, Michigan.

18 Jan—12 apr.

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