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THE MEDICINE BOTTLE.

"If you think my life is a pleasant one," said the Medicine Bottle, "I'll tell you from the start that it isn't."
 "In the first place I was in the doctor's office. I saw the people quake and shake when they were told they had to take some bitter medicine. I don't suppose they really shook as much as I thought they did, but I was standing quite still at the time and they seemed to make a great deal of fuss."

"Then I heard someone say, 'Doctors give us horrible stuff, when we think we're sick enough, just after all they make us well.' And this fact, too, I think we should know."

"Then someone else said, 'I wonder if the doctor has taken from the medicine bottle which must be shaken?' 'It's hard to swallow it and he held the nose.' 'What the nose?' 'Such are the things I've heard,' said the Medicine Bottle.

"Did all the people speak like that asked the little 'White Pills.' 'They do not speak like that,' said the Medicine Bottle, 'but those were the things they said which I've changed into rhymes.'"

"A medicine bottle must have something to cheer it up at times." "Yes, I'll tell you my life is not a pleasant one."

"I'm never greeted with a smile. Fancy that, White Pills! I'm never greeted with a smile."

"I'm always greeted with a scowl, often with tears and usually with grumbles."

"No one likes me! It is too bad! When I am empty I am filled up again. Oh, I have a horrid life."

"Now, you're not bad to take at all. People take you very easily and without complaint in the least. You are so easy to take."

"You can be swallowed down with a drop of water and no one can taste you."

"But think, Medicine Bottle," said the White Pills, "when you're being taken folks can be pretty sure they're getting something whereas with tasteless pills, as we are, it doesn't seem as though we amount to anything!"

"Oh," said the Medicine Bottle, "it's good of you to cheer me up. But I can't very well be cheered up."

"Here I sit on the mantelpiece and three times a day taken down and shaken as though they'd like to kill me, I do believe, and then with groans or tears or complaints I'm swallowed. Or rather, some of the medicine from me is swallowed."

"And the faces that are made about me! Oh, they're awful! Truly, awful faces are made up because of me!"

"Now you are taken without all that fuss. You do good even if you don't taste bad."

"But I taste so bad that no one can appreciate me, or rather the medicine in me."

"It's a terrible life that I lead! And when I am emptied I will be filled again. Or for a time I may sit about with a lot of other ugly medicine bottles, and we'll all be put on a shelf that sees very little life, and there we'll gather dust."

"We'll stay there, some of us with a little medicine left in us and outside of us as well, until we're wanted for refilling."

"I started from a doctor's office, and here I am in this house."

"Goodness when I'll go back to the old shelf again. I wish the doctor would take me back. I never did the doctor any harm."

"I helped him all I could. All I knew how! But oh dear, life is very hard when one has to go through it and be scowled at wherever one goes."

"And the very worst thing about it is that I wouldn't really have a great deal of respect or admiration for any one who smiled at me, for it would show they had wretched taste. Yes, that is the saddest part of my sad story! I may do good, but oh, the medicine that I hold, tastes too horrid for mere words to describe!"

Wheat Gets Thrashed.
 "Now, Edwin," said the Sunday school teacher to a member of the juvenile class, "which would you rather be—the wheat or the tares?"

"The tares," answered Edwin.
 "Why?" asked the teacher in surprise.
 "How can you say that when you know wheat represents the good and the tares the bad?"

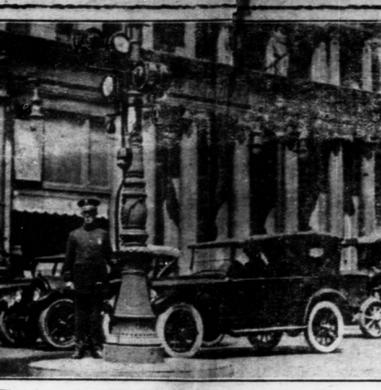
"Oh, that's all right," replied the precocious youngster, "the wheat gets thrashed and the tares don't."

What is a Weed?
 According to Webster's International dictionary there are two definitions of a weed: 1. Wild growth in the nature of rank grass, undergrowth, or the like. 2. Any plant growing in cultivated ground to the injury of the crop or desired vegetation, or to the disfigurement of the place; an unsightly, useless, or injurious plant.

The following note is added: A weed is a plant that is not wanted. There are, therefore, no species of weeds, for a plant that is a weed in one place may not be in another.

Mining Potash.
 Potash is a term which occurs in the form of a rock salt and runs in seams of thirty feet or more in thickness. As mined it has about the same consistency as the common rock salt of commerce and its grinding is easy. The depths at which the true potash deposits are situated make it necessary to sink shafts leading to levels of as much as 5,000 feet below the surface.

NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL TRIED OUT



This device for regulating traffic on busy street corners was tested the other day at Broad and April streets, Philadelphia. It is electrically operated and equipped with red, green and white lights. The green light warns pedestrians to hurry across as the red will follow immediately.

PORTABLE CRANE IS USEFUL TOOL

Convenient Means Provided for Lifting Heavy Parts From Automobile Chassis

IT IS EASILY CONSTRUCTED

Old Iron Pipe, Bed Casters, Bicycle Chain and Sprocket and Other Pieces Are Big Help in Repairing.

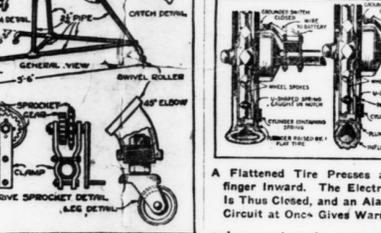
A portable crane for a garage is one of the most necessary tools required. It provides a means for lifting motors, gear cases and other heavy parts from automobile chassis.

Easily Put Together. The one illustrated is easily constructed of old iron pipe, bed casters, bicycle chain and sprockets and one crank and one gear, several pieces of

wood drums and a steel pulley at the top, bolts, etc. As this will weigh only 200 pounds, or possibly less, it is readily placed in almost any position and is a great help to all repairmen.

Details of Lifting Parts. Detachable hooks of different sizes may be used so as to engage different size parts to be lifted. The connecting pipes of the frame are standard fittings bent to fit and drilled for one quarter-inch bolts to give additional strength. The catch is made from a piece of band iron and its clamp, to release the tension, is a screw.

To release the tension, the handle, hold the latch or catch up, and allow the handle to reverse until correct height of article is found; then release the latch, which will hold the gear as before at any desired position.—F. P. Avery in Popular Science Monthly.



A Garage Crane Made From Old Iron Pipe, Bed Casters and a Bicycle Chain and Sprockets.

band iron, a length of steel cable, a wood drum and a steel pulley at the top, bolts, etc. As this will weigh only 200 pounds, or possibly less, it is readily placed in almost any position and is a great help to all repairmen.

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Does the Valve Leak?
 It is an easy matter to discover whether the tire valve leaks or not if you know the little trick. Remove the cap and, having the wheel turned so the valve is right at the top, set up over the valve stem a bottle, a glass container of any sort, filled with water. If there is a leak, of course the bubbles will indicate it. Try it with the cap on and with the cap off. You may find that the valve you thought all right is the sole cause of a tire constantly getting soft without apparent cause. The tube that shows no leak when taken out and immersed in water, valve and all, may leak through the valve slowly when in riding pressure. So this little trick is well worth remembering.

Protect Spare Casing.
 Special tire paints designed to protect the spare tire from injury caused by light, air and moisture can now be purchased. These paints are black and give the tire a glossy, smooth finish which greatly enhances its appearance. No special skill is required in the application. The use of a protective coating on the spare tire is desirable, for it is often exposed to the sun and the elements for months before it is put into use. During this time it is slowly deteriorating so that its mileage is gradually cut down. A suitable coating, therefore, not only stops deterioration, but also adds to the appearance of the article.

Bears and Telephone Poles.
 Every telephone and telegraph pole in the remote districts of Norway has to be constantly watched on account of the bears, which have a mania for climbing the poles and sitting on the cross bars, swaying backward and forward until the pole falls.

Opposite Perhaps.
 "Hard work will kill no one," declares a literary editor. Most people of course prefer an occupation with a spice of danger about it—London Punch.

Much in Little.
 A baby will make love stronger, days shorter, night longer, bank roll smaller, home happier, clothes simpler, the past forgotten and the future worth living for.—Office Topics.

Kerosene and Coal.
 Kerosene contains more heating energy than coal when considered on a weight basis. A pound of kerosene contains about 19,000 heat units, whereas a pound of high-grade coal contains about 15,000. The cost of the various fuels for heating purposes depends largely upon the relative supply.

Substitute for Glass.
 A new substitute for glass or for lacquer has been invented in Germany. It can be cut with shears or with a knife and, when heated to more than 100 degrees Centigrade, it forms a kneadable mass which resumes its previous hard state on cooling. It is known as "cellon."

AWAITING THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

A boy of 21 sat in the death cell, awaiting execution for murder, convicted on circumstantial evidence. A former hoodlum and member of a gang, when caught in the near vicinity of the crime, he was the logical suspect, and falling friends, lacking friends and money, together with false evidence, sent him to prison to await the electric chair.

One day a section of a woman's magazine came into his hands. There was a department devoted to the needs and problems of the men in the service and their families. The idea of the personal service suggested all through it, appealed strongly to him and he wrote to the woman editor, asking, not for help or sympathy, but for reading matter with which to while away the six remaining weeks of his life. He told her nothing of his trouble, but only of his one good friend who had visited him and was doing everything possible in his behalf.

Being a real woman with boys of her own, she sent a bundle of books and a magazine and asked to have the letter forwarded to the man in the ward of the prison and to the boy's Salvation Army friend. From these two men came the story of the hasty trial, its details and conviction. The two men who had tried to help the boy, the lawyer who had volunteered to defend him had died before the trial was completed, and his colleague sent away to Europe on a special government mission, and was not on hand to put forth the effort for a new trial. Before any progress toward a new trial could be made the evidence relating to the case had to be printed.

The cost of this was \$75, and nowhere had this boy and friends to produce such a sum. A bed-ridden mother, a widowed sister with two small children could hardly keep themselves, let alone help him.

When the Editor Woman received this letter from the Salvation Army man, she promptly sent the \$75 from her own slender resources, with the instruction to get evidence quickly. They began to struggle to get some of sufficient importance to move the wheels to re-open the case. When all appeals to officials, the ministry and other agencies failed, attended by the time-worn phrase, "Let the law take its course," this determined woman resolved to appeal to another woman. A telegram was sent to the wife of the editor of one of the greatest cosmopolitan newspapers in the Boy's Home city with the plea that the case be reopened, to establish the possible innocence of a boy charged with murder.

This brought results—for the newspaper took up the case, reprinted all of the evidence, brought to light several points in the boy's favor overlooked before. The case was reopened and in a very few days on the strength of the new evidence thus developed, the boy was released and the identity of the real murderer was discovered.

Tray who is the parent, kindly visitation of the Salvation Army. Worker, who had exhausted every resource within his power to get interest aroused in a case which he believed deserving of investigation, machinery was set in motion which gave back to a youth of 21 whose two years of confinement under the death shadow had made of him a serious, Christian citizen, and prevented a miscarriage of justice.

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