

MAN AND THE TREE

[Mrs Austin Gallagher in "The Evening Sun."]

Mrs. Austin Gallagher, of Carroll Orchard, chairman of the tree committee of the Baltimore Civic League, has written an excellent article on "Man and the Tree," with special application to Baltimore's shade tree situation, although the plea for the planting and preservation of shade trees is needed in every town in Maryland.

If we should stop long enough to think to realize that trees are as much a part of the great universal scheme as are the sun, moon and stars, the rivers and seas, the animal creation, including ourselves, would we wonder, consider we and the right to look on inactively, as we have done, while daily, hourly, the extermination of this glorious product of nature goes on? We believe not; but the trouble is that we don't have time to stop and think.

The American public is too busy achieving supremacy as the "live wire" nation of today to trouble much with such a "lofty ideal" as that of conservation for her own nation of tomorrow.

It is due partly to this and partly to a sort of youthful inattention—a lack of interest in anything that is not quickly available—that has left us, early in our career, practically treeless—as our tree inheritance. Possibly all nations have gone through this stage of sufficiency unto the day being the evil thereof; but that they passed safely through and beyond it, their treasuring of the forests of Arden and the vales of Tempe attest. And we, too, are quite old enough to know better.

Surely the care-free destruction of our natural resources must make a student of conservation thankful that out of all our marvelous birthright of Heaven and earth the Creator entrusted to the control of man but the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms of the earth. For certainly the quality of the latter's stewardship of these things proves Providence to have been "all-wise" in denying him further realms of responsibility.

As to minerals, according to incontrovertible expert opinion, they too have been disastrously squandered. Dr. Holmes, chief of the United States Bureau of Mines, has only this week issued a warning against the further unchecked waste of coal, natural gas, oil, etc., urging that only through rigid conservation of all our natural resources can the prosperity of this country continue.

But, thank Heaven, this is not so of the vegetable world; and though we must wait many a weary year for the maturity of the forest tree, its king, we may still be able, if we will, to make a creditable report upon it at the Judgment Day.

And if our eyes are at last open to the importance of trees in the "universal scheme," and if we truly appreciate their significance as health, wealth and beauty factors of our existence—whether we live mostly among bricks and mortar or in God's great out of doors—the battle is nearly, though not quite, won.

Then waste no more energy in mourning the myriads of oaks sacrificed, according to scientific statement, hundreds of years before their divinely allotted time, of pines whose evergreen boughs waved in a thousand Christmases, nor of elms that, with our forefathers, withstood the shot and shell of the hostile Redcoats, only to be sacrificed, with greater ignominy, by the hostile ax of their guardians of a later generation.

But wait a moment to exult with me that among our natural resources the heavenly bodies were not included. If we had had jurisdiction over the planets ("live-wire" vandals that we have proved ourselves to be) and had had a whack at the sun, for instance, where would we be now? Old Sol might have been hauled down, broken up and sold to the highest bidder as furnace coal. And alluring Venus—well, it is quite likely that the Gothamites might have liked her as a lamp-post light for their "Great White Way." And the sweet romantic moon, dear to every heart—why, she, being made of green cheese, would have been eaten up long ago: Grated moon over macaroni, Welsh rarebit à la lune, and so on.

But now, assuming that we are at last brought to justice—been duly arraigned, tried and convicted of tree slaughter in the first degree—let us proceed with our sentence. It shall be the complete restitution to old Mother Earth of those possessions which we have unlawfully, unrighteously despoiled. Our lovely old woods we must repeople with trees. Nor shall we forget, either, the roadsides of "My Maryland." This sentence is most kind to the convicted, by the way, if you will consider the list of benefits accruing to us through the reinstatement of the tree.

To begin: Of foremost importance will be the health gain. If the air is purified through tree absorption of poisonous gases, such as carbon dioxide, they in turn supplying us with oxygen—our greatest life-giver.

requirement—and if, in addition, we enjoy a 20 per cent difference of temperature because of shade and through the evaporation of moisture from foliage (187 gallons a day to the full-grown tree), we need struggle with that to have city health we must have an argument to refute the medical flat city trees.

And next, there is the indisputable charm which verdure gives the beauty appeal of shade trees. None save the unfortunate blind fails to respond to this—and even they may listen to the singing of their branches.

And, last to the health and beauty benefits of our self-inflicted "punishment" of more trees add the economic one. The menacing "For Rent" and "For Sale" signs that stare at us in every block from the boundary to the bay suggest some new force of attraction, if Baltimore is to maintain her prestige among other cities possessing dignified realty values. And if it is the conviction of expert city planners everywhere that there exists no other single agency that can more definitely relieve this present crisis in property values than extensive, careful, tasteful tree planting and tree preservation, then why not try it? Especially as we have convincing records of the success in other cities of this commercial exploiting of the tree.

Though trees are possibly the least trouble of anything that grows, still their cost, as all things worth while do, we must pay to secure a well-rooted tree; we must pay for the compost it requires. The indispensable skilled man who plants it must receive suitable remuneration; an enemy protector (tree box) must be added. (This, however, will cost less than the arrest and conviction of a careless driver, who allows his horse to gnaw a tree.) And after everything comes the maintenance expense, if the sowing is to be induced to thrive, and to prove the original outlay for it to have been justified.

There is no royal road to such bountiful tree results as are fast making of Washington the most beautiful city in the world—save through public-spirited zeal, plus the necessary funds. But unless all signs fail, we shall yet realize the tree-shaded city of our dreams. The Monumental City, of course—but also Baltimore—City of Boulevards.

The Lend-a-Hand Book Club, For the Advocate.

To be whisked away to the county jail in an automobile driven by the capable chauffeur, in the person of Mrs. George Benson, and landed behind bars—was the novel experience of the Lend-a-Hand Book Club of Mechanicsville, June 18. It is true that handcuffs were daisy chains and the club went on the invitation of Miss Shauck, but the tragedies of lives once within those cells made itself felt.

A short program was rendered, the president reading "Soup from a Sausage Skewer" from Hans Anderson's Fairy Tales. Mrs. Leister read: "The Boy in the Cherry Tree;" Mrs. Prugh read the minutes of the last meeting. Two new members were added to the club: Mrs. Davis, the sheriff's wife; and Mrs. Coleman, of near Reisterstown. Mrs. R. F. Wells made a motion to send money to the Baltimore Sun for the sick babies. It was carried unanimously with much enthusiasm.

The ladies were invited to visit the prisoners. Books and pictures were distributed to the unfortunate ones. It seems wrong to keep prisoners, no matter what the offense, for months, until November term of court, with nothing to do. Waste is a sin. If we as citizens are the custodians of any man's time, and compel him to idleness, the crime is on us. You men who read this—who are the lawmakers, wish you could feel the weight of the blow as did I, when I said to an unfortunate youth, with gleaming eyes, "Ah, you smoke cigarettes." I received the blow right in my face. "There's nothing else to do." His eyes were hungry. The silence between us for an instant, was not golden, but leaden. He looked it up with: "I have no father or mother." Under like circumstances of each of those prisoners might we not be they? On seeing the home-like care and cheerfulness of Mrs. Davis' management the jail did not seem quite so solemn. It is large, airy and immaculate.

Several visitors were present, one lady from the Civic League of Westminster, who told us of the good work the league is doing. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Davis and Miss Shauck. Some said, the ice cream was the "best ever," Miss Shauck received the following toast:

"I fill'd to thee, to thee I drank, I nothing did but drink and fill The bowl by turns was bright and blinding, 'Twas drinking, filling, drinking still! At length I had an artist paint Thy image in this ample cup, That I might see the dimpled saint, To whom I quaff'd my nectar up. Behold how bright that purple lip Is blushing through the nave at me! Ever rosetate dro' a dip, Is just like kissing wine from thee! So, here's to thee, my gentle dear! And may that eye forever shine Beneath as soft and sweet a tear As bathes it in this bowl of mine!"

A Militant Suffragette.

A suffragette created a diversion in the centre of London by chaining herself to the statue of the Duke of Wellington, in front of the Royal Exchange. She then shouted to the passing business men, calling on them to intervene in behalf of the imprisoned women. She was removed by the police amid the jeers of large crowd.

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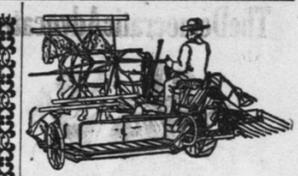
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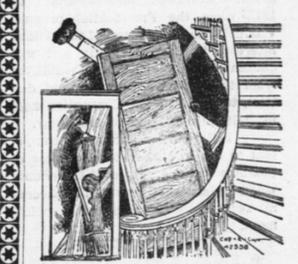
PARTS AND REPAIRS

So that our service may be complete we carry a full supply of parts and repairs. Please remember we are at your service during these busy days and are ready and willing to do all we can to help you. If you need a new machine, repairs or parts, or if the machine we sell you don't do its work properly stop in or call by phone 263. We intend to make this a house of service to our patrons. "If it's used on the farm you'll find it here."

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll County, in Maryland, letters of Administration on the Personal Estate of MICHAEL M. WILHELM, late of Carroll County, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscribers, on or before the 19th day of January, 1915, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate. Given under our hands this 15th day of June, 1914. WILLIAM H. WILHELM, FRANKLIN H. WILHELM, Administrators. June 19 4t

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll County, in Maryland, letters of Administration on the Personal Estate of MARY M. MYERS, late of Carroll County, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscribers, on or before the 19th day of January, 1915, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate. Given under our hands this 15th day of June, 1914. JOHN A. MYERS, GEORGE G. MYERS, Administrators. June 19 4t

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