When a man boasts about what a miserable sinner he used to be, the devil laughs in his sleeve.

Eight Lives Shy.

"I have only one life to live."

"That proves that you are not a cat, after all."

Hundreds of people who would be horror-stricken at the suggestion of suicide by the rope-and-rafter method, are daily killing their best selves with the poison of self-pity.

Heard on the Waterfront.

Some ancient mariners were sitting in a seaport tavern relating their experiences of fogs.

"Ah!" said one old salt. "I've seen some pretty thick fogs in my time. Why, off the coast of Newfoundland the fog was sometimes so thick that we used to sit on the deck rail and lean against it! We were sitting one night as usual, with our backs to the fog, when suddenly the fog lifted, and we all went flop into the sea. A bit thick, wasn't it?"—San Francisco Chronicle.

Slow Travel.

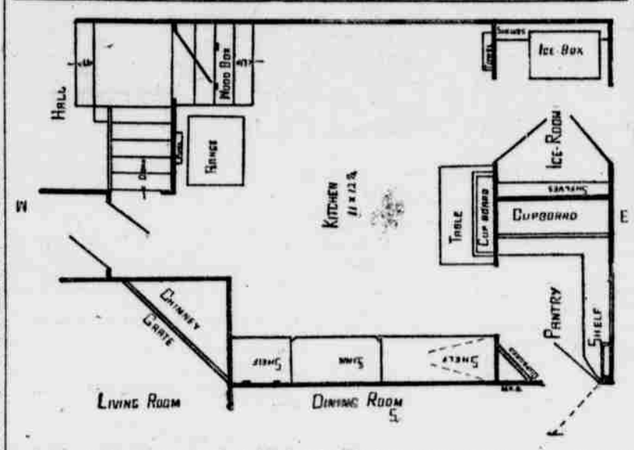
Down in Oklahoma they have a railroad called the Midland Valley, which is noted for its slow trains. It is told that a young man of Tulsa asked the hand of a daughter from her parents and was refused on the ground that the daughter was too young.

"My daughter is going to Pawhuska tomorrow for a visit," said the father, who is a traveling man, 'and if she doesn't remain more than a day or two she will be old enough when she gets back."

"But she may be an old maid by that time," protested the young man. —Kansas City Star.

A Pleasant and Convenient Kitchen

By MYRA V. BOGUE



A pleasant and convenient kitchen is one in which the work may be done with the least possible loss of time and strength, and at the same time be so light, airy and cheery that the time spent there may be included in the sum of the day's pleasures.

A kitchen should be planned by or for the woman who uses it. I am speaking now of the housewife who does a large part of her own work. No two women would want the furnishings placed in exactly the same way. If could cannot build a new kitchen and have it just as you want it, you can at least study the possibilities of the one you have and make some changes that will better suit your convenience.

The drawing here shown is of a kitchen which was planned by a woman, lived in through imagination for a number of months before it was really built, and has now stood the test for six years without undergoing any changes in itself or losing favor with its mistress.

The sink, shelves, table and range are all set rather high, to suit a tall woman. The work table and two shelves are covered with zinc, which is curable, sanitary and easy to keep clean In washing dishes, the work all proceeds naturally from right to left. The soiled dishes are neatly packed on the smaller shelf in the corner. Two dish pans are placed in the sink,—which affords hot and cold soft water and cold hard water,—the one at the right for washing and the one at the left for rinsing; a draining basket stands at the left on the edge of the long shelf which slants slightly toward the sink. The dishes are wiped, piled on the long shelf and then put away,—the china in the large or corner cupboard in the pantry, and the tinware and kettles in the cupboard underneath the long shelf. A small cupboard is built on the wall between the pantry and icerooom. This is just above the work table, the top being even with the top of the doors on either side. It has shelves narrow enough to allow of two rows of brass hooks on the inside of each door, on which are hung knives, spoons, etc. In this cupboard are kept spices in small glass cans, sugars in larger glass cans, tea, coffee, cocoa, postum, breakfast foods, bread crumbs, measuring cups, tea and coffee pots, a box of cards on which are written recipes in common use, and which can be taken out and hung in line with the eyes when needed. At the bottom of the cupboard is a deep drawer with two compartments for tea and hand towels. In the lower part of the table are receptables for flours and the table drawer affords space for small utensils which cannot be hung up. On the inside of one door of the tin cupboard referred to is a rack for kettle covers. On the side of the stair steps at the right of the range is hung the soapstone griddle, a piece of asbestos between it and the wood. Above the smaller shelf, flush with the face of the wall is a small cupboard, the bottom of which is cemented. In this are kept the flat irons, which can be put away while still hot, the stove shovel and corn popper. The room is well lighted with the two large windows on the north, a large glass in the door of the ice room, and the window at the east in the pantry, which windows give light from the left and from the back of the worker. There is no dark corner. The kitchen is finished in Georgia pine, natural color, with maple floor. The ceiling and sides are covered with a light canary colored enamel paint. The pantry is enameled white, ceiling, walls, shelves, cupboards inside and outside, thus doing away with unsanitary shelf coverings. There are hooks on the underside of the shelves of the small corner cupboard in the pantry for the best tea and sherbert cups. This cupboard has glass doors. The shelves in both cupboards have a narrow cleat about an inch from the back, making a safe place to stand platters, fancy plates, etc. The lower part of the large cupboard is used for storing dry groceries, bread and cookies. The wood box at the back of the stair steps is filled from the platform near the outside basement door, and the wood is taken from it by lifting the second step which is hinged. The shelves in the iceroom are used for the many unclassified articles, and a row of hooks opposite the ice box receive brooms, brushes, etc. While everything in the kitchen and pantry are convenient for immediate use, when not needed they shut in away from the dust. There is no door between the kitchen and pantry nor between the kitchen and passageway leading to the basement. The plumbing is cased up just back of the range, so as to be readily accessible.

A detailed description of the above kitchen is given, because one concrete example of a "tested-out" convenient kitchen will be worth more to you in making your own plans, than many theoretical suppositions that may look good on paper.

Plowing Under a Green Crop on Sandy Soils

By C. H. SPURWAY, Asst. Department of Soils, Michigan Agricultural College

Sandy soils cover by far the largest area in Michigan. This fact makes the problem of building up and maintaining the fertility of this kind of soil important to most Michigan farmers. Some of these soils are lacking in fertility in their virgin state, and some have been run down by poor management. The most important thing to do to improve the fertility in either case is to add organic matter of some kind to these soils. The cheapest way to do this is undoubtedly that of plowing under a green crop.

The greatest benefits to be derived from plowing under a crop such as clover, are increased supply of nitrogen and a better physical condition of the soil. There are other benefits, but these two are the most important, and it is probable that the effect upon the physical condition of the soil is the one that produces the most good. If we plow under a crop of clover of two tons to the acre, we add about 80 pounds of nitrogen to the soil. Some of this nitrogen was taken from the soil by the clover plant and some was taken from the air through the medium of bacteria which grow on the roots of the clover. We can not determine how much nitrogen was taken from the soil and how much was taken from the air. That depends upon the conditions. We do know, however, that the air above an acre of soil contains many millions of dollars' worth of nitrogen, and that this nitrogen is brought to the soil by the bacteria that grows on the roots of legumes and we get it into the soil for almost nothing. Why not let the bacteria do our nitrogen fertilizing?

The addition of organic matter to a soil puts it in a condition to hold more water. The great absorptive power of organic matter for water causes the water to be taken into the particles and held in the soil. The soil water is also held closer to the surface by having a supply of organic matter in the upper soil layers, and in this position the plant can get a better supply. The leachings, washing, and blowing of sandy soils are prevented to a considerable extent by plowing under a green crop. These are a few important benefits to the physical condition of sandy soils.

One mistake which the farmer is apt to make in plowing under a green crop is to let the crop grow too late in the spring. This robs the soil of water which will be needed for the succeeding crop at a critical period, and often the growth is too much to be plowed under at one time and at that season. The writer has seen fields which have been spoiled for the season in this way, although the danger is greater on heavy than on light soils. It is better to plow under small amounts and do it often, especially when done in the spring and when the season is apt to be dry.

The effects produced on sandy soils by plowing under a green crop are usually beneficial when done under the right conditions. Sandy farms in Michigan have been built up in this manner together with barnyard manue, and many successful farmers use this means to increase the fertility of their soils.

Garden Weeder.

A hand garden weeder can easily be made from a piece of wire cable containing five or more strands. Bend a handle on one end and untwist the other end about four inches. Spread the strands apart and bend a short hook on each wire. Tie with a small wire just back of the spread and you will have a handy little garden weeder or tool for loosening the dirt in flower boxes.

IN A SWIFT AUTO PLUNDERS AT WILL

Man in "Grey Ghost" Is Terror of Southern California Foothill Cities.

"BURNS UP ROADS"

Mysterious Pirate Sweeps About Night After Night Robbing as His Fancy Dictates—Valuables or Trifles Appeal to Him Alike.

Los Angeles, Cal.—"Grey Ghost," a low-swung racing car, with its goggled, supposed owner at the wheel, and with the exhaust roaring and thundering a protest from its powerful engines, has been sweeping through Glendora and surrounding towns upon a piratical mission that has spread terror in its wake.

Along foothill boulevards, the stretch of well-paved road that leads from Los Angeles through Glendora, the pirate car and its owner have sped night after night upon marauding expeditions. It is only when the car is out on the boulevards, where other cars are wending their way to and from the little cities near the foothills, that the "Grey Ghost" is let loose with all its speed. Then it flashes by other automobiles, giving the occupants a moving-picture view of a swift-speeding car with a driver huddled behind the wheel, a mere blur of a human being, whizzing on.

Seven times the "auto pirate" and his gray streak of a car have been seen by orange growers who live along the boulevard. That he is the one who is committing the various depredations which have aroused residents along the mountain road has been made certain by traces that he has left after bold crimes. The men who have seen the driver of the "Grey Ghost" say he handles his car with all the skill of a professional racing driver, and that he evidently knows

Seems to Know Every Crook in the Roads.

every turn of the roads in the surrounding country.

Evidence that the "Grey Ghost's" owner does not care what he takes and is as willing to commit a petty theft as a daring burglary of consequence, is shown by the fact that on one occasion he went so far as to steal a drilling machine belonging to a ranchman, who owns a place at Grand avenue and Foothill boulevard. The tracks of the automobile tires showed plainly where the "auto pirate" had hitched the machine to the back of his car, and then sped away.

One of the strange features in connection with the case is the fact that the "auto pirate" seems to know every crook and turn in the roads leading in and about Glendora, Covina, Duarte, Monrovia, Claremont and other towns. When shooting his car along over the smooth highways he never seems to hesitate at a turn or slow down for a railroad crossing or bridge.

Tramp Runs Mansion.

Leavenworth, Kan.—When the Cheever house on Miami street was opened the other day it was found a tramp had taken possession. The house is richly furnished, and during the absence of the owner, Mrs. B. H. Cheever, had been without a tenant except the tramp.

He had slept on the spotless linen in the massive brass beds, washed his hands in marble basins, waltzed with his brogans on the Oriental rugs, eaten from silver plate and drunk from cut glass goblets. Cans of imported dainties were robbed of their contents and cobwebed bottles were taken from their musty hiding places in the cellar bins.

Six Fractures In Ten Years.

Marshalltown, Ia.—To fall six times in ten years and suffer that number of fractures is the peculiar record of accidents established by Mrs. Sarah A. Wheldon, eighty-one years old, of this city. Recently she fell and received a compound fracture of both bones of the right arm.

Owing to her age her condition is critical.

BIG FORTUNE WELL HANDLED

Millions Left by the Late Russell Sage Are Being Expended for the Welfare of Humanity.

While the late Russell Sage was in the flesh he was one of the most prudent, shrewd and persistent money-grubbers in Gotham. The astute financier never plunged nor risked any money in wild-cat schemes. He was a "sure-shot" operator in Wall street, and when he died he left in the hands of his lone widow a fortune of something like $75,000,000. Since becoming possessed of this enormous fortune she has worked as persistently and assiduously in scattering the money as her husband did in gathering it. The scriptures tell us that the miser is the man that "heaps up riches and cannot tell who shall gather them." Russell Sage knew better, and the good lady upon whose shoulders was imposed the burden of this enormous sum of money has worked hard in lightening the burden. Her philanthropies have been productive of as much wisdom as marked her husband's operations in the market. She is reported to be failing in health, and her task is only begun. Should she be taken from the world thousands will regret her departure, and it is very earnestly to be hoped that further care of the property will fall into good hands.

Easily Answered.

"These kids I teach aren't a bit slow," observed a school teacher yesterday. "In fact, I'm afraid they read the papers. The other day I proposed the following problem to my arithmetic class:

"'A rich man dies and leaves $1,000,000. One-fifth is to go to his wife, one-sixth to his son, one-seventh to his daughter, one-eighth to his brother and the rest to foreign missions. What does each get?'

"'A lawyer,' said the littlest boy in the class."—Case and Comment.

Her Excuse.

"These people have a plausible and self-righteous excuse for their misdeeds," said Senator Bankhead, apropos of certain hypocritical lawbreakers, in an address in Fayette.

"They remind me, in fact, of a certain parson's domineering wife. The parson said meekly one day:

"'My love, you told me before the wedding that you knew our marriage was made in heaven, yet you now order me about as if I were a slave.'

"'Order,' the woman calmly answered, 'is heaven's first law.'"

A Fine Distinction.

The friend of the city editor was being initiated into the mysteries of modern journalism.

"How large a staff have you?" he asked.

"Let me see," mused the city editor. "We have about fifty men, five women and three society reporters." —Judge.

She Wasn't.

"Come into the garden, Maud."

"What do you think I am—a farmer?"

A Hint.

Knicker—Did you explain baseball to your girl?

Bocker—Yes; she said she understood all about diamonds.

No amount of culture will make a man stop snoring in his sleep.

Less and Less.

"This is a great age we are living in," said Brinkley. "We have smokeless gunpowder, horseless wagons, wireless telegraph—"

"Yes," interrupted Cynicus, "and we have moneyless foreigners coming here and contracting loveless marriages with heartless heiresses."—Judge.

Piecing Out.

"Writing a story?" the caller asked the busy author.

"Yes; in dialect."

"I didn't think you ever made use of dialect."

"I don't, as a rule, but I have to now. Several letters are broken on my typewriter."

Is it possible for a man to be straight and make both ends meet?

The wages of arbitration should be paid as peace work.

W. N. U., DETROIT, NO. 24—1912.