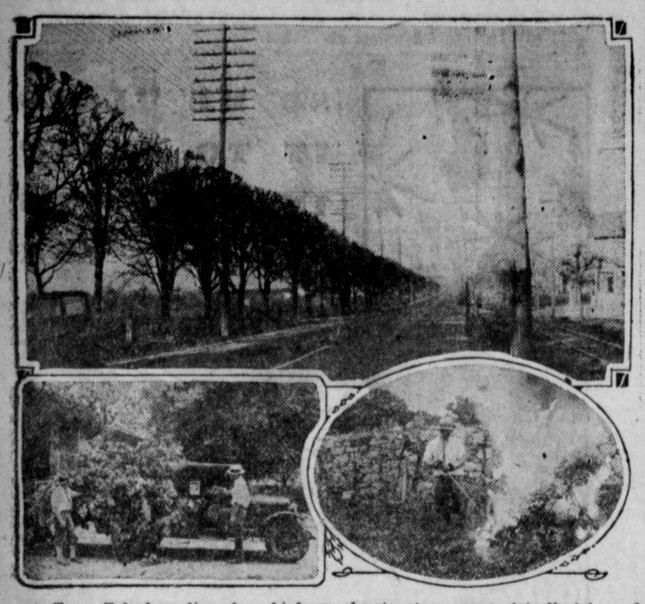
TREES TRIMMED ARTFULLY BY TELEPHONE LINE CREWS

Appearance and Welfare of Trees Objectives in Addition to Clearing Wires. Property Owner Consulted Before Work Is Started



Top: Telephone line along highway showing trees symmetrically trimmed by line crew. Bottom, left: Hauling branches and limbs from streets. Right: Burning brush. Groundman watching fire to see that no damage is caused.

In the construction and maintenance of the network of telephone lines serving every section of the country, there are of necessity certain places where trees interfere with the proper operation of the circuits. While the telephone companies always try to construct their lines so as to avoid trees, there are some cases where this is unavoidable, making it necessary to trim the trees so that the circuits may be operated without interference from contact with the trunks or branches.

Where trimming is necessary, the telephone companies' line forces first secure the permission of the property owner and then use every precaution to trim and prune the trees so that as little damage as possible will be done to them. The limbs are removed so as to leave the tree as symmetrical looking as possible.

Telephone officials say there are always two things to consider in pruning or trimming a tree along a telephone line. One is to clear the telephone wires and the other is the appearance and welfare of the tree. Past experience has shown that where pruning has been done with the idea of clearing the wires only without regard for the appearance and welfare of the tree, it is almost impossible to obtain permission to prune trees when it again becomes necessary.

In the spring before the pruning gang or tree trimming crews of the telephone companies start out on this work, a right-of-way man covers the line to secure the necessary authority from the property owner to have the trees trimmed, giving him the assurance that the work will be done carefully by men familiar with this particular kind of work.

In Maryland and other States, all tree trimming is done under the supervision of representatives of the State Board of Forestry, who accompany the line crews and give them the benefit of their judgment as to how the trees should be trimmed.



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The Links of Memory

By A. W. PEACH

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"AGNES, you naven't dared to ask John Orr to come here!"

Agnes turned from her desk with a faint smile, tinged with a bit of regret, and looked thoughtfully at the fair, dark-eyed girl who had thrust herself unceremoniously into the room.

"Meda, why do you dislike him so? You used to think enough of him when you were engaged!"

"That is a turned page, my dear, and you know it. He accused me to my face of being disloyal to him—and that I take from no man!" Meda replied, her dark eyes aflame. "What I want to know is—did you invite him to this party? I heard downstairs that he was coming!" She caught her breath. "If he comes, I go!"

Agnes laughed as she sprang up and gave the shoulders of the disturbed girl a friendly shake. "No, honey, he is not coming."

The sound of laughter came up from downstairs. Meda's face changed and softened—the old crowd together and not John—but it was better that way—she could not stand him.

The only disturbing figure in the group was Bert Reusser, John's closest friend. Meda was not entirely pleased that at the dinner table she found him at her right. She said as much, and quite frankly.

He leaned far over and whispered: "You hard-hearted heart-breaker, you always picked on me even when you were a pretty little kid—all black eyes. Now I'll get even with you by telling you that poor old John was dying to come—the only one of the old bunch back there in the city!"

"Bert, you needn't—"

"He left something in your care—"

"He left nothing; I gave him all his presents, his ring—"

"He left something in your care, Meda, and it will always be yours. He has not looked at another girl, and he is climbing in his work. You ought to give that back to him but you can't!"

It dawned upon her—John's love for her—that was what he had left! She shrank back a bit—then memory came! "But I don't want it!"

He looked at her with sudden ire after the manner of his boyhood. "You're pretty as a rose and I almost lost my heart over you, but I can see what I missed, Meda, you—" His cheerful grin returned. "John has your picture still where a man keeps something that only he knows and loves—I saw it by accident—you know, keeps it like a pressed flower in some old book that—"

"Pooh! Cheap sentiment!" she said quickly.

After the dinner they joined in the various amusements that Agnes had planned, and joined with a vim. While playing cards, Meda heard quiet Grace Allen say: "I wish John were here. I always liked to play with him. If you made a bad mistake, you never would think he noticed it. But Bert Reusser—he's the worst. You can fairly see him grind his jaws."

Meda did not hear Bert's answer, although she heard the laughter that followed it, for she was unceremoniously drawn into the next room, where dancing was in order And there, to her disgust, she had to think of John when she tried to steer clear of her companion's feet. John could dance, anyway.

In her room that night Meda heard Bert's voice calling to Grace, the old whimsicality tinged with a tenderness that made Meda's heart quicken: "Good night—and sweet dreams!"

Suddenly, strangely enough, the thought popped into her mind: "Perhaps I was a bit disloyal to John in being so friendly with Max." She stiffened. "No, I was not," she scolded herself indignantly.

Three of the days went by. Happy days for her, yet everywhere there seemed to be a hint of John. Some one missed him for one reason or another. She knew that all who knew him in the old days learned to love him. And he had her picture still.

The climax came that evening when from another room she heard Bert trying to sing one of John's favorite songs. She felt suddenly very much alone in a mighty big world. And she suddenly realized that in her heart he still lingered, behind its doors, the same high-hearted, high-minded lover who would ask no more of her than he gave himself.

She sought Agnes, who was busy in the library arranging card tables. "Agnes, I want to telephone to John!"

With a cry Agnes caught her in her arms. "Oh, Meda, I'm glad!"

Meda went to the 'phone. Soon Agnes heard her say, hesitatingly, "John—this is Meda—I want you to come—" Meda turned—"why, he's dropped the receiver!"

"You goose, don't you see? He couldn't stop to answer. He's in his car now. I hope he isn't held up for speeding. He'll probably rush in and grab you right in front of everybody. I'll have you meet him alone. And say, dear, I plotted all this—in a way. We've all of us been trying to make you keep thinking of John, what a fine fellow he really is. You aren't angry, are you?"

Meda turned dark eyes upon her, eyes that were too full of dreams, denied once, now to come true, to sense at once what Agnes said; then she said quietly: "A plot, my dear? I'm glad you did. You all love him—and so do I!"

Only Noble Attribute

The origin of all mankind was the same: it is only a clear and a good conscience that makes a man noble, for that is derived from heaven itself. —Seneca.

World's Highways

Recently compiled figures show that there are 6,500,000 miles of highway throughout the world, with 3,000,000 miles in the United States alone.

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All Humanity Put on Level by Seasickness

It is refreshing to discover that, after all, the great and alleged-great are not unlike ourselves. One of the best places in the world to find this out is on board an ocean-going liner. We once saw a famous surgeon, whose skill in the attack of disease brought relief to thousands, fold up like a sack, in a heavy sea. The roll and pitch of the ship was more than his science could fathom.

On another trip was a celebrated woman athlete. Her name is familiar in midocean. The young lady was sitting in the ship's foyer by the side of a woman companion. The great liner was rolling as it plowed its way through the resisting sea. Slowly the lady began to show signs of seasickness. She turned pale and her chin sank low on her bosom. Then the craft suddenly pitched forward and the young woman nearly fell from her chair. Several times she vainly attempted to reach the bracing air of the promenade deck. It was a few feet away, but inches spelled miles to her. Another lurch and the athlete was propelled to the staircase that led to the corridor in which her cabin was situated.

A few weeks later her name was on page one of the newspapers. Her prowess at her particular game was flashed around the world. It is comforting to know that the celebrated are not superhuman. — Washington Star.

Years of Experiments to Perfect Photograph

In the development of photography the first important step was the observation that certain salts were sensitive to light. In 1777 Carl Scheele, a Swedish chemist, discovered that silver chloride was blackened quickest by the violet rays of the solar spectrum and that light rays are not all alike chemically active. About 1801 Johann Ritter, of Jena, demonstrated the existence of nonvisible chemical rays beyond the violet rays of the spectrum. The first men to produce pictures on a sensitized surface were Thomas Wedgwood and Humphrey Davy. This they accomplished in 1802, but the pictures were not permanent. It was left to Joseph Niepce, of Chalons-sur-Saone, France, to produce permanent ones. His process was called heliography. He was joined in his experiments by Louis Daguerre in 1829, and in January, 1839 they announced their discovery, the daguerreotype.

Poetry of Nature

"But turn out of the way a little—toward yon honeysuckle hedge; there we'll sit and sing, whilst this shower falls so gently upon the teeming earth, and gives yet a sweeter smell to the lovely flowers that adorn these verdant meadows.

"Look! Under that beech tree I sat down, when I was last this way a-fishing. And the birds in the adjoining grove seemed to live in a hollow tree, near to the brow of that primrose hill. There I sat viewing the silver streams glide gently toward their center, the tempestuous sea; yet sometimes opposed by rugged roots and pebblestones, which broke their waves and turned them into foam."—Izaak Walton.

The Silver Lining

"Well," began the multi-millionaire, "there you have the facts of the case and I'll leave you to it."

The lawyer nodded and arranged the papers which the wealthy man had thrown down on his desk in more orderly array. He knew that it was not going to be an easy task to straighten out the affairs of the rich man's son, but still, money was money.

"Now, you'll look after my boy, won't you," went on the great man. "He has had a rotton time all told. He's lost a great deal of money, and his wife, too!"

"Lost his wife, has he?" echoed the lawyer, who knew the lady in question. "Well, I reckon he's about even then."

True to Form

An old actor-manager died, or at least his relatives thought he had died, and arrangements were made for the funeral.

On the appointed day one of his old colleagues arrived to pay his last respects, but to his astonishment, the would-be mourner was informed that "deceased" had come to life after a period of coma.

"Just like Bill," said the visitor; "he was always a terror for rehearsals."

Lama's Life Secluded

"The Great Immortal White Lama" of Mongolia is comparable to the Dalai Lama, the most important living Buddha on earth. In him, it is claimed, there has entered a larger portion of the Buddha than any other.

Guarded by 10,000 monks, the Dalai Lama lives in utter seclusion in a monastery towering to the sky. Upon his death the priests cut a hole in the top of his head so that the divine spirit can escape into another body.

Good Trick

"Her heart reared like a frightened horse," writes an author in Woman's Home Companion. "We always thought," commented the crusty critic, "a long course of fiction reading had revealed every possible thing that a human heart can do, and here all the time it could stand up on its hind legs and we didn't know it."

Paper Wheels Not in Use

It is about 60 years since compressed paper wheels were used for railroad cars; they were discontinued with the advent of improved steel and iron wheels and heavier equipment.

Sharing Happiness

The souvenir postcard with the scrawled line "Wish you were here," has been laughed at and ridiculed but just the same it is an echo from the human heart.—American Magazine.

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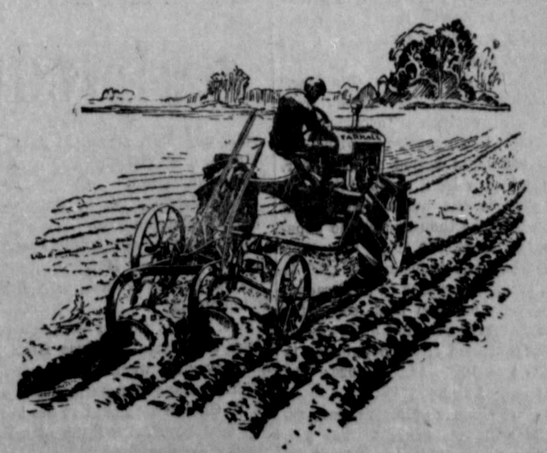
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