ed their intention of "cooning" some of the pears. Hearing of this, the pear orchard owner gave out the word that he had a loaded gun just inside the door at his house and he would not hesitate to use it on the first person who tried to steal his pears.

Mr. Lake and a friend wanted some of those fine, luscious, large-sized pears, so they hit upon a scheme to get them. They took into their confidence a young Irishman of that place who fell in with their plans. The trio went to the barnyard of the pear owner one dark night. The cows were lying asleep about the yard and the Irish youth cautiously went to the lead cow and removed her bell. Then he drove the cattle into a nearby lane, closed the gate and opened the gate into a corn field. Tying the bell to himself, the young man then entered the cornfield and rang the bell as a cow would in walking about. The farmer heard the sound at once and called to his wife to go with him and help get the cows back into the barnyard. They went down and found the gate open into the corn field and started following the sound. When the youth found they were getting too "warm," as children say in some of their games, he hushed the sound of the bell and quickly scampered to some far part of the field, with the distracted farmer and his wife in hot pursuit.

While this game was going on, Mr. Lake and his friend succeeded in securing two large bags of pears and removing them, undetected, from the orchard to their homes.

By a peculiar co-incidence, four women have died in the Lake home in the past 37 years, at intervals of almost even years. The first was the first Mrs. Lake, who died March 24, 1892.

"Grandma" Lee, a distant relative, died at the Lake home on March 24, 1896, just four years later. The second Mrs. Lake died March 26, 1915.

These three were cared for during their last illness by Mr. Lake's daughter-in-law, Mrs. Sadie E. Lake, who died March 18, this year. Homer E. Bale, a son-in-law of Mr. Lake, died March 13 of this year at his home in Fennville. He was for many years a well-known resident of Vermontville.

Mr. Lake has a great-granddaughter, Miss Glenna Lake, of Charlotte, who was the valedictorian of the Charlotte High school class of 1928. She is attending the Eaton County normal now, and will teach the Fairview school northeast of the city the coming school year.

children yet free from cap-

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oyful escape from its impris-
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n entreat; God himself has
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