

Seriously.

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to Canada ed.

til 8.30 p.m.

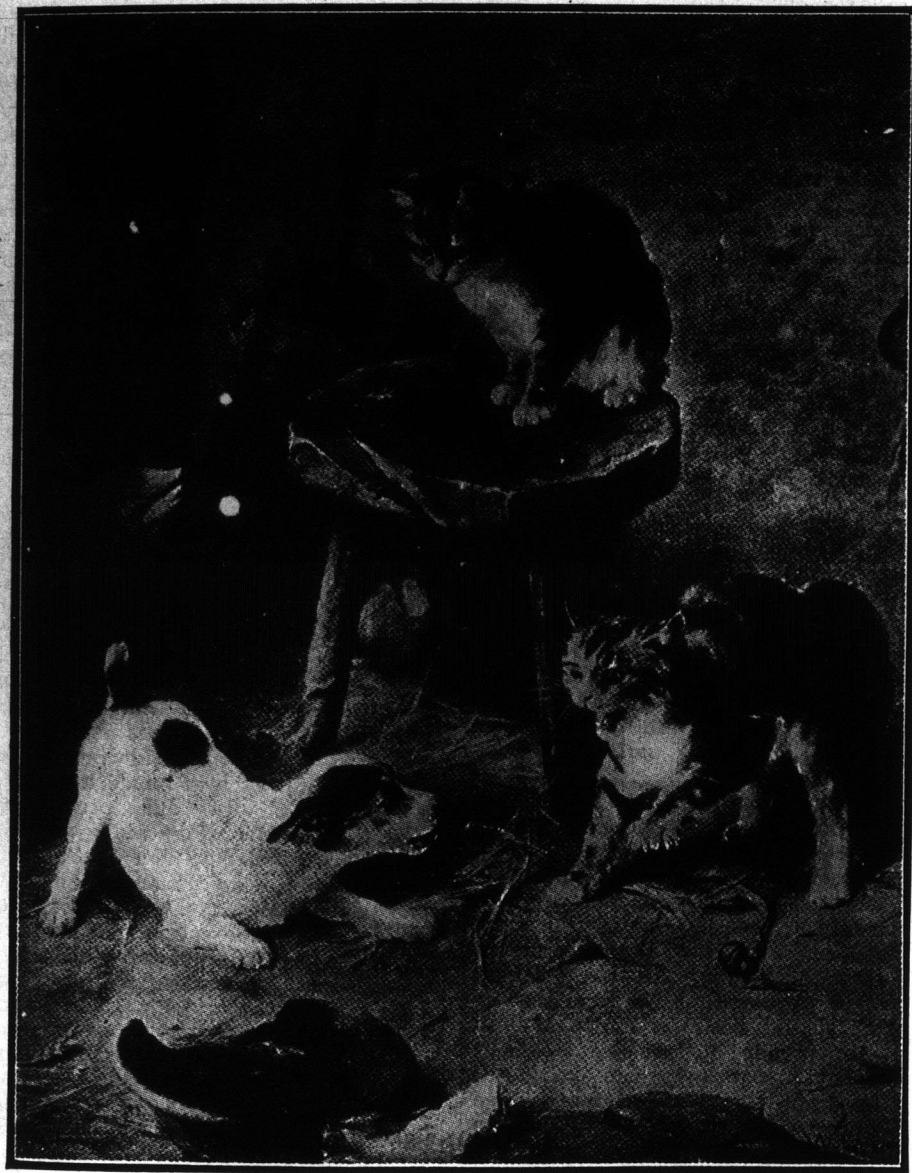
About the Farm.

The Farmers Wife.

There is one thing that causes much real heartache in domestic life. It stalks the city as well as the country home. In a way it is not a serious thing. By a very few women it is not considered of any importance, but by 95 per cent. or more of them it is a source of never-ending unpleasantness for which there seems no remedy in sight. It is a matter of which the good, true wife does not like to speak; it hurts her pride to have reference made to it. The majority of equally good husbands know nothing about it, for most of them are thoughtless about some matters, and this is one of the things concerning which the majority are very thoughtless.

We have reference to the wife's allowance of spending money. To ask her husband once for 10 or 25 cents or a dollar is no hardship. She can do that cheerfully. She argues that what

that in reality it was only through the efforts of both of you that the wages could be earned. Then suppose that you had to ask her for ten cents or a dollar whenever you wanted to buy a little tobacco or a pipe or a pair of shoes, and to give an account of every cent spent, how would you like it? Wouldn't you soon suggest that a division of funds be made on some equitable basis so that you would not be compelled to make your little wants known a hundred times a year? Of course, you would. Now the two cases are exact parallels. Your wife does not plow, sow, and reap, but she works as hard in the house as you do in the field. In the majority of cases she works longer hours and her work is usually more monotonous, more trying. She has a dozen things to contend with in the house where you have one in the field or among the stock. Her nature is more sensitive than yours. It is harder for her to ask favors than it is for you. Don't you see the point?



"Not very good friends."

is his is hers, and rightly so. She can ask twice, three, four, five and six times. She doesn't mind doing it for a year or two after marriage, but when she is compelled to ask her husband year out and year in for every penny she needs, and perhaps is expected to say what she wants it for, the ordeal becomes discouraging—yes, humiliating. Ten chances to one the husband means all right. He has drifted into the habit of being the custodian of the purse and has never once given a thought to a change.

The fact, Mr. Husband, that you may be willing that your wife shall have all the money she needs or as much as you can afford to give her, does not alter the fact that she feels humiliated at having to ask for it from time to time.

If you don't understand her point of view, try to imagine yourself in her position. Suppose she were the bread-winner and that the sole cash income of the family came directly through her efforts. Suppose, also, that she were able to earn this income only because you stayed at home to look after things about the house and

Set aside a certain amount of your income for her own personal use. Put it in the bank for her. Let her use it when and how she chooses. She will appreciate it a hundred times more than she will acknowledge to you if you were to ask her about it. She will feel that her efforts are appreciated beyond her power of expression. You will be happier yourself, because you will realize that you have done the right thing. You have acted like a man.

It is true that many farm women do have their own spending money if they are so situated that they can earn it by raising chickens or something of that kind, but many more are supposed to turn in such earnings against groceries and household expenses. Unfortunately there are women who do not know the value of money. There are those who would spend a man's yearly income in a week or two if they could get it, but there are also men who will spend more on themselves and for their own exclusive enjoyment in a single year that they would give their wives in a lifetime. If your wife does

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