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## The Woman's Club

THERE was a time when the club woman was held up to ridicule and contempt, as a person who neglected important duties for the sake of a vain display. We recall the story of the man who was a "jiner," who belonged to every society under the sun and was a stranger to his own fireside. No doubt there are some women who follow a similar course and join so many societies for uplift and improvement that they forget the duties which lie the nearest. However, there is a happy medium in the matter of club devotion, and the woman who is too ardent in attendance at club meetings is not often encountered in Canadian towns and cities.

On the other hand, it is well to consider what a benefit the club or the society has been to the woman whose nerves were breaking under the strain of monotony. "A change is as good as a rest" has passed into a truism. The eye and brain that are weary of one scene may brighten and become invigorated when given a fresh subject for contemplation. A man who has business cares has also, in connection with his life down town, a dozen trifling diversions which broaden his outlook and make the daily round less monotonous than the routine of domestic affairs. Every healthy woman takes an actual pleasure in ordering well the ways of her household, but there is a danger in too close application to recurring small duties. To go to a club meeting and hear of some other world than ours, to attend an Institute gathering and discover how other women do things will make the next day's work more interesting and keep one from finding the world a dull place.

## The June Bride

WHEN the month of roses comes at last, one's thoughts turn to the girl graduates who will step out proudly with nice, fresh diplomas, and to the bride who will set forth with a marriage certificate in safe keeping. The most cynical of social philosophers unbends, as he regards the June bride in her "white ninon over satin" and utters best wishes for her happiness. It must be admitted that women are supremely interested in the weddings which come in June, and that the masculine guests have an anxious rather than a pleased expression.

The June bridegroom is, indeed, a comparatively insignificant being, whose nervousness, instead of being regarded with sympathy, is contemplated with furtive amusement. Yet, who would grudge the bride her importance and satin splendor? A man may become an alderman, the mayor of a city, a member of Parliament, or a railroad magnate, but a woman's wedding day is the great occasion of her life, when, for the space of a brief ceremony, she is the centre of a happy group. Ours is a country of many prosperous homes, where "problems" do not press too heavily, and may it long continue so!

## Plant a Tree

AS a custom, Arbor Day has an excellent effect on any community. Nature has been so good to Canada in the matter of forest resources that we have been prodigals indeed, taking little care of our heritage, and have only lately aroused to consider the need for conservation. The forest fires, which have so frequently ravaged large sections of our country, are a proof of carelessness in protective measures and are hardly a credit to our civilization.

To appreciate the beauty and comfort of shade trees, one must live for a while where there is a dreary absence of their umbrageous charm. When, day after day passes, without a glimpse of a grove or forest, with only miserable stunted shrubs to break the plain, then we would give many dollars for a few spreading maples or a stately elm. The love of trees and flowers cannot be instilled too early, for the civilizing influence they exert adds greatly to life's abiding pleasure. As Lucy Larcom tells us:

"He who plants a tree  
Plants a hope.  
Rootlets up through fibres blindly grope;  
Leaves unfold into horizons free,  
So man's life must climb  
From the clods of time  
Unto heaven's sublime.  
Canst thou prophesy, thou little tree  
What the glory of thy boughs shall be?"

## The Girl on the Farm

WE wonder when our farmers will open their eyes to the injustice which they have so often shown to their daughters. Again and again we read paragraphs deploring the fact that so many girls are forsaking the farm for work in the city. What is the reason? In the majority of cases, we believe that it lies, not in youthful unrest, not in a longing for city amusements, but in a protest against the fraternal policy which denies a proper allowance to the daughters of the household. It is all very well to say that our great grandmothers did a great deal more work than their descendants of to-day and that the farmer's daughter of several generations ago was thankful for a roof over her head and the simplest of gowns. Our great grandfathers, also, worked much harder than the modern farmer, who would not dream of using the antiquated implements of sixty years ago.

The son on the farm is usually treated with much more consideration than the daughter, in the matter of money. The old distrust of woman's business capacity dies hard. The way to remove feminine ignorance is not to refuse to give woman an opportunity to learn the ways of the business world. If a father would take his daughter into his confidence in business matters and encourage her to have her own bank account, with a view to investment, there would be fewer mistakes made by mature women in the management of their affairs. A certain widow who has been most successful in looking after her own business remarked to her lawyer: "I owe a great deal to my father, who talked to me in my girlhood about his farm and his investments, giving me advice which I have never forgotten. He believed that every woman should know something of business affairs and be encouraged to have her own account."

It has often been said that we cannot learn by the advice of others, that it is necessary to make mistakes of one's own before wisdom is practically attained. This is only partly true. We may not hope to escape blunders and their consequence, but many disasters have been averted by the remembrance of wise counsel. If the farmer wishes to keep his daughter at home—and it is an infinitely better place for her than a city office—let him treat her as an industrial equal, show that he values her work and give her the benefit of his own hard-won experience.