

A PAGE OF GENERAL INTEREST TO WOMEN READERS

Cynthia Grey's Mail-Box

[Correspondents are requested to make their inquiries as brief as possible, and to write on one side of the paper only. It is impossible to give replies within a stated time, as all letters have to be answered in turn. No letter can be answered privately.]

Cleaning a Coat.
Dear Miss Grey,—Please find inclosed nine tobacco flags and eleven Sweetheart coupons. I hope the lady gets her kitchen cabinet all right. I have seen one of them and they are very nice.
If you have any Sunkist orange wrappers I would like some, if they are not all promised.
Could you or any reader tell me how to clean a white chinchilla coat myself? It is not a real heavy chinchilla. Do you think I could wash it successfully? Sincerely, BROWN EYES III.

Ans.—Sweetheart coupons will be turned over to "Young Stepmother."

Send your envelope for the wraps, as I have quite a number on hand. For the coat, here is a reader's method, given last spring:

"Dissolve ten cents worth of salts of tartar in hot water, also dissolve a small bar of Ivory soap. Combine these and put in a jar. Use this soft soapy substance in place of other soap when washing coat. The coat must be rinsed in water of the same temperature as that it is washed in, a little more than lukewarm. Do not wring, but put on a wooden coat-hanger to dry.
"An easier way is to mix a paste of gasoline and flour, and rub over the

coat. Hang outside, and when the gasoline evaporates, shake out the flour. I cleaned mine this way yesterday and the coat looks fine."

Dear Miss Grey,—I am sending a few Sweetheart coupons for "Young Stepmother," and I hope she will soon make up her number. How many went to the fair and saw the soldiers blowing up the trenches? No one who thought what the real thing must be could say anything about the soldiers' wives. I belong to those that do their bit by working the land. This letter is not a sample letter, for with three little ones around me talking, it is not easy to write. God bless our soldier boys.

GAD-ABOUT.
Ans.—Every day sees the coupons for "Young Stepmother's" cabinet piling up. Thanks for adding yours to the number. Trot in again, "Gad-About."

Stick Fly Paper.

Dear Miss Grey,—I'm greatly troubled with flies in my summer kitchen.

1. Could anyone give me a recipe through this page for sticky paper?

Wishing the Mail-Box and readers every success. G. S. C.

Ans.—The patent article is very cheap, and time and labor would be saved by using it. However, if anybody can supply a formula, I'll cheerfully print it.

Couldn't Keep Still.

Dear Miss Grey,—When I read "I Don't Know's" letter, I could not keep silent any longer. I am the same age as she is, 15 years old, and certainly agree with her in saying the 16th (Bruce) Battalion is the best battalion in Canada. I would like very much to get her address, if she is willing to give it to me.

1. Has King George any sisters or brothers? If he has, what are their names?

2. What is the meaning of the following names: Wesley, Bernice, Billy, Ruby, Hattie, Marjorie, Vera, Jennie?

Ans.—1. The family of the late King Edward VII. numbers six; four are living—King George V.; Louise, princess royal, who married the Duke of Fife; Victoria Alexandra (unmarried), and Maud, married to King Haakon

of Norway. The oldest and youngest sons of Edward VII. died, being Albert Victor, duke of Clarence, and Alexander John, who died in infancy.

2. Bernice means "bringing victory"; Billy or William, resolute defender; Ruby, a ruby; Hattie, head of the house; Marjorie, pearl vera, true woman; Jennie, gift of God.

Butter Won't Gather.

Dear Miss Grey,—Will some farmer's wife please come to my assistance and tell me what is wrong with the cream, when my butter will not gather? It will come after about an hour's churning. How long I feel like throwing the whole thing away. I have done everything anyone has told me, but it is no better. I am a busy mother, with three little ones to look after, so it is very provoking to have to spend so much time churning. Hoping someone can tell me what is wrong, I will close.

SUSANNAH.

Ans.—An old butter-making friend of mine suggests that possibly the cows are not being staked regularly; this is sometimes responsible for the trouble. Again, if you had the cream from a fresh cow to add to the rest, you might have little or no difficulty with the butter. However, I am a busy mother, and will some farm lady come to Susannah's aid?

"Chuck" Is Back.

Dear Miss Grey,—Have you a small space in your column for one who has been silent a long time? (Did I hear you say "Yes"? Could you or any of your readers supply me with the song named "An' Then I'd Laugh"? I think that is the name of it. The chorus is mostly all laugh. Also the song, "How Do They Know I'm Irish"?)

CHUCK.

Ans.—This is a pleasant surprise after your long silence. "Master Chuck" shall be very glad, indeed, if anyone can supply one or both of these, or say where they may be purchased.

What Nettle Wants.

Dear Miss Grey,—Another newcomer, I hear you say. Step right in. Well, I hope I don't bother you much, but I do want about ten Sweetheart coupons "awful bad," also some flannellette gum flags, and I am sending a bunch of coupons, twenty Magic B. and G. I, also gum and coupons for me. I will send stamps. Share these with who ever asks for them.

Ans.—Yes, you are very welcome. Perhaps someone will send R. H. coupons in exchange for your Gilets. Hope you get 'em, anyway.

One on Laurie.

Dear Miss Grey,—I thought "Laurie" was a girl, but I hope he won't be offended. Oh, Miss Grey, why do they give so many stamps? Why isn't the Mail-Box a place of peace?

1. Could you please tell me how to separate two glasses that have stuck together? I remain, AUKONA.

Ans.—Well, "Laurie," my dignified friend, that's a joke on you. Don't you feel abashed?

For the glasses, sometimes by immersing them in hot water they may be separated, or wrap around them a cloth wrung out of hot water.

The "pictures" will come in very useful indeed. Thanks.

Should Not Neglect It.

Dear Miss Grey,—I have been going to high school, but quit last Christmas. Would you advise me to keep on, as I am 18 years of age?

Could you or any of the readers give me a cure for a burn that has been on the flesh for a number of years? Would like a recipe for corn relish.

I would like you to send me as many tobacco coupons you can spare; also wish you could send a few Magic Baking Powder and Quaker Oats coupons. Will send a few Sunkist Orange wrappers, two Surprise Soap ovals and one G. C. Soap wrapper to give to whoever you wish. In return would like about eight or ten flannellette gum flags and a mixture of cigarette, tobacco, soldier, animal or any other kind of flags.

"Star of the West" would send the 26 Naphtha Soap wrappers to Miss Grey. I would be pleased if she would send me them, as they are just what I have been wanting. Will send enough pay to return these, so that you can send them all at the same time.

Please criticize my writing.

CRYSTAL.

Ans.—After reading all this, Crystal, my brain got so bewitched I just can't try to answer—not the coupon part, at least! If there's any other kind of coupon you'd like, just say so. But I doubt if a three-cent stamp can be coaxed to cover postage on all.

Re going to school, this is a matter each has to settle for herself. Certainly, if you have the opportunity for more education, it seems scarcely right to neglect it.

From Point Edward.

Dear Miss Grey,—Could you or any of your readers let me have a few Sweetheart coupons, as I would like to get silverware chest.

I would like them with 15 cent on them in red letters. Or I would exchange some satin cigarette flags with animals on or soldiers for some Comfort soap wrappers.

Inclosed find two Sweetheart, two Mural and two Nebo coupons if they are wanted by anyone.

POINT EDWARD READER.

Ans.—If coupons come in for you, I shall verify you as requested. Writing (by the way, don't spell it with a "ch") is irregular, but you may improve with age!

Suggests the Khaki.

Dear Miss Grey,—Am returning the recipe "O. L." was kind enough to forward. Will you please return the same to her and oblige?

It strikes me kind of forcibly there are a few visitors to the page that are blessed with a bump of combativeness, now the great howl is for women to take men's places. If some of those scrappers are so thoroughly patriotic and have so much superfluous energy and help the great howl is for women to take men's places. If some of those scrappers are so thoroughly patriotic and have so much superfluous energy and help the great howl is for women to take men's places. If some of those scrappers are so thoroughly patriotic and have so much superfluous energy and help the great howl is for women to take men's places.

Forget the knooker, he's a freak. How many bricks, Miss Grey?

WITHOUT A STRUGGLE.

Ans.—"Original Lonely." I have lost your address again. I know it's stupid of me. The recipe awaits you here.

"W. A. S." you'd die if you didn't have a safety valve, so go ahead and have all the amusement out of the page (and its editor) that you like, or can get. Honest, if I were you, I'd be

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A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps.

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Quite crazy. You're going to write again, are you not?

Sensible Yet Comical.

Dear Miss Grey,—I would like to get some recitations called: "Aunt Jennie's Courtship," "Widder Green's Last Words," "Mr. Brown's Haircut," and any other comical ones. I would like to have them all together. (Hope I am not too greedy).

2. Also some good sensible yet comical dialogues for girls, or boys and girls.

Miss Grey, don't you think it would save a lot of letters from going astray if you would print your address in the paper?

LONELY GLENDALE GIRL.

Ans.—1. Referred to recitation-era.

2. Also referred.

3. Gracious child! Wouldn't anyone with common sense know enough to write me in care of The Advertiser, London? That's address enough, surely.

4. Writing's not so bad. If any pieces come for you I shall send them on.

To Help Y. S.

Dear Miss Grey,—I have 26 Sweetheart coupons for "Y. S." I was saving for a tax set; the number was 300, but, 241 I thought the firm would be run out before I got my number. Now, as "Y. S." has no pantry or cabinet, I thought she needed here a few more than so. I'll send all I can, but I will keep them until I get twenty or thirty, as these two and three must make you heave more work (and I don't like too much of a good thing myself). I have inclosed a song, but if it has been printed before don't trouble. I think it's a pretty and true song. I received copy safely, thank you. Has any of the readers a recipe for quince honey and jelly, as I would like to make some up. Please, Miss Grey, will you say how I place together a quilt if I buy the print by the yard, if in strips of different colors or small squares? So good luck all.

ENGLISH GENEVIEVE.

Ans.—Folks are responding so nobly to "Young Stepmother's" need! You will find for a tax set; the number is growing, most encouragingly.

You could make your quilt as you like—in strips or squares. If you have heaps of time (which I doubt), you might even cut up the quilt into small pieces and sew them together in a design! But likely the former way will suit best.

2. Quince Jam—Cook the quince in water until soft, pour off the water and put fruit through a sieve until smooth; add ten ounces sugar to one pound fruit, let boil twenty minutes, remove from fire and place in sealers.

She Keeps Smiling.

Dear Miss Grey,—Have seen so many inquiring for a good way to do tomatoes, now is the best recipe I know of, in fact, we all prefer the to factory-canned, and they will keep indefinitely. Scald and skin as usual, make a brine of two quarts water and a good handful of salt. Drop the tomatoes (not too many at once) in the boiling brine, and cook till tender, usually ten minutes; lift out with a perforated spoon, and pack in sterilized jars and seal. The flavor is certainly excellent when named this way.

So many young housekeepers seem to have trouble with cakes and biscuits, here are a couple of hints I found in the Ladies' Home Journal some years ago. Unless specified, use level measurement and measure everything exactly. Do not leave dough adhering to the sides of mixing bowl, but be particular about stirring it all in. Those two little hints helped me a lot, so will pass them on.

I have not yet reached quarter-century mark, and have three wee charges, the oldest not quite four, and the youngest six months. Daddy is in khaki, too, but I "keep smiling."

GOLDENROD.

Ans.—Well named, Goldenrod! Your disposition seems as cheery as the yellow sprays that brighten the fields in the September sunshine. Thanks for recipe and hints.

NOTES.

"Joey" asks for an elderlyberry wine, and a rhubarb wine recipe. The former is being published in Cook-Book; who can supply the one for rhubarb?

—"What do I think of your dog?" Why, he's a dear, "Joey," and sets for his picture like a little man.

"Gladious" wants velvet mats size two by four inches. A few that I had on hand have been sent this reader.

"Fvanhoe" sends two tobacco coupons for "Sour Seventeen," and asks for flags. Some flags have been sent you "Ivan." Will "S. S." send address?

"Mrs. G. L. G." croquet designs have been mailed you as requested.

"Somebody from Nicaragua"—Yes, you might attract some unenviable notoriety, if you were to do so. Should advise you to wear bloomers made of serge, and a short dark skirt, not too scant. Don't be afraid of criticism. Be thankful that you have the strength to help "him."

"Wyne"—It's a kitchen cabinet "Y. S." is trying to get, as she has no pantry. Thanks for helping. Couldn't go. Did you?

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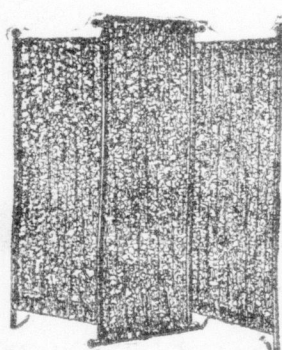
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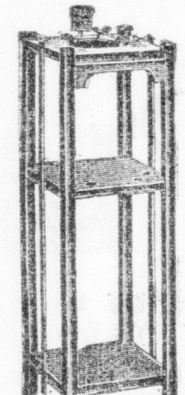
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