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**ATKINSON'S,**

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 (Next to P. J. Shea's.)

## Useless Criticism.

By RUTH CAMERON.



Molly, the little stenographer lady, had been freeing her mind to the lady-who-always-knows-somehow.

Molly belongs to a club of business women. At its last meeting this organization made a choice of president of which Molly disapproved. "It's not that I dislike her personally," said she. "But I don't think she's the woman to represent us. She is very fine looking but she is one of those people who talk a lot without saying anything."

"Molly," said the lady-who-always-knows-somehow, "it's all right for you to say that to me. But don't go about saying it to other people."

"Why?" asked Molly. "It's perfectly true."

"Yes, but what good will it do to say it? The thing is done. Your criticism can't help now but it may get back to her and hurt her and antagonize her. Besides, it might make people think you were jealous."

"Big sister," broke in Molly. "As if I'd ever think—"

"I know that, but other people might not understand it. You run the risk of being misunderstood and you gain nothing. It really doesn't pay."

"What do you think of the lady's advice? It seems to me that it's decidedly sound."

"What do we ever gain by talking other people down?"

"Nothing."

"And what harm do we do? Well, as the lady says, our criticism is very likely to reach ears for which it was not intended. Again we run the risk of being thought jealous. Or, if

there is no chance for an imputation of jealousy, of being thought to assume superiority. We may not really feel superior but that is the impression we are sure to give.

Let me tell you of a lesson I once had which ought to last me a lifetime. An organization to which I belonged was sending a delegate to a large conference. Like Molly, I disapproved of the choice, not on personal grounds but because I thought a poor representative had been chosen. I said as much to another member of the organization. "It's too bad you don't approve of her!" she retorted. "Why didn't you offer your services to the committee?"

In a flash I saw how my criticism must impress others. I can honestly say that the thought of myself for the place had never occurred to me, but I know I could not convince that woman of the fact. I think that lesson will last me a lifetime. I do not love my teacher, very far from it. But I thank her for the lesson.

Of course it is not just that we cannot criticize without being accused of assuming superiority. As a literary critic once said, when told that he could not write half so well as the man he was finding fault with, and hence had no right to pick flaws—"Not at all. Does a man have to be able to lay an egg in order to tell a good egg from a bad one?"

But whether the feeling against the self-elected critic of others is just or not, it is certainly very real, very powerful, and very good to avoid.

Remember, all things which are right are not expedient. Besides, inasmuch as you stand a big chance of hurting someone's feelings by such criticism and a very small chance of helping anyone, I do not think it is even right.

*Ruth Cameron*

## Household Notes.

If frozen too quickly, ice cream will be coarse-grained.

Always, if possible, use a patented peach sizer to pit peaches.

Frozen punches contain only tea, liquor, sugar, lemon and water.

Old, worsted dresses can be cut up into patchwork couch covers.

It pays to buy the bacon that comes in glass jars; it has no waste.

"Granite ices" are water-ices only half frozen, and of a pebbly texture.

In very hot weather serve the coolest, freshest dishes possible for lunch.

Porches and verandas are easiest cleaned with a hose and finished with a broom.

Improperly kept food exposes a household to the chances of ptomaine poisoning.

If the pears you are canning have an insipid taste, add a little lemon or grape juice.

Sour milk can be used for so many purposes it should never be wasted. Try painting the coal shovel white if you would find it quickly in a dark cellar.

When you pull a cork out of a mulligan bottle, grease it well and it will not stick again.

Kippered herring can be eaten by people suffering from seasickness when everything else fails.

Nothing is better to take on a picnic than the old-time standbys, sandwiches and eggs.

When making buttonholes on a material that frays easily work the lole before cutting it.

Have canisters on your kitchen table and it can be rolled about comfortably whenever desired.

To increase the quantity of whipped cream, add a white of an egg to the cream before whipping.

No cream is used in a true sherbet, but white of egg or a little gelatine mixed with fruit juice.

A brightly polished bit of color is sometimes all that is necessary to give a note of color in a room.

It is poor economy to save fruit-jar rubbers from year to year. Sterilize the cans and buy new rubbers.

The corner cupboards found in many old houses, give a delightful opportunity for the display of old china.

A drawer made to slide under one's sewing chair is an immense convenience for the keeping of thimbles, needles, etc.

To heat sugar for jelly-making, put it in a granite-ware basin in the oven and stir occasionally. The oven door should be open.

Paper plates are best to take on a picnic, because they can be burned then. Also, a thermos bottle is well nigh indispensable.

Canned spinach is a great resource when the winter comes; also, a supply of spinach juice should always be made for coloring.

**St. John's Gas Light Company.**  
 Dear Sir,—I have analyzed a sample of Sulphate of Ammonia made at your Works and I found 28.5 per cent of NITROGEN, Sulphate of Ammonia and Nitrate of Soda are the two principal Nitrogen manure.

Sulphate of Ammonia is less soluble than Nitrate of Soda, consequently it is a safer manure to use during a wet season.

Yours faithfully,  
 D. JAMES DAVIES, B.Sc., F.C.S.  
 Analyst and Assayer

## Fish That Eat Men.

Weird stories of fish monstrosities have been told by many disciples of Isaac Walton in this country; but it has remained for Mr. Roosevelt to tell us of some funny freaks whose performances will want a lot of beating.

During his recent lecture, at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on his South American trip, he related that he came across one kind of fish, no larger than a trout, that bit off one of his party's little toes, took a piece out of another man's leg, and the tip of two dogs' tails—a fitting companion, apparently, to the fish that went bird-nesting, drove the bird away, and was found wagging its tail over the edge of the nest while gobbling up the eggs.

Mr. Roosevelt also mentioned another fish—a 9 ft. catfish—which was found with a monkey inside it. The fish, it appears, had jumped and caught the monkey when it had climbed down a branch to drink. Very extraordinary, too, is a horrible deep-sea angler fish, exhibited at the Royal Society recently. The mouth of this fish is so large, and its stomach so distensive, that it can swallow other fish three times its own length. Fortunately it lives several hundred fathoms below the surface of the water. It hangs over its snout a line and bait that shine like a glow-worm and attract many inquisitive fish.

## Right-O.

YES, WE HAVE THEM.

- 20 brls. New Turnips.
  - 20 crates Ripe Bananas.
  - 20 brls. Green Cabbage.
  - 15 cases Cal. Oranges.
  - 15 doz. Cucumbers.
  - 30 baskets Tomatoes.
  - 20 boxes Table Plums.
- ALSO
- 30 cases Fresh Dates.
  - 500 bags P. E. I. Blue Table Potatoes.
- Orders booked ahead.

PHONE 480.

## Soper & Moore.

## Books for the Blind.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—I have just received a contribution to the Fund which we are raising with a view to cheapening and amplifying the supply of Braille literature for blind readers throughout the British Empire, and it was accompanied by an intimation to the effect that it was to be specially applied to this purpose and not to the building of our new institute.

Obviously books, whether in Braille or ordinary print, cannot be produced unless there is a building in which to produce them, but I am glad to say that the question of the completion and equipping of this building was definitely settled some weeks ago, and I am now working to secure the largest possible Endowment Fund which will go towards equalizing the present excessive cost of Braille books.

How excessive this cost is may be judged from one example, namely, that a book of the length of "Ivanhoe" required an expenditure of £45 upon plates from which to print it, and their costs 19.6 per copy to produce.

It seems, however, quite probable that before long we shall be able to produce books of every sort and kind at prices comparing favorably with those of books which persons in possession of their sight enjoy.

I am sending you this letter in the hope that your publication of it may correct any misapprehension which may exist in the minds of your readers as to the use to which contributions from them will be put.

When I talk of our producing books for the British Empire, I should like to add in justification that we at present produce more than five times as many Braille books as all the similar institutions in the British Empire put together, and as our output will shortly be largely increased we can, without fear of exaggeration, claim to be the almost sole source of the supply of these books.

Yours faithfully,  
 C. ARTHUR PEARSON.  
 Hon. Treasurer,  
 The National Institute for the Blind,  
 266, Great Portland Street, London, W.  
 July 26th, 1914.

## Paid For the Pictures Once.

Sandy went for a drink, and he ordered a whisky and soda, for which he charged him a whole shilling. He complained of the price, and said that he was only accustomed to pay threepence for a nip of whisky.

"Yes, that's all well enough," said the barman. "But you've got to pay something here for the surroundings—the velvet seats and the mirrors and the beautiful pictures on the wall and all that."

Next day Sandy went into the same place again, ordered a drink, and put down threepence. It was a different barman, but he protested.

"No, no," said Sandy. "No, no, mon; that's all right! I saw yer pictures yesterday."

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Canada Life Assurance Co.,  
 Toronto, Ont.  
 13th Dec. 1911.

Dear Sirs:—  
 In acknowledging receipt of cheque in payment of my endowment policy now maturing, I wish to thank you for the prompt way in which you have put my claim through. I did not have to wait a single day for my money as the papers were all in order beforehand.

I am pleased, too, with the way my investment has turned out. Besides having my insurance protection for \$1,000, I have got all my money back and \$400 besides. The Canada Life has my best good wishes for its continued success.

Yours truly,  
 R. H. KNIGHT.

C. A. C. BRUCE, Manager, St. John's.

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A good plumber can do wonders with a difficult job. The number of orders received from friends of customers leads us to believe that we are good. We have on hand a large stock of STEAM & HOT WATER RADIATORS, all sizes, and can fill any order sent us cheaper than you can import at the present time.

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**School Desks**  
 Now arrived.  
 Specially designed to suit the trade of this country. We have those Desks set up on our floor and invite inspection of the newest and most up-to-date Desk on the market.  
 Made in three sizes.  
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## "EVER-READY" Electric Flashlights

are Always Ever-Ready and Reliable in Service.

We have now in stock (being just received) an assortment of these celebrated goods. They are handy for anybody, but more especially for the motorist, motor boat owner, camper or traveller. The batteries in these lights last a long time, as they represent the highest quality. Our stock includes as leaders:

- ELECTRIC TORCHES—Black Leather covered, size 7 1/4 x 1 1/2, weight 12 oz.; fitted with permanent switch, complete for \$2.50.
  - REFILL BATTERIES for above, only 40c. each. SPARE BULBS, 30c. each.
  - POCKET LAMPS—Nickel finished, fitted with press and sliding contact, both size 3 x 1 1/2 x 3/4, weight 3 oz.; only 95c. each.
  - REFILL BATTERIES for above, 30c. each.
  - POCKET LAMPS—Red, Green and Brown Leather covered, size 3 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 1 1/2, weight 1 oz.; fitted with 3 Cell "Berec Superior" Battery, at \$1.45. REFILLS for this, 40c. each. SPARE BULBS, 30c. each.
  - POCKET LAMPS—Green, Red and Brown Leather covered, size 4 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 1 1/2, weight 1 lb.; fitted with 3 Cell "Berec Superior" Battery, complete. Price \$3.65.
- Get your order in early as the consignment is going fast.

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- Also please remember we have CUPS & SAUCERS, TEA PLATES, BREAKFAST, DINNER and SOUP PLATES, at 5 c. each.
- We have also for sale 1 SHOP COUNTER, 11 feet long, for \$5.75 And 1 FIREPROOF SAFE (medium size).
- Give us a call and we shall be pleased to show you our stocks.

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