

A PAGE OF GENERAL INTEREST TO WOMEN READERS

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EXCHANGING WAR PRISONERS

Part Played By Swiss Red Cross—It's a Joyful Time, Even for the Totally Incapacitated.

Addressing a large gathering in the Masonic Hall Thursday afternoon, Mrs. Plumptre of Toronto, honorary secretary of the Canadian Red Cross Society, laid special stress on the "international view," the fact that the Red Cross Society is an international organization, and a link still remaining between warring countries when all other relationships, commercial, diplomatic, etc., have been annihilated. She also referred to the work being done for prisoners of war in the different countries, Germans in France as well as Canadians, British and French in Germany, through offices of the Swiss Red Cross Society.

Madame Bohny, the wife of Col. Bohny, physician-in-chief to the Swiss Red Cross, has written the following account of the manner in which totally incapacitated prisoners of war are exchanged between France and Germany, by way of Switzerland. In one period of two weeks the number of those thus repatriated amounted to over nine thousand.

"The selection of prisoners to be exchanged was made at Constance on the German frontier and at Lyons by two doctors belonging to the Swiss Army Medical Corps. The Swiss Red Cross organized two hospital trains, one at each point to carry the wounded released by the medical examination.

"The personnel of each train was composed of a doctor major, in complete command of the train; a doctor captain for medical services exclusively, and a secretary whose task was to draw up an accurate list of the wounded. The feminine personnel was composed of a nurse in each carriage or fifteen to every train under the supervision of a Red Cross matron, who had complete charge of the equipment of the train and the distribution of the presents received at the railway station.

"Meals were arranged for in the following manner: The French received coffee and white bread at Zurich, and warm milk at Geneva; the Germans received supper at Geneva, and breakfast at Zurich.

"I was of the belief at the outset," says Madame Bohny, "that many of the young men would be found to be different to them. But no! The bright, life aspect of all these young men in the prime of life, many of them disabled and disgraced for the rest of their existence, creates always a most poignant impression. One would imagine that the sight of such wretchedness would infallibly extinguish every thought of gaiety in the beholder. Nevertheless, the spectacle of the courage and joy wherewith they resign themselves to the fate which has befallen them is truly heroic."

"To die for one's country is nothing in comparison with a life of pain and infirmities such as these men have in prospect. Nevertheless, they face this lamentable future with admirable courage."

"Here is an example: One of our invalids, the most deserving of pity, was a young man who had both his legs and one arm amputated, and at the same time was totally blind."

"I scarcely dared to address him a few words of consolation, but I was soon made aware that he asked for none. He talked gaily with me on all subjects and exclaimed with imperturbable heroism, 'Although I have lost everything, my heart still beats safe and sound in my breast.'"

"The most of our unfortunate think and speak in the same manner, whether they are French or German."

"Our train was overflowing. No less than 320 severely wounded were distributed in fifteen cars. Amongst them were madmen, tubercular sufferers and many sick whose lives were in hourly danger. The good nurses had certainly won in abundance. As soon as we had crossed the German frontier into Switzerland we were overwhelmed with ovations. A veritable cyclone of gifts fell on our train from station to station. Soon our carriages were transformed into moving gardens fragrant with flowers. All along the way enthusiastic crowds acclaimed us, even in stations where the train did not stop."

"Only those provided with a card of admission from the station department had the right to enter the train. This

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. Letters have to be answered in turn. No letter can be answered privately.)

She Would Exchange.

Dear Miss Grey,—With most sincere pleasure I take delight when I get all my work done to sit down and read over your page.

On Monday's page I noticed an item about the umbrella plant. This plant I would like very much to have. I have only a few plants myself, of which are begonias and the leopard plant. I would gladly exchange slips on the plants mentioned.

Dear Miss Grey, this is the first time I have had any correspondence with you, so I hope I will come out in the lucky boat. I am your friend, MRS. TAYLOR.

Ans.—The interest in plants and flowers appears to be general among our readers. What do you think of "Lover's Exchange"? The idea of starting a "Flower-Lovers' Exchange" I do not know of anyone having an umbrella plant, but if any reader has maybe she will let us know. Hope you will like us well enough to come again.

Answer for V. V.

Ans.—You note it to hand, and I shall look forward to receiving some of the domestic science recipes some day, when the "grip" is better. Was not the idea of any other recipe service to you, but the word appears to be practically nil now. Hope you remember your promise to come again.

Dirty or Clean?

Dear Miss Grey,—I am going to ask you for some points on a debate which we are having on Monday, 17th. The subject is "Resolved, that a dirty good-natured woman is better than a clean crank." Hoping that you will be able to give me the required information, I thank you in advance. Call me JIMMY.

Ans.—I am perfectly willing to help you Jimmy since you request it, but please don't tell anyone! As you didn't say which side of the debate you are on, I guess I'd best give a few suggestions for each. On the affirmative, these might be good: A man is happier with a good-natured woman who will let him smoke or sit around the house in his walking boots than with a crank who "nags" and insists on slippers in the house and no pipe; a man gets to shun his home when things are so perfectly clean; a wife and mother who can go through life with a laugh, not worried to fretfulness by the cares of the home, is an example of the old proverb, "A merry heart doeth good like medicine"; a jolly, happy mother is likely to have children of the same type—carefree and amiable.

For the negative these points might be convincing: If a man's heart is reached by his stomach, the happiest prospect is for he who feeds the "clean crank," for invariably she proves a better cook than the "dirty sloven"; the crank is also sure to be saving money, careful to make the best of material at hand; the man's bank account grows by reason of her thrift, where the happy-go-lucky wastes; wasteful; children of the careful housewife are industrious and ambitious, because of their home training; in the matter of mending, patching and sewing on buttons, the crank has her good-natured sister beaten by far; a man would rather prefer a good dinner, served in a clean house, by a woman who was always neat about her person, than a poor meal, spread in a dirty kitchen, by a woman whose hair was obviously not combed, even though she smile ever so sweet; with the careless housewife, sanitary conditions around the home are not apt to be in good order; this may lead to sickness in the family and cause doctor's bills.

Pattern Was Not Right.

Dear Miss Grey,—I see where a little girl signing herself "Seldom Swift," is asking the cause of her stovepipe drooping. It is lack of draft; if she has

Advertiser Patterns

1491—A Simple Shirtwaist in Attractive Tailored Style. Ladies' Shirtwaist. This comfortable and up-to-date model is good for linen, lawn, madras, Georgette crepe, serge, flannel, taffeta, poplin or repp. The right front is shaped over the left at the closing. The collar is becoming and jaunty. The sleeve is in regulation shirtwaist style, and the fronts have neat patch pocket. The pattern is cut six sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.

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

ADVERTISER PATTERN DEPT. Please send above-mentioned pattern, as per directions given below, to:

Name _____

Town _____

Province _____

Age (if child or miss's pattern) _____

Measurement: Bust _____ Waist _____

CAUTION: Be careful to inclose the above illustration, and send size of pattern. If the pattern is sent without whatever it may be. When in waist measure, it may be. If a skirt, give waist and length measure. When miss's or child's pattern, write only the figure representing the age. It is not necessary to write "inches" or "years." Patterns cannot reach you in less than one week from date of application.

Y. W. C. A. CLASS.

The Young Women's Christian Association class in first aid and home nursing will have its first lecture this (Tuesday) evening in the rooms at 472 Park avenue.

At the top of the page, there is a small illustration of a woman in a long dress, looking out of a window.

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One Earring More Distinguished Than Two



Decorating the ears with rare jewels has long been one of woman's pet vanities, but Miss Betty Lee, a young and beautiful southern girl, now in New York, has found a new way of wearing them—or it—for Miss Lee has started the fashion of wearing a single earring.

will come forward with helpful suggestions re the washstands, or perhaps they may know of a magazine or other publication that contains ideas for remodeling furniture. Some of the suggestions are: 1. A washstand with a mirror and a small table. 2. A washstand with a mirror and a small table. 3. A washstand with a mirror and a small table.

Letter Forwarded.

"Rose of Sharon's" letter to "Mrs. Homebird" has been forwarded, as requested.

Tomato Bouillon.

Dear Miss Grey,—I read in The Morning Advertiser of January 17 where "Newcomer" wished to exchange some crocheted corset cover patterns for others.

Ans.—I have seen different readers send in a way to dry pumpkin, so I am trying it today, so will know how it turns out. Will send a recipe for tomato bouillon. 1 cup tomato catsup, 2 cups butter or lard, 2 cups rolled oats, 1/2 cup buttermilk or sour milk, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 2 cups flour. Roll thin. Fillings: One pound dates, 1 cup butter, 1 cup brown sugar; cook until thick. Cool before using.

Answers Are Delayed.

Owing to Miss Grey's absence from the office last week, correspondence has accumulated and answers delayed. All letters will be published and answers given, as usual, just as speedily as possible.

Changed to Iceberg.

Dear Miss Grey,—I wonder what is going to happen next? I've had children and even animals named after me, but "Snowflake No. 2" beats all. Now I have got something a little more substantial, as you see. So we aren't to get anything more about goggle-eyed Flins, and as for that swearing old man who dared to show his grizzly head in the Mail-Box, pen and paper are much too valuable to waste on him, and the very idea of your offering him of your precious time for an interview, but, perhaps, you will give him a talking to he'll not forget for a time. Oh, dear, he will be so disgusted with my letter that he won't notice my unkind questions.

1. When wishing to refuse to skate with anyone what is the most courteous reply to make?

2. I sent a stamped and addressed envelope for readings, but I guess none came in, so just put one of Mrs. Homebird's cookies in it, and I won't crumble or swear at you either.

3. Could any of the readers send in a good preparation for the hands, also "cold cream" recipe?

Just cut out any part which would make war, and give my name to "B. D." and "S. F. No. 2."

ICEBERG.

Ans.—1. You could make the plea of "being too tired just now," or of wanting to go to the theatre, or to the band, or yet again, that you were just on the point of leaving the ice to get warm.

2. Would indeed that I had one of the aforesaid cookies! "I said that you'd be a little of it, though."

3. This is excellent for the hands: Take about 1/4 oz. (a good pinch, say), of gum tragacanth, pour over it 1 pint boiling water, let stand in a warm place 24 hours, or until dissolved; add

Who Has Suggestions?

Dear Miss Grey,—This is my first letter to the Mail-Box, although I have been a constant reader of the page since it started.

Was sorry when I read "Flins" letter, when I saw such a lengthy one. I know that it is a long one, but I am an admirer of "Mrs. H." and I find it very interesting. I am sending you a letter of introduction to "Mrs. H." and I am sending you a letter of introduction to "Mrs. H."

Now for a few queries:

1. Do any of the readers know of a place in the city where pieces of carpet can be made into reversible rugs?

2. I have two good washstands and I am of no use to them, so any readers who are kind enough to take them made out of them?

If a "Plymouth Reader" would cut a red onion in half and rub the child's face with the juicy side, am sure they will soon be cured.

If a little cornstarch is added to the whites of eggs it will help to stiffen them.

Ans.—I hope some of our readers

LONDON I.O.D.E. WILL GIVE DONATION

Votes \$100 Towards Special Soldiers' Hostel.

LOCAL CLUB BOOMING

Business of Interest Discussed By Members Yesterday.

At a special meeting of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, held yesterday afternoon in Crutcher Hall, it was decided to give \$100 from the various London chapters towards the I. O. D. E. wing of the King George and Queen Mary Hostel for Canadian soldiers on leave in London, England.

The matter was introduced by the reading of a letter from the National Chapter secretary, in which assistance was asked, the national body having undertaken to raise \$1,000 among the I. O. D. E. members in Canada for the purpose of equipping the proposed wing. Lady Drummond, of whom every Canadian woman may justly feel proud, is in charge of the effort to provide accommodation for these Canadian soldiers, some 1,200 of whom come to London on short leave every week.

Encouraging Progress.

Much interest and enthusiasm was manifested in the report of the I. O. D. E. Soldier's Club in this city. Mrs. Macbeth gave the report, a most encouraging one from every standpoint. The club has now been open about one month, and is daily increasing in popularity amongst the soldiers stationed in London. The cafeteria, particularly, Mrs. Macbeth said, is meeting with more than the success anticipated for it. The men are eager for the home-made dainties supplied by members of the I. O. D. E., oyster stew, fried eggs, substantial, tasty sandwiches, tea and coffee, being among the favorites in demand.

It was reported that the exhibition of "British pictures for British schools" would be held in this city on the third week in February. These pictures, it was explained, were historical representations in original colors, and had only been obtainable through the national committee of the I. O. D. E., which is endeavoring to stimulate an interest in British history, in this manner, and is expected that the local schools will co-operate in holding the exhibition, the proceeds to go towards purchasing pictures for the institutions.

A very interesting letter was read from Mrs. MacLaren-Brown, secretary of the C. W. C. A. in London, England, acknowledging the receipt of ten bales from the London I. O. D. E. Mrs. Brown told of the appreciation of the Canadian soldiers for the chocolates and other Christmas supplies sent to them. Some of the gifts did not come in time for Christmas, and it is planned to hold a twentieth-anniversary party, at which the gifts will be distributed.

Little Friends' Gift.

A letter and donation of \$5 from "Little Friends of the Soldiers" in Clonduboy, were acknowledged. These little people have raised the money by giving small entertainments in their district. It was decided to send them a donation of material for making up into soldiers' comforters, and a vote of appreciation was passed to the little workers.

Mrs. Callard acknowledged the receipt of several donations for the work of the order. Other business of the meeting was the appointing of a sub-committee composed of the officers of the Municipal Chapter. Mrs. Niven presided over the session.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

LOBO INSTITUTE.

The Lobo ladies will hold their next regular meeting at the home of Mrs. James Edwards on Wednesday afternoon, January 19, at 2:30 sharp. Roll call, "Sentiments on Current Events." All ladies welcome.

Several members of a woman's club were chatting with a little daughter of their hostess.

"I suppose you are a great help to your mamma?" said one.

"Oh, yes," replied the little miss, "and I'm Ethel; but today it is my turn to count the spoons after the company is gone."

Ans.—I can send you words of the first and last pieces that you ask for, and possibly someone else can supply the remaining poem. A reader has forwarded a nice packet of gum flags, and I am mailing you one or two.

1. It is not her place to do anything. She need not, however, refuse attentions of other young men, for as long as no engagement exists she is free to accept their company. If you chance to be the "young lady" in question, as you are only eighteen now it is really something in the young man's favor, that he has not spoken of love to you; no doubt in a year or so he will have something to say.

2. One can scarcely say without seeing you; it makes so much difference how the avodupois is distributed.

3. One can scarcely say without seeing you; it makes so much difference how the avodupois is distributed.

4. One can scarcely say without seeing you; it makes so much difference how the avodupois is distributed.

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