

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.]

The Poor Kiddies.

Dear Miss Grey.—I wish to thank you very much for sending me the letter sent in by "Mother of Three Boys." It was very kind of her to send me the remedy, and I only wish I could do something for her. Just imagine, Miss Grey, I have four little children—the eldest one is 4 years old—and they all have the whooping cough very bad. It keeps me busy at night running from one bed to another, but I suppose it is better for the poor little kiddies to have it now than in the winter.

I will make a patchwork quilt for "Aunt Nannie's" quilt, Miss Grey. Will each one send the block to "Aunt Nannie" as soon as it is made, or do you think it would be better to join all the blocks together, and then each of the Mail-Box readers could give a few cents toward the postage.

I will let "Mother of Three Boys" know how I get along with her remedy. ANS.—People say there is always a bright side to everything, but as I read your letter I was wondering where it could be found in your case—and there you pointed it right out—glad they didn't have it in the winter. Perhaps, with "Kitty's" chestnut leaves

and "Mrs. C's" horseradish, you may drive the dreaded cough away. What do the readers think of "Faded Lily's" idea about joining the quilt blocks before sending it on to "Aunt Nannie"? Your offer is generous, considering the four kiddies and their tax upon your time. At any rate, I hope those making blocks will send them to me (not direct to "Aunt Nannie"), so that a list of the names may be kept for publication, and so we may know when the 56 blocks have been received.

Pride of Middlesex.

Dear Miss Grey.—As I have been an interested reader of your column, regarding to those who run down the soldiers I do not think it is at all right for anyone to do the like; they ought to be ashamed. Why is it, Miss Grey, that you and some of the rest think the 33rd Battalion is better than any other? I differ on that part, as there is good and bad in all kinds. For my part, I'd just as soon have the 155th Battalion or the 70th Overseas Battalion. But give me the Pride of Middlesex. Three cheers for the boys who agree with me! Has any of these boys anything to say? Now for a few questions:

1. A woman's son has enlisted. Could she draw any money each month, if he is 20 years of age, and she has a husband for support?
2. What is the address of the 70th Battalion now in England, as I have a brother I would like to write to?
3. What do you think of my writing? A SOLDIER'S WIFE TO BE.

ANS.—It is not hard to discern why you cheer for the "Pride of Middlesex." Naturally where our hearts are, there our interests will be.

1. I do not believe she can collect any allowance if the husband is living.
2. Address him care Army Postoffice, London, Eng., giving his number, company, battalion, etc.

COACHES FOR A TRAIN. Dear Miss Grey.—Saw where "Telrah Tenrah" wanted "The Baggage Coach Ahead." Am sending it along. Now for a few questions:

1. What will take ink out of a centrepiece?
2. How to wash a black and white skirt?
3. May I call again? MINNIE.

ANS.—Pretty soon we'll have enough "Baggage Coaches" to make a train, as several copies have come in. "Telrah." However, many thanks for yours.

1. Is the centrepiece colored? Then soak the ink spot in sour milk, change it as the color draws out; then wash in clear, cool water. If white, apply salts of lemon to the ink stain, as per directions on package.

2. Is your skirt "shepherd's plaid"? It may be washed in lukewarm water, with good white soap; rinse, and blue well; dry in a shady place; roll up while still damp, and press with moderate iron.

"Elizabeth's Thanks." Dear Miss Grey.—Please allow me the privilege of thanking "Pussy Cat" for her generous offer of coupons. I have been watching your columns closely ever since my former letter appeared, and had almost given up all hopes of getting any when I read the announcement of this little, our footed creature with a great bundle for me. But she didn't state what she wished in return. If it is anything I have she is certainly welcome to it. Again thanking her for her generous offer, I will close with a question: What do you think of my writing? Is it business-like or manish? Also criticize my grammar and spelling. Your friend ever,

ELIZABETH ANNE. ANS.—As you would write from my note to you in Tuesday's issue, you have other readers to thank in addition to "Pussy Cat." Am sure you will be pleased with the nice lot of coupons sent on to your address.

Your writing is neither, but is fairly legible; grammar is passable, but spelling would bear improving.

Only a Maid. Dear Miss Grey.—May I not join your circus troupe? I am only a maid, and there seems to be no room for a maid anywhere except in someone's kitchen. I am sure if you take me along I will be quite useful, and especially so if you have a picnic.

I was informed yesterday that all ladies were to be off the streets at 9 p.m. Is that so? Does it mean by the daylight saving time? You will think by this that I am a street wanderer, but not so. I do not finish my work in the kitchen before 8 o'clock, and I certainly enjoy a long walk in the evening after spending the whole day between four walls. It is the one pleasure of my life to get out, where I can enjoy the beauties of nature and think clearly. It seems as if I must give up this one pleasure, and I find it hard, as I am a country girl and accustomed to a free outdoor life.

I have been in the city about a year.

Sends Her Address. Dear Miss Grey.—As I saw where someone was asking for my address, I am sending it to you, and I am glad to give it. I would like to hear from you. I took your advice and wrote to Ottawa, and I expect to hear from them any time.

Wonders How. Well, here's the same old question—How's my writing? I am.

LOVELY SOLDIER'S SISTER. ANS.—Am glad to send your address on to "Primrose," and no doubt you will hear from her before long.

Can anyone send "L. S. S." the songs she asks for? Your writing is not particularly good, my dear.

No Other Way. Dear Miss Grey.—Would you please answer the following questions for me? I want will keep the fuzz from coming off a coat when it touches anything dark it will be all over it. I would not like to line it as it would make it rather heavy. The goods are very soft. Please answer through your Page, and only a READER.

ANS.—There's no other earthly way to fix the coat except by lining it, so far as I know. A thin silk or even muslin lining would help a great deal and add but little to the warmth of the coat.

Gift for "Him." Dear Miss Grey.—Please tell me what would be nice for a girl to give a boy friend who expects to go to the front in about two weeks or maybe before. Do you think something in the line of "cats" would be acceptable or else some sort of a companion? Please print this as soon as you can, as the time is drawing near when he will have to leave.

Could you give me some idea about those bags that hang from the bedside?

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Age (if child's or miss's) pattern

Measurement: Bust..... Waist.....

Caution: Be careful to inclose the above illustration, and send size of pattern wanted. When the pattern is sent measure your neck only mark 24, 26 or whatever it may be. When in waist measure, 22, 24, 26, or whatever 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 be sent less than one week from date of application.

I have gone about a good deal, usually alone. I attended night school for several months last winter, which meant late hours, and I never was accosted by anyone on the streets. My opinion is "If you carry yourself as a lady people will treat you as one."

Just one more word. Please criticize my writing.

Will sign myself, "ONLY A MAID."

ANS.—Do not say, "Only a Maid," for yours is a very honorable calling indeed. Don't you remember what the apostle said about "she that sweepeth a room"? Many of our girls will read your letter with interest. If you are as neat and tidy about your work as you are at letter writing, the kitchen graced by your presence is very fortunate. So far as your figure representing the age, it is not necessary to write "inches" or "years." Patterns cannot be sent less than one week from date of application.

Lemon for Laurie. Dear Miss Grey.—I know I'm a brother, but bear with me a moment until I have my say to "Laurie." Miss Grey forwarded my letter, and I am sure your letter, inclosing address, with one of my "glad girls" letters. Has something dreadful happened that you need my pity? Or are you just trying to make out that I'm foolish, like the girls I mentioned? But to make this letter short, I'll come to the point. If you truly say "yes" to the question below, you may write me. Would you want a sister of yours to be writing to a boy of your character? Now, Laurie, if you're a MAN, you'll be square. This is all I'll say this time, as I'm in a "great big hurry."

WOULD-BE POLLYANNA.

ANS.—With bated breath we await "Laurie's" reply—or are you too crushed to answer?

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