

# The Country Homemakers

CONDUCTED BY FRANCIS MARION BEYNON

## THE DIRT OF SHOPS

The other evening a friend and I stopped to look at the long and high piles of candies so temptingly displayed in a shop window, and looking we were lost, and I might add that I have been paying the price of that one reckless look ever since in a severe attack of indigestion.

But to return to the evening in question. We were lured inside, as the store-keeper intended us to be, when he arranged those candies in full view of the passer-by, and ordered a quantity of a certain candy. What was not visible from the window was the fact that the attendant was a dark, swarthy, moist-looking individual, with a most objectionable habit of grabbing the candies up in his fist and stuffing them into a paper bag. When we saw him do it to our candies my companion and I exchanged indignant glances, but we were foolish enough to accept them out of his dirty, sweaty, germ-covered hands without demanding that he use a scoop to move them from the tray to the bag. As my companion philosophically remarked he almost certainly used his hands to put them on there so he might almost as well take them off again by the same method.

Moreover we had no way of ascertaining how long that tray of candies had been standing in that shop window exposed to the dust that is raised by the tramp, tramp, tramp of the thousands of people who go up and down Portage Avenue all day long. Now the best medical authorities have come to the conclusion that there are few things more upsetting to the stomach than food which has taken on even a light coating of dust. That being the case, of course, none of us has really any license to be alive today, for it is shocking to reflect on the things that would be seen if the food consumed in this city were examined under a microscope. Butcher shops are filled with carcasses and parts of carcasses hung up and lying about where every opening of the door lets in a dust-laden draught of air.

The confectionery stores have the windows and counters covered with plates and trays of pies and tarts and cakes which make a perfect roosting place for dust and flies and germs. In the grocery stores many commodities such as sugar, tea, coffee and cheese are exposed, not for a day, but for a week or more, to the dust scattered about by a continual stream of customers.

In some cities where women have taken a hand in running civic affairs they have compelled the merchants to keep all food under cover, but up to date the women of this and other cities in the West have quite tamely gone on feeding their families dirt and germs on the long chance that they will be sufficiently healthy to throw off the poison.

FRANCIS MARION BEYNON.

## DOMESTIC SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FARMERS' DAUGHTERS

The plan of granting scholarships which was first adopted by the Saskatchewan government in 1906 to encourage farmers' sons to acquire a thorough and scientific training in agriculture and which in this connection was discontinued in 1910 when the Provincial College of Agriculture was first opened, has also been attended with success when applied to the encouragement of interest in household science training. In view of the fact that there is not in Saskatchewan a school of household science at which farmers' daughters may acquire a proper training to fit them for their life work, arrangements were made to provide scholarships to encourage the young women of the province to attend such institutions in other parts of the Dominion. That these scholarships have been of much benefit is evidenced by the following data giving the number of scholarships awarded each year since the plan was first adopted:—

	McDonald College, Guelph, Ont.	Manitoba Agricultural College
1909	1	
1910	1	5
1911		4
1912		5
1913	2	10
1914	1	14
1915	1	16

A list of the scholarships and the regulations regarding them is as follows:—

1.—With a view to encouraging farmers' daughters to acquire a thoroughly practical and scientific training in the various branches of domestic science, the department of agriculture of the province of Saskatchewan offers the following scholarships for competition among students from the province attending the Domestic Science Department in the Manitoba Agricultural College, Winnipeg, McDonald College, Guelph, Ontario, or the School of Household Science, St. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec.

2.—To each student from Saskatchewan passing with first class honors in her first year, \$75. (The winner of No. 3 is not eligible for this scholarship).

3.—To students from Saskatchewan passing in all subjects of the first year, \$50. (Winners of No. 1 and No. 3 are not eligible to compete for this scholarship).

4.—To the student from Saskatchewan standing highest among the students from Saskatchewan in general proficiency in the work of the first year, \$150.

### For Second Year Students

5.—To each student from Saskatchewan graduating with first class honors on completion of the regular two years' course, \$100. (The winner of No. 6 is not eligible for this scholarship).

6.—To students from Saskatchewan passing at the end of the second year in all subjects of the regular two years' course, \$75. (The winners of No. 4 and

## MOVING WESTWARD

Dear Miss Beynon:—I have read the letters of the Country Homemakers page for some time and enjoy them very much.

I wish Western, who wrote in the July Guide, would send in the recipe for making mother of vinegar. I have tried several times without success.

We have a farm in Sunny Alberta, but are thinking of taking a homestead in B.C. where the winters are milder.

We would like to hear from any of the writers to the Country Homemakers page who live there. We do not know just where to locate yet so any information we can get in regard to B.C. will be greatly appreciated.

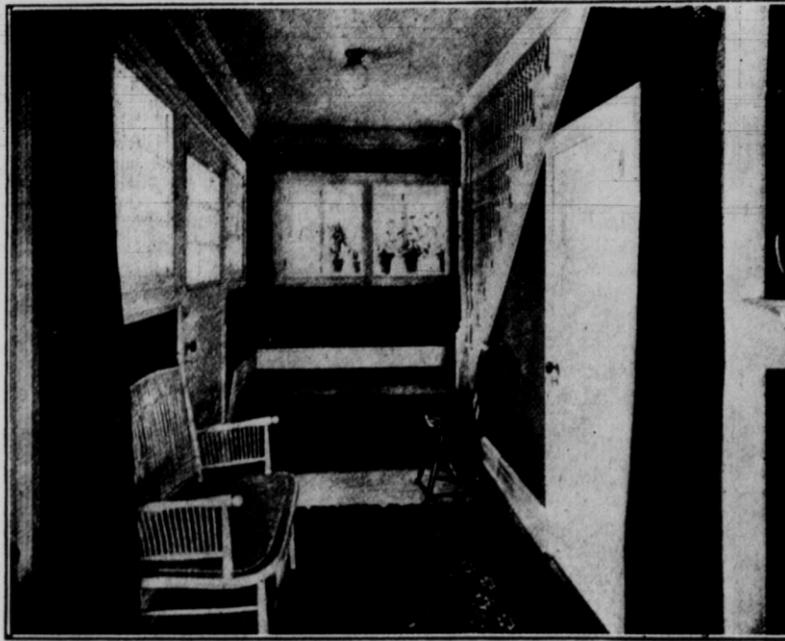
I hope this letter reaches the paper without first visiting the waste paper basket. I have one of the good Johns and do feel sorry for the sisters who haven't a kind husband. I hope the women do get the ballot.

I will try to send in something helpful. For sore throat or swellings of any kind or inflammation, boil beans (small white navys) 20 minutes and put in a cloth and bind on to affected parts; when cold reheat and apply. They are the best poultice known of. I tried this on my boy for the earache, also boils and a swollen jaw from cutting his teeth.

ROSE.

## GOOD AGE FOR MARRIAGE

Dear Miss Beynon:—I have been an interested reader of your page in The Guide for some time and I must say it



A hall finished in white enamel woodwork, which is very attractive

No. 6 are not eligible to compete for this scholarship).

7.—To the student from Saskatchewan standing highest among the students from Saskatchewan in general proficiency in the graduating class on completion of the regular two years' course, \$150.

Any student from Saskatchewan at any of the colleges named herein who otherwise eligible to compete for scholarships Nos. 3 and 6 shall not be awarded one of such scholarships unless there are in her class at least five Saskatchewan students eligible to compete for either of the said scholarships.

Scholarships are not offered for third or fourth year work.

In awarding scholarships the work for the entire college year will be considered.

Scholarships will be awarded and paid as they fall due upon receipt of reports from the principals of the respective colleges showing the standing of students from the province.

Students winning scholarships must furnish proof satisfactory to the minister that they have been bona fide residents of the province for at least two years immediately before entering college and that during that time they have spent at least two summers in practical work on a farm home.

has often helped me in many ways and taught me many a lesson. I'm sure it has helped many others, for to follow up the letters published is so interesting.

I have been married nearly three years. I was twenty-five when I was married, and I think if every girl would wait till she was twenty-five she would have a mind of her own. I think it just a nice age, for one can enjoy single life so much up till that age. We have one little boy a year and a half old.

As to the country, this is a new country, very bushy and scrubby in places, but it is getting opened up rapidly. The crops were good this year.

Am enclosing ten cents in stamps for which kindly send me the two booklets, "Maternity" and "How to Teach the Truth to Children."

Before closing I would like to ask if anyone has a good recipe for dumplings. I had one which called for both soda and baking powder and it was burned. They were lovely with beef broth or chicken broth. As this is my first letter I will ring off now.

I will sign myself

MARGARET.

Requests for recipes should be sent to the Country Cook, and I would be glad if anyone answering this request would

send the recipes to her. You see it really truly isn't the same person as you may have imagined.

F. M. B.

## WISHES HE'D MARRIED SOONER

Dear Miss Beynon:—Would you allow a man to express his opinion in the presence of your select company? If so, please print this; if not, no harm is done, I trust, and I at least will feel better for having my say.

In your department of The Guide of September 22, 1915, there appears a letter written by Mary Nicolaeff, entitled, "Marriage is Slavery." To me this letter is sadly out of place in your department, "The Country Homemakers." It seems to me that if you wish to print letters of this kind you should create another department especially for them and name it "The Country Home Destroyer," as that letter from beginning to end contains nothing that would go to build a home, but plenty to destroy a home, provided, of course, any of your readers should take Mrs. Nicolaeff seriously, which it is to be hoped they will not.

It would be time and effort thrown away for me to try and meet the arguments in Mrs. Nicolaeff's letter as I am not a psychologist; but how does Mrs. Nicolaeff account for the thousands, yes the hundreds of thousands of happy homes, of happy, contented, loved and loving wives, of happy, intellectual, beautifully, healthy, well sexed, loving children?

I suppose it is because I am not a psychologist that I think the best place on earth is home and that marriage is a grand success.

I am one year younger than Mrs. Nicolaeff and a grandfather; the only "kick" I have is because I did not marry younger.

## A SATISFIED HUSBAND

### A GAY LOOKER ON

Dear Miss Beynon:—I saw the letter from Mary Nicolaeff in the last Guide, and I think it splendid, the best we have had for some time. I am afraid, however, that she will soon be in "hot water" with some of the other readers. What a good picture from "By no Means an Angel" of the other side of farm life. I am glad she has answered "Helen Maloney," for so few people really see the sordid side when they are "outsiders." I can't think how anyone can have such a false view as Helen Maloney has. I had a feeling of sympathy in regard to the "gentle cow." I've been "run away with" more than once. I think poor "Discouraged" has had enough advice to last a long time.

Have you ever read Mark Twain's "Cure for a Cold?" I should imagine "Discouraged" feels a little like he did after taking so many doses. In regard to "meeting your husband with a kiss," did you ever try, oh happy and unhappy wives, to kiss a man who did not want to be kissed? You should try some time when he is in a bad mood. It is easier to kiss a gorilla or a lamp post.

## ONE WHO LOOKS ON.

### DETACHABLE CLOTHES-LINES

Hanging up clothes is an unpleasant job at any time and is often threatening to health in severe winter weather. Here is the way I solved the problem of eliminating both objectionable and dangerous features: I had my clothes-lines cut thirty feet long; to the end and middle of each I fastened a harness-strap, which was to fasten into rings attached to the cross-arms on the clothes-posts. These latter, three in number, were set in alignment fifteen feet apart. Then, on my laundry-walls, at a height of six feet and at a distance apart of fifteen feet, I put up two other rings, similar to the ones on the posts. Now, when I want to dry my clothes I stretch a clothes-line in the laundry, pin on the clothes as usual, unhook the line when filled, fold it into the clothes-basket, and take it outside, merely fastening the snaps on the line to the proper rings on the posts. Such an arrangement as this saves one from exposure, is easier, and enables one, even in the summer, to get the clothes in before a shower drenches them.

V. A.