

About the House

HER FATHER'S WORDS.

It was Martha's last night at home. She had known of course that it would be hard to leave her father, even though Aunt Ellen was coming to keep house for him, but she had never realized just how it would be till the time came. It was queer how difficult it was to talk; both were oddly silent. Then the clock struck ten, and Martha turned to her father.

"I—I didn't know that it was going to be like this!" she cried. "I don't feel a bit like a college girl, father. I feel about five years old, and I'm sick."

"I feel as if the world were coming to an end," her father replied. He was smiling, but Martha saw with a pang that he looked old. "I wish I could say things, dear, the things that your mother would have said. I don't know much about girls. Only I'm pretty sure of one thing. You may feel strange and lonely at first—a little country girl among so many who have had all sorts of things; yet the real things of life are always the same, no matter how the outward circumstances differ. Courage and honesty and kindness are current everywhere. In the end, being sterling, they must win the things of biggest value in life."

"That sounds like you, father! I—I'll try to remember," said Martha.

College was different from anything that Martha had ever experienced. In her high-school class there had been nine girls; at college she was in a class of four hundred. Certain girls were popular at once—athletic girls, girls with beauty, money or a gift for leadership. Martha was only one of the unnoticed ones.

When the question of class dues arose Claire Jocelyn proposed twenty-five dollars, and Claire had enthusiastic followers. Martha began to calculate; could she afford to pay so much as that? Then something caught her attention—the dismaying eyes of a plainly dressed girl whose name she did not know. For a moment Martha fought hard; she so longed to be among the girls who counted for something in the class. To have anyone think that she was queer and perhaps mean might spoil her chances. Yet that girl's eyes!

Martha got suddenly to her feet. "Madam Chairman," she said, "it seems to me that the only fair way is to have each girl write on a slip of paper the sum that she can afford to pay. It isn't easy to say it out loud sometimes, but we could all write it. From the amount on the slips we could strike an average. I make this as a motion."

Martha's heart was beating hard as she sat down. Then to her astonishment her motion passed, and the dues were finally put at ten dollars.

As they left the meeting half a dozen girls stopped to thank her, and suddenly Martha remembered her father's words.

CRANBERRY GAMES.

Cranberries are as good in games as in sauce. Be sure to use firm red berries for the following games.

First a large glass of cranberries is shown. Each child makes a guess as to how many berries are in the glass. The one who guesses nearest to the right number becomes leader for the next game.

The children sit in a row with their hands laid together in an upright position on their laps. The leader, with a cranberry between her hands, which are laid together just as those of the other players, goes down the line slipping her hands between those of the other children. Into one pair of hands she slips the cranberry. When she has finished she says, "Cranberry, cranberry, who has the cranberry?" The child who was farthest from the right count in the guessing game must guess who has the berry.

For another jolly game line the children up in two rows having equal numbers in each. Give the first child in each row a handful of cranberries. At a given signal each child passes her cranberries to the next in line, using only one hand and trying not to let any berries drop. If any berries fall she must pick them up and give them to the next player before the passing can go on. In this way the berries must be passed down the line and back again. The side getting all the berries back first wins.

A berry-stringing contest may wind up the fun. The one who strings the most berries in a given time is the winner.

CLEANING GASOLINE.

Gasoline used in the dry cleaning of garments at home is often thrown away because of the dirt contained. This can be removed and the gasoline again purified for future cleaning in a very simple manner.

For each gallon of gasoline to be settled, dissolve two ounces of com-

mon washing powder in a half pint of hot water. Stir this into the gasoline while still warm—be careful to do this away from the fire, and preferably out-of-doors—and allow the mixture to stand undisturbed for several hours. Then, carefully pour the gasoline into a second container, taking care not to disturb the water and sediment at the bottom, and the recovered gasoline will serve for cleaning again.

In order to prevent the water and sediment from entering the second container it will be necessary to sacrifice a small quantity of the gasoline, but the movement of the water, when pouring, can easily be detected and no difficulty should be experienced in keeping the fluids separated. Sal soda dissolved in the same manner as the washing powder also makes a good settling solution. Either solution should be thoroughly mixed with the gasoline to obtain best results.

A MODEL EASY TO DEVELOP AND ECONOMICAL OF MATERIAL



4263. Figured percale was chosen for this practical apron with rick rack braid for trimming. One could have gingham or cambric, or sateen. The style is also good for rubber-finished fabrics and for crepe.

The Pattern is cut in one size—Medium. It requires 1½ yard of 32 inch material.

Pattern mailed to any address on receipt of 15c in silver by the Wilson Publishing Company, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Allow two weeks for receipt of pattern.

PATTERN POCKETS.

The most convenient place to keep patterns is in pockets made for the purpose and hung on the closet door of the sewing room. Use a piece of cretonne or any desired material, a little narrower than the door and long enough to hold about four rows of pockets. Make the pockets wide enough so that when held a little full they will be about six inches wide; they can be four or six inches long. They may be bound all around and then stitched on, or just bound at the top.

Patterns for garments for each member of the family may be placed in separate pockets, or patterns of the same kind may be put together. The lower pockets are also very convenient for bits of lace, trimmings, thread and embroidery cotton.

BETTER-LOOKING CURTAINS.

In hanging window curtains of net, muslin, scrim, Swiss or any light material, slip each curtain over the rod at the top of the window, turn up even with sill and baste the hem with fine thread so it will hang perfectly even. Before washing pull out basting thread, as the curtains will doubtless shrink. When ready to hang turn the hem as before, but this time it can be stitched in, as curtains do not shrink after the first washing, if properly done.

"I don't know all about how a farm should be run, but I do the best I can," admitted John W. Broadhead. "I raise corn, oats, potatoes, alfalfa, hogs, chickens, and so on, do a fair dairy business and manage to own a middling good car; I have lights, water and a furnace in the house, keep the buildings painted up, and so forth. And then, just about every time I get to feeling kinda good over the way things are going, here comes an earnest town man and urges me to diversify."

THE COAL FIELDS OF EASTERN CANADA

SYDNEY AREA IS MOST EXTENSIVE.

Permanent Improvements Aid in Safer Production and Better Quality of Coal.

Less than one per cent. of Canada's total coal resources are found in her Eastern coal fields in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, all of the rest being west of Winnipeg. Nevertheless the collieries of Cape Breton were among the first worked on the American continent, and during 1922 the Eastern fields produced 39 per cent. of the total Canadian output. Mining operations are known to have been in progress since 1785, and indeed many of the difficulties now encountered in this field are due to the early attempts at mining, when the main object was an immediate output of fuel at lowest possible cost, and little consideration was given to the future possibilities of undersea mining at long distances from shore shafts.

The coal, which is bituminous in character and of varying quality, is mined in five areas, or fields, usually referred to as the Sydney and Inverness fields in Cape Breton, the Pictou and Cumberland fields in Nova Scotia proper, and the Minto field in New Brunswick. The Sydney field is the most extensive and is credited with about 78 per cent. of the total available coal in the two Eastern provinces. The Cumberland and Pictou fields possess a little less than 10 and 9 per cent. respectively of the total; the Inverness field about 2½ per cent; and the New Brunswick field about 1½ per cent.

Production in 1913.

In 1913 the two provinces produced a total of 8,050,000 short tons and in 1922 only 5,850,000 tons. The relative amounts produced from the several fields last year were: Sydney field 70 per cent; Cumberland 11.8 per cent; Pictou 9.7 per cent; Inverness 3.4 per cent., and Minto 4.9 per cent. The output is used largely for locomotive fuel and for bunkering ships. It is used by industrial power plants in Eastern Canada and for the manufacture of coke to supply the iron and steel furnaces at Sydney. It is also used to a large extent as a domestic fuel throughout the Maritime Provinces. For domestic use the output of particular mines and selected seams is employed, but even at that many customers in the cities of Halifax and St. John and at other points prefer to pay a much higher price for Pennsylvania or Welsh anthracite. Much of the Nova Scotia coal is high in sulphur, and for the manufacture of metallurgical coke and a careful selection of the coal is necessary. The coal so used is further washed to reduce its ash and sulphur content. In 1914 over 2,600,000 tons of Nova Scotia coal were marketed in the Province of Quebec. During the war this market was almost entirely lost, but by 1922 had been regained to the extent of about 50 per cent.

Production during the first six months of 1923 showed a decided improvement over the corresponding period of 1922, with an increased production of over a million tons and with largely increased shipments to the Montreal market contracted for.

Strikes Costly.

It is estimated that the strike during July caused a loss in output of

—AND THE WORST IS YET TO COME



STORIES OF WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE

Our Unpolitical Prince.

I asked a friend recently what his politics were. He looked perplexed, and replied: "I'm either a Conservative or a Liberal or a Labor Man." Which was his way of saying he had given it up.

Of course, I looked superior and passed him by. There are few men who may own to no political mind without losing caste. One of them is the Prince of Wales.

"I am not allowed to know anything about politics," he said the other day. "That is one of the greatest privileges I possess."

Perhaps the only real difference between the Prince and his people is that he pretends not to know anything about politics when he does, while we pretend to know all about politics when we don't.

In Lauder's Wake.

Benno Moiseiwitsch, the famous pianist, has no tremors regarding himself now, but once he was exceedingly nervous. He confesses that his most trying experience occurred before he was due to appear at a concert at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, some years ago. Harry Lauder was the turn before him, and prior to the concert, the anxious pianist was impressed by the size of Lauder's name on the posters—so much bigger than his own.

"I wanted to see this man who was so big and so popular," says Moiseiwitsch. "I was afraid for my playing. I almost wished I was not playing at all."

"My friend and I stood in the wings to watch Harry Lauder's performance. I thought he was wonderful, but all the time I was afraid that, when he had finished, the people would go, and that they would take no notice of my playing at all."

"And suddenly, flourishing his big stick, Harry Lauder turned to us and shouted:

"Get away, you boys! Do you hear?"

"It was only part of his stage business," concludes the pianist, "but I thought he meant us, and I was so frightened that I turned and ran out as fast as I could!"

The Spoken Word.

Before you express an opinion of a man's words you really ought to see his face while he utters them. I have, for instance, seen a fat youth all his mouth eagerly with apple-pudding while remarking: "This pudding's n.g." And I wonder what expression Mr. Israel Zangwill wore when he said to an American audience:

"You New Yorkers are lazy and inconsequential. You are also vulgar. Your million dollar drives typify this. Your million dollar temples are as vulgar as your Sunday papers. Your immigration policy is a cruel muddle. Still, you are the best half-educated people in the world."

Reminiscent, this, of the youth who applied for a job as office boy, and said on his return:

"He told me my writing was rotten, and that my boots were dirty, and that my collar was a disgrace, and that I looked like a first-class liar, and engaged me to start next Monday."



CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS ADOPT RADIO

The announcement by Mr. W. D. Robb, Vice-President, that the Canadian National Railways will equip all their hotels and transcontinental trains with radio receiving sets and broadcast to them messages, news and programs of entertainment, marks a distinct forward step in radio development. It is the first time that radio has been adopted as a part of the regular service of a rail transportation system. The photograph shows Mr. Robb in Montreal, delivering into the microphone, the instrument which broadcasts the voice by radio waves, a message to Canadian National Railways' employees and the general public. This message was heard as far south as Carolina, as far west as Chicago and as far east as Halifax.