

fire that it might be roasted for his benefit, and the grateful Indra translated the animal to the moon. Some people have strained their eyes and their imagination and they think they can see him there.

These rabbit, moon and egg stories have been so mixed up in the minds of people of more recent days, that children in Germany are sent out early on Easter morning to find rabbits' eggs, and they really think that the Easter rabbit brings the beautiful colored eggs with which they are so delighted.

"Puritan"

Reacting

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The machine with the improved roller gear—a time and labor saving invention, exclusive with the "Puritan."

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"Puritan" Washers take all the work out of washday. Write us if your dealer does not handle the "Puritan."

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What the Farm Home Needs

Some few weeks ago, President Roosevelt inaugurated a commission in the United States to ascertain what were the chief needs of the farm home of to-day. On this commission appeared only the names of men. The investigation which President Roosevelt is attempting, concerns the women of the farm first of all, and not a woman represented on the board of commission!

Following this announcement, the management of Good Housekeeping, one of the most admirable magazines for women published in America to-day, has instituted an investigation on its own account, which will be most searching in its scope.

A set of questions has been prepared which will bring out a volume of data far beyond anything hitherto attempted in the field of the farm family, a human literature of the richest and most varied kind. The immense value of such data can readily be understood from every point of view.

This will be the first opportunity of the farm women of America to make their voices heard as a unit in a great cause that of their own emancipation from conditions which hamper their happiness, the best development of their home life, and especially of their children.

Following the Inquiry will be the choice of a National Commission of Women.

A few weeks will be required in which to inaugurate this great campaign.

The Good Housekeeping National Inquiry will supplement the work of President Roosevelt's Commission as nothing else could do. The newest and best developments in the farm home and the life of the family will be set forth to stimulate the interest and the ambition of the farm women, and call out the free expression of their desire and hope.

Following the announcement of its investigation, Good Housekeeping publishes the following article by Prof. Charles W. Burdett, in its February issue. As we think it will be of much interest to our readers, we publish this paper in full.

My personal experiences based upon a life largely spent in the country, do not give the prominence to isolation that most observers have been inclined to emphasize. A stranger in the city is usually more isolated than one in the country. I am ready to admit, however, that some of the old time isolation does exist yet; but I do insist that modern conveniences,

better modes of living and a freer commingling with other people have done a great deal towards the elimination of this objection to farm life.

ISOLATION IN THE COUNTRY

Before the telephone was known, before the free delivery of mail was introduced, and before even the women's magazines and the daily papers were generally available, there was much isolation. But the isolation of to-day is not the solitude of the dunghill of yesterday. I have seen more cheer, more real joy and happiness and more true fellowship mixed up among women who live in the so-called lonely homes, than among women of the city.

Nor does living in the country narrow. The charge that in going from city to country is to give up freedom, friends and social development, is untrue. What follows is a change of point of view. The very things so much prized in the city give way to more important duties, richer in feeling and deeper in satisfaction. There follows not less of freedom but more of liberty and independence; not fewer friends but more faithful and true companions; not less of social advantages but a redirected notion of social joys—a new outlook showing the real meaning of social activity and womanly sympathy. The country woman meets with her neighbors just about as frequently as does her city sister, and if she desires to increase the number of such visits it is within her power to do so.

COUNTRY PLEASURES

The social standards of the city are taken, as a rule, from the leisure class; of the country, from the busy, working class. The leisure class of the country gives itself over to recreation and social activities as freely as the leisure class of the city; and the busy, enthusiastic workers of the country have just as much time for recreation and for interchange of social duties and requirements as the working class of cities and towns. Indeed, it may be said that if there is anything in favor of either, it is with those of the country; for there are many seasons of the year when neither farm duties nor home duties are especially pressing, a condition which enables both men and women to enjoy these opportunities to their limit.

UNDESIRABLE CONDITIONS

In many cases—in the majority of cases, perhaps—the opportunity of visiting neighbors and of spending an afternoon or evening with congenial friends, is not utilized. Many, how-

ever, do so; why not all? The fault is not of the environment, but of the people themselves. Good roads have opened up many possibilities of social intercourse, and in this direction more and more is sure to come. So long as birds and flowers and household duties are required, there is neither solitude nor isolation, especially if the mind has been trained to know how to make the most of these.

The secret of the whole thing is to give woman a better chance. In too many libraries a sitting room is a slave. She works too hard and too much. She must be content with old contrivances, with old appliances, while her lord and master indulges in new tools and machines as fast as they appear. Woman's emancipation begins when books and magazines are delivered by the mail carrier, when a library or a sitting room is fitted up, when water is piped into the house, when milk and butter are handled by the men or not at all, and when modern conveniences are made permanent fixtures of the home. When she has these things the home life is neither isolated nor barren.

The woman who never reads, who does not appreciate the society of birds, flowers and country people, who makes her work mere drudgery, finds isolation indeed a harsh reality, and her lot one of weary toil and a hardship. This woman might be better contented in a city flat. To a woman with great strength of character, with clear ideas and warm sympathy, who knows what she wants, isolation is not a burden.

(Continued next week.)

The Upward Look

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.—Psalm 19, 14.

Often, unconsciously, we sin against God. Our sin lies in the attitude of mind. While doing a kind act we may have thoughts that are ungenerous and which, although unspoken, strip our action in the sight of God, and thus make it what the apostle Paul meant when he said, "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor and though I give my body to be burned and have not love it profiteth me nothing."—(1 Cor. 13.3.)

Possibly we start out to do a worthy deed such as to raise money for our church. Before we are aware of it, our endeavoring to raise more money than some one else connected with the church, or with some other church, who is engaged in the same work. Thus unconsciously the devil mixes us as instead of our object being to raise money for the glory of God and the extension of His kingdom on earth, we are really endeavoring to gratify our selfish ambition to excel some one else and thus to pander to our self conceit. Sometimes, in relating to some friend or acquaintance what we have done on some occasion, we, without being aware of it, so color our words as to set forward too prominently the part that we played. While we think that we are telling just what took place we really are endeavoring to impress them with our own cleverness. The snare the devil sets for us are wonderfully concealed. Unless we pray for wisdom we may sin for days and weeks and months and years without it. In olden days, David realized his danger and in consequence we have the wonderful prayer that is our text this week. As we consider the words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart we feel like waiting very humbly before God.—I. H. N.



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