

Sunshine

The Grain Growers' Sunshine Guild

SUNSHINERS ALL

Please promise not to laugh when I tell you what I want this week. It's just that I would like you to choose pen names that don't begin either with A or T. I hate to hamper your originality in the choice of pen names but I have a reason.

Perhaps some of you remember that a long time ago I told you about keeping an indexed register of your pen names. Now the men-folk who made that register didn't know your fondness for names beginning with A or T or they would have allowed more space for these popular letters and less for some that do not meet with such general favor. If you keep on these two sections are going to be filled up long before the rest, so please touch on them lightly.

I have to acknowledge gratefully a letter from the Bethel Sunday School containing a contribution of five dollars. If it had come a wee bit earlier I could have made excellent use of it, but I have no doubt other equally deserving cases will come to our knowledge during the winter. However, as I said before, both in the matter of money and clothes, I would rather you would write to me for the names and addresses of people in need which I will gladly forward to inquirers.

Lastly, I want to tell you how much I enjoy all your letters and how glad I am to have you write to me on any of the problems of women.

I think perhaps the question raised by "Lorna Doone's" letter to "Urgent" has been pretty well threshed out and we might let it give place to other problems that confront women in their homes.

FRANCIS MARION BEYNON.

Address all correspondence to Francis Marion Beynon, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

I have received a letter from F. Bottomley, of Lloydminster, inquiring for a certain photograph of a group of Sunshiners which he sent us some weeks ago. I regret that as this photograph is not quite in keeping with the new character we have tried to give this department, it has been impossible to use it, but I am very sorry for the disappointment of the little folk who were looking for it.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM LORNA DOONE

Dear Sunshine:—I am sending a simple remedy for a bad sore throat that I think may be of help to readers of the Sunshine Page. Dissolve a level teaspoonful of baking soda in a cup of warm water and gargle the throat with it. Gargle the throat every half hour until relief is obtained. This remedy was given to a friend of mine by one of the most eminent physicians in Canada. He claims that it will cure even the deadly diphtheria if taken in time.

I was quite interested in the letter by Lasca some time ago in answer to the one I wrote on the subject of our fallen sisters. After I had read her letter I couldn't help wondering if Lasca was speaking from experience or if it is only a pet theory of her's that we should open our homes to them. I would really like to know if Lasca has ever had one of these girls living in her home.

When I wrote, I wrote from experience, not only from experience in my own home, but from what I have seen in my mother's home before I was married. When I was about 12 years old my eldest sister joined a religious organization whose chief object is to rescue poor fallen girls. She was heart and soul in the work and nothing would do but that mother must take one of the girls from the Rescue Home as soon as we happened to be without a help at home. I remember that mother was rather loth to consent to this at first, not because she was prejudiced against the girls at all, for she was just as much interested in the work as my sister, but we had a boy just growing up into manhood, he was about eighteen, and I know my mother was thinking about him. Well, the time came when we needed a girl and we had a girl from the Rescue Home. Mother's fears were soon confirmed for the girl had only been in the house three days when she found a chance to make improper proposals to my

brother. He had sense enough to tell my mother about it and mother spoke to the girl kindly, gently and I know that she prayed with her. The same thing happened time and again, but mother didn't intend to give up trying to reform her without a big struggle. But at last something happened that she had to go and mother tried another girl from the Rescue Home. The second girl was just a repetition of the first and she had to go. Mother tried nine of the girls before she finally decided not to have any more girls of this kind working for her. Some of the girls were under twenty years of age, some of them were women nearly forty, but each of those creatures tried their utmost to tempt that poor brother of mine to sin. All that happened twenty years ago, but the same kind of thing is going on today.

Within the last few weeks something has come under my notice which has made me more firmly convinced than ever that the home is no place to try and reform these poor girls. Three weeks ago I went to visit a friend who lives in one of our large cities. My friend is a widow with five sons whose ages range from fifteen to twenty-five. She always keeps a maid as she has a large house and there is plenty of work to do. On my arrival at her home I was surprised to find she was without any help at all. She soon told me the reason. She had discharged her maid the day before I arrived and I was astonished to hear that she had actually discharged six girls during the past three weeks. Every one of those girls was a girl of bad character. She told me she had made a vow that so long as one of her sons remained with her she would never have a maid in the house again, but would do her own work. Of course she admitted that she had had nice good girls to work for her, but she said good girls were getting scarcer all the time.

Now all this sounds very awful, doesn't it? I have no doubt that Lasca will think I want to shove the poor girls lower down still. But that is not so. I believe I have just as much love and sympathy for my fallen sisters as Lasca has, but when we have boys and girls growing up in our homes I think we cannot do too much to keep them as far away from contamination as possible. Of course I don't mean to bring them up like hot-house flowers, or to keep them in ignorance of the things they should know. That is a totally different matter. I think the Salvation Army method of dealing with these girls is the ideal way. They build laundries and clothing factories and put the girls to work under the supervision of good Godly women who are devoting their lives to the work of uplifting fallen humanity. There in these workshops the girls are not only out of the way of temptation, but they are so situated that they cannot tempt others to sin, even if they had the desire to. If you have read the article on this subject in the August Delineator you will notice that one part of it reads as follows:—"Never take into your home in any capacity a girl or woman who has gone wrong and is trying to reform. The danger is too great. One bad girl will corrupt a hundred good girls, and this while the hundred good girls are striving to uplift the bad girl." The heads of institutions and homes for girls know this by experience and guard against it ceaselessly. I agree entirely with the writer of that article. Yours for peace, happiness and chastity in the home.

LORNA DOONE.

I am sure all of our readers will be interested in your able defence of your position in regard to this question.

F. M. B

FAVORS EXCHANGE

Dear Madam:—I think the column you mention called "Woman's Exchange" would be just splendid and would be very much appreciated by all the lady readers of The Guide. I know some who could make fancy work, knitting and plain sewing for very reasonable prices, also have some clothing that is nearly as good as new to sell for a small sum of money or exchange for work.

I remain, yours, etc.,

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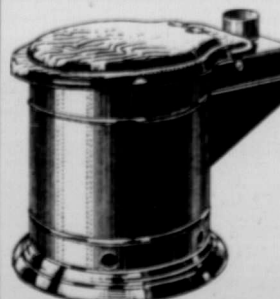
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