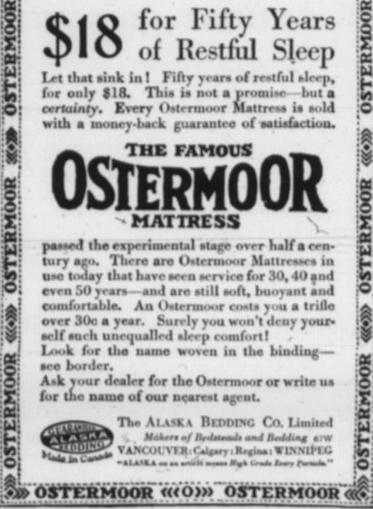
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# Education of the Farm Girl

By W. A. McIntyre, Principal Manitoba Normal School

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#### **Appreciation of Women**

Appreciation of Women Much has been written about the edu-cation of the farm boy. Not quite so much has been said about the training of the farm girl. Yet it is no faulty judgment that accords to the woman on the farm boy. Not quite so much has been said about the training of the farm girl. Yet it is no faulty judgment that accords to the woman on the farm the most important position in western society. She has, despite handi-caps and discouragements, exalted sweet-ness and goodness in a land too much given to greed and too careless of the niceties of existence. When the history of this land comes to be written the first place for bravery, devotion and patience will be given to the women pioneers of the prairie—the keepers of the lonely homes. But this is aside from the mark. We do not wish just now to exalt past achievement, but to enquire if the public school, and more particularly the rural reasonably be expected of it to prepare the girls on the farms, directly or in-directly, for the duties and opportunities It is impossible to approach such a

reasonably be expected of it to prepare the girls on the farms, directly or in-directly, for the duties and opportunities of life. It is impossible to approach such a problem in a general way, for the pre-paration required in one locality may differ fundamentally from that required in another, and there may be agencies co-operating with the school in one dis-trict that are inoperative in another. These points may be made clear by one or two illustrations. First, suppose it is a typical Canadian settlement of the olden type. The mothers can all sew, eook, make butter and cheese, take care of the garden, raise poultry and the like, they are intelligent and refined in manner and accomplishment. They are fond of reading, and many of them can play a musical instrument and sing. They are at home at a party or at a social gathering. They go to church, they take a pride in beautiful things, they take a pride in beautiful things, they associate with their children and are careful about their education. "All this and much more.

#### Where Help is Needed

Where Help is Needed Now in the second place, suppose it is what is known as a foreign settlement of the unfortunate type. All foreign settle-ments are happily not of this type. The women are unable to read. They have not the desire nor the means to procure beautiful things. They cannot keep their homes clean nor do they know the mean-ing of ventilation. Their cooking is vile. The children are dirty and their morals are corrupted. And so the picture might be continued. It surely is clear that the need in one case is not the same as in the other, and that the public school can render in one case a service that is not demanded in the other.

November 8, 1916

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#### The Homemakers' Work

The Homemakers' Work If the woman on the farm is to do her work wisely and well there are many things she must know and many things the must be able to do. Consider, for instance, what is included in a list such as this: Housekeeping, food, clothing, children, garden, stable, poultry-yard, dairy, hygiene, keeping of accounts, children, garden, stable, poultry-yard, dairy, hygiene, keeping of accounts, this: Housekeeping, food, clothing, course, does not include everything, yet each heading suggests the necessity possession of great skill in planning and performing. Moreover, a little con-sideration will make it clear that the good housewile is the possession of a stock of good habits represented by such you house the such as the such as the stock of good habits represented by such you house a cleanlines, thrift, economy, puttered. words as cleanliness, thrift, economy, patience, system, good taste and cheerfulness.

Now, if, with this thought in mind, Now, if, with this thought in mind, we picture again the community, in which the thrifty Canadian housewife dwells we can see that the school need give to this girls but little instruction in all that pertains to housekeeping. The mothers know more than young teachers just out of school. Of course the school may give some such instruction for edujust out of school. Of course the school may give some such instruction for edu-cational reasons. In the other com-munity described, the very best help that can be given to growing girls will have to do with housekeeping. The three R's will be taught as a matter of course, but the main part of instruction and training will have to do with practical matters. Even children of the junior grades can receive practical assistance. ~

## Some Practical Lessons

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