

The Country Homemakers

CONDUCTED BY FRANCIS MARION BEYNON

OBSERVING HALLOWE'EN

Many European countries have a yearly carnival in which old and young participate. It is a genuine play time in which, for one day at least, all social and economic barriers are broken down, much as they are in this country upon the occasion of a common calamity. People go forth in the streets masked and talk to anyone and everyone, regardless.

The nearest approach to this playfest here is Hallowe'en. From being in the early days of this country merely a time to play silly practical jokes it is developing into a public carnival and general holiday eve.

On October 31 this year the streets of Winnipeg were thronged, as never before, with people strolling up and down, an unusually large number of whom were in costume.

As many men were dressed in women's clothes and girls in men's clothes, every passing pedestrian, no matter how innocently attired, was subjected to a sharp and suspicious scrutiny. Much fun was occasioned by the tall angular men who were trying to trip along gracefully in skirts and long cloaks. A very quaint little person, so high, had donned a flour bag with slits in the sides for armholes, and the whole topped off with a big drooping hat which made him look exceedingly funny.

"THE DEVIL BABY"

"The Devil Baby" is the subject of a most astonishing article by Jane Addams in the current issue of The Atlantic Monthly. It seems that a story got about in Chicago that a "devil child" had been born to a young couple because of some wickedness on the part of the father—the nature of which varied in different versions—and that, not knowing what else to do with it they had taken it to Jane Addams of Hull House. People came in crowds day in and day out for weeks, demanding to be shown the "devil baby."

It was very difficult for the settlement workers to convince these morbid throngs that there was no such child. They had the story very pat. Some even declared they knew people who had been shown it upon the payment of a small fee. It is astonishing to read that not only the ignorant came, but numbers of professional people as well.

What wonder that the world so easily reverts to the savagery of war when such an absurd superstition can sweep thru a sophisticated city like Chicago and find believers on every corner.

HAVE YOU PRODUCE FOR SALE?

In connection with the problem of how to make the same old stationary salary accommodate itself to a family budget that is continually soaring the Women's Civic League of Winnipeg is anxious to get in touch with farmers having fresh eggs, butter and fowl for sale. That is they are anxious to do so if the farmers are willing to take a reasonable profit over the expense of production and shipping. But if they are going to demand the highest Winnipeg market price there is no possibility of negotiations between the producer and the consumer, since the latter would be merely going to a lot of extra trouble for nothing.

There are doubtless, numbers of farm women, who at present are obliged to take practically anything the local merchant chooses to offer and who often have to take it out in trade so that the merchant gets two profits out of it, who would be glad to get into direct communication with someone in the city to whom they could ship their produce direct and get paid in cash.

If these women will write to Mrs. R. H. Begley, 854 Home Street, Winnipeg, and tell her exactly what they have for sale, she will put them in touch with some city housewife who needs it.

EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN

Henry Ford announced the other day that the women in his factory in Detroit and in the branch factories in other cities were to be placed upon a wage equality with men. As the minimum wage for men in the Ford factories has for some time been five dollars a day, every woman in his employ will from henceforth be getting at least thirty dollars a week.

As Mr. Ford makes the statement that this change is the result of a talk with President Wilson, and as it happened on the eve of a presidential election it quite probably has some political as well as economic significance, but that won't be a very big fly in the ointment to the girls whose pay envelopes have been fattened, or indeed to any women who are anxious to see the principle of equal pay for equal work generally recognized.

FRANCIS MARION BEYNON.

HOW PHILANTHROPIES BEGIN

No charity in recent years has done more toward preserving the health and happiness of little children in New York City than the work of providing pure milk for them. The gay pavilions of the Straus Pure Milk Fund are familiar sights in the parks of the metropolis during the hot summer months and there is always a long line of thirsty children—and some grown men and women—shuffling up to the booths to get the fine creamy milk at a penny a glass.

And yet these pavilions are but one phase of an institution that has great laboratories—seventeen purchasing and over a hundred distributing—in a single city, and that has saved a notable life-roll in its comparatively few years of activity.

The sudden death of a fine cow, seemingly in good health, started Nathan Straus upon his splendid work. He was shocked to learn, upon investigation, that the cow had died of tuberculosis. The danger to his family, who had been drinking this milk, frightened Mr. Straus. He looked into the matter and found that little or nothing was being



QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BELGIUM

done to prevent the consumption of milk from tubercular cows.

Following this line of thought still further, he investigated the sources of milk for the poor, and learned that one of the chief causes of illness in the congested parts of great cities was due to poor milk. The scientists whom he consulted told him that Pasteurization was the remedy. He put that remedy into effect. Out of Nathan Straus's up-strung heart at that hour, his great milk charity was born. By sheer force of example New York and other important cities of the land also entered upon work of a very similar sort. Today the observation and control of a city's milk supplies are looked upon as a prime factor in the preservation of its health.

Where Henry C. Phipps Came In

Nathan Straus, first grieving over the loss of a valuable cow and then astounded at the truths that rested behind that loss, might have shown the way to the nation-wide campaign against tuberculosis that has been waged during the last half-dozen years. But the credit for that splendid fight against the most dread disease seems generally given to Henry C. Phipps, the Pittsburgh millionaire.

A chance conversation at Mr. Phipps's dinner table interested him in the brave fight that Lawrence Flick, a Philadelphia physician, was making, practically unaided, to bring the public to a realization that tuberculosis could be stamped out by a united effort. Phipps grew fascinated with the subject as one of his guests—the president of the State Board of Health of Pennsylvania—spread it before him. The next day he began the national campaign against tuberculosis by giving the Health Board head funds, to be secretly supplied to Dr. Flick.

Phipps is a modest man, and his connection with the new propaganda was not known for a long time. Eventually Dr. Flick demanded the name of the benefactor and, as it was revealed to him, the Phipps Institute for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis came into being. To-day almost every county

of the more densely populated States has its tuberculosis hospital, and even their smallest towns are making the campaign against the disease a matter of constant agitation and of action. In so great a State as New York it is promised that within five years every case of tuberculosis will be under observation and control. And the men and women who are leading the nation-wide campaign against the white plague draw much of their inspiration from Henry Phipps of Pittsburgh.

The Saint of New Orleans

Sophie Wright is a name revered in New Orleans. In the streets of the Crescent City men stood aside respectfully as she passed by and whispered to one another of the good she had done. Yet Sophie Wright was not a millionaire. She was first hardly known—an obscure teacher, a woman, terribly crippled, who never in her life has taken a step which was not agony or drawn a breath that was not a knife-stab of pain. Still the woman of New Orleans conquered these things. With the aid of her two stout crutches she went out into the streets of the old town more than twenty-five years ago and began to make her name a synonym for great good.

She had almost always been poor. When she finished her own education she went to work as a school-teacher, because of the dire necessity of self-support. Earning her living was never easy for her. But when, one evening, a young man who had been an acrobat in a stranded circus came to her and told her that he could get a good position if he only knew how to read and write, she began teaching him evenings, although he frankly confessed that he had no money with which to pay her.

A little while later he brought another young man—they were both hardly more than boys—and then there came another and still another, and soon there was a night-school in a somnolent city that had hardly even dreamed of such modern things.

In a quarter of a century that free night-school has grown to an attendance of more than two thousand, although only Sophie Wright could tell of the struggles that went into its making. Many hundreds of men who have since come to wealth and prominence have been educated in it and frankly confess that they owe their everything to the woman whom New Orleans has already signally honored in many ways and persists in calling "St. Sophie." But Miss Wright continued on the even tenor of her way, teaching in a private school by day that she might support herself; at night going to her great evening school, that still other boys—some of whom may also have been circus acrobats, perhaps—could come to her to find the keys of the paths that may bring them to permanent success.—Edward Hungerford in the Delineator.

FAMOUS ACTOR FOR SUFFRAGE

Sir Herbert Tree, the famous actor, who is playing in Boston in King Henry VIII, was converted to suffrage through his view of American women.

"I was especially struck with the part women are to play in the great international decisions of the future," said Sir Herbert recently in London.

"I had been against the suffrage movement, save in certain of its more obviously just demands, before I went to the States. Now I am absolutely in favor of women having the vote. This is because I feel that the women who create life would be averse to destroying it. I think that women will swell the chorus of 'Let there be no more wars.' . . . I think they will sing it in unison . . . And they have earned the right to be heard."

DIET FOR TWO-YEAR OLD

For a child two years of age or older, a typical day's diet should be similar to the following: For breakfast he should have juice of an orange, an apple or stewed prunes. This should be followed by a dish of cereal, bread and butter and a glass of milk. At ten o'clock he may have a glass of milk or small cup of bread and milk. Dinner for a child should be at noon and should consist of soup, a small amount of easily digestible meat, vegetable, bread and butter, and dessert, as baked apple, rice pudding or custard. During the afternoon he may again have a glass of milk or bread and milk. The evening meal should be light and consist of milk toast, bread and milk or thick soup with bread and butter. A little jam, jelly or other light dessert may be allowed.

Sugar may be allowed with the cereal. Simple desserts and cooked fruits may be well sweetened. When the child eats these sweets along with other foods the diet is not a one-sided affair.

We frequently hear that candy eating results in poor teeth, and this is true in a different way than we may realize. A child who eats quantities of candy usually has no appetite for the bone-forming foods, so that the body does not have material out of which to form strong teeth. Likewise, the other bony structures are liable to be affected.

—The Mothers' Magazine.