



Canadian Home Journal

EDITORIAL

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A NOTE OF WARNING IS SOUNDED BY THE COAL MAN.

In the midst of our enjoyment of soft summer breezes, flowers, bird-songs, and swiftly fleeting clouds between the blue of sky and sea, there comes a cruel, discordant note—sounded by none other than the coal man. Without any conscience whatever, he hurls at us a warning (disagreeable, but nevertheless beneficial), and immediately we shiver and shake in the memory of last winter's empty coal bins, frozen water pipes, plumbers' bills, etc. The picture is brought back all too vividly as the coal man warns: "Remember last winter." We certainly do. Then he emphatically asserts: "Next winter there will be less coal."

There is no use fooling ourselves, conditions as far as coal goes will be bad—very bad, next winter.

There is one way in which every consumer can assist in relieving the situation, states C. A. Magrath, whose entire time is given up to the interests of the people of Canada in seeing that they get the best and largest supply of coal possible, and that is in placing his coal order at once. Now—not to-morrow. Do not delay a day in this important matter, for if those in authority know the exact number of tons ordered by the Canadian people, they are then in a better position to secure that amount. They can do their work intelligently, not merely assuming that a certain amount will be needed, but the orders will actually be in for a definite quantity.

All through Quebec and along the Ottawa River the cutting and storing of wood is going on, and every one is asked to secure wood if possible instead of coal for next winter. This should help materially, and Ontario people should be as far sighted.

In short, the Fuel Controller's advice can be summed up as follows:

Secure as much wood as you can.

Place your order for coal with your local dealer at once.

Don't hound him. He wants to do his best for you. He can't run away—he has to stay and see it through.

Don't haggle over the quality of the coal. Take what you get and be thankful for it. Conditions are not normal—you cannot expect a normal supply of coal.

Have your furnace and pipes thoroughly cleaned before lighting. Now is the time to do this.

Do not light the furnace during the Summer, except when there is illness, if a cold spell should come. Make the best of it—much coal is wasted in starting and stopping a furnace, and every ounce will be needed for the Winter months.

WASTE OF FOOD IS NOW ILLEGAL. A new order has now come into force which makes it not only a sin to waste food, but a punishable offence. The legal authorities have power to take action when they are notified that anyone has been discovered wasting food. It is interesting to note

that municipalities who secure the conviction receive half the fine, while provincial officers securing the conviction receive half the fine for the Province.

LETTERS THAT SMILE. French women, we are told, strive to say good-bye to their soldiers with a smile upon their lips. Hearts may be breaking, but there is no tear to add one pang to the sorrow of the departing men.

Are we Canadian women as careful to always write "smiling" letters to the boys at the front? It is incomparably easier than the French woman's task. No matter how great our burdens here may be, don't add to theirs by telling them. Write letters that smile. Put in all the brightness and cheer that can be crowded into one small envelope, and send it on its journey.

HATS OFF TO QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY WAR WORKERS.

The splendid war work of the Levans Society of Queen's University has received much praise, not only from Canada, but congratulatory remarks have been coming from our United States sisters, and certainly the soldiers themselves cannot speak too highly of the work of these women in providing them with vermin-proof underclothing.

The work is carried on under the guidance of Miss Gordon, who is particularly interested in work done by English university women. The formula furnished by Miss Gordon was given to the "British Medical Journal" in May, 1917, by Captain Gunn, M.D., D.Sc., R.A.M.C.T. of Oxford.

Undervests are made of ordinary cheese cloth and dipped in a solution of 1½ ounces naphthalene and 1½ ounces of sulphur to one gallon of benzoline or gasoline. They are wrung out of this solution and hung up to dry when the gasoline evaporates, leaving the other ingredients in minute particles. These should not be shaken off. Fold the vests and wrap in grease-proof paper. These vests are worn next the skin and are not irritating, but afford an almost complete protection against vermin. Miss Gordon says: "Mrs. Gerrans of Oxford has made, dipped, and sent to the front many thousands of these undervests and has received many grateful letters testifying to their remarkable and unique efficiency.

No field comforts could be more welcome."

The dipping must be done out of doors and on no account must be undertaken where there is an open fire or even a lighted match or cigar or cigarette. In cold weather the rapid evaporation of the gasoline will permanently injure the skin and at all times some method should be devised for handling the cloth without coming into too direct contact with the gasoline. The making of these comforts in quantities offers profitable work for societies, and even the dipping of garments previously made should furnish an appreciable source of income to bodies engaged in raising war funds.

OUR AIM

To publish a magazine which will be worthy of Canadian womanhood.

To at all times keep both editorial and advertising columns clean, wholesome, and truthful.

To be a leader in thought, and a fearless speaker in all vital questions.

To, as far as possible, publish and reproduce the work of Canadians that our readers may become familiar with their own people, their own literature, and their own country, with its wonderful possibilities and glorious history.

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