

.....The HOME CIRCLE

WHO BIDS FOR THE CHILDREN?

Who bids for the children? Body, and soul, and brain? Who bids for the little children— Young, and without a stain? "Will no one bid?" said the children, "For our souls, so pure and white, And fit all for good and evil, The world on their page may write?"

"We bid," said Pest and Famine, "We bid for life and limb; Fever, and pain, and squalor Their bright young eyes shall dim; When the children grow too many, We'll nurse them as our own, And hide them in secret places, Where none may hear their moan."

"And I'll bid higher and higher," Said Crime, with a wolfish grin, "For I love to lead the children Through the pleasant paths of sin. They shall swarm in the streets to pilfer, They shall plague the broad highway, Till they grow too old for pity, Just ripe for the law to slay."

"Give me the little children, Ye rich, ye good, ye wise, And let the busy world spin round While you shut your idle eyes; And your judges shall have work, And your lawyers wag the tongue, And the jailers and policemen, Shall be fathers to the young."

"Oh, shame!" said true Religion, "Oh, shame that this should be! I'll take the little children— Oh, give them all to me! I'll raise them up in kindness From the mire in which they've trod— I'll teach them words of blessing And lead them up to God."

I QUIT.

I followed Him, in the morning dim, Along the way that awful day, Watching the pain of Him; But I heard a yell from the depths of hell, Out of the yawning pit— I turned away, I couldn't stay, I quit, I quit, I quit!

I heard a jeer, I heard a cheer, I saw Him stagger up, Up to the tree—the tree, 'Til me! And I saw Him taste the cup. They laughed—they laughed, the soldiers chafed, The hoodlums showed their wit; I couldn't share it—I couldn't bare it, I ran—I quit, I quit!

I saw through clouds, I saw through crowds, I saw my Saviour die. Mine eyes are dim when I think of Him. Oh, where—oh, where was I? Lo, I was safe, a coward wail, Safe in the devil's mitt; I hid away that awful day— I quit, I quit, I quit!

Why did I leave them, why did I leave Him, Why did I leave my Lord? Why did I leave Him, why did I grieve Him. When a word might joy afford? That's the refrain that racks my brain As here in my cell I sit; "Why did I leave Him, why did I grieve Him?" But I quit, I quit, I quit!

STUBTOE LAND.

How would it be to steal away, When sunny is the weather; And leave the town, all dull and brown And jog along together; Down the road in the old-time way, By lanes and fields a-smiling, Until we came to Stubtoe Land, Now isn't the thought beguiling? It seems to me 't would be so good To go where nothing is hurried. Where clanking bells and all that tells Of strife is dead and buried; To just forget the whistle's screech And things that's irritating, And where the style of clothes you wear Don't indicate your rating, I think, don't you? this dim and roar Just makes a fellow wonder If all those things he used to know Still live in Old Back Yonder. I'm not dissatisfied with life, And mind, I'm not fault finding, But how would it seem to forget, just once, This everlasting grinding?

How would it be to drop the mask That we're forever wearing, And be ourselves in Stubtoe Land Back of the Hills of Caring? To follow the barefoot trail along, By lanes and fields a-smiling, It seems to me it would be so good Now isn't the thought beguiling?

CONSTANCY.

One of the great requisites for success in our undertakings is constancy or perseverance, which may be said to signify perseverance persisted in regardless of the obstacles and trials it encounters on the way. It calls for a mastery over self, even at the cost of martyrdom to one's own feelings if the circumstances of the ordeals one has to meet exact it. It is the sure presage of final victory as long as one is faithful, for even if one has not succeeded in achieving the end of his endeavors he has still triumphed by his victory over self.

Constancy has a part in everything that is good and noble—in all the virtues, therefore, and is the sign of their life and the assurance of their power. Once constancy fails, the qualities of strength and resolution, determination and energy disappear. Constancy may be said to be a summary of many virtues which, united and kept well together by the power of the will controlling and directing them, produce the success that is desired. In every undertaking the virtue of constancy must be found if success is to be looked for. It is, next to the undertaking itself, the most important consideration. While constancy is requisite for success in all undertakings, it is particularly necessary in spiritual ones. This we are shown in Holy Writ, "He that shall persevere unto the end, shall be saved." It continues and says in another part, "No man putting his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God," and it exhorts that we be faithful unto death and we shall receive the crown of eternal life. It was this constancy that the saints showed in their prayers, their watchings and fastings. It was this constancy that the martyrs exhibited before their judges and executioners. It is this virtue that we must all strive to have and increase in us should we hope to be their worthy followers and to have something of their spirit in our lesser virtues and smaller trials and sufferings, in the hope that we will rise to greater things in time and be ready to meet even the martyr's death should occasion ever demand it of us. "He that conquers self is greater than he that conquers nations," but it is only after a long campaign of self conquest in many things that one can be said to be as constant as that—Bishop Colton in Catholic Union and Times.

WOMEN WE LOVE.

"I'll tell you what her charm is," said the enthusiastic girl, "It's sympathy. If you meet her this week and you casually mention that you've been trying to match a sample of gray cloth, when you see her next week she'll say: 'Oh, by the bye, did you match that sample?' "It has the most astounding effect on one—this way she has of remembering the trivial things you have said. It bolsters up one's self-respect and makes one feel that she takes a real interest in such little affairs. "As for the large things you tell her, she simply remembers every detail of them, and draws you out greatly concerning them, and applauds you when you have taken a proper stand, and concedes with you when you haven't. "She pats you on the back in your successes and gives you little soft grasps of the hand when you have failed. "She's always optimistic, and she never says 'I told you so' nor 'It served you right.' She's the queen of confidantes—for, if you tell her anything that's indiscreet, she never mentions it again, and to all intents and purposes she has forgotten it. "She's a woman that I'd be willing to shop for, and now you know the full extent of my devotion for her and her virtues."—Rupert's Magazine.

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This cleansing process set in action by Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills means a thorough cure for biliousness, intestinal indigestion, torpid liver, kidney derangements and constipation.

It means a restoration of health, strength and comfort where there has been pain, weakness and suffering. It means a removal of the conditions which lead to backache, rheumatism, lumbago, Bright's Disease, appendicitis and diabetes.

Mrs. G. M. Smith, St. Catharines, Ont., writes: "It gives me pleasure to recommend Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. For some years I have been troubled with vertigo, defective circulation, and loss of appetite, followed by insomnia, and was miserable enough in different ways. Though I tried many medicines, none had the desired effect until I used Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. The first box gave relief, and a few more caused the old complaints to disappear entirely. Other members of the family have used Dr. Chase's remedies with the best results. I shall always have a good word to speak for Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, one pill a dose, 25 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

GIRLS, DO NOT MARRY FOR A HOME.

Home is a woman's real sphere, however much conditions and necessities have forced her into other and more extended ones. No true woman is indifferent to home and all that it means to herself and to others. The more truly womanly she is the more she appreciates and values it. But to marry for the home's sake is like buying a picture for its frame or valuing the binding of the book above the book itself. No one can make the home a more important thing in married life than the man one marries, and in no possible case can the home satisfy one if the husband fails. Love for the man one marries will make a home of an attic or the weather side of a hedge-row. But married life, where the home comes first and the husband second or a bad third, is a hideous travesty of what it was meant to be, and it can never draw anything but a blank in the marriage lottery. The girl who has married for a home has provided herself for the best of her days with a cage which she must halve with another being. The girl who marries for a home is as mistaken as the man who marries for a housekeeper. Both are oblivious of the real reasons for marriage, the highest and the best. Both put the home before the maker of it, and that leads to sure disappointment in the end. Marriage can hardly be a lottery in the case of these people. One could tell them so confidently beforehand that it will never draw anything in their case but a dreary blank.

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HINTS FOR THE HOME LIFE.

To take spots out of blue serge and generally refresh it, bathe with a sponge dipped in blue water, or use a brush instead of a sponge. Afterwards hang up the dress to dry. Choose eggs, for they differ greatly, not only in the inside, but on the outside also. Choose dull ones, as being the freshest, and brown ones as being the best flavored and having the largest yolks.

Chairs which are covered in American cloth should be rubbed over with beeswax and turpentine and thoroughly polished till dry. This process should quite remove the stickiness you complain of.

To whiten linen, to every ten gallons of water which you are going to use for washing, add a large handful of powdered borax. This will help to cleanse the clothes and at the same time will keep them beautifully clean.

When painting to an exact line without smearing beyond it, use a small paint brush, and lay along the line a sheet of tin. Having made the line in this way, the strip can then be painted with a wider brush and more paint.

The dripping from roast meat, the skimmings of soups, and rendered-down fat from meat trimmings, serve the same purpose when properly clarified as lard or butter. Keep mutton dripping for basting mutton and for frying fish and cutlets.

Very fine old lace can be beautifully cleaned by being sewn in a piece of clean linen and laid into oil all night. Next day boil gently for a quarter of an hour in soapy water and rinse thoroughly. Dip into starch (or gum) water, and pin out on a cloth to dry.

A heliotrope sachet is one of the best that is made, and imparts a most delicious scent to clothing. Make it thus: Mix together and pass through a coarse sieve half a pound of ground rose leaves, two ounces of powdered tonquin beans, half a grain of musk, and two drops of essence of almonds.

To scour boards, pipeclay and water mixed together until they form a thick paste, and spread over the part where there is a stain will take out the grease very soon. This is a foreign practice, and a very successful one. For simply making the boards a good color, and to keep them free from insects use the following mixture: A quarter of a pound of lime, three-quarters of a pound of sand to half a pound of soft soap. Lay this on the boards and scrub thoroughly. Wash off with clean tepid water, and make as dry as possible.

EASY CARE OF SILVER.

Solid silverware, also plated goods, grows dark and becomes tarnished in a very short time when exposed to the air, and even when put away in a dark place. This is especially the case where hard coal is used in the house or neighborhood, as the sulphur in the coal, liberated by heat, is sure to stain all the silverware within reach. This annoyance can be entirely prevented by painting the silverware with a soft brush dipped in alcohol in which some collodion has been dissolved. The liquid dries immediately and forms a thin, transparent and absolutely invisible coating upon the silver, which completely protects it from all effects of the atmosphere, etc. It can be removed at any time by dipping the article in hot water. This recipe has been in use for a long time in the large establishments in London, where most of the goods in the showcases are protected in this manner.

CULTIVATE PATIENCE.

Patience is one of the most difficult of the virtues to cultivate. There are so many things to worry about. But God is able to defend us against the little worries as well as to sustain us under the stress of the great sorrows of life. The trouble is that we think them too unimportant to take to Him in prayer, and soon we become burdened with the little worries and good nature and Christian conduct suffer. It is always difficult to be courageous in little things. We may be able to rally to heroic conduct under extreme cases. But what we need is the heroism of the moment, the courage to retain composure and a perfect equilibrium when

tortured by the little annoyances and disappointments. God is able to help in little things as well as in great ones. Remember that the storehouse of strength and courage is always full. All that is necessary is that we should seek a new supply at the proper place.

A CHANGE OF SCENE.

A charming old lady who was socially inclined, but who was kept rather closely at home by the pressure of many cares, used sometimes to exclaim, "I do just love to drink out of somebody else's teacups!"

A fitting pendant to this agreeable anecdote is another of a little girl whose supper invariably consisted of bread and butter, milk and apple sauce—a monotonous diet, of which she frequently complained.

One day she was asked out to supper at a neighbor's. At a late hour the hostess found that no apple sauce had been prepared for the little guest, so she sent one of the maids to the child's house for a supply.

The little girl, on returning to her mother, was enthusiastic about the delightful visit, and particularly about the "beautiful supper," when she had been allowed to pour milk and cream for herself from the daintiest little pitchers.

"Oh, oh! such good apple sauce, mamma; the best I ever tasted!"

CHILDREN'S GROWTH.

Until the age of eleven or twelve boys are taller and heavier than girls. Then girls for the next few years surpass the boys both in weight and in height; but the boys soon overtake and pass them.

The sons of non-laboring parents are taller and heavier than those of laboring parents. The heads of girls are a little rounder than those of boys, and always a little smaller.

It has been found that children grow but little from the end of November to the end of March; grow tall, but increase little in weight, from March till August, and increase mainly in weight and little in height from August to November.—London Tit-Bits.

SWITZERLAND AHEAD.

The Catholic press is, from a relative point of view, better developed in Switzerland than anywhere else. The number of Catholics amount to about 1,400,000; they support four Catholic German dailies, two Catholic French dailies, about sixty Catholic papers appearing several times a week, several Catholic weeklies and two Catholic literary and scientific periodicals. If we remember that Catholic journalism began in Switzerland only in the '60s of last century, we see that this handful of Catholic readers has called into life about two new Catholic papers a year.

COFFEE CUSTARD.

For the ordinary baked custard the proportion is one egg and one tablespoonful of sugar to every cup of milk, but the custard is much smoother if only the yolk of the egg is used. Three tablespoonfuls of strong clear coffee will flavor one quart of milk, and it may be colored more by adding a little caramel. Scald the milk, beat the eggs light with the sugar and add a pinch of salt. Add the milk, gradually to the eggs and sugar, stirring all the while. Strain, add the coffee and turn into custard cups. Put these in a pan of hot water and bake in a moderate oven for twenty minutes.

GERMAN SALAD.

One small head of cabbage, one large beet, six hard boiled eggs. Cut the cabbage as fine as you would for slaw; season with salt and pepper. Place this on a flat dish, pile it high and arrange around with alternating slices of hard boiled eggs and boiled beets. Do not stir the mixture with the vegetable and garnish with parsley. Pour a pint of rich cream mayonnaise dressing over the whole.

Butterfly Suspenders. A Gentleman's Brace, "as easy as none." 50c.

SIMPLICITY.

Simplicity is the crowning jewel of all virtues. Great messages, great truths, great discoveries and great events are ever simple in their elements. Simplicity makes the great nobler and lifts the obscure to places of eminence. It is the bright charm of innocent childhood and the radiant gem of the old and learned.

Contentment comes from making the very best of whatever you have, be it much or little.

Table with columns: SEVENTH MONTH 31 DAYS, July, THE PRECIOUS BLOOD, 1906. Rows list days of the month with corresponding feast days and saints.

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