

The Country Homemakers

Conducted by Francis Marion Beynon.

ON HIS SEVENTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY
I strove with none; for none was worth
my strife.

Nature I loved, and next to Nature, Art;
I warmed both hands before the fire of life,
It sinks, and I am ready to depart.
—Walter Savage Landor.

JOHN'S PIGS AND DADDY'S PORK

'Are these your own pigs,' I once asked
a boy on a farm who was proudly exhib-
iting the fat, sleek-looking hogs he
had raised.

He laughed good-naturedly. "They
are John's pigs," he said, "and daddy's
pork."

In that single sentence he summed up
the financial relations between a great
many parents and children on the farm.
This colt is Tommy's and that calf Mary's
until selling time, when everything belongs
to father. The queer thing about it is
that some of these parents will, during
the season, give their children more
spending money than the price of the
animal, but they have the satisfaction
of making them ask for it and explain
what they intend to do with each cent
and what they did with the last. They
forget that young people are no fonder
than grown men and women of having
their money doled out to them with an
interrogation mark after it. It won't,
as some parents fondly imagine, make for
righteousness to part with it in this way
for if they want to indulge in wickedness
the means will be found to avoid the
interrogation truthfully or otherwise.
It won't make for dignity either, for to
a very sensitive person it is extremely
humiliating to have to account for every
cent. But the point that I want to
bring home just now is the equity of it.
You have used the labor of these young
men and women to swell your wealth
and save you from engaging outside
help. Have they not a moral right to
some reward?

I know certain parents who think that
by conferring on their children the gift of
life they have acquired the right to levy
a tax on all their activities for a large
portion of their lives. But did you ever
stop to think that if your children could
have been consulted about the matter
they might have chosen to be born into
a very different environment and far
more comfortable circumstances than you
can give them? Also, most mothers
will tell you that the bearing and raising
of a child is more pleasure than pain.
Why then, should they claim that the
child is so deeply indebted to them for
the service?

Let us look at the matter squarely in
the face and try to be fair. These child-
ren are distinct individualities with minds
and wills of their own and the right to
exercise them. Let us make them our
partners with a right to know why they
do this and that rather than our slaves
from whom we demand unquestioning
obedience. Let us give them a fair re-
ward for their services and wise counsel
as to the spending of it so that when they
are sent out to fill their vocation as
citizens they may be strong and prudent
and independent, not rudderless ships
suddenly cast adrift on a sea of new and
strange experiences.

The only way to learn to measure the
value of money is by the sweat of the
brow in earning it, but what about the
young people who work for it and find that
the size of the reward depends upon
whether or not dad's supper has agreed
with him?

It is my private opinion that if parents
would give the nearly grown up boy and
girl one or two head of stock to be looked
after and cared for by themselves with
the privilege of disposing of them as they
please there would not be nearly so much
weeping and wailing over the fact that
the young people won't stay on the farm.
They won't so long as the money they
have fairly earned by good hard work is
handed out to them grudgingly with the
demand to know what they need of a
new suit of clothes or a new blouse, while
in town they see the possibility of having
their own money to spend exactly as they
please.

FRANCIS MARION BEYNON.

NOTE—All correspondents desiring
an answer by mail should enclose a
self-addressed and stamped envelope.

WHERE TO SELL FEATHERS

Dear Friend:—My husband takes The
Grain Growers' Guide and I want to
tell you that I enjoy reading the Home-
makers' page very much. I haven't a good
enough education to write a letter for
print so I will just write to you and send
five cents for the little book entitled,
"How to Teach the Truth to Children."

Also, can you tell me any place where
farmers' wives can sell feathers? Wishing
you every success, I remain, Yours truly
Mrs. E. M.

I hope you will forgive me for printing
your letter but you forgot to enclose the
five cents for the booklet. I unfolded
the letter very carefully and shook and
shook the envelope but could find no
money. You write a splendid letter
anyway so you shouldn't mind.

The Gold Medal Furniture Manu-
facturing Co., 591 Henry Avenue, Win-
nipeg, buy freshly plucked feathers, but
a sample should be sent. For first class
feathers they pay 7 cents for chicken
feathers, 20 cents for duck, 30 cents for
grey goose and 40 cents for white goose,
without any wing or tail feathers.

F.M.B.

SUGGESTS NEEDLEWORK CLUBS

Dear Miss Beynon:—In answer to
your letter asking me to say what I
think about getting up clubs, I will say
I am in favor of clubs. It is one way,

and I don't think that a place to talk
about everyday matters. Now I have
written a rather mixed up letter, but I
hope you will be able to understand it.
I should like to know what you think of
it, also how I could bring these meetings
about. I have so little time to visit
around and talk it over and now the
harvest is coming I will be still more
hurried. I would like to get subscriptions
for The Guide but I have no time; we
think The Guide a very fine paper. I
also believe in Homesteads for women;
I think the laws concerning property
very unjust in the West for women.
I believe in telling children the truth
and would like a little booklet on how
to tell the children the truth about them-
selves. I always turn to Country Home-
makers page, there I see some fine letters
about things. I have a few household
hints I will send, they may be of use to
some one. Wishing you all success in
your good work.

Mrs. A. P.

Knee Hill Valley.

You will notice that I have not been
trying to hurry the formation of women's
clubs during the summer months as I
knew you were all too busy, but as soon
as you are ready for them I will be glad
to forward to any of our readers a tem-
porary constitution to aid them in forming
the club and I will be glad to have you
exchange notes through this page. In-



An Irish Suffragette arrested for shouting "I represent Tipperary!" during Mr. Lloyd George's
speech at Kennington Theatre, in London, on July 13. It is to be hoped that these
two stalwart men succeed in getting the old lady to jail.

farmer's wife can have a chance to see
her neighbors and talk about the many
things that interest her and them. I
have been wondering how it would do
to have a home sewing club in a neigh-
borhood. You see so many farmers' wives
have so much work to do that they get
behind in their sewing or some other
work and it is almost impossible to get
caught up again.

Do you not think it would be nice for
the women to meet once in two weeks,
on an afternoon, at one neighbor's and
then another's, and do up this work that
has got behind? They could do rug-
making one time, or quilt piecing another
time, or quilting or patching and so help
one another, also have a rule that only
two kinds of cake be used at one time
so there would be no great amount of
preparation for the meeting. They could
talk over their different ways of doing
things and so make it easier all around
and also have a nice visit.

I am living in a fairly well settled
place but the women get around very
little. When they meet at church it is
the only chance of talking over things

deed, it might help for each club to
appoint a correspondent to report the
work to The Guide so that you could know
exactly what other clubs are doing.

F. M. B.

FAVORS FRANKNESS WITH CHILDREN

Dear Miss Beynon:—Being an inter-
ested reader of The Grain Growers'
Guide, and especially of the Home-
makers' columns, I have taken no little
interest in your discussions of "How to
teach the Truth to Children." I cer-
tainly agree with you that this subject
is given too little notice in the average
homes and commend you on your brave
stand for light and liberty re the children.
I enclose five cents for which kindly for-
ward me by return of mail one copy of
your booklet, "How to teach the Truth
to Children."

Wishing The Guide and Country
Homemakers' Circle every success and
with all kind wishes for the editor, I
am, Yours faithfully,

"HIAWATHA."

When I think of the shock to childish

sensibilities of learning the truth, as so
many of them do learn it, I feel that I
can hardly wait for the time when all
mothers feel as you do.—F.M.B.

A JUST COMPLAINT

Francis Marion Beynon:—I see in The
Grain Growers' Guide that by sending
you five cents I can secure a copy of a
pamphlet "How to tell the Children the
Truth." That isn't correct, I know, but
that's the gist of the name. I sent for
this book and another once before and
also for some paper bags for paper bag
cooking experiments, enclosing ten cents,
but guess something must have befallen
the letter—no, I remember seeing it
printed in The Guide but I never received
the books or bags. Nevertheless, as
I am very anxious for one of the books
am enclosing five cents in stamps and
hope I may receive one of them.

I enjoy the household department of
your paper very much and find many
helpful hints.

SASKATCHEWAN.

I am sorry that you did not receive
the books before but assure you that
we will do our best to remedy the fault
this time. If you don't receive this one
let me know and I will have another sent.
F. M. B.

PUZZLED ABOUT THE WAY

Dear Miss Beynon:—I enjoy reading
the Sunshine corner and the Home-
makers' page. I have two boys and two
little girls. My eldest is 10 years old.
I am one of the many mothers who are
puzzled as to which is the proper way
to explain the truth to the children.
I am enclosing five cents, for which
please send me booklet entitled, "How
to teach the Truth to Children." Wishing
you every success in your page.

LONELY MOTHER.

It is a difficult matter but I think the
little booklet will start you on the right
road.—F.M.B.

Green Tomato and Pepper Relish

Chop finely one peck of green toma-
toes, three large onions, six green pep-
pers with the seeds removed, boil them
three minutes in two quarts of weak
vinegar, drain and turn into glass jars.
Scald three quarts of vinegar with two
cupfuls of brown sugar, one cupful of
white mustard seed, one tablespoonful
each of cinnamon, cloves and allspice,
three tablespoonfuls of salt, and one
teaspoonful of celery seed. When this
is boiling, pour it over the chopped in-
gredients and seal the jars.

Green Tomato Sweet Pickle

Slice thinly one peck of green toma-
toes and cover them with one gallon
of water mixed with one cupful of salt.
The next day drain this thoroughly.
Heat two quarts of vinegar with three
cupfuls of brown sugar, one teaspoonful
of alum and two tablespoonfuls of mixed
spices in a bag. With a skimmer plunge
a few of the tomatoes at a time into
this boiling vinegar and put them im-
mediately into hot glass jars. Fill them
with the boiling liquid and seal.

Swiss Eggs

Use for these delicacies the small indi-
vidual brown enamel shirring dishes.
Have the dishes well buttered and cov-
ered in the bottom with a thin layer of
minced ham and parsley; break an egg
into each, sprinkle with a little pepper
and cover lightly with grated cheese and
grated bread crumbs. Cook in a hot
oven until the eggs are set. Serve in the
dishes, garnishing each portion with a little
crisp watercress.

In her new book Miss Solomons tells
an amusing story of a cook in the
family of a Berkeley suffragist, who was
offered a half day off, that she might
vote at her leisure. She thus addressed
her astounded mistress:

"No, ma'am! No holiday for me on
'lection day. Not much. I aint goin'
to let my doin's prove all them silly
folks right what have said that the women
would neglect their house and their
work, to go and vote! Not much, ma'am!
I'm goin' to put in a good, full day of
work, I am, and come back and git
dinner just the same as I allus do—and
vote, besides!"