

The Country Homemakers

There is a Little Garden I Pass By

(The Boston Transcript)

There is a little garden I pass by,
Set in the heart of the great busy town.
The restless crowds go surging up and down,
They love my garden and the patch of sky
That bends above. 'Laughter, a stifled sigh,
Mean life to them; but beauty smooths the frown
Of care, and even passing mirth will drown
Its gladness in a hush of ecstasy.

Things half forgot crowd into memory,
Green country lanes; pools, ringed about with moss,
Holding the magic glory of the sky;
The lure of shining roads; a wind-stirred tree
Scattering its blooms to earth—a fragrant loss.
God gave us beauty lest our souls should die!

—Anna M. Anderson.

Mother's Holiday

There are no indications that there will be help for the farm woman for this fall's work. She will probably have much heavier work than she has ever had before and in all probability, since we must consider the years that have gone before and have sapped her strength, she will come to that extra work less prepared physically than she has ever been before. Would it not help her if she took a week or two of holidays in the middle of the summer before the heaviest work really began? Farm women do not, as a rule, consider that holidays are a necessary niche in the scheme of life and efficient life. They go on year after year working in the same kitchen, seeing no change of scenery. Even the most beautiful farm home in the world or the best equipped cannot take the place of a yearly holiday.

But this year is an extraordinary year. Something has to be done to enable the farm woman to get through this year's work. As stated above she cannot get help. Few will instal modern conveniences this summer when the cost of everything is so high. The only remaining thing is for the woman to pack up her grip, board a train to a change of scenery and forget home for two weeks. She will come home a new woman and will be better able to attempt the work of the fall. There are many places of interest to go on the prairie that are not so very far away from home. Choose one and plan to spend two weeks there in the early part of July. Every farm woman owes it to herself, to her work and to her particular place in her country's crisis. Let our farm women take every precaution to spare themselves what they can. We cannot do without them now.

She shouldn't pause to think of father and the children. Father probably backed before she went to live with him and to do it again would be as good as a trip to town. The older children are able to look after the chickens and keep the weeds out of the garden. The men would be glad to do the milking if they thought the tired look would leave her face. Things will get done some way. Let her pack up her clothes the first of July and take a holiday. A fortunate thing about taking a holiday this year too, is that she does not have to think about new clothes. New clothes are not the fashion with the best people nowadays. Last year's suit is much more pleasant to look at than this year's styles, and besides she is really in the fashion to wear her old clothes. That really takes the last worry away, except perhaps the baking. Wouldn't the children love to eat baker's bread for a couple of weeks and wouldn't father love her bread when you came home again. Take my advice and have a holiday, one week anyway, but preferably two.

Conducted by Mary P. McCallum

National Registration

Plans for the registration of the man and woman power of Canada are proceeding apace. The national registration cards have been received by the various registrars and arrangements are being made for their distribution forthwith. On Saturday, June 22, every man and woman in Canada must appear before the registrars and fill out the national registration card. The registration blank for women provides food for much thought. After asking name, whether married or single, nationality, etc., the question is asked, Do your health and home permit you if required to give full-time paid work? Do your circumstances permit you to live away from home? What is your main occupation? If in business as an employer, state number of employees. If an employee state name, business and address of employer. If full-time voluntary worker state name of society served. State particulars of each if you have (a) trade or profession; (b) degree, diploma or certificate; (c) special training. State length of experience if any in (a) general farming; (b) truck farming; (c) fruit farming; (d) poultry farming; (e) dairy farming. Can you drive a tractor, a motor, a horse, harness a horse, do farm cooking. Considering your health, training and experience, and the national needs, in what capacity do you think you could serve best? Do your circumstances permit you to give regular, full-time service without remuneration?

Rural School Nurses

The Department of Education in Saskatchewan is appointing two rural school nurses for two of the inspectorates with the idea of finding out exactly what need there is for their services and how much they will be able to accomplish. Another dear objective of the Women Grain Growers is about to be realized. At each convention they have advocated that there should be rural nurses and that the rural school children should receive a health examination. One or two municipalities in Saskatchewan have a municipal doctor and have some medical inspection of school children. Miss Jean Brown, supervisor of school hygiene for Saskatchewan, has shown that there is a need for the health inspection of school children in Saskatchewan. The recent survey, conducted under the directorship of Dr. Foght, still further disclosed the need of inspection. The rural schools in the province, and for that part in many parts of the prairie, are often without proper ventilation and sanitary arrangements. The children in need of medical attention often do not receive it because the teacher is not capable of diagnosis, as neither is the parent. It is anticipated that only good results will follow this experiment and The Guide looks to the day when health inspection of all school children is in a measure at least, compulsory.

The Kansas Penitentiary

In Manitoba we are facing questions as to how to care for the various types of wards who come into the charge of the Province by the gateway of delinquency. These are of all ages and of both sexes and up to the present the methods used and the results attained have found few to defend them. There came recently into our hands a sheet used by the Kansas State Penitentiary as a word of welcome to those who from time to time visit that institution. The spirit is so worthy that we reproduce it below in full.

The Kansas State Penitentiary

Its Vital Mission—Rebuilding Men and Rehabilitating Women.

Requiring—Faithful co-operation of the body with the builders.

The Material Essentials—Occupation,

Religious Instruction, Education, Recreation and Rewarding Service.

Developing—Healthier Physically, Stronger Mentally, More Self-Reliant, Cleaner Morally, Hopeful and Confident Men and Women.

So they may say, and say well, "At evening my burden seemed heavy, in the morning I looked upon the Imperial Sun, glorious and beautiful. And I said, behold; there is now for me a new and perfect day."

Pertinent Gossip About Us

(By One of Us)

Our Number—There are 811 of us in this place. Six hundred and ninety-four of us are men, and 117 are women on the Industrial Farm.

Our Color and Race—Five hundred and eighty-four of us are white. One hundred and eighty-one of us are black. Forty-one of us are Mexicans. Five of us are Indians.

The Real Home Will Help Save—Proper Home Influences were lacking with 99 per cent. of us when we fell.

Illiteracy—Ten per cent. of us could not read or write when sentenced.

Miscellaneous Education—Twenty per cent. of us were scarcely able to read and write.

In Early Life—Sixty-seven per cent. of us were under the age of 30 years when our offence was committed.

Work Necessary—Just half of us were idle when we transgressed.

The World's Drawback—Intoxicating liquor brought 77 per cent. of us here.

Where We Belong—Only half of us were citizens of Kansas prior to the commission of our offence.

One of the Links—Four hundred and fifty of us voluntarily attend Sunday School each Sunday.

We are Learning—Four hundred of us attend Night School regularly.

Better Education—Thirty-five of us are taking the Agricultural College Course in the Night School.

Our Outside Work—Eighty-two per cent. of our number who have been paroled are in the great Life School outside and doing their work well.

Our Love of Country—We subscribed \$300 to the Red Cross, and bought Liberty Bonds as well. As many of our number as could do so have gone into the trenches "somewhere over there" and are giving good account of themselves.

What We Are Doing and Producing

Mining—Fifty-five thousand tons of coal per year.

Making Twine—Three million pounds yearly.

Farming—Sixty-five thousand pounds meats, 32,000 gallons milk, 3,000 bushels potatoes, 120,000 pounds vegetables yearly.

Coal—We use 57 tons daily for our power. We shipped last year 675 cars of coal to State Institutions. We shipped 175 cars of cinders.

Power—We produce 630 horse-power in our central power plant. We use 900 amperes electric current daily.

Farm—We use all the farm products on our own table.

Twine—We shipped 150 carloads of twine for use of Kansas farmers.

Brick—We shipped 168 carloads of brick to State Institutions. Used at home 22 carloads.

Meals—Two thousand six hundred and fifty meals are served each day at nine different hours, beginning at 5.30 o'clock a.m. and ending at 11.30 p.m.

Our Great Need

The people of Kansas to know all about us and our necessities, our problems and our hopes, our success and our heart-breaks, and then to be to us as one Kansan to another.—The Statesman.

Not for Prairie Girls

Miss Gertrude M. Perry, International Service Secretary, of Victoria, B.C., who has charge of the placing of the girls on the fruit farms in B.C.,

states that there is no need for Manitoba and Saskatchewan girls going to the fruit valleys. Miss Perry's letter which was printed in the press last week says:—

"It is most decidedly our wish to discourage girls from other provinces, particularly Manitoba and Saskatchewan, which are both too far away to make certain that girls can even make their expenses if they come out here to pick fruit. There will not be a reduced rate on any of the lines for those coming into the province for this work, consequently, it would be impossible for them to make their expenses, and we should be greatly obliged if your paper will give this publicity. While we will require a large number of workers this season, we do not wish to have girls come such a distance and perhaps be disappointed in a financial way.

"The rate of pay for this work in all districts has been increased, but would not be sufficient unless they were to remain for at least three months, and coming from Manitoba, I doubt that even that time would cover it.

"If anyone should care to take the trip and make something toward defraying their expenses, we can place them, but it is not our wish to assume any responsibility in the matter."

The Spires of Oxford

I saw the spires of Oxford

As I was passing by,

The grey spires of Oxford

Against a pearly grey sky.

My heart was with the Oxford men

Who went abroad to die.

The years go fast in Oxford,

The golden years and gay,

The hoary colleges look down

On careless boys at play.

But when the bugle sounded war

They put their games away.

They left the peaceful river,

The cricket field, the quad,

The shaven lawns of Oxford

To seek a bloody sod.

They gave their merry youth away

For country and for God.

—Miss Winnifred M. Letts.

Her Own Book-keeper

I should like to explain my way of keeping accounts. I started a year ago to keep my own books. I found it to be a very satisfactory way so I have continued it. I used to keep my own books when we lived in the city but I forgot about it for a while when we moved to the farm. Now I am trying to see if I can keep it up. I have one page each for my husband's, the children's and my own clothes. The grocery accounts I keep separate. I have a page for the bills we have to pay, one for what my husband earns, one for what we buy and sell, a page where I keep accounts of the number of pounds of butter or cream we sell, a page for what butter we use, a page for the eggs I sell (I made \$50 last year with eggs and \$50 this spring), a page for the eggs we use, a page for the eggs I set and the little chickens that hatch, a page for what it costs to keep them and a page to keep count of the total amount of eggs I get during the week. I add my accounts every month. I think it is an excellent advantage to keep my own accounts. When I wish to know the price of anything I just turn to my book and find the page. It was very handy when we had to make out our income tax form as we did not have to guess. We knew from the accounts just what income we had. I think it is a very good business for a woman to do her own shopping and keep her own accounts.—Mrs. M. Olson, Bruce, Alta.

Notice At

THE "Kansan" secretary and the Alberta as they intention of the province will be the minutes of the meeting of the southern in Calgary is 1 and that in E July 9 and 11 during the Cal By doing this to have the co much time for are able to at rates existing The secrets Women are present and the best the If enough sessions for to be arranged. this opportu cussing the her work will expects every and be on ha vention.

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