

A PAGE OF GENERAL INTEREST TO WOMEN READERS

Cynthia Grey's Mail-Box

[Correspondents are requested to make their inquiries as brief as possible, and to write on one side of the paper only. It is impossible to give replies within a stated time, as all letters have to be answered in turn. No letter can be answered privately.]

Who Knows One?

Dear Miss Grey—Does any one of the readers know any soldier boys of the 5th Battalion now in France? I have a friend who has been in France for nine months, he is having a rest in England now, so you know how happy I will be when the war is over. I know how to sympathize with those left behind.

Can you tell me what will take varnish out of white silk?
What day did February 15, 1938, fall on, also February 28, 1938, and January 28, 1937?
Will close for this time hoping to see this in print, and wishing you and all the readers a Merry Christmas. I remain,
A LONESOME VILLAGE MAID.

Dear Miss Grey—This is my second letter to the Mail-Box. While reading the letters of your page the other night I saw a letter from "A Friend of Timothy," which made me sympathize with her. The farm is not a place of idleness I'll tell you that, for I live on the farm myself. When a young couple start up and have nothing much to live on, it takes all the money they can make to live; they have to be at work all the time, and not be too well clothed at that. The townspeople laugh at some of the poor farmers who have to save every cent they make to live. If it were not for the farmers the wealthy people in towns would not be there today. The farmers grow the wheat which they eat, and what's more, when the farmers take to their wheat to sell, they weigh it and give them their price, and when they buy flour, the miller weighs it out again for them and makes the farmers pay his price. Why not the farmers put a price on it themselves? Alas! If they did the miller wouldn't take it and keep the flour. They are not making enough to suit themselves. Turn about is fair play, but the farmers are classed as the lowest people in the country.

Now for a few words about conscription. I saw a letter in the paper which I did not agree with. If all the

boys fit for military service went to the war there would be none left to defend our own country. If anything should occur. Nowadays everything has war tax on it, and people go around begging for Red Cross affairs. Well, this is all right, but if people would give to everything that goes along, they would soon give themselves away. I heard a man say that the more he can keep the better, because the Government is going to get the money out of the people anyway. Now, Miss Grey, I have said enough. My writing is poor and I want you to give your opinion of it. May I call again?
ONE OF THESE FARMERS.

Ans.—Your writing is not very fancy to look at, but it's not hard to read and that is what counts with the printer. As for it being best to "keep all you can get" that seems a poor life-philosophy to me. One can keep his money for a few pretty years, anyway, and it's left behind for others to scrap over—and spend. And don't you know there is nothing more beautiful than to "give oneself" for the happiness of good of others? Think about these things a little—and call again.

England's Share.
Dear Miss Grey—Don't you think a "Friend of Timothy's" is certainly wrong when she (or he) quotes us as "English blockheads"? We were always inclined to say England, for England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, and as for England not being very much in this struggle, I cannot understand what she means. What would Belgium have done if not for the British—and the British are the English? Also France—now, could the Allies, without the help of England, have saved the situation? It's for Canada just as much as England that the Allies are fighting. Why, then, cannot Canadians more willingly help save their own by going over now, instead of waiting to fight here, which "Timothy's Friend" says they are quite willing to do? I have one brother-in-law and four cousins in France, three cousins in the English navy, and have the honor of knowing four other cousins gave their lives for England's glory. My husband also is wearing the King's khaki, and nephew, both awaiting further orders. Now, Miss Grey, why are we called blockheads? Is it because we are lured to Canada, hoping to find ways and means better, and to our horror find the agents in England have too much point on the scene, or because our hats and dresses are not up to the style? Or is it because we are fish, on the average, are silly enough to have large families, keeping us poor by struggling on to pay our way, which some Canadians do not worry about? I was told when I first came here, "Took what odds to owe a few dollars, as long as you can save!" I do not see where we English need more Canadians to help us yet.
AN ENGLISHWOMAN, AND PROUD OF IT.

To Brighten His Life.

Dear Miss Grey—Will you kindly send me the name and address of a lonely soldier in France, preferably one without relatives or friends? I shall try to brighten up his life a little, and if I succeed I'll send for another one. To give sending the parcels direct than giving money. Yours sincerely,
THE GIRL OF THE LIMEBLOST.

Reading for "Warespite."
Dear Miss Grey—I am inclosing a copy of the reading, "Ample and Willie's Prayer," as requested by "Warespite," in yesterday's paper, and hope "Warespite" will receive it in plenty of time to use this Christmas. Yours truly,
KIRKMUIR.

He Was Surprised.

Dear Miss Grey—I was greatly surprised to see "A Friend of Timothy's" remarks concerning the Englishman who came out here to earn an honest wage, and who also gives an honest day's work in return. As for calling us blockheads, I would like to ask "A F. of T." why so many Canadian girls show their preference for the poor Englishman. I myself think they have without doubt, done the wisest thing they could do, for the English are home-makers in the world than an

Advertiser Patterns



A SIMPLE, ATTRACTIVE STYLE.
1852—Ladies' Dress, with Sleeve in Either of Two Lengths.
As here portrayed, striped gingham was used, with collar of white plaid. The right waist front is a deep cuff. In short length, the sleeve is finished with a smart turnback cuff. The skirt has three gores, and a shaped yoke over the back. The pattern is cut in six sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires 3/4 yards of 36-inch material for a 38-inch size.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps.

ADVERTISER PATTERN DEPT.

Please send above-mentioned pattern, as per directions given below, to:

Name

Address

Province

Age (if child's or miss's pattern)

Measurement: Bust Waist

Caution: Be careful to inclose the above illustration, and send size of pattern indicated. When the pattern is pasted into your paper, use only mark 12, 24 or whatever it may be. When in waist measure, 22, 24, 26 or whatever it may be. If a skirt, give waist and length measure. When miss's or child's pattern, write only the figure representing the age. It is not necessary to write "inches" or "years." Patterns cannot reach you in less than one week from date of application.

Englishman, who is always kind, loving and willing to share wages, etc., without the wife having to almost beg and pray for a nickel, she wants to spend, and then like a schoolgirl, have to give account for the spending of same, for that is a very common thing among the class that "A F. of T." certainly seems to be a member of.

Of course we must make allowance for, as no doubt she is jealous of the "home and love of an Englishman and wife." As for the smart Canadian, I bet her man must be one of them, a few of the like I've met that just eat and sleep all day long, once in a while they manage to go out and smoke their pipe, and like a well-trained dog, go back and curl up again. Hoping this will find a space in your paper, also wishing you the season's greeting, I am,
A SON OF ENGLAND.

Fighting for Canada.

Dear Miss Grey—I have often thought of writing to your page, but "A Friend of Timothy's" letter put me right in the notion. She must be very small-minded if she thinks the Canadians who have gone from here to Europe to fight in this great war are fighting for England. It is England that is protecting

Mother Hubbard.

"Mother Hubbard" is thanked for her practical soup recipe. They are being published in the Cook Book column, and are no for winter days.

A Letter from "Keep Smiling."

A letter from "Keep Smiling" has arrived for "My Friend of the Wide Plains." Will this correspondent who thus designated herself please send her address, so I may forward "Keep Smiling's" letter?

"Lambton's Drummer Girl" — A Lonely Lad's address has been sent.

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us. What on earth would Germany want with England—a country too thickly populated already? It is Canada they want, and I should think it is better for our men to go there and fight than have the Germans come here and murder women and children, and burn buildings and destroy everything they see. But then I have heard people talk like her before, and you generally find out they are ones who read very little and really don't know the situation.

Shake hands, "Bonnie Dundee"; you express my feelings perfectly about the ending question. I am in favor of conscription. I don't see why my only brother should go when there are two and three boys in another family staying at home.

Now, Miss Grey, for a question: In what form are birth announcements wanted? Hoping I haven't taken too much space, I will sign myself,
MAPLE LEAF.

Ans.—If you inquire at a stationer's or printing shop you will see various styles of birth announcements. Cards. One way is to have a square or oblong about four inches in size, bearing the announcement after this fashion: "Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hart of Toronto, Ont., announce the birth of a son, John Matthew, on December 20, 1916." The words are, of course, arranged on the card after the usual fashion of any announcement.

Another form is to have the mother's name and address on a square of Bristol, and tied to the upper of this by a narrow white satin ribbon, a tiny card bearing the child's full name, with the date of birth in the lower left-hand corner.

Ruby's Request.

"Dear Miss Grey—I wish to thank "Rusty" and "Duncan Polite" for the recitations they sent me, but what I asked for was "Rusty's" place and the other. I just forgot the name of it, but thought it would be "comic" so would be glad to get them yet. I think "Some-One's" husband wrote a fine letter; would like to have the exact recipe for her meat loaf and shouldn't it be cooked? I wish others would send me more plain ways of making every-day meals. I like to help with the cooking. (1) Would someone send in some ways of a dinner for a little girl for school? She never seems real hungry and is not very strong. (2) Will some good cook from this page write to me and send me a list for a "tea for about 30 people"? Will leave Miss Grey my address.
RUBY.

Ans.—Maybe some kind reader will copy that piece for "Rusty".

1. Shall gladly print any suggestions for the girls' lunch basket. Wonder if she would like a list of date loaf? Here's how it's made: One cup yellow sugar, shortening size of an egg, cupful of dates (remove stones and cut in half), one-half cup walnut meats cut finely, two cups Graham flour, one cup milk, (or a little more if flour requires it), level teaspoon soda. Bake in moderate oven for an hour, in well greased pan. Sweet milk and baking powder (two teaspoons) can be used with equally good results. If preferred, too, omit the nut meats.

Think of the Lonely.

Dear Miss Grey—It has been so long since I visited the Mail-Box, thought I would call and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We must all remember the wives and mothers who have loved ones far, far from home. At this time of the year it seems more lonely without them. It will be a sad Christmas in many homes. An ending snot pudding recipe. I know it is all right.

NEAR COULAM.

Suet Pudding.—One cup of suet, one cup molasses, one cup sour milk (or buttermilk), one teaspoon each cinnamon and cloves, a little salt, one teaspoon soda, three leaping cups of flour, one cup of currants, one cup of raisins. Steam four hours.

Ans.—A copy of "Ample and Willie" had been received on the previous mail, and forwarded, but your copy will doubtless come in very handy for some time. Thanks for your hint about the lonely ones! It may help one of them just to read the loving thought.

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CLEAN-UP SALE

of Women's and Misses' Winter Coats and Women's Silk and Serge Dresses

Owing to the fact that the color and size range in these different lines is more or less broken, we've decided to clean up the balance of garments in stock at greatly reduced prices, commencing Thursday morning.

Women's Coats Reduced as Follows:

Women's Winter Coats in chinchilla and soft-finished wool materials, with belts and in belted styles, in navy, grey, brown and black; regular \$10.50. Sale price \$7.85
Women's Winter Coats, in a brown wool mixture, made with large collar, combination of velvet and material, two large pockets, belted across front; sizes 38 and 40; regular \$18.50. Sale price \$9.75
Women's Coats in chinchillas, fine curl cloths, beavers and tweeds, in black, navy, brown and grey, belted and loose-faring styles, large stylish collars in different styles; regular \$18.00 and \$20.00. Sale price \$13.50

GIRLS' COATS
REDUCED IN PRICE

Winter Coats in chinchillas, and curl cloths, some lined throughout, others half-lined, plain and belted styles, in navy, grey and green, for girls 8, 10, 12, 14 and 15 years; regular \$9.00. Sale price \$6.75

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AND SERGE DRESSES

Clearing at the Following Prices

Women's Silk Dresses of fine quality paillette, made with self girdle and sailor collar either of self or in white, in the following sizes and colors only: size 16, in black; sizes 16 and 18, in Copenhagen; sizes 18 and 20, in brown; regular \$10.00. Sale price \$6.95
Fine Velvet Dresses, made with two pouch pockets, sailor collar of silk over larger one of self material, silk ties and plain girdles; size 36, in navy and size 38 in black; regular \$18.00. Sale price \$13.50
Stylish Dresses that are a combination of Georgette and taffeta, in navy and black; size 36 only; regular \$15.00 and \$16.50 values. Sale price \$11.50
Fine Serge Dresses in a neat plain style, belted effect, collars with self-colored silk or fancy velvet, in brown, navy and black; sizes 32 to 40; regular \$7.50. Sale price \$4.95
Serge Dresses of excellent quality, neatly trimmed with narrow braid, self or patent leather belts, yoke and stitched plaits in waist, in brown and navy; sizes 14 and 16 years; regular \$8.50. Sale price \$5.75

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140 DUNDAS STREET.
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Gray's
LIMITED

Loving "Flat" Neighbors
Not An Easy Task

But Newspaperwoman Finds Them All Interesting, From Blonde-Brunette Lady to the Janitor.

It is very hard when you live in an apartment-house to love your neighbors as yourself. It may be because you seldom know your neighbors. I am not entirely sure this is the reason, however, because it sometimes seems as if it would be comparatively easy to love a person you didn't know. But it is hard to begin loving any person who seems so contented without being loved, as a neighbor in an apartment-house. For instance, there is the blonde lady who lives across the court. She hasn't the least realization of the interest I feel in her. And yet how could anyone fail to be interested in a person whose hair, when first I saw her through the window, was a gleaming, dancing gold, but has gradually grown darker and darker, till at the present time it approaches jet black? You can't help wondering in such case if she isn't going to put any more on and what the psychology of the experiment may be. Did she try it just this once, and not like the effect? Something about the little lace-trimmed pink dressing jacket she wears in the morning makes me think she is a bride.

Or perhaps husband is the kind of a man who reacts unpleasantly to extremely yellow hair. At any rate, yellow hair or black hair, the woman in the lace-trimmed pink jacket is an interesting neighbor. I like the way she fries the bacon, giving an efficient and sportsmanlike jerk to the handle of the pan every once in a while. She has a vigorous way with her, too, when it comes to slicing bread, and the pieces of butter which she serves are generous.

It was just the other day that she washed and ironed her curtains—blue flowered ones for the bedroom and white dotted ones for the kitchen—and a woman like that is an inspiration to all the dwellers in an apartment-house. There is a positive contagion about clean curtains which is as difficult to escape as it is hard not to yawn when some sleepy person has set the example. One by one the pairs of curtains came down, and one by one they went up.

When Tongue Is Coated
Your tongue is torpid and is affecting your stomach and bowels. To rouse your stomach, take the little, purely vegetable and in-all-ways satisfactory Hood's Pills. They relieve biliousness, constipation, all liver ills. Do not irritate nor gripe. Price 35c. of druggists or C. I. Hood Co., Lowell, Mass.

Rideau Hall Coffee

is prepared by a special process which eliminates all dust and chaff.

Billy Coffybean says: "Cooks all think of their favorite drink, 'Rideau Hall.'"

45c per lb. Tins only

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COMPASS OIL

The oil that soothes, strengthens and timbers up the joints.

LUX Washing Compound

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Guaranteed Not To Shrink.

Brussels Sprouts Box 20c
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Phone 8281. ex P. O. Box 278.

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City Gas Company

Dec. 27/16