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A COMMUNITY

The other night, the train in which I was riding, stopped about a half mile from a town and gave me a good perspective of that community. How apart. distinct, compact and separate it was from the field and forest stretching away from it. Streets knitted its parts together and street lights twinkled her and there and outlined the city limits. From among great trees, roofs peered out; the dome of a court house seemd to preside over all and administer law and justice. Church steeples pointed the mind upward; and a great building, which I knew to be a school house, bore testimony to that community's estimate of its children and of education. The mantle of darkness was settling down over the world, but that town did not look lonesome.

There came to me a new vision of what an integar, what a unified thing is a community. How common are its interests, its need for water, light power, sewers, schools, law protection, trade with the outside world, entertainment and recreation, beauty and inspiration and good citizenship.

I wondered if the people living in those houses were friendly with one another, if they helped one another and worked toward a common purpose for the wellbeing of all. Of course. all the residents of a locality cannot see things in the same light nor have the same opinions and methods. But how much more comfortable and prosperous we could make ourselves if we would unite in the joint effort to make our town a great common home, with all the modern conveniences!

Something like this was the motive back of a woman's club in Ohio. Every woman in the town was a member by virtue of living there. The dues were only twenty-five cents a year, that they might not exclude anyone.

Their first activity was to engage a city engineer to make a survey of the community and draft a plan by which the city might be improved. They did not hope to do anything at once, but they wanted a city plan to work toward. In turn, they beautified the school yards, and cemetery, the station grounds, and the streets. By a plant exchange, they encouraged landscape gardening about private homes until the whole town became like a beautiful park.

Why shouldnt every man, woman and child in the community be joined in a great unit to make the home town lovely? A community is really a great family, with a common home to keep, not bounded by four square walls nor by forces, but by the city limits. We should meet together frequently and hold roundtable over plans for our mutual betterment.

BUSINESS CLOTHES

The business woman who applies for a job in a gown of georgette and lace, her last year's "best," kills her chances right there. The hard headed business man may like to see his wife and daughter play the part of "Fluffy Ruffles," but he knows that efficiency is rarely garbed in chiffon, high-heeled patent leather pumps and other gay furbelows.

The plain navy frock the small felt hat, the "sensible" shoes, hose of the "service' weight, gray, perhaps, to match her tie—such as these carry the business woman to success. The trim neatness of the woman thus clad bespeaks her intelligence, her exactness, her freedom from frittering distractions and her general smartness man will choose to handle his letters and papers and receive his business callers in the outer office.

In the olden day, the business woman was supposed to dress with a mannishness which might indicate that she could handle business as well as a man. But we no longer pretend to be masculine in order to lay claim to our sound headedness or understanding of the affairs of the business world.

Woman has made a place of her own—thanks to our noble woman pioneers who endured the sneers of her softer sisters that she might pave the way for woman in business. Woman's ability is recognized as a great asset in the business world of today. The business woman stands high and is respected, not in spite of her sex, but on account of the good record her sex has made. And she may dress the part. She no longer needs to ape the apparel of her brother, but may dress as any other sensible woman on the street.

In short, the dress of the business woman of today is no different from approved street dress, morning garb or sports wear of any woman. Dressed for her employment, the business woman is fitted to go anywhere or make any of the contacts other woman may have at the same hours. The only requirement of business clothes today is appropriations, and has no relation to sex.

WHOLESALE SEASONING

Meatloaf, croquettes, roasts, bread dressings, Thousand Island dressing, vegetable soups, perfection vegetable salad, baked beans, Spanish rice, and macaroni. all need much the same type of seasoning. This is usually composed of tomatoes, onion, green peppers and spices in varying amounts. It saves time in seasoning such dishes if one makes, in the fall, when tomatoes and green peppers are abundant, a good supply of chili sauce to be used for seasonings all winter.

Chili Sauce

Chop the following vegetables: two quarts of peeled ripe tomatoes, four green peppers and one hot pepper, four onions. Add four tablespoonfuls of brown sugar, one tablespoonful each of ginger and cinnamon, a half teaspoonful of nutmeg, two tablespoonfuls of salt. Cook an hour, then add three cups of vinegar; boil five minutes longer, and seal in hot jars.

BLOCK COOPERATION

A new feature of community life in some of our cities is a city block in which the houses constitute a unit. The houses are built around a central space about one hundred feet square which is set aside as a play space for the little children of the families in that block. A tract at one end of the property is devoted to recreation for larger children and adults.

Mothers, in ordinary blocks in towns and cities, could cooperate in the same manner, if they wished, to provide ample play space and equipment for their children. Several families could go together to buy swings, sand pile and other play tools, and the mothers could take turns in watching the children as they play. This would save the time of all the mothers and do both the mothers and children good, making for acquaintance, all around, and giving each mother certain time off from child care and an opportunity to do something else. If this plan did not work, the mothers could chip in together and hire some nice young lady or older lady to give the child group certain hours of play supervision each week.

TOAST SANDWICH

This is a delicious sandwich for a family supper. The toast should be served piping hot, even if the members of the family have to await their turns to get their portion. Have ready: crisp lettuce leaves, sliced tomato, crisply fried bacon, and mayonnaise. Toast the bread and butter it while hot. Place on a slice: a leaf of lettuce, a layer of tomatoes, two slives of the bacon; and spread with the mayonnaise; then cover with another piece of hot buttered toast and serve. This is a home made "club sandwich."

SANITARY DISHES

Diseases are frequently spread by the use of unclean dishes. Cold germs may be carried on the spoon or drinking cup of the one who used it before you. Very hot water or chlorine in the dishwater should be used in washing dishes when sickness, or even the common cold, is in the house. The use of a dish mop makes is possible to use hotter water without burning the hands.

FRUIT DRINK

For fruit drinks, prepare your sugar and water first. Boil one cup sugar in two cups water and cool. Add the juice of three lemons, and of three oranges and the juice from a can of pineapple. Other fruit combinations may be used according to the taste or what you have on hand. Blackberry or raspberry juice, grape-juice, ginger ale, or a pint of iced tea may be used with the sugar-water-lemon combination.

CELERY-CHEESE STICKS

We are likely to eat too much starchy food. A unique way of avoiding the carbohydrate wafer which usually accompanies salad is to serve celery-cheese sticks. Cut cleaned celery into pieces about two inches long and fill the slit, or "rut" along the inside of it, with chopped cheese softened with salad dressing or cream. Lay one of these sticks on the salad plate beside the salad.

THE ODD SOCK

Frequently a member of the family will have in his dresser several stockings without a mate. Either the matching sock has developed a run or been worn out or lost. It would make for econmy if ont would buy two or more pairs of stockings of the same color and pattern. If one stocking gives out, the other may be matched with the best of another pair.

TO MEND FURNITURE

When the veneer on your furniture comes loose, as it frequently may in steam-heated rooms, spread the best quality of liquid glue sparingly under the loose veneer, then clamp it down firmly in place; when the glue is set it will stay in place permanently.

DRYING THE WASH

If crowded for space in hanging up the week's laundry, hang the pieces between two lines instead of along each. Many more can be hung up in that way and they will dry quickly. too.

The automobile is credited with producing a smarter race of chickens. Perhaps that's the reason the question, "Why does a chicken cross the road?" is no longer apropos.

Telephone communications between Mexico City and Washington have been opened. Fortunately the diplomats can't make faces at each other over the phone.

Scientists now believe Africa, instead of Asia. was the cradle of the human race, which is a rather dark picture of our past.

It is averred by some literary critics that American humor is on the decline, which may be due in large measure to the passing of the general store dry goods box whittlers.

We are still waiting for the prediction that it will be a long, hard winter because the fur on the animals is heavy or the squirrels are laying in a heavy supply of nuts.

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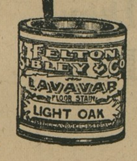

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