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Your Editor's Page

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Warmth For Her Soul

by Maudethel Cullom

I COULD have bought a pair of gloves
To keep her fingers warm;
And she needed a scarf
To wear at her throat
Where the collar of her coat was torn.

Instead, I carried to her door
A beautiful, blue glass bowl,
For more than a scarf
Or a pair of gloves
She needed new warmth for her soul.

See Who's Here

MA DUNNAWAY is back with us again, and she and her practical way of dealing with life are more interesting than ever. Marie Porter Mitchell, who created this lovable character several years ago in a series of stories appearing in THE FARMER'S WIFE Magazine, thought she had finished with "Ma." But she reckoned without our readers. They wrote in by hundreds demanding more, and now a new series is under way. Incidentally, the first series of these tales were republished in British magazines, testifying to their universal appeal.

And there's much more than that for you in this issue. Please take notice that we editors have more pages available and we've made the most of them in fiction, in features, in foods, in handicraft, and many other things, interesting and helpful.

Trustworthy Advertising

THE advertising columns of THE FARMER'S WIFE Magazine constitute a helpful guide in the purchase of worth-while products. The publishers do not accept advertisements without satisfactory proof of the reliability of the advertiser.

An advertisement carrying the Reader Test Seal of Approval means that the product advertised has been tried out in the rural homes of the Reader Test Group.

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These Young Folks of Ours!

IF YOU were asked whether or not modern college girls have any deep interest in family prayer, you might join the cynics and say that the custom probably has little of their esteem.

And yet—at the University of Wisconsin ninety-five senior students in home economics, enrolled in a course in family relationships, were recently asked to write an answer to this question: "Which family custom has seemed to you to have had the most influence on you, and which do you remember best?"

Now prepare for a surprise. The custom most often mentioned by the girls was the custom of family prayer and morning devotionals.

"Talk about the hard-boiled, cynical younger generation!" exclaimed Miss Abby Marlatt, head of the home economics department at the university and leader of the class, after she finished telling the incident.

When youth is cynical, it has been made cynical by the speech and conduct of its elders. Now, as ever, the normal disposition of youth is to stand for that which is clean, wholesome, and helpful in attaining what is best in life.

Keeping Up Appearances

WHEN a woman in business and professional life begins to neglect her appearance, her health, and her knack of getting along with people, that moment she begins to slip. Putting it in another way, her success in her field does not depend on ability alone, but also on how well groomed she looks, how well she is, and personality.

That is the testimony of some hundreds of women who earn salaries, given in a study of employment conducted by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. Moreover the testimony was overwhelmingly to that effect.

Homemakers may sometimes figure that they are under less necessity to give heed to appearance and personality, but that is a mistake. Even though they may be married to their jobs and in no great danger of being dismissed, they still face the need of continually making good in homemaking careers, just as business and professional women do in theirs, and of standing well in the esteem of husband, children and community.

Speak for Yourself, John Farmer!

TOO many non-farming folks speak for farmers and too few farmers speak for farming folks whenever government or other agencies are set up to deal with important agricultural questions.

A case in point is the new Committee on Farm Tenancy now working with the United States Department of Agriculture. According to an analysis made by the Missouri Farm Bureau News, there are only two bona fide farmers in a total membership of forty persons who make up that group. The other 38 include daily newspaper editors and publishers, women home mission leaders, professors of sociology, foundation executives, agricultural department employes, a society woman, a woman author, a few agricultural college men, three farm organization men, a few farm journal editors, and so on.

All are competent persons, no doubt, and some of them have a point of view as well as an intelligence and understanding that deserve to be given expression in dealing with the tenancy question. But hardly does any one of them rate a place on the committee to the exclusion of farmers enough to bring rural representation on the committee up to a reasonable minority at least.

Agriculture has many other needs, but none is more important to agriculture than the need of speaking for itself; of developing its own voice and influence and using them.

At Mother's Knee

WHEN mothers rear a generation of men who have from babyhood been taught that war is World's Enemy No. 1, then and then only is war likely to be abolished.

Apparently, international statesmen and politicians cannot be depended upon to drive war out of the world. They merely prepare for more wars, each more terrible in its destruction of life and property than the last. They are busy with that kind of thing right now in scores of places. They talk about peace among themselves and prepare for more war.

The recent council of nations of the Western Hemisphere gives some encouragement to hope for progress towards permanent peace, but even that may fall short. Unless it is reinforced by a determined public opinion that will have no more of war, that council is likely to be no more effective than other similar international meetings for peace have been.

Mothers can do something that others cannot. They can make war and the thought of war, abhorrent to their children, and do it so effectively that youth's hatred for bloody strife will not wear out in time. The process may be slow, but there is no quick way to world peace.

All the centuries of war have proved its futility. It is terribly cruel and destructive and unreasonable, and it settles nothing. Through the centuries one war has almost always led to another war. Why tolerate it?

An old rhyme states the case this way:

And out of war and after all,

What is it people get?

Just widows, wounds, and wooden legs

And lots and lots of debt.

Youthful Wisdom in Rhyme

TO A Four-H Club girl's record book is one of the last places most of us would go for political wisdom. But it is to be found in such places, along with many other sensible though youthful observations that grown-ups might find profitable to know.

A look into the record book of a Kansas farm girl recently revealed that she had written out in rhyme her views on such schemes to spend government money as the Townsend plan. And this was her conclusion about these money spending projects:

Some folks have a notion

That the government can pay, and pay,

But they haven't the least idea

How the govt. gets that way.

Some day we'd like to nominate her as chancellor of the exchequer.

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"Ma"

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Marie Porter Mitchell