

Volume XXXV
Number 7

THE FARMER'S WIFE

The Magazine for Farm Women

July
1932

WEBB PUBLISHING COMPANY, ST. PAUL, MINN.

A. H. HARMON and H. C. KLEIN, PUBLISHERS

DAN A. WALLACE, DIRECTING EDITOR

F. W. BECKMAN, MANAGING EDITOR

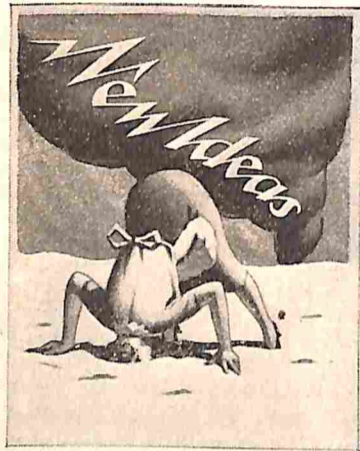
FIELD EDITORS

BESS M. ROWE, GRACE FARRINGTON GRAY ORINNE JOHNSON

CARROLL P. STREETER, MADEI K. RAY, POLLY JOHNSON,

W. H. KIRCHER

ART EDITOR, ELEANOR C. LEWIS



Ostriches

AUNT MARY says: "Folks who are afraid of new ideas are going to have a bad time of it during the next few years. I don't set myself up to know much about politics and such, but I tell you this world of ours is in for a lot of fixing over. I know some folks who don't like to think about these coming changes and they'll stick their heads in the sand. Well, they can cover up their eyes and ears so they can't see or hear, but the new ideas will come rolling up over the horizon just the same. As for me, I'm going to see and hear everything that's going on, and maybe take a hand in it."

The Story "Leather Hinges"

WE HAVE just read the great stack of letters in which readers made their guess as to the forthcoming serial, "Leather Hinges." We find that dozens of story plots could be woven around this title. Some readers guessed that Hugh J. Hughes' new story will be a mystery story; that the leather hinges are old and mildewed hinges on a treasure filled chest. Others thought that leather hinges are symbolic of makeshift things to be found on farms owned by persons, who, like leather hinges, are careless and shiftless. Then there were some who guessed that the story would portray the lives of homely, sturdy folk, who go about their work without squeaking or groaning.

More than half the writers guessed right as to the time of the story—that it is a frontier story,—but it was the guess of Mrs. Edith B. Yoder of Wakarusa, Indiana, that came nearest outlining the story plot. Anna Parmenter of Rockland, Wisconsin, won second prize, and third prize goes to Miss Hellen Mills of Wheatland, Wyoming.

Mothers!

IF WE were to make a Fourth of July speech this year, we believe that we would dedicate it to Mothers everywhere. We would turn aside from the usual custom of lauding the great deeds of heroes who have already had full measure of public praise, and speak about those little deeds in the everyday lives of Mothers which are heroic even though they are common and small.

Mothers are the real keepers of the gates of the home,—cradle of human virtues and the source of national strength. Theirs the task to make sure that a world of strife is shut out, a world of love shut in. Theirs the task to keep the spirit of the home sweet, happy, hopeful, to renew courage in their men, to maintain faith in the everlasting verities and uphold confidence in the working out of all things for good.

In these times Mothers are the real conservators of family resources. Theirs the duty of making a very little go a very long way. Theirs the task to teach boys and girls the habits of intelligent self-denial, which is the beginning of wisdom, yes, the beginning and end of wisdom. Theirs the labor of giving the family a wholesome self-sufficiency, even a program of homemade fun.

And as Mothers are striving to meet these great responsibilities, they do it simply, smilingly, unconscious of their heroism and their service.

We agree with Maeterlinck who declared, "There are no poor Mothers, no ugly ones, no old ones. Their love is always the most beautiful of the Joys. And when they seem most sad, it needs but a kiss which they receive or give to turn all their tears into stars in the depths of their eyes."

We dip our flag to the Mothers!

Milk Everywhere But Not a Drop To Drink

IN A great dairy state a survey of rural school children in many different localities brought out the fact that less than half of them were getting their two or three cups of milk a day, and that twenty per cent were drinking no milk at all.

So wonderful a food as milk ought to have a larger place in the diet of growing children than that, especially where it is a home product. Boys and girls should get at least a quart of clean milk a day, in one form or another. A little survey of milk consumption by your own family might be wise.

Ask Yourself

FOR about twelve years women in the United States have had the right to vote in every election. What, if anything, has been the influence of women on politics and government?

Perhaps it is too early to measure that influence, but it is none too early for women to question themselves as individuals. For example, they might ask themselves these things:

"Have we tried to get an intelligent understanding of local government and politics?"

"Have we taken a part in the nomination of candidates for local office?"

"Have we informed ourselves about candidates and issues in state and national elections?"

"Have we voted regularly, and intelligently?"

"On the whole, has our right to vote meant anything of consequence to us?"

By the time you have asked yourself these questions and others like them you will get some measure of your own influence in politics. Then multiply that by some thirty or forty millions and you will get some idea of what it all amounts to.

Incidentally, your husband might well ask himself the same questions.

Not a First Class Worry

A GOOD Virginia friend of THE FARMER'S WIFE offers us a new cause for worry. He thinks (this friend is a man) that farm young women in these days are getting higher education at the expense of farm young men.

"The bride holds an A. B. degree from So-and-so College. The groom is a graduate of the local High School." That, says this friend, is the way wedding notices read in our rural newspapers these days. Then he adds that for a long time the tendency has been for farm girls to get more schooling than farm boys. He inclines to think that perhaps the wife's superior education may bring a new problem to marriage, but he is more interested in what the trend which he sees will do to the next generation of farm men and rural civilization.

This worry isn't a first class worry—at least not yet. It rates only third or fourth class, because there are not enough figures to back it up. In some places more farm girls than boys may be getting higher education, but not in the United States as a whole. Young men of all classes outnumber young women in our colleges and universities by about 11 to 7. True, this difference is gradually growing less, but why worry about that? That's something to rejoice about.

"Champions"

A PERFECT example of a political job hunter's appeal came to our desk the other day, from a candidate for Congress. Quite eloquently his circular letter told what a great man he is, and then in large type came these words:

I Champion the Cause of the Farmer!
Write for Details How You Can
Help Me Win this Nomination!

In other words, "I'm your friend—what can you do for me?"

Woods and prairies are now teeming with office-seekers who are shouting to high heaven that they are champions of the farmer. Some are genuine; many are not. In politics as well as in private relationships, it's a good rule to beware of the man or woman who talks too much and too loudly about being your friend.

This year of all years pick your "champions;" don't let them pick you.

THE publishers do not accept advertisements without satisfactory proof of the reliability of the advertisers. If any subscriber sustains loss by being imposed upon by advertisers in our columns, the publishers agree to make good such loss, providing THE FARMER'S WIFE was mentioned in writing the advertiser and report of loss was made within twenty days, if it is found the advertiser did not have good commercial standing when advertising was accepted.

Copyright, 1932, Webb Publishing Company
Member Audit Bureau of Circulation

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES: five years for \$1.00; 25 cents per year extra in St. Paul, \$1.00 per year extra in Canada because of tariff and postage; 75 cents per year extra in all other foreign countries. When writing about change of address please give both old and new post office and sign your name as it appears on address label. Published monthly. If you do not receive THE FARMER'S WIFE for any month by the 10th of that month, notify us and another copy will be sent you free. Entered at the post office, at St. Paul, Minnesota, as second-class matter under the act of March 3, 1879.

THE FARMER'S WIFE

The Magazine for Farm Women



MerchMart.com®
Gift Quality Vintage Magazines

Over A Million Circulation

July, 1932

CT W 01 2 13
MRS RUSSELL WEBSTER
RT 2 NOV 1932*
NICOLLET MINN