

ELLEN'S DIARY

By An Island Farmer's Wife

The recipe for molasses cookies, which at end of mixing are dropped by spoonfuls to a greased baking sheet or pan, and when baked are so tasteful that to best preserve them from the frequent inroads of a family, should really be kept under lock and key, requires two beaten eggs, one cup each of molasses, brown sugar, shortening, sour milk, and raisins. . . . What pleasant experiences have been ours through the years, when with small ones beside us we have added a measure of the moment! Blue or brown eyes alert to our every movement, faces anxious, afraid that our supply would perhaps prove insufficient for our immediate need, to say nothing of having any left over to satisfy an ever present sweet tooth! What tales we shall have saved to tell one day of these bakings to youths tall grown, or to granddaughter a golden haired miss!

"Ah, Ellen," James will say sadly, when we chance to babble of such enchanting possibilities of the future, "we'll never live to see the day!" Yet surely having come this far, the years would be unkind indeed if they did not allow James to set his grandsons' hands upon the plow, or in time impart to them those secrets of farming he "always knew" or learned by experience. The ways of crops and weathers, his cunning with young stock — with piglets and calves and lambskins and the wherefores of teaching a foal the art of acquiring his nourishment. Or shall he not share in the growing up of the small maid, who now follows him happily at his choring? The future can grant us nice things, if it will.

The dry ingredients of the recipe are: four cups of flour, two tablespoons soda, three teaspoons cinnamon, one each of ginger and salt, one half of cloves. Tantalizing fare these would be to offer to farmers as a lunch at mid-morning, with perhaps a glass of milk, when they came indoors from the choring or wood-splitting "to see how the time's going" for the housewife herself, who may be careless of her required calories, as she engages in her house cleaning affairs. . . . We remember now though not to sigh over the present darkness that presses against the windows, that last night hung out a new moon. "A dry moon" Jeanie laughed, "well, I've heard the older folks say that if an Indian could hang his powder horn on an end of it, that indicated no rain. This one is really flat." However, April gave another damp day in its wake, but pleasant throughout, and brought Ellen to visit us. She, who short years ago was like granddaughter, but now teaches classes in a neighbouring school, and wonders why these Spring days like to slip away so fast, while she is busy with her occupation, and looking into the future to shape her life work.

It is a truth often re-iterated that teaching is often only a stepping stone to another occupation or profession. Nor should we sigh over this, but on the other hand, be grateful remembering that only in this way lives have been enriched, and possibilities for wider service granted, because someone gained financial assistance as well as experience in living, in some little weather-beaten island school, which helped him or her on the way to some ultimate and dreamed of goal. Names of many a clergyman and doctor, or those successful in other fields of service come to mind as examples. We recall that the wife of one, who had in time received highest honors in his profession in his native island and indeed in the Dominion — an elderly pair these were — commented, one Autumn when together we admired the glories that were spread along field and wood.

"We enjoy so much a drive along the countryside this time of year, everything is so beautiful. We do not follow the highways, but prefer to take some byroad, where we know the trees over-arch to make colorful, quiet aisles

Pirates Of The Insect World

By F. H. MacArthur

There is a species of spider living in the sea and along the coast that manufactures no web. The sort of life they live does not require climbing or the making of intricate web-homes. There is, however, a shore spider that makes its home beneath rocks and shells. The males belonging to this tribe have an extra set of legs which are used for carrying about eggs laid by their wives. These are of many colours and blend perfectly with the coral rocks and other objects in the neighborhood. What a wise old mother nature! How cunning she camouflages her children to protect them from their enemies!

One species of sea spider known as Agalena disis, also dwells under rocks and in holes along the shore. When the tide is out, it comes from its place of hiding to fill its belly with tiny fishes. With the return of the tide, the spider runs to its home where it quickly weaves a magic web about the entrance. So cleverly is this done that not a drop of water can enter its home. There the spider sleeps and passes the time till the tide ebbs and it sets out for another meal of small crustacea. In this lovely palace the baby spiders are born and nursed until they are old enough to go on their own.

Now turning again to the common spider, let us take time out to consider how it builds its magic fortress. First the beams are laid in position, true that any carpenter could do the job; next comes the parallel, then the scaffold, then the circular net. This attended to, the skillful little builder shapes the cross lines, which, all passing through the centre, have the appearance of spokes in a wheel.

To get a clearer picture of a spider's way of doing things, it is best to watch him while he's on the job. See how he constructs the hub as he moves along! Wonderful! That quick dart he made to the left was to strengthen a weak spot. Now he stops a moment to replenish his supply of web. Then away he goes to fasten a loose end, nimbly walking on the stage so newly put up, and now we must stop long enough to watch him complete the spiral funnel that serves as a corridor to the parlour or "sare".

See how cunningly the little creature proceeds with his work! Round and round the skeleton he travels, and at each spoke he stops to fasten another strand. Thus the work proceeds until all the spokes are linked up and the lovely house is finished.

No wonder the poor fly was caught in such a magic web. Or was it the honeyed words of the spider that lured it to its doom? Although spiders work from instinct, their homes are among the most wonderful things in nature. Into this sly snare fall all manner of insects. If the victim happens to be a fly, out rushes Mr. Spider and bites it in the neck. The poor fly often undergoes cruel punishment before the end comes and its enemy drags its body up the "winding stair". If a bee should happen to get into the web, the crafty spider uses greater caution for the bee would certainly win the battle in a fair fight. So the spider actually throws a lasso over the prisoner, then proceeds to bind it with many threads. When the victim has been rendered powerless, the little pirate steps in and deals the fatal blow.



Double Duty Room Gives Career Girl Comfort, Privacy

Earning her own money and spending it as she sees fit is a thrill to the young career girl tackling her first job. Being on her own gives her a sense of importance and security she hasn't experienced before.

However, if she is still living at home, she probably feels a strong need for more independence in her family relationships. The modern combination bed-living room can help to satisfy this need by providing a place in which she can follow her own interests, entertain her personal friends and enjoy a sense of privacy and ownership.

For a good start in doing over her room, some of those newly earned dollars might well be spent on a mattress and a bed-spring.

Those on her present bed may have been in use since she was a little girl and are more than ready now to be replaced with new, good quality sleeping equipment. The working girl needs the best in sleeping comfort to keep her well rested, alert and on her toes in her new job.

For the bed-living room, a combination mattress and spring-on-legs would be a wise choice as it can be attractively slipcovered and placed against the wall to serve also as a lounge.

In this way it becomes an effective living room piece by day and provides perfect comfort at night. If redecorating costs seem to loom large, the career girl can find pleasure and satisfaction in doing much of the work herself. Smartly tailored draperies and a slipcover for the bed are not difficult to make and many lovely new materials are now offered in a wide array of colors and textures. Wallpapering and painting, which are not difficult to learn, provide an "open sesame" to charming and interesting decorative effects.

Having created the background of wallpaper, draperies and bed, the final step is to decide what additional pieces are necessary. A chest of drawers and a bookcase for storage space and one or two comfortable chairs are essential. A desk or work table and plenty of cabinet space will provide for the enjoyment of hobbies and also encourage correspondence with friends scattered near and far. A radio, pictures and plants add the finishing touches to a bed-living room which will satisfy the career girl's spirit of independence and provide adequately for her leisure hours at home.

Slipcover Bed Pillows for Daytime Use

Storage is generally a problem in the small apartment. Many apartment-dwellers who use dual-purpose sleeping equipment — mattresses and springs-on-legs, sofa beds and studio couches — often find storage of bedclothes and pillows a nuisance.

One good answer to this problem is to slip-over the pillows attractively and use them on the lounge during the day — at night they are quickly made ready for sleeping. Easily made of cretonne, chintz, or other material to match or contrast with upholstery and draperies, these covers can be closed with zipper fastenings. Whether tailored in style or made with ruffles, they add a colorful note of interest and comfort to the room as well as providing most convenient.

Since the pillows will be in more constant use, they should be frequently checked for signs of wear. When they become limp and are no longer buoyant and resilient, they cannot serve their main purpose of supporting support to the head and neck muscles during sleep.

home. Girls who are living in one room away from home will also find such a room a relief from the feeling of constantly living in a bedroom.

That Body Of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

T. B., THE KILLER, CORNERED

A few years ago I mentioned the fact that our tuberculosis experts were so successful in treating this former fatal disease that some hospitals for tuberculosis patients were being closed because there were not enough patients to justify them. While this statement was true and the battle against tuberculosis is still being waged successfully, there are still many tuberculous patients needing institutional care.

One reason why there are still so many cases of tuberculosis is that physicians and the general public are on the "lookout" for this dread disease, knowing that if caught early a few months' treatment may prevent any progress of the disease and save the patient's life.

How Can I!!!

By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I renew the top of a kitchen table without going to the expense of buying an enamel top for it?

A. Cover with inlaid linoleum, having it cemented to the top if possible. Then give it a coat of clear varnish and you will have a durable table that will last for years.

Q. How can I make open book shelves look more attractive?

A. A cheery appearance can be given if the insides of the shelves are painted with a lacquer that corresponds to the color of the room.

Q. How can I soften crust on hot bread that has become too hard in baking?

A. Grease the crust, place it on an open window, and it will soften.

Better English

By B. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "In compliance to your request, I will be there inside of a week."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "abuse" (verb and noun)?

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Liniment, lieutenant, luminary, ludicrous.

4. What does the word "illusion" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with pl that means "delight"?

Answers

1. Say, "In compliance with your request, I shall be there within a week." 2. Pronounce the verb a-buz, the noun a-byus, u as in cube. 3. Lieutenant. 4. An unreal or misleading image presented to the vision. "Psychologists recognize normal illusions, which are often not distinguishable from hallucinations." 5. Pleasure.

The Stars Say

By Genevieve Kemble

For Saturday, April 29

There is an unpropitious state of affairs that affects plans, projects and desires in which public as well as private interests are involved. Such may suddenly turn cherished hopes and wishes into rout and defeat. It is probable that jealousy, enmity, open attack or erratic moves, may precipitate a dangerous situation, deep rooted and radical in reaction, affecting cherished plans. However, it is also probable that an "eleventh hour friend" may just as suddenly offer aid and protection, and be generous with advice, ideas and also funds for carrying on.

Household Scrapbook

By Roberta Lee

Finger-Marked Furniture
Finger marks on furniture will disappear if they are rubbed with a cloth dipped in kerosene. Wipe over the surface with a clean cloth wrung out of hot water. Dry and polish.

Light Sponge Cakes
Sponge cakes are made light by the air that is beaten into the eggs used in making them. Beat whites and yolks separately and fold in the beaten whites.

Seashell Design For Spring Straws

"Venus under a seashell" might be called the theme of one New York designer's spring 1950 costume collection.

Hats are in seashell forms — bicorne hats made in deep ovals with both long back and long front, shallow cookie shell shapes set on the back of the head and extending down almost to the shoulders at the back and sides, spirals, large brims fanning forward from a narrow back and deeply waved like the convolutions of a giant shell; there is even a little "barnacle cap", a cap-shaped cluster of small ruffles of straw set on elastic, clinging to the head as close as a bathing cap.

Hats with points on the forehead, points flying out at the sides or rising at the back, the high backed hat, and a new rocker shape with its front and back rising to a peak, its sides curved like rockers, are other new hat silhouettes presented in this collection. The rocker is designed to be tilted forward or back at your own best angle — and the smartest angle this season is way forward over the eyes, or way on the back of the head.

The feeling of lightness suggests into the hat materials; straws are thin and pliable as chiffon and many are transparent, chiffon itself is basket woven or draped into the new rocker clothes and rocker turbans. There is a new celophane straw, luminous and iridescent like the inside of a seashell. There are many horsehair straws and braids.



Very "spring" — this young bonnet of blonde milan-type straw with forward-moving brim and encircling garland of mimosa. By Elfreda.

All hats, however intricately manipulated, are moulded into a very definite shape. There are no wrappy dress-maker, cut-and-sewed hats. One designer points out that the softer more diaphanous outline in dresses and coats automatically demands a precise outline in the hat. "The rule of contrast in silhouette is fundamental in looking well-dressed," she says. "Looking draped from head to hem is just as unattractive as looking hard and mannish."

DOROTHY DIX SAYS -

Unfair Deal

Boy With No Intentions Should Not Encourage Girl

DEAR MISS DIX: Will it break a 22-year-old girl's heart if she falls in love with me and finds that I will never marry her? I am not in love with her. I am just being friendly to her. She doesn't have many boy friends nor many attentions from them. I don't begrudge the hours spent with her, so am not hurting myself.

MARTIN L.
ANSWER: I commend you for considering the girl's side of the matter as well as your own. Most of the men whose attentions are without intentions are concerned solely with their own getaway and never give a thought to the girl.

DESTROYS THEIR FAITH

Of course, girls whose affections have been trifled with, as the old phrase goes, do not die of broken hearts. But their faith in men has been slain. The glamour of romance, the joy, the thrills of love are gone from them forever. It is a terrible thing for a man to rob a girl of these and to fill her heart so full of love for him that there will never be room in it for any other man. Plenty of girls who get over first loves marry, but they have only the cold ashes of affection to give their husbands.

Consider also how unfair a deal you are giving a girl when you

-Needlecraft-

FOR THE HOME

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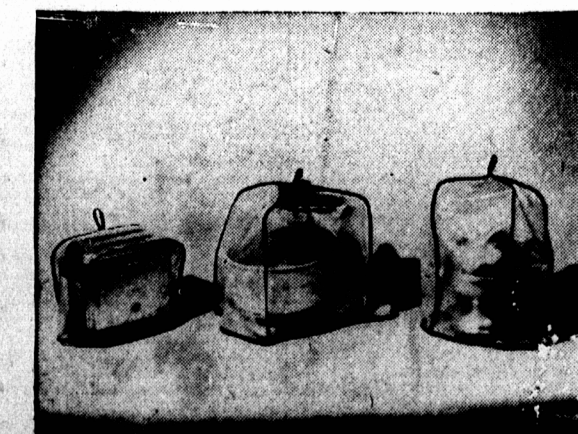
A WET WORLD

The surface area of the earth is estimated to be 196,826,000 square miles, of which 141,050,000 square miles are water.



PORTABLE MODEL BIKE — A new, collapsible motorbike is demonstrated by a young lady in Frankfurt, Germany. The machine weighs only 15 pounds and can be ridden like an ordinary motorbike, or, in rough country, may be folded up and carried in a hiker's rucksack.

Plastic Kitchen Covers



As well as being clean-looking and attractive these plastic covers for your toaster, mixer and coffee maker are very practical because they save wear and tear on these oft-used utensils and keep them bright and sparkling. They are simple to make and require very little material. Directions for making these PLASTIC KITCHEN COVERS are available to you if you will send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Needlework Dept. of this paper and ask for Leaflet No. 1221.

Morning Smile

Appropriate
The judge's expression was not unkind, as he leaned over the bench and addressed the mousy little man before him.

"So you're a locksmith?" his Honor mused. "And, pray tell, what was the locksmith doing in a gambling dive when he was arrested?"

The prisoner, taking courage, grinned back.
"He was making a bolt for the door," he replied.

Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. Can you suggest a good toast to propose at an anniversary party?
A. "May all your fondest hopes crystallize long before your crystal anniversary." Or, "May your anniversary presents include fond recollections of happiness; fervent iterations of love; bright renewals of youth."

Q. Where should a woman sit in a public conveyance when she is accompanied by two men?
A. Between the two men.

Q. Is it permissible for a dinner guest to ask for a second helping of any dish?
A. No; a second helping may be taken only when it is offered.

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