

Among Dublin Girls

Futile Search for Employment Drives Many to England and Scotland for Livelihood.

By Ruth Russell

Special Correspondence to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

Dublin, Ireland, May 5.—"I don't want to leave home."

The little ex-fuse-maker—one of the 2000 girl munition workers unemployed in Dublin—stood at the new deal and chicken wire enclosure in the big white-washed room of the woman's department of the ministry of labor in lower Abbey street.

"But there's no factory job in Ireland," argued the efficient young woman clerk. "Besides you can earn twice as much in England."

During the war 30,000 placements of Irish boys and girls were made in munition factories in England and Scotland. In the 60 years previous to the war Ireland's population of 8,000,000 was cut in two by emigration. Will emigration continue?

"I want to stay in Dublin," repeated the girl, less decisively. "But I've been out of work since the armistice."

Out in the driving sleet the girl's resolution returned. Maybe, she said, the clerk did not know everything. So we went our way to Dublin's show factory—a big windowed biscuit plant where 1000 girls are employed at the highest woman's wages in Dublin, \$4.50 and \$10 a week.

"America's factories are like this, they say. Everyone wants to get placed here. But it takes influence, because they can have their pick of girls," explained the little fuse-maker when we were refused.

Down a puddly, straw strewn lane we were blown by the wind to a candy factory. It was next in factory size to the biscuit plant. Dublin considers a 50 to 100 hand plant very large. At this place, too, it was possible to earn \$4.50 a week, but the thumb sign on the door read:

"No hands wanted."

The girl hesitated and interwined her fingers.

"Three weeks ago a girl I knew went past the sign, and she got a job. You must be b-brassy."

Up the narrow treaded wooden stairs we mounted to a big room where girls sitting sideways on a long table nailed yellow wooden candy containers together. Through a crack between the planks of the floor we could see hard red candles swirling below. As the melting sleet pooling off our hats, the ticking aproned manager came out to splutter:

"Can't you read?"

A tiny ass with a flat cart that had two bundles of paper on it waited in front of the half-door of the two story paper factory in the street where we stopped next. Burlap aproned girl sorters get from \$2 a week up. But paper control has just been removed, so here as well as at a rubber factory where the wages are \$1.50 to \$2.55 a week we were refused help.

Up in a loftlike factory where about 20 girls stuffed dolls with sawdust and daubed red paint on their cheeks, an excited little manager told us he would lose his own job soon. The new woman's trade union wanted him to pay more than \$1 a week and lessen the hours from 12 to eight. "I can't see some job better than none at all?"

The face of the little ammunition maker as she told me that she would meet me at the ministry of labor in the morning was puckered with indecision.

That night along Gloucester street, past the Georgian mansions built before the union of Ireland and England—flat uprisings structures from behind whose verdigrised brass trimmed doors came the murmur of many a membered tenement families—I walked until I came to a shining brass plated door.

"Why don't you go to England?" was the first question the matron of the working girls' home put to me when I told her I could get no work. "All the girls are."

In the stone flagged cellar where the girls cook their individual suppers, a strapping tweed suited girl stood erect at a stove set deep in the stone wall.

"Last time I got lonesome," she admitted as she rubbed her eyes. "I was toasting on a fork above the red coals. 'But my fare's to be paid. I'll have a 44-hour week. And glass bottle workers earn from \$12 to \$20 a week. Oh, I won't get lonesome this time.'"

Next morning at the mouth of the gray brick alley that leads to the applicants' entrance to the ministry of labor I met the little fuse-maker. She was coming out of the alley, and she smiled a little uncertainly as she said:

"Shirt making. Seven-fifty." Edin-burg."

The "Weaker" Sex

Women found new occupations during the war, as everybody realizes. But the variety of their new employments is not so well known. An English engineer declares he can build a battleship from a keel to aerial entirely with women's labor. A New York maker of aeroplanes planned to have them in every part of his plant, from drafting room to assembling shop.—From The Nation's Business for June.

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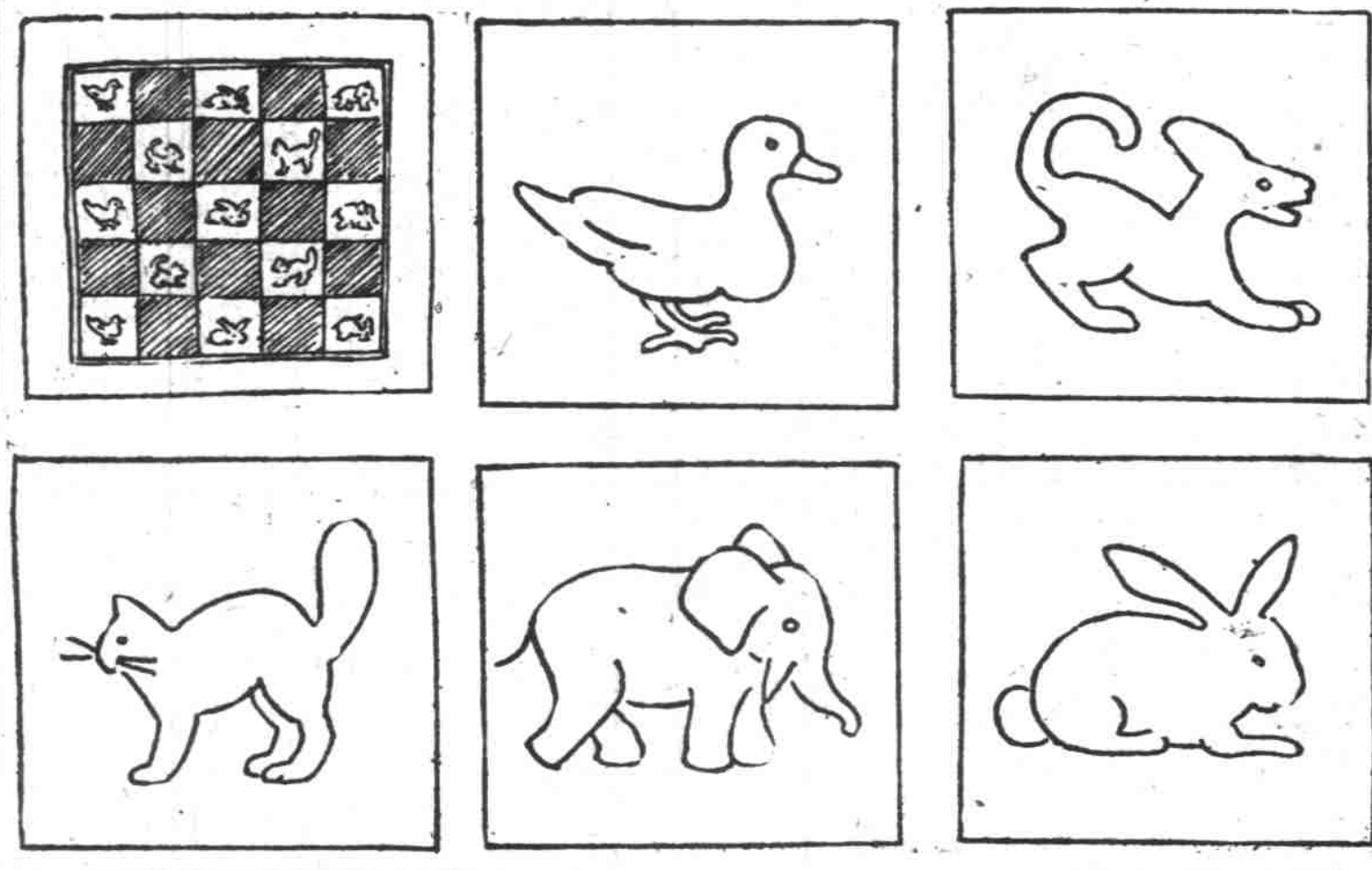
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IF THE KIDDIE PREFERS HER OWN HANDWORK



For Little Seamstress

AND what kiddie wouldn't consider it the very most wonderful privilege of her lifetime to "be-broder" her doll things, and if she did them creditably, maybe to take a hand in decorating her own duds? Most feminine youngsters, from 10 on, sometimes even earlier, will play the needle any day, so the four thoughtful mother will see to it that she does it the right way. Then, to make the lessons really interesting, she will make them a doll's bedroom, just enough responsibility to keep them practical.

Most young sewing efforts go into the diminutive house, so the first lesson will be a thrilling thing if, at the end of it the wee table therein has a handworked luncheon set all done by the mistress herself. The larger flower motifs given make an ideal first lesson. Mother will of course do the transferring for her, repeating the double blossom flower equidistant from each other four times on a round dollie, and using the smaller one cornerwise on the square napkins. Since most small fingers make a sorry thing of solid metal and in a comparatively short time you will have left your system of the nicotine poison out of your system, your general health will quickly improve.

Note.—When asked about Nicotol tablets, one of our leading druggists said: "It is truly a wonderful remedy for the tobacco habit; ahead of anything we have ever sold before, and we would not permit the use of our name unless the remedy is proven by all up to date druggists, including Dr. J. C. Beecher—J. C."

Trimming Dark Silk

There are precious few women who can get along successfully without a dark silk frock for hot weather wear in town. But the big problem is, how trim this more or less tailored silk, so that it will look finished and yet not be conspicuously decorated?

And a very appropriate and charming solution is the novel use of openwork embroidery shown on many an exclusive dark silk. A navy taffeta, for instance, is a decidedly more fetching thing for a bit of velvet decoration done in a matching color or in another neutral tone. And now that trimming is moving down to the bottom of skirts, what a charming bolder design suggested for broad work, down there. When it comes to treating the bodice, the same scheme ought to work up beautifully about a round neck, now that so many smart necklines are ribbon run.

Then you can do really striking things with serge cutouts on the dark silk ground. Instead of the more usual beaded business, there is the large scroll idea, which is the very making of the severely simple satin or taffeta or tricotee dress. Follow the rather bolder design suggested for broad work, and cut out in velvet or serge, then double machine stitch to the surface that you are ornamenting. The purple and navy, and black and navy combinations give excellent results by this method.

Bead Chain Ideas for You

It is tremendously effective, this movable trifling that is going around the neck, the three year old girl, and what about some brightly decorated runners for the table? And there is simply no mistaking their function if they are treated to the tea set itself, done in a refreshing green on a natural crash, for instance. Again, the outlining stitch is counted sufficient; this time it's a bit more elaborate than the former design calls for. Cups, creamer, sugar bowl and saucers, each one decorated with the runners, with maybe just the top alone or a cup in one corner of the napkins to prove that it really "belongs."

And now to complete the household accessories, let us to the doll's bedroom go. Here is unlimited opportunity for the needle, and one very fetching opportunity in the tiny quilt. It might be fashioned in a simple, quiet, and a checkerboard stuff, and made instantly different from all other quilts by the novel fact of having alternate squares containing conventionalized animals, either embroidered or appliqued thereon. A red and white gingham, with the animals done in black is calculated to be attractive enough for a larger bed. Here are five delightfully easy animals to work with, and a small plan to follow, and if she makes a success of them, you'll let her make a quilt for her own bed?

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Trimming Dark Silk

Facts About Beans

Early June Best Time to Plant Them in This Locality for Soil Must Be Warm.

By Sheila Childs Hargreaves

Portland Garden Authority

ALL honor to the humble unassuming bean! It has helped to subdue continents, win wars and advance civilization in every land. In some form the bean is native to all countries, flourishing as far north as other vegetation, as well as in the tropics; it might, in fact, be called the universal vegetable. With the exception of lentils, another member of the pulse family, beans are the richest obtainable vegetable food, especially in the dry form. Lima beans lead in the percentage of protein which they contain, carrying in concentrated form the elements necessary to the development of brawn and muscle. Growing boys will leave most any food for beans; boys' appetite increases just what body building material he needs to sustain his rapid growth.

Beans were well known to the American Indians and played a leading part in the colonizing of America; the early settlers would have died of starvation in even greater numbers, through these first, terrible winters, without this easily raised, easily preserved vegetable. Beans and maize, or Indian corn, were the first crops that were cultivated in this country.

Until the war changed food conditions, very few gardeners thought of raising dry beans for home consumption in winter; it was considered too much work; the space was better put to other uses for beans were very cheap, so the home garden contained only a few rows of pole and bush beans for eating in the green state. The war has made radical changes in the variety of foods which need to be grown; every gardener who hopes to relieve the food situation has allotted as much space as possible to the growing of such staples as beans, peas and potatoes.

GOOD FOR SOIL

In more ways than one bean culture is an advantage to the gardener. Should the soil be poor, beans, instead of robbing it of life-giving elements, will leave stores of nitrogen, for, like the peas, beans gather more nitrogen from the surrounding air than can be stored in the plant. It is a distinct advantage to take a paying crop off the soil and at the same time leave it in better condition for subsequent crops. So the best advice to give a gardener who must contend with a poor soil is—plant beans. While the yield will, of course, not be so great as where soil conditions are good, still beans will make a better showing than any other vegetable and at the same time improve the soil.

If fertilizer is applied mineral elements are best, though a small amount of barnyard manure is good on very poor land, so commercial fertilizers containing three essential elements—lime, potash and phosphoric acid—would naturally be chosen. Clay loams are considered the best soil for dry beans, though good crops may be taken off of light sandy ground if enough humus is supplied. One advantage of a sandy soil in this climate is that the crop may be planted earlier—these soils are warmer—and thus the beans will mature and may be gotten out of the way before the fall rains set in. Very rich bottom lands, sometimes known as muck lands, are not suitable for bean growing.

When all the beans are ripe, the bushes may be pulled and the beans beaten out. An old sack is good for holding them while the pounding is under way. When the beans are all shelled they may be poured from one bucket to another in a windy day, and thus cleaned fairly well, but I find it about as easy to pick the pods and shell them by hand, for they may be put away perfectly clean and ready for cooking.

Each bean, both for dry and string beans, are usually planted in hills, three or four seeds to the hill, about eight inches apart in the row and 15 to 18 inches between rows if the cultivating is to be done by hand. In very small gardens they may be sown thinly in drills and the yield will be a little larger for the space occupied. For these same small gardens it is best, however, to confine the attention mainly to the pole varieties of both dry and string beans.

Fact: there are varieties of pole string beans which are excellent for drying for winter, some have small white seeds, while others are larger and colored, the beans are sown in two or three times the quantity of beans and so are ahead of the bush varieties, though many gardeners

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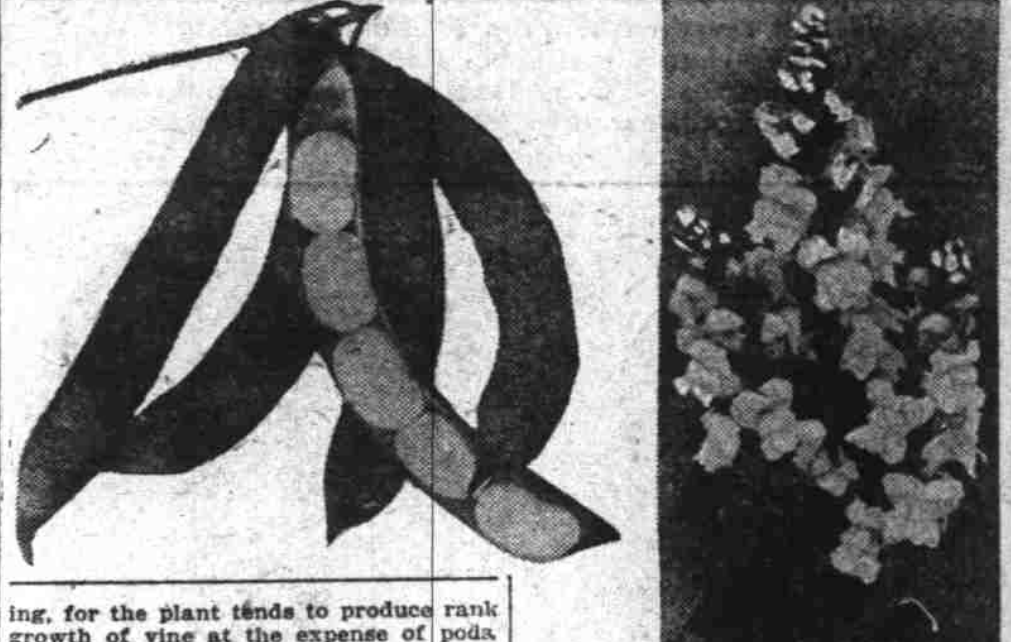
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HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?



ing, for the plant tends to produce rank growth of vine at the expense of pods.

NOW TIME TO PLANT

The middle of May to the early part of June is the proper time to plant beans in this locality; the soil must be warm, or germination will be very poor, and even if warm weather allows a good stand the least suspicion of frost kills the plants. Then, too, if planted early the stand will be more or less uneven for the strong seeds will naturally germinate first; this means that the time of maturing will be uneven, thus causing more work and a lack of uniformity in the beans. In the case of early string beans, of course it is well to take a little risk and some of the earliest sorts have been hardened as to strain so that they may be planted a week or so earlier.

It is a very easy matter to take two crops out of the space where beans are to stand, which is another good argument in favor of beans in quantities in the home garden. The space first occupied by spinach, radishes, lettuce and set onions will be intercropped produce a good stand of beans. If not quite ready to remove the first crop entirely, the gardener may plant the beans between the rows.

Dry beans in the field are gathered vine and all and threshed, but if the ripening is uneven, the small gardeners may know part of his crop; it is well to watch the vines and pick off the ripe pods before they open and allow the seed to escape. These beans are best to save for seed, for being the first to ripen they will naturally be the earliest next season.

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