

THE AMERICAN HOUSE

Early in February Cousin Victoria wrote us that she would board for the remainder of the winter at the American House. Balmoral was getting too much for her. She would arrive, she announced, on the afternoon of the fifteenth. (Cousin Victoria never consulted anyone's convenience. She merely announced her own.)

"I suppose we should be thankful for the extra money," my mother said. "But it does seem a little strange." "What she meant was, 'This is the last straw.'"

"She won't stay a week, if she comes," my father assured her. "You know Victoria. As likely as not, she won't turn up at all. Someone ought to convince her that the Queen was steadfast," he added with a wink at the three of us.

Cousin Victoria had always imitated the Queen. From girlhood she had studied pictures of the royal costumes, and, being an expert seamstress, copied them. Her home bore the name of the Queen's. Her dog, now buried under the lilac bush, had been called Dash. Reading once that the Queen had gobbled her food, Cousin Victoria had formed the habit, too, and as a result was constantly "in distress." Naturally she kept a Journal, which now in her seventy-third year had reached its eighty-second volume. This was her second most valued possession. Her first was a letter, dated Nov. 16, 1898, from a Lady-in-Waiting to the Queen

and dutifully helped her unpack. Cousin Victoria's room was next to the parlor and facing the village. It was the best room in the American House. "If I put her there in the first place," my mother said, "there won't be any excuse for her wanting to change." But Cousin Victoria took nothing on faith. Before we could unpack a bag she had to be shown every bedroom, including our own. Then, satisfied, at least temporarily, she allowed us to help her settle.

In selecting Cousin Victoria's bedroom, my mother had thought of its convenience to the parlor, where she had planned for her to sit during the day with her crocheting.

Cousin Victoria used her spare time and surplus energy in making lace for edging. This never wore out. A pair of drawers might fall into shreds, but the lace remained as good as ever. In order that none should be wasted, my mother used it lavishly around hems, necklines, and even armholes. We girls had hardly a spot on us that had not at one time or another been scratched by it. (Cousin Victoria had a very embarrassing way of lifting our skirts to see how it was wearing.) Roll after roll lay untouched in her work basket. Yet she kept right on.

But Cousin Victoria soon made it clear that she didn't care for the parlor. She preferred the sociability of the office. She ignored Mr. Cutter—as she did all the help—but she relished the drummers. One of them couldn't be in the office five minutes before she knew his product, his route, his schedules, and the size of his fam-

ily. Even the most agile couldn't escape her, for she had her chair right by the door with another drawn up beside it. If a victim started by, she seized his forearm and under her grip even the strongest wilted.

This distressed my mother terribly. Something had to be done, she said.

Something was. During the morning Cousin Victoria wrote in her Journal, but during the remainder of the day keeping her away from the office became another of our chores.

There were just two ways you could keep her in the parlor. One

was to get her to give you a lesson in lace making; the other was to get her to read aloud from one of her Journals. (These were underlined, of course, in the manner of the Queen.) Since long and intimate association had made us detest the lace, we usually promoted the Journals. They were dull reading. "Awakened at seven," lay until "seven-fifteen." For breakfast "oatmeal, prunes, gooseberry jam, toasted muffin." Two cups of tea. (Green) Recorded the events of yesterday. Examined the books of F. of the R. F. Branch 2. Found them in "good order." Re-read "In Memoriam."

Here follows my reflections on it. . . . Those reflections might cover from 10 to 20 pages.

We began to think more longingly than ever of the time when vacation would be over.

(To Be Continued)

G.I.'S FLOW 45 ACRES
Camp Ellis, Ill. (P)—Soldier-gardeners at Camp Ellis have plowed 45 acres for "victory gardens" so far during 1945. The "gardening detail" hopes to surpass its 1944 total of more than 500,000 pounds of food, 30 varieties of vegetables, 230 acres of

cultivation and savings of approximately \$50,000.

SUES CHURCH
Gary, Ind. (P)—Ordinarily, churches uphold reputation, but F. Laurence Anderson charged the First Baptist church board with damaging his, and he asks \$5,000 damages. He claimed that he was excluded from the church without good cause after 20 years of attending and paying dues.

The dormouse usually hibernates for six months, and a sudden coercive waking may be fatal.

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 Swans Down FLOUR 50 lb. bag 2.29	 Hi Ho box 20c	 Sunny Side box 31c	2 lb. box 31c
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SYRUP Staleys Golden **5 lbs. 43c**

Peaches can 25c <small>Merrimac—Halves</small>	Marmalade ... 2 lb. jar 37c <small>S&W Orange</small>
Plums jar 17c <small>Crown Point, 1 lb.</small>	Plum Jam 2 lb. jar 43c <small>S&W, Fine Flavor</small>
Cream Corn ... 2 cans 27c <small>H&D, 303's</small>	Apple Butter jar 21c <small>Libby's, 303's</small>

HUNT'S HOT SAUCE can 6c

 Van Camp's PORK & BEANS 16 oz. 2 cans 25c	Fancy Rice A Point Saver 3 lbs. 37c	 Prem can 35c
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POST'S RAISIN BRAN 3 pkgs. 29c

 Sperry's giant pkg. 35c	Seaside Lima Beans can 15c
 Duz Large Pkg. 23c	Royal Chef Clams can 25c
 CAMAY 3 Bars 20c	Folger's Coffee lb. jar 33c
 IVORY SOAP 3 Medium 19c	Tree Tea, 16 bags pkg. 18c
	Postum Cereal lb. pkg. 23c



Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Asparagus 2 lbs. 25c
Fresh Peas 2 lbs. 25c
Fresh Tomatoes lb. 19c
Rhubarb 4 lbs. 25c

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PAYDAY SPECIALS

FOOD TREATS FOR 1945 MAY 1945

GINGER BREAD MIX Dromeday	pkg. 19c
RANCHO TOMATO SOUP	can 5c
BROWN SUGAR Bulk	2 lbs. 13c
GRANDMA MOLASSES Full Pint	19c
 Shredded Wheat NBC	pkg. 11c
 Grape Nuts Flakes	7 oz. pkg. 2 pkgs. 17c
 Hi Ho Crackers	Lge. Pkg. 20c
Twistie Noodle Dinner	1 lb. jar 14c
Red Mexican Beans	3 lbs. 29c
 Drifted Snow FLOUR	50 lb sack 2.29

TURKEYS
Buy One for Mother's Day. Fresh Dressed—Paint Free

lb. 51c

Corned Beef lb. 37c
Boneless Brisket, 4 Points

Leg O' Lamb lb. 39c
Always in Season, Grade AA, 7 Points

Veal Roast lb. 29c
Shoulder Crown, 4 Points

Thuringer lb. 35c
Summer Sausage, 6 Points

Cream Cheese lb. 37c
Full Cream, 12 Points

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Cheddar Cheese lb. 36c | **Calo Dog Food** 6 cans 25c
(Case 24 Cans \$1.49)

Sweet Potatoes No. 2 1/2 can 23c	Pineapple Juice No. 2 can 15c
Diced or Sliced Beets No. 2 can 12c	Grapefruit Juice No. 2 can 15c
Santiam String Beans No. 2 can 18c	Apple Juice quart 25c
Diamond A, Whole Kernel Corn No. 2 can 16c	Hunt's Peach Preserves 2 lb. jar 47c
Sweet Peas, No. 303 3 cans 29c	S&W Orange Marmalade 2 lb. jar 35c
Spinach No. 2 can 15c	Libby's Apple Butter 21 oz. jar 19c
Tomato Juice, No. 1 tall 3 cans 25c	Triangle Rolled Oats No. 10 bag 53c
Sliced Peaches No. 1 tall can 15c	Snosheen Cake Flour 2 1/2 lb. pkg. 25c
Kodota Ripe Figs No. 1 tall can 16c	Crescent Baking Powder 1 lb can 22c
Bartlett Pears No. 2 1/2 can 27c	Walnuts, Soft Shell lb. 43c
Fruit Cocktail, Libby's No. 2 1/2 glass 38c	Vanilla quart 49c
	Cocomalt 1 lb. jar 42c
	Chocolate Malt Syrup 2 lb. jar 47c
	Canned Milk, All Brands 4 cans 39c
	Crystal White Syrup 1 1/2 lb. jar 17c
	Golden Syrup 1 1/2 lb. jar 15c

PREM LUNCHEON MEAT 12 oz. jar 34c

 Lipton's Tea	lb. 27c
	lb. 53c
	1 lb. 1.03
 Lipton's Chicken Noodle Soup	3 pkgs. 25c

Asparagus ... lb. 15c, 2 lbs. 25c
Fresh Peas ... lb. 15c, 2 lbs. 25c

SUNKIST LEMONS dozen 19c
ARIZONA GRAPEFRUIT dozen 65c
RHUBARB pound 5c
CALAVOS each 19c
FRESH TOMATOES 2 lbs. 35c

ALLEY OOP

3y V. T. HAMLIN

OF COURSE WANNUG'S DEAD! HE GOT HIMSELF GRABBED BY A DINOSAUR, DIDN'T HE?

YES, BUT A MAN CAN'T DIE BEFORE HE'S BORN. IN THIS CASE, MILLIONS OF YEARS BEFORE

SAY! YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING THERE! THIS TIME BUSINESS IS SO FANTASTIC IT'S NOT SAFE TO TAKE ANYTHING FOR GRANTED!

RIGHT! SO LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO TO GET WANNUGS OUT OF THIS JAM. THANK HEAVENS HE LEFT THE MACHINE IN OPERATION!

MEANWHILE THE HARLESS INVENTOR SUFFERS THE CONSEQUENCE OF HIS OWN CARELESSNESS!

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