

THE READER'S DATE BOOK

Housewives to Study Facilities During 'Demonstration Week'

Some 50,000 home towns across the nation will participate in Home Demonstration Week (April 29 to May 5) with programs highlighting the role of the home in preserving American ideals, supporting defense programs on the home front, and sharing their homemaker know-how and leadership experience with other homemakers.

Along the Main Streets of many home towns the merchants will consolidate their efforts to display the latest appliances that make homemaking a pleasure to the American housewife.

A strong America needs stronger homes, and during Home Demonstration Week rural women will take stock of their resources and plan to reinforce the most important segments of the home front. One-third of the million and a quarter homemakers who took part in home demonstration program last year live in villages and small cities. A home is the same on the farm or in the city.

Today's home is better equipped than it was five years ago. For example, five years ago about 48 per cent of the farm homes had electricity; now more than 75 per cent of them are wired for mechanization, and three-fourths of the current used goes for household operations.

Usually an electric refrigerator and a water system come first. Grandma's housekeeping tricks have given way to new and modern techniques and appliances.

Now about 57,500 home demonstration clubs in the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico hold regular meetings to study and to acquire skill in homemaking. These women are constantly in search of new and approved appliances to make homemaking easier and more efficient.

Today 3,500 county home demonstration agents and assistant agents serve these clubs and organize other programs to meet the needs and desires of local women of the country.

During Sleep Show time (April 16-28) homemakers in the small towns of the nation will have a chance to view all the newest bedding styles and learn how to sleep better.

Local furniture and department stores throughout the country will have on display the latest and best bedding for 1951. It will be a concentrated effort of Main Street merchants to introduce new models, new styles and new construction in sleeping equipment to their communities.

The small town homemaker will see the remarkable advances made in dual purpose bedding since last year. Smartly styled davenport and chair beds with inner construction that can quickly convert them from handsome sofas and chairs to comfortable beds will be displayed.

THE RURAL TEACHER

Community Indifference Causing Teachers to Leave Rural Schools

Much has been written about the small town and rural school plant, the need of new construction, expansion, and new equipment. But little has been said about the small town and rural school teacher, after all the most important part of any school system.

Today rural areas are finding it increasingly more difficult to keep good teachers in their schools. Low pay alone is not responsible. Unpleasant living conditions, lack of social life, public indifference to the job they are doing, are all a part of the dissatisfaction that accounts for the frequent resignation in many communities.

Today, with the shortage of rural teachers so critical, they can afford to be independent. An article in the March issue of Successful Farming magazine points out. They will pick the community which offers pleasant working conditions. They will refuse to stay among people who do not accept them as equal and who do not cooperate in the aims of education.

The physical discomforts, the low salaries, the restricted social life, are definite drawbacks to teaching. But even they shrink in importance if the people a teacher works with are cooperative and friendly. In the teacher's eyes, educating young people is a satisfying and rewarding job. But this can only be so if parents, school boards, and the children themselves

show a disposition to work with her toward this end, rather than being a block to it.

Some schools have an active and progressive Parent-Teacher association that helps to solve some of the problems. But even among these groups there is too much emphasis placed on general rather than specific problems. Speakers may be imported to give their views on sex education, or parents and teachers may discuss such questions as whether or not girls should wear jeans to school. But individual problems seldom come to the surface.

Here's what could take place. After coming forward to introduce himself, a father remarks: "My boy has been pretty much of a problem at home these days and I judge he may be at school, too. I wonder if we could work together and try to understand him." Or, "My Tim's grades show he isn't doing well in English. Is there any way I might help?"

Most of the problems teachers face stem from simple misunderstanding and thoughtlessness on the part of parents and the community. Little courtesies, and expressions of friendship and cooperation will make a good teacher want to stay in your school. It will also help turn an ordinary teacher into a true educator, one who brings out the best in your child.

Teachers Desire Normal Community Life

Most rural school teachers room and board in small towns near their schools. Their home life is anything but luxurious. They are forced to hunt long and hard for rooms, and, too often, must all but beg for shelter.

You'd think teachers were an odd breed of cats, the way some people shy away from renting rooms and giving board to them. When Johnny hears his mother remark, "Oh, we don't want a teacher around all

the time," it is hard to imagine that his respect for the profession will mount.

Teachers still are looked on in the community not as individuals, but as a group. Most often they are invited "en masse" to social functions. Actually, a teacher is just as anxious to make friends outside her work as anyone else. She's eager to join clubs and organizations and to lead a normal life in the community in which she works.



Ingenuity Is Needed In Poultry Business

Poultrymen Devise Easy Ways of Doing Old Chores

It takes more than hard work to make money in the poultry business. It takes ingenuity too—lots of it. This is the intangible quality which enables farmers to devise new, faster and easier methods of doing old chores.

For example, one poultryman solved the problem of removing



The picture above is the litter shaft invented by one poultryman. The elongated box-like structure to the right of the main structure houses the electric ventilating fan—one being located on each floor.

litter from each floor of his three-story chicken house in a simple, inexpensive way. His plan was to extend a two-foot square flue from top to bottom of his poultry structure. The end of the flue opened into a feed lot.

Openings, which can be closed by hinged doors, were constructed in the flue at each floor level.

Litter is scraped into the opening with a converted electric lawnmower—the cutting knives being replaced by a small bulldozer blade. Litter drops down the chute and into a manure loader, parked at the feed lot end of the flue.

Treatment of Seed With Good Fungicides Stressed

Treatment of grain seed with effective fungicides to insure better stands takes on additional importance this year, the U.S. department of agriculture reports.

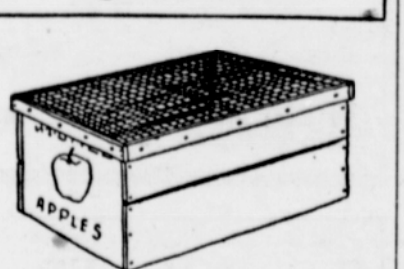
The department says the average cost of a few cents an acre makes failure to take the precaution not only thoughtless but reckless. Fungicidal treatment of grain seed is mostly for the smuts and other controllable diseases of wheat, oats, and barley and for the seed rots and seedling blights of corn and sorghum.

Department officials contend it is fortunate that much seed, such as hybrid corn, is treated at the source. Also there are large-scale treating plants where farmers may take their seed for treatment.

"Farmers who hire someone to treat their seed should make sure that the proper chemicals are used and that they are applied at the recommended rates per bushel," department officials warn.

Corn Must Ripen—Because many farmers had a great deal of soft corn this year, they will be looking for hybrids that will ripen next year. A check on results of local corn demonstrations will be of some help.

Vegetable Washer



By removing the bottom from a sturdy wooden box and nailing a piece of wire mesh (discarded window screen) in its place, you will have an excellent "washer" for the vegetables you grow. Place the box, screen face down, on the lawn and play the hose on the vegetables in it. This will remove all dirt.

DDT Is Being Replaced By A New Array of Chemicals

DDT, miracle insect-killer of a few years ago, is losing ground to a whole new array of chemicals that destroy biting parasites of livestock and pets, the American Veterinary Medical Association journal reports. Shortcoming of DDT created a need for new insecticides in livestock and farming, and the need is being filled with methoxychlor, lindane, and chlordane. Farmers should be instructed on their use.

DOING BUSINESS ON MAIN STREET

—A Weekly Newsletter

Report of department of commerce indicates retail business firms up and down Main Street are laying in stocks of merchandise, particularly non-durable goods for lean months ahead.

The report shows retailers' inventories at end of January, 1951, at \$17.4 billion dollars compared to \$16.1 billion in December and \$13.4 billion in January a year ago. After adjustments for seasonal factors, durable goods stocks were \$100,000,000 above December. Non-durables stocks increased \$500,000,000 from December. Major increase in non-durable field was stocks of food, apparel and general merchandise.

A MAIN STREET FEATURE

MAIN STREET BUSINESS GOOD

Federal Reserve Board reported department store sales showed 22 per cent increase from January 1 to March 3 this year. Increased inventories were not only shown in retail field, but in all business. Total business inventories at end of January were \$63.1 billion, increase of \$1.8 billion above December.

Report of the bureau of agricultural economics for February bears out other agency reports and indicates business in rural areas and in Main Street towns of country to continue good. BAE report says consumers stepped up rate of buying in last two months and in face of sharp spurt, inventory holdings increased sharply. Supplies of farm and industrial products in consumer markets remain large and supplies of food per person this year are expected to be larger than last. Here is significant statement bureau of labor statistics index on cost of living was 1.6 per cent higher in late February than before general ceiling price regulation, and 16 per cent above June. Cost rises on farm products were keeping pace. Highest gains were textiles, 33 per cent; chemicals and allied products, 30 per cent; farm products, 22 per cent and foods 16 per cent.

PARITY HIGHEST SINCE 1948

Agricultural economics report showed prices received by farmers rose 4 per cent from mid-January to mid-February, while prices paid by farmers including interest, taxes and wage rates gained 1 per cent in same period. AS RESULT OF THIS RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, PARITY RATIO ROSE TO 113, HIGHEST SINCE JULY 1948.

Of interest to Main Street merchants is fact farmers sold \$4.4 billion worth of farm products in first 2 months of 1951, 15 per cent increase in cash receipts over same period in 1950. Gross income of farmers, including cash receipts from sales, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments and home consumption of farm products, amounted to \$32.1 billion in 1950, slightly less than in 1949. However, production expenses were up to record \$19.1 billion, 6 per cent above 1949 and net income of farmers in 1950 totaled \$13 billion, 8 per cent under 1949.

— Prepared by the Washington Bureau of WNU Features.

ARMED SERVICES

QUESTION BOX

(Send your questions about the armed forces or any aspect of military service to: Walter Sheard, Armed Services Question Box, 1057 National Press Building, Washington 4, D.C. Answers will be given in this column.)

THE NUMBER of jet planes the air force has at its command, of course, is a military secret. But recently Maj. Gen. Roger M. Ramey, director of operations, USAF, attended a ceremony in Indianapolis marking the 10,000th Allison jet engine which came off the assembly line at the Allison plant.

Inflation hits the army as well as the housewife. It is understandable when it is realized that in a recent month the army purchased 24,600,000 pounds of boneless beef at 83.5 cents a pound; 10,600,000 pounds of carcass beef at 56 to 60 cents a pound; 10,600,000 pounds of pork at 45 cents a pound; 8,700,000 pounds of smoked ham at 54 cents a pound and 5,300,000 pounds of bacon at 43 cents a pound.

Q. My father served 45 days during the Spanish-American war. Would he be entitled to a VA out-patient medical care, or is there some minimum period of service he must have had in order to be eligible? J. H. T., Malden, Mo.

A. If your father served any time between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902, or July 15, 1903, if he served in the Moro province, if discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, he may be entitled to VA out-patient medical care, regardless of length of service if he gets VA prior approval.

Cuts in VA Appropriation Challenged

The handless national commander of AMVETS, Harold Russell, declares that some groups are engaged in an organized effort "in the guise of federal economy to revive the infamous 'economy act of 1933'" at the expense of literally thousands of disabled veterans and soldiers' widows. He challenged the committee on federal tax policy and the council of state chambers of commerce who are advocating drastic reductions in appropriations for

less of length of service if he gets VA prior approval.

Q. I am attending school under the GI bill. Would I be entitled to additional subsistence for my five-year-old daughter, even though she is being raised by my parents and is not dependent upon me for support? G. R., New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

A. Yes, so long as you submit necessary evidence of her birth to VA. Dependency of a minor child is not a factor in determining entitlement to increased GI bill subsistence.

Q. Does the ceiling on the armed services as approved recently by the senate hamper present department of defense programs? Mrs. T. R. P., Hardin, Kentucky.

A. The senate set a ceiling of 4,000,000 men, more than a half million above announced Pentagon goals for the armed forces. However, opponents of the move say it might prove dangerous since the U.S. cannot control size of forces of potential enemies.

Q. Does the period of the draft fixed by the senate bill have the approval of the armed services? A. H. D., Cairo, Ill.

A. The original administration bill asked for 27 months enlistment. The armed services says that three years is the ideal term of service, since the first year is spent in making the man a soldier, the second year it begins to break even on its investment in him and the third he is pulling his load as a regular army man. The senate bill fixed the term of the universal draft at 24 months.

The USAF has ordered all air force reserve officers training corps students graduating during 1951 into active military service within 90 days of the date they are graduated and commissioned as second lieutenants in the air force reserve. Approximately 8,100 officers will be affected.

FIRST AID to the AILING HOUSE

by Roger C. Whitman

BADLY WORN LAUNDRY TUBS

Questka: The smooth finish—assumed to be cement—has worn off the bottoms and a short distance up the walls of our laundry tubs (twin). They have been in use since 1940. Now the coarser material, fine gravel, is exposed, and from time to time small particles are found adhering to the wash. I shall appreciate your giving me any suggestion which may be translated into a method of repairing this damage.

Answer: If not too rough, you might be able to smooth the surfaces by rubbing with a coarse abrasive stone. If this fails, you might call in a competent concrete worker. He may be able to clean the surfaces with a muriatic acid solution, rinse with water and put in a layer of cement mortar. If he does not think this idea practical, you could have a sheet metal (tinsmith) worker cut a sheet of stainless steel to fit the bottom of the tubs. The sheet should be taken out after each washing for thorough rinsing with clear water and the tubs should be allowed to dry out. Of course, the better plan would be to have good modern porcelain tubs put in, and get rid of the old ones.

INSULATION IN ATTIC FLOOR

Question: Please advise whether it would be of any value to place waterproof paper between the joists in the attic (i.e., the ceilings of the rooms below) before pouring or blowing in the insulation material. I intended to do the work myself and would appreciate your advice, since it will require considerable additional work to lay the paper, and unless it will make the insulation more effective, I do not wish to go to this extra expense. If you do consider this waterproof paper an advantage, would you tell me what type to use?

Answer: Your plan is entirely correct, for the paper would act

as a "vapor barrier" and protect the insulation from any penetration of moisture from the house air, rising through the ceiling plaster. Get what is called vapor-proof paper, for not all waterproof papers are vapor-proof. Your dealer in insulating materials will have it in stock. After putting in your insulation, cover the material with tar paper or other strong paper to protect it from dust. (Insulating batts and blankets come with a vapor-proof covering.) Or you can lay flooring instead.

WHEN SLEEP WON'T COME AND YOU FEEL GLUM

Use Delicious Chewing-Gum Laxative REMOVES WASTE NOT GOOD FOOD

When you can't sleep—feel just awful because you need a laxative—do as millions do—chew FEEN-A-MINT. Doctors say many other laxatives, taken in large doses, start their "flushing" action too soon... right in the stomach where they often flush away nourishing food you need for pep and energy! You feel weak, tired.

But gentle FEEN-A-MINT is different! Taken as recommended, it works chiefly in the lower bowel—removes only waste, not good food! You avoid that weak feeling—you feel fine, full of life! Get FEEN-A-MINT, 25¢, 50¢, or only 10¢

FEEN-A-MINT FAMOUS CHEWING-GUM LAXATIVE

Child's World Is Wonderful



Carmelita Plonka

The world that children live in is mighty wonderful... filled with little daydreams and hopes and joys that make the older folks sometimes wish they were school-age again. But boys and girls have their ups and downs, too, particularly when they are not feeling well. Ten-year-old Carmelita Plonka, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Plonka of 3202 S. Aberdeen, Chicago, Ill., was not feeling good recently and was just too listless to get the most out of her school days. Fortunately for Carmelita, though, her grandmother suggested that her mother give her HADACOL, because she had heard how much it was helping children deficient in Vitamins B₁, B₂, Iron and Niacin. Now Carmelita feels fine and her mother says she has a big appetite.

Here is Mrs. Plonka's statement: "My daughter Carmelita, who is 10 years old and in the fifth grade, had always been underweight and I had to positively force her to eat. She had no interest in food whatsoever, but I knew that she had to eat. When we were visiting my mother in Missouri over the Christmas holidays she suggested I give Carmelita HADACOL. I bought a large bottle of it that same day and was amazed at the change in Carmelita. Her appetite picked right up and she now eats three hearty meals a day plus in-between snacks. I have really praised HADACOL, and highly recommend it for everyone."

HADACOL can help you, if you suffer such deficiencies. Ask your druggist for HADACOL today.

If your druggist does not have HADACOL, order direct from The LeBlanc Corporation, Lafayette, Louisiana. Send no money. Just your name and address on a penny post card. Pay postman. State whether you want the \$3.50 family economy size or \$1.25 trial size. Remember, money cheerfully refunded unless you are 100% satisfied. Adv.

Water Lily Runner



5531

Summer-Time Scarf

A LOVELY summer-time scarf for dressers, buffet or dining table with cool looking water-lilies in pink and green embroidered or appliqued to snowy white material. Gossamer edging is crocheted.

Pattern No. 5531 contains instructions on how to applique design or how to embroider design, color chart for working. The Anne Cabot ALBUM contains dozens of fascinating needlework designs for you to crochet, knit and embroider. Four gift patterns printed inside the book. Send 25¢ today.

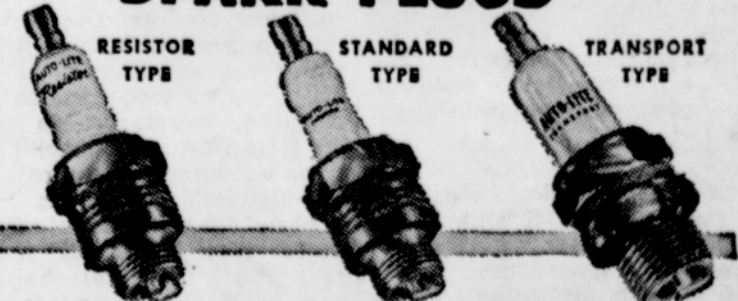
SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLEWORK 367 West Adams St., Chicago 6, Ill. Please enclose 20 cents plus 5 cents in coin for first-class mailing of each pattern desired.

Pattern No. Size Name Address

You're always right with...

AUTO-LITE

World Famous SPARK PLUGS



Greater Gas Savings—Auto-Lite Resistor Spark Plugs offer car owners new advantages, found only in automotive type spark plugs with built-in resistors. Auto-Lite Spark Plugs—Tested U.S.A.

Unsurpassed Quality—Auto-Lite Standard Spark Plugs offer outstanding quality and have long been recognized for their unbeatable performance.

Lowest Cost Per Mile—Auto-Lite Transport Spark Plugs have aircraft type insulator, heavy electrodes and rugged construction for heavy duty.

SEE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AUTO-LITE SPARK PLUG DEALER NOW