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Home Town Helps

CLEAN UP THAT BACK YARD

Matter of Importance That Does Not Always Seem to Be Given Consideration.

At various seasons we women faithfully scour our homes from attic to cellar, and then stop at the back door leading to the yard, which, after all, is a kind of outdoor room not always fully appreciated.

Many a woman most fastidious where the house proper is concerned tolerates a surprising degree of untidiness in the back garden. Accumulations of house and garden trash are not only eyesores, but positive menaces to health. If you have been lax in the past, get busy with broom and bucket before the rubbish collectors make their next round.

Dig into the corners, particularly the dark, damp angles under porch or shed. Let in the sunlight! Sunlight is the greatest purifier known. Get rid, if possible, of the tall wooden fences which often surround even tiny yards scarcely big enough to stretch a sheet across. Grass and flowers refuse to grow in the rank shade, but snails and microbes flourish amazingly. Let in the health-giving sunshine; keep the yard neat and you should worry about the public gaze!

Let the children help in the work. Bid them round up stray clothespins, tin cans, old brooms and milk bottles. Don't make a clothes-prop rack of the lilac bush, nor a dishcloth drier of your shrubs. Dig up plantain and dandelion weeds from the grass while digging is good. It will be doubly hard later in the hot sun when the roots are stronger.

Don't let tradesmen take short cuts across your little grass plot, even if you have to set up wire guards, which are less unsightly than bald patches in the grass. Don't let the withered flower stalks of the iris now blooming hang around all summer. Keep the borders neat by cutting all withered leaves and flowers. Set a trash barrel in an unobtrusive corner. Teach the children to throw into it all refuse not suitable for the garbage pail. Tell the kiddies you take pride in your tidy, pretty garden and they will take pleasure in helping the good work along.—Philadelphia Record.

NOW GOOD TIME TO BUILD

Many Reasons Why Those Who Are Thinking of Construction Should Get It Started.

Building done these days is quite certain to be good building; better than the average quality in times when real estate improvements are more actively carried on. This is a point worth considering as an offset, in part, to high prices for material and high wages in the building trades.

Contractors are sure to take unusual pains to please those who give them business. They are not obliged, as they have been, at times, to put up with almost any labor, however incompetent, that can be found, even among tramps and idlers. There have been periods, such as the last year of the war, when the standards were so lowered that almost anyone who could and would work at all was eagerly hired for service which needed painstaking intelligence.

All the way through the various trades that contribute to the building of a dwelling or a business block there is a strong desire to make the work done so satisfactory that it will lead to more employment. All who have anything to do with real estate improvements are anxious to promote a revival of construction, on the largest possible scale.

These facts are important. They are worthy of consideration by all who are dealing with building problems.—Exchange.

Proper Homes Important.

To provide proper homes for the people is one of the worthiest objects of human endeavor. Proper housing conditions have been regarded as the basis upon which all other reforms and betterments must rest. Without decent home surroundings, light and air, proper sanitation, we do not have good citizens. All of this has been said many times before. The surprising thing is that in this country, at least, there has been comparatively little interest in it among well-to-do who desire to aid with their wealth the well-being of their fellow men. Money expended now in building serves a double purpose, meets a coincident need, the need for employment and housing.

City Manager Plan in Kansas.

Kansas is said to have more cities with a commission form of government than any other state, and it also has three cities where the city manager plan of government is in successful operation. One of the latter is McCracken, a little city in the western edge of Rush county, with a population of only 371 persons. It adopted the commission-manager form of city government and on May 7 the commissioners took over the city affairs. The first act was to elect Leonard L. Ryan of McCracken as city manager. He will have complete charge of all the business affairs of the city.—Christian Science Monitor.

HER DISCIPLINE

By JACK LAWTON.

Stanton, riding village-ward for his day's supplies, saw the automobile coming toward him at a clipping pace down the country road. He had just time to discern a girl's white-clad figure at the wheel before the machine was upon him, pushing with a grating jar his own little car into the ditch.

When Stanton arose, as he supposed unhurt, the girl, who impatiently awaited proceedings, bent again to the wheel and disappeared amid a cloud of dust. He had been too confused to note either number or make of the flying auto and his fleeting view of the girl's face, shaded by her low-brimmed hat, was too indistinct to remember. But of what use?

His sturdy runabout was uninjured as he forced it out of the ditch, and his own bones were intact and in their right places. Indignation was at first his overwhelming sensation.

"This autocrat of the roadway should be locked up like any other common lawbreaker," he fumed inwardly, and then a sickening realization of pain came over him—pain which shot from his right shoulder down his arm, making steering an impossibility.

Helplessly he leaned back in the car seat, signaling help from a passing teamster.

"I guess I've been hurt," said Stanton. "A young woman drove her car into mine a few minutes ago. Can you find some one to drive me back to my shack in the woods?"

"Young woman in a big gray car?" the man queried. "That's Lawton the millionaire's daughter. Thinks she owns the town in general. No mother, and spoiled by her dad. His girl can do as she likes an' he'll pay. That's the idea! I'll send a fellow right on from the village to drive you home." And he did.

The "fellow" left Stanton's runabout at the opening of the wood in its rough-built shed, while painfully he made his way through the screened boughs to his log cabin home. When Stanton had with difficulty prepared his own evening meal he sank exhausted upon a bed by the window. It was here that he watched the sun rise after a sleepless night, sinking later, breakfastless, into a sleep until noonday. Then, as he lay upon his pillow, he reflected on the different types of womanhood—the fortune-favored daughters and those working for a livelihood.

As Stanton reflected he endeavored to rise—he would make a cup of coffee and get to his typewriter; but the effort was unavailing. A step sounded, muffled by the pine needles before the cabin door, then a girl's figure appeared in the opening.

"Good-morning," she said, hesitating at the man's appearance of invalidism. "I have wandered farther into the wood than I realized, and just when I was becoming too thirsty I saw your home. May I, please, have a drink of water?"

"Certainly," Stanton responded, "if you will help yourself. I find that I am unable to help even myself."

"Indeed?" asked the girl. She came into the room, gazing curiously at the prostrate figure. "You are ill, and alone?"

"I live alone," Stanton answered. "I was hit by an automobile yesterday—how seriously, I did not know until I returned here."

Quickly the girl came forward, tossing her hat upon a chair. "First, I will get something for you to eat," she said. "Where do you keep your food?"

As she searched the wall cupboard, Stanton furtively admired the girl's piquantly charming face. "You knew—" she asked presently, "the person who ran into you?"

Stanton frowned. "I learned," he replied, "that she was one of that irresponsible class of women who consider only the gratification of their own reckless whims."

"You talk like a book," the girl said, smiling.

"I write books," he answered grimly; "that's what I'm out here for."

"Cooking your own meals?"

"Even that," he told her, "is preferable to being disturbed in my work."

"And now—you will write up that 'poor rich girl,' I suppose, as a horrible example."

"She is a horrible example," Stanton insisted. "She should be disciplined. What punishment is the payment of a speeding fine to her? Unless, indeed, she might be made to work out her own fine."

"You think that would help?" asked the girl. She was bending over the dead stove. "Just how?" she asked, irrelevantly, "does one build a fire to make coffee? I know what I'll do," she added brightly, "it won't take a minute; my car is at the opening. I'm going home to get my chafing dish."

Glowing and smiling the girl soon reappeared, bearing in her arms a huge bundle. When she had deposited it upon the table she came demurely to stand beside the author's couch.

"About that discipline," she said, "I'm going to try your advice. Will you let me work out my fine—for the speeding, you know? I'll take the housekeeper's place and cook for you every day until you are well. I can make lots of good things in a chafing dish."

"It wouldn't be fair to let you," Stanton protested, but his eyes were eager.

"Necessary discipline," Lawton's spoiled daughter answered, severely, and the two smiled at each other across the chafing dish.

(Copyright, 1919, by Western Newspaper Union.)

THE DAIRY

MILK AND CREAM DEFINITION

Standards to Be Used for Enforcement of Food and Drugs Act Published in Circular.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Definitions and standards for milk and cream adopted by the joint committee on definitions and standards and approved by both the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials and the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, to be used as a guide for the enforcement of the food and drugs act, have been published by the United States department of agriculture in a circular, "Food Inspection Decision 178."

Milk is defined as the whole, fresh, clean, lacteal secretion obtained by the complete milking of one or more healthy cows, properly fed and kept, excluding that obtained within 15 days before and five after calving, or such longer period as may be necessary to render the milk practically colustrum free.

Pasturized milk is milk that has been subjected to a temperature not lower than 145 degrees Fahrenheit for not less than 30 minutes. Unless it is bottled hot, it is promptly cooled to 50 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.

Skimmed milk is milk from which substantially all of the milk fat has been removed.

Buttermilk is the product that remains when fat is removed from milk or cream, sweet or sour, in the process of churning.

Cream, sweet cream, is that portion of milk, rich in milk fat, which rises to the surface of milk on standing, or is separated from it by centrifugal force. It is fresh and clean. It contains not less than 18 per cent of milk fat and not more than 2-10 per cent of acid-reacting substances calculated in terms of lactic acid.

Whipping cream is cream which contains not less than 30 per cent of milk fat.

Homogenized milk or homogenized cream is milk or cream that has been mechanically treated in such a manner as to alter its physical properties with particular reference to the condition and appearance of the fat globules.

The composition of the milk produced by different breeds of dairy cows varies so greatly, say the food officials, that it is not practicable to fix a standard which is applicable in all localities in the United States and its territories. It is therefore, left to the state and municipal authorities to adopt such standards as their local production conditions may warrant.

COW TESTING IS PROFITABLE

Tennessee Dairyman Expresses Appreciation of Benefits of Cow-Testing Association.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

"I would not take four times what my testing work has cost me for what it has been worth to me," is the way a Tennessee dairyman expresses his appreciation of the benefits he gained as a member of a cow-testing association which was organized by the United States department of agriculture in his community. "The cow which has proved to be the best one in my herd was the one that I considered poorest

A Good Start for a Cow-Testing Association.

before the tests were made. I priced one of my cows at $125 before she was tested, but now I price her at $350."

The test showed that the nineteen-year-old cow which this dairyman had used for the foundation cow of his herd made 68 pounds of butterfat in November. The average production for the herd during this month was over 40 pounds of butterfat.

CONVENIENT ROOM FOR MILK

Separate Apartment Should Be Provided to Relieve Oftentimes Overcrowded Kitchen.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Where even a few cows are kept, a separate room for handling milk should be provided to relieve the oftentimes overcrowded kitchen. Well houses frequently have a room which, with the addition of a concrete floor, shelves, and window screens, makes a very convenient milk room.

LODGE DIRECTORY

QUEEN ESTHER CHAPTER No. 101, O. E. S., meets second Tuesday evening of each month at 8:00 sharp in Mack's hall. Visiting members welcome. Estella A. Hitt, W. M. Kathryn L. Garner, Sec.

HERMISTON LODGE NO. 138, A. F. & A. M., meets in Masonic Hall on First Tuesday evening of each month. Visiting brethren welcome. J. H. Young, W. M. H. K. Dean, Secy.

VINEYARD LODGE NO. 206, I. O. O. F., meets each Saturday evening in Odd Fellows hall. Visiting members cordially invited. R. W. Sprague, N. G. W. R. Longhorn, Sec.

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