Women's Page



BY A WOMAN

One of the early remembrances of my friend's childhood was the milk carrier. Uncle Ben Sheppard was a familiar character around town. He would walk from house to house carrying his tin bucket with his quart, pint and half pint measures. Uncle Ben was a sub normal and lived with his sister , Aunt Hannah Anderson, who owned the cow. They occupied a little broken down house on the location that Mr. Hynson Rogers house now stands. As for the cow, it must have had a pasture lot somewhere, but whenever Uncle Ben saw a special lot of luscious grass, he would bring his cow to graze there, standing and watching her perfectly content all day long. As to the hygienic properties of the milk there was little thought those days and the children seemed to thrive on the it any way. Another familiar character was Aunt Kitty Tumor. She carried around milk and oysters and it was quite interesting to listen to the many things she had to tell of the joy and sorrows of slave days. One of the very amusing personages was Aunt Becky Medford, a very large and black woman. She was full of supersition and would walk a square to avoid walking across the path of a black cat. Having quite a number of children very often they would be put in jail because they had no other place to go. Both she and her children had vociferous voices and they would fill the air of the jail and vicinity with their spirituels, sometimes making it almost impossible for persons in the neighboring church to hear the service.

Two old colored men were noted in town at this time. Old Ches Wilmer, the chimney sweep and Bob Starling. At any time one asked Bob what time it was he would always say "Bout eleven." In fact, the time never changed for Bob. Ches Wilmer was the joke of the town. Nothing suited him better than to have a crowd gather around while he was on the chimney top singing with all his might. He regarded Bob rather with contempt. When Ches was asked to tell the time he would reply. "Some say eleven, but I say it is sixteen o'clock.

Old Uncle Fred, the janitor of the college, was another familiar figure in the town. His job did not keep him busy all the time, so he did odd jobs for those whom he liked. One thing he always did was to go down to Stam's store in the evening and return to the college with a lighted lantern. My friend tells me of an experience which she had in these days. She was uptown helping to nurse a sick patient one night. His fever rose very rapidly and his wife said she must have the Doctor. Now the Doctor lived down town. Though a timid person she said she would go for him. There were no telephones and the streets were very dark. With her heart in her throat she could see hulking figures behind even tree. It was one o'clock when she reached the doctor's home. Having wakened him, she started back up town when Uncle Fred's friendly lantern appeared into view. Never was there a more welcome sight. Uncle Fred willingly lighted her back to the home where the sick patient lived, filling her soul with gratitude for him.

These of course were in the good old times when we stumbled through unlighted streets and had to run on errands a dozen times a day.

In those dark streets it was the blind leading the blind. One night after a strm, a party was feeling their way along, when one in the party called out in a cheerful voice. "Just follow me." The crowd followed, and all walked into a ditch. A protesting voice was raised. "I will follow you no more," it said, as the group scrambled out of the muddy water. So in some ways the present times are at least more comfortable.

One of the characters of those times is still with us. Aunt Charlotte Yorker. She says she is over a hundred years though she is well preserved if she is so old. She belonged to Judge Chambers and can tell many a story of those early days. Uncle Billy Robinson was quite a land owner. It is said that all Chestertown belonged to the Wilmer family up to the branch leading from the Free School Spring. Well, the old Master left one side of Queen St. from Maple Ave., to the Barroll property to his servant with the privilege of using the spring near the Barroll land. So it was called Robinson Town for many years. As Uncle Billy had numerous progeny it remained in the family for many years but gradually the lots were sold to the white people and Mr. Howard Strong has recently built his artistic home on the last piece of their property, after searching heirs and titles for a long time.

ADOPTING CHILDREN

It seems that the movie stars are quite fond of adopting children. The following article was copied from the Washington Post.

Adopting children is not a new fad in Hollywood. Wallace Reid adopted a small Betty to be sister to his son, Bill, when Bill was 5 years old. Betty and Bill are members of the younger set now and as devoted as any brother and sister in your home town.

Barbara LaMarr adopted a tiny Sonny ten years ago. Upon her tragic death in 1925, ZaSu Pitts, who had a young daughter, ZaSu Ann, adopted the reorphaned boy, and Michael Gallery is now buying mysterious presents for mother and Sis.

When John Michael Joseph was a few weeks old, Polly Moran took him in and made him her own son. But she waited until this year, when he was 15, before she adopted him, because she felt that he should be old enough to decide for himself whether or not he cared to be adopted.

Two years ago the Harold Lloyds adopted Peggy, and now it is hard to remember that Gloria didn't always have a little sister.

They are abroad this year, living in a house in Cannes, France, where the merriest of Christmas will be celebrated by the t hree little Lloyds.

Gwynne Pickford, Lottie's daughter, has been legally adopted by her aunt, Mary Pickford, but Gwynne behaves as if she were Mary's mother. Whatever Mary undertakes is sure to be a great worry to Gwynne, who feels responsible for its success.

It has been an established custom for Mary to turn the switch that lights all the outdoor Christmas trees in Beverly Hills and then to distribbute gifts with Santa Claus. Now it is up to Gwynne to get Mary there on time and see that she gets away again. Mary would stand there until exhausted if she hadn't a determined 15-year-old to protect her.

BLACK JEWELRY

Black jewelry in Paris to go with formal black afternoon ensembles. Black jewelry set in silver or yellow gold, sometimes relieved with diamonds, but generally plain. The favorite in black jewelry is onyx, but jet is likewise in the running. Many afternoon costumes are all black, including shoes, with only stockings and gloves of another color.

INSIDE SWEATERS

Inside sweaters and blouses, on the other hand, almost always slip over the head. They open a little way down the back of the neck, and button with about three buttons, which makes it possible for them to maintain the smooth flat front the high collar line so smart this season. Tuck-in blouses are worn with trousers and short tunics with skirts.

WATCH THE HEM LINE

A dress with big puffed sleeves looks foolish if the skirt is too short. Eight inches from the floor is the length toward which many street costumes with big sleeves are veering. Afternoon frocks with very big sleeves are likely to be two inches longer.

Hints for the Household

RECIPES

Spinach on Toast

Wash one peck of spinach and cook in a covered pan one-quarter of an hour. Turn into colander and press out as much water as possible. Mince verys fine. Melt three tablespoon butter in a frying pan, add two tablespoons flour and stir until well blended. Add spinach and cook five minutes, stirring constantly. Add one cup cream, salt and pepper, cook three minutes and serve on toast.

Ham Loaf

3 cups minced cooked ham
2 eggs
1-4 cup cracker crumbs
1 small onion
1 cup milk
3 sprigs parsley
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
1-8 teaspoon pepper
2 hard-cooked eggs

Put ham, onion, and parsley through the food chopper. Add beaten eggs, cracker crumbs, pepper, mustard.

The Road To Better Health

Within the last year much that if of value has been added to our knowledge of scarlet fever. Drs. George F. and Gladys H. Dick, of Chicago, seem to have shown that a certain kind of streptococcus is the germ which causes this disease. It is present in the throats of those who have scarlet fever, and gives of a poison (toxin) which is absorbed into the system.

The discovery of the germ which is the cause of any of the infectious diseases is of tremendous value. It leads to a study of the characteristics of the germ and the means by which it is conveyed from one person to another. In some instances, tests for susceptibility, methods of immunizing the individual against the disease, and even curative measures, have resulted from such a discovery.

The Dick Test

One of the positive results of the study of streptococcus of scarlet fever is a skin test for susceptibility. This is known as the Dick test, and consist in the injection of a minute amount of the toxin of the streptococcus into the skin. Within a few hours an area of redness appears at the point of injection in those wwho are susceptible. Eperiments with the test seem to show that it is about as reliable as the Schick test for diphtheria, which is resembles.

Pursuing their studies still further, Drs. Dick has attempted to work out a method of immunizing those who are found to be susceptible. They seem to have met with considerable success. They inject small amounts of toxin at intervals of about 5 days, somewhat similar to the way in which toxin-antitoxin is given to prevent diphtheria.

While these things may still be considered in the experimental stage, their perfection is only a matter of time. They will enable us to prevent a disease which, besides being dangerous in itself, often gives rise to kidney and heart disease in children.



PERCY SHELLEY

"The trumpet of a prophecy! Oh, Wind, if Winter comes
can Spring be far behind?"
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SHOPPING JEFFERSON'S

Happy New Year, friendly readers, and a light-hearted, busy one! I couldn't wish you anything grander than that because it's a complete recipe for obtaining health, wealth and happiness. Show me somebody who is busy doing something they like to do, doing it lightheartedly, that is not taking real or imitation troubles solemnly or themselves too seriously, and I'll show you a person who is nice to look at, pleasant to be with and prosperous to boot! Want to bet me?

All of which, of course, as you've guessed is by way of leading up to something. Here's the plot.

The second floor of Jefferson's Store is being transformed into a workshop. Not a humdrum, everyday kind, but a thrilling exciting, fascinating affair. It's to be a Handcraft Shop with a carefully arranged course in a wide variety of crafts and needlework so planned that regardless of age, skill or experience everyone can begin immediately doing things to add to the beauty and comfort of their own homes or sell at a profit in the accompanying Commission Gift Shop.

There will be instruction in rug making, slip-cover making, lamp shade construction of a number of types, painting of furniture and novelties, paper pottery, paper tapestry, needle craft of many kinds. A special class in handwork on baby clothes will be arranged with the idea of producing salable articles for an outside market. A gift shop will be maintained in connection with the classes to provide a local outlet for those things judged to be salable by the instructor.

There will also be classes for children with plenty of occupation for young fingers. Send the youngsters in.

The classes will be held each Wednesday and Saturday afternoon from two until 5:30 and the instruction fee is $2 a month for 8 lessons. Materials for each project are purchased as required by the student.

It's going to be fun, girls, old and young, and it really will pay you gorgeous dividends. Drop in at Jefferson's and find out more about it.

LYDIA LEE.



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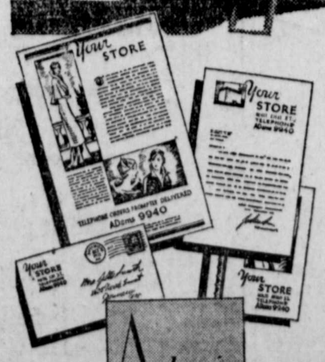
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