# GRASSROOTS

by WRIGHT A. PATTERSON

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

### SNOWS FOR THE CROPS VIE WITH THE SUNSHINE

THE TRAIN wound its way around hills, over valleys, through an occasional tunnel, across frozen rivers, ever westward across the Dakotas and into Montana.

From the car windows we saw a world blanketed in crystal white snow. More snow was falling and a blizzardy wind was piling it in great drifts. Across the snow, some distance from the tracks, was a farmhouse. Smoke, the clean smoke from a wood fire, was coming from the chimney.

Pete and Mary were keeping the home fires burning while Dad and Mother were wintering in the Southland. Pete was also keeping open the lines of communication between the house and the barn and cattle sheds. Between times he worked at the wood pile, that there might be ammunition with which to repulse the blitzkrieg of cold. He cursed the ever-falling and drifting snow which caused him labor and difficulties.

Far away to the Southland, Dad and Mother read of the heavy snowfall in their state. Mother hoped it would not inconvenience Pete and Mary, but they were young and capable. Father gloried in the moisture the snow was bringing to insure next summer's crops, and thanked Providence for it.

From the snug coziness of the Pullman we admired the beauty of the scene, enjoyed the howling of the blizzard, and congratulated ourselves on having chosen a northern route to the warmth and sunshine of the West coast.

It was all in the point of view.

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### SUN SEEKERS

SHOULD YOU WISH to know who, as a class, are the great travelers of America during these winter months, just go to Florida or California and count the number of visiting farmers and their families. Thousands of them escape the ice and snow of the northern states by going South for the warmth, the sunshine and the privilege of being out of doors—not for the night clubs and the gaming tables.

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### RICH AND POOR IN SAME CAMP

NOTHING I can think of would be more beneficial than a universal citizenship training law. A law which would provide six months, at least, in camp for every young man between the ages of 19 and 21 years. Put the workman's son and the banker's son under canvas together and under exactly the same conditions. Give them an opportunity to get acquainted and become "buddies." It would break down the forming of class distinctions in America. It would create a race of better Americans. It would demonstrate the equal opportunity for all.

While in such camps, military discipline and training would be essential, the one greatest purpose would be a training in citizenship, a training in mutual understanding.

The idea would be more popular as a citizenship training law than as a military training law.

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WINSLOW is a thriving town in southern Indiana. Ask any business man there the reason for the town's prosperity and he will point to A. J. Heuring and the Winslow Dispatch. Winslow is but one of thousands of American towns in which the local editor and his paper is the foundation on which town growth and prosperity are built.

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### NAVAL BASES AND THE COST

IN HAWAII we have a naval, air and army base that is valuable as an outpost for the protection of our western coast line. It is valuable because the government has expended half a billion dollars or more to fortify it. Before an enemy could capture the vast stores of oil, munitions and other war supplies, it would have to silence the great guns on Diamond Head, and others on the Island of Oahu. The enemy would have to land against the opposition of a full division of the United States army stationed there.

The eight spots selected on eight British islands in the Atlantic, and turned over to the American government, will be valuable as outposts for our Atlantic seacoast when they, like Hawaii, have been heavily fortified and garrisoned. To attempt to use them as air and naval bases until they are protected would be about as practical as to leave a stack of watermelons in the center of the public square without a guard over them.

To fortify these eight new air and naval bases will mean an expenditure of from four to six billion dollars. Where is such a vast sum to come from? Including the appropriations congress has voted for armament expenditures during the next 12 months, the federal government's indebtedness is more than sixty billion dollars. That means an obligation of over $460 for each man, woman and child; it means a mortgage of over $2,000 on the homes and farms of each family of five; it means an annual interest charge of over $70 for each family of five.

# Kathleen Norris Says:

## *The Real Problem of Young Marriage*

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

*He took me downtown to dinner and bought me gardenias, saying that I had let myself get into a housekeeping rut. When I said that money was an important element in married security he just laughed.*

**By KATHLEEN NORRIS**

*FINANCIAL SECURITY*

*Money problems in married life ARE important, Kathleen Norris insists, even where the husband and wife love each other intensely. This does not mean that couples with small incomes cannot be very happy, she adds, but that unnecessary financial insecurity resulting from poor management will gradually undermine and possibly destroy the best of homes. Read this story of a tearful young wife who is faced with just such a problem.*

ALONG about this time of year the questions begin to come in from the June brides. They are still the happiest girls in all the world and Tim is still the most wonderful man, but still, they'd just like to ask—

One particularly bewildered, little bride writes me from a New Mexico city; she says that she cut out an article of mine saying that the money problem was the most important in marriage, and that she did seriously believe it, but that Walter thinks it is perfect nonsense.

"Walter," writes Marian, "has a small salary, but gets an occasional commission. When we had been married only two months we got a really fine commission, and made the first three payments on an adorable house. We got a refrigerator and a gas stove and just a few things we had to have, paying more than half down, but planning to pay the rest off in monthly installments. This, with the house, means $92 monthly. What we are sure of is $37.50 a week, so you see we need pretty close figuring to get through, months when there is no commission. Walter had a heavy cold in October, lost 22 days at the office, so we got behind and he borrowed $300 to keep abreast of our obligations.

**Running Into Debt.**

"Now this is what worries me. He does not like to talk finances with me, and I don't like to bother him. But by chance I learned that we are running behind with all our payments, and unless we have a streak of great luck—and in the winter real estate developments hardly move at all, I can't see how we are going to manage. What I want to do is to rent this house for a year, which we could do, move into a small apartment, live on our salary, and let the house pay for itself and its furnishings, which it would just do.

"When I hinted this plan to Walter he was amused and disturbed. He took me downtown to dinner and bought me gardenias, saying that I had let myself get into a housekeeping rut. When I said that money was an important element in married security he just laughed and said that he had been in and out of hot water all his life and certainly was not going to begin worrying now. He admitted that he had made our indebtedness 'an even five hundred' but that if the bank ever made any trouble, he could 'get it from someone.' He spoke of a 'second mortgage' on the house, but while it is unpaid for I don't think we could do that. Meanwhile he is anxious for a child; both the men in his office have small children and he says he is jealous when he hears them talking of them. But it seems to me we have no right to go ahead with a family, dearly as I would love a baby, until we are a little more out of the woods. Will you tell me what position I ought to take and whether I am unnecessarily worried? Moss Rose."

**Breakers Lie Ahead.**

Poor little Moss Rose has a real problem on her hands and certainly there are breakers ahead. She and her Walter will lose their home, and take to smaller quarters, and then Walter will lose his job. The higher-ups in an office distrust a man who runs into debt and depends upon visionary commissions to extricate him, and who at the same time feels himself fitted for the responsibilities of marriage and fatherhood.

Through this crisis Rose will have to stand by him, and when the smoke blows away, and he secures a position without the dazzling possibilities of commissions, she will have to persuade him to let her handle their financial affairs.

If he agrees and sticks to his bargain, they may emerge into the sunshine of a more secure prosperity again, find a new home, set a room aside in it for the nursery. But if Walter refuses to let his wife share in the management, the whole thing will be repeated over again, with very doubtful results.

For women get tired of bright promises that are never fulfilled; money shortage that is never ended; eternal humiliations from tradespeople. They know that these things aren't necessary, and they would rather work out their problems on a certain $100 a month, than have a dazzling rush of riches one week, and a bitter shortage for the 51 weeks to follow.

**Wife's Right to Share Money Planning.**

It is the right of every wife to share money responsibility, money planning. If a young husband refuses her that right, he has only himself to blame if she runs into extravagances, cannot account for what he gives her, and blames him for necessary economies. Nothing enrages a husband more than to discover that the little extra money, a bit of luck has brought him, has been blandly spent by his wife, or to open bills for all sorts of ridiculous expenditures that send his scheme for a budget tumbling down into fresh depths of debt.

And nothing upsets a wife more than to find herself going about the daily tasks of beds and dishes thinking resentfully: "he told me I'd have to send Tom's shoes back and take Mollie out of dancing school, and then he plays poker and loses $60 in one evening! I can't have a maid even for three days a week, but he can loan Bill Porter a hundred dollars. He gave me a call-down for sending Mama a check for her birthday, and yet he says he matches the boys at the club every day to see who pays for the lunch!"

Married love ought to be high above thoughts of money. But it isn't. Such reflections as these corrode the home atmosphere when apparently far more serious things are forgotten and forgiven. Money in the purse is a singularly healing thing; when Rose can look at a growing bank account with satisfaction, when Walter feels that his wife is as interested as he is in making the financial end of their bargain a success, then both feel a confidence and security that is the very base and root of happiness.

# Sportlight

by GRANTLAND RICE

"IF YOU care to look a few months ahead, or a year ahead," writes one of our leading citizens, "I'll give you the answer concerning sport. I happen to be in a position to know what is taking place. We will have more sport than ever before, but most of it will be in army camps. I mean both baseball and football, especially football next fall.

"By that time we'll have around 2,000,000 in army or navy life. Their main recreation will be sport. There have been so many turned down through physical disabilities that we will soon have a rush on athletes. It will not be a surprise to see an appeal made to all college athletes and to professional athletes of the right age to enlist.

Grantland Rice

**"Young, unmarried athletes earning fame or money next year will not be popular heroes. Certainly not with the divisions scattered all over the United States. I think you can get their viewpoint. The luck of the draft won't be taken into consideration. They will not be cheering stars who are young, strong and well fixed financially. It will be just as it was in the World war more than 20 years ago.**

### *The New Schedule*

"I think I can give you the new schedule, as army and navy officials think it will pan out. There will be baseball and football games, plus boxing matches, between regiments and divisions and armies. These men in camp will need something beyond the average to break up their routine existence. They won't get this from entertainers, except in part. In fact, they can only get it from sport, and that will necessarily mean the top-ranking part of sport.

**"It will mean the best of our football players, college and pros. It will mean many of our better big league and minor league baseball players. They will have to come in, either from the draft, or through the force of public demand. The old term 'slacker' proved very effective in obtaining recruits during the World war.**

"They won't be getting any extra money for this service. There will be no cashing in. It will be company against company — regiment against regiment—division against division—army against army, and then you'll see some real competition.

**"This means we will suddenly have the greatest amateur swirl in our history. We will have games that will overshadow Michigan and Minnesota, or all the bowl contests. They will take place all over the map. But they will be army and navy contests in which Bob Feller may be pitching against Bucky Walters or Joe Louis may be facing Billy Conn—not for World Series money or 40 per cent of the gate receipts, but for the pride and honor of the regiment or the division. Just the way that Gene Tunney fought in France.**

"You may not believe me, but this is what will take place."

### *The Right Angle*

This seems reasonable enough. In the last war I know the feeling enlisted men had against those who were still cashing in on their physical ability to play some game. It was bitter.

**This time we are not at war. But in many respects camp life is worse than war, when it comes to the matter of dull routine. This routine will have to be broken up. The only answer is sport. With a million or two million men in camp, averaging less than $50 a month from private to lieutenant, you can understand how they would feel and their people would feel about younger and stronger athletes mopping up financially.**

You may say this is unfair—that the luck of the draft is all that counts. Well, the luck of the draft won't count with those fellows getting up at reveille and waiting for taps. Not unless human nature has changed completely.

They didn't ask for it, either, but they got it. They are not going to start cheering for some young fellow around 21 or 23 or 25, making the headlines or getting big money, through physical skill, while they are carrying a gun or driving a tank or flying a plane for a buck a day and no headlines.

### *A Change Due*

**So far the volunteer enlistment and the draft seem to be unimportant. Just wait a few months. It will be quite different. There will be a tremendous change in mental attitude on the part of the public, as well as those moving from reveille to taps.**

There still will be big-league baseball and college and pro football games. But I think there still is a big chance these will be secondary matters to army and navy sport.

# HOW TO SEW

by Ruth Wyeth Spears

ARE you planning things that will sell well at a Fair or Bazaar? Or is this the season that you catch up on odds and ends of sewing for the house? In either case you will like to stitch up a bag like this one. Everyone seems to have a special use for one of these bags on a hanger. I have one that I use for laundry when I go traveling. Men and boys like them for closet laundry bags too, as they are plenty big enough for shirts. A little girl I know has a small version of one of these in which she keeps doll clothes scraps. I have also seen them used for everything from dress patterns to dust rags.

This green and white ivy patterned chintz with green facing makes a good looking bag. Pictorial chintz will amuse a young-ster—something with animals or toys or a landscape in the design. I saw a material the other day with a pattern showing all kinds of rope knots. A boy would like that. Each step in making the bag is shown in the sketch.

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In SEWING Book 3 there are directions for still another type of bag on a hanger; also a pocket for the pantry door. This book contains directions for the spool shelves; stocking cat; "The rug that grew up with the family," and many other of your favorites among articles that have appeared in the paper. Send order to:

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# AROUND the HOUSE

Items of Interest to the Housewife

**Plant bulbs** close to the window panes and away from the heat of the room instead of starting them in a dark room. You will get better results.

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**Save the peels** of oranges and tangerines, dry them in the oven and store in glass jars. They give puddings and custards a delicious flavor.

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**Hard sauce,** highly flavored with cinnamon, grated orange and lemon peels and a little fruit juice, gives just the proper finish to hot fruit puddings.

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**Windows may be kept clean** and clear during the winter if rubbed over with glycerine occasionally, then polished with a dry cloth.

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**When a sweater is washed** the buttonholes will not stretch if they are sewed together before the sweater is put into the water.

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**Filling the icebox** with scraps of left-over food is a waste of room and usually of food. Never allow them to accumulate.

**When a splinter** has gone very deep into the flesh, try extraction by steam. Heat a wide-mouthed bottle and fill it two-thirds full of very hot water and place under the injured spot. The suction in a few minutes removes both splinter and inflammation. This method is particularly good when the splinter has been in for some time.

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**Brass knockers** and doorknobs that are exposed to the weather will stay clean and bright longer if rubbed with paraffin after they are cleaned and polished with a soft, dry cloth.

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**A little sweet cream** spread over the top crust of a pie before it is put into the oven will make the crust brown and flaky.

### *Miss Had Another Chance After the Final Good-By*

The fellow threatened to commit suicide every time a certain girl turned him down. She refused him again the other night, and the next morning a messenger boy called with this note:

"Darling—By the time you read this, my body will be floating down the river. Life without you is not worth while. Shed no tears over me, but remember I have always loved you. Good-by for ever."

The girl went white and nearly fainted. Then she noticed that the messenger boy was still there.

"What are you waiting for?" she asked.

"The man who gave me that note said I was to wait for an answer," said the boy.

### Contentment

And we shall be made truly wise if we be made content; content, too, not only with what we can understand, but content with what we do not understand—the habit of mind which theologians call—and rightly—faith in God.—Kingsley.

**Nervous Restless Girls!** Cranky? Restless? Can't sleep? Tire easily? Because of distress of monthly functional disturbances? Then try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Pinkham's Compound is famous for relieving pain of irregular periods and nervous, cranky spells due to such disturbances. One of the most effective medicines you can buy today for this purpose — made *especially for women*. WORTH TRYING!

**We Are Cheated**

Real happiness is cheap enough, yet how dearly we pay for its counterfeit.—Ballou.

**Children's Colds . . .**

Temporary Constipation may increase the discomfort of symptoms of Feverishness, Headache, Upset Stomach which frequently accompany early stages of colds.

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