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Magazine

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LETTER FROM LEANNA

KITCHEN-KLATTER MAGAZINE

"More Than Just Paper And Ink"

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My Dear Friend:

I say 'friend' because I want you to feel as I do — that this is a personal letter written to you. In my mail this morning was a note from a radio listener saying that when she wrote to me she felt as close as if she were writing to one of her seven sisters. That made me very happy, for I feel that real, true friends fill an important place in my life.

You have probably heard or read the little thought that because God couldn't be with us in person he sent us friends. I've always felt that it was a very sad thing to lose any friend, and so many, many times it is our own fault. A telephone call, a letter . . . just some little sign that you are thinking of them can keep the bonds of friendship firmly knit together.

I am writing this letter at my dining room table. On it is a lovely bouquet of mums and asters, probably the last of the flowers we can enjoy from our own garden until next spring. I never can honestly decide what flowers seem the most important for each season has its own special claim, but this morning when I look out at a dark sky and see the signs of approaching winter, I can almost say that the brilliant mums and asters in front of me are practically indispensable — their beauty now seems doubly necessary.

These flowers are arranged in a pottery bowl that sister Sue made for me, and beside it stands a figurine "The Fagot Carrier" that she also made. I am so happy to tell you, in answer to many questions, that Sue continues to improve in health. Modern science is truly wonderful, we know, but hand in hand with it has gone prayer, faith, courage and love to bring Sue so far along the road to recovery.

In her last letter she tells us that she is soon to review a book at a church gathering. Of course she must attend this meeting in a wheel chair, but that's a small matter! The important thing is that she has recovered sufficiently to attempt such a meeting, and she has learned that with a wheel chair she can carry on many of her former activities.

This last letter from her also brought the news that her daughter, Frances, had been through the frightening experience of having her home almost destroyed by a forest fire. You may recall in one of my letters this past summer that we had driven up on the mountain to visit Frances and her five sons. It was in this area that the

devastating forest fires raged in the San Bernardino mountains, and it almost reached Frances' home before it was extinguished.

Recently we sisters had a supper party here at our house for Bertha Field, brother Henry's wife. In this issue you'll see a picture of us that was snapped just before we filled our plates, buffet style, and sat down to enjoy a wide assortment of food. On almost all of these occasions we have the two men of our family with us, Mart and Fred Fischer, sister Helen's husband, but Fred couldn't be with us for this party because he was in New Jersey visiting his daughter, Mary Chapin and her family.

Since Sue is in California, that left only Martha, Jessie, Bertha, Mart and me to celebrate Bertha's birthday. But in spite of the fact that at such times we sadly miss the ones who can no longer be with us, we had a happy time together and spent a lovely evening 'just visiting'.

I just now went out into the kitchen to turn over a big piece of lean beef that I am boiling for mincemeat. It's a notion of mine that no commercial mincemeat we can buy is quite as good as what we can turn out in our own kitchens. I had saved a quart of pickled peach juice to put in this batch, and if you were to walk in right now you'd agree that the house smells wonderful with so much spice in the air.

In Dorothy's letter she tells you about the death of Father Johnson, so I will add that Mart and I drove up for the services that were held in his memory. My, what a host of good, loyal friends the Johnson family can claim. They certainly rallied around at this time of sorrow and did all they could to make things easier.

We too are glad that we were at Dorothy's home on the Sunday she mentions, and that Father Johnson had such a good long visit with Mart. We've always felt that Frank's parents, both of whom are now gone, were most kind and understanding and patient with our Dorothy who knew so little about farm problems when she first went to live in the country. If all town girls who move to a farm were blessed with such good in-laws there wouldn't be many of the sad letters that find their way to my desk.

Before I forget it, if you would like to propose the name of some mother to compete for the Iowa State Mother award in 1955, do write to Mrs. Edna Robbins, Linn Grove, Iowa, and ask

for a nomination blank. Be sure to enclose a stamped, addressed envelope. You who live in other states can contact your state chairman of the Golden Rule Foundation.

When I finish this letter I must work on my mincemeat, but I must also put a roast in the oven and bake a pie for I expect to have Jessie and Martha here for supper and to stay overnight. They are coming at this time for a lecture to be given by Gretchen Fischer Harshbarger for a large garden club meeting, and I hope to attend it also. Gretchen travels a great deal in her editorial capacity and has a very tight schedule, but we are halfway expecting her to be able to spend one extra day here on this particular trip, and if she does we want to have a good visit with her.

Philip Field, brother Henry's son, arrives in town today for a brief visit on his return trip to Washington. Mart and I always enjoy a chance to see Philip, and we only wish that this visit could be longer and thus give us a chance to repay at least some of the hospitality that he and his wife, Marie, extended to us when we were in Washington two years ago.

Mary Beth and Donald, the newly married members of our family, have moved from a furnished apartment into an unfurnished apartment and are having the thrill of redecorating and furnishing a new place to call home. Like most young people, they are 'making do' with rehabilitating old furniture, tackling their own painting, etc. Of course they bought some new things (a stove and refrigerator came first), and as the budget will permit, they will replace old pieces with new pieces. But their letters sound very, very happy, and all of us are looking forward to the visit they expect to make out here before long.

It's almost noon and Martin just stopped by to tell me that he is discouraged about his cave. Margery let him get a gang of boys together to start digging a cave in the backyard, and when they began the ground was so hard that Martin went out and rounded up boys twelve and fourteen years old to come and give a hand to the seven-year olds! Now we've had so much rain that there'll be no more digging for a spell.

Our baby, little Clark, still holds the record for being the best baby in the Driftmier family. Sometimes I keep him when Abigail goes out grocery shopping, and I have yet to hear him fuss or whimper. Emily really enjoys the first grade, and thanks to the fact that there are other three-year olds in the neighborhood, Alison isn't as unhappy left at home as she would be otherwise.

Just now a huge flock of blackbirds flew across the stretch of sky that I can see from this window. It makes me think that fall has really come. Soon we will cover our roses and there are more fall bulbs to plant, so garden work is not yet done in 1954.

Mail time is always the high point of my day so write to us during these long winter evenings. A three-cent stamp can keep us in touch with each other.

Sincerely yours, Leanna

HOUSE PLANT NEWS

By
Olga Rolf Tiemann

The ever-at-hand tin cans with holes punched in the bottoms for drainage, and the old clay flower pots are not socially acceptable in the modern home. But plants *do* grow and thrive in these better than in the more beautiful containers without drainage. To have nothing unsightly in evidence we can pot our plants in tin cans or clay pots and then set these in the more elaborate containers.

Clever planters of all kinds are available these days. They range from those that are to hang on walls (one kind looks exactly like a fine hat of straw complete with ribbon — the growing plants make the trimming for the hat!) to miniature carts, and everything in between. Oval and rectangular planters may hold as many as three clay pots, and there are wall planters with artistic scroll and leaf designs that hold from one to three clay pots in metal bowls.

One can buy a number of different kinds of self-watering pots. The plants are set directly into these but they are lovely enough for any room. These may consist of one or two pieces but each contains a base into which the water or liquid fertilizer is poured. A fibre glass wick carries the moisture up into the soil. Porcelain and pottery strawberry jars hold four to seven plants, depending on size of jar purchased. The plants are also set directly into these with one at the top and the rest in special pockets around the side of the containers.

In scanning magazines that contain useful articles for window gardeners, one is intrigued by the "Plant Trees;" these have movable "branches" or arms, which allow for easy rotation of plants and permit air and light exposure from top to bottom. One "tree" will hold seven to eleven or even a dozen pots, depending on the size ordered. A Lazy Susan Stand has waterproof trays, four of them, which hold up to 18 four-inch pots, and more of smaller sizes. Plants can be watered from the bottom if desired. This stand requires only a 20-inch diameter of floor space and the trays rotate freely about the center so that all plants, in turn, receive direct window light. The largest tray is at the bottom and each is proportionally smaller — the top one holding a single plant. One firm offers a floor lamp which has similar revolving trays, plus additional light from the lamp at the top. Table planter lamps of various designs have bowls at the base for soil and plants. One has separate matching planters which are to stand on opposite sides of the lamp.

Metal shelves, some solid, others in lattice or attractive open work designs, furnish places to set plants in the windows. Most of these do not require nails but are constructed to slip between sill and sash; they do not interfere with the opening or closing of the window.

There are also several kinds of stands on castors which can be moved from window to window, or to the kitchen or laundry room when plants need watering. These generally have



Episcia fulgida, a highly popular new houseplant.

three rectangular trays equal in size, spaced a proper distance apart, and leakproof so that there is no danger of ruining a floor or spotting a carpet. Some of these stands are provided with built-in-sunshine (fluorescent lighting) for each shelf so that the stand does not necessarily have to be placed near a window. One rather elaborate stand pictured recently is made for corner use. The four glass shelves graduate in size and are individually illuminated. The metal part has a light green hammered finish with two pairs of artistic leaf designs hanging down from each of the three upper shelves.

House plants bring up the question of potting soil. It is difficult to give exact measurements, but the following may be used as a basic plan for a soil mixture and then varied as necessary. To a peck of good black loam add one gallon of peat moss or leaf mold, 3/4 gallon sand, 1/4 gallon vermiculite, one-fourth cup bonemeal, 2 cups coarse charcoal, 1 cup sheep manure, 1/2 cup Vigoro.

If you do not have vermiculite to use, add additional sand and peat moss. The bonemeal and charcoal may be omitted but the bonemeal supplies some of the phosphoric element and the charcoal helps to keep the soil sweet. Do not hesitate to add a little more of "this" and less of "that" if the basic recipe does not seem to be quite what your plants need. For instance, more fertilizer can be added for plants requiring a very rich soil. Less should be used for those which thrive on a lean diet. The soil ingredients should be mixed well, and the soil should be damp, but not wet, when potting the plants.

Ivies, Philodendrons, Pothos and Wandering Jews may be used in the wall and lamp planters. They are not particular as to soil and can take some neglect, but be sure to keep them clean by frequent baths.

The tall and dwarf Sansevierias (commonly called Snake or Mother-in-law plants) and the Monstera are plants which can take a great deal of neglect and still remain lovely. They will grow under darker conditions than most house plants. In fact, the Sansevierias grow very well in some of the fancy pots without drainage holes. The Monstera in time requires a large pot which can be hidden by setting it in a jardiniere.

A great deal of interest is being shown in Episcias. They are related to African Violets and Gloxinias but are so different one hardly recognizes them as relatives. The foliage is very

colorful and the plants develop strawberry runners. These can be trained to grow up a small pot trellis, or left to trail. Plants of a single species or of several may be planted in the strawberry jar.

The long awaited double pink African Violet made its appearance at the National Show in St. Louis last April. Three commercial growers displayed eight different plants. These may not be available until sometime in 1955 or 1956 but at least they are now a reality. Two have been named — Pink Achievement and Pink Victory. A Pink Fringette has been added to the list of fringed varieties, and delivery is promised next spring. A fringed Geneva looks very appealing with its fringed sugary white edge. Variegated kinds are available under such names as Frosty, Wintergreen, Wintry Nite, Blue Albino Girl, Red Albino Girl and Albino Red Head. These are lovely when the leaves show the true variegation but there is disappointment when at times the leaves turn green. There is no yellow African Violet.

The plant stands provide space for African Violets as well as for Gloxinias which are being developed in larger sizes from year to year. Five-lobed blossoms have expanded to plants now having magnificent seven-lobed flowers. Ruffled and in a bright color, a velvety Gloxinia in full bloom is as gorgeous a house plant as one can grow.

Crossandra is being mentioned in house plant news. It is described as being evergreen, everblooming and dwarf with glossy gardenia-like leaves and salmon-pink flowers. It can be grown from seeds like African Violets. Germination may be irregular but it is possible to have blooming-size plants in about 9 or 10 months' time. The plants are pinched to make them bushy. Crossandra is of the Acanthus Family.

A CORN CONTEST

1. Used as a pipe. Corn cob.
2. A flower found in a cornfield. Corn flower.
3. A small building for storage of corn. Corn crib.
4. An eastern college. Cornell.
5. A part of the eye. Cornea.
6. Meat served with cabbage. Corned beef.
7. An angle. Corner.
8. A brass valve instrument. Cornet.
9. An important stone placed in a building. Corner stone.
10. A bread famous in the south. Corn bread.
11. Used as silage. Corn fodder.
12. Used as thickening in cooking. Corn starch.
13. A small nut. Acorn.
14. A district in the Midwest. Corn belt.
15. A phrase used in ridicule. Corny.
16. A symbol of plenty. Cornucopia.
17. As important as the movie. Pop-corn.
18. A sweet, thick liquid. Corn syrup.
19. A popular ready-mixed product. Corn muffins.
20. Famous restaurants advertise it as—Corn fed beef.

HURRICANE DETAILS FROM FREDERICK

Dear Friends:

Since last writing to you we have had another hurricane. Very, very fortunately for us, we only felt the outer edges of this second storm. Had it hit us full abreast, the damage would have been frightful. As it was, we lost some more trees, and about one-half of the homes in the town lost some shingles. Just to give you an idea of how severe our first hurricane was, you should know that thirty-five big truckloads of debris were taken out of our lawn and the church lawn across the street.

One of our neighbors had the amazing experience of looking out her window during the storm and seeing what she thought to be a rain of clam shells. The shells were coming down out of the sky on her back lawn by the bushels. When the storm was over she couldn't see the grass for the depth of the shells. She simply could not believe her eyes! How could it possibly rain clam shells?

The mystery was solved when it was discovered that the shells had come from the roof of a large three-story building next door where they had been collecting for years. It seems that every day the seagulls here along our Bristol shores fly high into the air with clams that they have dug from the beach. They cannot open the clam shells and so they drop them onto a hard surface where the force of the fall breaks them open. The gulls had been dropping them on the roof of the high building, and when the hurricane came along the wind blew the shells off of the roof and on to our neighbor's lawn.

On the very highest point of the parsonage roof there is a small spire. The first hurricane bent the metal spire almost double. We were thinking about the possibility of having a carpenter replace the bent spire when the second storm hit us. Yes, you guessed it! The second storm blew the spire upright again, and today it is straighter than it has ever been!

Just yesterday I heard a story about some friends of ours who have a home over on the other side of the bay. At the time of the first storm the mother was home with her four little girls, all of them under ten years of age. As the wind increased to a raging howl and the air was filled with the sound of crashing trees and broken windows, the mother tried to keep the little girls from being frightened by doing everything she could to prevent their knowing how panicky she was. She played the piano while the children sang; she played drop the handkerchief and ring around the rosy. Finally, when she saw the tidal waves approaching, she quickly suggested that they all go upstairs for a little picnic. She sent the girls ahead of her, and then taking some bread and milk on a tray she went up the stairs to join them. As the mother opened the door into the room where the children were, she found them all down on their knees praying. The nine year old was saying: "And please, God, do something to help mother



Frederick and Betty looked out on this scene in their yard when the hurricane was over. In only a few minutes they lost all of their great trees.

realize the seriousness of this situation!"

Now that the big storm is behind us, we discover that there are some things a hurricane teaches us; indeed, we discover that a hurricane is a very hard and a very brutal teacher. We learned that in a hurricane the real values of life take their proper place. One of our church ladies said to me: "When the water was coming up around the house and I knew that all of our lovely things would be destroyed, it didn't seem to worry me a bit. The one thing that worried me was the safety of my husband. I didn't care if I lost everything in the world just so long as he was safe."

All of us had experiences like that; we discovered that it isn't what we loved, but whom we loved that mattered. And when the storm was over, we learned that there is nothing in this world much more to be desired than good neighbors and friends. Families that lost all of their utility services had to cook and sometimes even to bathe at their neighbors!

One person said of her neighbor: "For years we have never said more than a 'good morning', but now she comes and goes in and out of our home like a member of the family". A member of my parish reminded me that four months before the storm I had said in a sermon: "It sometimes takes a hurricane to teach us to love our neighbors, and a hurricane is awfully bitter medicine." In retrospect that statement seems almost prophetic.

The hurricane gave us all a new faith in human nature. There is so much of evil in the world and everything we read speaks of deceit and treachery, and then comes a hurricane and we learn just how wonderful and how heroic people can be. Hundreds of people risked their lives and some of them lost their lives trying to save others. Just a short distance from our house a group of men inched their way out onto the roof of a building jutting out into the harbor to reach the battered body of a friend of mine. Waves twenty feet high were crashing against the building and the whole thing was weaving and twisting, but the mission was accomplished.

Out in the bay just off our shore a mother and two boys were being carried away as they clung to one corner of the roof of their house. As the piece of roof washed near a navy destroyer three sailor boys jumped into the raging sea to rescue the half-dead trio. Before the mother was

picked up, she was carried completely under the destroyer and came up on the other side. Those sailors deserve the highest award our country can give them, and there were hundreds of others who performed amazing deeds of heroism. We also learned just how low some people can be to loot and pillage amid the wreckage, but for every looter there were hundreds and hundreds of long-suffering, hard-working, sacrificing people.

The hurricane taught us that since trouble seems to be an unavoidable part of life, the big question is, "What am I to do with it?" We learned that people who had their houses built on rock lost them just as quickly as those who had built on the sand. The difference in disaster was always a difference of effect, not in the degree of adversity. Hurricanes do sweep into our lives, and when they do, Christians must be the strong nails that hold life together. If others are afraid, we should take courage. If others are depressed and blue, we should remember that we are people of faith. If others are feeling sorry for themselves, we should give thanks to God that we are alive.

One of the interesting sides to the hurricane story is about the army of men from outside the state who moved into our community to help restore our utilities. In every block poles were down and broken lines were hanging everywhere. Since most of the people in Bristol have never been further west than Connecticut, they enjoyed having some "real Westerners" from Pennsylvania working the town. Even though these men came from no further west than Pennsylvania, they did seem quite foreign to most of our people. Their accent was noticeably different, and almost all of them were of German ancestry. Here in Bristol most of our people are of southern European stock. They were a wonderful group of men who worked from early morning until far into the night, day after day.

I was eating in a little sandwich shop across the street from the church when some of these linemen came in and said: "We want to order our food and then stretch out in our truck to get a wink of sleep. When the food is on the tables come and call us." Most of these outside helpers could not stay in Bristol with any degree of comfort because our two main restaurants were destroyed by the hurricane. They were housed and fed in some town to the north of us where the storm damage was not so severe.

When a hurricane strikes all one can think of is the misfortune and hardship it brings to so many, but when the winds have ceased and the sun shines again it becomes increasingly obvious that what is misfortune for some turns out to be good fortune for others.

Here in Rhode Island we have been having an economic pinch. The automobile dealers have been particularly hurt by hard times. This hurricane has been a wonderful asset to them, for thousands and thousands of automobiles were lost in the storm, and all of them have to be replaced. One automobile dealer in Providence just

(Continued on Page 5)

"BLESSED BE THE LORD"**A Thanksgiving Devotional***By Mabel Nair Brown*

Most clubs and organizations that meet near the Thanksgiving season like to take some special note of the occasion at their meeting. Perhaps the following suggestions will be of help to those who are responsible for such a program.

The traditional cornucopia or Horn of Plenty is a setting that is hard to improve upon. If none of the members have one of the attractive new wicker cornucopias, it is not a difficult job to make one out of chicken mesh; cover with bronze foil. Candles should flank this on either side.

Aside from the customary fruits and vegetables flowing from the cornucopia, it would be most attractive to dress small dolls in the traditional gray Pilgrim costume. (Gray and white crepe paper can be used for this.) Mr. Pilgrim should carry a cardboard musket over his shoulder (unless you can find a tiny toy musket) and in his hand place a tiny Bible. This is the picture we have all seen so often in our history books. And if you are making a serious attempt to recreate the atmosphere of the first Thanksgiving, add Indian figures to the setting.

Perhaps you would prefer a "three step" arrangement with candles on the top level, the cornucopia on the middle level, and an open Bible immediately in front on the lower level. If you have a wide altar or table, it might be well to reverse the order, but be sure that candles flank the Bible. These are to be lighted as the service begins, and the pianist should play softly "America, The Beautiful"; the group will join in singing this as soon as all of the candles have been lighted.

Group singing: America, The Beautiful.

Leader: "Now that we have come into the harvest season, it is well to remember the verse from Psalms: 'Blessed be the Lord Who daily loadeth us with benefits.' And to hear again the beautiful lines from Psalms 100."

Following this another member asks that everyone stand for the following prayer which she reads:

O Father God in heaven above,

We thank Thee for the things we love;

A land where freedom holds on high
Its gleaming banners to the sky;
Where we can rise, and work, and play,

And worship You in our own way.
O Father God, please grant, we pray,
That we may always stay this way;

To hold the light of freedom high
And blot out darkness from the sky,

A light whose brilliant, piercing rays
Will show all nations better ways.

Leader: "I have asked — to read for us some selected meditations that hold a special meaning for us at this Thanksgiving season."

Meditations

He whose days pass without imparting and enjoying it is like the bellows of a smith; he breathes indeed but he



I know that people understand why I (Leanna) don't stand with the others for photographs. Behind me are Martha, Jessie and Bertha on the evening we celebrated Bertha's birthday.

does not live.

Every life we touch is a field; Everything we do and all the words we speak are seed. What will the harvest be?

Is it that Nature calls us her services of peace to share? After the song the silence, after the praise the prayer.

While there remains the faith to plant again; While there is hope and courage for the day, Lord, we should turn to Thee and kneel as one, There is so much to thank Thee for today.

At this point there should be special music, either by a soloist or mixed group. Unless some particular number is easily available, any well known hymn expressing gratitude would be most appropriate.

Following the music, the pianist should play softly while the leader reads this verse:

Count your blessings, one by one,
At early morn and set of sun,
And like an incense to the skies
Your prayers of thankfulness shall rise.

Look for the love that heaven sends,
The good that every soul intends,
Thus you will learn the only way
To keep a true Thanksgiving Day.

Leader: "Let us all stand and sing together the fine old hymn of praise *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*, and then let us remain standing while — reads for us our closing prayer.

Prayer: Our Father, whatever our beliefs, however slender the threads of our faith, we come to Thanksgiving Day with a desire to lift up grateful hearts to Thee, and to thank Thee for Thy goodness.

As we consider Thy bounty, we thank Thee most of all that our greatest blessings — neighbors, friends, service, cheer and love — are given to us as freely as Thy golden sunshine. Young and old, we thank Thee for the right to hope, the chance to work. Grant to us a measure of that high courage and gallant spirit with which our forefathers kept the first Thanksgiving Day.

At this season strengthen home ties, bless our absent loved ones, and give to them and to us the happiness that comes from an abiding faith in Thy goodness. Amen.

Benediction to be given in unison: May the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and the love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

A FARMER'S PRAYER

(This beautiful prayer given by Bishop William C. Martin of the Methodist Episcopal church in Lincoln, Nebraska several years ago, seems to us very touching, and singularly appropriate to read at the Thanksgiving table in addition to the customary brief prayer.)

"Our Father, we thank Thee for the good earth which Thou hast given to us as a temporary dwelling place. Forgive us that we have wasted so much of its treasure and have marred so much of its beauty.

"In penitence we turn to Thee with the prayer that Thou wilt lead Thy people as they seek to restore the waste places and as they build again the foundations of righteousness among those who labor under the open sky. Bless all people of all lands who live close to the soil. Let the light of Thy truth illumine their way which is so often a darkened way. Sustain them by Thy grace which is strong like the tempest, infinite like the sea, enduring like the granite of the mountains, yet compassionate like the love of a mother. In Jesus' name, Amen."

COVER PICTURE

Margery Driftmier Strom and her son, Martin Erik, are the members of our family who volunteered to escort a huge golden turkey to the table for our cover picture this year. It was the first time that all of us could gather together at Marge's new dining room table, and in some issue before long we'll try and get a close-up of the handsome piece that you see in the background. This particular turkey incidentally, was stuffed and roasted to the final degree of perfection. My, such wonderful eating!

Frederick's Letter—Concluded

received a shipment of seventeen train car loads of new autos. All of the carpenters, contractors and painters have been swamped with business. Some of the carpenters have work lined up for them that will take many, many months to complete. Thousands of homes have to be repaired and painted. The unemployed have all been given work cleaning up the debris. The television dealers have all been simply swamped with orders for new antennas. I don't think that a single antenna in town escaped damage. One man in my church has had a crippled big toe and has had to walk with a limp for many years. During the storm a falling branch hit his toe a terrible blow. It evidently was just what the toe needed, for he no longer walks with a limp.

It will be several years before our lawns and gardens here at the parsonage will no longer show ravages of the storm. Slowly we are getting some things cleaned up. With some trees down we shall be planting this spring where before there was only deep shade. Betty is planting a lovely rock garden just outside our big picture window. We hope that when some of you come to call on us next summer, the biggest scars will be hidden.

Sincerely, Frederick

POPCORN HAS CHANGED TOO!

By

Hallie M. Barrow

Do you know the first time popcorn was ever served to guests in our country? It was in the late fall of 1630 when the Pilgrims and Indians joined together for that first Thanksgiving dinner.

On this momentous occasion each group contributed every good food it could lay hands on, and it is said that an Indian named Quadequina brought a whole bushel of popped corn in a deer skin bag. He had heated sand very hot, mixed in the corn, stirred vigorously and then removed the popped grains when they came to the top. (Remember this the next time you make a bowl of popcorn in about three minutes!)

The Pilgrims loved popcorn, and before long they invented a corn popper with a long handle that hung at the side of every big fireplace. If you plan a Thanksgiving dinner this year that carries through the entire spirit of the Pilgrim's dinner, then you should have a bowl of popcorn on your festive table, or make popcorn balls to be used as place cards.

Wild turkey was served at that first dinner, but turkeys now are raised in confinement; cranberries are a cultivated crop in flood-controlled bogs; chances are that your pumpkin pies will be made from canned pumpkin. And popcorn? Well, popcorn now is most definitely BIG BUSINESS.

It was not until the beginning of this century that popcorn began to make a difference commercially, with Iowa one of the leading popcorn producing states. It was first sold to the public from the old-time popcorn wagon, and those of my generation surely remember the home-made vehicles which pushed along something like a baby carriage! Their operators were usually elderly men who scratched out a bare living from the popcorn that was given a dose of melted seasoning from an old tin teapot, and hot peanuts that were roasted in the shell.

Selling popcorn became a real business with the advent of outdoor sports events, and it jumped up into the big time brackets as the movie industry developed. With the exception of only a few deluxe theaters in large cities, popcorn is such an important item to movie owners that this phrase has been quoted repeatedly: "Find a good popcorn location and build a theater around it!"

The glittering new electric machines that have been developed look about as much like the old popper at the curbstone as a fringed surrey looks like a 1954 model car! Much research has been done for the theater industry alone, and now even the rustling of sacks has been done away with by the development of noiseless containers. And the big problem of greasy hands has been licked too.

Now the seasoning is placed in a deep popper drum and heated before the corn is added. Each grain is seasoned, but not soaked — certainly a decided improvement over the teapot method when the top grains in the sack were drenched with grease and



All of the children in our family know that when Hallowe'en rolls around they can depend upon Grandmother Driftmier to help carve pumpkins. Martin had two fierce looking jack-o'-lanterns when they were through working.

the lower half of the sack was dry and tasteless. Remember?

Even the *kind* of seasoning used today is an improvement over highly perishable butter. It has been proven by exhaustive tests that cocoanut oil gives just as tempting a flavor and, equally important, just as tantalizing an aroma.

But the kernel itself has undergone drastic improvements. With hybrid popcorn there are no longer "old maids" and the popped corn is much larger, creamy in color, and so soft in texture that you can't hear the folks in the seats behind you "crunching" their corn through the movie!

What makes corn pop? It is the large amount of hard starch in the endosperm. When the moisture in the endosperm is subjected to heat and becomes steam, the starch granules explode violently and the kernel is turned literally inside out.

For many years, popcorn had to pass the test of popping 15 times the volume of the original unpopped corn. Now buyers demand corn that pops 50 times its volume!

The five cent bag of popcorn hasn't merely "gone to town" but is literally on its way around the world. Indians introduced it to our first residents, but it took our armed forces to start the popcorn eating habit in foreign lands all over the globe. Uncle Sam decided that one of the best ways to provide a homey atmosphere for his G. I. family was to start corn a-poppin' at the PX. So the entire output of one of the largest manufacturers of popcorn machines followed our boys into Australia, Newfoundland, Alaska, South America, and into the Orient.

Not all the popcorn sent overseas, however, reached the soldier through his PX. Home folks found that the best insurance against crushed fruit, cakes, candies and cookies was to cushion them in a box with at least one inch of popped corn on every side. Quantities of shelled popcorn, too, was included in the overseas packages for the boys to pop themselves.

Farm boys accustomed to popping corn in an old black kettle, and city boys used to electric poppers all turned Yankee and got the job done somehow. They rigged up poppers out of old discarded cans, buckets or explod-

ed shell cases; they depended upon those with Boy Scout training to provide the fires.

Quadequina really started something when he turned up that long ago day with his bushel of popcorn. It all began in what is now Massachusetts, but today it is such an important product that some of the big movie chains actually own and operate their own popcorn ranches where thousands of acres are devoted to this one item. As a confirmed popcorn lover, I'm glad there have been such vast changes!

POPCORN MOLDING

A dishpan of popcorn ball mixture will provide entertainment for children and grownups too. It can be molded in many attractive ways to be used as favors, place cards or decorations.

Most everyone has his own favorite recipe for the syrup for popcorn balls. This is mine and it tastes like that caramel popcorn you buy.

- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup white corn syrup
- 2 tbsp. butter
- 2 tbsp. sorghum
- 1/2 tbsp. vinegar
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 quarts of popped corn

Combine all ingredients, except corn, and cook slowly until syrup becomes brittle when tested in cold water. Pour over popped corn, stirring corn while pouring. It can be turned onto a platter or greased glass baking dish, pressed flat and cut in bars when cold. Two cups of shelled peanuts can be added.

For very festive popcorn treats, nuts, candied cherries, gum drops or raisins can be mixed in with corn before adding syrup. Making popcorn balls really calls for more than one pair of hands. One pours the syrup, another tosses the corn. Pour syrup slowly and toss thoroughly but work fast. Buttered hands are better to use when forming balls. If not to be used at once, the balls can be wrapped in colored cellophane and tied with a bow of ribbon.

Most attractive favors or place card holders can be made if you insert a candy cane in the top of the ball before it hardens, then wrap the ball in cellophane and attach a sprig of holly or bittersweet when you tie the neck with ribbon.

Or, you can pack your popcorn ball mixture into a shallow, well-greased 6-inch round pan (toy pie pans or coffee lids will do). Cool slightly, turn out on waxed paper and insert a wooden skewer in each. These, too, can be wrapped in cellophane, hung on trees or passed on a tray.

By far the best way to use popcorn mixture is to make a birthday cake. Press into a regular tube cake pan and when cool, turn out on a plate. Birthday candles can be fastened on with toothpicks by sticking one end in base of each candle and insert other end in cake. Cut in wedges.

For adding a new taste to plain popcorn, add 2 tbsp. of peanut butter to 1/4 cup butter. Blend and heat until it melts just enough to pour over corn.

LETTER FROM LUCILE

Dear good friends,

While I'm waiting for the breakfast coffee to start perking I'll begin this letter early, early in the morning. And such a morning! There is a continual surly rumble of thunder in the background and fretful gusts of wind. But every drop of the rain we had last night (about 5 inches up here on the hill, I understand) was more than welcome, for our newly planted bulbs are assured of enough moisture to get them anchored in the good earth.

First things come first, so here are the details on the woodwork that Mildred Whitney finished with such success. As I told you last month, never have I seen more beautiful woodwork and when I learned that she had done all of it herself (plus help from her husband and high school age son) I wanted to get full details to pass on to you friends who may be debating what to do with your own woodwork.

As in most big houses built when Whitney's house was built, there was a great deal of woodwork—solid oak. Probably for many years it was simply varnished, but someplace along the road it had been painted a cream color, and when Mildred moved into the house she found it in this condition. I might add that in places it was very badly chipped.

A blue-green antique look was the goal that she had in mind, and this was achieved by the following process . . . and now I'll copy word for word the directions that she wrote out for me.

"One coat of white semi-gloss paint followed with one coat of glazing liquid in which some blue, some green and some raw umber had been added to produce the color desired, in this case a blue-green antique look.

"When you apply the glazing liquid (after the semi-gloss is dry, of course) you brush it on with an ordinary paint brush and very gently wipe it off with a clean soft cloth such as on old cotton T shirt or underwear.

"The trick is in wiping it off. Do not wipe off as though you were wiping off the table or stove, but very gently and lightly. After this was dry I added one coat of satin varnish. However, this is optional and depends primarily on how much activity you have in the house. In our case, we felt that we wanted the additional protection afforded by varnish.

"You can add any color to the glazing liquid to produce the color desired. In one bedroom I added burnt umber to produce a brown tone to match the paper, and in another room I added enough raw umber to produce a gold tone to match that paper.

"This way of treating old woodwork covers up the mars completely, and the finished result doesn't chip nearly as badly as plain painted woodwork."

If anyone decides to use this treatment, I hope you'll write and tell me about it when the last bit of work has been done. I certainly will be interested in hearing your opinions on the finished product, and I'm sure that Mildred would be interested too. If I had any woodwork to refinish this winter (and I don't) I would certainly



Juliana and Kristin are busily shining some silver just before Thanksgiving dinner.

love to try her process, for I can assure you that the end result is simply beautiful.

This past month has been an unusually busy one for us, but also an unusually happy one, I might add.

Russell's parents were here for three weeks, and it was a great pleasure to see Dad Verness gain steadily in strength during that time. Quite a few of you who are reading this have now met him, for he spent many hours sitting in our garden — and consequently visited with our many callers. There is nothing more peaceful than a garden, and I honestly believe that the time he spent in it had a great deal to do with his improved health.

Their plans called for leaving here on a Monday, so on the Friday preceding this, Russell's brother Richard, his wife, Arleigh, and son, Richard, Jr., drove down from Minneapolis for a farewell visit. All of the grown-ups had a good time just talking, but Juliana and Richard, Jr., were in seventh heaven because they were permitted to go to Manti on three separate occasions.

Manti is a piece of native timber about three or four miles from town, and it is definitely Juliana's favorite place in Southwestern Iowa! She is a great nature lover, you know, and her idea of paradise is to roam through there and study every single leaf, bush, plant, tree and clods of earth.

On these three trips the children took butterfly nets, a big pail, a strainer, sacks of food, and I don't know what all. They returned once with twenty-three frogs! And all kinds of butterflies, of course, plus muddy shoes and muddy jeans. Since Richard is a city child who knows only city parks, you can imagine what a revelation it was for him to tramp through this timber. And perhaps their mutual joy can best be summarized by stating that on Saturday afternoon they had their choice of going to the circus (the first one that had been here for about six years) or of going to Manti. They chose Manti.

I told the children something about

the history of this beloved timber for it has always interested me. Years and years ago a small band of Mormons stopped there enroute to Salt Lake City, and the pathetic headstones in a little cemetery tell you what happened during a hard winter. Later it became a settlement, the forerunner of Shenandoah, you might say.

My first acquaintance with Manti came when I was a small child and went out there to visit Uncle Henry Field's family. He had built a unique summer set-up for his big family, a series of small cottages that were used as bedrooms, a joint living room, a kitchen and dining room, etc. As soon as school was dismissed every May, the entire family moved out there and stayed until school opened in September. It was certainly a wonderful place for our Field cousins and I can remember how much I envied them! (When I described this set-up to Juliana she sighed and said: "Oh, why couldn't I have belonged to that family and lived at Manti!")

This last weekend Margery and I actually got away from our respective duties long enough to attend a convention of American Women in Radio and Television that was held in Omaha. Now Omaha isn't very far from here (only about sixty miles) but we rarely seem to make it up there, and when we do we go strictly for business and turn right around and head for home. This trip was for business, of course, but we *did* stay at a hotel for two nights and had the pleasure of eating food that we hadn't prepared. I know that this strikes a responding chord in most female hearts!

We found it most interesting to meet many, many women from cities scattered through five Midwestern states, and to hear discussions of the various situations that pertain to radio and television. I had been asked to speak at an afternoon meeting, and I'll be perfectly frank and say that I didn't really *enjoy* the convention until that speech was behind me! If you've ever had something of the kind on your mind, then you know exactly what I mean. At one time I spoke frequently in public and didn't flinch at all, but in recent years I've gotten adjusted to the microphone and an unseen audience, so I had this speech very much on my mind!

Mother and Dad Verness are now safely in Twenty-Nine Palms, California where they will spend the winter. Juliana is anticipating spending a two-day vacation (Teachers' Institute) with Kristin before long. Russell is extremely busy working with the fall bulbs that you folks have sent to us for. And I am looking forward to taking my portable sewing machine out of its case and doing some Christmas sewing.

Why don't you write to me before this week is done? I'd love to hear from you.

Lucile.

For age is opportunity no less
Than youth itself, though in another
dress;
And as the evening twilight fades
away,
The sky is filled with stars, invisible
by day.

"Recipes Tested

in the

Kitchen - Klatter Kitchen

By

LEANNA, LUCILE and MARGERY

DELICIOUS CRANBERRY SALAD

- 1 pkg. lemon gelatine
- 3 Tbls. sugar
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 cup hot water
- 1 cup apricot juice and water
- 2 tsp. lemon juice
- 2 cups fresh cranberries, ground
- 1/2 cup drained diced canned apricots

Dissolve gelatine, sugar and salt in hot water. Add apricot juice and water and lemon juice. Chill until slightly thickened. Add cranberries and apricots. Turn into small molds or a 1-quart mold. Chill until firm. Makes 10 servings and is a grand Thanksgiving dinner salad since it can be made far in advance.

ONE-BOWL BANANA CAKE

- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 cups sifted cake flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 cup vinegar
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla
- 1/2 cup vegetable shortening
- 1 cup mashed banana

Beat eggs and sugar together for 1 minute. Sift together and add the cake flour, soda and salt. Combine vinegar and milk and add half of it. Also add vanilla, shortening and 1/2 cup of mashed banana. Beat vigorously one minute. Add remaining liquid and the remaining 1/2 cup mashed banana and beat one minute. Turn into two greased 8" layer pans and bake at 350 degrees for approximately 30 minutes.

FRIED-TUNA RICE

- 3 Tbls. shortening
- 2 eggs
- Salt and pepper
- 1 onion, minced
- 1 7-oz. can flaked tuna fish
- 4 cups cold, cooked rice
- 3 Tbls. soy sauce
- 1/2 tsp. sugar

Melt fat in large heavy skillet. Add eggs (slightly beaten), salt and pepper. Cook slowly until firm and then remove from pan and cut into thin shreds. Put onion and undrained tuna fish into skillet and cook 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Add rice, soy sauce and sugar. Heat. Serve topped with the shredded egg.

I often fix this for my family at noon and they like it very much. Don't be doubtful about trying it!

KANSAS FREE FAIR SWEEPSTAKE CAKE (1954)

- 2 cups sugar
 - 1/2 cup cocoa
 - 2 cups cake flour
 - 1 tsp. baking powder
 - 1/2 tsp. soda
 - 3/4 tsp. salt
 - 1/2 cup shortening (soft)
 - 1/2 cup buttermilk
 - Additional 1/2 cup buttermilk
 - 2 unbeaten eggs
 - 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla
- Sift together the sugar, cake flour (sift and measure cake flour first), cocoa, baking powder, soda and salt. Make a well and add soft shortening and 1/2 cup buttermilk. Beat all together 2 minutes in mixer or 150 strokes by hand. Then add remaining 1/2 cup buttermilk, eggs, vanilla and beat 2 more minutes.

Turn into two greased and floured cake pans and bake for about 30 minutes at 350 degrees.

For icing combine 1 small pkg. of softened cream cheese, 2 cups sifted powdered sugar, 2 squares unsweetened chocolate, melted, and 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla — also a dash of salt. Mix with enough milk to make of spreading consistency.

HOT FRANKFURTER MASHED-POTATO SALAD

- 4 cups cold, mashed potato
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 2 Tbls. minced onion
- 1 tsp. dry mustard
- 1/4 cup chopped sweet pickle
- 1 hard-cooked egg, chopped
- 2/3 cup salad dressing
- Milk
- Salt and pepper
- 1 lb. frankfurters, quartered lengthwise
- 2 Tbls. melted butter

Mix all ingredients except frankfurters and butter, using just enough milk to hold mixture together. Arrange frankfurters in shallow baking dish; pile potato mixture in center; brush all with butter. Bake in a 375 degree oven for 20 minutes, or until lightly browned.

NOTE: If your family is tired of plain old "franks" or weiners, prepare this. It is very, very good.

CHOPPED LIVER

- 1 1/2 lbs. liver (beef or chicken — if you can afford it)
 - 3 medium sized onions
 - 4 hard cooked eggs
 - Salt and pepper
 - Melted butter (see directions)
- Fry onions and liver in chicken fat or oil and then let cool. Put this through the food chopper, using fine blade. Then put eggs through chopper. Add salt and pepper to taste. This paste should be moist, not dry, so add enough melted butter to produce the right consistency.

Commercial products of this type sold in fancy food departments are very expensive — you can make your own at a fraction of the cost. Delicious spread on rye or pumpernickel bread for an evening lunch.

STUFFED CABBAGE

(This inexpensive dish, prepared correctly, is amply good and unusual to serve for company.)

- 1 lb. hamburger
- Small can mushrooms
- 1 small onion (chopped fine)
- 1 clove garlic (chopped fine)
- 1 egg
- 1 cup cooked rice
- 1 small can tomato sauce
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Large, raw cabbage leaves
- Lightly brown chopped onion in 2 Tbls. butter. Then mix with all remaining ingredients with the exception of the cabbage. Shape mixture into balls.

Scald the largest outside leaves from a head of cabbage—this makes them pliable so they will not crack or split. Wrap these softened leaves around the balls and secure with a toothpick. Place cabbage rolls in shallow pan, side by side. Sprinkle with paprika. Add a small amount of water to pan and bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Baste once or twice during baking period.

JUST-BEFORE-PAYDAY MAIN DISH

- 3 Tbls. shortening
- 3 Tbls. flour
- Dash of pepper
- 1 medium onion, minced
- 2 1/2 cups milk
- 5 to 6 cups cubed boiled potatoes
- 1 can luncheon meat, cubed
- 1/4 cup grated cheese

Melt shortening and blend in flour and pepper. Add onion. Pour in milk gradually and cook, stirring constantly, until sauce thickens slightly. Add potatoes, and salt, if needed. Arrange in baking dish with cubed luncheon meat. Top with cheese; bake in a 400 degree oven for 25 minutes.

CHOCOLATE GRAHAM CRACKER ICE BOX CAKE

(Very rich — the butter in it gives an unusual flavor.)

- 2 sqs. unsweetened chocolate
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup hot water
- 4 eggs, separated
- 2/3 cup soft butter
- About 2 cups graham cracker crumbs

Stir chocolate, 1/4 cup of sugar and water over low heat until well blended. Then pour over beaten egg yolks, beating vigorously, and place in top part of double boiler. Cook over hot water (see that water doesn't touch upper pan) and stir constantly until mixture is thick. Then cool.

Cream butter and remaining 1/4 cup sugar together. Blend with the cooked mixture and then fold in stiffly beaten egg whites.

Line a well buttered pan (about 10", square or round) with rolled graham cracker crumbs. Add filling. Spread crumbs on top. Chill for several hours and then serve with whipped cream.

A grand club dessert if most members are not counting calories.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

I'm afraid that anyone who wants to see a new and totally different menu for Thanksgiving dinner will have to seek elsewhere!

We do a great deal of cooking throughout the entire year and test countless recipes, but when the great holidays roll around we find all of our "kitchen thoughts" turning to the dinner that has become more or less a tradition in our family. Somehow it just sort of goes against the grain for us to contemplate preparing a collection of totally new and unfamiliar dishes for Thanksgiving or Christmas.

This year we plan to sit down to the following foods that everyone will have a hand in preparing.

Chilled Fruit Cocktail
Roast Turkey and Stuffing
Mashed Potatoes
Giblet Gravy
Hot Rolls
Peach Preserves
Cranberry Relish
Green Beans with Mushroom Sauce
Escalloped Corn
Relish Plate
Mince Pie—Pumpkin Pie
Coffee and Milk

Is this about what you'll have at your house? Write and tell us what you served, how many were there, etc., when Thanksgiving Day of 1954 has come and gone.

—Lucile

NOVEMBER COFFEE RING

(Surprise your family with this and they'll kiss the cook!)

1 pkg. dry yeast or 1 cake compressed yeast
1/4 cup warm water
3 Tbls. melted shortening
1/2 cup warm buttermilk
1/3 cup sugar
1 1/2 tsps. salt
2 eggs
3 cups sifted flour
1/4 cup butter
1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
3/4 cup seedless raisins
1/3 cup chopped nuts

Dissolve yeast in 1/4 cup warm water. Combine shortening, buttermilk, sugar, salt. When lukewarm, add dissolved yeast and beaten eggs. Then add flour and mix well. Place in greased bowl and cover. Let rise in warm place until double in bulk.

Roll out dough on floured board or pastry cloth and spread with soft butter. Combine brown sugar, cinnamon, raisins and nuts and sprinkle over dough. Roll as for jelly roll and cut into 2-inch slices. Arrange slices, cut-side down, in well-greased 9-inch tube pan. Let rise in warm place until double in bulk. Bake in moderate oven (350 degrees) from 35 to 45 minutes. Frost warm ring with icing made by combining 1 cup sifted confectioners' sugar, 1 Tbls. milk, 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla. Beat until smooth.

NOTE. This is so delicious and so easy that even if you've never tackled anything comparable, do surprise the family with it tonight.



Girls, You'll Like my flavorings

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**TWO CAKE PROSTINGS FOR
EMERGENCIES
Chocolate Topping**

1 pkg. semi-sweet chocolate pieces
Put baked cake on a cookie sheet and sprinkle chocolate pieces on top. Put in a 350 degree oven for 5 minutes, or until chocolate is softened. Then spread on top and down sides of cake.

Coconut-Butterscotch Topping

1/2 cup brown sugar, firmly packed
1/3 cup melted butter or margarine
1/4 cup evaporated milk
1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla
1 cup shredded coconut

Mix ingredients and spread over cake in cake pan. Put in a moderate oven (375 degrees) and bake 15 minutes, or until topping is golden brown. Serve at once or let stand until cold.

CORRECTION: In the English Raisin Cookie recipe in the October issue, 1 tsp. baking soda should be added to the 5 Tbls. raisin juice. We regret the original error—in spite of checking and double checking our recipes, mistakes just will creep in occasionally.



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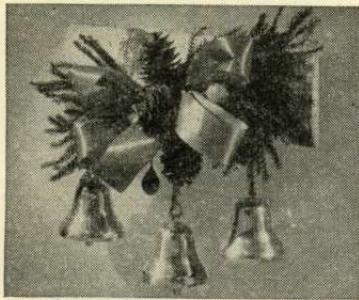
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RED CINNAMON APPLES

2 cups water
1/2 cup red cinnamon candies
1 cup sugar
8 small apples, pared and cored

Combine water, candy and sugar in a skillet. Bring to boil and cook until candy is dissolved. Add apples; cook slowly, basting often. (Add a few drops of red coloring to syrup if you want apples deeper in color.)



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CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

NEWS FROM DOROTHY'S FARM

Dear Friends:

Since I last wrote to you we have had a great sorrow in our family. On the morning of September 20th Father Johnson passed away very suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 85 years old and had been in failing health for several years, but he was able to get around the house by himself—so it was quite a shock to us. He had such a wonderful disposition and was so kind and gentle that we all miss him terribly, but he was always such a very active man that all of us are thankful that he didn't have to lie helpless in bed for months.

Several things happened on the Sunday before Mr. Johnson's death on the following day that we shall always be happy about. Father Johnson was a very quiet man and didn't talk much except with my Dad. He loved to visit with him and always anticipated and looked forward to the days they spent with us. Mother and Dad spent that Sunday with us and right after dinner Dad went down to the farm with Frank and spent the entire afternoon with Mr. Johnson.

After the folks had left we asked Father Johnson if he wouldn't like to get in the car and see all the changes that had taken place with the building of the new road. The old bridge down by his farm had been taken out the day before and he was awfully anxious to see how everything was going to look. We had a nice ride and he was very happy that he had gone out and looked things over.

All the grade work has been done on the road and the new channel for the creek completed. The bridge crew is still working on the bridge and it will be a couple of weeks yet before that is finished. We are in hopes they will get the gravel on before bad weather.

We have had such a long dry spell that we don't know to whom the credit should go for the rain we have had every day this week! I say it is because I had to go to town every single day to work in the office while Doris Allen had her vacation, and Frank says it is because he waited until last Saturday to mow his sweet clover and it rained Monday before he got it baled. We have been very fortunate with our haying this year and with the exception of this last cutting we have gotten it all up without a rain on it.

Frank and I are always glad to see the squirrel season open, in fact, I guess we all are with the exception of Kristin. Frank likes to hunt and we all enjoy the squirrel dinners we can have, but Kristin doesn't like it because she is forbidden to leave the yard and to play in the timber during hunting season. Frank told her the day the season opened that if for any reason she had to walk home through the timber she had to sing at the top of her voice all the way so that no hunter could possibly take her bobbing head for a squirrel. Lois Jean Hutchison came out to spend a Saturday with her and they thought they were terribly abused because they couldn't go and play in their favorite



You can get a better idea of this cunning little pony's size when we tell you that his mistress, Jean Marie Cathcart, is only three years old! Penny is the pony's name, and we think they make quite a pair.

haunt in the timber. Any other time they would have spent their time happily in the hay mow or in their numerous play houses and tree houses, or pulled the old buggy around the barn lot all day. But just because I had said "no", they couldn't think of another thing to do that was any fun.

We finished up our year's 4-H activities last night with the big county 4-H award night. This is the night when the new county officers are installed, and the boys and girls receive their various awards for the good work they have done during the year. Kristin was happy to get a little premium check for having a blue ribbon record book.

The leader we had for our club this last year has been asked to serve on the County committee this next year so she talked me into taking over her job. The girls elected Kristin president at their last meeting, so I told her we were going to have to work awfully hard to be able to "fill the shoes" of Mrs. Narber and Sonja Eide, our last year's president.

The first part of this month our girls' club and the boys' club in this township held a joint weiner roast with their families at the Narber home. We had a lovely cool evening for it and everyone had a good time.

Every year during the first week in September, Chariton has a celebration called Indian Summer Days. They have a big parade which includes a pet parade for the children; also free pancakes and coffee are served all day in a big tent on the square. They have four or five free rides for the children and entertainment all day long. Kristin has always wanted to ride her pony in the pet parade so this year we decided he was well enough broken and wouldn't act fractious when the band played (and there were to be seven bands in the parade), so I bought material for an Indian Brave costume and we had everything ready for the big event. Then the night before it rained and the roads were so muddy the truck couldn't come after Paint, so she didn't get to ride after all. We had thought she would be terribly disappointed, but she said she really was kind of glad because she enjoyed sitting on the sidelines and getting to see all of it. We put everything away in a box and maybe next year we will have better luck.

We enjoyed sweet corn out of our

(Continued on Page 13)

"WE REMODELED OUR HOME"

By Paula Strait

Dear Friends:

It's been years, literally, since I've written to you, but I've missed very few of your programs and I do keep track of your activities closely.

Since I last wrote I've had a new son, helped remodel our home, learned to swim and learned to carve and tool leather.

About the time I found out Steve was coming we at last got started building an addition on to our home. We first tore down an old house on the property to use all we could. That was a dirty and time consuming job. I pulled nails by the bucket full from old lathe and siding, even up to spikes in old native lumber. This house we leveled was so old the nails were square ones and some were surprisingly strong. We couldn't find out what year the house was built, but when we came to the floors we could see at least two floors had been worn through and near the chimney where the stove must have been, there was evidence of three floors having been laid at separate time. It appeared these floors were actually worn through. This work we did entirely during the winter and many days were cold and snowy and uncomfortable. At Christmas time of 1952, we had the foundation laid for two bedrooms and bath. My husband and I did all the building with some help donated by his father. During the cold, wet winter we raised the roof, first laying the sub floor, then putting up uprights and rafters. We sheathed it in and shingled as fast as we could but many days I could hardly hold a hammer because of the cold.

We worked against the calendar since spring work necessarily comes before all else on a farm. I nailed on all the lathe I could, as high as I could reach and as low as I could bend, while my husband was in the field. He did the ceilings and plumbing in the evenings after long days outside. Of course there were rainy days when he could spend more time on the house. We used all the old lathe which I'm now convinced was a mistake for several reasons. It is very time consuming in every way, cleaning up, recutting and fitting, and nailing. Also it necessitates having a plasterer.

It was just two weeks before our baby was born that we finished the

plastering. A floor of any kind is a job to lay, but my husband got much of it done with the help of a friend. We moved in the next day—no doors, no woodwork, damp plaster, unfinished floors and all! It was less than a week before my trip to the hospital. When I returned with my baby I had a school girl help me for two days but since my own girls were almost eleven and eight years of age they were a great deal of help.

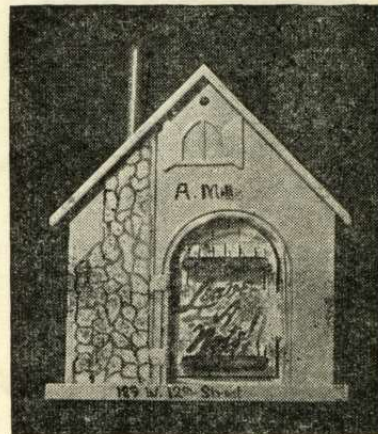
Our building program took a rest from July until almost October when our corn was picked. With many things demanding our attention all we could get done before Christmas was to hang doors and get in the furnace pipes. With the new year we began a major job again. We moved out of the new rooms and finished the floors, woodwork, etc. We found the plaster in such poor condition that it was necessary to get a new thin plaster of the consistency of whipped cream and completely cover all the surface before the paint went on. Finally we got the walls painted, the bathroom tiled and moved back in. I chose a sapphire blue and white ceiling for the boys' room and flame red walls with white ceiling for our room. The small hall is pale yellow (ceiling and walls) and the bath a light green tile with wine half-tile feature strip. These are plastic tiles and they cover the wall four feet all around and four feet over the tub. The walls above and the ceiling are shocking pink.

Now we stopped all work on this part and began the job of knocking out walls, closing doors and all else that goes with remodeling of old houses. We still have built-in drawers and closets to finish in each room, although we finished the closets with sliding doors in each room. But again, we could see spring work coming and I can get by without those little extras for awhile. Anyone who has never lived and cooked day in and day out in a remodeling job has no idea of the problems involved. I cleaned continually and was never done! It seemed for quite some time that everything we did made the house look worse but once we got the last partition down we felt we were "over the hump" and then the appearance of the whole thing began improving. We started out with five rooms and glassed in back porch and wound up with five much larger rooms and back porch. As of now it is nicely comfortable inside but the exterior is our project for

(Continued on Page 13)

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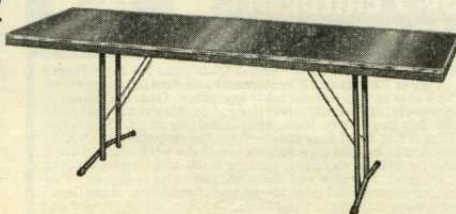
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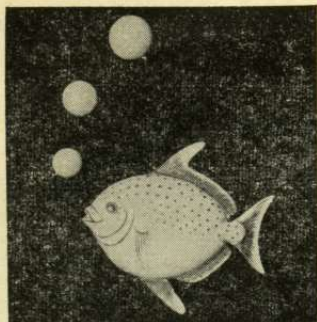
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IT'S THANKSGIVING TIME AND TRADITION MAKING TIME

By Mabel Nair Brown

It's the worthwhile family traditions that make Thanksgiving such a memorable holiday. Here are a few ideas for making this family day mean more to you and yours.

Remember the cornhusk dolls Granny used to make? How about making Pilgrim cornhusk dolls? For each doll you will need the complete husk from one ear of corn. Soak the husk in water to make it pliable and less apt to split as you work. Now gather in the husk to form the head and to make the waist. Tie with string. Use pieces of twisted husk run through the body to form the arms. From another large husk cut a triangle to fasten over the Pilgrim woman's head and another for a scarf around her shoulders. Her apron is also made of a square of husk fastened to a husk band. Trim the skirt off evenly at the bottom and fluff out into shape.

For the Pilgrim man, make in same way as above and then divide the husks and tie off to form the legs. Make him a hat of black paper and a cardboard gun for over his shoulder. The woman can carry a tiny book labeled Bible. Features can be put on with ink or crayons.

Use these figures in a grouping with a small cardboard church which the children can make. Or you might use two or three figures with a corn leaf and tassel arrangement, perhaps with a pair of turkeys as accent. You may have some turkey ceramics, or you can make clever turkeys using a whole black walnut in shell as the body, a pipe cleaner wings, and a cardboard head or tail. Or you may use a prune as the turkey's body, hairpin or pipe cleaners bent to shape as legs; and a brown paper head and tail inserted in slit in prune.

A POPCORN PILGRIM VILLAGE would prove very popular to the youngster, but grownups, too, would love it for a table centerpiece or a buffet arrangement. Just use popcorn ball recipe your family likes best and then mold it to shape of pilgrim figures, small turkeys, and even to make log cabin or church. Mold some of it in long pencil shaped pieces to put together as a rail fence to surround the popcorn village. You will find it easy to mold the figures if you begin with a round ball as the body, a smaller one for the head, etc. This will be



Two little sisters on one of the last days of summer. Alison (on the left) feels pretty grown up this fall since she started attending a small nursery school—now Emily isn't the only one who goes away every morning!

the time to enlist the aid of the children, for once the popcorn mixture is ready you will want to work fast. Plain popcorn can be the snow on the ground of the completed village. Small popcorn turkeys or one of the pilgrim figures can be used as place favors.

"OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS" can be a lovely centerpiece theme. If you have a pretty sleigh among your Christmas decorations, bring it out and in it place the miniature figures for the family — use tiny dolls or make pipe cleaner figures. Fasten tiny toy horse to sleigh with ribbon lines. The whole thing can be set up on a mirror on which you use cotton and artificial snow to make the covered path or road to "grandmother's house." You may want to use more of the children's toy farm buildings, such as barn, fence, etc., to make a typical "Grandma Moses" scene on a large mirror.

FOR A THANKSGIVING WORSHIP CENTER place the Bible opened to the 100th Psalm on a table in front of a large orange candle. At the base of the candle arrange some preserved autumn leaves and some bronze and yellow chrysanthemums. (Perhaps you gathered some buds before frost and put them away in a cool basement to use in bouquets in late fall).

We make a tradition of "Thankful" time at our Thanksgiving dinner table. We use one of the little pumpkin or turkey candles (from our Five and Ten) at each place. Just before dessert is served we take turns lighting our candles and telling the things that have happened to us this year for which we are thankful.

PRETTY THANKSGIVING FAVORITES can feature turkey cookies. Place a generous dab of powdered sugar icing on top of a pretty red apple and then stand the turkey upright on the apple, anchored in the icing. Or you can place the turkey cookies on graham cracker bases in the same manner described above. Small cookies can be made to stand up by sticking them in a slit in the top of a large gumdrop.

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CRAFT QUIZ

By Erma Reynolds

Try this quiz the next time your club meets and members bring their handwork.

1. An object found on a mended garment, and to toil. **PATCH WORK.**

2. Name something fishermen do and you'll have this craft. **HOOKING.**

3. A bird and an old-time carriage. Put the two words together for this craft. **CRO-CHET (chaise).**

4. A style of hair-do. **BRAIDING.**

5. What a broken bone should be doing. **KNITTING**

6. An inebriate sometimes walks this way. **WEAVING.**

7. "Tit for —", and a high-pitched sound. **TATTING.**

8. Sewing equipment and a sharp end. **NEEDLE POINT.**

9. Sometimes done to a tall tale to make it more exciting. **EMBROIDERY.**

10. Lumbermen and Boy Scouts indulge in this also. **WOODCRAFT.**

11. A loose button will cause a husband to demand some of this craft. **SEWING.**

12. An animal supplies this, and a skill. **LEATHER CRAFT.**

13. Twigs are featured in this craft. **BASKETRY.**

14. Pigment plays a big part in this craft. **PAINTING.**

THE PATTERNS

My life is just a weaving
Between my Lord and me,
I cannot see the colors
He worketh steadily.
Some days he weaves in silence,
And I, in foolish pride
Can't see He sees the upper—
And I the under side.

(Continued from Page 11)

this coming winter. In all, we closed four doors and moved two walls. We removed two walls completely and changed three windows into doors. We also put in some new woodwork in the old part of the house. We built in permanent cornice boards which hide the traverse rods on which my drapes are hung. Our colors and patterns are bright. This runs true to form throughout the house. I wish I could take the time to go into detail about my kitchen, but I'm afraid my letter has become too lengthy. Perhaps I can go into that in another letter.

Sincerely, Paula.

SHE OFFERED THANKS

She set the table neatly
With what she had,
Buttered some bread,
Then poured milk
Into each small cup.
When they were seated
She bowed her head,
But never mentioned
Her recent loss
That left her so alone.
Being grateful for what
Was still their own.
She thanked God
The children were well,
That she was strong,
And asked Him to keep
Her vision clear,
Give her heart a song,
And guide them through
The coming year.

—Carrie M. Boring

TODAY

And if tomorrow shall be sad
Or never come at all, I've had
At least today!
This little strip of light
'Twixt night and night
Let me keep bright Today!

And let no shadow of tomorrow,
Nor sorrow from the dead yesterday,
Gainsay my happiness today!
And if tomorrow shall be sad
Or never come at all, I've had
At least today!

"They say that I am old
My hair is white.
I cannot sew by candle light.
But please, dear Lord,
Of thee I pray
Oh, do not let my soul turn gray."

Dorothy's Letter—Concluded

garden for supper tonight. Bernie had been out to look at the garden this evening and said it looked as if we were going to have a lot of lima beans after all. We have had so little to can out of our garden this year that I volunteered to shell all of those beans by myself. Bernie also dug enough sweet potatoes for our supper tonight and what we have are lovely, but there just aren't going to be very many. Our Irish potatoes are also nice, what there is of them, but we are finding only two to a hill.

It is getting late so this must be all for tonight. Until next month . . .
Sincerely, Dorothy

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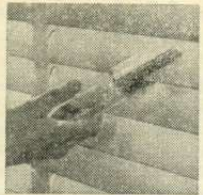
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Of Kitchen-Klatter Magazine published monthly at Shenandoah, Iowa for October, 1954.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Leanna F. Driftmier, Shenandoah, Iowa.



Kristin and one of her pet chickens, Juliana snapped this with a single idea in mind: to get a sharp picture of Kristin to use in Kitchen-Klatter.

THANKSGIVING

For all things beautiful, and good, and true;
For things that seemed not good, yet turned to good;
For all the sweet compulsions of Thy will
That chastened, tried, and wrought us to Thy shape;
For things unnumbered that we take of right,
And value first when they are withheld;
For light and air, sweet sense of sound and smell;
For ears to hear the heavenly harmonies;
For eyes to see the unseen in the seen;
For vision of the Worker in the work;
For hearts to apprehend Thee everywhere;—
We thank Thee, Lord.

—John Oxenham

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S. W. Driftmier,
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FOR SALE: Smocked dresses, lace trimmed, size 1 to 4, \$3.25 and up. State size and color. Fancy aprons \$1.50. Mrs. Norman Michaelis, Barnston, Nebraska.

CROCHETED DOILIES, chairsets, table-cloths, scarfs, etc. Lydia Alm, Adams, Nebraska.

PHONOGRAPH RECORDS. Latest hits, 45 and 78 RPM. 4 for \$1.00. Slightly used. Send for free list. Maureen Loots, Carroll, Iowa.

WANTED SEWING. Housedresses \$1.25. Hand painted pillow cases \$2.50, dresser scarf \$1.50, both with crochet edge. Mrs. Frank Vance, Rt. 3, Paris, Mo.

CROCHETED TABLECLOTH 45 x 65 \$22.00. Pillow Slips, Chair Sets, Doilies, other crocheting. Mary Wirth, Rt. 4, Newton, Ia.

GIFT APRONS—cotton prints \$1.00 each. Swedish embroidered guest towels \$1.50 pair. Advise color choice. Louise, 4027 Lafayette, Omaha, Nebr.

NEWEST CHENILLE CORSAGES 75¢. Two \$1.30. Freda Poverlin, Beatrice, Nebr.

BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED CHILDREN'S BOOKS. Hear our Prayer, Lord's Prayer, King Is Born, Night Before Christmas, each with name gold imprinted as: Sue from Grandma Brown. Two for \$1.00 postpaid. (State choice) "Jan-K" Gifts, Madrid, Iowa.

MAIL all your SCRAP GOLD—Dental, old jewelry, watch cases, chains, spectacles, etc., for prompt free estimate to Kathryn A. Ross, Box 78, Shenandoah, Iowa.

VERY ATTRACTIVE CHRISTMAS GIFT—18-inch crocheted doily, 7 roses—\$1.00. Vadyne Allen, Callao, Mo.

HEALTH BOOK by retired nurse, Arthritis "flare ups" bloat, overweight, food allergy. 50¢. Mrs. Walt Pitzer, Shell Rock, Iowa.

PRACTICAL, PRETTY GIFT APRONS—\$1.25. Postpaid. Ada Higbee, Bloomfield, Iowa.

BEAUTIFUL HAIRPIN DOILIES Combination two colors 13" \$1.50. Fay Mulanix, Worthington, Mo.

STAR PATTERN FOR CUTTING CAKES. Easy to use. Nice for parties, picnics and club luncheons. Pattern and directions 25¢ in coin, and self addressed stamped envelope. Mrs. Karn Hoag, 831 N. Forest, Independence, Mo.

COLORFUL PANSY APPLIED HALF APRONS—Neat work - \$2.50. R. Kiehl, 2917 Fourth N. W., Canton, Ohio.

FOR SALE: Pillow cases. Girls with crocheted skirts, Medallion across front, others, Rose Medallion, \$5.00 pr. Tea Towels Embroidered 7 - \$3.50. Bed Socks from wash cloths \$1.00. Linen Hankies with crocheted edge and corner \$1.00. Laura Fuss, 1920, Ord, Nebraska.

DOLL CLOTHES and gift items. Mrs. Howard Vanbaale, Prairie City, Iowa.

DUCK FEATHER PILLOWS, best grade ticking, blue stripe or rose print. Write. Mrs. Ray Dusatko, Brainard, Nebr.

CROCHETED DRESSER SET. Rose Centers. Colored. \$2.00. Mabel Kelley, Queen City, Mo.

CUTE, ADJUSTABLE BEDROOM SLIPPERS made from terry washcloths. Any color. \$1 pair. Marie Trusty, 1435 5th South, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

EMBROIDERED PILLOW CASES with crocheted edges. Price \$2.75. Alice Alshouse, Gresham, Nebr.

HILLS AND PLAINS SHOPPING NEWS. Newly revised. Guaranteed, money-saving ads; penpal, hobby, shutin, Birthday listings. Homemaker's section. Nation-wide circulation. Dec. sample 25¢. Mrs. Floyd Norris, Forest City, Mo.

MY LATEST PRIZE WINNING APRON. "Kitchen Dandy" \$1.25. Smocked gingham \$1.50. Squaw aprons \$1.25. Attractive jumbo Ric Rac Corsages \$1.00. Boys Suit clothespin bag \$1.00. Kathleen Yates, Queen City, Mo.

SCISSOR SHARPENING BY EXPERT. 40¢ ea. pp. No stamps please. Ideal Novelty Co., 903 Church St., Shenandoah, Iowa.

PILLOW CASES CROCHETED BUTTERFLY 6 x 7 inch, crocheted edge \$3.25. Sundail Doily 16 inch \$1.25. Emma Jackson, Harwood, Mo.

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HOMEMADE CANDY, \$1 pkg. Mrs. Wm. Scraback, Ellendale, Minn.

DISH TOWELS 17 by 34 in., embroidered set \$3.75. Mrs. Alva Barker, Odessa, Mo.

WOVEN POT HOLDERS 15¢ each. Bette Lammel, 104 Court St., Beatrice, Nebr.

QUILT PIECES—fast colors, large pieces. 1½ pounds plus patterns and quilting chart \$1.25. Hester's Remnants, R.I-261, Tusculumbia, Ala.

FIRST LUTHERAN GUILD COOK BOOK—\$2.00 - Indexed - 500 recipes including Scandinavian section. Mrs. Clarion Hanson, Humboldt, Iowa.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS: 15 inch Spring Flower Doily. Delicate green on white center medallion and spaced rows crowned with 18 multicolored florets. White edge. \$2.00 postpaid. A. J. Eltgroth, Carroll, Iowa.

CROCHETED POT HOLDERS 3 for \$1.00. Oval doilies 14 x 24—white, \$1.75; 14 x 20—white or ecru, \$1.50; 11 x 17—white, \$1.25; 11 in.—Irish Rose doily, \$1.25; 12 in.—Pansy doily, \$1.35. Ad good any time. Mrs. W. C. Dygert, Yale, Iowa.

CROCHETED LOOPSTITCHED TRIMMED HAT and bag, \$4.75. Mrs. M. Floren, Dell Rapids, So. Dak.

CROCHETED HAIRPIN or Tatting pillow slip edgings 42" \$1.00 pair. Any color. Mrs. Edna Sutterfield, Cair, Missouri.

EMBROIDERED DISH TOWELS—1 yd. square 6 or 7 in a set \$4.00. Mrs. E. J. Meyer, 251 7th St., Wells, Minnesota.

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LITTLE DRESS CLOTH'S PIN BAG. \$1.00. Nice for gifts. Grace Knight, 408 - 6th Ave., Grinnell, Iowa.

CROCHET HOLDERS, 3 assorted \$1.00. Crocheted pineapple doilies 18" \$1.50. Pretty cotton hankies, 2 rows crocheted edge, 3 assorted \$1.00. Ruffled doilie 13" \$1.25. Alma Kracke, Hope, Kans.

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TATTED BEADED EAR RINGS 75¢ pr.; novelty crocheted, hen & chick pin cushion 75¢ each, crocheted holders 75¢ or 2—\$1.25, child's crocheted dress, white, size 3-4 \$3.50. Mrs. Clifford Sorensen, Rt. 4, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS CROCHETED, Chair Sets, Doilies, Table-Cloths. Bessie Mosby, Adams, Nebr.

BEAUTIFUL NYLON FLOWER CORSAGES with ribbons. Mrs. Paul Ledebuhr, Rt. 1, Houston, Minn.

LOVELY LINEN HANKIES, Lovers Knot, variegated edge, 70¢, 2—\$1.20 or 2 print feed bags. Mrs. Carl Denner, New Hampton, Iowa.

RECIPE BOOKS—Tested recipes—by Methodist Ladies Society \$1.30 postpaid. Grace Gustafson, Farnhamville, Iowa.

WASH CLOTH SLIPPERS all colors. Crocheted around top. Ribbon Bow. \$1.00 pr. Rickrack earrings, rhinestone centers, 35¢ pr., 3 pr. \$1.00. Plastic leather drawing purses, lined, washable, \$2.50. Clara Jackson, Mendon, Mo.

HEALTHY, DELICIOUS STONEGROUND Flours and Cornmeal. Write us. Brownville Mills, Brownville, Nebr.

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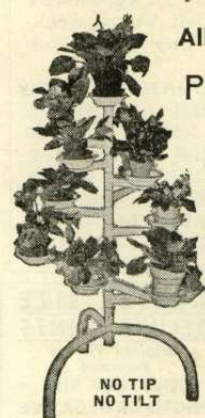
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NYLON HOSIERY BARGAINS: Factory rejects (Thirds) 6 Pair \$1.00. Our Better Grade (Seconds) 3 pair \$1.00. Our Select Grade (Irregulars) 3 pair \$2.00. Postpaid when cash with order. Allen Hosiery Company, Box 349, Dept. C., Chattanooga, Tenn.

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QUILT PIECES, 500 large lovely fast-color cotton, patterns and gift. \$1.25 post paid, S. Howard Adah, Pa.

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GOOD NEIGHBORS

By Gertrude Hayzlett

Miss Rachel Gorden, Box 724, Augusta, Maine, would enjoy hearing from you. She can answer if a stamp is sent. (Is hospitalized.)

Mrs. James Ames, 229½ W. 7 St., St. Paul 2, Minn., has arthritis and heart trouble. She wants some pen pals. Collects miniature animals.

Mrs. Ethel Comeford, R1, B22, Norwich, N. Dak., is a long time shutin and unable to get out of her room since she fell a year ago and injured her leg and hip. She is seldom able to write.

Mrs. Sallie Kellams, Rt. 1, Huntingburg, Ind., will be 85 on October 27. She is shutin and unable to write, but loves to get mail.

Anna Belle Harper, 937 S. W. Fifth St., Miami 36, Fla., has been shutin most of her life. She has arthritis, suffers a great deal and is unable to write.

Mrs. Ella Deardorff, 30 S. 7 St., Kansas City 1, Kansas, is shutin. She had an eye operation nearly a year ago, is unable to be out at all and is very lonely.

Leon Lillie, Rt. 2, c/o Bill Lillie, Hornick, Iowa, is 11. He has a heart ailment, following rheumatic fever, and must keep quiet. He likes to read and to paint.

Mrs. Frank Wilson, Box 243, Parnell, Mo., has been in the hospital twice this year. She has arthritis and is in a wheel chair. She collects shakers, unusual bookmarks, and would like General Mills coupons.

Mr. and Mrs. King David McMasters, Danville, Va., are both shutin. He is 88. They love to get mail.

Miss Beverly Yearout, Branson, Mo., is 24 and has spent her life in a wheel chair. She does all kinds of handwork and has a little gift shop in her home. She enjoys mail.

Mrs. Allen V. Clark, Ave. C-17, Bradenton Trailer Park, Bradenton, Fla., is shutin since she had a stroke 4 years ago. Please write to her.

Miss Betty Williams, 1952 N. Bethany, Kansas City 4, Kansas, is in bed all the time except for 2 hours twice a week when they put her in a chair. She is very interested in promoting a national shutin day. Collects map hankies.

Mrs. Frank Schultz, Rt. 1, Clinton, Ohio, is confined to her home by arthritis. She raises lots of African violets.

Miss Meredith King, Rt. 1, Thorn-dale, Texas, has been bedfast all this year. She collects stamps, buttons and shakers.

Mrs. Mary Ferris, 2811 East 22 St., Tulsa, Okla., is about 80. She has been in a Rest Home for some years and is not a bit well. She loves mail but is not able to answer at all.

Mrs. Walter H. Ohland, 214 Fifth Ave. N., Hopkins, Minn., has been handicapped all her life. She collects TB seals and other fancy seals, also sample playing cards, and enjoys mail.

Will arthritis victims write to Mrs. Harold Wheeler, Butler, Mo.? She is in her 30's and needs to hear words of encouragement from those who have found help.

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