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## Magazine

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Photo by Verness.





LETTER FROM LEANNA

## KITCHEN-KLATTER MAGAZINE

*"More Than Just Paper And Ink"*

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Redlands, Calif.

Dear Friends:

I am going to be able to enjoy two spring seasons this year for it is definitely spring in southern California, and as soon as we receive the joyous news that spring has returned to Iowa we will be back to enjoy it with you.

I would certainly hate to miss seeing the first tulips stick their noses above the ground! Our yard was gay with color last spring, and Russell planted many new varieties of tulips during this past fall so I am looking forward to enjoying them.

People who think there are no clearly defined seasons in California surely cannot be very observing! When we arrived here in early January the only bright spots on the landscape consisted of red or orange pyracanthus and holly. I wish that pyracanthus would do well in the Midwest for it is truly spectacular used either as a hedge or as a tall, graceful shrub. Each branch is heavy with clusters of berries.

Now the yellow plumes of acacia, plus tall iris, calla lilies, daffodils, flowering quince and the little orange-colored daisies that cover some yards like grass, tell us that spring is really here. Good winter rains have assured us too that the desert will be flower carpeted a little later.

Flowering peach trees are in bloom now and they are very colorful. They bloom before the cherry, peach and apricot orchards that cover the hills in Yucipa, Banning and Beaumont just a few miles from here.

Redlands used to be called the "City of Orange Groves" for nearly every home was built in an orange orchard. Many of these trees are now being removed and lovely homes replace them. If it were not for our children, grandchildren and you good friends in the Midwest I would be tempted to own a four-room house in an orange grove!

Spring in this part of California brings too the wonderful flower shows which I always enjoy so much. Because of the large crowds it is difficult for my wheel chair to take me among the indoor displays, but there are many lovely gardens and flowers that I can enjoy outside of the buildings. There are two other events that I enjoy very much too: the Orange Show in San Bernardino, and the Date Festival in Indio.

It has been so nice to have my sister, Jessie Shambaugh, here at the

hotel with us. She has a room close to ours and we read and sew and window shop together. Every morning after breakfast we go out into the sunshine, for our hotel has a wonderful place for this. We are on the second floor and the rooms are built around a patio with windows opening on to it. (This gives us protection from the wind.) There are window boxes of many-colored geraniums and ferns, as well as tubs of camellias, so it certainly makes a pleasant place to sit in the sun.

On one side are several French doors that open into a large sunny room furnished with easy chairs, a TV and a grand piano. We often sit there to read and sew, or to entertain friends who call on us. This winter we have enjoyed meeting so many of our radio friends who are spending the winter in California, or those who live permanently in California and know us through this magazine.

We have several relatives whom we have visited recently. One of my few first cousins, Pauline Speyerer of San Bernardino, had us over for a squab dinner. Her husband raises a few as a hobby, and we felt honored to be asked to share them. Each one looked like a plump little turkey, basted and browned so beautifully. Pauline's sister, Lola Sawyer, was also a guest, and after dinner we got out the old hymn books and sang those good old songs our parents loved. It was a very happy Sunday evening.

We have taken only two trips of any real distance this past month. One of them was to see our brother Sol, his wife Mary, and his daughter Jean and her husband, in northern California in the fertile Sacramento River valley. It was about 600 miles to Corning, which is near our brother's ranch. The weather cooperated in making it a lovely trip.

We went through Cajon Pass on to the desert and past Lancaster, a rapidly growing town. Los Angeles is becoming so very crowded that many big industries are moving out to the desert. Our road took us through Bakersfield with its many oil wells and cotton fields, then through a great valley with rice fields and huge grape vineyards to Modesto where we spent the night. Modesto is in the heart of the fruit country. The season was a little late or the hundreds of acres of peach, apricot and prune trees would have been in bloom.

The Sacramento valley where Sol

lives is famous for the wonderful olives grown there. Certainly it's a very profitable crop. We saw the big processing plants where the olives are changed from a purple, bitter fruit to the delicious product we enjoy on our tables. The olives on the tree look so edible that as a practical joke, tourists are asked to eat one. They are as bitter as quinine! I know because years ago I tasted one!

We were happy to find Sol recovering very rapidly from the severe attack of bronchial trouble that kept him from making the trip to Redlands for Sue's memorial services. In fact, just to assure us that he really had regained some of his former strength, he mounted one of his beautiful saddle horses and rode a little bit.

Since we had last seen Sol he had married, and for the first time we had an opportunity to meet Mary, his wife. Her hospitality was wonderful, and we had the happy impression that it was no job at all for her to have company. Mart certainly forgot his strenuous weight-reduction diet when he sat down at her table! For a snack one day we had some home-smoked salmon, and it had the most delicious flavor imaginable.

Our niece, Jean Johnson and her husband Harvey own the Proberta General Store and have a large circle of friends in their community. (If you've been reading this magazine for the last couple of years you will probably recall the interesting letter from Jean about this store.) It had been years since I had been in a real cross-roads store, the kind that is vanishing too fast from our American countryside. They sell everything from gifts for that new baby to paint for the house. I told Jean that all they needed to complete the picture was a cat on the cracker barrel.

On our return trip to Redlands we stopped at Fresno the first night, and then drove on to home-base to find stacks of letters and home-town papers piled on our desk. My! how much we enjoy our mail. From our children's letters we learn that you have had a real old-fashioned winter with plenty of snow. I know how badly we needed that moisture to insure crops this summer.

Our other trip, not nearly so distant, was to spend the day at Twenty-Nine Palms with Russell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Verness and their daughter and her family. We were glad to see them and can report back to Russell and Lucile that they are finding their present location much more comfortable in the winter than Minneapolis, their former home. Boletta, Russell's sister, served us a lovely lunch, and we spent the afternoon with them.

Twenty-Nine Palms is also growing—many new homes are being built. It is near the Joshua Tree National Monument, and is the land of huge desert turtles. In the spring they have turtle races, and this is something I'd like to see! Boletta's husband is stationed at the Marine Base there, and they have just bought a lovely new home.

(Continued on page 4)



## NOTES ON SPRING PLANTINGS

By  
Lucile

This past winter has brought so many, many letters to my desk regarding memorial plantings that I thought it might answer a good many questions if I discussed the subject right here, now that spring is so close at hand.

Let me say first that I think memorial plantings are tremendously important. Every single living plant is constant evidence that life continues, and never is there a heart so troubled but that the sight of flowers and shrubs growing near the resting place of our loved ones can fail to bring hope and peace.

Those of us who live in the Midwest are blessed with earth and climate that permit us to care for family lots in such a way that it is a comfort to visit them. I have never been able to forget the wind-blown, sandy cemeteries of the West where not even grass grew, and only balls of tumbleweed rolled over the desolate scene. I felt a sense of loss in visiting the resting places of dear friends in those bleak cemeteries, a sense of loss that I have never felt back here in the Midwest where flowers, shrubs, trees and birds combine to assure one that the cycle of life continues.

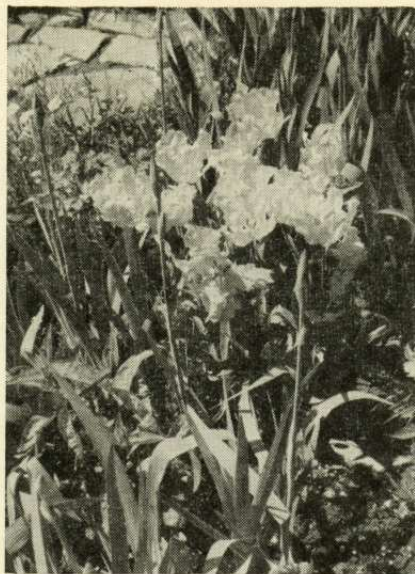
Not many people live close enough to the cemeteries where family lots are located that they can make frequent trips to care for plantings, and that is why it is important to put out things that can thrive without attention. From experience we know that the following suggestions are practical and down-to-earth for those who are now interested in making of their family lot a place of beauty to lift the hearts of all who pass.

Early spring, of course, brings the flaming beauty of Red Emperor Tulips. They bloom long before other Tulips and positively can lift the heaviest heart with their wonderfully radiant glow. We feel that a bed of these in full bloom at the end of a long winter is the most glowing testimonial a garden can offer to the continuance of life, and the beauty of God's world.

These, of course, can only be planted during the fall months, so it is necessary to keep this in mind. If you can make a trip to the cemetery during October or November, it won't take long to put the bulbs into the ground and give them a good soaking; and you can know, as you turn to leave, that in April there will be scarlet beauty for every visitor to appreciate.

At the same time you plant the Red Emperor Tulips, take time to dig shallow holes here and there over the lot and put in Crocus bulbs. These bright jewel blooms appear very, very early, and since good quality bulbs multiply rapidly and increase in size every year, you'll eventually have a rainbow of color on the ground. Like the Red Emperor Tulips, they require no further care or attention once they are established.

Both of these things, so very important, can be ordered and planted dur-



If you come to see Lucile's and Russell's garden this spring you'll be dazzled by the Sunshine Parrot Tulips.

ing the autumn months, but the other three things I want to mention should be planted this spring just as soon as the ground is right for working.

The Gruss An Aachen Rose is incomparably beautiful for cemetery plantings. It is lovely beyond description, an exquisite creamy pink and ivory flower with touches of salmon — and the great profusion of blooms are almost as large as Hybrid Teas.

We recommend the Gruss An Aachen so strongly for memorial plantings because it thrives wonderfully well without attention, can tolerate dry weather better than most roses, and blooms at intervals throughout the entire season. Furthermore, it is good and hardy and will live for years.

If the stone that carries the family name is large, we'd suggest planting three Gruss An Aachen directly in front of it. If the stone is low, place the roses behind it. But we urge that all three be planted close together because the total display they make is tremendously effective.

A perfect ground covering that will keep your lot looking green and cared for is Vinca Minor. As soon as the winter's snows melt, it is fresh and green; and it remains that way until it is covered again with a white blanket.

This ivy-type ground covering is extremely dense and tight with charming blue flowers in the spring. It multiplies amazingly fast in sun or shade, and yet stays within bounds. As I write this in March I can look out and see our Vinca Minor, fresh and green, and it is a comforting sight when everything else in our garden is bleak and bare. I am sure you would be extremely gratified with the effect it will make in years to come if you start it on your family lot this spring.

The final, permanent planting I want to urge you to think about is Euonymus (Radicans Erecta), a wonderfully valuable plant that takes the place of Evergreens that are expensive and so tricky to get established.

This lovely shrub has glossy foliage that stays a brilliant green all winter, grows upright (18 to 24 in. in only one season), and needs no support. It is VERY hardy. One plant placed in each corner of the lot (a total of four) would serve as the perfect accent for years and years to come. When you sit down to think about starting beautiful memorial plantings this spring, don't fail to include Euonymus in your plans.

I had wanted very much to use a picture of the Field family lot in our Rose Hill Cemetery along with these notes, but just about the time it was necessary to take the photograph we had such icy drives and deep snow that it was impossible to make the trip out there.

However, I cannot conclude this without the suggestion that you take time to drive through Rose Hill when you make your trip to Shenandoah in these spring and summer months ahead of us. At the intersection of Sheridan and Center avenues you will see a marker indicating the direction, and if you admire magnificent evergreens and beautiful plantings of all kinds you won't regret the few minutes it takes to drive through it. The pioneers who chose its location on a lovely rolling hill were certainly far-sighted, and through the years we've been fortunate enough to have citizens who have given freely of their time to make it a beautiful place.

\* \* \*

We've no way of determining at this date when our gardens will be in full bloom this spring, but as soon as we have a definite idea we will tell you on our morning radio visit at 9:00 over stations KFNF in Shenandoah, KFAB in Omaha, KFEQ in St. Joseph, and KOIA in Des Moines.

## YOUR GARDEN

I bring serenity to your life. No human pursuit gives more pleasure to your days than the creating of me.

I am, outwardly, your own accomplishment, but in the business of me God is your more than equal partner.

I am at once your solace in sorrow and your inspiration for endeavor.

My flowering hand is outstretched to welcome you at the end of the day; my leafy arms reach yearningly for you when you return from the longer absence.

I am the place where your children play and bask in the sunshine to lay the foundation of health and strength that shall make them worthy of their citizenship.

I teach you the great lesson of patience, since the rotation of my fruition may not be hurried but must proceed slowly and quietly as has been ordained from the beginning of time.

I keep your feet on the ground both physically and spiritually, and something, none the less actual because unseen, flows from me into your body and soul, something that makes you valiant and gives you the joy of living.

I am your flowers and vines and trees, and the soil that gives them life — I AM YOUR GARDEN.



**"HE IS RISEN"****An Easter Devotional**

By

Mabel Nair Brown

Pianist plays soft musical background ("Christ Arose" is one hymn suggestion) as the Call To Worship is read.

LEADER: "Let us join now in joyous worship by listening to a prose poem titled 'Faith of Easter'" by Thomas Curtis Clark.

"He arose! They pierced His hands and feet Under the noonday heat; They hung Him on a cross: The world knew not its loss; They laid Him in a tomb: Hope vanished in the gloom. But Life is lord of death, Hate could not still Love's breath . . . He arose!"

"He arose! And darkness turned to day, Faith walked a blithesome way, Joy came to bide with men, Hope filled all hearts again. Two men who saw Him die Saw shadows fill the sky — Then, sudden, Christ was there Speaking His words of cheer . . . He arose!"

SONG: "Christ Arose".

Responsive reading by two readers:

"Christ our passover is sacrificed for us; therefore, let us keep the peace.

Not with the old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him.

For in that He died, He died unto sin once; but in that He liveth, He liveth in God.

Christ is risen from the dead; and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

SCRIPTURE READINGS: (A soft-musical background of Easter music should be provided as the following scriptures are read by four different readers. If possible (this will be much more effective), have the scriptures memorized and each one in turn take her place beside the altar setting and then give her scripture in a most dramatic manner.

FIRST SCRIPTURE — Matthew 27:57-61.

SOLO—"Alone" (beginning "It was alone my Saviour died, etc.," or another appropriate Easter solo).

SECOND SCRIPTURE — Matthew 27:61-66.

THIRD SCRIPTURE — John 20:1-10.

SOLO—"There Is A Green Hill Far Away".

FOURTH SCRIPTURE — Mark 16: 1-9.

At the conclusion of the four scriptures, the Leader stands to read the following passage. As she reaches the words TRUTH, LOVE, JUSTICE, GOODWILL, RIGHTEOUSNESS, five members step forward and light candles. There should be sufficient pause between each word to enable the individual to step forward—this section of the devotional should not be hurried in any way.

LEADER: "What is Easter? Easter



Emily, Alison and Clark Driftmier spend a rainy March afternoon in their playroom. It would be our guess that Abigail has a lot of company in hoping for an early spring when children can get back outdoors!

is the promise of tomorrow, the sweet oblivion of all sorrow. Easter is Faith and Eternal Life, the death of pain — triumph over strife. Easter is Hope, a victory won as man lives again through God's own Son.

"Life begins at Easter! In the early dawn of that first Easter, Mary stood at the tomb, her heart sore, her mind confused and troubled. She wept as she peered into the empty tomb, for the forces of evil seemed to have been completely victorious. Then came the triumphant words: 'He is not here. He has risen!'"

"With what joy Mary must have spread the good news 'He lives!' Death had lost its sting, and the grave had been robbed of its victory. That was the beginning of a great discovery for all Christians. There are certain things in life that have the quality of eternity about them—TRUTH, LOVE, JUSTICE, GOODWILL, RIGHTEOUSNESS—these things outlast the everlasting hills.

"Life triumphed over death and came forth from the tomb to walk among men, inspiring, challenging, building, restoring, pressing ever onward to new victories. Life began, and BEGINS, at Easter. An unknown poet has put this into beautiful words for all of us, and (name of individual) will now read it for us."

"It was dark to Mary of Magdala As she stole from her lonely room And sped away, ere the break of day To the place of the rich man's tomb.

It was dark as night in her mournful soul

For the hope of her life had fled, For sin had won, and the deed was done,

And the Son of God was dead.

"Rabboni!" Only one word she said, But her heart was in the cry. There He stood, Her Christ, and the sight sufficed, Although she had seen Him die.

And for Mary of Magdala, through the power

Of that Ressurrection Day All the dark and the night, all sin and blight

Had forever passed away."

SONG: "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today." Piano continues softly for benediction.

BENEDICTION: "Our Father, may the Resurrection of Jesus mean more to us today than it has ever meant before. We thank Thee for it, and pray that as the risen Christ comes to us we may surely know Him. Let us follow Him, our risen Lord, every step of the way. Hear us O Lord. Amen."

SUGGESTED SETTING FOR THIS SERVICE: Make an altar setting on a table in center of stage. At center back, on this table, place a cross. Draped over the table and around the base of the cross, use a rich purple cloth of some sort. (Velvet would be lovely, but most of us would not have such on hand, so other material might be used. If purple cloth is impossible to get, then, a deep wine, or rich red might do.)

Directly in front of the cross, with the top slightly elevated by a block of wood or small book, place a white Bible. To either side and slightly forward of cross arrange white Easter Lillies.

Place five white tapers in holders on either side of the Bible, three on one side, two on the other in a semicircle effect. If possible, about the base of each candle have small clusters of spring flowers (signifying "new life, rebirth"); for example, rose color on the LOVE candle, yellow for TRUTH, blue for JUSTICE, pink for GOODWILL, and lavender for RIGHTEOUSNESS. At proper time, have someone designated to light these candles as leader reads.

**Leanna's Letter—Concluded**

In spite of frequent letters from home I feel that you folks really know more of what is going on there than we do since Lucile and Margery visit with you every day over the radio. I guess they had quite a time making it to our house on several mornings when there was bad ice and snow, but when you have a date with the world you always manage to keep it somehow.

Mart says he is ready to drive out to an orange ranch where we buy the sweetest and best flavored oranges around here, and since it is a beautiful day for a ride I think I'll put down my pen now and get ready to go with him. We're watching the weather reports carefully these days, and as soon as it looks safe to start the long drive back to Iowa we'll be on our road. I know you'll read this letter after you hear my voice again, so until then I'll say

Goodbye—Leanna

There is a destiny that makes us brothers,  
None goes his way alone,  
All that we send into the lives of others  
Comes back into our own.



## PUERTO RICO SOUNDS WONDERFUL!

Dear Friends:

I am writing this letter to you from the town of Humacao, Puerto Rico on the very eastern end of the island.

We leave tonight for New York thus bringing to an end one of the most pleasant journeys I have ever made. In my last letter I told you something of the beauty of this heavenly island, but I hope that you will forgive me for telling you still more.

In all of my life I have never been anywhere — and I have seen a good part of this world — with such a marvelous winter climate. As I sit here now in this open doorway looking off across the green hills, I just can't believe that the temperature anywhere could be so nearly perfect. The only time I have needed a jacket for warmth was the day we made a trip to the top of a mountain where we walked through dense jungle growth looking for orchids. It was raining then, and a bit on the chilly side. Only once during our entire stay here have we experienced any rain at all. I, for one, am delighted to learn that there is a place with such a perfect winter climate so near to continental U.S.A. Note that I couldn't say, "so near to America" for the Puerto Ricans are very, very proud of the fact that they are all American citizens.

It isn't just the climate that is beautiful! What scenery! What magnificent hills and valleys! What beautiful beaches! Never have I been more excited about any place. If you ever have the opportunity to visit this proud possession of ours, do so. The people are the friendliest, the cleanest, the most honest and hard-working people one could ever hope to find anywhere. I am told that a Puerto Rican is described as a person who can walk through the middle of a mud puddle while wearing a pair of white shoes without getting a speck of mud on his shoes. Perhaps the word for it is *fastidious*.

The home where I am staying is part of the doctors' quarters at the famous Ryder Memorial Hospital. Like all Puerto Rican homes, there is no glass in the windows, and since the maternity ward of the hospital is only twenty feet from the house and there is no glass in the hospital windows either, I have not had too much rest! The sounds from the hospital are loud enough to make me think that they are coming right out of the other side of my bedroom.

The Puerto Ricans are great people for early rising. Incredible though it may seem, they start the day around here at three-thirty or four in the morning. They really put some faith in the old adage: "early to bed and early to rise, etc. etc." Believe me, I am going to sleep on the airplane tonight for no amount of roar from the motors can possibly have the sleep-disturbing effects of a hospital ward in Puerto Rico!

Yesterday morning at the crack of dawn a medical team from the hospital — one doctor, one dentist, two nurses, and a social worker — went



The Congregational parsonage (Frederick's home) in Bristol, Rhode Island.

up into the mountains to conduct an all-day rural clinic. Early in the afternoon a group of us paid the clinic a visit, and it was one of the most thrilling days of my life.

The first thrill came from my driving a little jeep up an awful mountain track. If only my own life had been at stake, it wouldn't have seemed quite so bad, but I had six other people in the jeep with me! In all of my war experiences driving jeeps, I never drove a more exciting road. There were times when we seemed to be going straight up, and several times I asked everyone to lean in one direction to keep the jeep from dumping over and rolling sideways down a steep cliff. Up and up and up we went until at last at the very top of the mountain we reached a very small village, and there in a small house was the medical team hard at work.

Way up in the mountains like that I never expected to find very many people, but I was in for a surprise. There were actually hundreds of men, women, and children waiting to see the doctor or the dentist. In the course of that one day 987 people were seen by the clinic. Most of them just received a typhoid inoculation or a shot of one of the new "wonder drugs", but some of the more serious cases were referred to the main hospital down in the valley.

The dentist was hard at work pulling teeth. His little office was set up in a small room in the back of the house where one of the nurses assisted him. When the sun was low in the sky and we were preparing for the trip back down the mountain, I was feeling very sorry for the dentist. Think of it! He had pulled 67 teeth that day. When I saw him hanging on for dear life in the jeep as we made our way back down that awful mountain track, I had to pinch myself to make certain that I was not dreaming.

Just a year ago that dentist had a successful practice in the District of Columbia with easy office hours and a lovely home, and now here he is working as part of a missionary staff in Puerto Rico! On a visit to this island last year he had seen how great the need was for a dentist and decided to give his life to the work.

In some ways the island of Puerto Rico is far ahead of sections of this country! Up there in the mountains we found that every little one room

shack had electricity, and the rates are low enough so that even the very poorest of people can afford at least one or two lights. In every town there are beautiful new housing developments — not for the rich, but for the poor. Little by little the insular government and the national government are tearing down the many slum areas and moving into big apartment houses.

The rent the poor have to pay is determined by the size of their incomes. For example, some apartments are renting for as low as \$3.50 a month while the same apartments for families of higher incomes are renting for \$40.00 a month. And there aren't just a few such developments; there are many of them all over the island. Such progress has been made along this line that government experts and social workers from all over the world are visiting the island to see the progress made. Our own cities and states here at home could learn a lot from the Puerto Ricans when it comes to slum clearance.

This doesn't mean that all the slums are gone by any means. On the island we saw some of the worst slum areas in the world. Running right through the city of San Juan there is a large river, and along the banks of that river there are some of the most congested slum areas imaginable. As a matter of fact, until you have seen them, you can't imagine them. How people can live in those shacks without suffering from every tropical disease known to man is a mystery. It is just such areas that are being torn down and rebuilt with new housing developments.

Twice while I have been here I have been the guest of some friends from my church in Bristol who are now living in Puerto Rico. They have a beautiful home deep into the interior of the island where they live in a very comfortable and somewhat exotic manner. Knowing how I like to try strange and different foods, they served me a real native dinner. The meat dish was boiled jumbo shrimps. There were fried plantains that I insisted were fried bananas. My hostess assured me that there was a difference, but the only difference I could see was the fact that the plantains were green bananas. The Puerto Ricans do not cook ripe bananas, only the green ones, and then call them plantains. There were baked yams, I thought at first that they were the common sweet potato, but they weren't that good. A most unusual dish was called baked chayote, and it looked and tasted something like summer squash but with a tartness that squash does not have.

The salad was as beautiful as a picture, so beautiful that I insisted it was a shame to eat it. In all of my travels about the world it was the first time I had ever been served a bread-fruit nut salad. In a base of chopped lettuce and spanish olives mixed with vinegar and olive oil there was an abundance of young nuts of the bread-fruit tree. They looked something like large chestnuts, but they were very tender and quite delicious. With the salad course we were served small cups of iced coconut milk.

(Continued on page 12)



## LULLABYE PREMIERE

By

Mabel Nair Brown

Fresh out of ideas for that Stork Shower you want to give for your favorite mother-to-be? Cease worrying, for here are ideas for a Lullabye Premiere that will be loads of fun and a real memory-maker besides.

### Invitations

1. Make bassinet-cut-outs from pink or blue construction paper and letter the invitation upon it in ink in the contrasting color. Paste a tiny edge of cotton lace around the edge of the bassinet.

2. Use pinking shears to cut triangles from scraps of white outing flannel and fold in diaper fashion, fastening with a small gold safety pin. Cut baby pictures from catalogues or magazines. Paste to white paper and cut around picture. Write invitation on back of picture and slip invitation inside the flannel diaper. This invitation might read, "Since Mary is expecting the kid in the three-cornered pants, we're having a shower well in advance. Tuesday, April 8th at 8 o'clock at my home. Betty Smith."

3. You can type or write on some plastic materials so consider cutting small bibs from pink or blue pastel plastic (or the clear). Sew on ties. Type or write invitations on bib. "Put on your best bib and tucker and come to my house after supper. We'll give Sir Stork a lift — guess you get the drift. It's for Bonnie Jones and eight is the time — the month is April, the day is nine. Luella."

4. Another idea would be to play up the father's occupation in the invitations. For example, you could use some children's note paper and envelope and at top of paper paste some carpenter's tools (cut from catalogue). Write this invitation. "We hear there's to be a little new junior carpenter at the Jackson's. Why not bring some lullaby "tools" to my house to welcome the new arrival? April 8, at 8 P.M.? Jennie White."

### Decorations, Favors

A "conversation-piece" room decoration. If you don't have one, beg or borrow one of the small wooden folding clothes racks (the kind with spoke "arms" on center stand). Wrap the arms with pink and blue paper. Purchase a dozen diapers (or as many as you have arms on the rack). Fold in triangle shape. Tie large pink and blue ribbon bows on end of each arm on the rack and then use large safety pins to fasten the corners of the triangle diapers to this ribbon bow. Thus these triangles hang from rack like the one the traditional stork carries in his bill.

Into each of these diapers tuck small items essential to baby's needs — talcum powder, safety pins, cotton, etc. On top of the rack perch a large stork and to his bill fasten a white man's handkerchief, or a square of flannel, folded in triangle diaper fashion. In this also have a small gift. You may be able to borrow a stork from a baby's shop for this, but if not, then use crepe paper to make one, and with cotton to stuff him to shape, wire legs,



Martin was shut in with the mumps this past month, and he was a mighty happy boy when his father (Oliver Strom) came home from a business trip and could help fill in long hours.

etc., you can come up with a pretty creditable bird!

Perhaps the hostess and some of the guests might go together to purchase the rack and all the other things used in this decoration, and then it could be presented to the guest of honor after the party.

**Around The Clock Centerpiece:** Mark a large clock face on cardboard. On each hour place some miniature doll house furniture, and other articles to represent the baby's daily schedule. Use such items as tiny highchair, baby bottle, bath supplies, washing machine, alarm clock, etc.

**Cradle Centerpiece:** Use a large oatmeal box to make a cradle. It can have two rockers made from wooden coat hangers. Use crepe paper or scraps of material to line the cradle and put a ruffle around the outside. Bits of lace and ribbon will add the frills. This cradle can be filled with cut flowers (choose a container that will fit inside the cradle) in dainty pink, blue and white, or, you can put a doll in the cradle.

The same idea can be carried out by decorating a small grape basket as a baby's basket.

**Teddy Bear Centerpiece:** Have three large teddy bears in three sizes (Mamma bear, Papa bear and Baby bear) arranged in the center of the table. Place favors might be teddy bear cookies.

**Babyface Balloons** make clever decorations for the room. (You will probably need an extra pair of hands to help with these before the party.) Blow up balloons in blue and pink and white colors. Then draw baby faces on them with crayon, or lipstick. Have frowning babies, laughing babies, pouting babies, crying babies, etc. Fasten these to windows, above doors, to chandeliers, etc. By the way, these baby balloons will sound like crying babies if air is let out of them slowly — a little practice will show you the trick. You could pass out balloons to guests and let each one blow it up and draw a baby face upon it; then judge them for a prize.

**Nutcups:** One idea would be to make small cradle cups from pink and blue construction paper. Tiny baby bonnets made of crepe paper can be placed on top of the nut cup.

### Entertainment

1. In advance cut out soles for baby

booties using heavy pink or blue construction paper. (Make these a little smaller than a real shoe.) Give one of these soles to each guest along with some crepe paper, needle and thread, scotch tape, ribbon, etc. Each guest is to use these materials to make a bootie. After booties are judged let hostess collect them, and the surprise comes later when the guests find the booties used upon their lunch trays as nut cups!

2. **You Name It.** Guests are given pencil and paper and are told to listen to songs played on piano and then write down number of song and the name. Each song has the word "Baby" in the title: Walking My Baby Back Home; I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby; Baby Your Mother Like She Babied You; Baby Face; Pretty Baby; Rock-a-bye Baby; You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby; Bye Bye Baby; Kentucky Babe; Texarkana Baby.

3. If possible have the baby pictures of all the guests. Line them up and see who can identify the most pictures correctly.

4. **Baby's Formula:** Pass out paper and pencil. The guests write down some ingredients and the amount to be used, in any recipe which comes to mind. She folds down paper so that what she has written, can't be seen and passes to next in line, and so on, until several ingredients are on each paper. Then have each guest read the recipes on the paper she holds, announcing that these are suggested formulas for the expected baby!

5. To each guest give a sheet of construction paper and a handful of alphabet macaroni. In given time see which guest can spell out the most boy and girl names on her sheet of paper.

6. Provide two dolls completely dressed. Choose up sides for a relay game. The first person in line on each side must undress the baby doll and then redress it; she hands it to the next in line who does likewise. The line which finishes first wins the game.

7. If your group is small, you might consider asking each guest to come in maternity dress (beg, borrow, or steal!) This stunt can turn out to be hilariously funny.

8. Just before lunch is served, pass out baby bonnets made of crepe paper for each guest to wear while eating lunch. This always brings many chuckles for everyone looks silly.

### Refreshment Hints

**Merry-go-round dessert.** For the "body" of the merry-go-round you will use a sherbet or ice cream frozen in paper cups. This is placed upon a sugar cookie base. Around the edge of the cookie, make a circle of animal crackers, using a thick icing to make them stand up. Make the tent top, to place on top of the ice cream cup, of red and white construction paper in canopy shape. If you learn size of the paper cups ahead of time, you will know how large the cookies will need to be and can have the animals all on those and the tent tops ready so that at serving time all you need do is to set the materials in place. Serve with coffee, and mints, if desired.



## LETTER FROM LUCILE

Dear Friends:

As a rule I don't write letters on Sunday morning, but this particular day is an exception for I've already been to church (our Episcopal church has services at 8:00 and at 10:30) and now there is an hour in here before I must start frying 25 lbs. of cube steak for a big church dinner we are having at 1:00 o'clock.

My other responsibility on the dinner (Harvard beats for 25 people) was taken care of yesterday, for this is a dish that improves upon standing. But the meat is another thing again, so as soon as I finish visiting with you I will go to the kitchen and tackle the meat. In all the years I've been in touch with you I can never recall a letter written under quite such circumstances!

Before it slips my mind I must tell you the outcome of our first Shrove Tuesday pancake supper that I mentioned in last month's letter. We simply hadn't the faintest idea how many people would turn up for this affair, so I can report that we were absolutely delighted when more than 400 appeared to eat pancakes, grilled pineapple and sausage. From this time on you can be sure that we'll be serving a pancake supper every Shrove Tuesday!

I can hear a great echoing chorus of agreement when I say that such events mean a tremendous amount of responsibility for the committee in charge. Abigail says that she doesn't believe she will ever again be able to eat a pancake or a piece of sausage, for she stood over the griddle for hours and also fried 48 lbs. of link sausage! I took one look at her when the affair was all over and decided that she needed a break from the stove, so I had her family over for supper on the following night.

Church work is time consuming and often difficult, but it seems to me that it is the most rewarding of all group activity. My own daily routine is far too crowded to permit my attendance at any clubs or purely social events, but the hours spent on church activities give me such genuine gratification that I can honestly say I don't miss being able to participate in the other things. There must be women who agree with me on this score!

Very soon now the folks will be starting back to Iowa from their California winter, and we are mighty glad that Aunt Jessie is making the trip with them. Traffic accidents have become such a menace to our national life that it will be a great relief when their car pulls up in front. It seems to me that excessive speed is as dangerous as handling gasoline over an open fire, and every time Russell and I go out on the highway we are shocked by the cars that whirl around us, dart in and out around huge trucks, and shoot up hills on the wrong side until they are almost at the very crest. Sometimes (and this really chills our blood) they continue right over the crest on the wrong side. We're always scared to death of meeting such a driver, so on general principles Russell



Juliana has gotten hours of pleasure from her one major Christmas gift — an aquarium that stands on a table in front of the east dining room window.

slows down at the crest when there is no one behind us, and keeps one eye on the shoulder — just in case!

We've never yet had an opportunity to drive on one of these toll highways, but even on these roads the speed limit is less than so many cars travel on our 18 ft. highways that climb steep hills and make sharp curves. I often wonder what crushing emergency is hurrying these people who streak into the distance at 80 and 90 miles per hour!

Since I last wrote to you I have read two books that interested me very much. The first is Pearl Buck's autobiography titled *My Several Worlds*, and I earnestly recommend it to everyone who is acutely interested in world affairs. Mrs. Buck was born and reared in China, you know, and she has many important things to say about the Chinese people. I think that you would find this a stimulating book to use for a club program, because you will disagree, as well as agree, with some of her ideas — and consequently you'll have an interesting discussion period.

I was interested to learn something in this book that came as a surprise to me. In one of my letters to you several years ago I said that I thought the two biographies of her parents, *The Exile* (her mother) and *Guardian Angel* (her father) were fascinating and remarkable books. They are so beautifully written that I assumed she had done them long after her famous novel *The Good Earth*, so I was astonished to learn that the story of her mother's life was the first thing she ever wrote, but it was the seventh book she had published. The explanation is that the manuscript had to be left when she fled from China and was not in her hands again until years later.

Incidentally, one of the committee who sat in judgment of her work when she was awarded the Nobel prize for literature, told her that her own vote (this was Selma Lagerlof, the Swedish writer) was cast on the strength of her beautiful biographies of her parents. Do see if you can find these wonderful books.

The other book that interested me

is titled *An American in India* by Saunders Redding, a professor at Hampton Institute. Mr. Redding went to India on an assignment from the U.S. State Department to help "interpret America to the people of India", and since he is of the colored race he had experiences very different from those of most Westerners who travel in India. He writes very well, and you'll find something to think about in what he says. It seems to me that we can tackle our own personal, daily life problems with better judgment if we think about impersonal problems once in a while. I found myself carrying on a lively, if silent argument, with both Mrs. Buck and Professor Redding while I stood over the ironing board for three hours the other day!

Won't it be wonderful when spring finally gets here for certain? I've always thought that this was the most disheartening time of the whole year for everything looks so grimy and dull after the winter's accumulation of dirt. Shenandoah is truly an attractive town most of the twelve months, but you wouldn't believe it if you came here in March.

My housecleaning won't be as strenuous this spring as it used to be for I have finally gotten rid of all the white curtains downstairs, aside from the ones in the kitchen and bathroom. I still think that snowy white curtains in batiste, organdy or muslin are most attractive, but I've reached the place where I simply cannot stand and iron them. We now have bamboo matchstick blinds at all of the windows (aside from kitchen and bathroom) and they've already saved me endless hours that used to be spent washing and ironing. In addition to the blinds we have drapes, but these go to the cleaners twice a year — and that's that.

Tomorrow, Monday, I will spend the day moving into a new desk and rearranging things in this room. It's hard for me to believe that any room of comparable size has more in it! And the trouble is that we need every object in here! The last thing that moved in was our TV set and we've found that it works much better than having it in the living room.

Most people seem to go through just about the same experience we have gone through when it comes to TV. The first few weeks we had our set (over two years ago) we looked at everything and were simply fascinated with this wonderful entertainment that could be had by turning a switch. But after a spell of this we began to sift out what we particularly enjoyed, and now we only look at the programs that really interest us.

If you're just now getting your TV set, don't worry about the children spending the rest of their lives in front of it! They too, will begin to tire of the things that first held them spellbound, and eventually there will be just a few programs that really hold their interest and that they look forward to seeing.

The clock says that I must tackle the 25 lbs. of cube steak, so I'm off to the kitchen, right now. Best wishes for an early and happy spring in the section where you live.—Lucile.



## "Recipes Tested

in the

## Kitchen - Klatter Kitchen"

By

LEANNA, LUCILE and MARGERY

### "MY BEST" OATMEAL COOKIES

- 1 cup raisins plus water to cover
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup shortening
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla
- 7 Tbls. raisin liquid
- 1 tsp. soda
- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups oatmeal

Combine raisins with enough water to cover and cook — let simmer about 5 minutes after it comes to a boil. This is most important for it carries moisture into the cookies and keeps them fresh and fruity.

Cream together sugar and shortening; beat in eggs. Add vanilla and raisin liquid. Sift together flour, soda and salt. Add. Then add oatmeal and lastly the raisins.

Drop by teaspoon on greased sheet and bake in a 400 degree oven until lightly browned — about 10 or 12 minutes. This makes 3½ dozen nice-size cookies that are perfectly delicious — very soft and moist. Even if your family "won't eat" oatmeal cookies, do give this a try.

### OATMEAL BREAD

- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 cup oatmeal
- 1 yeast cake
- 1/2 cup lukewarm water
- 1/2 cup molasses
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 Tbls. melted butter
- 4 1/2 to 5 cups all-purpose flour

Put boiling water in top of double boiler and add, stirring constantly, the 1 cup of oatmeal. Place pan over boiling water, cover and steam for 1 hour. Remove from fire and cool. Soften 1 yeast cake in 1/2 cup lukewarm water and, when the oatmeal is lukewarm, add the yeast to it; also the molasses, salt and melted butter. Mix well; then add the flour and beat with hand until well mixed. Cover with cloth and set in warm place. When light and well risen, toss on a floured board and knead well. Place in 1 large well-buttered bread pan, or in 2 small pans. Cover and let rise again until double in bulk. Then bake for about 45 minutes in a 400 degree oven.

This bread slices beautifully and has a perfectly delicious, nutty flavor. The dough is easy to handle and all in all, why don't you try it right away?

### HAM LOAF FOR EASTER

- 3/4 lb. ground pork
- 3/4 lb. ground smoked ham
- 1/2 lb. ground veal
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 1 egg beaten
- 1/2 cup milk
- Salt and pepper to taste

Mix above and shape into loaf in baking pan. Then mix the following basting liquid, add some to pan, and keep adding as necessary until loaf is ready to brown. Bake 1 hour and 10 minutes in a 350 degree oven.

BASTING LIQUID: 1 1/4 cups water; 1 cup brown sugar; 1/2 tsp. dry mustard; 1/4 cup vinegar.

### CHERRY TOPPED PIE

We've been told that one of the best selling pies in hotels and restaurants these days is a cream pie topped with cherries. Certainly it's an attractive pie, as well as delicious, so give it a try the next time you open a can of cherries.

You can make your own cream filling, of course, but packaged vanilla pudding is quick and good. Turn the cooked pudding into a graham cracker crust or a baked pastry crust—9 inch. When it has become firm and cool, spread over it the following topping.

- 1 No. 2 can pie cherries, drained
- 4 drops Kitchen-Klatter almond flavoring
- 3 Tbls. cornstarch
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup cherry juice

Mix cornstarch, cinnamon and sugar. Add cherry juice (if you don't have a full cup, add water and a few drops of red food coloring). Cook, stirring constantly, until thickened. Add cherries and cool.

Spread this over top of cream filling. Garnish with whipped cream. A delicious and very attractive pie.

### HAMBURGER-POTATO CASSEROLE

Brown 3/4 lb. of hamburger and the desired amount of onion. When cooked, add one can of cream of chicken soup and cook a little longer. Peel 4 potatoes, slice half of them in casserole, add all of the meat-soup mixture and the rest of the potatoes. Pour enough milk over it to show through. salt and pepper to taste, and bake, covered, for about an hour. Filling and good.

### SCRAPPLE UP TO DATE

- 1/2 lb. sausage
- 3/4 cup cornmeal
- 1/4 tsp. sage
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 3 cups hot water

Boil sausage in water until tender. Mix cornmeal and seasonings in 1 cup cold water and add to sausage mixture. Stir until thick — about 6 minutes. Chill in loaf pan. Slice, roll in flour and fry in unsalted grease until brown and crusty on both sides.

### TART MOLDED SALAD

- 1 cup very finely chopped celery leaves
- 2 cups chopped celery
- 3 cups finely chopped cucumber
- 3 Tbls. unflavored gelatine (3 envelopes)
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 tsps. salt
- 3/4 cup vinegar
- 4 Tbls. grated onion
- 1 squirt of Tabasco sauce
- 1 pt. sour or sweet cream, whipped

Dissolve gelatine in cold water. Then add boiling water, sugar, salt and vinegar. When it begins to thicken, place bowl in ice water and beat vigorously until very fluffy and thick. Then add celery leaves, chopped celery, cucumber, grated onion, horseradish and Tabasco sauce.

Whip cream (sweet cream is preferred but sour cream *can* be used) and fold into first mixture. Turn into fancy mold or individual molds.

This is a very unusual, tart salad and a welcome change from the much sweeter vegetable salads we run into most of the time. Wonderful served with a big platter of fried fish or a rich casserole meat dish. Recipe can be halved easily and successfully for a small family.

### DELICIOUS BAKED SPINACH

- 1 pkg. frozen spinach, thawed and chopped
- 2 Tbls. butter
- Dash of nutmeg
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 3 Tbls. fine bread crumbs
- 2 eggs slightly beaten
- 4 slices of bacon

Melt butter and heat spinach in it. Add seasonings. Combine eggs and bread crumbs; add spinach. Turn into buttered casserole and cover with uncooked bacon slices. Bake for 45 minutes at 350 degrees. We think that even the family that won't eat spinach would relish it fixed this way.

### SPARERIBS & SAUERKRAUT

Cook 2 lbs. of ribs in as little water as possible. Add salt and 4 small onions. When ribs are tender add 1 pint of kraut and cook until kraut is done. (If using canned kraut, cook about 10 minutes.)

### BROCCOLI CASSEROLE

- 2 cups chopped, cooked broccoli
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 1/2 Tbls. butter
- 1 1/2 Tbls. flour
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tsp. onion juice
- 3 eggs, well beaten
- Salt and pepper to taste

Make white sauce with butter, flour and milk. Then combine all remaining ingredients and turn into a buttered 1-qt. casserole. Set in a pan of hot water and bake at 350 degrees until firm — about 45 minutes.



**READY RULE**

This rule above all others heed,  
Have ready everything you need,  
Before you start be sure to read  
The recipe, then work with speed.  
—Mrs. Sidney Seath, Hartland, Minn.

**LIME CHOCOLATE DELICIOUS**

1 12-oz. can of evaporated milk  
2 packages of lime gelatine  
3 cups hot water  
1/4 cup orange or lemon juice  
1 cup sugar  
2 cups chocolate wafer crumbs  
1/3 cup melted butter  
Chill the milk, plus bowl and beater, until icy cold. Then beat milk until stiff. Dissolve gelatine in 3 cups of hot water and add the sugar and fruit juice. When gelatine has congealed, beat it and then fold in the stiffly beaten milk.

Mix together the chocolate wafer crumbs and melted butter. Press into the bottom of a 9x14 pan. Pour the gelatine mixture over it. Chill. Serve in squares with whipped cream on top. This is a light and delicious dessert.

**GLADYS' FRUIT BARS**

4 Tbls. butter  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 egg  
1/2 cup milk  
1 1/2 cups flour  
1/2 tsp. soda  
1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. cinnamon  
1 pkg. chopped dates  
1/2 cup nuts  
1/2 to 1 cup of raisins  
Cream together butter and sugar. Add beaten egg and milk. Then add dry ingredients sifted together, and lastly the dates, nuts and raisins. Turn into a 9x11 greased pan and bake at 375 degrees for approximately 12 to 15 minutes. Cut into bars when cool.

**PEA SALAD**

1 can tiny peas  
1 cup diced soft cheese  
1 cup ground salted peanuts  
1/4 cup chopped pimento  
6 chopped sweet pickles  
Toss together and mix with mayonnaise to hold together. Serve very cold.

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**JOSEPH J. BLAKE**

"The Gift 'n Gadget Man"  
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GILROY, CALIFORNIA

**DATE FILLED JUMBO DROPS**

1 cup shortening  
2 cups brown sugar  
3 eggs  
1/2 cup water  
1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla  
3 1/2 cups flour  
1 tsp. soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
Dash of cinnamon  
Cream together the shortening and sugar, and then beat in eggs, water and vanilla. Sift together the flour, soda, salt and cinnamon and add to first mixture. Drop by teaspoonful on to greased baking sheet, top with 1/2 tsp. of filling and cover with 1/2 tsp. of the dough. Bake 10 to 12 minutes in a 375 degree oven.

**FILLING**

Cook together until thick 2 cups of chopped dates, 3/4 cup of sugar, 3/4 cup water. Add 1/2 cup chopped nutmeats. "These are easy to make and really delicious," says the friend in Mason City, Ia., who sent the recipe. We agree.

**RAISIN RHUBARB PIE**

1 cup seedless raisins  
3 1/2 cups sliced rhubarb  
3/4 cup of water  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
5 Tbls. cornstarch  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 egg yolks  
Pour boiling water over raisins and then drain. Add rhubarb and water and heat to boiling. Blend sugar, cornstarch and salt. Stir into hot mixture, and then return to heat and bring just to the boiling point. Pour mixture over lightly-beaten egg yolks. Cool while lining 9-inch pie pan with pastry. Then pour in filling and bake in a 450 oven for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake for 25 minutes. When cool, cover with meringue made from 2 egg whites to which 4 Tbls. sugar have been added.

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## MR. "PETE" And HIS "HANDICAPPED" EMPLOYEES

By  
Hallie M. Barrow

Perhaps first, we should understand "Mr. Pete's" definition of handicapped people and how he feels they wish to be treated.

"Mr. Pete", as he is affectionately known to his employees, is W. P. Peterson, majority stockholder and president of the Northeast Tool & Dye Works, Inc., in Kansas City, Mo.

Fifteen percent of his employees are what the world would probably call very definitely handicapped, but neither they nor Mr. Pete would admit this. These people are financially independent and happy at their work. His theory is that what most handicapped people desire above everything else is not to be pitied and sympathized with, but to be considered normal and given a chance to make a living as other folks do.

"After all," reasons Mr. Pete, "just what do you mean by that word 'handicap'? Often I am called upon to make talks at church and organization meetings on this whole subject of employing handicapped people, and from time to time I start by asking everyone present to raise his right hand.

"Then I suggest that all those who cannot swim drop their hands. By the time I have asked all those who cannot drive a tractor, use a typewriter, etc., to put down their hands — then by that time, all hands are down.

"Then I ask, very seriously: 'Now just who are the handicapped people here?' For it's clear to be seen, in the next few comments I make, that at any time a crisis may come when it could be a distinct handicap not to be able to swim, to type or to drive a tractor."

Suppose that the job you wanted the worst way ever, or even your very life depended upon whether you could swim. Would you give up and want excessive pity from your friends? Not if you are a genuine American — you only want a chance to learn to swim.

That is Mr. Pete's theory. He hires handicapped men, not at all for any reasons concerned with charity, but because they can do their work and really earn their salary. *He gives them the chance.* And that he is an authority on this subject of employing handicapped people is proven by the framed awards that hang in his office . . . one from a Disabled Veterans organization, and the other from the U. S. Department of Labor.

Mr. Pete believes firmly that a physical handicap isn't nearly as bad as other handicaps a person may carry. He says that he has never had to fire an employee because he was blind or had lost a limb, was paralyzed or had fallen victim to cerebral palsy. But he has fired men because of dishonesty, gossiping, laziness and trouble making. Those are the real handicaps, he believes, and he sums up the entire situation by saying: "Can you imagine trying to run a plant with 15% of the employees with those handicaps?"



Bert Carter, one of the competent young men who has a fine record at Mr. Peterson's factory.

In my interview with the factory president he brought out another point. He said: "Nearly always after I have made a talk urging the employment of handicapped persons, someone in the audience will call me the next day and ask if I will hire a handicapped friend or relative. Nearly always my answer is 'NO!'"

"I don't make these talks trying to find more handicapped employees for myself. That isn't my purpose at all. But what I'm promoting is that YOU manage to hire some handicapped person and give him his chance for happiness.

"In most large cities there are organizations to look after the welfare of handicapped persons, but in most every small town there is at least one handicapped person who secretly yearns and prays for a chance . . . who longs to be accepted as a normal person and to do some small chore, and to be praised when that job is well done.

"Don't feel for one second," reminded Mr. Pete, "That you are being noble when you offer him sympathy and charity."

No, Mr. Pete doesn't make talks hoping to find more handicapped persons to hire. He has a long waiting list. Should he find a place where a blind person might work, he prefers to call Jack Raithel, counsellor for the blind bureau at Kansas City. Some of the results produced by Mr. Pete and Mr. Raithel (who knows so well the problems of the blind since he is blind himself) are just short of marvelous.

Take Danny Sprinkle, for instance. He is classified as legally blind and therefore entitled to a blind pension, but that isn't at all what he wants.

With just very slight vision, he was allowed to finish the eighth grade. Then he was told he could not enter high school, but that arrangements would be made to send him off to a school for the blind. The rub here is that Danny didn't want to admit that he must spend the rest of his life as a blind pensioner.

No one in his small town would give him work. He spent three very bitter, frustrated years and developed a

furious temper at folks who consistently thwarted him in his every effort to be a normal youth. He prayed earnestly that God would deliver him from his bondage and provide an opportunity where he could make good.

At last, he came under Mr. Raithel's care and Mr. Raithel encouraged him in his desire to be independent. He was placed in Mr. Pete's factory and told that he was on his own. In six weeks he had earned a raise, and in two years he was made foreman of his division;—the other four men at his table are blind also. He is happily married, and when he walks about his own home and carries five month old Karen Sue out to see the garden and flowers in his own big back yard, is it any wonder that Danny believes that prayers are answered? He is doing religious research work at night preparing to be a minister, for he feels he can teach the necessity of prayer and how, through faith, prayer is answered.

And Danny's blind pension? As soon as he was financially on his feet, he returned the pension check and suggested it be given to some one who really needed it. Not for him, for he had a good job, thanks to Mr. Pete.

Mr. Pete, too, is a firm believer in prayer. When some of his boys come to him for advice in their problems, he always advises prayer. Take the fine looking young man in the picture, Bert Carter. When Bert applied for work, he explained that his handicap came from cerebral paralysis.

Mr. Pete says he never hires a man by asking what he *can't* do. He takes him on a tour of the factory and asks the applicant to pick out a job he thinks he CAN do. After Bert found his job, he said, "Possibly I should tell you that neither my parents or my doctor think I will live if I work, . . . but I can't stand to live in absolute idleness. What do you think?" As usual, Mr. Pete told him he would have to make his own decision, but to pray every day for two weeks at least and to see if he could receive an answer. Bert came back and has worked happily several years and says he is in better health than when he started.

And how would Mr. Pete understand the bitterness, the frustration, the final turning to prayer and solution? He traveled that path himself. His own life story is as poignant as any handicapped person in his employ. Left a hopeless cripple at seventeen, the trials and hardships he overcame to attain his present position, make the ordinary success story seem very tame. To show his gratitude, he spends much of his efforts, time and money in helping other handicapped men, not in gifts as charity, but in seeing that these persons are given the chance to become independent by their own efforts.

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one comes from a strong will and the other from a strong won't.

\* \* \*

If you do not have the capacity for happiness with a little money, great wealth will not bring it to you.—William Feather.



## DOROTHY'S NEWS FROM THE FARM

Dear Friends:

We are having a beautiful day overhead today, but it couldn't be worse under foot. This would have been a beautiful wash day and I need to wash very badly, but until almost noon the sky was overcast and it looked as if it would stay that way all day. Now the sky is blue and there is just enough wind to make chenille bedspreads fluffy and soft. Maybe tomorrow will be just as nice and I can get an early start in the morning.

I just finished churning and have a big bowlful of fresh butter in the refrigerator. I don't make butter very often because we are only milking one cow, and this gives us plenty of milk for our own use, plus plenty of cream for ourselves and Bernie and Edna, Frank's sisters. The roads have been so bad that the girls haven't been out to pick up the cream, so today I decided to churn.

I told you in my last letter that Kristin was to have 4-H this month, but the day before the scheduled meeting we had to change our plans because it rained and rained and made our half-mile of dirt roads impossible for the girls to get here. We postponed the meeting for two weeks but the roads are still going to be muddy, so one of the other girl's mother called and offered to trade meetings with us, this will put our meeting during the summer and we hope the weather will cooperate with us then.

In one of my previous letters I told you that each girl was to fix an appropriate table centerpiece when she was hostess, so I am going to go ahead and tell you what Kristin had fixed since we can't use it now.

Our meeting would have been just before Washington's birthday so she made a little cherry tree. Frank has been trimming up a lot of trees and she was able to find a small branch with lots of little twigs on it. Using a small paint brush she painted this white with tempera paint. When it was dry she tied on artificial cherries and then stood her tree up in a low white vase. On each side of the tree we had tall tapers in red, white and blue candle holders made of plastic foam. We had found little miniature hatchets about three inches long for favors and these were going to be stuck into a cherry on the top of white cup cakes. We just put everything away and maybe we can use them some way next year.

Juliana came last Friday afternoon on the train to spend the week-end with us. We were so happy that she could celebrate her birthday with us because this meant that she and Kristin have been together on all twelve of Juliana's birthdays.

On Friday night they participated in an amateur contest in Lucas sponsored by the Lucas P.T.A. For their number they sang two negro spirituals, and they were thrilled to death when they were called back to the platform to receive the second prize of \$2.50. They put the money in a little bank and are going to use it this summer



Aunt Jessie Shambaugh and Mother soak up the sun on the patio that Mother describes in her letter this month.

to buy paint to paint their playhouse that they are fixing here.

We had so much trouble getting to the program that I was sorely tempted to turn around and go home. The roads were muddy when we came home from meeting the train, but we drove right along with the chains on and had no trouble getting home. Edna and Raymond came out for supper and left their car on the gravel road. Frank drove out after them and didn't have any trouble, and at 7:30 he was going to drive Edna and the girls and me out to the gravel where we were going to transfer to Edna's car and go on into the program.

About half-way we got stuck and had to walk the rest of the way! Then, of course, we had to walk all the way home! I had strained my back that morning and every step I took was agony. I kept saying to myself, "Is this worth it?" After it was all over and the girls were so happy over their prize I answered myself, "Yes, it was worth it."

We couldn't have had worse weather for Juliana's week-end if we had tried. We had invited four of Kristin's friends from Chariton to spend all day Saturday with us. One of the fathers brought them as far as our old house on the hill where Kristin and Juliana met them and walked them down through the timber. It was cold, foggy, drizzling, wet and muddy. In short — it was terrible. They played in the playhouse, in the hay mow, and about two hours in the house (this included the time it took to eat dinner), and the rest of the time from what I could see, looking out the window, was spent in playing follow-the-leader, walking around in the mud and jumping over, or trying to jump over the ditches which were running full of water. They were awfully tired little girls who went home at 4:00 o'clock, but they said they had a wonderful time.

On Sunday we had a Johnson family dinner here. Juliana thought this happened every Sunday so she didn't realize it was for her. When we brought in the gifts and a big decorated cake I think she was truly surprised. Juliana was to have gone home Monday morning, but she got to the

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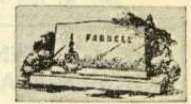
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station just as the train was pulling out so she didn't leave until this morning.

One of our neighbors has moved to Des Moines and had a closing-out sale the other day. Frank bought his hay and has gone after a load of it this afternoon. I must get a fresh pot of coffee made because he should be home most any time now.

Spring is gradually creeping up on us and I can hardly wait to see all the tulips and daffodils and grape hyacinths that I planted this fall burst into bloom. I noticed that this little branch that Kristin brought in to paint the other day was already beginning to bud. It won't be long until time to get the oats into the ground.

I see the hayrack pulling up to the gate so I must stop and get the coffee pot on. Until next month . . .

Sincerely, Dorothy.

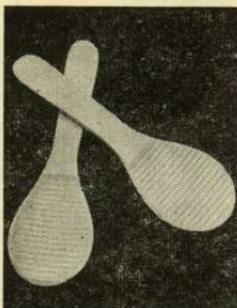
### COVER PICTURE

We wanted to bring you a picture of Emily Driftmier and Easter lilies for this April cover, but Easter falls so many weeks before the photograph deadline that we felt very fortunate to be able to get even one cut stalk. Nevertheless, with these flowers we ask Emily to bring to you our best wishes for a joyous and blessed Easter season.



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## EASTER EATING

### By Mildred Cathcart

We have almost as much fun decorating cakes and cookies for Easter as we did for the Christmas Holidays. From year to year we try different tricks but a few have remained favorites and have become Easter traditions at our house.

There is nothing prettier than a large cake covered high with frosting, sprinkled with pale green tinted coconut and trimmed with tiny jelly bean Easter eggs.

A bit more unusual is our Easter egg centerpiece which is really our cake that we cut for dessert. We bake three or four layers in round tins. These are cut in half and placed on end with cut side down on the plates. This makes an egg-shaped cake, you see. Frost between layers with colored icing; then cover the entire cake with chocolate frosting to resemble a chocolate Easter egg. Use white frosting to draw all the fancy scallops and add flowers of pink and yellow icing with green leaves. Such a pretty Easter egg! We use our large plastic bunny to stand beside this "cake-egg". You may place green tinted coconut around the base of the egg and add gay colored candy Easter eggs.

It would not seem like Easter if we did not make some cut-out cookies and decorate them. And it is a special treat when I make a nest for these cookie bunnies or chicks. The next is a doughnut covered with frosting and green tinted coconut and filled with colored candy eggs. While we are baking cookies we make several oval shaped ones and decorate these for Easter eggs. By writing the children's names on them in colored icing they may serve as place cards, or may be used to designate the basket left for each child.

Jello flower pots are attractive. Set the jello in individual molds and turn out carefully on lettuce. These molds serve as the flower pot. You may use green toothpicks for the stem and a gum drop for the flower. Slice the outside of bright red and yellow gum drops to resemble petals to form the flowers.

If you are having club or entertaining during this month, you will find that little Easter bonnets always make a hit. A paper lace doily forms the brim of the hat. The crown is a white or pastel frosted cup cake. You may add a tiny ribbon hat band and decorate with realistic frosting flowers.

During Easter week when you may wish to serve boiled eggs to the family you can decorate them very quickly and get them to the table while still warm. The ten cent stores always have packets of gummed seals of various small sizes and colors. Jean Marie likes to paste these on the eggs to form eyes, nose, and mouth and they are very colorful. Cut the end off a small cone-shaped drinking cup, pin a paper doily around it, and set the little egg face on top of this. The whole effect is a cute little face with a ruffly collar. Sometimes our children color the drinking cups in red and white, brick effect, and the egg looks like Humpty Dumpty.

Most of you have made the chocolate cups by melting chocolate and pressing it around a paper baking cup held firmly in, your custard or muffin pans. Fill these chocolate cups with strawberry ice cream, add a jelly bean egg or two, and stand a little chocolate bunny beside it. Even adults enjoy this dessert!

Your molded salads, deviled eggs, etc., are more appealing if you put them into an Easter nest of finely shredded lettuce or other greenery. For the children's place, you might stand a tiny candy chick or bunny beside his lettuce nest.

It is a great deal of fun to think of various ways to make our meals enjoyable. By trying a few of these tricks, I wager you will have MORE help in the kitchen than you really need during Easter week!

## Frederick's Letter—Concluded

The dessert course was more than sufficient for three such dinners. For those who wanted them, there were little red mountain berries very similar to our raspberries. I chose to eat something a little more unusual — soursop. Have you ever heard of soursop? I had heard of it, but I had no idea what it was.

Actually, soursop is the large, slightly acid, pulpy fruit of a West Indies tree that grows wild in Puerto Rico. It is a green, spiny fruit about the size of an extra large cucumber, or perhaps a small melon. It tastes something like pineapple, indeed, it tastes more like pineapple than it does anything else, but it isn't nearly as good.

There was one Puerto Rican dish that we did not have, and that was rice and red beans. At least twice a day rice and beans are served in every island home, but my hostess knew that we had had that dish several times, and so she very thoughtfully left it off the menu. The few times that I had rice and beans in Puerto Rican homes, I did not find the combination distasteful at all. Usually there is a mixture of chicken or goat meat in the rice, and on two occasions we ate it with cooked, green olives. I was surprised and somewhat amused to learn that the favorite Puerto Rican fish dish is a good New England one—salted codfish. In the old days the Yankee traders used to trade salted cod fish for rum, and now it is a favorite island food.

There are so many things that I could tell you about my visit here, but space does not permit. Perhaps I should also add that time does not permit, for right this moment I am being called to the cars that will take us to the airport where we will board planes for a visit to the Virgin Islands. It is only a half-hour flight to St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, and after we spend the afternoon and evening there, we will fly back to San Juan to catch our plane to New York.

Oh, how I hate to leave this beautiful sunshine and these soft tropical breezes for the cold fog and drizzle of Rhode Island! At least I have the comfort of knowing that while I have been down here Rhode Island has been having its worst winter in several years!

Sincerely, Frederick.



## HE ALSO SERVES

Anonymous

To do nothing — but wait to be asked to serve. That was the hardest lesson I had to learn.

My mother-in-law lived very close to us and was elderly and ill. My own mother was several hundred miles away and elderly and not very well either. I worried about my mother, but could do little else because of the distance that separated us. To make up for all I could not do for my own mother (and with a subconscious guilt feeling I suppose) I made up my mind that I would be especially helpful to my mother-in-law. There I came upon a stone wall. My help was not wanted.

At first I thought the refusals I received to my offers of assistance were just polite hesitation before I would be allowed to go ahead. I was wrong. A no meant no, not later. It was plain to me that a hundred things needed doing and my mother-in-law was not able to do them. I could not understand why I should not be allowed to do them. I had, in fact, expected gratitude. I was rebuffed, and I was indignant.

Then came a letter from a member of the family far away. The letter said that my mother-in-law had written that evidently everyone thought her house very dirty — that all the girls, when they came to see her, went right to work cleaning. She had told it to be funny of course. But I sat down and wondered how I would like it if everyone who came to see me went to work cleaning *my* house. And I said to myself, "No, not while I can still stir a finger is someone else going to clean my house."

Also I noticed that the days a bad cold had me going at somewhat less than full throttle my own house got very little cleaning. I don't feel like tackling that job today, I would tell myself. Maybe tomorrow. After all, I reasoned, if every morning found me feeling "achey" I might put off several housecleaning jobs several mornings.

It should not have been such a hard lesson to learn — this fact that not always is an outstretched helping hand welcomed. After all, my own father is as independent as that proverbial hog on ice. I have seen him sit down to scoot down a flight of steps rather than take the arm of one of his children standing nearby. The children had grown up with him and knew better than to hurt his pride by offering a steadying arm unless it was requested. Now here I was trying to take away my mother-in-law's independence by giving her un-asked for help!

Nowadays I ask once in a while if there is anything I could do "just for fun." Sometimes there is an odd job saved for me. More often there is not. Pushed back as of no consequence is the thought, "What will the neighbors think of my not helping?" The criterion for all decisions of what we shall or shall not do for this hardy, independent soul is a simple: "Will it make her happy?"

After all, some day we will be old too — and I hope as happy.



A long banister provides a lot of fun for Emily and Alison. Next month we'll show you the entire staircase.

## MY LIFE

Let me but live my life from year to year,  
With forward face and unreluctant soul.  
Not hurrying to, nor turning from the goal;  
Not mourning for the things that disappear  
In the dim past, nor holding back in fear  
From what the future veils; but with a whole  
And happy heart, that pays its toll  
To youth and age, and travels on with cheer.

So let the way wind up the hill or down,  
O'er rough or smooth, the journey will be joy;  
Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,  
New friendship, high adventure, and a crown,  
I shall grow old, but never lose life's zest,  
Because the road's last turn will be the best.

—Henry van Dyke.

## SPRING THEME

A robin and a violet  
Sunshine bursting seed  
Forsythia lighting candles  
Pussy willows treed  
Morning bright with promise  
Butterfly a-wing  
Hope is key to springtime  
Unlock your heart, and sing!

—Mildred Hoskinson.

Nature gives to every time and season some beauties of its own; and from morning to night, as from the cradle to the grave, is but a succession of changes so gentle and easy that we can scarcely mark their progress.—Charles Dickens.

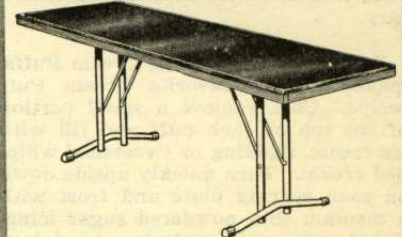
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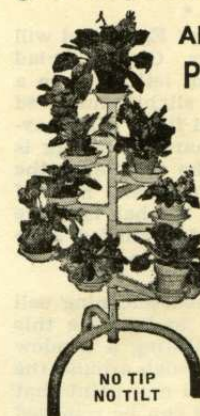


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## OVER THE COFFEE CUPS . . .

Mildred B. Grenier

Having an Easter party for the children this year? Try this idea for refreshments. Just before serving, cut a square of ice cream for each child and place on serving plate. Place a round cookie at each corner for wheels, sprinkle green tinted coconut on top for a nest and fill with bright jelly bean eggs. Use a stick of candy for the tongue and "hitch" a marshmallow rabbit to each wagon. Serve with a drink and your refreshments are complete! If you have all materials at hand, these can be assembled in minutes just before serving; or you may put them together before hand and store in home freezer.

\* \* \*

Train your children in the ways of righteousness, keep them on the right track by throttling bad intentions, allow them to blow off pent up steam when necessary and, chances are, they'll make the grade without too much trouble and attain their rightful station in life, with no switchin' necessary.

\* \* \*

For pretty Easter Egg Cream Puffs, make up your favorite Cream Puff recipe. Cool, remove a small portion of the top of each puff and fill with ice cream, pudding or sweetened whipped cream. Turn quickly upside down on each serving plate and frost with a medium thin powdered sugar icing, tinted with cake coloring in dainty pastel Easter egg colors. Store in freezer or refrigerator until time to serve.

\* \* \*

Prepare for April's rainy days and tracked mud in this way. Make an efficient mud scraper by nailing old bottle caps, crimp side up, to a scrap of lumber. Use roofing nails.

\* \* \*

A "Humpty Dumpty" Egg salad will delight the youngsters. On each salad plate place the leaf of lettuce, then a thick slice of tomato slightly hollowed out in the middle and filled with mayonnaise. A peeled, hard-boiled egg is placed, end up, in the middle of the tomato slice. Make eyes and nose of cloves and pimento; his hat is made by topping a slice of a stuffed olive with a whole stuffed olive.

\* \* \*

Does your spring housecleaning call for some paint jobs to be done this year? If you are painting a window or picture frame, rub soap around the edges of the glass and any paint that splashed on the glass can be removed easily with a soft cloth. Rub vaseline on your hands before starting to paint and paint will wash off easily.

\* \* \*

We march out into the kitchen beat the eggs, pinch the salt, whip the cream, punch the bread, stick the roast, stir up everything on the stove — then wonder why the milk turns sour on us!

\* \* \*

Here are some final Easter "chicks". Make clever little cheese chicks for your relish plate this way. Mold cream

cheese into small balls — a larger one for the body and a smaller one for the head. Press the head firmly back on the body. Use raisins for the eyes, — blanched almond for the bill and a "feather" of celery leaf for the wings.

For clever party favors, make decorated rabbit, chick or lamb cookies; then to make them stand up at each plate, stick feet of cookies into gay colored gumdrops slit slightly across the top.

Tuck these cookie Easter hats in school lunch boxes or use them for Easter party favors. Bake your favorite rolled cookie, cut in rounds. This will make the brim of the hat. Make a simple confectioner's sugar icing and tint desired shade. A marshmallow is used for the crown of the hat. Frost the underside of the marshmallow and stick on the center of the cookie. Frost all over and before frosting hardens press the decorations into place — bits of candied cherries, lifesavers, raisins or tiny gumdrop flowers.

## THE LADIES AID

Some churches could not make the grade,  
Without the faithful Ladies Aid!  
It seems along the Heavenly road  
They carry the financial load.

The pastor's salary overdue,  
They first solicit me and you;  
They say his wages must be paid—  
Then we suggest the Ladies Aid.

The song books may be out of date,  
Or fell to pieces, some relate;  
The choir wants new ones—I'm afraid  
We'll have to ask the Ladies Aid.

A missionary comes along  
And tells his needs in talk and song;  
How mission dues have not been paid;  
Someone suggests the Ladies Aid  
Should have a social, serve Ice Cream  
Or use some other little scheme  
To bolster up the mission work—  
And so the members of the church  
Are satisfied the goose is laid  
When they have said: "The Ladies Aid."

The building may need some repair—  
We must preserve the House of Prayer.

The deacons meet and meditate  
About the money it will take.  
Then someone had the bright idea  
And all the others give him ear—  
He says: "This money can be paid  
I'm sure. We'll ask the Ladies Aid."

Unless these ladies get things done  
No church can seem to get along.  
A refuge for financial woe,  
A place where all the needy go,  
A place to shift our burdens on—  
We don't want burdens, no, not one.

But God some day will call the roll,  
And then the people will be told  
Who clothed the naked, fed the poor—  
And many will have failed to score.  
His "well done" surely will be paid  
To every faithful Ladies Aid.

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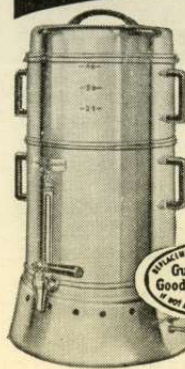
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## TO GIVE AWAY

By Gladys Niece Templeton

Each of us has that happy instinct to want to share with others—to give something away. Situations may not permit us to do this on impulse unless we have made such provision in advance.

It is so very easy and timely to be thinking about the days ahead when we want to run out to our flower border and gather a bouquet for an unexpected caller or a shut-in 'around the corner'; easy to do IF we have given it thought in advance. Everyone loves a showy border or flower garden (I know some who wouldn't pick a flower for anything! lest the color scheme of the border be affected), but the flowers you give away are the ones which create memory's garden! I know of nothing which brings such pleasure as an armful of lilacs—fragrant, dainty plumes of loveliness; a bunch of gorgeous orchids (iris), or a basket of zinnias. Not every one has a yard or the time for a small flower garden; bring joy to these and see how good it makes you feel.

Plant a few extra posies or blooming shrubs just TO GIVE AWAY—or divide some of your extra growth with others who are less fortunate.

## PRAYER FOR OLD PEOPLE

Old people like simple, elemental things,

Blue sky, a bird that sings,  
A roof o'er head,  
A restful bed,  
Summer rain,  
Autumn grain.

God grant them peace; give worry wings,

For them keep life a simple thing.

## GOOD NEIGHBORS

By Gertrude Hayzlett

You who have followed Good Neighbors in the past years know that one of our big projects is making afghans for the Veterans' Hospitals. It is a project that all can help with. We make knitted squares from odds and ends of yarn, and then they are joined together to make the afghan. We need lots and lots of yarn. It can be full hanks or small pieces that are left from what you have been knitting; any color, and most any kind, just so it is clean and in good condition. Even yarn that has been used can be reused if it is clean and good.

Have you some that you would like to give for this purpose? I can buy yarn at wholesale if you would care to help that way. Or would you like to do some of the knitting? The squares are to be 8x8 inches, in plain garter stitch. Perhaps some who could knit do not have yarn, and some who have the yarn haven't time to do the knitting. Get in touch with me at 685 Thayer Avenue, Los Angeles 24, Calif., if you are interested in helping on this project and I'll try to get your yarn to someone who will knit.

Oh yes, we make some crocheted afghans too. And if you can't help with this, here are some more personal things you can do to help those who are less fortunate than you.

Mrs. Martel Nuttall, 128 Blaine St., Apt. 1, Syracuse 4, N. Y., has been bedfast a long time. She is able to sit up a little and would like print quilt pieces to help pass away the time.

Mrs. Libbie Ann Novak, Elberon, Iowa, is another who has been bedfast for many years. She has had a rough time this winter and would enjoy letters, although I doubt if she can answer. She needs material to make aprons (which she sells) and quilt pieces.

Remember Leon Lillie, the 11 year old boy I told you about who had a heart condition following rheumatic fever and was bedfast? His mother writes that his 6 year old brother is bedfast now and begs for mail. His name is Terrie Lillie, Rt. 2, c/o Bill Lillie, Hornick, Iowa. Leon is still ill, so you might send cards to both of them. Leon is 12 now.

Mrs. Charles Tenney, 1417 N. Superior St., Antigo, Wisc., has been shut in quite a while. She is alone and would so enjoy hearing from you. She has diabetes.

Mrs. Dorothy Pratt, 127 Gorham St., N., Jackson, Mich., is a long time shut-in. She is not able to write much, but would like to have campaign buttons of all kinds for a collection, especially ones issued since 1940. They are for her son who has been in the army and thus has been unable to get the more recent buttons.

Doris Boutin, 18 Fiske St., Hoosick Falls, N. Y., age 8, is sick a good deal of the time. Her mother asks for all kinds of Catholic literature and views for her scrapbook.

Mrs. Gertrude Roebuck, Rt. 2, Buford, Ga., bedfast, would like jigsaws.

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