Woman's Realm — Social and Personal — Fashions — Literature

Ellen's Diary

By An Island Farmer's Wife

I can never understand why Monday is so frequently referred to as a "blue" day. At Alderlea — as on other Island farms Monday is a day of beginning again There is usually so much work to be straightened away, outdoors and in, there is never really time to be "blue." Personally I like Monday for stretching anead is a brand new week of "working" days to make or to mar Of course, clearly I can recall being rather sorry for myself when Monday morning meant leaving home to keep a rendezvous with a position in another county. But even then there was always something different and interesting just around the bend.

This morning the wood-box gaped at me from the porch. I moved it from the kitchen one day recently sort of coaxing summer as it were. I was on my way to the wood-shed when Jeanie drew my attention to the sea-guils. From childhood gulls and indeed many of their relatives have always meant chills up and down my back. I think probably it is a direct result of ill-chosen verse in old-time school books. I never see a gull but I recall: "To inch and rock the sea—mews cry." After that Rosabelle met her watery grave. There was also "a green-crested lapwing" enjoined not to bother "my Mary's" slumbers and too there was that awful Albatross that would follow the "Ancient Mariner." So because of these and similar tales — beautiful from an adult point of view—I have always considered sea-gulls uncanny birds of ill-omen. These had flown in from the river in early morning and were desporting themselevs on the Evrets' meadows a great white drift of them. Not all were on the ground, some were swooping and screaming over head — a noisy crew. They were beautiful with the sunlight glinting on their wings, and some poised momentarily on evergreens beside the meaddows made a lovely study in contrast. But I still find myself biased, where gulls are concerned so I quoted: "Sea-gull, sea-gull sit in the sand! It's always stormy weather when you're inland." We can be sure of it!

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The new family came to the piggery. I haven't seen them yet for the sign on the door still reads: "No visitors." When I inquired their number James said "There's a nice few." On being told I said: "That will buy a bond." James mumbled something about: "counting your chickens before they're hatched", meaning of course, since they are already hatched, that one never can be sure how many will survive or how many will be salable when selling times comes 'round.

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The first lambs came to Alderlea to-day, at I should judge about high noon. I did hope to be the first one to find them but as chance would have it I was absent at the time. So James found the "brack-sheep's" lambs — a pair of them. Strange too they are both white, with black faces and stockings. Jamie was here this afternoon and made frequent visits to the barn. They are something of a curiosity, for since dogs caused so much havoc among flocks a few years ago, numbers of farmers went "out of" sheep. Where Alderlea's flocks used to number dozens we have only four ewes now. Enough for yarn for warm socks and mittens and for soft wooly blankets to wrap small and larger, baby-buntings in. I was away to the Corner and so missed the excitement caused by the lamb's arrival.

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Today I went to The Corner principally for tea. There was none in the old canister when dinner was over. There should have been a few punches left but I always forgot that tea is one of the rationed articles and say: "Do have another cup." As yet I have seen no one refuse.

Karolyn told me to be sure and "bring a cake of yeast." Single cakes of yeast can be such nuisances. I often find myself wishing we were back in the "good old days" when a concoction that blew corks to the ceiling and fizzed all over, was mixed in flour to make bread. Then there was sure to be some in the cellar. Now the bread gets low, I say to myself: "I must set." Then in a flash I rememger: "My godness, I have no yeast-cake!" There are then two alternatives; either hike to Mr. Gregor's or bother the heart out of Mr. Kelly, who of course, is most obliging. Indeed all the women on his route often remark: "What would we do without Mr. Kelly?"

On my way to the Corner, after early dinner I stopped to chat with Pat Connors, the Foster's hired man. He is a great one at "Kaleying" and so manages to keep pretty well informed on the community doings. He was busy trimming up a tree that had been blown down near the road I would like to have lingered for Pat, who as he says himself "is creeping up", and I are very good friends but I felt that I was perhaps, keeping him from his work and besides I think a hired man now-a-days should earn his money.

Mrs. Sammy Burns, from the Spruce Grove road arrived at the store just ahead of me, so we had a nice chat while awaiting our turn at the counter. A trim soldier-boy, khaki clad, home on leave came into the store. He was waiting for a chance to Town, on his way to rejoin his unit on the Mainland. The home-comings are so nice but as he said: "It's not so funny leaving." His mother will be lonely tonight Even though she has other boys and girls, her soldier-boy's name will be on her lips and in her prayers tonight.

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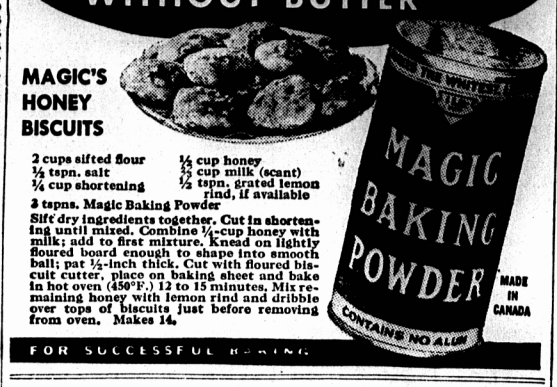
I was sure the pussy-willows would be out to-day but they are still wrapped rather closely. I searched for the Trailing Arbutus. They have no sign of a blossom yet. Strange how these things bring to memory other springs both "lost and dear."

James is catching forty winks on the couch, tired out with the flocks and the herds. I believe I am tired too. We must—turn-in.

Until tomorrow, Diary, Good-Night

Biscuits that melt in your Mouth WITHOUT BUTTER



MAGIC'S HONEY BISCUITS

2 cups sifted flour
½ tspn. salt
¼ cup shortening
½ cup honey
½ cup milk (scant)
½ tspn. grated lemon rind, if available
3 tspns. Magic Baking Powder

Sift dry ingredients together. Cut in shortening until mixed. Combine ¼-cup honey with milk; add to first mixture. Knead on lightly floured board enough to shape into smooth ball; pat ½-inch thick. Cut with floured biscuit cutter, place on baking sheet and bake in hot oven (450°F.) 12 to 15 minutes. Mix remaining honey with lemon rind and dribble over tops of biscuits just before removing from oven. Makes 14.

FOR SUCCESSFUL BAKING

A Job Only You Can Do

Price Control Questions And Answers

Questions and Answers on Price Control will appear in The Guardian as a regular feature each day. The questions are those which have reached the Wartime Prices and Trade Board from housewives in this region. The answers are provided by the Board Readers. Persons who have intelligent questions to ask on price control are invited to send them in writing to the Women's Regional Advisory Committee of the War Times Prices and Trade Board.

Q. Has the owner any right to bring prospective buyers to see through the house while we still occupy it?

A. Yes, a tenant is obliged to show the premises at all reasonable times . . . if you have a telephone we would suggest that you make arrangements with the owner or agent to telephone and make appointments to bring the prospective buyers to see the house at times convenient to you . . . if a tenant refuses to make suitable arrangements the owner can apply to the Rentals administration for an order to view the premises.

Q. Lately the restaurant where I eat my lunch has raised the price of tea and coffee at the noon hour from 5c to 10c. Is this permissible?

A. Yes ,they are allowed to do this . . . Board Order dated Feb. 15, 1943, permitted persons who served coffee a la carte less than 10c to raise their prices to this amount.

Q. I have rented a room for over two years. The price of the room included electricity. The landlady now demands $1.00 extra per month to cover the cost of electricity used in my room. Isn't this an increase in the rent?

A. Yes, this is an increase in your rental . . . you should not have to pay more for the same accommodation and the same services than you paid at the time when rentals were frozen . . . if your landlady wished to make this extra charge she would have to complete the proper forms and apply to the Rentals Administration for permission to do so.

Q. We are farmers and have more fresh pork than we can use. May we sell this meat?

A. Yes . . . during the suspension of meat rationing farmers may sell fresh pork to another farmer or to a household consumer.

LONDON — (CP) — In 4 1-2 years of war, British lifeboats have rescued 5,547 lives, an average of 24 every week. In the First Great War the weekly average was 19.

Dorothy Dix Says—

DIVORCEE NEEDS MOTHER'S AID

If Frosty Welcome Home Were Realized By Girl, Court Actions Would Be Fewer

DEAR MISS DIX—I am 25 years of age, very attractive and earn my own living. But I have a problem with which many girls are faced in these times. I am divorced and have a 2-year-old daughter. I live with my parents, which should be an ideal arrangement, but it isn't, for my mother thinks that I should just be content to sit and let the world pass me by and devote myself to my baby when I am at home. But I can't see why I should let my baby ruin my life. I am still young. I want to have pleasure and go places like other girls of my age, and to marry again.

Won't you tell mothers of divorced daughters who have children to be more considerate of us? We know we have made a mess of our lives, but we only want a chance to be normal girls again and find another mate. There are four such cases in my office. Our mothers resent having to take care of our children. Mothers just don't seem like mothers anymore.

VERY WORRIED.

DIVORCED DAUGHTERS NEEDS MOTHER

ANSWER—I often think that if the young wives, who pack their bags and take the children and go back to their mothers when they lose their tastes for their husbands, could foresee what a frosty welcome they would get when they returned to the old home, it would do more than anything else to cut down the divorce rate.

For, no matter how much Mother has "poor-Maryed" her daughter, nor how much she has mingled her tears with Mary's when Mary has complained that her husband is a brute who won't buy her a fur coat, or who raises ructions when the food wolud give an ostrich dyspepsia, she doesn't want a daughter returned to her like a bad package. Especially if daughter is accompanied by numerous small packages. She has worked and sacrificed to get daughter married and she wants her to stay married.

Mother wants her house to herself. She wants peace and quiet. She wants to be able to go to her clubs. And she emphatically doesn't want to be turned into a baby nurse and to have to listen to the whoops and yells of youngsters. And daughters should show more mercy than they do in offering Mother up as a sacrifice on the altar of their divorces.

And, of course, Mother should have sense enough to recognize the fact that a woman who has been married and borne children, and had her own house, and a husband, and who has gone through all the stress and strain incident to getting a divorce, is no longer an infant in leading strings who has to obey Mother and let Mama supervise her whole plan of life. She is a mature woman, and her bitter experiences often made her older and more worldly wise than her mother will ever be.

In reality, no family problem is ever solved, but it would ease the mother and divorced daughter situation if the daughter would realize that going back home with a divorce and a couple of babies isn't going to turn her into a debutante again, and if Mother could see that instead of opposing her divorced daughter's getting into circulation, she should encourage it, for along with daughter's dates she may get a Number Two husband.

(Continued on page 6, Col. 1)

Living & Leisure

The Woman's Realm

IN SUCH AN HOUR

Sometimes, when everything goes wrong;
When days are short, and nights are long;
When washday brings so dull a sky
That not a single thing will dry.
And when the kitchen chimney smokes,
And when there's naught so "queer" as folks!

When friends deplore my faded youth,
And when the baby cuts a tooth.
While John,the baby last but one,
Clings round my skirts till day is done;
When fat, good-tempered Jane is glum,
And butcher's man forgets to come.

Sometimes, I say, on days like these,
I get a sudden gleam of bliss.
"Not on some sunny day of ease
He'll come — but on a day like this!
And in the twinkling of an eye
These tiresome things will all go by!"

And 'tis a curious thing, but Jane
Is sure, just then, to smile again;
Or out the truant sun will peep.
And both the babies fall asleep.
The fire burns up with roar sublime,
And butcher's man is just in time.
And oh! my feeble faith grows strong
Sometimes, when everything goes wrong!

—Fay Inchfawn.

LIFE'S LITTLE JOYS

My joy is found in little things—a bird's sleek wings, wee buds upon a hawthorn tree, the hovering bee, the crystal raindrop hanging on growing corn in April's morn, a smile when meeting old-time friends, a job that mends; these richly treasured, of the heart of life are part, for love is found in little things, so my heart sings. —Lillian Dorset.

Camphorated Oil will remove white spots on a polished surface, caused by water?

White shellac, applied with a camel-hair brush to highly polished brass, will prevent rust and tarnish?

Sweet potatoes should be kept in a warm, dry place, as they are easily damaged by frost?

A week solution of muriatic acid and water will remove mortar and plaster stains from granite steps?

A cloth dampened with vinegar is an excellent cleanser for the brick tiling around the fireplace?

An electric bulb is handy to use as a stocking darner?

Chewing gum may be removed from almost anything by applying the white of an egg?

Camphor placed in trunks or drawers will protect from mice?

Shoe polish that has become hardened can be softened with a little turpentine?

Tarnished silverware let stand in sour milk for about half an hour and then washed in soapsuds will regain its brightness?

A soapy cloth dipped in kerosene will remove dark streaks on hardwood floors caused by moving furniture about?

Baking soda may be used to remove grease and discoloration from the waffle iron?

A teaspoonful of vinegar will make usable glue that has dried in the bottom of the bottle?

Equal parts of ammonia and turpentine will take paint out of clothing?

Brooms dipped for a minute or two in a kettle of boiling suds once a week will be both tough and pliable?

Soiled candles can be cleaned with a cloth saturated with alcohol?

Iodine is useful for covering scratched places on furniture?

A little vinegar in the water used to rinse silk hose will increase the elecitiy of the fabric and make the stockings practically run-proof?

FOR ANY ROOM IN THE HOUSE

DESIGN NO. 360

Round and oval rugs are crocheted from old stockings out of the scrap bag and carpet warp. A grand inexpensive pastime Pattern No. 360 contains complete instructions.

To order pattern: Write or send above picture with your name and address with 15 cents in coin or stamps to Needlework Bureau Charlottetown Guardian.

Design No. 360

NAME — — — — — — — — —

STREET ADDRESS — — — — —

CITY — — — PROVINCE — — —

A Morning Smile

IN SAFETY

I went along to see Sandy a few days ago, and while I was there his missus said she expected a few friends to tea.

Sandy went and got four umbrellas from the hall and hid them in the kitchen.

I said to him, "Are you scared your friends will pinch your umbrellas?"

"No," he told me, "I'm scared they'll recognize them."

SWIFT'S WEEKLY FOOD HINTS

Martha Logan, Swift's famed home economist, whose weekly, wartime cooking column is a regular feature of this page. Look for these valuable hints each Monday

by Martha Logan

Premium Cured!

It's good news for Canadian housewives when Prem is to be found on dealers' shelves

How convenient it is to have a tasty, economical cured pork food on hand when unexpected guests drop in.

That's why it's always good news when Swift's famed premium-cured pork-in-tins appears on your dealer's shelves. Before wartime needs cut down supplies, thousands of housewives made a practice of never being without a tin or two in the house. Prem is such a versatile meat, versatile as it is delicious! Cold with salad it's a tremendous favourite and ready in a jiffy. Hot . . . fried, baked or broiled . . . it's a fine main meat dish. And of course for sandwiches there's absolutely nothing like it!

Look out for Prem on your dealer's shelves and try to keep a tin on hand for emergencies.

PREM 'N EGGS

Slice the Prem ¼ inch thick, fry slowly in a well-greased pan. Serve with fried or scrambled eggs for a delicious 'brunch' or supper dish.

Martha Logan

SWIFT CANADIAN CO. LIMITED

a Dominion-wide organization devoted to the conservation and efficient distribution of Canada's food resources

PUT VICTORY FIRST

Buy Victory Bonds!

THE COOK'S CORNER

LEMON CAKE

½ cup butter, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 egg, grated rind of 1 lemon, 1 cup raisins, ¾ cup sour milk, 1 teaspoon soda, 1¾ cup flour. Cream butter and sugar well. Add beaten egg. Add lemon rind and the raisins coated with some of the flour. Add alternately the sour milk with the soda dissolved in it and the flour. Bake in a moderate oven till well done. When cooked and while still hot, cover the top with the lemon juice mixed with ¼ cup of brown sugar (extra). This cake will keep fresh for some time.

ORANGE BUTTER FROSTING

Grated rind of 1 orange; grated rind of ½ lemon; ¼ cup orange juice; 2 teaspoons lemon juice; 1 egg yolk; ¼ teaspon salt; 3 tablespoons butter; 3 cups sifted confectioners' sugar.

Add orange and lemon rind to orange juice and allow to stand 10 minutes. Strain. Combine lemon juice, egg yolk salt, butter and confectioner's sugar. Add orange juice until of right consistency to spread Beat until smooth and spread on cake.

Stop BLACKHEADS

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Needlecraft

For The Home

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If you suffer MONTHLY FEMALE PAIN

You who suffer cramps, headache, backache, and tired, nervous feelings—due to female functional disturbances — should try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It has a soothing effect on one of woman's most important organs. Also a fine stomach tonic! Made in Canada. Worth trying.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND