

## ELLEN'S DIARY

By an Island Farmer's Wife

We find that even though our daylight hours are now curtailed we ever look ahead pleasantly to the dropping of dusk. Perhaps this is because we enjoy then the magic and convenience of the new lights or it may be we like well this time of day which gathers the family in from their tasks.

True there must still be a round of stables by the farmers; there may yet be a heifer to milk or a calf to be fed and twice a year at Alderlea in a more or less extended period we enter a time when they must keep within touch of the trend of affairs in the piggeries.

This is when James does not change to his slippers if he does come to the comfort of his old armchair, and dons his cap at intervals to go out quietly into the dark. Then the junior member of this "firm" may come to chat with us "to pass the time" of waiting while he too keeps his finger on the pulse of our fortunes. . . . In this pen and that at present one may see rows of plump pink piglets nursing in blissful content at a placid dam's bosom.

However, occasionally there are those nights when without interruption we can rest every care and leaving winds and weathers without, gather about the fire.

James comes to his armchair to smoke and read, to chat with us or it may be if his day has been especially tiring, to the couch. There, hands clasped across his chest in a queer way he has of resting, he naps comfortably there. . . . Just past supper-time it is usual for him to make his way to the house across the lane to play with the children there.

When granddaughter has been our guest and night shadows call out to her, she slips a hand into his and they are off together. In the yard-light we see them follow the beaten path which leads beneath the wide-spreading, bare-branched birch in the yard, and the sight is so touching we sigh to think that maids must grow up and the years at length take their toll of the aged.

Their bed-time returns James to us to chat of their doings. To tell us of his hopes for Mack to follow in father's and grandfather's steps at the farming. . . . Mack, quite miserable yesterday, but his own busy self today can now put three tongues clearly together, a feat of tongue quite clever to us, his kin. However, with what James has termed "the propensity of her sex" it is recorded in her Baby Book, that at a like age, granddaughter could carry on a conversation, words clear, manner assured. We fancy that James enjoys these minutes with the small ones best of all his day.

And sometimes as we stay by our hearth-fire, Rob's arrive in the sound of a truck on the driveway, or it may be other kin or friends to share our evening, to chat and join us in a cup of tea. These are the nights we like this time of year, those which keep us alone or in company "Down on the Farm."

James is reading to-night in a farm-paper that has been a regular visitor to our home for years—the Canadian Countryman, which now comes to us in the merging of two magazines, the Countryman and The Farmers' Advocate, a publication, we have hitherto not known so well. "I sometimes wonder, Ellen," he offers "why farm-boys with good prospects leave the farm for the city. Some will put the blame on the fathers. . . . they don't do this or that for them—or they won't buy modern machinery, build great barns, buy pedigreed stock. But that's a lot of bunk. To my mind what they need is. . . . But until tomorrow — — Diary — Good-night. . . .

## The Birthday Murder

By Lange Lewis  
CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE

Continued

Mrs. Watt sighed. "Well, I did divorce him. A girl friend of mine worked me up to it—girl friends do that. A couple of years later I married Watt. He was a pharmacist—a nice, steady job. I could give up my job at the plant. Now we own our own drugstore, out in Inglewood." Mrs. Watt sighed again.

"So the gist of what you came here to tell me is that in your opinion Albert was not the type of man apt to get murdered by his wife."

"Or anyone else," said Mrs. Watt, with a decided nod. "It just doesn't go with what I know of him. Of course, that was a long time ago, but people don't change so much. I haven't told you half the things I meant to, all things that show you how Albert was, all things that show how silly, how really silly it is to believe for a minute that anyone could hate Albert enough to murder him in cold blood."

The phrase "in cold blood" seemed to cheer Mrs. Watt. Some of her early excitement returned. "Not in cold blood," she repeated. "Tuck rose and thanked her for coming. She offered to sign anything he might want her to sign, and he explained that opinions are not quite the same as evidence, and that therefore he would not take her formal deposition. She looked disappointed.

"But what you have told me throws an interesting light on other information," he said to her gravely.

This pleased her. She drew on her very shiny black kid gloves with an air. Tuck stood for a moment in the doorway of the office watching her march importantly down the marble length of the outer corridor toward the elevators, back to Inglewood and George.

## CHAPTER THIRTY

As Tuck closed the door he reflected that what he had just told Mrs. Watt was quite true. Her rambling discourse had served to bring back to his mind the curious notion that had struck him while he circled the lake with Proody, that Albert Hime had been killed not because he was Albert Hime, but because he was Victoria Jason Hime's husband. That he had died as a pawn in a strange game in which Victoria, not knowing it, was the opponent to be destroyed. That within an unsound mind there was a hatred which had done this thing.

He thought again of what he knew of murder in passion. For a long time it had been waiting, this malignancy, and for some reason not known to him had flowered when it did. Had seen and had seized upon a means of causing Victoria pain—not death, but pain. Loss, grief, and perhaps at the last, after a long losing fight, conviction as a murderer.

The means had been so simple—a box containing ant poison, a silver bowl containing sugar. At long last, two simple objects conspiring with the capacity to torture hidden within a human skull. He thought suddenly, but not irrelevantly, of the grinning tin masks which hung on Victoria's walls.

Within the thick yellowed walls of her house, Victoria was belatedly opening her birthday gifts, which all during the preceding week had been arriving by mail, by messenger, and in the hands of the hands of the oldest and most intimate of her fifty intimate acquaintances. Earlier in the evening the telephone had rung frequently; everyone had been sympathetic and had shown as little curiosity as possible. Six notes of condolence had arrived in the morning mail. And a summons to the coroner's inquest, to be held on Tuesday morning at nine.

She was wearing her slacks again, and around her shoulders was a thick scarlet knitted shawl with gypsy fringe. The little red eye of the thermostat glared from the corner, but the house seemed cold. At her feet the crumpled white snow of tissue paper mounded; as she unwrapped each gift she set it down on the coffee table. Quite a little accumulation covered its surface; the rich black of a suede purse proudly bearing her initials in silver, a jade cigarette box, the fine linen of handkerchiefs, five books, a cigarette lighter, a crazy red velvet beret with a matching purse, a clever clip, a great silver chain of a bracelet, one of a set of highball glasses—the rest in their box on the floor—a huge flacon of perfume. And still boxes to be opened.

To be continued

## DOROTHY DIX SAYS—

### Heartless Relatives

#### Family Refuses Affection To Son's Adopted Child

DEAR MISS DIX: What can I do to make my husband's family realize how they are hurting our adopted son? They say mean things to him, never bring him gifts and speak scornfully of him. I would appreciate a few words from you about parents who adopt children, and of the petty jealousy that prompts families to go out of their way to hurt innocent youngsters. Things have been made so miserable for us all since we adopted the child that I am heart sore.



ANSWER: How anyone could be so contemptible as to refuse love and affection to an orphaned child who has been befriended by strangers is more than I can see. Your adopted son is probably old enough to remember his friendless, lonely existence before you took him. It should be the chief aim of all about him to dispel those unhappy memories and give him a childhood to cherish.

Fortunately for others, your husband's family is exceptional. Most families are very proud of a member who will take on the responsibility of bringing up a homeless child and they are usually inclined to shower the youngster with more toys, clothes and attention than he can possibly use.

#### HE NEEDS EXTRA LOVE

An adopted child needs an extra supply of loving kindness at least until he is fully adjusted to his new surroundings and has become an integral part of the family circle. He must be "wanted", and fully entitled to the parental love he was denied at birth.

Jealousy, of course, is at the root of your relatives' behavior. Jealousy of your courage in taking the child, perhaps, or fear that he may take from them some of the love and attention to which they feel completely entitled.

Don't try to push this problem. Forcing the child on the rest of the family will only antagonize them more. Do, however, insist that the unkind remarks in his presence be stopped. Otherwise, bide your time. It's a rare person who won't eventually melt to the trusting innocence of a child's eyes; I hope you haven't acquired relatives so hard that they are impervious to everything decent in the world.

DEAR MISS DIX: Our mother passed away some time ago and since then our father has been running around with several women. Do you think it should concern us or not? We have been thinking of speaking to him about it. Do you think we should, or leave it alone?

ANSWER: Your father is suffering a reaction from his wife's death, and in his loneliness is simply seeking whatever company he can find. Perhaps your children have failed to provide him with the companionship he so sorely needs at this time.

Look back over your own actions. If you feel this is so, do what you can to make amends now. Invite him out—to your homes, if you're married, for trips, visits—anything to make him feel he is needed and wanted by someone. That will bring him back to his responsibilities quicker than anything.

If you do speak to him, don't do it in a nagging or fault-finding manner. Be sympathetic, try to make him realize that you love him and want him. In time he may find a congenial companion whom he will marry. Don't discourage the right woman but do keep him away from questionable characters.

DEAR MISS DIX: I have been going with a girl for two weeks. Now I find she is married to a soldier and has a small baby. Should I continue to see her? She is not divorced.

ANSWER: Stop seeing her—but immediately! You are being unfair to her, yourself and her husband by continuing the friendship. Even if she urges you to see her again, don't!

DOROTHY DIX cannot reply personally to readers but will answer problems of general interest through her column.

## Morning Smile

Easier

A man dashed into a police station at midnight. "My wife," he gasped. "I want to find my wife! Been missing since eight this evening. Oh, find her for me!" "Particulars?" asked the sergeant. "Height?" "I—I don't know." "Do you know how she was dressed?" "No, but she took the dog with her."

"Brindle bull terrier, weight 53 lb., four dark blotches on his body, shading from grey to white, three white legs, and right front leg brindled all but the toes. A small nick in his left ear." "That'll do!" gasped the sergeant. "We'll find the dog!"

## Better English

By V. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Let's us go with them before these two people arrive."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "referable"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Monitory, monarchy, monologue, momentary.
4. What does the word "credible" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with exc that means "to strip or wear off"?

#### ANSWERS

1. Say, "Let us go with them before these two persons arrive."
2. Accent first syllable, not the second. 3. Monologue. Capable or worthy of being believed. "The story does not seem credible." 5. Excoriate.

meat into 4 crosswise slices to form 3½-inch squares, ½-inch thick. Spread each with some of mustard; sprinkle on brown sugar. Place in baking pan about 12x8½ inches. Pour in enough milk almost to cover tops of slices. Grease sweet potatoes, and place in oven with luncheon meat. Bake for 40 minutes, or until potatoes are tender. Cut cross in top of each potato, and push from bottom up. Cut into ½-inch cubes. Top each with lump of butter; sprinkle with salt and pepper. Remove luncheon meat from milk and place on plate with potatoes. Makes 4-5 servings.

## Cook's Corner

### GLAZED LUNCHEON SLICES WITH SWEET POTATOES

I can luncheon meat or cooked ham, 5 teaspoons prepared mustard, ¼ cup brown sugar, firmly packed, milk, 4 small sweet potatoes. Heat oven to 375 degrees F. (moderately hot). Cut luncheon

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## The Stars Say - -

By Genevieve Kemble

For Tomorrow

AN earnest and forthright effort to long over-aims and ambitions for long and enduring recognition and rewards, has promise of enlisting and solid support and encouragement of those whose interest may be vital and far-reaching. With sound preparation and far vision, progress may find solid ground for objective and lasting security.

For the Birthday

Those whose birthday it is should plan to work out their most ambitious plans and objectives with order and systematic development before approaching influential persons or institutions for their endorsement and perhaps financial aid in promoting worthwhile ventures. For long-range plans and reasonable security, such aid may be easily attained.

A child born on this day may be able, steadfast and ambitious, enlisting support from influential sources.

## Dessert First May Overcome Eating Problem

(New York Times Service)

A succinct foreword statement sums up the sound advice presented in "Eating Problems of Children," a leaflet for parents prepared by the National Association for Mental Health. It suggests that "good food, offered in a friendly, matter-of-fact way, without urging" is the best approach in helping children learn to eat properly.

The booklet is explicit, it deals in do's and don'ts, with special sections on infant feeding and problem eaters. It may be obtained by sending 15 cents in coin to Dept. FN, The New York Times, 229 West Forty-third Street, New York 18, N.Y.

Pointing out that most healthy children, if not interfered with, will naturally have good eating habits, the booklet warns parents against trying to force their offspring to eat and also against showing concern when they refuse. It explains that rarely does a healthy child become ill from lack of adequate food.

Some parents, especially auto-orientarians, may be shocked by such suggestions as to give a child his dessert first, if he wants it. The explanation is logical, though. Many youngsters, when they find the dessert is not the forbidden fruit to be reserved until last, soon cease to demand it. If a parent insists that a child cannot have dessert until he has eaten his vegetables, he is likely to regard the vegetables as hateful and only the dessert as desirable.

#### Other Ideas That May Help

Other helpful ideas for parents: Too much excitement or overtiredness may upset a child's appetite temporarily. Forcing him to eat under such circumstances only means new problems or intensifies old ones. Youngsters, being copy cats, are liable to develop the food fads of other members of the family unless these are restrained.

If a child drinks so much milk he doesn't have room for other foods, cut down on the richness of the milk or give a little less of the beverage in a smaller glass.

Twelve mobile exchanges now operate in rural areas, one unit linking 19 villages.

High living costs are reflected in the eagerness of mothers to take advantage of this service, said the official. "Boys' clothing of all types, particularly underwear, is always in demand." At some centres, demand is so keen that working parties are kept busy cutting boys' pants from women's skirts.

## Anne Adams Patterns

### WEEKLY SEW-THRIFTY

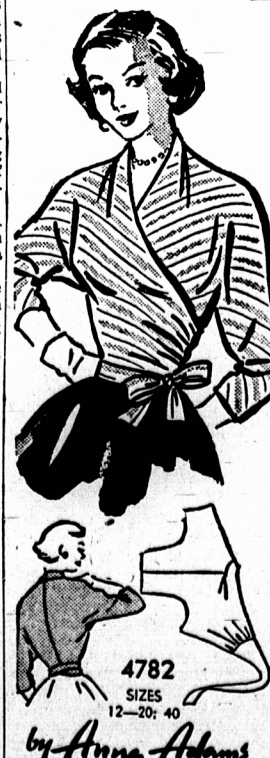
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## A Good Way To Cook Many Foods

The broiler on the modern electric or gas stove is there for a definite purpose. It is there to be used for cooking a whole host of foods, including meats, fruits and vegetables. In some stoves the broiler is a separate unit, while in others, it is at the top of the oven. Wherever it is, you will find a broiler rack and drip pan which fit under the electric element or gas flame, depending on the type of stove.

The home economist of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture doubt that the average broiler is used as much as it might be. Perhaps it is a case of out of sight, out of mind or it may be that some homemakers, particularly inexperienced ones have the mistaken idea that the broiler can be used for cooking only the most expensive foods. While it is true that broiling is an excellent way of cooking tender cuts of meat such as steaks and chops, any other meat which is ordinarily panfried may also be broiled. This means that the broiler can be put into action for cooking sausages, liver, kidney, hash and any kind of ground meat as well as for the tender steaks and chops.

There is a right and wrong way to do most things and using the broiler is no exception to the rule. First of all the broiler should be heated, then the rack should be rubbed well with a little fat. Greasing the rack is very important in broiling meats to keep them from sticking to it. The rack should be placed so that the top of the meat is about three inches from the heat. It is best to keep the oven or broiler door slightly ajar while broiling. With steaks and chops sear them quickly on both sides. Then reduce the heat and finish the broiling. Steaks one-inch thick will take from fifteen to twenty minutes broiling time, depending on whether they are to be served rare, medium or well done. Lamb chops three-quarter inch thick should be broiled about twelve minutes. A slice of smoked ham about half an inch thick will need approximately twenty-five minutes to be thoroughly cooked. Before broiling meat the fat around the edges should be snipped so that it will not curl up during the cooking.

One decided advantage in using a broiler is that it can serve a double purpose, for along with the meat there will probably be plenty of room on the rack to broil a vegetable or fruit to serve with it. Apple slices cut half-inch thick are good to broil with sausages, canned peaches with a ham slice, thick slices of onion with liver, and last but not least mushrooms with steak. The fruits and vegetables will not take quite as long to broil as the meat.

The broiler has many other good uses. It is a quick and easy way to make several slices of toast at a time or to toast a number of sandwiches, buns or rolls all at once. It also solves a problem if it is necessary to cook more than a panful of bacon.

Broiling is not new. It is a tried and proved method of cooking which dates back many, many years. That is why everyone who has a stove equipped with a broiler should make good use of it.

## Indians And Eskimos Can Teach Lesson

(CP)

White people can learn much about friendliness and gratitude from Indians and Eskimos, said Ella M. Roulston, matron of the new Indian hospital at Moose Factory, James Bay.

"They always have a smile for you and react happily to any little kindness you show them, especially the children," said Miss Roulston, a recent visitor to Toronto. "They are a very devout people, too, she said. 'They take their religion seriously, observe Sunday, for instance, far more strictly than do most Christians.'

The hospital in the northerly outpost, 700 miles north of Toronto, is one of the most modern of its kind in Canada. It was built primarily for the James Bay and Hudson Bay districts. It is under the Department of National Health and Welfare, Indian Services, and located on an island about three miles from Moosonee.

About 85 per cent of the patients are tubercular. "The death rate among the Indians is very high, so we feel we have a great service to render in this field," Miss Roulston said.

Before going to her present post a year ago last October, she was assistant superintendent at the Scott Memorial Hospital, Seaforth Ont. Previously she was in charge of rehabilitation at St. Hyacinthe, Que. D.V.A. Hospital, also a supervisor at the Royal Edward Laurentian Hotel, St. Agathe Des Monts, Que.

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### How Can I . . .

By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I remove the dry, roughened skin on the elbows?  
A. This may be removed by using cuticle remover from the manicure set. Moisten the elbows thoroughly with the preparation, wash with warm water and pure soap and rub with a Turkish towel.

Q. How can I cause playing cards to slide easier?  
A. If a thin coating of liquid wax is applied to each card, both face and back, they will slide much easier and will also be protected from soil and wear.



7076

by Alice Brooks