

Better English

By G. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "The clouds look as if it was going to rain."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "recoup"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Monotony, botany, villainy, heresy.
4. What does the word "intervention" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with lu that means "easily understood"?

ANSWERS

1. Use were after as if. 2. Pronounce re-koop, e as in me unstressed, oo as in coop. 3. Monotony. 4. Act of coming between by way of hindrance; interference. "It was an instance of divine intervention." 5. Lucid.

Household Scrapbook

By Roberta Lee

Bottles

To remove discolorations from the inside of bottles and other glassware, fill with the following mixture, let stand for several hours, shaking occasionally, then empty and rinse with clean hot water and ammonia. Warm water, one tablespoonful baking soda, and a handful of potato parings or pea beans.

Sore Throat

Alum dissolved in water makes a very effective gargle for a sore throat.

Lace Curtains

Baste some tissue under the worn places in curtains and darn or stitch back and forth on the sewing machine, later removing the paper.



Anne Adams Patterns

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ELLEN'S DIARY

By an Island Farmer's Wife

Yes, this may be a new season we have entered, one of snow-covered fields and roofs — with all this day, an unyielding wind of the west. But we fancy a new note in its breath tonight, a gentler tone which may presently return the farmers to plowing. This morning we exclaimed over the beauty of the scene spread for us over the upland and the lowland. Like a pretty Christmas card it was, meadow and woodland frosted whitely with snow. Sparkling too, in the sunrise, which then was stealing serenely into our shadowy valley, and first smokes rising frostily were tinted a delicate rose. The ewes beneath the gnarled trees in the old orchard paved away the snow to gleam what they could of the tasteful green beneath and all about our world was held in the grip of winter. But tonight there is a promise of rain in the croon of the wind, and we doubt not open weather ahead.

"We've certainly been getting a variety of weathers lately!" James commented at supper this evening, "though we can't complain, Ellen. It's not usual to be able to continue the field work so long, and how fast the days are slipping away! I declare I never saw the like of it!"

"Only three months until March!" we offered, knowing how eagerly James always welcomes that month. "Yes," he agreed, "but I always find a tedious stretch of time after the New Year comes in — oh not exactly tedious . . . but" he smiled "there are usually storms then and I'm not too fond of those! But if a person is well — that's the main item. We'll have wood to cut and lumbering to do, so I reckon we'll find plenty to fill our days."

Liver was our main fare this evening, the result of a butchering yesterday. Then it was, even though the farmers consulted over it and in the light of extending our herd of pigs declared: "We perhaps should keep her for a sow — her mother was a good one! and her grandmother before her, do you remember, how good she was to her little ones?"

In deference to the likings of a young guest of the supper hour we served a favorite pudding-powder dessert, and by way of something new on our menu, cookies made according to a recipe we had received only recently. It was one shared with us by a neighboring farm-wife as we walked along this road on a starlight night, which had given us an outing together.

It was close to the witching hour, quiet, calm and peaceful. It was so lovely it seemed as though every carking care of the world, every quarrel and war of mankind's making should be forgotten and over, and a wide peace as was here, should spread healing wings over all the earth.

The earthy scents of fall were about, not unlike those of spring and yet too sweet with the fragrance of dead ferns and other bracken and somewhat nostalgic. A brighter star kept watch above a dim far-away hill, and to the right of it in a fire-of-night on the sky glowed the lights of the city.

But the recipe must wait for James is already pat-pattering up the stairs. And "Wuff! Wuff!" the black dog out of doors challenges some prowler of the night, loudly — a stray cat perhaps, or maybe he is only acknowledging some sound of darkness unheard by human ears. . . . And we hear a promise of rain in the croon of the wind.

Until to-morrow — — Diary — Good-night

Cook's Corner

BAKED CARAMEL - COCOANUT CUSTARD

3/4 cup granulated sugar, 3 cups bottled milk or 1 1/2 cups evaporated milk and 1 1/2 cups water, 4 eggs, 1/2 cup granulated sugar, 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract, moist shredded coconut.

Melt the 3/4 cup sugar in skillet until it is a caramel-like syrup, while stirring constantly. Pour at once into six buttered custard

DOROTHY DIX SAYS—

Snooping Relatives Try Drastic Measures On Meddlesome Family

DEAR MISS DIX: Is there any prescription for curing meddling relatives? I am a widow and a professional woman in my early thirties. I have always had a good reputation and social prestige. Several years ago I moved to a small city where I unfortunately have several curious relatives. Their actions are beginning to wear on my nerves. If I purchase clothes and have a dressmaker alter them, they find an excuse to go to her house. I have always been active in civic, fraternal and religious affairs. Recently, my relatives have acquired pseudo-religion and trail me to church. If I have a date or friends call at my home, these kinfolk are so curious they suddenly need fresh air to the extent of walking or riding in front of my home. They phone or drop in for a visit if we have guests or even turn a light on in the living room.

Even my 7-year-old daughter cannot have her friends at our home without inquiries. My parents live with me and are also annoyed by these actions. We have tried ignoring them, insulting them and being excessively polite. Nothing seems to do any good. I would have no difficulty in securing employment in another locality. Even though it means giving up a good home, position, etc., I do not want my life and my child's blighted and thwarted by busybody relatives. Please advise me what to do.

COLLEEN

ANSWER: Busybodies are the hardest people in the world to combat; they are absolutely insult-proof, ignoring them only whets their curiosity and politeness is lost on them. So what to do? Changing your position and home would cure the situation but it seems a shame for you to be driven away by your meddling family. They certainly seem to have you covered from any angle so apparently there is no escape whatsoever where you are.

BE OUTSPOKEN

You may curb their obvious curiosity by plainspoken announcements to the effect that you are entertaining on a particular night and would prefer no casual calls for that occasion. Furtive snooping, however, is practically incurable.

One case similar to yours was cured by direct attack. The meddlers were informed by their victim that, in order to conserve time and energy, she would hold a family gathering, of perhaps an hour's duration, once a week to pass on all news. Her activities were then relayed in bulletin fashion and questions invited. The shamefaced relatives never even showed up for the second meeting, and thereupon turned their attentions to someone else in the family. Try it; it might work.

Of course you are in a very vulnerable spot. The actions of young, successful widows are always, for some obscure reason, of especial interest to friends and relatives. Possibly they resent your independence and contentment. Who knows? At any rate, keep your change of location as a reserve ace, and try other systems first. If they do force you to move, I wouldn't even leave a forwarding address if I were you.

DEAR MISS DIX: I have been married four years and through all my married life I have gone out with other men. My husband knew about it but didn't seem to care. I was married at 15, he was 16. Now he has begun to go out with other girls and I am very jealous. I am ready to settle down but he is not. I have tried to show him I am sorry. He doesn't want a divorce. I am sure he loves me and I love him.

JANE S.

ANSWER: The time to settle down, Jane, is at the beginning of marriage; not four years later. Naturally your husband has been hurt at your behavior, and even if he didn't show it; now he finds the opportunity for retaliation and is taking it. Not a noble procedure to be sure, but very human. What you are proving is that 20 would have been a much more suitable time for you to marry than 15. For youngsters your age to make a success of matrimony is very rare. It takes more than a clergyman's blessing to turn a child into an adult.

I hope you are right in assuming your husband still loves you. Nothing will undo the past; what matters is the future. If you can get together on that, you can bring happiness out of disaster. All you can do is show in every possible way that you realize how wrong you were, and intend to create a happy home from now on. Whatever happens, don't slip back into the old habits even for a moment.

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

ARTHRITIC PAIN

Mrs. C. E. Lyons, Burdett, Alberta, is 74 years of age and says this about SARNAK: "After taking SARNAK for two months I am free of stabbing arthritic pain. SARNAK helped me from the first dose, now I wouldn't be without it."

Yes, you should try SARNAK . . . as have thousands of others in Canada who suffer from rheumatic, neuritic and arthritic pain, sciatica, backache, lumbago or neuralgia, some minor form of kidney and liver upsets, bilious dizziness, nutritional anemia, lack of vitality and nervousness caused by these symptoms. SARNAK is so effective for aches and pains and general run-down condition that you usually get results within the first few days. \$1.35 a Bottle at all Drug Stores.

3/4 cups Scald milk, and pour slowly over eggs, which have been beaten with the 1/3 cup sugar and vanilla. Pour into custard cups and sprinkle with coconut. Set in shallow pan of warm water, and bake in moderate oven of 325 degrees F. for 45 minutes, or until a silver knife inserted in centre comes out clean. Chill well and unmold. Serves 6.

Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. If a person has accepted an invitation to be a house guest for a week and finds upon arrival that conditions in that home are just too uncomfortable and impossible for him to last out the visit, how could he tactfully arrange an early departure?

A. One of the best things he could do under these circumstances would be to walk to a nearby store and send himself a telegram—and leave.

Q. What kind of napkins should be used to go with a lace tablecloth?

A. Plan hemstitched line, as nearly matching the color and texture of the lace as possible.

Q. Is it proper to use the salutation, "Dear Sirs," in a business letter to a company?

A. This salutation is no longer accepted. Use "Gentlemen."

Morning Smile

Misunderstood

From head to heel she was exquisitely modern, and the shop-walker felt his heart beat faster. She asked him where she could get "pencils for the eyebrows." The shopwalker was inclined to deafness and misunderstood her. "The stationery department is upstairs, madam—" he began. "But I want them for eyebrows." "Oh, eyebrow stuff! Better ask for them at the book counter."

Tried

Glancing up from the advertisement in the old magazine he had found, the hobo said to his companion: "Do you think it does any good to, have your character analyzed by your handwriting?" "All it ever got me," said the other grinning, "was six months in jail—for forgin' a cheque."

Revenge Is Sweet

Dentist: "Have you seen any little boys ring my doorbell and run away?"
Policeman: "Those weren't little boys—they were grownups."



The Popular Choice

That Body Of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

SOCIAL STANDING AND NERVOUSNESS

In these days when there is continuous tension of mind and body as we try to figure what the future holds in store for us and all mankind, it might be well to recall the study made by Dr. W. L. Neustatter recorded in the British Lancet some years ago. Dr. Neustatter studied three groups of fifty families each to learn the effects of their particular social standing on their nervous system or nervous balance.

The first group comprised poor, working class families in southeast London, picked at random; the second group was chosen from the parents of children attending the council schools in southeast London but composed of small professional and clerical workers with modest incomes. The third group was composed of well-to-do middle-class families from a northwest London suburb—more comfortably off than the other two groups.

The information was obtained from lists of questions answered by parents and by personal interviews and had to do with the number of cases of neurosis including night terrors, depression, unsociality and aggressiveness.

What did these questionnaires (Continued on Page 3)

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1.59

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