

ELLEN'S DIARY

by an Island Farmer's Wife

"Would you know where I can find the baseball? And would you have any idea where the bats are?" Gage asked this morning.

"I'm thinking you won't be needing them for a spell yet—not for a day or two, at least," James smiled patting the lad's head fondly. "See the north wind bend the trees, and br-r-r! it blows cold today."

"Sure it does, Gage agreed." But just you wait and see: one of these days it will change to a warm wind and sunshine, and we'll think that summer is here!

"Not much sign of it out there," James chuckled nodding to the bleak day beyond the window.

"Do you know what I found this evening, Ellen—I confess with some surprise? A visiting farmwife invited our conjurers tonight!" But you'd never guess, she laughed, not in such a spell of wintry weather as we've been getting of late. . . . A broody hen! Now, that I would say is a token of spring!

The visitor was decked in a pretty gown. Nosegays straight from a summery picture of the Victorian years, bright and demure and bound with ribbon, blossomed with neat repetition against a dark background of green.

The shades and designs made one think of summer gardens still unborn. Roses we should have in our nasturtiums for colorful bouquets, hollyhocks by a little gateway and hearts, ease of pansies, quaint-faced to bring us quiet cheer.

"I think I'll set her by and by—when the weather warms," she continued. "We'll be getting some store chickens, of course, but I

never consider the place is complete unless we have at least one hen and her family scratching about the barnyard. Isn't it the prettiest sight, Ellen?" she smiled.

"A lesson in motherly love." The fire crackled pleasantly. Out of doors the ground was hard-frozen and the wind continued to blow coldly about the eaves.

"Your dress is pretty," we offered the thought in mind. "And new?"

"Oh yes," she laughed. "That's something I usually treat myself to in the spring. It's a good tonic for the season, better than Grandmother's sulphur and molasses. Supposing it's only a house-dress, it inspires me to attack the cleaning with more vigor. Not that I've done anything at it yet but the first warm day, I intend to commence."

With more cows now into the milking period, the milk, rested since the fall was dusted, re-cleaned and put into operation in the new stable for the first time this evening. The cream-separator was not called into service because the April milk is to be fed to the calves, the youngsters that look out now from cosy quarters in the partly-underground box-stalls there.

"Well, there's this to it!" Rob said today looking into the busy seasons ahead. "We'll have no barn to build this summer!"

No barn to build—but still there will be smiling skies of blue overarching this valley; laughing whispies in the poplars on the lawn; warmth and color and loveliness, beyond this one of April's frost-bound, wintry days.

Until tomorrow — — — Diary — — — Good-night. . . .

RCAF Women See Europe

By ARCH MacKENZIE
Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON, (CP)—Two Canadian girls who joined the RCAF to see the world have just added London to a long list of European sight-seeing "missions accomplished."

The well-travelled tourists are Rose Marie Boulding, 24, Penticton, B. C., and Irene Schappert, 22, Langenburg, Sask., who operate on the premise that "quick trips are better than nothing at all."

Between them, they have rambled through parts of Austria, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands and France since being posted to duty with the RCAF Sabre jet fighter wing at Baden-Soellingen in the West German province of Baden. They figure they are "typical of the whole" of the 55-odd women in the women's division on the station.

Planned Tours

They like to travel. And they are prompted by periodic planned bus tours arranged by the RCAF as well as reduced military fares in the country where they are stationed and the high buying power of the hard Canadian dollar.

Their first day in London was a sample of their technique. Starting from Trafalgar Square on foot, the girls covered the Mall, Buckingham Palace and the changing of the guard, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and other stand-out attractions. They topped the day with an American musical in the west end—a practice they maintained.

In the following days, they digested museums, art galleries, Madame Tousseau's wax museum and the Tower of London and worked in some shopping on the side.

Miss Boulding is a former federal civil servant who was employed in Victoria and Vancouver. Miss Schappert was a school teacher in southern Saskatchewan before joining the RCAF for the standard three-year hitch.

Exchange Vows



L.A.C. and Mrs. Richard Atkins are seen above following their wedding on Saturday, April 3, in St. Mary's Anglican Church in Summerside. The bride was the former Audrey Elizabeth Chappell, R.N., and has been on the staff of the Prince County Hospital. She is the daughter of Mr. Alex Chappell and the late Mrs. William Atkins of Belle Island, Newfoundland. (Photo by D. W. Sears).

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M. D.

PREPARING ELDERLY PATIENTS FOR EMERGENCY SURGERY

An elderly man was referred by his family physician for a surgical operation to be performed immediately. Despite his age, both physician and surgeon thought that emergency operation was absolutely necessary.

In Geriatrics, the medical journal devoted to research and clinical study of aging processes, Drs. Sidney E. Ziffren and Ramond F. Sheets describe the preparation of the aged patient facing emergency surgery. "In 1951, the percentage of patients sixty years of age and over admitted to the surgical service of the University Hospital of the State University of Iowa was 33 per cent of the total. The death rate of all surgical patients of that year was 28 per cent and for those 60 and over it was 5.49 per cent. These patients underwent surgical operations involving every portion of the body and a great many had acute surgical emergencies." The death rate in these elderly patients was low enough to make Drs. Ziffren and Sheets believe that it is wiser to perform necessary operations in the aged and, ordinarily, it is poor clinical judgment to refuse operations because of age.

"The most difficult situations confronting the surgeon in the care of aged patients are those which occur just before operating and the correct handling of the patient at this time may mean the difference between success and failure on the operating table or shortly thereafter." The most important point is blood volume. "Low blood volume is particularly common in patients with cancer, intestinal infection, intestinal obstruction, dehydration and malnutrition." Under ordinary circumstances, the most acute problem is deciding when the blood

Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. Will you please list some of the expenses of the bride's parents for her wedding?

A. The invitations, the bride's trousseau, decorations for the church and house, soloists and organists at church, transportation for the bride party, the wedding reception, dinner or breakfast, the bride's presents to her bridesmaids, and a wedding present to the couple.

Q. If one fails to hear a name in an introduction, is it all right to ask the one who is making the introduction to repeat it?

A. Address your question to the person being introduced to you, as, "I'm sorry, but I did not hear your name clearly."

Q. If one is attending church services that are not familiar, should one copy the movements of the members of the congregation, or just remain stationary?

A. Do what the others do, and you will show more courtesy and will be less conspicuous.

Morning Smile

"If you can't start, der you is," said Tom, an old colored philosopher. "But if you can't stop, what is you?"



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Household Scrapbook

By Roberta Lee

Knobs on Lids

If the knob of any cooking pan lid comes off slip a screw through the hole in the head on the inside of the lid. Then screw a cork on the protruding end. The knob will not get hot and can be renewed when desired.

Insecticide

An effective insecticide for moths and caterpillars can be made with 50 parts of resin, 40 parts of lard, and 40 parts of stearine oil.

Hardened Glue

If a little vinegar is added to the hardened glue and allowed to stand for a day or two, it will be rendered fit for use again.

DOROTHY DIX Her Ultimatum

DEAR MISS DIX: Last year my daughter and her steady beau were graduated from high school together. He went on to work while she continued her studies at a college some distance away. Of course, during high school they saw each other constantly. Shortly after establishing their respective new routines, he broke off with her.

After a few weeks they patched things up, and one week end when she was going to be home, they had a date. But, he called to break it, giving a family gathering as an excuse. She told him he would have to make a definite permanent choice then and there—either to keep the date with her or end the friendship. He chose the latter course. The girl has been completely heartbroken ever since, and I don't know what consolation to offer. Naturally, I am very upset about it, too. Would it be wise for me to see the boy and learn just exactly what motivated his strange action?

ANSWER: There are times when it's really kinder to withhold sympathy or, at least, to minimize ostentatious consolation, and this is one of them. While your daughter is understandably upset over losing a beau, I think her pride is more disturbed than her affections. It's absolutely no help to her to have someone else enter wholeheartedly into her grief, and it would be very foolish for you to take over the management of her emotional affairs.

ASCERTAIN BOY'S REASONS

It's up to her to find out what the young man's purpose was in (1) breaking off in the first place, and (2) repeating the pattern. The girl's summary treatment of him in her manner of issuing an ultimatum gives more than a casual clue to the answer on both points. She might have given some consideration to the fact that a young man of 18 does have obligations to his family, and if something special had come up that required his presence his excuse certainly was justified. Even had it not been, however, no lad likes to be dictated to by a girl; it can be taken for granted that such treatment will be received with resentment. Your daughter's grief is compounded of three things, in the order named: their fury that she couldn't get away with the ultimatum, wounded vanity, and hurt affection.

If you really want to help her,

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "The light-complexioned invalid is some better today."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "ignoramus"?

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Demagogue, demeaner, dementia, demurrage.

4. What does the word "inerrancy" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with rev that means "act of disclosing"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "The light-complexioned invalid is somewhat better today."

2. Pronounce the "as in ray" (not as in ram), accent third syllable.

3. Demeaner. 4. The state of being free from error, as "The inerrancy of the Bible." 5. Revelation.

as I know you do, try to make her realize that there's no deep love involved either on her part or the boy's. Get her interested in new people and activities, and try to make her see that her pride can be saved if she resumes her schoolwork with no outward sign of a hurt heart. Few young people follow the road to matrimony and true, lasting love without strewn the path with fragments of broken romances. Your daughter's experience is part of the growing-up process and should have the effect of strengthening her character—not weakening it. You can play an important part in diverting her reaction in the right direction.

DEAR MISS DIX: I am very much in love with a girl of 19, six years my junior. She became an orphan as a young child and was brought up by an extremely rich aunt who was very sparing with her affection. I've known the girl almost a year, and during that time I have tried in every way to show that I care for her. However, she persists in accepting my attentions almost as a joke. She won't believe my declarations of love, yet if I don't call for a few days she phones me and seems quite disturbed at my neglect. I am bewildered. M.M.

ANSWER: You have a job that calls for patience. If you really love the girl, winning her will be worth the effort. She has lived in a cold world, surrounded by stern people for so long that it's very difficult for her to react to affection. I'm sure this is a task for which you are well equipped.

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How Can I?

By Anne Ashley

Q. What is the correct way to melt paraffin?

A. Do not heat paraffin to the point of smoking, as this will make it liable to separate from the sides of the glasses or jars. It should be melted very slowly.

Q. How can I remove scorch stains on white materials?

A. They can be removed very readily by rubbing well with the freshly cut portion of an onion and then placing in the sun.

Q. How can I make brooms last longer?

A. Wetting the brooms in boiling soapuds at least once a week will toughen them and prevent the wisps from falling out.

The Stars Say

By Estrellita

For Tomorrow

OVER-CONFIDENCE and hasty decisions could prove costly now. In fact, in all matters, it would be advisable to stick to routine schedules rather than attempt anything new or unfamiliar. Give special attention to details and take nothing for granted. Patience and understanding.

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Cook's Corner

Home-baked beans — hmmm — not only sounds good, but is good. Stanhope W. I. start off their week of cooking suggestions with the following recipe for Baked Beans.

BAKED BEANS

Pick over and soak over night, cups baking beans. In the morning drain off water and cover with boiling water. Cook until tender. Add 1 teaspoon soda to water to boil, add 1 cup molasses, 2 teaspoons salt, 1 teaspoon mustard, 1 onion (small), pepper, 1 small can tomato soup. Add water to make liquid, enough to cover beans. Cut strips of bacon or any canned meat. Bake in oven.

—Mrs. Horace Marshall, Stanhope W. I.

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by Alice Brooks

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