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## AT MIDNIGHT I REMEMBERED

Mary Brennan Clapp

Wakening at the touch of a wind-blown curtain,  
Wakening to joy in the soft loneliness of moonlight,  
I remembered that I must go down the hall  
Past the small beds all sweet and warm with sleep,  
Down the white resting stairway  
To the front door,  
And step out onto the cold,  
Moon-shadowed porch  
To bring in little, frozen  
Galoshes!

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"The leathercraft course was worth all the time and effort spent on it. The members are so proud of the purses and billfolds they made." Another group taking glove making reported making several pairs of gloves following the course. Following the course on making moccasins, one secretary wrote: "Several of those who took the course have ordered hides, planning to make moccasins for their families."

Comments on the Creative Cookery course were: "Some women who did not like cooking before found that it was fun." "Everyone enjoyed the course. We are using more herbs in cooking now."

Following our "Sew to Save" project we had an exhibit of articles made from one yard of material — aprons, oven mitts, toaster covers, all featuring bias binding that we made ourselves. Most of the articles were given for our bazaar to be held later."

Of the training school, Focus on Finishes, one secretary wrote: "Ladies who had been sewing for years learned how to do their work correctly and much more easily. The correct way to put in a zipper created a great deal of interest." Another reported: "As a result of this course two of our members have bought sewing machines and have become very interested in sewing."

"Learning to fix our own electric cords in our workshop on home management is something we won't forget."

"When we had our workshop on consumer education we invited members of the Consumers' Association of Canada and they found it very helpful."

"Six of the seven churches in our district sent representatives to our course Catering for Crowds and many ideas were exchanged." And "The course was well attended by women from most of the organizations in town and the surrounding area. We all found the booklet most helpful."

"We have had our own Institute hall since 1930 and now we finally have curtains for it. We made the curtains ourselves following our course in Window Treatment."

"The information given in the course on Choosing and Using Fabrics has been very helpful in dry cleaning the new fabrics."

A branch taking the course Safety Begins at Home made a point of inviting the young mothers of the community who were not members of the Institute.

This comment by one secretary is typical of a considerable number: "We have gained a number of new Institute members as a result of our short course and our training school project this year and we plan to ask many outside groups to future courses in the hope of getting other new members."

Home Economics Service will continue trying to build up an extension program of more and more interest and value to the homemakers of Ontario. The general response of Women's Institutes and other groups has been most satisfactory. A problem that has yet to be solved is how to prevent, or how to deal with, the occasional situation where an institute asks for a course but when the time for the course arrives, members seem to have lost interest, or for some reason or other the attendance is too small to justify providing an instructor. Perhaps some Institute members may have ideas on how to assure a good attendance for an extension service.

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## FIFTH READER

By Irene Stanley

"Fifth readers are for them that want to teach!  
You're schooled enough," my harassed mother said.  
"Stop wishing now for things beyond your reach!  
In two years you and Henry will be wed,  
If study hasn't spoiled your rosy looks.  
When you're plumped out, my purple watered silk  
Should fit you well. Now say no more of books,  
But take your lantern, child, and go and milk."

That night a turkey-egg hatched out that I  
Had found and given to a clucking hen.  
That gobbler grew until he stood this high,  
Which made it hard to hide him now and then.  
I sold him in the fall, and bought my new  
Fifth Reader — but I wished I had him, too.

One morning while we scraped potato bugs  
From vines to cans, I burst right out at Ma.  
"I don't mind pitching hay, and hauling lugs  
Of windfalls to the pigs, for you and Pa —  
But that is what I'd have to do, and more,  
For Henry, when I'm married — and I won't!"  
"Why, child! You never talked like that before!  
You like him, don't you?"

"No, I don't! I don't!"  
Ma looked across the fields. From far away  
Her eyes and voice came, as she said, real slow:  
"There'll be no wedding, then, until the day  
You set, yourself—there, child, I know, I know...  
His ma and I made foolish plans, I guess.  
But we'll find uses for that purple dress."

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