

Of Interest to Women



Hello, Homemakers!
Do you can garden-fresh flavour? Whittle down those hours between garden and jar. The shorter the time taken for the complete process, the better the flavour, texture, top-quality, fresh food to work with is a must: canned food is only as good as it was when it went into the jar. Overripe or bruised fruit is not worth your time or jar, it may not even keep.

Are your fruits as clean as a whistle? Pick over and clean fruit under good light.

Do your jars shine and sparkle? Clean, sterile jars are a necessity to successful canning. Use lots of hot rich soda, a dish mop and a bottle brush. Rinse well in hot water and scald. Discard jars with nicks and cracks.

Are you sure you know the right way to use your jar caps?
Vacuum caps should be turned back 1/4 inch, those with screw bands 1/2 turn. After processing, screw bands should be tightened; the clamp-type secured by lowering the second clamp. Never reuse war-time rubber rings or vacuum-seal lids with rings of rubber compound. Zinc or tin bands which have become hard and dry should also be replaced.

Do you accurately pre-cook (blanch) before packing? A quick pre-cooking shrinks the food and sets the color, so that each jar contains the optimum amount. If directions read, "Pre-cook 5 minutes in boiling water," it's the signal for you to put food in boiling water, let it return quickly to boil, then begin 5 minute timing. Do not let food stand around because delays may cause flat-sour.

Do you crowd food into jars? Crowding may interfere with the thorough cooking required for safe-keeping. Crowding may prevent a tight seal. Leave 1/2 inch above fruit to top of jar, but then fill to overflowing with boiling liquid. Do you know how to "burp" the jar? Run a knife down the inside to free air bubbles. Blup, blup, the liquid fills the gaps. After this treatment, fill again to the top with liquid. When using a boiling water bath, do you mount your jars on a rack 1/2 inch from the bottom of the deep kettle with the water covering one inch over their tops? They should stand at least 1/2 inch apart, so that hot water can circulate. Do you keep the water boiling steadily, adding boiling water if necessary?

Do you process for the exact number of minutes? Then dip out some of the water and it will be easier to lift out the finished product. Place the jars on a pad of paper, away from drafts; complete seal and let cool. Label jars and store in a cool, dry place.

Don't depend on the grapevine directions of your neighbors, use an approved timetable.

TIME TABLE FOR CANNING FRUITS

Fruit	Precook	Water Bath
Strawberries	5 mins.	5 mins.
Cherries	20 secs.	20 mins.
Currants	15 secs.	15 mins.
Gooseberries	15 secs.	15 mins.
Raspberries		20 mins.

If you use an electric oven pre-heated to 275 degrees, allow 10 minutes longer cooking time than the above method. It is a simple and preferred method for those who have this valuable equipment.

THE QUESTION BOX

Mr. W. H. asks: How can we "revive" awnings?
Answer: Repair tears by sewing on underside. Then, refresh by redyeing in a single color. Stripes will show slightly, but results will be successful. Or paint with water paint thinned with 1/4 as much turpentine. Apply a thin coat and brush into fibres.

Mrs. J. C. asks: How often should I have to defrost an electric refrigerator?
Answer: Always defrost before the frost builds up to 1/2 inch (thickness of pencil). Every two weeks is usually the case in the small home group—once a week if it is used frequently.

Mrs. J. B. suggests: Use paprika instead of pepper these days.

LEARNING TO READ AND WRITE

LAGOS—Police constables, African clerks and schoolboys are all acting as teachers in a big education drive launched in the eastern Provinces of the British African Colony of Nigeria. The scheme is operated by the British District Officer and his wife, with boring schools. Tuition takes place in headmasters and teachers of neighborhood, a big hall specially built for the purpose, and already 300 adults are spending their evenings learning how to read and write and in learning history, geography and arithmetic.

Survey Reveals Things Lacking in Canadian Homes

Fifty-five per cent. of village homes and 64 per cent. of farmhouses need repairs. Twenty per cent. on farms and 14 per cent. in smaller urban centres are so rundown that only major replacements, such as new plaster or new floors, will help. In many cases only new houses will do.

That is what many hundreds of women, a scientifically selected cross-section of Canadian housewives, told 135 women selected from their home areas across Canada and trained to get exact answers to 110 questions put to each woman. The survey took three months and the complete findings, which will be given government and other housing authorities, are still being worked out. Figures on some aspects of the survey were released today by Lever Brothers Ltd. Other reports are being completed and will be issued later.

People interviewed live in houses valued in normal times at \$4,000 or less, or renting for not over \$40 a month, or on farms of 200 acres or under. They represent 82% of the people of Canada.

Overcrowding is the worst problem and its remedy heads the list of things to be done. The average Canadian home has a bit over one room per occupant. That takes in kitchens and living rooms and the occupants include farmhands and maids, lodgers, roomers, boarders and relatives. On farms, one family in 20 shares its space with employees. In villages the number of outsiders living with the family is twice as large. In cities and towns every sixth house is bulged by boarders or lodgers.

In village, town and city homes an extra one family in ten has taken in grandparents, parents or married sons or daughters. The figure is double that on farms. People are sleeping all over the house. The non-bedroom sleepers total 4% on farms, 9% in non-farm rural areas and 12% in urban centres.

Two per cent. of farmers, according to their wives, will buy new homes as soon as war's end frees materials and labor. In villages the figure is three per cent. In bigger places 7 per cent. The numbers who will buy if conditions permit, which means if postwar months don't cut present income (run 2, 6 and 7 in the same areas. One farmer in 20 will build, and he joined by six per cent. of villagers and nine per cent. of city folk. Those who have building plans, but first want to make sure of postwar conditions, number 2, 5 and 5 per cent.

Naturally the tendency for farmers to stay where they are, but improve, present houses by alterations, improvements, additions and repairs, is stronger than among townsmen. Over one farm in five has plans to improve or alter its present house, 6% will build on more rooms and the same number will make needed repairs. In non-farm rural communities the same categories run 8, 3 and 5, while in larger towns and in cities the plans rate 4, 1 and 5. Only one farm woman in 50 said family plans were to sell the farm and move to town. They were older women.

Many construction faults were revealed. Among them is the fact that although 94% of village homes and 51% of farm homes checked have electric lights, 17% on farms have rooms so dark, lights have to be turned on in the daytime. Explanation—fog-dark rooms on farms is often existence of broad verandahs or nearby clusters of out-buildings. Another cause is lack of windows or poor location of such windows as they have. Forty-five per cent. of farm homes are lit by coal-oil lamps, 3% by gas and 5% by gasoline lamps. Some farms report several types of lighting. The 48% rating for rural electrification results from checking only smaller farms. Since they are near urban power lines. Over-all national average of farm electrification, taking in all farms, big or small, near town or remote, was only 20% on the last national census of 1941.

Over one farm woman in 12 (8%) demands improved heating systems, such as furnaces. In smaller urban centres the request tops one in nine (11%). Only about 4 in 10 homes on farms and in villages have furnaces, as against 7 in 10 for the bigger towns and cities. The rest are heated mainly by wood stoves, coal stoves or combination heaters. Some people have several types of heating, so that even though 70% of townpeople have furnaces, nearly half of them also have wood or coal stoves.

HANDICAPPED BOYS ARE SCOUTS

Boy Scout Troops and Wolf Cub Packs are "successfully" carried on among handicapped boys in the Queen Alexandra Solarium, Mill Bay, B. C. School for the Deaf, Saskatoon, Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children, Winnipeg, Home for Incurables, Toronto, I. O. D. E. Preventorium, Toronto, Sick Children's Hospital, Thistletown, Ont., and the School for the Blind, Halifax, N. S.

Chronicles of... Ginger Farm

Written Specially for The Acton Free Press by GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

Expectation is better than realization so they say but this week's events have been the exception that proves the rule. We have been living on expectation for ages, but last Thursday realization began.

Yes, the hydro power was really turned on at last. It was about two o'clock that day when one of the linesmen came along and said, "Are your lights all right?"

"Are they?" I answered stupidly, and then added hopefully but ineredulously, "Do you mean the power is on?"

"Sure" and I can see lights on upstairs so I guess they're all right. "All right" what a mild way to put it. And yet after all it was a very conclusive description; I am not sure one could find anything better. We turned on switches here, plugged in there, wandered from room to room trying out the lights, switched on the ones at the barn and finally we agreed that, just as the linesman said everything was all right.

But that wasn't the only excitement. Two days later our hardware man phoned to say my washing machine had arrived. That was almost too good to be true. And yet there was really no doubt about the matter. In due time the machine arrived home and I'm telling you it is like something out of fairyland—a magic whirling that makes drudgery vanish into space, takes kinks out of backs and makes any wash "the whitest wash" irrespective of any particular brand of soap bars or soap chips.

On the same day that the washing machine came to brighten our lives, there also arrived a letter from my brother in England, with the news that son Bob had been to visit him and his family. That was a wonderful piece of news because we knew then that Bob was one step nearer home though we had not yet heard from him to that effect.

And for the holiday week-end six visitors arrived: four adults, one little girl and a baby five months old. It is a long time since diapers flapped in the breeze from our clothes' line. But it was good to see them there. And that baby—he was just the loveliest and the sweetest wee thing you ever saw. They all are of course, but yet any baby in which one is specially interested is always the best. And you know, I believe there was a secret understanding between that baby and me because every time I came along the young rascal would chuckle and chortle with glee. He is beside me right now in his buggy and at long last he has stopped kicking and gurgling and has dropped off to sleep. At the same time I am not too sure that Billy's mother is going to remember me kindly because I taught the young man a new trick—how to splash in his bath. And he just about flooded the floor.

As for farm work—on Monday there was hay to draw in and our guests supplied by partner with plenty of help for one day. Inexperienced, but help none the less. Daughter did her part, by driving the horses on the hayfork. Little Sylvia tagged along every time the wagon went in or out. And of course she had to feed the chickens and gather the eggs with the result that most of the day she was very happy but, I must admit, not quite as clean as most little city girls manage to keep themselves. Daughter and I put in a pretty good day washing, ironing, getting meals minus potatoes, washing dishes, fixing over dresses, and so we had a busy but satisfactory visit to which properly lighted rooms added considerably to our comfort and enjoyment.

Now preparations are underway for the departure of our guests. There is a scurrying around from place to place, a picking up from one room and then another. I am keeping out of it. When they have got everything together I will go around and gather up the things they have missed.

"And to-morrow is another day."

14 YEAR OLD BUSINESS MAN

A 14 years old handicapped Scout at the Home for Incurables, Toronto, is an efficient watch repairman. Recently in response to a photographer's question, "How much will you charge to fix my watch?" the Scout looked up, and with dead seriousness replied, "Sir, I never quote a price until I have examined the job."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

LONDON On September 4th, 1940, 200 Citizens' Advice Bureaux were opened in Britain. At present there are about 1,000, and it is estimated that 8,000,000 questions have been answered at these information centres. They are staffed by more than 100,000 men and women, 90% of whom are voluntary workers.

SOME COLLECTING

LONDON A mobile team operating from the British Ministry of Health's Blood Transfusion Centre at Leeds recently set up a record by collecting from 830 donors in one single day, between 8 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. This is the highest number of donors ever dealt with by one team in one day.



Maybe, now, you'd like a Tractor...

Queenie and Debbie have done a fine job and their useful day is not yet past.

But maybe you want to speed up your farm operations with tractor ploughing, cultivating, seeding and harvesting.

Maybe you want to do many things for the improvement of your farm... repair your barn or build a new one, fix up the fencing or drainage, buy a new bull to build up the quality of

your herd, install an electric system or improve the present one.

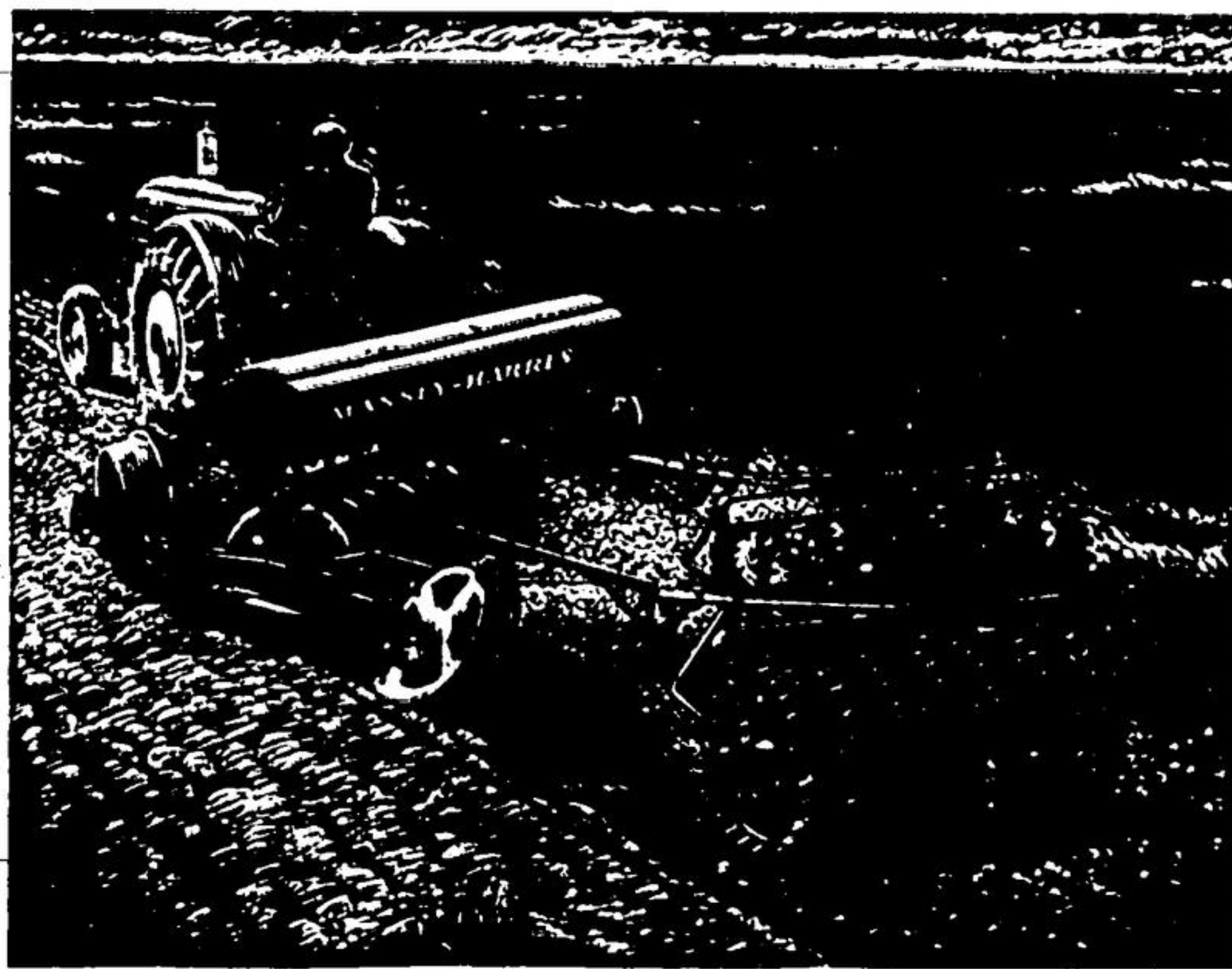
And what about seed, feed and fertilizer? What about your livestock? All these things need money—more money, probably, than your bank balance will allow. If that's the case with you, call on the manager of our local office and discuss, in confidence, your financial needs. You will like the kind of consideration he will give your plans and problems.

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"One-Way" Farming for Profit

A striking example of the effectiveness of a machine, in helping farmers operate successfully under difficult conditions, is found in the One-Way Disc. Introduced during the drought spell and period of low prices for farm products, it helped farmers cut down their production costs, thereby leaving them more margin for profit.

It is little wonder then that the One-Way Disc Seeder speedily became one of the most popular machines on the market. Preparing the soil and sowing the seed in one operation, the One-Way Disc Seeder saves time and expense. Used as a tillage machine it destroys

weeds and leaves the land in a condition to resist soil drifting. In effect the One-Way Disc offers the usefulness of two machines at little more cost than the price of one.

In design and construction the MASSEY-HARRIS One-Way Disc offers special advantages that appeal to users. The sturdy frame construction, long wear replaceable bearings, patented stone-jumper, easily adjusted direct draft hitch, and quick action power lift are features that contribute to the popularity of the MASSEY-HARRIS. Your local dealer will be glad to give you full particulars.

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THE SERVICE ARM OF THE CANADIAN FARM