

Timely Topics for Women

BY BARBARA BAINES

A WOMAN IS HER HUSBAND'S SHOP WINDOW

They say "It pays to advertise." Then every wife should see that she is a good advertisement for her husband. For in truth, she advertises to the world at large his preference in women, and to a large extent his cultural standards, his social background and even his business success.

It is the wife who is responsible, to a great degree, for the outward symbols by which a man is judged by his fellowmen—for their home, its size, location and furnishings; their friends and social acquaintances; the manner in which they entertain; the club, church and other activities in which they engage. In these days of keen competition in business and industry now, more than ever before, are so wrapped up in their work that they are glad to leave the details of their home and social life to the decision of their wives.

A woman who is indifferent or slovenly about her speech or dress or home, or one who neglects the welfare of her children and household for a gay social life, can do inestimable harm to her husband's career and standing in the community. She is a very poor advertisement for any man.

Wash Day No Longer Blue Monday



Almost everybody gets attacks of Monday morning blues—and the housewife is no exception—particularly the housewife who has to do the family wash in a dark and gloomy basement. However, there is one form of Monday morning blues which may easily be cured, suggests the Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating.

A coat of gay coloured paint will dispel gloom and a few modern conveniences will do much to take the weariness out of washday. If windows are small and few, as they usually are, yellow, ivory or white walls will brighten the interior and reflect what light does penetrate, and some brightly patterned curtains hung at the sides will add a cheery note. A water resistant paint or other material should be used on the floor.

Up-to-date laundry equipment is, of course, essential says the Institute. Modern tubs of porcelain, enameled iron or concrete, with rounded corners, easy-to-clean gleaming surfaces of correct height and depth. Twin tubs are desirable and the necessary complement is the single swinging spout type of faucet which permits the water to be run at the desired temperature. The faucet may be equipped with a hose attachment for filling the washing machine and emptying it. The tubs should be located under the window to allow for as much light as possible—and the addition of an electric light above the tubs will also be

an added advantage. Modern tubs are also built with a handy ledge across the back for soaps, chips, etc.

As soft water cleans clothing and linens quickly without leaving tell-tale streaks of soap curds to stain and scorch in ironing, a water softener will be found a valuable asset. They are manufactured in a small compact size which may be attached to the faucet to obtain soft water for use in the laundry only, and also come in larger sizes which may be attached to the plumbing system at the source of the water supply to the house thus providing soft water for all the household uses.

A foldaway ironing board may also be located in the laundry and a spacious counter for sorting and sprinkling the clothes may be built along one side of the wall, with handy cupboards above for storing soaps, starch, stain remover, etc. The odd electrical plug at a convenient height around the walls will provide extra light for the ironing board or sorting table where needed, and as there is no law against a little background music, the housewife can turn on her midsize radio and do her washing to swing or grand opera as she chooses.

For those desirous of making laundry renovations, easy financing terms are still available under the Home Improvement Plan and are obtainable from any branch bank or authorized lending institution.

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On the other hand, a wife who keeps herself well-groomed and dressed in good taste at all times who keeps her home comfortable, attractive and smooth-running; who gives her children adequate care; who takes her place graciously and kindly in the social life of the community; who does her share of welfare work; who above all lives well within her husband's income—the loyal, keen, tolerant and companionable—that woman is the best advertisement a man ever had.

If her husband is a professional man he profits by the prestige his wife has given him; if he is a business man he profits by the good will she has built up for him in the mind of the public; if he has a managerial position she impresses on his employers his success in managing his personal affairs; if he is a worker, no matter where, the boss will think he is a pretty good fellow and smart, too, to have such a nice and capable little wife.

A wife is her husband's shop window. They say "Nothing succeeds like success"—and many a woman has helped her husband to greatness, not by stage-managing his career but by doing HER job well.

WAR SERVICES

What Other Women are Doing!

The other day I saw the finishing touches being put on a leather-lined sleeveless jacket for the minesweepers. Old gloves of kid and soft leather had been collected and cut to obtain pieces that would fit. These were then pieced together (as Grandmother used to piece her quilts) to form the lining. The outside was a light brown flannel. The arm-hole, neckline and down the front were bound with strong tape and ties attached. It was smart looking and should help protect the wearer from the Atlantic gales.

Some women I know have found a use for men's discarded woollen socks. After being washed the legs were cut off and shaped like a mitt—the ribbed top making a tight fitting wrist. The inside were used to make the thumb, and the whole sewn by machine. One pair of socks was used for the outside and another for the lining and the two tacked together so the raw seams were turned in. These gaily patterned warm mitts were being sent to the refugees.

Many organizations are asking their members to collect stamps which are sold by the pound to the wholesalers; others are collecting the tin foil off cigarettes and selling it; others are collecting and selling newspapers and empty bottles. In each case the money raised is used to buy materials for war-work.

Another women's War Service Group sent tobacco (11 lb. parcels) to the men on the minesweepers. Many of these men are former fishermen from our own Atlantic coast. They are doing very dangerous work and so far seem to be the neglected branch of our fighting forces.

If you wish you may adopt a minesweeper and his crew (usually of about 25 men) and knit for them the heavy sea-socks, wind-breakers, scarves and mitts they need so badly.

Some communities are organizing clubs for soldiers' wives. They are often lonely and appreciate a place where they may meet for companionship and a cup of tea, and at the same time knit or sew for their men. Many of them have small children, and when they volunteer to stay with them the odd evening, while the mother gets out for a bit of entertainment, may feel assured they are doing a worthwhile service for the men overseas.

You can always send cigarettes (which means first it difficult to get overseas) to the men who are most interested in—or home-made fruit-cake (if cooked in a tin and the lid put on as soon as they are cool they will keep fresh and moist). The commanding officer will always see that they are distributed among the men, who appreciate being remembered by Canadians at home.

Maybe you have no relatives or personal friends in the army and would like to write to a lonely soldier and send him the odd box or pair of socks. If so write to the Director of the Y.M.C.A., Huts, C.A.F. England, or any other organization interested in the welfare of the men. Tell him a few personal things about yourself and what you would like to do, and you will be given the name of a soldier who is usually missed when the post-mail comes round.

(Note: I am certain some of the readers have good suggestions for raising funds to carry on our War Work, or can tell us ways we may aid our fighting forces or their dependents. If so please write your suggestions to Barbara Baines, care of The Georgetown Herald, and they will be published in this space at a later date).

BOOK REVIEW

"No Arms, No Armour"

By Robert Henriques

I am sure this book which won the All Nation's Prize Novel Award for 1940 will be much discussed.

It is an uproarious story of army life. The hero is Tubby Windross—a typical British young man of the military class—a gallant fellow whose clean, carefree ease wins all hearts. At first his life is simple and gay—his chief interests horses, polo, and hunting. Later three powerful influences enter his life—Lydia, who is lovely and wealthy and very independent; Sammy, his major who asks him some very disconcerting questions and starts him thinking for himself; and Daddy Watson, a lovable character but one whose life has gone awry.

Tubby is no longer the simple young man. He faces the realities of life—the problems of civilization. He is awakened to the need of man for physical wealth, as well as emotional and spiritual wealth. He knows suffering and disappointment and frustration. But he does at last find the cause which preserve for a man his spiritual integrity.

No Arms, No Armour is an eloquent blending of passion and compassion, strength and weakness, sentiment and

Mainly for Women

humour, the fire of youth and the reflectiveness of maturing into one great book.

There is hope in it for Tubby Windross, and hope for all humanity, and the reader feels that he too has learned and developed as the story unfolds.

Robert Henriques is an army man. He was born in London in 1906 and educated at Rugby and Oxford. He entered the Royal Artillery in 1926 and served in England, Egypt and the Sudan during which time he made a trip up the Blue Nile. Later back in England, after ups and downs of fortune, he joined the Territorials as a captain, and at present is "serving" once more.

LET ME REMIND YOU

Happiness in this world, when it comes, comes incidentally. Make it the object of pursuit, and it leads us a wild-goose chase, and is never attained. Follow some other object, and very possibly we may find that we have caught happiness without dreaming of it; but likely enough it is gone the moment we say to our selves, "Here it is!" like the chest of gold that treasure-seekers find.

—Nathaniel Hawthorne.

NEW IN FOOD

A Springtime Luncheon Bridge for the Budget-wise

Many women like to take one last fling at entertaining before summer sets in earnest, but they prefer less formal affairs than those earlier in the season. Why not have a Springtime Luncheon and Bridge.

What with income tax, new spring clothes, extra housecleaning expenses, and now gardening just beginning, most families find their pocket book

rather thin this time of year, and are glad to cut down on entertaining expenses.

So with cost in mind, order flowers for your table-centre. Try long-tentled, deep pink sweet-peas, with a few baby irises for contrast. You will be surprised how quaint and attractive they look, flanked by tall pink tapers on either side.

Lace-paper tallies fit in with the quaint keynote set by the flowers. Make them yourself of square lace-paper dollies—the five-inch size. Fold them in four, line them with pink tissue paper, and in the centre slip a piece of white note paper cut to fit (to be used for the bridge score). Punch a hole through the folded corner and tie with a slip-knot with narrow pink and blue baby ribbon. Your friends will exclaim "Aren't they just sweet."

Next you must think of food. A buffet luncheon is the simplest for the hostess to prepare and serve. If you have a set of "grandmother's dishes" use them—to keep to the old-fashioned note, and be sure your silver is gleaming.

Here is your menu. On your largest silver platter arrange the following: First, asparagus rolls (roll a thinly-cut slice of ham around an asparagus tip, place a stuffed olive on top and hold all together with a toothpick). Then devilled eggs (decorate the tops with a small strip of pimento with tiny sprigs of asparagus on either side); and finally quarters of tomato. Garnish the platter with water-cress.

On another platter have individual fruit-molds in lettuce cups. You may like to use orange jello for a base, with pear, cherries, and pineapple in it—or your own favourite molded fruit recipe. Then a tray of relishes. If you still have some of your own homemade pickled, peaches, or water-mel-

on rind, or gherkins they will be much appreciated. And of course celery and green and ripe olives are always popular. With a plentiful supply of mayonnaise and lots of your own special hot tea-biscuits or buns your first course is complete.

Let each guest serve herself. They will probably find it more comfortable to sit at the bridge tables and use their tallies to find their partners. For dessert I'd like to suggest your favourite sponge cake. Cover it thickly with whipped cream and over the top sprinkle plenty of crumbled, peanut brittle. Serve in thin slices and hot coffee round out your menu. And here's luck at the bridge that follows. I hope you haven't forgotten the prizes.

"THE GOLDEN STRANGER" — A NEW SERIAL NOVEL

A stirring serial story of adventure, hidden treasure and romance in which exciting situations move hand-in-hand with suspense and surprise to a dramatic climax, begins in the May 12 issue of The American Weekly, the great magazine with The Detroit Sunday Times. The author of this love story is S. Andrew Wood, who wrote "Bright Angel," "Hoodwink House," and other popular novels. Be sure to get The Detroit Sunday Times.

The Stumbling Block

A couple of girls were talking in a bus one night, and one said, "Why did you leave your last place?"

"Well, the man of the house kept on kissing me."

"Oh, I see. You couldn't stand that."

"Well, I didn't mind. It was his wife who didn't like it."

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