

Mainly for Women

Timely Topics for Women

BY BARBARA BAINES

BULBS FOR WINTER BLOOMING

If you have not already done so, do not delay longer in planting your bulbs for winter blooming. This year they will be tended with greater care and their beauty and fragrance more appreciated than in years past because of the difficulty with which they are now obtained in Canada. Holland has long been famous for the quality and quantity of the bulbs she has grown and exported. Now many of her finest bulbs have been plowed under, and the fields used to grow food for her Nazi masters.

Britain, in recent years, has been producing bulbs commercially in a smaller way, and it is from her limited stock that we have obtained most of the supplies available on the market. A few are grown locally, some come from British Columbia and some from Florida.

Paper-white narcissus, if planted now, will be in bloom for Christmas. Paper-white narcissus was a youth who was doomed to pine away for love of his own image, until finally changed into a sweet-smelling flower. Narcissus seem to do especially well when planted in water. The bulbs are supported by stones, coloured ones preferably. The water should be kept at a level just below the base of the bulb. The roots then grow down to the water. If a little charcoal is added it helps to keep the water sweet. Best results are obtained when they are kept in a temperature of 50 to 60 degrees F.

Bulb fibre is being used successfully for planting in ornamental bowls where there is no drainage. Frezias, French iris, Chinese lilies, and narcissus all do well when planted in this way. The fibre should be damp but not wet. Fill the bowl half full, place the bulbs in a cool, dark place and water them sparingly. At the end of four or five weeks they may be brought out into the light. If a little grass seed is sprinkled over the fibre it will soon germinate and make an attractive background for the bulbs when they bloom.

Other bulbs, the daffodils, jonquils, hyacinths, tulips, crocus, calla lilies and Easter lilies seem to do best when planted in soil. The pots should have a small opening for drainage and stones should be placed in the bottom. The best soil is a rich loam. Bulbs should be planted about two inches apart, one variety only in each pot, and covered with soil so that just the tips are visible. They, too, should be kept in a cool, dark place for four or five weeks or longer, and watered sparingly. After being brought into the light they require more water.

The indoor culture of bulbs brings more than sufficient recompense for all the time and effort it requires. When days are dull and winter coldest, then you must enjoy the delicate flowers and their delightful odours. If bowls of bulbs are brought into the light at two-week intervals you will be assured of a continuation of bloom throughout the winter months.

THE OPPORTUNITY SHOP

Women are using all their ingenuity these days searching for new ways to raise funds for their war charities. The time-honoured tea, bazaar and rummage sale are still favoured ways of extracting quarters from a generous public, but something new is often apt to meet with unexpected success.

The Opportunity Shop is not by any means a recent idea, but if you have not tried it out in your town do consider its possibilities. The object is to collect things from people who do not want them and sell them to others who do want them. There are almost no expenses, so the proceeds are all "gravy."

Almost every town has an empty store on the main street, and in most cases the owner will be willing to donate it to you, free of charge, as his contribution to our war effort. If there isn't, you may obtain a small corner in one of the large stores, or the use of some hall for your shop.

One half day a week will likely be all you will find it necessary to stay open to dispose of your stock—probably Saturday afternoon. Just after the local pay day is, of course, always a good time to ask the public to spend money.

Then for your stock. Ask each member of your society to contribute any article around her home that she no longer uses. You will be surprised at the variety and loveliness of the things she brings in—wanted bridge prizes, white elephants, any of the numerous odds and ends that seem to collect even after a few years of keeping house. Cups and saucers, vases, bowls, ash-trays, book-ends, pictures, towels, or handkerchiefs that do not fit your colour scheme, novelty jewelry that you are tired of—all will find ready buyers among others that can use them.

If you are ambitious to make the shop a real success you can enlarge on the basic plan by asking friends of the members to help you out with contributions, or by making a canvass of the whole town for articles for sale. Or you can turn your shop into a glorified bazaar and articles for sale. Or you can turn your shop into a glorified bazaar and articles for sale. Or you can turn your shop into a glorified bazaar and articles for sale.

If you have enough accommodation you might serve tea each Saturday afternoon, or, maybe have a larger tea some special Saturday. These are only a few suggestions for running an Opportunity Shop. If you undertake this project your members will, no doubt, be able to propose many other unique ideas to help make it a success. The one essential is that a capable committee be appointed to look after the collection, pricing and sale of the articles donated. From now until Christmas should be an ideal time of year to open such a shop. By then you will probably find you have collected all the white elephants available in the town, and that your bank account is in a most satisfactory condition.

MEMORY HOLD-THE-DOOR

The Autobiography of John Buchan

Fortunate are we that Lord Tweedsmuir was able to finish his memorable autobiography before his life was so suddenly cut short. Through his book, readers will learn to know more intimately this man who began life as a simple son of the Scottish manse, but who not only gained fame for himself in the world of letters, but lived to hold one of the highest offices in the gift of our Empire.

He tells us that in his childhood he experienced his love of nature and its beauties first, as he roamed the fields and woodlands near his home in the Valley of the Tweed. He tells us of his life at Oxford, a student of law; of being private secretary to Lord Milner in South Africa; of the days when he was a partner in the publishing firm of Thomas Nelson in London; of his experience in the British Intelligence Service during the last war; of his appointment as representative of the Scottish universities in the House of Commons. His comments on his friends and contemporaries are illuminating. By us he will, perhaps, be best remembered as a novelist and as Governor-General of Canada.

John Buchan was a man for whom life was never flat or meaningless. He is admired for his great gifts and his vision, revered for his beauty of character and beloved by all classes for his charm and human-heartedness.

As we read his book we are impressed by his great faith and his unquenchable optimism. The closing pages are shadowed by the present war. He reminds us that things we have taken for granted are in danger of being destroyed—stable law; freedom to believe, to write, to say what we want; a system of government that gives the ultimate power to the ordinary man. But John Buchan was never a defeatist. He says "We have been shaken out of our smugness, and warned of our great peril, and in that warning lies salvation." He foresaw the possibility of an Anglo-American partnership. He says "If the world is ever to have prosperity and peace, there must be some kind of federation—I will not say of democracies, but of States which accept the reign of law. In such a task the United States seems to me the predestined leader."

"Memory Hold-the-Door" is marked by a great and ruthless honesty, and its many intimate sketches of the contemporary great, its bits of humour and sentiment, and its fine philosophy of life recommend it to all readers.

LET ME REMIND YOU

To look fearlessly upon life; to accept the laws of nature, not with meek resignation, but as law, and to dare to search and question; to have peace and confidence within our souls—these are the beliefs that make for happiness.

NEWS ABOUT FOOD

Many women like to make their own mince-meat. If sealed in sterilized jars it will keep indefinitely, and is always on hand and ready when the family ask for a hot mince pie for dinner—just as a special favour you know!

INTERNATIONAL UNIFORM Sunday School LESSON

THE GOLDEN RULE (Armatice Sunday)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1940

GOLDEN TEXT: "As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6: 31.

LESSON PASSAGE: Luke 6: 27-36.

If we have not learned that God's in man,

And man in God again, That to love thy God is to love thy brother,

And to serve thy lord is to serve each other—

Then Christ was born in vain.

—Charlotte P. Gilman.

Goodwill, 27-30.

Those who went through the experience of Armistice Day, 1918, will never forget it. We were determined to build a new and better world. The lesson for Armistice Sunday, 1940, was chosen in 1938—a year before the outbreak of war. The teaching of Jesus about loving enemies, aiding those who hate, blessing those that swear at us and praying for those who bomb us, appears rather incongruous for discussion on November 10th, 1940. Yet the war but demonstrates the impossibility of human society being permanently governed by principles of greed, hate and cruelty. To organize society efficiently is difficult enough, even in an atmosphere of goodwill. Christ alone can help us to rise above personal, family and national ambitions to consider the welfare of humanity as a whole.

We can never be satisfied with the present social order in which one nation is glutted with grain, and other nations are starving for lack of food. The principle of goodwill requires us to give resources of wealth and skill to give widespread security and plenty. The present division of the nation into two warring groups and unloving neutrals, cannot be permanent. When the conflict of arms is decided, there will have to be reconciliation and agreement as to future world policies.

The Golden Rule, 31.

The Golden Rule is practical because it may be easily applied. An inner voice tells us quickly when we are acting in anti-social ways. What we do not like, others do not like either. It is good for us to probably good for others also. It is always an interesting experiment to try to live for a week or even a day by the Golden Rule. There can be no cross words at breakfast, no display of temper to the clerk behind the counter, no delay of paying bills, or an expression of the bal- cony convenience and comfort. The Golden Rule also reminds us of that sick person who is lonely—we remember how a bright call cheered us when we were sick. There is that home to which the war has brought anxiety and sadness which an expression of kindness will brighten. Or we think of an un-written letter or unacknowledged gift; and we deliberately try to govern our conduct by the same principles that we expect of others. The Golden Rule may be applied both negatively and positively. What is expected to be vague as soon as we put it into practice.

Standards of Conduct, 32-34.

If we judge ourselves by the average conduct around us, we may be fairly well pleased with our performance. We do not commit any flagrant crime for which penitentiary punishment will follow. We go about our work quietly, not interfering too much with other people. We are not quarrelsome, vindictive people who disturb their neighbors. Comparing ourselves with others we begin to hold our heads very high. It is when we use the standard of the Sermon on the Mount and Christ's own example, that we really understand how far we really have to go. We do not think of others as he did. We do not spend our strength in the service of others as he did. We did not live disciplined lives, as he did. We soon lose our conceit when we measure ourselves by the standards of the Perfect Man.

Children of the Highest, 35, 38.

Christ was never content with what was average. He sought the maximum. He took the will of God as a standard. God sends sunshine upon the evil and the good; his mercies are not withheld even from the unfaithful. Our personal relationship can not be maintained satisfactorily on the basis of justice alone; there is need for mercy and forgiveness. Christ portrayed the love of God as the corrective of human hardness. He dared to say that we could be children of the Highest. He bade men believe that God had a plan for their lives and that with God's help, God's purpose for them could be realized. First of all we need to have a high purpose and be ready to dis-

Good Measure, 37, 38.

Can we ever be too kind, too forgiving, too sacrificial toward our fellow-men? Many of us protect ourselves from sacrifice by the misuse of the saying, "Be not righteous overmuch." When we are kind, we guard against a repetition of the kindness being demanded too soon. When we give, we exercise caution about the balance we have left. In international diplomacy, agreements have been reached only by balancing rival claims. Christ teaches that we get what we give. When we give to the world the best that we have, the best will come back to us. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over" shall be given in return. In average life it is demonstrated that the measure we use toward others will in turn be used toward us. There are laws and principles at work in our personal relationships. Christ can lift us above the narrowness of self-consciousness and spite. For lack of the love of Christ, Armistice Day, 1918, did not usher in a permanent peace.

Questions of Discussion

1. What are your thoughts about November 11, 1940?
2. Why has the Golden Rule a moral cutting edge?
3. Is "the average man" good enough as a standard of spiritual discipline?

Mince-meat for Pies

4 pounds stewing beef
2 pounds beef suet
4 pounds apples (pared and cored)
2 pound raisins
3 pounds currants
2 pounds brown sugar
1/2 pound citron (chopped thin)
1/2 pound candied lemon peel, cut fine
1/2 pound orange peel, cut fine

Boil the meat until tender. Reserve 1 1/2 cups stock. Put the meat, suet, apples and raisins through the food chopper (coarsely). Add the currants and all other ingredients except the cherry. Simmer 1 hour. Add the cherry, cook 5 minutes longer and pack in sterilized jars. Seal. Makes 7 quarts.

Use 2 1/2 cups mince-meat for each 2-crust, 9-inch pie. Bake in a hot oven (325 degrees F.) for 30 to 40 minutes. Serve warm.

CARROLL'S

Lipton's TEA 3/4 lb. 36c, 41c
Milk Burden's Silver Cow 2 16-oz. tins 15c
Apple Juice Allen's 2 20-oz. tins 15c
Fluff Cake Christie's each 20c
SOUTHERN CAKE Christie's each 15c
CHOCO-GRAHAMS lb. 19c

Glassco's Raspberry or Strawberry JAM with pectin. 32-oz. jar 24c

Heinz Tomato KETCHUP 8-oz. bot. 8c

Aylmer Choice Bartlett PEARS 2 15-oz. tins 25c

Fresh ROLLED OATS 6 lbs. 19c

Del Marz Cream Style CORN 16-oz. tin 10c

McLaren's Jumble Pack OLIVES 27-oz. jar 29c

Standard Quality PEAS Sieve 4 2 16-oz. tins 15c

LUX FLAKES 1 lb. pkg. 22c
IVORY SNOW 1 lb. pkg. 23c
OLD DUTCH Cleanser 2 tins 19c
HAWES' LEMON OIL 1/2 gal. 14c, 23c
IVORY SOAP Special Offer 2 lbs. 13c
"IT" SHOE POLISH tin 10c
JAVEX Concentrated Bleach 1 gal. 14c

Thin Skin Florida GRAPEFRUIT 4 for 17c
Golden Ripe BANANAS 3 lb. 25c
Cooking — Minimum size 1 1/2" ONIONS 10 lb. bag ea. 19c
Domestic SPY APPLES 6 lb. 25c

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pline ourselves to attain it. Then we must discover the secret of drawing power from God to maintain our discipline and to guard against revenge and negative criticism. If God can put up with such people as we are, we must at least try to put up with one another. What a different world we could build if only we could learn to love with the earnestness and wisdom of Jesus Christ!

Can we ever be too kind, too forgiving, too sacrificial toward our fellow-men? Many of us protect ourselves from sacrifice by the misuse of the saying, "Be not righteous overmuch." When we are kind, we guard against a repetition of the kindness being demanded too soon. When we give, we exercise caution about the balance we have left. In international diplomacy, agreements have been reached only by balancing rival claims. Christ teaches that we get what we give. When we give to the world the best that we have, the best will come back to us. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over" shall be given in return. In average life it is demonstrated that the measure we use toward others will in turn be used toward us. There are laws and principles at work in our personal relationships. Christ can lift us above the narrowness of self-consciousness and spite. For lack of the love of Christ, Armistice Day, 1918, did not usher in a permanent peace.

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