#### **TIMELY TOPICS** FOR WOMEN Barbara Baines

#### THE FARMER'S PROBLEM

At no time of the year is the Canadian countryside quite so appealing as in the spring. Trees bursting into leaf, greens of a thousand hues; the cattle cropping the tender grass and feeling frisky after a long winter indoors; the young lambs gambolling on the hillsides or going with their mothers to the creek for a drink!

What could present a more serene and happy picture? Yet everything is not serene and happy on our Canadian farms If you notice carefully you will see that, in spite of all a benevolent apring can do, farm buildings are looking shabby. They need paint and repairs. If you talk to the farmer he will tell you all is not well. He is worrying over payments on the mortgage. He is worrying about his inability to send his children on to high school, to provide them with those little extras, those advantages so important to young people. His faith in himself is slipping. He feels out of step with the times.

And the sad truth is that the farmer is out of step with the times, though perhaps through no fault of his own. This is an industrial age, an age of co-operative effort, of mass production. The day of the

individual, of hand labour, is over. With the onward march of civilization it became improtitable to spin wool by hand, to do any one of a thousand things that formerly had been done by hand in the homes - and when a better and cheaper shoe could be turned out in mass in a factory the individual shoe-maker-was squeezed out. It was not the individual shoe-maker's fault, though he had to completely readjust his life. — and in the long run millions of peo-ple benefitted because they were able to buy good-fitting shoes cheaply.

The day of hand labour on farms is about over too. Farmers cannot expect to get prices for their products that will compensate them for hand labour when prices of other commodities are based on mass production - certainly not as long as farm products are abundant.

This sounds like a very harsh view-point, but, if it is true, what is the use of evading the issue? Wouldn't it be much better to try and find a cure for the ills that have been undermining the industry for some time. Owners of thousands of small businesses went through the agony of losing their business during the depression years. Hundreds of factories closed never to open again, Many professional men had to accept relief for their families or see them starve, yet these people are readjusting themselves to changed conditions.

Farmers, too, must readjust themselves to changed conditions if they are to improve their economic position. Frankly stated there has been less progress in agriculture in Canada during the last 50 years than in any other industry.

A number of cures for the unhealthy state in which it now finds itself have been put forth. Bonuses have been suggested, but subsidizing farm prices is not a sound remedy and should only be resorted to in an emergency. Similarly artificially raising farm prices will not solve the problem. Farm prices must in the long run reach parity with the prices of industrial products. How then can agriculture be put on a paying baals? The person who can solve this problem will win for himself a place in Canada's Hall of Fame.

Of one thing, though, I am sure. The individual farmer, working independently, is licked. Only through co-operative effort can farmers hope to achieve prosperity. As a class farmers are thrifty, practical and hard-working. If they would only lay aside their rugged individualism. their love of independence, their distrust and suspicion of others, and unite for their common good, within a few years they could revolutionize the inoustry.

But the initiative must come from the farmers. The government is only the servant of the people. Farmers understand their own problems better than anyone outside the industry can, and it is they themselves who can best solve them.

If they need a subsidy to make a start at organizing I suggest the Government be asked to finance the initial cost of forming a national association to study the most pressing problems, draft out a plan of action, and an educational programme that would reach every farmer. This association might then divide the country into zones with local directors, and offer suggestions as to how the farmers in each might profitably cooperate to cut their cost of production, to improve products to meet market demands, and to dispose of surplus products. It might also set up dairy, livestock, grain and fruit co-operatives, in which local farmers have membership, to market their products. For example would not the co-operative use of heavy machinery such as threshing-machines. tractors, corn-cutting machines, etc., lower the cost to the individual farmer and in addition fill the breach made by the shortage of farm labour?

I do not believe the situation in which Canadian farmers find themselves today is hopeless by any means. But I do believe their greatest hope of bettering conditions lies in a strong national organization which will call in trained men to study their problems, map out a course to coordinate their efforts, set them a goal to achieve, and guide their energies to its achievement. But it is up to the farmers themselves, not the government, to take the initiative.

#### WIDOWS BENEFIT BY CHANGE IN ESTATES ACT

By changes in the Estates Act, effective June 8th, 1941, if a husband dies without leaving a will and the estate is \$5,000 or less the wife receives all; if more than \$5,000 she gets \$5,000 plus 1-3 of the balance of the estate, with the other two-thirds going to the children. At the present time the wife receives only one-third when the estate is left intestate.

### BOOK REVIEW

IN THIS OUR LIFE By ELLEN GLASGOW (McLeod, 467 p.p., \$3.00)

Ellen Glasgow is one of the greatest of contemporary novelists. Just last fall she was awarded the Howell's medal "for eminence in creative literature," and critics agree that "In This Our Life" is one of her finest novels.

It is a story of a modern family, and portrays the underlying forces at work in society in the troubled period preceding the outbreak of the

Asa, the father, is a bit of a philosopher, but as the demands upon him grow his salary shrinks, and the new house in which they live and all the extras are supplied by Uncle William, still enjoying at eighty the power of his money. Lavinia, his wife, has never aroused any tenderness in him and he dreams of freedom, and retiring on a farm with Kate. Roy, his elder daughter and his favourite, is married to Peter, a rising young surgeon with whom she is deeply in love. Stanley, the younger and prettier daughter, from childhood has instinctively seized whatever made anyone else happy. When the story opens great preparations are under way for her wedding to Craig, but from the beginning one feels the wedding will never take place. Five days before the date set she

elopes with Peter, leaving behind heartbreak and shame. Roy suffers most but makes a gallan, gesture of not caring too much. Craig hasn't the stamina the situation calls for and is crushed. Their mutual suffering draws them to each other and they plan to find

what happiness they can together. Then comes the news that Peter has taken his life. Stanley comes home, and in spite of her restlessness and unhappiness is prettier than ever. She becomes involved in an accident in which a child is killed and blames a young coloured boy, ruining his life. Everyone tries to protect her and once again she robs her sister of nappiness when, in her great need and weakness, Craig's old love for her is revived.

It is a powerful story, written with realism and a deep understanding of a generation which was not lost, but thought freedom was the right to run away. It ends however, on a hopeful note when Roy, in spite of disillusionment and despair, finds that for her there are things more important than personal happiness. . . . . .

#### LET ME REMIND YOU

We all have something, some secret bread of our own soul, by which we live, that nourishes and sustains us. It may be a different thing for each man alive. -William Blake.

. . . .

#### SPONGE TAFFY

When daughter next has her friends in to play after school, and they decide they want to make candy, let them try sponge taffy. 21/2 oups brown sugar 1 tablespoon soda 1 teaspoon vanilla % our corn syrup

Pinch of salt 1/2 cup water Cook the sugar, syrup, and water. Add the salt and diavouring. Cook to 265 degrees F. or until it spins a thread. Remove from the fire and stir in the sods, then cool quickly. Pour into a pan 8x8x2 inches. When cold break into pieces.

causes of colds and sees down to the article in The American Weekly with It is one thing to believe with the head borderline Meelf, studying a strange the May 25 issue of The Detroit Sun- slone, and quite another to believe with new world, where live the viruses, or day Times.

influence and many pushing, but at others the worship and the teaching Science reports, at last, on the deadly, afflictions. See this feature are routine, without feeling or fervour.

# EVERY MEAL ENDED

#### But His Indigestion Was Relieved

by Kruschen

The treatment which put this man right must surely be worth trying in every case of indigestion.

Read what he says:—
"Two years ago I suffered very much from indigestion, loss of appetite, and a most severe pain in my back. Food soured in my stomach. I felt most miserable after meals, and had no desire or appetite for them. A friend advised me to try Kruschen Salts. I did so, and I am most happy to testify that after a short time I felt the greatest relief. I continued taking Kruschen till I felt myself quite better and a new man. I feel as light-hearted as I did twenty years ago."-W.B.

The several salts in Kruschen combine aid in promoting regularity and help cleanes your system each day of poisons and impurities: Millions take the "little daily dose." At all drugstores.

#### INTERNATIONAL UNIFORM Sunday School LESSON

#### Broadening Christian Horizons: Peter's Vision /

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 1941

GOLDEN TEXT: "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons." Acts 10:34.

LESSON PASSAGE: Acts 11: 5-18.

The trouble with nations Is human relations.

#### Peter's Vision, 5, 6,

Especially you and me.

Peter learned slowly. He had been disciple of Jesus. He had met the risen Lord. He had preached his great sermon at Pentecost: Yet he needed a special vision to overcome his racial prejudices. Even after his vision he was not very broadminded about the Antioch Church receiving Gentiles, and Paul had to deal vigorously with him. In this, Peter was not exceptional. Nearly all of us have inherited racial prejudices or a sense of social supertority. Families living on the same street tend to classify themselves by

wealth, education and interests. It is a dramatic experience for those who have lived in a stratified society to be forced to an air raid shelter where people are people and all alike. The Christian Church continually needs to relearn the lesson of Peter's vision. Snobbery can creep in so subtly. We are so prome to think ourselves superior to other people. The Christian Church should be a family in which all God's children are wel-

#### Peter's Background, 7-10.

Consider this vision in the light of Peter's background. He had been brought up in obedience to Jewish customs about food and washing and separation from the Gentiles. His exclusiveness was ingrained both through patriotism and religion. Small wonder that he had to be taught his lesson three times over-this corresponding to his three-fold denial and three-fold profession of love. Peter's vision was vivid but we must not allow the details to hide from us the great truths implied. The purpose of this vision was to teach Peter and, through Peter, to teach the Christan Church that humanity is a family, that God does not play favourites among nations and that Christ's gospel is not to be limited by colour, race or class. This lesson needs to be learned in the twentieth century quite as much as in the first.

#### Peter's Companions, 11-14.

In last week's lesson, we saw that Paul, the great thinker and missionary apostle, was helped by a number of humble men. Here also Peter had as his companions men whose names we do not know. By a strange coincidence, direction has been given to a power. man in Caesarea just at the time that Peter was having his vision in Joppa. Why did a man in Caesarea want a visit from Peter, who was in Joppa? Let verse 14 answer: "Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved." Could there be any better description of Christian witnessing? Peter no longer stood upon his Jewish dignity, but was ready to speak of Christ to Gentiles. We have the same message of salvation that Peter had. Why do we not tell it more often? We too can tell words whereby familles can be saved. Where the old story is told effectively, criminals become good citizens, broken homes become reunited, people who are dollar-worshippers discover the leading of God who is a Spirit. But someone who knows must tell.

#### Peter's Words, 15-17.

as Jews had done. A traveller who what is left to hold him in the pinch? visits many cities attends public wor- Only what we pour into his life." ship and midweek services wherever he is working. He says that in some YOUR COLD? A GERM'S "GHOST" poisons, (not germs, but maybe their congregations he is conscious of the 1. What is my recurring prejudice? "spooks"), which give us diseases like presence of the Holy Spirit and that 2. Are your dress both the head and the beart. When 5. "Repentance unto life."

# CARROLLS



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MAIN STREET GEORGETOWN

## religion are intellectualized, so that \*

there is no emotion left, it soon looses Peter's Convictions, 18.

#### The lesson of Peter's vision was

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summed up for him in this statement: "Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life." This says in a briefer way what was contained in the findings of the Jerusalem conference. Paul, the proud Pharisee, had to undergo a radical change of thinking before he could become a Mrs. Wm. Hall, Miss Marjorle Hall, missionary to the Gentiles. Peter also and Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred McEachrequired special instructions through a ern. vision before he was willing to preach | Mr. and Mrs. Mills, Miss Helen and to the Gentiles. Yet Peter had an Mr. Bill Mills and Miss Sally Dickie experience of response to his preaching spent the week end at their home in Ceasarea that convinced him that here. the Gospel could have equal power with Gentiles and with Jews. This Miss Gowdy, of Guelph, visited with decision prevented the Christian Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gowdy on May 11. Church from remaining a Jewish sect. Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Noble and Pte. Note well the phrase "repentance unto Jack Noble, of Cheltenham, spent How was it that Peter's words had life." That was the difference between Sunday with the Meredith family. such power? He was an unlearned John the Baptist and Jesus. John Mrs. Yeates and Mrs. King, of Lonman, innocent of devices of logic or the Baptist urged people to forsake don, have been visiting the former's rhetoric, but he did believe in the their sins. Jesus urged them to accept daughter, Mrs. Gordon Sutherland. Lord Jesus Christ, and he had re- the love of God and receive the Holy | The W.M.S. meeting was held at ceived the Holy Spirit. Peter spoke in Spirit. Christian discipleship is not all the home of Mrs. R. Lane on Thursthe power of his vision experience, God giving up. It does not require an day evening last week. had spoken to him through a vision, impoverished life. It merely helps us The committee in charge of finfreeing him from his Jewish exclusive- to turn from the things that cannot ances for May for the W.I. held a ness, and at once he went into action, finally satisfy the soul and helps us tea and baking sale at the home of telling Gentiles about Christ. What to find our satisfaction in God who Mrs. Wm. Gowdy on Saturday aftera different message he had from John is our home. A 'Christian man who noon, when the "Many Merry Maidthe Baptist, who had preached right- is spending much of his time in helping ens" club demonstrated . "Cottons

coursess and washing with water! Pet- soldiers says: "The young soldier needs May be Smart" and "First-Aid." er told of God's love in Christ, of so much more today than his gifts of Misses Charlotte McCullough and Obrist sacrificed and resurrected, and smokes, socks, suppers and concerts. Dorothy Cleave and the girls are to of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Peter's When the smokes are all smoked, the be commended for their fine work refaith was vindicated because the suppers eaten, the socks full of holes, garding their projects. Gentiles received the Holy Spirit even the songs sung and the melody done, Mr. T. P. Campbell has been in the

#### Questions for Discussion

waking thoughts? What colour lines am I drawing? Describe Peter before and after his that looked real cheap?"

#### LIMEHOUSE

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Allan and Miss Joan, of Oshawa, and Mrs. Harvey Allan, and Barbara, of Georgetown, visited with Mr. and Mrs. S. Norrie on Wednesday.

Mrs. Ed. Miller, of Brampton, visited friends in the village on Sunday. Visitors at Mrs. Lane's on Sunday included Mr. and Mrs. Dick Packer.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gowdy and

neighbourhood during the past week as salesman for Rundle's products.

While: "I went in to a bargain sale today." Husband: "Did you Wife: "Yes, several men waiting for

"Why sometimes I'm taken for my own daughter." "Nonsense! You don't look old enough to have a daughter so old."

#### Have Us Examine Your Child's Eyes Now



For glames of quality at al

EYESIGHT. SPECIAL the Bull Tolophyses Co. Bloks Street, Georgations, the street Wednesday of cook in

PHORE: George