

TIMELY TOPICS FOR WOMEN . . . By Barbara Baines

ARE YOU HAVING MAID TROUBLE?

In Canada there are 1,900,000 housewives . . . 1,900,000 women clamouring for domestic help . . . for housemaids, nursemaids, cooks, day workers, or "minders" to sit with children and invalids. If the situation weren't so serious it would be amusing to listen to the discussions of maid trouble you hear everywhere women get together. "My hands are ruined." "I am either going to give Tommy a pill or take one myself." "And I've had breakfast in bed for twenty years."

Yes it is amusing, but for many women with small children it sometimes spells near tragedy. I am thinking particularly just now of Janet, the wife of a lieutenant in the army. She has four little children, the youngest not yet a year old, and has found it impossible to get (or to afford at present rates) more than the occasional day's help. She says "I do not mind the work so much, though I am tired all the time. It is the dreadful loneliness. If I were only free in the afternoons, or for the occasional evening, to get out and mingle with other women! I do love my children, but I see too much of them and they are getting on my nerves. And I miss adult companionship so much. Sometimes I think I cannot stick it out until Gordon gets back." And Janet is just one of hundreds of young women too far away from their parents and girlhood friends for them to help.

Most of us are inclined to blame the shortage of domestics on the war . . . on war marriages and the need for feminine labour in war industries. But that is only partly the reason. Even before the war good maids were very scarce. Perhaps housewives were partly to blame. In too many cases wages were very low, the work unduly exacting, living accommodations anything but inviting, and maids looked down upon as menial laborers. There was little incentive for the ambitious girl to take up housework as a career.

But the chief cause for the shortage of domestic labor is the change in the immigration laws. Before the last war 400,000 immigrants came to Canada yearly, half of them women most of whom went into domestic service upon their arrival in this country. But in 1938 the number of immigrants was only 17,000 and now immigration has ceased entirely. And as immigration dwindled so did the supply of domestics.

Canadian housewives have searched everywhere for help . . . in the small towns, the rural communities, and in the scattered settlements in the north. They are paying excellent wages, and have been forced into treating their maids with consideration and respect. These girls may work as domestics for a while, but sooner or later they find a husband or are swallowed up by the war industries . . . and there is no one to take their place.

Such is the situation today, and it is not an easy problem to solve, but resourceful housewives can, and are making adjustments to meet changed conditions. Some women are finding that by simplifying their housekeeping, adopting improved work schedules and doing less formal entertaining, they are able to manage their household duties and still have some free time for voluntary war work. Other women are demanding and getting greater help from their children. Of recent years students have had a heavy programme of studies, sports, dancing or music lessons etc. that they have had little time to help mother. But "chores" will not hurt any child, even though they may miss a game of basket-ball or baseball, and when the whole family co-operates the work is light for everyone.

Even women with young children are finding ways of getting along with little help. A friend in a small city was telling me recently how she manages. On her street there are three mothers with small children, and they each take one afternoon a week to look after them all, and so leave the other two mothers free for shopping, meetings or visiting. She says, "It is a strenuous afternoon's work to look after four children under five years of age and in addition two others who come in when school is out, but it is well worth it to have two afternoons of freedom."

In another town an older woman will look after children three afternoons a week if they are brought to her home and called for before 5.30. She tells them stories, supervises their games, keeps them amused, or sees that they get a sleep if the mother wishes it. She charges 50 cents each and turns the money over to her pet war charity. Members of some I.O.E. chapters are making talent money by staying with children in the evening so that the wife and her husband may go out together.

It is surprising how well we can manage without help if we must. When the need becomes sufficiently pressing, the means of solving a problem is usually found. But in this case it requires not only resourcefulness, but co-operation as well.

WOMEN SEEK NEW FIELDS OF WORK

One of our most enterprising young Canadian women is Miss Esther Ruffer, president and general manager of The St. Catharines Brass Works. She is one of 17 women who have received the degree of Metallurgical Engineer from the American Institute of Mining, and the only Canadian to be so distinguished. She is busy 10 hours a day superintending the making of castings used in corvettes and mine-sweepers . . . Christine Dunn, an 18-year-old girl, is Toronto's first poet woman. Her experience as a ball player has toughened her up for the sixty miles she must walk each week carrying her load of mail, and she says she likes the job. Well over 1,000 other women will be used for the first time since the war began by the Toronto Postal Services to help sort the Christmas mail . . . Miss Helen Kinneer, one of the few women candidates for Welland in the coming Federal by-election. Miss Kinneer was born in Cayuga in 1894 but has lived in Port Colborne where she is now practicing law, for most of her life . . . Forty nurses representing every province in Canada are on their way to South Africa. This brings to 160 the number of Canadian girls enrolled for duty in South African military hospitals.

THE BOOK OF THE WEEK

"WAKEFIELD'S COURSE" By Mazo De La Roche (MacMillan, 406pp, \$2.75)

To a great many of us the Whiteoak family of Jalna are old friends. In "Wakefield's Course," the eighth book in the series, we meet them all again. The story opens with Rennie, now the most dominating member of the family, leaving for Ireland to buy a race-horse. He is accompanied by Adeline, at 9 years old a double for the first Adeline, her great grandmother.

In London he finds Finch wrapped up in his music and living again with his estranged wife, Sarah. Wakefield has just opened a successful engagement in the theatre and is in love with a young actress, a tragic affair which comes to nought because of Rennie.

Then comes the war. Events follow one another quickly. Wake, now playing in New York, joins the R.A.F., Rennie and Piers their old regiment. Rennie's horse wins the Grand National. All participate in the heroic epic of Dunkirk. "Wake wins the D.F.C. At home in Canada they wait while young Adeline tries to drill her little brother. She says, "We'll shoot them as they come out of the woods and we will never surrender."

Miss de la Roche writes with a freshness and vigor, and a sincerity, that delights her readers, and I am sure most of us will be hoping for another Jalna book soon.

ONE-EGG CHOCOLATE CAKE

Who does not love a chocolate cake that is richly brown, moist and soft crumbed? And this one is so inexpensive, just one egg and very little shortening.

- 1 1/2 cups cake flour
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1/4 cup cocoa
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg, beaten
- 3 tablespoons shortening
- 1 cup sour milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Mix and sift dry ingredients. Combine egg, melted shortening, milk and vanilla. Add flour mixture and beat well until batter is smooth and begins to thicken. Turn into two 8-inch layer pans and bake in moderate oven (375 degrees F.) 25 minutes or until done. Cool layers and put together with any frosting desired. (Hint: Be sure all ingredients, especially eggs and milk, are at room temperature before combining).

"Here is a grand garnish for fowl," says Miss T.L.D. "String pineapples chunks and Tokay grapes alternately on skewers. Sauté in butter until pineapple is golden brown."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Barbara Baines welcomes letters from readers. If you have any suggestions, comments, or requests send them along. Address all communications in care of this newspaper.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D.
Dean of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago
Released by Western Newspaper Union

Lesson for November 23

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PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

LESSON TEXT—Matthew 6:5-16; Ephesians 5:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
GOLDEN TEXT—Pray without ceasing in every thing give thanks—1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18

Being one with Christ, the Christian finds prayer to be as natural as breathing. As he walks with the Master he talks with Him, praises Him, thanks Him, makes his petitions and his needs known to Him. We feel, however, like Christ's disciples who asked Him to teach them to pray (Luke 11:1).

I. Instruction in Prayer
Approaching the subject from the negative viewpoint, Jesus told them how not to pray (Matt. 6:5, 7). Prayer, which is the highest privilege of the Christian, is beset by some deadly dangers.

a. No hypocritical performance (v. 5). Some who wished to be seen in prayer managed to be in a conspicuous place at the Jewish hours of prayer (nine, twelve, and three o'clock). There, before a crowd, they put on a prayer "show" for the benefit of the onlooking audiences. Such a prayer is designed for the ears of men and never reaches God.

b. No vain repetition (v. 7). We do not need to repeat our petitions, God knows our need (v. 8). Vain repetition is the outpouring of an earnest and urgent heart it means much, but that is different from just repeating phrases.

2. How to Pray (Matt. 6:6, 8, 11, 15; Eph. 5:20; 1 Thess. 5:16-18)
Public prayer is sometimes both necessary and proper, but usually our prayer should be:

a. In secret (v. 6). When we pray we should be free from distracting influences or personalities. We are talking to God and should give ourselves entirely over to communion with Him.

b. In faith (vv. 6, 8). God knows what we need even though He wants to be inquired of concerning it. He will answer prayer so as to honor His name in our lives and in our testimony before others.

c. With forgiveness (vv. 14, 15). No one who comes before God with an unforgiving spirit toward his brother is ready to ask God for the forgiveness which he himself so greatly needs.

d. With thanksgiving (Eph. 5:20). To give thanks is altogether fitting as we come to God in prayer. Note that we are to be thankful "always" and "for all things," not just when some special blessing or favor has come to us.

e. Without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:16-18). Prayer with Christ enables us to pray without ceasing, even as He ever prays for us. This does not call for the constant utterance of words, but the moment by moment prayer of a heart and life lifted to Him. With such praying comes constant rejoicing (v. 16).

II. A Model of Prayer (Matt. 6:9-13)

The prayer which our Lord taught His disciples was intended to be a model rather than a form of prayer. We may repeat it, however, if we put into it the prayer of our hearts.

1. God and His Glory (vv. 9, 10)
Recognizing Him as our Father to whom we may and must come for all things, we in all humility ascribe all honor to Him. Then we pray that His kingdom may come, not only in the future (and we look forward to it), but now, in our own hearts. The true believer wants the will of God done in his own life and throughout the earth, even as it is perfectly done in heaven.

This prayer begins at the proper point. A right relationship with God brings true blessing on earth. The one who prays is now ready to present to God:

2. Man and His Needs (vv. 11-13)
Daily bread is mentioned first, not without its long and noble history. This is the constant need of man, and his great struggle. God is able to take that problem, and only He is able. Unless He gives "seed to the sower and bread to the eater" (Isa. 35:10) we are gone.

But man has even greater spiritual needs. Sin needs forgiveness, weakness needs strength, the power of the enemy of our souls calls for deliverance. Again God is able and ready to hear man's prayer.

One of the sad things about the study of prayer is that we are all so ready to talk about it, discuss it, even preach about it, and then do so little praying. Knowing how to pray, and admiring a model of prayer, will profit us nothing, unless we pray.

Good Work Never Fails
So, then, Elijah's life had been no failure after all. Seven thousand at least in Israel had been braced and encouraged by his example, and silently blessed him, perhaps, for the courage which they felt. In God's world, for those who are in earnest there is no failure. No work truly done, no word earnestly spoken, no sacrifice freely made, was ever made in vain.—F. W. Robertson.



RICHARD FRY

Equally at home with piano or organ, Richard Fry has made frequent appearances on CBC's National Network, and is at present being heard Monday to Saturday inclusive from the CBC's Halifax Studios at 7:15 a.m. EDT. He has been the pianist for the national singing of the Lord's Prayer, directed by George Young, Maritimes Regional Representative of the CBC, and his participation behind the scenes in aiding and abetting a radio cause are every bit as noteworthy as his accomplishments in music. He is an A-1 trooper, and as versatile as they come.

Repledge for War Savings "SALADA" TEA

TWO AGRICULTURAL REPS. SPEAK TO NORVAL JUNIORS

The Norval Junior Farmers and Junior Women's Institute held their regular meeting at the home of John Bird on Tuesday evening, Nov. 11th. Mr. J. E. Whitlock, Halton County agricultural representative, was the special speaker for the 20th meeting. The theme of the girls' meeting was "Literature." The roll call was answered by "A book I've recently read, and its author." Enid Shore read a paper on a Canadian authoress, prepared by Rex McCaugherty. Marion Dick gave an instructive demonstration on binding books and their care. During the joint meeting, Mr. A. E. Innes, agricultural representative for Peel County, spoke. He stressed the need of education among farm groups, as carried on by Junior Farmer organizations.

only one man in twenty-five in the city holds such a position." Joy Ruddle played a piano solo, and Edith Wriggleworth sang "I Love Life." Further plans were made for the special Sunday evening service in Norval United Church on November 23rd, at which Rev. T. Hart, of Woodbridge, will speak. The next meeting will be held at Bill Hyatt's on December 9th. Dr. Graham, of Guelph, will speak.



CARROLL'S Libby's Week

FREE Fruit Juice Glass with KELLOGG'S PEP 2 pks. 25¢	Libby's TOMATO JUICE 3 20-oz. tins 25¢
AMMONIA H. O. Powdered 3 pks. 13¢	Libby's Home-style PICKLES 15-oz. jar 16¢
BROOMS All Corn each 39¢	Libby's BEANS WITH PORK 3 20-oz. tins 25¢
PICKLES Libby's Green Tomato jar 19¢	Libby's Tomato CATCHUP 14-oz. btl. 15¢
PEAS Green Giant 2 16-oz. tins 27¢	Libby's Prepared MUSTARD 6-oz. jar 8¢
MILK Libby's Evaporated 16-oz. tin 8¢	POTTED MEATS Libby's 2 tins 19¢
BEEF Libby's Sliced Dried jar 25¢	ROMAR Coffee 1-lb. bag 39¢
Kidney Beans Libby's 2 tins 25¢	FLOOR WAX Hawes tin 25¢, 45¢
DEEP BROWN BEANS Libby's 2 tins 19¢	GRAPEFRUIT JUICE TRINIDAD SWEETENED 20-oz. tin 10¢
Pork and Beans Libby's 2 No. 2 1/2 tins 25¢	RITZ BISCUITS 2 pks. 29¢
BISCUITS Cream Sandwiches lb. 19¢	OXYDOL pkg. 9 1/2c, 24c, 65c
PUDDING Christie's Fruited each 30¢	JIF FLAKES lg. pkg. 22¢
DATE LOAF Christie's each 15¢	Cowan's Cocoa tin 15c, 25c
	LIPTON'S TEA Various Prices
	CUT PEEL BULK lb. 29¢
	SIDE BACON Sliced lb. 39¢
	Libby's Cooked SPAGHETTI 3 15-oz. tins 25¢
	TEXAS — Good Size GRAPEFRUIT 5 for 25¢
	CRISP CELERY HEARTS bdl. 10¢
	JUICY FLORIDA—Good Size ORANGES doz. 35¢
	HEAD LETTUCE 2 for 15¢
	Hot House TOMATOES lb. 10¢

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