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WHY NOT THE WOMEN?

The business experiment of sixty representative women of Highland Park has been a notable success. In the first month of the Community Shop's existence the business netted \$1,000 clear profit. And they are continuing to do a record business, holding their own with the various forms of competition.

This successful experiment in the Community Shop only goes to prove what women are capable of doing in the business world if they once set themselves the task. The Thrift Shop in Evanston, the Community Kitchen, are further proof of their ability.

Today we are confronted with the high cost of living to an extent never known in the history of this country. We are daily told that this article or that article has "gone up." And why? There is often no ostensible reason on earth for the boosting of the price in question. And yet we are told that the price has gone up. We can take our choice, either take the thing or leave it. It makes no difference.

With articles of food we often hear that the production is short this year. It is not a good year for apples, for instance. Potatoes are scarce this year. But what are the facts? Our potatoes and apples pass through from five to seven different hands before they reach our kitchens. Given the largest crop of potatoes or fruit for a given year, if these products are bought up by the broker and ordered to be held until called for, the crop might just as well be small as large. The appearances are the same. Potatoes are hard to harvest and handle. Is it not easier to buy them and have them left in the ground, while a minimum percentage of the year's production is harvested, shipped, and placed on the market? In other words is it not better business to sell ten bushels of potatoes at four dollars per bushel than to handle, harvest, ship, and market twenty bushels at one dollar and fifty cents per bushel? Last year was a good potato year. It was also a record apple year. Did the housewife see any evidence of this large production? Not at all. She could use the argument that it was a good year for both these food products, but the grocer could give her no satisfaction on that head. It wasn't his fault that things were high, and we all know he profited nothing by the inflated prices.

Before the war, there was this difference. The fruit growers were paid so little for their products that it did not pay them to market them. A fruit grower in Michigan in 1915 gave the following testimony in regard to his peaches. He owned a large peach orchard. He employed two men during the bearing season to help him harvest and crate his peaches. After he had bought the crates, which had to be of a specified kind, and packed the fruit, which had to be of a certain degree of ripeness requiring that every individual peach be handled carefully, after he had paid his two men and hauled the fruit fourteen miles over sandy roads to the shipping point, he found that he had made just one dollar and eighty-seven cents on his work, not counting his own time. The following year he refused to market his peaches, using what he could for home canning, selling what he could at the nearest town, and to the resorters. After that he turned the hogs into the orchard after the peaches had ripened and fallen. There was nothing else to do.

Now there is no doubt about it, and for that matter, there is no secret about it, that the food supply of this country is rapidly coming under the control of a comparatively small group of people. Not only the meat but the dairy products, the fish, the canned goods, the fruit, and even the leather which is quite as essential as food.

If the business men of this country are too busy to take over the solution of this tremendous problem, why not the women? They can do it. They can establish markets and buy direct from the producer, or even run a community farm. There is the great organization of the Woman's Club throughout this country which reaches to the smallest village in the United States. What could this Federation not accomplish if they would but set themselves the task of stifling these monopolies which are feeding on the life blood of the nation? They are making it impossible for nine-tenths of the population to live, to have families, to enjoy life. This kind of thing is right in the woman's province. It concerns the feeding of her family and the feeding, housing and living facilities of every man, woman, and child in this great country. To solve this problem, or even to contribute towards its solution, would be of greater benefit to mankind and to the world than any amount of office holding or voting franchise. When the women of America shall have taken this octopus in hand and deprived it of at least some of its power, they will have earned the right to hold the highest office which is within the power of the people to bestow.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL NEWS

Sergt. George C. Kopp, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kopp, who has been in service overseas for the past 16 months, has just returned home, having received an honorable discharge.

Miss Josephine Merchant and Miss Helen Blakeslee of Waukegan were the guests of Miss Alice Duffy last Friday.

Mr. Jas. C. Baker spent last week in Springfield visiting friends.

Miss Rhoda Bonfield of Detroit, Mich., is spending a few weeks with her cousin, Miss Clare Holland.

Mr. Clyde Haeftel returned home last week having spent two years in the service of the 410th Telephone Battalion, Signal Corps.

Miss Marian Keagle spent last week in Naperville visiting friends.

Miss Ada Johnson of Stoughton, Wis., who spent the past month with Mrs. Edwin Bleimehl, has returned to her home.

Mrs. Stanton, who spent the past ten days on a trip to Buffalo, Niagara and New York, has returned home.

Dr. H. B. Roberts has recently been appointed surgeon for the C. N. S. & M. R. R.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Brand, Miss Charlotte Brand and Miss Laura Muhke spent Sunday in Naperville visiting friends.

Mrs. A. L. Renning is spending this week in Detroit, Mich., visiting Mr. and Mrs. Fred Newhouse.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Paul and small son leave today for Athlestone, Wis., to spend two weeks.

Mrs. H. C. Brown and Miss Helena Sipe returned to their home in Indianapolis Monday after several weeks visit with Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Roberts. Miss Sipe expects to go to New York soon to complete her musical studies.

Professor and Mrs. T. W. Sarvis of Nanking, China, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Evans on Monday.

Mr. J. M. Barnes of 1830, Hinman Ave., Evanston is spending the week with his daughter, Mrs. J. B. Garnett.

Mrs. L. G. Brand and daughter, Jeanne, spent last week in Deerfield as the guests of Mrs. William Clarke.

Miss Hazel Bailey of Chicago is the guest this week of Miss Emma Evans.

Mrs. Harold Nolan of Seattle, Wash., spent a few days this week as the guest of her father, Mr. Paul Leach.

Mrs. N. G. Casette, a former resident of Chicago, and recently returned from Paris, France, where she was identified with the McCall Mission, will be the week end guest of her niece, Mrs. John D. Purdy, Jr.

Miss Ivetta Hoeker of Chicago and Miss Statia Diem of Minneapolis, Minn., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Diem.

Miss Marian Keagle has as her guest this week Miss Leona Veldeman of Naperville.

Mrs. William Clavey of Glenoe was the guest of her daughter, Mrs. J. C. Fay, yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. John Q. Schaefer of Seattle, Wash., is spending two months visiting relatives in this city and Lake Forest.

Mr. Gerald Harbort, who spent two years in the navy as radio operator, returned home last Sunday, honorably discharged.

The Misses Edith and Elizabeth Dike of Crystal Lake, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clow for a few days last week.

Mr. Harvey Hopp of Wilmette was the week end guest of Mr. Emmett Duffy.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Swanholm of Lincoln, Nebr., were the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Walkers.

Mrs. Dan Sheahan of Oakfield, Wis., is spending a few days with Mrs. John Sheahan of Central Ave.

Miss Marie Weisenburg and Miss Irma Kramer of St. Louis are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Denzel for a few weeks.

Mrs. C. A. Hoopes underwent an operation on one of her eyes at the Highland Park hospital Tuesday. At the present time the result is not known. Mrs. Hoopes has been living with her daughter, Mrs. Henry Clow.

Mr. Gregory Sheahan will leave this week for Oakfield, Wis., where he will spend a few weeks visiting relatives.

Miss Marie Cawley underwent an operation last Thursday for appendicitis at the Highland Park hospital. At the present time she is getting along nicely.

Mr. Claude Shreve is enjoying a five weeks' vacation.

Mr. Ed Gourley left last Friday for Colorado where he will visit friends.

LAKE COUNTY PIONEER DIES OF HEART TROUBLE

Catherine McLaughlin, Housekeeper for Dr. J. D. O'Neill, Died Friday. Burial at Lake Forest.

Miss Catherine McLaughlin, who, with her sister, Mary, have served as housekeepers for Dr. J. D. O'Neill for the past seven years, passed away on Friday evening at nine o'clock following several years' illness of heart trouble.

Miss McLaughlin is a pioneer of Lake County, having come to this vicinity from Vermont in 1855, with her parents, and residing here since. She and her sister came to this city from Lake Forest where they were living and although she has been acting as housekeeper for the past few years for Dr. O'Neill, for some time she has been unable to attend to her duties on account of illness.

Her sister, Mary McLaughlin, was postmistress at Lake Forest for thirty years previous to her employ with Dr. O'Neill.

Funeral services were held at the Immaculate Conception church Monday morning at ten o'clock, Dr. J. D. O'Neill officiating, assisted by Father Barry of Lake Forest, Father Caraber of Chicago, and Father Lochte of Teahny. The funeral sermon was delivered by Father Gilmartin of Chicago and Father Burke of Chicago was present in the Sanctuary. Interment was at Lake Forest.

Miss McLaughlin was widely acquainted throughout this vicinity and is mourned by her many friends.

EXMOOR COUNTRY CLUB PRESERVING ITS TREES

Forestry Committee Appointed with View of Saving Valuable Trees and Planting New Ones

The treeless plains of Kansas and Nebraska presented a cheerless aspect to the home seekers of forty years ago. Legislation was enacted to encourage tree planting. Title to 160 acres of land could be had by planting a grove of one acre for each of three consecutive years.

Today a traveler on the railroads passing thru those states sees the landscape dotted with beautiful groves of trees, but few know that forty years ago that same region was listed in our school geography as the "great American desert."

With forests, like many other things, familiarity breeds contempt and are not appreciated until it is too late. It is, however, encouraging to note the increasing interest displayed in the forest preserves around Chicago. Cook county is heading a wise movement in securing and preserving forests nearby for the recreation of our dense population. The owners of private suburban homes are displaying great interest in preserving valuable old trees. One of the most notable instances of recent record is that of the Exmoor Country Club of Highland Park. In their groves many stately old monarchs of the forest were rapidly going to decay. The board of governors have recently appointed a forestry committee with a view of saving their valuable young trees to care for the future. The chairman of this committee has agreed to superintend the work for three years. His recent report to the board of governors, published in their official bulletin, "X-Ray," shows 175 young trees planted this spring, the starting of a nursery of some 700 trees and a comprehensive plan of caring for their old forest of some 600 trees.

Some job this member has undertaken, and if carried out, which we know it will be, it will make this wonderful playground one of the most beautiful in the world and at the same time add to the intrinsic value of the membership.

EXMOOR CADDIES GET \$4,000 DURING JULY

A pay roll which attracts very little attention in Highland Park, but which aggregates quite a sum, is that of the caddies of the Exmoor Country Club. During the month of July this club paid out to boys under 16 years of age the sum of \$4,000. What better way could a boy spend his vacation than being a part of this splendid organization?

If the suggestion is adopted to tax tourists \$50.00 each to see the devastated sections of France and Belgium a lot of travellers may conclude that it is their patriotic duty to see America first.

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Earl W. Gsell, Pharmacist

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