

Happy Times Outdoors

by Nancy Cleaver

"We had such happy times outdoors when I was a child in our big shady yard. But we have so little room for play material for our boy!" Mrs. Stuart sighed.

"But a small child must have something to play with or he will wander off!" her friend replied.

"Our sand box is small, but the children have a heap of fun in it!"

Every child is different. The size of a backyard, the location and climate vary. But if parents have money for only one piece of play equipment, a sandbox is usually a good choice. Keep it filled with clean sand with sufficient digging utensils within a child's reach.

A sand-pile is a never failing source of enjoyment and a well built box will not wear out or fall apart. It can be ordered from a large sports shop or a department store. Almost any father who is handy at tools can get specifications and construct one. A large box can be converted into a sand container with small seats and an easily adjusting cover to keep out the rain, as well as stray animals who might visit it at night.

**Amidst Clutter**  
Simple sand playthings, shovels, wooden spoons, old sifters or cooking equipment such as a funnel or sieve, and a can with holes punched in the bottom, should all be kept in a box or on a shelf nearby. It is confusing for a small child to sit down in a sandbox amidst a clutter of yesterday's toys.

It is good training for small children to be encouraged to put away their playthings at the end of play time. The sandboxes should be placed, if possible, where it will be in the shade during the hot hours in the late morning, but will have sunshine either early or late in the day. An adjustable awning shade is very useful.

An old fashioned hammock and a sturdy swing, or a teeter-totter, are all grand fun. So is a jungle gym, which is a simply constructed climbing apparatus with four posts and eight rounded cross bars forming a sort of double gates. It is a marvellous place to climb and balance! A child can scramble up it shortly after he starts to walk.

Later a small ladder at one end and a slide at the other

greatly increases its fun possibilities. Even a short home-made ladder is a splendid piece of outdoor equipment. Sometimes a child will tumble a short distance. But small children have a knack of "falling limply" and avoiding grave injuries.

If a jungle gym seems a rather ambitious piece of play equipment, be sure you do erect a swing. If there is a large tree with a strong lower limb, all you need is a stout rope and a wooden seat. But if you have no suitable tree, you can dig holes, sink two strong posts into it and then add rocks and cement to make them firm. A strong cross bar can form the support for one or two swings.

Perhaps a parent might consider a small playhouse, something only for little girls. But little boys soon claim it as a "club-house" for their gang. Occasionally, three or four children can have a picnic supper all by themselves in the play-house as a special treat.

To a small girl, a play-house is a place of enchantment where she can "keep house" sweeping, dusting, setting the table, arranging the furniture, just like mother. She loves to have a place in it for her toy dishes, for her dolly and the dolly's clothes. In quite a different way from her brother, she considers a play-house one of the best things a child can own.

One of the least expensive pieces of play equipment is a large covered box in which are kept large and small blocks of all kinds and shapes which may be obtained from a lumber yard where they are sold as kindling. This rather odd, unpainted collection of wood is much more popular as building material for the little boys than the neat "store" set of painted blocks all the same size.

A little wagon, a tricycle or a wheelbarrow, are wheel toys which never lose their charm for the "small fry". An enclosed play space is the ideal thing for small children. So many of them get hurt in tragic traffic accidents. A tiny child runs out on the highway after a ball and he may be knocked down by even a careful driver. But mothers must warn their children to keep off the road. If they are old enough to be trusted on a sidewalk, they must be on the lookout for a car or truck backing out of a driveway.



**MARRIED** September 10 at Grace Anglican Church were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Malyk. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Malyk, Main St., and the bride was Barbara Helen Diane Schrag, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Odehnal, R.R. 5.

**Crest Introduces Push-Button Color**

Pushing a button for the color and finish of paint you want is the new service introduced this week at Crest Hardware.

Don Merritt has installed the Magi-Cote Colour system that means with a push of a button, a turn of a crank and the Magi-Cote autotint paint blender produces exactly the shade you want in seconds.

The machine has been tested and proven in countries around the world. It made its first appearance behind the Iron Curtain as part of the U.S. exhibit at the 29th annual Poznan International Trade Fair in Poland. Through precision dispensing and scientific formulas, all colors can be perfectly mixed and re-matched in a variety of finishes, Mr. Merritt explained.

**Only Child is Lonely Books are Friendly**

A youngster who must spend much time without playmates of his own age should be encouraged to find companionship in the books available on the shelves of public, school or church libraries. His teacher or the librarian can help him to form a taste for desirable literature by assisting him in his selection. Well written books that will hold a child's attention will help him to develop his own resources upon which he can rely for entertainment.

Day Long

W.M.S. Rally and Workshop Staged at Lowville Church

Lovely fall weather was enjoyed by those who attended the W.M.S. Rally and Workshop of the northern parts of Halton Presbyterial on Wednesday, the 28th of September in Lowville United church.

Mrs. W. Brownridge, assisted by Mrs. A. Harris, presided at the morning session. Mrs. Brownridge used hymn 402 and a call to worship to open the session and a cordial welcome was extended to all by Mrs. G. Coulson, president of the local auxiliary.

**Devotional Period**  
Mrs. O. M. Brewster gave a most inspiring and uplifting devotional based on Acts, chapter 26, verse 12, where King Agrippa, after listening to Paul's defense, said "Almost thou persuadest me to become a Christian." "What are we doing about those in our churches today who are almost Christian?" asked Mrs. Brewster.

"Many are not far off and we are here that Christ may be in us and work through us — let us be ready to witness for Him. We cannot bear fruit if He is not in us and it should be our earnest prayer that we can influence and win those who know not His saving grace."

**Mission Needs**  
Mrs. H. Monaghan, the candidate secretary, outlined the need for missionary doctors, nurses, teachers etc., throughout mission fields and asked that the young people by talks, films and other programs. "Make it your personal responsibility in your own community," stressed Mrs. Monaghan.

**Amusing Skit**  
On community friendship, Mrs. N. Willis and Mrs. E. C. Toombs presented an amusing but helpful skit on "How Not to Visit" and "How to Visit" newcomers and those whom the organization might interest.

**Afternoon Session**  
Mrs. A. Harris opened the afternoon session with a call to worship and made several announcements. Miss Marion Thompson, field secretary of the Dominion Board, then took charge and the first hour was spent in Bible study.

Groups were formed and were asked to study Bible passages for 20 minutes. When reassembled, each leader was asked to report on benefit or inspiration received during the period. This was followed by a question and answer period. All present felt that more and sincere prayer was needed in our lives. Miss Thompson then closed the session with prayer.

A musical interlude was then enjoyed when Mrs. Swallow of Lowville sang a delightful solo, accompanied by Mrs. Coulson.

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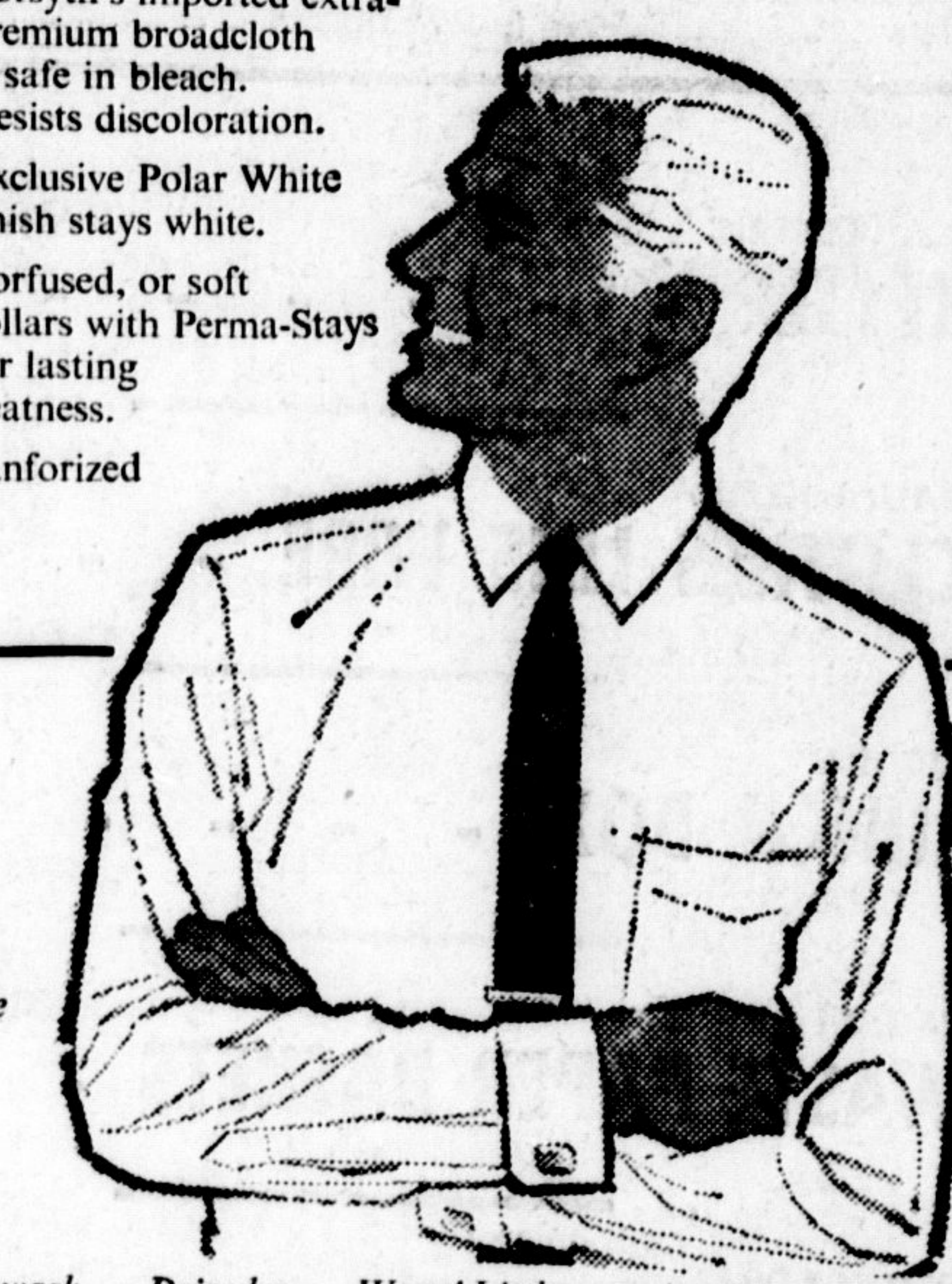
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