

About the House

The Business of Housekeeping.

What constitutes good housekeeping? Haven't we women all asked ourselves that question some time in our lives—we, on whom the household depends for its management?

When we first take up housekeeping, or homemaking—for one term should embrace the other, in order to make housekeeping really good—how easy it all seems! What is there to worry over? What a bugbear our mothers have made of a very simple thing! Good housekeeping, in one's early married days, consists in pleasing "John," giving him what he likes to eat, keeping the house looking pretty, which is not hard when everything is bright and new, and making oneself the most attractive figure in the picture. That is good housekeeping and very good homemaking. "John" is sure to be satisfied with it, and, if it continues, he never will have just cause for complaint.

By and by, however, little rifts will appear in the lute. The wife may be just as anxious to please "John" as she ever was, and just as desirous as she was at first to keep everything in apple pie order; but children have a way of changing one's ways, whether or not one wishes to change them, and, with all the best intention in the world to keep up to a certain set standard, the wife and mother will often find herself making compromises, and coming down a little from her first high ideals.

This is where good housekeeping begins to show; for merely keeping a house immaculate, looking just like an exhibition of furnished rooms, is not really good homemaking. One might be very uncomfortable living in them, no matter how orderly they appeared.

To my mind, good housekeeping consists in making the best of the situation, in keeping one's temper under control when there is friction in the kitchen, and in trying day in and day out, to make peace and happiness the paramount features.

If a woman succeeds in keeping her home in fairly good order, in supplying well-cooked and nourishing meals to the family at regular hours, in keeping herself neat in her dress, and in being quiet in her demeanor, she is, to my mind, a very good housekeeper, and deserves much more credit than she ever will receive.

For there is one thing quite certain: a good housekeeper is only truly appreciated when the home has lost her either wholly or temporarily. Then the family realizes how much depended upon "Mother," and, if her life was made up of little things, how much those same little things meant to the comfort and happiness of the family. Many women would gladly run their homes differently from what they do, if they had time to stop and make changes they have in mind; but life is so hurried, and there is so much to be done that, as they say, they just do the best they can. If they really do that, what more can they do until some of their burdens are lessened?

A house that is orderly may not be, after all, a happy home, and good housekeeping means a lot more than just ability to live up to a perfectly planned budget.

The Wise Mother.

The child who is fortunate enough to have a singing mother has a richer heritage than perhaps it may realize for many a year.

The home where the sound of music is never heard is one lacking in the true essence of the joy of life for "Out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh." And where there is happiness and the spontaneity of appreciation of blue skies, golden sunshine, green grass and of the simple kindness of family and neighbors, songs will bubble forth as naturally as a cold pure spring from the heart of Mother Earth.

Modern methods of child rearing have little place for the bedtime lullaby. But the wise mother will find a place and a time for it, for the child who has not been cradled in its mother's arms and sung to, has missed much of the sweetness of life.

Very small children soon show their fondness for music when they hear it and are taken into account in it. In this way a love of music is fostered and developed, and when the child is old enough to begin its musical studies there is a feeling of entering into a familiar and keenly anticipated land in place of into a strange territory which means little. We are repeatedly told that the child is born with a social and religious nature. It is equally true that the normal child is born with a musical nature as well. Environment has much to do with developing this.

For the Winter Party.

Apple cake—4 cups flour, 1 tsp. salt, 6 tps. baking powder, 1 beaten egg, 4 tps. butter, 1 tsp. cinnamon, ½ cup sugar, 1 cup seeded raisins, apples, 2 cups milk. Sift together the dry ingredients and rub in the butter as for biscuits, add the beaten egg and the milk, work to a smooth dough and spread on a shallow baking pan. Spread the top with melted butter and 4 tps. sugar mixed with 1 tsp. cinnamon. Cover this with one cup of raisins and cover the raisins with peeled, cored and sliced apples. Bake in a moderate oven thirty minutes.

Orange and raisin compote—½ pound seeded raisins, 3 cups cold water, 3 naval oranges, 3 pounds currants, 3 cups sugar. Prepare oranges, cutting in very thin pieces with a sharp knife. Let them soak overnight in the water. In the morning pick over and wash the currants and add them with the raisins and sugar to the oranges. Boil hard for about 2 hours and put in glass jars, closing while hot. Serve with meat.

French pastry—½ cake compressed yeast dissolved in ½ cup lukewarm milk, ¾ cup chopped seeded raisins, ½ cup sugar, grated rind of 1 lemon, 2 cups sifted flour, 3 well beaten eggs, ½ cup flour, ½ cup butter, ¾ cup seedless raisins. Add the ½ cup of flour to the yeast mixture, beat until light and smooth and place in a warm place to rise. Beat to a cream the butter and sugar and add to the well risen sponge with the 2 cups sifted flour, beaten eggs, raisins and lemon rind. Mix well and fill well buttered muffin-tins half full. Place in a warm place until light and double in bulk and bake in a moderate oven. Remove



On Hygiene Council.

Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the famous British suffragist leader, who is now making her home in Canada, is contributing valuable experience and ability to some of Canada's most pressing social problems, as an official of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council. She has just completed a tour of New Brunswick, with other officers of the Council, stirring up public interest.

from the oven and cover at once with a frosting made from the following: 1 cup powdered sugar, 1½ tps. hot water, 1½ tps. orange juice.

Cream of raisins—1 tps. gelatin, ¼ cup milk, 2 tps. cold water, ½ cup sugar, ½ cup chopped seeded raisins, ¼ cup finely chopped nuts, 1 cup hot water, 2 stiffly beaten egg whites. 1 cup whipped cream. Soften gelatin in cold water. Cook raisins and hot water slowly 10 minutes. Heat milk and add sugar and gelatin. Stir until dissolved and add raisin mixture. Chill. When mixture begins to thicken add nuts and egg whites and fold in cream. Mix thoroughly and pour into molds. Serve with yellow sauce.

Yellow sauce—2 egg yolks, ¼ tsp. salt, 2 tps. sugar, 1 cup hot milk, ½ tsp. lemon extract. Beat egg yolks and add sugar and salt. Add hot milk and cook in double boiler until mixture thickens. Cool and add flavoring.

Saving Table Linen.

Table linen is still rather expensive and will be for a long time to come, so it behooves the housewife to do everything she can to preserve what linen she has. As the greatest wear comes at the table edges, cut an inch or an inch and a half from one end and also from one side of a cloth before it is worn through. The thin places will then escape the edges of the table and wear of the cloth will be doubled. Cutting off this amount changes the centre of the cloth so slightly that even in a pattern cloth it is hardly noticeable.

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Hungry Ducks Saved Britain from U-Boats.

Rome, they say, was saved by the cackling of geese. It may be well that the livy of the future will assert that Britain in her hour of peril was saved by the quacking of ducks.

How ducks eating biscuits thrown to them at the pond in the London Zoo led to the discovery of U-boat detectors was a bit of "inside" war stuff told by Professor J. T. McGregor Morris at the Scientific Novelties Exhibition recently.

Before the war, it is true, there were submarine detectors—a microphone to which was attached a diaphragm. But unfortunately this device was non-directional—that is, it didn't indicate from which direction the undersea boat was coming.

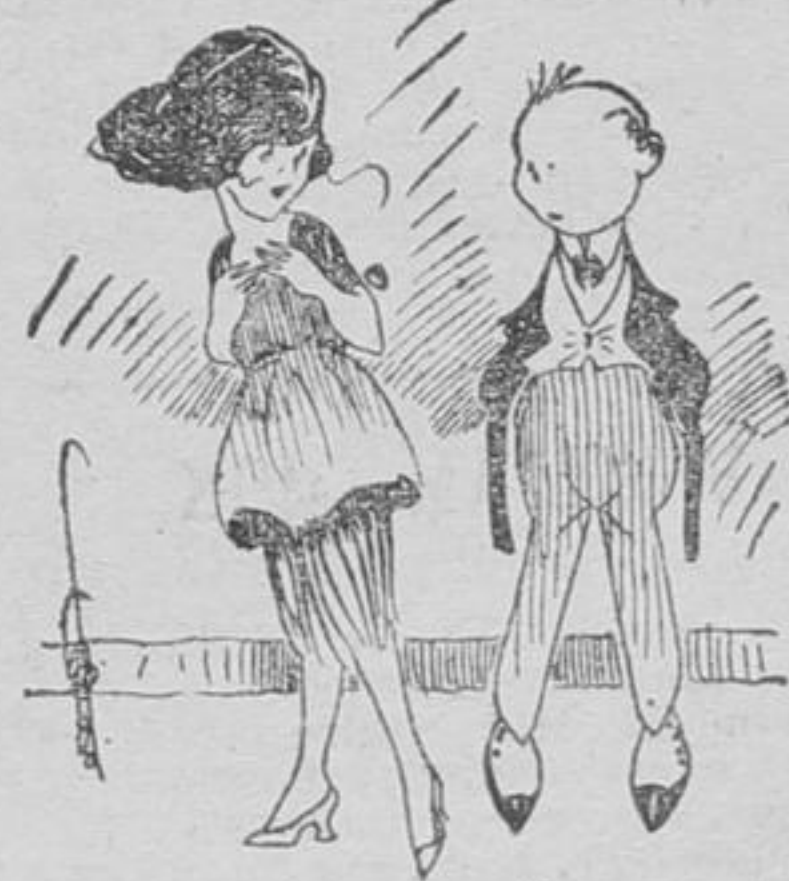
Horns and even trumpets were used to assist the instrument, but up to June, 1915, the detectors were of little use. Meantime the submarine campaign was increasing in intensity and the United Kingdom was faced with the possibility of being starved to death.

Then, according to the story told by Professor Morris, putting one's head under water where sounds could easily be heard suggested to Sir William Bragg and Sir Richard Paget the use of the stethoscope, the instrument that is to the doctor what the brief case is to the lawyer.

The two medical men went to the Zoo to try out their scheme. While Sir William threw biscuits to the ducks his colleague by means of an instrument on the lines of the stethoscope and with a part in the water, tried to hear the ducks eating.

Suddenly Sir Richard threw his instrument down with an impetuous jerk. A duck had attempted to eat the part of it under water and the noise was deafening.

Out of this incident was evolved the hydrophone—a device which looks like an old-fashioned warming pan. This, when turned slowly in the water, indicates the direction from which a submarine is coming. It could detect the presence of a submarine five miles distant and the steam turbine of a destroyer ten miles away.



"Why don't you like dancing men?"

"I find those who are light on their feet are usually light in the head."

"Blac Diamonds" Desired.

"You breathe out enough carbon every hour in the form of carbonic acid gas to make a diamond worth \$75,000," says an exchange. What we'd like to know is how to breathe out enough of the stuff in a week to make a ton of coal.

He's a Star, He Is.

"Pa, what are asteroids?"
"They're those things the doctors take out of children's noses. Now run away and let me read."

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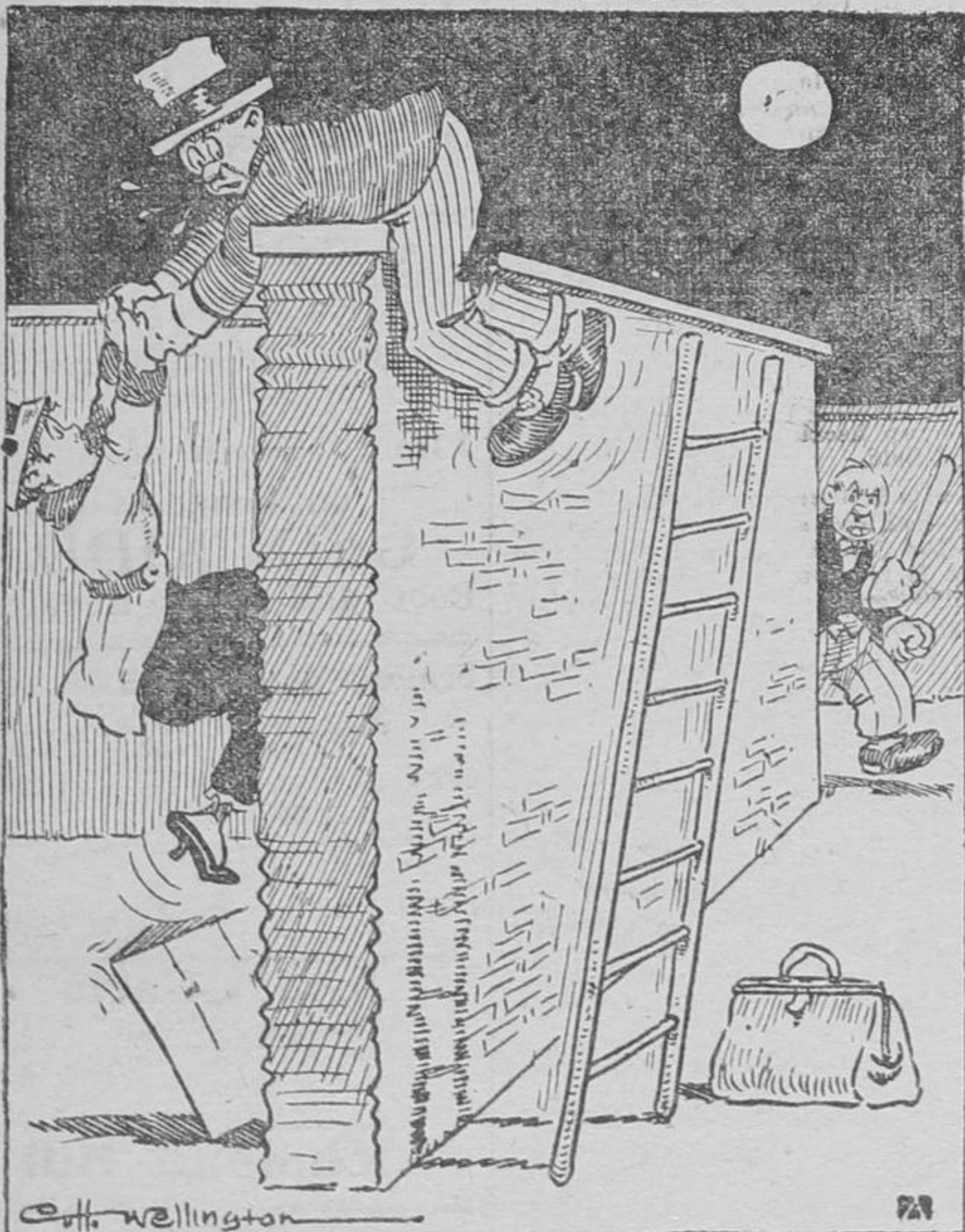
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