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Jock's Accident

It was the very last day of the holidays and the twins were going home to the city early the next morning. Aunt Madge was packing their trunk and it made them feel quite sad to see their play clothes being folded away. They pretended that the trunk with its great open mouth, was a monster that was swallowing summer.

"I don't want to go home," wailed Jeannie.

"Neither do I," said Jock, "but there is the Exhibition, that will be fun."

"And there's Mother and Daddy," agreed Jeannie, "we'll be glad to see them."

"They will be glad to see you looking so well and brown," said Aunt Madge. "Don't forget to get weighed at the barn so you can tell them how much you have gained. And while you are down there gather the eggs so we can pack a nice box for your Mother."

So Jeannie got the egg basket, the funny round basket which she always carried so carefully because Mother used to gather eggs in it when she was a little girl and off they went to the barn.

The barn was quite a different looking place these days, there was no room now for their big swing or for their games on rainy days. They looked proudly at the sheaves of oats and wheat heaped right up to the roof waiting for the threshing. They felt quite as if they were responsible for the barn being full for they had ridden to the barn on almost every load.

"Let's climb up to the roof and get sparrows' nests," said Jock.

"You can if you like," said Jeannie, "but Auntie told me to gather the eggs." And she trotted off importantly to the henhouse.

She soon had her basket full and went back to look for Jock.

"Yoo-hoo, Jock," she called, "come and we'll get weighed."

But there was no answering shout from Jock and the barn seemed strangely silent. Then in the dim light she saw him. He was lying on the barn floor, so white and still, with his leg twisted queerly under him.

"Jock, Jock," she screamed kissing his quiet face, "wake up!"

But when he did not move she ran, crying, out of the barn and up the path to the house.

"Aunt Madge," she sobbed, "Jock's killed in the barn."

Aunt Madge ran to the barn and knelt beside poor little Jock, her face as white as his own.

"Don't cry, darling," she said to the terrified Jeannie, "he isn't dead but his leg is probably broken. He must have fallen from the ladder. Run and find Uncle John and tell him to phone for the doctor while I carry Jock to the house."

What excitement there was when they reached the house—everybody trying to do something to help the suffering boy who lay moaning on the big bed in the downstairs bedroom; Aunt Madge invented little errands for Jeannie to keep her mind busy; Uncle John phoning Mother and Daddy in the city; the doctor arriving cool and efficient, and putting Jock to sleep while he put his big wooden splints on the broken leg and as weight on the foot so as the leg would grow straight and strong again. Finally Mother arrived on the evening train prepared to stay and nurse Jock until he was able to go home. Then there was another big bed put in Jock's room so mother and Jeannie could stay with him all the time and at last the tired household settled down to rest.

"Aunties are nice but Mothers are best," murmured Jeannie, as she snuggled beside Mother before going to sleep. "How long will it be before we can go back to school, Mummy?"

"A month at least," said Mother, "so we will have to do lessons at home. Nice lessons though," she hastened to add, "about trees and flowers and stars and birds. Daddy is going to send us a lot of books so we can study all about the outdoor world even if we are shut in the house."

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THE STRANGER

In almost every school district there is at this time of year one new-comer—the teacher. She comes at a busy time when the housewives of the neighborhood are up to their eyes in work—making pickles, canning the fall fruits, feeding threshers, making the children's school clothes, perhaps preparing exhibits for the Fall Fairs,—it really seems as if there wasn't time even to think about anything more.

But let us stop for a minute and think of this stranger who has come to spend a year in our midst. Let us put ourselves in her place and try to imagine how we would feel coming to a new neighborhood perhaps many miles from home. What must her first two or three weeks feel like while she is struggling with the new school and adjusting herself to new surroundings, which in many cases are not any too comfortable. Many a teacher coming to her first school must be appalled by the lack of interest taken in the school by the ratepayers. The "old red schoolhouse" so famed in song and story in some cases has made little or no progress in the last forty or fifty years. When the new teacher comes here fresh from Normal School and filled with high ideals and enthusiasm she must be of a very unusual type if she holds these ideals and keeps that enthusiasm long. There are so many things she wants to do for the children and there is so little to work with. Some teachers even buy a little kindergarten equipment out of their own slender salaries in order to keep the tiny tots busy and interested. But she can see so many things that are needed and that she cannot get for them. Perhaps there is no organ or piano to help with the singing, the lighting is wrong, the heating and ventilation are wrong, the surroundings are cheerless, she sees children who are in crying need of medical or dental attention, there may be a subnormal child who is going to prove a constant source of worry throughout the year,—the list might go on almost indefinitely. But what seems worst of all to the eager young teacher is the lack of interest taken in the school by the parents. If there is no local branch of the Women's Institute or Home and School club there seems no way for the teacher to get the co-operation of the parents in anything she tries to undertake.

Some of the parents who live farthest from the school may never even see the teacher during her whole year's work. All they know about this person who has the training of their children for six or seven hours a day is from the tales that are carried home from school about her. And the more unmanageable the child the worse the tales are bound to be. So remember when you listen to these stories that this teacher whom you picture as a hard hearted tyrant is just a lonely girl a long way from home, as your own daughter might be some day, home-sick, discouraged, disillusioned and badly in need of sympathy instead of censure.

Later in the season when the Socials and other festivities begin the teacher will have a share in them and will probably become one of the most prominent and useful members of the community. But just now she has come among us as a stranger, a little bit shy and more than a little bit homesick. So let us give her a welcome. Ask her to tea at the earliest opportunity, ask her to spend a week-end, give a party for her to meet all the neighbors, show her that we are interested in her and in her work. Let her, through all her future years of teaching, always have the happiest memory of the year she taught in our school.

Seasonable Recipes

Mustard Pickles

One quart chopped onions, one quart chopped cucumbers, one quart whole cucumbers (small), one quart whole onions (small), one large cauliflower broken into small pieces, 3 green peppers, 3 red peppers. Put into separate dishes, cover with a hot brine and let stand overnight. Next morning drain off the brine, put all together in a kettle, add three cups brown sugar, ½ gallon vinegar; let scald and add a paste made of two-thirds cup of flower, one quarter pound of mustard, ½ ounce tumeric and a little vinegar. Let come slowly to a boil and seal while hot.

Corn Relish

Twelve large ears of corn, 1 cabbage chopped fine, ½ lb mustard, 2 quarts vinegar, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 tablespoon salt, 1 teaspoon pepper. Boil for twenty minutes stirring all the time.

Mustard Dressing for Mixed Pickles

Three cups vinegar, one and one-half cups sugar, 1 tablespoon cornstarch, 2 tablespoons flour, 1 tablespoon mustard, 1 dessertspoon curry powder, ½ dessertspoon tumeric, ½ teaspoon salt. Scald pickles in weak vinegar, drain and mix with dressing. Bring to a boil and bottle.

Pickled Beans.

Four quarts cooked string beans, three pounds granulated sugar, half cup mustard, 1 cup flour, 1 tablespoon tumeric, 2 tablespoons celery seed, 2 pints vinegar. Cook dressing until thick, add beans, bring to a boil and bottle.

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

A little glycerine smeared around the glass stoppers of bottles will prevent them from sticking.

If two tumblers stick together, fill

the inside one with cold water and stand the outside one in hot water (not hot enough to crack it.) As cold causes glass to contract and heat causes it to expand this will loosen the tumblers.

When a drawer squeaks or does not slide easily take it out and rub the edges with a piece of laundry soap.

To remove mildew from any white cloth stir 1 ounce of chloride of lime into a quart of cold water. After it has settled two or three hours pour the clear liquid off into a bottle and it will be ready for use. Dip the mildewed spots in the liquid and let dry. If one application does not remove the stain entirely repeat the process. Rinse in clear water.

Starch made with soapy water prevents the iron from sticking and gives a better gloss to the linen.

To remove machine-oil stains rub with a little butter or lard and wash with warm water and soap.

To prevent milk from burning rinse the saucepan with cold water, and rub it with a little fresh butter.

To have your baked apples really delicious they should be baked in a hot oven, and frequently basted with the syrup.

To make a nice gloss on linen when ironing cover a piece of beeswax with flannel and rub over the surface of the iron.

Chased silver may be polished by brushing it thoroughly with whiting, then washing with a little turpentine and soap. Polish with chamois.

When washing walls or ceilings, tie a rag around your wrist. This will catch the water that may run down and prevent it from running down your arm.

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