

The Home is Not Necessary?

We have known for a long time that the home was ceasing to be any good for most of the purposes for which it used to be considered important and useful. We are born in hospitals, we are educated in schools, our social life is carried on in hotels and clubs, we die in hospitals again, and we are buried from an undertakers' establishment. Thus are scattered most of the activities which formerly made the home important and kept it busy. The latest blow to that time-honored institution has been delivered by the British Parliament, which has decided that the home is not the proper place for doing home-work. "Whenever practicable preparation on the school premises should be substituted for homework," says the resolution, which was adopted by the British legislators recently. Their decision has been greeted by three cheers by every school boy and every school girl in all parts of the British Empire; but there seems to us to be some misunderstanding about it all. Nothing is said about reducing the hours of the school day now devoted to actual teaching. If any "preparation" is to be done at all, therefore, it will evidently have to be in time additional to the time already spent in the school building. It is intended that the children shall come to school earlier, or that they shall stay there longer, or that they shall come back again in the evening? If the legislators had had the courage to say something about this in their resolution, instead of saying nothing about anything except the abolition of homework they would have evoked far less enthusiasm among the voters of the future. But it is the habit of legislators always to be very definite about the things that will make them popular (\$25 a month, for example) and completely indefinite or completely silent about anything which will have the opposite effect.

We do not believe that the school children of today are seriously over-worked, either in Great Britain or in Canada. We do not believe that they can acquire anything even resembling an education with a reasonable amount of "preparation," and we do not see why the taxpayers should have to pay a large body of public servants not merely to teach and examine the children during their instruction hours but also to invigilate them during the preparation period. However, we realize that the average modern home, with three bridge tables in the front parlor, a radio in the back parlor, a motor car in the garage, and two moving pictures just around the corner, is a place in which the preparing of lessons is becoming increasingly difficult. Besides, there is the distressing fact that children themselves do not like preparation. They no longer object to school itself; modern methods have made it a place of agreeable entertainment rather than of difficult work. But preparation consists of actually learning things, or writing things, or figuring things, and it cannot be done without work, and the children do not like it. They will not like it any better when it is carried on at the school premises. So the next step will presumably be to abolish it altogether.—Toronto Saturday Night.

Like Japanese Farm House

For our restaurant of the week, we would like to mention Jisaku or Tsukiji. We have been there on several occasions but never knew until this week that they had three nice Japanese rooms fixed up in Japanese country style with all the gadgets to make them look like the farm house of Tohoku.

While we usually abhor Japanese eating houses during the winter because of the bad heating system, this one particularly appealed to our taste and comfort. A large charcoal fireplace in the centre of the room, over which is suspended a pot of hot chicken soup called Mizutaki, which is supposed to have originated in the province of Hakata. It's a thick chicken soup and you add whatever amount of shoyu you like and eat it with rice. Of course, a bottle of Sake wouldn't do you any harm in this cold Tokyo weather. If you don't like chicken, there are any number of fine fish dishes.

Some rooms, not the farmer's kind, are directly over a huge pond full of black and red carp about two feet long and if you clap your hands they'll come right under the room. If you clap too loud, the maid will bring you a bill!

How to get there? Just tell the cabman, the Water Police Station (Suijo Keisatsu). It's right across from it.—Japan Times (Tokyo).

Roses are grown for cut flowers in a glass-covered garden covering 70 acres in the Lea Valley of England, the plants giving four crops a year.

From a microscopic examination of the dust found in a watch, a French scientist claims that he can tell the kind of work in which the man owning the watch is engaged.

'SALADA' TEA

is delicious

Vanished Forest Giants

Letter in Toronto Globe. — Our giant sweet chestnut trees of the forests of North America have gone forever. The terribly destructive chestnut blight was introduced with nursery stock from China in 1903.

What shall we do about it? Shall man lie down and quit? This blight kills both the American and European sweet chestnuts by girdling them. It also kills the cross between those trees. I had many of them on my place bearing very large crops. The cross trees were extra heavy bearers and bore while quite young. The small sweet Japanese (crenata) is also affected by the blight as is the American chinquapin. The very large Japanese sweet chestnut is blight resistant as are both the Korean and Chinese (mollissima). The Chinese have a beautiful long, glossy leaf and bear large nuts when only six or seven feet high. On the other hand, our native sweet chestnuts do not bear until quite large; in fact, do not even throw blossoms out until at the least twenty-five feet high. The European chestnut is even a larger giant than the American and one tree known as "The Chestnut of One Hundred Horses" had a circumference of 190 feet.

Of the two Chinese sweet chest-

nuts the glossy-leaved variety is the handsomest as its leaves are a most brilliant green and fully twice as long as the Chinese hairy sweet chestnut.

In the United States, where the native sweet chestnut grew in such abundance landowners are now planting the Chinese blight-resistant varieties. I am myself planting the three varieties of blight-resistant sweet chestnuts right beside the trees that died on my experimental acres. Thus, they will have an excellent test as to their resistant properties. So far the new trees have passed through three winters in fine shape.

Southern Ontario could grow enough sweet chestnuts to more than supply home demands and accomplish this in a very few years.

George Hebdon Corsan, Echo Valley, Islington.

Shingles Make Fine Designs

Stained Materials Gain in Popularity for Many Homes

Many homes have been built with the wrong materials for best expressing the true character of the design in mind. This is mostly the fault of the designer whose plans were used. Every design calls for one, or maybe some other, material that will best carry out the softness of line, the tend.

Both of these materials should be explained to the parties building so that everyone interested will understand why the shingle, or brick, or stucco is the only thing to use to get the effect desired.

In the case of stained shingles the double value is the soft color and the line effects obtained with all the long-lived qualities of cypress or cedar. By staggering the shingles a wavy line is secured that greatly adds to the softness or texture of the wall and the roof that is especially desirable in the treatment of exteriors on the small homes.

The country home is very beautiful in shingles, as in the Colonial cottage with its white walls and green roof. Rural English homes are also built with this wall finish; in fact, it does not depend so much on the classification of design as it does on the setting and the setting and atmosphere you are trying to create.

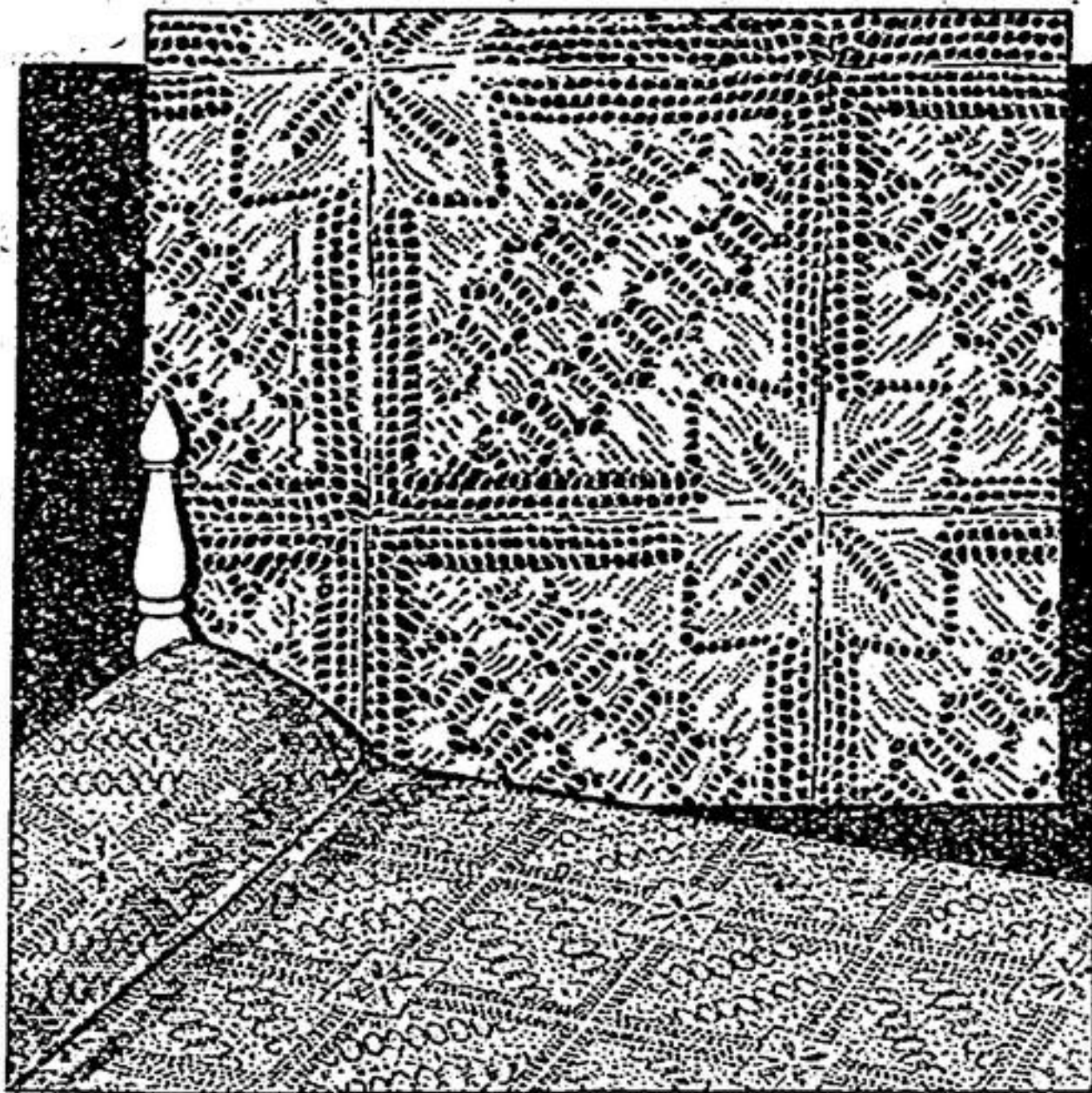
Little White Ship

Oh, a little white ship sailing far from its slip
Bears a gift, love-jewelled, from me.
Pray the wind and the tide steer it gently to glide
To its harbour at rest with thee

Now the little white ship sailing far from its slip
Is the spray on a storm-toss'd sea;
And the gift on its breast o'er the wave's surging crest
Is the gift of my heart to thee!
Amherst, N.S.—Mabel Black Meyers.

"Once you have convinced yourself, it is not hard to convince others."
—James P. Warburg.

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No Place for Divorce

It is the old case of the body and its members. Canada can not divorce her provinces any more than a man can divorce his hands or his feet or his eyes. If Canada tries, she must suffer. The sensible course is to work for them and with them, and that is the course that has been followed. But this course implies the co-operation of the provinces. If the members of the body rebel, if the hands refuse to carry food to the mouth, or if the throat refuses to swallow, things are obviously in a bad way and something must be done to find a remedy. But divorce isn't the remedy. It can not be, because the divorce of the parts will mean the destruction of the whole.—Vancouver Province.

Glands May Cause Child To Tell Lies

CLEVELAND—If your child, deliberately tells lies, don't always blame it on his morals. It may be his glands.

Dr. Henry C. Schumacher, director of the Child Guidance Clinic, said in his annual report that glandular disturbances have definite reactions in personality and behavior problems among children.

But the glands, Dr. Schumacher explained, are only one of many reasons for a child's aptitude to "tell stories." It may be that the child is influenced by home environment or that, overplaced in school, he finds it necessary to resort to cheating to get by.

"Democracy is an attempt to deal with universal evil by means of social equality."
—Bertrand Russell.

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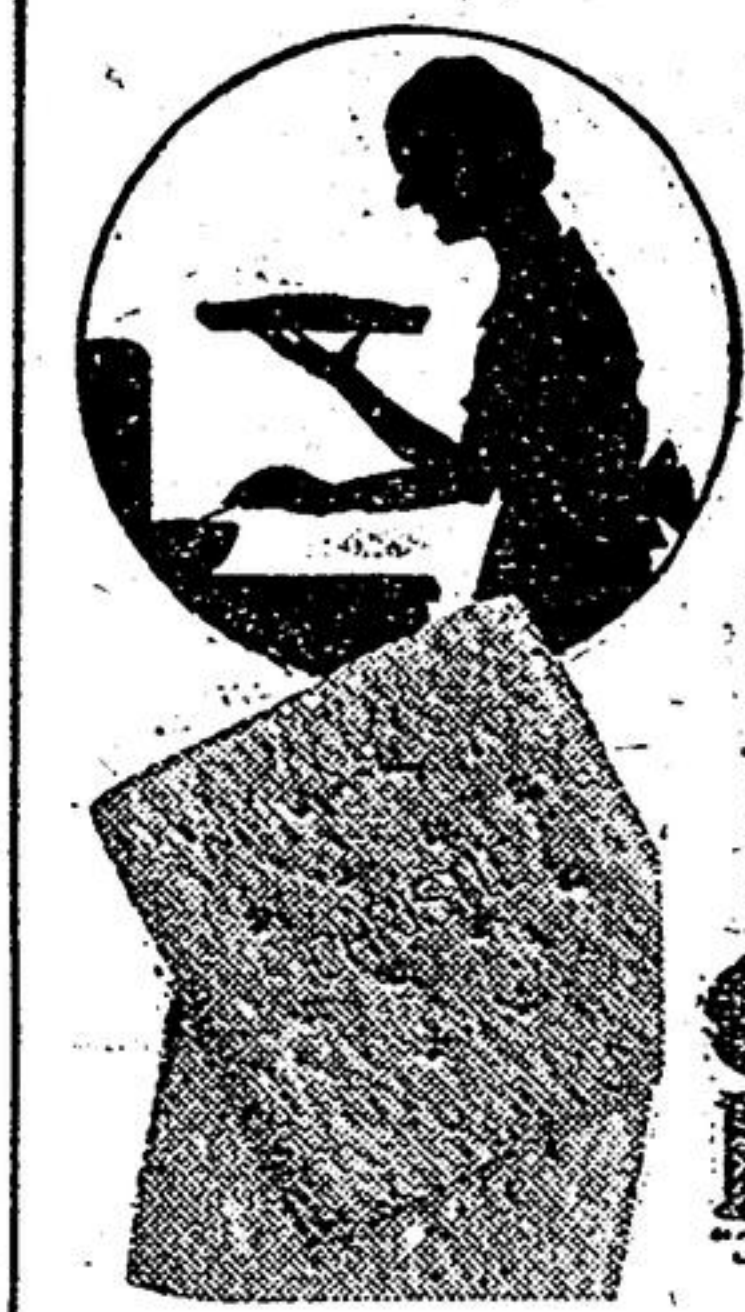
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How to Drink The King's Health

In the military and naval service of Britain there is an order which covers just about every contingency that may crop up. New fleet orders have just been issued, regarding the procedure in drinking the King's toast—that it shall be drunk sitting except when the National Anthem is played, when it shall be drunk standing. The custom is said to have originated in the days of the old "wooden walls," when there was insufficient head room for a man to stand between decks. An interesting survival of ancient custom.

By coincidence, shortly after we had read the new order, The Sun-Times was drawn into an argument on the correct procedure at ordinary banquets—whether the toast should be drunk before or after the National Anthem. Sometimes it is done one way, sometimes the other.

For the information of those who may be in doubt, Army Regulations—which govern in the absence of any other definite ruling—prescribe the procedure as follows:

The chairman, rising, calls on the company with the words, "Gentlemen" (if ladies are present, Ladies and gentlemen), "the King." The National Anthem is played or sung; then all repeat, "The King," and the toast is drunk. (We might mention that to smoke before the toast to His Majesty is prohibited in military and naval gatherings and extremely bad form in others.)

Another point worth mentioning is the wording of the Anthem. The correct wording is:

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save our King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King!

The mistake is made in the last line which so many render, "God save our King!" It may be quite true that we Canadians consider King Edward VIII our King in a more intimate way than we have considered his predecessors; but no matter how we may feel that in a special sense he belongs to us, in the National Anthem he is still "the King."

Pay special attention to your shoes. Several women we know include cleaning and heel-straightening allowances right in their beauty budgets. Don't spend so much on hair and face that you have no money left for grooming. It really is better in the long run to have home instead of professional facials and to do your own nails than to spend huge sums on these and do without lifts for your run-down heels and stockings that actually flatter your legs.

Speaking of stockings, you know, of course, that you should wear a fresh pair every day. Rinse them out in soap suds and warm water the minute you take them off. Buy the kind and shade which make your legs look graceful and slender. Keep the seams absolutely straight. Unless you have legs worthy of a beauty contest, don't go in for exotic nets and laces or contrasting arrows at the ankles. Be conservative when it comes to stockings and shoes.

Business-like!

EVANSTON, Ill. — Northwestern University members of Zeta Tau Beta sorority, anticipating "blind date" requests during their sorority convention, catalogued all eligible male candidates according to age, height, and weight, complexion and interests. Visiting co-ed delegates were rated similarly.

"One of the obvious deficiencies of our current theatre is that so many of its plays are not being written by playwrights."
—George Jean Nathan.

"It is an interesting, if obvious, fact that nobody who talks bravely about war has ever been killed in war."
—A. A. Milne.

"One fact critically established is worth a thousand loosely arrived at."
—Joseph Jastrow.

"Under present conditions of living, the age of 70 may well be thought too early for compulsory retirement."
—Charles E. Hughes.

"Being inventive and original is not being extravagant and silly."
—H. G. Wells.

"Few scientific men today defend the atheistic attitude."
—Arthur H. Compton.

"I was a success at 16. That's bad for anybody."
—Ruth Chatterton.

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Issue No. 20 — '36

Potato Is Not Irish

The Irish potato is not Irish. It is not even a potato. Sea Island and Egyptian cotton, the two best varieties, were developed neither on sea islands nor in Egypt.

Down to the time of our grandmothers, the tomato, or "love-apple," was shunned as poisonous. Only the South American Indians knew what good food it was.

For these three and many other agricultural products, modern man must thank the aboriginal American, probably the first, certainly the best, primitive farmer in the world, the until recently he got little credit for it.

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