

## Our Women and Children

Conducted by Lucille Skaggs Edwards.

### IS WOMAN LIMITED IN HER USEFULNESS ?

I do not believe that increased ability in this direction is limiting to woman's ability in any other direction, nor that it detracts from her public usefulness; every tributary swells the main current of her capacity and very power aids and strengthens her other powers. And I am convinced that every woman must faithfully perform the obligations if, in the jubilation of her release from the too-fettering housework of the past, she throws all home manufacture overboard like a troublesome Jonah.

And when I read an article that asks: "Could not the home turn out a greater product of happiness, usefulness, and children, if it did not have to make their clothes or prepare their food?" I want to answer "No!" as vigorously as possible. The business of being a successful mother, to use the modern phrases includes the material as well as the immaterial, includes the care of little bodies as well as little spirits, and those little bodies cannot be cared for by putting the preparation of their nourishment out of the home. Clothing may be taken for little figures that are not shop size, but children's food can never be bought ready made. For if freshly boiled eggs and freshly baked potatoes and fresh broiled chops and freshly baked custards are not more nutritious and wholesome for small folks than any bakery or delicatessen or factory versions of such things would be, then reason has fled the market place and common sense has given up the ghost!

Let us simplify, by all means; let us do away with the needless elaboration which is a foe to all neighborly living; let us do whatever has to be done in the deftest and easiest way possible to success, but do not let us try to theorize ourselves into the belief that the time will ever come when there will be nothing for us to do but "assemble the crude products of commerce." As long as the world goes round each revolution will bring afresh the ever new, the ever old, the big vital, commonplace, supremely important labor of taking care of the family and the efficiently managed home will ever be that where the wisest care of the body goes hand in hand with the deepest inspiration of the spirit.—Pictorial Review.

### THE MOWER

I saw a neglected garden once where the weeds, flowers and grass seemed growing from the same stems and to the same unbroken level. Though full of growing things the effect was that of waste. Then the mower passed and when I looked again I saw a well-trimmed lawn with clumps of daffodil here, peonies there, a round bed of bluebells, a corner crowded with violets; the whole of surpassing beauty.

It is in such a way that our blessed Master forms our lives. They are ill-kept plots where selfish thought and foolish whims grow level with the good till there's no telling the false from the true. Then the great Mower comes—he cuts here, clips there, raises a little love tendril to stand prop, pulls the weeds from the corner, and behold! our lives are as beautiful gardens of smooth grass and blooming flowers.—Home and School.

### THE MAN WHO QUILTS

The man who quits has a brain and hand  
As good as the next; but he lacks the sand  
That would make him stick with courage stout  
To whatever he tackles and fight it out.

He starts with a rush and a solemn vow  
That he'll soon be showing the others how;  
Then something new strikes his roving eye,  
And his task is left for the bye and bye.

It's up to each man what becomes of him;  
He must find in himself the grit and vim  
That bring success; he can get the skill,  
If he brings to the task a steadfast will.

No man is beaten till he gives in;  
Hard luck can't stand for a cheerful grin;  
The man who fails needs a better excuse  
Than the quitter's whining, "What's the use?"

For the man who just lets his chances slip,  
Just because he's too lazy to keep his grip.

The man who sticks goes ahead with a shout,  
While the man who quits joins the "down and out."

### THE EXAMINATION AGAIN

Queen Elizabeth had no husband and died a natural death.

The heart and lungs are situated in the borax.

Infantry is a place where they keep infants.

A vampire is a man that settles base ball games.

An island is a lot of water with some land in the center of it.

A glossary is a place where they polish things.

Ink is obtained from the Red and Black seas.

A fort is a place where soldiers stay; a fortress is a place where soldiers' wives stay, and a fortitude is a place where they both stay.

### FREE TRIP CONTEST DRAWS NEAR CLOSE

The free trip contest given by the Negro Women's Christian Association for the benefit of the Old Folks' Home will close July 10th. A free trip to Denver, Kansas City or Chicago will be given to the girl having the largest number of votes. The votes are ten cents each. This is one of the biggest and keenest contests ever staged by the Colored people of Omaha. Every contestant from the leader to the lowest is anxious for the trip.

Why shouldn't the girls work hard to win the trip when Omaha people are doing everything to make the trip worth while in the manner of gifts?—Adv.

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