

Women and the Home

Radio is the slender wire that brings the world and its affairs into the tiny kitchens and living rooms which hitherto had isolated so many housekeepers in the performance of their duties
—Margaret Bondfield.

WAR SHADOW

BECAUSE we are so engrossed with our fears and our apprehensions we are apt to forget that our children, too, walk in the war-shadow—grope and fumble in their immature minds to find a sense in our statements, in the words that drift to them as they play, in radioed warnings, as real for them as for us. They may say nothing at all but the very gravity of the voice that comes through to them restricts the joy and seems to threaten the security of the more sensitive ones.

The other day I met a small girl, crying. She was on her way to school, she said, but the radio had said the mothers must come with tickets, and she had suddenly remembered that her mother hadn't been listening-in, hadn't understood, and now perhaps there would be no ticket and she would never be called for. . . .

Poor small creature. It was all a Daventry instruction, and it was a voice fourteen thousand miles across the sea, intended for little Londoners. It was a voice grave and kind, but—for I myself heard it—it was a voice that broke, suddenly, on the last word.

For me, all that had been said was nothing beside that welling of emotion that could not, suddenly and at the end, be controlled.

And it had sent a tiny girl in far away New Zealand stumbling up the road to school with the same sob caught in her throat. . . .

* * *

A weekly journal here in this country of ours stated to me that they had been running, for some months past, a competition popular with our children. The week before war broke the response had been 372 entrants. War broke, and that week the figures dropped to 25.

Do you see what it means? It means that 347 childish imaginations were busy with—War.

We'll have to take special care—special care to be gentle, to be discreet in our utterances, not to appear preoccupied, and, above all, to provide diversion, active play that will free the strained little mind and, by bedtime, weary the body for healthy and dreamless sleep.

Ann Slade

These Should Interest You:

Talks prepared by the A.C.E., Home Science Tutorial Section, the University of Otago:

"This Spring's Fashions": Monday, October 2, 1YA 3.30 p.m.; 2YA 3 p.m.; 3YA 2.30 p.m.

"Spring Dishes Using Eggs and Cheese": Wednesday, October 4, 4YA 3.15 p.m.

"The Working Man's Diet": Thursday, October 5, 1YA 3.30 p.m.; 3YA 2.30 p.m.; Friday, October 6, 2YC 3 p.m.

"Plans for Our Section at the Exhibition": Friday, October 6, 4YA 3.15 p.m.

"What Shall We Eat? — Our Daily Bread": Dr. Elizabeth Bryson. Tuesday, October 3, 2YC 8.42 p.m.

"They Passed That Way—Mother and Daughter, Mrs. Archibald Wilson and Mrs. A. G. Ross": Talk by Miss M. G. Havelaar. Tuesday, October 3, 3YA 9.5 p.m.

"Busy Days in New York": Talk by Nola Luxford. Thursday, October 5, 2YH 8.20 p.m.

"The Home Service Session": All ZB stations 2.30 Mondays to Fridays.

"Weekly Women's Session": 1ZB 3.45 p.m. Mondays.

Seeds Plus Sound

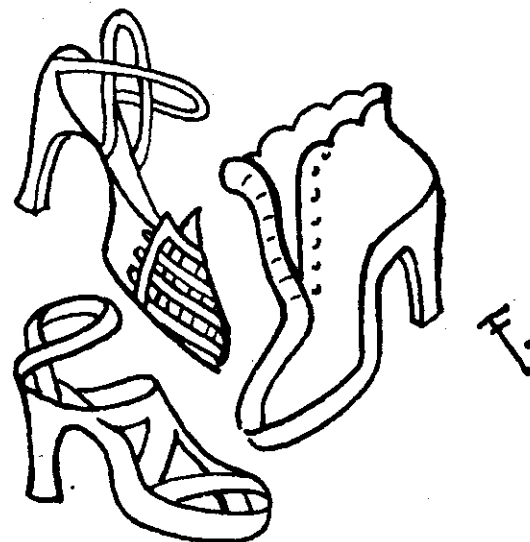
It all sounds rather incredible, yet Science insists that soon we'll have our kitchen gardens springing in double quick time. The experiment is one with sound waves. Apparently they are quite inaudible to the human ear. But when granted a three-minute audition by a pea seed recently they wrought wonders! The tiny seed leapt into life and was a huge plant in next to no time! It sounds a fantastic notion—a fairy tale built on the themes of the Pied Piper and Jack and the Beanstalk—but science, after all, is like that, and often right beyond argument.

Home Doctoring

Mothers of small children are noticing the prevalence of skin eruptions, boils, styes and suchlike. "It's the Spring . . ." they say. It's true that these disorders do appear to be seasonal, but all the same, a good deal can be done to relieve the small person's wretchedness. A sty, for instance, is a small boil at the root of an eyelash, and it can be very painful. The thing to do is to pull out the affected lash, carefully and swiftly, with tweezers, and then bathe as frequently as is convenient with boracic lotion as hot as you can bear it. A little dilute mercury ointment rubbed into the edges of the lids night and morning will help also.

In general, these things indicate poor health—"he's a bit run down"—or wrong diet. All the foods in which Vitamin A is present are important: cod

and fish liver oils, fish roe, liver, egg yolk, milk and butter, and plenty of greens, as well as carrots and tomatoes. These last are, of course, much more valuable in their raw, or near-raw state. A quite general health rule is—in and out of season—plenty of fruit.



Shop Prowl

Here are the shoes that Spring offers for evening: I found them round the shops for you. They're in lovely colours, especially the new Silken Boot.



WEEKLY RECIPE

FELIXSTOWE TART

Ingredients: 1 heaped tablespoon cornflour, 2 heaped tablespoons flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1 pinch salt, 3oz. butter, 1 egg, 1 tablespoon sugar.

Method: Separate white from yolk of egg. Cream butter and sugar. Add flour, cornflour, baking powder, yolk of egg. Press into dish and bake in moderate oven till golden brown. Then spread stewed fruit or jam over it and decorate with white of egg stiffly beaten with 1 tablespoon sugar. Put back in oven till brown.