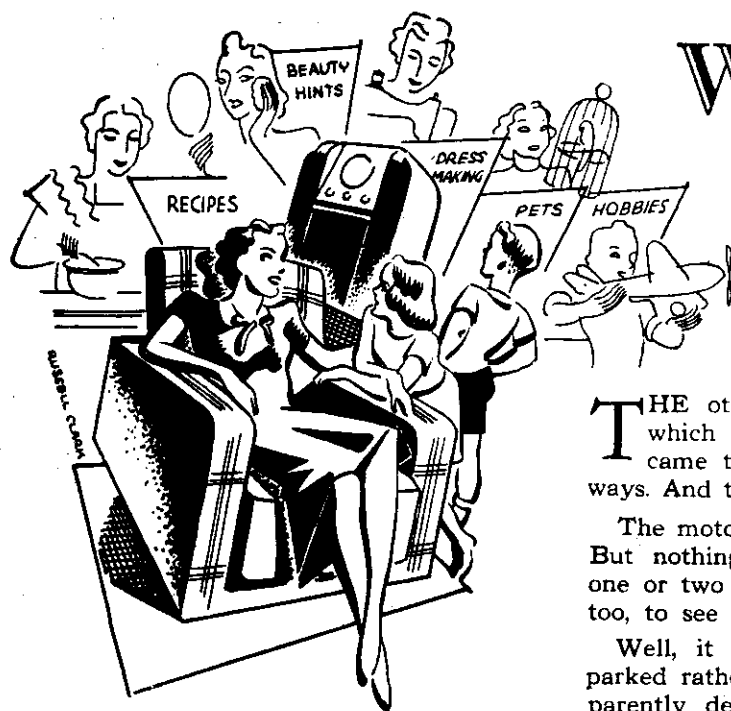


# Women and the Home

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.



## NOT OUR BUSINESS?

THE other day I was in a city tram which was turning a corner when we came to a halt that flung us all sideways. And there we stayed.

The motorman and the conductor got off. But nothing more happened, so presently one or two of us, mere passengers, got out, too, to see what the matter was.

Well, it appeared that a tiny car was parked rather untidily at the curb, and apparently deserted. Its rear mudguard projected an inch too far for the tram to clear. Now, mid-day in the city's a fairly busy time for most people. But the driver and the conductor stood on the pavement lighting cigarettes, ignoring the whole dilemma — not interested.

I said to the conductor, "Couldn't we push it out of the way?"

"Me?" he answered loudly, for all to hear, "Not for mine! Not my business. The moment I lay a hand on that car, I'm liable."

"But," I felt compelled to say, rather on behalf of the bewildered passengers, "But we'll have to move it. We might be here for ages."

"The rest of the day," he retorted, letting the smoke slowly out of his mouth, "for all I care."

Well, the end of it was that a passer-by, a passenger (a little, indignant woman with a shopping bag on her wrist) and I shoved the car an inch or two. We made ourselves "liable." In sullen and indifferent silence the motorman climbed back on to the tram, the conductor resumed his ticket clipping and we (and incidentally the line of traffic that had come up behind), moved on.

Now, I don't know the rights and wrongs of the law — but I can't help feeling, with most of those passengers, that there was something wrong with all this. Something definitely and fundamentally wrong. It may be a good thing to confine our public actions in water-tight compartments, but this incident, in the words of the little man on the footpath, struck me as just "damn silly."

What chance has the mother of creating a smooth-running home atmosphere who lets her child retort, "I won't pick it up — I didn't put it there!"?

*Ann Stadel*

## These Should Interest You:

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

"Plans for Our Section at the Exhibition": Monday, October 16, 1YA 3.30 p.m.; 2YA 3 p.m.; 3YA 2.30 p.m.

"Meals for the School Child": Wednesday, October 18, 4YA 3.15 p.m.

"How Diet Affects Our Mental Reactions": Thursday, October 19, 1YA 3.30 p.m.; 3YA 2.30 p.m.; Friday, October 20, 2YA 3 p.m.

"What Science is Doing to Dress Materials": Friday, October 20, 4YA 3.15 p.m.

"Bringing Up the Small Child" (1): Mrs. C. E. Beeby. Monday, October 16, 3YA 11.15 a.m.

"Sweden and its Folk Songs": Illustrated talk by Anna L. Gerdtsmann. Thursday, October 19, 4YA 8.40 p.m.

"The Antiquity and Beauty of Chinese Art": Amy Milburn. Thursday, October 19, 1YA 9.25 p.m.

"Kathleen Chats to Business Girls": Saturday, October 21, 2YA 10.45 a.m.

Friday Shopping Basket: 1ZB 9.45 a.m. Fridays.

## DECORATION

Primrose, white and scarlet are the exciting and only colours in the decorative scheme of a luxuriously modern dining room in a home I recently visited.

The room itself is interesting. All corners, and joinings of wall to ceiling or floor, are rounded. Walls are painted palest primrose. Ceiling, and wood or metal of furniture, is white. Chairs of modern shape are upholstered in smooth white leather, and the door is padded and studded in white leather to match. The long refectory table is cellulosed in white, and only needs to be wiped over, first with a damp cloth, then a dry one. The surface is stain, heat, and scratch proof.

My hostess had designed her own standard lamps. One switch turns on globes that send light outwards, another provides upward-flung, reflected light. One switch is white, the other crimson. Plain crimson carpets the floor from wall to wall.

The scheme is one at the same time extravagant and practical, but it is definitely effective and original.

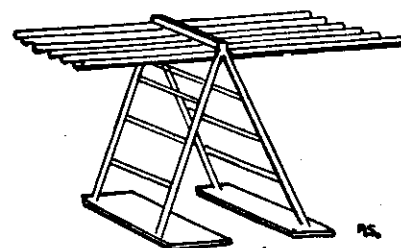
—V.W.

## Can You Tell Her?

"Listener," Otahu, wants to know the rights and the wrongs of making Candied Peel. Orange and lemon peels are certainly too good to waste. I use mine up most chopped and grated into steamed or suet puddings. But experiments in the matter of "candyng" haven't proved me very clever at it. Could some reader who's been successful give us — and "Listener" — some sound directions in the matter?

## SHOP PROWL

This week my search for the Practical Gadget led me to a simple clothes rack designed, first and foremost for nursery airing. The thing stands about two feet six inches high, has flat "feet" for balancing side rails and no less than sixteen projecting "arms." The whole thing closes up flat. It is one of those very simple but splendidly useful things that mothers of small children will value highly.



### WEEKLY RECIPE

#### APRICOT DELIGHTS

**Ingredients:** 1 pint milk, sugar to taste, 1 yolk of egg, 1½oz. rice, 8 apricot halves.

**Method:** Put the washed rice into a double saucepan with the milk. Cook this (covered) over gentle heat for about 1½ hours, until the whole is thick and creamy. Sweeten to taste and add the beaten egg yolk. Pour a little of this mixture into 8 small buttered fireproof dishes. In each put half an apricot and cover with the remainder of the rice. Cook in a moderate oven until golden-brown.