

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MOTHERS

### Group Travel Scheme

THE girl who takes up an academic or commercial career and makes a good job of it, has a reasonable chance of getting some sort of financial reward from her grateful teachers, but the idea of scholarships for mothers is a new conception. You can hear all about it from Mrs. A. H. Gillingham, the organiser of the Countrywomen's Holiday Scheme, who will speak from 3YA at 11.15 a.m. on Thursday, May 15. The object of the Countrywomen's Holiday Scheme is to honour motherhood, the greatest and yet perhaps the least assisted of the professions.

This scheme, which was inaugurated by the South Canterbury Federation of Women's Institutes last October, aims at providing free holidays for mothers with large families, though, as in most scholarship awards, quality as well as quantity is probably taken into consideration. The first scholarship was won by Mrs. M., the mother of 16 children, the eldest of whom is serving with the New Zealand forces overseas. Mrs. M., who had not been north of Dunedin, and who had never had a holiday (except to the nursing home), appreciated to the full the 10-day tour to the Franz Josef and the glaciers. The second scholarship, a seven day trip to Nelson, was won by Mrs. L., the mother of 12 children, three girls and nine boys, two of whom are now overseas.

Since July, 1937, the South Canterbury Federation of Women's Institutes has been taking part in the scheme for Group Travel Holidays. These are arranged by the Government Tourist Bureau in conjunction with the Physical Health and Recreation Branch, and so far 567 people have benefited from them. The first trip took a party of 20 to Mount Cook, and altogether, there have been 25 Countrywomen's "Keep Fit" parties to different beauty spots throughout the South Island (from Stewart Island to Golden Bay).

These proved so enjoyable that the members decided to give a thanks offering to the funds, and it is from these donations that the scholarship scheme is financed. The Holiday Fund up to the end of March totalled £72.

### Taste and Fashion

The striking thing about fashions is that they change, and in women's dress the change is so obvious that the word "fashion" has come to be almost confined to changes in feminine costume. The middle-aged among us may remember the days when our mothers, about to cross the road, were compelled to relinquish our small hands to gather up their voluminous skirts from the ground. As they did so there was a rustle of innumerable silk petticoats underneath, and even a glimpse of lace frill.

The old-fashioned moralist's view—a view not quite extinct among the upper clergy—was that fashion changed because woman was incurably frivolous and inconstant. "La donna e mobile..." But fashion's changes are never entirely arbitrary; they always have some inner historical significance, so that the inadequacy of the female character cannot be a complete explanation.—James Laver.



## Remember MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY, MAY 11th

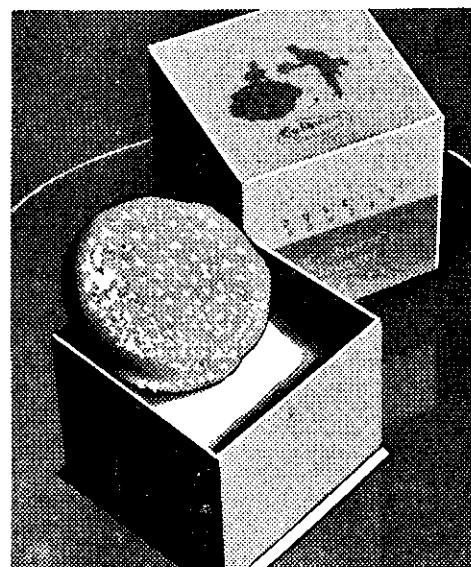
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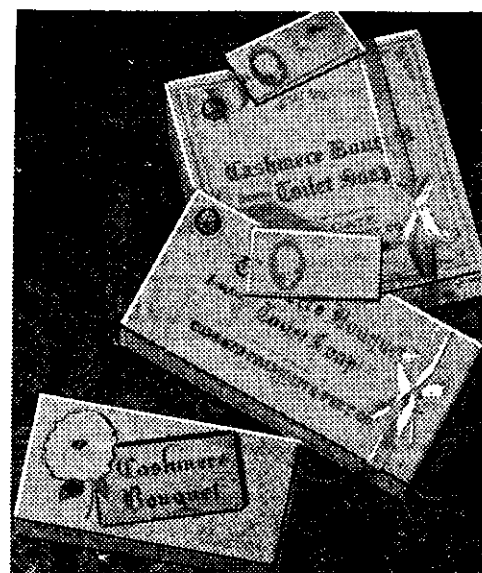
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