



OF FEMININE INTEREST



By "Patricia"

NOW that the Radio Board is taking a questionnaire of all listeners, it is to be hoped our women readers will express their views on what they require in the way of programmes and at what hours they can get most benefit. For instance, are we making the most of our morning hours, and do we want more talks, on what subjects, and when? Most women have got through the greater part of their household duties by 10.30 a.m. and are ready for a cup of tea. That would seem a good time to listen-in to lecturettes giving the instructive information that can be put over the air. I have heard some say that they have derived much help from the talks on cookery, interior decoration, and the health. What a boon is wireless to the mother of today. She has a much less anxious time over her children's many ailments than did her grandmother. Some use is now made of these morning hours, but could not that phase be developed more fully by more subjects being treated and over a longer period? Many of my friends say they would like more morning talks.

Many farmers, probably because they are handling milk, do not make as much use of it as they could and should in their domestic life. Advocacy by Mrs. Adamson of the more generous use of milk is, therefore, timely, and should fall upon favourable ground. Many experiments upon school children are available for emphasising the value of milk, and I am sure those who listened to her appreciated her message and will look as eagerly as I do myself for her further talk. On Tuesday, the 28th, she spoke on calcium, the bone builder, and in further talks will discourse upon other aspects of health. Mrs. Adamson is a clear speaker.

ON Tuesday evening, the 22nd, I enjoyed a talk from 4QG, Brisbane, by Lady McCartney, a prominent figure in the Girl Guide movement, and Com-

missioner for the State of Queensland. Lady McCartney has just returned to Australia from a prolonged visit to the Home Country, and gave a resume of her activities in connection with the guides in England. She also spoke of the visits of her Majesty and the Princess Royal to headquarters, and how interested they were in the new building which has just been erected. Her Majesty made a thorough inspection of the rooms, cupboards, etc., and showed great pleasure in the way everything was conducted. Princess Royal, Lady McCartney says, is quite at home with her guides, and immensely enjoys an alfresco meal with them. The speaker also said that overseas guides who intend to visit London will receive a cordial welcome from headquarters, and should send word of their forthcoming arrival in good time in order that ar-

rangements may be made for their attendance at any function that may be on. Lady McCartney then conveyed a special message direct from the Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell, to the guides and brownies of Queensland, which expressed her keen satisfaction in the work that was being done there, especially the joining up of the 800 recruits last year. Both Lord and Lady Powell wished them every success and hoped that they would serve God, be good citizens, and help in every possible way all those who were in need of assistance.

BIRMINGHAM—always to the front in educational innovation—has developed an interesting system of training its elementary schoolgirls. The Education Committee rents certain houses all over the city, furnishes them as ordinary houses, and sends a small group of thirteen-year-old girls every day to the house in their district. An instructress is in charge. She opens up the house at 8.45 a.m., tumbles the beds so that they appear to have been slept in; in short, reduces the bedrooms to their usual state at this hour in a normal household. The children arrive, and the morning is given over to domestic work under the guidance of an expert in method.

Hints for the Housewife

A FUNNEL for pouring ink, oil or other liquids into a narrow-necked bottle can be made in a moment by merely boring a hole in the pointed end of an egg shell. Make the hole with a large darning needle, using a circular motion, and the shell will not crack.

CRUSHED egg shells added to warm, soapy water, are excellent aids for cleansing the inside of bottles and vinegar cruets. Thoroughly shake and then rinse with cold, clean water.

FRENCH chalk is invaluable for cleaning a variety of feminine accessories. Soiled felt hats, light suede gloves, and bags, if covered with it and left wrapped in tissue paper overnight will be vastly freshened and renewed when the chalk is brushed off.

WHEN the screw which secures the knob of a drawer or cupboard refuses to grip it can be made tight in a moment by first putting a small piece of chamois-leather between screw and wood and screwing in again.

A CREASED velvet dress will be very considerably improved by hanging it in the bathroom while the bath is filled with hot water. The steam will work wonders with the creases.

YOU will find that suet puddings are lighter if mixed with warm water instead of cold.

TO avoid artichokes being sodden and unappetising when served with white sauce, drain the artichokes, dust over with salt, and place in a gentle heat until all moisture is removed. Pour the sauce over when they are dry and very hot.

WOVEN artificial silk or woollen garments keep their shape better if laid flat while drying. At the same time they should get plenty of air. Peg a strong sheet between two lines so that it is well stretched out, and lay the garments on it.

GLOVES of light kid can be cleaned with milk and soft soap. Lay the gloves on a clean piece of cloth and sponge them with a soft rag dipped in the mixture, rinsing frequently. Work down toward the finger tips, stretch into shape, and lay out flat to dry without rinsing.

SCISSORS may be sharpened by running the blades across the neck of a bottle with the same action as that of cutting cloth. Do it lightly and evenly.

AFTER handling fish, peeling onions, or other vegetables which leave an unpleasant odour, always wash the hands and utensils in cold water immediately. If the mistake is made of using warm water first, it opens the pores, softens the skin, and the smell remains for days in spite of all the cold water that may be used afterwards.

A GOOD way to keep salt in salt-cellar dry even during the dampest weather is to put a clean piece of white blotting paper at the bottom of the salt-cellar, shaped exactly to fit, and this absorbs all the moisture.

WOMEN who spend much time in the open air in all weathers will find the following recipe of great help in keeping the skin from getting that coarse and leathery appearance. Make a mask of oatmeal and white of egg. The oatmeal will soften and the white of egg bleach. Then follow up with a vigorous application of skin food.

CACTUS green, love-in-the-mist blue, and chestnut bronze are some of the new colours of rich British velvets. These artistic velvets are of uncrushable artificial silk and almost indistinguishable from real silk. The successful vogue for velvet will undoubtedly be prolonged by these beautiful new fabrics.

LOVERS of intrigue, excitement and adventure will find all they require in Mr. Russel Warren's new book, "Princess Proxy" (Ward, Lock and Co.). Silvia Savile, the daughter of a Karolian Prince by a morganatic marriage, journeys from England to seek assistance from Radtzko, a friend of her dead father. She is induced to go through a proxy marriage for the Princess Sophie of Karolia, and the dangers and adventures that arise from this incident make a thrilling and absorbing story.

WOMEN have a way of making apparently infinitesimal sacrifices on a thousand things, and these mount up to a very appreciable whole. They also have a way of robbing "Peter to pay Paul," a practice which is not nearly so reprehensible from an economic point of view as it may sound when dissected by the masculine mind. Now that economy is so essential I am confident that the majority of women will tackle the household budget in an unspectacular manner, which will bring them no personal glory, but the satisfaction of having done their bit—in bits.

THEN the question arises, Are we or are we not getting too much music? Sitting near two women in a tram one day, I heard them discussing the merits and demerits of the various broadcasting stations, but from their conversation I gathered that they and many of their friends liked music as a background while busy with their housework, especially bright and stirring music. "It made them feel more cheerful and work with more spirit." If we have music all the time, what effect has that upon our discrimination?

I FOUND Captain Galloway's informative lecture on light therapy from 2YA on Monday morning, the 21st, most interesting and listeners would be well advised to tune in for further talks of this series. His remarks, too, on the activities of the Junior Red Cross in different parts of the world were instructive as to the good the enthusiastic members of this organisation were able to do. For instance, in Australia, through their efforts the treatment of six cases of infantile paralysis were successful. This should be an incentive to those corporate-minded to actively assist in the good work.

A WEEKLY talk on "Diet and Health" has been arranged from 2ZW on Tuesday mornings at 11 o'clock. I listened the other morning when Mrs. D. W. Adamson, who is giving this series, spoke on milk and its health-giving properties. She emphasised its value to adults as well as to children. It is rather curious that New Zealand, which is famous for its dairy industry, has a lower consumption of milk per head than such a country as the United States, or even, I believe, Great Bri-