Spotlight Over Washington

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Recommended Citation
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol14/iss7/5
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By Alberta Hoppe

Columnist's note: The Homemaker has sent me, a reporter, to the top of Washington Monument from which point of vantage, I train my spotlight on the city below and country roundabout, picking out the bits of Washington news of special interest to Home Economics.

INSTINCT or intelligence, no one knows, but men more nearly get their food requirements than do women. The Bureau of Home Economics reports from observation of 800 men and 900 women at a state agricultural college, that 2/3 of the men drank 1/2 pint of milk daily, whereas only 1/3 of the women did. Both show an iron deficiency, the men being 23 percent below standard, and the women, 43 percent. Incidentally the stronger sex had a weakness for meat, mashed potatoes and apple pie.

A woman prominent in the front lines today is the spiritual mother of big and little children with hungry stomachs and hungry hearts—Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief of the Children's Bureau. She herself has a child-like voice, but she is quiet and not fluttery. She has an appreciative sense of humor and her laughter comes from deep within. Her gray-blue eyes look out from a round, friendly face with sympathetic understanding, and her advice embodies common sense.

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changed times have changed the method of securing a homestead. Instead of rattling over the prairie in a covered wagon, fighting the Indian, and finally staking out a claim on some distant spot and settling, homesteaders today buy their place on a 30-year basis. They must pay $50.59 per $1000 each year, this is paid in monthly installments with 3% interest. When 3/4 of the price has been accounted for, the homesteader gets the title for his acreage, the Federal Subsistence Homesteads Corporation taking a mortgage on the remaining quarter.

Secretary Ickes believes that this will place home ownership within the reach of the low income group—those earning $600 to $1200.

* * *

An attempt was made recently to give both the silk worm and the silk consumer a square deal. It was recommended that each member of the silk and rayon industry mark clearly upon each piece of fabric to be sold, whether it is silk, rayon, silk and rayon, or other combinations of textile fibers; and if it is silk, whether it is pure dye or weighted. This marking was to be placed at the end of each piece of material and on each wrapper and invoice for the merchandise. These provisions, however, were not accepted, and similar standards are to be submitted for approval through the American Standards Association, the Bureau of Standards, or any other body which will in this specific case guarantee both consumer and governmental representation.

* * *

New York housewives get their daily food prices and bargains hot from the market, thanks to the Municipal Department of markets. At two o'clock in the morning, market reporters go to all the wholesale fruit and vegetable markets, check over the supplies, see what the demand is, what condition and quality the various commodities are in, and record the price. At six o'clock they telephone in their reports to the Consumer's Service Division. Bulletins come in from the fresh water and sea food markets; reports are made on meats, dairy products, poultry and eggs, and the staff puts the highlights on the news. At 8:25 a.m. Mrs. Frances Foley Cannon, Deputy Commissioner of New York City's Department of Markets, goes on the air for five minutes to give her tips to New York housewives.

Musical Moods—His Specialty

by Hazel Moore

THE thrill of noble and lovely music, captured by skilled musicians and a dynamic leader, may be yours. The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, one of the greatest orchestras of the world, will be brought to you on January 23.

Perhaps this is your first chance to see a large group, 85 to be exact, of musicians, with a keen touch for instruments that catch every mood, and to hear them putting their very hearts into each haunting strain of some old Beethoven or Wagner masterpiece.

"Music hath charms"—great audiences in the largest cities in the United States have been enthralled at the music of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Its conductor Eugene Ormandy, is a striking personality. Newspaper reports name him "a conductor of real distinction, making motion most important and contagious. The adjustment and emphasis of accent to produce the primitive appeal of this work mark his interpretations as superb."

He injects the scores with life, animation and acute awareness of musical emotion.

Another mark of his genius is his ability to conduct a full program without benefit of score or music stand. It is truly a great feat of memory.

EUGENEORMANDY