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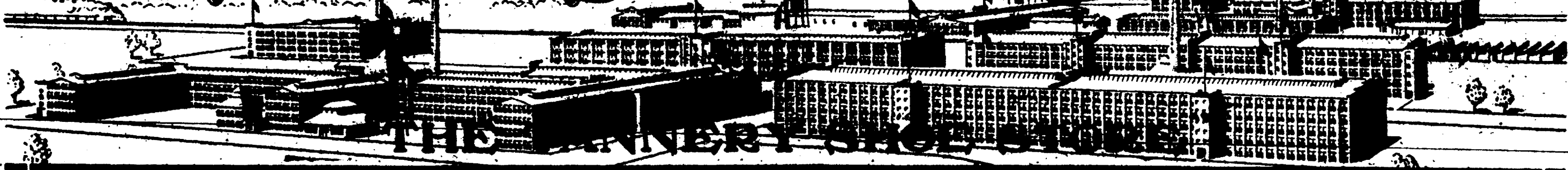


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### HOME ECONOMY INSTRUCTIONS

#### Smith-Lever Funds in '33 States Plan to Increase Net Income

Washington, May 7.—The Smith-Lever Act provides for extension work in agriculture and home economics, but it does not specify what proportion of the funds shall be used in home economics. The State agricultural college extension directors are being urged by women's organizations of various kinds to allot a certain specific portion of the Smith-Lever funds for work with women. In view of this fact, it is interesting to note the amount of money actually being put into this work by the agricultural colleges, for the most part in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture. Data taken from the records of the department and relating exclusively to work of this kind in the 33 Northern and Western States show the following distribution of funds:

- (1) For meetings and movable schools at which demonstrations are given in cooking, sewing, household conveniences, and for the organization of women's clubs to study home economics... \$81,555
- (2) For canning clubs to teach girls and women how to prevent many of the wastes of the farm by canning and preserving fruits, vegetables, and meats by cheap and rapid commercial processes... \$6,197
- (3) For county agents who help farmers and their wives to increase the net income of the farm, and thus make possible the introduction of labor-saving conveniences and other improvements into the home... 1,027,312

From the above it will be seen that there is being spent a total of \$1,377,522 directly and \$1,027,312 indirectly on lines of work affecting the farm home. The former amount is equal to 42 per cent. of the Smith-Lever fund available this year for extension work in the 33 northern and western States, while the latter is more than three times the entire Smith-Lever fund available to all of these States for the year 1914-15.

**Need for Careful Planning**  
Matters that just now are concerning extension directors in the North and West are how best to approach the home economics problems of the country and what kind of an organization to develop for carrying on the work. Shall there be developed a woman county agent who shall work with farm women in some such manner as the county agent works with men? Just what, in detail, shall such a woman do? How shall she organize her work and how go about it? Shall it be required that the county pay a part of her salary and expenses,

as in the case of the county agent? What training and qualifications shall be required of women agents who take up the work as county agents as a permanent life work. Women agents are very likely to leave the service to manage homes of their own. In view of this fact, how shall the work be organized? The Washington office will welcome comments and suggestions from all county agents and extension workers who have given attention to this matter.

**Objections to Farm Life**  
The chief objections of women to country life are usually (1) the generally small returns in farming, (2) the drudgery of farm work, and (3) the social isolation. More money for home conveniences and greater efficiency in household management both have in view the lessening of the drudgery of farm work and the securing of certain periods of leisure to farm women, which may be used in productive, social, and recreational ways.

**Fundamental Home Matters**  
Extension work designed to be fundamentally helpful to farm women would seem, therefore, to include within its scope certain matters, as follows:  
1. Plans to increase the net income of the farm.—Farm women need more money for home purposes. The purchase of home conveniences, the installation of water, sewerage, lighting, and heating systems, kitchen and other conveniences, and the bringing of literature and music into the home are, in the majority of country homes, dependent upon greater net profits in farming. Knowledge of these conveniences and other desirable things is good, but money to buy these desirable things is a vital necessity if country life is to be made as acceptable to women as town life. The county agent is giving special attention to this phase of the work.

2. Plans to teach and demonstrate efficiency in farm home management. These include such matters as wholesome food properly prepared and served in adequate supply and variety, throughout the year, the care of the home and the family linen and wardrobe, the care and management of children, and sometimes the handling of certain farm enterprises like poultry and eggs, milk and butter, the garden, small fruits, etc. Efficiency in farm home management contemplates the maximum of accomplishment with the minimum of effort to the end that the farm family may find satisfaction and contentment in the home, and that the time of the farm woman may be conserved.

3. Plans for leisure and development.—The farm woman needs time for reading, self-development, child teaching, social life, and recreation. In the development of home economics demonstration work, there needs to be kept in mind the point of view that the problems of country women must chiefly be solved by country women. The county agent movement in some sections of the North and West started out primarily as a city man's movement, but it has succeeded in exact proportion as the farmers of the county have taken hold of the work and made it their own.

**Co-operation of City Women**  
City women can help in the development of the forthcoming demon-

stration work in home economics for country women. One of the ways in which city women can be of direct help in the movement is through greater social intercourse with farm women, through direct purchases of poultry, eggs, butter, fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, and by co-operating with them in the maintenance of rest rooms, nurseries, etc., for farm women when they come to town. But farm women need and how to meet these needs are matters which must be worked out chiefly by farm women themselves. The criticism sometimes heard with reference to much of our home-economics teaching is that such teaching is done primarily from the standpoint of the town woman. The country woman's problems are the problems of the country and must be approached from that standpoint.

**A LIVING TORPEDO.**  
That Odd Fish, the Electric Ray, is a Terror to His Own Way.  
There is a queer fish, bearing the name torpedo, that in its own peculiar way is a good deal of a terror. It is the torpedo, or electric ray, a dweller in the southern sea, which grows to a large size, sometimes weighing seventy or eighty pounds. This peculiar fish has a very circular body, a short tail and a nearly smooth mouth.  
The back is brownish in color, and the underneath parts are white.  
The torpedo obtains its name from its power of giving a violent shock, similar to an electric shock, to anything with which it comes in contact. Whenever an enemy approaches the fish emits from its body a kind of electricity, which incapacitates the attacker immediately.  
In capturing its food the torpedo finds this power of use. Being very inactive, it cannot pursue the small fish which form its diet, so it lies in wait until they swim close by and then throws out its powerful shock, which instantly renders them helpless.  
If a person touches this strange fish he is attacked by cramp, which affects the stomach, producing a kind of convulsion. For this reason the torpedo is sometimes known as the "cramp fish."—London Answers.

**THE YELLOW FLAG.**  
A Race That Once Saved a British Ship From Capture.  
An effective *ras de guerre* in the way of flag flying was that practiced in the Mediterranean at the beginning of the last century by Lord Dundonald while cruising in the British ship *Speedy*. This little brig had captured so many of the enemy's merchantmen that a Spanish frigate was specially fitted out, disguised as a merchantman, to bring her to book.  
Dundonald, in order to deceive the merchant craft of the enemy, adopted similar tactics and disguised the *Speedy* as a Danish merchant brig. The two disguised boats soon sighted each other. Dundonald at once gave chase and discovered his mistake when the Spaniard suddenly revealed her true nature and started lowering a boat to examine the *Speedy's* papers.  
But Dundonald was equal to the occasion. He hoisted the yellow flag—signal of sickness. And when the Spanish boat was within half an English officer in Danish uniform shouted that they were only two days out of Algiers. As the plague was raging in Algiers, the race was completely successful.—London Chronicle.

### EARLY SUMMER OUTFITS NOW

#### Traveling Outfits—Afternoon Gowns Easily Packed—Three-Piece Dresses—Color Combinations

New York, May 7.—Few dresses are as altogether satisfactory to the woman who requires the utmost wear from her clothes as a stylish well designed silk suit in three pieces.  
From a famous French maker is a costume of black faille, that soft slightly corded silk which divides the honors with taffeta this season—Two wide long tunics cut to points and pleated at the sides, top a narrow hem which swings well above the ankles; the top part is a Grecian chemise quite short, of vermicelli lace just off a white tone. Black velvet ribbon crossing the figure in the traditional classic manner, over the shoulder and



McCall Design

under the bust, is caught in the middle by a circlet of pearls mounted on ebony.  
The coat of the black silk is short and fastens demurely to the neck, to hide the floating flimsiness beneath.  
**A More Ornate Rig**  
This dress has the skirt of black silk with broad blue satin stripes running crosswise the gathers well adjusted to the normal waist line. The blouse is a combination of cream net and thin lace, with a high collar that does not meet in front but is joined there by a twisted cravat with handkerchief ends of black satin.  
The fronts of the blouse also refuse to meet which is one of this season's tricks. The sleeves are long and light-fitting with frills of lace over the wrists, and there is a billowing of palest pink satin that passes under the arms—the belt of folded

black satin ribbon ends in a cockade bow at the side. The jacket that makes this blouse wearable in the street, is a short affair of black satin slashed at the sides, and trimmed with small jet buttons. It fastens up to the chin.

**Taffeta Frocks**  
Taffeta is perhaps the leading favorite this season, and frocks of it are made in innumerable varieties of cut and trimming, from the plain full skirt topped with suspender straps of the material, to be worn with waists of net, lace, chiffon or batiste, concealed beneath a matching silk bolero or topped with one of the stylish coats of covert fancy checks, or velvet cords, which are an invaluable part of the outfit, for motoring, traveling and all sorts of informal outdoor purposes.

**Lighter Coats**  
Summer coats of taffeta and silk shantung, as well as of various linen and cotton weaves suitable for such garments, are shown in attractive assortment.  
Black taffeta rather leading but colors also well endorsed especially in blue and dark chocolate tones. Shantung in natural shades are handsomely tailored, in Norfolk pleats and side pleated models, and gain considerable style and emphasis from bright colored linings and handsome buttons, though many of the best coats are unlined and confined to self color.

Blue and black is a favorite combination, especially blue serge or gabardine, with black taffeta.  
Blue and sand color is another revival, and for evening coral pink silk and grass green tulle is fetchingly combined by a French maker.  
Black and white holds the first place in favor just now though we are promised an all white summer season. Verona Clarke.

**Cleveland Centenary.**  
There is strong sentiment in Cleveland, O., in favor of commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the city by the dedication of the new public works, which are now practically completed at a cost of \$13,000,000. Mayor Baker and President Thwing of Western Reserve university are strongly in favor of the celebration.

**STYLE SPARKS.**  
Three piece costumes were displayed at many of the spring openings. These included usually coat suits of serge and taffeta, gabardines and taffetas and voile and taffetas combined in self colors only.  
The frock in one piece was the usual arrangement, with a smartly cut dressy coat to match for wear with the gown.  
Sports suits are being made of tweeds, serges and corduroys.  
Favored styles are the gored circular skirts of fairly heavy weight materials with a coat designed along English shooting coat lines. This offers an inverted plait at the back and one each side of the front portions. These plaits extend to the waist line only, where the coat finishes with a smoothly fitted circular cut peplum.  
Patch pockets of large dimensions are fashion features which distinguish the spring of many of the latest suits. As many as four appear at a time, with others inserted in the gaiters by the addition of two more.

### GARDEN CLUB IN SPOKANE.

Vacant Lots and Back Yards Are Cultivated and Beautified.  
This, the fifth year of the Spokane Home Garden club, organized and conducted by the Young Men's Christian association and the Spokesman-Review, finds the club serving as a model for similar civic movements all over the country. More than fifty cities have written to the Y. M. C. A. for details of the plan by which for the past four years Spokane young people have welcomed the warm spring days by converting cluttered back yards into copiously herbiferous gardens. Letters have come from districts as widely separated as the Adirondack mountains and the Sacramento valley. Women's clubs, civic uplift organizations and other branches of the Y. M. C. A. have written for information.  
It is in the cultivation of vacant lots and back yards that the Home Garden club has during the last few years shown its value as a city beautiful aid. Besides removing from the public eye a great many unsightly lots on which the accumulation of winter refuse was thick, the club last year produced vegetables whose total value is estimated by Secretary G. A. Forbes of the Y. M. C. A. at \$6,000.  
Active co-operation is being given by the federal government, which, through the department of agriculture, is organizing the boys and girls of many cities into garden clubs, potato clubs, corn clubs and the like. T. J. Newbill of the department of agriculture will represent the government in Spokane this spring and will advise the Home Gardeners in matters pertaining to gardening efficiency. Mr. Newbill says: "I find that boys and girls make a more profitable circle than grownups for the distribution of government seeds and literature. They are more in earnest, and they are not so likely to disregard the instructions of government experts."

**New Styles For Mexican Judges.**  
President Gonzalez Garza has issued a decree prescribing the dress that must be habitually worn by judges. The dress includes black Quaker hat, black frock coat, white shirt and cravat, black gloves and black walking stick. The emblem of justice embroidered in gold must be worn on the lapel of the coat.

### PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

**Ringworm.**  
There are few diseases of the skin easier to cure than ringworm of non-hairy parts of the body. It is, however, difficult to cure ringworm of the scalp and beard—especially the former. The reason for the intractability of ringworm of the scalp and beard is that the fungus (a vegetable parasite, the trichophyton) grows down into the hair follicles, and it is very difficult to make well recognized antiparasitic penetrate to the seat of the trouble without damaging the skin. It requires early six months to a year of treatment to cure ringworm on the scalp or beard. Any one suffering from ringworm should place himself under the observation of a physician or a specialist on diseases of the skin if he wants to be cured. A plain sulphur ointment of one dram of sulphur to an ounce of benzoated lard, a thin paste rubbed into affected localities night and morning, will usually and quickly cure ringworm of the scalp and beard.