

April 13, 1952

Women might be considered the weaker sex; but when it comes to great troubles it is she who is the comforter and the assurer and stands up better in a crisis.

When all hope is gone, the man gives up; but in the breast of the woman always lays a spark of spirit and she can pray where he will not. Not much credit is given women in History for their courage for she always comes second and must bear the burdens of mankind.

The greatest example of women's undaunted spirit is shown in the crucifixion of Christ. When all men betrayed Him--even his disciples were afar except for John. At his trial the only voice raised in His defense was that of Claudia pleading with her husband, Pilate, to give mercy.

On the way to Calvary, the pious women of Jerusalem, ignoring the jeers and mockery of the soldiers, consoled Him with words of sympathy and one of them, Veronica, offered Him a towel to wipe his face.

The three Marys were present at Calvary; Mary of Magdala, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the three representatives of penitence, motherhood, and virginity. And it was Mary, Mother of Jesus, who stayed by the Tomb.

Whenever a man's world is in danger of collapse, it is to a woman he turns for sympathy, hope, and advice. So being born a woman, I realize I have a great part to act in this the drama of life; and only hope that I am equal to the honor.

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April 14, 1952

Before the age of zippers, snaps, buttons, staples, and such how did this world keep itself together? With all these handy gadgets we should all be very streamlined.

We would think with so many time saving inventions all around us, we would have endless time for relaxation and more work; but it seems we don't accomplish anymore than the generations of the past.

Rather there are more ways of spending time and more interesting things to do. The automobile may cut traveling time to minutes; but we go farther and oftener so don't actually save.

The zipper can be installed in a jiffy; but now we have more clothes; so it consumes more time making a wardrobe than it did 50 years ago; when one Sunday to go meeting dress was enough; but now there are at least six in the average clothes closet.

It takes just as long now to find that important paper in the desk drawer as it did 50 years ago; and we have staples and scotch tape to keep things in order; but 50 years ago they didn't have income tax and these ABC commissions in the government and the endless repetition of red tape for everything you do.

It sorta winds up that the inventions are a natural thing growing along with our more complex way of life and the more involved it becomes, the more inventions we will have to keep things in balance.

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April 15, 1952

Unless we give deep thought to some everyday things, we don't realize how important these little things are we take for granted. Have you ever thought about the sun other than its responsibility for day and night and heat?

Little wonder the heathens idolized it as their god. Even the uneducated and the heathen men studied with natural curiosity the working of Mr. Sun. Did it not bring them light, heat, and fire?

As man grew in curiosity and the light of the Christian era shone brighter, he soon learned there is a force even greater than the sun--a force that could even control the sun.

With intense study and experimenting and retracing of history, man soon solved some of the riddles of the sun. Today we know that without the solar rays, we would not have weather; that is wind and rain and of course sunshine.

The sun is responsible for coal and oil and water power. In fact it is the one reason for all living things. When vegetation dies and rots and lies for centuries it causes coal and oil. Without the heat of the sun, water would not be drawn from the seas to make rain and neither would there be winds to spread the moisture.

Science will some day learn the secret of bottling the sun's heat and using it for heating buildings. In fact, fifty or a hundred years from now we might be surprised how old man sun has been harnessed.

(Right now I would like to have a bottle of sun to turn loose in this house.)

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April 16, 1952

It is very wonderful how all our foods are so sanitarily wrapped with several thicknesses of protection; but what becomes of this wrap is another story.

There are probably a million dollars spent each year to pick up these wrappers and still the job isn't as thorough as it should be. I have been reading in the big city newspaper about the trashy conditions around their schools. Everyone just tosses away candy, gum, and food wrappers never minding where it goes whether it is the street or in a lawn or flower bed. Of course, this practice would be extra noticeable near schools where several hundred youngsters congregate.

One reason for this is that we don't have enough pride in our country to help keep it clean. In Switzerland, the children are taught from the cradle to keep everything picked

up and it is very shameful, indeed, if a Swiss would be caught throwing garbage on the street. They take pride in keeping their beautiful little country clean and when you look at their scenery you don't have to first push aside a clutter of papers and junk.

There isn't any reason why it couldn't be the same in our good old U.S.A. Children are taught to wash their teeth from the time they can walk and it could be just as easy for them to always place waste paper in baskets or containers that are everywhere meant for that purpose. It would be simple to have a receptacle in our cars for wrappers and used paper hankies. It is shameful how the highways are cluttered with such eye sores.

Good habits are as easy to form as bad ones. Throwing away waste just as well be a neat habit; and we can't blame the kids if they are careless when we parents are such bad examples.

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April 17, 1952

I'll bet there isn't another word in the English language that has as many meanings as "work". Just to refresh a stale memory, I consulted the dictionary and found that its definitions cover a half of the page.

What is work to some people is play to others; so it depends upon what you do and who you are. Sitting all day in an office is work to some people and they are as exhausted at the end of the day as the laborer with the pick and shovel. I can't find off hand the difference in the amount of calories burned by the two occupations; but I doubt if there is much difference. I am always just as weary from book work as from manual labor.

Some of us play just as hard as we work; but won't admit that is tiring. The dictionary says work is to put forth mental or physical effort. There are those who put forth lots of mental effort to keep from doing the physical; so they say they are tired too, and probably are; but never accomplished anything to show for it.

To do any job well, we must exert as much mental as physical effort and by using a lazy brain can usually figure some ways to lessen the physical strain. As I see it work should be an even balance of the two--mental and physical. When I am told it doesn't take any brains to be a ditch digger, I disagree. A ditch digger without brains couldn't figure how to find so many excuses to lean on the shovel. Just watch a pipe laying crew and you will see what I mean.

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If you feel overworked and don't want to make gravy for the mashed potatoes; plan having peas that meal. Make a mound of mashed spuds and fashion a crater in the center. Fill this with the hot peas and add a lump of butter and sprinkle with paprika. Some chopped parsley with add color.

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April 18, 1952

When God created the woman, he knew it was a necessity; not because man was lonesome; but because he couldn't find anyone to blame for all his troubles.

Of course she didn't help the situation any when she ate the forbidden fruit; but he was there and could have stopped her. Anyway, he had been wondering for a long time what would happen if the fruit were eaten; and it just saved him the blame.

Henceforth we poor females have had to bear the blame for all the ills of man. When a man must choose between situations he asks the advice of his spouse; but if her solution goes wrong--oh, man! Is she in the doghouse; but if he is right--oh, man! The bragging you will hear.

Any woman holding high political office suffers such ridicule and certainly is a bulwark of courage and stamina and must have a cast iron curtain to shut out all the guff.

According to statistics there are more women in the world than men. I don't know if this has been true through all the ages; but if the proportion remains, the women should be able to rule through numbers rather than size.

For centuries the woman was in the background--man's slave. Now she is gradually crawling forward into equality with the man; and perhaps before too long, he will have to take the blame and like it.

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April 19, 1952

I am certain the first musical instruments were crude types of drums or perhaps anything that would make a noise to a definite rhythm; and this noise has been going on for centuries. Jazz and boogie woogie is a throw back to the first musicians.

The first stringed instrument was probably discovered by accident when some one strummed a tightly drawn rawhide. A curious soul likely blew into a shell or an animal horn; so the wind instruments were born.

By imitating the birds, man soon learned he had a voice to sing, too; but unfortunately some were not gifted with a singing voice; but kept on just the same--as they do this day and age.

Not all of us are blessed with musical ability and true rhythm; and to be able to participate in the musical world, we either are patient listeners or have music pounded into us; a slow and hard process.

Perhaps it is just as well not all are born musicians and song birds. If so, who would be the admiring and appreciative audience? Everyone should at least have enough song to their voice to be able to unembarrassingly lift it in praise and joy; but alas, some of us were left entirely without any stretch to our vocal cords; or inherit from our ancestors only enough wind to toot a horn.

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The radio is a wonderful thing--you can turn it off. Some people you can't.

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