

### and Mrs. Willis Smith Find That Guests Can Eat Almost Anything Served

Note:—The following appeared last week in The Mountaineer and was written by Dolly Lee, publisher and hostess as Mrs. Smith, and her husband, Mr. Willis Smith, who were the hostesses to the party. We thought it would be of just passing interest to many friends here.

Everybody in North Carolina has heard of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Smith, so there's no need to introduce them. A few weeks ago, Mr. and Mrs. Smith were in their home, preparing to go out for a while to visit some friends. It was about 10 o'clock before supper time. Realizing the fact that they might be a little late, Dolly told the servants they might leave when everything was ready.

After leaving everything in the hands of the servants, she told them, "and we'll be home when we get back." "Certainly," said Mr. Smith, "but don't stay too late, I'm hungry."

At the Sir Walter Hotel they and their friends chatted with each other for about half an hour or so. Then Dolly gave a significant look to Mr. Smith, as plainly as words she expressed it: "Let's go home, I'm hungry for that roast."

Being a very obedient wife, she went. Also being a very capable person, she invited some of her friends to go home with her to eat supper. The friends, the customary demurring, went. Let's see—I believe Mr. Smith was in the party; Dolly, and two or three others I've forgotten.

When they all arrived at the mansion, Dolly explained the servants having left, you all sit down for a few minutes and I'll have everything ready for you.

They sat down, Dolly went back to the kitchen. The roast and the articles of food were in the oven. She set the table and everything ready for the meal.

At 10:15, she finally said to her guests, "you can eat now."

The roast was excellent. So everything else about the meal, Mr. Smith, Mr. Blount and other guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Time arrived for serving the dessert. Dessert is served.

They have some vanilla ice cream. Dolly told them, "The roast is before leaving and if you eat it myself, she really knows how to make good ice cream."

Mr. Smith and Mr. Blount had their lips in anticipation. Mr. Smith and Mr. Blount, in case they don't know it, really can go

to town when it comes to eating. "Vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce," said Dolly, as she went back into the kitchen to serve it.

After she had filled several plates, she called her husband. "Willis," she said, "take some of these in so that they can get started; and take the chocolate sauce in too."

Willis did as he was directed. Before each guest he placed a saucer of the ice cream. "Help yourself to the chocolate sauce," he directed, placing it within easy reach of Mr. Blount.

Mr. Blount helped himself. So did Mr. Cherry. So did Willis and the other guests.

Dolly was still back in the kitchen. Mr. Cherry took his first mouthful. "Delicious!" he murmured. "Best sundae I've had in a long time."

The other guests followed suit. There was a brief interval before they took the second mouthful.

"Certainly is good," said Mr. Blount, but somewhat faintly.

Mr. Smith had a puzzled expression upon his face. He started to say something, but changed his mind. Mr. Cherry, however, went ahead with his eating, carrying on a running conversation in the meantime.

Finally Mr. Smith put down his spoon. "There's something wrong with this sauce!" he exclaimed.

"Mine tastes all right," said Mr. Cherry.

"I can't help it," said Willis. "There's something wrong with it. . . . Dolly!"

Mrs. Smith entered the dining room. "Some more ice cream?" she asked.

"No!" said Willis. "There's something wrong with this chocolate sauce."

"I don't see how there could be," said Dolly. "Alma always makes it mighty good."

"I don't care how good she makes it; it isn't good tonight."

"Tastes all right to me," murmured Mr. Blount, coughing slightly.

"You brought in the blue pitcher, didn't you?" asked Dolly of her husband.

"Of course I did."

Mrs. Smith walked over to the pitcher. She picked it up and examined its contents. A strange expression flitted across her countenance. An expression of bewilderment.

"Good heavens!" she exclaimed. "What's the matter?" inquired Mr. Cherry, who was just taking the last mouthful out of his saucer.

"This isn't chocolate sauce," said Dolly.

"What is it then?" demanded Willis.

"It's—" His wife found it difficult to finish the sentence. "It's gravy for the roast!" she cried. "Alma put it in the wrong pitcher."

Quickly gathering up the dishes, she rushed them back to the kitchen, cleaned them and filled them up with fresh cream.

"I'm so ashamed, I don't know

### Conquered and Conquerer



A shaven-skulled Italian scoops out the remains of his Greek prison-camp dinner as he chats with a kilted Evzone, one of the crack Greek fighters to whose prowess he owes his plight. The bearded one doesn't appear at all downcast over the fact that for him the war is over.

### AAA Participation Was 88 Percent Last Year

North Carolina had a larger participation in the Agricultural Conservation Program in 1940 than in any previous year, according to an announcement by E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College, and G. T. Scott, Johnston county farmer who heads the state AAA committee.

About 7,030,000 acres—or 77 per cent of North Carolina's 7,990,000 acres of cropland, was covered by farms in the 1940 program, as compared with 63 per cent in 1930. The previous high mark was 83 per cent in 1938.

Both Floyd and Scott predicted that at least 90 per cent, and possibly as much as 95 per cent of the cropland in the state will be covered by participation in the 1941 program.

"The increased participation," Floyd said, "is to a larger extent the result of farmers' efforts to

emergency for tobacco, and it reflected increased interest in soil conservation during the past year. Preliminary figures show important increases over all previous years in the use of lime and phosphate, in acreage planted to winter cover crops, and in the seedings of other soil-building legumes and grasses. Approximately 17 million feet of terracing was completed, which was also a record.

North Carolina farmers participating in the 1940 program earned 78.5 per cent of their maximum soil-building payment, as compared with 60 per cent in 1936, the first year of the Agricultural Conservation Program.

"We farmers," Chairman Scott declared, "have found that higher farm income and improved fertility of our soils are real benefits that have resulted from the greater participation in the Farm Program."

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### Entire Farm Family Benefits From Electric Water System

By IRA MILLER  
Farm Electrification Bureau

HOW many tons of water did you and your family pump and carry last year to satisfy your needs and those of your stock and garden? A minimum of 20 to 30 tons if you



With running water in the house, she saves hours of hard work.

did not have an automatic pressure water system; probably none if you did.

Few farmers realize how much time and labor the "hired hands," usually his wife and children, spend in hand pumping water for the kitchen alone—30 eight-hour days and 200,000 steps each year being the average. But, doing it themselves, they should be conscious of the work and discomfort—particularly in bad weather—involved in pumping or hauling water for the livestock and other about-the-farm uses.

If few farmers appear to give much thought to the time and labor necessary to hand pump their water supply, even fewer give any consideration to the cost thereof. Were a farmer offered two to five cents a day for his services and those of his family, he would be justly indignant. Yet that is his own valuation if he does not install an electric water system.

An automatic electric pressure water system perhaps does more to improve the standard of living on

the farm than any other single piece of equipment. It is difficult to place a value on the comfort, health and convenience of hot and cold running water in the kitchen, laundry, toilet and bath. Nor should the protection against fire afforded by an adequate water system be overlooked, as figures prove that about 75% of all property involved in farm and rural fires is totally destroyed.

Although pressure water systems are available with other sources of power, those that are electrically operated are the most economical, reliable and trouble free. When planning and installing an electric water system and the necessary plumbing facilities, it is best first to write the extension division of your state college or university for general information on the subject. Then, after you have made a rough estimate of your requirements, call on the agricultural engineer of your power company, your county agent, the local electrical or plumbing contractor, or the manufacturers of the pumping equipment.

Any of the above agencies will be glad to assist you without cost



With running water in the house, this automatic pumping plant,

or obligation. Follow their advice so far as you are financially able, for no farm improvement pays greater profits in health, happiness, convenience and safety than an automatic electric water system.

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