

Buds AND Blossoms

By
MAMIE MILLER



"All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies,"--Psalm 25:10.

Soon as the spring blooming shrubs bloom, cut the branches back. Do not prune after this pruning. It is making up blooms for another year.

Snip the buds off chrysth mums every two weeks until July. The blooms will be larger and the stems stronger.

Iris may be transplanted as soon as they bloom. Dig them while you know the colors. Cut back the foliage. Put bone meal around them now for next year. It will take a year for it to do any good.

Put shadragons at least six inches for larger bloom. Keep the old blooms cut off to insure all summer blooming. Sweet Williams will bloom all summer if the seeds are kept off.

Cut zinnias and marigolds each day to keep plants strong. Throw all vegetable matter from the kitchen on the compost pile. Fish make good material--the water they are washed in will enrich it too.

Grow plenty of potted plants to fill in the border when it becomes dull.

This week, for our Buds and Blossoms poem, we have selected "Life" from the pen of Nan Terrell Reed.

They told me that Life could be just what I made it--
Life could be fashioned and worn like a gown;

I, the designer; mine the decision
Whether to wear it with bonnet or crown.

And so I selected the pret-

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About This Question:

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tiest pattern--
Life should be made of the rosiest hue--
Something unique, and a bit out of fashion,
One that perhaps would be chosen by few.
But other folks came and they leaned o're my shoulder;

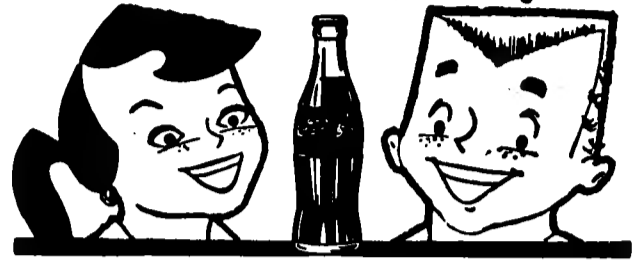
Somebody questioned the ultimate cost;
Somebody tangled the thread I was using;
One day I found that my scissors were lost,
And somebody claimed the material faded;

Somebody said I'd be tired ere 'twas worn;
Somebody's fingers, too pointed and spiteful,
Snatched at the cloth, and I saw it was torn.
Oh! Somebody tried to do all

of the sewing,
Wanting always to advise or condone.
Here is my life, the product of many;
Where is that gown I could fashion--along?

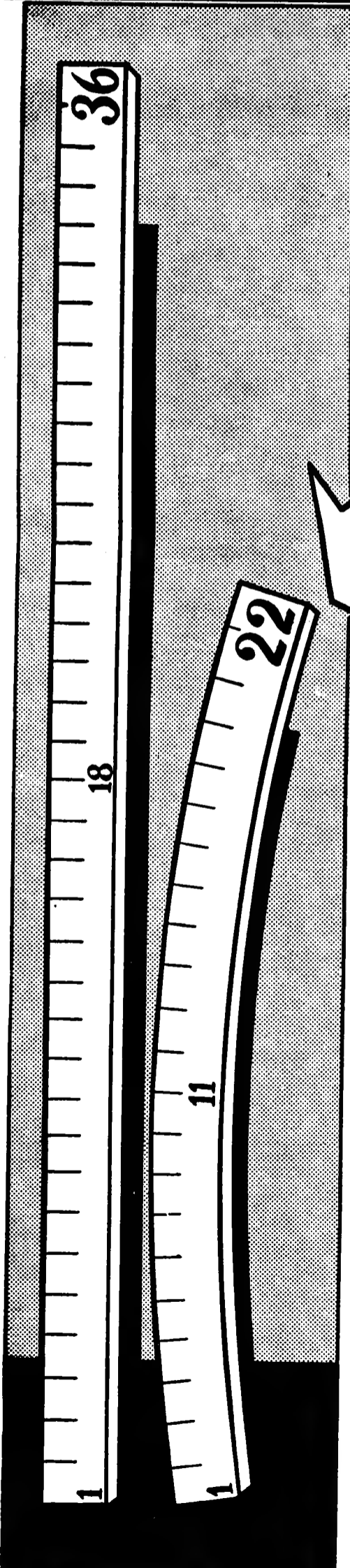
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"Wonder what makes it taste so good?"



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WHAT KIND OF A YARDSTICK IS THIS?

Rural electric co-ops call themselves yardsticks . . . yardsticks for measuring the fairness of rates charged by electric companies.

At best they are only part of a yardstick . . . nearer 22 inches . . . hardly suitable for measuring businesses which operate under an entirely different set of rules.

Remember, REA co-ops are subsidized with 2 per cent government loans, they pay no taxes, and they are free from regulation. Electric companies are regulated and taxed. Rules under which the two operate are so different that CP&L, for example, must use about 40 cents of every dollar it receives from customers to pay taxes and financing costs--normal utility costs which taxpayers bear for the co-ops.

To become the yardsticks they claim to be, the electric co-ops would have to give up their subsidies, pay taxes and accept regulation as utility companies do.

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