

This, That, and the Other

By Mrs. Theo. B. Davis

Did you ever want anything so much that for years you could not forget nor overcome the longing, and yet know the desire was too foolish to really need gratifying? And did you finally get what you wanted?

My mother was born in 1860. Because of the Civil War and the resultant poverty in the South, she know what it meant to go without many of the things dear to childhood. Her greatest wish was to have what she called "a pair of beads." I am not sure how old she was when she first owned a necklace; but I do know she never outlived her love for "something for the neck." And I like to remember that she had all she wanted of them before she died.

My own unreasonable longing, from the time I first saw one, some sixty years ago, was for one of these little glass or china hens on a nest of the same material as herself. Because this was not a need, I never felt justified in buying one; and no amount of hinting persuaded a member of the family to get me such a present for any gift-giving occasion.

But yesterday in going through a box of things my daughter sent out I found a tiny white hen of milk glass on a nest barely large enough to hold a pullet egg; I have given her a place of honor, and am surprised after all these years at the pleasure I find in looking at this small thing. At last I have my hen.

Over and over I wonder why makers of "ready-made" dresses for children put white collars on so many of them. If the material of the dress fades at all, the color runs straight for the collar, which soon looks worse than any other part of the garment. If it does not fade, the collar still shows soil before the rest of the dress demands washing. Add to this the fact that a great many dresses would look better with collars other than white, and you may help me wonder about it.

I asked my daughter if she could explain the mystery, and she could not. But she said that in her mind she could see a buyer for a factory purchasing a thousand yards of white pique all to be cut into little collar swatches were to be grabbed by those sewing and attached to just any kind of dress.

Some day, if ever time hangs heavily on my hands, I shall write a few firms and learn whether there's a real reason for not using cloth like the dress or one of its colors instead of white.

The youngest son asked me recently whether the noise of children playing makes me nervous. I told him it is not play that is nerve-wracking, but the sounds that follow a concerted rush. You may hear whoops and have to wait to find whether they denote glee or pain; whether they are in fun or anger. Or there may be an ominous silence. This usually means that someone has broken something and all are amazed and aghast over such an unheard-of happening. Or you may be called on to arbitrate a knotty point of justice and find it so complicated you almost wish the youngsters had fallen to and settled it with

their fists. At any rate, it is seldom monotonous.

When feelings are deeply stirred it is strange to see what comes to the surface. And our recent bus tragedy has brought out discussion and comment that range from sense to nonsense. I find myself in agreement with those who feel our school transportation system is at fault and that the situation should be remedied.

For years I have made myself a nuisance to those school officials who see consolidation as the answer to our educational problems; but I cling to the belief that little children should not have to go far from home to a school; that the teacher is the school for the smallest pupils; that it is wrong to have a whole neighborhood with no schoolroom in its bounds; and it makes no difference how many educated educators stand up and deplore my backwardness. If this be treason, make the most of it.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of the estate of D. C. Hopkins, deceased, late of Wake County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned before

the 23rd of September, 1950, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 15th. of September, 1949. Proctor Lee Hopkins, Executor of the will of D. C. Hopkins. 6w S23-Oct28th.

Administratrix Notice

Having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of B. Howard Johnson, deceased, late of Wake County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims

against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned, at Zebulon, North Carolina, on or before the 11th day of October, 1949, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate

will please make immediate payment.

This 11th day of October A.D. 1949

Gladys S. Johnson, Administratrix of B. Howard Johnson, deceased. O14-N18

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