Discussions

For if we live fairly and squarely with ing to give you a teeny-weeny one, our fellowmen, as any loyal country- just enough to stay your stomach, man should, there is little fear of as I want you to enjoy my good getting over rich so far as money hot dinner-supper meal." That help goes. But there is other wealth that ed some. we should strive for that we can nev- Aunt Carrie then swung the lever possess as long as we remain in er pot pole around over the fire and the same old rut that we have become hung on a large iron pot with water accustomed to all these past years, to boil while she prepared a fresh It's more or less a habit with us to hog jole to cook down with turnips. keep on doing things in the same old A big oven of sweet potatoes was put way all the time and turning a deaf on to steam bake, while another pot ear to those that try to teach us new was filled with sweet potatoes to boil methods. It is true the old-fashioned for custards. Aunt remark that she dishes our mothers and grandmothers would have to wait till her meat got used to prepare are hard to beat, and done before putting in her turnips as I sometimes reflect over by gone as Joel, while he liked boiled vegetadays where good eats are discussed, bles, never liked to taste the flavor an occasion flashes vividly through my memory of one of the best meals the pie making while Uncle Joel vol-

Early one cold, bleak Friday morn- The dinner was far enough on the ing in the first days of December, mo- way for the little old iron coffee ketther, big brother and I started on a tle to have a place on the coals and twenty-mile journey to visit Uncle last but not least was the funny little Jee. Mother usually went to see him bread griddle that sat on three legs every four or five years. Old Dobbin and could be whirled around on a pivwas hitched to the rockaway and ot when the side next the fire was jostled off at a swift gait at first, but baked enough. I wish I had one of after a few miles he slowed down to those quaint little things myself. The a steady trot. Mother said, "He real- potatoes, sweet and juicy, were lifted izes that there is a long journey from the oven to make room for the ahead of him." He had been over that pie baking which, one at a time, were same stretch of road several times put in the oven and new fresh coals before. I remember how thrilled I applied to the cover every time one was, so much so I could not eat any was put in till eight brown crusted, breakfast and before we got half way delicious looking pies sat in a row on I felt almost famished. Mother said, the pie shelf. Aunt lifted the cover "Pig, I should have brought some three times each pie to see how they bread along, but I was in such a were coming on, and almost as often hurry, thinking we'd reach Joe's by a big smutty snowflake or two land-I ad right kerplunk in the pion Aunt one o'clock."

I ever remember eating.

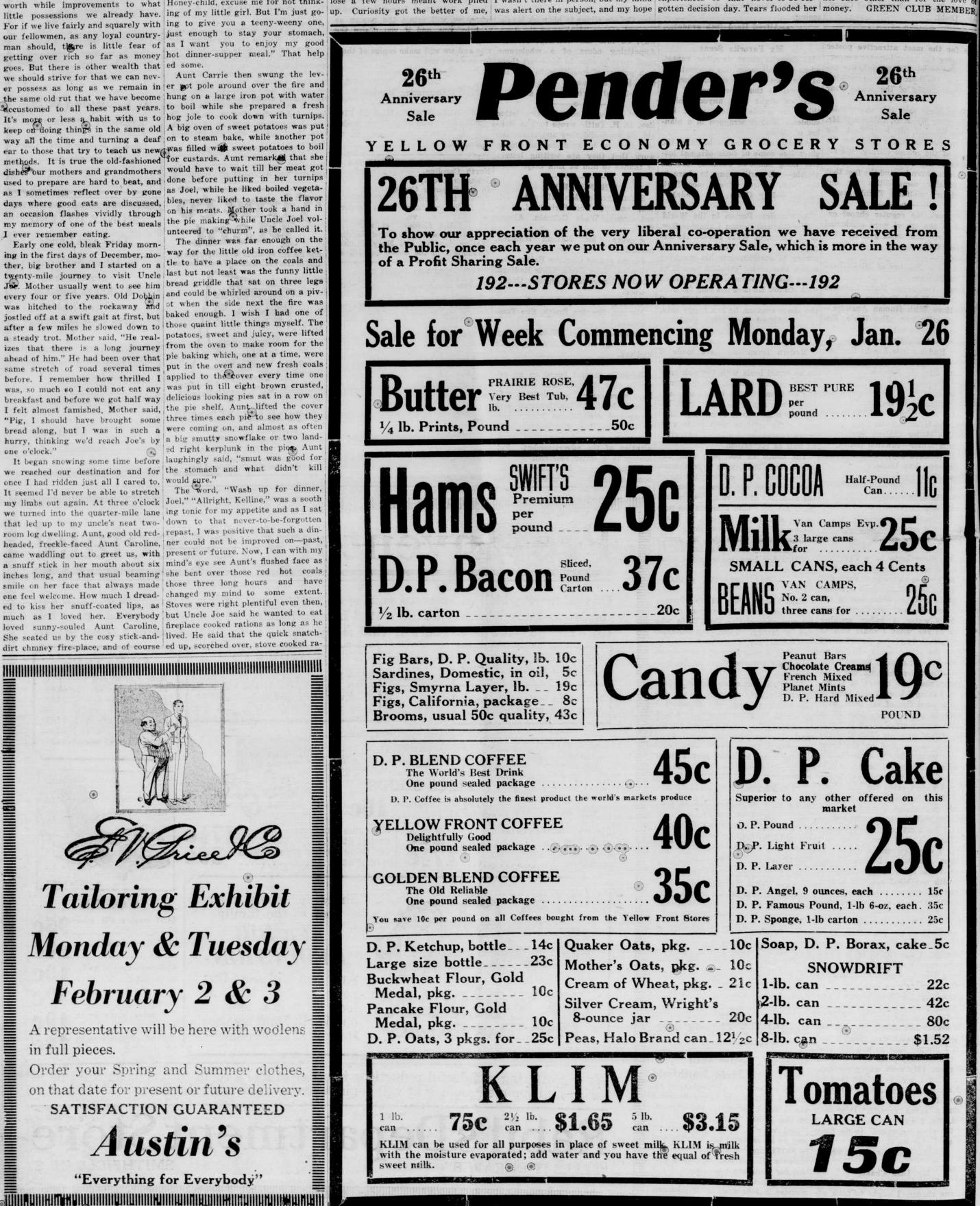
It began snowing some time before laughingly said, "smut was good for we reached our destination and for the stomach and what didn't kill once I had ridden just all I cared to. would cure." It seemed I'd never be able to stretch The word, "Wash up for dinner, my limbs out again. At three o'clock Joel," "Allright, Kelline," was a sooth we turned into the quarter-mile lane ing tonic for my appetite and as I sat that led up to my uncle's neat two- down to that never-to-be-forgotten room log dwelling. Aunt, good old red- repast, I was positive that such a dinheaded, freckle-faced Aunt Caroline, ner could not be improved on-past, came waddling out to greet us, with present or future. Now, I can with my a snuff stick in her mouth about six mind's eye see Aunt's flushed face as inches long, and that usual beaming she bent over those red hot coals

Home Demonstration she and mother had to exchange tions weren't good for any man's though, and a big effort got me there. was that this hard-working, self-sac- eyes and she shook with emotion as snuff dips with each other as their stomach; said he wanted to live a few It was something entirely out of my rificing little rut-lifter be retained for she expressed her sincerest apprecitongues flew like bell clappers, while more years, and Aunt Caroline sanc- line of doing things and occasionally the uplift of the whole county. And ation for the interest her many I sat so hungry and empty I had to tioned every word he said with a nod my mind wandered back to the work one of my resolutions for th enew friends, both Republicans and Demo-

Much has been said for and against hold my sides together. Aunt re- and smile. home demonstration work in John-marked that she would star us up a But to get back closer to my sub-did enjoy it to a certain extent, I'll drudgery and attend every meeting suredly this home demonstration work ston Couny. • I hear that the bite of dinner as soon as "Joel" got ject: Those old people were simply in confess. I tried to make up my mind possible. The reason I, and many oth- should have no party lines drawn home demonstrator has been re- back from making pig beds, so he a rut of the deepest kind but weren't to join. Then I would say to myself, ers, haven't reveived any more re- across it, as it should be for the gennome demonstrator has been re- out from making pig beds, so he are out the gen-tained, and maybe it will not be sout could cut her some suitable oak wood aware of it, and many of us today are "What's the use? I have so much to sults from this work, is because we eral uplift of all. Right at that parplace for me to say that I, like many to make some red coals to cook with. in just as deep a rut as Uncle Joe do I just can't attend regularly." I have never put anything in it, and ticular day, she had received a letter others, have not had much benefit from that source. Surely we all of course he had to sit and talk with to try and learn new methods. should economize in every way possi- Sis Soph a few minutes before getting I met our home demonstrator last had been in a rut all these years. I forever for good things to be sent here, she wald be very glad to place ble and surely it seems to some of us any wood. Directly in came the wood year and she invited me to attend had had just a peep out, and when I around to our doors just for accom- her in a higher place. Let's quit kicklike a great outla of money for the in half fence-rail lengths which he one of her club meetings. I told her I began to read in The Herald some modation and forced down our throats ing the things that help round out few results some of us are getting, arranged in the fireplace. Mother hap- would if possible, but felt like I nev- thing about the probability of dis- whether or why.

I had left undone at home, though I year was to put aside some of my pet crats, had shown her- and most as

and develop this old county. state. and our taxes are already so high it pened to think how hungry I was and er could lose the time for there was continuing the home demonstration As I met up with this little co-work- Unites States and the world at large Seems that we gel discouraged at asked Aunt Carrie if she would give work every minute in the day. I could work, I began to sit up and take no- er the other day, I became very much Let's co-operate with this tireless times to think of adding any more me a cooked potato. She said, "Yes, not keep up with my work and to tice and when the day came to decide touched as she related some of her worker who carries an expression of worth while improvements to what Honey-child, excuse me for not think- lose a few hours meant work piled I wasn't there in person, but my mind experiences of that never-to-be-for- her face other than for the love of



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smile on her face that always made those three long hours and have one feel welcome. How much I dread- changed my mind to some extent. ed to kiss her snuff-coated lips, as Stoves were right plentiful even then, much as I loved her. Everybody but Uncle Joe said he wanted to eat loved sunny-souled Aunt Caroline, fireplace cooked rations as long as he She seated us by the cosy stick-and- lived. He said that the quick snatchdirt chmney fire-place, and of course ed up, scorched over, stove cooked ra-

unteered to "churm", as he called it.

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