

m. m. memos

Conversational rambles can take amazing turns at the family supper table. So I repeat one sequence to stretch the imagination.

I started with Miss Eight, who had been examining a catsup bottle while munching on her hamburger. The catsup was a house brand of one of the big grocery chains.

"Why do they say the address is in Cincinnati when the store is right near us," she asked.

"I guess that's the location of the store's headquarters," I explained. "But I know that company has its big milk and ice cream company in Livonia."

One of the other girls thought that would be a fun place to work.

But our current dieter disagreed. She thought it would be a bit rough on fat Livonians.

That led to a remark that someone had seen two very obese ladies in a store located in the small community where we recently vacationed, and someone else commented that it seemed many well-padded individuals live in small towns.

Miss Eight was back with the remark that a certain very slim acquaintance of ours must always have lived in a city, "because she's so skinny."

At that point, our visiting grandma joined in.

She quoted a jingle she had learned as a girl:

"Sin, sin, sin,
A needle and a pin.
A skinny and a fatty,
Spells Cincinnati."

You don't believe it? Neither did I.

--Margaret Miller

Homemaking Arts Take Spotlight

The Community Arts Building will be a beehive of activity at the 1970 Michigan State Fair, Aug. 28 through Sept. 7. In fact, it's a beehive right now as staffers prepare for the various exhibits, shows, programs, and demonstrations of special interest to women.

Premises already have been established, special prizes lined up, notices sent out to exhibitors, and demonstrations and programs arranged.

Next order of business is receipt and judging of entries.

FROM MONDAY, Aug. 17, through Thursday, Aug. 20, needlecraft and other handicrafts; canning and preserving entries; and county fair exhibits will be reviewed.

On Tuesday and Friday, Aug. 20 and 21, the permanent flower exhibits will be set up. And on Tuesday, Aug. 25, baked goods and candles will be received.

With the exhibits judged and in place, the department supervised by Mrs. L. Harding will be ready for the opening of the fair on Friday, Aug. 28. Then the beehive will become even more active.

IN THE EXHIBIT HALL, a slowly revolving stage has been added. "Activities in the

Her Quilts Bloom In Garden City

All seasons of the year, Mrs. James T. Fletcher of Garden City lives in a flower garden.

The flowers — sweet peas, roses, apple blossoms, sunflowers — bloom on the scores of quilts Mrs. Fletcher turns out in her spare hours.

This year, for the first time, Mrs. Fletcher is entering one of her creations in the State Fair. It is the sweet pea pattern, with multi-hued flowers alternating with green leaves in a ring design.

"I'VE BEEN QUILTING as long as I can remember," said Mrs. Fletcher, mother of four sons and a small daughter.

"I guess I've made 150 or 200 of them — I lost count. My mother made a lot more than that and my grandmother quilted a lot."

Mrs. Fletcher said she likes the applique method better than piecing. She sews her flowers onto white cotton squares and then puts the squares together, sometimes by hand but recently more often by machine.

The quilting is done by hand, though, on a frame Mrs. Fletcher

uses to keep the quilt flat while she is working on it.

The Livonia Auxiliary is participating in a drive to collect coupons for kidney machines. The money will go to the Michigan Kidney Foundation.

Betty Crocker coupons should send them to Mrs. Donna Naidow, 28841 Richland, Livonia, 48150.

All Michigan Jaycee auxiliaries are co-operating with General Mills to help persons with kidney disease.

Wednesday, August 12, 1970

Spotlight on Women

Round-Up Time For Glass

By MARGARET MILLER

Ladies, don't jam those disposable pop bottles into your bulging trash cans.

And save your milk bottles, pickle bottles, peanut butter and vinegar and mouthwash jars and the hundreds of others your family accumulates.

You'll soon have the opportunity to spare the trash can and do your bit for conservation by turning those bottles in for recycling.

The Plymouth branch of the American Association of University Women will sponsor a Glass Roundup during Plymouth's Fall Festival Sept. 11 to 13 on Penniman Avenue across from the post office.

ALL KINDS of bottles and jars will be collected, following the precedent set several months ago in Ann Arbor. They will be sorted and sold to the Owens-Illinois Glass Co., of Toledo.

The round up in Ann Arbor netted 129,346 pounds of glass.

Mrs. Joseph Uhl, head of the Plymouth collection, is hoping this area can match or top that figure.

MRS. UHL is local chairman for the AAUW committee LIFE. That stands for Let's Implement Favorable Environmental and, committee members feel that cutting into a mountain of trash glass will help advance that goal.

Working with Mrs. Uhl and other AAUW members will be students from the ecology group People for Environmental Progress (PEP). Others interested in helping may call Mrs. Uhl.

WITH ALL the new exhibits and demonstrations, it's no wonder that the Community Arts Building is one of the most popular spots on the fair grounds.

The only thing wrong with the setup, one stylishly stout gentleman remarked last year, is that "they show you all these cakes and candies and other goodies, and then they invite you to a Weight Watchers demonstration. It just isn't fair."

IN THE PAST, the Toledo company has used only its own rejects for cullet or bought used glass from citizens where plants are located.

Since the success of the Ann Arbor glass drive, the firm said it had decided to set up permanent collection centers throughout the country, including one in Ann Arbor that will open soon.

An Owens-Illinois spokesman has further predicted that soon every glass manufacturing plant in the nation will begin its own glass collection program.

MRS. UHL pointed out that the glass collection drives like the one the AAUW is sponsoring

have time," she said. "I can't just sit and watch TV — I have to do something."

MRS. FLETCHER sells most of her quilts to long-time customers.

"There's one lady who has bought quilt 18, she said.

The beds the Fletcher household also are well quilted.

"We don't use any blankets," this busy worker said. "The nice thing about a quilt is that you can use it as a bedspread, but after you get tired of it, it starts to fade. It's still good for warmth as a blanket."

The sweet pea pattern is one of the favorites with Mrs. Fletcher's customers. She also has made a lot of quilts by the Ohio rose pattern, and another popular one is apple blossom.

SHE ESTIMATES it takes her "all of a month" to put together a quilt from start to finish. The quilted part can be done in about a week "if I can keep at it pretty steady."

Mrs. Fletcher does most of her sewing in the evenings because her husband often works until 10 p.m.

During the day she keeps busy with the family home at 3043 Sheridan and the activities of Gerald and Wayne, the teen sons still living at home, and five-year-old Kimberly, who will begin kindergarten this fall.

The Fletchers' oldest son was killed in Vietnam.

Although the art of quilting is one seldom practiced now, Mrs. Fletcher thinks it's a ideal hobby for a homemaker.

"I'm here all day and it's work you can pick up when you

enter in the Michigan State Fair. (Observer photo)



START OF A COLLECTION — Plymouth AAUW members and student ecology workers have begun gathering glass bottles for recycling. They'll have a vacant lot open for glass contributions during the Plymouth fall fest.

Photo by Vince Witex

ST. CLAIR Carpet Floor Covering Sale!

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QUILT ENTRY — Mrs. James T. Fletcher holds up the sweet pea pattern quilt she'll enter in the Michigan State Fair. (Observer photo)