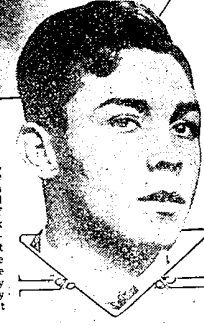


# LOVE OF SNAKE CHARMER LEADS YOUTH TO SLAY; INSISTS WOMAN IS GUILTYLESS



Mrs. Ruth McCulloch and Clarence McCormick.

Clarence McCormick, twenty-year-old son of a Lancaster (Pa.) farmer, and Mrs. Ruth McCulloch, snake charmer in a showboat, with whom he is infatuated, are awaiting trial in Ottumwa, Ia., for the murder of Irving W. Mollitt, a wealthy Holbrook (Ia.) farmer. According to McCormick's confession, he killed Mollitt while he and the snake charmer were in Mollitt's automobile. He says the woman is guiltyless. He expected to find considerable money on the victim, but he had only \$23 at the time of the murder.



## HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE.

WOMEN CO-OPERATE TO LESSEN DOMESTIC DRUDGERY.

They Live in a Small Town and Know How to Get the Best Out of Life.

"O, I am so tired of this drudgery of housework. Besides, it is the same old story—work never done," wailed Mrs. Brown, as she sank into the nearest chair, having dropped in to see a friend.

"Well, you must join our 'housework brigade,'" said the other, "we need another member, anyway."

"And what is that?" said Mrs. Brown, involuntarily brightening up. She was ready to join anything just at that moment.

Her friend then explained to her the plan, which no longer was an experiment, but which had been quietly put to the test by herself and two other women during the last few months.

"We all do our own housecleaning, paperhanging, and general renovating together. When one of us is ready to clean, sew, or cook we invite the others to assist. One or two days each week are selected and we all go to work with a vim. When we cook we cook all three. Our dressmaking is done on the same co-operative plan. We have a dressmaker come for several days to one of the houses, she cuts and does the expert work, and we sew as fast as she can plan for us, and in a few weeks the sewing of our combined households is out of the way. At the same time we visit more or less together and have had many a good time. It is not half the burden that it is when working alone."

"Whatever in the world made you think of such a scheme as that?" asked Mrs. Brown.

"It started by my asking Mrs. Jones to help me prepare for a children's party which I wanted to call on a little for at short notice. Then a little later she had occasion to call on me for help at an evening function at her house. We also are a relief committee in ourselves, as we always call on each other in case of sickness. We are going to give beach parties and picnics next summer. Don't you want to join us?"

"Indeed, I do," said Mrs. Brown, vehemently. "That sounds good to me."

These women live in a small town and all have pretty homes, good husbands, nice children, and comfortable incomes. They have a large circle of friends, and by following this plan are able to keep up their social duties without overtaxing themselves.

Spearmint for Ants. To keep the little pest out of the refrigerator, place in a small piece of spearmint gum, or even the wrapper will have the desired effect.

The use of carmine tends to coarsen the lips.

## MEXICAN ESTATES.

Are Handed Down From Father to Son.

The great estates in Mexico are handed down from father to son. It takes an exceedingly large body of land to support the owners in moderate luxury. Even where willing to sell, the haciendados want to sell the whole tract, and will not cut it up or sell part. The price, when a sale does take place, is from 25 cents to \$5.00 per acre. It is more for the great tract, which makes the haciendados try to perpetuate existing social conditions. There could be no better fortune for them than a good constitutional government, under which they could subdivide and sell their lands at prices such as prevail in other countries. The secret of the low value is not far to seek: there is no market for anything except shipping to foreign countries. The great mass of the people can buy only a few cotton rags and a bushel or so of raw corn per month per family. The wages they get are from 12 to 50 cents per day in our money. The high price being paid right along the border, where a short journey would take the workman into the United States.



## Household Hints

### THINGS WORTH KNOWING

Dry bran will clean light floors and make them fluffy. It will also clean velvet floors, such trimmings, and it will also take the soil from woolen articles. Rub the bran on the surface, then brush and shake thoroughly.

When you take up carpets be careful in removing tin tacks that are edges of carpet at not torn; then roll up carpets with upper part inside and carry them away to be beaten. As soon as carpets are rolled, throw a few old tea-leaves (not too wet) over the floor, sweep room out, then wash boards with a wet flannel, but be careful not to throw too much water about, as it is liable to damage the ceiling of the rooms below. While floor is drying, beat carpet with a long smooth stick or carpet beater, if you happen to have one. After carpet is beaten, brush one. If faded or greasy in many parts, sponge with an ox-gall mixed with a painful of cold water, or a fair grade raw potato and some cold water mixed, then wiped dry with soft cloths; will make them look clean and bright.

### THE TABLE

Three Beef Dinners—It is difficult to plan beef dinners for a small family at a moderate cost. Buy a slice clear across the round, about an inch thick. Ask your butcher to save you the third or fourth cut. This is the tender part of the round and some prefer its flavor to that of porterhouse. From the top part cut a piece large enough for a table and today's dinner. Next day cut the remainder into two-inch squares.

## DOG TAKES GIRL HOME

Scotch Collie With Remarkable Intelligence Is Protector of Her Young Mistress.

DOG IS ALMOST HUMAN. She Recognizes Her Mistress' Voice Over the Telephone.

Minneapolis, Minn.—This is a story of Lassie, a handsome pedigreed Scotch collie, the pet and protector of Miss Margaret Simmons, a schoolgirl.

Lassie, according to the recent issue of The Telephone Review, comes as near "talking" over the telephone as any animal endowed with an intelligence not human ever got. Her sense of hearing and understanding is developed so keenly that hearing the voice of the mistress over the telephone brings forth loud barks as assent and recognition.

Miss Margaret is only 13 years old. Her chum—that is, her other chum, for Lassie makes it two—is, like herself, a schoolgirl. The two girls have been friends for a long time. Several years ago Miss Margaret formed the habit of going to the home of her friend four blocks away from her own, so that the two might study their lessons together.

The trip home was all right, but Miss Margaret and her parents soon conceived a dislike of the return trip alone. And it was where Lassie comes into the story.

Now when Miss Margaret goes to study with her friend she makes it a practice to call up her home on the telephone at exactly 9 o'clock every evening. When the telephone bell rings at that time Lassie makes a leap for the telephone and, with her forepaws on the table and her mouth near the mouthpiece, waits eagerly for someone to take down the receiver and place it to her ear. If someone does not do this quickly Lassie barks loudly to attract attention.

When the receiver is placed to her ear Lassie barks into the mouthpiece and then she hears her mistress say: "Lassie, I'm ready to come home."

The dog barks assent and then hurries to the door. If by any chance the door is shut she again barks to have it opened. In a few minutes Miss Margaret and Lassie come home together, the schoolgirl having been escorted safely through the streets by the dog. Each time this occurs Lassie seems to realize that she has done something out of the ordinary and is correspondingly proud of her achievement.

### Washing Brush.

A small fiber brush, such as may be purchased at any store for five cents, will be found invaluable in the laundry. Place all badly soiled articles flat upon the washboard, soap well and rub with the brush instead of moving the article up and down on the board. The dirt will be removed more easily as the bristles of the brush enter the meshes of the cloth. The clothes will wear longer and the work will not be as hard on the hands.

### Diffusion of Heat.

Where hot air is used for heating, especially where a floor register is exposed to drafts, as in a large hall, the heat is carried up without diffusing. This can be remedied by using a square of sheet iron the size of the register opening and fastened to four iron legs eight inches high. When this is set over the register the heat will stream out on all sides and not shoot up to the ceiling.

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