

**JACK'S MOTHER**

By ROSE HOLMES.

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Of course, Jack is the dearest fellow in the world, but he often refers to his mother's efficiency. Jack's mother is efficient. I'll admit it. I would also call her stin—economical.

Since the slogan "Get Behind Hoover" has become popular it seems to me that Jack has referred more frequently to the efficiency of his mother; has several times intimated that saving a little on living expenses would be a laudable ambition for me. This idea was put in words that I understood, when he said:

"My dear, I think \$45 too much for you to spend on a hat this season."

So I didn't spend it. I got a perfectly-good-enough best hat for \$35, and in order to make it last longer I got one that was all right for every-day for \$20.

But that isn't what I started to tell you about. You see, we go over to Jack's mother's for dinner on her birthday, and this year was to be no exception.

I knew she would show us her preserves and pickles and cans of things; and her last winter's suit that she had made as good as new with the addition of new collar and cuffs.

And I happened to think that my sweater was dirty, and that I would want to wear it under my coat if we motored over; and also happened to think that the fact that it was dirty would not escape efficiency's eye.

Well, cleaning is expensive, and didn't Jack want me to economize? Hadn't I paid the most reliable cleaning establishment in Boston \$1.75 plus expressage, for cleaning that same sweater not long ago—a perfectly exorbitant price; why, the sweater only cost \$12.50 in the first place. No, it wasn't one of those expensive hand-knit ones, but it was a very pretty sweater. Yes, that soft rose one you have seen me wear.

They say "a penny saved is a penny earned," so I decided that I couldn't earn \$1.75 any easier than to wash that sweater myself, with about five cents' worth of soap.

Did you ever try to wash anything? We've always sent the washing out. So haven't any tubs or wringers or things, but there was a bathtub. I believe one of the helps to efficiency is being able to utilize the things.

It takes a lot of energy to get up a suds in a bathtub, if you are not on the inside.

Do you know how much a sweater weighs when it's wet?

I soaped and rubbed and squeezed that garment for the better part of an hour; then, if it never became clean, I wouldn't have given it another souse.

After I squeezed the water out of it the best I could and hung it over the radiator to dry, I went down town to try on a perfectly lovely set of furs that were in Brown & Co.'s window.

There I met Molly Whitman and Tottie Franch and took them to the Sally-Ally Tea Room for something to eat; then I took them to the Strand to see Julian Eltinge in "Countess Charming." I wanted to see if I couldn't tell that he isn't a woman even if I didn't know it.

I dropped around to the office for Jack and we came home together.

We were hardly in the house before he gave me the opening I wanted, by saying:

"Well, what have you been doing today, Hon?"

"Oh, I've got the biggest kind of a surprise for you, Jack; I've been getting behind the conservation board! I saved \$1.75 this morning!"

"Pretty good for one morning. Can you keep up that pace for a year?"

Throwing my things on a chair as I passed, I seized the sweater from the radiator and held it up.

"See!" I exclaimed.

"What is it?" he inquired stupidly.

"Can't you see? It's my sweater! I washed it myself and saved \$1.75!"

"Um—m—n. Isn't it a little large?"

"Large? No; it never was! It fits all right!" said I, proceeding to invest myself.

My arms were not long enough for the sleeves—by about a foot; but being busy wrinking up the sleeves, I hadn't observed that Jack was having a fit or something; then I looked down at myself. It was right then that I was thankful that I hadn't used wool soap (the kind mamma used, you know), for whatever else happened to that sweater, I would not want to have deprived it of the amount it "shrunk." It was originally a fashionable length; it now escaped the floor by about five inches. The pockets, which were normally placed, could now be observed as little sacks hanging near the bottom. And the belt! That was also normally placed, but now, if tied, would greatly interfere with locomotion.

I didn't care anything about the old sweater anyway; but there was Jack in fits of laughter; and it is so humiliating to have failed when one is striving to compete with an economical mother-in-law.

Well, I just stripped the old thing off and threw it in his face and started for the bedroom. Yes, I was crying, but hadn't my head half covered up with a pillow before Jack came, saying:

"There—there—Honey! She did try to economize—did try to save her old man \$1.75! There—there—she can get her a new sweater—" and he tucked three yellow-backs in my hand.

**POULTRY FACTS**



**RATIONS FOR LAYING STOCK**

Pullets on Farm Should Get Large Part of Feed by Foraging if No Snow on Ground.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

When there is no snow on the ground pullets on the farm ought to get a large part of their feed by foraging. Whether they can get it depends not only upon what food may be available but on whether they have been so distributed as to get the feed on the range. To find whether they require more is to observe how far they range and whether they find feed enough to keep them busy most of the time, and then to test them further by seeing how much they eat heartily in the morning, and then go foraging, and also how much they eat just before going to roost at night. Pullets that forage well and have the opportunity to get plenty of green food, worms and bugs cannot be overfed by giving them what grain they will eat up clean. Careful feeders learn just how much their flock will take, and so avoid waste while keeping the birds full fed.

Pullets in confinement should have the same ration they will have in the winter, and be liberally supplied with the vegetable feeds available at the season. Liberal use of these makes it



Hens Scratching in Litter for Grain.

possible to feed grains heavily, to promote egg production, and yet keep the birds in the best of physical condition. A good war-time standard ration is:

- Mash.**  
2 parts cornmeal  
1 part bran  
1 part middlings  
1 part ground oats  
1 part meat scrap or fish meal
- Scratch Feed.**  
1 part cracked corn  
1 part heavy oats
- Green Feed.**  
Cabbage, sprouted oats or any available green vegetable. Another good ration with less beef scrap is as follows:

- Mash.**  
5 parts mixed feed (bran and middlings)  
4 parts cornmeal  
1 part beef scrap or fish meal
- Scratch Feed.**  
1 part cracked corn
- Green Feed.**  
Cabbage, sprouted oats or any available green vegetable.  
For a moist mash use eight parts of mixed feed instead of five. Sprouted oats are recommended as green feed, not as preferable to cabbage and other green vegetables when these can be obtained, but in order to use oats as much as possible.

**SUCCESS IN RAISING PIGEONS**

Good Breeding Stock is Essential and It is Best to Purchase From Reliable Breeder.

Good breeding stock is necessary to succeed in pigeon raising. It is advisable to buy pigeons from reliable breeders—those who guarantee their stock. Many failures in squab raising have been due to poor stock—old pigeons past their period of usefulness, or perhaps too many male birds. There are a great many varieties of pigeons, but only a few are used in squab raising. The Homer is generally considered the most popular variety.

**SIX VARIETIES OF TURKEYS**

Bronze, White Holland, Bourbon Red, Black, Narragansett and Slate Are Recognized.

The American Standard of Perfection recognizes six different varieties of domesticated turkeys as most desirable, the many others being largely mongrel, breeding from which is always uncertain as to quality of the progeny. The standard varieties are the Bronze, the White Holland, Bourbon Red, the Black, the Narragansett and the Slate.

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