HOW TO LIVE ON A SMALL INCOME; PP. 1-206

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How to Live on a Small Income; pp. 1-206 by Emma Churchman Hewitt

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To

every young bousekeeper who finds it belps her in her daily struggle with household problems, this little volume is cordially inscribed 5%

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Foreword

It would be useless in a work of this kind (or, indeed, in any work that one hopes to make of permanent value to the young housekeeper) to deal in statistics. These vary so with time, conditions and locality, that what may be perfectly true to-day will probably to-morrow possess no value.

Therefore, the only plan that can be pursued, is to try to open up such a train of ideas as will lead the young housekeeper to think for herself, and best to adjust herself to her environments.

For only by this means, only by regarding her life not as a "daily grind" but as a mission to which she must give herself in no half-hearted way, only by keeping eyes and ears open and brain receptive to new and improved ideas, can she accomplish that most satisfactory of all things—obtain for herself and those dear to her a maximum of comfort and happiness for a minimum of expense.

Another thought! Housekeeping and homemaking go hand in hand. No woman who makes her home subservient to her house, is a good housekeeper in the highest and best sense of the word. The woman who obliges her husband and sons to come in the back way, take off their shoes and don a pair of slippers, ready at hand, before they enter (an actual case) for fear they may bring in some particles of dust, is not a good housekeeper, though her house be spotless. No woman who, for fear that things may be upset, obliges her children to play in the street or seek amusement in the homes of companions with less particular mothers, is a good housekeeper. No woman who makes of her house such a god that her husband must go to the club for want of a comfortable home in which to spend his evenings, is a good housekeeper.

Though her pantry shelves be filled with perfect jellies, and her cupboards be immaculate; though her kitchen table be white as snow and no speck of dust be found anywhere; though every scrap be saved and the bank account have been swelled through her thrift, she is not a good housekeeper—she is a drudge.

Such a woman shields herself, with severe dig-

nity, behind the saying that cleanliness is next to godliness. But she forgets on which side of godliness it should be placed. "Next to," yes! but on the hither side, not beyond.

The woman spoken of in Proverbs, whose "children arise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her,"—she it is who has reached the truly sublime heights.

