MARKETING AND HOUSEWORK MANUAL; BOSTON, 1917

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649643677

Marketing and Housework Manual; Boston, 1917 by S. Agnes Donham

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S. AGNES DONHAM

MARKETING AND HOUSEWORK MANUAL; BOSTON, 1917

Trieste

MARKETING and HOUSEWORK MANUAL

BY

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INSTRUCTOR IN HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT GARLAND SCHOOL OF HOME MAKING, BOSTON



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BOSTON LITTLE, BROWN, AND COMPANY 1917

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Published, November, 1917

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PART I

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MARKETING AND HOUSEWORK MANUAL

INTRODUCTION

The subject matter of this manual is the result of twenty years' study and experience in teaching. Each year I have seen reason to change it and have been glad it was not in permanent form. It has now reached the place where it seems to meet a definite need in schools, and promises to the young housewife material which she will find useful and which will save much time over the slow process of learning by experience.

There are many books on the market which give help to the home maker, and I should hesitate to add to the number if this were in the usual form, but its brevity and the elimination of all except almost catalogue detail make it seem probable that the busy or inexperienced may find time and inclination to go to it for help and direction.

I have purposely kept to the short, exact statement that there need be no superfluous words to bewilder the inexperienced and irritate the hurried.

For much of the inspiration which makes the book possible, I am indebted to Mrs. Margaret J. Stannard and my co-workers at the Garland School of Home Making. To Miss Louisa A. Nicholas, Miss S. Maria Elliott, Mrs. Maria W. Hilliard, Mr. Edward E. Thurston, Mr. George Hutchinson, and a large number of others I am grateful for instruction and criticism. To Mrs. Harriet Taber Richardson is due acknowledgment for the idea from which I worked out the order sheets. To my mother and father belong the credit for the practical ability and desire to be useful which led me into this great work of Home Economics.

MARKETING

AND

HOUSEWORK MANUAL

CHAPTER I

GENERAL RULES FOR MARKETING

A MARKET is a place where commodities are bought and sold.

Early food markets were possibly the outgrowth of great religious festivals. People gathered from a distance for several days' festivities and brought food for their own use and exchanged the excess for foods strange to them which people from other parts of the country brought.

Gradually they came to provide definitely for such exchange, and in time such gatherings became established markets for the barter of any produce not necessary to the producer.

Now, food markets are the centers of exchange not only between producers of foodstuffs, but between producers, or their agents, and consumers, who use money instead of similar produce as a medium of exchange, and the food frequently passes through the hands of several middlemen before coming into the home of the consumer.

It is well to make use of every assistance in marketing.

4 MARKETING AND HOUSEWORK MANUAL

Investigate the various methods — private dealers, coöperative buying, coöperative markets, municipal markets, public markets, purchasing from producer by cart, express, or parcel post.

Make use of all the educational material you can find:

Federal, State, and City bulletins,

Board of Health cards,

Agricultural College bulletins,

Magazine articles,

Conference with neighbors.

Consider which methods are best suited to your needs and follow them until convinced that others are better. One gains little by trying first one way and then another without fairly testing each.

The corner storekeeper must ask higher prices than the firm with larger business and more extensive plant. We demand much from the small store in our emergencies and usually give the bulk of our trade to the large dealer.

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Public markets often save much, but we must consider that we pay carfare and use extra time to reach them. The reduction in price is frequently apparent rather than real. We forget the cost of the gasolene which we used in reaching the larger market.

Peddlers with regular routes may usually be depended upon.

The huckster knows you won't remember his face when he appears again and is less likely to give honest weight and quality.

Do not expect to learn to market well by telephoning to your favorite clerk or reading books on the subject. You can learn only by constant use of every rule you know and by repeated visits to market and practice in selection.