

The Road to Charm

The Story of Mrs. Peebles' Progress

—or—

Jane Peebles (Mrs. Henry Peebles) is a Detroit woman who comes from a small town. She went to work when she was 15 and after that had no schooling and little social experience.

She has asked the Hostess Editor of The Detroit News to help her learn to be at ease in her social life.

Write to us telling your problems and help us in our effort to advise Mrs. Peebles.

By THE HOSTESS EDITOR

KIPLING wrote a couplet that could be used as a guide in social conversation. He said, "Oppress not the cubs of a stranger, But hail them as Sister and Brother, For though they are little and fussy, It may be the Bear is their mother."

In other words when you meet strangers be careful to be sincere and tactful in your speech. You don't know them, you don't know their friends, their relatives or their foibles.

If you would be popular, if you would avoid hurting other people's feelings don't talk about things you don't know and understand, don't say things you don't mean, and above all don't GUSH.

This was called forth by a conversation with Mrs. Peebles, who is meeting the whole question of social conversation all at once. Mrs. Peebles has been suddenly called upon to take the presidency of her club and she doesn't feel quite prepared to shoulder these social and official responsibilities. She has appealed to us to help her day by day as her problems arise.

"I MET a group of women who were visiting our club the other day," she told us, "and I had to talk to them for half an hour. I didn't know a thing about any of them and they didn't help me much. Just sat around and waited for me to guide the conversation.

"I got through it all right but I felt so exhausted afterwards. And I remembered that I said the silliest things. Things I didn't mean at all. Does everybody feel like this or is there a way of handling an awkward situation?"

Yes, Mrs. Peebles, there is, and it goes right back to the beginning of this story. Sincerity and tact will pull you through any social quagmire.

talk always sounds insincere, usually is insincere and always makes enemies.

YOU know, Mrs. Peebles, how often you hear this kind of talk in a social gathering. It's not always the women who are guilty either. And you know what your reaction is. "Oh, pshaw," you say to yourself. "If you're so highbrow you don't need company. You're company enough for yourself."

But the person who succeeds as a conversationalist must avoid two extremes.

She must, of course, be tactful, that is, careful not to offend the feelings of others. But some people carry tact so far that they lack sincerity, frankness and candor. You never feel you've got to rock bottom with them and their conversation is usually dull.

The answer then, is to strike the well known happy medium.

In the situation Mrs. Peebles describes, perhaps she didn't know what interested the group of women she was entertaining. Perhaps she felt they would be indifferent to the subject she was most enthusiastic about at the moment.

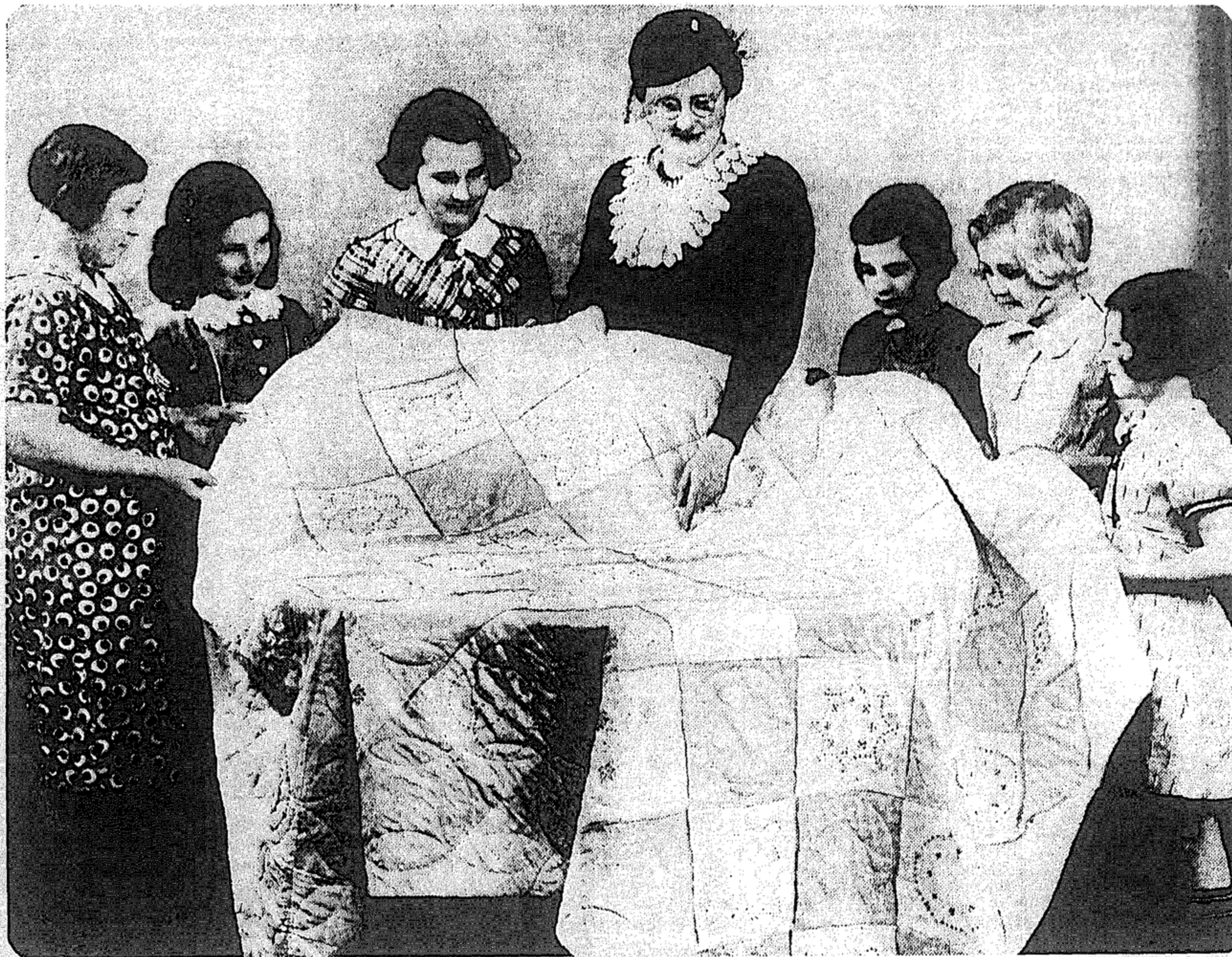
WHAT to do, it's an obvious solution and nothing very original about it, but it's always useful as a last resort.

Ask questions. Ask questions that display a sincere interest (even if you have to feign it) in their activities.

"What projects has your club carried out lately?" (This might start a lively discussion of club activities.) "Have you had the same trouble we have had in working up original entertainment programs?" (The signal to take up the whole subject of entertainment for club groups.)

And so on. Knowing something of your hearers' mode of life you

Young Club Members Prepare Entry for Quilt Exhibition



Even the children are working to make the fourth annual quilt show, of The Detroit News, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the biggest one ever held. Here are members of Degree of Honor, juvenile club of Redford Township, showing the quilt they are entering in the show. Left to right are Edna Hobbel, secretary; Betty Selleck, color bearer; Jean Robinson, president; Mrs. Kathleen Dittman, juvenile director, Ann Marie Ramsey, past president; Marian Anderson, usher; Madeline Orr, part of escort staff. The children range from 8 to 12 years.

Detroit Edison Girls Club Enrolls in Sweater Contest

By HARRIETT CARR
Your Home Institute Secretary

THE Tigers are getting ready to manufacture, are satisfactory to the

He's Prepared



(12 stitches for 8 years, 14 for 10 year, 16 for 12 and 14 year). Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge every second row for 3 rows (same for 8 year size, 1 stitch every second row for 4 rows for 10 and 12 year size and 1 stitch every second row for 5 rows for 14 year size). Continue knitting until front is same length as back. For shoulder seams cast off 5 four separate times.

SLEEVES—Cast on 28 stitches (28 stitches for 8 year size, 32 for 10 year size, 36 for 12 year size, and 40

Biggest Quilt Exhibition Being Assembled by News

Latest news from the headquarters of the fourth annual quilt show of The Detroit News indicates that the biggest quilt exhibition in Detroit history will open in the Naval Armory at 2 p. m. Friday.

Already the receipts have topped the 1,700 mark. Last minute entries will be received up to 5 p. m. Wednesday. After that it will be impossible to receive any more quilts for this mammoth show.

Quilts have poured in by mail, express and special messenger from every county in Michigan and from Texas, Alaska, Ohio, New York and a half dozen other states.

Some have been made by blind

women whose sensitive fingers have traced the tiny hems along the edges of their intricate patches, and who have had to remember the whereabouts of their various colored patches in order to create their color harmonies.

ENLIVEN SILENT HOURS

Deaf workers have enlivened the silent hours by patching as they visited, stealing flashing moments from their work to follow the moving lips of their friends.

Even men, shut in by illness or crippled bodies have responded to the fascination of organizing elaborate patterns with geometric precision and have joined their wives in designing, cutting and even sewing the hundreds of small pieces which go to make up a fascinating play of color and patterns. Little girls have begged for patches and made their own small editions of mother's big quilts, and small boys have joined the fun and cut patches with pencil and rule, watching the geometric patterns grow while they learned how to handle a needle against the hazards of bachelorhood.

Never before has there been so great a variety of quilts entered in this show.

NEEDLEWORK TECHNIC

Scores of interesting needlework technics have been used, from the fine old hand-woven coverlets of great-grandmother's day, the silk crazy quilts with their array of fancy stitches which join the silk and velvet patches, their embroidered blocks to aid a touch of elegance, to the sturdy piece quilts of cotton cloth made for practical use.

Flower patterns are more numerous than ever before. Mother Goose has brought her family of story-book people to delight the children, each pictured in thread and fabric on blocks for children's quilts.

Many of the traditional old geometric designs which delighted the past generation and an equal number of the modern applique patterns are entered.

Admission to the Detroit News Quilt Show is free, but no one may be admitted to the Naval Armory before 2 p. m. Friday.

The quilt show will be open from 2 to 10 p. m. and from 10 a. m. until 10 p. m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Bride-Elect



MARGARET MEAD, daughter of Arthur D. Mead, of Westbrook avenue, has chosen April 16 as the date of her marriage to Frank William LeMiere, son of Mr. and Mrs. William LeMiere, of Baylis avenue. The wedding will take place in St. Agnes' Church.

follow spring. The Detroit Edison Girls Club this week decided to take an active part in The Detroit News Goodfellow Knitting Contest, and announced that copies of the rules were being sent to every mem-

Spring Meals R

Spring meals will be the subject which starts April 22, in the Home Institute of WWJ-The Detroit News. Class sessions and 7:30 p. m. and will include recipes, dinners, suppers, bridge refreshments by sending this coupon to The Home Institute in which you wish to enroll.

Mrs. Ella Gordon Smith,
The Home Institute,
The Detroit News.

I wish to register for the Thursday which meets at 2 p. m. or the 7:30 p. m. in the Exhibition Room The Detroit News.

Name

Address

ber. The club is considering getting a knitting instructor and forming a knitting group within the organization.

The News' Goodfellow Knitting Contest was started early this year, to give knitters ample opportunity for securing yarn and finishing their knitting before the Contest closes Dec. 1. Rules can be obtained at The Home Institute office, and four patterns, arranged for hank yarn, have been prepared by the Institute. No preference will be given in the contest to sweaters made from these patterns; any practical sweater made from patterns furnished by any yarn manu-

