

KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPENED

The board of deacons was being briefed on techniques for making church calls. One newly elected member was obviously timid about her responsibilities. The pastor (who vouches for this account) hoped to encourage her by stressing the power of prayer. "You'll find it helpful before you make the call, to spend a few moments talking to God about it."

When the deacons met later in the week to report, the timid one waylaid the pastor and said enthusiastically, "Oh thank you for what you said about prayer. I tried it when I went out on my call, and it works."

"I'm glad to hear that",

beamed the pastor. "Tell us what happened."

"Well, I prayed the people wouldn't be home, and they weren't!"

—Selected

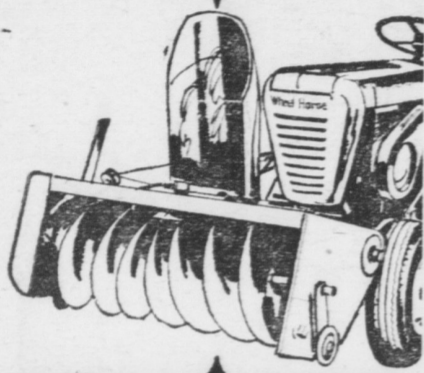
MOBILE

After rearing five children a landlocked widow we heard of decided that if she could not beat our mobile population, she would join it. A married daughter lives in New York. One son is in the diplomatic service in Istanbul. Another daughter is an ecumenical worker in the Philippines. Another son works in Seattle, and the youngest is an engineer in Panama. So what did the mother do? She sold her big house and contracted with a steamship company to spend seven months of each of her remaining years on the high seas, satisfying her long-suppressed love of travel, and getting to see all her family at least once a year.

—Selected

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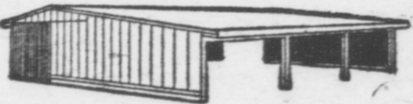
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