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Open Forum letters about stocking shortage.

Manitowoc Herald-Times (Manitowoc, Wis.)

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Open Forum

To the Editor,
Herald-Times,
Manitowoc, Wis.

Mar 2
1946

Please print this in the Open Forum of your paper:

Dear Country Housewives,

How utterly silly to say that we city slickers get all of the nylon and rayon hosiery.

In the first place if you would have observed carefully there don't seem to be enough stockings to go around and in the second place some merchants have a system of taking names and addresses of people desiring stockings so that when the stocks are plentiful they notify these people of the fact that there is one pair of hose for them. I have received one pair in this way and am very grateful to have them. This system seems to be very fair to me.

All through the war the country folks had all the butter, meat, and eggs they wanted while we city people had a hard time getting them. Now that the city women (about one out of twenty-five) are able to get ONE pair of hosiery you country women begrudge them that one pair.

Of course everyone needs stockings to wear but "you can't squeeze blood out of a turnip"; in other words if a merchant can't get enough to go around he distributes his goods in the way he thinks best. I also know that there are a few hungry, selfish women who make it their business to know when hosiery is on sale and who have more than their share. I hope that they read this and that their conscience bothers them just a little bit.

But please don't hold it against most of the city women, some of whom don't even have a decent pair of RAYONS. Remember the stocking shortage is nation-wide and that some other women in other parts of our country are in need of hose just as much as you are.

Here's hoping for more hosiery soon so that you country wives and I too, can buy just as much as we need.

Don't blame the merchants too much. Its hard on them too.

A city slicker.

To The Editor:

We read the letter of the country housewives in the open forum telling how a group of city slickers were gathered together and took note of the method you ladies used to get the lowdown on us. We haven't time to leave our work and children and are too busy trying to get a quarter of a pound of butter to put on our tables for a family of from six to 10, much less stand around a store and criticize our good looking stockings, which are probably painted on.

However some of us don't get a chance to get down town as often as once a week. How do we know they are the same ladies and girls who get all the stockings unless you are there yourself to see them? Some of us have not been able to buy a pair of any kind of stockings since last November, much less nylons. If your letter will help to put more stockings on the market, more power to you.

Stockingless City Slicker.