

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN

Suppress That Nervous Laugh.

A musical laugh is a rare gift; a hearty one is infectious; but if you are incapable of either, suppress a laugh that means nothing. The woman who really laughs is a joy to those around her. It may not possess a pitch that delights a musician's ear; it may have infectious little notes that do not stand for harmony; but if it is real and joyous it will make all those who hear it smile.

The laugh that is annoying is the one without meaning. It is a nervous ripple that is often used as a period or an exclamation point. It is placed at the ending of every sentence, and takes from the spoken word any meaning or emphasis it might have. Many women who do it are not conscious of it. They are far from silly women. They have poise and sense, and are not as easily confused as one would judge by the futile laughter they give after their sentences. If this idea impresses you at all, watch your own style of talking when outside the family circle and intimate friends. You may not be given to laughter, but again you may find that you unconsciously punctuate your most commonplace sentences with a laugh that is as artificial as your back puffs.

If you do this, stop it. This noise, which is a giggle in girls, an inane laugh in women, is the result of pure thoughtlessness.

The remarkable sound, given to man alone, called laughter, should be used only to express mirth. When it is not spontaneous it is not laughter, and the men who write dictionaries should give it another name. Giggle is the only substitute so far, but it does not designate that insipid, mirthless sound that hundreds of women permit themselves.

Corset Does Not Pinch.

A corset that can be hooked without pinching the body and tearing the underwear to bits is that invented by an Illinois woman.

The advantage of this is derived from the fact that the hooks are located just to one side of the lacing and are prevented from injuring either flesh or clothing by a flap extending under them.

In most corsets the steels and hooks extend down the center, and in pressing the hooks and eyes together it is no uncommon thing to pinch a ridge of flesh between them or tear a garment. With the stays shown in the illustration this annoyance is eliminated. They lace down the center and the hooking arrangement is to one side. Underneath the hooking device is a shield which presents a perfectly flat surface at all times to the body and no matter how hard it is to get the corset together, there is never any danger of squeezing or injuring the flesh or clothing in the operation.

Health and Beauty Hints.

The woman who exercises can more safely indulge in rich foods, fat meats, sweets and pastry than she who leads a sedentary life.

Forcing food is one of the surest roads to dyspepsia. Except when not in normal health the average person should skip a meal occasionally when not hungry.

Eyes which have become inflamed from exposure to the sun can have the bloodshot condition quickly reduced by bathing them for five minutes in water as hot as is comfortable.

Biliousness should be fought in the first stages. Try regulating diet. Take glass of hot water half-hour before each meal and at bedtime. In either morning or evening glass squeeze juice of half a lemon.

Do not neglect the value of fruit in improving the complexion. Nothing equals the juice of oranges and lemons to clear up the skin and brighten eyes. The latter must be diluted and taken without sugar, a half lemon in a glass of water.

Perfect cleanliness of the teeth is most essential and can be secured by a thorough brushing in the morning and after each meal and using an antiseptic lotion. Dental floss should be drawn between the teeth after each meal and before retiring.

You must not stop laughing, or you will be like the woman who at an advanced age had not a line or wrinkle in her face, but whose countenance was entirely expressionless. Dreading these same lines and wrinkles, she had all her life schooled her features to express neither joy nor sorrow.

Good Work of Women.

The mayor and councilmen of Des Moines have asked the Civic Committee of the women's clubs of that city to present to them their plan for a city beautiful, and it is possible that the first step will be the engaging of a civic expert, who will consult with the city authorities and the ladies, and a plan be formed.

Lack of Reverence for Women.

Mr. Edwin Markham's observation that the chief social shortcoming of the United States was our increasing lack of reverence for women will not meet with general acceptance. But

THREE LATE STYLES.



Rose Beaver Hat with a Scarf of Satin and Marabout, a Scarf and Muff of Gray Chiffon and Ermine, and a Hat and Muff of Pleated Rose Silk and Fur.

it deserves consideration. It is perfectly possible that women may have the largest rights where they have the smallest reverence. And if this reverence of men for women be really lacking, it is certain that the respect of women for men will fall also. And when the relation between men and women shall be thus degraded, nothing can save the whole fabric of life from a process of swift deterioration. —Chicago Examiner.

Fads and Fancies in Dress

The cuirass has suddenly become a fitted garment of silk elastic, smooth as a glove from neck to wrist and hip line.

The newest sleeveless coat is cut out generously under the arms and the sides are held together by cords instead of bands and straps.

The fichu of Marie Antoinette folds round the shoulder, forms a sleeve, crosses in front and ties at the back, concealing much of the figure.

The outline of the Watteau plait grows almost a familiar sight. It is belted in or allowed to fall loosely, according to the gown and the occasion.

Some charming old-world frocks are carried out in soft taffetas, shot with three or four pale colorings, such, for instance, as mauve, pink and periwinkle blue.

Leather hats promise to be particularly popular with the traveler. They are to be had in patent leather as well as suede, and in a wide range of shapes and colors.

The modified kimono, which is the old wrapper with a Japanese touch in the sleeve and banded edge around the neck and downward, remains a favorite for bed-room wear.

The center parting of the hair with the wide Racamier chignon and wide puffs at the sides comport well with the big millinery of the day. Women with small, delicate features find it especially becoming.

Sashes worn with the cuirass gown of the moyen age are fastened so that their flat folds lie close upon the lower edge of the cuirass, while the bow, tied to the right of the center back, falls among the lower plaits of the skirt.

Keeping Table Linen.

In keeping the table linen that is not in daily use many a housekeeper is annoyed to find that it has yellowed badly and must be washed again before it can go on the table again.

This can be overcome if, after being laundered, the cloths and napkins are carefully wrapped in deep blue paper or in a sheet that has been heavily blueed.

Mending with Machine.

Table linen and tears in clothing can be darned better and in one-tenth the time it takes to do it by hand. It needs a double-thread machine, as it cannot be done on a chain-stitch machine. Use fine thread, about 100 or 120 for table linen. Remove the foot of the machine, or leave it

lifts high enough so that you can see where to stitch. Put the part of the article to be mended in an embroidery hoop, place under needle and stitch back and forth, toward and from you, till it is filled with thread one way. Then turn and sew across the threads till entirely filled. Do not turn the work at end of each row of stitching, but draw it back and forth, running machine as fast as you wish. In case of a jagged tear, draw edges together with basting thread before inserting in hoop.

A Quick Lunch.

Lunch at a railroad station means, for some people, two pieces of half-raw dough, called bread; a sample of butter hidden beside a small scrap of partially cooked ham that won't stay inside of the sandwich and won't come out. And the description is not complete without the admission that it is "grabbed" and "boiled" while the clock hand jumps from minute to minute. It doesn't sound nice, and the description ought to be enough to insure a well developed case of indigestion.

Hat for Traveling.

If a woman is going away only for a few days, so that her baggage is limited, it is decreed that she may wear a large hat on the train. But the medium sized or small hats are the best for the occasion. The large hats are hard to pack, and this is the reason so many of them are worn on the train, the smaller ones being packed away. A chick little French hat, admirably suited for traveling. It is burnt straw, trimmed with band and bow of black velvet, put on as indicated in sketch. Three deep-purple roses nestle close to edge of narrow brim on left side.

Moonlight Sore Eyes.

Moonlight is so intense at times in Cuba that it causes sore eyes, and the natives go about with umbrellas and parasols. This affection is cured, according to Frank Steinhart, former consul general to Cuba, by washing the eyes with moonlight-fallen dew. These dews have been found to have radioactive and electric properties.

Cutting Soap.

Soap improves with keeping, so it always should be brought in large quantities. Before storing it, however, it is well to cut the bars into convenient pieces, for this is most easily done when it is soft. The cutting may be done with a piece of string or wire more easily than with a knife.

Waiting Yet.

Man was before the woman made, And sat anticipating; And she has kept him ever since Just waiting, waiting, waiting. —Judge.

Gloves with Circles.

The smart glove that many fashionable women are wearing has the back heavily embroidered with circles in colored silk. This is in the color, if not tone, as the kid of the glove.

TENORS WHILE YOU WAIT.

Industry That Has Thriven Since Jenn De Reszke Gave It a Start.

The corner stone of opera is the tenor, and tenors are scarcer than four-leaf clovers. Comic operas are now written with baritone heroes for that reason, the Brooklyn Eagle says, but the great operas were written when the disappearance of the tenor had not been dreamed of, and tenors must be had to sing in them; else no opera.

Hence a tenor voice is a surer and often a larger source of income than a gold mine. Opera managers go up and down the world listening to cabmen, truck drivers, old clo' vendors and the singers of popular songs in the cheap resorts, in the hope of hearing a voice that can be developed into an operatic tenor. For heretofore tenors, like the poets, have been born and not made. The manager's best chance was to find such a voice before his rivals and pay for its education.

But Jean De Reszke changed all that. He sang for years as a not especially conspicuous baritone in Europe. He was a good enough artist, but nobody thought of calling him great. Then a Paris teacher, adding two or three notes to the top of his voice, in a few months transformed De Reszke from a singer at \$2,500 a month to one drawing \$2,500 a night.

Since his transformation the musical world has dreamed of raising baritones into tenors as the alchemists dreamed of transmuting lead to gold. And now a New York teacher has done the trick. Rudolf Berger, who has long been one of the baritones of the Berlin opera, was the subject of the experiment. On Tuesday night he reappeared in Berlin, after a year's study here, as a tenor and sang Lohegrin, with what the cable reports to be great success. The audience is said to have gone wild over the success of the singer and his teacher, and no wonder. If that could be done with other baritones the problem of an opera for every city would be solved. Probably it cannot, more than once or twice in a generation, but that will not prevent a lot of ambitious teachers from trying it. Presently we shall see advertisements, "Tenors made in the off season," as we now see the signs of the emergency tailors. It is a great idea—if it will work.



Temperaments.

The physician of a former generation used to talk much of the "temperament" of his patients, that is to say, the predominant type of physical constitution possessed by each. He studied this permanent temperament fully as carefully as he did the disease temporarily present before deciding upon the line of treatment to be adopted.

Even to-day, although the physician speaks less of temperaments and diatheses, and perhaps would be at a loss to tell the names by which they were formerly designated, he by no means ignores the physical tendencies of his patients. From the viewpoint of temperament, one may regard the human family as divided into five great classes, although few belong solely to one type. Most persons have a mixture of two or more, being classified rather by the one which predominates.

The first of these temperaments is the lymphatic or phlegmatic. In this the individuals are of a quiet, rather inert disposition. They move slowly, but they move surely. They are usually dependable people, true to their word, and faithful to perform the duties assigned to them.

A second type, in many ways the direct opposite of the first, is the nervous temperament. These persons are quick in their movements, energetic in work and in play, strenuous, but often without staying power. What they accomplish they accomplish quickly.

The third type is the gouty, sanguine, or rheumatic. The individuals of this group are of florid complexion, frank and jovial disposition, good eaters and sleepers, and "never sick," but in later life they pay for their previous health by gouty attacks, and when attacked by serious illness, they are likely to succumb quickly.

Persons of the bilious temperament are poor assimilators of food. They suffer from intestinal indigestion, which leads to repeated attacks of "biliousness;" all the processes of secretion and excretion are sluggishly performed.

The fifth temperament is the strumous. These people have poor digestion and defective reparative power, little cuts and scratches healing slowly; they are always "catching" whatever contagious disease is about; they lack firmness of texture; the glands in the neck, in the armpits and in the groins frequently become enlarged.

The treatment of the same disease in persons of different temperaments often varies greatly, and hence the importance of the study and power to recognize the five distinct temperaments.—Youth's Companion.

Occasionally a man is so absent-minded that he pays his gas bill the day before it is due.

FARM AND GARDEN

Grain Smuts.

A dangerous parasite of many of the cereal plants is the fungus that produces in the grain or head what is known as smut. There are several well known kinds of smut, each of which is caused by a distinct species of the fungus.

The greatest loss from smuts in this country is from the stinking smut of wheat and the loose smut of oats. A considerable loss is also due to the loose smuts of barley and wheat, which are more difficult to control and prevent. They are widely distributed, and though they occur usually in small quantities the damage in the aggregate is large. They often are entirely unnoticed on account of their earliness and the absence of any conspicuous sign of them at harvest time.

The stinking smut of wheat transforms only the kernels into smut balls which do not break until the wheat is threshed and often remain intact in the threshed grain. The loose smuts of barley, on the other hand, early discharge their spores, which are blown off by the wind as soon as the smutted head comes out of the leaf sheath; they infect the plant in the flowering stage and enter the embryo inside the ovary before the latter ripens into seed. An infected seed develops a smutted plant the following year.

The most successful method thus far found for preventing these smuts is a hot-water treatment of the seed. This treatment is described in Bureau of Plant Industry bulletin 152, entitled "The Loose Smuts of Barley and Wheat," recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. The bulletin is a report of recent researches into the life histories of these smuts and the determination of methods for their prevention.

Danger of Barbed Wire.

Barbed wire is all right, for stock cattle and makes a cheap fence, but it is hard to construct such a fence to turn hogs, and, owing to its dangerous characteristics, it is out of the question for horses, and even for milch cows.

With the woven wire fence the post expense is not so great as that of the other kinds, as they need not be so heavy, and may be set a good distance apart. Heavy end posts are an absolute necessity, and they should be set in the ground not less than 3½ to 4 feet deep. If the line posts are 20 to 25 feet apart it is a very good idea to have every fourth post of good size, longer than the others, to allow extra setting. In setting end posts dig a big hole, put the post in, and begin to tamp and ram from the very bottom, not filling it too fast, so as to get the earth about the post packed from the bottom to the top. The "dead man" plan of bracing a post is perhaps better than any other. The "dead man" is a short post or heavy stone buried about 3 feet deep, 4 feet from the end posts, and with a cable made of plain galvanized wire to the post top and around the dead man the post can be held for years as firmly as when set. Be sure to use galvanized wire, as black wire will not last more than six or seven years.

A 30-inch high woven wire fence, two smooth No. 10 and one barbed wire at the very top, makes a good fence for any kind of stock, and can be put up for less than 40 cents per rod, exclusive of posts.—Lexington Herald.

Destroying Quack Grass.

I often see directions given for killing out quack grass, but I think they are all inferior to the method that I employ. I would never try to drag out the roots with harrow or rake, because not all of the roots will be gathered and those left will soon fill the soil again. The pest can most easily be killed right where it is, the roots furnishing an abundance of plant food, by using a double action cut-away harrow. Now, please don't think that any kind of a harrow will do, because it will not. If you rely on any except the one I have mentioned you will be disappointed. I have used cre to destroy quack grass many times, and am sure of what I am writing. If you plow before using the harrow, run the plow shallow—just deep enough to turn over the quack roots, bottom side up; let lay thus for a week and then go over the field with the double action cutaway harrow; then after a few days repeat the harrowing and keep at it, going over the field at intervals of a few days until the pest is all destroyed. It is no use to think that if the field be gone over, perhaps a dozen times in one day, the quack will be killed, for the sun, as well as the harrow, must get in its work. The way to do is to go over the field once, then wait a few days for the roots to dry and repeat the operation. By being thorough in this the grass can be destroyed and a crop grown the same year if commenced early in the spring.—F. H. Dow in Agricultural Epitomist.

Protecting Birds.

With very few exceptions, birds are most valuable live stock on the farm. Even the so-called grain-eating birds earn their right to a home and protection by reason of the vast quantities of weed seeds they devour and the number of insects they destroy. Quails and meadow larks eat more insects than vegetable food and a very large percentage of the latter is composed of weed seeds. A single farmer cannot protect the birds on his place against all kinds of destructive vermin, including the town hunter, but he can combine with his neighbors, post every farm and secure his rights by helping to secure the rights of his brother farmers. Now is a good time to begin.—Kansas Farmer.

Fattening Hogs.

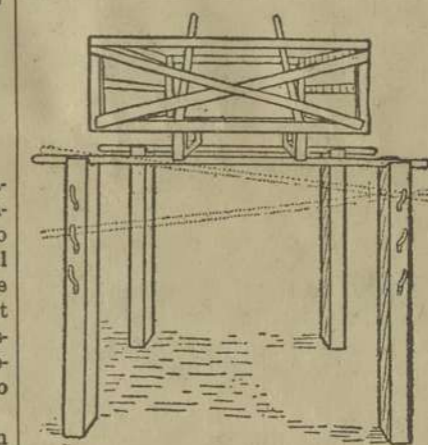
The hog is an omnivorous animal, and needs "roughage" and green feed for his best health and growth. A certain amount of grain feed is needed to grow hogs with the greatest profit, and still more is necessary to fatten and fit them for market. When young animals have an abundance of range with a good supply of nitrogenous foods, like alfalfa, clover, vetches and cow peas, corn makes a valuable addition to the ration, but should not be given in excess, and will usually be found more profitable if mixed with shorts, bran or other feed combining a large proportion of protein. For young pigs bran is not so good as shorts and ground cow peas may be used in the place of the latter when the price exceeds \$20 per ton.

Feeding for the finish should not begin more than ten or twelve weeks before the hogs are to be sold. For the last six or eight weeks corn is undoubtedly the best grain, as the feed consumed during this time greatly influences the quality of the meat. Hogs take on flesh rapidly during the first weeks of heavy feeding, but longer feeding means slower gains. Quick work pays in fattening as well as in growing hogs, and when the animals are on good feed and fall to make a gain of at least one pound daily they should be sold or butchered.

Market your hogs at 6 or 8 months of age, at which time they should weigh 200 to 250 pounds. A greater per cent of profit is secured than if you keep them until 10 or 12 months old, because you avoid 60 to 120 days of daily animal waste. However, a hog which is made to weigh 300 pounds at 1 year is quite profitable.

Ingenious Hay Rack Lifter.

It very often happens that one wishes to remove the rack from the wagon when there is no one to assist. This may be very easily done with the device illustrated herewith. The four supporting poles are set in the ground at a sufficient distance apart to admit of driving between them with the rack. There are a number of hooks on the side of each, sufficient to make



ONE MAN CAN HANDLE BIG RACK.

it possible to lift the rack a little at a time by means of the poles, as illustrated by the dotted lines. There is no need of a complicated block and tackle when such a simple device is so effective.—Frank Monroe in Farm and Home.

Best Type of Milch Cows.

A cow with her second or third calf is the most desirable of all, and this is undoubtedly the most profitable age to buy them. As milkers and breeders, they have all their best days in front of them, and with sufficient time to pay handsomely. Young and old cows are very distinct in appearance. The former have an unmistakable appearance of fullness of flesh and coat, while the old ones are more or less shrunk. The teeth give an indication of age, and the horns are often looked to as a guide, the young having smooth horns, while those of the aged are wrinkled. If cross-breeds are bought, get them with the greatest tendency toward the best breed the cross has been secured from. Cows with a male or bull type of head are rarely good milkers. The head should be refined, neck thin, forequarters wide, square and robust, with deep, broad thighs.

Value of Skim Milk for Hens.

Systematic tests made by the West Virginia Experiment Station prove that skim milk is a valuable food for laying hens.

The first test covered 122 days. The twenty-two hens fed the skim milk laid 1,244 eggs, as compared with 996 laid by twenty-two hens fed a mesh wet with water.

In another test sixty hens fed skim milk laid 862 eggs in thirty-seven days, as compared with 632 eggs laid by a similar lot fed no milk.

Other tests gave about the same comparative results.

The conductors of these experiments estimate under prevailing conditions, with eggs selling at 20 to 25 cents a dozen, that the skim milk had a feeding value of 1½ to 2 cents a quart.

They'll Want the Wood.

The forest famine is not to be immediate, said Mr. Pinchot at Denver. "We have forests in plenty for the present generation, and perhaps for the next, but in the years to come there will be famine a-plenty if we don't at this time take the stitch in time."