

by Thornton W. Burgess

MR. BLACKSNAKE DECIDES TO DINE

MR. BLACKSNAKE, coiled on a flat stone of the old wall on the edge of the Old Orchard, had fully made up his mind to dine on young woodpeckers. All about him were the little feathered people who live in the Old Orchard, all screaming at him and calling him bad names. He didn't mind this in the least. In the first place, he was used to it. In the second place, he knew perfectly that bad names never yet hurt anyone. The truth is, he had coiled up there just to draw the



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birds around him. You see, he is so sharp that he knew that he would be able to tell by the way they acted when they saw him which ones had babies in their homes, and which had not. And sure enough he could. He knew that the ones who appeared the most worried at the sight of him, who were the boldest and came the nearest, were the ones who had babies at home.

One of these was Goldie the Oriole. "His nest is way up high and out on the slender branches. It is too much work and too risky to climb way up there," thought Mr. Blacksake.

Another was Chippy the Sparrow. "His nest is not very high and it is easy to get to, but his babies are so small that they are hardly worth while," thought Mr. Blacksake.

A third was Drummer the Woodpecker. "His nest is in a hole in that nearest apple tree, because I saw him making it there. It isn't very high up. His babies are of good size, and there is sure to be enough of them for a good meal. Young Woodpeckers are very good eating, so I believe I'll sample them right away," thought Mr. Blacksake.

He lazily uncoiled and slipped off the stone wall. Then he glided swiftly through the grass, all the birds following and anxiously watching to see where he was going. All the time they made a terrible racket. Mr. Blacksake paid not the least bit of attention to them. He made straight for the tree in which was the home of Drummer the Woodpecker. When Drummer saw this he became almost crazy. Twice he dashed almost in the face of Mr. Blacksake. Mr. Blacksake just chuckled to himself, for he knew now that there wasn't the least doubt about those babies. Mrs. Drummer, who remained at home, now came out, and she was even braver than Drummer in trying to drive Mr. Blacksake away. Once he struck at her and almost caught her.

But nothing that Drummer or Mrs. Drummer could do changed Mr. Blacksake's intention. He kept right on and began to climb the tree. Now, some of Mr. Blacksake's relatives—in fact, most of them—cannot climb, but he himself is a very good climber, and it was no work at all for him to get up to the round hole which was the doorway of Drummer's home. As he drew near he heard a sound that made his eyes sparkle. You see, the babies inside the hollow heard

him, and, being young and quite innocent of the dangers of the Great World, they thought it was their mother, or father bringing them something to eat, and so each began to call for the goody they thought was being brought to them.

When Mr. Blacksake reached the doorway he coiled himself about a branch so as not to lose his balance, and fall, and then he looked in at the doorway.

"One, two, three, four, five," counted Mr. Blacksake, and smacked his lips.

"My, but I shall have a feast! I'm so glad I happened to think to come up to the Old Orchard."

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Bustle Dress Is In Style Picture

It is difficult to imagine the bustle dress coming back into the style picture, but from signs that tell it is not only coming but it's here. The movement began with a disposition among several Paris couturiers who advocated fullness brought to the back in skirts—a fashion that is widely accepted at the moment. Designers recently returned from the Paris openings say that the theme has been taken up to such an extent many dresses reflect the bustle influence in no uncertain terms via big bows placed at the waistline and via hip drapery that terminates in a bustle line at the back. For the most part the bustle trend is confined to formal evening gowns although several afternoon flowered chiffons have taken on tiers of ruffles at the back starting at the waistline.

Tennis or Beach



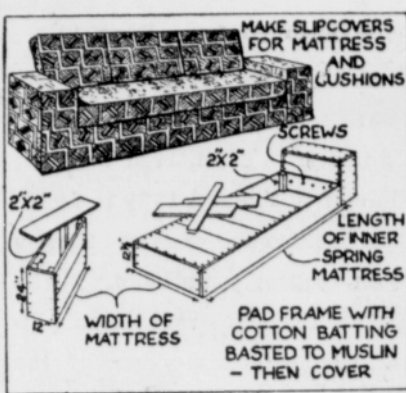
Nowadays as much attention and care is given to the meticulous styling of play clothes as to the most elegant of evening apparel. A study of play fashions as worn by leading film stars out Hollywood way is always well worth while, for the utmost care and research is given to correct dress both on and off the stage. For tennis or beach a favorite play suit is the twosome that tops shorts of white sharkskin with a Roman-striped silk jersey blouse, as here shown. The great advantage of silk jersey added to its comely appearance is that it is delightfully cool in the wearing.

Mesh Evening Scarf

You can feel yourself a dashing senorita this summer if you wear one of the new white mesh scarfs wrapped Spanish style about you with your cotton evening dresses.

HOW to SEW

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS



THERE comes a letter from a reader who says: "Thanks for the article telling how to make a chair of lumber and cover it. I wish there were more things that husbands and wives could do together. I have made all the curtains for our house and some slipcovers, but this chair that we both worked on was much more interesting."

Here is something that looks ambitious but is really simple. Anyone that can make three wooden boxes and then screw or bolt them together, can make this day-enport frame. The center box is made to fit an inner spring mattress of any size desired. All the other dimensions are given here.

One way to make the cushions is to bind flat sheets of newspapers together and then pad this base with cotton. Covering material in a rather heavy, rough textured cotton goods in a plain



CLEAN GOVERNMENT

"TODAY the extermination of organized crime is gradually progressing from city to city. Its sponsors are being exposed and driven from power. The people have learned they need no longer tolerate the furtive alliance between the upper and the under world. In high places it has been learned that clean government can also be good politics."—Thomas E. Dewey, District Attorney of New York.

Our Burdens

Each man and woman was sent into the world not to be like someone else, but to do his own work, and to bear his own burden; precisely the one work which God has given him, and which never can be given to or done by any other.

Uncle Phil Says:

Making Good the Boast
Typical Americans think they are better than the average. That's what makes America great.

"On a day when beautiful cloud forms are seen, there really seem to be mansions in the sky."

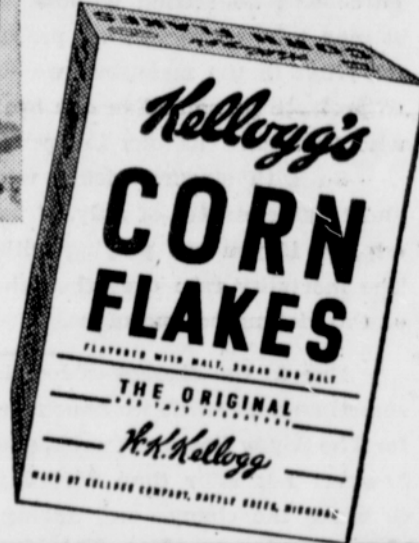
Work is a great sedative, but it doesn't necessarily bring happiness. If you stop to bemoan, down you go!

Kings are those who have a great many privileges which they think it best not to exercise.



Just taste 'em

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