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IT'S UNNECESSARY TO SAY. Many Remarks that Are Entirely Superfluous at All Times. A new society is proposed to have for its title "The Society for the Suppression of Obvious Remarks." A list of speeches is to be prepared which the society binds itself not to use, thus elevating the character of general conversation. Here are some of the specimens of obvious remarks: "It is not the actual degree of heat registered by the thermometer which makes it so uncomfortable; it is the humidity in the atmosphere." "I don't mind the money; it's the principle of the thing." "One never understands the name when one is introduced to a person." "If the water were filtered it would be just as good as the water of any city." "The trouble about going to summer gardens is it takes you so long to get home." "You can put on two fresh collars a day and then never have a clean one on." These are statements over which no one disputes and they may be increased to an almost unlimited degree. The object to be gained in refraining from them is rather indefinite except that they waste time, but as everyone has immeasurable quantities of time to waste, and no gain can be shown in saving it, the work of the S. S. O. R. society seems an idle expenditure of effort. If everybody carried on a thoughtful conversation a state of mental exhaustion would soon be brought about where all conversations would cease, and silence in company, as everyone knows, is more rasping on the nerves than an ocean of commonplace remarks. The babbling of tongues is an excellent deadener of thought and no one should permit his thoughts to work overtime if he desires to be happy.—Chicago Chronicle.

ITALIAN OF THE ASH DUMP.

Where This Foreigner Gets Fuel for His Fire. There is a value to everything, and the Italian is cognizant of the fact, although the value is small. He gathers cinders, wood, rags, bottles, paper, rubber and leather shoes, and old tin cans, all of which have been thrown away by others. Sometimes two or more families unite in making their collections and disposing of them, forming in a small way a trust or co-operative industry.

The coal and wood they utilize for fuel in their homes, and turn the other products of their labor into money in the following way: The old shoes and rubbers are sold to a shoemaker, usually another Italian, and bring from 5 to 25 cents a pair, the prices varying according to their condition. The shoemaker repairs them and disposes of them again as second-hand.

The rags and paper are sold to the wholesale junk dealer, and usually bring about 6 cents a hundred weight for old paper and anywhere from 10 to 80 cents a hundred weight for rags. The bottles are washed and disposed of through the same agency. The price of bottles fluctuates, an average being \$1 a hundred; but the Italian seldom sells on a "bear" market.

The bones are sold to the fertilizer factories, \$2 a ton being paid. The tin cans are sold to foundries, where the solder and tin are melted off and the iron sheets are melted up and sash weights made from them. Old tomato cans and fruit cans bring \$3 a ton, and it takes more than 4,000 of these cans to make a ton.

There must be some money made in this business, for an Italian residing in New York city pays to that corporation the sum of \$30,000 a year for the privilege of picking the above-mentioned commodities (trimming they call it) from the scoops that bear the city's ashes and garbage to the sea.—Christian Endeavor World.

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Not a Chinese Word. "It's a mistake to suppose that 'joss' is a Chinese word," says a retired ship's carpenter. "I've traveled a good bit in the orient in my time, and among the odds and ends of interesting information I picked up was a knock-out of the genuineness of 'joss' as a Chinese word. Chinamen only know 'joss' when they come in contact with Europeans. A Chinese priest that I became chummy with in Hankow told me that there was no such word in Chinese. He explained that the word was a corruption of the Spanish word 'Dios' and had come into use through the missionaries. Many early missionaries, he said, were Spanish priests, and their pronunciation of 'Dios' was speedily corrupted into 'joss' by native tongues and applied to the Chinese seaboard that the word is understood by Chinamen. In the interior, the priest told me, the celestials had no knowledge of it."

The Mourning Veil. The use of crepe for mourning veils is becoming less every day, and in summer the crinkly fabric is scarcely seen. Many physicians protest against women wearing crepe veils at any season of the year, and the nun's veiling, grenadine, and similar materials have to a large extent, replaced the crepe drapery that formerly was a distinctive badge of bereavement. For widows or other women wearing crepe mourning it is the fancy at present to wear a short veil of fine grenadine or gauze, falling in graceful folds at the back and draped on a bonnet frame of light weight, edged with a narrow band of crepe. A bow of crepe adorns the front of the bonnet.

It is as important that a man should acquire new ways of complimenting as that a woman should learn new ways of cooking potatoes.

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