



Thoughts on Spring Housecleaning

NO WOMAN who has had any experience with an average man need be told that his point of view on domestic problems is pretty generally wrong, or that there are a great number of things connected with the household he does not, and never can understand. One of them is spring housecleaning. Spring housecleaning does not mean any more to him than fall, winter or summer housecleaning. The prefix "spring" does not impress him. All he hears when he is told that spring housecleaning will begin next week or next day is the compound, "housecleaning." And it is because of this, and not because of any innate desire on his part to be disagreeable, that, when the subject of spring housecleaning comes up, he is prone to ask, "Why put it off so long?" or "Why begin so soon?"

To him, housecleaning is always unseasonable. Not because he does not like to see everything about the house looking spick and span. He does. He is pleased to find everything so nice and fresh and sweet after a housecleaning, but he is opposed to the housecleaning itself. He is so much opposed to it that if it rested with him it would be postponed indefinitely.

In talking the matter over among themselves—and they are disposed to be more frank than at other times—men have been known to concede that housecleaning is, perhaps, necessary; but in almost the same breath they confess their inability to understand why it should be made a domestic function. They cannot, that is, comprehend the woman's point of view. They are incapable of grasping the idea that a housecleaning is no housecleaning at all unless everything in the house from cellar to attic is upset. Patient women have tried time and again to reason with them that spring housecleaning is not simply a reform but a revolution, but to no purpose. Despite everything they say, men insist upon maintaining that housecleaning is a process that should operate throughout the entire year as noiselessly and as smoothly as the law of gravitation.

Plainly, where the difference arises is in the belief on one side that spring housecleaning should be an event worthy of observance by the whole household and as much of the neighborhood as can be aroused by the beating of carpets and rugs, and on the other side, that it is a custom that should have gone out when the renaissance came in, if it be true that this was the beginning of brighter things for mankind. However, the consoling thing is that the spring housecleaning is over sooner or later, and that when it is over man enjoys its results fully as much as woman, if he would only be frank and own up.—Exchange.

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ALL OVER OREGON

MEDFORD—Mrs. C. L. Clark, of Griffin Creek, had a narrow escape from a severe accident when a horse she was driving became unmanageable and ran away.

SALEM—State School Superintendent L. R. Alderman and J. A. Churchill, who will succeed him in July have decided to call a high school conference to be held in Portland, June 27, for the purpose of deciding on a definite course for adoption in the high schools of the state.

PORTLAND—Because Manager Pierong, of the Empress theater, persisted in violating the building code by laying a wooden floor in the annex to the theater, R. E. Kremers, deputy building inspector, has stopped the work.

PORTLAND—Permission to lay a water main along Linton road has been given by the county court. This main will carry water from Portland to the residents of the city of Linton.

PORTLAND—Having been requested to resign as superintendent of the Frazer Detention Home of the juvenile court, L. H. Baker says the management of the home has little bearing with juvenile court Judge Gatens, as his political machine must be set in motion and it is beginning to move.

PORTLAND—The case of J. C. Heimele, on behalf of his 12-year-old son Donald vs. the P. R. L. & P., has been settled, giving the plaintiff \$3000. The boy was badly burned by catching hold of a wire of the company.

SALEM—J. A. Churchill has appointed Frank K. Welles second assistant superintendent of public instruction.

SALEM—The transcript on appeal in the cases of Frank Seymour and Mike Spanos, who were convicted of murder in the first degree, has been filed with the clerk of the supreme court.

PORTLAND—Broken hearted because her husband had deserted her for another woman, Mrs. Tillie Hedberg, aged 33, wrote several letters to her friends and relatives and then swallowed carbolic acid.

LA GRANDE—A prowler, unidentified thus far, made an attempt to drag Mrs. H. R. Roskamp a society woman of this city, through the window of her bedroom, just as she had disrobed for the night, and only released her when help came from another room.

ASTORIA—Ed Larbee, one of the convicts from the state prison, was instantly killed while working on the Tongue Point rock-quarry, by a large rock rolling on him as he worked.

PENDLETON—Kennewick has been selected as the place for the next convention of the Columbia and Snake River Waterways Association.

SPRINGFIELD—O. C. Carpenter, a Portland bridge builder, in repairing the county bridge across the Willamette, received a shock of 11,000 volts of electricity, and was thrown from the top of the bridge to the water, 65 feet below, and escaped uninjured.

PORTLAND—About 25,000,000 feet of lumber will be set afloat at Portland for Australia and the Orient next month by two firms—Balfour, Guthrie & Co., and the China Import & Export Co.

PORTLAND—Captain Robert Adamson identified the body found afloat near the lower end of Swan Island as that of Robert Frazer, who was third officer of the British steamship Robert Dollar.

MOUNT ANGEL—The annual horse fair held here was a success in every way. Despite the inclement weather it was estimated that there were over 6000 people present.

EUGENE—The Eugene water board will proceed at once with the plans for improving the water works system.

CARLTON—Rawleigh Shepherd was seriously injured in George Cole's sawmill by having the crank on a log turn and strike his right foot, fracturing it three inches above the ankle.

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LOGGED-OFF LAND

One of the most important problems before the people of Oregon is the reclamation of the logged-off land area. In recent years many methods for the practical clearing of cut-over lands have been tried out and many suggestions for financing projects to clear the lands have been offered; yet but little progress has been made in converting the rich lands into producing farms.

What is considered an important step toward solving the problem in Washington is the measure passed at the last legislature in that state, which provides for the creation of agricultural improvement districts with power to issue bonds to raise money for clearing logged-off lands. In discussing the provisions of the new law, the Tacoma Ledger says:

"The greatest obstacle in the way of clearing logged-off lands has been the heavy cost and the inability of ranchers to borrow money at a rate of interest they can afford to pay. The bill furnishes a method of financing by which the rancher can have 20 years to pay out, the rate of interest being 5 per cent.

State to Buy Bonds.

Money at this rate is made available by the provision that bonds issued by agricultural improvement districts are made a preferential investment for the common school fund next to school district bonds. The state has a large permanent and irrevocable common school fund. It has been invested in school district and city bonds, and it usually draws 4 to 4 1/2 per cent interest. Just a few days ago the state bought an issue of Tacoma City bonds.

"Under the new law the state may invest in the bonds of agricultural improvement districts created under the logged-off land law. The assumption of the new law is that the state will offer money to such districts at 4 1/2 per cent. Hence it is provided that the rancher shall pay 5 per cent interest on deferred payments, the 1/2 per cent difference going to pay cost of administration.

"So it is a method of using the credit of the state to aid in bringing

ing the vast areas of idle land under cultivation. The rate of interest to be paid by the rancher is low because of the low rate at which the state lends its common school fund.

"An agricultural improvement district may include an entire county or but part of a county. The County Commissioners may call an election to vote on the creation of a district, or 10 per cent of the voters may take the initiative and bring on an election. The district may be bonded to the extent of 1 1/2 per cent of the assessed valuation, or if the people vote in the affirmative, the bonding may be to the extent of 5 per cent of the assessed valuation.

Rancher Is Benefited.

"The ruling body of an agricultural improvement district is three commissioners elected by the people and serving without pay. These district commissioners have the power to buy and clear land. Ranchers already owning land may sell as much as 20 acres to the district at a price not to exceed \$20 an acre, but the land cannot be purchased until the soil has been examined and it has been estimated that the land can be cleared for not to exceed \$100 an acre.

"The rancher who sells land to the district will have the option of taking the contract to clear it at the lowest price for the work offered. After it has been cleared, he has the preference right to buy it back at the price paid by the district, plus cost of clearing. Meantime the rancher who does the clearing receives pay for the work, and this should furnish him a livelihood while he is waiting for the land to be brought into condition for cropping.

"The main thing to be guarded against is the clearing of land that will not make good when cultivated, for if it does not make good the rancher can not meet the annual payments and the 5 per cent interest on cost of land plus cost of clearing.

"More than anything else in western Washington we need farmers. For this reason the logged-off land law should have an early and fair trial."

CHOCKFUL OF FUN.

The Parson Didn't Look It, but He Felted the Cowboy.

Appearances sometimes are very deceitful, and to prove this trite proposition Chaucer M. Depew once related the following stirring anecdote:

"A clerical friend of mine," said the senator, "told me a capital story of a Yale man who was stroke out for his crew and the chief athlete on the football field. He entered the ministry and spent several years in missionary labor in the far west. Walking one day through the frontier town, a cowboy stepped up to him and said:

"'Parson, you don't have fun enough. Take a drink.'"

"The minister declined.

"'Well,' the cowboy said, 'you must have some fun. Here's a fare layout. Take a hand in the game.'"

"The minister declined.

"'Parson,' said the cowboy, 'you'll die if you don't have some fun,' and he



THE OLD ATHLETE'S SPIRIT AROSE.

thereupon knocked the parson's hat off his head and hit him a whack on the ear.

"The old athlete's spirit arose. The science which had been learned in the college gymnasium and forgotten for a quarter of a century was aroused and a blow landed on the jaw of the cowboy that sent him sprawling in the street. The parson walked over him as if he had been a door rug, picked him up and dusted the side of the house with him, mopped up the side walk, and as the ambulance was carrying the cowboy off he raised his head feebly and said:

"'Parson, what did you fool me for? You are chockful of fun.'—Washington Times.

Witty Willis.

Nathaniel Parker Willis, the poet and author, was also a bit of a wit. Once at a dinner in Washington Willis and a young girl were talking with great animation. The young girl's aunt, seated beside a Mr. Campbell, passed down to her niece a note that said, "Stop flirting with Nat Willis."

Willis on reading the note sent it back to the aunt again with this couplet scribbled on the reverse side:

Dear aunt, don't attempt my young feelings to trammel
Nor strain at a Nat while you swallow a Campbell.

Thought in Giving.
Do not spend more than you can afford on Christmas tokens. Nothing justifies it. Friends who know your circumstances will worry if they do not criticize you for false pride or love of display. If you put thought into your giving it will save you pennies.

THE RIVALS.

Each Thought Himself a Shade Handsomer Than the Other.

"Did you boys ever hear that back in the eighties I was regarded as one of the homeliest men in Kentucky?" inquired Senator Bradley of a number of newspaper men. "It's a fact, and I'll tell you a story to illustrate it.

"Under the laws of Kentucky the governor has the power of pardon even before grand jury proceedings or trial. During my first term as governor my attorney general was John K. Hendrick. Some folks said Hendrick was the homeliest man in Kentucky; others said I was. In those days I wore a beard, as did Hendrick. John always maintained that he was a better looking man than I, and I always disputed his argument.

"One day Hendrick walked into my office.

"'I want a pardon, governor,' he announced.

"'All right, Hendrick,' I said. 'But what have you done?'

"'I just shot a man down street,' said Hendrick calmly.

"'What for?' I demanded.

"'He said I looked like you,' answered Hendrick, 'and I could not stand for that.'

"'You shall have the pardon at once,' I announced. 'If you hadn't shot the cuss I would have done so on sight.'"

Going or Coming.

A train was reported forty minutes late, and after the time had elapsed a would be passenger inquired:

"'How late is that train?'

"'Oh, about an hour late.'

"The hour passed and the query was repeated.

"'Well, they'll be about an hour and twenty minutes late here.'

Patience reigned until the query was justly renewed and the railroad man replied:

"'Well, sir, I think that train will be near two hours late.'

Whereupon the passenger said:

"'Say, mister, will you kindly tell me which way that train is going?—Portland Oregonian.

A Garbled Message.

At the last moment Mr. Gayley found he could not attend the garden party at Miss Fenton's house, and it was, of course, imperative that he should send his regrets, so he summoned Michael, the family gardener.

"Tell Miss Bessie that I am very sorry, but business will prevent me coming," he said.

"Yes, sir," said Michael.

"And—stay a moment," said Gayley. "Could you remember a line of poetry?"

"Certainly, sorr."

"Well, tell her, 'Though lost to sight, to memory dear.'"

Half an hour later Michael was delivering his message to Miss Fenton.

"The master said it's sorry he is he can't be wid ye," said Michael, "and— and, though he's lost his sight, his memory's clear. And may I be forgiven for the untruth I'm talkin' ye!"

KEEP NOT FOR ME.

KEEP not for me the brave, bright face you carry through the day—

The world's face that must not bear a frown—

But rather let me see the tired eyes, the blue turned gray,
The lips unstrung, with corners drooping down,
Let me gaze away the pain when none but I may see;
To those less dear your noble largesse—
Just your grief for me!
—Ina G. C. Klock in Success Magazine.

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