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Feminine Snapshots

Have You Ever Noticed the Smoker's Mouth?

It is said that the smoking habit is rapidly increasing among fashionable women. If so, this is sadly to be regretted, for then the feminine face with its mobile features, will rapidly manifest the smoker's mouth. This smoker's mouth is undoubted and unmistakable among men who are slaves to pipe and cigar. The tobacco smoking habit among the masculine sex has increased so greatly of recent years that in some cases it is actually staving men's brains and making them dopy, saying nothing of the dread disease of cancer that sometimes develops upon the tobacco smoking slave's tongue or mouth. I have been traveling on the New York city elevated trains now for a number of years, meanwhile keeping my eyes open. The intemperate smoking of tobacco has increased certainly 50 per cent among men within a few years, and it is im printing upon the countenances of Americans the fixed smoker's mouth. It is not a beautiful mouth, nor does the odor the besotted tobacco victim carries about him suggest roses. The man who puffs cigars constantly must carry the cigar between his lips. The lips are easily changed in shape. The side of the mouth on which the cigar is carried in time sags and gets out of shape, giving the smoker a soured, sabbly expression—likewise a one sided face. Still worse it is when the weight of an old pipe, tugged at all day, must be borne by the mouth. If the pipe is carried in the center of the mouth after awhile the lower lip is permanently turned downward and outward, causing a different phase of deformity in the smoker's mouth. The lips are in every case discolored and stained a yellowish brown hue in place of the rich red of the untaunted lips. With all my soul I hope, even for the sake of their looks alone, women will never get this uncomely smoker's mouth.

Note and bear in mind that Justice Brewer of the United States supreme

court said lately in an address to the Vassar girls, "Who shall say that before gray hair shall come to your heads a woman like Queen Victoria shall not sit in the White House to glorify this nation as Victoria glorified England?"

Here is a question for women to settle: A man had been married thirty years and was the father of twelve children. His wife, the children's mother, was a weakened, spiteful, nagging little wasp of a woman who gave him no peace night or day. The only way he was able to live with her was to give her a sound beating when she became unendurably cantankerous; so he thought, so he did. After the thrashing she would cool down and be comparatively amiable for a longer or shorter period, when again the correction was necessary and was administered. By and by, however—and here the strange part of the story comes in—the man got religious and concluded it was sinful to beat his wife, so stopped it. Then the wasp of a woman became fairly fiendish in her ill temper and nagging—worse than ever before. The home was a true purgatory. The husband would have left his wife, but there were the twelve children. Now, what should that man do?

Two of the physically biggest members of the president's cabinet were recently temporarily quite broken down in health at the same time, and both were ordered to quit and take a long rest. Women are not physically strong enough for political duties!

The time is coming when, instead of any old kind of a girl being naturally expected to secure a husband and be "taken care of," the community will ask, "What right has a girl without health, wealth, grit or learning or any ability even to take care of herself—a girl who is a thriftless, shiftless housekeeper besides—to marry at all and repeat herself in weaking children as deficient as she is?"

Lately a young man tried to elope with his girl and be married in order to get away from the fuss and parade of a society wedding, but his mother found it out and stopped him. One's sympathies are altogether with the young man. A fashionable wedding these days is an ordeal compared with which the ancient trial by fire would be child's play.

A would be humorous writer asks why no woman can jump, sharpen a pencil, throw a ball, draw a cork or drive a nail. A woman can do all of these things as well as anybody if she takes the trouble to learn how to do them.

It has been decreed that women may lecture as instructors in the philosophical department of the University of Vienna. The sun do move.

Russian women and little girls enjoy the full rights of Russian men to be fogged with Cossack knouts.

Many thousand years it has taken the race to find that neither for men nor for women, especially women, is marriage the end all and be all of human existence.

ELIZA ARCHARD CONNER. SUSPENDER WAISTS.

The New Bretelles Are Stylish if Not Overelegant.

Recently I heard two little girls talking, and, judging from their interchange of words, I understood that there was a little family rivalry between them.

"Hub! My sister's got a waist with splinters."

"Well, what's that?"

"Why, them things what goes over the shoulders to hold the skirt up—splinters, like the men wear to hold—"

"Oh, I know—s-penders. Oh, well, our May-mee could have them, too, but they're so common now that she wouldn't wear them."

If the boy is father to the man, is the girl not mother to the woman? It would seem so, for these children are but small women. Truly, there is a grain of truth in the assertion that suspender suits are common, if seeing them every ten minutes is a criterion. And they are neither dressy nor the things a gentleman would choose for herself, but so very many wear them that we must call the suspender suits not a fashion alone, but a fad. A skirt of some fine and generally dark material is one part, and the other is a pretty and rather plain shirt waist. The suspender then comes to add its quota of style if not elegance. Many are made of black silk or satin or even of velvet, while others are fashioned of ribbon, and still others are of some dark material, with beading or Bulgarian embroidery along the straps. These additions to a costume have first a belt pointed more or less sharply and then the parts that reach over the shoulders. In the old days they were called "bretelles," which is the French name for suspenders. So, after all, it is all right.

As You Like It.

These bretelles, which is anyhow a prettier sounding name than mere suspenders, are as plain or as ornamental as one wishes to have them. I saw one pair of black net, with lots of tiny jet beads along the middle in a star design. The edges were bordered with narrow black lace. This showed up beautifully over the white silk waist and also over a pink one that the same lady wore with the bretelles. Those

made of plain black silk or of velvet are more striking than pretty; but, after all, let each lady have what she likes best and finds best suited to her garments, always bearing in mind that they must not be over four inches wide at the shoulder and one and a half at the waist.

Soft cashmere and landsdowne make really beautiful waists when trimmed



SUSPENDER SUIT.

in the right way. The neater and simpler the ornamentation the more refined and ladylike the result. White wash waists are in the public eye more than any, but the dainty silk and pongee ones with the plain but handsome skirts and the velvet or ribbon bretelles make us all notice them with real pleasure. Short capes or jackets in referer shape, or bolero, or even short Eton, are worn with these. Some of the skirts are made so that the band becomes the girdle to which the straps are fastened, but they are so difficult to keep in place they are not very popular, and besides only slender figures look well in them, and that is just the reason why so many stout ones wear them.

Tea and House Gowns.

Some most dainty and lovely tea and house gowns were shown me this week, and it is quite possible to trace the Japanese idea of the kimono through them all. The shape is on that order, but the folds are far more ample, and in the back, instead of being straight down, there is a deep double box plait which extends into a short train. The sleeves are flowing and garnished with oceans of lace and rivers of floating ribbon, yet, as I have said, the Japanese idea is prominent.

Dressing sacks are so dainty and so ornate that one can scarcely think of them as garments just to slip on for a few moments, for they are of fine and delicate silks in various designs, but mostly printed ones where the figure is small, but very perfect and representing flowers in natural colors. Naturally lace of the finest and finest kind is employed to finish these, and there is ribbon at the throat and sleeves.

Some there are of sheer white tulle with fine embroidery insertions and edgings, and always the ribbons. OLIVE HARPER.

Sparing His Feelings.

Allce—He thinks he hasn't made any impression at all.

Clara—Oh, yes, he has, but I'm too considerate to let him know what kind of an impression it is.—New York Press.

No Storms.

Yeast—And you are just home from Europe? Did you have a stormy passage?

Crimsonbeak—No; didn't take my wife, you know!—Yonkers Statesman.

A Long Sermon.

Mrs. De Goode—What did the minister preach against today?

Mr. De Goode (wearily)—He preached against time.—New York Weekly.

MORE PRAISE FOR EILERS PIANO HOUSE

An Example of the Many Cordial Letters Continually Received by This Enterprising Establishment.

It is a matter of much gratification to us to publish letters such as the one given below. This came to us directly unsolicited from Mr. F. W. Royal, of Ballston, Or.:

"Enclosed please find express order. Please send me cancelled contract and receipt in full.

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Bent Her Double.

"I knew no one for four weeks when I was sick with typhoid and kidney troubles," writes Mrs. Annie Hunter, of Pittsburg, Pa. "And when I got better, although I had one of the best doctors I could get, I was bent double, and had to rest my hands on my knees when I walked. From this terrible affliction I was rescued by Electric Bitters, which restored my health and strength and now I can walk as straight as ever. They are simply wonderful." Guaranteed to cure stomach, liver and kidney disorders; at Charles Rogers' drug store; price 50c.

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