

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

Tonic For the Hair.

A tonic said to excel cantharides in restoring the hair is the oil of mace. A strong tincture may be made by adding half an ounce of it to a pint of deodorized alcohol. Put a small quantity of it in a saucer and with the tips of the fingers or a small stiff brush rub it smartly into the roots of the hair.

Any one who is troubled with baldness if he will first rub the bald spot with a bit of coarse flannel until the skin looks red and then apply the tonic will be delighted with its effectiveness. The process should be repeated three times daily for at least eight weeks. It is one of the best remedies for baldness obtainable.

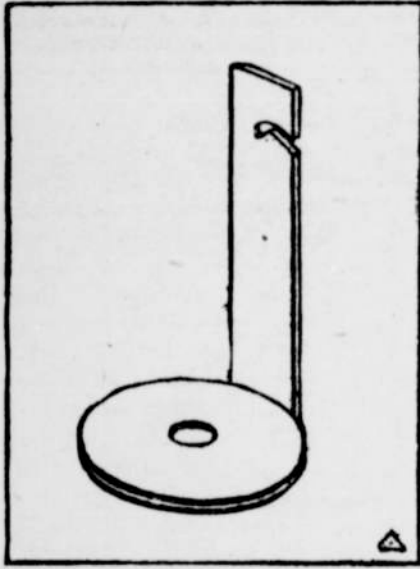
There is another simple remedy which dates back to the Roman empire, though it is a common enough preparation of the present day. Rub the spot morning and evening for three months with a little oil of turpentine. If used faithfully it will not be long before the downy hair appears.—Chicago News.

Ironing a Shirt.

The shirt to be ironed should first be thoroughly dried. Then those parts to be starched must be wrung out of lukewarm clear water and put at once into the thick, hot starch. Squeeze out and rub between the hands. This will remove any small lumps or superfluous starch that may adhere. Then wring through a clean cloth to make dry, roll tightly and leave for an hour, when the article will be ready to iron. The irons must be hot and scrupulously clean. It is not enough to clean the bottoms thoroughly, but the sides also, or the result will be smears and probably the iron will stick to the part that is being ironed. After unrolling the shirt place the cuffs in a position for ironing and go over them with a dry cloth, rubbing. Lay the wrong side up and cover with a strip of cheesecloth, then press with a hot iron. Turn on the right side and do the same. Continue until the cuffs are almost dry, then remove the cheesecloth and iron thoroughly dry.

Sewing Machine Attachment.

Among the minor inventions of interest is the thread guide for a sewing machine devised by a Wisconsin man. The guide consists of a disk with an opening to receive the pin or spool spindle and a flat arm projected upward from the edge of the disk and



GUIDES THE THREAD.

bearing an eye for the thread. Extending out through an edge of the arm is a slot, which admits of the eye being easily and quickly threaded and which also permits of loose action of the thread and eliminates the danger of its snapping. All sewing machines have some form of thread guide, but the advantages claimed for the one shown in the illustration are that it is easier to thread than others and the cotton is less likely to snap when run through it.

Household Hints.

A glazier's knife will be found an excellent thing with which to scrape and clean the bottoms of pans and kettles.

Much time is saved if paper linings for cake pans are cut in quantities and kept ready for instant use in a dust proof box with a tight lid.

A little muriatic acid added to the rinsing water of a blue and white fiber rug is scrubbed with soap and water will help to restore the color.

A clean cloth dipped in hot water, then a saucer of bran, will speedily clean white paint without injury to it. The soft bran acts like soap on the dirt.

Homemade Baking Powder.

One pound of pure cream of tartar, one-half pound of best baking soda, and two more tablespoonfuls of flour than you have of soda. Put all into a sifter and sift ten times. For example, if you have ten spoonfuls of soda take twelve spoonfuls of flour. You then have absolutely pure baking powder at half cost of the best you can buy.

Virginia Corn Pone.

Stir a teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of melted lard into a quart of cornmeal and add enough cold water to make a soft dough. Shape with the hands into oblong rolls like little loaves and bake quickly in a well greased pan. Serve hot, break open and eat with butter.

To Remove Ink Stains.

Place the article over steam and apply salt and lemon juice. The stain disappears as if by magic. Another method is to use peroxide of hydrogen. This will remove stains from the most delicate fabric.

CIGAR STRIPPERS UPHELD.

Arbitrators Decide in Favor of Union Wages and Conditions.

President Samuel Gompers of the A. F. of L., John Mitchell, national secretary of the arbitration board of the Civic Federation, and Edward A. Filene of Boston, the arbitrators appointed at the time of the temporary adjustment of the strike of the Cigar Factory Strippers' union at the H. Traiser shops a year ago last May, have just rendered their decision. The strike had been to maintain the union's wage rate from any reduction and also to prevent the sending of stock to be stripped to a nonunion factory in New York in violation of an alleged previous agreement on that question and caused an interest of national extent owing to the question involved.

The arbitrators are unanimous in granting the union its claims on wages and working rules and regarding treatment of stock. Mr. Filene gives a minority opinion as regards the right of having stock treated wherever desired. On that point Mr. Filene says: "The situation presents itself to me in this way. I may justly say that the union may justly claim an award of a living wage within its jurisdiction, and to the manufacturer that he shall not have work done in this jurisdiction unless he pays such a wage. But the manufacturer must have the right to move all of his factory to another state and to manufacture part of his output there should he feel so inclined. I believe, however, that the union has the right to follow him to such states and endeavor to organize the operatives there so as to compel him to pay union wages there." Concluding, Mr. Filene says: "May I, in conclusion, point out another situation which, if remedied, might furnish a solution of the question at issue. It might be satisfactory to the Strippers' union, and it seems to me desirable and just. It would come if the Cigar-makers' union would refuse to give its label to any cigars excepting those the tobacco in which was always stripped by union workers; that is, if they would come to an agreement with the Strippers' union by which the label would stand for union stripping as well as union making. The objections to debarring the Traisers from having their tobacco stripped elsewhere would be overcome. At present they seem insurmountable to me."

Messrs. Gompers and Mitchell as the majority give a decision on the place-of-handling-stock question which virtually lays down a principle of organized labor on all such matters and one which would apply equally to other cases of recent origin in New England. They say: "There has been a unanimity of opinion in regard to the award of wages and most of the conditions of the award. Differences of opinion have occurred, but over most of them the arbitrators have had no jurisdiction. We have been constrained to the conclusion that, having agreed to award the schedule of wages, it would be devoid of any meaning did we decide that the work might be performed by workers in any other city than Boston and particularly at a lower rate."—Boston Globe.

The Frank K. Foster Fund.

The trustees of the Frank K. Foster fund made their final report a few days ago. The report included the receipts and expenditures of both the funds of the Massachusetts state branch, American Federation of Labor, and the Boston Typographical union, No. 13. The receipts of the Massachusetts state branch fund were \$1,863.21 and of the Boston Typographical union fund \$1,744.47. As a balance of \$70.21 of the typographical union fund was transferred to the state branch fund in the closing of the typographical fund accounts the combined receipts of both funds were \$3,537.47.

The expenditures from both funds were: McLean hospital, total payments from both funds, \$938.75; funeral expenses, \$232, and total payments to Mrs. Frank K. Foster, \$2,266.72. Those were the only items of expenditure, the trustees stating that there are no expenses reported for collecting and conducting the fund.

Bottle Blowers Indorse Pension.

The recent convention of the International Glass Bottle Blowers' association at Milwaukee indorsed the plan to retire on pensions all members who have reached the age of sixty years and have worked at the business for twenty-five consecutive years.

LABOR GOSSIP.

The official journal of the International Association of Steam Engineers will hereafter be printed in Brooklyn. The annual convention of the International Association of Machinists will be held in Denver commencing on Sept. 13.

The members of the New York Central Federated union have made arrangements for the big Labor day celebration, when it is estimated more than 40,000 men in the labor ranks will parade.

At the last meeting Typographical union, No. 6, New York city, voted to place \$2,500 at the disposal of the benefit board to relieve the present necessities of such members as are unemployed.

Referring to the governor of Massachusetts merely as "Eben S. Draper," a committee appointed at a special convention of the Massachusetts state branch American Federation of Labor, held at Boston, recommended that every effort be made to defeat Governor Draper for public office "and all other political enemies of the trade union movement."

A LITERARY AFFAIR.

By ARTHUR D. BERWICK.
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It was a pretty town, but inordinately dull. The branches of the trees formed an arch over the streets—they were rather roads—giving in summer a delicious shade. But few people walked on them, and where there was a footstep it sounded loud. In winter there was no sound at all, for snow covered the ground, and even wheels could not be heard.

He went there in midsummer. He didn't go from choice. He was obliged to go. There was a deal on, and he must manage it from this quiet spot. His work was principally waiting for people to make up their minds to sell what they owned and for instructions.

The town possessed a dainty little library. He went there for something to read. There was a cheerful appearance inside, logs blazing in a broad tiled fireplace. The librarian, a girl of twenty, stepped to the desk.

"I would like a book of some kind," he said. "I'm cooped up here with little to do and insufferably bored."

"There were books on the desk which he took up and scanned listlessly.

"What book would you like?" asked the librarian.

"I haven't the slightest idea."

"You'll find the card rack over there."

"Couldn't you suggest something?"

"Fiction?"

"Yes."

"Have you read 'Robinson Crusoe'?"

"Yes, when a boy. Why should I read that now?"

"Well, Crusoe was alone on his island; you are alone here. You might get some suggestion from him as to how to occupy your time."

"Thank you; I'd rather read this, 'The Heart of the Highway.' I could do better in recommending books to you."

"What would you suggest?"

"Put Yourself in His Place."

"That's impossible. You are a man, I a woman. You are a stranger; I am at home here."

"I am a bachelor, and you, I presume, are a maid."

"How would 'When a Man's Single' suit you?"

"I think I should like it better than 'Robinson Crusoe.' Would it help me?"

"Possibly. When you have finished it you might take up this one: 'It Is Never Too Late to Mend.'"

She blushed as she said it.

"The one appears to be a natural sequel of the other. What's this, 'Red as a Rose Is She?'"

She blushed still deeper.

"We are not getting on. I wish a novel to while away the time, and I don't find one."

"You are right. This conversation can do you no good, and it might produce—"

"Bitter Fruit," he interrupted, reading the title of a volume she handed him.

She turned away, and he, going to the card rack, fingered the cards for awhile in silence, looking aside occasionally at the girl, who sat by the fire reading. Presently he selected a book. She jabbed it with a stamp and, glancing at the title, gave her head a slight toss. It was "A Passing Fancy."

"Better take that," she said, handing him "A Bit of a Rogue."

He came again the next day and the next, taking out books and keeping up the same sort of chat till the autumn arrived. Then he finished his work and before leaving went to the library to return what books remained with him.

"I go tomorrow," he said, "Thanks for the books. This one," laying "The Wooling Out" on the desk, "I have enjoyed very much." He looked at her with an unmistakable glint in his eye.

"I thought you would prefer 'A Midsummer Madness.'"

"I warn you that you may cast ridicule on my feelings—"

"Once Too Often," stamping a book of that name.

"Have you considered what I said to you the last time I was here?" he asked.

"Yes, and I regard it"—the stamp came down on—"A Flirtation With Truth."

"How can you say that? I told you I loved you and wished you to be my wife, giving you time for consideration."

"And my answer is that I prefer this retreat and independence to the city and slavery to an artificial life."

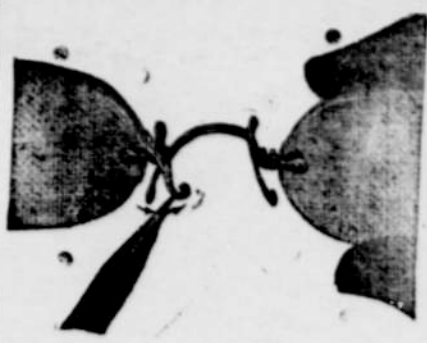
He stood regarding her lugubriously. Presently his eye, falling to the desk, lighted on a book. He took it up and handed it to her. It was "A Woman's No."

Thus far the desk had been between them. Lifting the latch to the gate that shut him off from the interior, he went inside. She was leaning on the desk. He stole his arm around her waist and spoke low in her ear:

"I came into this library a few months ago to seek solace from loneliness. I found it, but not in the books I have taken out, for I have not read one of them. Nevertheless I appreciate them because they have afforded us a language of love. They have served as shields to that diffidence which hedges a newborn affection. But they are no longer needed. Let us now talk plainly. Tell me, do you love me, and will you marry me?"

"I will."

When he returned to the city he was commended for his patience in remaining in a dull country town until every bit of the work assigned him had been satisfactorily closed. It was only when the winter came on and they received his wedding cards that they understood the reason for his acquiescence in his hard lot.



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