

WOMEN AND FASHION

Woman's Enemy.

"It is not the work that tires you at all; it is the way you do it," said a wise counselor to a discouraged and broken-down school teacher.

The word fits the case of many a woman who is not a school teacher. The farmer's wife who does the whole week's work in her imagination after she goes to bed Sunday night; the bookkeeper who in her dreams adds columns of figures to bring out an obstinate balance; the school girl who grows hot and cold in anticipation of an examination; the dressmaker who never forgets her apprehension lest her customer shall not be pleased—all these and a score of other kinds of women need to learn the lesson of the value of the mind at ease.

A conscientious, worrying wife of a Maine farmer hurried to the hen house one icy day with a pan of food. She slipped and fell—and a broken hip stopped the quick footstep and dulled the keen vision for "things which must be done." For three months the patient lay in bed, alone many hours of each day, thinking over her life and habits and responsibilities—her successes and her failures. When she could hobble to a wheeled chair, she was a different creature from the anxious, nervous woman who had been forced to submit to imprisonment.

A perspective of the months and years of life, a new conviction that peace of mind is more important than pies and cakes, a sense of proportion which included herself and the claims of her own nature as well as the appetites of her hungry family and the profits of the farm, had revealed themselves to her in the long days of enforced inactivity.

"My broken hip saved my life and my soul, too, I guess," the grateful woman used to say, with the smile of one who had found that the worst enemy of good work is worry.—Youth's Companion.

A Modern Meditation.

Idle not; for idleness is the mother of all sins.

Neither dawdle nor dilly-dally; for the dawdler groweth weary and accomplisheth naught.

Delay not, nor postpone; for more crimes are due to postponement than to deliberate intention.

Hesitate not an hour in performing thy tasks; for the only way to get a thing done is to do it now.

Glower not, nor grouch; for it is a fearful crime to make other people unhappy.

Never indulge thyself in despair; for there is no surer way to miss all the good things that are coming to you.

Neither indulge in vain retrospection; for what is done is done forever, and the only wise thing is to forget it.

Blame not thyself nor any other person too much; for there are laws stronger than any of us that govern the universe.

Make hope and industry thy habits; for by these two practices shall a man reach the highest place—even contentment.

Dressed in Their Best.



The little coat on the standing figure is made of bright red cloth, trimmed with black braid and straps of the cloth, finished with gilt buttons. It is cut with a very full flare in the skirt. The dress is navy blue cashmere, trimmed with parallel crimson silk folds, with stitches between them done in blue saddle's silk. The gumpie is white challie, trimmed with navy blue soutache.

The Girl in Gold.

One of the colors which the girl in her first season has taken up more enthusiastically than any other this year is yellow. Buttercup, daffodil, old-gold and the soft tones of crocus yellow are all included in her colony card, and these, when softened with veilings of cream nixon or lace, are taking the place even of the all-white gown when the import ceremony of the debut itself is over.

About the Eyebrows.

Many children possess beautiful heads of hair, which is often allowed to hang loosely over their faces, without being confined in any way. This may certainly show the hair off to the best advantage, but quite hides the best points of the child's face and often is the cause of scanty eyebrows—a disfigurement which will be more notice-

FIVE SIMPLE GOWNS.



able when the child is grown up. The growth of scanty eyebrows can, however, be encouraged by brushing lightly with a soft brush, and this also tends to make them arched, but on no account should they be clipped to insure their thickness. Clipping the eyelashes to promote their growth is also a practice that should be abolished, as if the child should move while they are being clipped it may result in injury to the eyesight.



The Greek coiffure is much in evidence with opera costumes.

Fancy color effects in shoes for day wear are gaining in popularity.

Banana brown and cinnamon form a favored combination of coloring in many costumes.

Some of the winter muffs are made of tipped pieces, laid on flatly and hanging like a flap.

Patent leather shoes are being worn this season, decorated with little folded bows of leather.

A trig little red English morocco bag is fitted with folding opera glasses, powder puff, and mirror.

An applied cloak tuck, three inches wide, furnishes a tunic effect on many of the long-cloth skirts.

For handsome gowns matrons are wearing black or dark, rich colored silks, brocaded in velvet.

Lovely are the evening bags of white Irish crochet, lined with white silk and mounted in gold frames.

A new fad is the evening cloak of the same color of the gown, especially to wear at little theater and restaurant functions.

One of the most striking gowns seen at a recent wedding was of bottle green satin trimmed with green lace and yellow panne.

A chic departure in theater waists is the separate waist in chiffon, generally black, and worn over a pale colored or white foundation.

When the Frenchwoman wants her decollete gown for restaurant or theater wear she adds a transparent gumpie of white tulle and a tiny cravat of fur.

The return of the tight skirt is perhaps the harbinger of tight sleeves and waists that have been banished so long, to say nothing of the waistline and its natural position.

The new sleeve, called the "step ladder," is an outgrowth of the kimono sleeve, and consists of a succession of deep folds, one over the other, narrowing in as they reach below the elbow.

Married Women as Breadwinners.

Twenty-seven thousand women in New York support their husbands, according to Mrs. Frederick Nathan, a leader in the movement for women's suffrage in New York. Mrs. Nathan does not either approve or disapprove of a woman making a living for her spouse, but makes her statement as one of fact. Women who support their husbands, she says, are not in any one class, but are found in all classes, from that of the woman who scrubs floors to that of the woman who marries a title.

That a woman can be a wage earner and at the same time care for her home is possible, Mrs. Nathan says, and there are many cases in which it is eminently satisfactory to have a man and his wife both wage earners. Mrs. Nathan gives the following two as the principal reasons why married women are wage earners: "Men waste so much money in smoking, gambling and drinking that they have none left for family expenses. Many women have minds superior to their husbands and can earn more. In that case it is the woman's plain duty—and should be her pleasure—to earn whatever her talents will bring."

Husband Breaker.

The ingenuity of the modern woman has discovered a new method of earning a competence.

She breaks husbands. There have been women who made their living at breaking horses, but not until very lately did some emancipated feminine genius go in for husband breaking.

Ingenuous woman!

For a moderate fee she is prepared to make a lengthened stay, and gradually mold the newly-married husband according to the pattern that his wife requires. Since Adam was driven from Paradise it is doubtful if man has ever felt the effects of the fall so severely as he does at this moment!



Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett is an enthusiastic gardener and her country home in Kent, England, is noted for its rose garden, where in summer she does much of her brilliant writing.

Dr. Mary Merritt Crawford has been appointed house physician in the Williamsburg hospital, Brooklyn, having won in a competitive examination over thirty-four men. She is but 23 years old.

A widow living in the Brightlingsea almshouses, England, recently celebrated her ninetieth birthday by inviting two old sweethearts to tea. One of them was 90 and the other 93 years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Lawrence, of Hucknall Torkard, Notts, claim to be the oldest married couple in England. On May day they will have been married seventy-two years. Mr. Lawrence is 92 and his wife 91.

An aged beggar woman, known among her neighbors as "Old Mother Snuff," was lately found dead in her house in Paris. The place was searched and the search revealed \$15,800 in bank notes and \$4,000 in gold hidden in a mattress.

Queen Victoria had twenty-one granddaughters, and of this number only four remain single. They are Princess Victoria of England, Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg, Princess Patricia of Connaught, and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein.

Teach Children Care of Clothes.

Teach children to fold their hair ribbons and put under weight on dresser every night. The neater appearance pays for the effort.

RATTLESNAKE FALLACIES.

Serpent Is Dangerous Even After Removal of Poison Fangs.

Another common misconception which is apt to lead to serious accidents is the belief that a rattlesnake is rendered perfectly harmless, so that it can be handled with impunity, by the removal of its poison fangs. These fangs, two in number, are situated in the upper jaw and lie flat, except when the serpent strikes, when they become erect and the closing of the jaws compresses the poison glands and injects the venom through minute openings in them. In striking its prey (for whatever charm the serpent may employ to get its victim within easy reach, it relies upon the venom to give the coup de grace), these fangs may often be broken, and nature has provided a full supply of reserve weapons, which lie dormant in the gums, and which within two weeks will develop and replace the injured fang.

An acquaintance who returned from a hunting trip with twenty-five full-grown rattlers in a box kept them in his office for two months, confined behind a coarse-meshed wire screen. He handled them most carelessly, as he had extracted the poison fangs, but when shown that each of them had developed a perfect pair of new ones there was a sudden rise in the local snake mortality. One was preserved and sent to the Bronx Zoo, where it shortly afterward gave birth to a large litter of young ones, which could easily have crawled through the screen behind which the mother had been kept. As each of them possessed the poison apparatus in full commission and was without the power to rattle, they would have been even more dangerous than adult snakes.

Professional snakehandlers are often ignorant of this power to quickly replace fangs possessed by rattlers, and this ignorance, says Outing, led to a serious accident to one of them at Boston's, at Coney Island, last year. He was badly bitten and narrowly escaped death, his recovery being attributed to the generous amount of whisky which was immediately administered to him, which illustrates another mistaken idea. It is a pity to shatter a pleasant illusion, but alcohol, except in very small doses, is harmful rather than beneficial as an antidote to snake-bite poison.

As a matter of fact, although the symptoms of rattlesnake poisoning are most painful and alarming, an adult rarely dies from the bite of the variety common in the North. The diamond-backs of the South attain a much larger size, and consequently inject more venom, and their bite is proportionately more dangerous.

THE BALM OF SILENCE.

The young woman beside whom Mrs. Lamson seated herself with a jounce smiled at the newcomer, but had no time to speak. "My hand," said Mrs. Lamson, "if I want to thank when I saw you as I came into this car! Think I, 'At least I'll have five minutes' peace—that's all the time I ride in this car before I make my next change."

"It's perfectly ridiculous having to change, anyway, just to ride a few blocks. But goodness me! I've forgot my transfer, and I couldn't walk the distance, so I ought not to complain. My ankles won't bear me up on the sidewalks since I took on all this extra weight."

"The reason I was so glad to see you—of course I'm always glad—is because I've been riding with that Bobbs woman and I declare I never heard such a talker in all my days! I couldn't get in a word edgewise. And if she said anything, 'twouldn't be so bad, but she doesn't. Just maunders on about the weather and her rheumatism."

"Now we all know the weather isn't anything we can help; we've just got to bear it, however bad 'tis, and, as I tell Josiah, we've had a trial of our patience this year if ever we had. No spring, and then jumping right into heat when we were all unprepared. And rain! Well, there's no use dwelling on it, as I say."

"And when you come to rheumatism, it was real cheeky for her to tell me her symptoms—that's what 'twas—anybody that's endured what I have right in my own family! I wish you could see Josiah's knuckles. I tell him I don't see what he will do if they keep on. And he has it so in the back of his neck and his elbows. I've rubbed him and rubbed him till I've been about dead. And do you know, day before yesterday I had a sharp pain shoot right through my elbow, and I said to myself—Mercy, this is where I change! Good-by, dear! I'm really rested, just riding this little way with you. Good-by!"

Royal Fanning.

On their way to Paris recently, King Haakon and Queen Maud, of Norway, passed through Copenhagen. They were received at the railway station by King Frederick, King Haakon's father. A courtier who was present tells what the monarchs said. "Well, Haakon," said King Frederick, "how do you like being a king?" "I would rather ask you," retorted Haakon. "I've been a king longer than you."

This was quite true. Frederick of Denmark succeeded to the throne upon the death of his father, King Christian, on January 29, 1906, but Haakon was elected king of Norway by the Storting on November 18, 1905.

We never see our way clear to pay eight dollars for an umbrella, either.

AGRICULTURAL



Value of Co-Operation.

Sir Horace Plunkett, member of the British house of parliament, who has been in this country recently, said in an address to agricultural students that there was "not a single county, not a parish, in Ireland where the farmers are not completely revolutionizing the entire business of farming by introducing co-operative methods." And it might be added that there is scarcely a farming district in the United States where more benefits cannot be realized by a closer co-operation of the farmers. The farmers are understanding each other better each year and are coming closer together in all matters which pertain to their mutual interests, but there are still greater possibilities ahead. Describing the 900 co-operative organizations of peasants in Ireland which he was instrumental in establishing for the purpose of competition with commercial industries, forcing out middlemen, compelling railroads to provide better facilities, and dictating more favorable legislation to parliament, done: "The first thing was to introduce a system of agricultural education which extended into every branch of the industry, teaching the farmer, for instance, to purchase everything he requires, implements and machinery, of the very best quality. They combined to consign in bulk and distribute their goods in the market. They combined to raise working capital for their operations. They combined to own breeding animals. They did just what you are doing here, brought science into farming by getting it into the schools. They had the same system of instruction and experimentation supplied by your government."

New Variety of Tobacco.

A new variety of tobacco, valuable for cigar wrapping, was first raised in Connecticut from seed brought from Florida and which originally came from Sumatra. After very careful and satisfactory tests results have proved beyond a doubt the value of this variety for growing commercially, together with the fact that the seed comes true to type year after year when saved under bog. The name Uncle Sam Sumatra was given to this variety. It is a cigar wrapper variety of tobacco and adapted for growing under shade in the cigar wrapper producing regions. The plants reach an average height of about eight feet at the time of maturity, and they bear an average of about twenty-six leaves before topping. The cured leaves will average about sixteen inches in width by twenty inches in length, although the size varies according to field and cultural conditions. The yield of the crops of this variety is high, being as much as 1,600 pounds of cured tobacco to the acre under favorable conditions. The percentage of the best grades of wrapper in these crops is correspondingly high.—Exchange.



THE PLANT.

Test Seeds at Home. The Department of Agriculture in order to aid farmers to determine for themselves without much trouble the germination value of seeds has issued a short bulletin on the subject. A very simple apparatus for sprouting seeds is described. It consists of a shallow basin in which is placed a small flat of porous clay. The seeds, after having been soaked, are laid between two sheets of moist blotting paper or flannel. A pane of glass covers the dish, which should be kept in a temperature of about 70 degrees. Atmosphere of an ordinary living room is suitable if the apparatus is left near a stove at night. Several kinds of seeds may be tested at once at a trifling cost. The bulletin cautions the farmer against extremes of heat or moisture.



THE LEAF.

Wintering Cabbage.

One of the simplest ways of keeping cabbage is to store in an orchard or some sheltered place, often alongside a fence which has been made tight by a liberal use of straw. The cabbages are stored with their stems on and are placed head down and as close together as possible. Two or three tiers are often made, the heads of the second tier being placed between stems of the lower, and so on, the piles being made of any width and length desired. The whole is covered with leaves, salt grass hay or straw and a little soil, ralls, brush or litter. Small unsalable heads when stored in this way in November will continue to develop during winter and frequently sell as well as any in February. Small quantities may be stored by plowing out two or three furrows ten or twelve inches deep on a well drained site and placing the heads with their stems up as close together as possible. Some prefer to lay them but one or two thick, while others will pile them up two to two and a half feet high, bringing them to a point. The pile is then covered with straw, salt grass hay or a thin layer of straw and then several inches of soil. They are stored before freezing, and when the soil covering them is frozen it may be covered with straw manure or any other litter to keep the soil frozen until the cabbages are needed for sale.

An Electric Incubator.

Electricity has been applied to incubation by Otto Schultz, an electrician of Strassburg, and is the result of three years of experimentation. The apparatus is made for 50, 100 or 200 eggs, and is designed to obviate the difficulties connected with the ordinary form of incubator. The manipulation of the apparatus is very simple, and its maintenance depends only upon an uninterrupted supply of electricity.

An automatic attachment keeps the temperature within one-tenth of a degree of the normal temperature of incubation. The degree of saturation of the air is kept in the same manner. Under ordinary conditions, ninety chickens can be counted on out of 100 eggs incubated. The quantity of electricity required is very small, for an incubator holding fifty eggs, ten to twenty watts being sufficient, depending upon the temperature of the outer air.

For raising the chickens after they are hatched, an electric "mother" has been devised. The upper part is devoted to the freshly hatched chickens, while the lower part is arranged so that the chicks can run around on the ground and at the same time find heat and protection when they desire. The electric incubator has already proven very successful.

Fertilizer Tests with Corn.

Fertilizer tests with corn in Virginia show clearly that plowing under green leguminous crops is a highly beneficial practice and that where this is followed only moderate amounts of fertility will be necessary to give increased yields. When vegetable matter is lacking, however, heavy applications of fertilizer seem advisable.—Andrew M. Soule.

Farm Cleanings.

There is no standard for judging the guinea fowl. They should, however, be of uniform shape, great activity and reasonably good producers of eggs. Their entire egg crop is produced in summer.

Bitter cream comes from keeping cream too long from cows that have been milked since early last spring. It is best to churn every few days, even though there is only a small churning on hand.

In setting out the new fruit trees be sure and leave plenty of space between them. You must make allowance for the growth of the years. Crowded trees interfere with one another and have their fruit bearing possibilities checked.

The potato storeroom must be dark, cool, well ventilated and dry. There should be a double floor beneath where large quantities are piled together. There should also be opportunities for ventilation at the walls, and at intervals through the pile.

A good condition powder, to be fed in limited quantities to the brood sow, is composed of a teaspoonful each of copperas, sulphur and a half cupful of oil meal. Give once each day for each sow weighing 250 pounds. It is needless to say that all tonics should be given only when the animal is out of condition.

Value of Beet Sugar Products.

Some idea of the magnitude of the beet sugar industry in the United States can be given by estimating the value of the beets sold by the growers to the factories and of the refined sugar placed on the market by the factories last year.

If we assume that the average price paid for beets in 1906 was \$5 per ton, the total value of the 4,226,112 tons of beets harvested is \$21,130,560. If we estimate the value of the sugar at 4½ cents per pound, the 967,224,000 pounds of sugar manufactured were worth \$43,525,080. Probably the assumed prices both for beets and for sugar may be a trifle below those actually received, but these figures are sufficiently accurate to indicate the magnitude of the industry.

Ripening Green Tomatoes.

Often when frost comes there are many tomatoes on the vines that are nearly full grown, but that have not yet ripened enough to send to market. I have picked such tomatoes and put them in a cool, dark place to ripen slowly and sent them to market when the supply had run low and prices run high, says a writer in New England Homestead. But for home use a better way is to pick the smaller ones from the vines and then hang up the branch in the cellar, darkening the windows and keeping the place cool. They will ripen slowly, and one may indulge in ripe tomatoes in January, when those grown in a hot-house and not as large or any better flavor are selling at 25 cents a pound or more. Try it.