

### Keeping Lent.

This year society is confronted with one of the earliest Lenten seasons in something like forty years, Ash Wednesday falling on February 9 and Easter Sunday, March 27. Even in a small city the hue of social diversions is changed, at least outwardly, and while there are clubs and teas and luncheons and dinners, they are not considered formal, and while the real character of the function may not be essentially altered, the thought of conforming to high church customs may serve to relax overstrung nerves and administer soothing balm to the conscience.

Some women claim to despise or live above a round of calling, card-playing, dancing, dinner-giving, attending theaters, besides giving the necessary attention to the various departments of woman's work in her chosen church, as well as extending free-hearted hospitality at all hours in her own home. However, the normal, healthy, happy woman with some leisure enjoys the whirling of automobiles, receiving in pretty dresses and the wearing of pretty hats; she enjoys sipping tea and chatting about the weather or countless matters of strictest feminine interest while she puts countless skillful stitches into dainty or useful garments for those less fortunate than herself.

It is just possible in the life of eager striving that we undervalue the unconscious influence of chance meeting with our fellows. At best we know but little of the real "me" and "thee" in those about us and it may be that we see more real personality in informal greetings than in hours of tiresome and labored attempts at conversation. If woman could relax to the easy amenities of social existence and cease this restless striving for that which is just beyond reach, there might be no necessity for keeping Lent in order to gain needed rest, and it would remain a season of meditation with leisure for daily devotions as intended by the church.

### BUTTE FALLS MAN WINS YOUNG GIRL

G. E. Cowden, aged 39 years, and Miss Grace Smith, of 17 summers, have been granted a license to marry. Both are residents of Butte Falls and the application for the license was accompanied by the consent of the girl's parents.

### DOG KILLED, THOUGH IT SAVED MANY LIVES

SPOKANE, Wash., Feb. 26. — "Boomer," for 20 months a self-appointed guardian of the Northern Pacific railway crossing at Sprague avenue and Division, in the eastern part of Spokane, where the animal saved the lives of scores of adults and little children, is dead. The noble animal, as executed by the poundmaster after biting a street car conductor. The dog, a tram of mongrel origin, gained national renown a year ago when it saved a woman, carrying a babe and leading a child, from death under the wheels of a locomotive by tugging at her skirts and dragging her out of harm's way. Another event which gained for it the reputation of being "the only union dog in town," was at the beginning of the switchmen's strike on the Hill lines last December, when "Boomer" deserted the crossing because its railroad friends were not there to greet him. Afterward, it is said, the animal fell in with saloon loungers, who taught it bad tricks, including biting street car men when they approached the crossing.

### The Servant Girl Question.

The servant girl question is no question at all in the home that is thoroughly equipped with electrical devices. Even a home that is half equipped has little trouble in keeping the servants. The reason is evident.

Any girl would prefer to work in a house where her work was not only systematized by mechanical contrivances, but minimized. The old-time drudgery is eliminated and when a domestic secures a place of this kind there is no driving her away.

Just consider this from all angles, ye who have suffered, and determine if it is not the absolute truth. You will agree with us that the electric flatiron, the electric kitchen, the electric washing machine, the electric heating devices, the electric sweeper and carpet-beater have solved the servant problem.

The electric kitchen is fast becoming popular. Its advantages are being recognized daily, and scarcely a modern home is being built without the installation of one of these labor-saving electrical devices.

The joy of living, which is many times synonymous with the joy of cooking, is increased manifold by the absence of smoke, soot and smell in the back part of the house. Don't fail to investigate the elec-

### Church Music

The increased interest manifest in all the churches in the improvement of the church music has a value to the community aside from its rightful place as worship in the divine service. If the music is of an exalted and worthy nature, as church music often is, there can be no question as to its beneficial influence upon the musical taste of the listeners, while the use of meaningless tunes closely allied to the popular song or even ragtime in style, is to be deplored. With the standard hymnals of every church filled without exception with chorals, and the fine old hymns of the church that have endured for generations, is it not a shame that cheap Sunday school books filled with the grossest musical trash should be used in public worship to the exclusion of that which has musical and educational value? Let the children and young people have the popular song of the Moody & Sankey variety, if they must, but give them an opportunity also to hear, sing and learn those masterpieces of hymnology, "Dundee," "Hamburg," "Coronation" and a long list of others that in themselves inspire devotion.

Do not imagine that when the child begins to take regular instruction of the teacher that this is the first start in his musical education. That began long ago. When we consider that music is a language and hence a natural method of expressing feeling, we at once understand that the effect of musical impressions received during early years must be very far-reaching. The musical part of the church services may be made, and should be made, an important factor in creating that intangible but very desirable condition known as "musical atmosphere," upon which depends all high culture in music.

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