

Woman's World

MRS. J. ELLEN FOSTER.

Who is Trying to Aid Women and Children Wage Earners.

Though times have been good for years, the number of women and children who have been compelled to work for wages has steadily increased. In thousands of homes the head of the family does not appear to be able to obtain enough for his labor to support those who are dependent upon him. The wives and children of many such men go to work in stores and factories.

It is because the question of woman and child labor has assumed disquieting proportions in this country that President Roosevelt commissioned Mrs. J. Ellen Foster of Iowa to investigate the subject. Mrs. Foster has already taken a trip through the south, in which she saw thousands of children working in the cotton mills under conditions that have often been declared to be a menace to their health.

Mrs. Foster will, of course, report to the president the result of her inquiries and observations, as the result of which



MRS. J. ELLEN FOSTER.

It is not improbable that Mr. Roosevelt will suggest to congress more stringent laws for the protection of women and children who are compelled to become wage-earners.

Mrs. Foster was born in Massachusetts, but early removed to Iowa. Some years ago she was prominent in the political world and won a reputation as a "spellbinder" on the stump.

Cheesecloth Comfort.

Cheesecloth should be used more commonly for household purposes than it is. The material has the special merit of being firm, yet so loosely woven that grease comes out readily in washing. Thus it is more easily kept clean than linen or crash, for which it may many times be substituted. An unbleached quality that costs not more than 5 cents a yard is quite as good for general use as more expensive fabrics.

The best kind of dishcloths are made of it. The material should be doubled, raw edges turned in and stitched on the machine. This will wear and because it cleans so easily is most satisfactory for warm weather in that it will not become saturated and smell of grease. Rinsing in soap and water will be all that is necessary for cleansing.

For nice furniture it is the best kind of cloth for cleaning, and all cabinet-makers keep three sets for work. The first is used for applying the oil, the second to rub it off, and the third is the polisher. Similar treatment for dining room tables will keep them in the pink of condition. Cheesecloth will save the daily use of an egg in boiled coffee merely by having small bags of the cotton kept in the kitchen. Put the grounds into one and twist the top around tight with thread, a spool of which should be handy for the purpose. The same bag may be used many times. There is nothing in the cleaning line for which it is not good.

Windows and mirrors will never have a speck of dirt on their shining surface if cheesecloth is used, and for all kinds of work it will be found invaluable. A bag made of it should always be kept in the kitchen for straining soups.

Tissue paper is another valuable household asset that all housekeepers do not appreciate. All of it that comes into the house should be saved. Moistened with alcohol it polishes mirrors to perfection, and even dry will make them shine. Silver, all hard woods used for furniture and steel, also brass, if not badly tarnished, will respond immediately to treatment with tissue paper, and for packing of all kinds it is most useful. Lace, silk and all ribbon should always be ironed between two layers of it, for the materials will not then be shiny.

Cure For the Blues.

The "blues," you know, haven't anything to do with legitimate grief or pain.

They are something or other that comes to us and settles down around us and shuts out the sunshine and music of everyday life, and no one can tell where that something comes from when it settles down or where it goes to when it lifts its dark wings and betakes itself and its following of ghosts and apparitions out of our lives for a long or short time, according to our temperaments.

It is a common thing to hear people say, "I don't know what is the matter

Selections

"SOLID GOLD" IN LAW.

Meaning of a Puzzling Term in the Jewelry Trade.

The term "solid gold" has been the cause of much discussion on the part of manufacturers of gold articles and of much misapprehension on the part of the public for some time past, and the recent law fixing the commercial definition of the phrase is welcomed on all sides.

According to this law, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 10 carat gold is the commercial "solid gold," and all articles containing more alloy than this or all articles with parts which contain more alloy are henceforth to be known as plated, filled or rolled gold and must be so marked by the manufacturer. For example, a pin with a top of "solid" gold, even to the value of 18 carats, cannot legally be called solid if hinge, base or pin is not 10 carat gold, while another pin of 10 carats throughout, though of much less intrinsic value than that of 18 carats, is legally "solid gold." This law was made to protect the manufacturing jewelers against the makers and sellers of "phony" jewelry and has been heartily indorsed by the legitimate trade all over the United States.

"It is a law which we have long needed," said a St. Louis wholesale jeweler, "but solid gold is a misnomer, and I for one should be very glad to see the term abandoned and the value stamp used in its place. Commercially speaking, there never was such a thing as 'solid gold'—at least not for the last 200 or 300 years. Some of the ancient jewelry of the Roman and the renaissance periods was made of pure gold, worked up by hand with the crudest tools, and that is, of course, of far greater value on account of the purity of the material as well as its quaint and beautiful workmanship and its antiquity than any modern products of the goldsmith's art.

"But alloy has been used to a constantly increasing extent since, because jewelers found that the harder the gold was rendered by good alloy the greater its wearing qualities and the more secure, therefore, the setting of the gems it contained. Our jewelry now is of 18, 14 or 10 carats, according to the design and character of the article, and it is much more frequently 10 than 18.

"The law requires us to mark on the article itself or on the card to which it is attached the exact value of the gold in all the parts, just as the food manufacturers are now obliged to state the ingredients of the package on the label, and a heavy penalty is attached to the use of the words 'solid gold' if any part of the article contains less than 10 carats of gold.

"There is a bill now being prepared to be introduced at the next Congress to abolish the use of this term and substitute the carat stamp for it, and both wholesale and retail jewelers over the country will work hard for its passage. We believe the term is calculated to deceive, even when fully explained. This bill, if passed, will require manufacturers to stamp all gold articles with the number of carats registered. Half a carat will be allowed for errors, but the manufacturer will have to see that the gold comes within this limit. This would be a great help to the buying public as well as to us, for then everybody could see at once what he is getting and there would not be so many chances for a comeback at us."

Mushroom Breaks Asphalt Walk.

Illustration of the wonderful strength of growing vegetable matter is afforded in a forceful manner by a mushroom brought to the office of the News by T. J. Trustler. The mushroom, which is of the edible kind, grew under the asphalt pavement of the Middle drive. Its strength in growing was sufficient to bulge up the pavement for a radius of more than two inches and finally to break off the hump of asphalt.

Embedded like a cap in the center of the mass of asphalt is the pileus of the mushroom. This is perfectly formed. The stem or stem is slender and only slightly bent. The circular piece of asphalt displaced is about four inches in diameter and about an inch and a half thick. The surface is filled with seams and cracks, showing that the asphalt gave way slowly under the gradually increasing pressure of the mushroom beneath.—Indianapolis News.

Future of Aristocracy.

That an aristocracy which perpetuates itself and renews itself with all the best blood of the country may be a benefit to a country is proved by the example of England, where the past is always the base of progress. In France the aristocracy, fought by royal politics, decimated by revolutions, exhausted by a new regime, has been reduced to a small number of families. The Duc de Rohan says: "There is no longer an aristocracy; money has killed it."—Paris Vie Heutreuse.

Young at Eighty.

People are no longer ashamed to be about and doing their work at eighty. They no longer feel compelled to apologize to their young descendants for standing in the way. They have discovered that old age is a relative term and that unless serious physical disabilities or crippling disease come at eighty one may be active without being disrespectful to the younger generation or lacking in respect for one's own contemporaries.—New York Outlook.

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The evil of a foul stomach is not alone the bad taste in the mouth and the foul breath caused by it, but the corruption of the pure current of blood and the dissemination of disease throughout the body. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery makes the sour and foul stomach sweet. It does for the stomach what the washing and sun bath do for the churn—absolutely removes every taint, or corruptive element. In this way it cures blotches, pimples, eruptions, scrofulous swellings, sores, or open eating ulcers and all humors or diseases arising from bad blood.

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It is perhaps needless to add that we refer to the dictionary in our judicial work as of the highest authority in accuracy of definition, and that in the future as in the past it will be the source of constant reference.

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