

SERVANT LORE.

Maxims Which Many Housekeepers Observe.

With so much battling with the servant problem there has sprung up a little code of servant superstitions which many housekeepers observe.

"I always shiver when a new cook burns a hole in her apron," says one woman, "for it means that she will not stay with me long. I don't like to have my girls come to me dressed in black either, for it is a sign they won't stay the year out."

Questioned as to some of the other superstitions which influence a housekeeper in dealing with her servants, she said:

"Don't allow your new servant to come out as the old one is departing. It's unlucky."

"Be quick to a maid to reach the door of service so long as there is light enough for her to see to hang up her wraps."

"If you hire a maid on Friday, you may expect a smashed china."

"It is unlucky to forbid a servant to do anything the first day she is with you, for if not permitted her she will never be satisfied, and she will eat you out of house and home."

"Don't praise your servant before she has had dinner, for she will have occasion to look for it before dinner."

"If your new servant has many scars from burns on her hands, it is a sign she will be a good cook. Look for them if you are hiring a cook."

"If a maid has short, stubby fingers, it is a sign she is lawless and extravagant in the extreme."

"Do not hire a maid with hair of the curling variety, for it is a sign she will not be neat in her work."

"If a servant calls you 'sady' frequently in conversation, beware of her, for she is probably dishonest."

LETTER WRITING.

Post Cards Responsible For Falling Off In Correspondence.

It is a well known fact that nobody writes letters nowadays. It is true we send a great deal of time at our writing tables that we consume untold quantities of ink and nibs, while our correspondents still by no means the most numerous of our ever increasing expenditures. But we neither write nor receive letters. The utmost we do is to "cut off notes" in answer to invitations to "scribble a few lines" of conventional sympathy, as the case may be, with a friend; to express kindly but feebly, our dissatisfaction with our dressmaker or our surprise at our milliner's account. As for our absent relations, on the rare occasions when we remember their existence at all we send them our love on a post card with a few details about the weather, ending in "tearing haste" with the hope that they will write soon and tell us all their news. Of course they never do, which is just as well, as, if they did, we should in all probability never have time to wade through their letters.

BEAUTY NOTES.

For hair that is split at the ends singeing is the only remedy.

Regular visits should be paid to the dentist, who will examine your mouth and tell you if there is any decay. It is as well to go to the most expert practitioner your means will allow, as often the work of an unskillful dentist does more harm than good.

If you are troubled with insomnia try drinking a glass of hot milk after getting into bed. Sip it very slowly and as hot as possible. Some people like a pinch of sugar or salt in it. Hot milk has a soothing effect on the nerves and helps to induce sleep.

A simple cooler is a soda bath. It reduces the temperature of the blood and generally cools and rests the body. Four or five ounces of common bicarbonate of soda are added to a bath of cool water and the body soaked for a good quarter of an hour, so as to absorb the soda.

Do not stand in a draft or anywhere to let the cold wind blow into the eyes. In most people this causes, as does any sudden change of temperature or blaze of light, an uncomfortable sensation, bringing tears to the eyes. It is as well to take any feeling of that sort as a warning, for it is sure to mean something injurious to the eyes.

The Difference in Feet. The French foot is narrow and long. The Spanish foot is small and elegantly curved. The Arab's foot is proverbial for its high arch. The Koran says that a stream of water can run under the true Arab's foot without touching it. The foot of the Scotch is high and thick; that of the Irish is flat and square, the English short and fleshy. When Athens was in her zenith the Greek foot was the most perfectly formed and exactly proportioned of that of any of the human race. Swedes, Norwegians and Germans have the largest feet. Americans the smallest. Russian toes are webbed to the first joint. Tartarian toes are all the same length.

Bath For Rheumatic Sufferers. Persons who are rheumatic will be benefited by hot baths to which oil of turpentine is added. A good mixture to add to a hot bath is made of fifty grams of green soap and thirty grams of oil of turpentine. These ingredients should be mixed together and shaken well.

Handkerchief Makes Shoe warm. If in putting on a slipper a shoe horn is not at hand try putting the corner of your handkerchief in your shoe, then pull it on and pull out handkerchief. You will find this answers as nicely as a horn.

FOR THE CHILDREN

Hunt the Slipper.

The players seat themselves in a circle on the floor, having chosen one of their number to remain outside the circle. The children seated on the floor are supposed to be cobblers, and the one outside is the customer who has brought his shoe to be mended. He hands it to one of them, saying: "Cobbler, cobbler, mend my shoe; Get it done by half past two."

The cobblers pass the shoe round to each other as quickly as they can, taking care that the customer does not see which of them has it. When the customer comes to get it he is told that it is not ready. He pretends to get angry and says he will take it as it is. He must then try to find it, and the cobbler who has it must try to pass it to his neighbor without its being seen by the customer. The one upon whom the shoe is found must become the customer, while the customer takes his place in the circle on the floor.

Steering a Big Ship.

The work of steering a big ship, even with the aid of all its machinery, is much more delicate than one would imagine. The larger and faster the ship the greater the difficulty. It is not enough to hold the wheel in the same position to keep the ship on her course, for the wind and waves and the currents of the ocean tend constantly to knock her off. The great wall of steel offers a broad target for the wind and the waves. The art in steering is to adapt the ship to these forces and when she is deflected to bring her back quickly to her course. If you could watch the binnacle, especially in bad weather, you would see the needle of the compass constantly shifting from side to side, which means that the great steel prow is not going forward in a perfectly straight line.—Chicago News.

Arabic Numerals.

There is a widespread misapprehension about the figures that we use as numerals, says the Chicago News. They are not Arabic, as is generally believed, but are the first ten letters, with two exceptions, of the Egyptian alphabet. They are found on the mummy bandages almost identical in form, with the exception of 5 and 8, with the figures now in common use. The true Arabic numerals are totally unlike. The figures we use appeared for the first time in Europe in 1240. Alphonso, son of Ferdinand, king of Castile, ordered a table to be prepared and employed for the purpose Isaac Hassan, a Jew singer of the synagogue of Toledo, and Aben Ragel, an Arabian, and it was in this table that the figures were first given.

The Minister's Cat.

This game is very similar to "I love my love." Each of the players must describe the minister's cat, going right through the alphabet to do so. "The minister's cat is an angry cat," says one; "an anxious cat," says another, and so on around the circle till every one has used an adjective beginning with "A." Then they take the "B's." "The minister's cat is a big cat," and so on down the alphabet. The leader of the game must see that no one hesitates for a word. If any one should take longer than half a minute he must pay a forfeit.

The Romper Party.

This form of entertainment, as the name indicates, is an out of door affair just suited to the season. The lawn or barn, as the case may be, is to be lighted with lanterns, the more unique the better. There may be a bonfire with corn popping and toasting of marshmallows, a "square" dance or cakewalk, to the music of tomtoms or a fiddle or a graphophone, with all the good old fashioned games beloved of childhood. Cushions and rugs may be provided in abundance, and the refreshments should suit the informality of the occasion.

A Puzzler.

Tell a person to think of an even number, multiply by 3, multiply the product by 2, divide the result by 6, add 20, subtract the number thought of, divide by 4, and then tell him the result will be 5.

The reason is clear. By multiplying by 3 and 2 and dividing by 6 he has obtained the number thought of. Adding 20, he has the number thought of plus 20. Then subtract the number thought of and he has 20. Now, then, you know he has 20; hence if he divides by 4 his answer must be 5.

Questions and Answers.

Why is education like a tailor? Because it forms our habits.

Who was Jonah's teacher? The whale that brought him up.

When does a man impose on himself? When he taxes his memory.

Why is a hive like a spectator? Because it is a bee-holder.

How can you shoot 120 hares at one shot? Shoot at a wig.

When is a soldier charitable? When he presents arms.

The Woodland Feast.

Young gray squirrel stopped to think: "What do I like best to eat and drink? Now is the season of nuts galore. But other dainties are held in store. Down in the woods are mushrooms sweet. Tender and ready for me to eat; There are spicy berries of partridge vine, And the frost touched grapes have a taste that's fine. And here, just over the orchard wall, Grows a pear with a seed that is toothsome, though small. All of these things are ready for me," Said the happy squirrel, "Cheese, cheese, cheese!"

"And for me!" chirped the catbird. "And me!" called the grouse.

"And for me!" came the voice of the little wood mouse.

And Sir Fox listened, with nod and smile.

And said, "All for me in a little while." —Youth's Companion.

First Filipino Legislature.

THE first political campaign in the Philippines has passed, and the time is approaching when the first national assembly will be opened. Secretary William H. Taft, who is so popular among the Filipinos, is planning to visit the Philippines with the view to taking part in the inauguration of this experiment in the training of these new wards of the United States for self government. The elections for the national assembly passed off quietly, but the vote was small. It was about 90,000 out of a total Christian population of nearly 7,000,000. The Moros, who are Mohammedans and more or less barbaric in their customs and mode of life, were not given the privilege of voting. The proportion of those who were entitled to vote who registered and cast their ballots for members of the national assembly was small. Various reasons are assigned as the cause of this. The mass of the people, it is said, take little interest in politics and are chiefly interested in the daily problem of getting enough to eat. Many conservatives and representative merchants did not vote, being satisfied with the present condition of affairs. A large proportion of those who did vote belonged to the barely qualified class. The Nationalists, the party demanding immediate independence, cast the most votes. Next in number were the Progressives, who in their platform said, "We will willingly wait until Uncle Sam is ready to grant independence." Among those elected to the assembly was Dr. Dominador Gomez, the rabid agitator and alleged chief of Indrones.

Secretary Taft before his departure from Washington said that he was by no means downcast over the result of the elections for the first Filipino assembly and that while the radical element seemed to have the advantage



WATER CARRIER IN THE PHILIPPINES.

many of the Nacionalista delegates were to his knowledge men of good judgment.

American control has accomplished in the Philippines one thing that it also accomplished in Cuba—that is, better sanitation. As a result of this the records of the Manila board of health show that for the preceding six months not a single contagious disease has been conspicuously in evidence. This is the first time in the history of the American occupation, or, for that matter, in the history of the islands, that such a statement could be made. There were fewer deaths in the city of Manila during June than ever before under American control.

Forty-five of the 100 young Filipino students sent to the United States by their native government four years ago to be educated in American colleges have returned to the Philippine islands with diplomas in their pockets prepared to aid their countrymen in solving the problem of self government. The others have decided to remain for the present at least on the continent of America. Every one of them carried off some kind of honor or prize in the colleges in which they studied. The only trouble with them was that they studied too hard and could with difficulty be restrained from overwork. Every one seemed to be thinking of the day when he would be assisting in the conduct of the Filipino government. The anxiety of the "new Filipino" for education is one of the things chiefly to be noted about him.

In a large number of municipalities the inhabitants have contributed freely of their money and labor to the erection of public schools. The municipalities are clamoring for authority to use their funds for school purposes. There are at present about 800 American teachers on the payroll in the public schools and about 500 Filipinos of considerable intelligence and education. All these are paid by the Philippine government. In addition there are perhaps 4,000 native Filipino teachers in provincial schools, paid from provincial treasuries, who have but little education and speak very poor English.

The Filipino is becoming somewhat accustomed now to the use of tools. The American or European style of dress is coming more into vogue, and toilet articles like the toothbrush are growing in favor, especially among those natives who desire to be elegant and up to date.

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