

GIRLS EARN THEIR MONEY

(By Zeldia Ermine Stewart.)

Among the most interesting occupations of factory women is that of glove making. There are 22 establishments engaged in this business in Chicago, ranging in size from one mammoth plant employing 400 girls to the "home shops" employing one. The census showed 818 women over 16 years of age employed in the business in 1900. There are now 1100.

Ten years ago, in a factory where the sewing machine operator sewed all seams, it required five hours to make a dozen pair of gloves, for which the operator was paid 80 cents a dozen. Now six girls do this sewing at different rates with improved machines, and, having acquired greater speed owing to the specializing of the work, each girl can make almost as much money in an hour as the other girl could make, the profit to the manufacturer coming into the increased output of the plant.

All work is done on the piece plan, and a dozen is the unit. In the factories where heavy goods are made the work goes in dozen stacks from the cutter to the—

Fingerers, who make from \$8 to \$9 per week.

Thumbers, who make from \$9 to \$10 per week.

Backers, who make from \$9 to \$10 per week.

Slikers, who make from \$8 to \$9 per week.

Banders, who make from \$8 to \$10 per week.

Closers, who make from \$9 to \$16 per week.

Binders, who make from \$8 to \$9 per week.

Pasteners, who make from \$4 to \$8, day work.

"Closers" Are Best Paid.

All work is section work, and no girl makes a whole glove. The piece price ranges from 1 cent for "sliking" on the two needle machines the two lines of trimming across the top of a band to 30 cents and 35 cents for "closing" on the heavy welted work. "Closing" is the best paying and most expert part of the business. A good closer makes from 50 to 65 dozen pairs of gloves in a week. The "closer" sews the palms and backs together and finishes up the glove ready for the "binder" to put on the little edge of leather binding at the top and send

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL.

Few People Know How Useful It Is in Preserving Health and Beauty.

Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines and carries them out of the system.

Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking or after eating onions or odorous vegetables.

Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic.

It absorbs the injurious gases which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh.

All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered willow charcoal, and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form or rather in the form of large, pleasant tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

The daily use of these lozenges will tell in a much improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath and purer blood, and the beauty of it is, that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but on the contrary, great benefit.

A Buffalo physician speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says: "I advise Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in the stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets."

It on to the "warmer" to be pressed and made ready to box.

The fingerers and thumbers sew up those pieces, the backers sew them on to the back, the slicker makes the three lines of fancy stitching seen on the backs of gloves. Speed and a perfectly straight line are the chief requirements. The banders sew on the wrist band that is found on workmen's gloves. In one shop good banders do 20 dozen a day and up. The binders sew on the top finishing on a binding machine, a new invention which sews on a narrow facing and hems it at the same time. Then the fasteners put on the clasps at a punch machine and the gloves are done and go to the men who stretch them over steam heated iron hands, whose warm clasp presses them into shape, and they go again to girls who examine, stamp, assort and pack them into boxes.

Girls Are Better Workers.

All of the cutting is done by men, but except in the case of heavy leather sewed up with waxed thread, the making of the gloves is done by girls.

In answer to "Why do you employ girls?" the employers said without exception, "Because they do better work. A man's fingers are too clumsy to sew up gloves."

"Do you find a tendency to rush through and slight their work in order to get out more work—are they unfair to you?"

"After each operation the work is marked. In case of defective work on a certain part it goes back to the one who did it. If it is poor leather it goes to the cutter, if a thumb has done something wrong it goes to her. There are two inspectors during the making, the foreman and the girl who gives out the work, and when the goods are finished they are inspected again. We pay high wages and exact good work, and each girl knows that it is to her interest to give us good work. How much she can make depends on her own industry, skill and vital energy."

"Don't you think that this tearing speed and the vital energy expended to make as much as she can is terribly hard on the girl?"

"No. The piece system is the only thing for a factory. It is the only thing that is fair to the girls. Our girls are healthy. A girl gets so used to her work that it is nothing to her. Her machine becomes a part of herself. They all enjoy their work."

Prefer Work to Home.

At their union meeting, where I pelted them with questions, I found up to date, clear headed girls, who carried on a business meeting, who didn't wrangle or talk all at once, nor slander each other and cry. They have a well organized union of 400 girls. Miss Agnes Nestor is their clever little president.

"Do you like your work? Would you rather do it than anything else?" I began.

"Yes, the work is interesting. So long as we've got to work we would as lief make gloves as do anything else."

"Do you prefer your work to staying at home?"

"O, who dares to talk of that dream?" "What's the use of preferring to stay at home?" sounded from one side of the hall, while other voices came to me: "You bet I'd rather work than stay at home." "No, thank you, no dish washing for me," and one pretty girl standing near me said:

"I think a girl's life is broader, she learns more of living and escapes the monotony of house work when she works with other girls. Yes, I would rather work. I like to be with the girls."

"I mean would you rather marry?" I went on, mercilessly.

"Aha! Where is the man?" "Bring on the chance and we'll answer," and "Why do you put such hopeless ideas into our heads?" the chorus arose again with a peal of laughter.

Differ as to Piece Plan.

"Do you prefer the piece price system, or would you rather be paid by the day?" I continued.

One girl said: "I prefer the piece rate. I think they drive you more when you work by the week, and you feel a greater responsibility toward your employer when you do lose time than when that loss falls on yourself."

"But," another girl objected, "nobody worries about you when your belt comes off or a needle breaks in the piece price. You have to hustle to make that up or you lose the money. I don't believe in standing the loss when the fault is with the factory."

"It doesn't make much difference," a third girl interrupted. "When you

Come Now Own Up

You don't like those gray hairs, do you? And your husband certainly doesn't like them. Then why not try a bottle of Ayer's Hair Vigor? It restores color to gray hair every time, all the deep, rich color of early life. And it cures dandruff also. Sold for 60 years. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

are in the shop you work every minute. Your boss expects all of you, no matter how you are paid."

"Do you think you are fairly paid, or are you fighting for more money?"

"We think we ought to get \$2 a day. That is what we are working toward now."

"But," I said, "they told me you make from \$12 to \$16 a week!"

"I have never known a girl who averaged more than \$10 a week. Sometimes we make \$12, but not all the time, and when, at the end of the week, we are given that \$12, we feel that we have earned it."

However I did find one girl who makes \$18 some weeks and averages \$14 and \$15. She is a closer and has worked at the trade nine years. Her employer claims that she is the most rapid operator in the city.

Old maids would be scarce and hard to find.

Could they be made to see, How grace and beauty is combined By using Rocky Mountain Tea.

Dr. Stone's Drug Store.

Law to Make Newspaper Secrets Privileged.

A dispatch from Webster City, Ia., states that at the present session of the state legislature a bill will be introduced having for its object the protection of reporters who, under the present law, may be forced to divulge information of a private nature, acquired in the discharge of their duties. The proposed law extends to members of the press the same privilege that lawyers, doctors and priests enjoy, namely, the right to decline to testify in court concerning information imparted to them under the seal of secrecy. It is generally recognized by all who are in a position to give news to the press that a reporter is often made a confidant by many, and that he receives information which cannot be printed and which members of the press regard as sacred. Senator Jackson of Sioux City, who drafted the bill in question, thus explains the object of the proposed law:

"In these days," says the senator, "the reporter plays an important part in the world, and in the course of his

duties naturally runs across many things he cannot print. For instance, if a man has any information to give to the press, it is common for him to state previous events so as to give the reporter a knowledge of the matter. Now, some of this matter may not be fit to print, or it may not be advisable to print it, and often the reporter gives his word not to publish certain portions of the story, and it would work a hardship on other persons who would be brought into the limelight in a discussion of the real issue. Such confidences, I believe, ought to be considered as sacred, and my experience has been that newspaper men usually so consider it. It is as much a professional secret as that of a doctor, and, as I view it, the newspaper man ought not to be forced to divulge it on the witness stand.

"Then again a reporter in the search for news may accidentally run across information which he is not in a position to publish, or on which he has not sufficient proof to permit of publication. A reporter naturally picks up much information in this way, the greater part of which is held sacred by him.

"In other instances a reporter obtains information of a business deal which is supposed to be secret. Now, no legitimate newspaper wishes to harm an honest business proposition and the reporter is frequently asked

to hold the news for a day or so until the information is ready to be released. As I have said, the legitimate business interests and much news kept secret, sometimes weeks or months before it is published. Information of this character ought to be considered a professional secret, think that such a law as I propose would be a good thing, and would certainly be satisfactory to those who are daily giving information to the press.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, county and state aforesaid, and that the said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR for each and every case of entrapment that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D., 1886. A. W. GLEASON, (Seal) Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.

P. J. CHENEY, & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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OFFER NO. 2. A PRIZE OF \$5 FOR THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT ADVERTISING THE CAPITAL JOURNAL AS THE MOST DESIRABLE PAPER TO BE USED BY ADVERTISERS.

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IT WILL BE OF SPECIAL VALUE TO CLERKS AND STUDENTS. LADIES CAN PARTICIPATE AND HAVE JUST AS GOOD A CHANCE AS ANYONE TO WIN A PRIZE. SOME OF THE BEST ADVERTISING WRITERS IN THE UNITED STATES ARE LADIES.