

# HOUSE CLEANING ON A SHIP

Process of Tidying Up a Transatlantic Liner.

## IS DONE TWICE A MONTH

The Work Goes on With Clock-like Precision—Every Man and Boy Knows His Post and What is Expected of Him—Two Miles of Decks to Scrub.

In all households "spring cleaning" is very properly regarded as an ordeal, but it does not often occur. The case is vastly different with one of the modern transatlantic liners, however, where a most thorough house cleaning takes place twice a month, and that without the aid of a single woman!

No sooner has the last immigrant got ashore with his bundles than boys with gongs go clanging down the immense decks; and from the great patoons right down to the stoke-holes, the small army of men making up the liner's crew are made aware that house-cleaning is about to begin.

The great life-boats are swung out and hauled and found to be in good condition. The first officer roars unobtainable orders through a megaphone, and work begins with machine-like precision. There may be fifty thousand pieces of linen to be sorted and counted, done up in sacks, sent to the laundry, and recounted and put away on their return. There are something like thirty thousand pieces of silver to be counted, sorted and cleaned; fifty thousand items of glass, and double that number of dishes and cooking utensils to be dealt with by washers and polishers. There may well be from five to seven hundred staterooms to be cleaned in every corner with scrupulous care.

There are probably fifty or sixty bathrooms to be cleaned, and a small army of men is let loose in the vast dining-saloon of the ship, where perhaps seven hundred and fifty people may be seated at once.

Another and smaller army attacks the second saloon. Deft-handed sweepers, dusters and cleaners are in every part of the great drawing room. Outside there may be two miles of decks to scrub, and the same "mileage" of rugs and carpets to be beaten in the open air. Hundreds of mattresses are to be put out in the sun and some of them remade.

The work goes with clock-like precision. A smaller liner with accommodation for about seventeen hundred first- and second-class passengers, has been cleaned with exquisite care in exactly four and thirty hours from the time the bell-boys first clanged their gong. If the great ship makes fast to her pier in the morning and discharges her passengers before noon, the house-cleaning starts promptly at one. If, however, she docks later in the afternoon, or at night, the house-cleaning signal is given at six o'clock the next morning.

It need hardly be said that every man and boy knows his post and what is expected of him. Scaffolds are built about the great smoke stacks, and up here painters scrape and lay on new coats. The next day they find them at work on the hull. Stalwart sailors are washing down the walls of the deck-houses. The stewards are stripping the berths in the staterooms; and the linen steward with his staff, is counting the soiled linen with amazing rapidity. The male-stewards are busy in the great saloons with their silver; there are boys in the pantry washing dishes with most unboylike alacrity. The head steward, with a telephone by his side and a line of subordinates before him, is busy with accounts, breakage losses, and the like. He divides the staterooms into groups of ten, with a "captain" over each group.

House-cleaning in the steerage quarters is, of course, much simpler, though not less thorough. Everything that might be injured is first of all removed, and then various lengths of hose are brought into play, throwing tremendously powerful streams of water.

The men are, of course, barefooted, and are followed by their mates with brooms, brushes and scrub cloths. There are stalwart men even down in the hold, getting it ready for fresh mountains of baggage and cargo. The tremendously powerful engines now still and silent, are likewise being overhauled, polished and oiled, and in less time than it would take one of our housewives to clean her little suburban or country dwelling, the ship is suddenly pronounced "ready" to receive two or three thousand more or less fastidious passengers.

**How Snakes Hear.**  
Snakes have no external ears, but inside the head the ear bone are very crude. Snakes "hear," however, by feeling vibration of sound on their delicate scaly covering, and searching for sound vibrations by protruding the wonderfully sensitive tongue, which is filled with thousands of microscopic nerves. Their sight is very keen in distinguishing moving objects.—St. Nicholas.

**1200 To the Acre.**  
The world's population could be contained in Delaware if it were as congested as eleven New York City blocks, at the rate of 1200 people to the acre.

### Of Interest To Women.

To such women as are not seriously out of health, but who have exacting duties to perform either in the way of household care or in social duties and functions, which seriously tax their strength, as well as nursing mothers, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has proved a most valuable supporting tonic and invigorating nerve. By its timely use, much serious sickness and suffering may be avoided. The operating table and the surgeon's knife, would, it is believed, seldom have to be employed if this most valuable woman's remedy were resorted to in good time. The "Favorite Prescription" has proven a great boon to expectant mothers by preparing the system for the coming of baby, thereby rendering childbirth safe, easy, and almost painless.

Bear in mind, please that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is not a secret or patent medicine, against which the most intelligent people are quite naturally averse, because of the uncertainty as to their composition and harmless character, but is a medicine of known composition, a full list of all its ingredients being printed, in plain English, on every bottle wrapper. An examination of this list of ingredients will disclose the fact that it is non-alcoholic in its composition, chemically pure, triple-refined glycerine taking the place of the commonly used alcohol, in its make-up. In this connection it may not be out of place to state that the "Favorite Prescription" of Dr. Pierce is the only medicine put up for the cure of woman's peculiar weaknesses and ailments, and sold through druggists, all the ingredients of which have the unanimous endorsement of all the leading medical writers and teachers of all the several schools of practice, and that too as remedies for the ailments for which "Favorite Prescription" is recommended.

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### THE WISE USE OF MONEY.

The True Meaning of Economy Is Not Saving Carefully.

"We had a discussion the other day on economy," said Cynthia, "and we found that it did not mean not spending, but, rather, the best use of one's means, so that we may talk about the economy of the very rich as well as the economy of the not rich. She who spends \$10,000 a year on frocks may spend it economically or brainlessly; in fact, economy means administration—the administration of one's means.

"Another thing we decided was that the cleverest economists of small means were those who had had at some time or other the liberal education of being rich. The woman who has had always to economize is only partly educated. She must, to be really successful, have had either the administration of larger means or else must have had examples close to her from which she could copy. And in this connection I always remember a story I heard of a moderately well-off young man who chose as his wife one of the daughters of a \$1,000 a year clergyman, thinking she would be so versed in economies she would make the very best use of his income. But a hideous surprise awaited him. She had not the least idea what to do with greater means; in fact, she made a wretched appearance before the world with his income, and finally got into debt. The unfortunate young man would have had his household infinitely better administered by a girl brought up in a rich family, who would have learned how to get the best value for a good household allowance. There is no mistake about it that spending needs education as well as saving."

### Full Evening Dress of Long Ago.

This was a fashionable full dress for evening in the year 1899. In those days, I wonder, were girls worried in their sleep by dreaming that they found themselves in their night garments out in the cold world alone?



Night Garment of 1899.

Everyone seems to have this ridiculous dream from which she wakes up in a fright; but I don't think such a dream would have frightened that damsel dated 1899. How the beauty specialists must have flourished in those days.—London Gentlewoman.

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