

WOMEN IN BUSINESS.
BY HELEN EVERETON SMITH.

Colloquially the term "business" has lost its original broad significance, and has come to mean only an occupation in which traffic is involved.

Adopting this colloquial use it will be understood that we consider as "in business" only those women who are engaged in some sort of traffic, or are filling responsible positions requiring financial knowledge and skill.

That women may be a well fitted for business as men are, without losing any lovable womanly attribute, was first proved to me by knowing one woman and her career. She was possessed of extraordinary strength and breadth of mind, and independence of character. The child of English parents with a long pedigree and a short purse, she had lived in France from her earliest years, and when about two by years of age had married a Frenchman doing a profitable business in selling fine French goods to the petty courts of Germany. After the frequent custom of French people Madame L.—became in a business, as well as in a social sense, her husband's partner; and the two were very successful until, compromised by the strongly Republican sentiments during the second Empire, they were forced to fly to Australia, taking with them only the goods and cash on hand, and sacrificing the rest. Here, too, they prospered, but not liking the country started for America with a little property.

The loss of ship and cargo and the death of her husband followed, so that when Madame L.—reached our shores, at the age of fifty-five, she was alone and destitute; if a woman of such courage and mental resources as hers can ever be said to be destitute.

Armed only with three or four water-soaked letters of introduction, she began her career in New York City as a visiting governess. Her accomplishments were remarkable, but they alone were no more than those of many a woman who has gone to her grave an object of pity and perhaps of charity. Without other capital than her own very serviceable brains, Madame L.—brought to bear upon her new pursuit the habits of thrift, punctuality, promptness, accuracy and diligence, and the thorough knowledge of human nature which she had acquired during her long business experience in association with the husband whom she loved so tenderly, and mourned so sincerely all her life. She worked early and late, improving her prospects at every turn, by ways that would never have occurred to a woman whose perceptive and acquisitive faculties had not been cultivated by years of business training, and at the end of five years she was able to open a boarding and day school of her own, summing her married daughter and family from abroad, and in time permanently establishing them all, without having received one dollar for which she had not rendered a full equivalent.

Oh, there are homes that might be "like heaven upon earth," as the saying is, but the absence of these "two bears" makes them unlovely and miserable. And when the end of home-life comes, as it must come at last, what has been gained by not bearing, but not forbearing? Nothing gained, but much—so much lost!

While taking into our homes these "two bears," we must put out of them all "red rags." "Rags!" you will exclaim. "What have rags to do with it?" Well, I don't mean literal rags, but the proverbial "red rag" whose appearance has such an irritating effect. Some homes are full of these "red rags," and how furious some human bulls become at the sight of them! Again and again, year after year, the animal is roused to fury by the same "red rag." It seems incredible to the lookers on that so much anger can be roused by a remark that to anyone but the aggrieved "bull" seems, perhaps, harmless. Children sometimes produce these verbal "red rags" in the midst of their play, with dire results. And grown-up people—even old people—who ought to know better, often make mealtime a scene of most unseemly "bravelling" by flouting some obnoxious "red rag."

Two sisters kept house together. One was the widow of an officer in the navy, the other the widow of an officer in the army. They lived happily together these two sisters, as long as their special "red rag" was kept out of sight. The rag that would at any moment rouse both sisters to a breach of household peace was the question of the superiority of navy or army. Life might be for da s as calm as an unruffled sea, but this question, if raised by either sister, would change it to a storm-tossed ocean. The matter could never be settled, as each was firmly convinced that her own opinion was correct, and that the service in which her husband had lived and died was the more honorable of the two.

Dear reader, if you have listened to me so far, let me speak to you one more word of advice: If there are any "red rags" in your home, get rid of them at once. Do not wait for some more convenient season, as one lets the clearing out of a drawer wait for the Spring cleaning or the Christmas tidying; do not wait, but get rid of them now.

The best motto is that given eighteen hundred years ago by Paul the Aged: "Show piety at home."

—Ed. Geers has just left Tennessee and will come down the Grand Circuit with Dr. Almont, 2:31; Fred, S. Wilkes, 2:26; Hal Pointe, 2:09; Bob Taylor, trial, 2:10; Frank Dorch, 2:24; Jettie Lee, 2:31; Blue Hal, that has paced quarters in 36 seconds, and the king of pacing stallions, Brown Hal. McEwen has been left behind.

—The terse description which Knapsack McCarthy gave of the Suburban was remembered by more than one who sat around the tables and tipped claret and apollinaris. "Great race," exclaimed trainer of the Brookdale stable, as he hurried across the Sheephead Bay lawn, "A wonderful race! Three suckers in front and all the crack-a-jacks behind driving them home."

Some women, and some men, like to live in idleness. Let it be so; if they can do this without wronging others—which is doubtful. Some women, and

some men, like work and do it well, but are not happy when subjected to financial uncertainties and responsibilities. For such persons salaried positions are best suited. Some have a strong bent for some special pursuit; they have an end to work for, and have "no time to make money," or to look for happiness outside of their vocation. God speed them, and let the world love and gaze admiringly upon them! Others—both men and women—are happy only under a heavy pressure of business risks and cares. Their faculties are strong in this direction and require use, growing weak and atrophied without it, or nervous and irritable, as the muscles and nerves of Hercules would do if he were chained to an easy chair. For these there is plenty of room in the business world.

AT HOME.

In writing at the head of this paper the two familiar words, "At Home," do not intend to enter on the subject of being, or not being, "at home" to callers. Nor do I propose to give a description of a "very successful" "At Home" given by Mrs. Blank on Monday, at Blank Square. My meaning in the word "home" is that of the old song about "Home, Sweet Home."

Dear reader, you are unknown to me—I do not know who you are, where you are, what you are. So, in offering you advice, I am only drawing a "how at a venture." If I unite you "between the joints of the harness," the wound is not the result of steady aim on my part, but of chance.

One thing I may be certain of I think. That is, that the readers of this journal do not require to be told that, whatever braids disturb the street, there should be peace at home.

They are not a class of people likely to "rawl" in streets. When they feel inclined to "brawl" they would, I am sure, prefer to carry on that amusement in the privacy of their homes. And yet that is the last place on earth that one should spoil by any discord. The world must indeed be a weary, dreary "vale of tears" to those whose homes are subject to brawls.

A pious man made this his daily prayer: "Grant that those who see the most of me may have the best of me."

Once upon a time there lived a man and wife, whose abode was remarkable for the reverse of "peace at home." They lived in constant contention and unhappiness. But, to the surprise of their friends and acquaintances, this state of affairs changed to one of peace and happiness. A neighbor asked how this had come to pass. The wife answered that the change was caused by their having taken "two bears" into the house.

"Two bears!" exclaimed the neighbor. "What are they?" "The 'two bears' are 'bear and forbear,'" said the wife. "My husband and I have taken them to live with us, and our home is now a happy one, thanks to these 'two bears.'"

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AN APARTMENT HOME FOR WOMEN.

At present only a "castle in the air," but with a fair prospect of becoming a substantial structure upon solid earth, is a scheme for an apartment house for the use of self-supporting women who desire light, air, space, convenience, liberty, accessibility and home comfort, and who now find it nearly impossible to obtain these privileges even when willing to pay well for them.

The plan is that the first floor of such a building shall be occupied by a restaurant, club rooms for some of the many "Women's Clubs," and, perhaps, for shops; that the second floor shall be devoted to rooms for out of town visitors; women who will pay hotel rates, glad of shelter and the freedom from anxieties, or the false assurance that "there is no room," which too often meet ladies traveling alone.

The remaining floors of the proposed building would be divided into about "two hundred apartments ranging from single rooms to suites of from three to five rooms each, with a bath, and some with a small kitchen." It seems that a broad-minded capitalist has been found "who is interested in the scheme, and is able to put it through as soon as he is convinced that there is a demand for such a building."

To those who have long known the pressing need there is in New York City for a structure of this sort, it is a matter of wonder that there should be the smallest doubt of its success if properly managed. There are here today not only hundreds, but thousands of educated women who are supporting themselves, and others, in paths which not very many years ago were strangers to feminine feet. We have doctors, literary women, artists, musicians, librarians, and teachers by the hundreds, to say nothing of the army of bookkeepers, telegraphers, stenographers, typewriters, and women engaged in various other lines of business which require training and pay comfortable profits.

Some of these women workers have good incomes and are able to pay well for the comforts and luxuries they desire, but the majority can afford only modest payments for which the return in comfort is notoriously inadequate. No one has greater need of all the blessings implied in the word "home" than the educated woman who must provide it by her own unaided efforts. Yet how seldom is this need satisfied! Homes or apartments such as she would enjoy can be found only at prices which usually are prohibitory to her.

The man or the association that will provide for these women in a reputable and accessible neighborhood, a house containing both single rooms and suites at moderate rentals, will not only be able to find all the tenants desired, but will be overwhelmed with applications. But—these women do not wish to live in an "institution," whose comforts and shelter are bought at the expense of liberty. They wish for the opportunity to make homes, each in proportion to her own means, where when they have locked their doors they shall be monarchs of all they survey, for as long a time as they shall pay their rents and deport themselves in such a way as to give neither annoyance to others nor occasion for scandal.

The "Stewart Woman's Hotel" was killed on the day that its restrictions became known. It is inconceivable that any man or woman in the full possession of the ordinary share of human faculties, should have seriously believed that self-respecting women who were capable of earning money enough to support themselves, in even a very modest way, would submit to a system of espionage and restraint worthy of a house of correction for the mere sake of finding all the tenants housed and fed at moderate prices. If the persons in whose hands lay the power to make the bequest of Mr. Stewart a success or a failure really imagined that respectable women would thus humiliate themselves, the rest of the world was not so deceived.

The women who are now asking for an apartment house desire not charity, not mere board and lodging, which can be found in boarding houses or hotels, but the opportunity to make homes.

Until the present we are not aware that any effort has been made, in this country, to provide a suitable place for the large number of women of a high social and intellectual standing who are from choice or necessity self-supporting. From the nature of the plans now suggested it seems that most intelligent thought has been already directed to the subject, but it will not be amiss to remind those who have the matter in charge that many of the women who would most gladly avail themselves of the promised advantages are from family ties. An artist of acknowledged merit supports not only herself, but her paralytic husband and a young daughter who soon hopes to be able to assist her mother. An editor is supporting and educating her young son and daughter. A well known writer supports herself and contributes largely to the maintenance of her aged mother and an invalid brother. A charming young musician is the sole support of her mother and the latter's superannuated father. A stenographer supports her father rendered helpless by rheumatism. An editor of a periodical of high standing, and ardent in her advocacy of the scheme we are considering says:—"I look forward to the rest, the relief from housekeeping cares, the benefits of association which are promised by this house, but it would be of no use to me if I could not take my son with me. I am able and willing to pay for all the accommodations that I need, and would willingly agree to become a tenant at any reasonable price, but I will not live in a nunnery." Another successful author, says:—"My brother is my only surviving relative. We are both of us elderly people now, and I would not be willing to live in a palace, rent free, if I could not have the pleasure of entertaining my brother in my own home during his frequent visits to the city." All of these women would prove most desirable tenants and some of them would impart distinction to any residence, and in the suites of from three to five rooms which

are to be a feature in the new house could make delightful homes. If the single rooms be reserved "for women only" is there any valid objection to the occupation of at least a few of the suites by families, providing that the rent-payer be in all cases an educated self-supporting woman?

To make any scheme successful the needs, tastes and possibilities of the class to be benefited must all be considered. At present the apartments which come within the means of the majority of even educated women workers are so small, dark, ill ventilated and ill situated with reference to neighbors, that even the horrors of the cheap boarding house become desirable by comparison. In the proposed house it is promised that all rooms shall be open to the outer air, and of "good size." Exactly what the latter expression may mean is doubtful, but it is to be hoped that all rooms will contain at least 180 square feet of floor space with the addition of ample closets. A man's life may not consist in the abundance of things which he possesseth, but a woman's happiness is greatly dependent upon "things," and proper places to put them.

Some of the apartments might be rented furnished, but most women probably prefer to bring their own furniture, thus enjoying the tender associations which connect inanimate things with remembered pleasures.

But these things are side issues. The main object now to be considered is simply whether or not capitalists can be convinced that an apartment house for women is needed and can be made to pay. For this reason it is very desirable that all women interested in the project shall make their views and wishes known. They are therefore invited to send their names, addresses and professions to Mrs. Wheeler, (Associated Artist) 115 E. 23rd St., New York City. We are assured this committee no one to any course of action, but insofar as each person shall be notified of any meetings that may be held in furtherance of the object.

HELEN EVERETON SMITH.

FLORIDA FLOWERS AND FARMS.

THE CANNA.

Concerning the most brilliant and beautiful plant, Eben Rexford in the *Ladies' Home Journal* says:

The Canna is among the most popular of all foliage plants. Its leaves are large, freely produced, rich in color, and give a tropical air to the plant which is very effective when it is well grown. Some varieties have foliage of a light green, while others are so dark as to be almost the color of bronze, with peculiar metallic shadings which give the plant a most striking appearance. For a long time this plant was grown only for its foliage, but the newer kinds have long spikes of most richly colored flowers, resembling the Gladiolus somewhat in shape, while partaking in a large degree of the peculiarities of the Orchid in general appearance. The French florists have given us a dwarf strain which produces very large, fine flowers, and the future of the Canna will probably make it conspicuous among flowering plants as it has been in the past among foliage plants. The flowers run through all shades of red, scarlet, and crimson, to yellow, and many varieties combine these colors in most striking and peculiar manner.

But it is not alone as a plant for out-door that the Canna deserves general cultivation. I find it one of the most effective for house and green house culture. If strong roots are potted rather late in spring, in rich soil, and the plants are kept in pots through the season, you will have fine specimens for winter use. It is a characteristic of the plant that it keeps sending up new stalks from the roots as long as you choose to keep it growing, therefore you will have new foliage all through the winter season, and consequently a bright, fresh-looking plant at all times, if you keep the old leaves cut off as they ripen and turn brown. The new stalks will give bloom in winter. For room-decoration few plants are more effective. A large specimen is fine for the centre of a bay window. Large pots and rich soil, with plenty of water, must be given, and care must be taken to shower the foliage daily to prevent the red spider from working on it.

Old roots, taken from the ground at the close of the season, can be safely wintered in any cool, dry cellar. In spring they can be divided, like the Dahlia.

We are indebted to F. R. Pierson, of Tarztown, N. Y., for our fine illustration of the Canna flower. He makes a specialty of this plant in five named varieties: Canna Ehemana has broad banana-like leaves with spikes of magenta flowers. Canna Brilliantissima has lustrous leaves of metallic bronze making it very desirable for vase culture. Canna Noutonii, Adolph Wieck and General Boulanger are remarkable for the splendor of their flowers.

Mr. Pierson furnishes strong large plants by mail at the low price of 35 cents each. It is still not too late to pot plants for winter blooming.

WITHIN the memory of the older generation twelve hours was a day's labor. There was a time when fourteen hours was insisted upon. The proposition to drop from twelve to ten was urged by the employed and resisted by employers as a dangerous proceeding, productive of great loss, and certain to revolutionize the industries and all society.

An eminent scientist has evolved the theory that water as an element to extinguish fires in large and high buildings is a failure. He claims that when combustion evolves a certain intense degree of heat the water thrown upon the flames emits a powerful volume of hydrogen which burns with frightful fury. This scientist sets up the theory that these fires must be treated in a different manner, and expresses the belief that gas will be the successful weapon with which to fight fire at some future day.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Never stoop to slanders. Show reserve in speaking. Observe caution in crediting. Policy is successful hypocrisy. The best books are those that are not written.

Adversity is the only balance to weigh friends. He that increaseth in knowledge, increaseth sorrow. Tell me whom you love and I'll tell you who you are.

Governing minds are comparatively sure. Let no man trust the first false step of guilt. It takes few words to make truth convincing.

The meanest man has a good spot in his heart. Gold can gild a rotten stick, and dirt sully an ingot.

Character is what man is in his inmost thought. A woman has only to differ with a man to be stubborn.

Kind words never die; unkind words don't die either. Argument is often introduced to establish falsehood.

Time is as the body, and eternity the spirit of existence. If you want to climb a tree, you must begin at the bottom.

Ever took only one apple; Adam would have shaken the tree. National literature begins with fables and ends with novels.

Eight men may forget a kindness, but two will remember it. Men do not easily forget kindnesses shown them when sick.

Do not look for wrong or evil, for you will find them if you do. As you measure for your neighbor, he will measure back to you.

It is far better to be deceived than undecieved by those we love. Treat every body with politeness, even those who are rude to you.

When you bury animosity don't set up a pedestal over its grave. People hate the man who is in constant drain on their sympathy.

Do not trust in the beggar who asks for "a little assistance." Notoriety is a froth that intoxicates shallow men and women.

For insult given, the noblest vengeance is forgetfulness forever. Happiness is the health of the soul; therefore the soul is always sick.

War, unless waged for liberty or self-preservation, is simply grotesque. A lie will go a long way, but the sender usually has to pay the freight.

Do more than your part now, and by and by you will get your reward. Clemency for those we know is rarer than pity for those we know not.

He that desires measures Providence by his own little contracted model. You have sometimes known happiness, eh? Yes, the happiness of others.

All the great generals had great soldiers to fight their battles for them. The number of asses parading around in lions' skins is frightful to contemplate.

Don't let us speak ill of our enemies; they are the only persons who do not deceive us. What are some men's skulls filled with that they should outdo such fantastic mental capers.

The end of man is an action and not a thought, though it were the noblest. How ready is envy to mingle with the notice which we take of other persons.

The world is full of people who tire themselves to death looking for rest. All the glorified feel that they have had an easy market.

From the lowest depth there is a path to the loftiest height. It is a great defect in men to wish to rule everything, except themselves.

No man who cares to succeed in life will be indifferent to the role of pure morals. Those are the best Christians who are more careful to reform themselves than to censure others.

If you desire anything done, go to a busy man. Men of leisure never have time for anything. Oh, banish the fears of children! Continual rains upon the blossoms are hurtful.

Find earth where it grows no weed, and you may find a heart where no error grows. Nothing is ever done beautifully, which is done in rivalry; nor nobly, which is done in pride.

The noblest the mind the best contentment has. Men of character are the conscience of the society to which they belong.

The certain way to be cheated in to fancy one's self more cunning than others. If the power to do hard work is not a talent, it is the best possible substitute for it.

People generally are what they are made by education and company between the ages of 15 and 25. No abilities, however splendid, can command success without intense labor and persevering application.

Half our forebodings of our neighbors are but our wishes, which we are ashamed to utter in any other form. The majority of the people live poor in order to die rich; it is a great deal wiser to live rich and die poor.

HORSE NOTES.

—Ray del R y has at last proved his worth. —The trotters will perform at Hartford.

—Tristan is now said to be by Tom Bowling out of Travata. —Four of the Get of Electioneer have entered the 230 list this season.

—New Englanders are agitating a race between Edgemark and Kemlin. —Reference (218) is to be entered for the free-for-all at Hartford, Conn.

—Charles Reed has signed Jockey McLaughlin for the remainder of the season. —Forest Park, the home of the late Dr. L. Herr, will pass under the hammer on July 15th.

—The most sensational Su'urban ever yet run was fitly won by a son of Hensation—Loantaka. —The pacing race at the Gentlemen's Driving park recently was a disgrace to the turf.

—Overton came from the West to ride Riley, but his weight was too much for the big horse. —Entries for the July meeting of the Philadelphia Driving Park Association will close June 29.

—Potomac pulled up lame, and was not sent to Chicago to run for the American Derby. —Daniel O. Hittner, of Conshohocken, has added to his string the gray pacer Victor, record 2:19.

—Orange county (N. Y.) horsemen have raised \$20,000 toward building a mile track for trotters. —At the recent annual meeting of the Cleveland Driving Park Company the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

William Edwards, President; George W. Short, Vice President; S. J. Everett, Treasurer; William B. Fasig, Secretary.

—Jo' n Campbell, of the racing firm of Walcott & Campbell, is driving Fred Folger (2:2 1/2) on the road. —The runners did not take well at Buffalo, and Mr. Engleman lost money on the meeting given there.

—Running races will be inaugurated on a new half-mile track, at South St. Louis, beginning June 27. —A string of fourteen from the Jewett Stock Farm are now at Rushville, Ind., being trained by J. Newbro.

—F. C. McLewee has secured the services of Isaac Murphy as leading jockey for the remainder of the season. —According to rumors at Sheephead Bay on Tu sday there may be racing at Monmouth Park yet this season.

—Tenny was the hottest favorite that ever went to the post for the Suburban, and his defeat hit the talent hard. —The Morris Park management has a large canvas sign to notify the spectators when bets have been declared off.

—Harry Webster has purchased the 4-year-old g. m. Grey Heart, by Hartford, to drive on the road with Lady Hambrino. —There will be six races, including one for double teams, between members' horses at Belmont Course.

—The runners Pigeon and Chatter have been seized by the sheriff and will be sold at the Gloucester track. —Burlington is still amiss, though not seriously so, but it will probably be some little time before this high-class horse is again seen in public.

—"Professional backers," who too frequently have some sort of mysterious connection with owners and jockeys, are becoming altogether too common. —J. N. Fuller has set himself the task of beating the four-in-hand record, 2:37, held by Mr. Gordon's four-in-hand at Cleveland, driven by Millard Sanders.

—John Morrow bought Blue Hal at the recent Ewell Farm sale in Tennessee, for \$1900, and sold him to Joe Smith, of Birmingham, Ala., for \$3000. —D. W. McOon, the owner of the Suburban winner, once trained for the late Milton H. Sanford. Loantaka cost him \$275 at public auction as a 2-year-old.

—Socrita lost 250 pounds in weight, as the result of the injury to her back, which will cause her permanent retirement from the turf. For a time it was feared the mare would die, but she seems to have passed the critical point.

—J. A. Losse, of Montgomery, Alabama, has three good campaigners in Anella Rives, by King Richard Norwood, Hambletonian, by McCurdy's Hambletonian, and the 4-year-old brown stallion Ferrous, by the King, he by George Wilkes.

—The overconfidence of Barnes on Montana in the Belmont stakes lost Marcus Daly several thousand dollars and backers of the colt many more thousand Hal Montana was sent right alone from the last sixteenth pole Garrison could never have got up with Foxford.

—St. Florian's bolt over the fence, and fall in the first section of the double event at Sheephead Bay was doubtless due to the fact that he is blind in one eye. Jockey Littlefield out the colt with the whip on the blind side, and that caused him to swerve and jump.

—The Detroit Driving Club has made a slight but very necessary alteration in the condition of its team race. It will now read: "Pure \$1500, for trotting teams, horses to be eligible to the 2:30 class, with \$400 to the winner of the fastest heat if trotted in better than 2:15."

—Jockey Pat Freeman met with a bad accident at St. Louis recently. While riding Redsign the latter swerved against the inner fence, crushing Freeman's leg and fracturing it over the ankle. Two or three of the toes were also broken. It is doubtful if Freeman will be able to ride in many a week.