The Ambition of Letitia

By JANE OSBORN

by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

At twenty Letitia was a veteran houseworker, for she had begun working for the Dawsons when she was twelve, and had served a right apprenticeship under Mrs, Dawson for six years. Mrs. Dawson had died and, as Grandmother Dawson was by this time disposed to remain in her easy chair, the entire tasks of housekeeping had then fallen to Letitia. This meant doing the cooking, cleaning, washing and mending for the indolent Grandmother Dawson, Mr. Dawson the widower, and Tom Dawson.

Mrs, Dawson had called Letitia her "hired girl." She had rescued the little girl from the county poor house after the death of her widowed mother, though it may have been a ruscue more in name than in fact. Since Mrs. Dawson's death Mr. Dawson paid blame you not wanting to be called Letitia a meager wage, but one considerably greater than the pin money allowed by Mrs. Dawson.

It was as "Dawson's hired girl" that Letitia was generally known in the community. However, there was no special social line drawn between her and her employers. She sat beside the same lamp with them, reading or mending on winter evenings. She ate at the table with them, jumping up, of course, every few minutes to get fresh supplies from the kitchen.

It was one chilly evening in October. Grandma Dawson had retired and Letitla sat with her mending in her lap, while Father Dawson read the paper and Tom leaned abstractedly over the table where he was working out problems in his correspondence course in scientific farming. Several times Letitia had looked up, opened her mouth to speak and had

then remained silent. After three or four false starts she managed to say: "There is something I was wondering. I thought perhaps, if it was just the same to you, maybe now, since I'm getting to be older and all-that maybe you'd just as soon call me a housekeeper instead | began. of hired girl. If you'd just drop it that I was the housekeeper then other folks would get the habit-

moment her eyes met those of Tom Dawson, eyes that were flashing with thank you for-for understanding." indignation. Apparently embarrassed at meeting Letitia's glance, his eyes dropped and his tanned face reddened.

vexed with me, Tom, for asking," a piece of writing paper. Letitia said, resuming her darning fu-

"I wasn't vexed with you, Letty. Iout it doesn't make any difference. I

Mr. Dawson had been cogitating the situation. He ended by laughing and the note under Tom's door and went looking amused over his reading down stairs. There she opened the glasses at Letitia.

"So you want to be called a housekeeper, do you? Well for myself I and left it to smolder there through don't see any difference between a hired girl and a housekeeper. No disgrace in either. What you been reading. Letty, to put such notions into your head?"

"Nothing," snapped Letitia. "And you don't have to do it if you don't want to. Only I want you to know that my folks were as good as any in the county. My father was a parson and my grandfather had as big a farm as this-and it would have been mine, too, if he hadn't sold it to buy bum oil stock, or something."

Letitia said she had not been reading anything to put new ideas into her head, but this was not quite true. Letitia had invested in a book on etiquette-an elaborate volume that opened up undreamed-of worlds of luxury and ceremonious living to her. She read it eagerly, and now she knew by rote the duties of butler, footman, lady's maid, first gardener, second gardener and the rest. 'She dweltwith especial interest on the paragraphs dealing with housekeepers.

They wore no aprons, were permitted to wear a silk dress in the afternoon, provided it was high-necked. They were addressed as Mrs. or Miss to distinguish them from regular servants, and they ate their meals in their sitting room-brought up on a tray by one of the maids. They carried the keys to the supply closets, had the hiring of less important servants. paid off household bills, kept guests and, where that work was not done by the butler, took instructions for meals from their employers.

Letitia's ambition was to be a housekeeper. She thought with satisfaction of herself as a middle-aged person in a stiff black silk frock, eating in solltary grandeur in her private sitting room. But she could not become so important a personage all in one day. She must work up to such heights. The rudiments of housekeeping she had learned from her service with the Dawsons. The flourishes she must learn by experience in more pretentious households.

She had definitely decided to go to the city and apply at an employment agency for a position as a house keeper, in a less pretentious establishment than that described in the book to begin with. But she must be able honestly to say that she had been a housekeeper-not a hired girl.

Apparently she gained nothing by her petition to the Dawson men, difficult as it was to deliver. Mr. Dawson. Sr. simply hadn't taken her seriously, and Tom as used! answered in an in- from one oil field to another.

definite sort of scared manner. Ever since he had been working on that correspondence course he had seemed preoccupied. Once several years ago he had taken her for occasional walks and had driven her to town, but ap- Street Garments Feature Artisparently his ambition to become a scientific farmer left no thoughts for Letty, "the hired girl."

Letitia's darning needle flew back and forth as she sat by the reading lamp, and once a large tear splashed on one of Tom Dawson's heavy woolen socks that she was darning. She rose to retire when the clock struck halfpast eight, and on some pretext or other Tom followed her to the kitchen, where she went to get her little lamp to light her to bed.

"I want to talk to you, Letty," Tom, said, barely looking at her. "Stay in your room until father has gone to bed, then come down quietly."

Letty went about lighting her lamp and said only after a long pause. "Al! right, Tom, I'll come back," A half hour later Tom and Letty

met in the living room and Tom led the way to the little side porch where, though the air was chilly, they could talk with no fear of being heard. "It's about your wanting to be called

a housekeeper," Tom began. "I don't 'hired girl,' but father doesn't really mean to hurt your feelings. I'd have made matters different from what they are long ago if it had been any use trying. . . Instead I made plans, and part of the plan was to take this course in agriculture. I came into that money from mother last spring when I was twenty-one. I'm going to finish my correspondence course and next winter take time to take the shorter course in agriculture at the State college. Father has agreed. Then I'll come back and buy a farm of my own; and when I do that-Letty, if you were Mrs. Tom Dawson it wouldn't be so bad as being Dawson's hired girl, would it?"

There was a trying pause and Letty kept her head turned from Tom's.

"Letty, I love you," Tom said with more bravery than he knew he possessed. "I know you have ambition and didn't want to be called a hired girl, but I've had ambitions too. I don't want to be an old-fashloned, blundering farmer. That's why I've worked so hard on that correspondence course. I want to marry you."

"But I'd have to love you-" Letty "Don't you-a little?"

"I don't know. I'll have to think," said Letitia under her breath. "When Letitia looked up and for a painful I have had time to think things over I'll tell you. Good night Tom, and

With that Letitia went back into the house and upstairs to her little room. For an hour she sat in her single upright chair thinking. Then "I don't see why you should be so she took up a pencil and wrote on "Dear Tom,

"I love you. "LETITIA."

her bureau, took from it a book and started out of her room. She slipped stove that was closed for the night. She dropped the book on the coals the dark hours.

HAVE EYES ALL OVER BODY

Nature Particularly Liberal to Some of Her Creatures, the Dragon Fly Noticeably.

There is a most astonishing diversity among animals in respect to the number and location of their eyes. In mammals, birds, reptiles and fishes they are limited to two and are invariably placed in the head, but others of the animal kingdom may have anywhere up to 50,000, and they seem to have been placed anywhere they might be handy.

The dragon fly possesses eyes composed of an aggregration of about 10,-000. In spiders and scorpions there are usually eight or ten eyes in one or more clusters on the dorsal aspect of that part of the body which is formed by the union of the head and thorax. The starfish has an eye on the tip of each of his five rays, or arms, as has the sea urchin, which is homologically nothing but a starfish with the ends of its rays drawn close together in a circle around which is considered the hinder part of his body. The scallop has numerous eyes on the edge of its mantle, extending from one end of the animal to the other, and forming a semi-circle. Some marine worms have eyes in clusters not only on the head but also along each side of the body, even in the tip of the tail, and they are connected individually with the median nerve cord.

In the lowest forms are found many infusoria which have neither eyes nor nerves, but are nevertheless sensitive to light, either seeking or avoiding it.

Largest Power Dam. The Keokuk dam, which extends across the Mississippi river from Keokuk, Ia., to Hamilton, Ill., is the largest power dam in the world. From the 15 turbine generators propelled by the water which passes over it," electric power is transmitted to St. Louis, 145 miles away, and to smaller cities in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri, The turbine wheels, one of which weighs 65 tons, 67 four times as much as any ever before made, will eventually be 30 in number, and together will produce 200,000 horse power.

Portable Oil Rafinery. A Texas man is the inventor of portable oil refinery mounted on railroad cars that can be readily moved

A GOWN WITH TIGHT SLEEVES

Oriental in its closely wrapped

noon gown of brocaded batik. Very

anese kimono effect. Much .natelasse

is used and some of it is combined

Afternoon mantles and daytime

wraps at Jenny's have snugly fitting

collars, from which swing large panels

as far as the waist, where they are

panels extend to either side to form

the wide sleeves, which are really only

slits for the arms to pass through.

One sees a number of short, furry

jackets. A short cost is of white

kasha, trimmed with white and black

YARDS OF RIBBON ON GOWNS

Flashy Strands Run Gamut of the

Rainbow to Supply the New

Edicts of Dress.

Somehow the formality of the dress

designs seem to demand that stream-

ing and formally plaited style of trim-

But before you can realize how

charming these ribbon trimmings can

be you must see the new ones as they

have been woven. They come in all

the brightest colors of the rainbow.

They embody all of the newer and

handsomer threads and weaves. They

are made in stripes and plaids and

stars and in Paisley patterns that as-

In very many cases, in fact, ribbons

are used as edges of trimmings which

by reason of their contrast with the

basic material of the frock form that

decorative note which cannot be as-

saulted and which proves to be in its

Black and white or black and gold

ribbons are particularly lovely against

highly colored backgrounds of ma-

terial. For instance, there was a black

and silver ribbon no wider than an

inch and a half used as an edging on a

house gown of jade green satin. The

edge decoration gave all the desired

effect and it was about as simple trim-

You cannot go wrong if you are

buying ribbons for the trimmings for

your newer dress gowns. They can be

black lace laid over the brim and

falling in a streamer. Gold velvet and

brown lace trimming is another promi-

nent item. Even the crushed velvet

is shown in brown for a large floppy

shape with a soft edge and a twisted

gold ribbon bound about the crown,

SHORT BLOUSECOAT FAVORED

Paris Furners Anticipate Big Early

Season on Garment Developed

One of the favorite forms in fur

notably caracul, breitchwantz and

These little coats are particularly

ago, the s'iort mole coat will doubtless

The moleskin short coat in taupe

New Caps Fabrics.

A new fabric admirably adapted to

have a great vogue.

a fad of the coming winter.

in Very Flat Fur.

with a loop off the side.

ming as could be imagined. It served

entirely simple way the so-called mak-

can supply.

tonish the eye.

ing of the gown.

add to interest in this outfit.

with leatherish tones of cloky.

tic Quality and Beauty.

Parisiennes Are Paying More Attention to Coats and Capes Than to Dresses.

Whatever the occasion, be they the morning hours of shopping or working or the afternoon hours of leisure and pleasure, the Parisienne still wears a street wrap that has every artistic quality and beauty about it. says a Paris fashion correspondent in the New York Times. This is the age of the beautiful coat. Women are paying more attention to their outer wraps than to their dresses, and are learning to wear them with more grace and character.

* In Paris, especially, the street wraps are developing with marked success. The season's openings prove that fact as the many examples of recent wrap building make their debut.

Chanel shows a wrap of beige crepe which is completely covered with an all-over pattern in silk embroidery and gold thread, imitating the gorgeous cashmeres of the ancient Hindus. Patou has an exquisite collection of black capes trimmed with fur, and generally with fringes of black monkey. The collars are extremely high, rising at the back until they touch the brim of one's hat. Certain of the wraps express the freedom and dash of the Cossack's robe.

At Renee's the afternoon wraps have more or less the semblance of elaborated and elongated costume blouses. The fur collars of her fabric wraps are not so exaggerated as in some of the other showings. But the fur jackets amply compensate for this apparent slighting of the luxurious taste and are created with a lavish



Two Tones of Gray Velours-One Very Dark and One Very Light-Combined With Embroidery in the Same Tones to Make Smart Street Wrap.

A woolen wrap is bordered with black fox, and worn with a black only to hold down the hem and at the dress trimmed with the same fur. A same time it made a trimming that wrap of the smart fur "sea dog," and | would be hard to outdo. another of caracul Imitate the Russian blouse. Each is worn with a black dress trimmed with the same fur. Paul Caret makes his wraps ex- wide or narrow, soft or stiff, but they tremely long and surprisingly narrow, can always find a place in the more with the waistline indicated by a Jap- formal styles.

brim of black vervet and a drape of KNITTED FABRICS ARE LIKED

Material as Heavy and Compact as Overcoat Cloth Provides Cheaper Goods for Clothes.

When women, though on fashion bent, yet have a frugal turn, an excellent economy is the purchase of knitted fabrics for their outer clothes. No longer is the knitting industry confined to the manufacture of sweaters, neckties and the flimsy silk appropriate to underwear; it has entered successfully the domain of dress fabrics and suit-

A knitted fabric may be produced in one-seventh of the time which it garments is the short blousecoat. All takes to weave a goods of equal qual- furriers in Paris are anticipating a big ity. This naturally reduces the cost early season on the short blouse and manufacture and the retail price box coat developed in a very flat fur, of the materials.

Recent inventions applied both to moleskin. These are strictly tailored machinery and to the fulling process in style and will be made like the little have resulted in grades of knitted clocki blousecoats that were so much goods as heavy and compact as woolen a feature of the past summer. overcoat cloth and which only the expert can distinguish from woven mate- good in dyed caracul, in soft beige and rial Soft silks closely woven are ap- brown shades. They are also smart propriate for dresses and now these in black caracul or broadtail, as well are being knitted in the Jacquard de- as in moleskin. As moleskin is consigns. An invention, pjerfected last siderably cheaper than it was a year autumn, has given us for the first time knitted materials in patterns.

Jersey cloth, tricosham, tricollett. matelasse are some of the knitted fab- fur sewn in shell-like pattern will be rics available for outer clothing.

Hats Are Large. A great many of the large hats are trimmed in laces, laid over the brims capes and wraps has a duvetine surin drapes, or hung off the brims in face on one side, while the other is curtain edges. There are combina- woven to give the effect of a satintions of black and white, the white facing. It comes in different twoseen in felt for a crown with a large toned combinations,

Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

LATEST NEWS

"The Fairles went to call on the Elves," said Daddy, "and they all talked of what had been going on of late and what were the plans for the coming season.

"'Well,' said Effie Elf, 'I hear that dear Willie Woodcock has gone away for the winter. I am glad that he has made his escape before some horrible gun succeeded in getting him. "'He always puts off his leaving un-

til so late in the year.' "'Yes,' said Fairy Princess Joy. 'that is true, and he is also one of the first to come in the spring. In fact he comes before it is spring.' "'It's surprising to me that he comes

so soon,' said Fairy Ybab. "That is strange,' said Fairy Princess Twilight-Bell. 'For I know you are thinking of his favorite diet of worms and those are easy to get when

the earth becomes soft." "'Well,' said the Fairy Queen, 'It is strange that he leaves so late and ardraperies and vivid colors is an afterrives so early, perhaps, but it is nice long purple tassels and tight sleeves that he does-so long as he escapes from guns.

> "'I admire the Woodcock family," she continued. 'They never seem to

""They don't fuss over their marketing as some creatures do. For example, they don't pull all the worms out of the ground and then decide that they won't have any and that fastened by wide girdles. These they just wanted to have a look!

"They will take the worms they go after and they get them so easily,

" 'Their long, thin bills are just the kind for digging down into the earth. "'You were talking about his coming early and leaving late. It is nice that he does, as I said, "so long as he escapes from guns" and, of course, when I speak of "he" I am talking now about the whole Woodcock family as we all have been,

"'But I believe he likes the frost to be out of the ground so he can dig You will find yards upon yards of for his worms. Yes, he comes around ribbons on the modern dress-up gowns. the minute there is any soft earth and stays as long as there is any left. "But as I said before I admire him for not spending hours making up his ming which only the de luxe ribbon mind.

"It is what I admire about the birds in general. They see what they like and take it. They don't spend hours thinking about what they will

"'And they don't waste time being undecided.'

"'By the way,' said Effic Elf, T heard the other day for the first time hat although door have five toos on



their front feet they only allow four to touch the ground when they walk. It is their habit, but I thought it was quite curious.

"The cat, I was told, will not let her claws touch the ground, which the dog will do.

" 'The cat wants to save ber claws till she needs them for fighting or self-protection and she isn't going to waste them.

"That to me was quite an interest-"'It is most interesting,' said the

other Fairles and Elves. "At this moment up flew Fly-High, the Elves' bird, and asked them if they would like to go for a ride.

"So the Elves and the Fairles all climbed on Fly-High's back and off they went to see the hills and the dales, the rivers and the brooks, the meadows and the streams.

"And they met Jack Frost, and Master Chilly and Master Very Cool and the other Frost Brothers. "They all had their wonderful paint

brushes with them and they were all singing: "It's going to be cold, it's going to be cold, And we feel so bold, we feel so bold.

We're going to frost-bite every thing, And as we do so we're going to sing, 'Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, the Frost Broth-ers!"

RIDDLES

When are you nearly related to a fish? When your grandmother is good old soul (sole).

What is the difference between a butcher and a flirt? One kills to dress and the other dresses to kill.

What is the best way to keep water out of your house? Don't pay the water bills.

Why is "e" the most unfortunate of letters? Because it is never in cash, always in debt and never out of dan-

A FEELING OF SECURITY

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Such a medicine is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, kidney, liver and bladder remedy. The same standard of purity, strength and excellence is maintained in every bottle of Swamp-Root.

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A sworn statement of purity is with every bottle of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-

If you need a medicine, you should have the best. On sale at all drug stores in bottles of two sizes, medium and large. However, if you wish first to try this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper .- Advertisement.

Mashies for the Masses! Overheard at the first tee on a public course in a midwest city: "Well, where's the first gool?"

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Each package of "Diamond Dyes" contains directions so simple any woman can dye or tint her worn, shabby dresses, skirts, waists, coats, stockings, sweaters, coverings, draperies, hangings, everything, even if she has never dyed before. Buy "Diamond Dyes"—no other kind—then perfect home dyeing is sure because Diamond Dyes are guaranteed not to spot, fade, streak, or run. Tell your druggist whether the material you wish to dye is wool or silk, or whether it is linen, cotton or mixed goods.—Advertisement.

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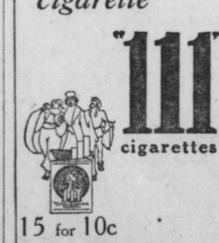
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the retail price and the name
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Now smoked by a million men who love a superior cigarette





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