SEWING ADVICE—LAUNDERING RAISED TO THE PLANE OF FINE ART—CORRESPONDENCE

WASHERWOMAN OF FUTURE TO HAVE DEGREE, M'LISS SAYS

Course at Columbia Presided Over by Philadelphia Woman Who Writes Practical Book on the Subject

"AS IGNORANT as a washerwoman!" Those words are probably said a thousand times a day. But if the simile ever passes out of the language a Philadelphia woman will be deserving of some of the credit for its going.

According to Miss L. Ray Balderston, laundry work is an art and a science worthy of as much consideration and study as astronomy or chemistry. Indeed, after reading her very interesting little tract, "Laundering," recently published, one arrives at the conclusion that in order to be a successful washerwoman it is essential to be at least a fair chemist.

Ordinarily one would expect to arrive at the tubs and suds only by way of stern necessity. In the list of chosen careers that are annually suggested to aspiring young maidens standing on the threshold of life, one never finds laundry work. But the washerwoman of the future will come to you bearing her degree in her hand. She will be a personage, as proud of her occupation as any college grad who ever wore a cap and gown.

Miss Balderston is the instructor of laundering at Columbia University. She knows all about how to wash silks and satins and calico rags. She knows the history of washing from the time 2000 years before Christ, when the Egyptians made of the Nile River the original washtub, down to the present time, when we have not only modern laundry appliances undreamed of in those days, but a knowledge of detergents and absolvents which defy and erase the most obdurate spots.

It was a woman's vanity, Miss Balderston writes, that was responsible for the invention of the art of starching. Queen Elizabeth just couldn't bear her neckwear all limp and straggly. She liked her ruffs to stand forth with a regal air of stiffness. A Dutch woman experimented with starch and presented her idea to the Queen. As a result a school was set up to instruct others in the use of it. These became "professors of starching" and were paid five pounds for every lesson they gave the householders. Thus it would seem that the washerwoman, once a well-paid factor in the community, practicing a recognized calling, is again to come into her own.

Miss Balderston's little book is the most practical that has come to my hand for some time. Not only is it characterized to impress upon us how little of the really fine points of washing and ironing we know, but it is designed to do away with that ignorance. Not content with telling you how to get the soil and spots from everything under the sun, Miss Balderston continues with the information as to the best way of hanging the wash on the line and improved methods of ironing and folding the garments after they have been ironed. Moreover, she devotes a chapter to practical tips on dry cleaning, and another on the special cleansing of those difficult, "chiffony" articles that the average woman looks with despair upon and consigns to the rag-bag or the professional rather than attempt to freshen them herself.

It is worth the householder's attention, is this little book. M'LISS.

SEEN IN THE SHOPS

NEW MIDDY SWEATER

IN THIS season of sport clothes the designers have been quite busy creating new effects. This middy sweater is one which is made on middy lines and crocheted in Shetland wool, making it possible to be used as either a middy or sweater. The sailor collar, cuffs and balls, which finish the sash, are of real Angora and may be of white of pussy gray. The Shetland wool may be of any desired color. It is an excellent garment for sports, seashore or school. Price $12.75, in sizes 4 to 7 years. Price $15, in sizes for misses and small women.

An attractive hat is this one of French fur felt with a chenille crown, which has its drooping brim bound and faced with narrow grosgrain ribbon. Its only trimming is a novel cocade of grosgrain ribbon finished with a chenille button. Ordered in plain or color combinations it is priced at $8.95.

The name of the shop where these articles may be purchased will be supplied by the Editor of the Woman's Page, EVENING LEDGER, 608 Chestnut street. The request must be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope, and must mention the date on which the article appeared.

THE WOMAN WHO SEWS

Readers who desire help with their dress problems will address communications to the Fashion Expert, care of the Editor of the Woman's Page, the Evening Ledger.

It is considered smart just now to have a colored hankie to match your frock tucked away in one of the numerous pockets that are the ornaments of most summer frocks. In fact, some of the frocks look very much like a flock of pockets with a dress built around them.

Handkerchiefs have followed the modes faithfully enough for the past two or three seasons. The crepe de chine and chiffon ones were colorful—and sometimes really "loud"—marks on many a toilette. Cobwebby articles of finest handkerchief linen, whose border of real lace brought the price of the article up in the neighborhood of $50, were also carried, and still are, by the favored few whose artistic perceptions and pocketbooks are equal to the strain.

But those of us who can't afford $50 handkerchiefs can secure some of the dainty hand-embroidered ones. They have borders of various bright colors, with created initials such as we see on fine stationery. One clever woman even went so far as to trace the design from her stationery on a pet handkerchief that she had been saving for years, and embroidered it in colors to match her gown. There's more than one way to kill a cat, isn't there?

Dear Madam—In a week or two I am to spend a week's vacation up the State, and am undecided whether to take a small trunk or a suitcase, which I will check through, and carry a large traveling bag. Which do you think would be preferable?

Also which would be better—to wear a blue taffeta dress for traveling and carry a light-weight topcoat, or wear a coat suit and silk shirtwaist, and take the topcoat as well? The dress, of course, would be cooler. Do you think I could get along without the coat suit for the week I am away?

About what outfit do you think would be sufficient for a week's stay? I don't fell like carting along everything I own, just for a week. There is to be no gayety—I am simply going for the rest and cooler climate. Sincerely yours. AGATHA.

I should send the small trunk and carry the bag.

Wear the suit and a wash blouse. Taffeta is bad for traveling on hot days. It retains the odor of perspiration and does not wash. Can't you get the topcoat in the trunk? If not, I'd carry it.

Several light summer frocks for evening wear. Some white skirts and cool blouses. A serviceable morning frock and your suit.

Dear Madam—I am going to the shore soon, and do not know what to wear to the piers in the evening. Would a pretty waist and skirt do? Are hats worn? I am a schoolgirl and do not go out often, therefore I haven't many dresses.

What can I do with my last year's black velvet hat? It is a sailor with a soft crown, with fur around the crown. Would this do for dress purposes (fixed differently)?

I wore a white corduroy skirt for the first time, and sat on a bench which was nicked in several places and had candle grease on it. Some of the velvet came off, and there is grease on the skirt. Please advise as soon as possible. SEVENTEEN.

White blouses and skirts are sweet and appropriate to wear on the pier at the shore. A cool voile dress would be an inexpensive and attractive addition to your wardrobe, but if you can't afford it, don't worry, you'll probably do just as well without it.

Wearing a hat at night at the shore is optional. Your black velvet will be smart, however. Remove the fur and put flower, ribbon or maline trimming on it.

Try taking the grease out of your skirt with ether. Then wash the entire skirt by plunging up and down in warm, soapy water. Brushing it before it is wholly dry will keep the nap up.

Letters to the Editor of the Woman's Page

Address all communications to M'Liss, care of the Evening Ledger. Write on one side of the paper only.

Dear M'Liss—I see that Mr. Smith is still crying for help for the soldiers' wives. Here is a good scheme. Let his Honor take the money appropriated for cleaning the streets and emptying garbage cans and ash cans and ameliorate the condition of all these poor women. I presume that a large amount is appropriated for street-cleaning purposes, and it is very evidently not being used, so why not use it for a good purpose, instead of letting it lie idle? If the Mayor would do that, he would not have to shout for assistance.

A thing that would also help would be to have the military authorities on the border shut down on gambling, and make it a disorderly offense. Almost all of the men down there do gamble, and a very large majority of them lose their meagre earnings to a very small minority. Give the winners at poker and craps dishonorable discharges, and the former losers might have a few dollars monthly to send home to the mendicant families. It would not do much, but every little helps. Also, if some of the exorbitant salaries paid to the distributers of the charity fund were cut down a half, or even a quarter, that, too, would add a little to the amount to be disbursed to those who are really needy. M. J. BANCROFT.

Dear M'Liss—Though my mind has been more fully occupied with war, the horrors and sorrows of it, than with women's petty quarrels over nothing I cannot refrain from dropping you a few words giving you a mite of information anent your recent article in the EVENING LEDGER.

You seem fond of the term "catty" in describing your sex, and it is, therefore, suggested to me that you must have been especially unfortunate in the selection of your friends—or the "green-eyed monster" has a fierce grip on you.

In all the years of my life—and they are not few—I have yet to find more than one or two who could come under that denomination, and of all the thousands of letters and articles written by women—newspaper women and others—I do not now recollect seeing any which, pardon me, show the feline propensities of their writers by their criticisms of others as do yours.

In one portion you, again forgive me, conceitedly remark, "do I hear applause from my male readers and hisses from the female ones?"

Take another think, my dear madam. If you are playing to the men's side of the gallery, few men, very few men—judging from my own experience, read your articles,particularly those which nag—and they are considerable in number—and the calibre of men who does applaud women's mean attacks upon each other is not the sort of person whose encomiums would be complimentary to you.

To size it all up, age has either soured you, or your mind and brain are still unformed and green. If the latter, God enlighten you; if the former, God help you. JOHN H. SIMS.

Books for Study

Could you help me to get some good educational books on writing and mathematics; also other books, something I could study at home? I am too poor to purchase them and do not have the time to go to a library. I am an American and married. MARCUS D.

The Corner harkens with especial interest to appeals from men and women, boys and girls, who are trying to educate themselves for special lines of work in the face of obstacles that would cow weak natures and check uncertain ambitions. We have a fine illustration of resolute purpose and worthy aim in the brief note above. Cast-aside educational textbooks could not be more wisely and mercifully disposed of.

MARION HARLAND'S CORNER

All communications addressed to Marion Harland should inclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and a clipping of the article in which you are interested. Persons wishing to aid in the charitable work of the H. H. C. should write Marion Harland, in care of this paper, for addresses of those they would like to help, and, having received them, communicate direct with those parties.

Johnny Cake

I WOULD not send you a recipe that, in my judgment, was not the best of its kind and which was not thoroughly tested. I had made the johnny cake several times. Will you send me the recipe for your Virginia johnny cake? Your guarantee if sufficient. I have been anxious for you to try the granulated sugar with maple syrup. Make it thick, using four cups instead of six. That was a mistake. I have a recipe for molasses vinegar asked for by Van. I prefer it to cider. It has a smoother, richer taste. You want a little less than four quarts of water to one of molasses. Mix warm. It should be kept in a warm place. The "mother" would hasten the souring process. I hope you will like this. I am sure you will. It takes six months, probably, to ripen. How many women know there is nothing like chicken oil for making fine cakes? Try out chicken fat. And to think that for years I used it to grease shoes and boots? It makes one groan to think of it!

For old-fashioned southern johnny cake, to begin with, you must have the southern water-ground Indian meal. One teacupful of sweet milk, one of buttermilk, one teaspoonful of salt and the same of soda, one tablespoonful of melted butter. Sift salt and soda three times with three cupfuls of meal, wet the meal with sweet milk and melted butter; stir well for three or four minutes and add gradually the buttermilk. Stir and beat hard. It should be more like a soft dough than a batter, just thick enough to allow you to roll it into a sheet an inch thick. Spread it in a well-greased shallow bread pan and bake in a steady oven for 40 minutes. As soon as it begins to brown begin to baste it with a bit of soft cloth tied to a stick and dipped into melted butter. Repeat the "swabbing" five times, or until the dough is brown and crisp. Do not let it scorch. Break—not cut—it into squares and eat piping hot. It should be accompanied by a glass of iced buttermilk, if one would revive associations of the days that are no more "when everything tasted just right."

At a Dinner Party

I wish to announce my engagement at a dinner party. Kindly advise me what to serve at a course dinner; also what to use for table decorations, and what shall I wear? A. Le.

You might serve little neck clams; then consomme a la royale, asparagus with Hollandaise sauce, roast capon with rice and green peppers. Creamed spinach, shrimp salad with crackers and Roquefort cheese, stuffed olives and salted nuts, cake, pistachio ice cream and coffee. Set a huge bowl of roses upon a white embroidered centerpiece and drop here and there a half-blown pink rose upon the table. A single fine rose set in a spray of its own leaves may be laid beside each plate. If you wear white, let your boutonniere be of pink rosebuds. I do not presume to dictate anything more with regard to your dress. It is hardly worth while to remind you that the hostess must not be so arrayed as to eclipse the majority of her guests. To be overdressed at a function in her own house is a social solecism and verges upon unkindness.

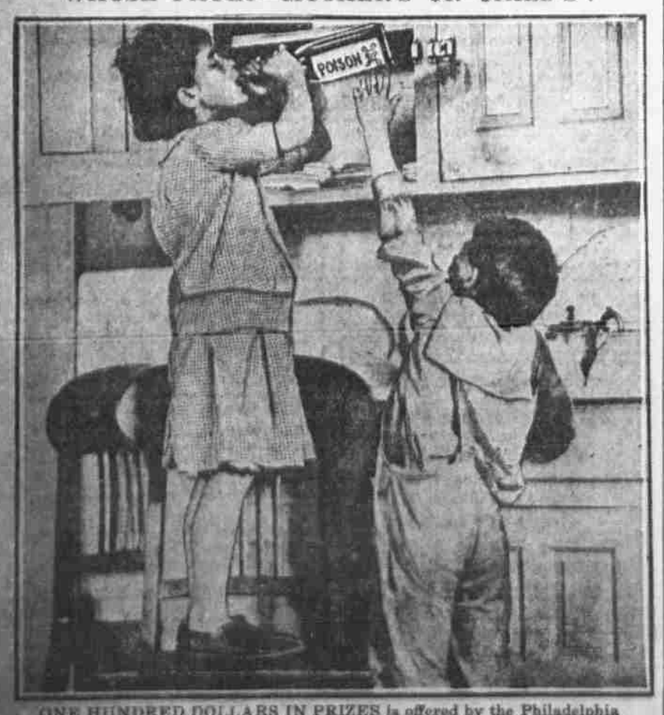
Dream Land

When in my dreams thy lovely face
Smiles with unwonted tender grace,
Grudge not the precious seldom cheer:
I know full well, my lady dear,
It is no boon of thine!
In thy sweet sanctu'ry of sleep,
If my sad sprite should kneeling weep,
Suffer its speechless worship there:
Thou know'st full well, my lady fair,
It is no fault of mine!

THE CHEERFUL CHERUB

FARMER SMITH'S RAINBOW CLUB

WHOSE FAULT—MOTHER'S OR CHILD'S ?



ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN PRIZES is offered by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company for the best stories, drawings and ideas on how to prevent and avoid accidents. THE CONTEST CLOSES NEXT SATURDAY, AUGUST 12! Sign name, address and age to all contributions and SEND to FARMER SMITH, EVENING LEDGER.

JIMMY MONKEY AND THE PINCUSHION

By Farmer Smith

Jimmy Monkey stood peeking in his mother's looking glass. There was always a fascination for him in peering in a mirror.

"I wonder," he was thinking to himself, "I wonder what kind of a face I would make if I stuck a pin in myself."

Taking a pin from his mother's pincushion, Jimmy stuck it in his arm.

"Ouch!" he exclaimed.

He forgot all about looking in the mirror.

"I guess I won't try that again," he said out loud, as he stuck the pin back in the pincushion.

"Ouch!" a tiny voice right in front of Jimmy made him jump. He looked this way and then that and saw——

Nobody.

He picked up the pincushion and looked at it. He pulled out the pin and looked at the point.

"It may be it hurts the pin point when I stick it in my arm," said Jimmy thoughtfully.

Then he poked the pin back in the pincushion.

"Ouch!" came the voice again.

"Oh! it's you, pincushion."

"Yes," answered the pincushion, "I have feelings, too, only I can't always talk."

"Thank you. I shall be careful of everything after this and not poke pins into everything I see."

Things to Know and Do

The printer's boy misspelled another word. He wrote: "She came from Velagaston." What did he mean? (Sent in by Leon Gould, Susquehanna avenue.)

FARMER SMITH,

I wish to become a member of your Rainbow Club. Please send me a beautiful Rainbow Button free. I agree to DO A LITTLE KINDNESS EACH AND EVERY DAY, SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE ALL ALONG THE WAY.

Name .....

Address .....

Age .....

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Choose from several hundred pairs smart summer Pumps and Oxfords, good size assortment, now slashed to **$1.45**

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GOLD SEAL Tea lb., 45c

½-lb. Pkg., 23c; ¼-lb. Pkg., 12c.

Our Gold Seal Tea, although not so strong, is of the same high quality as our Pride of Killarney, and is just right for those who desire a pure, mild, flavory Tea.

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½-lb. Pkg., 15c; ¼-lb. Pkg., 8c.

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In our Gold Seal and Kamelia Teas you can have your choice of Black, Mixed or Assam.

Yes, we have Tea at 29c and Tea at 45c the pound. Our 29c Tea is great value at its price; in fact, it's only in some few stores in this city where you could buy any better Tea; but we have customers who are very particular about the Quality of goods they use, and we believe in keeping Quality such as will satisfy the most particular—that's the reason we sell Gold Seal and Pride of Killarney Tea.

We would no more think of dropping out our Gold Seal and Pride of Killarney Tea and calling Kamelia "Our Best" than we would of dropping out our Gold Seal and Hy-Lo Butter and calling Ca-Ro "Our Best."

Best Granulated Sugar lb. 8c

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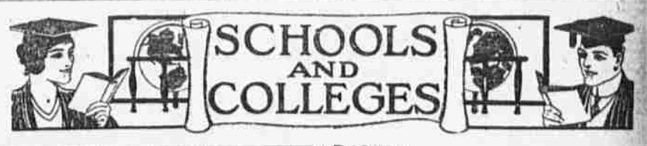

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