



MISS EVA SMITHWICK.

A Clever Young Woman in the Government's Secret Service.

Miss Eva Smithwick of New Albany, Ind., is a bright and courageous young woman who draws a good salary from Uncle Sam. Miss Smithwick is the youngest and considered by many the most clever of the women secret service operatives in the employment of the government.

For several years Miss Smithwick has been attached to the postal department as a secret service agent, and almost all her work has been confined to investigating postal frauds. She helped untangle the snarl in which the Cuban postal affairs became involved during the administration of the island by



MISS EVA SMITHWICK.

United States officials, and her efforts were the means of fixing the guilt on the chief culprits.

Miss Smithwick is only twenty-three years old and entered the employ of the government before she attained her majority. She is very reticent in regard to her work and the experiences which she has had. She is a clever conversationalist and prepossessing in appearance.

Miss Smithwick has courage, and her friends tell how one man after discovering too late that he had been betraying himself to a detective thrust a revolver in her face and demanded a promise that she would not repeat what he had told her. Though she knew the man was desperate, the girl refused to make the promise either under the threat of death or the tearful entreaties to which he afterward resorted.

On other occasions she has had narrow escapes from violence, but Miss Smithwick says she is not afraid, for her conscience is clear, and no innocent man has ever suffered from her efforts.

Comfort With Economy.

It is a pity that so many women "shy" at the word economy—those, at least, who are well provided with this world's goods—and that merely because they choose to think it synonymous with stinting, though this is not the real meaning of the word. In the same way plenty is often looked upon as waste, yet there is a vast difference between the two, says the Philadelphia Inquirer.

There is an almost incredible amount of waste that goes on even in the best regulated households, where the mistress and servants have not set their minds on fighting against it; waste, not always willful, certainly, or likely to cause the favored ones any serious discrepancy in the year's total, though it is never desirable, and becomes a positive danger for such as have to reckon their weekly expenses pretty closely.

For every housewife, of high or low degree, there is a duty which should stand pre-eminent—viz, that of checking waste in order to provide her establishment with the maximum of comfort with economy, that economy which implies order, regularity, cleanliness and daintiness, according to her means, and without allowing or countenancing carelessness and indifference, which often go a long way to make everybody discontented, while they materially increase the difficulties of home bookkeeping.

A Household Truck.

A household convenience worth many times its cost in saving carpets and floors and avoiding rasped door castings and bruised fingers is a little truck for moving heavy stoves, bureaus, etc. Probably the cheapest form is one with four heavy swivel casters for wheels; all the rest can be built at home. The size and strength of the platform will depend upon the use to which it is to be put. A convenient size is 2 by 2½ feet. The platform should be at least one and one-half inch thick, sound spruce or hemlock being preferable to oak or other hard and slippery wood. About three inches from each end spike or bolt crosspieces of 3 by 3 joist. In these set the casters, dividing the space evenly. Get heavy and easily working casters and oil the bearings before using, so that turns may be made readily. Some prefer a truck built like a miniature low down wagon, drawn by a handle attached to the front axle, which turns on a "circle." By looking over the pile of old iron or castoff farm machinery a set of wheels and axles may be found that with a little tinkering will make a suitable running gear for one of these little wagons.

Entertaining Guests.

Hints are often given to those who wish to be agreeable guests, but it is even more important to know how to

be a charming hostess. You are responsible in some degree for the happiness of your visitors from the time they enter your house until they leave it. In the first place have the guest's room in readiness before she comes. Put a few interesting books on the table and some writing materials, including note paper, stamps, pen and ink. Have a few fresh flowers on the bureau, an armchair by the pleasantest window, and do not forget a pretty reading lamp. Try to make the room show your guest that she was expected and that her coming was looked forward to with pleasure. It is not in the finest houses or in the gayest places that guests always enjoy themselves the most. You must have something better than costly furnished rooms or all the sights of a great city to make your home attractive and pleasant. It is a very low grade of hospitality which trusts in good dinners and fine houses alone. It must be a more subtle charm than either of these which will make your house a home to your friends.

Women Must Make Up.

Men are fickle, and children are selfish, and the woman who wants to keep her hold on them must make up—make up well and make up all the time. She may not be fashionable, but she can be stylish. She can dress her hair so as to make the most of her face, wear a color that will harmonize with her complexion, have new dresses even though they have to be made of fifteen cent chaille and keep herself as exquisite as a pink. Many neat women are nightmares. They choose unbecoming colors and ugly styles, wear wrappers and sacks that give them clownish figures, drag their hair back drumhead fashion and go about slipshod. Coquetry is not only woman's prerogative, but her duty. She owes it to society to wear pretty things.

May a Woman Tell Her Love?

It is true it is unconventional for a woman to tell a man that she loves him unless the man has persuaded her to make such confession, but is there any good reason why a woman should not take the initiative? Is she any less a woman for doing so? A shy and timid man may not know how to tell a woman that he loves her. Should the woman who is of firmer faith and stronger mind stand halting and waiting for a confession that may never come? Why should she suffer in silence? By so doing may not she lose the man who loves her and also the happiness of a lifetime as well?

Restful Simplicity.

A new house which has just been erected in a western city is an example of modern simplicity in the way of decoration. Beauty of colors in carpets and wall paper has been sought and beauty of line in furniture, but there is very little of what we call bric-a-brac, and in some of the rooms there are no pictures, but plaster casts above the mantels and in the larger wall spaces. It is a relief to go into uncluttered rooms and have a chance to think or read without the distraction of pictures and chinaware.

Washstand Mats.

Very pretty and inexpensive washstand mats can be made from colored cloth with a deep crochet border. This can be either white or a color harmonizing with the room decorations. Pretty ones are also made from squares of colored bath towel and canvas with a deep scalloped bordering. All these mats are easily washed and, if the washstand be a wooden one, prevent the almost unavoidable marks made by the basin.

Changes of Clothing.

One should use scientific methods in the changes of clothing, both in regard to time of the year and to changes of temperature. The clothing should be lessened and increased according to the reading of the thermometer and according to the conditions of the weather, whether it be hot or dry, cold or wet, let the month be July or January. —Delineator.

Cooking Eggs.

Eggs for children and invalids should never be really boiled, but cooked in this way: Wait until the water is boiling very fast, put in the eggs and at once move the saucepan back to a cool part of the stove. In five minutes they will be just nicely set and much more easily digested than if boiled.

A Curtain Suggestion.

In a north room, where all the light is needed, or in any room where the outlook is not to be concealed try hanging the muslin curtains straight. Do not buy the regulation ruffled muslin curtains, but for each window buy five yards of white curtain muslin, either dotted, figured or striped.

Silk Stockings.

Silk stockings, to be made to look their best, should be washed in bran water without soap. Allow two heaped tablespoonfuls of bran to a quart of water, boil for five minutes, strain, and when so cool that you can comfortably bear your hand in it it is right for the stockings.

The nails should be the color of a rose leaf and as clear as a seashell. Mother of pearl, if it were a little rosier, would about describe the texture of the ideal nail.

When mixing beeswax and turpentine for floor polish add a little spirit of ammonia, and the wax will dissolve without heating.

Olive oil must be kept in the driest and darkest place in the storeroom, as light injures it very much.

There is nothing that so much enhances the charm of a beautiful face as culture of the mind.

THE PUZZLER

No. 403.—Syncopations.
1. Syncopate to part, or divide, and leave a prophet.
2. Syncopate a silver and a gold coin of Russia and have to govern.
3. Syncopate to sway and have desert.
4. Syncopate a substance from the pine and have restraint.

No. 404.—Illustrated Primal Acrostic.



When the above objects in the puzzle, which is adapted from St. Nicholas, have been rightly named and written one below another in the order in which they are numbered, the initial letters will spell the name of a kind of hay made from a genus of plants.

No. 405.—Additions.
Add 2,000 pounds to a place to grind grain and get an English poet; to a barrier and get a famous fisherman; to a master and get a capital city of the United States; to a black bird and get a well known reservoir.

No. 406.—Arithmograph.
[A proverb.]

7, 8, 9, 11, 14—To scold, to find fault.
3, 4, 5—A vessel chiefly used to hold water.
17, 15, 21, 24—Secure from danger; a cupboard to hold provisions.
1, 4, 6, 21, 3, 10—Deceitful; insincere.
2, 4, 20, 15, 16—The staff of life.
8, 9, 10, 18—A handle, especially of a sword.
1, 4, 7, 8—A beautiful form much used in architecture, especially in sacred buildings.
12, 3, 17, 18—Very troublesome in dry and windy weather.
19, 22, 5, 16, 24, 23—To prevent; to stop.
8, 22, 11, 24—The skin of an animal; to conceal.
2, 3, 22, 10, 11, 14, 13—One who constructs edifices.
16, 9, 6, 7, 8—Very unpleasant to fall into.

No. 407.—Anagram Verse.
The ***** that grow on the pretty tree
Are well worth going ***** to see.
The bush was tall as ***** almost,
So he ***** it up to a taller post.
He ***** the example was right, but we
Found the ***** point where it should not be.

No. 408.—Terminations.
Make the following words, all ending with a short word meaning to assume a character not your own:

1. Region of indefinite extent. 2. Reality. 3. To establish by law. 4. A contract. 5. Skillful management of other people. 6. Force communicated. 7. An agreement. 8. Very accurate. 9. To break the direct course of. 10. To slander by taking away from the merit of a good action. 11. To recall anything once asserted.

No. 409.—Crossword Enigma.

In evening, not in night;
In blindness, not in sight;
In spring, not in fall;
In slumber, not in sleep;
In laugh, but not in weep;
My whole you now before you see,
And you should guess what this must be.

Key to the Puzzler.

No. 393.—Easy Metagrams: 1. Switch, witch. 2. Whit. 3. With. 4. Wit. 5. It. 6. T.
No. 394.—Postman's Puzzle: Boy, buoy, friend, Poe, Pope, Chief, chief.
No. 395.—Charade: To-ma-to.
No. 396.—Word Building: 1. A. 2. Am. 3. Arm. 4. Farm. 5. Frame. 6. Farmer.
No. 397.—Novel Diagonals:
1. 3. CHEATEDREAMER
2. 4. SHORTERISIBLE
3. 5. STARTLENCRUST
4. 6. ACTRESSICKENS
5. 7. MYRTLESOLVENT
6. 8. REFRESHCHANT
7. 9. EMPRESSISTERS

No. 398.—A Famous English Building: Buckingham palace.
No. 399.—Enigma: Tone, ton, one, stone.
No. 400.—Word Square: 1. Disk. 2. Iron. 3. Solo. 4. Knob.
No. 401.—Numerical Omissions: Peppergram.
No. 402.—Anns We Know: Antipode. Annexed. Anticipation. Annually. Analysis. Anaconda.

A Little Exercise.
If you get weary sitting so long at your work try to get five or even three minutes now and then for practicing some simple exercises. Walk about the room with the hands crossed behind the back and a book weight of some sort on the head. Reach upward as far as possible and draw down imaginary ropes to the sides and then carry them back and upward. Stretch first one arm and then the other at full length from the shoulder with a quick, even movement, turning the hand so that the palm is upward. Drop the arm at the side. Repeat this movement until the arm is tired. Don't change the position of any other part of the body.

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This is a Skyscraper. The tallest building on earth is to be erected in lower Broadway, New York, if the present plans are carried out. With five stories below the street level, forty stories high from the entrance to the top floor and surmounted by a sixty foot tower, the gigantic new building will have a total height of 615 feet, making it over twice as high as the Flat Iron building, and almost as tall again as the Park Row building, which at present holds the record. This building would extend one full block on Broadway and its cost including the site will reach \$10,000,000. The land is said to have been secured and the completion of the building within one year is promised. Smokeless powder has been known ever since woman first began to wear complexions.

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