

Social Forms and Entertainments



Reply to Clementine and Danice. It will seem to you that your letter has been long unanswered, but each must take their turn as the space for "Questions and Answers" is very limited. Sweet apple cider is good and perfectly proper to serve; did you ever try freezing it and serving like sherbet, with small cakes or wafers? I think it is best to sign your own name besides the one you wish used in the department. I like to see girls of your age friendly with more than one boy. There is safety in numbers and you are both too young to make a choice now. I would keep the kodaks, the reason why you should return them. School has probably started now and I am sure you will have a good year.

The Invitation List.
I intend giving a bridge party for a September bride.
Would you kindly tell me, is it my place or hers to make up the invitation list.—M. E. L.

I fear my answer is too late to help you, but your letter was delayed in reaching me and now September is nearly over. I will just say to you and for the benefit of others that the hostess makes out her list and politely asks the honored guest if she has any special friend whom she would like to include in the invitations.

For a Girl's Club.
Would you please suggest some suitable names for a class of girls about fourteen or fifteen years of age, who wish to organize a club, also motto's and colors.
What sort of amusement could you suggest at a meeting?—Bee, L.

I wish you had told me more about the club, for what purpose it is to be organized and whether it is a Sunday school class or a day school and whether for amusement only. Write me again.

Reply to "Rosemond."
I am truly grateful for all the nice things you wrote me regarding this column, for it makes me feel as if I was accomplishing a wee bit, if I help even one girl.
Regarding the "old maid" proposition, there are no old maids in the sense that you mean, and no age limit. There is no reason for not marrying a man a year younger, the difference is very slight. You may take a man's arm if necessary. It seldom is, however, unless the night is very dark or over a dangerous crossing.

Questions from Brown Eyes.
How long should a girl of sixteen wear her dress, what color is becoming to brown eyes and dark hair.
Thank you for the help I have gotten from your department; I like it so much.

A girl of your age should wear her dresses about to the shoestop, of course much depends upon the height of the person.
All the red and rose shades, navy blue, yellow and tan are becoming to the brunette type.

Reply to "Nancy."
The room in the hotel, in which the wedding ceremony takes place would seem far more attractive if it contained flowers and palms where the couple are to stand. When a bride is married in a traveling suit at a morning church wedding it is perfectly proper for her to carry a bouquet (not the "shower kind") or she may wear a large bunch of violets with a rose or orchid in the center. I think the latter is preferable.

Faith's Answer.
Perfectly proper for you to ride horseback; why not? You may ride astride or side saddle, just whichever you prefer. You are rather large for your age, but there are many others; it is true though that for some reason large persons when very young are apt to be taken for older than they really are. You should wear your dresses down to the shoe tops.

Reply to I. M. N.
I cannot give remedies in the department or reply to "Beauty" questions. I see no reason why you should not go occasionally with boys if they are the right kind, and much depends upon you girls whether they are the right kind or not. I should not call you homely and not a bit too small.

The Proper Thing to Do.
Will you please tell me what is the most appropriate for a bride wearing white satin and veil to ride to church in, taxicab or hack.—Mother.

Either a taxicab or carriage may be used by the bride in any garb. Much depends upon the distance and time necessary.
MADAME MERRI.

Health & Beauty Hints



When a girl comes to the love of cosmetics, those supreme luxuries of womankind, she may be called grown up. Her delight in delicate powders, fragrant perfumes, creams, toilet wafers, fine soaps and scented baths divides her forevermore from the careless habits of childhood. Henceforth the prettiness of her skin and the glossy softness of her hair are sacred trusts, and all she asks is that she may be able to replenish her little store of beauty materials every now and then. This is a normal and perfectly legitimate state of things, and therefore it behooves parents to supply young daughters who have no money of their own, with the simple mediums required for beautifying the complexion and hair.

Good Powders.
In the matter of powder, good taste demands something very simple for the schoolgirl, a pure white powder, such as talcum or rice or wheat starch, very lightly perfumed. The talcums for nursery use, prepared as they are for the tender bodies of babyhood, are the best of these powders, but girls should keep their powder boxes and puffs free of dust, for the soil that gets it will help to encourage blackheads. However simple the powder is, too, it should be taken off at night with a cleansing face bath, for, if left on the face, it is bound to stop up the pores. A French nursery powder of indescribable fineness is often used by women as well as young girls, this being almost impalpable when put on, and possessing the fragrance of lilies-of-the-valley. This elusiveness of scent should be a feature of all beauty materials used by young girls, for strong odors do not seem to go well with the modesty and freshness of girlhood.

Face Bath Needed.
But far more enhancing than the powder is the cleansing face bath, which is required to free the skin of old cuticle, stale oil, dust and perspiration. So when you come to take a face bath remember all the wastes you must get rid of, and don't make a pretense of things with little dabs of cold water and an indifferently clean face cloth. Hot water and a bland soap must be used, several rinsings must be done with plain water, and in the event of any eruptive condition wash rags and towels should be kept apart from those used by the rest of the family, and be washed by themselves and sterilized. That apparently innocent thing, the wash rag, by the way, is responsible for many a bad state of things with the skin. It is only safe to use it once, and if examined by a strong microscope when very dirty the reason for this will be discovered. Wash rags should always be hung in the sun after using, as the shady corner of the bathroom is the very place for the developing of the germs that infest them, and sun is death to germs. Never use a sponge for a bath of any kind, as the sponge holds the body soil and so can never be cleansed properly. A sour bit of bathroom linen of any sort is an abomination and very injurious to the beauty of the skin, conveying to it sometimes a little fungus growth caught from the invisible mold on the rag or towel. Ringworms may be propagated in this way, and if the offensive linen is used by other members of the family this really dreadful skin affliction may spread through the whole household.

In many a bathroom not yet educated up to the elegancies of the toilet common laundry soaps are put for toilet purposes, and these the girl of the family often uses on her face and hair, entirely ignorant of the fact that she is doing her looks incredible harm. Such soaps are strong with alkali, and if they do not bite the skin to the point of torment they yellow and roughen it. When washed with them, the hair is robbed of every drop of natural oil, made brittle and colorless, to say nothing of the great difficulty of getting the strong adhesive suds out of the locks and from the scalp, where the hard soap seems to love especially to cling.

Soap for Toilet.
Fine toilet soaps and shampoos are dear, of course, but a liquid soap can be made of a twenty-five cent cake of castile which would be just as delicate for washing the face and hair as the finest soap on the market. Shave the soap to a powder, and then boil this in a pint of soft water; keep the resulting jelly in a wide-mouthed bottle, working the jelly into the skin when using, but only making a thick suds for the hair. If the hair is very oily and soiled, add a tiny pinch of bicarbonate of soda to the suds. As a tonic and feeding substance for scanty hair raw eggs are unrivaled, as I have said many times, these supplying the iron and sulphur the anemic scalp needs. For dandruff or any scalp or skin eruption use green soap, which is the purest made and highly antiseptic.

The KITCHEN CABINET



WE SOW the globe, we reap the corn.
We build the house where we may rest
And then, at moments, suddenly,
We look up to the great wide sky,
Inquiring wherefore we were born—
For earnest or for jest?
—E. B. Browning.

DAINTY DISH FROM LITTLE BITS.

When a large amount of bread has been sliced, do not allow it to dry out, but pack in a jar and cover with a cloth wrung quite dry out of hot water, then place a plate over them and the bread will keep fresh. Sandwiches may be made and served at luncheon or supper and are always a welcome addition to the meal.

If you have a bit of boiled frosting left, add a few nuts and chopped raisins and drop on wafers. Bake in a hot oven until brown. These are nice with a salad.

Fondant left from French candies will keep indefinitely if kept in a covered dish, and may be melted over water and used for cake icings.

A few tablespoonfuls of preserves may be used as a garnish for fruit salad, like pear or apple. Or it may be used as a filling for tarts, having more than one kind to use up odd bits.

A custard or chocolate ice cream may be used as a sauce for pudding if used within a short time.

Dainty pies may be made from leftover pie crust in the form of turnovers, or which children are very fond, or baked in gem pans and made like a grown-up pie.

Take your convalescing friend a baked apple prepared thus: Wash and wipe the apple but do not peel, scoop out the core with an apple corer, beginning at the blossom end but do not make a hole way through for the small well to hold a bit of butter, a tablespoonful of sugar and a grating of nutmeg or a bit of lemon peel. Surround with water if the apples are not juicy, and bake until thoroughly tender. Apples that do not keep their shape during baking are not so attractive baked in this manner.

Left-over icing or fondant, when making candy, the scrapings of the bowls, can be used to stuff dates.

HERE is abundant evidence that all classes of vegetables and fruit may be held in a sound condition without the use of preservatives.—Jordan.

SAVORY FISH.

Any fresh or salt codfish may be served in a chowder, making a very acceptable dish. If salt fish is used, soak and shred it, then add to the chowder the last few moments of its cooking. Fry a piece of salt pork cut in dice; a slice or two will be sufficient for a family of four or five. Fry a golden brown, add a sliced onion or two and a half dozen of sliced potatoes; just cover with water and cook until the vegetables are tender, then add the shredded fish (a half pound is sufficient), a quart of milk and half a dozen milk crackers which have been scalded in boiling water. Serve a cracker in each dish of soup.

Flaked Crab Meat Fricassee.—Cook one small green pepper, finely chopped, two small onions, four tablespoonfuls of butter slightly browned, one and a half cupfuls of crab meat, and cook five minutes. Add five tablespoonfuls of flour and when well mixed pour on a cup and a half of chicken stock. Season with two tablespoonfuls of orange juice, two of lemon juice, a half teaspoonful of paprika, salt and pepper to taste. Just before serving add a third of a cup of heavy cream and the yolks of two eggs diluted with two tablespoonfuls of cream.

Savory Fish.—Cut a two-inch cube of fat salt pork into dice and try out. To three tablespoonfuls of salt pork fat add the same amount of flour and stir until well blended; then add a cup and a half of milk; boil and add a cup of flaked halibut or haddock, three-fourths of a cup of potato cubes which have been cooked, then the pork cubes and the yolks of two eggs. Season to taste.

Oyster Fricassee.—To a cup of oysters, reserve the liquor, and heat boiling hot; add the oysters, and when plump remove, add enough cream to make a cupful, thicken with butter and flour blended, add an egg well beaten and pour all over well buttered toast. Sprinkle with finely chopped celery.

Nellie Maxwell

Siberian Land Threatened.
Extensive tracts of land in Siberia are threatened by the encroachment of the great Gobi desert, and a plan has now been drawn up for a series of forest ramparts to hold back the salt and drift. The only effective defense, according to the report of agronomists sent to survey the region is to tree belts at least two miles broad. It is proposed to plant one of these from Samara to the Caspian sea, while others are recommended extending in intervals of about 40 miles right up to the Chinese frontier.

ARRESTING FLIGHT OF TIME

German Scientists Advise the Eating of Egg Shells by Those Who Approach Old Age.

Two Germans, deep thinkers—Professors Emmerich and Loewe—state that eggs shells eaten increase the power of resistance against "the withering blight of time," add weight to the body, activity to the brain and strength to the heart; that they destroy injurious bacilli, prevent inflammation and disease and lend courage and energy. This reminds me, Philip Hale writes in the Boston Herald, of the preparation advertised in London thirty or more years ago as removing superfluous hair, being an excellent substitute for table butter, none genuine unless stamped on the blade. Eustace Miles, the English court tennis player and vegetarian, says he had an old nurse who used to eat egg shells and crunch them joyfully between the teeth that happened to meet, and she said she ate the shells because they "shaved the hair off inside of the throat." The discovery of the German scientist is peculiarly welcome to dwellers by the ocean, for it is a well known fact that if you do not break egg shells the witches will put out to sea in them to wreck vessels, and if you burn the shells the hens will cease to lay. Furthermore, as eggs are now absurdly high—even case eggs—in the neighborhood it seems a pity to waste any part of them.

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WISE YOUTH.



The White Boy—Humph! Why don't you fight?
The Moke—"Cause I draws de white line, dat's why.

The First Toast.
Wilson Mizner, the well-known vivier, explained, on a New York roof garden, the origin of the word "toast"—tasting a lady.

"You will remember," he began, "that in olden times it was the custom to serve punch with toasted—that is to say, roasted—apples floating in it. These apples were called the toast. The toast—remember that.
"Well, it happened at Bath one day that a celebrated beauty stood in the Cross Bath, surrounded by a throng of admirers, and one of these admirers, intoxicated with admiration, took a glass of the water in which the beauty stood, and holding it aloft, drank her health, draining the water to the last drop.
"Beau Nash, who stood near by, shouted:
"I like not the punch, but I would I had the toast!"

Appointed Day of Judgment.
A horse dealer in an English town had lent a horse to a solicitor, who killed the animal through bad usage. The dealer insisted on payment, and the lawyer, refusing cash, said he would give a bill for the amount, but it must be at a long date. The lawyer drew a promissory note, making it payable on the day of judgment. An action was raised, and the lawyer asked the sheriff to look at the bill. Having done so, the sheriff replied: "This is the day of judgment. I decree you pay tomorrow."

Uplifting.
"Wait till I hobble my horse."
"Well, please don't do it on the skirt of the lawn."



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