

# NEWS AND VIEWS OF WOMEN

## The Strain of Society.

There should be an eight-hour day for "fashionable" women. We cannot talk scandal continuously for twelve, as we do now. The excitement and the strain upon the imagination are terrific.—London Truth.

## Cultivates Business-like Punct.

The modern woman's aim is to be businesslike, and her affairs of the heart, such as they are, she conducts on the same principles as she would conduct a public meeting or a charity bazaar. She plays hockey and golf, fences and wrestles in order to develop her muscles, and learns jiu-jitsu principally because it is the fashion, but also because, as an ebullient debutante informed me the other day, "it's so jolly useful if you want to knock a man down."—Ladies' Field.

## Small Economies.

"If one becomes a business woman, it behooves her to know that she can not succeed if she fritters away her energies on too many small economies. She can not work in an office all day and then sit up half the night to make her own dresses. If a man earns only \$5 a week he doesn't try to save by stitching up the seams of his own coat or trousers; if he did, he never would earn any more than \$5; he puts his head into his business and schemes to make himself more valuable; then he buys coats and trousers with his increased salary. A woman saves at the spligot and breaks down."

## Carrots for Complexions.

It's a dull day when a new fad in food isn't thrust upon a long-suffering world, and the latest is carrot-eating. If a woman would have a clear fresh complexion, says the theorist responsible for the idea, she must eat a raw carrot every day. He's no vegetarian, so he doesn't forbid the eating of meat, though he does condemn the eating of "certain of the messes called food." In a school just outside Boston, which is noted for its pretty girls, the pupils are expected to eat a carrot daily, just as they might eat an orange or an apple, and they don't make the slightest protest, either. But then, what woman wouldn't suffer to be beautiful?—New York Press.

## A Woman's Duty to Herself.

"Every woman has the right—a right so inalienable as to become itself a duty—to cherish and comfort herself; to let flowers bloom in her heart; to lighten her burdens by allowing, or if need be, requiring others to share the weight of them. It will be found that a household, all of whose members share alike in the daily routine, is more cheerful and charitable than one conducted on the single-slave plan. It is more agreeable, all around, to contribute something than to accept everything; and it produces better hearts and minds and manners. And even if the housework does get neglected occasionally that is better than a neglected life; and it may sometimes be wiser to buy a new garment than to patch the old one."—Julian Hawthorne.

## New York for Women's Clubs.

The Kane county federation of women's clubs of Illinois has voted to undertake the work of beautifying 30 miles of country road, from Montgomery to Carpentersville. This road leads along the west bank of the Fox river, and from it is viewed some of the most beautiful scenery in the federation, located at Hampshire, Elgin, St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia and Aurora. All of these towns, except the first mentioned, are located on Fox River. The entire distance between Montgomery, which is the lower section of Aurora, and Carpentersville has been divided into six sections and each club will be given a section of the work, which means that each club must look after five miles of roadway. Each club has pledged itself to raise \$300 to carry on the work, so that there will be \$1,800 gathered in to be put to good use.

## A Dreadful Dilemma.

A capital story is told of Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota, in connection with a recent visit of his to New York. Soon after the governor had been assigned to a hotel room, a former resident of Minnesota called and found him gazing with gloomy countenance at his trunk. After an exchange of salutations, Mr. Van Sant said: "John, I'm in a tremendous fix. I want a suit of clothes out of that trunk. Oh, yes, I've got the key all right, but my wife packed the trunk. She was to come along, but was prevented at the last moment. To my certain knowledge she put in enough to fill three trunks the way a man would pack them. If I open it, the things will boil all over the room, and I could never get half of them back. Now, what I'm wondering about is whether it would be cheaper to go out and buy a new suit of clothes of two additional trunks."

## Significant Table Linen.

A woman who has the reputation of being a most successful hostess and dinner giver makes a hobby of her table linen. She has sets of linen with flowers, designs and emblems to suit the several holidays and seasons, and

even the flowers of several of the foreign countries. There are holly wreaths for Christmas, bells and ribbon streamers for New Year's, lilies for Easter and baskets of flowers for May. Roses, sweetpeas and ferns are for summer affairs, when the same blossoms are used in decorations. Autumn leaves and chrysanthemums are for the functions of the fall, and are combined with real leaves and flowers. The fleur de lis linen does honor to the French guests, and for an Irish patriot the shamrock pattern in brought forth, while the rose or thistle blooms for the English or Scotch guest. These little attentions are always pleasing, and when one is buying linen one might as well pay attention to design as well as to the quality. Though not every one can afford to have linen woven to order, as this woman did in several cases.—New York Tribune.

## Deserves a Medal.

Years ago a little woman in north-west Missouri was left a widow. The long illness of her husband exhausted her little resources, and when the husband and father was laid away the widow found herself penniless with four little children. She did not sit down to weep and repine. Her grief was deep, but her duties were heavy. She faced those duties bravely and performed them well. With her own unaided hands she provided for her little flock. She kept them well fed and well clothed, and gave them every educational advantage. During all these years of strenuous labor and heavy responsibility she found time to scatter sunshine into many dark places. Her example was an inspiration to the people of her community. Her three boys grew to young manhood and started in life for themselves. All three of them are model citizens and have achieved success in their chosen professions. One is a prosperous lawyer, another a successful physician and the other a civil engineer whose ability is recognized throughout the country. The youngest child, a daughter, was a successful teacher for several years, and a few weeks ago was married to a wealthy merchant.

The little mother, old in years but still young in spirit, is now enjoying the evening of her life, free from worry and from care, and happy in the knowledge that she has performed her full duty as a mother and as a citizen. In the distribution of hero medals should this noble little woman be overlooked.—The Commoner.

## The Middle-Aged Woman in Society.

An entertaining old lady whose friendship I enjoy used to say, with some impatience: "Because the Lord saw fit to remove Banbury is no reason why I should be invited to nothing but women's lunches." Not but what she mourned the late Banbury most sincerely, but her active mind chafed at a narrowness of environment which accentuated her loneliness. In fact, it is a hardship to be condemned to a one-sided social life, and it is a misfortune which happens to many middle-aged women and need scarcely ever happen to a man of any age; for ordinarily a man can have as much feminine society as he chooses, but what will the neighbors say about an elderly woman who announces that in order to preserve a whole and healthy view of life she must seek the society of men?

It will hardly be disputed that the exclusively feminine is worse than the exclusively masculine point of view. True, one sometimes hears of the petty failings of certain classes of men—heroes at sea, for instance, who nevertheless, owing to that isolated life, become somewhat fussy and domineering when they regain the shelter of the domestic fireside; and the tales of Bret Harte and his followers have familiarized us with the rude heroes of the mining camp and the plains. But does the naval officer, wedded to law, or the miner, divorced from it, show as great a departure from the normal human type as the woman who is shut up with other women?

Of course there are as many points of view as there are men and women; one should always remember that underneath all there is the human point of view, and that people resemble each other more than they differ; yet, when all allowances have been made, some well-recognized dissimilarities do seem to be fundamental. Everybody knows, for instance, that a woman has not usually much sense of proportion; but as to that, does everybody realize how destructive to a sense of proportion a purely domestic life is,—that life which, for so long, constituted a woman's all of living? Perhaps Eve may not have been lacking in it before she set up housekeeping and accumulated things. Possibly at that time her sense of humor was not subject to lapses. It is, now; and it is most apt to lapse when she turns her attention on herself. For the average woman is inclined to take herself quite seriously.—From "The Point of View," in Scribner's.

## Obliging But Original.

Magistrate—You gave this young woman such a hit on the face that she can't see out of her eye; what have you to say for yourself?  
Accused—Well, she often told me she didn't want to see me any more.—Meggendorfer Blattler.

# The Pulpit

A SERMON BY THE REV. IRA W. HENDERSON

Brooklyn, N. Y.—The shocking and alarming social conditions revealed by the testimony in the Thaw trial and by the statistics of divorce recently given out by the United States Census Bureau, over one million having been granted in the past nineteen years, furnish the text for the following sermon written by the Rev. Ira Wemmel Henderson, pastor of Irving Square Presbyterian Church.

Ex. 20:14, "Thou shalt not commit adultery."  
It is my intention to broaden the scope of the word which is the object of this sentence, and to cause it to cover, as I am certain God means it, to-day, to cover, all that field of human uncleanness which strikes at the very core of our common life. The command hits hard and swift against the social crime of marital infidelity; but also in the light of the messages of Christ, it condemns, with no uncertain sound, all those men and women in whose hearts and actions lust receives free rein.

The Gospel of our Lord insists on chastity of act and mind; it censures unsparring and scathing the violation by any and all men, married or single, of God's law of purity.

The seventh word, with our Lord behind it, forbids three sins, and the three are these: first, the nullification of the marriage bond by infidelity, with all its attendant evils. Secondly, the pollution of the purity of personal and public life by men and women who are without restraint or lawful tie. Thirdly, the degradation and destruction of the spiritual and physical elements in man through unbridled lust in the heart.

And now let us to the points. The covenant by and between two human beings—one man and one woman—to live together in the holy estate of matrimony, is the most sacred contract man may make. Resting as it should always rest—be it not unholy and the child of lust—upon a growing and a gracious love one for the other—it is the grandest of inter-human agreements. Upon its sanctity and preservation, as the pledges of two people to life-long faith, done and given in the presence of Almighty God, the glory of our Father and the happiness of two souls depend. As a contract it is the basis of sound political and social life. Upon the inviolability of the marriage contract the health of the state, the integrity of the home, entirely depend. Marriage may, before God, and should, throughout this land and our world, be invalidated only upon full and sufficient proof of infidelity by either party. 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