



**To Keep Your Nails Nice.**  
It is not a matter of vanity, but of health, to have your nails cut and filed every day. They will not need cutting, which really injures them. If at any time you have let them grow so long that you are obliged to cut them, says Home Chat, soak them in warm water for at least five minutes first. This softens, and so makes them less liable to crack and split when cut.

**The Value of Sleep.**  
Sleep eight hours every night if you can. Few people realize its value. It will do much to keep one young looking and healthy. Don't use a high pillow, unless you have some disease which necessitates the raising of the head; and don't let it be too soft. Soft pillows and feather beds may be comfortable, but they are not good for a woman who wants to retain her youth.

**The Chaperon.**  
A chaperon should be an example to her young charge in the conventions, and all social questions should be referred to her. She should, therefore, be emphatically a get-to-know-you, knowing the usages of polite society; her reputation of course above question. The chaperon should endeavor to see that hospitable doors are open to her charge; that wellbred and agreeable young men are presented to her, and it is her responsibility that the girl reciprocates the attentions that she receives in a manner befitting her position. Much tact is necessary not to draw the reins too tightly. A chaperon must be careful never to antagonize her charge or appear to hate her. It is her duty, however, to reprove her charge if she is careless in her demeanor with young men.—New York Tribune.

**Shoes for Summer Wear.**  
Low shoes which are not much more than slippers except that they have a thicker sole are the correct thing for summer wear.  
For walking there are the light weight calf skin ties with the Cuban heel, while for dress there are glossy kid slippers with tongue lappet and large buckle, or r straps across the instep, and Louis Quinze heels.  
The swell thing, however, is a dull finished black kid tie with a heel which is a combination of the Cuban and the Louis Quinze. Patent leather shoes are going out, at least it is so reported, but they are general favorites with many women who are not yet ready to give them up.  
An odd feature this season is the low shoe with a seam directly down the front, a fancy which can never become universally popular, as it is only becoming to a perfect foot. A point to remember when you purchase your summer's supply is that the dull finished kid is the latest thing in shoe leather.

**Closing a Habit Back Skirt.**  
Three-quarters of the dresses worn on the street are forever yawning in the most hideous fashion in the placards.  
This is entirely unnecessary and inexcusable, says Le Bon Ton. There are different ways to prevent it, but they are all summed up in the necessity of having an underlapping fly and two sets of fastenings. If the skirt itself laps, as when there is a box plait down the back, make the fly of the lining doubled stitched and pressed. Make this to fasten to the opposite side of the opening with small metal slip (not pull) hooks and metal eyes. Then put small old style metal hooks on the lapping dress plait and small silk thread loops, well stayed and strongly buttonholed, on the outside of the dress. The slip hooks on the fly bear all the strain, and there is none to force the outside hooks out of the loops. The loops hold the plait flat in position better than rings can.  
If the skirt merely meets without lapping, make the fly of one thickness of dress goods and one of lining; then use the slip hooks and metal eyes on the fly, and another set of the same hooks and small wire rings buttonholed with silk for the second and outer set. The hooks and rings will not show if they are sewed on between rows of stitching that hold the under turned fold of the goods to the outside, and they will show in spite of lace unless the edges are so held. It is therefore desirable, when there is no decoration for the back of the skirt, to cover this self-evident utilitarian stitching to disguise it with postillion tabs, a sash, etc.

**Women Who Haise Hens.**  
Women and hens have some traits in common, and from a close observation of the feathered fowl an observation of the human species will be made. A man uses with an open hand when talking to his women folks.  
How often a short-tempered spouse tells his wife that she looks like a wet hen; that she cackles like a hen; that she jumps about like a hen without her brood.  
These are but a few of the charges flung at the head of the long suffering wife. Whistling girls and crowing hens have been clasped together, and where is the irreverent man who does not call a gathering of women a "hen party."

Perhaps because they have some strange sympathetic bonds, or maybe for some occult reason too deep for man to fathom, women are and always have been extremely successful in the poultry business.  
In many households in the suburbs of most large American cities the woman of the house supplies her own table with the fruits of her poultry yard. In not a few cases a good profit is made by selling the surplus product to neighbors.  
It is one of the healthiest fads or occupations that a woman can take up. The work entailed is very light; it is clean and it is full of a delightful variety that should charm the true feminine heart.  
Moreover, it is a very inexpensive fad to start. A few dollars spent on erecting a coop and a wire fence in which to keep the fowls is all the equipment needed. Then, with a few hens and a rooster and a setting of eggs, the poultry yard is ready to start work.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

**Fashionable Materials.**  
A handsome house gown of valing, resembling albatross in its fineness had very full sleeves that were shirred at the wrist and finished with a ruffle of lace. The upper part of the gown had the Gibsonian finish with wide plaits turning back toward the shoulder; and these plaits were so built that they actually overhung the sleeve and looked very much like the familiar sleeve cap.  
The beauty of the new muslins has encouraged the fancy for black underwear, particularly the black slumber robe. Women who spend the summer in very fashionable hotels are setting their seamstresses at these night robes. They must be made very, very long and they are gathered around the neck and around the elbows with ribbon. The elbow sleeve is finished with the little ribbon shirring and with a fall of lace.  
For traveling, for hotel wear, for fire emergencies, and for room breakfast, any place where the profane eyes of man may penetrate, the black muslin negligee is the most satisfactory.

In summer nightgowns there is one with sleeves of lace that are only pointed ruffles falling from the shoulders. They come elbow length, are wide, and of course cool.  
There is no doubt that voile and ecru, which is a softer, silkier make of voile, are favorite materials for day wear, though the hard hopsacks and canvases are having a great run of popularity with the tailors, white, curiously mixed tweeds and cloths are still in fashion. The blue serge frock, or, rather, the blue serge coat and skirt, form part and parcel of every woman's wardrobe. The next most useful material, which is also smart, is alpaca, and this is being produced in a variety of ways. A fine silky alpaca is delightful for the very hot weather, but the real hard wearing fabric, which always looks smart, is of a coarser grain. There are some new stripes and tiny pin spots in white on a dark ground which are very effective.  
The light colored alpaca are rather suggestive of dust cloaks, but those in dark navy and brown are charming. There never was a more useful trimming than coarse applique lace, unless it be glace strappings, both of which give a touch of chic to the plainest of frocks.

**The Cause of the Trolley.**  
On one point the American is determined; he will not live near his work, says Charles M. Skinner in the Atlantic. You shall see him in the morning, one of 60 people in a car built for 24, reading his paper, clinging to a strap, trodden, jostled, smirched, thrown into harrowing relations with men who drink, chew tobacco, eat raw onions, and incontinently breathe; and after 30 minutes of this contact, with the roar of streets in his ears, with languid clerks and pinguid market women leaning against him, he arrives at his office. The problems of his howard journey in the evening will be still more difficult, because, in addition to the workers, the cars must carry the multitude of demotelles who shop and go to matinees. To many men and women of business a seat is an undreamed luxury. Yet, they would be insulted if one were to ask why they did not live over their shops, as Frenchmen do, or back of them, like Englishmen. It is this uneasy instinct of Americans, this desire of their families to separate industrial and social life, that makes the use of the trolley car imperative, and the street railway in this manner widens the life and dominion of the people. It enables them to distribute themselves over wider spaces and unwittingly to symbolize the expansiveness of the nation.

**Night Races by Acetylene Light.**  
One of the largest installations of acetylene is at the Sydney, N. S. W. cricket grounds, the scene of many local art fresco festivities. The cycle track that surrounds the grounds is lighted by 95 12-cluster acetylene burners, carried on ornamental steel posts. The gas is generated on the grounds in three distinct batteries of automatic generators, and distributed throughout the ground, there being altogether some 70,000 candle power.  
The old maid consoles herself with the delusion that all the good men are married.



Neptune's trident in jet is a tiny novelty used as an ornament for the hair.  
Pearls of all sizes thickly massed represent the latest idea in pearl trimmings.  
Oval or circular hair slides set with semi-precious stones are used for fasteners for stray locks.  
Mother of pearl faille is used with most artistic results for the embellishment of chiffon gowns.  
Nets promise to be revived this season and are destined especially for the woman who wears her hair low.  
Madras belts in a deep tone of green are among the novelties. When the buckle is gilt the belt stitching is of yellow.  
Gros de tours is one of the fashionable summer silks. It resembles tafeta in quality, but has a soft finished slightly repped surface.  
The fancy for green has extended to dust or driving coats, and some elegant models in green affeta recently made their appearance.  
Some of the more elaborate medallions so extensively used this season show a blending of Honiton, Russian and fine Chantilly lace in the design.  
Little bands of velvet ribbon passing across from side to side over the front or vest impart a pretty finish to blouses of crepe de chine or soft satin.  
The shirtwaist hat of Panama straw is exceedingly stylish, but it is not universally becoming owing to its severe style, the shape resembling the fedora.  
An embroidered linen gown for morning wear is one of the season's novelties. White linen embroidered in white or in pastel hues is given the preference.  
Glass linen has been added to the shirt-waist fabrics, and fetching models are fashioned from this cross-hatched material in blue and white, or red and white, which has heretofore been reserved for glass polishing purposes.

**SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.**

In time past a lake existed in Switzerland near the Marsby valley, but either dried up or disappeared through drainage or analogous causes. Now several cantons have combined, and will fill the ancient lakebed by water from mountain torrents now going to waste near by. The head thus obtained will amount to 600 feet, and will afford 60,000 horse power. The work will take three years to execute, and is expected to cost about eight million dollars.

In a recent communication to the British Institution of Electrical Engineers, Mr. Leonard Joseph reported the following unusual occurrence: During a thunder storm a wild goose was seen to fall to the ground, apparently directly out of the storm clouds. After the storm was over an examination revealed the body of another goose at some distance from the first. The only wounds found upon the birds were a narrow cut on the back of the neck of one and a small puncture at the point where the neck joins the body on the other. At these points the feathers were slightly singed. Both birds proved perfectly fit for the table.

The Smithsonian Institution is going to try to trace the migratory movements of American birds by a novel method. About a million small aluminum tags are being made, and these are to be sent to correspondents all over the country with the request that they fasten the tags round the legs of young wild birds before they are able to fly. The tags are to be marked and dated so that when the birds are subsequently captured or killed it can be seen how far they have ranged from their birthplace. Hunters and others will be asked to forward to Washington the tags from any birds so taken. Such a thorough plan has never been tried before.

The fact that the sun when poised on the horizon sometimes appears greatly distorted, or drawn out into the form of an oval, is well known, and the explanation is very simple, namely, the rapid change in the refractive index of the air near the horizon, in consequence of which the lower edge of the sun appears to be lifted with reference to the upper edge, and so the disk looks as if squeezed between top and bottom. Recently Professor Prinz of the Brussels observatory has obtained several large scale photographs of the setting sun which distinctly show the deformation of the disk, and render its measurement very easy. In one case the vertical diameter is to the horizontal in the ratio of 75 to 84. Sometimes the distortion is greater than that.

The revelations of the spectroscopic, which is capable of showing the displacement of stars toward or from the earth, make the starry heavens, to the astronomer's eye, appear almost as full of mazy motions as is a cloud of gnats dancing in the sunbeams. Every increase in the power of observing apparatus brings to notice new "spectroscopic binaries," which are simply double stars that cannot be separately seen, either because of their extreme closeness or because only one of them is a shining body. It is the erratic motions of these wonderful stars that reveal their true character. One of the latest to be discovered is Eta Orionis, which hangs just below the belt of Orion. Sometimes this star is speedily hurrying toward the earth more than 40 is hurrying away with a similar velocity.

**Household Hints.**  
Flour should be kept in a barrel, with a flour scoop to dip it and a sieve to sift it.  
Ceilings that have been smoked by a kerosene lamp should be washed off with soda water.  
Brass may be beautifully cleaned and polished with a paste made of emery powder and paraffin.  
Good graham crackers are better for the little one to munch with its trial teeth than white biscuits or bread.  
Never throw water from boiled beans down the sink; it leaves an odor no sweeter than the water in which cabbage has been cooked.  
Perfectly plain, tall white glass beakers, that allow the beautiful foliage of the flowers to show through are a new and pretty idea for holding roses for the centre of the dining table.  
Grease on silk may be removed with powdered chalk or magnesia. Place the powder on the spot and then hold in near the fire. The grease will thus soon be absorbed and may be brushed off with the powder.  
Spots on a silk blouse can be cleaned with benzine. Use a piece of new clean flannel and rub gently, afterwards exposing the garment in the air to dry. On no account use the benzine near light, as it is highly inflammable.  
Built-out seats continue to be one of the most popular of house decorations. The latest have little railing arms, one of which is often arranged with a pocket to hold a book magazine or fancy work, and a shelf on which a cup of tea may be served.  
To remove paint from glass wet the spot with strong liquid ammonia, being careful not to let the ammonia run down on the window pane or varnish. After two or three applications scrape gently with a piece of soft wood, then rub with a paper wet with ammonia.



**FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.**

**As to the Asparagus.**  
In these days of more or less successful attempts at artistic and elegant dining at home it becomes a "real issue" in many families to settle the manner of serving asparagus. Many there are who still stick to the old plan of having it boiled, served on toast and perhaps one or two other vegetables. A few of these it is possible might be converted to better and more tasteful things if they would look at the vegetable from all its standpoints.  
First, there is the important one that it does not stay with us long, which seems to argue that it deserves a more distinguished consideration than is accorded to turnips and potatoes. A second qualification is that it is of a distinct individuality and when ranged alongside of a roast of beef or lamb, or a sirloin steak with bear-naise sauce, you get a contrasted harmony, whereas, as all thoughtful diners know, a complimentary harmony is the dinner table harmony par excellence. In company with other assertive viands asparagus cannot therefore be at its best; neither is it possible for the other edibles to be as delectable in its presence as in its absence. Clearly, then, asparagus is of the vegetables which deserve to have one course all to themselves.—Boston Transcript.

**The Cucumber.**  
The cucumber is condemned by the hygienists as indigestible. Therefore, it is well to know that a good soaking of the sliced cucumber in cold water before it goes to the table will render it much more digestible, while not impairing in any degree its tender crispness. But if the cook will add salt to the water, every indigestible quality will be removed, although the cucumber itself will come out as flabby as a last night's fritter.  
Thick parings should be removed from the cucumber, for a bitter principle lies next to the skin. Pared till not a bit of green remains, sliced wafer thin, soaked in clear, cold water, drained and served in a graceful green dish, heaped with crushed ice, and the cucumber is good enough for anybody. Still, some additions can be made if salad is desired. Cucumbers can be cut into little cubes, with sliced tomatoes on lettuce leaves, the whole covered with mayonnaise. They can be served with tiny little onions, a combination loved with deep, though phantasmal affection by some, and one that really makes the cucumber more healthful.

If it is desired to cook cucumbers, there are plenty of ways. Pared, cut in half, the seeds removed, boiled till tender in salted water and served in a hot dish with melted butter, they are delicious. They can also be cut into small pieces for boiling, and served on toast with a cream sauce. Such a dish is a dainty one for a convalescent, for cooking removes all the cucumber's mischief making powers. They are delicious cut in slices a third of an inch thick, dried with a towel, gusted with salt and pepper, dipped in beaten egg and crumbs and fried. Stuffed cucumbers are the most appetizing of all cooked cucumber dishes. Cut the cucumbers in half lengthwise, remove the seeds, soak half an hour, fill with force meat, place upright on a trivet in a saucepan, surrounded with white stock, and cook 40 minutes. Serve on toast with Bechamel sauce.

**Glorious Hog Hunt.**  
The people of Warren indulged in an unusual Sunday diversion by trying to corral 200 pigs that were roaming at will around the town when the residents awoke. The porkers were in train AB 4, that was wrecked Sunday morning near Warren, and were released by the breaking of the cars. All night long the pigs roamed around the streets of the town finding excellent rooting on the well-kept lawns and beds of choice flowers. When the owners of the lawns and flower beds looked on the destruction they went to work in earnest to round up the destroyers. Armed with everything from a clothes pole to a pitchfork the wild hog hunt began. Haskell Underwood won the honors of the chase by capturing 132 of the animals. The railroad company sent a number of men to the town to help catch the pigs. About 6 o'clock they were all captured.

**Not the Lesson He Meant.**  
A minister recently preached a sermon and illustrated his point by saying: "You know you plant roses in the sunshine, and heliotropes and geraniums, but if you want your fuchsias to grow you must keep them in a shady nook." After the sermon a woman came up to him, her face beaming with pleasure. "Oh, I am so grateful for that sermon," she said, clasping his hand, and shaking it warmly. Pearson's Weekly. His heart glowed for a moment—only for a moment. "Yes," she went on, fervently. "I never knew before what was the matter with my fuchsias."

**Broken.**  
Tess—I heard that he has broken with her.  
Jess—Oh, no. It was she who broke the engagement.  
Tess—You don't say? When?  
Jess—When she discovered that the engagement had broken him.—Philadelphia Press.

**SNAKES OF SNAKES.**

The Man from Arkansas Awards the Palm to the Water Moccasin.

"When it comes to downright viciousness among snakes," said a man from Arkansas, "I will put the water moccasin against every other kind of snake on earth. I was reading a story about the snakes on Martinique in one of the newspapers, and it seems that they are afflicted on the island with a rather bad brand of snakes, snakes that really go around looking for trouble. I could not help thinking that the Martinique reptile must be related in some way to the vicious water moccasin, which is to be found in the St. Francis basin, up in Arkansas. They are savage, and what is worse and more of it they seem to have organized for offensive and defensive purpose. There are millions upon millions of these snakes in the basin of the St. Francis river, between the Sunk lands and the mouth of the river, a few miles above Helena. I have seen the lake alive with them. I have known of instances would be impossible for a farm hand to water his horse after his day's work on account of the snakes. The snakes feed in the edges of the lake during the evening, and as soon as an effort would be made to water the horse at a certain place they would make a charge on that particular place, wriggling in from the lake in great numbers. They seemed to resent it as an encroachment upon their rights, and no amount of 'shooing' or chunking would drive them away. They would simply choke the drinking place. I have seen this same thing happen a number of times. Of course, it would be necessary to take the horse elsewhere for watering purposes. They are extremely poisonous, and I have heard of many instances where the moccasin's bite killed animals. Dogs in that part of the country frequently die as the result of being bitten by a water moccasin. They are not bad about running away when they are in a flock. In fact, the running had better be on the other side, if it happens to be either near the beginning or at the end of the snake season, for they really seem to be more vicious and more petulant, if I may say, at the extremes of the season than at other times. I suppose there is some natural reason for the fact. Coming back to the point, I will put the particular brand of Arkansas water moccasin to which I have referred against anything in the reptilian line to be found in Martinique, or at any other place, for that matter, for I really believe they are the most desperately vicious snakes on the face of the earth.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

**The Mimicry of Animals.**  
The working of the law of natural selection in providing for the protection of animal life from the many enemies which beset it was illustrated in an interesting manner by Professor E. B. Poulton in his lecture at the Royal Institution upon mimicry in insects. By means of lantern slides he showed the remarkable superficial resemblances that have been developed between different species of butterflies. The variety that is the subject of mimicry varies with the surroundings and climate of the particular country; indeed there is much evidence to show that all insects in given areas tend to adopt a certain type of coloring for protective purposes. This natural mimicry is peculiarly well marked in the case of South American butterflies. Among a large number of different species a certain dominant pattern prevails, but the coloring varies, and often rather sharply, from district to district. One American butterfly furnishes a peculiarly intelligent example of mimicry the outer surface of its wings, resembling a dead leaf, while the inner and more hidden surface retains the proper markings.—London Chronicle.



New York City.—There are almost as many styles of Gibson waists in the new assortment of blouses as the regulation shirt waists, these broad-shouldered effects being very popular at present. They are worn by stout and slender women alike, but are far more becoming to the latter. Heavy wash fabrics are usually employed for their development in order to keep the pleats in shape across the shoulders.



LADIES' FANCY GIBSON BLOUSE.

In the blouse illustrated heavy green madras is used, the collar and cuffs being embroidered in black silk. Two deep pleats extend from shoulder to belt back and front. They form a V in the back.  
The fronts close in double-breasted

puffs that are arranged on narrow bands.  
The flounces are of circular shaping, but slightly full at the top, where they are gathered and arranged on the skirt. A broad band of blue finishes the upper edge, and lace is applied on the hems.  
They are narrow in front, and graduate toward the back, providing a smart sweep to the lower edge of the skirt.  
Dresses in this mode are made of linen, pique, madras or cotton chevot for summer wear. It is also an appropriate mode for satin, foulard, India silk, crepe de chine, nun's veiling or albatross.

To make the waist for a miss fourteen years will require one and one-quarter yards of forty-four-inch material, with one-half yard of contrasting material for puff and plastron.

**New Hat For Golf.**  
The new hat for golf and outing is a wide-brimmed Bajuta straw trimmed with a long striped scarf.

**Dainty Shirt Waist.**  
This dainty shirt waist is made of pongee embroidered in pale blue spots. The black velvet collar is trimmed with a blue chiffon stock and cravat.

The waist is mounted on a glove-fitted feather-boned lining that closes in the centre front. This may be omitted. The back is drawn smoothly across the shoulders and displays slight fullness at the waist arranged in tiny pleats.  
The fronts are gathered at the neck



MISSES' PROMENADE COSTUME.

style, the right side fastening on the left with small cut jet buttons. A plain embroidered collar completes the neck. It is trimmed with a lace protector.

The bishop sleeves are shaped with inside seams only. They fit the upper arm closely and are quite full at the lower edge. The narrow waistband is finished with a flaring cuff.  
Waists in this mode are made of percale, madras, pique, linen or duck. The style is also appropriate for tafetta, moire, French flannel or peau de crepe.  
To make the blouse in the medium size will require two and one-quarter yards of forty-inch material.

**An Attractive Costume.**  
White batiste, embroidered in marine blue polka dots, is used for this attractive costume, with blue satin and ecru lace for trimming.

The waist is made over a glove-fitted, feather-boned lining that closes in the centre front. The batiste is drawn smoothly across the shoulders at the back, and displays slight gathers at the waist.  
The skirt is shaped with five well-proportioned gores fitted smoothly around the waist and over the hips without darts. The closing is made invisible at the centre back under two inverted pleats that are flatly pressed, and present a perfectly plain appearance.

The front plastron of lace is permanently attached to the right lining, and closes invisibly on the left. It is completed with a plain collar. The sailor collar is square in the back and finishes the edges of the plastron in front. It is trimmed with a broad band of blue.  
The full fronts are gathered and arranged at the lower edge of the plastron, forming a stylish blouse over the belt. This fastens at the left side under a rosette with long ends. Inside seams at the sleeves to the upper arm. They close at the lower edge over full

and blouse prettily over the black velvet belt. They close invisibly under the centre box pleat. The plain collar fastens at the back.

The sleeves are made in one piece, gathered at the shoulders and at the elbow, where they are completed with flaring, pointed cuffs embroidered in blue.

Waists in this style are a decided change from the severe tailor-made models and the short sleeves give them an airy, summery appearance that is very acceptable at this season of the year. Fine wash fabrics in white and pale shades of blue, pink, violet, yellow and green are used for waists in this mode. In some the collar, cuffs and box pleat are embroidered, while



SHIRT WAIST WITH ELBOW SLEEVES.

the rest of the waist is plain. Squares and motifs of lace are often inserted across the front and on the tops of sleeves.  
To make the waist in the medium size will require one and three-quarters yards of thirty-six-inch material.