



Woman-kind

Care of the Clothes.

We all like good clothes and the feeling of being well dressed. It is not entirely a question of money; it is also a matter of detail and of giving a small portion of our time to keeping our belongings in order. No matter how expensive or well fitting one's dress is, the appearance is spoiled by a soiled stock or piece of lace or a crushed and frayed skirt.

Just stop and think what a saving of time and money the short skirt is to a woman, especially the busy woman. No skirt braids need renewal, no frayed edges give her an untidy appearance.

Take a look at your every-day skirt and think what an improvement a good pressing would be to it. This can be done very easily at home and should be done every week or two. Place your skirt on a covered ironing board and have handy two hot irons rather heavy in weight. Now cover the portions to be pressed with a thoroughly wet piece of unbleached muslin folded double, and when pressing don't move the iron too quickly over it, but press until the material stops steaming.

Should there remain dulled or glazed spots sponge lightly and press again.—Washington Star.

The Eastern Women.

For the most part the occupants of a large harem (in Morocco) pass a very miserable life, says the London "Sketch." They have little or no exercise, too much to eat, and until they have borne a son to their owner their position is by no means a pleasant one. As soon as the reproach of childlessness is withdrawn they have a better status under Mohammedan law, but even then the pleasure of lying upon cushions all day and eating sweets from Paris is apt to pall after a few months.

The quarters of the women are naturally a hotbed of most varied intrigue, and the precautions taken by the master of the house do not always succeed in maintaining the privacy so greatly sought after.

Every year the royal harem is subjected to important changes. Many of the women are removed and given to high officials of the court. This saves a considerable expense to the royal household, and the gift is by way of being regarded as a compliment. It has some drawbacks, for the newcomer is oftentimes a spy sent to make inquiry concerning the loyalty of her new master. The sultan's agents are always on the lookout for recruits for the harem, and many girls are brought up with great care and attention, and taught to play, sing and dance in the hope that they may some day be honored by the royal approval.

Shoe History.

Shoes or their equivalent are of a certainty even more ancient than gloves, for they were a necessity of locomotion, while the other was a luxury. Sometimes they were made of skins, sometimes of papyrus, as in Egypt. Often they were gilded and decked with jewels, and the most expert artists of the day were employed to decorate the foot coverings of wealthy patricians, consuls, emperors and their favorites.

In no article have more vagaries been shown. Today a lady who desires to be considered in the height of fashion wears shoes pointed as much as possible, but in the time of Queen Mary the taste was all the other way and it was found necessary to issue a royal proclamation prohibiting shoes with toes wider than six inches.

But perhaps the most extraordinary development in the way of footgear were the "chopines" introduced by the ladies of Venice to make themselves taller than they really were.

The articles really were a kind of stilts, made of wood and leather, and sometimes reached the absurd height of 12 inches. Even a trained acrobat would have difficulty in walking on such things, and ordinary women had such trouble with them that when they attempted a promenade they required the assistance of a servant at each side and another behind to keep them from falling.—Redfern's Royal and Historic Shoes.

Blue for Extremists.

Would you be in the extreme of fashion? Wear blue.

That is the decree of fashion-making Paris.

Blue, pastel blue, in all the rich variety of curious tints that the world stands for, is the reigning color. It fades into greens and often off to gray, it reflects a tint of gold, but it is always blue. In gowns, in hats, in fancy waists, even in wraps it prevails and every advanced mode proclaims a tremendous vogue for it this season.

Peacock blue, so long banished, has come back in its own, marine blue

holds its own, and all blues are admittedly good by reason of pastel's predominance.

The hats of the year are a complete revolution in style. The two styles most in favor are pronounced opposites.

One is soft felt, with dented crown, rolling brim amenable to madame's finger-tips, which lends itself to a somewhat rakish coquetry. It usually rises at the back, the dented crown and brim being low in front, and takes nodding plumes with knots of ribbon, the wings which are so much used in all the autumn millinery or flowers.

Its rival is stiff and severe, with high bell crown, or round crown, and uncompromising brim. It assumes a deep band of velvet usually held by a buckle, with a small avalanche of plumes at the side, or wings of mingled colors with high aigrette.

What Was Behind Them.

"I wish you would look at that woman and her two boys, and tell me what you think," said one traveler.

"I should say," said the other "that she is a very happy woman, and that she has two fine, manly, happy-looking boys. I wonder why one doesn't see more families so genuinely delighted with one another, and so thoroughly delightful to look upon?"

"I'll tell you," said the first woman, with a laugh and a sigh. "It's because there aren't more of the right kind of men. There is a man behind those three smiles. Look at the sheer content and joy in life in that woman's eyes. She is so perfectly happy that she is dazzling. It isn't a joy in material things. It's something deeper. What wide open brows her boys have; what glad eyes and sweet expressions in spite of their firm chins and lips!"

"There's something back of all that, my dear. It's a man, and it's the right sort of man. He's a man who has made her happy from the day he married her. She was almost superhumanly happy when those boys came into the world. You can see it in their faces. And he's made her happy ever since. Listen to her laugh!"

"I'd give a good deal to see him, but I don't need to see him. I know what sort he is. He is not a plentiful type. If he were more women—oh, my dear, why don't men realize that every one of them could make some woman look like that all her life, if he only took the trouble. Such a little trouble—the tenderness and thoughtfulness a woman always craves, and which she is more than ready to give in return. There, they get off here! Now watch."

"I knew it! I knew it!" she cried, softly, as they peered under the curtain to watch the happy little woman and her two glad-eyed boys, who were being met by the "right sort of man" in the right sort of way.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Fashion Notes.

Garlands and wreaths of the finest roses in ribbon embroidery are the latest fad.

Russian gold braid can be bought by the yard and makes the most charming belts.

It is a fad to match the jewels of belt buckles, combs, hatpins, and even necklaces.

Colored tailor velvets in checks and stripes are to be in high favor for street costumes.

Another phase of fashion in automobile apparel is the use of remarkably clever imitations in fur.

Coats of both round and cape effects are extremely fashionable. The favorite material for this season is marabou.

Spangled gold, silver or steel embroidery upon white or black laces makes up into pretty boleros for evening wear.

Very beautiful are the loose coats made in different kinds of furs, and they often have a touch of color in velvet or satin, which is altogether desirable.

Baby calf makes motor coats, so do deer skins, and we have not disregarded the leopard's, for it is employed in the automobile coat as well as for muffs and coats.

Buckles are extensively used, and small slide buckles in gilt, silver or steel, slide over yard trimmings of velvet, ribbon or braid, in a most effective manner.

Elbow sleeves never seem consistent in such materials as velvet and cloth, but there is something exceedingly smart about an elaborate short sleeve which is worn with a long black or white kid glove.

One of the most curious modes of the moment is that feathers and furs alike are being dyed any color to match the fabric with which they are made up, and every sort of fur is pressed into the service for feminine costume.

Burke's Astounding Biological Discovery

By Dr. C. W. Saleeby.

HERE has recently been made, at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, a discovery so sensational, so subversive of the orthodox scientific belief of the last thirty years, and yet so welcome to the man of science, that it in all probability marks the opening of an epoch in biology as signal as that which was marked by the publication of the Origin of Species in 1859. And the one piece of work, small in actual extent though it may be, and totally distinct in principle, is the complement of the other. The last touch of "sensationalism" is added to this amazing discovery by the fact that it depends upon the properties of radium, which seems destined to have its say in all sublimity affairs without exception.

Mr. J. B. Burke, who was studying the chemical action of radium on organic matter, at the Cavendish Laboratory, where radium has already been studied to the signal glory of contemporary physical chemistry, found that when a few grains of radium chloride or radium bromide were sprinkled upon the surface of beef gelatin, the whole being subjected to the most efficient processes of sterilization, such as no known form of living matter can survive, there appeared in the tubes thus treated, but not in the "control" tubes, similar in all respects save for the addition of the radium, a growth which any bacteriologist would have pronounced to be due to bacteria; this in tubes which had been subjected to a temperature of 130 degrees C. under high pressure for half an hour! If anything was out of the question it was that this growth was bacterial. However, crystals grow, and this might be a hitherto unknown kind of crystal, due to the action of radioactivity upon beef gelatin.

The next step was plainly to examine a portion of the growth under the microscope. A magnification of about twelve or fifteen hundred diameters was used, and the growth was seen to consist of exceedingly small rounded bodies, containing a somewhat darker structure in the centre. The only known crystal they resembled was a form in which calcium carbonate occasionally occurs; but these bodies were many times smaller than any such crystals; the structure they contained looked exactly like the nucleus of a living cell, such as is not seen in these crystals of carbonate of lime; examination with the polariscope showed that these bodies had none of the characters which crystals display on such examination by special kinds of light. Thus there was abundant evidence to negative the view that they were crystals—evidence that would suffice even were there not positive evidence the most astounding in proof of the view that they were something else.—Harper's Weekly.

Mix Cheerfulness With Your Breakfast

By the Late Mary A. Livermore.

I HAVE sometimes thought that breakfast should be stricken from the list of family meals, and be served to the individuals of the household in the privacy of their rooms, so frequently does it become a joyless feast. Unless the greatest care be taken, the breakfast table becomes a veritable dump, where each one unloads the grievances of the night. One has not "slept a wink"; another was scared by a "horrible" dream; a third "nearly died" from an aching tooth; a fourth is dismal because of a depressing nightmare, and so on. If to these enervating details be added a doleful disarray of dress, tousled hair, and a sour disapproval of the weather, the news, and the food, the most appetizing breakfast will pall on the taste, and the day will be badly begun.

More important than the matter of cooking is it that the family gather around the table cheerful, joyous and in abounding good spirits. Good digestion waits on those who season their food with laughter and fun, and if we have cares and worries, it is wise to let them wait until after the matutinal meal.

True courtesy is only the application of the Golden Rule to our social conduct. "A noble and attractive every-day bearing comes of goodness, unselfishness, sincerity and refinement, and these are bred in years, not in moments." They are not the result of an instinct or an inspiration. They come of a noble character, that cannot be reached until after many struggles and conflicts.—Success.

A New National Holiday Suggested

By William F. Weick.

It appears rather strange to me that not one of the forty-five commonwealths in our republic has ever considered the date of the framing of the Constitution of the United States of America at Philadelphia as worth commemoration by the enactment of a legal holiday. Some of the states observe holidays local in significance and not recognized by their nearest neighbors. It is plain that Sept. 17, 1787, was second only in importance in our history to July 4, 1776. If the Declaration of Independence is the cornerstone of a glorious republic, the Federal Constitution is the completed edifice of a magnificent Union. Without the Constitution the Declaration becomes of little value. The 17th day of September should be observed with patriotic veneration.

The great instrument of nationality, for the preservation of which hundreds of thousands of our loyal citizens gave their lives, ceased to be an experiment after nearly eighty years of test and strain. It has meant far more since 1865 than before the final overthrow of the doctrine of state rights, and it will mean still more to us with each coming year. Intelligent citizens ought to be perfectly familiar not only with its spirit, but with every section and clause. It certainly is well worth an hour's time on every anniversary of its adoption by the members of the constitutional convention to study it carefully and weigh just how near our government at Washington comes to respecting its imperative provisions.—Harper's Weekly.

The Territorial Expansion of the United States

By Professor John Bassett Moore.

AS conventionalized in the annual messages of presidents to Congress, the American people are distinguished chiefly by their peaceful disposition and their freedom from territorial ambitions. Nevertheless, in spite of these quiet propensities, it has fallen to their lot, since they forcibly achieved their independence, to have had four foreign wars, three general and one limited, and the greatest civil war in history, and to have acquired a territorial domain almost five times as great as the respectable endowment with which they began their national career. In reality, to the founders of the American republic the question of territorial expansion did not present itself as a matter of speculation, or even of choice. There was not a single European power having possessions in America that did not lay claim to more territory than it had effectively occupied, nor was there a single one whose claims were not contested by some other power; and these contests were interwoven with the monopolistic struggle then in progress for colonial commerce and navigation.—Harper's Magazine.

ON THE ENGINEER'S LAST RUN

His Story of How He Lived His Life All Over in a Flash.

"Drowning is not the only experience that causes a man to read his own biography in the flash of a second," said F. C. Roberts, a locomotive engineer.

"I was running on the passenger train between Atlanta and Macon several years ago, and I was to meet the north-bound train at a certain station on the road. Well, it was all my fault. I hadn't slept any for five nights, and the only rest I had was in my cab. The last stop that I made before this experience of which I speak the fireman had to wake me up when the signal to go ahead was received. I had gone to sleep in my cab.

"As we approached the next station the conductor may have signaled me, as he claimed he did, but we dashed through the town at about forty miles an hour before I heard the down brakes signal. The minute I heard it I saw the headlight of the north-bound train, less than 200 yards away, coming around a curve. I threw on the air brakes and reversed, but it all looked too late. The fireman jumped, but I was paralyzed. The two great engines, one bearing a special train, rushed together like angry bulls, and I was frozen there, and while those trains rushed together, I saw every incident of my life just as plainly as the day it happened. That's all I know about it.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Frankness of Spanish Waiter.

E. B. Dewhurst, the Australian tennis champion, said at a dinner party in New York:

"American waiters are much superior to those of Spain. Traveling is cheap and comfortable in Spain; living is cheap and comfortable there, but Spanish waiters are often rude.

"They are particularly rude to Americans and to those whom they mistake for Americans. The old wound, you see, still rankles.

"In Madrid one day I entered a restaurant and ordered a cut of beef. The waiter, after a long delay, brought the beef to me—a miserable, tough and grisly cut.

"Waiter, said I, 'is this beef from the black bull they killed at the bull fight yesterday?'

"The waiter looked at me with a sneer.

"No, monsieur," he said. 'It is from one of the horses that they killed at the bull fight.'"

Tyler Cobb Told Him a Way.

Some years ago, when Tyler Cobb ran a general store at the corner of Main and High streets, in Brockton, Mass., in what is now the Metropolitan hotel, his store was the gathering place for the wits and story tellers of the vicinity. Some of them are now wealthy merchants of Brockton, and one of them tells this story:

"The stories told of Tyler's queer sayings are legion. One one illustrates his shrewdness as well as his wit. He had a man working for him whom he several times caught taking home a meal which he kept for his horses. The hired man, who was unaware that he had been detected, one day asked Tyler for a raise in pay. Upon being asked why he should receive more, he answered that he could not support his family and buy food for them with what he got.

"Lord a'mighty, man," said Tyler, "take more meal, take more meal."

How the Woodchuck Took Water.

One of the best story tellers of his time was my uncle, "Han" Thompson of Auburn, Me. The following is what "Han" told of what he and his brother John tried to do in the way of catching a woodchuck.

They had tried quite a number of times to capture the animal, but unsuccessfully. At last they decided to drown him out. So, procuring four pails, each took two, and they carried water for two solid hours and poured it into the hole in the ground in which the said "chuck" had taken up his abode.

Getting tired, they sat down. After about half an hour the woodchuck cautiously left the hole and deliberately walked down to the brook and took a long drink of water, and then scooted, much to the disgust of the two boys.—Boston Herald.

Ted's Beginning.

The new assistant rector was trying to impress upon the mind of his young son the difference between his own position and that of his superior. "Now, Ted," he ended, "I want you to remember to be very polite to the rector. We are strangers, and I am only the assistant; it becomes us to be extremely courteous. Some day, perhaps, I shall be rector myself."

The next day the boy was walking with his father when they met the dignified rector.

"Hello!" promptly began Ted.

"Pop's been tellin' me 'bout you—how you're the real thing, an' he's just the hired man an' we got to knuckle under. But some day he may be it himself, an' then you'll see!"—Woman's Home Companion.

Followed McClintock's Orders.

A young man who afterward became a successful reporter on a Boston daily relates one of his first experiences in endeavoring to get work as follows:

"I walked into the office of John N. McClintock, editor and publisher of the Granite Monthly, a New Hampshire magazine, and asked for an opportunity to show what I could do. I was asked what I could write about, and with a John L. Sullivan confidence replied: 'Oh, I can write about anything.' Like a shot came the response: 'Well, right about face, then.' That settled me. I did."

ORCHARD and GARDEN

Clean the Eggs.

Before placing the eggs in the basket after daily collections, wash them in cold water. This is to guard against lice, and also the small mites, which are not readily detected. They are also nicer to handle. To get the highest prices for eggs they should be clean in every respect. Buyers judge to a great extent, of the freshness of eggs by their appearance, and it therefore pays to have them as clean and as attractive as possible.

Seed Corn.

Seed corn can be selected in the winter or when the corn is being husked. A box should be placed near the point of operation, and every perfect ear (selecting only the best) should be thrown into it while husking. It is possible that but few ears may be selected from among a large number, but if care is used in selecting, and the seed corn is put in a dry place, it will be found next spring that more grains will germinate and a larger yield result.

Pigs and Buttermilk.

Buttermilk, provided no water is added, is practically of the same value for feeding pigs as separator milk. But it must be borne in mind that buttermilk from factories almost always has mixed with it a considerable amount of added water, sometimes as much as fifty percent, and, consequently, by itself is not a suitable food for pigs. Many instances can be given of great mortality among pigs fed solely on buttermilk, practically from starvation, because they were not able to consume enough buttermilk plus water to derive sufficient nutriment to supply the demand of nature. But when the deficiency in solids is made up by adding meal, or even grass, roots or other fodder, pigs are found to thrive on the buttermilk.—R. T. Archer, in the Massachusetts Ploughman.

The Waste and Expenses.

Talk to almost any good business man and he will tell you that one of the most important points to be considered in conducting a business of any kind successfully is to keep down the expenses and wastes. That's just the thing that the farmer wants to look into. There are so many things on the farm that this little piece of advice could be applied to that it would take more than this page to tell of them all. The manure pile on many farms is probably being drained of the equivalent of good hard cash every day that it stands. Many a cow in the stables of some dairy is eating her allotment of food every day and returning only fifty or seventy-five percent of its cost. Farmers should go around and keep their eyes open and look into these matters and they would be money in pocket. And making money by merely keeping your eyes opened and using a little thought comes much easier than by hoeing corn or potatoes.—Weekly Witness.

Space in the Quarters.

Has it ever occurred to poultrymen that it may be better to keep small hens, if eggs are the object, than to devote the space to birds of larger breeds? The object of most farmers and others is to keep as many hens in a poultry house as possible and that is where the majority of mistakes is made. Judging from the weight and size of the bird it requires a certain portion of the roost upon which it can comfortably rest. Two Brahmas or Cochins, weighing nine pounds each (eighteen pounds for the pair), will require fully as much room on the roost as three small hens weighing six pounds each, and if the tables of food equivalents and amounts to sustain life, according to live weights, are correct the three hens will consume no more food than two large ones. But they may do more, however, as they can lay three eggs, while only two can be secured from the large hens. Here, then, is a gain of forty percent in eggs in favor of small breeds because they cost no more than the same weight of large fowls, but being more numerous they consequently produce more eggs.

Exercise for the Cows.

The best dairymen believe implicitly in exercise for their cows, but they also realize that they are delicate animals and that to permit them to remain out of doors long on a cold or windy day during the winter does them more injury than good. While the feeding shed referred to in this department is an ideal place for exercise, it is not in the open air, so the cows lose the benefits of breathing fresh air. An excellent way to arrange a yard for exercise is to build a deep shed in the portion of the yard where the wind is less likely to enter it. Then, with boards or corn fodder, erect wind-breaks all around the yard, running them up six feet or more high. See that the yard is well drained and that it is cleaned of the excrement each day before the cows are permitted to enter it.

In order that the animals may be more contented while in the yard, supply them with just enough roughage so that each one of them can make a good cut. Have the shed and the yard large enough so that there will be no

crowding, hence no disposition to quarrel. With such a yard the animals may be turned out nearly every day during the winter, provided some care is taken to remove the snow in sections where the snow fall is heavy. Do not permit the cows to remain out too long. Err on the side of a short time and daily rather than for several hours two or three times weekly.—Indianapolis News.

The Large Corn Crop.

Despite the fact that the corn crop is very large, market reports indicate that it will not be sold at extremely low prices as was feared some time back, when it was seen the crop would likely be heavy. The intelligent and up-to-date farmer, with a heavy crop of A1 corn can make it yield him good returns by selecting the best of the crop and putting it on the market at the highest rates quoted and using the proceeds to buy other grains which will give him the needed balanced ration for his stock. This is departing somewhat from the general plan of feeding whatever grain one has in abundance, but it will pay. Moreover it will pay even to the point of reducing the herd to just the number that can be properly fed on well balanced rations. It is not hard to use the corn crop for feeding so that the value of the milk produced is really less than the value of the corn and the manure, thus giving one a lot of hard work and no profit.

On the other hand, if one feeds just the number of cows he can feed on a balanced ration, disposing of both the surplus cows and corn, he is money ahead at the end of the season. We farmers are much given to priding ourselves on the number of animals we own, regardless of whether we are keeping them at a profit or at a loss, and it is such lack of calculation that makes some men say farming has ceased to be a profitable business. Think it over, friend.—Indianapolis News.

The Next Fruit Crop.

While there are as many as thirteen natural elements that enter into the structure of about everything that grows there are four that seem to be more easily exhausted from the soil than the rest. These are nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash and lime. They naturally exist in soils in such varying quantities that it is often very difficult to tell what is or not present in abundance and in available forms. In most cases only the actual test of applications will tell us what is needed. But we may be sure that good manures wisely applied are almost never amiss.

Nitrogen is such a volatile and easily exhausted manure and sometimes an injurious one, that it requires the most careful and timely application of all. When the trees are pale in foliage and the growth is feeble, it is almost a sure indication that it is not present in the soil in sufficient quantity. But fruits are not so likely to need it as the foliage crops. In case they do need it there is no form in which it is more economically applied than as nitrate of soda. Animal refuse, such as dried blood also contains it. Owing to the rapid solubility of these materials spring is the preferable time to apply them to the soil.

Phosphoric acid plays an important part in the production of fruit as it forms a considerable proportion of the seeds and also helps to give vigor to the tree or vine. It should not be forgotten that it is found largely in animal bones and from this we can get it quite cheaply. Phosphate rock is partly composed of fossil bones. They give the phosphoric acid up slowly even when well dissolved and this is why we should apply early in the spring or better yet in the fall. This will allow time for the further decomposition in the soil and the chemical changes to take place that are necessary before the roots can absorb the fertility. Five hundred pounds per acre is a good application.

Potash is perhaps the most important for fruits of all the manures. It causes healthfulness and vigor of tree or plant and makes the fruit rich and highly colored. Wood ashes contains it but the proportions are usually quite small. Muriate of potash contains fully one-half of its weight of available potash and sulphate of potash about the same. Both are excellent and cheap forms in which to apply potash. The sooner either of them are put in or on the soil the more completely they will become prepared for the use of the coming fruit crop. If it is not possible to apply them to the ground this fall do it early in the spring. But above all be sure to do it, for in most soils potash will pay a good return. One hundred pounds per acre annually is a fair application of either muriate or sulphate of potash.

Lime has a very beneficial effect, aside from being a plant food in helping to dissolve the elements of fertility in the soil naturally. This is especially true of heavy clay soils, and where humus is in excess it "sweetens" its acidity. About twenty-five bushels of quick lime per acre is sufficient for some three years.—H. E. Van Deman.