

Woman's Realm

Training Shy Girls.

If your daughter is growing up too quiet and never seems to have anything to say, exert yourself to draw her out.

Lead her into general conversation at every opportunity and let her feel that her thoughts and opinions are of some weight and importance.

Do not let her sink into that state of mind which is content to let other people take the burden of conversation, while she sits by in apparent stupid silence.

It is a habit which will grow upon her and prevent her being gracious and attractive, and will become more deeply fixed if referred to in any way.

Some day her chances of happiness may be ruined by it.—New York Times.

Remodeling Dresses.

Speaking of the remodeling of old dresses, one of the best dressmakers in Paris is authority for the statement that it does not pay. "Do not rip up your old gown; do not touch a scissors to it," says she, "but content yourself with retrimming it." In these days a pointed guimpe of flannel and duchess lace can be set into an old blouse. This will give the new jumper effect. If the sleeves are short and too puffy at the shoulders, they can be made to look different by placing a flat piece of trimming upon the shoulder seam. This makes the shoulder look longer without altering the set of the sleeve. A long, light lace undersleeve, coming to the knuckles, makes the sleeve still more modish.

Women Should Walk, Too.

I will say something to the ladies. The young men are not the only beings in America who need to walk for exercise. Our girls and women need this recreation. American women do not walk nearly as much as they ought to.

While in England I found the women over there much stronger and

terous, loud voiced child, with rough manners and shocking speech.

"All of these places soon become so terribly crowded the children are compelled to yell at the tops of their voices, and they soon carry this custom home with them. It has also been found by many parents abroad that these large playgrounds are the means of spreading children's diseases over whole neighborhoods."

Fashion's Dictates.

"Since semi-precious stones have become so extremely fashionable," writes Grace Margaret Gould, the fashion editor, in the Woman's Home Companion, "women depend a great deal on jewelry as the finishing touch to their costume. Of course, we all know that an abundance of cheap jewelry is in the worst possible taste, and no woman of refinement would so bedeck herself. But to wear a necklace of a fine gold or platinum chain, artistic and unusual, finished with a flower-shaped pendant made of baroque pearls and white or green metal, set with tiny diamonds, is in perfect taste if it is in harmony with the type of gown with which it is worn."

"Bracelets can also give a very artistic finishing touch to a costume. Old-fashioned designs for bracelets are much sought, and a new cameo mounted on a gold band is one of the favored new ideas. An exquisite design for a bracelet shows a large pink-and-white cameo having the effect of being held in place by bunches of pearl grapes."

"Flower pins studded with colored stones are much used at present, for this spring the artificial flower is worn with street costumes, and the pin to hold it has become quite a necessity."

Fashion Notes.

Patent leather belts have waned in popularity.

Cardcases of cretonne or linen are

SNAKES' HYPNOTIC POWER.

Experiments Disproving the Serpent Charm Theory.

It is a popular belief that serpents have the power of capturing their prey by casting a mysterious spell over the victims. Even scientists have seriously considered this supposed mesmeric power over birds. Cuvier ascribed it to narcotic effluvia. Audubon to the self-sacrificing audacity of nest birds. Bonpland to the "instincts of curiosity and maternal devotion." Russell Wallace to "optic influences akin to hypnotism." The latter theory is the most generally accepted, and in the rural districts, both of Europe and North America, bird charming snakes are classed with such indisputable phenomena as fish deluding anglers. Contemporaries of more than average intelligence will describe the glaring eyes of a rattlesnake that paralyzed a youngster on his way to school and maintain that they saw it charm down a squirrel from the top of a walnut tree.

An opportunity was afforded me last summer of discovering the snake charm theory. The pharmacist of a medical college had procured a number of live serpents for experiments with certain antidotes, and during the summer vacation boarded his pets in a suburb of Bennington, Vt. They arrived in a moderate sized dry goods box, and with the owner's permission my neighbor transferred them to a roomy outhouse with a close fitting door and a wire screen front. Through a glass window their movements could be watched in spite of two bundles of straw and other aids to comfort. Cold weather lathargized them, but on warm afternoons four or five of ten rattlesnakes and six moccasins were generally in motion.

Were they trying to get out? Their conduct rather suggested a sanitary penchant for moderate exercise and sun baths. And there seemed no doubt that they had a memory for meal times. Generally revivals repeatedly preceded the gong by a minute or two. The owner's signboard, "Dinner at 3 p. m.," attracted rather a surplus of sightseers, and when it became known that our experiments promised to solve a problem of ages, catering, too, became superfluous; volunteer gifts of rats and blackbirds arrived in excess of our needs. Before the summer was over our visitors had settled the snake charm controversy. Twenty-eight out of thirty intelligent witnesses agreed that there is no hypnotism about it.

Our first doubts were aroused by the complacency of birds and small mammals and their absolute indifference to the presence of their formidable fellow captives. Within two feet of a coiled rattler a blackbird would alight on the rim of the drinking trough and adjust the defects of his toilet, splashing water in the very face of the reptile that watched him with piercing eyes. Then, after repeated sips, he would condescend to notice the crawler that had uncoiled by that time, and would finally hop

aside just far enough to avoid a dispute about bathing privileges, but still within easy reach.

Nor had the restlessness of rats anything to do with the dread of immediate danger. They were trying to gnaw out, but in the intervals of such efforts were apt to run straight into the pile of straw that formed the favorite rendezvous of the serpents. The snakes, indeed, were in no hurry to abuse that confidence. When they did get ready they scorned hypnotic artifices. A gradual elevation of the head, a noiseless approach with a short halt in reach of the bird that was picking crumbs in his feeding corner, then a slow contraction of coils, a snail-like dart and a leisurely retreat as from a task accomplished. The bird had taken wing, thoroughly alarmed now, and fluttered about the wire screen in the desperate hope of finding a loophole of escape. In less than thirty seconds the poison began to take effect. The bird clutched at the screen, with his head hanging further and further back, then relaxed his grip, dangled by one foot for a while and came flopping down on the floor. It was not dead yet, but dazed, looking this way and that and fluttering about in a strange, aimless fashion, and more than once right toward the destroyer, who at last began to manifest an interest in its antics. Once or twice the serpent, coiled near the centre of the floor, seemed strongly tempted to risk a conclusive spring, but drew back again, fully aware, perhaps, that a better chance would be only a question of a moment.

The bird was still on the floor, staggering to and fro, when a sideways collapse marked the beginning of the end. Its foe watched it with lifted head. The chance had come. No risk of a rough and tumble fight now; the victim had ceased to flutter, and the old rattler quickly dragged it off to the straw pile. A full hundred experiments repeated this same sequence of manoeuvres in all essentials.

The poison fangs of a snake have no proper roots, but terminate in a virus bag, and are attached to the jaw by means of ligatures that make them movable to the extent of erection and retraction. This arrangement makes it difficult and rather superfluous for the snake to secure his victim at the first spring. The fangs are adapted only for a snap bite, but their owner can afford to bide his time. The virus that has been known to overpower strong men in half an hour lethargizes birds and small mammals in half a minute. Wherever stricken they are apt to collapse in sight, if not in direct reach, of their assailants, whose keen eyes detect the slightest commotion in the neighboring weeds, but who would find it a very long time between meals if they had to rely upon the hypnotic power of those eyes.—Thomas C. Hutton, in the Scientific American.

THE MUSTARD PEST.

How Farmers Get Rid of Plague That Has Cost Millions.

Do results justify the tremendous expenditure of money and effort for adapting science to the ends of agriculture?

Wild mustard has been and is yet the curse of the farmer's field. The old method of dealing with the pest was twofold, to summer fallow, plow and harrow the infested field for a season, then when the crop was planted the next year, if the mustard still grew, to have the children wander through the field plucking out the weed by the roots.

This was a waste of time and grain, for little plantlets of oats or barley were trampled down or derooted for every mustard plant pulled up. The new scientific method is to use no seed that is not guaranteed. But what of the field already infected? And what of fields infected by other weeds quite as noxious as mustard?

It was in the spring of 1906 that the American Steel and Wire Company called attention of the agricultural experts to a by-product of their iron and steel manufacture, an iron sulphate solution, which seemed to destroy weeds without injuring grain. The chemists of the company conferred with the agronomy experts. The iron sulphate was diluted in water.

The remedy did not always act the same. It was found that it would not work early in the morning during the dew or after a rain, for the simple reason that moisture diluted it too much. Finally a suitable spraying machine was obtained from Germany and the iron sulphate was applied about the third week in June, when mustard was in the third leaf and previous to bloom, and the grain plantlets not yet high in the blade.

What was the result? The weed was wilted up and burnt as if by fire. The grain blade remained a little blackened, but unharmed, for new shoots came on in fresh growth.

Now in many Western States the oat crop represents a yearly yield to the farmer of from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000. Half that destroyed by mustard represented loss of ten to fifteen millions.

That amount is practically saved to the farmers' pocket by the discovery of the iron sulphate solution. Multiply that amount by the dozen or more States that are great oat growers and the importance of the discovery can be realized.—From Oatling.

ADVERTISING CHARITY.

Paid Appeals in Newspapers Best Way, Says Dr. Lindsay.

At the School of Philanthropy the other day Dr. S. M. Lindsay instructed the students in the art of securing popularity for the objects in which it is interested. One way was to buy advertising space.

"You have got to have the newspapers with you in any campaign," said he. "The platform and the pulpit do not exert the influence they once did. You are going to be advertised in the newspapers, anyway; it's worth seeing to that you are advertised right."

"Let me tell you how one man advertised a group of social reformers. He was a country boy, who came to the city and made ten or twenty millions by perfectly honest, straightforward methods. He said to these men one day: 'Buy a certain amount of space in the newspapers of the district which you wish to influence. Present your appeal in that space, and ask for money, votes and moral support. You'll get back all or nearly all the money it costs you, you will educate the public and you will acquire a control over the papers.'

"I dispense my advertising money through an agent, who controls perhaps \$500,000 or \$1,000,000 of advertising funds. Occasionally in one of the papers in which my advertisement appears I see an editorial hostile to my business. Then I drop a note to this agent, and he writes to the paper saying that the article in question is offensive to one of his advertisers, and he will appreciate it if the publisher will refrain from further utterance along that line. This letter is read very carefully because it comes from an agent that controls \$500,000 of advertising."

"I wouldn't for a moment," said Dr. Lindsay, "excuse the newspaper which paid any attention to such a communication if it believed the business was humbugging the public. In that case the newspaper ought to tell the advertiser to take his advertisement and go. But in our case the social reformer is not working to humbug the public but to benefit it, and is entitled to all the influence he can gain for that end."

To influence legislatures, Dr. Lindsay thought, petitions were not "worth the ink it took to write them." Circular letters addressed to legislators often produced an actually hostile effect. The only thing that really has an effect on the hard hearted lawmaker is personal appeal or a personal letter.—New York Tribune.

Fashions

New York City.—Fancy coats are greatly in vogue at this time and are to be noted made from a generous



variety of materials. All over lace is a favorite, pongee is much in vogue, linen will be extensively worn

Use of Fringe.

A Princess frock in mole-colored satin charmeuse is draped simply across the figure to one side and caught with a heavy, knotted, seven-inch fringe forming a trimming on the right side. On the other is a lovely silken embroidery made of various neutral shades from faintest Wedgwood blue to the palest note of Burgundy and yellow. These all seem to harmonize with the shade of the frock, and compose a most glorious combination.

Girl's Dress.

Simple little frocks made with straight full skirts are among the most practical and the most desirable of the warm weather season. This one is pretty and attractive and can be made from almost any really childish material, the linens, batistes, dimities and the like of the present season and also challis, cashmere and similar light weight wools. In the illustration, however, dotted batiste is trimmed with embroidery.

The dress is made with the waist and the skirt. The waist can be lined or unlined as material renders desirable and can be made with the yoke as illustrated or with the neck cut out on the square outline as liked. The skirt is straight and simply gathered at its upper edge.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (ten years) is four and five-eighths yards, three and three-quarter yards thirty-two or three yards forty-four inches wide, one-half yard eighteen inches wide



throughout the summer, and black silk and black satin are both smart and useful. This model is chic and jaunty while it includes seams to the shoulders, which mean simple and easy fit. It can be made with the sleeves as illustrated or sleeveless as liked; and the sleeveless effect will be much worn throughout the warm weather. It is pretty, it is greatly in vogue, while for the three-piece costume it makes an exceedingly graceful adjunct to the toilette. In this instance lace or silk braid is arranged over a thin silk lining and is finished with plain silk braid with looped edges.

The coat is made with the fronts and side-fronts, backs and side-backs, and with straight sleeves which are gathered and inserted in the armholes. If the sleeveless effect is desired these last can be omitted and the armholes cut out on indicated lines.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is four and one-half yards eighteen or twenty-one, three and one-half yards twenty-seven or two yards forty-four inches wide, one yard of fancy banding for the neck edge, four and one-quarter yards of braid and of looped edging.

Not a Wrinkle Permitted.

It is imperative that the drop skirt be fitted carefully to the figure, as small hips are in style, and there must be no extra fulness at the waist line or a sign of a wrinkle over the hips.

Collars and Cuffs.

Lace and embroidered collar and cuff sets are very much in vogue. The round lace yokes with attached collars are of a dressy order, made of Cluny and Irish lace. They are shown with the half sleeves to match.

The Startling Hats.

Hats are almost startling in their color propensities. They are very tall and they are trimmed in ways that make them seem still taller.

Soutache on Net.

If there is a net yoke or guimpe to the foulard frock trimmed with soutache, apply some of the soutache on to the net as well. This brings the color of the silk over on to the net in an effective way.

Cotton Voiles.

The cotton voiles strike one very forcibly this season, not because they are new, but because they are so plentiful and in such lovely colors.

Our Cut-out Recipe

Paste in Your Scrap-Book.

Lady Baltimore Cake: Recipe For the Famous South Carolina Delicacy.—Here is a South Carolina recipe for this cake, deservedly a favorite in all Southern dining rooms long before Mr. Owen Wister heaped drawing room honors upon it, "says the Woman's Home Companion.

"Two-thirds of a cupful of butter, five eggs, two cupfuls of sugar, four cupfuls of flour, one-half cupful of rich milk, two level teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar and one level teaspoonful of soda. Cream half the sugar with the butter, beat the remaining sugar into the yolks of the eggs, and sift the cream of tartar and the soda twice through the flour; beat the eggs and sugar together with the butter and sugar, add the milk slowly, and finally beat in the flour and stiffly beaten whites of the eggs. Flavor half this mixture with rose, and into the other half beat one teaspoonful of powdered cinnamon, one teaspoonful of powdered cloves and one grated nutmeg, and flavor with vanilla, lemon or almond; bake in four layer cake pans—two white layers and two spiced layers.

"For the Filling: Cut fine one cupful of seeded raisins, shred thin half a citron melon, grate one small cocoanut and blanch three-fourths a pound of almonds; make an ordinary boiled icing, and into it beat all these ingredients save the almonds. Put the mixture thickly between the layers, and finish the top layer—which should be a white one—with sprinkled powdered sugar and the almonds stuck in porcupine wise. The measuring cups are ordinary coffee cups and are filled just level. This is a successful recipe and one easily followed."

healthier than those in our country. I think this is due entirely to the fact that they spend so much time in walking. It is nothing for an English girl or woman to walk a distance of seven or eight miles. Let the young ladies of New York try this some afternoon, and they will not suffer from a lack of appetite for dinner. If the girls and women of New York should form a walking club I would be delighted to walk with them some afternoon and give what advice I could.

I think the fad for high heel shoes in New York and Paris is responsible for so little walking among our women. They cannot walk far in high heel shoes. Their ankles become twisted, and there is such a pressure upon the instep that the pain will prevent them from going any long distance.—Weston, in the Evening World.

Playgrounds For the Poor.

"I see you are planning for the introduction of playgrounds for poor children in New York on a rather elaborate plan," said Mrs. Clara B. Lemar, of Berlin, to a New York Telegram reporter.

"I hope you will not follow the model of European playgrounds which I have seen. It would be difficult to find a more demoralizing place for a child than the average playground as now run in England and on the Continent.

"The first requisite for a boy to get along in a public playground abroad is to be a 'bluffer' and a 'bully.'"

"The boy who cannot fight a gang and come out on top four or five times a day stands little show in one of our ideal public playgrounds."

"The moment he appears his toys are taken away from him and he is sent home to get money for the 'gang.' His standing at the playground after that depends either upon his ability to steal from his parents for the benefit of his playmates or else his ability as a fighter."

"The most modest and retiring little girl will be completely transformed by a week at one of these public playgrounds into a rough, bold-

useful and pretty with light dresses, and they are very easily made at home.

The black satin coat has been much abused and consequently discredited.

If the chiffon be black hung over white silk the effect is satisfying to an artistic eye.

There are hopes that the inartistic white glove may be doomed, at least for England.

A dainty lingerie hat is embroidered in wallachian work, the flowers done separately.

The exaggerated hat brim is in rather poor taste and not worn by those invariably well dressed.

Wings with jet hatpins formed a striking trimming when carried out in the fluffy white marabout neck boa.

"Kimono," to be pronounced correctly as the Japanese say it, should be accented not on the second, as we do, but on the first syllable.

Nothing is more out of keeping in the realm of dress than a short walking skirt and an elaborate big hat. The two should hardly meet in the street, to say nothing of appearing in the same costume.

Even the woman with luxurious locks patronizes the dealer in fine hair goods. She is going to wear the little curls and puffs which are so fashionable and she isn't going to ruin her own hair with the hot iron.

The high stock may be absolutely straight and, like the Gibson types, be of lace insertions, joined beneath biased satin and taffeta strips or of finely tucked net, self color, satin-edged and trimmed with tiny satin covered buttons.

Mustaches in Alaska.

Mustaches are not worn by men exposed to the severity of an Alaskan winter. They wear full beards to protect the throat and face, but keep the upper lip clean shaven. The moisture from the breath congeals so quickly that a mustache becomes embedded in a solid cake of ice, and the face is frozen in a short time.