

# NEWS AND VIEWS OF WOMEN

First Editor of Paper.

Mrs. Cyrus H. K. Curtis, wife of the head of the Curtis Publishing Company, and the first editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, died of heart disease in Philadelphia. She was 58 years of age.

Mrs. Curtis became editor of the Ladies' Home Journal when that publication was started in 1883. She retired from the editorship six years later.

Hans Learns His Fate.

A sketch of Dutch manners that has just appeared in an Amsterdam journal relates how in affairs of the heart, among that susceptible people, the cigar plays a part at once dreamily emblematic and practical.

The young gentleman in love calls casually at the young lady's house with his cigar out, and casually asks for a light.

That is a delicate hint, and if he calls again for a light the parents understand what to expect. A family council is held, and the reply is prepared. If on his third call the wooer receives a light, but has the door immediately closed in his face he understands that he is cold-shouldered.

If, on the other hand, his suit is welcome, after receiving the light he is invited in, the young lady is presented to him, and he puffs out his declaration through the curls of smoke.

Expressive Faces.

The most expressive face is not the one which writhes or agonizes with every sorrowful feeling, or twists and squirms with every amusing situation. It is rather the one which retains a calm exterior while the strongest emotions of the soul play upon it with their lights and shadows.

The face should be the smooth curtain on which the heart exhibits its various pictures without disturbing it, not the stage which requires the shifting of scenery for every act.

The reason why so many beautiful faces are to be found in a convent is in a great measure due to the daily habit of composing the features in long hours of meditation and prayer.

Unmarred by contending emotions, the features are gradually molded into harmonious outlines.

To sum up on this point—train your features to compose and avoid all grimacing habits.

Because good humor is an obliging quality, many women think they must always be in a laugh or a broad smile in order to be charming.

This is a grievous mistake.—New Haven Register.

Color For Brides.

At last a change in feminine costume has come about that ought to bring satisfaction to men and joy to women. We are told that a new sartorial revolution is taking place that will transform the conventional wedding dress of deadly white into a thing less suggestive of the tomb.

A recent London bride crossed the Rubicon and was married in a gown of rose tint, and in place of the pallid cluster of orange blossoms she wore a wreath of fresh myrtle. To be sure she did not do away with the traditional tulle veil, but even this article, usually suggestive of a shroud, was so arranged that it did not hide her face.

It was fastened in a bow at the crown of her head and depended gracefully down her back, leaving the face frankly and honestly exposed.

All brides are beautiful, as a matter of course; but many a girl to whom white lends an accentuation of paleness is dressed in bridal white at the sacrifice of much of her own natural loveliness.

The starting point of the ghastly white of the bridal dress is lost in antiquity; but it is probably of a religious origin, white being the synonym of purity and innocence. Yet white as a bridal color is about as grotesque as could be imagined if considered logically.

White is the color of snow, the hair of hoary age and the ceremonies of death.

What, pray, has youth to do with these things? A bride should be the very embodiment of life, vernal beauty and that warm innocence which displays itself in colors. Is there anything in this gray old world more suggestive of purity than the rose that is tinged with the pink of sunrise bearing in it sheath the dewy pearl drop?

Despite ancient theories and prejudices, an orange blossom is not in itself pretty. The apple blossom is warmer and hints of health and sweetness. The white rose is not a natural growth. It is a hybrid chilled by the hand of man into a thing of stillness and solemnity. It has no perfume worthy of the name. But an Alexandra bud with its delicate shadings of ethereal pink is vibrant with love and hope and beauty. That is the rose for a bride. And why the draperies of white to deck a radiant woman at the altar? Is she lost to the world in a cloister where her soul and body become the sacrifice of love? Does marriage end all, even life? Let us take a leaf from the customs of savages, who at least know nature better than we do, and adorn our brides with color and bright flowers. The morning of life is glorious with reds, purples, greens, gold and violet. The evening sky is cold and gray.—Kansas City Journal.

Talk About Nerves.

"Causes and Prevention of Nervous Exhaustion," was the subject at a meeting of the public health education committee of the County Medical Society and the hygiene committee of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs, and if the size of the audience was an indication of the prevalence of neurasthenia, New York nerves must be in a bad way.

The large auditorium and the adjoining banquet hall, on the lower floor of the Academy of Medicine, No. 17 West 43d street, were packed, people filling all the seats and standing four or five deep in the rear.

Dr. Smith Ely Jelliffe said that indigestion formed "the very large background" of neurasthenia, and indigestion was saddled on helpless children by parents who were injuriously conscientious about food.

"There's too much talk at meals about what we ought to eat," he declared. "Hot bread with melted butter on it isn't half as unwholesome as half-baked dietetic ideas. Don't worry your children to eat oatmeal because you think it's good for them, or ram spinach down their throats because spinach has iron in it. Children are conservative. They dread the new things that are forced on them in this big, puzzling world. Leave their little nerves and stomachs some peace, let them see you eating the right things, and they will grow naturally and calmly into an appreciation of spinach and other wholesome things."

Nervous exhaustion, Dr. Jelliffe said, had existed since Bible times, and long before. The only time we didn't have it was when we were molluscs and clams and had no nerves.

"What breaks down the nerves of the adult? There are a thousand causes—you only have to read our modern novels and poems to hear what they are. Overwork, too strenuous work, anxiety, worry—and then the countless petty disturbances that keep you from the higher level you want to reach. You women know about that—the dish that was burned, the servants who were stupid."

"Pick-me-ups" and afternoon tea with brandy in it were abetting causes, the speaker said. "I won't touch on bridge, because that's a live wire, but it's hard to estimate how much harm bridge and gambling have done women's nerves."

Dr. Simon Baruch advised women to throw their portieres out of the window if they wanted sound nerves. "I've just left a home in which the arch between the drawing rooms had sliding doors and double portieres," he said. "I don't know what they were for, unless to bump heads against and tangle feet in. These 'lambrekins' and things, as I believe they're called, which you have in your houses because they are the last fashion from Paris, shut out light and air and make bad sanitation. Upon sanitation rests the question of nervous exhaustion. Live an active life, sleep six to eight hours, eat regular meals, ventilate your houses, don't, if you're a woman, bother too much about clubs and the manicurist, and if you started with fairly good health you'll not have nervous exhaustion."

Dr. Evelyn Garrigue spoke on "the two forces, alcohol and debauchery, which work such ravages on the nerve cells." Dr. Edward D. Fisher, in a five-minute speech, showed how nerve troubles were inseparable from the heterogeneous, complicated life of modern New York. Dr. Rosalie Slaughter Morton presided.—New York Tribune.

Fashion Notes.

Opals are strongly in vogue. Heels are getting higher; toes narrower.

Tapestry handbags are a pleasing novelty.

French tailored suits are all very severe.

With the chanceler rage comes wings galore.

Necklaces after antique styles are high in fashion.

Pockets of odd cut are prominent on elaborate suits.

The newest thing in a wrap is known as the cape-coat.

Brilliantine makes excellent underskirts. Tiny pink roses trim young girls' dance frocks.

Semi-precious stones, set in exquisite filagree work, are in high favor as daytime ornaments.

Embroidery that looks like rat-tail braid is being employed quite effectively on linen tailormades.

Very stunning are large gun metal hatpins. A single rhinestone is in the centre of the disc-shaped top.

The lingerie gown is promised a great vogue, and this, of course, means a great vogue for embroidery.

Collarless frocks or handsome weaves in soft materials are still in vogue for all sorts of indoor occasions.

Angora sweaters of natural colors have turnover collars and pockets and are double-breasted. There are gloves and hoods to match.

Jewelled girdles are extremely handsome. They are made of cloth of silver or gold, studded with cabochons and colored stones.

A dark large-meshed voile or etamine worn over a shiny silk, a Persian pattern, is a charming combination for afternoon gowns.

Very Large Handbags.

The handbag has become one of the most comforting possessions of the housekeeper, the business woman and the shopper. The growth of the one-time pocketbook has been interesting to watch. In its latest development it is a thing of remarkable dimensions, and it is quite to be expected that if traveling-bag proportions were to be indicated in the newest handbag women would grasp the opportunity of carrying home, without loss, their own small bundles.

Elbow Sleeves.

Except for the severest of tailored gowns, the long, tight fitting sleeve has been supplanted by the elbow-length sleeve of the material, with an undersleeve of tulle net or lace. The elbow-length sleeve does not remain out of fashion for any length of time. Many of the newest gowns from Paris are finished with perfectly plain undersleeves of tulle embroidered with metallic nets in place of the tucked designs which were so popular at the beginning of the season.

Tucked Tulle Going Out.

Beaded and embroidered tulle and silver and gold gauze are taking the place of the tucked tulle which have so long been in favor for the necks of semi-tailored and other dresses. Unfortunately the pretty tucked material has become too available for the popular buyers. Now the fastidious are turning to shirred tulle or to the plain metallic fabrics. Shirred tulle sleeves come together over the arm in a double ruching that forms a line from shoulder to wrist, or a band of embroidery breaks the plain round effect.

Pleated Ruffles.

The lingerie ruffle on the last French petticoats and on the pantalon combinations are no longer invariably gathered to the beading which joins them to the garment. Pleats frequently are substituted for the old gathers. They are laid regularly of in bunch pleats and, again, in pairs, and since the pleats are very shallow the flounce requires only the usual amount of material or a very little more. The material is never measured three times round the space.

Plated Ruffles.

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