



**A Beautiful Neck.**  
To fill out hollows in the neck inhale deep breaths of fresh air and then very slowly expel them till all the air is exhausted from the lungs. Do this eight or ten times several times a day. Remember that this exercise must be practiced with the throat bare if you are to get the most possible good from it, and it is useless to expect to see an improvement for some weeks.

**Stocks and Belts To Match.**  
A very new idea for a stock and belt is to have both fashioned of white cloth, with an applique design in white suede leather applied in medallions, which are then outlined with small gold beads. Transparent collars are still as popular as ever. A stunning one has the usual pint in front, high at the sides and back sloping into a comfortable curve at the throat. It is made of fillet net as a foundation; on this is sewed appliques of pale blue embroidery spangled with turquoise beads. The entire collar is boned top and bottom. The smartest belts are the snakeskin ones with a gilt harness buckle. Good all round stocks, very neat and pretty to wear with the morning suit, are the black pea de sole and four-in-hands made up in the shops to sell for a dollar. A linen turnover completes the trim appearance.

**Women Use Stub Pens.**  
It was the young man's first day in the department store, and when he sorted out the pens to be distributed among the public writing desks he selected fine and medium nibs. The old hand, who superintended the job, told him to put them all back in the box and to pick out stubs instead. "Department store letter writers are mostly women," he said, "and nine out of ten women use a stub pen these days. It is almost impossible to get them to write with any other kind. Every once in a while a new man comes along to do the work you are doing this morning, and he, not being up to the tricks of shoppers, scatters an assortment of fine-pointed pens over the writing tables. The women writers raise no end of a row over a mistake of that kind and insist upon being supplied with the favorite stubs."—New York Times.

**Reappearance of the Topaz.**  
Fashionable women who could not possess a pearl or two in their jewel boxes only recently felt that all the world stood awry. Every woman they knew wore pearls set in some form or other, and during the craze diamonds for a time lost their prestige.  
Just now jewelers are polishing up and setting their supply of topazes, for the time seems ripe for a reappearance of the golden stone. A topaz must be set with diamonds and sapphires to give the good effects of contrast. Sapphires, more particularly, will be favored, so nearly does the blue match the glowing purple of the cornflower.

The jewelers' windows show topazes wonderfully set in ornaments of daintily carved tortoise shell, combs, fretted out as fine as lace work, and sprinkled everywhere with topaz in every shade from pale straw color to deepest yellow.  
Tortoise shell is the chosen setting for the new favorite, and besides the fancy combs wonderful bracelets are being made of the richly colored shell. Scarcely bracelets or bangles are these new ornaments, but old fashioned armlets, that clasp the white member above the elbows.—New York Herald.

**The Craze for Beadwork.**  
The beadwork of the Indian woman is steadily growing in favor, and we are using her artistic and beautiful handiwork for almost every purpose in both the world of fashion and in the household. Moreover, we are becoming very expert in the making of attractive designs ourselves, and pretty soon the palace and the squaw will be brought into sharp competition. But we shall be handicapped, as the Indian girl's knowledge of this bead painting is second nature to her. For use in the household nothing is better to brighten up a dark niche than a string of glass beauties. They adorn chandeliers and hang over picture frames. Lovely are the new candle shades. Covered first with silk, they are dotted with beads, and a fringe of the same finishes the bottom of the candle drapery. Battle axes having beaded handles are good for decorative purposes, and the tomahawk and pie combination is also adorned with beads. It seems we are to wear bands of beads on our summer hats as well as on the belts of our thin dresses. Purses, slippers and all sorts of fancy baskets we have seen from time immemorial, but the view upon the once despised objects as point has changed, and we now look things of beauty, and if the enthusiasm keeps up they will prove joys forever, as the durability of Indian work is proverbial.—Washington Star.

**Three Ages of Women.**  
"Woman's life may be divided broadly into three very distinct periods, the whispering age, the giggling age and the storming and tearful age," said an observant man, "and if men were shrewd they could easily make a good guess as to a woman's age up to a certain time. There is a time when a woman's age is a matter of much mystery, and a man, or a woman, for that matter, can't tell anything about it. The first statement, in which the division of periods is made, is probably a little awkward, for the whispering period belongs to the child age rather than to the age of the woman, and the giggling period gets a little closer to the border line of womanhood. Still all these periods belong to the life of the sex, and hence, they may be properly considered in the connection I have in mind."

"Note the difference between the girl and the boy of, say between 10 and 12 years of age. The boy, as a rule, is loud, boisterous, and lives in all respects the life intense. But here the girl enters upon her whispering career. She begins to whisper softly to her companions. She whispers everything. She does not use her low tones simply to peddle the little gossip of the schoolyard, to say shy things of Jodie, and Richard, and Thomas, and Henry, but she will whisper the most ordinary things in the world, mere commonplaces about which there is no sort of need of secrecy. Now as she buds into her teens she enters upon a period of apparently foolish, often silly, giggling. She will giggle at the most trifling things in the world, giggle at nothing and often she will giggle when tears would be more becoming. Of course, she doesn't mean to be harsh in this. She is probably further from harshness at this age than at any other time in her career."

"It is the age when poetic and religious impulses are strongest in the nature of woman, when the heart is tenderest and when the subtle essences of that indefinable thing, the soul, are more plastic and more responsive than at any other period. So she giggles, and giggles, until after she has rounded her way into the 20s. Thus we come by degrees to the last period when the lines of life have dropped into their natural grooves, when timidity is replaced by the self-assertive spirit, when life continually alternates between the sunshine and the shadow, passing quickly from laughter to tears, from song to sigh, from love's gentler, lispering to the rasping speech of petulance, and so on until the fires burn low on the hearth and the calm of age falls softly as heaven's benediction."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

**Fashion Notes.**  
Feathers will be extremely fashionable this season.  
Some of the newest skirts are trimmed with either graduated rows of velvet or a fancy velvet and braid galloon.

White velveteen of an inexpensive quality, and said to be washable, is much favored for morning wear in the house, with white cloth or serge skirts.

A prominent feature of the spring costumes will be the cuffs. Even the plainest walking gowns will be distinguished for conspicuous cuffs, usually of the gauntlet type.

A milliner has introduced a new hat pin, the head of which is made of a neat little pompon of chenille. Worn with a felt hat it looks as if it was part of the trimming.

The most attractive form in which the separate fancy waist has made its appearance this season is in ivory velvet, arranged in large plaits, decorated with small gold buttons.

Cloth of two colors and types will be used on one frock, cloth strappings will decorate velvet and vice versa, and lace motifs will be tinted to match the gown they embellish.

A charming spring model in millinery is of white moire silk, draped with tulle, gauged and tucked so as to resemble fur, with two long ostrich feathers curling around the brim.

Braided skirts are decidedly the vogue according to foreign advices; sometimes the braid is just put on plainly in rows on either side of the plastron or it takes some Grecian or severe conventional design. With the closely plaited skirts the plastron may be braided and another favored spring trimming for cloth dresses is decoupe velvet and lace incrustations.

Trimings promise to constitute the chief charm of the spring costumes. The tailor-made gowns will be elaborately trimmed with bands of velvet and braid artistically combined. Buttons of all sizes and all sorts will be used as a trimming. The demand for silk cords and tassels will be increased rather than diminished, and lace and silk embroideries will be introduced wherever there is a possible excuse for them.

**OIL FUEL IN LOCOMOTIVES.**

**Western Railroad Men Say It's as Safe as Coal, Maybe Safer.**

Some people have thought that crude oil should be prohibited in its use as fuel on locomotives because of the danger of explosion and easy ignition in case of collision or other serious mishap. The recent cycle of accidents throughout the country, particularly in the West, where everybody is quite familiar with petroleum, has seemed to accentuate the feeling against oil-burning locomotives. In one or two instances serious damage from fire has resulted, and reports have made it appear that, immediately after the crash, burning oil was quickly hurled over the wreck and fendish flames soon wrought complete destruction.

Experts have been discussing the danger of oil on locomotives lately, and their conclusions are to the effect that such fuel is not only not more dangerous than coal, but often much less so.

Said a prominent Southern Pacific official of the operating department recently: "I am not talking to be quoted in the public prints, because the subject is somewhat technical and a trifle out of my line, but I do not hesitate for a moment in saying that the danger from oil as fuel on our locomotives is at a minimum, and that coal is no safer. In fact, when emergency arises, the engineer or fireman can quickly turn a valve and instantly put out the roaring flames in the fire box; whereas in the case of coal, there is always a bed of red-hot coals ready to make any accident a dreadful holocaust. Of course, the same thing might happen with oil under the proper conditions, if the flow were not stopped and the flames could be fed from a bursted tank."

"Even then it might more often happen that the cold petroleum would extinguish the fire. Crude oil itself is not an explosive; when vaporized it will burn, but to vaporize it in the open is a difficult matter. Four crude oil over a lighted torch, and the effect will be the same as if water had been used; plunge a lighted torch into a tank of crude oil, and the flame will go out instantly; no explosion will ensue; the flame goes out because the oil is of such consistency that it is with difficulty vaporized, while it can burn only in that condition."

"Before the Southern Pacific decided to abandon coal on its engines, some interesting experiments were made in Los Angeles at the instance of General Manager Kruttschnitt, who at first seemed fearful of imminent danger from the use of oil. These experiments, however, convinced him that the new fuel was in no way an extra hazard to life or property."

"Of course, in a head-on collision, when two mammoth engines plunge into each other at terrific speed, they are quickly demolished, together with their tenders and everything else, while necessarily oil would be hurled in every direction—but seldom burning oil—and, if fire broke out, the oil would very easily burn along with the inflammable debris. But there is the possibility of killing the flame in the fire box that does not exist when coal is burned."

At this juncture it is interesting to know that an Arizona mechanic is reported to be in Los Angeles at the present time working on a device designed to stop the flow of oil in an engine automatically upon the least disturbance indicating serious complications. Such an invention is greatly desired by both railroads and travelling public.—Los Angeles Times.

**Britisher Shrinking in Size.**  
The London Express fears that the physical standard of the Britishers is on the decline. It says: Out of every five men who offer themselves for the army only two become effective soldiers.

As the medicinal rejections for the army are an indication of the general physical condition of the would-be recruits these figures show an alarming deterioration of the national physique. In a single year 23,000 men were rejected at sight, and another thousand were discharged with only a few weeks' service, while up to one, two, and three years' service the discharges for reasons of unfitness were numerous.

One of the causes for this state of things is the crowding of men in the towns, and another is the want of nutrition and attention in childhood among the lower classes.

From observations taken at military hospitals Sir Frederick Maurice believes that the scanty and improper feeding of infants induces heart and lung trouble and inferior physique, and that early marriages and maternal neglect are fruitful causes of flat feet, bowed legs and similar physical defects.

**The Loss of Life in 1902.**  
The loss of human life in 1902 apart from the ordinary ravages of disease, was greater than it has been in any year for a considerable period. It is estimated that the deaths caused by the volcanic eruptions in the West Indies numbered about 50,000, and thousands more deaths resulted from a like cause in other parts of the world. War added something like 25,000 to 26,000 to the list of the fatalities, the greatest losses of this character being the Transvaal, China, Africa and Venezuela. Deaths from epidemics aggregated about 385,000, which is estimated as nearly 45,000 more than in the preceding year, while shipwrecks account for 4200 of the accidental deaths, or nearly double those from that cause in 1901. Suicide figures a grand total of 8231. The number of deaths caused by murder and accidents of various kinds will foot up a large aggregate, which cannot be approximately estimated.—Nashville Banner.

**PEARLS OF THOUGHT.**

Haste trips up its own heels, fetters and stops itself.—Seneca.

If you would know, and not be known, live in a city.—Colton.

No man was ever discontented with the world if he did his duty in it.—Southey.

There is no genius in life like the genius of energy and industry.—D. G. Mitchell.

Character and personal force are the only investments that are worth anything.—Whitman.

Our first impulses are good, generous, heroic; reflection weakens and kills them.—L. A. Martin.

He that was never acquainted with adversity has seen the world but one side, and is ignorant of half the scenes of Nature.—Seneca.

Sacrifice brings its reward by converting simple duty into positive happiness. We have attained our end in the liberty to work freely with God.—John James Taylor.

Human help in our need, human forgiveness of our wrong-doing, human love in our loneliness,—these are the sacraments through which, at their sweetest and purest, we feel a divine help and forgiveness and love flowing into our souls.—G. S. Merliam.

In our higher and happier moods, I think we all have visions of the truth that we never are nor can be paid for our best, save only in the doing of it. Our finest devotion is never recompensed in terms of the market. It never can be. We give ourselves, and find in return our larger life.—Frederick L. Hosmer.

**WESTERN CATTLE RANGES.**

**How They Yet May Be Restored to Their Old Fertility.**

The number of cattle in the United States is increasing, though it does not keep pace with the population. But the business is more and more forced on to high priced land, rendering beef production costlier than it need be. According to figures laid before the house committee on public lands, April 16, 1902, the number of range cattle sent to market diminished 81 percent between 1895 and 1901.

With due care the range can be made to recover its old fertility. It might easily be put in condition to fatten four head of stock to each head now grazing upon it. To effect this, regulation is needed. Some authority must be asserted over the pastures to prevent their abuse, to make it for the interest of occupants not to kill the goose which lays the golden egg. An end must be put to the blighting competition now kept up.

Regulation being established, pastures can be used in rotation, a period of rest being given each, during which the grazing and trampling of herds may cease, and grasses have opportunity to scatter and fructify their seeds. Barren places can be artificially reseeded and induced to yield herbage as of old. In localities better grasses than ever grow there can be sown and grown.

Such a recuperative process has been set going in other countries, and in parts of our own. Australia has suffered the pinch through which we are now passing. Her great live stock industry was dying out; her exports of frozen and preserved meats dwindling. Ranges were depleted or destroyed, as now with us. Cattle "dusting," outlawry, range jumping and quarrels were general. The men of that country faced the problem and solved it. A system of leases was devised, giving each grazier, for a term of twenty-eight years, exclusive range rights upon his land. It became profitable for him to improve his holding instead of promoting its deterioration. The lessee cuts his domain in two, pasturing each part one year and resting it the next. In this way the whole pasture gradually improves in quality. Cattle multiply and thrive as additional grass grows to feed them.

Mexico and Canada have had a similar experience, and so in our own country, have Texas and other states. The excellent control of cattle afforded by the Canadian system accounts for the present heira of American cattle people across our northern border.—E. Benjamin Andrews, in the American Monthly Review of Reviews.

**Affectionate Elephants.**

A pathetic story of intelligence and affectionate solicitude of an elephant comes from the Midnapur district in Bengal.

A wild tusker and a young animal had done great damage to crops, and the head man of the district, Babu Ganjan Lal Malla, attempted to kill them. He shot the large animal in the leg, disabling it, but not sufficiently for anyone to approach it.

For a month, says the London Express, the animals lingered in the district, the small one ministering to the wants of its wounded comrade, and by furious charges kept the villagers at a safe distance.

Twining its trunk about that of the stricken brute, it uttered the most mournful cries, fanned the wound, and gave every evidence of acute distress. When the wounded elephant died its companion disappeared and has not been seen since.

**Thousand Lines on a Post Card.**

A German farmer named Heinrich Rundshagen, living at Schiphorst, near Lauenberg, has been clever enough to write a thousand lines on an ordinary post-card. First he wrote Schiller's "Song of the Bell" in German and Latin characters, together 852 lines and then 148 lines of German poems. The card is to be shown to the Kaiser, and then to be exhibited at next year's exhibition in St. Louis.

**Kitchener Brooked No Failure.**

The gift of overcoming apparently insurmountable difficulties which the sirdar's officers possessed in such a marked degree was very largely due to the unbending severity with which he treated all failures, whether high or low were responsible for them. A thing was ordered; it had to be done, and consequently it was done; no excuses prevailed for an instant. So when an officer lost a Nile steamer through the stupidity of a subordinate he was a ruined man; when the wires failed to connect K. with his base at a critical moment the young officer in charge lost all the fruits of his long and meritorious labors. If no chief ever acknowledged more fully and generously good work well done, no one also was ever more unforgiving of failure, to no matter what cause the faultiest moment of a blazing Sudan summer incautiously reported that D. had got sunstroke, and therefore could not execute some order. "Sunstroke!" K. replied: "what does he mean by having sunstroke; send him down to Cairo at once." However, D. being a friend of mine, I wired to warn him that he was under a delusion and was quite well, and the order was carried out, and nothing more heard of the matter, while poor D. lived to get himself handsomely killed before Mafeking.

**Whetstones Made of Aluminium.**

It is reported from Germany that an experimenter there has found aluminium an excellent substitute for a whetstone in giving a fine, keen edge to blades. When examined with a microscope, the edge of a knife that was sharpened on the metal appeared much straighter and smoother than one sharpened on a stone. One peculiar effect of the honing is that the surface of the aluminium becomes coated with a greasy substance with a great power of adhesion to steel, and to this is attributed the fine edge produced.

**Marconi System for Africa.**

The African Trans-Continental Telegraph Company's line being complete to Ujjj, the directors have, in view of the great engineering difficulties to the north of that district, suspended operations for the present, and are watching with a degree of interest the development of the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy with a possible view of its adoption.

**New Five-cent Stamp.**

The Postoffice Department has approved the design for the new five-cent postage stamp. The design symbolizes the cementing of the tie between the North and South, and on that account the stamp will be known generally as the "Union" stamp. It will show an engraved head of Lincoln, centered in an oval, while on the either side will be the figure of a woman, one representing the North and the other the South. Each supports a palm and is draped in the American flag.

**Collecting Dialects.**

With the fund recently received from the Carnegie Institute in Washington the department of experimental psychology at Yale University will continue experiments on the human voice, which were begun more than a year ago. Plans are being made for collecting dialects all over the United States, by means of a car, specially equipped with voice-recording machines. A feature of the collection will be voice records of various tribes of North American Indians. It has been decided to send the car West this summer.

**Recommended by Commission.**

An appropriation of \$275,000 for a New York State Electrical Laboratory at Union College, Schenectady, is recommended by a commission appointed to determine the necessity for such an institution. The laboratory is to supply information on questions of electrical science, and an official standard for electrical measuring instruments and apparatus, together with standards for electric wiring of buildings for the protection of municipalities and the general public. Germany has such an institution.

**Won Flag-Song Prize.**

Mrs. Lee C. Harby, of Charleston, S. C., has won the \$100 prize in a contest ordered by the State of Texas for an official flag song. Her poem set to music will be sung on all patriotic occasions.

**Passports for Honduras.**

Information was received at Mobile, Ala., from Honduras to the effect that because of revolutionary troubles all persons coming into that country must have passports.



Miss Gannon, Sec'y Detroit Amateur Art Association, tells young women what to do to avoid pain and suffering caused by female troubles.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I can conscientiously recommend Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to those of my sisters suffering with female weakness and the troubles which so often befall women. I suffered for months with general weakness, and felt so weary that I had hard work to keep up. I had shooting pains, and was utterly miserable. In my distress I was advised to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and it was a red letter day to me when I took the first dose, for at that time my restoration began. In six weeks I was a changed woman, perfectly well in every respect. I felt so elated and happy that I want all women who suffer to get well as I did."—Miss GUILA GANNON, 359 Jones St., Detroit, Mich., Secretary Amateur Art Association.

It is clearly shown in this young lady's letter that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will certainly cure the sufferings of women; and when one considers that Miss Gannon's letter is only one of the countless hundreds which we are continually publishing in the newspapers of this country, the great virtue of Mrs. Pinkham's medicine must be admitted by all; and for the absolute cure of all kinds of female ills no substitute can possibly take its place. Women should bear this important fact in mind when they go into a drug store, and be sure not to accept anything that is claimed to be "just as good" as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, for no other medicine for female ills has made so many actual cures.

**How Another Young Sufferer Was Cured.**

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I must write and tell you what your Vegetable Compound has done for me. I suffered terribly every month at time of menstruation, and was not able to work. Your medicine has cured me of my trouble. I felt relieved after taking one bottle. I know of no medicine as good as yours for female troubles."—Miss ERRIS CROSS, 100 Water Street, Haverhill, Mass.

Remember, Mrs. Pinkham's advice is free, and all sick women are foolish if they do not ask for it. No other person has such vast experience, and has helped so many women. Write to-day.

**\$5000 FORFEIT** if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.