

Woman's Sphere.

Nobody Knows But Mother.

How many buttons are missing to-day? Nobody knows but mother. How many playthings are strewn in her way?

Nobody knows but mother. How many thimbles and spoons has she missed?

How many burns on each fat little fist?

How many bumps to be cuddled and kissed?

Nobody knows but mother.

How many hats has she hunted to-day? Nobody knows but mother.

Carelessly hiding themselves in the hay?

Nobody knows but mother.

How many handkerchiefs willfully strayed?

How many ribbons for each little maid?

How, for her care, can a mother be paid?

Nobody knows but mother.

How many lunches for Tommy and Sam?

Nobody knows but mother. Cookies and apples and blackberry jam?

Nobody knows but mother. Nourishing dainties for every "sweet tooth."

Toddling Dottie or dignified Ruth, How much love sweetens the labor, forsooth?

Nobody knows but mother.

How many cares does a mother heart know?

Nobody knows but mother. How many joys from her mother love flow?

Nobody knows but mother.

How many prayers by each little white bed,

How many tears for her babies has she shed,

How many kisses for each curly head?

Nobody knows but mother.

—Anon.

WOULD YOU PAY \$200 FOR A BIG HAT?

Many of the Mammoth Lids Worn Now Cost More Than This.

The mammoth hat is conquering London. A fashionable woman purchased no fewer than fourteen specimens of it the other day in a well-known millinery establishment. The models were gigantic, and were variously trimmed, though plumage predominated over flowers in their adornment.

"Though the present fashion in its exaggerated form has come to us from Paris," said an authority on hats, "London really taught Paris to appreciate the 'picture hat.'

It figured largely in the tresses of the young Queen of Spain, and set the mode among the French, who at first scoffed at the shady brims and softly plumed crowns of the mushroom or cloche model, but afterward adopted it whole-heartedly, with noticeable exaggerations in size and trimming."

"Far from rebelling against the size of the mammoth hats I am selling," declared another purveyor of fashionable headgear, "my customers will look at nothing small."

The reason that the sum of \$200 is by no means an uncommon price for a single hat is that so much expensive material and trimming are required.

"The most exclusive women, those of the world of fashion, who are not led by the vagaries of any mode, are not ordering mammoth millinery," said one authority. "I made numbers of hats for Ascot that are very beautiful, but by no means exaggerated. In point of fact, numbers of the best dressed women adhere to the same style of hat season after season, with slight alterations."

What He Looks At.

Some men can take in all a girl wears; the average man sees if she be the kind he likes—or the other kind.

If he cannot go into details he can, however, see whether—

Her shoes are run down at the heels or any of the buttons are gone.

Her gloves have holes in the tips and would be better for soap suds or gasoline.

She looks "band-boxy" or as if she had never heard of pressing.

She is spotty or slouchy or neat and trim.

Men may be impressionists as to colors and materials; they are etchers when it comes to noticing little things that bespeak slovenliness.

Do not forget, girls, that it is by such little things that you are judged, rather than by what you pay for your clothes or how well you carry them.

Stretching Curtains.

Now that fall housecleaning is engrossing so much attention, it is well to know that when stretching curtains, especially those beginning to show a little wear, a sheet should be put on the floor and upon this, tacked the most worn curtain, using bank pins to tack each scallop. Then hook the other curtains on the same as on the stretchers. This method takes much less time. The curtains will be straight and of uniform size, as four curtains can be put down at once and they will wear twice as long.

Tack them down; do not pin them, because when pinning the pins must be removed for each curtain and pinned back. Bank pins are sold by the pound in department stores. They will not bend in tacking and can be used a number of times.

Charm of Sincerity.

Few attributes add so much to one's personal power as the knowledge that one is absolutely genuine and sincere.

If your life is a perpetual lie, if you pretend to be, you cannot be strong. There is a continuous struggle with the truth going on inside you which seizes your energy and warps character.

If there is a mote in your eye, remove it at once. Otherwise, you can-

suit of plain color by having a variety of slips to wear beneath it.

The dinner robe in which madly receives her guests o' nights is a thing of grace and beauty this year if never before.

There are also oblong sachet pads designed to fit the sides of the corset under the arms, when such filling in is required.

The fine neck chain with a large pink topaz or other semi-precious stone as a pendant is one of the most popular necklaces.

In the past the princess gown was worn only for evening, and it surely suits costumes for such seasons better than daytime ones.

The new Oxford tie made in black calfskin has a medium pointed toe, Cuban heel and is characterized by punched eyelets not worked.

A bevy of bridesmaids at a smart wedding wore pale blue silk skirts veiled with chiffon and Louis coats of flowered silk with velvet lapels and girdles.

Smoking Competitions.

Started in one or two small places a few years ago, "Smokers' Clubs" have proved most popular institutions in Germany are now to be found in nearly every village. The members meet in the local taverns once a week, and drink much beer and smoke many pipes of tobacco.

The most interesting feature of these clubs, however, is the annual festival, to which members of neighboring clubs are invited to take part in a smokers' competition, held under precise and elaborate rules and conditions. The contestants are divided into two parties of ten each and are seated on a platform at the end of the room. The president then weighs out with great exactitude five grammes—about one-sixth of an ounce—of tobacco for each man, who rams it into a new pipe.

At a given signal matches are struck, pipes lit, and all begin smoking furiously, so that they are soon hidden in clouds of smoke. Meanwhile the judge counts aloud the seconds and minutes as they fly, and before three minutes have passed most of the pipes have been smoked out. Each man's time is duly entered on a sheet as he holds over his pipe, and the tobacco ashes in it are carefully examined to see that the pipe has really been smoked out.

The prizes consist for the most part of beer "steins" and smokers' articles, such as pipes and tobacco jars and cases. Music plays a prominent part in the entertainments, which are becoming increasingly numerous and popular.—*Tit Bits.*

Wearing Five Buttons.

Girls have gone in for many Chinese fashions, such as the mandarin jacket, the kimono sleeve, the chrysanthemum embroidery, but the wearing of five buttons on the coat of jacket is a new idea, unknown to the many.

The Chinese wear these five buttons to remind them of the five chief moral virtues which were recommended by Confucius. These are: Humanity, justice, order, rectitude and prudence.

Wee Carriage Shade.

Memories of long past days surround the tiny parasols that are carried in the automobile and horse carriage alike, edged with fringe that flutters in the breeze. Men who were young dandies in the fifties of last century will recollect them, and the airs and graces they enabled a pretty woman to reveal, for in truth they are as useful as a fan in the hands of a coquette.

The Collar Up to Date.

Quite the newest collar from Paris to wear with any kind of dress is a band of white satin, bordered at the top and base with a double-pleated ruff of pleated white tulie. This encircles the neck and makes the most becoming framework for the face, giving a cachet and a charm of great distinction.

Attractive Combs.

New back combs are shown: the top decorated with cut jet in many beautiful designs and shapes, while for mourning wear the jet is of the dull variety, cut to resemble crepe. Other combs are made of blonde tortoise shell, finished with huge cut bows or thickly studded with semi-precious stones.

Modish Girdles.

Wide girdles are to be shunned by full waisted women, but they are very attractive upon slim ones. They seem to supply the missing note to the empire, the directoire and the princess modes. The wider the girdle the better.

A Change Will Prove Helpful.

Frequently change the mode of wearing the hair, else failing hair is likely to result. That portion of the scalp where the hair is coiled and pinned receives no sunlight and the coiled hair no ventilation.

A Cheerful Color.

It is the dull rose pink that is best liked of this cheerful color this season. One of the prettiest of effects is seen in a sheer white batiste blouse embroidered not too heavily with it.

Simple Monograms.

The letters which form the new monograms for marking leather pieces are detached and very simple in design.

Stripes and Cross Bars.

The stripes and cross bars which make such smart shirts are promised a still stronger vogue.

FOL-DE-ROL.

Russian crochet is much sought after.

Dull gold is a favorite hue for matron's hats.

The three-piece suit is becoming more and more popular.

The hair ribbon fad has brought forth the ribbon comb.

The better grades of lisle and silk hosiery are striped.

Small brown buckles look neat on the dark brown oxfords.

Browns and yellows of all tones are much in vogue in millinery.

Tan shoes in two-button styles are worn with dresses of any color.

Mohair is developing into some very smart coats for motorizing wear.

Rhinestone initials in place of buckles are a new fad in footwear.

White cotton ball fringe edges some of the smartest little linen and cotton coats.

The front drapery of the bodice is tied in fichu style, the ends finished with silk tassels.

The princess day gown of sheer material has a band of embroidery let in at the waist line.

Vary the appearance of your volle

Farm and Garden.

On the Stairs.

He said "Good-night," and he held her hand.

In a hesitating way,

And he hoped that her eyes would understand.

What his lips refused to say.

He held her hand and he murmured low:

"I'm sorry to go like this.

It seems so frigidly cold, you know,

This 'Mister' of ours, and 'Miss.'

"I thought—perhaps—" and he paused to note.

If she seemed inclined to frown;

But the light in her eyes his heart strings smote,

As she blushingly looked down.

She said no word, but she picked a speck.

Of dust from his coat-lapel,

Such a small, such a wee little tiny fleck.

Twas a wonder she saw so well.

And it brought her face so very near,

In that dim, uncertain light,

That the thought, unspoken, was made quite clear.

And I know 'twas a sweet "good night."

—Edw. Everett Nelson, in *Smart Set.*

RATIONS FOR HENS TO INDUCE EARLY LAYING

Four Methods Described for Special Feeding of Pullets.

The poultry department of the New York experiment station has issued a bulletin on four methods of feeding pullets for early egg production, and the plan of experiments and the conclusions drawn from the results are here given:

Pen 1. Forced, received grain mixture morning and night in the litter and wet mash at noon.

Pen 2. Forced, received the grain mixture morning and night in the litter and dry mash in a hopper open at all times.

Pen 3. Retarded, received grain morning, noon and night in litter and beef scraps once a day in a trough.

Pen 4. Retarded, received grain mixture and beef scrap in a hopper open at all times. The pullets in all four pens had grit, oyster shell, and water always before them, and were given mangel beets and cut green beans at intervals during the period of confinement.

The findings drawn from the data of this experiment are as follows:

1. Forced pullets made a better profit than retarded pullets.

2. Forced pullets ate less food a hen at less cost than retarded pullets.

3. Forced pullets produced more eggs during early winter than retarded pullets.

4. Forced pullets produced more eggs during early winter than retarded pullets.

5. Forced pullets made a greater percentage of gain in weight than retarded pullets.

6. Forced pullets showed less broodiness than retarded pullets.

7. Forced pullets had less mortality than retarded pullets.

8. Forced pullets showed better vigor than retarded pullets.

9. Forced pullets showed the first mature molt earlier than retarded pullets.

10. Retarded pullets gave better fertility of eggs than forced pullets.

11. Hopper fed dry mash gave better results in gain of weight, production of eggs, hatching power of eggs, days lost in molting, mortality, health and profit a hen than wet mash.

12. Wet mash and grain fed pullets consumed slightly less food at less cost, and produced eggs at slightly less cost a dozen than dry mash and grain fed pullets.

13. Wet mash and grain fed pullets produced slightly larger eggs of slightly better fertility, and showed less broodiness than dry mash and grain fed pullets.

14. Dry mash and grain fed pullets laid eggs of good size at an earlier period than wet mash and grain fed pullets.

15. Dry mash and grain fed pullets laid eggs of good size at an earlier period than wet mash and grain fed pullets.

16. Hopper fed pullets ate more than hand fed pullets.

17. Pullets having whole grain ate more grit and shell than those having a portion of ground grain.

18. Pullets fed on grain were more inclined to develop bad habits than those having a mash.