

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 spools has she missed?
Nobody knows but mother.
How many burns on each fat little fist?
Nobody knows but mother.
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.

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 plume 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 tresson 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 wholeheartedly, 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 Cushtains.

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 know that you are not what you pretend to be, you cannot be strong. There is a continuous struggle with the truth going on inside you which saps your energy and warps character. If there is a mote in your eye, remove it at once. Otherwise, you can-

not look the world straight in the face. Further, there will be a cloudiness, a haze, about your character which will be noticeable to those about you.

Strength lies in character. Deceit is weakness; sham and pretense are feebleness. Only the genuine and the sincere are worth while.

Doing Your Own Work.

Depending on others is like a cake minus baking powder; you can always count on a fall down.

The girl who does it herself need never lose beauty sleep wondering if she done.

As well put faith in the weather with invitations out for a garden party as feel dead certain of others doing that promised task.

What you do yourself may not be well done, but, at least, you are off the anxious bench.

As well count on the unbaked lace collar to cling back of the ears as get the dependent habit.

Knowing how to do things yourself and doing them makes you as indifferent to the whims of others as a deadbeat to debts.

Two Items for the Dressmaker.

When making a circular skirt finish all but the lower edge and hang up for a few days. After that length of time it can be safely turned up, as it will have stretched as much as it ordinarily will. In pressing all wool and mohair dress goods care should be taken to remove the pressing cloth while the material is damp, allowing it to steam dry. If pressed until perfectly dry the material receives a sort of polished glazed finish and is made tender.

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 girls 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 frill of pleated white tulle. 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 crows. Other combs are made of blonde tortoise shell, finished with huge cut bows or shells 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 falling 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 motor 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 finest drapery of the bodice is tied in fachu style, the ends finished with silk tassels.

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

Vary the appearance of your vol-

suit of plain color by having a variety of slips to wear beneath it.
The dinner robe in which milady receives her guests of nights is a thing of grace and beauty this year if never before.

There are also oblong sashet pads designed to fit the sides of the corset under the arms, when such fitting 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 hands 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.—*T. H. H.*

A Friar's Brevity.

Dallas Wolford, the English comedian, had been appointed to a toast at a banquet at the Players' Club, but the speakers who preceded him proved long winded, and therefore a committeeman came to Mr. Wolford and asked him in a whisper to cut his address very, very short.

"I have been asked to cut my speech short," Mr. Wolford said, when he arose. "All I wish is that I could cut it as short as a friar once did with his sermon."

"This friar, on the feast of St. Stephen, had been appointed to preach on the saint, but at the last minute a priest asked him to make the sermon brief, as the hour was already late. The friar accordingly ascended the pulpit and delivered the following address:

"Brethren, twelve months ago I preached to you a sermon on the saint whose feast we are celebrating to-day. As I have not heard of any other deeds performed by the saint in the interim, I have nothing to add to what I said on the former occasion."

"Thereupon the friar blessed them and departed."—*Buffalo Enquirer.*

More Important Than War.

The American harvesting machine has won its way to usefulness all over the world. Whether drawn by horses, steers or dromedaries, this invaluable device is always in the vanguard of civilization. An incident showing the full significance and importance of the harvester even above an army in wartime is related in H. N. Casson's recent book entitled, "The Romance of the Reaper."

During the Russo-Japanese war several troop trains that were on their way to the front were suddenly sidetracked to make way for a long freight train loaded with heavy boxes.

The war generals and grand dukes in charge of the troops were furious. Why should their trains be pushed to one side and delayed to expedite a mere shipment of freight? They telegraphed their indignation to St. Petersburg and received a reply from Count Witte.

"The freight train must pass," he said. It is loaded with American harvesters. It means bread."

Medical Maxims.

It is an ill wind that blows the doctor good.

To err is normal; to cure divine.

A patient in the office is worth two in the grave.

Never operate during periods of depression, particularly financial.

It is better to have operated and lost, than never to have operated at all.

A stitch in time saves embarrassment.

An ounce of pretension is worth a pound of cure.

When patients relapse, it's nature's fault; when they die, it's their own.—*Life.*

Took Him at His Word.

Grandgrind (to his employees)—No body but me is to touch that clock. Nobody is to begin or leave off work except as it indicates the time.

Foreman—Yes, sir.

Grandgrind (the next day)—Why, the day is one-fourth gone and nobody's at work! What does this mean?

Foreman (meekly)—You forgot to wind the clock, sir.—*London Fun.*

Is This True?

"I wouldn't do for politics, I guess," said the pretty girl. "I'd simply vote the way papa votes."

"In that," remarked an observer, "you wouldn't differ so very much from most men."—*Pittsburg Post.*

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 blushing 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 mixture morning 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 bone 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 a hen 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 gave better hatching results of eggs than retarded pullets.

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

7. Forced pullets showed less broodiness than retarded pullets.

8. Forced pullets had less mortality than retarded pullets.

9. Forced pullets showed better vigor than retarded pullets.

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

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

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

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.

19. Earliest producers did not give as many eggs in early winter.

20. Early layers gained as rapidly in weight as those beginning later to lay.

21. Prolificacy made but slight difference in weight of hen and weight of egg.

22. The most prolific pullets did not always lay earliest.

23. Pullets did not as a rule lay while molting.

Feeding Silage with Alfalfa.

Some dairymen seem to think that alfalfa makes better feed for their cows than corn silage. The two may be fed together very profitably.

Silage is rich in carbohydrates and low in dry matter and protein, while alfalfa is rich in just the things which silage lacks. Together they make a first rate ration for cows which are not being pushed.

For cows in full flow some grain or other concentrated feed should be added to the silage and alfalfa, to give a perfectly balanced ration. Good corn silage is the ideal food for cows. It may be fed any time during the year with good results. Cows will greedily eat it when they are upon the best summer pastures, while for July and August feeding it comes in mighty nice. If you have been feeding silage, don't give it up, but put up all the alfalfa you can and feed the two together.—*L. C. Brown.*

Fruit-Wrapping Machine.

A fruit-wrapping machine has been put in operation in California. It requires practically no attention and entirely automatically wraps the fruit, says Country Gentleman. The fruit rolls down a slight incline to the operator, turning slowly over as it approaches him and giving him an opportunity to remove defective specimens. The fruit is lifted and placed stem up in rubber cups, which carry it to a mechanism operating much as the human hands. It is carried to the paper being cut and printed from the roll. The twist of the paper is made over the stem end, thus cushioning the stem and preventing puncture injury. If the machine becomes clogged, it is stopped by a clutch operated by electricity. A counting attachment registers the number wrapped. The capacity of the machine is said to equal six good wrappers.

How to Measure a Haystack.

To measure hay in round stack measure around the stack and divide by 3.14 to get the diameter, says Denver Field and Farm. Square the diameter and multiply by .78. Multiply the product by the average height of the stack. Suppose a stack is 75 feet around and 10 feet high. Seventy-five feet divided by 3.14 equals 24 feet, the diameter. Square the diameter thus: Twenty-four multiplied by 24 equals 576, multiplied by .78 equals 449.28 square feet in the bottom. Multiply this by 10, the average height of the stack, and it gives 4,492.80 cubic feet in the stack. Divide this by 345, the number of cubic feet in a ton of old hay, and the result is a fraction over thirteen tons in the stack.

Breeding Sweet Corn.

Considerable tabular data are given by the New Jersey experiment station, showing the effect, as indicated by the composition, of breeding sweet corn by the ear to row method. Three plants were selected from the first year's planting and analyses made of a number of ears from each row. These ears were allowed to ripen and were planted in the season of 1907. The result again indicated the tendency of certain individual ears to transmit a high percentage of sugar and that this tendency prevails throughout the entire row grown from such an ear. The Crosby variety was found to be much sweeter than the Stowell Evergreen.

Horse Notes.

The high stepping horse seldom has a low head.

Many a horse is spoiled by the blacksmith.

Raising a colt is one way to make the money grow.

Alfalfa hay should be fed to horses gradually at first.

When feeding bran mashes do not have them too thin.

After all, there is no grain better than oats for horses.

Drug the roads for the team's sake if for no other reason.

Currying after a hard day's work will increase the horse's comfort.—*Kimball's Dairy Farmer.*

Pasturing Winter Wheat.

Close late pasturing of autumn sown wheat fields reduces the yield. The Oklahoma experiment station recommends that stock be taken out of the wheat field by March 1 or March 15 at the latest if reasonable returns are to be expected. The quality of grain deteriorates perceptibly with late pasturing. Pasturing when the ground is very wet will have a tendency to lower the yield of grain and at the same time injure the texture of the soil. Under favorable soil conditions wheat frequently makes a very heavy growth, and in these cases it is advantageous to pasture.

Care of Canna Roots.

After the foliage of canna has been slightly frozen by the first frosts, cut the tops off within six to eight inches of the soil. When lifting merely shake off the loose soil from the clump, place the clumps under the greenhouse benches, first putting down some old boards so the roots will not rest on the damp soil which will start growth action. Under carnation benches is best if you have them, as they can be kept more free from drip than under benches with pot plants, and the temperature of a carnation house is about right.

Hilly Orchard Land.

A certain rough section in Pennsylvania that has hitherto been regarded as of little value, for very purpose, has been found to be well suited to the production of apples, and the farmers there have been induced to engage in orchard planting in a wholesale way, being assured that the business will pay largely. We have much roughly hilly land in several of our southern counties that ought to be used in the same way.—*Indiana Farmer.*

AROUND THE FARM.

Strings or rope milk is caused very often by drinking stagnant water.

Try to arrange to give each horse on the farm a three weeks' vacation on grass.

"Hogging off corn" may be practiced with profit on many farms.

Pork was produced with less grain by hogging corn than by feeding ear or snapped corn in yards.

Hogs fed in the field gained nearly one-third more rapidly than those in yards.

Keep the stables and the yards clean so that flies and insects have no breeding places.

Give charcoal and some salt now occasionally for hogs, to keep them in good health.

The cost of fencing corn fields may be from \$1 to \$2.50 less per acre than the cost of husking the corn.

Good pastures are in most cases necessary for the economical production of pork.

To have good hog pastures and to hog off corn economically, a carefully

worked out plan with economy of labor and fencing is essential.

A four-year rotation, grain, clover, corn and corn, works very satisfactorily on small fields for hogs, as it gives twice as much corn as pasture, which is about the proportion used.

Any fields permanently fenced for hogs is practical when sheep are at hand to make use of the extra pasture.

Three trees which are peculiarly adapted for fence posts are the catalpa speciosa, the osage orange and the Russian mulberry.

Keep your plans ahead of your work. It is the farmer who thinks out his work in advance who raises the largest crops and has the easiest time.

Sunlight is essential to success in chicken raising. See that the henhouse is constructed with a view to admitting as much air and sunshine as possible.

DEATH BY ELECTROCUTION.

Startling Claim of a Physician That Electricity Fails to Kill.