

Fraternities and Sororities.

It is only within comparatively recent years that the opposition to college, and especially to high school, fraternities, sororities and secret societies has manifested any strength or coherence; but now it has reached a stage where it is almost national in its extent. During legislative sessions of the past winter at least half a dozen states passed laws prohibiting such organizations in public schools, and in several other states there have been court decisions upholding the right of school committees to regulate them, by excluding the members from school and class honors and from school athletics. The charges against the fraternities and sororities are old enough to be well established, says Youth's Companion. Snobishness, inattention to school work, extravagance, and the fostering of a spirit which gives allegiance to a clique rather than to school or class, are among them; and there are signs that in the minds of men who have carefully studied the matter not merely the societies in the schools, but those in the colleges, are in disfavor. The feeling does not extend to all the colleges, by any means, for conditions vary greatly. Some societies are almost if not wholly free from the charges which lie against others, and have grown to fill a useful and wholesome place. But for secret societies in high schools it is hardly possible to find any good excuse. It is curious, since school committees find so much difficulty in suppressing these societies, that parents have exerted so little influence in opposition to them. The root of the matter lies in the home, not in the school committee room; and when the fathers and mothers take the interest in the matter which they should take, appeals to state courts will not be necessary.

Blamed with Evil Eye.

Sig. Giovanni Giolitti, the Italian prime minister, suffers from a popular superstition that he has the evil eye. Recently Sig. Majorana, minister of the treasury, retired from the cabinet because he had been seized with a serious illness. He is the sixteenth statesman associated with Sig. Giolitti to have been stricken down, if not by death, at least by some serious ailment, since the premier's rise to power. In Giolitti's first cabinet four of his ministers died in office. In his second two died and four others were brought near to death's door. In his third administration one minister committed suicide, another died, and Sig. Tittoni was prostrated by cerebral congestion. In the present cabinet disease and death still pursue Giolitti's colleagues.

It is possible that the United States may yet produce many of the fruits and vegetables which it is now necessary to import. One of the latest attempts to adopt these aliens has been made in Texas, where it is sought to introduce the growing of dates. Experiments so far have been most encouraging, and a noted horticulturist declares his belief that the date will become a staple and famous product of semi-tropical Texas. The date is wholesome and nutritious and is gaining in popularity; and the American fruit is likely to rival that imported from the old world and elsewhere. We may even grow bananas.

M. Carolus Dujan has painted a portrait of the king of Siam, which is thus described: "The picture is practically all gold and almost blinds the eye. The king of Siam stands against a background of old gold plush. His dress is white, but the embroideries on the collar, the belt and the sleeves are of gold. His sword has a golden hilt and scabbard; his helmet is white and gold. His right hand holds a golden scepter, his breast is one mass of orders, mostly of gold, and is crossed by a golden sash. Over his shoulders hangs a cloak of cloth of gold, studded with diamonds and pearls."

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, who confesses in the Independent that she is one of "an immense number of able-minded women no longer young, but by no means old, just women, quite permanently women, as men are men," objects to the novels that have to do with nothing but love. And she asks: "Is Cupid a convention?" He is, indeed, Charlotte, replies the Boston Herald; and he is also a caucus, a ratification meeting and an election.

It is doubtless a necessary concomitant of our unparalleled prosperity that waters, purveyors and other orders of infinite receptiveness never strike, but are always at hand to absorb all the quarters which the cashier by pure inadvertence gives you in change.

More than 17 hours have just been knocked off the automobile record between Chicago and New York. People are learning to keep their children and their dogs out of the roads.

Berlin school children do not get enough sleep. Doubtless they would be glad to take more if it could be tacked on to the latter part of their nightly slumbers.

Andrew Carnegie is now writing a treatise on the diplomocod. And Dippy, says the Baltimore Sun, is so dead that he can't appreciate it.

After all, getting fined for automobile speeding is better than getting killed by it.

DAVID'S SUPREME AMBITION

STORY BY THE "HIGHWAY AND BYWAY" PREACHER

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Scripture Authority:—2 Samuel, chapter 7.

SERMONETTE.

Even the loftiest ambition must be ordered after the counsel of God's will.

David showed a sublime spirit of submission and found new revelations of the purposes of God as he yielded his will to the will of God.

It is ever true that the pathway of submission to the Divine will leads to the place of larger blessing.

David desired to build a temple and God gave him a temporality whose crowning glory and triumph was the Christ. How true then as now that God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.

David's ambition concerned temporal things, but as he yielded his will to that of the Divine, God gave him a vision of glories of which he had never dreamed before.

Nathan's haste in indorsing the plans of David brought him embarrassment, for he was compelled to return to David with a message which he must have feared would displease the king and bring him into reproach.

He should have waited until he had learned the mind of the Lord. It seemed a very worthy and proper ambition to him until the searchlight of the Divine will was turned upon it and then he knew that both he and David must true their course according to the unchanging polar star of the eternal purposes of God.

Here, then, is the lesson for you and me. Be slow to indorse another's plans. Be quick to hear the Divine voice and to learn the Divine will. The ambition may be ever so worthy in itself, but it may be wrong, absolutely wrong, because contrary to the will and purpose of God.

Happy, indeed, the man who will cancel his own programme and cheerfully accept the one prepared by God.

The worthiness of the ambition is not always proof of one's fitness to perform the service. Many a man aspires to a place in the Lord's kingdom which he is not qualified to fill. Many a man has had the ambition for the ministry who has not the requisite qualifications for such office and who has not been divinely called. It is so easy to misinterpret the desires of the heart and to think it is God's call when it is only the vaunting ambition of a heart which is not in perfect touch with the Divine will. Seek first to know God's will before avowing your future course in the Lord's service.

Remember, when God has temples he would have you build he will not fail to place the plainly written commission in your hands.

THE STORY.

NOT only had the religious life of King David been quickened by the bringing of the ark to Jerusalem, but that of the whole nation as well, and the king found new delight and purpose in the performance of his religious devotions as he came to realize how the people looked to him as example and leader, and were pleased to follow him in a closer observance of the Mosaic law.

The sad tragedy connected with bringing up the ark had stirred the nation profoundly, and the depression which had followed gave place later to a more profound reverence for God. For David had corrected his own misapprehensions regarding the incident and had completed the task of bringing up the ark to the royal city and placing it within the holy of holies in the tabernacle. Thus he had reassured the people.

What a glad time that had been and how King David had won the admiration and love of the people as he had mingled in common with them in the joyful procession that danced before the Lord as the ark progressed upon its journey. And what a new meaning the sacrifices had taken on in the regard of the people as the solemn service was performed at short intervals upon the journey, David having caused the erection of altars along the line of the march. And following the glad but solemn ceremony of installing the ark in its place in the temple had come as we have said, a revival in the heart of the king as well as in the hearts of his people, so that the obligations to the Lord were regularly and faithfully performed by all the people, the king taking delight in leading the people in this respect.

One day after King David had been to the tabernacle to present his offering before the Lord and to have the priest make sacrifice for him he was in particular elation of spirits, and his whole heart overflowed with impulse to honor the God who had so signally blessed him and who now had given him rest from all his enemies round about.

"Why, this splendid palace of cedar is a monument and testimony to the friend whom the Lord has raised up for me in Hiram, king of Tyre," David exclaimed, appreciatively as he entered the stately portal and proceeded to the inner private apartments, whither he had loved of late to withdraw himself and let his mind contemplate the things of God and to dwell upon his holy law. Laying aside his outer robe, he stretched himself upon the low divan in a nook of the spacious apartment overlooking a courtyard in which

rare flowers bloomed and cool waters played like a chime of sweet-toned bells.

"What more could the heart of the king desire, seeing that the Lord hath established me in the kingdom and given me this splendid house in which to dwell. My heart does magnify the Lord, and I do long to serve him and to establish the people in their devotion to the Lord. What more can I do?" And David lay in silent meditation striving to find some new way in which he could show honor to God and prove his devotion before all the nation. Strangely enough his mind kept reverting to the recent incidents connected with bringing up the ark to Jerusalem, and he soon was absorbed in tracing the journey step by step, until Jerusalem was reached and with the sound of music and with dancing the ark was restored to its place in the tabernacle.

Suddenly, almost violently, the king sat bolt upright as the thought flashed across his mind that the ark of the Lord rested within a tabernacle made of curtains, and he, the king, dwelt within a house made of cedar. With almost a reproach in his eyes he looked about him, as he exclaimed:

"Can it be that I am content to dwell within these splendid walls within the ark of the Lord rests still within the curtains walls of the tabernacle, as it did when our fathers took their journey through the wilderness? Shame on David," he repeated over and over again as he paced back and forth through his apartments under the excitement which stirred within him at the thought of the contrast.

"But," he exclaimed, with great vehemence, as he stopped abruptly before the beautiful archway overlooking the garden plot of the courtyard, "If David's house was built first it shall be like that he might build the house for the Lord even more magnificently. This is the thing which I will do," and catching up his outer garment he hastily turned and left the apartment and was soon on his way back to the tabernacle.

With the intensity of the emotions which stirred within him he paced back and forth in the area surrounding the outer court of the tabernacle. He viewed it from every angle and stepped off all the surface of the great rock on which the tabernacle had been pitched.

"How splendid is this location. How glorious will be this city when David hath built the Lord a temple in which to dwell in the midst of his people!" And in his mind's eye he tried to picture just how it would appear.

"Yes," he exclaimed, as he again measured off the size of the tabernacle and then the surface of the rock, "Yes, the temple shall be double the dimensions of the tabernacle constructed under the direction of Moses."

And after making various mental calculations and studying over the new plans which were formulating in his mind, he returned home and was soon confiding all his plans to Nathan, the prophet, whom he had summoned to his presence. And with the hearty commendation of the prophet ringing in his ears and a new song of gladness sounding in his heart he betook himself to his couch and was soon lost in slumber, from which the next morning he was awakened by one of the servants entering and announcing that the Prophet Nathan desired to see him.

"Show him in at once," cried David, eagerly, and as the prophet entered, he exclaimed: "What, but some splendid thought concerning the building of the Lord's temple could bring thee hither so early?"

The king paused. Surely the prophet did not share his elation of spirits. He looked at him in wonder as he noted the dejected look and the hesitating manner.

"Speak," he said, briefly, "for I perceive that thou hast a message from the Lord."

"Yes," spake the prophet, "verily the Lord hath said that thou shalt not build him a temple." And went on to tell him all that the Lord had spoken.

With bowed head David listened and when Nathan had ceased he kept silent, and the prophet withdrew. Then King David went to the tabernacle and sat before the Lord and there was given that vision which caused him to exclaim in rapture: "O Lord God, thou hast spoken of thy servant for a great while to come and hast regarded me in the arrangement about the man that is to be from above, O, Lord God Jehovah."

Her Voice.

The roof girded prima donna was in a facetious mood.

"I think I shall send for a stove man to examine my voice," she chirped.

"What would a stove man know about your voice, Susie?" asked the janky comedian in the salt and pepper trousers.

"Why—tee, hee—he might find the range."

"Ah, very good. How Mark Twain must envy you! But, sister, why don't you send for a curve greaser to examine your voice?"

"A curve greaser? How dare you, sir! What does a curve greaser know about my voice?"

"Why—er—he might stop the screeching."

Light from Sugar.

A phenomenon, the cause of which has not yet been satisfactorily explained, was described at a recent meeting of the British Scientific association. Disks of loaf sugar were mounted on a lathe and rapidly rotated, while a hammer played lightly against them. An almost continuous radiation of light was thus produced from the sugar. It was shown that the light did not arise from the heating of the sugar, and it is believed to be caused by some change taking place in the sugar crystals. The act of crystallization is known to be sometimes accomplished by flashes of light. The practical bearing of these experiments is on the question of the possibility of obtaining artificial light by methods as yet untried.

Artificial Ice in Brazil.

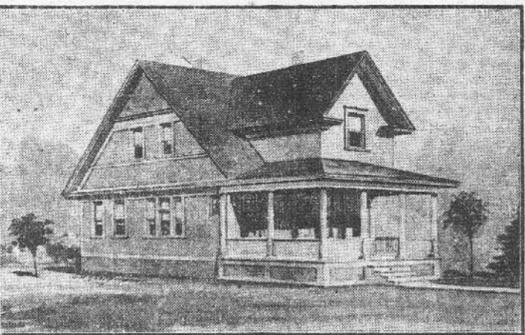
Rio de Janeiro has only artificial ice, and only one factory to make it, with an equipment that is not up to date. The ice is sold by grocers at about 2 1/2 cents a pound.

THE AMERICAN HOME  
W. A. RADFORD  
EDITOR

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects relating to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 124 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

A five room cottage with roof space for about three rooms more on the floor above is shown in this plan. I find there is in some neighborhoods a strong prejudice against cottage houses caused usually by the dilapidated appearance of small, hopeless-looking houses that are out of courtesy called cottages. But the fact is some of the happiest homes are enjoyed by families living in cottage houses, homes that attract attention beyond the family and its immediate relatives.

It is difficult to be really happy under a heavy mortgage, and I find that most large houses are encumbered by a large share of the purchase price. I would never discourage a man from securing a home because he couldn't pay spot cash for it, but I would strongly recommend him to select something smaller, a neat little affair like this, perhaps, that he could pay for without a great deal of unnecessary worry. The good wife can take the babies away in a small room that is heated by a drum from the kitchen stove and they will sleep just as sweetly and wake up and be just as happy next morning as they would in an expensive nursery presided over by a white-capped graduate from some



fashionable clinic. The trundle bed expense is only a fraction of what the swell affair usually costs and the real happiness is mostly on the humble side, at any rate divorce cases seldom or never emanate from pretty, well-kept cottage homes.

Young folks often are ambitious, which is all right so long as their ambition takes the right direction, but ambition differs with individuals. One woman wants her children well educated that they may become useful citizens, while another wants to shine in the latest fashion of the moment. Between these types there are all grades of ambition and all sorts of motives among most of which may be plainly seen the influence of wealthy neighbors which very well illustrates the fact that our wants are governed for the most part by our neighbors' supplies.

A cottage house is easily furnished. It does not demand the expensive

cause it does not pay to put a cheap house on a high-priced lot.

WHEN PUYALLUP BURNED.

The Bucket Brigade Worked Manfully, but Melons Saved the Day.

When our town started to burn up it was named Puyallup. The name still sticks. Better if it had scorched off, but it didn't, laments a writer in Sunset. The town was often called Puyallup or Picalup, but it was a good straight American name after the Indian tribe that had camped around there.

The fire started in the old pioneer livery stable, but when we saw that it was doomed nobody mourned. It had been standing in the way of progress long enough.

But further on loomed up the big pioneer general merchandise store with its \$50,000 stock, and near it the depot and little bank. These must be saved.

The bucket brigade centered its efforts on the side walls of this building, but the water thrown on scorched, sizzled and ran off. It had no staying qualities. It seemed that the building and the precious stuff beyond were doomed.

But on a side track near by stood a carload of real, ripe watermelons fresh from the big patches of the great Yakima country across the Cascade range.

One of the workers was struck with an idea. He rushed to the melon car, gathered up a melon and dashed its brains out against the hot side of the steaming building. Half the pulp stuck to the weather boarding and refused to run off, as the water was doing.

In a second the other fire fighters had caught on, and all dropped buckets and smashed watermelons against the sides of the building that was the pivotal point in saving the town. The pulp stuck—stuck well.

Every watermelon was sacrificed. Not one was left to tell the tale. But each one of them had more backbone than ten buckets of water, and their clinging crust made the walls fire-proof until the opposite building burned down.

And thus the watermelons saved Puyallup.

Red Bananas New to London.

There seems to be a glut of rare fruits in the market just now, says the London Graphic. After passion fruit and esparrillas, we come to a freak variety of the homely banana. This is the red banana of Jamaica and it is now to be seen in a city fruiterer's. Much like the ordinary canary banana in shape, though a trifle fatter and shorter, its skin is of a dull red color and its flavor very much richer. It costs three times the price of its yellow brother.

The Liar.

He adored her, but his pride was very great. "Elsie," he faltered, "do you love me?" Above the boom of the sea her voice sounded clear and cold. "No," she said. "No, Mr. Mannerling."

The size of this house on the ground is 31 feet by 45 feet 6 inches, but the front projection is quite narrow. The parlor is in this projection, away by itself, so it may be shut off from the main part of the house, and this is another economy which works out in the saving of fuel in the winter time. It is a very cheerful room, especially when there is a fire in the grate and it is a nice cool room in the summer.

The dining-room with its three windows attracts the family more than the parlor in such a house; it is larger, more central and it feels more comfortable. When necessary the dining-room may be used in connection with the parlor by leaving the sliding doors open. In general, this arrangement of the rooms is good. No space is taken up with a hallway, because a hall in such a house is not necessary. It is an easy house to do the work in, and it contains all the conveniences necessary for a small family.

There is need of just such houses in every community. More cheap houses means more homes owned by the people living in them and this means a better community, more general improvements and a higher standard of living. Modern suburban transportation is bringing the outlying sections of cities and towns closer to business, when measured by time, which in turn is increasing the demand for low cost, comfortable homes. Land is too valuable in or near business districts to have such houses, be-

KITCHEN AND SCULLERY HINTS  
Good Suggestions for Important Part of the House.

Here are some good suggestions for your kitchen: Have your shades and curtains of white muslin that can be laundered. When using your gas stove in the summer, cover the top of your coal range with newspapers, which will make a handy table. Have your rack near the stove, so that your towels will get well dried after each dish washing. A small shelf should be put up near the stove to hold your salt and pepper box. Cover the wall back of your sink with oilcloth, preferably white, and here may be hung your rag broom, shovel, dish mop and soap box. In a box or drawer may be kept the necessary articles for ironing, says Woman's Life. The top may be covered with oilcloth and will give an extra table. A chest of drawers is useful and almost necessary for keeping the kitchen towels and aprons, besides many other useful articles. It is well to keep in the kitchen a bottle of linseed oil and lime water, together with a roll of old linen pieces for bandages, for use in case of burns.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Never cook green vegetables with the cover on, as it destroys the color. When salad dressing is liable to curdle a small pinch of soda dropped in will prevent it from doing so.

To keep doughnuts from burning, drop a piece of raw potato into the boiling fat and you will have no trouble with them.

New stockings should always be washed before being worn, for the washing causes slight shrinkage and makes them wear better.

Keep a pair of scissors and a waste-paper receptacle in the kitchen. Also a box for pieces of string. They will prove their use frequently.

In mixing a mustard poultice add the white of an egg instead of water and although the effect will be the same it will not blister the skin.

If all bar soap is aired and sunned for a week or two before using it will last about twice as long and not melt away in the water without any visible effect.

For those who like to keep flowers either potted or in beds about the house, there is a small delft watering pot covered with characteristic canal and windmill pictures.

Wedding Fruit Cake.

Cream one and one-half pounds butter with one and one-half pounds light brown sugar; add the yolks of 12 eggs well beaten, two-thirds cup molasses, and one tablespoon lemon. Mix two pounds flour with one teaspoon of cloves, one grated nutmeg and two teaspoons each of soda, cinnamon, allspice and mace, then stir in two pounds currants, three pounds seedless raisins, halved, one pound figs, cut fine, and one-half pound chopped nuts. Stir this flour and fruit mixture into the butter mixture, add two-thirds cup milk, and lastly the whites of the eggs beaten stiff. Have deep pans lined with thick paper and well buttered. Put in a layer of the cake batter half an inch deep and cover this with a thin layer of sliced citron, then more batter and citron until the pan is three-fourths full. Cover with buttered paper and bake in a moderate oven three hours.

Blackberry Bread.

This is a nice way to use blackberries, raspberries, huckleberries, etc., when one objects to the seeds. Add a very little water to the berries just to keep from burning till the juice gets started, then cook until soft. Press in a sieve, but don't let the seeds through. Sweeten to taste and return to the fire. Take stale bread, cut into small squares. The crust is as good as any. Put in a bowl, add juice enough to moisten, then more bread and juice. Don't have any more juice than the bread will take up. Cover and set away to cool. Serve with rich milk or cream. Whipped cream is delicious. Add a little water to the seeds, stir and strain through a fine sieve. Sweeten to taste, and you have a delicious and wholesome drink.

Baked Soup.

Cut into slices one pound and a half of lean beef, put it into a small iron kettle (an earthen one is better), add two onions, sliced, the same number of carrots cut up, add also one scant half cupful of rice, which has been soaked for two hours previously and thoroughly washed, and one pint of peas; season with salt and pepper, add two quarts boiling water. Cover the pot closely with a heavy cover and bake two hours.

Rust in Boiler.

If the vessel in which the clothes are washed, steeped or boiled becomes rusty at the bottom, spots of rust are apt to form on the garments. This may be prevented by cutting out a round of unbleached linen to exactly fit the boiler or pot, and laying this at the bottom before putting in the clothes. The requisite shape may be obtained by drawing a round by means of the covers, an inch all round being allowed for the hem.

Refreshing Tea Dish.

On a fine gridiron or one made of wire net used for screens place some slices of salt pork, cut this as possible. On each slice lay two good sized oysters; broil and serve hot. This, with coffee, crisp toast and cola-slaw, makes an almost ideal tea dish.

Fried Sardines.

Skin the sardines, soak them in lemon juice for two minutes, then dredge with flour. Pour the oil into a frying pan; when hot, lay in the fish and fry brown. Serve garnished with lemon and parsley.

Southern Fried Chicken.

Take two small young frying chickens, about two and one-half or three pounds apiece, and cut up for frying. Have ready a skillet with plenty of hot lard. Dip each piece in flour or cornmeal and fry a golden brown.

Make the Best of It.

This may be a cold, cruel world, but it's the best we have at the present writing.

Wear Pajamas on Cars.  
"I learned something from the porter on our train this morning," said a hotel guest. "I noticed him pick up the coat to a pair of pajamas while he was making up one of the berths. Whoever had occupied the berth had got out of the train, and left the garment behind. 'Forgot part of his outfit, eh?' says I to the porter. The porter grinned broadly. 'Wasn't any his outfit at all, boss,' he says. 'It was a lady that was in that berth last night. Yes, sah. Lots of 'em seems to like them to wear on the cars. I guess they think they're better in case of a wreck or sump'n like that.'"

Economical Boarders.

"Do you know any Bedouin Arabs, Mr. Slimm?" asked the boarding house lady.

"Why, what are you talking about, madam?"

"Well, I read in the papers, to-day, that the Bedouin Arabs can go a whole day and only want a few dates soaked in melted butter. I thought I'd like to get a few of 'em to board, that's all."—Yonkers Statesman.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Dr. F. J. Cheney's Catarrh Cure, the only Constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from two to six grains. It acts directly on the blood and in mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, etc. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Not Exactly That Kind.

"Did you get a complimentary ticket to the show?" inquired the pass fund.

"Well," answered the man with influence, "it's a free ticket, but if you had heard the remarks of the manager as he was filling it out you wouldn't call it very complimentary."

Cannot Read.

Because you've strained your eyes? Lombard's Golden Eye Lotion will cure the inflammation and soreness without pain in one day. The best eye medicine in the world is "Lombard's." It makes strong eyes.

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For the Greatest Success.

Life is greater than any series of surroundings that may affect it, and the greater success in life consists in following the possibilities of our highest selves.—Ridley.

Niagara Falls as a power generating plant is worth \$46,000,000 per year.

DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY! Give you relief and cure your water swellings. Dr. H. A. GREEN'S SOLE, BOX 8, ATLANTA, GA.