FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN

AUTUMN INSPIRATIONS AT WOLLAND BROTHERS.
—(The Lady's Pictorial.

THE NATION'S HEALTH.

Important Work for All Classes of Earnest Women.

In discussing woman's duty toward the health of the nation, before the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs yesterday, Dr. S. A. Knopf, of New-York, indicated an illimitable field for feminine activity, and suggested that the energies of the sex might be used to better purpose than is now often the case.

"Instead of giving her adherence to all sorts of fads, some of them denying the existence of disease, and proclaiming the uselessness of preventive medicine, the American mother," said Dr. Knopf, "should combat such dangerous doctrines by word of mouth or pen, and, above all, by example. Instead of joining anti-vaccination leagues, she should plead for universal vaccination laws. Instead of protesting against scientific and humane vivisection, she should remember that the discovery of antitoxin was the result of experiments on a few hundred guinea pigs and rabbits, and that in consequence of this discovery seventy-five to eighty-five out of every one hundred American children who take diptheria are now saved, instead of one or two as was formerly the case. Instead of resorting to the patent medicine headache powders and nerve tonics for her own ailments, she should lead a simpler life, that is, a life in accordance with physiological laws. Then she will be no longer nervous and neurasthenic, and will have no occasion to turn to these quack nostrums, upon which millions of dollars are spent annually and which often produce incalculable and irreparable harm.

"The American woman," proceeded Dr. Knopf, "should find her highest and noblest mission in helping to increase the nation's health. Let her support all movements which tend to improve the moral, physical and intellectual standard of the nation. Let her, with all her might, combat child labor, which still disgraces many of our States. Let her join rational movements which tend to combat intemperance and excesses of all kinds. Let the woman of culture and refinement teach her less fortunate sister the arts of cooking and housekeeping, so that the home of the ordinary laborer may be made more attractive and the saloon cease to be a temptation to him. Let the woman of wealth and influence help to create better and healthier tenements for the poor, more parks and playgrounds for the children, healthful places of amusement for old and young, where the honest laboring man may take his wife and children on a Sunday afternoon and partake of non, or only slightly alcoholic drinks with his repast. Thus, the saloon and intemperance will lose their charms, and alcoholism and its fearful consequences will gradually disappear.

"In the prevention of tuberculosis, that great white plague, which, if it continues its present ravages, will carry off 10,000,000 of the 20,000,000 now living in the United States, women can perhaps be more helpful than in any other matter relating to the public health. Let them join every movement which has for its purpose the prevention of promiscuous spitting (the main source of the spread of tuberculosis) indoors, in public conveyances, or even on sidewalks. Let them protest against trailing dresses on the sidewalk by example and word, by mouth or pen. Trailing skirts are filth and disease collectors, they do the scavenger's dirty work and transport not infrequently disease producing dirt into the homes of their wearers.

"Let the American woman join local anti-tuberculosis associations, or form such if they do not yet exist in her community. These associations are for the purpose of spreading knowledge about tuberculosis, of looking after the consumptive poor, and inducing noble minded and generous people to help to provide medical aid and sanatorium treatment for pulmonary invalids. It is also the duty of anti-tuberculosis associations to visit consumptives at their homes, to strive to improve the hygienic condition there, and while everywhere preaching the need of precaution against the careless deposit of sputum, to teach the unduly alarmed relatives that the careful consumptive is as safe an individual to associate with as any one else, that phthisiophobia (exaggerated fear of the presence of the consumptive) is cruel and inhuman.

"Many women have chosen, as a profession, the sublime calling of teaching. By working hand in hand with the school physician and superintendent, the public school teacher can do more than any one else to prevent the spread of many contagious diseases. School boards, superintendents and teachers can, by arranging a judicious curriculum, prevent the overtaxing of the child's brain and nervous system to the detriment of its physical development, and by teaching the fundamental rules for the prevention of tuberculosis, the public teacher can do more toward checking that disease than perhaps any other individual.

"Alcoholism, the curse of our nation, often the forerunner of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, more frequently of crime, poverty and insanity, is a disease which women would do well to study and combat. Nothing can be effected by fanatical laws and persecution. Yet women could and should do much toward the eradication of this disease of diseases."

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TRIBUNE SUNSHINE SOCIETY

GOOD CHEER.

Have you had a kindness shown?
Pass it on.
'Twas not given for you alone—
Pass it on.
Let it travel down the years,
Let it wipe another's tears,
Till in heaven the deed appears—
Pass it on.

HOPE.

After the darkest midnight
The dawn again will glow;
And after the bleakest winter
Will springtide flowers blow.

But we would not love the blossoms
If every month were May,
And we would not heed the sunlight
If it were forever day.

Though in gloom and sorrow walking,
Though our eyes be dim with tears,
If we look to the Over-heaven
Lo! a rainbow there appears.

And hope shines ever the brightest
For those who have known despair;
And the promise of rest seems sweetest
To those who the burden bear.
—(S. A. Rutherford.

NOTICE.

Letters are received occasionally from admirers of the Tribune Sunshine Society showing that they have confused it with organizations of nearly similar name subsequently started by persons whom they mistakenly believed to be still in the service of The Tribune. To avoid error all communications, packages, etc., should be addressed "The Tribune Sunshine Society, Tribune Building, New-York."

AN APPEAL FOR CHEER.

A T. S. S. member in writing about the needs of the little French woman, Mlle. Marie de Greville, says:

Since the newspaper stories were published, in which her history and poverty were told, various bits of help have come, including some money which she has used most frugally to keep herself from starving. She has a tiny house of five rooms; the upper rooms are rented for storage, and this keeps her rent down to $10 a month. She has a few pupils in French, but she has no coal to heat her room, and she is in dire need of this comfort. If she could only get a larger number of pupils in conversational French she could be self-supporting. She is a Parisian, and her accent is perfect. Her charges are 50 cents a lesson. She is a charming little woman, not young, and desperately poor, so I am hoping that the T. S. S. will find a way to give her temporary help. Others to whom I have applied have given me fair words, but no practical help. I feel confident the T. S. S. can and will find a way to give cheer.

Some friend has had address cards printed for Mlle. de Greville, and the office has some to distribute to any who are willing to call, to take lessons or otherwise assist this needy woman.

TOLA BRANCH.

Mrs. J. R. Adams, president of the Tola (Va.) branch, writes that the materials for quilt work from Mrs. Worden, of Brooklyn, were a helpful contribution to their Sunshine work. There is an aged crippled woman in this branch to whom a wheelchair would be a blessing. Some warm flannels are needed for her. She is old and almost blind, and entirely dependent upon a daughter for support. The papers and magazines received by this branch from Miss Handley were passed on to a lonely member whose life is very sad.

IN NEED OF FUEL.

An invalid member in New-York State, who lives alone, says she has not a penny for fuel, and asks for $2 to buy a load of wood. That amount has been sent to her, but she should have some coal to keep her from actual suffering when the real cold weather comes.

A poor member writes that her invalid husband, who is a great sufferer from rheumatism and Bright's disease, is much worse because she is not able to keep a fire all day.

HELPERS.

The work of distribution was greatly aided at the general office by the efficient help of Mrs. P. F. Frost, president of Mothers' Sunshine Club; Mrs. E. T. Galloway, of Rutherford, N. J., and Miss Grace Pugsley, of Brooklyn. Seven large express boxes were sent to branches in four different States, besides parcels for Manhattan. The San Domingo Christmas box is ready, while those for the Dutch West Indies, the Bahama Islands and the Indian branch in South Dakota will be finished as fast as suitable articles are received.

RESPONSES.

Mrs. A. F. Tomes, Susie Cumming, a Staten Island member and "A Friend" in Manhattan have kindly offered to make bags for the "Little Mothers'" Christmas festival.

FOR SUNSHINE LIBRARY.

Julia P. Roberts generously offers to send fifty second hand books for the Texas library. Mrs. F. B. S., of Manhattan, also offers to contribute to this library, and a member in Brooklyn will send "Harper's Monthly." The address is L. Shackelford, Lyiton Springs, Tex.

REQUESTS.

Will Mrs. William Orr, of The Bronx, please communicate with the office?

"She thought to herself," writes a modern novelist, "how delightful it would be to live in a house where everybody understood and loved and thought about every one else." She did not know that her wish was just for the kingdom of heaven. —(F. W. Farrar.

WHAT A REAR ADMIRAL SAYS.

Rear Admiral George Wallace Melville, writing on "The Navy" in "CAREERS FOR THE COMING MEN," presents a very attractive picture of the opportunities offered to young men to choose it for life's business.

GOVERNMENT CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

The Official Autumn Exhibition at the National Propagating Gardens.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Oct. 27.—The government opened its annual chrysanthemum show to the public this week at the National Propagating Gardens, under the direction of Colonel Bromwell, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds. George G. Brown, the landscape gardener of the Capitol, and a recognized authority in horticulture, is personally in charge. Of the twenty-four hundred flowers on exhibition there were two dozen specimens never before seen here, four of which were developed by Mr. Brown within the last year.

The star blossom was Chrysos, a big, golden bloom, with petals growing toward its centre. This freakish growth is such a feature of the blossom that Mrs. Roosevelt, upon seeing it a day or two ago for the first time, declared that it reminded her of the fluffy head of a poodle. Another attractive blossom was the Lou Dillon, named by Mrs. Roosevelt last year, in honor of the record holding mare of that name. Still another flower, not new, but exceedingly admired because of its graceful shape and red and gold coloring, was the William McKinley.

Among the older varieties on view were the Black Hawk, Mr. McKinley's favorite flower; the Brutus, a strange orange and red combination; the Ivory, and a stately bronze Japanese blossom called the Loantika. There are also a number of new plants reminiscent of the Mikado's kingdom that vary in color from palest cream to a deep reddish bronze.

There are no potted plants in the collection, each chrysanthemum growing free in the earth. Each stem is fully a yard in height, a condition attained by a careful pruning of every shoot growing from the main stalk. This leaves the entire strength of the plant to centre in the single stem and is the secret of the high state of perfection to which the growing of the rare Oriental plant has attained under the direction of scientific gardening.

A gracefully pretty new candidate for admiration was the Gladys Vanderbilt, a white and yellow striped bloom.

CARE OF THE BATHROOM.

Its Condition Shows Degree of Refinement in Household.

A Christian is one who leaves a bathtub clean after taking a bath, says Miss M. E. Carter, in "House and Home" (A. S. Barnes & Co., New-York). The definition is quoted from a boarding house resident, who always had to scour the bathtub before using it, and who thought it altogether unjust that decent people should be obliged to do double duty in a bathroom, because self-respect would not permit them to leave the tub as they found it.

It would be a good plan, says Miss Carter, if all bathrooms not strictly private could have printed rules framed and hung up in plain sight of all bathers, giving a few simple admonitions as to what constitutes "good form" in a lavatory of any sort. The fact is that in what may be termed the minor morals a great many people seem to be deficient of all training. Nowhere is this more glaringly apparent than in bathrooms used by several people. While, as a rule, individuals carry their own towels and soap to a bathroom, yet sometimes one may be compelled to use a cake of soap that is there for emergencies. Whoever does make personal use of it should at least wipe it dry before laying it back in the soap holder, for it is very disagreeable to take hold of soap that has been left wet. This may seem overfastidious to some, but a young woman once lost a trip to Europe just because she was careless in that particular. The friend, who was asked why she did not take her as a companion when she wanted company on a tour abroad, answered: "Oh, I cannot take her; she always leaves the soap wet."

A cursory glance at a bathroom reveals the degree of refinement of those who habitually use it. Concerning the arrangement and care of the bathroom, Miss Carter says:

"A great convenience is a towel bar at a suitable height, placed against the wall all around the room, except where it would interfere with other stationary furniture. Bars of heavy glass or nickel plate are easiest to clean. Every bathtub should be provided with a large sponge holder of wire or metal, and a soap holder of metal or India rubber. These should hang, not stand, on the bathtub's edge. Over the face basin, or else beside it, another soap holder should hang. It is less trouble to keep things looking nice in a bathroom where nothing is allowed to stand on the basin's edge or on the bathtub, because when left on these places they are apt to get pushed about, and have no settled abiding place, and it takes longer to clean up with things in the way, to be lifted about.

"A set of inclosed hanging shelves can be used for many things needed in a bathroom, and will aid in preserving order. Three or four large double clothes hooks screwed upon the inside of a bathroom's door, and left exclusively for the use of persons going in for a bath, are among the requisites of the room. A bottle of inodorous disinfectant ought always to be kept beyond the reach of children, and at least once a week some of the contents should be poured down every waste pipe.

"The bathroom is a suitable place for keeping a hamper for soiled clothes, but damp towels should be dried before they are consigned to it, and it should never reveal its contents. Neither should any soiled articles be left upon the cover."

WOMEN'S POLITICAL INFLUENCE.

Judge Alden Says Republican Clubs Beat Sewing Circles.

If Bryan is a Democrat,
And Parker is one, too,
And one says this and one says that,
And each holds a different view;
If Tillman says a thing's a lie,
On which "Dave" Hill stands pat,
Would you subtract or multiply
To find what's a Democrat?

By this original parody of a popular song did Judge George D. Alden, of Massachusetts, characterize the Democratic party at a meeting of the West End Woman's Republican Club, yesterday afternoon, at No. 2,307 Broadway.

"Women like logic and constancy," continued Judge Alden, "and I doubt whether their influence will ever be given to the Democrats, unless there is a wonderful change in their policy. I am glad to see the women taking such an interest in politics. It's much better than the sewing circles that they used to have in New-England—and probably in New-York, too—where the women sewed clothes and tore up characters. I know from experience of the influence that women exert over politics. My mother was a stanch Democrat and my father was a stanch Republican. Three of her four boys have turned out Democrats. It is just this—the influence of the mother upon her children—that is the hope of the future."

Dr. Charles Martyn, of this city, who has been Judge Alden's "stumping" partner during this campaign, followed with a speech.

"Mr. Chairman," he absentmindedly began, and then, remembering that a woman was presiding, he gallantly remarked: "Ah! I am glad to find that there is a lovely bonnet behind me instead of the usual bald head."

Dr. Martyn began his talk with praises of Governor Odell, and then explained to the women the Democratic position in the accusation that the Republican party favored and received money from the trusts. "Now, if Judge Alden should say to me, 'Doctor, you stole my watch,' and I should answer, 'Prove it!' and then he should say, 'Prove that you didn't, you rascal!' what would you think of that for justice? Well, that's just the way the Democrats went about accusing the Republicans. But when this accusation was put into the political washtub the colors ran, so now the Democrats have deserted that position and have fallen back on criticism of the character of President Roosevelt.

"Now, we know that he has been in accord with more classes than any other American except, perhaps, Benjamin Franklin. The soldiers like him, he has been a soldier; the ranchmen like him, he has been a ranchman; Uncle Sam likes him, he has transacted that old gentleman's business magnificently; and, last, but not least, the farmers of our country like him, he has helped to make hay (Hay).

"Judge Parker is a lovely man," continued Dr. Martyn; "he is a good husband, a good father and a good grandfather (nothing could be sweeter than that colored picture of him in the midst of the family group), but there is one fatal thing against him—Theodore Roosevelt; and on November 8 Uncle Sam is going to say, 'Parker, in Esopus, you are the right man in the right place. Stay there!' but he will lay his hand on Roosevelt's shoulder and proudly say, 'He's good enough for me.'"

MR. LEIPZIGER AT PRESS CLUB.

The Woman's Press Club, of which the Rev. Phœbe A. Hanaford is president, October 29, at the ing next Saturday afternoon, October 29, at the Waldorf-Astoria, at 2:30 p. m. Henry M. Leipziger, Supervisor of Lectures, Department of Education of New-York City, will be the guest of honor. The programme will include a paper on "Literature and Journalism," original monologues by Miss Saidee Vere Milne, and songs by Miss Jean Clerihew and by the Walcott Quartet.

IN NEED OF FUNDS.

The Hospital Book and Newspaper Society is urgently in need of $500 to continue the work during the coming season. Subscriptions and contributions may be sent to Mrs. J. O. Green, treasurer, No. 9 Lexington-ave., New-York City.

REPUBLICAN LITERATURE.

Republican literature can be obtained every day from 2 to 4 p. m. at the headquarters of the Woman's Republican State Association, at No. 213 East Eighteenth-st. A committee from the State Association and from the various local clubs will be in charge of the literature.

ORGAN FOR BARNARD CHAPEL.

The chapel at Barnard has been enriched by an organ, which has been presented to the college by Robert Ogden, in the name of the firm of John Wanamaker.

STAFF OF "THE BARNARD BULLETIN."

The editors of "The Barnard Bulletin" for the college year of 1904-'05, are: Anne D. Green, '05, editor in chief; E. S. Calhoun, '05, business manager; Caroline Hall, '06, assistant business manager; Elinor Brantigram, '06, managing editor; Isabell Mott, '05, associate manager.

Miss Green takes the place of Miss Emilie J. Hutchinson, '05, who has resigned from that position, but who will be connected with "The Bulletin" as social editor.

Housewives' Exchange.

IN SEARCH OF A W. C. T. U. BADGE.

I very much wish to know where I can purchase the W. C. T. U. (Woman's Christian Temperance Union) badge—a little white bow of hard substance.

The Housewives' Exchange columns have been daily helps to me, and not knowing where to secure the desired information in regard to the badge I turn to you for a solution of my troubles, hoping that you will insert the answer in the Housewives' Exchange columns, as I shall be watching for it daily. A LOVER OF THE N. Y. TRIBUNE.

SPONGE CAKE.

If A. S. G., of Plainfield, N. J., would like a sponge cake that is neither dry nor tough she should try this recipe:

One cup of sugar, one cup of sifted flour, three eggs, one teaspoonful of baking powder, three tablespoonfuls of cold water, the juice of half a lemon and a little of the yellow rind grated. First grease the pan well with plenty of butter; beat the whites of the eggs stiff (as for icing); in another dish beat together five minutes sugar, yolks, lemon juice and rind; add water, then flour and baking powder mixed, a little at a time. Stir quickly; add the whites of the eggs and bake 25 minutes (this time ought to be long enough). Have it loose from the pan around the sides. When done, turn upside down on a cake board. Turn the pan over it to steam until cool, so that it will be soft. M. A. VAN HORSSON.

No. 126 South Third-ave., Mount Vernon, N. Y.

TOO MANY FADS; TOO LITTLE KNOWLEDGE.

That young girls of the public schools are being overcrowded with studies is sadly true. There are too many fads, too many useless studies. It is cruel and unjust to parents and children, for parents have a right to expect that their children shall have a fairly good knowledge of spelling, reading, composition and mathematics when they are graduated from the public schools. In my opinion, the parents, when they pay rent or taxes, help to pay the public school teachers—not Uncle Sam.

There is something radically wrong in the schools of to-day. Young girls are graduated with a smattering of everything and very little knowledge of anything. In my experience I have known year after year young girls who had been graduated from the public schools and others who came from Wadleigh, the Girls' Technical High School, the Morris High School and other high schools to fail in an examination where simple words were given, such as "discipline," "guarantee," "authorize," "mortgage," "gratefully," "forty-four," "ninety-nine," "symmetry," "audacity," etc. Many said "they never had such words." In almost every instance "audacity" was spelled "ordasity." Several seemed to think "symmetry" was intended for "cemetery," and spelled it so. One young girl insisted on spelling "grammar" "grammer" (she had been graduated from a grammar school). Another, who had been admitted to the Morris High School, had only four words correctly spelled out of thirty.

Does it not seem as if something was amiss? I think that sewing and cooking, laundry work and waiting on table should be omitted at least until the girls have acquired a thorough knowledge of the ordinary requirements of business life. The qualifications of cook and housekeeper are essential for the young girl, to be sure, but the mothers of to-day will in most cases teach their daughters to become tidy, careful housekeepers.

The young girls who attend high school do not receive the attention that is their due—they are of an age when tender care, good food and an abundance of fresh air are absolutely necessary. From 9 until 2 o'clock it is a series of jumps for them—twenty minutes for one study and twenty minutes for another; at the expiration of each twenty minutes the gong sounds calling the girls to another room, there to meet another teacher and undertake a new study. During all these jumps, from 9 until 12 o'clock, the girls carry their luncheon about with them, and at 12 o'clock repair to a luncheon room and stand while eating, with only ten or fifteen minutes allowed for, as the girls term it, "gobbling." I know this to be true of one of the high schools, but do not vouch for it at all of them.

The gymnastic exercises I think are very good when not carried to excess; they tend to strengthen and develop the body, and are an excellent recreation, yet no girl should be allowed to enter the gymnasium without the advice of her family physician.

I know one young girl who was told "she would have to leave the high school unless she procured a suit and entered the gymnasium," despite her physician's orders to the contrary. Only after a personal interview was the matter adjusted satisfactorily. Who ever heard of a pupil being told to retire because she could not spell? The "stunts," like everything else, are being overdone. Anything that tends to make a young girl rough is unfit for her—she should retain always, and prize, the beautiful bloom of femininity. We want strong, healthy girls, but they must be womanly, too, and intelligent. Some home study is absolutely necessary, yet if lessons were clearly explained at school there would not be so much necessity for it. Interest should be kindled first. The solution of problems in arithmetic should not be given as a home study. One hour, or not more than one and one-half hours, should be allowed for a grammar school girl to study at home, and two hours should be ample for the high school girl.

Nothing should be permitted to disturb the girl's hours of home study; it should be systematic, not spasmodic. Parents would do well to aid and encourage their daughters, but never urge them to make extra efforts to obtain a special mark, aside from conscientious work.

The schools of Hartford are famous for their delightful methods of imparting knowledge. Hartford boasts of having pupils from all parts of the world. Their hours are from 9 until 4, with an intermission of two hours—from 12 until 2 o'clock—when the pupils go home to a good hot dinner, a rest and, if necessary, brush up for the afternoon study, or, better still, work on the morrow's lessons. No home study after school closes is necessary. There is no jumping, no worrying; everything is systematic—every one is pleased. Many of the finest scholars in America hail from Hartford.

Why must our high school girls be dismissed at 2 o'clock? Why can they not have ample time to go home to dinner? It is the time of life when good food is necessary. A. F. M.

Manhattan.

FOOLISH "SMATTERING."

The subject under discussion in your columns this month is one that must appeal strongly to those whose daily round brings a continual reminder of the educational problem.

As an assistant librarian, I am brought into frequent contact with students, among whom there is a great lack of intelligent mental grasp and thoroughness, largely due, I believe, to requirements exceeding the capacity of the scholars. The bright minds, in order to "keep up," must overwork, while the dull or ignorant grasp just enough to give them an exalted opinion of themselves and a feeling of commiseration for those whose far superior education has made them not "proud that they know so much, but humble that they know no more." The following may serve as an illustration:

A girl eighteen or twenty years of age, and a high school graduate, I believe, inquired at the library for an "Atheist." I asked what she meant, and received the reply: "Why, don't you know? It is like an advanced branch of grammar, that tells you how to say the same thing in a great many different ways." This was information, indeed, and I was past being surprised when she added, with a consequential air, that she was a regular contributor to a local newspaper, but was sometimes at a loss to express herself without a repetition of phrases. I might add that I was unable to discover what the girl really wanted (although I offered her a book of synonymes), and the conclusion was forced upon me that she did not know herself.

This girl is in some respects typical of hundreds, who acquire a "smattering" of booklore, which they are unable to apply in any practical way, and so must "show off" as they would an elaborate hat or gown.

We now have "higher" education. May we not hope in time to reach the "highest" education, which will bring about the normal, if less rapid, development of mind and body, so that personality and character may have an opportunity to assert themselves and become as much a requirement as history and literature? OBSERVER.

Connecticut.

FOR GOLDEN WEDDING.

"Russell" will find the closing lines of Longfellow's "Hanging of the Crane" suitable for reading at a golden wedding. They have been thus used more than once by ANOTHER "RUSSELL."

Oyster Bay.

MANY HORSES SLIP DOWN.

NEEDLESS SPRINKLING.

Old Fight to Have City Care for Streets Recalled.

The slippery state of the asphalted streets in the central part of Manhattan most frequented by light driving traffic has in the last week brought forth many protests from drivers and owners of horses and automobiles. Conditions have become almost intolerable, and on every hand the question is asked, "Why should the pavements be as slippery on a bright October afternoon as on a morning after a winter sleetstorm?"

Seldom before have so many horses fallen in Fifth-ave. and Broadway. The efforts of the newly organized traffic squad of police are in a measure defeated by the tumbling down of horses and the delay and confusion in getting them on their feet. Drivers must go at a snail's pace or risk losing their animals from a leg-breaking fall.

There is just one reason why the streets are slippery, and that is found in the sprinkling operations of a private corporation which works under a license from the Department of Water Supply and levies a direct tax on the storekeepers, office and house holders along the route covered by its sprinkling wagons. The sprinkling of the streets in this fashion would be unpleasant, even if it were necessary. The authorities of the Street Cleaning and Police departments declare that there is not the slightest excuse or need for the sprinkling, yet no one seems to have authority to stop the sprinkling wagons.

Within a week one death and two serious accidents have been charged directly to the sprinklers. At Thirty-fifth-st. and Fifth-ave. a big automobile suddenly skidded on the slippery, fresh sprinkled pavement and crushed out the life of a man. Last Wednesday morning, at Bleecker-st. and Broadway, Francisco Farvano, seventeen years old, a tailor's cutter, slipped on the pavement and fell. A Broadway car passed over one arm crushing it so badly that it was necessary for an ambulance surgeon to perform an amputation on the pavement.

One woman is barely alive to-day as a result of the unnecessary sprinkling. For six weeks she has been suffering from blood poisoning, resulting from a broken kneecap, got while crossing the slippery pavement. Six weeks ago she tried to cross Thirteenth-st As usual, the slime lay thick on the pavement and she fell, breaking her kneecap, which had previously been fractured.

MANY HORSES HAVE FALLEN.

The police records show that an incredible number of horses have fallen in Fifth-ave. Several of them were so badly injured that they had to be shot. On Tuesday, according to the records of the mounted police, fourteen horses fell at Fifth-ave. and Forty-second-st. between 7 o'clock and noon. Wednesday morning seven horses went down at Twenty-third-st. and Fifth-ave. before 10 o'clock. It was only a short time ago that a horse drawing the carriage of Mrs. Russell Sage slipped on the sprinkled pavement and a serious accident was narrowly averted.

Protests against the operations of the sprinkling wagons have been made to various public officials and departments. Most of them find their way to the Street Cleaning Department. Only one response is possible:

"This department has no control over street sprinkling. We would stop it if we could."

Those who are familiar with the fight which Major Woodbury has made to have this important detail of street work turned over to him cannot doubt the sincerity of the answer.

In 1893 the Street Sprinkling Association, a West Virginia corporation in which Hilderbrand & Byers are largely interested, secured the passage of certain special legislation. This act gave the Commissioner of Public Works the right to issue a street sprinkling license, which virtually was a contract. The license was given to the Street Sprinkling Association for ten years. The corporation was to pay the city $28,000 a year for water used and was authorized to levy contributions on the property holders and tenants along the street covered by its wagons.

In 1897, when the new charter was under consideration, a special committee was appointed to draw up the section relating to the cleaning of the streets. This committee consisted of Seth Low, who was then president of Columbia University; General Benjamin F. Tracy and ex-Mayor Thomas F. Gilroy. At their first meeting they decided that they knew little or nothing about street cleaning and called in Colonel Waring, who then had charge of that work for the city.

In the clause setting forth the duties of the Commissioner of Street Cleaning and the matters over which he should have control was the phrase, "sprinkling of the city streets." This was approved by the committee, but between the time this portion of the charter left its hands and the time it appeared in print the clause was stricken out by some one without authority. The commission was not informed of it until after the charter was adopted.

At the last two sessions of the legislature bills have been introduced giving the Commissioner of Street Cleaning control over street sprinkling. Both bills failed to pass.

In April of this year the old contract under which the Street Cleaning Association had been operating ran out. As the profits had been huge the concern made a strenuous effort to secure a new contract from the Board of Aldermen. It asked for a contract for five years, but this was refused. In its stead the aldermen authorized the Department of Water Supply to issue a license for street sprinkling and to sell the city water for that purpose.

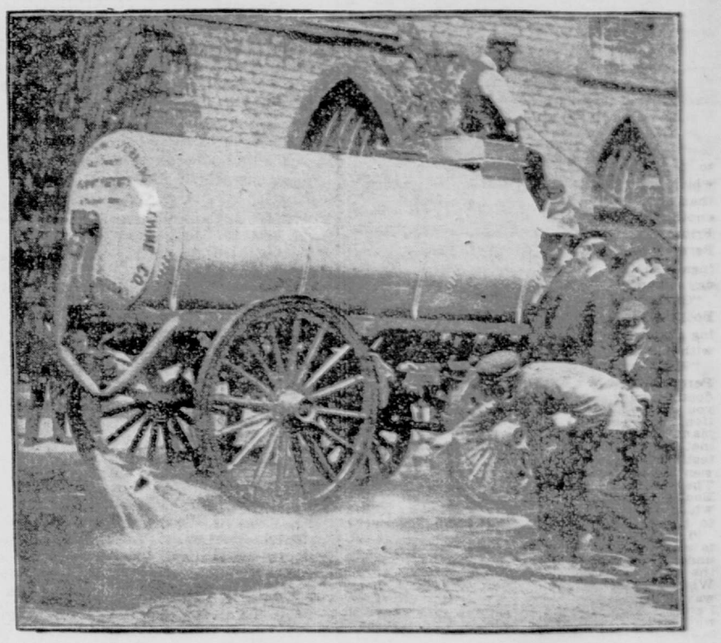
THE USUAL LEVY MADE.

Under this license the old concern has continued to do business. The usual levy of 25 cents a week has been made on all tenants of single stores and houses. In office buildings collections are made from those having offices which front on the street. Residents of Fifth-ave. have signed contracts for sprinkling under the misapprehension that the city could and would force them to pay. They did not know that the Street Cleaning Department really does the work out of its general appropriation and at times when traffic is not interfered with.

Between the hours of 1 and 3 o'clock in the morning, when the streets are practically deserted, the high pressure flushing wagons of the department are at work. The following streets are thoroughly flushed and cleaned every night: Fifth-ave., from Fifty-ninth-st. to the Washington Arch; Sixth-ave., from Fifty-ninth-st. to Carmine, and Broadway, from Forty-second to Fourteenth st.

Every particle of dust and dirt is swept into the gutter, and either carried off by the water or gathered up by wagons on their early morning rounds.

On this clean surface the street sprinklers spread an unnecessary coating of water. When the humidity is great and the temperature low the pavement remains moist and slippery for hours. Temporary relief is in sight, for the sprinklers cease operations when the thermometer falls to freezing point, early in November.



A FLUSHING MACHINE OF THE STREET CLEANING DEPARTMENT AT WORK ON FIFTH-AVE.
Its use renders sprinkling of the streets unnecessary.

MRS. HERRMANN LOSES STOCK SUIT.

Sought to Recover the Value of 200 Shares of American Mining Company.

Mrs. Florence Crosby Herrmann, who is suing George Herrmann, a wealthy lumberman, for a separation on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment, was unsuccessful yesterday in her action against R. P. Lounsbery, a stockbroker, and other defendants, to recover the value of two hundred shares of stock in the American Mining Company, which she said she received from Elbert A. Thurston in 1894. Justice Greenbaum directed a verdict for the defendants.

Mrs. Herrmann, in 1894, when she was Miss Florence Crosby, was in Mexico with Thurston, and lent him her jewelry. He pawned this and spent the proceeds. She said that at the time 250 shares of his mining stock were in Lounsbery's hands, and that he gave her a letter to Lounsbery stating the stock was held in trust for her as bailee, and that in case of his absence, or of accident to him, they were to consider her the owner. Thurston soon afterward died, and Miss Crosby alleged that the words accident or absence included death.

She testified that she presented Thurston's letter to Lounsbery; that Lounsbery bought fifty of the shares; that he asked her if she wished him to keep the others for her, and that she replied "Yes."

Thurston's letter was not admitted in evidence.

BURNED TO DEATH IN HER FLAT.

Woman's Dress Catches Fire from a Gas Stove as She Is Ironing.

Mrs. Theresa Login, of No. 192 East Seventy-sixth-st., was burned to death yesterday in her apartments on the fourth floor. She was in the kitchen ironing, and her loose wrapper caught fire from a gas stove.

Mrs. Login rushed downstairs screaming, and at the door of the apartment of Mrs. Dora Kahn, fell unconscious. Mrs. Kahn and her sister, Mrs. Pauline Murray, seeing the flames from Mrs. Login's clothing through the transom over their door, ran downstairs crying "Fire!" The janitor, who heard the alarm, gave such assistance as he could, putting out the fire in the burning garments with a pail of water. On the arrival of the ambulance surgeon Mrs. Login was dead.

FOR SONS FROM FATHERS.

"If I had a son anywhere from fifteen to twenty-five years old I would place in his hands the book called 'CAREERS FOR THE COMING MEN,'" said a well known banker at a public dinner the other night.

SWEET
NEW CROP
Hecker's
SELF-RAISING BUCKWHEAT
NOW READY
HECKER-JONES-JEWELL MILLING CO.