

WOMAN'S

REALM



A VISITING TOILET.

Of pale gray cloth, with a tunic of fillet lace embroidered with Irish lace and edged with chinchilla.

The Care of Silvertware.

How Costly Gifts Bestowed on Wealthy Brides are Safeguarded and Kept Burnished.

Those brides by the bride-elect by informal notes or telephone to the farwell cup of tea the privilege of seeing her presents, and the tables laden with all kinds of silver, useful, ornamental or absurd, suggest at once the question, How on earth will it be taken care of? The bride to be, happy creature, is not thinking of this. As each new box arrives she hastens to open it with joyful anticipation of another costly dish of intricate workmanship and beautiful shape, and when her hopes are realized she views the gift with pride, and really begins to feel herself a housekeeper. In the good old days of the great-grandmothers of many of the brides of the year the tea-table silver, silver and side dishes were the principal care that the mistress of the house had. She herself had an especial pan, in which she washed in clear, hot suds the silver that had just been used for the meal, and each daughter took her turn in assisting in carefully drying with a clean, soft towel. Then all was put in a large basket at night and locked away securely in the "kios" in Knickerbocker regions, and in a strong box if in Pennsylvania or some state still further south. Flagon of sweet scented toilet waters and perfumes, shuff boxes, tea scoops and the thousand and one trifles that were brought to the Colonies by sailing vessels, from foreign shores were not as well treated, but on the weekly cleaning day were given over to the hand maiden, who, under the supervision of her mistress, washed all in hot water to which a little lye had been added, and rubbed hard and long to bring the lustre to the proper brilliancy. Recipes were known to Virginia dames for various polishing soaps that kept their cherished pieces "brilliant" and to this day are followed by their descendants with the same result, although the servants of to-day do not take the same interest in the process as did the coal black "Sam" or "Jim," who spared not "elbow grease" in order that Colonel Byrd's silver might outshine Colonel Carter's.

AN INFALLIBLE RECIPE.

One of the best known methods of making silver that is in constant use look like new again and of removing every trace of dullness for some time to come is to put the various articles in a large tin wash boiler, after a thorough polish with either fine sand or whiting or silicon, and to cover them with water into which a handful of washing soda has been thrown, and allow the water to boil for two or three hours. On removal, a good rubbing with a soft chamois skin is productive of a very high polish. In the case of handsome hand made pieces with reposed or embossed designs in high relief this is actually the only way of getting the desired results. For the cleaning of the crevices, and for several weeks rubbing is all that is necessary to bring them up to the proper brilliancy. Once a month, or once in six weeks, is the time limit for these silver boilings, for otherwise the maid grows to depend upon its efficacy and neglect the weekly cleanings.

There are in many of the luxurious homes of the country all manner of labor saving devices, and among them is an electrical machine, with adjustable brushes, that will fit into every nook and cranny of any piece of silverware; with these, of course, the saving of time is immense, but, even so, the final polishing has to be done by hand, and the best articles for the library desk, have a lacquer finish, which means that dust is the only enemy. As gas or other atmospheric causes do not tarnish or discolor. This certainly saves the butler much arduous work, but the process is not, unfortunately for him, available for the useful table silver. Of this "lacquer finish" the vegetable oil, which is most mortifying to the hostess. The best antidote for this is the two-hour boiling in hot soda and water, already mentioned, which may be used in this instance every week or two if the dish is of sterling silver, for plated ware of any kind cannot stand the drastic treatment. In the last few years a score or more of liquid silver polishes, soaps and pastes have been invented, and every silversmith of any important standing has some special preparation of his own make to advocate. For the toilet silver there are various

polishing cloths that the maid can use when her mistress is visiting, and so keep her array of knick-knacks so bright and clean that all who see them envy, and, by the way, what more essential than that articles of personal, daily use should be spick and span? Of course, when the maid has her own cleaning outfit she misses the chats she would have with the butler or second man if she had to borrow the needful brushes and powders, but if she is of haughty mien, as proper ladies' maids are, she will find compensation in boasting to the "staff" of the glories of her mistress's own domain.

SAFEGUARDING COSTLY WARE.

To revert to the bride and her silver, in which a fortune is frequently represented, on the morning of the wedding day, or else while the wedding party is at the church, the family silversmith has been ordered to send his motor wagon, and with this are two especially trustworthy employes. The gifts, which have been carefully repacked and inventoried, the boxes being marked for identification, are placed in the wagon and whisked off to the vault, from which seclusion they do not emerge until the new house is sufficiently in order. That accomplished, the amount to be used ordinarily is brought up from storage, and the remainder is left in the safe deposit until some great function calls for the display of all the large and very ornamental pieces. These are returned as soon as possible to their secure resting place after the entertainment is over, and the owner's mind is comfortable once more. Great possessions assuredly bring great care and responsibility, and with such silver as is showered upon the young married couples of the present generation to begin their happy career with comes also the fear of burglars. Inexpensive, safe, patent window locks and burglar alarms are the most important items in the young husband's memorandum book, and on the telephone register the police station and the Fire Department numbers appear first on the list. Superb silver also means that every servant must come with references of entire honesty, for the loss of a spoon at one time and a fork at another means quite an outlay to replace, as often odd sets are given that have been brought from abroad, and the disappearance of one of these articles necessitates a duplicate made to order at a goodly expense.

Many of the older women of society who have travelled through Europe and as much of Asia and Africa as are practicable have added to their collections of silver many curious and artistic things. Take Mrs. E. Bernon Sheldon, for instance, who has named her country seat at Delhi, N. Y., Chafice Lodge, after a place where she stayed in India. She has picked up odds and ends with rare judgment and great good luck, and one room is filled with treasure trove. Here stands a silver cup that belonged to Louis XIV and has a hunting scene in bold relief around it. Near that is a wondrous silver idol, and beyond some beautiful old English tankards and loving cups rejoice the eye.

In one of the guest rooms is a French tablet set in silver, perfectly plain and highly burnished, the ever with a slender, graceful neck and long slim handle, and the basin generously deep. In the library, in cabinets, are small articles in silver and gold that have belonged to crowned heads of the centuries past.

Another collector of antiques in silver is William Nichols, whose home, at Rye, is wonderfully artistic. He has a fancy for silver of Venetian and Spanish origin and also for quaint old pieces from Japan and Russia, the former predominating, however. Some of this silver it is necessary to keep in a rather dingy condition, so collectors have the lacquer finish given, and the color remains at that particular stage of tarnish for all time. Tankards of old silver are almost the only pieces that are kept perpetually bright, and these should be regularly polished and occasionally boiled.

Of Sheffield plate much is to be said as to its beauty, but the genuinely old pieces are few and far between, and the newer ones are greatly inferior for wearing qualities, though the designs may be just as attractive. Any old piece that can be discovered in these days will need replating, and this produces a curious unevenness of surface, visible to the naked eye. The smooth quality of old Sheffield plating seems to be a lost art, as is the peculiar whiteness of very old silver. These were, of course, in the alloy, and the secret has perished, for with this glint there was also a hardness that made old silver most durable and satisfactory than any of modern times, and capable of retaining a polish with brilliancy for a much longer period.

Several odd and valuable silver tankards, christening cups and sauce boats were lent to the Jamestown exposition by Mrs. Frederic de Peyster, and were included in the Colonial Dames exhibit of antiquities. One tankard a coat-of-arms was most beautifully engraved, and on the handle, heavily raised, was a lion rampant, whose nose was greatly flattened by contact with the thumb-piece, which is on the back of the cover. The Misses Phillipse also own some historical silver, which is as beautifully bright as it was in the days when it graced the wainscoted dining room of Phillipse Manor; and of modern silver the daughters of Senator Clark have a vast array of the most lovely description and of great value.

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Bible Institute, on Tuesday evenings, at 8 o'clock. "Life at Its Best" is the general subject, and the following topics are the Gospel of St. John. The following topics are announced: January 7 and 14, "Life at Its Best—How Can It Be Maintained?"; January 21, "What Are Its Possibilities?"; January 28, "I, What Are Its Leading Characteristics?"; February 4, "I, What Are Its Leading Characteristics?"; February 11, "What Is Its Final Issue?"; The entire series is open to all women.

PASSING OF A STORM

Gotham Club Comes Safely Through Deep Waters—A Man's Woes.

The suffragette movement is not going to wreck the Gotham Club—not just yet. For about ten minutes before the club's regular meeting began yesterday morning at the Waldorf-Astoria the room was like the neighborhood of a dynamite charge just before the fuse is lighted. And the charge never went off.

Mrs. Mary Hall Schenck, third vice-president, arrived early, with war in her eye and a resolution she was burning to introduce. The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world was the point Mrs. Schenck meant to make, and she brought with her as guests—just to make the discussion lively—Mrs. B. Bormann Wells, the English suffragette, and Mrs. Mary E. Craigie, the Brooklyn suffragist. Excited conferences in all parts of the room preceded the meeting. A knot of women gathered around Mrs. Wells, all talking at once. Finally Mrs. Wells approached Mrs. Schenck.

"The members tell me," she said, "that the Gotham Club would be very much injured just now by the introduction of the suffrage question. I think I'd better not speak."

Fire flashed from Mrs. Schenck's eyes. How are you going to say "I'm" with any emphasis when the person you brought to say "I'm" backs out? She rose majestically and waved her resolution.

"All I demand here," she said, "is an educational clause in the constitution of the United States for both men and women—especially for women. Do you approve of that? If so, get up and say so. If you don't, get up and tell why. But mark me," she added, "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world. There's my son, sixteen years old, better fitted to vote than most men. The silent influence of women!"

"I'm afraid," he said, finally, "that I grabbed up the wrong minutes when I left the house. These are the minutes of some other meeting."

"So like a man!" murmured a feminine chorus in the background.

Several pieces of business were before the club. The members of the executive committee were to be named, a regular day was to be fixed on for the monthly entertainments, several other entertainments were to be arranged for and the question whether the club should hold its meetings at the Waldorf-Astoria or at the homes of the members. The club showed its versatility by discussing all four questions at once. Mrs. Brooks indignantly alluded to the members to talk about any motion they pleased at any time, without being particular as to whether the motion had been made. From time to time faint ejaculations proceeded from Mr. Foster, who was doing his manful best to take down the proceedings.

"Point of order! Point of order!" he implored the

club in general. "Madam President," to Mrs. Brooks, "that motion has not been made. Miss Moss," quelling the sleeve of the woman next him, "will you ask the president to make that motion that was just seconded?"

Meantime, Mrs. Schenck was getting nervous. Things looked dark for the suffragist fight she had planned. Finally she sprang to her feet.

"Mrs. B. Bormann Wells and Mrs. Craigie are here as my guests," she cried. "Aren't they to be asked to speak?"

"I'm sure," said Mrs. Brooks, nervously, "that we shall be charmed to hear Mrs. Wells tell us something about—about ladies' clubs in England."

"If Mrs. Wells speaks," said Mrs. George Dease to Mrs. Brooks, in a loud, emphatic whisper, "I shall have to go."

"Madam President," began Mrs. Schenck, again. "Oh, won't Mrs. Craigie say something?" said the president.

Mrs. Craigie responded joyously. She began by complimenting the Gotham Club on its charter, but glibly turned to woman suffrage, and got in a few body blows against the "antis" before she sat down. She got up again to say it was a pity, considering what an important part English women had taken in public affairs, that Mrs. Wells shouldn't be heard. So Mrs. Wells got up. Mrs. Dease got up, too, and went out. So did Mrs. Imogene King. But no further than just outside the door, and persons near the door might have seen two vigilant pairs of eyes plastered to the crack.

"I feel almost that I ought to apologize for existing," said Mrs. Wells, deprecatingly. "I came here, not knowing it was a business meeting. Of club life as women know it in America, we have nothing in England. I fear I am a dull person. I can talk of but one subject, and that is woman suffrage. We at home feel that we must strive for influence in the House of Commons. And if you feel that we in England have done dreadful things, remember what I have told you—that thousands of women are starving—thousands are forced to sell their souls in the streets of London—and the silent influence of women has not availed to mend that condition."

As Mrs. Wells sat down Mrs. King popped most unexpectedly into the room.

"I move," she said, "a vote of thanks to Mrs. Wells."

It was given and the club drew a long breath. The bomb had not burst.

Mrs. Schenck indignantly packed her resolution into her satchel.

"Why didn't I offer it?" she repeated after a suspensive. "I was frozen out, that's what I'm thinking vice-president and the president froze me out. But wait till the next meeting. I'll make these suffragettes say why they don't want an education clause in the constitution. Want the ballot, do they? Why, all the horrid common women would vote—and—and"—but breath failed her.

ENGAGEMENT OF MISS M'LEAN.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald McLean announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, Miss Bessie Mauley McLean, to Lieutenant William A. Dallam of the 12th Cavalry, U. S. A. The announcement is one which will be received with much interest, as the families of both the young people are widely known. Miss McLean's father is a well known attorney, and her mother is president general of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Lieutenant Dallam, who is a son of Dr. Dallam, of Philadelphia, is also of Revolutionary ancestry, being descended from William Paca, of Wye Hall, Maryland, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The marriage will take place late in February or in the early Easter season. After their honeymoon Lieutenant Dallam and his bride expect to go to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, where Lieutenant Dallam's regiment is now stationed.



MISS BESSIE MAULSBY M'LEAN, Whose engagement to Lieutenant William A. Dallam was announced last week.

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OUR "IDIOTIC AREA."

John G. Brooks Says Every One Should Strive to Reduce His Own.

There is never going to be any end to the troubles of these times until we get a United States Senator behind bars where he belongs, according to John Graham Brooks. Talking to the League for Political Education at the Hudson Theatre yesterday morning, he said:

"All through the ages we have been putting the poor little devils in jail, but the great creative criminals, those who use the smaller ones as their puppets, go scot free. They are the great dinner givers. They are the collectors of art—they all collect art. They are our friends, and as a great lawyer said when I asked him why some of these great lawbreakers were not made to suffer the penalty of the law, 'We can't put our friends in prison.'"

"That is the root of the whole matter," the lecturer continued. "It is the man we don't know that we send to jail. He is our enemy because we don't know him. But the man who belongs to our own set we will stand by and fight for and defend every time."

"It is the same instinct that makes the labor unions stand by their crooks, but I believe when we begin to attack the capitalist crooks the best element in the labor unions will turn on the crooks in their ranks and deliver themselves from the body of this death. They are eager to get rid of these people, who do more harm to the unions than they do to any one else, but they say: 'As long as the great crooks go free we will stand by.'"

Mr. Brooks was talking of the cause of human hatreds, and had said that human beings have a natural feeling of enmity toward those who are different from themselves, even if the difference is only a matter of hair and trousers. The lecturer remarked that we all had an "idiotic area" and that it should be the particular study of each individual to discover this region and reduce it as much as might be. In this idiotic area Mr. Brooks found the cause of many human enmities. The other cause is an economic one. When two dogs war a bone and there is only one bone to be had, the natural result is a fight.

NOTES OF CLUBS AND CHARITIES.

Governor Charles E. Hughes, Timothy S. Woodruff, Congressman Bennet, W. A. Chandler, Charles H. Treat, United States Treasurer; Mrs. James G. Wentz and Miss Helen V. Boswell will speak at the dinner of the West End Woman's Republican Association at the Hotel Astor on Friday evening, January 15. Tickets for the dinner and boxes may be obtained from the committee in charge—Mrs. James A. Allen, chairman, No. 260 West 23d street; Mrs. J. J. Cisco, Mrs. P. H. Dillon, Mrs. R. W. Penfield, Mrs. Morgan T. James, Mrs. S. B. Schenck, Mrs. E. W. Redledge, Mrs. E. P. Swan, Mrs. J. A. Wilkinson, Mrs. J. Dye, Mrs. Frank Churchill and Mrs. James Lowe.

One of the social events of the season in the charitable world will be the concert to be given by the junior committee of the Harlem Young Women's Christian Association in the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf-Astoria on Saturday evening, January 18. The proceeds from the concert are for the benefit of the junior work, which is located at No. 270 Lenox avenue, and is meeting a great need among the children of the upper West Side. The committee has secured the services of the following well known artists: Edwin Grasse, violinist; Mrs. Edith Chapman Gould, soprano, and Hans Krouald, cellist. As Edwin Grasse will not give his usual recital this winter, this will be one of the few opportunities to hear him. Tickets, at \$1.50 each, and boxes, from \$5 to \$15, may be obtained at Tyson's ticket office at the Waldorf-Astoria; the Harlem Young Women's Christian Association main building, Nos. 72 and 74 West 12th street; Harlem Young Women's Christian Association annex, No. 270 Lenox avenue, or from any

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member of the committee, which includes the following names: Miss Josephine W. Wuppermann, chairman; Miss Gladys Tucker, secretary; Mrs. Milton Morgenstern, treasurer; Mrs. Frederick Atherton, Miss Mary Beal, Miss Dora Behring, Miss Ethel Braman, Miss Sibel Brodsky, Miss Susie Bryant, Miss Sadie Carlew, Miss Laura Dayton, Miss Adelaide Haight, Mrs. James S. Herrman, Miss Marjorie Jones, Miss Genevieve Ketchum, Mrs. Frederick Knowles, Miss Nina Mayne, Miss Florence Nichols, Miss Mary Pearce, Miss Sophia Piel, Mrs. Arthur Silber, Miss Hazel Stillwell, Miss Martha Stillwell, Mrs. Walter Clarke, Mrs. H. Collins and Mrs. Richard Fuller.

Senator Chauncey M. Depew was the guest of honor at the Empire State night of the Hungry Club, when ninety-four guests attended the dinner, which was followed by a programme of unusual interest. Mr. Depew was the chief speaker, and among others present, some of whom contributed to the programme, were Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Maxin, Edmund Russell, Mrs. Camille Birnbaum, Henry G. Somborn, Mrs. Josephine Clarke, Miss Florence Nichols, Miss Mary Pearce, Mrs. A. R. De Voe, Mrs. N. E. Taft, Dr. and Mrs. George W. Riley, Captain and Mrs. P. Agnew Appleton, Woodman Babbitt, Frederick B. King and Henrietta Lazarus. Mattie Sheridan, the club's president, was the toastmaster. The various state nights instituted by the club have proved so successful and enjoyable that they will be continued, with other special nights of interest. Among those already announced are presidents' night, on February 1, when the chief executives of a dozen clubs will be guests of honor, and Virginia night, on February 22.

GLEANINGS.

Gentlemen in considerable numbers are going from every land to Canada to do domestic work, and still Canada is begging for more. The need for these immigrants and the opportunities open to them are well illustrated by the following letter: "Miss B. arrived on the 6th. She almost didn't, for she had three offers of situations on the way; here and five offers of marriage. She is considering two of the five. Do watch out for another girl for me," etc. The chances of marriage in Canada are said to be 50 to 1 as compared with England.

The League of Little Hats, organized a few years ago in Paris for the purpose of giving people who had paid out their good money for theatre tickets a chance to see the stage, still exists, but is regarded by its founder, Comtesse Grefuille, as a failure. Some prominent members have lapsed and gone back to hats of alarming proportions, and though the majority remain faithful it can no longer be said that "no one who is any one wears big hats at the theatre."

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LIFE AT ITS BEST. The Young Women's Christian Association, at No. 7 East 15th street, announces a series of popular Bible lessons in the auditorium of the building, to be led by Don O. Shelton, president of the National