

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS, PRACTICAL ARTICLES, AND FASHIONS FOR EVERY WOMAN

The Love of Admiration By ELLEN ADAIR

Too many women have a deeply rooted craving for admiration born in them, and this proves to be one of the hardest things to overcome. Unfortunately, however, the woman who labors under this handicap seldom or never wants to overcome it, and will rarely even admit the fact.

"There goes Mrs. Smith—such a pretty woman," said a man the other day, "but how she does know the value of her own good looks! She expects you to pay her compliments all the time, and after a bit it does get monotonous! She would be a nice, attractive woman if it were not for her intense love of admiration."

This falling is not alone confined to pretty women. Some of the homeliest looking people have the craving very badly indeed. When this is the case it generally plunges them very deeply into a sea of extravagance as to clothes. The plain woman consoles herself with the reflection that fine feathers may make fine birds, and cons for herself a new proverb, "Manners maketh man, but clothes maketh a woman."

The love of admiration will certainly lead women to do the most odd and extraordinary things. Some of the very freakishly dressed persons are exceedingly homely looking. One wonders why, on earth they should deck themselves out as a sort of public laughing stock.

mic force, one motive power. And that is the wife's craving for admiration. Sometimes this craving develops through neglect on the part of the husband. Many men imagine that once they are married they can drop all the little attentions and the delightful compliments which so charmed their wives in the courtship days. They show a lack of the outward and visible sign of appreciation, without which the average woman grows discontented. This discontent may breed a roving spirit, and, failing to find appreciation and admiration at home, the foolish wife may seek it abroad.

She meets some man who will flatter her and make much of her, and while her affections may still centre around her home and husband, she will so compromise herself with the "other person" whom she imagines appreciates her thoroughly, that her happiness will be eventually wrecked.

The woman who possesses this incessant craving for homage and adulation should strive to check it before it conquers her better self and her better judgment. Otherwise she may find herself an object of pity and public gossip rather than an object of admiration and attention.

ELLEN ADAIR.

For the Young Bride

Haven't you a feeling of pity for a young housekeeper, you veterans in the art of cooking and comfort? She may start off confident that success will crown her efforts, and that Tom has married the best little homemaker in the kingdom, or she may begin her new life troubled in spirit at the hugeness of the task that lies before her—the entire management of a "business" that till now has been a sealed book. Which ever way she faces it, there are pitfalls ahead for her inexperience.

How many accounts at different times have there not been of burns caused by pouring on a little kerosene "to brighten" a dull fire? To attempt to pour kerosene on smouldering embers is sheer madness. This is a common catastrophe; return to the kitchen and you will find many dangers which you probably have forgotten.

RECKLESS QUOTATIONS: BY SARA MOORE



"If idleness is the root of all evil, then matrimony is good for some thing, for it sets many a poor woman to work."—Vanbrugh.

Christmas Candy A Useful Suggestion

The basis of almost every French candy is fondant. This is the personal invention of a famous French confectioner, but it can be successfully made by any careful American cook. The schoolgirl who wants to entertain her young friends by a candy pull will enjoy the fondant party much more, once she has learned to make the candy herself.

Here is the recipe: Add two cups of water and a pinch of cream tartar to one pound of granulated sugar. Stir this until the sugar is all dissolved, and no longer. Put the mixture over the fire in a granite pan, and while it is boiling remove every crystal which appears on the side of the pan. Let this boil for about six minutes, then draw it back from the flame. Dip a fork in the syrup and then plunge it in cold water. If it forms a soft ball it is done.

Then this must be turned out on a platter very quickly. Do not scrape the sides of the pan. When the fondant looks thickly across the top turn the edges into the centre. Do this until the mixture is about blood heat, then beat with a wooden spoon until it begins to crumble. Turn this out on a board and knead it until it becomes a soft, smooth mass. This can be packed in a bowl, covered with oiled paper and kept until needed. It will keep for a very long time and may be used for bars, loaves, dipping and patties.

Slowly knead the fondant after you have taken it out of the bowl so as to keep it all in one ball and a smooth, creamy surface. As French candies are nearly all hand made, you have almost unlimited opportunities for originality in coloring, decoration, flavoring, etc. The clever amateur will find a good chance here to make the little extra and always necessary spending money.

Toilet Tips

Six Sensible Hints for Every Woman. First. Gray hair can be avoided by a jar of vaseline. Every night give the head three minutes' massage; once a week smear the tips of the fingers with good yellow vaseline, and rub thoroughly into the roots of the hair.

Second. Chapped hands during the winter are often the lot of the girl or woman who has to spend a portion of her time over the sink. Keep a little jar of oatmeal handy, and after washing and drying the hands, rub the oatmeal well into the skin and dust off. This dries and protects the skin.

Third. Tired or strained eyes spoil a woman's appearance quicker than anything else. Guard against excessive machine work, or reading in a bad light. A solution of boracic powder and warm water applied to the eye in an eye-bath, or gently bathed into the eye, is very soothing and restful.

Fourth. Healthy feet make all the difference in one's face and figure. If they ache and are tired, soak them in warm water with a pinch of permanganate of potash. A small supply will last for weeks, and is a great aid.

Fifth. Well washed eyebrows give the plainest face a certain individuality. Before washing, gently scrub back with your little finger the skin growing round the hair of the brow. This stimulates their growth, and adds lustre to the hair.

Sixth. Every woman should spare her nails a few minutes each day. After washing, gently scrub back with your thumb the skin growing round the little nail-nest at the base of the nail. If this has been neglected, a little glycerine and rose-water will soften the skin. Add the same oil, your nails.

Honor to American Women. As a reward for her extraordinary work during the war, the United States Post Office has conferred the honor of the issue of a postage stamp upon Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, one of the great women of the world.

HOW THE COLLEGE GIRL SPENT CHRISTMAS

"Good-by all, I hope you have a happy Christmas! I envy you going home so quickly. Just think, you can sleep in your own comfortable homes tonight, most of you! Well, good-by, Della. Give my love to your mother. Tell her I'll come to visit her at Easter."

Mollie stood on the campus, waving her handkerchief to her departing friends. Taxicabs drove up to the college and took their fuffy, excited burdens to the station. She turned back, feeling rather lonesome. The picture of her low-roofed Irish home made the tears start to her eyes. She read her mail.

"Molly, dear," her mother wrote, "you won't be with us this year, but I know your heart will be in Ireland with the old folks. Anyhow, I want you to do just as you used to do at home. Don't go to bed on Christmas night unless you can say you have made some one happy."

"That's something to think of," said Molly, as she slipped into her hat and coat. She took the car to the settlement where the college girls had a makeshift school for poor children. Here the little mothers brought their restless charges, while they learned sewing and cleanliness, the babies were fed, washed and fitted out.

"Good morning, Miss Molly. What are you going to give us for Christmas?" asked a little girl, shyly. "And what is Santa going to bring you?" "I don't know, dearie, but what do you want Santa to bring you?" returned the girl as she allowed on her apron.

"What do you mean, dear? Where is your mother. Come, we'll go to see her now."

"Nurse cost money," said the boy, sulkily. An hour passed by before medical aid came. Molly rushed about, borrowed a cot from the woman downstairs (after leaving a deposit of about four times its value as a guarantee of its return), made some hot broth and chafed the cold hands. The sick woman remained unconscious.

The doctor worked almost all night over his patient. "Starved and exhausted," he explained briefly. Just as the first rays of Christmas dawn reddened the sky the woman moved her eyelids and turned her head toward the window.

"Maraya, where are you," she said faintly. The sleeping child did not answer.

"Molly! Molly! Why, what are you doing here, and where did this lovely being come from? Oh, my dear, my dear; God bless you," she sobbed as she held the girl's hand to her trembling lips.

A New Christmas Suggestion

You probably wouldn't believe that a quarter of a yard of scrim would make a charming series of Christmas gifts, but such a feat was accomplished by one clever girl. "You see," she said, "father died in the year and I just had to economize on something. The younger children had to continue their schooling whatever happened, and I had to buy things which we couldn't do without, such as shoes, coats, eatables, etc. So I made up my mind to keep all my gifts within a certain limit. When I found that even this wouldn't cover my expenses, I began to buy them in bulk, as it were. So I hit upon the idea of the boucler cushion.

These dainty little presents are awfully easy to make at home. Cut your material the size of the cushion you wish to make. Now measure off a one-inch hem, draw six threads, count 45 stitches to the centre. A stitch, you know, is two threads each way. If you are any good at embroidery, a charming touch of color may be added in the shape of a wreath. This may be done in the popular ribbon work, cross stitch or plain hand work. You must take particular care to find the centre when you begin to embroider. This is done by counting from that will be the centre of the flower on any side. You can work the flowers in pink, with yellow centres, and the leaves in a pretty shade of dull green. In parti-colored ribbon this is stunning.

Of course, the under side is made just like the top, only plain. Press each piece separately under a damp cloth when finished, and lace together with pale, flesh-colored pink ribbon, tied in bows at the corners. Use a rather coarse quality of sewing and the result will be better. Another novel pin-cushion is made of pale pink linen, with pure white embroidery. Take two pieces of linen nine inches square and make the usual inch-wide hem on it. About a quarter of an inch from the hem draw several threads.

Hemstitch on either side to make a narrow leading for a ribbon. When you draw this through your cushion it is kept securely inside. A monogram can be worked in the centre with very little trouble and practically no expense. A quarter of a yard of linen, 25 inches wide, is enough to make two cushions. The cushion proper is made of white cambric stuffed with sawdust.

Small hat brushes cost 75 cents, and large cloth brushes \$1.25. Small slipper brushes can be bought for 25 cents and shoe horns, heavier and larger, for 50 cents.

Powder boxes, in different sizes, have values of 25, 50 and 75 cents. There are diminutive photographons, with a rim of the celluloid, for 25 cents, and larger ones for 50 cents.

Picture frames at 25 cents, holding one photograph, while those costing 50 cents are designed for two.

There are clocks, including the pink or blue or white frame, valued at \$1, and others at \$1.50. Very graceful candlesticks, for candles of the regulation size, are worth 75 cents apiece.

At the same price of 75 cents, slender little vases for the single flower or the boutonniere, are worthy a place in the list.

And the covered boxes for pins or hair-pins or odds and ends come in pretty sizes and square oblong or round at prices of 25, 50 and 75 cents.

A complete set of these articles will not reach a high figure, and it one wants to go a step further they can be impaled or monogrammed at small expense.

Cleaning Venetian Blinds. Pour cold water over the leaves in the teapot, and allow to stand for one hour, then strain the water from the tea leaves into a bowl, dust the laths, wring a chamol skin out in the tea water and rub each lath with it on both sides. The chamol should not be too damp, and the blinds will not require drying.

Economy Hints. Instead of meat provide a good, nourishing soup for dinner. Order good beef bones, add to them two quarts of water, and let simmer very gently for several hours.

Next morning take off the fat, add carrots, turnips, onions, celery, or a mixture of any vegetables you happen to have on hand, and simmer again till the vegetables are done.

Then season with pepper and salt, add some dumplings that have been boiled separately, and you will get a really nourishing dinner at quite small cost.

As a change add pearl barley or rice at the same time as the vegetables, and make no dumplings.

Pretty Christmas Gifts. Little pots of growing ferns from the woods make delightful Christmas gifts. Of course, only the hardy varieties of ferns can be found at this season.

White felt hats that have been thrown aside when soiled, or imperfectly cleaned by an amateur, come back almost to their former glory by cleaning with gasoline.



A MOURNING TOILETTE MODES OF THE HOUR

When the mourning apparel of today is contrasted with that of a past generation, it seems safe to argue that underneath all the obvious truth and form of the present-day dress there is a deep sea of common sense.

Which is still worn, but with a difference. It is a tradition with us that the wearing of black is a mark of respect for the dead. But the funeral black, that swathed the figure from head to foot with the long, heavy veil that completely concealed the features, would now look grotesque and an ostentatious parade of a grief that should be more reserved to be real.

The wearing of black is a protection in many ways, and that is possibly all that it has to recommend it. It is a protection from the careless inquiry of a thoughtless acquaintance and from many little jars that would be quite natural and inevitable.

As we are undoubtedly creatures of habit, it would seem just as advisable not to wear black at all as to wear it with an overcoat.

When the long crepe veil for relatives sitting in the casket. It was the custom then that they were young, and one that they were old with white in the present mourning of which the lace and

the fashion of wings. The pieces are shaped and wired so that the corded and shirred crepe covering loses something of its pomposity.

A tabanion of dull jet is placed between the two loops, where it has an extremely ornamental appearance. The use of dull jet where mourning is concerned, are manifold. All the little things such as the pins, the cuff links, chains or whatever is necessary can be found in practical and inexpensive form.

The veil worn with the toque is bound with the crepe, but it is worn in the ultra modern way, hanging free and falling as it will.

The small hat and the voluminous veil are very attractive features of the present-day model. Things that hang free and flutter seem essentially feminine, and therefore charming.

It is a mistake to think that if one wears mourning it should be neither fashionable nor becoming. It is merely quibbling, for it is neither fashionable nor does it show a lack of feeling to give the usual attention to the clothes of grief.

THE EXTRAVAGANT WOMAN

How She Decided to Cure Herself

The country girl and her city cousin were trying to press their way in and out among the Christmas shoppers. "Everywhere about them were attractive displays of leather goods, ribbons, gowns, jewels, wonderful furnishings for home and country place. The country maiden sighed as she looked at all the tempting display.

"Oh, dear, I wish I didn't have to look at so many pretty things; they positively make me peevish. I'd like to buy everything I see. They're so beautiful."

"Yes, dearie, and so expensive," added the city girl. "You know how well all these things look, but you have no idea how much they really cost."

"Why, look at that perfectly stunning cambric; that isn't expensive. It only costs \$1. We really can't pass it by."

"You're caught, are you, my little cousin? I thought your thrifty country spirit would save you, but evidently such is not the case. The fact that things are cheap—seemingly so—doesn't help along the high cost of living. I look at a collar I like for 50 cents and then go right to work and fall in love with one for \$2. Of course, I know it's ridiculous, but I buy the expensive one in the end."

"Well, that's the one idea of trade, my dear. Folks aren't in business for fun, it will keep for a very long time and they certainly succeed. There are so many pretty things which cost just a little more than you are prepared to pay. And you don't think just the same, just as the wise storekeeper knows you will."

"And the first thing that happens your money's all gone. Oh, I know that feeling. I borrow from my next month's allowance, all because of my extravagance!"

"The only way I save any money is by staying away from the city. But when one sees other women buying gowns, and hats, and furs, and things, why I just can't resist. I have to get them, too."

"Now, that's silly, Helen," said the country girl. "And you'd be the first one to tell me of it. I'm going to take you to the country for a while, where you can take up your goods and come back almost to buy everything other women buy."

"I guess I will. Tom will be pleased to death. He hates them, anyhow; always did. You'll have to visit me again soon to watch how I am getting along. Somehow or other, I'm sure I'll be happier under the new plan."

And she was.

Time and Temper Savers

Dresses that have been laid away in drawers for some time often become very creased. Hang them in front of the fire for a while and the creases will disappear.

If eggs crack while cooking in the saucepan, as often happens in cold weather, a spoonful of salt will prevent the white from coming out.

Use a paper dishrag. It is far more sanitary than a cloth, is firm, and cleans well. One lasts for about a month, can then be burned and another purchased in its place.

A sheet of tin, fitted to the size of your gas stove, placed over the top of the range, will impart heat to several saucepans placed upon it at the expense of only one burner being alight.

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