

Work and Pay in the Household

IF YOU WANT TO BE INVITED AGAIN

With the crowding of holiday festivities, invitations come thick and fast. The person who has no social engagements at this time of year can be no other than one who does not wish them, for when every one is at home, the only necessity is to have the signal for the gathering together of each and every friend and acquaintance. For the girl or man, therefore, who wishes to keep up a social life and be invited again, the time is ripe to make oneself a popular guest.

In the first place, no matter what invitation you may receive, answer it within a day of the time it reaches you. Never hold a summons to any form of entertainment for a day or two, or to make sure whether or not you can accept. When in the least bit of doubt, send your regrets in a polite or formal manner. If the invitation is for a formal function, however, it is perfectly proper to qualify your refusal with a word as to your reasons and a hope that at the last moment you will find that you can come. Nevertheless, your refusal should be thoroughly clear that you have definitely refused and that your hostess should not expect to see you unless she hears from you again.

The value of social notes cannot be overestimated to the person who would become popular. That any sort of a polite note should be written on the very notes of the day, with evidence to match, goes without saying. That the handwriting should be your own is also most essential, and it must be clear and easily read. As a matter of fact, it is not permissible, the words should run straight and be evenly spaced, while the margin at the left of the sheet should be decided.

Whatever you may write, have it to the point; that is, concise and unequivocal. Read the note through at least twice to be assured that the person receiving it would be able to understand it in any but the way you intend. Finally, if any mistakes of spelling, poorly written words, or blots of ink have crept into the form of the note, do not send it out without rewriting, and when you stamp the envelope put Uncle Sam's engraved messenger squarely in the upper right-hand corner.

When to write these social notes is the next question of importance. Of the two kinds, the former should be sent early and often. Nothing brings more pleasure to the recipient than a simple expression of appreciation or condolence in connection with pleasure or sorrow that may have come to them. In such a note there should be no interest without any suggestion of selfish or self-seeking motives. But withal it must be dignified. Too much cannot be said with regard to the thoughtful note which bears with it only good will and cheerfulness and which helps to keep up the thread of friendship or acquaintance.

Kind notes include answers to invitations and certain explanations called for by some slight misunderstanding. Unless you have been clearly read, as a formality, the note which accepted the

invitation may be followed after the function by a note of appreciation. Especially is this true when you have been invited to an evening or a meal in some home circle. Your friends will appreciate the extra mark of courtesy, and you will be less hurried about making your subsequent call. Only a most careful person allows over two days to pass before sending a letter of appreciation after an extended visit at a friend's home.

Conversation is the second very important factor in gaining social popularity. This does not necessarily mean being a ready conversationalist, for a good listener is more to be envied than a fluent talker. Its real meaning is to show a true interest in what is being said, and yet to retain sufficient of your own personality to command the interest of others. In this respect the second and third part of the rule of three that makes for popularity are very closely allied.

To begin with, conversation in social life implies the exchange of thoughts on an equal basis. To ascertain what the standard of your listener may be, question him in the very least manner. Learn first on what ground the person with whom you are conversing will meet you, and do not scorn the asking of commonplace questions to find this out. Personal questions, however, are barred except in a very general way, and when used should be worded so that the person answering may avoid a direct reply if he wishes. Do not find the subject in which your companion is interested, try to see his view of it, rather than your own. Keep your decided opinions in the background unless they are specially asked. Make the other person's hobbies and fads seem to be your immediate concern, and by no means allow your attention to be very noticeably attracted to his. Your looks must convey consideration.

The voice counts tremendously in conversation. Speak with musical tones. Accentuate your voice to catch any harsh or jarring note that you may utter. An authority on this subject says to use only the low pitch of the voice, as this is always sweeter and more convincing. Do not emphasize what you say with movements of your hands or feet or with contortions of the face. Leave this to people on the stage who in playing to a mixed audience need to use every means at their command to express the different emotions.

In private life the most refined and cultured members of society retain always the quietest and calmest manner of saying and doing everything. This is an invaluable aid in the exchange of thoughts and ideas, for it allows the other person to think of what you are saying rather than of what you are doing. Furthermore, this repose of manner is a delicate compliment to your companion, who immediately feels that you are not anxious to be somewhere else. In other words, it puts him perfectly at his ease.

A pitfall into which the youthful conversationalist is always in danger of falling is the use of slang words that are not being accepted as legitimate. An occasional use of the most usual of the newly coined words and phrases is not so serious a mistake as some would have it. However, girls especially have to avoid rough modes of expression, which invariably mar a pleasant conversation.

There is one trick which the successful

conversationalist never fails to employ and that is the paying of direct compliments. It can be truthfully said that this is one sure way of gaining the interest of almost any human being. As soon as you show appreciation of some quality or characteristic which they may—or may not—possess, their pride is touched and they begin to take note of your opinions. Open flattery is far removed from the tactful compliment, however. You must have some reason, drawn either from observation or from the say-so of friends, for whatever pleasant remark you may make and it must be subtle rather than direct.

And now for the last quality which makes you a desirable guest on every occasion. Charm of manner welds all the other graces together. A friendly, kindly spirit should be shown toward every one you meet in a social way. Never allow a suggestion of condescension to enter anything you may say or do, while not to place a proper estimate on your own abilities is very bad form and a sure means of embarrassing other people. A cheerful smile with a straightforward handshake is the simplest and best way of greeting new and old acquaintances. Keeping this in mind by a simple and direct manner, do not permit it to alter your kindly feelings and welcome the next person in the same agreeable, unpretentious way.

An unchangeable rule when you are being entertained is to remember that your host and hostess are to be considered before your personal desires and opinions. Whatever their guests may be, you in your turn should be considered only as friends under this common roof of hospitality, and one person should be treated with the same thoughtfulness as another. A multitude of sins through etiquette and even tactless conversation, are overlooked when this is your guiding spirit, and to be invited again is to be a desirable guest first and an individual afterward.

FOR THE CHILDREN



EARLY to bed and early to rise
May be the way to grow wealthy and wise,
But I'd rather be stupid and stay up at night,
Than be tucked up in bed while it's broad daylight.

Find a wealthy person and a wise one. (1) Top side down, on hair bow; (2) left side down, in folds of sleeve.

DAINTY SANDWICHES

Round sandwiches, made from white bread cut the size of little butter plates, formed part of a bride shower "feast." These were filled with egg salad, rose-leaves and violets held together with a blob of whipped cream, and each of the dainty morsels was charmingly tied with a narrow pink or violet ribbon. They were put in silver bread baskets, with the handle of one tied with violet ribbon and that of the other with pink. It goes without saying that these sandwiches were an immense success.

THE SUCCESSFUL WIFE

There are all sorts of things that change love letters, as the poets say, from the chain of fairy gold to the dragging weight of iron links. If the chain of fairy gold, which never tarnishes and is as light as a swan-down, comes to be bound together by a dull, heavy chain that corrodes into the very soul one or the other of the fellow-prisoners.

Sometimes the causes of this tragedy lie in the inner heart of one of the pair. When falsethness or selfishness or heartlessness take possession of one of these two hearts their moral domination is so great that "love's golden fetters" must inevitably be transmuted into a ball and chain. But what of the causes that are less tremendous? The fairy gold goes and the iron fetters come when there is such grossness as the cause. "How did it happen?" many a woman asks herself, secure in the knowledge that neither her husband nor herself have broken the laws of the society. She has never realized that the cumulative effect of trifling annoyances may be frightfully disastrous.

She does not think that the petty annoyances she has subjected her husband to for so long have anything to do with the dimming of the romance. If she were asked point-blank if she trusted her husband, or asked if he were a man capable of taking care of himself, she would be indignant at such a question. Yet if they are going off on a little trip together she will ask him to take a reflection upon her fiancé's common sense or his chivalry as she shows when she flings such inquiries as these at her husband: "Why didn't you bring an umbrella?" "Why don't you offer to carry my suitcase?" "Did you remember to get a time-table?" "Why don't you buy some magazines?" "Why don't you raise the window for me? What's the matter with it? Aren't you strong enough to do it?" There's the point, very obliging, wasn't it?—did you give him a tip? Why not?

Beauty and Convalescence

This article aims particularly to suggest simple remedies for combating the after-effects of illness.

If raw fruits are not included in the diet ordered by the doctor, then prepare stewed fruits, and serve as often as you can and in as great variety as possible. Apples, stewed, and then rubbed through a sieve, sweetened, then stiffened with a little gelatine, and beaten into whipped cream furnish a delicious fruit dish for invalids, and also clear the complexion. Apple sauce and baked apples; plums stewed with just enough sugar to take off the sharpness; and grapes, stewed and pressed through a sieve to remove both seeds and the skin, are appetizers. As soon as vegetables are permitted serve beans and peas, which are nourishing and build tissue. Spinach is said to be to the stomach what sand is to the kitchen table—a wonderful cleanser. It is a great mistake to think that an invalid must be kept on a meat diet. Vegetables often give better results.

If the doctor orders that milk be included in the diet and the patient insists that she belongs to that large class who "just hate milk," be very careful not to give her milk which is warm or tepid, have it either very cold or very hot. Cold milk with the one beaten egg, a little sugar and a dash of nutmeg, whipped into it, should be served with a thin wafer or cracker as a treat, not a medicine. Boiling milk with salt in it, and salt wafers should be given when the patient is greatly prostrated, and it is also useful as a remedy for insomnia.

Sleep is one of the best remedies and recuperatives. Lack of sleep, long, exhaustive nights of wakefulness will retard a patient's progress. Do not let the patient try to sleep when she complains of "bone ache." Try a hot bath, or rubbing, either with or without alcohol. If the patient is too tired to enter into this cover the body with Turkish towels dipped in hot water, use a large sponge dipped in a bowl of warm water, containing a tablespoonful of alcohol. The family nurse will permit the visit of a professional masseuse, have the rubbing done just before bedtime to induce sleep, but do not permit the operator to use electricity just before the patient retires, as this is a stimulant and not a sedative. Also make sure that the operator has a soothing effect personally on the patient. Some experts in massage have personalities so vigorous that they seem to draw the strength from the patient, and a talkative operative should never be permitted to enter an invalid's room. Sometimes a patient cannot sleep because the stomach is empty—this is the time for a glass of hot milk, or something of that sort, to soothe what the hour of the night. Eat, if the patient is able, a slice of God's own remedy for neural and nervous exhaustion. Air the room, and whenever possible have the sunshine directly on the patient.

SHOWERS FOR BRIDES

A bride-shower may include any little departure from the usual cut and dried affair and be all the prettier for it. Dainty food of some light sort, with an appropriate beverage, will also make the occasion go off more gayly and the gifts may be the very best of the new home or articles that the bride herself only would need.

As to the bridegroom gracing the fun, he may be there or he may not, as the giver of the entertainment decrees. If the young woman soon to wed—for the shower is as often given before the marriage as after it—is one of a group of warm school friends who feel that they want to have a little last time with Mary alone, there is no reason why the prospective husband should be invited. But in this case it would be better to taste to give the shower in the afternoon.

A number of young girls lately gave to a college chum on the eve of marriage a "surprise shower," which seemed to be a very happy idea. The bride was invited to the gathering were given by word of mouth, so as to keep the thing as much of a secret as possible, and the parlor and all the sides of the house chosen for the festivity were prettily decorated with huge bunches of waxed autumn leaves, chrysanthemums and winter berries. The various gifts, all of which had been sent to the house beforehand, were each enclosed in tissue paper, with the neat package tied with ribbon and marked with the giver's name. All were then included in a shallow basket, trimmed at the sides with yellow tissue paper, and covered over the top with the paper after the manner of a Jack Horner pie, when the future bride appeared, she was given a wooden knife and told to cut the pie, which she did, her maid of honor handing out the various gifts with a little appropriate speech for each one.

The best of the fun came through each of the guests being entirely ignorant as to what the others had given, so with the unfolding of the various parcels, which contained everything from a locket cooking spoon to a very house piece of cut glass, the wonder and delight was general.

When everything had been looked at,

the girls went into the dining-room, where a round table, lighted with candles, held for them a very delicious afternoon tea, consisting of fancy sandwiches, green salad, chocolate, white whipped cream candies, cake and lemonade.

The maid of honor gave the toast of the day, saying, as she lifted a wine glass filled with lemonade, "May the bride continue to be the good chum and school girl friend and keep all the secrets of her friends as sacredly as of yore." The bride responded appropriately, tipping her own lemonade with the sweet hope that her girl friend would be as true to her in her eternal love and discretion.

And then they all cried a few dear tears, and kissed one another fondly, and talked beautifully about the tremendous importance and sacredness of marriage.

A couple already married were entertained with a most novel shower, this bringing many little trifles suitable alone to the young husband—a cigar case, a penholder, a pocket knife, and such small things. But here a beautiful gift was raised by the final gifts in the flower-trimmed tray that held them all, for these were two little blue cupid with this legend at the base of the ornament: "Give love the first place in your household."

The bride's gifts were also personal little trinkets and articles for the toilette, and the evening closed with a Dutch supper of beer, bread sandwiches and potato and herring salad.

The most popular gifts of these pretty occasions consist of household linen of every description. But one should never forget to include in the list a few articles of the most useful and practical nature. The quality of the articles given must be in accordance with the means of the little home which they are to grace. Also, as the bride is supposed to get her most valuable presents in another way, it would be rather bad taste to compose the shower of any but a trifling or inexpensive nature.

Bright and useful kitchen utensils make acceptable gifts always, and if these are set upon a round table, covered with a pretty white cloth trimmed at the table edge with a border of red paper poinsettias the effect produced is sure to be pleasing to all who behold it.

Where the shower basket is hung between folding doors and so arranged as to tip its contents at the bride's feet, as is sometimes done, it is made most effective if suspended by wide ribbon and ornamented with a motto in big readable letters. Here is a suitable legend: "May all your life be showered with beautiful things."

TO MAKE TWO FLOWERS OF ONE
Every homemaker appreciates the value of flowers in making a house attractive. Yet every one knows that flowers do cost a good deal of money in winter. There are several ways of making two flowers of one, of making one flower do the duty of several, and with these ways each housekeeper should be acquainted.

A few of the little standards that hold flowers upright in a bowl or vase of water are in themselves decorative and useful. They are not expensive. There are toadstools, turtles, camels, frogs, and other figures in metal and pottery.

A growing pot of begonias or geraniums is another economy, for this can be depended on to bloom when fresh-cut flowers are not to be had.

A tall, slim vase that will hold two or three flowers gracefully is another economy, for like the little standards, this vase makes two or three blooms take the place of a dozen.

A supply of some sort of greenery—ferns or sprigs of wandering Jew growing in water, or some other foliage plant—will also supply the right note when fresh flowers are not at hand.



WHAT IS YOUR PET?

A number of fashionable women have taken up parrots for the amusement of teaching them the smart and spicy expressions of the day. The double-headed, blue Mexican parrot speaks distinctly and will soon acquire an extensive repertoire of current phrases. It is a gorgeous bird, with a head of brilliant green and red. It talks more rapidly and is even more teachable than the Mexican bird, but its utterance is not so distinct, and its cost is \$50.

Angora cats are in great demand at \$100 each. They are difficult to raise, having a most finicky appetite, but they are affectionate and faithful, and are made much of by fashionable women. They are gray or white, with long silky, glossy hair.

For the country home the great Danes are considered, by all odds, the smartest dogs. They are big creatures, and if they simply brush against a child the force is sufficient to knock the little one off his feet; consequently a well-bred Dan learns early to show, and to sit on his eyes alone. It is an expensive pet and eats as much as four men. He is the most faithful of all household guardians. The most lovable of all dogs for country life is the family of small children is the Scotch collie.

Chow dogs, Pekinese spaniels, and Pomeranians are all in great demand. All are charming. The chow is beautiful, they have intelligent faces, and they have a certain amount of affection.

Pekinese spaniels and Pomeranians have also the charm of smallness, which is a decided attraction in a woman's pet dog. Their dainty feet, their bright little eyes, their small faces, their tiny tongues—all these features add to their value. In the eyes of their devotees.

The fashions in pets are as changeable as those in clothing, and quite as interesting. It does not seem very long ago that English pug dogs were the most fashionable canines. Then there came a fashion for Boston terriers. Every one had one of those dainty editions of the bulldog. At the same time the English bulldog gained a place in the heart of the athletic girl.

The English bull terrier has his devotees, and so has the Boston terrier. In a dainty, almost toy edition, he is often met with. But especially out of the running. A nice little pug puppy can be picked up for \$5 or 40 cents.

Black, brown, and white Pomeranians are all in vogue, and each has its points in beauty.

White Pomeranians may best be described as pocket editions of the once popular Spitz dog. They have long white hair all over the body, and the lower part of the legs and the face are close clipped and pink. They weigh about five pounds, and have something of a reputation for a snappish disposition. They are a troublesome dog to keep clean, but they are extremely effective against a velvet dress.

The Mexican hairless dog is about as

ugly a little creature as one can imagine, and it has a shivering, cowering nature, but its very homeliness seems to attract the feminine eye, and perhaps with a view to contrast, and one of these dogs cannot be bought for less than \$5.

Rolls sandwiches are also delicious. When bread is ready to make into loaves, put one into a long bar tin; let stand until light, then steam one hour. Make a dressing of ham, veal, and smoked tongue, chopped very fine, and mixed with salad dressing. When the bread is quite cold, cut in thin slices, spread with the chopped meats, and roll.



The parrot is now a pet of fashionable women. It is clever at picking up the latest expressions of the day, and moreover, it gains affection for its owner. Naturally, therefore, it is popular.

WHAT THE GROCER HAS THAT IS NEW

It is a wonder that there are not all epicures today. So varied is the assortment of delicate and unusual foods in the grocer's window that any one with a sensitive palate must clutch her purse tightly when she enters the shop to order a box of biscuits and a pound of coffee, lest she spend all her fortune on riotous eating. "Finnish caddies" are now sold in glass jars at 25 cents. Those who liked the haddis sold in tins will find those put up in glass a great improvement, for even persons who did not like the old-fashioned haddis consider the new sort a delicacy.

Fish flakes are put up in tins for 10 cents. This kind of fish is far more delicate in flavor and softer than the dried cakes of fish, or even than that which is flaked in paper packages.

Sandwich pastes in tubes sell for 25 cents a tube. These pastes come in many flavors, beefsteak, ham, harridge, snipe, and tongue being among them.

WHY THE LEFT SIDE?

Did you ever wonder why it seems natural to put trimming on the left side of the hat? Of course, this year we are not natural, so far as trimming is concerned. We swathe our waists with thick folds, we gather our skirts in front, we fasten buckles, bows, and other decorations at our knees—and we blithely wear the trimming of our hat at left or right, front, back, or in the middle. Perhaps this fashion will dull our feeling that the left side is the suitable side for trimming.

This is the reason, anyway, why we have had to hold ourselves in check lest we put our hats on backward or sideways to bring the trimming to the time-honored left side.

In the old, old days, when men went about with swords instead of penknives at their sides, they were trimming on their hats, we gather our skirts in glass bands and folded bows they wear now, but a big, waving plume or two. These plumes, if they were fastened at the right side, interfered with the sweep of the sword when it was swung high in air to gather force—swung, naturally, with the right hand on the right side. Hence the trimming was placed on the left side, and there it has remained, on and off, ever since until the fashions of the last few years came in.