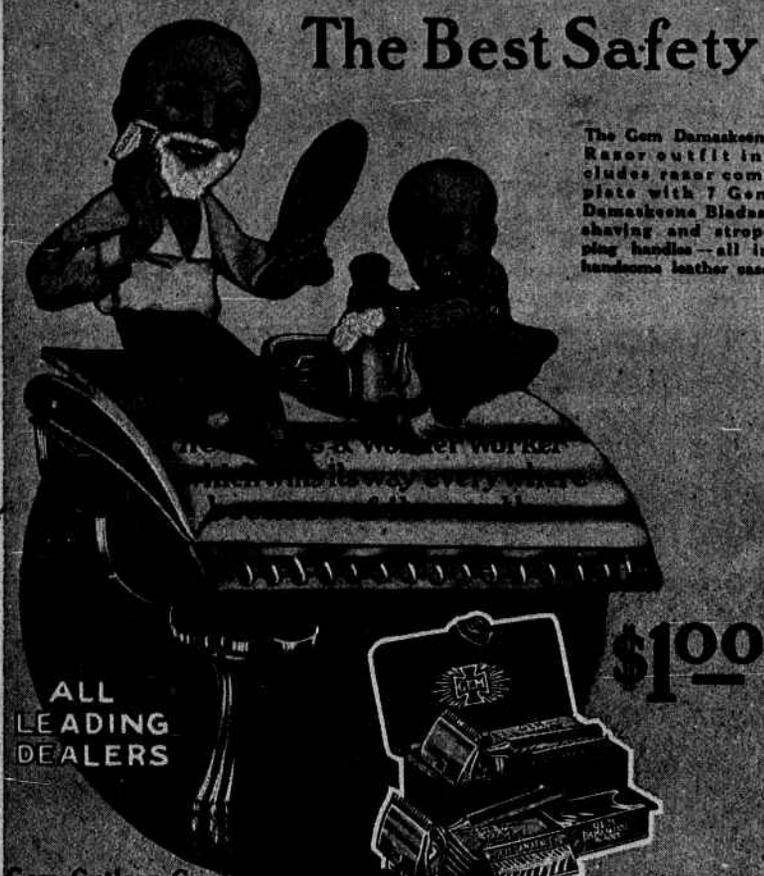


# GEM DAMASKEENE RAZOR

## The Best Safety



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### *Cut Down Your Necessities, and You Will Be Able to Afford a Few Luxuries*

**M**OST of us do not have incomes large enough to provide both the things we need and the things we want.

We are forced to choose between our necessities and our luxuries.

And, very foolishly, we choose to cut out the luxuries. Thus our existence becomes dull and monotonous.

We never really live: our lives are lived for us—cut out and sewed together by the habits and customs of the class to which we belong.

I have established a very good rule, which I pass on to you: *Never do anything just because other people do it.*

Most of your friends live in city apartments. They pay so much for the use of their rooms, and *twice as much* for the location and the fine marble hallway.

To live in an apartment like theirs is one of your "necessities."

If you cut out that necessity, and lived in the country or in an apartment where you had to stretch your legs up three flights of stairs, you would have some money to spend on luxuries.

So with many other things.

Every year, by cutting out a few foolish necessities, I buy myself one big, wise luxury.

Four years ago I bought an automobile.

Not much of an automobile. Many of my friends said they would rather not have any automobile than to have one like mine.

But it *was* an automobile.

It has done some wonderful things for me.

For one thing, it has given me my little summer place up in the country.

A little old white Colonial house, with a brook running behind it, and fruit trees all around—a place I had wanted for years, but couldn't have—because it was two miles from the railroad.

But two miles is nothing, even to an automobile like mine.

So I can work in the city and play all summer in the country—thanks to my automobile.

It has done some other good things for me. It has improved the country roads between my little white house and town. Before the automobiles began to go by, the roads were very rough. But now all across the countryside mud puddles and deep ruts have vanished as if by magic. The automobile has made the town "dress up."

And it has made me "dress up" my place, also.

Have you ever noticed how many more flowers are planted around farm-houses than used to be? Do you want to know why that is? I will tell you.

It used to make me mad because people who whirled by my place in limousines never stopped to look around. "I'll make them turn their proud heads," I said. So I planted flowers and painted my house.

Now, on Sunday afternoons, I lie in the hammock on the porch and listen to the people in the cars saying to each other: "What a pretty little place that is! I wonder who lives there?"

That's why there are more flowers than there used to be—the automobile has done that.

With a tin pail full of coffee and a basket of sandwiches, I have had more fun exploring the wood roads around my place than Columbus ever had in discovering America.

My automobile has brought my office and my little white house side by side: I can step from one to the other. It has given me a new pride in my place; it has improved the roads around me.

Yes, and it has made me a good neighbor to people whom I have wanted to call on for years, and never got around to it, because I hate long, hot rides on the street cars. It has made me a better citizen all around.

Gasolene is very high this year.

I shall have to cut out some other foolish necessity.

*Bruce Barton, Editor.*

*If you want to know how to pack your lunch basket this summer so that you will weigh twenty pounds more by October first, or twenty pounds less, as the case may be, send me four cents in stamps, and I will send you Dr. Bowers' book, "Eating for Health and Efficiency"—one of the half dozen little books I have had prepared as a part of our service to readers.*

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by applying a few drops of Absorbine, Jr. It is surprising how promptly it penetrates and acts—how clean and pleasant it is to use and how economical, because only a few drops are required to do the work.

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