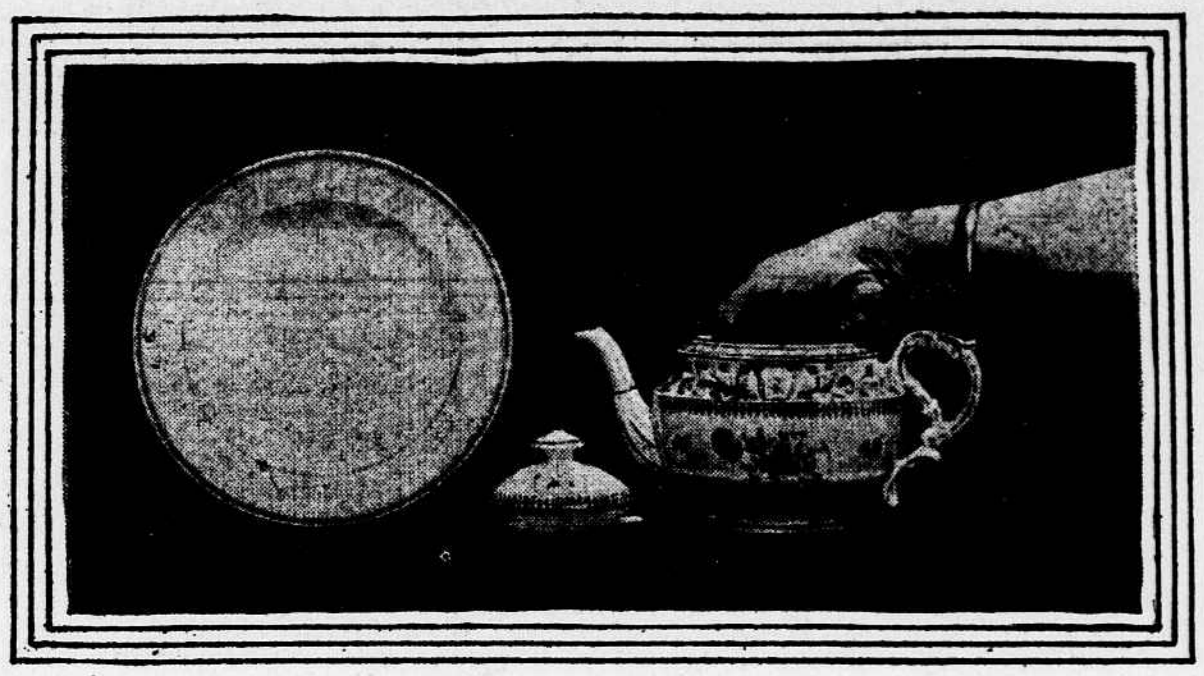
Uncle Sam Teaches Selection of Home Furnishings

GLASS PITCHER—PLAIN, GOOD SHAPE, EASY TO CLEAN.

OLD BLUE AND WHITE (WILLOW WARE) PITCHER—GOOD SHAPE AND DESIGN, EASY TO CLEAN.



PLATE—INEXPENSIVE, WITH GOOD TYPE OF DECORATION IN SIMPLE BAND OF COLOR SET OFF BY GILT LINES.

TEAPOT—INCONVENIENT TO CLEAN BECAUSE OF SMALL OPENING AT TOP AND OF IRREGULARITIES ON HANDLE WHICH COLLECT DIRT.

WHEN Uncle Sam started out to teach the women of the land scientific housekeeping his plans included a thorough treatment of every phase of every department in Mme. Housewife's varied domain. Beginning with the proper arrangement and equipment of the kitchen his experts have not only covered the entire subject of food for the family and its methods of preparation, but also they have taken the house, planned its situation from standpoints of health and comfort, designed its construction with economy and convenience as their rule.

They have likewise investigated and experimented with it, room by room, until now they offer the most explicit advice for the selection of the furnishings by which the interior fittings of a home, any home, are bound to be a source of satisfaction and pleasure to the family as long as they last; for utility and efficiency are the paramount considerations that govern their choice.

* * *

Because no two homes are identical concerning the income, the size of the house and the size and character of the family, no definite or set rules are laid down, but the general instructions cannot fail to be helpful to all interested enough to follow them.

The most effective plan suggested is that the housewife consider her home as a factory for the production of family comfort; for in their eating, sleeping, resting and social diversions many diversified activities are called into play. And for these equipment or tools must be provided which should be chosen with a view to making it possible for the housewife to do her various tasks with the least labor and the greatest celerity.

For the setting of a real home—where the cultural, moral and congenial effects on the inmates must be considered—beauty must have its place in planning equipment; and the more the fittings include beauty, necessity and convenience, the more perfectly will they serve the purpose for which they were planned. In many cases, such as in the selection of linens, furniture and upholstery materials, beauty and quality are frequently combined in the good-looking articles.

One important factor to be considered in furnishing a house is the amount of labor involved in caring for it. Elaborate carvings on furniture, fancy metal fixtures, fancy-shaped handles on dishes, rough surfaces (as on cheap earthenware, worn, rough and unpainted wood; excessive quantities of ornaments and bric-a-brac, highly polished metals and sharp angles in moldings), all mean difficult cleaning. If dull finish is provided in floors, metal works, such as doorknobs and chandeliers, etc., the care of them is greatly simplified.

* * *

So, also, the rounded moldings where wall and floor meet is a great saver of work. Many women who plan their houses now insist upon sill-less doors and closets, and cupboards provided with either a window or artificial means of lighting and glass doors. Open plumbing is not only more sanitary but much easier to keep clean and it is urged that wherever possible all sinks, washtubs, bathtubs and basins should be so placed as to make their cleaning easy. They should be provided with smooth pipes for the same reason.

Whatever the heating system may be, plain surfaces should be the rule, whether in stoves or radiators, for their purpose is solely to give out heat, and their beauty is best attained in the simplest design.

The same advice is urged in the choice of lighting fixtures, dull finish and plain, uncarved arrangements being far more attractive and serviceable than the fancy fretwork, filigree and carvings.

When choosing wall paper it is well to remember that any design of striking color or large figure which intrudes itself upon the consciousness of the occupant of the room is decidedly bad, for in time its effect will be felt upon the nerves. Soft neutral tones and unobtrusive patterns are the ones that will give the best satisfaction, and where it is possible, the painted or calcimined walls are even better from the standpoint of sanitation.

The matter of color is, of course, always a question of individual taste; but certain shades give the best results in certain rooms. For instance, cream, yellow and yellow brown shades on the walls of a north room are most pleasing, having the effect of softening the chill of the northern light. But soft greens and grays temper the light in the sunny rooms. No large designs are appropriate for small rooms. After the color of the walls has been decided the tones of the balance of the furnishing should be chosen to blend, and the coloring of the adjoining rooms arranged to harmonize.

* * *

For the floor coverings movable rugs are considered best, as they are much easier to keep free of dust than the tacked down mattings and large carpets that cover the entire floor space. They shoud be firmly woven so as to lie flat, and of soft colors and inconspicuous patterns, "toning-in" with the color of the walls and darker, so as to bring the room and its furnishings into proper relations.

As they are of infinite variety of materials and of all prices, their utility and suitability to the room for which they are intended should be considered. Particularly good are, the brussels, the old three-ply ingrains; and for bedrooms the old style rag rugs, of which there are so many modern imitations, are most attractive.

DOING KITCHEN WORK AT TABLE TOO LOW.

A KITCHEN TABLE OF SUITABLE HEIGHT.

Shade rollers insure the privacy of the room, but they do not soften the light or the line of casing like draperies. A plan suggested is to hang straight curtains of darker, thicker material inside thin white ones of lace or muslin. In the winter these can be supplanted by those of heavier texture.

Double windows are recommended for winter as a decided aid to the comfort of the house.

Bronze wire screening that does not rust gives the most satisfaction, but it is better to use mosquito netting over all of the windows and doors than to have a few or even all of the openings imperfectly wire-screened.

In the built-in closets it is urged to have the drawers numerous and shallow, rather than deep and broad, both because of the saving of labor in pulling them out, if they are not provided with rollers, and because in shallow drawers there is no piling up of things. With shelves the narrow ones give better results than the deep broad ones. These should not be more than a foot wide.

* * *

Bed coverings are to be selected for the greatest amount of warmth and the least weight possible, so wool ranks ahead of cotton and wool and cotton mixed in blankets and comforts give the best service. All bed coverings should be long enough to tuck in all around the mattress, a quality not often found in the ready-made sheets.

In regard to furniture good quality depends on well chosen materials, good design and good workmanship, but whatever the wood may be, or the material of the covering, which may range from cotton and velours up through the handsomest leathers and tapestries, the design should suggest comfort and strength rather than the elaborate ornamentation of the showy styles.

After the furniture is put in a room the arrangement of it is as important to its appreciation as the selection of the most appropriate kind for the house. Overcrowded rooms are anything but restful or artistic, and it is suggested by the bulletins issued by the government on the selection of home equipment that the value of empty spaces as an asset to the beauty of its fittings be borne in mind.

In the arrangement of all tables, sinks, washtubs and ironing stands it should be remembered that the height of these worktables has a great deal to do with the ease of working. They should be from thirty-two to thirty-five inches from the ground and the bottom of sinks should usually be thirty or thirty-one inches from the floor, in order that bending from the waist may be avoided. This is a matter to be decided to suit the height of the worker. Some tables may be obtained with adjustable tops which permit the working height to be changed. Ironing boards should be a little lower than other work tables. Another point of importance in minimizing labor is the placing of kitchen and laundry equipment so as to avoid unnecessary steps and motion.

* * *

Fully as much care is required for the best results in the choice of kitchen and table ware. Fragile china of intricate designs, full of knobs and curves, should be reserved for infrequent use if bought at all, for the plain shapes and small inconspicuous decorations bought from open stock give the best service with the least amount of work and trouble in their care. All teapots, pitchers, etc., should have openings large enough to permit the handle to be inserted in washing them.

In cooking utensils no one class may be recommended to the exclusion of all others, but different kinds should be gotten for different uses. Earthenware for baking and casseroles, in which the food may be both cooked and served, are labor savers. The good enameled ware, the heavy iron skillets, the lighter cast-iron pans, the aluminum utensils and the tinware all have their especial uses, and the economy lies in getting the best grade of each that one can afford.

The shape of a kettle has much to do with the rapidity with which its contents heat, so in buying double boilers, teakettles, etc., the ones which are broad at the base are best for quickest boiling results.

Planning and furnishing a house systematically and after the most approved, accurate and scientific plan, does not involve lack of originality or beauty, for the best equipped house is the one which in all of its details of furnishing and arrangement is most completely suited to the needs of its family, and the standard of needs of each family is an individual problem, determined by the income, character and location of the home and modified by the varied interests and occupations of the occupants.

Doom of Golf.

BISHOP MURRAY, on his way to preach in Nashville, steamed in his train past a golf course crowded with players.

Bishop Murray frowned, then he smiled.

"In the millennium," he said, "every day being Sunday, mankind will get surfeited with golf, and the game will then undoubtedly become extinct."

An Improvement.

MRS. JOSIAH COWLES, the new president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs, was talking in New York about dress.

"Women, once they get interested in our movement," she said, "dress more sensibly. They give less thought to dress. I may claim, in fact——"

Mrs. Cowles smiled.

"I may claim, in fact," she ended, "that these women start making their own clothes and stop picking their friends' clothes to pieces."

Birds Which Can't Fly, But Can Swim, One of Nature's Striking Anomalies

THE FLYING FROG OF BORNEO.
(Photo by Dr. R. W. Shufeldt.)

THE ROCK HOPPER.

THE anomalies in nature constitute one of its most striking assemblages of forms. These are not nature's freak forms, by any means; but her normal ones which may be called anomalous because they are departures from the usual order of accepted types.

* * *

These anomalies range over every division of animal life; some of them are matters of common knowledge, others are hidden from all but the most persistent observer of animal forms. How queer it is, for instance, that many birds should exist which do not know how to fly, when the usual and favorite simile for any flight is that it is "just like a bird's!"

It is also queer that other animals, classified far differently from the birds, should be equipped with very efficient wings. Yet, whoever thinks of comparing an aviator to a bat or a flying squirrel?

But the fact remains that a host of bird species exist which are very indifferent flyers and accomplish their migrations through feeble efforts; while the bat possesses remarkable flying attainments which almost outrival those of the hummingbird, reputed to be the most powerful flyer in existence. It would appear that the animal accomplishments were strangely mixed at the time of their bestowal, for besides flying animals, there are flying fishes, and birds that can swim!

What a departure it is for a mammal to lay eggs! But it is not unknown to the animal world. There are a couple of Australian oddities that lay eggs with the equanimity of a barnyard hen. In contrast are viviparous fishes and snakes—that is, fishes and snakes which produce their young alive—and this seems odd, for it is generally understood that fishes and snakes are egg-laying species.

There are true fishes which breathe with lungs, which almost entirely supplant their gills, and there are fishes which come out of the water and bask in the sun. Indeed, such singular anomalous characteristics are manifold and might be traced indefinitely.

* * *

The flightless birds compose a larger group than seems possible when one first gives thought to them. Every one knows that many of the common fowls have fully developed forelimbs, but that they cannot use them for flight; and the ostrich, too, the largest bird in the world today, is also unable to fly.

This inability is due to the degenerated form of their wings, for it is probable that the ancestors of this bird had their wings fully developed and could fly well. Nowadays the ostrich can only employ its wings as locomotory auxiliaries when it is running in high winds; then, if it desires to turn rapidly to escape its pursuers, it can flap its wings and accomplish its purpose with little effort.

Wouldn't it be a great sight to see an ostrich in flight, especially the African ostrich, which is the largest species in existence, and attains a weight of 300 pounds? It has been said that they can make a speed of twenty-six miles an hour while running, outstripping an ordinary horse.

One of the best known of the flightless birds is the penguin, confined in its residence to the southern hemisphere. The wings of this bird resemble paddles more than they do true wings; they are quilless and incapable of bending except at the shoulder joint. A penguin can swim under water with all the ease and rapidity of a seal and can catch fish with equal alacrity.

Their short legs are not much used in swimming, but on shore they hop about with them so adroitly that the island natives have dubbed the birds rock-hoppers. Needless to say, they are shore birds, and in some localities of the south Pacific islands they form rookeries where they breed, tens of thousands together, and raise their young. The emperor penguin is the largest of the forms, and it often attains a height of three and a half feet. They sometimes weigh as much as eighty pounds.

* * *

An interesting and extraordinary instance of a flightless bird and a swimmer as well is the steamer duck, which occurs off the Straits of Magellan and around the Falkland Islands. When these ducks are young they possess powers of flight, but when they become adult they lose their flying ability and gain proficiency as swimmers.

Within comparatively recent times many of the flightless birds have become extinct. The great auk, the one-time famous sea fowl of the north Atlantic seas, bred in large numbers on Funk Island less than a century ago. Man soon exterminated them, and now an egg in good condition will fetch $1,200 and a museum skin of one of the birds nearly as much. The famed dodo, also extinct, was the possessor of wings which did not sustain it in flight.

Of the flying mammals, the flying squirrels, the flying lemurs and the bats are too well known to deserve further attention. These animals do not possess wings, of course, in the sense that wings are generally understood. The flying squirrels do not actually fly: they simply perform a sailing feat.

One can see the difference in such machines as the parachute and the aeroplane, the former, with its sustaining surface spread, can do nothing more than sail to its destination, while the aeroplane flies here and there, and may even change its direction. The squirrels and the lemure may be compared to the parachute, for their "wings" are simply skin tissues which connect their fore and hind limbs when spread and sustain their bodies in flying leaps.

The bats are true aviators, and though their membranous wings are not to be compared structurally with those of a bird, yet they make possible this little animal's graceful curves in the air.

* * *

Not so well known among the volant creatures are the flying frogs and the flying lizard. The flying frog of Borneo was discovered by Alfred Russel Wallace, the great naturalist, and he says about it:

"One of the most curious and interesting creatures which I met in Borneo was a large tree frog which was brought to me by a Chinese workman. He assured me that he had seen it come down, in a slanting direction, from a high tree as if it flew. On examining it I found the toes very long and fully webbed to their extremity, so that, when expanded, they offered a surface much larger than the body. The forelegs were also bordered by a membrane and the body was capable of considerable inflation. The back and limbs were of a very shining green, the under surface and the toes yellow, while the webs were black rayed with yellow.

"The body was about four inches long, while the webs of each hind foot, when fully expanded, covered a surface of four inches square, giving a surface of about sixteen square inches for all four feet. It is difficult to imagine that this immense membrane of the toes can be for the purpose of swimming only, and the account of the Chinamen that it flew down from the tree seems more credible."

At least one lizard enjoys, to a certain degree the power of sailing through the air. This lizard is called the flying dragon and is a small-sized form inhabiting the Indo-Malayan region. It possesses elongated ribs which support semi-transparent membranes; these close up like a fan when not in use and fall to the sides of the animal.

When spread, they form a parachute of rare effectiveness. By their use, the lizard can leap from the limb of a tree and sail to another one at a great distance. Sometimes these wings of the flying dragon are beautifully marked, resembling the wing markings of certain butterflies.

* * *

The mammals that lay eggs are unique in nature and are now being exterminated very rapidly. The duck-bill and the porcupine ant-eater, called familiarly the porcupine, are the only two forms of this class extant. The duck-bill is an Australian form which lives on the banks of rivers and feeds upon the insects, worms and mollusks which it finds there. Soft, smooth and dense, its coat resembles that of an otter, while its tail is flattened and short like a beaver's. It has small eyes and its most striking feature is a bill, which is broad and flat like a duck's.

For a long time it was thought that its young were brought forth at an early stage of their development and cared for by the mother in a nest on the bank of a river. Colonists started the stories about its laying eggs and zoologists investigated. For a long time they denied the reports; then later it was announced that the duck-bill was a truly oviparous animal and laid from two to four eggs in a rude nest in a burrow of a river bank.

These eggs are about a half-inch across and three-quarters of an inch long, the shells being white, tough and flexible, something after the order of a sea turtle's egg. Transportation of these animals to zoological gardens has always been a problem and only rarely successful. Some of the early accounts of the duck-bill are very amusing; for at first the specimens brought to Europe were declared to be "manufactured monsters" and "fakes."

The only other mammal in the world that lays eggs is the porcupine anteater of Australia. It is a nocturnal animal, most active after dark. When attacked, it behaves somewhat like an armadillo; it burrows with marvelous celerity. If the attack be too sudden for this it rolls itself into a ball and depends on its spiny coat for defense. It produces one egg at a time, which is relatively small, not larger than a sparrow's egg, and has a white leathery shell like that of a reptile.

* * *

Many anomalous conditions exist in regard to the rearing of young in the animal world, but perhaps no more remarkable species can be cited than the great toad of Surinam, in tropical America. The skin of the entire back of the female toad becomes conspicuously thickened as the laying season comes on, and as soon as she lays her eggs, the male picks them up and deposits them on the soft skin of her back. Here they develop so far that when they emerge from the "cells" they are perfect miniatures of the mother.

On the muddy flats of the Malay region are the places where the curious fish known as the mud-hopper is met with in abundance. This is a remarkable fish, which comes ashore for recreation! Not only do they come out of the water onto the mud flats, but when the yare there they flop about on terra firma as though this was their true environment.

Their expeditions ashore are usually made at low tide, and the fish, being gregarious, are to be observed in detached groups, enjoying a sunbath on the slippery mud. They climb up little distances on the exposed and elevated roots of the mangrove trees and when up some little distance, they settle themselves comfortably and appear to be spectators of the antics of their companions in the smooth ooze below.

Totally unlike ordinary fishes, this mud-hopper cannot remain continually under water, as it incurs the risk of being drowned! Moreover, the skin of the fish seems to require the blaze of the sun and the action of the air to keep it in a healthy condition.

The anomalies of the insect world are legion; but the queerest of all insects—and there are about 300,000—is the common black skating bug. This is seen in groups skating about on the surface of the water in quiet places in ponds and streams. They have their eyes horizontally divided into halves, the upper half being used to look into the air, and the lower to look down into the water.

Reviews of Books of Midsummer.

THE RISING TIDE. By Margaret Deland, author of "The Iron Woman," etc. Illustrated by F. Walter Taylor. New York: Harper & Bros.

THIS story marches with the minute. Its heroine, Frederica Payton, is the intensely modern woman, compound of half-baked notions, vague purposes and a bewildered vision. "What a man may do I may do" appears to be Frederica's sole guide. So the girl takes an office down town and runs a dinky real estate business whose infrequent points of success are due to the advice of an indulgent male who chances to be the business manager of her mother's estate. Frederica smokes and, sometimes, Frederica swears right out loud. In a large and laboriously offhand manner she discusses eugenics with her mother, pointing sternly to a half-wit brother in a sweeping condemnation of her forebears. For associates Frederica goes out of her class, foisting herself upon people in whom she has no real interest and whose interest in her is a neat blend of personal vanity and a mind to the main chance. In good time Frederica proposes to Howard Maitland, to his unutterable discomfiture, for while Howard calls Frederica "a corker" and "perfectly ripping," he has never, somehow, looked upon her as any man's wife. So, tactfully, one hopes, Howard declines the honor of being Frederica's husband, taking instead a girl "without an idea in her head." Finally, rather more confused than ever with the obviously criss-cross plans of life, Frederica gets married just like an ordinary girl, and the episode of Frederica's "new woman" adventure appears to be over. With her ready art Margaret Deland makes an engaging story out of this little adventure, which, by implication, involves significant features in the tumult of the rising of the women.

THE HAUSFRAU RAMPANT. By E. V. Lucas, from the German of Julius Stinde. New York: George H. Doran Company.

From the four or five volumes of social satire that Dr. Julius Stinde gathered up under the adventures of "The Buchholz Family," Mr. Lucas has drawn off into this single volume what he calls "the cream" of the whole matter. Here in a series of letters Frau Wilhelmine lets one into the joys and sorrows of the middle-class German family, where, with Herr Carl Buchholz as the nominal head, Frau Wilhelmine exercises a benevolent despotism. Two daughters to be herded into the fold of wedlock form the basis of the prodigious energy and the obvious maneuvering of Frau Buchholz. The mother with daughters to marry off is an institution in herself, a complex and devious creature. Dr. Stinde appears to be on her line, the unsuspected witness of many a disclosure not designed for him at all. There must have been innumerable cases of intercepted messages on the part of the staid doctor to have covered so fully and so illuminatingly the case of Frau Wilhelmine in the cherished privacy of her domestic ambitions. It is a genial satire, laughter, with no wry twist to it, going along with Dr. Stinde's revelations of the household. Some say that there is a touch of Dickens about this man. He has more genuine realism at command than Dickens had. Some say his work is Dutch, Dutch art produced in the terms of literature. These points are for the critics. A point for every reader is the persuasive and genuine humor that quite curiously escapes the usually heavy tread of the German, as soon as he emerges from the realm of the fairy tale, where he is exquisitely fine and delicate.

JOHNSTONE OF THE BORDER. By Harold Bindloss, author of "The Secret of the Reef," etc. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.

Starting from his own particular stamping ground, the Canadian northwest, Harold Bindloss almost immediately transfers the scene of this action to the east coast of Scotland, where the adventure becomes a hazard of the sea, with the great war giving it shape and color. Andrew Johnstone, the chief figure here, leaves Canada with an American companion to visit his old home on the Scottish coast. Sinister happenings in that region promptly enlist Johnstone to activity for his country. Intimate with this coast, and with a lifelong knowledge of the sea and its craft, Johnstone is at once launched upon an exciting wave of adventure that mounts to a finely conceived climax of heroic daring. A love story plays under the war theme in pleasing contrast. Always at home in the open, always vigorous and communicable there, Mr. Bindloss surpasses himself even in this robust tale of the Scotch seacoast in time of modern warfare.

A SENTIMENTAL DRAGON. By Nina Larrey Duryea, author of "The Voice Unheard," etc. New York: George H. Doran Company.

The comedy of the social climber and the romance of a three-cornered wooing here go into partnership to produce the plot of this new novel by Nina Larrey Duryea. An American woman, suddenly come rich by way of a shrewd Yankee invention, is, at the same moment, bitten to the bone by the bacillus of social ambition. So, having in charge her beautiful daughter, she sets sail for Europe, there to strike a bargain between her own opulence and the high life of France. Against Paris as a background, this writer sketches with light, and often with lavish, hand the pursuit of mamma's millions by one nobleman, French and impecunious, setting off in contrast to this the wooing of the girl for the girl herself by a fine young Frenchman to whose paramount virtues the maternal heart proves adamant. The god in the machine is "the sentimental dragon," who, waywise to the inner modes of Parisian high life, is chosen to point out the path and keep it clear before the unaccustomed feet of her patron. How she meets her contract, under a perfect passion to see two young lovers happy, makes up the most amusing side of this lightly engaging story where drama and melodrama hobnob together under the equalizing influence of a steady flow of friendly and humorous situation crystallized to clever speech.

SOCIAL PROGRESS AND THE DARWINIAN THEORY. By George Nasmyth, Ph. D. Introduction by Norman Angell. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

The study in hand is, in effect, a defense of Darwin against the claim that Darwin's theory of evolution gives both definition and support to the philosophy of force as the essential element in an advancing civilization. "The struggle for existence," "the survival of the fittest," are Darwinian phrases that, to the apostle force, point straight upon war as the essential of progress. Dr. Nasmyth's refutal of this claim lies in an exposition of the fact that the law of struggle and survival enunciated by Darwin is a biological law, demonstrating the basis of persistence and higher development in plant and animal life. This is the point in Darwin's theory at which the war advocate stops. But the writer makes it clear that this point is only a half-way house in the full theory. To complete the journey one must continue with Darwin in his discovery that the rise of intellectual faculty and the dawn of social instinct were the forerunners of a moral sense, with its growing obligations of mutual aid, its conception of co-operation. Out of this comprehensive study the writer draws the ultimate fact of a federation of the human race. And this he holds up as the logic of the Darwinian theory of social evolution. This clear and complete statement, corrective of the frequent half-view in which Darwin is held, places the author of "The Descent of Man" in the forefront of those who have discovered the illusory character of war as an element of civilization. It, on the other hand, gives him first place among the advocates of a world peace as the concomitant of a world federation.

OUR EASTERN QUESTION. By Thomas F. Millard, author of "The New Far East," etc. New York: The Century Company.

This study of the far east fronts upon the United States. That is, through an examination of the trend of affairs in the orient the writer propounds the most vital of the problems that are likely to arise in this country over its own relations with the east. The point at which this study begins is with the close of the Russo-Japanese war. Before that event a kind of stability of policy and condition had been effected by "the open door" doctrine of John Hay. Since the victory of the Japanese in that war there have been evidences, many of them, of a reversion to the old designs against China. It is this drift toward a vicious internationalism that Mr. Millard traces here with so much of authority behind him and so much of specific proof within his hand. Ten of the twenty chapters of this exposition are devoted to the activities and obvious designs of Japan in her development of a well defined world policy. These chapters detail the aggressions of Japan in China, under specious but unconvincing pretexts. The burden of this work, however, is to point to the designs of Japan upon America, rather than to dwell upon her eastern policies. Mr. Millard makes it plain that Japan has such designs, emphasizing the fact that Japan's suave front to the United States is wholly false and that behind this plans inimical to this country are forming. A journalist, Mr. Millard makes use of a practical rather than an academic point of view. A resident in the east, he knows the oriental habit of thought—that is, he knows it as well as it is permitted to an occidental to know it. With this double equipment Mr. Millard gives a direct, unequivocal, authoritative and most illuminating study of the east, and in a most particular and pointed way of the Japanese, both in the east and the west.

WITH SERBIA INTO EXILE. By Fortier Jones. Illustrated with photographs. New York: The Century Company.

Fortier Jones is an American who, going into Serbia for volunteer relief work, is one of the civilians who found himself with the Serbian people in their retreat all the way from the Danube to the Adriatic. This is the story of that retreat. In a more perfect sense it is the story of the Serbian mind and heart, a story drawn from hundreds of scenes and situations calculated to reveal the hearts of these people at the lowest depths of personal grief and suffering. Curiously, however, the courage and the hope override the grief, and this account partakes also of the general optimism that continually flashes up out of the general gloom of surrounding circumstance. Mr. Jones is young and sympathetic, he is energetic and vivid himself. The book is vivid, too. It is a kaleidoscope of horrors, shifting with incredible swiftness from one point of human misery to another, and sustained throughout by the protest of the writer, whose youth senses poignantly the sacrifice of a people to the juggernaut of war. Readers have had at hand many accounts of the western front—of the heroism of Belgium and France and England. Little has been written of the eastern people. This intimate recital is, therefore, of high value, since it brings the Serbians so dramatically and so vividly into the great class of heroic peoples that the war is disclosing so clearly.

THE DRAMA OF THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE DAYS. By Hall Caine, author of "The Eternal City," etc. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

In this drama of a year Hall Caine deals, to a great extent, with the noted personalities that loom large in the approaches to the war and in the first year of its existence. The striking appeal of these numerous pen portraits lies in the fact that their originals gave sittings to the artist, so to speak. That is to say, Hall Caine saw these people face to face, and, living for longer or shorter periods in their atmosphere, gathered intimately discerning touches of the character of one or another of them. Here is a pen portrait of the kaiser—a big picture. And another of the crown prince—a small thing. Beyond is a sketch of the Archduke Ferdinand, and again one comes across a painstaking drawing of "one of the oldest, feeblest and least capable of men"—the Emperor of Austria. There is a world of love for England here in sketches of one and another—the king, the king's boy, Lord Roberts, and many another—who reveal what the writer calls "the soul of England." And next to England in the esteem of this writer is France, to whose greatness he pays homage in many a passing episode and scene. A hundred of these sketches gathered out of England, France, Russia, Poland, Belgium, Italy, Germany itself and the United States give a radiating, flashing light over the war itself and the events leading directly thereto.

An Ideal Wife.

MISS MARION POMEROY SMITH, the Cape Cod heiress who has just won a legal contest for the control of her huge fortune, believes in women's rights.

"There will be fewer divorces," she said to a reporter, "when men treat women as their equals.

"'Do you know the kind of wife my ideal is?' a married man once said to me.

"'Of course I do,' said I. 'Your ideal wife is the kind that's tickled to death over a birthday present of a bag of flour.'"

A Perkins One.

GEORGE W. PERKINS, looking up from the war page of his newspaper, said to a reporter in the Auditorium in Chicago:

"Germany is very short of fat."

He smiled and added:

"Since the allies' firm note to King Constantine Germany has also been running out of Greece."

A Daily Funeral.

COL. ROOSEVELT, asked at Oyster Bay if it was true that he purposed to abandon politics for warfare, smiled and answered:

"Politics is more exciting than war, my boy."

"How so, colonel?" said the correspondent.

"In war," was the reply, "you can only be killed once, but in politics you can be killed innumerable times."

Sure Thing.

ONE of the Chicago chemists, blacklisted by Great Britain, said in an interview:

"It's a case of my trade rivals doing me. It calls up the taxicab story.

"A farm hand, back from Chicago, said excitedly at the general store:

"'Fellers, the hull town is full o' cabs with cash registers on 'em. They calls 'em taxidermy cabs because the driver skins ye.'"