



### IDEAS IN ENTERTAINMENTS

#### Two Good Suggestions for Fourth of July Parties--How to Get Up and Serve a Strawberry Luncheon--Dandelion Party That Was Voted a Great Success--For Golf Players.

For the Fourth of July. There are lovely "Fourth of July" postal cards out; just the thing to use for invitations to affairs to be given on that day, also for place cards. To delight the children, invest in a few of the larger paper animals which are to be inflated and sent sailing skyward.

With a little careful forethought an interesting contest may be arranged. Have them draw lots for the animals, and then give a prize of a bunch of "crackers" to the one whose animal soars the highest. All sorts of contests may be planned for the lawn--carrying lemons on a fork to a given point, a hopping race (on one foot), eating rice with chopped sticks, etc.

for those who wish it, as it is a good rule never to serve any fruit with cream on it, as many people dislike milk of cream with a fruit acid. During the afternoon lemonade may be served with strawberries floating on top.

A miniature links was the decorative scheme in the center of the table, golf bags and sticks were the personal souvenirs at each place, and the guests came directly from a morning game, so were hungry for the plain but appetizing menu. The maid serving had her cap adorned with the colors of the club to which all belonged, and candy was made in round balls. Iced bouillon was served first, followed by cold tongue and jellied chicken, hot rolls, steaming potatoes, asparagus salad, barley dice and cheese. Chocolate ice cream was served in ball moulds and the cakes were sponge drops rolled in grated coconut.

Table Centerpiece for the "Fourth." Scarlet geraniums, white carnations and blue larkspur make a delightful combination for this great holiday table piece. Make the place cards of scarlet paper to resemble giant fire-crackers. If it is too expensive to buy them at the favor counter. The snapping cracker motto caps come in red, white and blue; some of them have tiny metal cannon attached. A novel way to distribute these trifles is to put them in a tissue paper bag made from red, white and blue and suspend by tri-colored ribbon. Give each person a chance to break the bag by striking it with a cane, when the bag bursts there will be a shower of these gay papers and a merry scramble to get one.

Was there ever a child who did not love dandelions? This gorgeous little flower is first with us in the spring and even stray blossoms may be found late in the fall. A field fairly carpeted with these yellow stars gave the idea for this party. No sooner thought of than a dozen children had received notes written in white ink on round pieces of yellow paper asking them to assemble in Parsons' field at two o'clock one June afternoon. Sewing tables were set under a couple of trees covered with white crepe paper table cloths. In the center of each was a mound of dandelions, bunches were at each place and there was a basket for each guest.

June is the season when these luscious berries are in their prime and a luncheon with them for the basis is a very pretty affair. Use a brown rustic basket for the centerpiece filled with large red berries, vines and leaves. If possible to obtain, get the real plants. At each place place a white candle with a shade of crushed strawberry color. Serve first five un-hulled berries on a leaf-covered plate, with a neat pile of pulverized sugar in the center. Instead of plates small baskets are suitable for these berries, standing them on a service plate; the place card may be tied to the handle. Tomato soup comes next, then a salmon croquette, new potatoes and beet salad. The best course will be individual strawberry shortcakes. With these pass a bowl of whipped cream

When all had arrived there was a contest to see who could gather the most flowers in a half hour; after the spoils were counted the boy and the girl having the most were crowned with dandelion wreaths. Then they made rings, chains and bracelets out of the stems and told fortunes by the full blown blossoms. At five o'clock this delicious spread was unpacked from a huge hamper and the children pronounced it the "best ever." Bread and butter sandwiches, egg salad, and butters in ramshells, sunshine cake, oranges and bananas, and a bountiful supply of lemonade.

MADAME MERLE.

### WOMAN PUT FELINE INTO BIG MAIL BOX

IT RAISED SUCH A RUMPUS THAT POLICEMAN HAD TO SECURE ITS RELEASE.

New York.—A tall woman sauntered up to the big package mail box at Forty-second street and Sixth avenue the other day and pushed something through the opening. It fell to the bottom, and the woman scurried away.

In a few minutes the cabbies on the corner began to hear loud wails from the mail box.

"Sure, it's a baby," quoth one.

"Baby, yer eye," disdainfully interrupted another. "Did ye ever hear a baby cry so loud and lingering like?"

The wails finally became so loud that the cabbies called Policeman Hare. He listened a minute, and then, shifting his satchel to the other hand, drew his trusty weapon



A Great Crowd Gathered.

and cautiously crept up on the mail box. There was no doubt the sounds came from there.

One of the two things a policeman can't do is to open a mail box, so he stood perplexed until he happened to think of the sub-post office. He telephoned to Station H, on Madison avenue, and told them a baby or something that could make equally as much noise had taken possession of the big box on his beat, and he couldn't make an arrest until some one opened it.

William L. Quinlan, a clerk, was sent with a key and opened the box. Out jumped a wildly excited Maltese cat, which blinked and winked in the electric light, and then began rubbing against the policeman's leg.

Attached to the cat's neck was a tag with the following:

"My name is Dolly Gray. I am the mother of five kittens, and had a good home until hard times reduced me to poverty and caused me to desert my little ones. I will guarantee to keep a home clear from mice for a good home. Where do I stand?"

"DOLLY GRAY."

The cat was taken to the station and will be adopted as a mascot unless some one claims it. The police think some hilarious theater party dropped it from a restaurant and kidnapped it in the box as a practical joke.

### NAKED BOYS SHOCK ST. LOUIS.

Young Swimmers Flea in Nature's Garb from Park Policeman.

St. Louis.—Fifteen naked boys scampering on front lawns and through back yards played havoc with the aristocratic dignity of Lindell boulevard, near Forest park recently. Cries of indignation arose from mammae bearded windows and mingled with shrieks of dismay from daughters sitting on the front porches of the mansions which face the park.

In full pursuit of the youngsters, all of whom were between 12 and 15 years of age, was Park Watchman Patrick Walsh, who had surprised them enjoying a swim in Murphy's lake, reserved by the government as a hatchery.

Officer Walsh swooped down upon the hiding place of their discarded clothes and blew his whistle for reinforcements. Only by shouting fervent assurances of immunity did Officer Walsh finally succeed in inducing the lads to return and don their captured street costumes.

### Her Good Example.

Influential Member—I am glad to notice, doctor, that your wife never turns her head to see who comes into church late on Sunday morning.

Rev. Dr. Goodman—No—but she makes me tell her all about them after we go home.—Chicago Tribune.

### Her Loving Friends.

Nan—How well poor dear Lavinia hides her age!

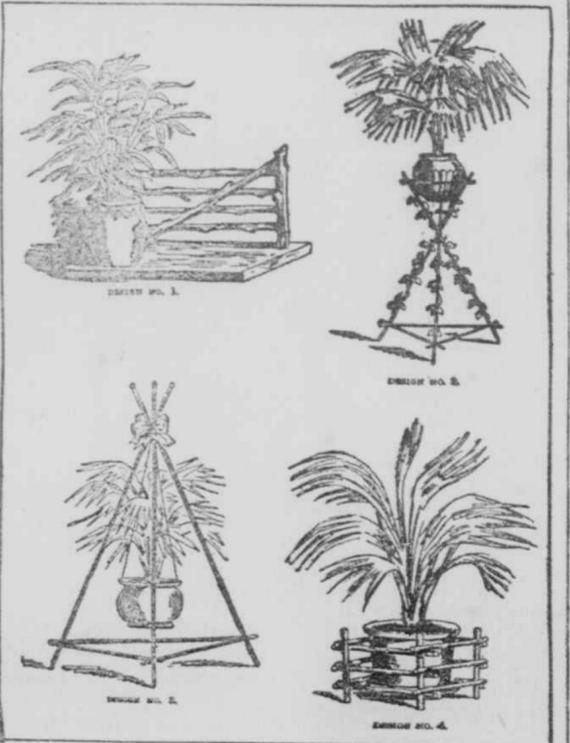
Fan—Indeed she does. She keeps the family Bible in the top attic.—Chicago Tribune.

### Before and After.

Singleton—"They say a woman's 'No' often means 'Yes'."

Wedderly—"It never does after marriage."—Chicago Daily News.

### Pretty Rustic Fern-Stands



For the decoration of a dinner-table, or for placing on small occasional tables, the little rustic fern-stands, of which we give a number of sketches, will be found both useful and ornamental. They are easily made, and can be constructed in a great variety of designs, and decorated in many ways; and it is well within the power of any nimble fingers to make them.

The first sketch illustrates a stand made of thin twigs of wood in the shape of a five-barred wooden gate, and mounted on a square piece of wood at the base. On the left-hand side is a fern contained in a little brown jug, and this is decorated round the neck with bows of China silk ribbon. Fastened together with thin sharp nails, and left in quite a rough state, this little stand will look very well, or it can be made very bright by entirely covering it with gold paint.

The second sketch illustrates a stand in the shape of a stool, made of twigs, and decorated with moss.

gether where they cross. The pot containing the fern is supported by the upper portion of the stand, and the sticks are decorated with the leaves of a creeper, or vine leaves, twisted round and round them.

The third sketch is of a stand made very much on the same principle, but in this case the pot containing the fern is suspended with fine wire or string in the center of the stand. A bunch of ribbons fasten the sticks together at the top, and pins with colored heads are inserted at the ends of the sticks to finish them off. Narrow ribbon can be twisted round and round the sticks to entirely cover them, or they may be decorated in the same manner as the stand previously described.

The fourth stand is for enclosing a fern contained in an ordinary flower-pot and saucer. It is made of short sticks of wood in their rough state, and fastened together with thin nails. The space between the stand and the pot should be filled with moss.

**Takes Long Drop; Kept on Smoking.**  
York, Pa.—F. B. King, of this city, a railroad bridge builder, spent the other day at his home, following his fall of 60 feet from a bridge at Bruceville, Md., where he landed in shallow water. Instead of being killed he was only shaken up, and kept on smoking his pipe as he walked out of the stream. He was smoking when he fell, and did not even lose his tobacco.

**Merry Failures.**  
Be a failure if you must, Let ambition go to rust, Hold that fame's a foolish pride, Eat of husks for want of food, But remember this, my son, Do not be a diamond dust.

Be a merry failure! Let Doubles only catch best, Take the edge from fortune's wrong, With the magic of a song, Folks will say, observing you, 'Wish I were a failure, too!'

—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

# Knights of Pythias,

N. A., S. A., E. A., A. AND A.



This organization is one of the most powerful in the country and its progress has been phenomenal. The Grand Lodge of Virginia has jurisdiction over all of the cities and counties in this state. Thirty males are required to organize a new lodge. The benefits paid constitute one of its strongest features, but the principles are greater than anything else. Founded on Friendship, based on Charity and established on Benevolence, the respectable, upright people of the state will find it an order worthy of their heartiest support.

It pays an endowment and burial benefit of \$200.00 for all ages. It pays \$4.00 per week sick dues. The badge costing 75 cents each is the only absolutely necessary regalia. For information concerning the organization of lodges apply at the main office.

## The Courts of Calanthe

Is the Female Department of the Order. It requires a membership of thirty persons to organize a court. Its members are pledged to exhibit Fidelity, exercise Harmony and prove Love one for the other. It pays an endowment and burial benefit of \$150.00. It pays \$3.00 per week sick dues. The only expense for regalia is the cost of the badge, 50 cents and a rosette, costing 25 cents for funeral occasions.

**THE BANDS OF CALANTHE** or Children's Department also constitutes a feature and persons cannot do better than to enter the little ones into this mystic circle. The expense is nominal and the benefits all that could be expected. It pays from \$1.00 to \$1.50 sick dues and death benefits of from \$30.00 to \$40.00. If you have no Pythian Lodge or Court or Band in your neighborhood, organize one.

For all information concerning the Children's Department address, Mrs. ANNA TAYLOR, W. M., 120 W. Hill St., Richmond, Va. JOHN MITCHELL, JR., 311 N. 4th St., Richmond, Va.

For all information concerning special rates of membership in the lodges and courts, address

**Chicago Cats Tough.**  
Chicago.—In order to escape being killed by a pursuing Boston bull terrier, a cat, the pet of the Midway club, leaped out of the eighteenth story window of the First National bank building and landed on the skylight of the bank quarters on the third floor.

The heavy wire screening above the glass was bent and twisted by the impact and a few pieces of glass fell to one of the clerks' cages on the floor below, but the cat escaped unharmed. Fifteen minutes after the fall the animal returned to its quarters on the eighteenth floor lunch room, a little bit dicky-legged, it is true, but other-wise all right.

**Average Age of Marriage.**  
Among persons of social standing generally the world throughout, the average age of marriage is at present, men 27 and women 25.

**Worth Remembering.**  
The man who will live above his circumstances is in great danger of living in a little time much beneath them.—Home Notes.

**Soft and Hard.**  
Many a person will cry like a baby over an affecting novel and spurn the poor widow and hungry orphan from the door.

**Keeping Up Appearances.**  
The tall man in the suit of faded black went into the first class restaurant and seated himself at a table in a far corner.

Lingering there a minute or two he rose stiffly and went to the cashier's desk.

"If a gentleman can't be waited on promptly in this place," he said, with a frown, "there are plenty of other places."

Then he strolled out, picking his teeth, and presently wended his way unobtrusively to the five cent lunch counter.—Chicago Tribune.

**Lots Like Him.**  
"I suppose you'll send your wife to the shore again this summer?"  
"Nit. Can't afford it."  
"Why, she isn't extravagant, is she?"  
"Not at all. But last summer, all the time she was away, I spent a hundred a week."

**Leave Something.**  
"If you look over the hedge of that fine estate you can see the trust manager who lives there talking the air."  
"Good heavens! I hope he will leave enough of it for the rest of us to breathe with!"

**Got Him There!**  
"Got anything you want sharpened, gents?" inquired the aged peddler with the razor paste.  
"Yes," replied the smart youth at the desk near the door. "You can sharpen our wits if you want to, old man."

**A POLITE REFUSAL.**



**Concrete Houses.**  
It is possible to build a house today, and such houses have already been constructed, which shall be entirely of reinforced concrete, except for such minor items as doors and window frames. This, says the Cement Age, makes a house which is entirely unburnable from within and practically unburnable from without.

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There is no color, race or sex discrimination in this Order. The negro has the same standing with the white members, and can be elected to hold any office. Every effort is made to advance the condition of the members, by securing equal opportunities to work with other workmen, to learn the trades and to have steady work at high wages and Union hours.

The Grand Lodge donates \$100.00 for the burial of each deceased member. A fine monthly Journal is published. A Membership Book of the Order is recognized by all Lodges everywhere. Disfranchised members are assisted. Each member and Subordinate Lodge has the privilege of having stock in the Order, on low monthly payments, said stock paying 8 per cent interest, guaranteed.

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Write at once. State name of this paper, and enclose 10 cents for full information and postage. Address: THE I. L. U. GRAND LODGE, 24 to 40 Canby Building, Dayton, Ohio.

**Village Swallowed Up.**  
Reports from Zavidovic, Austria, state that a village near the River Krivag, consisting of 30 houses, began to sink quite suddenly one morning recently. By degrees the whole hill on which the village stood disappeared under the ground. At the first signs of the sinking the inhabitants fled. The catastrophe is no doubt due to volcanic action.

**Elusive Financial Regurgity.**  
Financial history has made it painfully clear that no imaginable laws will abolish the successful efforts of a clever rogue. More invested money is lost by incompetency inside the law than by roguesy outside it.—Electrical Industries.

**Economical.**  
Mrs. Hardapple—So our city niece Hattie is back from across the ocean? Mr. Hardapple—Yes, Maria, and she writes that she took in all the famous galleries in Yurupp.

Mrs. Hardapple (in astonishment)—Galleries? Lands sakes! Couldn't the poor gal afford a seat downstairs?—Chicago Daily News.

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