

THE HOME, ITS PROBLEMS AND INTERESTS

HOTEL ETIQUETTE

Rules That Should Be Observed at a Summer Hotel.

Summer etiquette is not so rigid that one might experience difficulty in observing the rules, and a great many things are overlooked where they would not be in winter. For the benefit of the girl who is stopping at a large hotel in some fashionable watering place few might be rehearsed, says the "Philadelphia Record."

It is very impolite to wander off for hours at a time with the handsomest man and not give the other girls a chance. Summer flirtations are simply for the time being, and when a hotel is left at the end of the season so is the man and all other acquaintances which one might have made. Not to be present in the dining room at meal time is also another breach of manners, and one which is impossible to overlook in the fact that a young woman would venture in the dining room with a soiled frock or waist. Although the very strictest of people say that under no conditions should a young lady and man go swimming together, this is not always possible to observe, but the very best behavior is absolutely necessary. Moonlight nights are, of course, very romantic and all that, but one must not allow sentiment to overbalance the proprieties.

When a girl is engaged and her fiancé is present at the dance in the ballroom at night, it might be stated that she should, to be very proper, dance with him once or twice. There is very often more men than young ladies at the summer hotel, and there one should think of others and give all an opportunity. Decollete is not worn at the informal dances which are given probably once in a season. One of the larger hotels will give a formal ball which might be graced with the display of beautiful arms and shoulders. Otherwise it must not be worn.

Under no circumstances should a well-bred young woman overlook the comfort and good times of one less fortunate than herself, that is in the line of dresses, and very often this person is equally as good mannered and as well bred. Some girls do not go in for the dress part when they depart on their vacation, and in truth they are a little more sensible. To be sure, the modern girls have been heard remarking that the rules of etiquette are becoming more and more strict, and as the summer is a time for frivolity, why must there be any form about it. But as every girl wishes to be remembered as that "refined and handsome girl," when she leaves, she must be remembered. Perhaps, who knows, you may return to the same place the subsequent summer.

ROPE SHIRRINGS.

Skirts Now Being Trimmed in a Novel Way.

Rope shirring is by no means a novelty, but it is being treated in a novel way. Rope shirrings are set around the hips and finished with the narrowest little frills. These frills are really too narrow to be called ruffles. They are, as their name asserts, simply frills. They are worn more than a quarter or half an inch wide and they are made of lace or of very narrow ribbon. Sometimes the tiny frill is a silk frill on the bias, single or double.

Another fancy is to set rope shirrings around the skirt half way down, just about at the knee line. These ruffles are very full and are hemmed upon the bottom edge. Sometimes they are doubled and they are also edged with lace. This makes a charming trimming for the skirt, if one is not too stout to wear ruffles. But even the stout woman is contracting a taste for them.

In these days, when so much interest centers in the skirt and when the styles in skirts change so rapidly, it is nice to know that one can take the necessary precaution for being in style for at least one season to come. And this can be done by trimming the skirt in one of two or three ways—ruffles, lace bands or box plating.

The latest advices from Paris state that the new fall dresses of cloth and of silk are trimmed around the foot with ruffles that graduate a little toward the back, being slightly wider at the middle of the back breadth.

And again one notices that skirts are trimmed with flounces that are straight all the way around. They never grow wider, nor do they narrow. They are the little straight ruffles that were once so much worn and which are revived again in all their delicacy and prettiness. They are hemmed on the lower edge and frilled on the upper.

To continue the skirt subject, there can be mentioned a very full skirt, which for actual beauty and general utility combined cannot be beaten. Its material was berage and its color a seal brown. Half a dozen rope shirrings confine the hips. Then the skirt hangs very full. And around the foot it is trimmed with three wide bands of point de Planders lace.

The fad for trimming cloth skirts with lace, which started out as a temporary one, is becoming permanent, and the cloth gowns of fall will be lace trimmed and lace ruffled.

Valenciennes lace is the preferred variety for summer gown garniture.



Here is a charming white linen shirt waist suit for seaside or mountain resort. The bodice opens in front over a sheer white lawn chemise. The suit is simply trimmed with stitched bands, and a white silk belt, with ivory buckle, is worn.

A FATAL RING

The widowed Empress of Russia, when toward the close of 1897 she was looking through the drawers of a desk that had only occasionally been used by her husband, happened to find a peculiar-looking ring, consisting of a heavy band of gold, in the center of which was set an extraordinarily beautiful opal, flanked by two diamonds of the finest water. It was contained in an envelope on which Alexander III had written that the ring was one which had been worn by his father on the little finger of his left hand.

When that unfortunate sovereign was blown to pieces by the nitroglycerin bombs of the Nihilists in 1881 his entire left hand was shattered with the exception of the little finger, which remained intact with this ring on it, the rings worn on the third finger being destroyed. Alexander III took it from his father's torn and mangled hand, placed it in the envelope and hid it away in the drawer, where it was found by his widow after his death.

Empress Marie, not thinking that there was any ill-luck attached to the ring, took it with her to Copenhagen on the occasion of her next visit to Denmark in the spring of 1898, and left it there in charge of her mother, who died in the same year. Finding it among the effects of the dead Queen of Denmark, the Empress took it back with her to Russia, and presented it to her second son, George, whose sudden death a short time afterward, quite alone by a roadside near Tiflis, in the Caucasus, created such a sensation. Curiously enough this ring has disappeared since that time, and was not found among the grand duke's belongings after his death.

AN INDOOR HAMMOCK

For the summer room a hammock is one of the most comfortable and ornamental pieces of "furniture" that anyone could devise. It is a perfect resting place for the weary, and sometimes when sleep would be impossible on a sofa or in bed, the cool, flexible hammock will give rest and ease.

The ideal hammock that is to be an ornament as well as a comfort is of strong silk net, very wide and long enough to lie at ease in. The color should be in harmony with the room—Indian red is a good choice, as it is harmonious with almost everything.

A piece of Oriental drapery may be thrown over one end and used as a slumber robe when desired. Have three or four down-filled cushions covered with soft cretonne or silk for the inside.

In order to put up a hammock in the average room a carpenter's services are usually necessary. He can tell where it is best to screw in the rings for the ends of the walls and the users of the hammock. If the walls are crumbly or weak one does not wish to deface them by putting in the hooks, wooden uprights can be fastened to the floor and to the required height on the walls, and can be carved or painted to suit. In a small room, when not needed, the hammock can be unslung and dropped to the floor.

As a maker of space in cramped quarters the hammock is a boon and blessing in a certain uptown flat that does duty as couch and bed, thus leaving room for the piano, without which the chief relaxations in a life of hard work and much study.

LETTER WRITING

Letter Writing Etiquette That Should Be Rigidly Observed.

Do not write long business letters. Brevity is the key to a busy man's attention. Do not write brief letters of friendship. If the correspondence has become merely perfunctory, it is better to end it. Avoid writing over the head of your correspondent. Simplicity is the perfection of every art.

Never use words with which you are not familiar. Often the placing of such in a sentence makes an otherwise good letter ludicrous. Always use unruled paper, of fine texture. Avoid a pronounced color. White, or the pale tinted stationery, is always in good taste.

Under no circumstances send half a sheet of paper, even for the briefest note. Use only black ink. Especially avoid red. It is unlucky. Never write letters with a lead pencil.

Never write of anything which you would not wish him to see. It is uncharitable; moreover, the written word admits of no palliation. Do not write of personal or other important matters to strangers or ordinary acquaintances. You may regret having given them that hold over you which knowledge obtains.

Do not fill your letters with lengthy excuses for your silence. If you have been guilty of negligence, give your reason for it, if you have one, and make a dignified apology for your remissness. Never begin your letter with the statement that you have little time for correspondence. We should always have time for the discharge of the sacred obligations of friendship.

Do not offer advice unless you are asked for it, and should you have occasion to admonish your friend, let it be done gently and lovingly. The written word often seems harsher than that which is spoken.

In conclusion, write briefly of your own concerns, especially of your troubles; evince a kindly interest in all that appertains to the happiness of your correspondent, and let the spirit of optimism manifest itself in all you say.

Do not send an important message on a postal card, and never use them for notes of invitation.

Our Good Word "Home."

What is home for? Peace. What do many of us make it? A place for relating trials. A place for displaying tempers. A place for being disagreeable. A place for dispute. A place for haste. A place for fault-finding. A place for fretting and worrying. A place for tears. A place for growing. A place for swearing. A place for meanness, such as none but a home companion would forgive; for ugliness such as none would inflict upon a stranger.

Place opposite this: Home, a place for rest, for cheer, for warmth, for comfort, for forbearance; a place for peace, repose; a place where the soul may extend toward a nobler, better life. Home! The word itself comes from the Sanskrit "kshema," meaning abode, place of rest, security.

Sometimes a blessing comes to us disguised as a misfortune. Patience is a gift of experience. Sarcasm is a sword without a handle. Repose; a place where the soul may extend toward a nobler, better life. Home! he himself be a word.

An Ideal Kitchen.

There is not a particle of heat from coal, wood, or gas in it.

All the cooking utensils, stoves and other appliances are run by electricity.

Whirling electric fans send cooling drafts of air all about the room.

Breakfast is cooked on a small electric stove or lamp.

A chafing dish does for suppers, luncheons and the like.

An electric tea kettle boils the water for the coffee.

Waffles, griddle cakes, and lots of other good things are easily made on special irons for the purpose.

Milady herself can step out in such a kitchen and whip up some dainty dish before getting at all heated up in the process.

Girl Will Be Buried In Her Wedding Gown

Death After an Operation Puts an End to a Pretty Love Romance in New York.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—Her fiancé holding her hand, Clara Sulzer, the only daughter of the late Herman Sulzer, of Harlem, died here in the German Hospital as the result of an operation for appendicitis.

She was to have been married to William Gibson on September 7 at St. Andrew's Protestant Episcopal Church.

Such devotion and solicitude as was exhibited by Gibson is not often seen around a hospital sick bed. Although the condition of his promised bride was critical almost from the start, Gibson insisted upon being permitted to stay at her bedside night and day.

In her lucid moments he cheered her with pictures of the happiness he said was in store for them. His presence seemed to infuse hope in her and she told the doctors that she felt she would not disappoint her friends, who were waiting forward to her brilliant wedding.

When the end came Gibson sat beside the patient, who was unconscious, and smoothed her forehead.

He collapsed when the doctors told him that his intended bride was dead.

The body of the dead girl was removed to her home at 140 West 110th Street. She will be buried in the elaborate wedding gown prepared for her as a bride.

The dead girl was accounted one of the wealthiest heiresses in Harlem. She was twenty years old and a handsome blonde. She had her own yacht, horses, and carriages.

DENIES BEING BRUTAL TO DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

Mrs. Brennan Says She Was Fond of Woman Who Attempted Suicide at Norfolk, Va.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9.—Mrs. Annie Brennan, mother-in-law of Mrs. Josephine Pounder, who attempted to commit suicide in Norfolk, Va., Sunday, denies that she had ever treated her daughter-in-law cruelly.

Mrs. Brennan, who lives at 4218 Canton Avenue, Massyunk, said that Mrs. Pounder had resided with her for some time after the marriage with her son, George Pounder, who is gunner's mate of the United States cruiser Topoka, and that she had been very fond of her daughter-in-law.

Mrs. Brennan thinks Mrs. Pounder attempted to end her life because she had not received a letter from her husband for some time, and was temporarily deranged from brooding over the disappointment.

Pounder shot herself in the shoulder, inflicting a flesh wound, and will recover.

FAMILY AT PICNIC, GIRL DROWNS HERSELF

Could Not Recover From Ill Health, So She Leaped Into a Cistern.

CARLISLE, Pa., Aug. 9.—Miss Ella Gross, of Kollertown, this county, drowned herself in a cistern near her home.

Miss Gross was too ill to attend the industrial picnic, but expressed a wish that the other members of the family go, saying that she could very well take care of herself.

Upon their departure Miss Gross, clad only in her night clothes, penned a note to them, left it where it could easily be found, and plunged into the cistern. In her note she explained that she had long been in poor health, and being informed by her physician that she could not recover, resolved to end all the trouble by drowning herself.

LITTLE CHILD TORN FROM MOTHER IN COURT

Women Obligated to Use All Their Strength to Undo Her Frenzied Grasp.

READING, Pa., Aug. 9.—Weeping hysterically and clinging to her four-year-old daughter Florence, Mrs. John E. Hoffman made a sensational scene in court.

Judge Endlich decided the contest of the Hoffmans for the possession of their daughter in favor of the father. Scarcely had the decree been pronounced when Mrs. Hoffman ran forward and took the child in her arms.

It took the strength of two women to take the girl away.

Mrs. Hoffman's anger was among those arrayed against her. No one remained to sympathize with the mother after the child had been taken away.

FLEW TO RESCUE OF DIVORCED HUSBAND

Raving Maniac Will Be Cared for by Woman Who Left Him on Account of Cruelty.

WATERBURY, Conn., Aug. 9.—Touched by the plight of her divorced husband, Ernest W. Rew, lately agent of the White Entertainment Bureau, in Boston, who has been taken to the almshouse here a raving maniac, his wife has come to his rescue from New York.

"Thank God, you found me," she said to the physicians, as she threw her arms about her husband's neck. "Get Ernest out of here into a comfortable place as soon as you can. He shan't suffer while I'm on earth."

Rew went mad in a boarding house Friday night and was taken to the almshouse in a strait-jacket. There a card bearing the address of his wife was found in his pocket, and she was notified.

"I won't live with him," she declared, "but I'll always take care of him."

Mrs. Rew divorced Rew several years ago for cruelty. She will place him in an institution. The doctors say he may recover under treatment.

THE DESIGNER

"A Magazine of Real Use to Woman" September Number—Out To-day!

I THINK The Designer is a little different in its aim, and very different in its accomplishing, from any other of America's magazines. It, first of all, presents practical, tasteful fashions that are not too difficult for reproduction by the average woman, and supplements this by as many articles as possible each month on subjects of especial interest to those who have adopted the needle for occupation of spare moments, or as a means of support—hence dressmaking, millinery, trimmings, accessories to the toilette, embroidery and fancy work of all kinds are given prominent position in The Designer pages.

After them in importance rank the three departments edited by our readers themselves: "What Women are Doing," which encourages those who have to make their own way in the world, by presenting incidents showing how others have successfully overcome obstacles as formidable as any that lie in their path; "Helps Along the Way," and "The Mothers' Club."

I believe that every shareholder in a business is far more concerned for its welfare than are outsiders, and for this reason I have closely allied many of our readers and subscribers by making them co-editors of these departments, which gives the more or less isolated woman in the country a chance to run in figuratively speaking to her neighbor's for a little friendly talk on the easiest way to accomplish the household tasks, or to manage the babies, or as to opportunities for earning a few dollars in pleasant ways.

There are many other regular departments, of course, and fiction and articles of general interest; but the magazine itself can best describe itself. I think I can add truthfully that The Designer is a cheerful, practical magazine which earnestly tries to help those who want to help themselves.

Lillian Dinevon Rice
EDITOR

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CARE OF THE HAIR.

Every Woman Should Have Her Own Hair Brush.

Every time the hair is washed the comb and brush should be treated likewise. Of course, every woman should have her own hair brush, for her exclusive use, exactly on the same basis as the tooth brush. People do not realize how easily dandruff is communicated from one person to another, which is one reason why the brushes at the hair-dressers should never be allowed on the hair. There are special brushes being shown now in the department stores, and although they are more expensive than the ordinary brush, they certainly are a great improvement. They are made of very heavy comb, but perfectly smooth bristles, of the finest quality and selection. Being set far apart, there is no difficulty whatever in cleaning the brush thoroughly with soap and water. But no matter what kind of brush is used, it should be washed whenever the hair is, or more often, being rubbed thoroughly with the same soap used on the hair, then rinsed in a strong solution of borax, and held in running water until entirely free of soap and borax. If dried in the sun it will retain its sweetness and freshness until the next washing day comes around.

Whoever try corn shucks for cleaning combs? The shucks can be taken from the corn we are now getting from the market almost daily, and dried for future use. To clean a comb, take some one take hold of one end of the shuck and you hold the other. Then with the shuck tightly stretched between you two, press the teeth of the comb through the shuck, so that the pressing hard and rubbing action will clean and down, it will be thoroughly cleaned in a few minutes.

Giving Away Clothes.

There are two ways of giving away old things, a moral and an immoral. Those who are guilty of the latter are the people who use the poor as a sort of garbage barrel, something in which to dump everything that is useless. They are the people who give to their wash-crowns, especially of your troubles; evince a kindly interest in all that appertains to the happiness of your correspondent, and let the spirit of optimism manifest itself in all you say.

A Royal Love Story.

When Gloucester House, the residence of the late Duke of Cambridge, is demolished, a private staircase will be laid bare to which a pathetic story attaches.

As everyone knows, the Duke of Cambridge, as a young man, fell in love with Miss Fitcher, an actress, with whom he contracted a morganatic marriage, and most people will agree that nothing did him greater credit than the way he always treated her. She was the love of his life, and her sons were the comfort of his old age, says "Home Notes."

As the royal assent had never been given to the marriage, it was impossible for Mrs. Fitz-George to live with the duke at Gloucester House. Her residence was in Queen Street, to which a private staircase from the duke's bedroom gave access. By this staircase the duke would leave his room by night, and return to it in the early morning. No one else was allowed to use the staircase. The key was a golden one, which he wore on his chain and up to the time when he took to his bed in his illness the duke would himself unlock the door every morning and lock it again at night. His wife had died years before, but this act had become to him a sort of sacred ceremony.

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