

The Woman's Page of The Times-Dispatch

The Fear of Going Wrong

The woman who makes mistakes by the dozen, and is not afraid to venture because she does make mistakes, is apt to be a better, broader-minded woman, because she is not errorless. The fact that she is caught tripping every now and again keeps her content in check and her hand to the plow of work and duty.

A story is told of a woman who determined not to make mistakes, who had modest income that enabled her to be above the necessity of getting up in the early morning by the whir of an alarm clock, and placed her amid congenial society in a moderate-priced boarding house.

Dreaded Criticism.
This woman would have enjoyed life more if it had been filled for her with occupation and interests, but she did not dare to accept a position that might not be considered genteel by the coterie who fixed standards in her little circle. Consequently, there were empty days, or days filled with trivial and meagre details, and just enough money to make buckle and tongue meet.

Neither Positive Nor Negative.
This woman's existence was neither positive nor negative. Like a politician of whom the world is hearing a great deal just now, she steered for the middle course, the safe channel, never committing herself, for fear of making a mistake.

A Final Epitaph.
In the course of human events the woman died and was buried and her best friends said of her: "What a pity poor Mary Jane was such a timid, vacillating soul! She spent all of her years in trying to be less mistakeful than her neighbors. Consequently she did nothing but hold her hands and wait to see just the safe and the right thing to do, and ended by never being worth while in any direction. Poor, useless Mary Jane!"

So it is that a woman can make a mistake in trying always to avoid one, so, even though she knows her judgment is frequently at fault, she need not be discouraged, for she can wipe out the memory of past failure by present success.

To Err is Human.
The stupid, self-centred, selfish women are nearly always those that belong to the class that are errorless. To err is human, and there is nothing that renders a woman more absolutely lovable than a heart overflowing with humanity.

An Answer to the Question.
It is often asked if women in Colorado really desire to vote, and if they make use of the privilege that has been extended to them. Statistics say yes to both these questions, showing that during the past ten years from one-third to one-half the number of votes cast in Denver have been those of women.

Married women seem more inclined to use the ballot than single women and widows. Women without husbands appear to lack the suggestive interest in the welfare of State and nation—just as they lack it in other things outside themselves—that married women derive from close companionship with men. It is single women, too, who need, perhaps, more than the married, the benefit of being able to have a voice in deciding questions of general welfare, for many of them are owners and maintainers of homes.

Spinners Non-Voters.
I number among my friends two charming spinners between thirty and thirty-five years of age, who own a beautiful little cottage home. The younger sister has an excellent position carrying a good salary; the older one is the housekeeper. There is a small mortgage, which they are paying off. The employed one, a girl of much delicacy and refinement, works in an office where the men outnumber the women three to one; she goes to public offices to pay realty taxes, water taxes, light bills, fuel bills and many other extras; she arranged the transfer of her mortgage; she went before the county commissioners to protest against the amount of taxes assessed on her home and on her personal property, securing a reduction of the one and the two-hundred-dollar exemption pertaining to the other. Yet she does not go to the polls and exercise her right to a voice in the regulation of the vicissitudes attending the ownership of property.

A Next Door Neighbor.
The next door neighbor is a widow without children or any one depending on her for support. She keeps boarders for a living, but she has the two-hundred-dollar tax exemption on personal property which men and women, rich or poor, who have dependents enjoy. And she will not say a word in the most effective way (by voting) to adjust the matter. In the last Legislature, however, she introduced giving single, lone women the exemption referred to, making them, in the eyes of the law, heads of families.

"The you vote?" I asked a woman about two years ago who had moved into our neighborhood, and who was the mother of several children.
"No, I don't think it a woman's place; the men can attend to that," was her reply. Several months later her eldest child, a boy of twelve, was created for a misdemeanor and almost frantic for fear of a new penalty, but Judge Lindsey only sent the boy home with a disgust in his little heart for the folly of which he had been guilty, and a promise recorded in his brain to avoid committing it again. It didn't take much to persuade that woman to register and vote for Judge Lindsey at the next election, and she has voted at each election since.

Women Reached Through Children.
The last incident shows that women may be reached through the appeal of the children—even women who are not mothers—and it was proven conclusively by the election by a good majority of Judge Lindsey, an independent candidate, over the machine- or party-candidates. It shows also that women in office, regardless of partisanship, and it further serves to illustrate the absurdity of saying that women will not scratch their tickets, fearing a mistake which will cause them to be thrown out of the count.
—A Denver Woman.

HALLOWEEN DISHES.

Surprise Walnuts.
Halve large English walnuts, keeping the meats whole, and lay aside the shells in pairs. Salt the nuts and wrap each one in a square of thin paper on which some absurd fortune has been written in milk. Put a fortune on each shell, glue the sides lightly together, and tie with ribbons. Tiny candles should be provided, over which the papers may be held to make the writing visible.



A CHIC SILK SERGE AND FOLLARD COSTUME AND TWO BEAUTIFUL MODELS IN EMBROIDERED CHIFFON AND LACE.

L'Art de la Mode.

THE WOMAN MOTORIST

What She Wears In Regard to Cloaks, Bonnets, Veils and Coats, Camel's Hair Coats, Rug Coats, Tweed Capes and Sweaters.

With the evolution of the motor car the dress of the motorist has correspondingly developed, until it now occupies a distinct place in the realms of fashion, and is as smart in appearance and as practical and comfortable as could be desired. It no longer consists of clothing that completely hides or hideously disguises the wearer. Beauty and utility are combined, and the fair motorist in dressing appropriately for the motor drive need not lose her identity. It is true that fashions especially designed for motoring wear always have been and always will be wholly different from any other form of raiment. Demureness of attire does not seem consistent with the taste and the fashion of all sports. The voluminous and brilliant cloaks, picturesque little bonnets and long, bright-hued veils, worn by the feminine occupants, seem to harmonize perfectly with a flying motor car, and to accentuate the sense of fitness displayed by the woman motorist who has the taste and the foresight to select her motor clothing with an eye to attractiveness and durability.

New Fall Models.
The new fall models in coats are all severely tailored and are of a thoroughly practical type, but the materials, the original touches in the collars and cuffs and buttons give them an air of luxurious smartness which marks them as exclusive.

Especially Attractive Fabrics.
The fabrics are especially attractive this season, and some lovely color schemes are to be found in the soft, rough, mixed stuffs. They are by no means conspicuous or garish, but contain a note of warmth and gaiety that is charming during the cool fall days. The most durable material is camel's hair, and a coat built of it can be rolled up and stowed away when shaken out will not show a wrinkle. Much in Evidence.
The rug coats of handsome plaids are greatly in evidence. They are made up with plain trimming, while

the plain color coats of the same texture are relieved by collars and cuffs of plaid, the plaid often forming the reverse side of the material, as in steamer rugs.

Limousine Cape.
The cape wrap for motoring in the limousine, made of ottoman silk or chiffon broadcloth, in soft, subdued color, is one of the unlined garments very popular as the merest covering to throw over the delicate gown for a dinner or opera.

Long Sweaters.
Capes of heavy Scotch tweeds are greatly in vogue for wear in the open car. The new motor sweater comes nearly as long as the outer garment. They are of the double-breasted variety, with high collars, so made they can be worn around the throat or turned down.

Coquettish Little Bonnets.
Coquettish little bonnets of velvet and ribbed silk are decidedly the vogue, while very close-fitting ones of the baby type are made of elephant-gray chiffon cloth lined with green. Chambray is a popular material at present.—Mrs. A. Sherman Hitchcock.

Flounced Gloves.
The new styles are not yet radically different from their immediate predecessors, nor will their immediate successors show any marked departure, but the beginning of more voluminous fashions is in evidence. Dresses worn by favorite actresses are largely copied by dressmakers and their customers. Flounced skirts were recently first seen on the stage, and now everywhere you may see thin little gowns with two wide superposed flounces of equal depth. With a skirt like this goes the diminutive cross-corded eighteenth century bodice, which is quite short and has small elbow sleeves. These flounced skirts are also quite short. It will be observed that the appearance now of the flounced skirt gives a hint of wider or fuller styles a little later on.

Wedding Etiquette

An absolute principle of etiquette is that a bride's family shall pay all of the wedding expenses. The bridegroom has the right only to purchase the ring, pay the fee to the clergyman, and provide bouquets for bride and bridesmaids and gifts for ushers and best man.

The simplest wedding, with only a few bridesmaids, and the bride wearing a traveling dress, is dignified, either in a church or at home, and where expense is to be considered this is the most sensible plan.

The Matter of Apparel.
With the simplest white bridal dress, and having the most informal wedding, it is customary to wear a veil. If a traveling dress is decided on for the ceremony a hat and gloves are worn, as one is supposed to be ready to go away. A bride wearing traveling dress may have a maid of honor, but not other bridesmaids. The maid of honor should be dressed appropriately in a street or reception dress, and wear hat and gloves.

The Duty of Each.
Although it is the bride's privilege to choose the clergyman who is to perform the ceremony, and the duty of the bride's parents to make all other arrangements, it is the duty of the bridegroom to call on the clergyman and be sure that his services may be had on the day and at the time chosen by the bride. It should not be forgotten that in some States a marriage license is required.

An Afternoon Wedding.
An afternoon wedding is best, under general circumstances. This involves having a wedding breakfast, which is both expensive and difficult to serve. A practical and customary plan at an afternoon wedding is to have the refreshments on a long table in the dining room. There are platters containing creamed oysters, large salad bowls containing chicken salad, dishes with little sandwiches of thinnest bread and butter, dishes with cakes and bonbons, and one or two large dishes with ice cream. There should be plenty of plates, piled in groups, forks, spoons and napkins conveniently arranged. Guests help themselves and each other. They may stand about where they prefer or be seated in groups together, but not formally at tables. In serving, one may put oysters, some salad and one or two little sandwiches on a plate, placing a fork on the plate, and offer this to a guest.

OCTOBER HOUSEKEEPING

The Breakfast Menu and Hot Desserts--Vegetable Salads. Avoidance of Waste--Suggestions as to Vegetables, Fruits and Short-cake.

Beginning with this month, it will be possible to serve a larger proportion of such heating foods as fat meats and cereals. Butter mixtures and hot bread may be added to the breakfast menu, and hot desserts can be used. When lettuce cannot be purchased the country housewife can serve vegetable salads to her family by combining two or more varieties which are in her cellar for winter use. If the hot parsley is carefully covered with snow to prevent freezing, this herb may be used all winter in its fresh state for soups and stews. It will be made useful by drying, and then rubbing through a sieve and placing in a paper bag or air-tight bottle. The home potato salad is given a new flavor by a sprinkling of either the fresh parsley, chopped fine, or the dried variety.

System a Necessity.
The inexperienced housekeeper is also apt to get into a rut with her meals, which can easily be varied with careful planning. System is an absolute necessity, and waste and extravagance may be avoided by careful attention to cooking and the reservation of left-overs for meals to follow. The latter method will be more easily accomplished during the cooler months, when there is little likelihood of foods spoiling if properly cared for.

By cooking more cereal than is required for breakfast an appetizing luncheon dish may be secured by packing what is left in a pan, rinsing with cold water to prevent sticking, and when cold cutting into half-inch thick slices and sauteing in hot, shallow fat. Hominy served this way may replace potatoes when chicken or veal is served at dinner. Or the warm cereal may be formed into small cakes and sauted. If there is not sufficient left over for another meal, thin the remnants with hot milk or water and add to the griddle-cake batter, or use for gems, muffins or waffles.

Methods of Cooking.
Egg-plant, fried crisp outside and served with a brown sauce, makes an ideal breakfast dish, with all the values of meat. This month brings

the last of green corn, which is rarely fit for anything save for succotash, pudding, fritters, escallops, soup and other made dishes. Corn cooked in a pineapple or Edam cheese shell will supply a sufficient meal for either luncheon, dinner or supper.

Early apples will be welcomed this month in any form they can be served. In households where fruit is relished for breakfast they may be served whole or as a thick apple sauce. Baked with maple syrup, the form a delicious dessert for dinner or an accompaniment at lunch. The hot desserts which may be secured from this fruit are legion.

Quinces and apples may be combined in a one-layer shortcake that usually brings welcome praise from the men folk. This combination lessens the richness of the quince, and the latter adds a flavor to insipid apples.

Linon Closet and Lavender.
Everybody knows that it is delicious and grandmotherly to have bed linen "giving forth a faint fragrance of lavender as you creep between the sheets." That is the way the books always phrase it. But many people do not know by experience how really delightful and refreshing that faint fragrance is. It is even more refreshing in illness than in health, and its comfortable qualities had been fully tested in Alberta's household. Lavender linen, however, is a growth and an achievement. The drawer does not by any means take on nor impart the right flavor in its first or even its second season. The fragrance accumulates and strengthens as fresh sachets are added each July to those that were made the previous summer. And the lavender should be no druggist's stuff, but cut from your own bushes, and its full splendor, if you wish to get the most out of it, should be at least one sachet folded inside each sheet and another between the pairs, and the sachets should be of the thinnest cheesecloth that may retain a little as possible of the wholesome odor in themselves. This is the law of the linen drawer.

The Masculinized Girl

Minna Antrim Thomas has written a clever and amusing article on the very self-reliant young person who has caused the twentieth century type of woman to pass into a proverb.

Miss Thomas's article, which is a terse but comprehensive analysis, appearing in the October Lippincott, says in part that, though occasionally this twentieth century girl "fluffily ruffles herself, where is that man whose bosom is covered by a more unyielding front, whose four-in-hand is better tied, or whose tailor is more attentively watched? Does our maid of now finish when on the field of glory a sportsman is knocked out? Rather is she the first to 'root' for the joyful sub. Has she not a stunning vocabulary of slang? Wists she not of the sustaining power of a 'puff or two'? Does not her small nose tip tilt at the sign of the skillet, and hates she not the needle as the badge supreme of womanly limitation?

"Is not her work or her art her glory hallelujah? Would she, if she could, marry the best man alive? Does she not declare that she would choose a homi-deml-scamp rather than one so nearly—woman?"

"Although she has impetuously, or with serious intent, cast from her the silken trammels of her petted sexhood, who more than she tingles with the joy of living? Through her veins is not the red blood (or blue, or better still, hair and half) leaping with the zest of normal womanhood? She loves to walk, to row, to ride, to motor, to jump and run, not daintily, with high-heeled, silk-lined elegance, but as man walks, jumps, rows, rides, motors and runs."

She Plays the Manly Role.

So, with muscles tense and blood aflame, she plays the manly role. What cares she that her feet and arms are Indian brown, or her feet encased in boots two sizes larger than Dame Nature willed? She is alive, and thanks the God who gave her legs and wind as sound as man's. Although He fashioned her of woman's clay, she calls herself exultantly that she is man's (almost) brother, and believes the fiction she has wrought. She thinks that she has more than a fighting chance to become man's equal. In her eagerness she would go the limit, and short-cut her crown if fear of ridicule did not stay her hand.

The Near-Oak of To-Day.

Admitting the girl's strange metamorphosis from the clinging vine of yesterday to the near-oak of to-day, the query comes, has she improved or deteriorated under the tutelage of man or his text-books? Let us ponder. The titular "bachelor girl" is a freak of feminine depravity. The new woman is not her older self, nor next of kin. There is a naked little rickster who has times without number reduced her logic to smithereens. Shall it not be concluded, then, that in spite of her manly mien and masculine methods, Miss Now is very woman? That the girl of to-day frivols and divols less and plays harder is good for her young body and soul. The more holes in golf she is able to compass, the stronger her muscles will be for later duties; and the more vim she puts into her present fads the more stick-it-iveness her character acquires.

Modernity.

"Is it safe to love me?" It was evening. Their hands clasped, the two lovers sat together, their hearts and minds filled with the greatest problem of modern times.

"You mean—?" he said gently.

"If we love each other too much we might possibly forget ourselves and get married," she replied.

"You overlook," he replied, "your strong convictions on the subject, and your training, which has been deaf against marriage."

"True," but "might yield."

"If you did, would I not be by your side to prevent your taking this rash step?"

"But you yourself might yield."

"What! With the cost of living as high as it is? Never!"

She sighed, and looked across the lake.

"Then you think," she said, "that we are perfectly safe? You think that we can devote an hour a day to each other until we have tired of this love, and that it will not interfere materially with our other duties, and that nothing harmful will come of it?"

"Nothing but what, to many of our friends, will seem a foolish waste of time," he replied bravely; "but who cares for that?"—Thomas L. Masson, in October Lippincott.

The Centipede in a New Gule.
The next time you see a "Thousand-leg" run across the floor, don't kill him—he's a benevolent fairy disguised as a house centipede—destroy him and you've lost a protecting friend.

Providence had a definite reason for the presence of every creature on the face of the earth.

She sent the house centipede to guard you against the curse of the fly. Some day some scientist will find why the fly was invented, but since we are at present only aware that she is a carrier of filth and disease germs, until we have evidence of a virtue greater than her vices, don't molest her recognized natural enemy.

Here's to the house centipede—may his legs and his tribe increase and flourish.—September Woman's World.

Judging by Looks.
When Opportunity came knocking at my door.

I bade her go at once and to return no more.

Of course I am to blame that every chance I shrink.

But, honest, when she came, she looked like Plain Old Work.

—September Woman's World.

Miscellaneous Hints.
When sun-preserving fruit put it on the table in a sunny window in the attic, keeping the window closed. This is a method the housekeepers in one neighborhood used, and it saves a great deal of trouble in case of rain, and protects the fruit against insects and dust.

Make covers for radiators of crash or denim, and save both walls and curtains from the dust that is blown into them by the ascending heat waves.

Take your rugs on the porch every three or four weeks, if you have a vacuum cleaner, and sweep them thoroughly with a broom. This will keep the wall paper and hangings clean, and you won't have to breathe the dust when you are sweeping. A good sweeping with an carpet-sweeper will do in the meantime.