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CLEANING THE STREETS.

In a statement in the Courier this evening Mayor Phillips says that his position with reference to securing street flushers for the city has been misunderstood. The mayor states that he is an advocate of the street flusher but questions whether the city can afford to install this system at the present time. It is understood, however, the matter will be brought before the council at an early meeting and the question fully debated. It will then be determined whether it is a case of the city being unable to afford adopting the street flushing system, or whether the situation is one in which the city cannot afford to be without the flusher. Many are of the opinion that the flusher will result in a real saving, that the saving in wages for men with shovels and teams for the old process would pay for installing and maintaining the flushing system.

The Courier agrees with the mayor that the city needs better water and sewer service and a crematory to dis-

Dr. Shallenberger

The Regular and Reliable Chicago Specialist, who has visited Ottumwa since 1906, will be at

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pose of its refuse. These are problems now before the city council for solution. The Courier does not, however, agree with the statement that "we can take care of our streets and alleys with the system we have adopted," because past experience has shown that this is impossible. An annual onslaught on the paved streets with the fire hose will temporarily clean the streets so treated, but cleaning the streets once a year is not sufficient.

The system we have adopted has been the dry sweeping of the streets in the business district with a sweeper at night, and sweeping crossings and gutters by men with brooms during the day time.

This system results in raising a cloud of dust to be deposited on the sidewalks and business fronts adjoining the streets. In addition the practice has been condemned by boards of health in a great many cities as a disease breeder.

If this system is continued, it should be in conjunction with some kind of sprinkling or dampening process that will keep down the dust. One trouble with the sweeping system is that it will not answer the purpose when the streets are wet and muddy after a rain. A flusher will do the work under these conditions as well as any other.

However, the Courier is not for the flusher to the extent of the exclusion of all other means. What we do want is some plan put into active operation and kept in operation that will clear the streets. If there is some better plan than the flusher let's get it.

WANTS BETTER FARMERS.

"It is to the interest of the farmers of Iowa that they increase the product of their farm and dispose of them at cheaper prices rather than to limit the production of their farms and sell their products at high prices," said Dean C. F. Curtiss of Ames college in an address last night at Des Moines. Dean Curtiss was urging the need of a larger appropriation for the Ames school.

He reminded his hearers that a few years ago he made the statement that we could have 1,000 students in the collegiate agricultural department of the state college and 10,000 students of the short courses. "We have nearly reached that point," he said, "and now I say that we should have 5,000 students in collegiate work and 100,000 in short course work."

"The only way to teach the farmers the best methods is to reach them," said Dean Curtiss, "and this can be done only through the state extension department of the agricultural college. To maintain this department requires money and with the present allowance for this work but few of the farmers can be reached."

Dean Curtiss said he was not of the belief that the young men are deserting the farms. The young people of Iowa, he declared, realize that there is no better land in the world than that of this state. "Why," said he, "the soil here has scarcely been scratched."

BACK-TO-THE-HOG.

A Chicago paper notes with approval that a "back-to-the-hog" movement has been inaugurated in a Pennsylvania town. A wave of enthusiasm is sweeping over the town, it says, and everybody is building pigsties. The hog has grown to be something of an aristocrat of late and it is not to be wondered at that he is again coming into his own. The Chicago paper believes that many suburbanites whose thoughts at this season of the year are naturally turning to hogs may profitably consider the hog. It agrees that at first the suggestion of a hog in place of a hen may prove shocking to the hen culturist, but in the end it

believes the hog might prove a more profitable diversion. It registers these points in favor of the hog:

There should be really less disappointment in hogs than hens. A hog is not expected to do anything but grow fat, and if given half a chance, he will answer this expectation to the full. With hens, it is, of course, different. A hen is expected to lay, an active instead of a merely passive service; sometimes she does and generally she doesn't.

There is another thing about a hog. A hog is always there right in his little sty. When you take a friend out to lean with you over the rail and listen to what you know about hogs and to inspect the proof of your assertions, the hog is there.

On the other hand, a hen is a shifty creature. If she can get under the house, it is ten to one she will be under the house. Sometimes it is necessary to go over into the neighbor's garden to see that hen. All of which is very annoying.

In the end, the Chicago paper believes, the "back-to-the-hog" movement may make the "back-to-the-land" excitement seem trifling in comparison.

INSURANCE FOR PEACE.

The Chicago Inter Ocean protests against the criticisms heard in congress against the naval appropriations, referring to these criticisms as the "usual proposal to 'save money,' by refusing to pay a proper insurance premium for peace." When reference is made to the increase of naval expenditure the Inter Ocean believes, some consideration should be given to the great increase of the nation's wealth. It is true, it admits, that in the last five fiscal years our naval expenditure increased from \$103,000,000 a year to \$139,000,000 a year. But in the four years from 1906 to 1904 the wealth of the United States increased from \$88,000,000,000 to \$107,000,000,000. A million more a year for the navy to a billion more a year from wealth is held to be no high price for security.

As an illustration it is pointed out that a man who had but \$10,000 in an endowment fund would certainly get a rate of one-tenth of one per cent, or \$10 a year, as a crushing addition to his taxes for police protection. The Inter Ocean cites a little history to show its point. It says:

It is always urged that because this country is not aggressive, does not engage in wars of conquest, it is in no danger of attack.

Those who so reason are deaf and blind to the lessons of our own history. There has been hardly a quarter century of our existence in which we have not been engaged in a foreign war or seriously threatened with one. Count forward from our war of independence, ending in 1783:

In a little more than twenty-five years we had the war of 1812-15 with the affair with the Barbary States intervening. It was thirty-two years to the Mexican war, but in the interval war was threatened, and the Mexican conflict, despite the misrepresentations of New England historians, was postponed nearly ten years by a long suffering of insult and injury on a part of this country without precedent in our own or any other great nation's history.

Within fifty years after our last war with England we escaped war with England again solely because in the course of putting down a domestic insurrection we had built the most powerful navy afloat.

Because it quickly disappeared it is generally forgotten that the steam navy of the United States was in 1867 the most powerful on the seas, whereas the weight of the English and French fighting fleet was still in sailing vessels.

We were fortunate that England did not accept Mr. Cleveland's challenge in the Venezuela affair, for our naval weakness had made us the laughing stock of other nations. All remember how skeptical Europe was of our ability to deal even with Spain on the seas. And only our swift naval triumph over Spain checked European plans for intervention.

Trade rivalries, the great cause of war, are not becoming less acute and how our success in trade is resented is shown by the proposal in the French Senate for a European combination against the United States.

The safe position, and the only safe position for the United States, is the world stands today, the Inter Ocean adds; is with a navy second in power only to that of England. Anything less is simply penny wise and pound foolish, for it is the false economy of refusing to pay a proper insurance premium for security against attack and war.

THE EVENING STORY

SOMNAMBULISTIC MABEL.

(By Lawrence Alfred Clay.)
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Everybody who starts from the most trifling quarrel must start from the most trifling cause. This one did. George Egbert had told Mabel Drake after their engagement that he would trust her to the ends of the earth. She understood him to mean by that that if she happened to be leaving the postoffice just as Billy Shaw or Tommy Tweed came along and walked home with her no row would be raised over it, and the poor girl went ahead and let them walk. Then she suddenly discovered that "the ends of the earth" did not extend very far.

On the evening of the day that Billy Shaw happened to walk a distance of five blocks with her, and that half a dozen persons happened to pass them

and then happened to drop in and tell the rising young lawyer about it, he put on a serious expression on his face. It was so serious as to be legal, and, being legal, it alarmed Miss Mabel. When she had asked if his sister had been indicted for murder, his mother held for conspiracy or, if he had got mixed up in a filibustering expedition and was expecting a United States marshal to lay hands on him, he arose and addressed her in his best legal manner.

"You were walking with Billy Shaw today?" he began.

"Well," she replied.

"You were talking and laughing with him?" he asked.

"Well?"

"He is a rejected suitor of yours and an enemy of mine. Can't you see the inconsistency of the thing?"

"But," she cried to make love to me, but I laughed him out of it. That was a whole year ago. I never heard that he was an enemy of yours."

"No? Well, let me state for your information that William Shaw, who once proclaimed me a young squirt of a lawyer. Were those the words of a friend or an enemy?"

Mabel could not restrain a hearty laugh, but she thought the dignity of the lover until it was armor-plated. In the most frigid sort of way he looked at her and announced:

"I thought I could trust you, but I see I was wrong."

"Just what do you mean by that?"

"You have two strings to your bow," Mr. Egbert said.

"You must drop William Shaw and others of his ilk, or you must drop me!"

And then the clock on the mantel missed four ticks and other things began to happen. Young Mr. Egbert howled when it goes beyond that together and brought about combustion. Miss Drake regarded him for a moment with flashing eyes and blazing cheeks and then rose up and handed him his hat and gloves and quietly observed:

"Good night, Mr. Egbert; good night!"

And Mr. Egbert bowed and found himself on the other side of the front door. He looked back and saw the man who climbed Mr. McKinley or whether it was ever climbed at all. Laying down the law to the girl is all right and very interesting up to a certain point, but when it goes beyond that the orator feels a jar. Mr. Egbert felt one and went home in a sort of a daze. His sister said he must be coming down with the grip and ought to soak his feet and when it goes beyond that his mother, who has had years' more experience than he had, said:

"As for Miss Mabel, no matter how she looks, she is not a girl to be trifled with. She could have done less than she did. Had Mr. Egbert called the next evening with a staid on his face the matter would have passed like a summer shower."

As for the young man, he was not a young man doing the sensible thing in a case of this kind? He knows the girl can't, and his silly pride won't let him. And there you are.

After the trial was over and night the young lawyer was a determined man. For the next three he was a martyr. For the third three he was hunting through Blackstone and Coke for how to catch up a "bored" quarrel without losing every shred of his dignity. Those volumes, though so full of legal lore, gave him no help on the subject nearest his heart.

The moon was more kind, however. One night, as he tossed on his sleepless couch and called himself names for the hundredth time, the full moon shining into his window brought a sudden recollection to him. Miss Drake had once mentioned that on the full of the moon she had been known to rise, throw a wrapper around her and walk forth on the lawn in a state of somnambulism. Here was the full of the moon. Might not she be walking at this very minute? Why shouldn't he walk, too? He was on the ragged edge, and that was next door to somnambulism. The somnambulist might not know what two persons, awake, had failed to do.

With heart beating high, the young lawyer hurried to his clothes, tiptoed down the stairs and five minutes later was two blocks away and gazing at a human figure slowly walking across a lawn. It was the figure of a girl! It was the figure of Mabel Drake. She was walking in her sleep. There was no law laid down in such cases. Attorneys must act for themselves. Young Mr. Egbert acted. He became a somnambulist and began pacing the lawn almost within reaching distance of the girl.

For five minutes the two sleep-walkers paced. They turned at a gooseberry bush at one end, and at a crabapple tree at the other. Then the sleep-walker turned to himself in a sleepy voice:

"I shouldn't have said that to the dear girl—no, I shouldn't!"

There was a long-drawn sigh from Mabel.

"She meant no harm, but in my jealousy I accused her!"

Another sigh, and just as they turned, the soft words fell from the sleeping girl's lips:

"I had known—if I had known that he once called me a young squirt of a lawyer I should have told him that I hated him!"

Then the couple, as if listening to the sad refrain of the katydids, and George murmured:

"I was wrong—I was wrong! Earth holds no nobler girl than my dear Mabel!"

On the way to the crabapple tree, with the distant watch dogs baying at the moon and the tree tongs keeping up their infernal racket, Mabel sighed again, and her voice was broken as she said:

"Two strings to my bow! How could George say such a thing to me! I have loved one and only one—crabapple. George uttered a sort of groan and said:

"Can she—will she ever forgive me? It's more than I can hope for, but will you put my arm about her and tell her how sorry I am, and that no such words shall ever pass my lips again?"

Miss Drake gave a start and a jump aside and exclaimed:

"What—what—where am I? Who is this here?"

And Mr. Egbert gave a backward spring, looked widely around him and exclaimed:

"What—what—where am I? How did I come here? Is this you Mabel?"

"Mr. Egbert, what does this mean? The last I remember I was in my bed, and I now wake up to find myself here in your arms!"

"Just the same with me, Mabel dear. I went to bed with such an anxious mind that I must have got up in my sleep, and dressed and came here. You once told me that you sometimes walk—"

PEOPLE'S PULPIT

The Courier Will Publish Signed or Unsigned Expressions From Its Readers Upon Receipt of Name and Address. Write to Be Known to the Publisher, However.

CLEANING THE STREETS.

Ottumwa, Ia., March 16, 1910.

To the Editor of the Courier:—

Dear Sir:—In reading the Courier yesterday evening I see that each and every alderman in the city with the exception of Samuel Hawkins was interviewed on the practicability of using a street flusher in this city. I see there were some who expressed no opinion and others were favorable to the use of the street flusher and I see that the Courier reporter quotes: "Recently, but unexpectedly the mayor has arrayed himself with those who take a negative view of the idea of employing a street flusher to cleanse the streets." This is not correct, as he did not give me an opportunity to express myself on this subject when we met on Main street, where he was in conversation with Alderman F. A. Ehrmann, I presume on the same subject. When he referred to this matter at this time I stated to him that the Courier had been consulting with John MacVicar in Des Moines in relation to the use of the street flusher, whether it was injurious to brick pavement with sand filler, and as I understood from reading the Courier, Mr. MacVicar made the statement that street flushing would not be injurious to brick pavement with a sand filler under certain conditions. I told the reporter that I thought we had men in this city that are as well qualified as John MacVicar, and men that know the needs of the city of Ottumwa, and what would be the results of using a street flusher upon our paved streets, and he rather took exception to my statement, but I still maintain that we have men as well qualified as Mr. MacVicar or any other individual in Des Moines, that know the needs of our city better than he does. I am not opposed to a street flusher, I am in favor of their use in the business district of our city where they can be used without endangering our street paving and filling up our sewers, but to put a street flusher in operation at the time I cleaned the streets with the hose would not amount to anything, as there was too much mud and rubbish on the streets at that time for it to do practical work. With our streets in the condition they are now, after being cleaned up as above stated, the street flusher would be practical and would not so much endanger blocking up the sewers and catch basins, but it requires money to buy such equipment as a street flusher. The city is endeavoring to buy all the equipment that is practical for street cleaning within our means in our financial condition, and I understand that a street flusher costs about \$1,000. The Courier should not be ignorant of the revenue and income of the city, as the records of the city at the city clerk's office are open to public inspection. I contend that the first needs of this city today are better water and better sewer service for the property owners, and second to this is a crematory to dispose of our night soil and garbage. These are two of the most vital needs of the city today. We can care for our streets and alleys with the system we have adopted and keep them in a respectable condition without a street flusher. I believe in neatness and cleanliness and if the citizens of the city of Ottumwa will co-operate with me and give me a helping hand we will have one of the cleanest cities in the state, although we are not perfect, far from it; but we will try and do the best we can and to the best of our ability and knowledge. I am always ready and willing to commit myself upon any matter to the best of my ability where the interests of the city of Ottumwa as a whole are concerned, but I think there is sufficient intelligence among the citizens of Ottumwa without getting advice from abroad. I want it understood that I am not taking any exception to the attitude of the Courier in any shape or form, but the reporter misquoted me to a certain extent in regard to the street flusher, as I highly approve of it when we can afford it.

Very respectfully,
 T. J. Phillips,
 Mayor of the City of Ottumwa.

X-Ray Locates Pin.

Grundy Center, March 17.—A few days ago Earl Hawn and some of his playmates were pinning tags upon each other, and while running Earl swallowed a pin which he had between his teeth. The pin stuck in the little fellow's throat and caused him to choke. He was taken at once to Dr. Carpenter and he and Dr. Thielen put him under the influence of chloroform and endeavored to extract the pin, but were unable to locate it. The X-ray was resorted to. The pin was in the boy's stomach just fifty-three or hours and it was feared something serious might result, but Earl was in school again on Monday and is now in his usual good health.

Many New Comers at Centerville.

Centerville, March 17.—This city is growing. At the school election 67 of the voters had to be registered. This is an indication of the great increase in population. People are coming to Centerville. Those wanting to rent houses find them with great difficulty. There is talk of a movement being started to build a lot of homes, so people wanting to make this their home can come here. The Booster committee has had the subject up for consideration.

Home Course In Domestic Science

XII.—Hints on Home Laundering.

By EDITH G. CHARLTON,
 In Charge of Domestic Economy, Iowa State College.

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TO many women the laundry is the least interesting part of the home, and often the weekly washing and ironing are the work most dreaded by the entire family. In fact, in many homes they prove to be the one insurmountable task, and because no other solution is found for the problem the washing is sent to the laundry or is done in any way and by any one so long as it is taken out of the house. Why the washing and ironing should prove such unpleasant work as to cause both mistress and maid to rebel against it has always been a mystery to me. I can explain it only by the natural supposition that neither knows how to do it well and that the possibilities for doing the work quickly, easily and thoroughly are few in most homes. We generally find that a properly equipped laundry is among the last things to be added to the house and that in the majority of cases a tub or two, perhaps a washing machine of possible merit and occasionally a wringer comprise the average washing outfit in private homes of moderate means. And, small as that equipment is, it can be made to give very satisfactory results if a little knowledge and intelligence are brought to the task. The trouble is most women do not like to wash because they have not been taught to do it properly and because they make extremely hard work of it. They appreciate to some degree fine fabrics and dainty clothing, but they do not, as a rule, appreciate these to the extent that makes them desirous of preserving materials and colors.

While it is difficult at any time and in almost any locality to obtain well trained helpers for housework, it is often an easier task to get a good cook or housemaid than it is to find a first

class laundress. Because of this it is all the more necessary that the mistress of the house should be familiar with fabrics and how to cleanse them.



WASHING NOT UNATTRACTIVE.

The Modern Laundry Equipment.

Whenever possible the laundry should be a separate apartment in even small houses. It may be located in the basement or adjoining the kitchen; but, wherever it is, the room should be well lighted and well ventilated and should have a good floor and hard finished walls. There should be no soft or porous material used in the laundry to absorb moisture. For a small home laundry the following list of furnishings will be found sufficient:

Three or four tubs, stationary if possible, made of soapstone, enamel or porcelain; a good washing machine, clothes wringer, clothes stick, clothes boiler, tin or copper; zinc or glass washboard, clothespins (kept in box or basket), water pail, clothes basket, scrubbing brush, large granite spoon, galvanized iron clothesline, skirt, sleeve and bosom boards for ironing, ironing blanket, mangle and several good irons of different weights. An electric or even a good gasoline iron is such a valuable labor saving device that its first cost should seldom be considered, because it very soon more than repays it. Besides this amount of furnishing a number of common substances for removing stains of various kinds should always be on hand. Among those most frequently needed may be mentioned borax, ammonia, salt, vinegar, alum, naphtha, muriatic and oxalic acid. These should be kept in a closed box and out of the reach of children, as some of them are poisonous. Wax, bluing, starch, French chalk and javelle water are also often needed in the laundry, and if a supply of them is kept on hand time and effort may be saved on washing day. A valuable addition to this equipment would be an electric or water motor with which to run the washing machine, wringer and mangle. With such an addition it is possible for one woman to finish a large washing with comparatively little outlay of strength.

Removing Ordinary Stains.

Washing is the mechanical cleansing of clothes to remove all impurities and dirt. To do this four simple, short rules should be kept in mind—viz: Get out all the dirt. Keep all articles a good color. Use nothing to injure the material either mechanically or chemically. Have some definite knowledge of different fabrics in order to treat each in the way least likely to injure or change its character.

Unsatisfactory results in laundry work can often be traced to carelessness in preparing the various articles to be washed. Too often articles coarse and fine, white and colored, are put into the suds together without the slightest attention to such preliminary steps in the process as sorting, removing stains, temperature and soapiness of the water. After such indiscriminate preparation what wonder if fine materials are soon torn or made yellow, if stains are made permanent and the entire washing takes on a dingy hue!

Before any article is sent to the wash it should be examined and all stains carefully removed. This requires care and some knowledge of chemicals and their action on fabrics and stains. All stains cannot be removed by the same substance or in the same way, and yet it is remarkable how many different kinds of stains may be removed by cold water alone. For this reason I recommend that all articles be soaked in cold water for fifteen minutes or longer before being put into the washing suds. The white pieces should, of course, be kept by themselves, and if there is any question about the fastness of any color a little salt and vinegar added to the cold water will help to set it. Alum added to the rinsing water will make the color still more permanent. The following are general directions for removing stains of various kinds:

Tea and Coffee.—Spread the stained part over a bowl and pour boiling water over it from a height.

Chocolate and Cocoa.—Wash first in cold water, then rinse and pour boiling water through it.

Fruit.—Many fruit stains may be softened and dissolved by alcohol. If heated the alcohol will be more effective. For peach stain it may be necessary to use diluted muriatic acid or sulphur fumes. Boiling water will remove fresh stains of small fruits.

Grass.—Alcohol will dissolve the green coloring matter. Washing with naphtha soap and warm water or spreading on a paste made of soap and baking soda will also remove grass stains.

Grease or Oil.—Soak first in cold water, then wash with cold water and soap, then dry and if necessary use other agents. Chloroform or ether will remove grease from fabrics which cannot be washed.

Wine.—Put a thick layer of salt over the stain from red wine while fresh, then pour boiling water over it. If a yellow wine wash first with cold water, then with soap and water.

Ink.—If stain is on a white garment put to soak for several days in milk, changing frequently. Red ink poured over the black will remove the black stain. The red may be washed out in cold water and ammonia, then boiled. Equal parts of peroxide of hydrogen and ammonia may remove fresh stains. Oxalic acid will remove old ink stains from white garments. Salt and cold water may be used in fresh stains on delicate colors.

Iron Rust.—If fresh, lemon-juice, salt and strong sunlight may remove stain, but generally it is better to use muriatic acid at once. Spread the stain over a bowl containing a fairly strong solution of borax and water or soda and water. Drop oxalic acid on the stain a little at a time until it darkens, then rinse thoroughly in the borax and water.

Mildew.—This is a mold growing on the fiber of the cloth. If fresh it may be removed by wetting in strong soap-suds or covering with a mixture of chalk and salt and bleaching in strong sunlight for several hours. Old mildew stains can rarely be removed without injuring the fabric.

Milk or Cream.—Wash out with cold water and later use soap-and-cold-water.

Paint or Tar.—If fresh and washable use soap and water or zinc in turpentine, then wash. If not washable use gasoline. If dry soften with lard or oil, then treat as for fresh paint.

Perspiration.—Use cold water and soap and put the garment in the sun for several hours. The perspiration under the arms is different from that of the rest of the body and requires diluted muriatic acid to neutralize it.

Sugar of Gum.—Dissolve with warm water if washable, with alcohol if not washable.

Blood.—Soak in cold water, then rub out in fresh tepid water. If very dry, soak and wash out or use peroxide of hydrogen or Javelle water.

A word of caution is necessary when using acids to remove stains. These should not be used on colored fabrics, and after using on any white article always rinse thoroughly in borax and water or ammonia and water and afterward in clear water. Javelle water is an excellent bleaching agent which will often remove old stains. It is easily made and may be kept indefinitely in glass bottles in a cool, dark place.

Javelle Water.—Dissolve one pound of sal soda in two quarts of boiling water, then add one-fourth of a pound of chloride of lime. Stir with wooden stick until lumps are broken, then let stand several hours to settle. Pour off clear liquid and bottle for use. For bleaching purposes use one-half to one cupful to one pail of water. Always rinse thoroughly in ammonia water. To remove stains brush over with Javelle water full strength, then rinse quickly in ammonia water.

Some practical suggestions for washing silks, woollens and laces, starching, etc., will be given in a later article.