

For the Hostess

Chat on Interesting Topics of Many Kinds, by a Recognized Authority

New Year's Greeting.
Even now, following fast upon the heels of the merry Christmas tide, we can hear the rustling of the little New Year's wings as he presses hard upon old Father Time, bent with the weight of many centuries. Take it all in all, it has been a good year as we look back at the rapid procession of days, some gray, some dark, but many radiant with dazzling sunlight. Mme. Merri wishes to take this opportunity to thank all readers of the department for their many kind letters expressing in highest terms their appreciation of the column.

As a personal favor she begs that no one ask a reply to queries in "next Sunday's paper," as it is utterly impossible to comply. Questions that will benefit many, it is well to answer in the paper, but private answers are willingly sent if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is inclosed. Letters are filed and answered personally or through the paper just as fast as it is possible to handle them. Original suggestions of interest to all are welcome contributions, as we aim to make the department a clearing house for the hosts of all successful entertainment schemes. May the coming year be laden with blessings, may we all be fitted to take each day as it comes, remembering that "God's in his heaven, all's right with the world." A happy New Year to you every one.

A New Year's Dinner.
Gift making at New Year's is not so prevalent in this country as it is over the water, where it is the day par excellence for exchanging presents. Christmas is a royal festival time for the children there, and the first day of the year is a time thoroughly enjoyed by the grown-ups. There are balls, calls, receptions galore, with elaborate gifts—in fact, it is one grand, merry holiday, while with us, especially of late years, it has been rather a state day, with little doing save in Washington, where the president holds a reception. It is the day for a family dinner, and, by the way, I must describe this very beautiful dinner which is to be given on the first.

The New Year's bell is the keynote for decoration, and the color is red with plenty of holly and mistletoe. Red bells will hang everywhere; the candle shades are to be red bells, and the centerpiece a big red bell-shaped "Jack Horner" pie, with red ribbons going to each plate. Even the nut and bonbon holders are to be bell-shaped, the ices are to be frozen in bell molds to be eaten with bell-shaped cookies. Bridge is to be the after dinner pastime, the score to be kept with gold and silver costume bells slipped onto silver key rings, which the guests will have for favors. The wee bells bought by the hundred

are not expensive. Following are some of the quotations which will be written on cards cut in shape of bells:

God bless the master of this house,
Likewise the mistress, too,
And all the little children
To whom the day is new.

Welcome be ye that are here,
Welcome all and make good cheer,
Welcome all another year.

Under mistletoe and holly
A party gay and jolly
In games will pass the hours away
Of this our festive New Year's day.

Here's to the old year, drink, boys, drink,
Here's to the days that have fled,
Old friends, old wine, old memories,
Drink to the joys that are dead.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring happy bells across the snow;
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

May every joy attend you,
And heaven daily send you,
Blessings in heart and home.
A resolution let us make.

On this bright New Year's day,
Throughout the year we'll wear a smile,
And fret dull care away.

Come, let's join the merry throng,
Upon the coach of life we'll ride,
Speeding the coming year along
Happy we'll be whate'er betide.

MADAME MERRI.

Make Your Hatpins.
For your dressy hat, why not make your own hatpins of lace? An old form can be covered with a crocheted medallion or lace flower. The stitches must necessarily be close in order to cover the foundation, but when an Irish lace daisy curls its petals over a hatpin you will pierce your crown with joy in the knowledge of having something home-made but new.

FANCIES OF FASHION

Fashion is trying to drive out the button from the full-dress scheme, as far as it is possible to do.

Many of the prettiest serge yacht suits, instead of being all white, have black moire collar and cuffs.

Collars and buttons made from black satin are considered smart on linen coats of both white and colors.

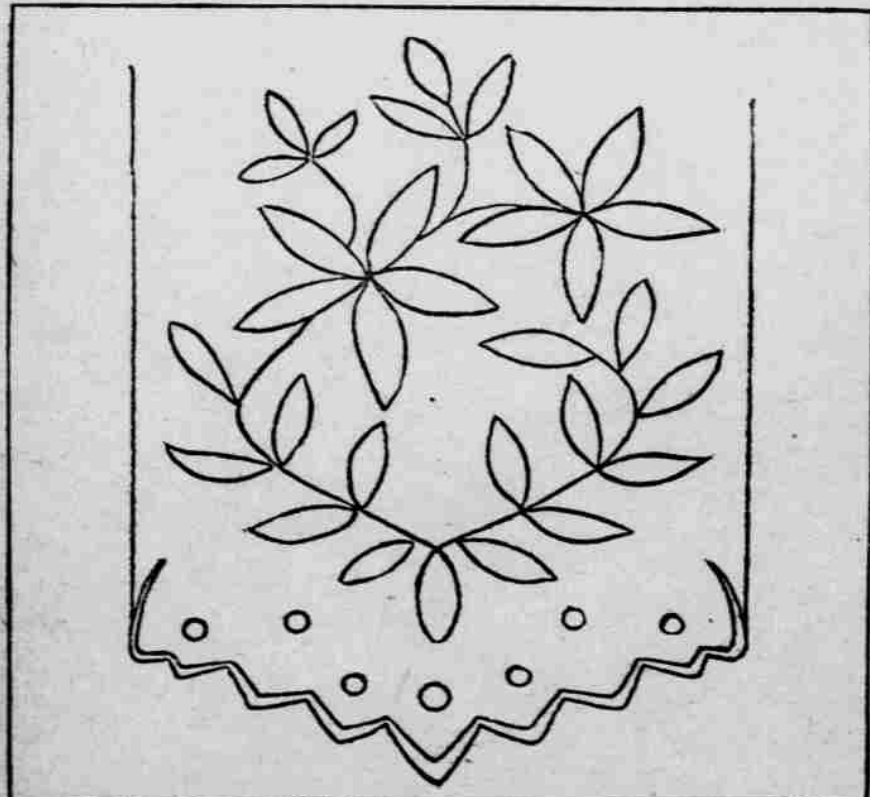
Corset covers and chemises fit at most straight across the front, there being little or no fullness at the top.

The restaurant coat of supple cloth, with its flowing Spanish or Japanese lines, is superseded by the jetted coat.

Since tan is only suitable for morning and the country, bronze is the nicest non-black shoes for wear with colors.

Jet buttons are used even on linen suits, and jetted chains and flexible brooches and bracelets are among the many forms that appear.

Embroidery.



VERY smart are the stiff linen collars with flannel or cotton waists, and a soft, daintily embroidered necktie is both pretty and becoming with them.

Shadow embroidery will appeal to the girl whose time for sewing is limited, for it is quickly and easily done. A very sheer linen or lawn should be chosen because the embroidery is done on the wrong side and should show through. Lay the material over the design and hold in place with thumb tacks. Draw all around the design with a sharp pencil making the stems darker than the flower and leaf outlines because the stems will be worked in outline stitch on the right side of the stitch. The scallops also are done on the right side and worked in buttonhole stitch. Use a medium size white embroidery cotton and begin the leaves and petals at the point nearest the stem.

With a fine needle, take up a little of the material—about three threads being enough—on the outside edge of the petal, right on the pencil line and cross horizontally to the pencil line on the other edge and take up a few threads; then back to the other side, crossing back and forth until the space is filled. When the tip of the leaf is reached, work the thread back to the starting point with darning stitch, and begin the next nearest leaf or petal. The stitches should be placed near enough together to nearly touch.

This design is especially suited to shadow embroidery, as the leaves and flowers are slender. When the embroidery is all finished, cut out the scallops and hem the long edges.

POCKET LIFE SAVER

Clarence Hall Invents a Device for Miners.

Believes His Oxygen Apparatus Would Have Prevented the Deaths of 300 Men in the Cherry Mine.

Washington.—Clarence Hall, explosives expert for the government, has just announced the invention of a safety device which, had it been in use November 13 might have saved 300 lives at the mine of the St. Paul Com at Cherry, Ill. The device is an appliance generating sufficient oxygen to sustain life for a half-hour or so under any conditions of atmosphere. Had the miners trapped in the St. Paul mine been supplied with this apparatus, the densest of smoke or an atmospheric condition entirely devoid of oxygen would not have killed them for a reasonable time.

If the ambitions of the men of the technologic branch of the geological survey are realized, a time will soon come when every miner working underground will carry in his pocket the newly invented oxygen generator and through it be guaranteed a lease of life for a time ranging from half an hour to an hour while he is fighting his way to the open air or waiting the coming of rescuers. The invention was made by Mr. Hall while in the government service, and his chief, Dr. J. A. Holmes, insists that the patent rights on the invention shall not be enforced, but any man who wants it may make it and use it at will. This



Inventor and His Device.

will enable mine owners and miners to obtain this safeguard against the deadly gases and the smoke of mine fires that kill thousands of men each year. Further, it is stated, the device may be readily manufactured and sold at a price not above 50 cents.

The manner in which the inventor hit upon the idea of supplying oxygen to the entombed miner was commonplace in the extreme.

Mr. Hall was lighting the lamp of an automobile when the thought occurred to him of generating oxygen as the gases of the lamp were generated, and supplying that oxygen to miners to breathe when the air of the mine had become contaminated with poisonous gases and smoke as to mean immediate death.

He made a device, which consists of a water chamber and below it a compartment filled with sodium peroxide. In an emergency a stop-cock is touched and the water comes in contact with the chemical. The oxygen is generated. This is passed through the water which cools it and then it goes to the mouth and nose by means of a hood, such as is fitted to the face when gas is administered. Thus may oxygen be supplied that will keep a man going for half an hour while he fights his way out of a mine that has been filled with gas or smoke by reason of an explosion or otherwise.

Mr. Hall, as a representative of the government, has visited many of the great disasters in mines that have occurred in recent years. At Monongah, where more than 300 men lost their lives in December, 1907, he found that the vast majority of the men had died by slow suffocation long after the explosion. Many of these had crawled for great distances on their hands and knees, for the miner knows that the best air is near the ground.

If these men, and it is fair to assume the same in the case of the Cherry horror, had some means of getting air to breathe they would have lived. The figures show that of all men who die in mines 90 per cent. meet death through suffocation.

FOR THE PUBLIC

New Formula Cures Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis and Hoarseness in Five Hours.

Much has been done in these days to stop the ravages of consumption, but probably nothing has been so effective as teaching the public how to break up a cold and cure coughs, bronchitis, tonsillitis, etc., with simple home-mixed medicine. A laxative cough syrup, free from whiskey is the prime need. A cough indicates inflammation and congestion and these in turn are due to an excess of waste and poisons in the system. A tonic laxative cough syrup rids the system of congestion, while relieving the painful coughing. Get the following and mix at home: One-half ounce fluid wild cherry bark, one ounce compound essence cardiol and three ounces syrup white pine compound. Shake the bottle and take twenty drops every half hour for four hours. Then one-half to one teaspoonful three or four times daily. Give children less, according to age. Cut this out and save it for some friend.

NOTHING REMARKABLE.



The Mayor—Just think, admiral, I've married 20 people in two hours.

The Admiral—Well, that's only ten knots an hour.

SORE EYES CURED.

Eye-Balls and Lids Became Terribly Inflamed—Was Unable to Go About—All Other Treatments Failed, But

Cuticura Proved Successful.

"About two years ago my eyes got in such a condition that I was unable to go about. They were terribly inflamed, both the balls and lids. I tried home remedies without relief. Then I decided to go to our family physician, but he didn't help them. Then I tried two more of our most prominent physicians, but my eyes grew continually worse. At this time a friend of mine advised me to try Cuticura Ointment, and after using it about one week my eyes were considerably improved, and in two weeks they were almost well. They have never given me any trouble since and I am now sixty-five years old. I shall always praise Cuticura. G. B. Halsey, Mouth of Wilson, Va., Apr. 4, 1908."

Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston

Perhaps So.

"Your wife does not appear to be satisfied."

"She ought to be, she always has her own way. Oughtn't she be satisfied when I always let her have her own way without opposition?"

"She'd be better satisfied with it if she had to fight for it."

A Rare Good Thing.

"Am using Allen's Foot-Ease, and can truly say I would not have been without it so long, had I known the relief it would give my aching feet. I think it a rare good thing for anyone having sore or tired feet."

—Mrs. Maudie Holmwood, Providence, R. I. Sold by all Druggists, 25c. Ask to-day.

What a young man earns in the daytime goes into his pocket, but what he spends in the evening goes into his character.—Dr. Cuyler.

DO NOT ACCEPT A SUBSTITUTE
when you want Perry Davis' Painkiller, as nothing is as good for rheumatism, neuralgia and similar troubles. 70 years in constant use. 25c, 50c and 10c.

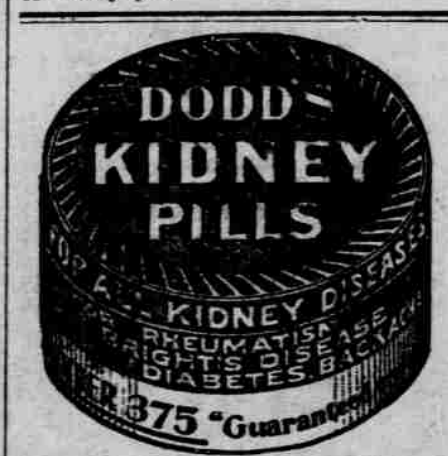
A woman isn't necessarily level headed because her hat is on straight.

If you wish beautiful, clear, white clothes use Red Cross Ball Blue. Large 2 oz. package, 5 cents.

It's easy for a woman to paint a pretty face—if she has one.

Lewis' Single Binder straight 5c cigar is made to satisfy the smoker.

Don't worry, and you'll have nothing to worry you.



Is afflicted with? Thompson's Eye Water

A DOSE OF PISO'S CURE
THE BEST MEDICINE FOR GOUT AND RHEUMATISM
is as safe as it is effective. Guaranteed to contain no opiates. It is very palatable too—children like it.
All Druggists, 25 Cents

A Pair of Them.

No. 1—"Now mind, Johnny," said the mother of a five-year-old, "there's a ghost in that dark closet guarding the jam."

No. 2 (two hours later)—"Oh, mamma!" cried Johnny. "That ghost in the dark closet has eaten nearly half the jam!"

A Burden.

Stella—Was her divorce satisfactory?

Bella—No, she has to keep the children the whole year.

Rheumatism Cured in a Day.
Dr. Detchon's Relief for Rheumatism radically cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action is remarkable. It removes the cause and the disease quickly disappears. First dose greatly benefits. 75c Druggists.

You can't blame the man who has got his winter's coal in for feeling just a little better than the rest of the neighborhood.

ALLEN'S LUNG BALM
has been used successfully for years for deep-seated coughs, colds and bronchitis. Everybody should know about it. It is simple, safe and sure.

There is a place for everything, and the place for slippers is very often on the seat of a small boy's trousers.

ARE YOUR CLOTHES FADED?
Use Red Cross Ball Blue and make them white again. Large 2 oz. package, 5 cents

A married man can always get a little off his sentence for bad behavior.

Lewis' Single Binder cigar. Original in Tin Foil Smoker Package. Take no substitute.

A good guesser always boasts of his intuition.

The Wretchedness of Constipation

Can quickly be overcome by **CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.**
Purely vegetable—act surely and gently on the liver. Cure Biliousness, Headache, Dizziness, and Indigestion. They do their duty. Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price. **GENUINE** must bear signature: *W. Wood*



A Light or a Close Shave
NO STROPPING NO HONING
TRADE MARK **Gillette** MARK
KNOWN THE WORLD OVER

Nothing **DEERE** IMPLEMENTS
Equals
and **VELIE** VEHICLES ask your dealer
OR JOHN DEERE PLOW CO., KANSAS CITY

DEFIANCE Cold Water Starch
makes laundry work a pleasure. 10 oz. pkg. 10c

BLACKSMITH CONVENTION. See Dr. Hammer at work. Newton, Kansas, January 12 and 13, 1908. Novelty Works, Dubuque, Iowa.

W. N. U., Kansas City, No. 52-1908

A Poor Weak Woman

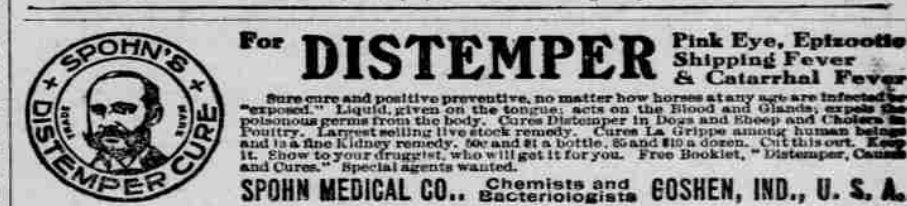
As she is termed, will endure bravely and patiently agonies which a strong man would give way under. The fact is women are more patient than they ought to be under such troubles.

Every woman ought to know that she may obtain the most experienced medical advice free of charge and in absolute confidence and privacy by writing to the **World's Dispensary Medical Association, R. V. Pierce, M. D., President, Buffalo, N. Y.** Dr. Pierce has been chief consulting physician of the **Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y.**, for many years and has had a wider practical experience in the treatment of women's diseases than any other physician in this country. His medicines are world-famous for their astonishing efficacy.

The most perfect remedy ever devised for weak and delicate women is **Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.**

IT MAKES WEAK WOMEN STRONG.
SICK WOMEN WELL.

The many and varied symptoms of woman's peculiar ailments are fully set forth in Plain English in the People's Medical Adviser (1008 pages), a newly revised and up-to-date Edition of which, cloth-bound, will be mailed free on receipt of 31 one-cent stamps to pay cost of mailing only. Address as above.



SPÖHN'S DISTEMPER CURE
Pink Eye, Epithelitis, Shipping Fever, Catarrhal Fever

—Spohn's Distemper Cure acts on the Blood and Glands, expels the poisonous germs from the body. Cures Distemper in Dogs and Kneep and Cholera in Cattle. Largest selling live stock remedy. Cures La Grippe among human beings and is a fine kidney remedy. 50c and \$1 a bottle. Send in a dozen. Cut this out. Keep it. Show to your druggist, who will get it for you. Free Booklet, "Distemper, Cattle and Cures." Special agents wanted.

SPÖHN MEDICAL CO., Chemists and Bacteriologists **GOSHEN, IND., U. S. A.**

THE FIRST APPLICATION OF RESINOL
In itching and irritable conditions of the skin produces a feeling of comfort to the sufferer never before experienced. It is the recognized specific for itching piles and the standard remedy in eczema. 50 cents a jar all druggists, or sent direct on receipt of price.
RESINOL CHEMICAL COMPANY, BALTIMORE, MD.
As an application for Eczema, Burns and Scalds, I consider Resinol Ointment better than anything else.
Mrs. George H. Brash, Beatrice, Neb.

W. L. DOUGLAS
\$3.00 \$3.50 & \$4.00 SHOES
THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF MEN'S FINE SHOES IN THE WORLD
Wear W. L. Douglas comfortable, easy-walking shoes. They are made upon honor, of the best leathers, by the most skilled workmen, in all the latest fashions. Shoes in every style and shape to suit men in all walks of life.
If I could take you into my large factories at Brockton, Mass., and show you how carefully W. L. Douglas shoes are made, you would then understand why they hold their shape, fit better, wear longer and are of greater value than any other make.
CAUTION.—See that W. L. Douglas name and the retail price is stamped on the bottom. Take No Substitute.
BOYS' SHOES \$2.00 & \$2.50
Wherever you live, W. L. Douglas shoes are within your reach. If your dealer cannot fit you, write for Mail Order Catalog. W. L. Douglas, Brockton, Mass.

Have Heat Brought To You
When your bed-room, bath-room or dining room is chilly, you may have heat brought to you in just the degree you desire. It is easy when you have a
PERFECTION Oil Heater
(Equipped with Smokeless Device)
available. Place the heater where the cold is most annoying, strike a match.

No fuss—no hurry—no smell—and, above all, no smoke. The **Automatic Smokeless Device** which automatically locks absolutely prevents smoke. Removed in an instant. Solid brass font holds 4 quarts of oil—sufficient to give out a glowing heat for 9 hours—solid brass wick carriers—damper top—cool handle—oil indicator. Heater beautifully finished in nickel or Japan in a variety of styles.
Every Dealer Everywhere. If Not At Yours, Write for Descriptive Circular to the Nearest Agency of the
STANDARD OIL COMPANY
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Available in all sizes and styles.