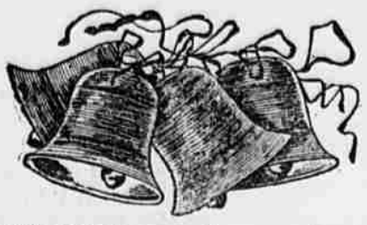
Displaying the Bells

It is but natural that our thoughts, turn to the changing calendar this month; and that, as the old hospitalities slip into the past, we open our doors to the welcome which the New Year bids us give to our friends.

A Bell Supper is a pretty fancy to give while the New Year's bells are ringing, and while it may partake of the nature of a High Tea and therefore have the abandon and charm of that old-time simple dignified feast, it may also be touched with novelty which makes any entertainment a success.

Delightful little invitations may go forth on small bell-shaped cards, bearing the date, which may be any convenient day during the early part of January. These may bear little calendars if wished with an invitation written above the small calendar pad, or they may simply have the bidding in quaint fanciful lettering with a New Years sentiment or motto of good cheer also expressed thereon.

When the guests have all assembled a pretty innovation would be to have a jester enter the room with the traditional Court Jester costume and cap and bells. He can begin the entertainment by narrating some amusing stories, and when he has started the



ball rolling he can call upon each person present to tell some joke or amusing tale—a bell ringing at the end of every two minutes, when the narrator must instantly cease, causing the fun to wax fast and furious if the "point" of the joke is to be reached in the time allowance. As one person ceases another is called upon to begin immediately, and so on. The chiming of bells calls the merry group to supper, and any suitable menu may be served, but if it can savor of olden days so much the better. If wished the holly wreaths from the Christmastide still grace the rooms, and while they need not furnish the whole adornment, they can be supplemented with decorations which will accord with their bright, cheery presence. If a large number of guests are asked it is convenient and also pretty to seat them at small tables, and for twenty persons an effective way of placing them would be at four tables set with five covers each.

A NEW YEAR'S PETITION.

By Hervey Newton.

The path, Lord, is untried; its far-off sky line fades into the dim horizon; unknown are the shoals and rocks; the hand on the helm is weak, the heart betimes faint, and the skill imperfect; hold then, Lord, not only the helm but the mariner, as the solitary life-boat, freighted by Thyself for eternal issues, in the darkness of the night pushes its keel across the rim of the New Year; that the weak will may be steadied and energized by Thine Own, the arm nerved by the infinite, the heart quieted close up against the heart of the Christ, every sense sharpened by the Heavenly companionship, and the ear made quick to catch the cry of other mariners in distress, and the hand prompt and strong to the rescue; if sudden tempest lash the sea and mountain billows sweep down to engulf my bark, may there be that absolute understanding between Thee and me, that my eye with its silent appeal, shall on the instant catch Thine, and the sea as quickly hush into a great calm; may all the year find me in the attitude toward Thee of a faith that waits not on criticism or philosophic statement, but overleaps all, to appropriate as its very own all Thou hast said and all Thou hast revealed of Thyself; may I see the unrolling year in Thy perspective, and each day as the onward movement of Thy larger plan; and so each night-fall find the little boat closer to the stormless calm of the Glory Shore.

The Deceived Turk.

He had escaped at Christmas,
And felt happier than a sinner;
But little did his turkship know
He was kept for a New Year's dinner!

"SUB-MISTLETOE."

The dawn of day will usher in
A glad New Year's beginning,
The day when all one's friends and kin
Forswear their dreadful sinning.
Mabelle and I compare our vows
(Her pet sins all are missing)
Though overhead are mystic boughs,
Alas, she swears off kissing!

Her lover, I, just and sigh,
Perplexed with doubt and sorrow—
"Resolves don't take effect," I cry,
"Until 'the First,' to-morrow.
I fain would take my lawful prize,
A kiss for every berry"—
Swift as an arrow, off she flies
Alert and ever wary.

Then, with demure and blushing face
Where love and mirth are blended,
She hies her to another place
Where mistletoe's suspended,
And underneath the fateful bough
So daring she tarries,
Then murmurs, "It's much better now,
This has so many berries!"
—Edyth F. Kelley.

New Year's Eve in Paris

New Year's Eve and the Jour de l'An are the great days in Paris. Presents, les etrennes, are exchanged on that day, of course. On the first of January, all the young men call on their friends, bringing each family a sac, or box, of delicious marrons glaces.

Many persons do not call until the last minute, and one day a poor young man came rushing in, and said: "What on earth shall I do? I've just discovered that I have two hundred calls to pay!" So he called for an automobile, and, with his cards ready, sped from one part of the city to another, leaving them with every second concierge.

On this day the concierges also expect a present. The less one says about these potentates the better, for one feels as some one said of Richelieu: "These people do too much good to be spoken badly of, and too much evil to be spoken well of."

Suffice it to say that, if their presents are not up to the mark, they will be disagreeable for the whole of the coming year. They will tell people you are out when you are in, and that you can receive them when you are tired. They will keep your letters for days, and annoy in the thousand and one ways they know about. So New Year's Day is no light matter.

Butchers, bakers, and grocers come with their presents, too. The baker sends you a nice cake, and wishes you a "Happy New Year." Instinctively you put your hand in your pocket as you wish him the same. The grocer gives you an extra orange, and the milkman offers you an apple, all with the best greetings.

Long before New Year's the letter carrier gets his dues. Sometimes he calls more than a month ahead. He brings the eternal "Calendrier des Postes et Telegraphes" with the days of the week and the month, and the corresponding saints. Perhaps a woman on a bicycle is pictured on it, as are also the rates of postage. The postman is an important person. He delights in bringing you registered letters because then he knows he will get a "tip" even if you are hard up and have just received the picture of your second aunt instead of the expected check.

The stores in Paris have a mania for advertising useful presents. Can anything be more horrid? Presents should be things one would not get under ordinary circumstances. Isn't it wretched to receive a pair of rubbers or an everyday umbrella on such occasions? But one French mother found something still more useful for her little boy. It was a big bottle of cod liver oil. For every spoonful he took she gave him two sous to put in his bank. At the end of the year, when the bottle was empty she broke the bank, and, with the money, bought him a new bottle of cod liver oil. And that was the only gift he received from one year to another.—C. D. G., in the New York Evening Post.

For the New Year.

For strength we ask
For the ten thousand times repeated task,
The endless smallnesses of every day;

No, not to lay
My life down in the cause I cherish most,
That were too easy, but, whate'er it cost,

To fail no more
In gentleness toward the ungentle, nor
In love toward the unlovely, and to give

Each day I live,
To every hour with outstretched hand its meed
Of not-to-be regretted thought or deed.
—Ethlewyn Wetherald.

Blame Your Thyroid Gland if You are Too Fat or Too Thin

Are you too fat or too thin? If you are either you need no longer be discouraged. Science has at last discovered a cure for this condition. Milady need no longer fret when it is the fashion to be thin and she is entirely too plump for fashion's requirements. Neither need she fret if fashion demands a plump figure.

Dr. Herbert M. Rich, children's physician at Harper hospital, told the Wayne County Medical society in a recent session at Detroit how this was done and showed that many of fashion's fair devotees were having it done. Dr. C. P. McCord, of the Parke, Davis Co., told of experiments that company was making toward perfecting this work, and other physicians present told of the women who depended on them to become and remain, literally, molds of fashion.

Use Sheep's Glands.

It is done through the throid, or the pituritarian gland, different patients requiring sometimes the use of the thyroid, sometimes the use of the pitultarin. Those glands control not only heighth, but thickness and circumference. If anything goes wrong with them dwarfs or giants, living skeletons or superlatively fat people may develope. But these glands can be regulated, stimulated or stared, almost at will, by the use of the corresponding glands of sheep.

"It is the same stuff the anti-fat people use," explained Dr. Rich, "but to get results without danger each case must be watched and treated indiyidually. To take stock doses of the stuff is very likely to bring about a serious illness.

"But it is a fact that many women of fashion are using this means of becoming fat or thin as the mode requires. When carefully administered the use brings about no ill effects. It has not yet reached the point where it can be localized; where certain portions of the anatomy can be made fat or thin without affecting the rest. That is done by massage or other methods.

Experiments Help Children

"The primary purpose of the experiments with the height and weight controlling glands was to help infants who are stunted. Rickets causes dwarfery very often, but if the pituitary gland is treated and fed or corrected before actual dwarfery sets in the child may be made normal. Rickets is caused by illnourishment. I have classified different varieties of dwarfery into those that can be helped and those that cannot."

Dr. Rich showed pictures of the varieties of dwarfery and showed one girl of 12 years whose weight had been increased six pounds in 9 months by treatment. of the glands.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Hot water has more medical virtues than many believe or know. Because it is so easily procured, thousands think it valueless. The uses of hot water, however are many.

For example, there is nothing that so promptly cuts short congestion of the lungs, sore throat, or rheumatism as hot water when applied promptly and thoroughly.

Headache almost always yields to the simultaneous application of hot water to the feet and back of the neck.

A towel folded several times and dipped in hot water, and quickly wrung out and applied over the painful part in toothache or neuralgia will generallly afford prompt relief.

A strip of flannel or napkin folded lengthways and dipped in hot water and wrung out and then applied around the neck of a child that has the croup will sometimes bring relief in ten minutes.

Hot water taken freely half an hour before bedtime is helpful in the case of constipation, while it has a most sothing effect upon the stomach and bowels.

A goblet of hot water taken just after rising, before breakfast, has cured thousands of indigestion, and no simple remedy is more widely recommended by physicians to dyspeptics.

Very hot water will stop dangerous bleeding.

False Economy

There is a marked tendency among women to believe they are exercising proper economy by getting along with poor or without proper tools with which to do their work.

The sooner a woman learns that makeshifts which only wear out her strength are not economies, the better for her and her family. Many housewives worry on from year to year with sadly inefficient house-keeping tools, and reduce themselves to mere wrecks after a few years. Their families gain nothing by it, but lose much. Labor-saving appliances are cheap in the end, and a woman should insist upon having them, so that she may preserve her temper and health for her family's sake as well as her own. The farmer's wife who did a large family ironing for years with two irons is not a model of economy, but a simpleton. It is pitiful, almost heartbreaking, to think of such a waste of time and strength on the part of a human being. Some women will spend a whole day at the washtub instead of buying a wringer that would save their wrists and backs, and be less injurious to the clothes than hand-wringing. After all, a woman is not a drudge, and no housewife whose kitchen is properly supplied with good tools will find the housework beyond her strength. On the contrary, it becomes a pleasure, and the properly constituted woman will take a keen pride in keeping her home, and particularly her kitchen, in spick and span order. Beginners in housekeeping should remember to begin well. If they begin with makeshifts, they will probably continue with them to the bitter end!

Household utensils were never so cheap and really efficient as now, and with care will last nearly a lifetime, so there can be no excuse for muddling along with clumsy or poor tools. A good workman, however poor, will have good tools. He stints himself in someway to buy them; and so, too would women if they took a proper pride in their calling.

Laughter as a Tonic.

The act of laughing developes a large number of muscles, including those of the face, neck, chest and abdomen. But much more than this laughter accomplishes. It has a highly beneficial influence on the heart and lungs.

In what may be called a "fit" of laughter the lungs may be almost completely emptied of their contained air. Fresh air is then drawn in to the full extent of their capacity, inflating those little air cells which contained previously only stagnant air or bacilli—for in the shallow breathing that we ordinarily practice, comparatively large tracts of air cells are but little used. While this process is going on the general circulation is accelerated, impure and fresh air hurried in, and with the forcible ascent and descent of the diaphragm during inspiration and expiration, the liver and other abdominal organs undergo a kind of kneading not unlike that undergone during massage, which is of great benefit in rousing from that torpor to which they are liable. If "you can let yourself go," and laugh with a will, you can even bring almost all the principal muscles of the body into play. Remember, "a good laugh is a good thing."

HOME TRIED RECIPES

Asparagus Soup

Take the tops from half a hundred stalks of asparagus and soak them in water for some time. Then put them into three pints of nicely flavored stock, to which has been added a cupful of new milk, and let boil for ten minutes. If necessary, color with a little spinach green. Time to make, one hour.

Lyonnaise Potatoes.

Cut a quart of cold potatoes into dice a little over an inch square. Put a tablespoon of butter in a frying pan and when it is hot add a white onion minced fine. Cook until soft. Add the potatoes, tossing them with a fork in the frying pan until they are evenly colored a delicate brown. sprinkle a half teaspoonful of salt, a saltspoonful of pepper and a tablespoonful of minced parsley over them and stir with a fork again. Serve at once with steak.

Chocolate Pudding

One-half cup sugar, 1 egg, 1 square melted chocolate mixed with egg, sugar and butter; 1 cup flour, ¼ teaspoon soda, 1 teaspoon melted butter, ½ cup milk, ½ teaspoon cream of tartar. Steam 1 hour.

Sauce—Cream piece of butter size of an egg and 1 heaping cup of powdered sugar, adding sugar slowly. One well beaten egg. Flavor with vanilla.

Calf's Liver.

Calf's liver can be delicately prepared with cream gravy. Soak the liver for half an hour, and then dry it thoroughly, cut in slices a third of an inch thick, and drop for a momeent in boiling water. Then either strip off the skin or else cut it several times to keep the slices from curling. Dry and drop the slices into deep hot fat and brown. Then put in a saucepan with cream enough to cover, thicken with a little butter and flour rolled together. Season well with salt and pepper and serve.

People may sympathize with a man who makes a fool of himself occasionaly, but not with one who insists on giving a continuous performance.

When fame does come to the average man it roosts on his tombstone.

Love may be blind, but small brothers see everything in sight.

It is twice as easy to fool yourself as it is to fool other people.

A self-made man is often the only one satisfied with the job.

Ambition is all right if a man has energy to back it up.

It's a poor phonograph that is ashamed of its record.

Crooks often take their whiskey straight.

Warmed over love reminds us of hash.

OBTAINS PATENT ON AUTOSLED

Invention Thought to be Improvement on Predecessors.

A mechanic formerly in a machine shop at Palouse, Wash., has secured a government patent for an autosled which he invented. This patent is said to be the ninth issue by the government for autosleds.

The body of any automobile can be placed on the runners, to which two drive wheels are attached, with propeller blades projecting from the spokes. The wheels are attached to the rear runners and the propeller blades which automatically disappear when any obstruction is encountered, are made to take hold in the firm snow packed by the front runners.

NEW PHOTO PRINTING MACHINE

Patented Device that Turns Them Out by Thousands.

A machine has been patented by two Madison, Wis., men, which is expected to revolutionize commercial photography. The device will turn out 14,000 uniform white and black photographic prints per hour. The inventor claims that actual photographs are of great value in advertising, but heretofore have been too expensive. This plan would so reduce the cost as to make wider use of photographs possible.

DEVISES A COOLING MACHINE

Works Automatically and Does Away With Ice.

Two Dwight, Ill., men are inventors of a machine for cooling or refrigerators without the use of ice. When once installed it is automatic in action, needs no looking after and will keep the interior of the ice box at the required coolness. The machine has been tested for a year and will now be manufactured for general use.

When a man is satisfied with himself, he is apt to be dissatisfied with others.

The best way to get along with some people is to get along without them.

The Lord freezes the water, but we are expected to cut our own ice.