

BIRD TRAPS FOR BEAUTY

The Fashionable Females Hat a Premium on Cruelty.

SLAUGHTER OF BIRDS FOR HEADGEAR

An Omaha Indignation Meeting and the Resolves Thereat—Girls at College—Mention of the Women—Talk About the Women.

There were three of them and they were coming down in the elevator at the Continental block, and from their remarks had evidently been attending a meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. One of them was a little woman with bright brown eyes, dressed in a brown coat and a new warm shade which is so fashionable this fall and so becoming to women with brown eyes. She appeared to be a little bit excited, as a woman is apt to be who is not accustomed to speaking in public and she still while matters are being discussed in which she has deep interest.

"I think it is the height of hypocrisy or inconsistency for women to meet and talk and resolve about preventing cruelty to animals, with their hats on their heads covered with little dead birds, pretty little creatures that never did any harm in the world, and we may be sure God never created them for any such purpose. There was one woman there today sitting next to me with no less than three of the sweetest little humming birds on her hat, green and gold, 'little fragments of a rainbow,' as Audubon calls them. Of course some heartless man or boy was compelled to kill them, and enjoyed the sport, too, more than likely just so a woman who could afford it could deck herself in them and attend a humane society. I think it is a shame."

"Well, you are rather vehement," said the nice old woman with the Paisley shawl. "Don't you remember some years ago there was a cry raised against women wearing dead birds, and a reform was instituted so that for a long time it was not considered good form for a lady to wear anything more than the plumage of a bird. This winter it seems that it is all forgotten, as never in all the winters of my life saw so many birds as are displayed in the show windows and on women's hats. I met a young lady the other day with a whole blackbird on a white hat. Of course it looked beautiful, no one could deny that, but when she gets to be as old as I am she will know that looking beautiful is only one of a young lady's privileges and when she is obliged to practice cruelty in order to be in style, then is a good time to stop to consider."

"You know very well you have often heard me say that nothing could tempt me to ever wear a dead bird on my hat," said the woman in brown. "As for offending me, there are birds and birds and anyone can afford to wear a dead bird. I can think of nothing that is so utterly without excuse. Plumage and manufactured trimmings look well enough and no boy is taught to be heartless and to inflict suffering on innocent creatures."

"I think," said the woman in black, "that most ladies have not had their attention called to the matter and do not realize what it means when they ask the price of a gorgeous bit of feathered grace in a millinery window and the salesman says: 'That bird is worth ten times as much as you are paying for it.' In South America, where orchids flourish you know, and are very rare. The mother bird only lays one egg in a season, and if only a few are captured we must wait several years before enough can be found to make it a hunt for the natives and sell for 30 pieces. They are South American humming birds. I asked a dealer last week if he sold many birds, natives of the United States, and he told me that he sold a great many, but most of the birds came from the tropics, where the plumage is so much brighter. That is one reason why no more attention is paid to the slaughter. It is so far off. Women never realize suffering in another country like they do that they can see with their own eyes."

"I think," remarked the elderly woman, "that if we ask our friends to pledge themselves to never wear a dead bird on their hats we can stop the demand to some extent, and I am in favor of trying, anyhow, and see what can be done. That is the idea that was advanced in the society to which I belonged about ten years ago in the east. Our aim was to make them unfashionable. For, say what you will, if a thing is stylish a woman will have it if she can. We could not bring it up in the meeting very well, for it would be excessive bad taste to call attention to the members present who happened to have birds on their hats, and so what we do must be outside in a quiet way and by trying to frown the style out of existence, but it is late and I must be getting home. Goodbye."

Little things are good things in which to reform. If all the women would take a firm stand against the seeming cruelty displayed in the loading of hats with dead birds and would never let foreign artists who set the styles, and who are always men, prevail on them to lay aside their principles, it would be possible for birds to be sold, and if it is known that they will not be sold there will be a very easy solution of a question which lies wholly in woman's domain and for which she alone is responsible. If you are a member of the humane society be content.

When you arrive at college a trembling freshman, unknown and unknown to you is the popular girl. Beauty counts for nothing among your fellow students, says a writer in Harper's Bazar, and money or high scholarship likewise avails nothing, but one who has the honor of being called a popular girl possesses a host of friends and admirers.

"She is the most popular girl in her class," says your friend, pointing out a girl with, perhaps, red hair, freckles, and a snub nose. You gaze at her plainness of countenance, and wonder wherein lie her attractions. But when once you have met her, you count your self among her admirers forthwith. It is only, perhaps, that she has said some kind little word to you that melts your homelike heart. But a kind little word from an upper class girl goes a long way with a homesick freshman. You are flattered by her condescension, and the next time you meet her you are troubled lest the popular girl, with her hosts of friends, has forgotten an insignificant being like yourself. But she bows most graciously for she never forgets, does the popular girl. Moreover, she stops you, as you are hurrying timidly by, and inquires kindly about your welfare

at college, and says she will call upon you soon. Then you are immediately elevated to the pinnacle of bliss, and you go on your way adoring more than ever. When you are in the presence of the popular girl, you are not at a loss to discover it. It lies in her complete forgetfulness of self. She is utterly unselfish, and she shows it by being as nice to the bashful freshman as to the dignified senior, by being as kind to the plain, stupid girl as to the brilliant butterfly. In short, she never courts favor for herself or acts the part of a snob. Moreover, she is conscientious in her college work and never slights it. For love is founded on respect, as every one knows, and no one can respect a dillard. Finally, she is always ready to help a friend in need, or to join her in a gay, good time. For the popular girl is extremely fond of fun. She is not a "prod," which is short for prodigy, and means a classroom phenomenon; nor is she a "dig." She is, in fact, just what every gay, good natured girl may become, if she tries to forget self and to love her neighbor.

Thus you see, whoever you are, you may if you will become the popular girl, and then you will see that what I have said is true. You will realize, or your friends will, that your selfishness has disappeared, that your vanity is zero and that your angularities have been rubbed off by constant friction with other angles. Sometimes this result is not accomplished until you are ready to leave college, and you graduate when you are just on the verge of becoming popular. This is sad, and this is why I said in the first place that if you wish to enjoy college life you must resolve before you enter college that you will be the popular girl.

Mrs. Rover, of cooking fame, has been tireless throughout the exposition just closed to demonstrate the resources of cornmeal. Every woman who has hailed in the "Model Kitchen" has come away wondering that she has passed by all her life such a valuable food product, limiting its use to one or two dishes at long intervals. For winter consumption cornmeal is especially suited, as it is an appreciable heat producer, and the priestess of maize urges that at least once a day through the cold season it should be on the table in some form. It was undoubtedly new to many women that sweet wholesome loaf bread could be made from cornmeal as it is so again and again, stress only being laid upon the careful following of directions for cooking the meal thoroughly first.

Adirondack cornbread is as appetizing as its name implies, redolent as it is of pine forests and fresh spicy airs. Mrs. Rover's recipe for this is: one cup of fine meal, one-half cup of sugar, two teaspoonsful baking powder. Beat the yolks thoroughly and add the milk; stir in the meal and sugar, and add the baking powder, stirring until the mixture is thick and creamy. Let these ingredients stand mixed for ten minutes before adding the whites, thoroughly beaten. Last, add salt, sugar and baking powder. Bake thirty minutes in long tins. When this bread is perfect, it is in layers of meal, custard and crust.

From cornbread, corn mush and Indian puddings—all of them hearty and wholesome—the list of corn puddings goes on and on. Some are made with raisins, some with apples and some with peaches. Peach foam is a dessert built upon cornstarch, so is a custard pudding; little cakes to serve with ice cream are more, and corn sponge cake is like the wheat flour namesake.

To make this last, corn sponge cake, separate four eggs, beat the whites until very stiff, beat the yolks, mix the two together and beat again. Rub to cream a quarter of a pound of butter. Add gradually one-half pound of granulated sugar and beat until light; then add the eggs and beat again. Mix two ounces of cornstarch with one-quarter pound of wheat flour, add one teaspoonful baking powder and stir this into the cake. Add the grated rind of half a lemon; bake in greased gem pans in a moderate oven, about fifteen minutes.

There has been a new departure inaugurated at Wellesley college in the matter of athletics. Early this fall Miss L. E. Hill, who has charge of physical culture at the college, conceived the idea of introducing a number of outdoor games hitherto almost exclusively property of young men, and at the foot of the hill which is surmounted by the main hall of the college Miss Hill has laid out a small football field. An association football is used, and passing is the sole method of advancing the ball from one goal to the other. All violence is eliminated from the game, and it is very amusing to hear the "I beg your pardon" when two of the contestants jostle each other in their endeavors to catch the ball.

The Wellesley girls are enthusiastic devotees to golf and football, as well as tennis and archery, and some of the girls show a speed in getting to first base that would make their brothers envious. In all their games there is earnestness and enthusiasm, but strange to say, no suggestion of rudeness and nothing unwomanly. No one laughs at any discomfiture of a player, due, perhaps, to the encumbrances of dress, and accidents are accepted as natural consequences not to be noticed. Miss Hill restricts this outdoor exercise to those who have first had physical examinations, and no girl will be allowed to participate in any game for which she has not strength.

A tea-toning table is the latest invention or discovery of amateur chemistry. In shape they are like lozenges, are of light purple color, and are called "tanecras." One of these elapsing into a pot of tea, two if the pot is a large one, effectually it is alleged, destroys the tannic acid and other harmful properties, and removes the grim specter of unwholesomeness which has latterly begun to haunt seriously this most comforting beverage. For the present "tanecras" are out of the reach of the New York public, as their concoction is a secret closely guarded by three ladies, residents of an English province, but such a boon to the race cannot long be withheld when its existence becomes widely known.

Recently was recorded the confession of a young woman to the effect that she invariably "crammed" conversationally for a dinner or an evening out. And now comes a little story, just appeared in print, showing that she undoubtedly followed an illustrious example, no less than that of Mme. Necker, the famous mother of a still more famous daughter—Mme. de Staël.

It seems that a certain M. de Chastellard was invited by her to a dinner party, and he, by some mistake, arrived at the house too early and sat down in the salon to wait till the hostess appeared. While waiting he wandered about the room and presently found behind a cushion a little book, which he took up, supposing it to be a book of extracts copied in. But, to his great surprise, he read a long resume of the

subjects upon which Mme. Necker intended to talk that evening, and they were actually labeled "Talk with Mme. de Chastellard on such a thing," every one peering about being mentioned by name, with the particular topics suitable to the taste and caliber of each. M. de Chastellard's own name was, of course, on the list, and he had just time to see what he might expect in the way of conversation at dinner, when the mistress of the house came in and he quickly put the book back where he had taken it.

FASHION NOTES.

Jeweled Christmas cards are a London novelty.

Many of the new costumes show the pointed apron overskirt.

In millinery, toques for the moment occupy a prominent position.

The basque bodice has evidently come to stay all winter at least.

Mixed silk and wool fabrics that are repped from selvaige to selvaige are largely imported.

For dress trimmings close short fur is preferable to shaggy kinds such as bear, lynx, etc.

Fancy woven moose cloth comes up among the handsome novelties in winter dress fabrics.

Evening shades in faille, armure silk and fancy satins are sold at less than half their former prices.

Quite the fad of the moment is the white elephant tea-cosy, of white felt, with trappings of red.

Dark russet cloth skirts are worn beneath long, slightly draped overdresses of green or brownlaid cloth.

For divan cushions decidedly the newest embroidery is one huge flower, without a vestige of foliage, worked just in the center of the square.

Black and white two-toned fests in plateau share are in constant demand. These are trimmed with ribbon loops, stiff wings, jet agrettes and buckles.

Violet velvet and cherry-red velvet toques are edged with and embroidered in jet on the crowns and rich satin ribbons with jet agrettes are the garnishes.

Pale and deep tan broadcloth dresses, with two shades of souches astrimming, are among the attractive tailor costumes exhibited for carriage wear.

A very late fashion in tea-cosies is to represent sprays of flowers only on the bordering hem, instead of in the corners above the hem, or scattered all over the center.

The walking suit of the moment is made of rough stuff, mixed serge or twotoned hopsacking. The coat is long, tight-fitting, double-breasted and full umbrella gored skirt.

Some of the new goods that seem so heavy are so loosely woven that they are, in fact, very light, and the dresses made from them have much less weight than one might fancy.

A deep lake basque on an evening dress is an elegant addition to it, and with blouse vest front and bretelles of the same lace, a graceful and very dressy bodice is produced.

Black silk skirts are always ladylike, so, too, shepherd's check silk skirts will never quarrel with the gown; and in making a purchase this consideration should ever be born in mind.

Sapphire blue, peacock blue and delicate shades in silver and swallow blue are for this season the most popular either combined with black or worn untripped with jetted gimps, black silk rasmeteries or black fox fur.

A white silk blouse can be made to look ornamental by trimming it yoke fashion with black lace; a frill over the shoulder, a belt of black lace and bands of black lace between the buttons, the puffings on the sleeves, which end in deep ruffles.

The cut of new walking coats and jackets has altered very decidedly, these being no longer half-tight, opening over loose bodices, but fitting perfectly to the figure, showing it to the advantage and likewise revealing the tailor's skill.

Capes will again rival coats. They are always popular, as they are easily put on and off, and do not crush large sleeves. As broad an effect as possible is given, the collarette being very full, but drooping, with usually a flat head, bill of piping or jet.

The new reddish brown, like the old-fashioned cuir or leather color, appears among velvets and satin coats, and wool fabrics, and in cloth is used by French and English tailors for Beau Brummel coats, and those made in bodice fashion with full-skirted circular basques and cape collars.

Among novelties in color are some expensive velvets and satins richly shaded, and brocaded with some beautiful flowers. Not only are there artistic shades of one color, but unique blendings of two or three are also produced, like the throat and breast plumage of various tropical birds.

One of the things to be noticed among the new ideas is the tendency toward vertical stripes, which manifestly itself in the arrangement of wavy and Vandyke rows of trimming in double skirts of contrasting colors, and on the more daring models the old-fashioned overskirt appears, unobtrusively, but none the less surely.

A reseda-green cloth costume has a closely fitted round waist with circular skirt added that flares very much all around. Cloth bretelles go over the shoulders and form tabs front and back. "Oriental" galloon in serpentine shape edges the bodices and crosses the front of the waist at the top in yoke shape. The falling empire puffs of the sleeves are slightly draped and trimmed at the wrists with rows of the galloon. The expanding circular skirt with taffeta lining has five rows of the galloon at trimming.

Feminine Facts. "Roman toilet paste" is merely white of egg, barley flour and honey.

A class for women has been formed in Hartford for the study of parliamentary procedure.

On a French tombstone—could it have been found on any other—is the inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Mlle. died April 2, in her 81st year. She never looked her age."

Nothing can be found more effective in removing brown spots from the skin than lemon juice. The most obstinate cases will generally fade away under the lemon treatment, or a mixture of vinegar and water.

A Chicago woman, Miss Kate Kane, is going to run as an independent candidate for the judgeship of the superior court. She has secured over 8,000 names to the petition she will file with the election commissioners.

At a Halloween party the favors were kind a cushion, a little clock, and a watch. The favors were placed on each skin. They were tied with different colors, so that

those who "matched" were obliged to pull them together.

When it is desired to use carbolic acid as a disinfectant it should be mixed with boiling water. The mixture comes the usual antagonism between the acid and the water and converts them into a permanent solution, which will keep for weeks.

A recent craze in Paris has been for frames, dainty boxes, card cases, and the like, made of white or pale pink kid, painted with sprays of flowers copied from old Dresden china. This is a suggestion for using the upper parts of long white kid gloves.

For newspapers and mail, to stand in the drawing room, and sedan chairs, without the poles, covered in old brocade and fitted in plush. These are intended to replace the wooden cabinets usually doing such duty, as inside they are properly partitioned to serve their purpose.

At the recent wedding in Paris of the American beauty, Miss Flora Davis, with Lord Blackwood, the going away of the newly married pair amid a perfect shower of rice and satin slippers amazed the French guests present, who were not familiar with this Anglo-American custom.

Tennis and golf booths were a novelty at a recent English bazaar. At the former the people display white serge skirts, apple green silk blouses and sailor hats, with green bands. The golf girls were equally effective in red jackets and shirts, with white skirts and fetching little caps. A cricket stall also gave an opportunity for some striking costumes.

If a seal or otter fur coat looks soiled it should be placed on a large clean sheet and well rubbed with hot bran. This is said by the cleaners, can be more easily brushed out of the fur after the process than heat and steam can, which many restorers of fur use. Heat and friction together will be found to greatly improve the appearance of fur long in wear.

A brain specialist said lately to a woman who came to him for consultation in a nervous disease: "It is astonishing to see how many people display such heads. The possibility of insanity they will hide as if it were a crime. And yet, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, insanity might be cured if it were taken hold of in time."

It is said that the practice of the wife assuming the husband's name at marriage originated from a Roman custom and became the common custom after the Roman occupation. Thus Julia and Octavia, married to Pompey and Cicero, were called by the Romans Julia of Pompey and Octavia of Cicero, and in Latin times married women of most European countries signed their names in the same manner, but omitted the "of."

It is expensive, of course, to be "dressed" by Worth, but cost is a relative question, and if people want their gowns trimmed with real lace, gold and pearls, they ought to ascertain before hand what the cost will be, unless they are in a position of fortune which does not oblige them to consider such sordid details. A certain Peruvian heiress paid Worth \$24,000 for a frock trimmed with real lace, \$23,000 of which went for the lace and the remaining \$100 for the "solids" of the garment.

Speaking of Edwin Booth, a pretty girl says: "I did something once that I don't believe anybody else ever did. I made Booth laugh while he was playing 'Hamlet.' You know the way he had of fixing his eye upon some one person in the audience and apparently acting to that person? One night I was the one. It made me nervous. I could not stand it. So, in the soliloquy, what do you suppose I did? I made a monkey face at him and he laughed. He certainly laughed," she ended triumphantly.

A new notion in pin-cushions is to make them flat, the size and shape of a square envelope. The pins are inserted at the edge. They are made of two pieces of cardboard covered with white silk and put together over a half inch stuffed bag of the same size. The address of the person for whom they are intended is written out first on tracing paper, then transferred to the silk and outlined. A stamp is put on one corner—it may be painted there if one is over with a brush, or a genuine stamp affixed in the usual way.

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