Woman's Realm / Social and Personal / Fashions / Literature

Living & Leisure
THE WOMAN'S REALM

APRIL

Frothings of fronded fern along
a lane,
Scallops of lace upon a wind-
shirred hill.
Soft, eager womb of Earth, whose
seed awaits
The warmth and richness of a sun-
pour's spill.

Boughs swollen from an innerflow
of sap,
Luch with awareness that new life
has stirred,
From greening meadow fair and
sweet and cool,
Contented lowing of the grazing
herd.

A ressurection wings its soulful
way,
In jade and amber of an April's
day.

—Hazel Firth Goddard.

The Gulf Stream may vary from year to year in distance from the eastern coast of the United States as much as 100 miles, as well as in velocity and width.

The unpleasant odour from excess sweat is due to bacterial decomposition of fatty secretions on the skin, and is known as bromidrosis.

Frozen apple juice and sharp cider will retain natural flavour and colour up to at least 12 months, while juice preserved by other methods loses its fresh flavour and turns noticeably darker in colour.

Research has led some scientists to believe that vitamine P is required by the body so that it may absorb and retain ascorbic acid, commonly known as vitamine C.

Medical history, one scientist says, covers six periods; the ancient with its witchcraft; botanical, with its roots and herbs; biological, following Pasteur; glandular, vitamine and the present, with sulfas, penicillin and like chemical disease fighters.

If a uniform system of basic sizes of ball and roller bearings were adopted, some 2,000 sizes might be used instead of the 40,000 which American manufacturers are now required to make.

Laboratory tests indicate that the tightness of weave is the important factor in both hot and cold weather fabrics; thin, tightly woven clothing, a scientist states, is the next coolest thing to no clothes at all.

STRANGE USES

Dismantled sea mines — British and German — are being put to strange uses along the south coast of Eire, where during the war hundreds of them drifted ashore. Whoever reported a mine got the casing when the authorities had removed the explosive. Now almost every other house along 60 miles of coastline uses mines as water butts. In farmyards they have been converted into boilers for cattle food, chicken coops and rabbit hutches. Sometimes they are gaily painted and used to hold ornamental trees. In several instances they have become dog kennels and washing tubs.

Ellen's Diary
By an Island Farmer's Wife

A trip to the city still holds all the prospects of an adventure to me. It always has, from the very first time I visited there. I came to it then by horse and wagon, and no matter by what conveyance, I have approached it since that day, my memory at once goes back to my earliest experience. With the sister next to me and our "parent and guardian" one pleasant July day, now fairly lang syne. Along a pretty morning road, I remember, alive with bird song and butterflies and the lazy drone of bees. Cows browsed in their pastures or flicked tails in the shade of trees and there were baby foals beside their mothers in meadows across picturesque rail fences. Brooks ran beneath small rustic bridges and the rivers we crossed sparkled in the sunlight. We saw barefooted youngsters at play about farmhouses and farmfolk at work in the fields. And often as the mare travelled with a light rein, we entered delightful tunnels where the cool green branches of trees formed an arch overhead. I recall now, our steed paused to drink at a roadside tub, where the water from a spring higher up the slope, slipped down among a grove, clear and cold to quench the thirst of many a thirsty journeying beast and human, before hastening on to join an arm of the river below. Notwithstanding the many changes that have come to me through the years, whenever I chance to pass this same spot, where the brook still ripples fresh and clear to all who may stop to drink, I see two small girls, with braided hair, and quite prim in their Sunday best accompanying their father on their first and perhaps their best trip to the great city.

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After miles of a neighbourly country road, the smoke of the city lay ahead. Then the Church spires and presently the hub-bub of the busy streets. I recall now, a curious drinking fountain, on a broad street where the mare drank, while two of her passengers, eyed the traffic, which ebbed and flowed about them, with much curiousity. Almost every kind of horse-drawn vehicle went by: coaches and pairs, bearing ladies with beplumed hats and floating veils; riders, suitably garbed and on sleek beautiful mounts; milk wagons clattered by (goodness did city folks not keep their own cows? Then where did they get their cream and milk?) Many strange sights unfolded before our gaze and it was the queerest place in which to shop—not at all like our corner-stores. You were obliged to go to different places in order to supply different needs. It was all extremely puzzling but most interesting as well.

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If it has become more familiar now, it is I find none the less interesting, in the present "day and generation." There have been times when I have approached the city with a bit of concern: matriculation nearing; to the dentist's (Ah, me!); to the hospital; to market with the fat ducks or chickens. It was an excursion, like the latter, which took us a-roving this morning. Last night, there had been a family conclave, attended only by the masculine members of "the staff" and as a result, since it would not be to the interests of Alderlea to keep her they said "she may as well be shipped tomorrow" and so another "little pig went to market." There was then no time to watch the play of the sunrise on the bedroom wall. Though as befits a farmer's wife, one must not display undue enthusiasm in making ready for the excursion. On a trip, such as I intended, it is as well not to be caught singing, while at the milking or other morning chores. It could be taken to indicate much spending.

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"There" James said, thrusting some money into my hand, after we had lunched and he "had to slip down to the lumber yards" and we were parting on a busy street. "Don't lose that, Ellen—and see that you don't buy any d—— trinkets with it either." James, I may say, would consider any number of purchases superfluous, even any feminine fancy or personal adornment. As for a bargain—these are his own words, and hearing them repeated, I confess I too have come to subscribe to them: "A bargain, Ellen! A bargain is too dear at any price, if it causes you to buy anything you don't need." But then again, in regard to some necessary purchase: "Never take the cheaper article, Ellen, if you are trying to be saving; the extra dollars are your guarantee of wear."

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My shopping was a pleasant pastime today. There was floor-dressing and what-not for Mr. D.'s decorating; odds and ends of things for "the house"; a roll of films for Jamie "to take Mutt's picture"; a special yeast cake for Karolyn's bread and wax for Jeanie's polishing. James was off about his own concerns and I had time to loiter and chat with the many country folk I met. From far and near they came to town today. From well beyond the Western capital two ladies chic in their Spring outfits shopped apparently quite at home in our town and strangely enough for "the East is but the West, with the sun a little hotter," they were like some neighboring farm-women "hoping to find some quilting cotton." I made friends with two women, I shall probably never meet again.

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With one I divided two hard-to-get articles I had bought, when she came along a minute too late and was obviously disappointed; the other lady helped me to make a selection at a counter — very wisely too and again I had to admire a woman's discernment. A nephew to me, a student, born within sight and sound of the sea and with a yen for boats and nets and fishing lines, made a number of inquiries about affairs at Alderlea, and at the same time, showed more than a flicker of interest in every pretty smiling co-ed who tripped lightly past. The lazy sunrise, brought a wetting snow by afternoon to dampen our spirits and a chill that made one thankful, they had worn their Winter furs. Then it was "dusk" and "snow" and home again. It's a fine place to be on a Wintry night like this. "Would you believe it, Ellen" James asks, watching the flakes cling to the window.

Until tomorrow — Diary —Good-night.

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Dorothy Dix Says—

Widow's Lot Unhappy One

Unattached Woman's Activities Unfairly Become Public's Interest

For some reason, not discernible to the naked eye, widows are of more interest to the general public than any other class of women. Whether this is because there are more of them, statistics reporting that there are some two million in our midst, or whether it is just one of the baseless traditions which is popularly believed, deponent sayeth not.

But, anyway, however it is, a widow, whether sod or grass, occupies a niche peculiar to herself. She is credited with characteristics that set her apart from the other members of her sex and that make her comings and her goings of especial interest to her friends and neighbors.

For one thing, losing her husband lops from ten to 15 years off a woman's age. We wouldn't think of speaking of a married woman in her forties as a girl, but let her husband die and she immediately becomes a young widow. Also, widows are supposed to possess occult powers of fascination that no man can resist. "Samivel, Samivel, my son bevare of vidows," counselled the astute Mr. Weller, and certainly it is a fact that many a woman finds it easier to marry a second time than she did the first.

WIDOW'S LOT NOT ALWAYS GAY

Likewise, it is a matter of common belief that every widow is husband-hunting and that she would marry any man who asked her, though it is notoriously true that every woman whose husband left her a nice little wad of insurance money is pursued by men who are looking for widows with comfortable homes in which they can hang their hats and sit down on the do-nothing stool for the balance of their lives.

But the widow's life is not always gay and glamorous. If she is left with a houseful of children and no money, she is one of the most piteous figures in the world. If she has had a happy marriage with a man she loved, he takes her sunshine into the grave with him, and she does not know what to do with herself when he is gone.

And there are so many of these widows with plenty of money that will not buy them happiness; too old for love or remarriage; too wise to go to live with their married children and be an unwanted guest in their homes, yet who have in all probability many years to live. And one of them asks me if I will chart for her some plan by which she can be a good widow as she was a good wife.

No one can give another person a formula for living, but to every widow I would say: Make an iron-bound resolution never to go to live with your children, and stick to it. Don't even visit them too often. That way you will always be loved by your family instead of being regarded by them as a pest.

Preserve your independence. Be yourself instead of Sam's or Jane's mother. Don't ever turn over all of your property to your children. Between Mother who has gifts to give and Mother who is dependent, there is a great gulf fixed.

Don't live alone. You are bound to get cranky if you do. With your husband gone you need companionship. Find if in some good family hotel or boarding house where you will be surrounded by cheerful, pleasant people. Belong to clubs. Take a part in church work and public movements. Keep busy. Keep interested. Don't let the milk of human kindness in you turn to clabber.

Solitary women have to make their happiness, but they can do it if they will.

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Household Scrapbook

Sewing

If the person on whom a delicate dress is being fitted perspires a great deal, make temporary dress shields of several folds of tissue paper, cut to shape and pinned in the armholes. There will be no perspiration stains to ruin the dress before it is worn.

Drippings

Be sure to strain the drippings from frying before putting them away. If this is not done any particle of fat is likely to burn and smoke when reheated.

Oriental Rugs

The colors of a real Oriental rug can be revived by going over it with a cloth dampened in a vinegar and water solution.

Cook's Corner

LEMON FILLED CUP CAKES

½ cup shortening
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1¾ cups flour
2½ teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
½ cup milk
1 teaspoon vanilla

METHOD: Cream the shortening, sugar and eggs together. Mix and sift the flour, baking powder and salt and add alternately with the milk to the first mixure. Add vanilla and mix thoroughly. Pour into greased muffin tins or into paper muffin cups, filling them not more than two-thirds full. Bake in a moderate oven (375 deg. F.) for 15 or 20 minutes.

Remove from the oven and cut a small piece from the top of the cakes and fill with a lemon filling. Replace the top of the piece that has been removed and ice the cakes with butter icing and sprinkle with chopped peanuts or other nuts.

How Can I !!
By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I keep rubber overshoes in good condition?

A To prevent their becoming stiff, rub them occasionally with hot castor oil. If they acquire a dingy appearance, wash with ammonia water and give them a coating of liquid shoe dressing.

Q. What can I do if the leaves of the rubber plant have turned yellow?

A. Loosen the dirt around the edge of the pot and remove the plant to a different pot. The root may be pot-bound, or the soil may be wormy, but in either case it is wise to repot the plant.

Q. How can I clean the oil mop?

A. When water and soap have failed to clean the oil mop satisfactorily, use hot water, ammonia, and a little washing powder.

Morning Smile

A woman visited a store, at which a mannequin parade was provided as a tearoom attraction, with her five-year-old daughter.

In the sudden stillness caused by the entrance of four beautiful damsels clad in the most ravishing of pyjamas, the little child piped, shrilly, "Oh, mummy, we really must bring Daddy here!"

STYLISH

Mrs. Rich noticed that her charwoman always took home their chicken bones and empty grapefruit skins. This puzzled her. At last her curiosity overcame her, and she asked: "What do you do with those things?"

"Oh," replied the woman, "I hope you don't mind, but they make my dustbin look so posh!"

Modern Eti~uette
By Roberta Lee

Q. Can you give a list of about six subjects that should be avoided in general conversation?

A. Yes. Six topics that should be avoided are accidents, disease, death, money and personal domestic affairs.

Q. Is it permissible to have an all-white wedding, allowing the bride's attendants also to wear white?

A. Yes, if one wishes to do so.

Q. Is it all right for a hostess to serve her guests with the same dish she has served them on a former occasion?

A. Yes, and particularly if she knows they enjoyed it.

"Thanks to you, Grandpa Kruschen . . .

MY LUMBAGO IS A THING OF THE PAST"

If you have suffered from lumbago, you'll understand why this man wants to pass on the good news as to how he found relief. He says:

"I had a bad attack of lumbago. When I got into bed I had to stay in one position—I could not move for pain. I was given the tip to try Kruschen and I am very grateful for it. For after taking a few doses I felt some relief: and after taking one large bottle I am glad to say that my lumbago has become a thing of the past. And there is no trace of it coming back."—E.A.V.

There are many instances in which the Kruschen saline treatment has brought happy relief . . . just as it did for Mr. E.A.V. So why not try Kruschen yourself? But be sure to take it faithfully for as long as needed and thereby give Kruschen a chance to overcome conditions in your body which have probably taken months . . . or even years, to develop. There is always a cause for lumbago and with many persons the pain can be traced to toxins or poisons in the system. Kruschen's action is to help your organs of elimination and thereby bring you relief. Kruschen Salts are procurable at all drug stores: 25c. and 75c.

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1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I think he is going on forty."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "digestion"?

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Sorgum, soprano, sophomore.

4. What does the word "appreciable" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with ga that means "to decorate"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "I think he is approaching (or, almost) forty." 2. Pronounce first i as in did, not as in die. 3. Sorghum. 4. Sufficient in amount or extent to be recognized or estimated. "Such things have no appreciable effect on living conditions." 5. Garnish.

TILLIE THE TOILER By Webster