

Jewel, Flower, Color Symbols for Today

By MILDRED MARSHALL.
Those who are beset by doubt or anxiety should observe the old superstition concerning the garnet, which is today's talismanic stone, and likewise the natal gem of those who were born on some anniversary of that day. In ancient times the garnet was thought to be all-powerful in solving a mystery or in determining for its owner what course to take in a doubtful situation. It is particularly potent in clearing away doubts with which friendship is concerned. An old legend runs thus: "If you would cherish friendship true, Wear this gem of warmest hue—the garnet." Crimson is today's lucky color, according to Oriental superstition. All the high priests of mystic art wore crimson robes on that date; it was believed that this color gave them extraordinary powers. The rose of Sharon is today's significant flower. Worn by a woman it is believed to bestow unusual loveliness. Copyright, 1921, Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.

Common Sense

By J. J. MUNDY.

Control.
Have you ever had a test among children to see who could sit the stiffest for five minutes, not a tense stillness, but a perfectly natural relaxed pose and perfect quiet? You may be surprised at the result of this test. The child who is the liveliest of the bunch may show the greatest self-control and the one you least suspect of nervousness may do the most wiggling under the pressure of necessity for quiet. It happens more than once in a man's life that the price of his life is the ability to keep still physically and orally. There are some operations where a hair's breadth of movement one way or the other may mean death, and in case of accident it is not always possible to administer an anesthetic. The ability of a patient to "hold still" means greater success on the part of the doctor or nurse, and not only will it mean a steadier hand but a clearer mind on the part of both. This test may be varied, an arm or a foot or the head or an eyelash; in other words, learn to "hold your hair." Copyright, 1921, International Feature Service, Inc.

Romance in Origin Of Superstitions

By H. I. KING.
Love and Shoes.

Place the heel of one shoe upon the instep of the other for three consecutive nights before going to bed and you will dream of your future husband. That is a common superstition among New England girls. Possibly the superstition obtains also in other parts of the country. It is based upon the old idea of the subjection of the wife to the husband of which a superimposed shoe is symbolical. "Over Edom will I cast my shoe," sang David when he threatened the subjection of the land of the Edomites. In a pamphlet of the first part of the seventeenth century it is men-

tioned as being an ancient custom that "When at any time a couple were married the sole of the bridegroom's shoe was to be laid upon the bride's head implying, with what subjection she should serve her husband." The symbolism is obvious, and in the ancient days when the position of the married woman was one of entire subjection to her husband, one shoe placed upon the instep of another would suggest the idea of marriage. Now to primitive man what was associated in thought was associated in fact. Therefore one shoe placed upon another had an actual connection with marriage by a phase of sympathetic magic. So when the New England girl arranged her shoes with the heels of one upon the instep of the other, the upper shoe represents her future husband's and the lower one her own. The power of sympathetic magic is set working and her future spouse appears to her in a dream. Copyright, 1921, McClure Newspaper Syn.

WHY—

Is the Dead Sea So Called?

It was Jerome, one of the early Christian fathers and a writer of great note, who is credited with coining the name by which the Dead Sea is now known—a title which he applied to it because no life of any kind appeared in it or on its shores. This condition is due to two causes: Firstly, to the large amount of salt which the water contains and which makes it impossible for anything to remain below the surface, as well as killing life itself, and secondly, to the presence in the water of about 3 per cent of calcium chloride, a powerful antiseptic which is poisonous to all forms of life. The high percentage of salt, which forms one-quarter of the waters of the Dead Sea, is traceable to the fact that much of the water which runs into this large lake passes over the salt range of Sodom. In addition, there are numerous salt springs near the shores of the Dead Sea, which do their part in increasing the saline solution almost to the saturation point. Bailing in this strange body of water has been described by some writers as pleasant and refreshing, in spite of the strange sen-

sation of not being able to sink, but Sir Francis Galton, the famous traveler, evidently had a different experience, for he writes, "I was foolish enough to taste and bathe in the nasty, sticky, dense water of the bituminous Dead Sea, which stuck to my hair for the day." Copyright, 1921, Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.

Mrs. J. E. Davidson Named Head of Red Cross Nursing
Mrs. J. E. Davidson yesterday was appointed chairman of the nursing activities committee of the Omaha chapter of the American Red Cross by R. M. Switzer, local chairman.

to succeed Mrs. A. F. Leermakers. Mrs. Leermakers resigned to become a member of the Omaha High School of Commerce faculty. She will give instruction in home nursing. Mr. Switzer left yesterday for the national convention of the Red Cross at Columbus, O. See Want Ads Produce Results.

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