



HOUSE-HOLD TALKS

English Rain Coat.

Smart coats that cover and protect the gowns are in demand for many other occasions as well as for wear during stormy weather. This one, while primarily designed for rain, is available for traveling, driving and all occasions that are liable to mean dust and can correctly be made of silk, linen or moiré as well as of rainproof cloth, although shown in cravenette material, Oxford gray in color, stitched with corticelli silk.

The coat is an exceptionally good one and is made with loose fronts, fitted backs and side-backs, over which the other portion, that is stitched at its edges and which falls over the shoulders, is arranged. There is no collar, the neck being simply faced and stitched and the sleeves are the comfortable loose ones with facings. At the waist is a belt made in two portions.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 11½ yards 27 inches wide, 6 yards 4 inches wide or 5½ yards 58 inches wide when material has figure or nap; 10½ yards 27 inches wide, 6 yards 4 inches wide or 4½ yards 58 inches wide when material has neither figure nor nap.

In Lavender Linen.

A captivating model of lavender linen worn within the week was of the coarse weave. The skirt was laid in shallow box plaits three inches wide at the top and four at the point at which they were released. The plaits were stitched a quarter of an inch from the edge to the point of release, and there was less than an inch of space between the box plaits. The plaits were pressed down. The skirt was short. The bolero jacket came two-thirds the way from the collarless top to the waist line, and had a yoke piece of heavy white lace which extended in a deep point over each shoulder. A narrow band of lavender linen was inserted around the edge of the lace yoke within an inch of the edge of the lace that joined the body of the jacket. The back of the jacket had two pressed-in plaits, with lace between them, and with more white lace—all these insertions being the same width as the box plaits—let in at each side between the lace and the armholes. The front was finished the same way, a box plait on each side, but dipping lower than in the back over the lace under-lap. The sleeves were kimono shape.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Cheese Sandwiches.

A circular cracker, of the variety known as water thin, is crisped in the oven. It is then spread with rich cream cheese, rather thickly, and topped with a layer of ruby hard-boiled. This is made of stemmed red currants floating in a delicious, thin jelly.

The other cheese sandwich consists of two oblongs, 3x1½ inches, of brown bread, cut very thin and freed from crust. The filling is prepared by rubbing some cream cheese very soft and blending it with minced watercress and two tablespoonsful of mayonnaise dressing. The brown bread sandwich is served on a crisp lettuce leaf. It is a tasty and delicious sandwich for summer luncheons and for picnics. Nothing can fill its place.

House Jacket.

Pretty house jackets are among the comforts of life that no woman should be without. This one is quite novel, inasmuch as it includes a yoke collar that extends well over the shoulders, and is both simple and attractive. The original drawing was made, is of white batiste, ring-dotted with blue and trimmed with bands of embroidery, collars and cuffs being of white; but all the pretty washable fabrics used for garments of the sort are appropriate for immediate wear—challis, albatross and the like for cooler weather. The shaped back gives admirable lines and also an effect of neatness, while the loose fronts are both graceful and comfortable. When liked, the box plaits can be omitted and gathers used in their stead.



The jacket consists of the fronts, joined to a round yoke, backs and side-backs with full sleeves. The yoke-collar is separate and arranged over the whole, and there is a choice allowed between a turn-over and standing collar. At the wrists are shaped cuffs that harmonize with the yoke-collar and are exceedingly effective.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4½ yards 27 inches wide, 4½ yards 32 inches wide or 2½ yards 44 inches wide, with 4 yards of banding to trim as illustrated.

Novel Linen Wrap.

Cut upon the lines of a very full cape, there is a hint of a sleeve very cleverly managed. That portion which covers the shoulder and arm is cut longer than the rest, seamed for a short distance and decorated with a turnover band of embroidery. An emplacement of the linen appears over the shoulders, and the little turnover collar and the strap that runs down the front are of the same embroidery that decorates the sugges-

tion of a sleeve. The accompanying skirt is gored, with a box plait in each gore, and simply finished with a braid-bound hem.

Natty Yachting Costume.

Yachting costumes are the fad of the hour, and not only the experienced yachts-woman is ordering them by the dozen, but even the woman who cannot set foot on even a ferryboat without suffering the pangs of mal de mer is having her share of the nautical louch in her gowns. The material for one of the most effective is a round thread white linen and the sailor's collar, cuff, belt and skirt band are in navy blue linen embroidered with white petit pois, or little peas, as the French call our familiar polka dot.

The blouse follows the usual shirt-waist lines, except that it is cut down to meet the collar and a chemise inserted. The sleeve is the familiar shirt sleeve with the embroidered cuff. The skirt is widely gored, thirteen of them, and the embroidered band is edged with navy blue souchou on either edge. The hat band follows suit, and the shape is the regulation masculine design.

Checks Coming Into Favor.

There are indications of a revival of checks, and certain fabrics are extremely stylish in this design. Checked voile, for example, is being made up into some extremely smart and practical little costumes. Blue and white, brown and white, green and white and black and white checked patterns are found in this goods, as well as in taffeta and moiré.

Materials for Wraps.

Warm wraps and pretty ones as well are being fashioned out of all delicate colors of cashmeres and soft silk and wool materials and for that matter out of the two combined. For instance, the thin fancy silks that look no heavier than chiffons are used as the outer side and the same soft lines the cobweb and gives it an air of practicability without robbing it of its daintiness.

Girl's Frock.

Long-waisted frocks always are becoming to little girls and are exceedingly charming made of white muslin and all the many attractive fabrics of cotton and linen. The model shown is exceptionally desirable and allows of making with either high or low neck, while it is adapted both to all the materials mentioned and to the pretty light weight wools that are so becoming and attractive. As shown, however, the material is dotted batiste with yoke and trimming of embroidery.

The frock consists of the body lining, which is optional, waist and skirt. The yoke is formed by facing the lining to indicated depth, and the waist is gathered at both upper and lower edges. The one-piece skirt is straight, gathered at its upper edge, and is joined to the waist, the sash concealing the seam.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (6 years) is 3 yards 27 inches wide, 2½ yards 32 inches wide, or 2½ yards 44 inches wide, with ¾ yards of all-over embroidery and 7 yards of edging to trim as illustrated.

Scarf for the Shoulder.

A novelty for summer wear is the lace scarf, or shoulder throw. This is generally lined with chiffon. There are others of silk that will be worn when expensive lace cannot be procured, and they are dainty, too, when worn with light summer gowns. Black is always a popular color for them, and is generally the choice of the one who cannot match her gown and hat.

Gloves for Hot Weather.

Kid gloves are rarely worn in hot weather, the silk, lisle and chamois taking their place. They are shown in all colors, as well as white and black.

Japanese Playthings.

When a daughter is born in the home of a Japanese family a pair of images, called hina, are purchased for her, and with these dolls she plays till she is grown to an age when it is not considered necessary for her to play with dolls any longer. When she is married these dolls are carried with her to her husband's house and are carefully saved so her own daughters may have them afterward and add to the collection as she grows up.

These dolls are made of carved wood or enameled clay, in the image of the Mikado and his wife or some of the nobles of the province.

Japanese children have a curious collection of images that teach them the stories of the heroes of the ancient Japan.

Banners at a Chinaman's Funeral.

When a rich and important Chinaman dies his funeral is conducted with much pomp and splendor. His friends and relations, instead of sending wreaths, send innumerable banners. These are made of white silk, with inscriptions beautifully worked in black velvet, and express the sender's good wishes to the deceased himself, or to the members of his family for many generations.



AGRICULTURE

Corn Planting in Argentina.
Aside from lack of cultivation, the principal mistake of the Argentine corn grower is his unwillingness to give his plants room enough to grow and get air and sunshine to mature and ripen, says Frank W. Bicknell in a report to the United States Department of Agriculture. As previously stated, most of the corn is planted with a machine attached to the plow, and the rows are generally about 20 inches apart—simply drilled in, resembling very much a field of fodder corn in this country. A few of the farmers are learning better, and perhaps 100 American corn planters have been sold in Argentina. But no check rows were seen, and there is so little cultivating that two ways that it is still spoken of as a curious thing—this "North American checkerboard" of planting corn—and scarcely a farmer in the country follows that plan. The Basques, the most industrious and successful class of Spaniards, go in for better methods. The Catalans, from the Province of Catalonia, Spain, are also engaged in corn growing in the Province of Buenos Ayres. In some sections, notably to the southwest of the city of Buenos Ayres, where some of the best corn farming is done, it is noticeable that the better the farming, the more experienced and successful the farmers, the wider apart the rows are, and occasionally a field is cultivated both ways. The rows in the better cultivated sections are from 24 to 30 inches apart, and the plants in the rows are about 20 to 24 inches apart. Corn is hardly ever planted other than that, and the greater part, in fact nine-tenths, is in rows 20 to 22 inches apart, and the plants no farther apart in the rows and generally much closer together.

The Argentine Department of Agriculture has tried to teach the farmers the benefits of planting farther apart, but they are hard to convince. Men have been sent around in various sections saying to farmers: "Give us a hectare of land and we will plant it and cultivate it the way we think it should be done; we will bear all the expense and you may have all the crop." These experiments have always resulted in producing twice as much, or more than twice as much, as the farmer raised alongside in the old way, because the corn was given plenty of room and was well cultivated. But the ignorant farmers have not always been convinced. When asked how they were going to plant next year, some of them said they intended to go on as before. When asked why, and if they had not seen the good results of the improved methods, they have replied: "Oh, that was just luck; you couldn't do it again." Until recently corn was simply sown broadcast, by hand, covered in some primitive fashion, and nothing more done with it until it was gathered in the fall. Even now much of this is being done in some parts, though not in the districts where corn grows best.

The Peanut as a Field Crop.

The peanut is assuming every year more and more importance as a field crop. Its natural home seems to be in the southern part of the temperate zone, but it grows far north when properly cultivated. It is successfully cultivated as far north as the Great Lakes. We are not sure that this will not yet become one of the successful field crops of the sandy regions of the middle west. We have been treated to so many surprises as to the adaptability of plants to large areas of country that little in this line now surprises us. If the peanut can be grown in large quantities on our very sandy land, it will prove to be a great boon to our agriculturists. Belonging to the leguminosae it has roots that carry nodules in which live the bacteria that gather nitrogen from the air. The edible portion of the nut is therefore very rich in nitrogen. An analysis of the edible portion shows it to contain, in per cents, water, 9.2; protein, 25.8; fat, 38.6; carbohydrate, 24.4, and ash, 2. The protein content is therefore remarkably high, and makes the nut very good food when it is ground to increase its digestibility. It is an improver of the soil, as are all the legumes. There is no danger of growing too many peanuts, as the surplus can always be used as food for swine. One man declares that the peanut can be grown in every state in the Union and even in Southern Canada, and asserts that it is now being grown as far north as the lower peninsula of Michigan. If for any reason a crop of peanuts should fail to ripen, it would add nitrogen to the soil by being plowed under.

Docility of Pure-Bred Hogs.

It is a great point in favor of pure-bred hogs that they are more docile than the others and less liable to run about. The fencing of them is a comparatively easy matter where the fencing of the others was a herculean task. This point should be of itself sufficient reason for the farmer to pay a little more money and get pure bred hogs when he has the choice of buying them or of purchasing others of the mongrel sort with roving and restless proclivities. It is not a pleasant thing to have hogs always breaking out of the yards and pastures and having to hunt them up in the highway or the neighbors' vegetable garden. Then the common sorts are hard to drive and it is no easy matter to return them to their pens and yards once they have broken out. The quieter animals are more valuable for food, as their muscles are tenderer. Moreover the quiet ones make better use of their food and will make more pounds of gain per hundred pound of feed than the others. The breeders of pure bred swine are constantly selecting, though unconsciously, in the direction of greater docility and tractability. The interests of the breeders of pure bred swine and of the farmers lie along the same line.

W. S. Swarzo has been appointed assistant dairy and food commissioner of Iowa.



HORTICULTURE

Method of Cultivation.
What is the best method of cultivating the orchard? There is no best method, so long as the orchard is cultivated. The chief idea is to cultivate to keep down weeds and to keep the moisture from escaping from the soil in times when the rainfall is so light that moisture needs to be conserved. Clean cultivation is the best for the orchard as well as for other crops, but clean culture is not a method but a result. Whether the cultivation shall be done once a week or once a month must depend on so many things that each man must adapt his method of cultivation to what he believes his orchard needs. There are some fundamental principles only that need to be understood. There is no one method that is best for all locations, but what is best for one orchard would be destructive to another. Take an orchard on the hills where the soil is of such texture that it would easily wash away if disturbed often, and it is evident that cultivation can only be given at certain times of year and that the ground must then be covered with a crop to hold the soil in place. On the same kind of a hill, however, the soil may be of a clay so firm and retentive that cultivation at any time during the growing season would not result in the soil washing. The method of cultivation is a problem that is worth being worked out by every orchardist, but there is little advice that will be of value to him except advice of a general nature.

Select Scions This Summer.
It is now quite generally believed that the scions for grafting trees should be selected from bearing branches. We have supposed in the past that it was enough to get the scions from any part of the tree, even from the suckers growing on the side. But some nurserymen now claim that many of the best and thriest shoots on the trees have in them some quality that does not make for fruitfulness and that the use of these as scions in the top working of trees has resulted in many of the products of such top-working being unfruitful. It is also claimed that such apples as the Gano were secured by marking branches on Ben Davis trees that bore finely shaped and finely colored fruit and grafting other trees from them, and that in this way a variety of Ben Davis was developed that seems in appearance at least to be an improvement. It is safe enough to assume that this is true, whether it is or not, for the other side is not the safe one till it is settled that the opinion expressed is an error. It will be well for the orchardist to now mark the trees that he expects to use in the making of scions. He can select only those that are actually bearing fruit, and so increase the fruit-bearing probability of the trees resulting from his graft. The summer time is the best time in which to do this selecting, while the leaves and the fruit are still on. The vigor may be largely known in this way.

Save Money With Good Plants.

The planter should always remember that it costs exactly the same in labor to cultivate and care for a good plant as a poor one. In the buying of trees, vines and plants generally the comparative cost should not be figured. One strawberry plant may cost only one-fourth of a cent. In the light of the production of a good or bad variety how much does a cent count? The same is true in the buying of trees. A good variety should be secured, and it is never necessary to pay more than ten times any of the good standard varieties. But frequently poorer varieties, being in larger abundance in the hands of the nurserymen, can be bought cheaper than the standard variety. The fruit in a single season may be worth a dollar more on the good tree than on the poor one and that will more than equal the difference in cost. The chief concern of the tree planter should be to get a tree that will bear an abundance of the right kind of fruit. Saving a few cents per tree may prove disastrous in the end.

Preparing for the Hot Bed.

Every farmer should have a hotbed. Start this in the fall by digging a hole three feet deep and six feet square and fill with coarse manure. A frame size of hole fifteen inches above the surface on the north side and six inches less on the south should be provided. Fill this hole in the spring with fresh hot horse manure and thoroughly tramp as firm, being careful to keep level. Four inches of surface dirt, consisting of leaf mold or ordinary loam mixed with sand and well rotted fine manure should be secured in the fall and kept from freezing. Thoroughly wet down the manure before applying the surface dirt.—J. L. Hartwell.

When a garden can be placed under irrigation conditions the results will be very encouraging, as the crops can be controlled. Many times, no matter in what state of the Union, crops of lettuce, radishes and other garden stuff are lost by reason of the drought checking growth. A good many gardeners in the country are placing irrigation plants so they can be effective in insuring a crop. This is proving both pleasant and profitable.

The winter apple is still the great money-maker among fruits. Men lose money less often on this kind of fruit than on any other, judging from conditions as they exist.

People easily take cold when a cold draft of air is allowed to blow over a sweaty surface, that is, a surface that is both warm and moist. The overheated horse must receive attention as soon as his hard exercise is at an end. It may seem a hardship to blanket him when he is already hot, but this will be a kindness and will prevent other suffering, as it will permit him to cool off gradually.



DAIRY

A Good Example.
Many of our milk producers can well afford to take a hint from the great bottling establishments as to the care of their milk. We wish that when the opportunity comes readers of this department would make it a point to visit some of these places and see the extraordinary care that is used in cleaning bottles that have held milk, and in keeping clean all things that are to contain milk, or that are to come into contact with milk. What these establishments do on a large scale the farmer can do on a small scale. If it pays the big establishments to keep clean it will pay the small establishments to do likewise. Water and heat are used in great abundance. It may not be possible to have steam in the farm home, but hot water can always be had in large quantities. Hot water is destructive of germ life if it is left long enough in contact with the utensils. The man that has a good deal of milk to handle will find it to his advantage to arrange for tanks of hot water in places where he can use the water when it is needed. Frequently the little kitchen stove and the teakettle are the only means of heating water, and when the farmer has a dozen cows, this way of heating the water makes it necessary to be very economical in using it. The gallon of hot water has to be diluted with cold water to make it go around, and the temperature that results is not too high for germ life to stand. In the big establishments the bottles and other utensils receive a soaking in hot water that will remove any kind of germ or put it in a condition where it cannot develop. It is often said that it is possible to have too much of a good thing, but this is hardly true of hot water and heat in the cleansing of utensils and vessels used in the milk room. We believe that the men that are running the big bottling establishments are setting an example that should be followed as far as it is possible to do so.

The Kerry Cow.
The Kerry cow is being written about quite extensively in our foreign exchanges, and it is not improbable that she is among the breeds that will some time be known in this country. Whether she possesses any points that would adapt her to some particular regions of this country is a matter of conjecture. Perhaps in some of our more mountainous districts in the south and in the far west she might supply a demand for a dairy cow that is poorly supplied at the present time. The cow has already assumed considerable importance in England on account of being small in size and being also able to thrive on poor short pastures. Evidently she has been developed under hard conditions. Some of her English friends claim for her that she will give more milk and butter according to her weight and on poor pasturage than any other breed of cattle on the same kind of pasturage. On the other hand, the use of good pasturage seems to be against the Kerry cow, as she at once begins to take on flesh and shrink in her milk. One man says that the Kerry will live and do well where a Jersey cow would starve. She is said to possess one quality that certainly is not common with cows and that is the ability to regain her milk flow when it has been shrunk for months from poor feed. This is a point in her favor, if it can be established. The Kerry is said to be very hardy and to be able to pass the Irish winter without shelter.

Silo Building.

Professor McKay of Iowa is credited with the statement that there are probably not more than ten silos in any hold in the Gulf states, and it is easy to see that it might have been taken to them from the Antilles, where cases are occasionally found, and where a few leper colonies have been established. The indication, therefore, is that it is associated with the sea, and the English medical men who have been discussing the matter sustain the view that it is a result of eating fish.—Brooklyn Eagle.

LET US BEAUTIFY OUR CITIES.

There is no reason why American cities should not be made as attractive as those of Europe. We have the means, and there is no lack of true love of the beautiful in our city populations; but in the rush to lay up material belongings this has been allowed, to a large extent, to lie dormant, although indications of its existence are not wanting in the older communities, where the people have largely gotten over their rush for wealth and have time to "spruce up about the place," as the phrase goes in New England.

Let us multiply these pleasant places "in our midst." It is well worth while, for they are not only slightly and restful to the dwellers here, but are attractive to the strangers within our gates, and so draw business here.—Brooklyn Eagle.

WOMAN IN INDUSTRIAL WORK.

A man sacrifices nothing by doing such honest work away from home as he can get. A woman sacrifices much. It is undeniable that her presence in the industries is essentially illegal, even disorderly. Yet human development has taken the turn in this direction, for what inscrutable purpose no man and no woman knows. It would be a harder task for the opponents of woman in industry to drive her out of it than for Kuropatkin to drive Kuroki out of Manchuria.—New York Mail.

ENVY OR INSPIRATION.

Envy has always been counted among the vices, but it is a near relative to ambition. It is envy of the proud position occupied by (say) Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman that induces men to contest seats at by-elections; a lad is induced to stick to his brush at the Slade school by reminding himself of the fact that Royal Academicians are permitted to hang six pictures at Burlington House.—London Queen.



WITH THE WORLD'S BEST WRITERS

EXPORTS OF MONEY BY ALIENS.

An important matter in connection with the immigration question is the drain upon the monetary resources of this country caused by the presence of an immense alien population whose members have relatives or interests in the land of their birth. Consul McGinley says that the best opinion in Greece is that the 20,000 Greeks in the United States send home every year not far from \$2,000,000. Taking this as a basis for the home-sending power of the other twelve or thirteen million foreign-born residents of this country, we have an annual tribute paid by the United States to Europe on account of immigration of more than \$120,000,000 a year! In ten years \$1,200,000,000 in American gold lost to the country. But this average of \$100 a year for every foreign-born resident as his home-sending capacity is evidently too large, though when we consider the saving capacity even on small wages (and many of them make big wages) of many classes of immigrants and the well-known custom among these—namely the Italians and to a considerable extent the Scandinavians—to send to what they still call "home" the larger share of their earnings, it is not so greatly in excess of the actual amount as would at first appear. But even halve it, calculate the average amount sent by the Greek immigrants to be twice the sum sent by the average immigrant of other nationalities, and the amount sent abroad each year is so immense that a less prosperous, a less wealthy and a less rapidly developing country would long ago have felt the drain seriously.—New York Press.

FOR HAWTHORNE MEMORIAL.

In all probability Hawthorne was never happier than when he lived in the little red cottage at Lenox, Mass. During his residence there, amid those Berkshire Hills, he wrote the "House of Seven Gables." A movement is now on foot to erect a suitable memorial to Hawthorne on the site of this little cottage. The present year would be a most appropriate time to build such a monument, as it is just one hundred years since Hawthorne was born. Surely this centennial anniversary of his birth should not be passed by unnoticed.—From "The Haunts of Hawthorne," by James Melvin Lee, in Four-track News.

LEPROSY AND FISH.

The recent announcement of a cure for leprosy does not appear to have created much of a stir among the medical faculty in this country. The reason is that reports of this sort are never trusted till it is proved that they are based on long, careful and authoritative experimentation, and again, there are so few cases of leprosy in this part of the world that the local population and local practice are practically unaffected by it. The item of prevention is more important, in this as in all other diseases, than is that of cure, and for some time the exemption of civilized races from this appalling curse has engaged the thought of scientists. Leprosy occurs slightly among the Norwegians, but is found chiefly among the Chinese, the Syrians and the Kasaks. The only part of the United States where it has been obtained is in the Gulf states, and it is easy to see that it might have been taken to them from the Antilles, where cases are occasionally found, and where a few leper colonies have been established. The indication, therefore, is that it is associated with the sea, and the English medical men who have been discussing the matter sustain the view that it is a result of eating fish.—Brooklyn Eagle.

CHECKING MOTOR MADNESS.

It is time to put a stop to motor madness. We mean both kinds of madness, that of the bogged-in "scorcher," who drives his locomotive at furious speed upon the highway without regard for limb or life of himself or of others, and also that of those who in impotent exasperation hurl stones or shoot bullets at the "scorching" law-breakers. Doubtless it is not right to shoot at motormen or at their engines, though it is not difficult to understand how strong the provocation to do so is at times. But form of madness must be checked. But so must be checked the inciting cause of it, which is far more prevalent than the mad act.—New York Tribune.

LAND OF GREAT OPPORTUNITIES.

A problem that will some day confront the American people and to which very little attention is being paid at the present time is that which concerns the future of the Republic of Mexico. Reciprocity with Canada is all that can be heard of, but the time is coming when reciprocity with Mexico will be a topic of absorbing interest. Mexico is a great country, with boundless opportunities. It has the finest grazing lands in the world and furnishes thousands of hides yearly that are made into shoes in American factories. She is a great importer of our machinery and farming implements. There are openings down there for many articles of American manufacture. The great trouble with the country is that President Diaz is the head of a machine that dominates the republic with an iron hand. The political machines of the United States are nothing compared to it.—Detroit News Tribune.

WHAT "OLD GLORY" MEANS.

"Old Glory" signifies more to an American than anything in the world. It speaks with an eloquence unsurpassed; it represents high ambitions voiced by millions of people; it fills the heart with a sense of duty, a desire to stand by the colors, and for it has been made the claim that it has been in more battles and seen more victories than any other flag in the world. No other standard is there for which so many men have fought and died, and which has never been struck in token of submission.

Nothing can be more beautiful than the flash of blue and crimson and white, and as it spreads majestically to the breeze or ripples in the varying winds there comes to the onlooker a sort of wireless message, bringing him closer to the wonderful something that will cling to the banner forever; a something given to us by the principles it represents; by the thought of long and weary marches; of sea fights and land fights grim and great; of the thousands who have followed it from seeming defeat to victory, and who have gone down into the valley of death, their last cry a wild huzzah to urge their comrades onward that the "Stars and Stripes" might be planted on the highest ramparts.—Four-Track News.

THE RIGHTS OF NEUTRALS.

The exasperating, if legal, course of the Russians may have in the end a good effect, if it stimulates an international conference on the rights of neutrals on the ocean. At present international law is the will of the power that has the most guns at sea. It is simply a thin veneer for practical anarchy. It is binding only so far as a nation considers it expedient to observe it. If Great Britain were now to give notice that she intended to observe how far her neutral rights were respected, Russia would close up her books on international law and her admirals would acquire great caution. If the world wishes to take another step forward now is the time, with the shame and destruction of the present conflict fresh in mind, for the strengthening of the Court of Arbitration and an extension of its jurisdiction.—Boston Transcript.

FREEDOM WITH VARIATIONS.

With hardly an exception, employers have fought for the right to hire workmen who were desirable, independent of the dictates of any union, or other organization. The opponents of the unions have condemned them because, it was said, they disputed this inherited right. But now, this National Metal Trades Association, this avowed champion of free shops, has made an alarming discovery. It has discovered that it is dangerous to allow individual employers to hire anybody; and that this right belongs only to the organization. Not the labor organization, of course, but the Employers' National Metal Trades Association.—Stur Reid in the Federationist.

FIFTY YEARS A CLERK.

A few years ago a Wall street bank clerk celebrated the completion of the fiftieth year of his service in the employ of a single bank and the papers singled it out as a matter of note that an American had been content to serve one master for 50 years. And it was a matter of note. We printed some little time ago a striking little article on "American Quitters." Those were men of brains and energy who quit when their job was done in order to go higher up and do a better job, better still. But most of us are more fitted to clerk it than to organize, and what is energy in abler men is often just plain restlessness among the rank and file. To serve one master well for 50 years is an achievement. It ought to be made distinctive of an American one.—Leslie's Monthly.

CHECKING MOTOR MADNESS.

It is time to put a stop to motor madness. We mean both kinds of madness, that of the bogged-in "scorcher," who drives his locomotive at furious speed upon the highway without regard for limb or life of himself or of others, and also that of those who in impotent exasperation hurl stones or shoot bullets at the "scorching" law-breakers. Doubtless it is not right to shoot at motormen or at their engines, though it is not difficult to understand how strong the provocation to do so is at times. But form of madness must be checked. But so must be checked the inciting cause of it, which is far more prevalent than the mad act.—New York Tribune.