



# The Home Department

Conducted by Helen Matie May

## The Happiest Heart.

Who drives the horses of the sun  
Shall lord it but a day;  
Better the lowly deed were done,  
And kept the humble way.

The rust will find the sword of fame,  
The dust will hide the crown;  
Ay, none shall nail so high his name  
Time will not tear it down.

The happiest heart that ever beat  
Was in some quiet breast  
That found the common daylight  
sweet,  
And left to heaven the rest.  
—John Vance Cheney.

## A Valuable Education

When the generation now passing away were the young people of the world, they had not the educational advantages of the present generation. Books were not so plentiful, and were costly; papers, magazines and literature generally were luxuries for the plethoric pocket-book. But literature of all kinds can now be had, in many instances for the asking, and, in case one can not afford to buy books, nearly every neighborhood or school district has, or should have, its nucleus for a library. Then, there are the traveling libraries, and the village circulating libraries. The character of the books furnished by these libraries is governed by the demand of their readers, and it is only too true that the majority of them are very trashy, the reading of which is like eating a poor apple—it leaves a bad taste in the mouth—a sense of having missed something. But if one is interested in travel, there are splendid books, written by men of keen observation and skilled in the art of description, and nearly all of these books are illustrated with true pictures of the places, customs and people, and not a few of them are accompanied by maps, showing the route traveled. These books are as interesting as the best of novels, and will leave you desirous of knowing more. You will carry the pictures raised in your own mind with you about your every-day duties, and through their influence, be attracted by everything relating to the region discussed. If you like biography, the lives of the best people on earth are told to you. Every one of these books contain lessons it will repay you to learn. Nearly all of them have pictures of the persons, and of their various homes, showing, step by step, how they have arrived at the worth of having their biography written. On every subject, good books are written by great minds, and in some form they are cheap enough to reach the hands of every one. See that your homes have some of these books and papers and magazines, and discuss them with the young people.

## A Word to the Girls

Do not jump to the conclusion that a man is stingy because he is not always spending money on your entertainment. A great many young men have to help with the home expenses, many of them carry life insurance, and those who are ambitious and thoughtful for the future are trying to save what they can for future business ventures. The man who spends the most money on your entertainment will not always make the best husband. There are so many ways of being happy without spend-

ing money foolishly, that it seems strange that so much should be really wasted. If two young people care for each other, they can find a great deal of pleasure with each other, even while economizing. If you are engaged to a man, would you not rather he would save all he can for the home-building when you take up life together? If you are not engaged, so much the more reason he should not be allowed to spend money on you. Even a car ride, with a little expense at the other end of the trip in the way of a light luncheon or supper, will count up to quite a respectable sum by the time it is all paid for. Many young men do not get large wages, and an evening or two out for pleasure makes quite a formidable hole in the weekly wage. Often men say to older women, when excusing themselves for not going into society more, "I would like to know more girls, but, unless a man takes a girl everywhere and gets her everything she wants, she thinks he is stingy, so we men without money simply can not afford to have girl friends." Girls are not taught to think of these things, and they read the trashy stories in which the man pours out money with a lavish hand on every occasion, and their foolish exactions are oftener from ignorance and thoughtlessness than from a desire to enjoy extravagant outings.

## Care of Linoleum

Linoleum that has been used for many years can be restored in brightness to but a limited degree. If the linoleum is of the quality known as inlaid, the markings will show as long as the floor-covering lasts, but the stamped or printed linoleum will lose its design, as the colors will wear off, no matter what care one gives it. The linoleum may be cleaned with a cloth dipped in coal oil, or it may be washed with milk and water; if it is intended to paint it, it may be scrubbed with a soap that will cut grease, then well washed with clear water, let dry, and the paint or varnish applied with a flat brush. Let it dry at least three days, then give another coat, dry again, then give a third coat, and when dry again, the linoleum will have a new lease of life. Painting the linoleum is not always satisfactory, and the only reason one should prefer the linoleum to a painted floor is that it is easier cleaned and not so hard on the feet as boards.

## For the Home Seamstress

One of the hardest things to do is to hang a skirt by one's self so it will be even about the bottom. By taking great pains, however, it can be done. To hang the skirt, finish it with the exception of the bottom. Put it on just as it is to be worn, and stand before a mirror that will show as much of the figure as possible, or at least will show the lower half. Place one end of a good, straight yard stick on the floor, holding it perfectly straight up against the skirt. Put a pin in the dress at the top end of the yard stick, then move the stick an inch or two to one side, and again mark the end of the stick. Continue doing this until you have a row of pins all around your dress skirt somewhere about the hip measurement. Take the skirt off and finish the lower edge exactly one yard from each pin, if the dress is to touch the floor. If wanted two inches from

the floor, finish it exactly thirty-four inches from the row of pins. By using much care, and a good mirror, you can thus do the measuring and the skirt will hang even.

To be sure a sleeve will set well when there are no notches as guides, measure an inch back from the shoulder seam, fold the arm-hole together and place the inner seam of the sleeve at the front fold of the arm hole. For a very stout person, measure two inches.

In fitting a waist, if the chest is hollow, and the waist front inclined to droop, tack the seam at the shoulder according to pattern and lay a little tuck in the front from the hem to the arm's eye, shortening the front as much as necessary. When cutting the goods, leave the plait in the pattern, and the arm hole curve will not be altered.

Keep the neck of the waist as high as possible on the sides, without wrinkling at the back, cutting from the front and a very little from the back of the neck, as, otherwise, the sides are apt to pull away from the collar awkwardly.

## For Elderly Women

Women of sixty who possess a good figure, and are still bright and sprightly, can wear many of the styles and colors of much younger women, but it is not advisable for her to imitate the youthful gaiety of her forty-year-old daughter. She can wear many dark and light colors which, a few years ago, were not allowed her, but the colors should be suitable to her mature years, fading hair and complexion, or they will only accentuate her age. No woman ever gets too old to wear white, and white dresses, suits or shirtwaists are usually very becoming. She should not wear anything prim or hard about the throat, for age is not kind to the throat, and lace, soft mulls or fluffy dressings are far more complimentary than severe lines, which are unbecoming except to the most beautiful. Black lace dressing about the throat is objectionable, because it is hopelessly old style, and generally shows up all the hard lines. A line of soft white should separate the dress collar from the neck. The little bonnet with strings tied under the chin is no longer seen, but in its stead is the small toque, which is stringless. Old ladies should not confine their choice to black garments, though when relieved by a touch of some complimentary color, or white about the neck and wrists, it is very suitable. Long, loose, or semi-fitting coats are much better than the short capes, except where the woman is too aged, and the cape is a comfort because of its convenience for her feebleness. The gowns of the aged women should be selected for comfort, but there are many women, in these days, who have passed their three-score, who are, in looks and intelligence, far younger than the careless woman of forty. You know that "a woman is as old as she looks," and it is a wise thing for a woman to look as young as she may without making herself ridiculous by bad taste in dressing.

## Hallowe'en

This festival is by origin a harvest rejoicing, and fruits, nuts, and vegetables always figure conspicuously in its ornamentations. The sense of the festival is a thanksgiving that the crops are safely garnered and stored,

and the end of the month is made a time of frolic and fun. The open fire is a relic of the pagan fires, and in some countries, big fires are still burnt out of doors on heaps of stones. No other fire is allowed, and at midnight each person takes a bit of the fire from this outside fire to his own fireside to kindle a fresh blaze. This is in memory of the sacred fires of the Druids. With us, however, the ruing of hallowe'en has become a wild hurrah for mischievous boys who do many lawless pranks and often take a fiendish delight in disturbing the peace of the neighborhood, often doing much damage in their wanton rioting.

## Query Box

N. A.—For the bad-smelling shoes dip a piece of sponge in ammonia of moderate strength and swab the inside of the shoe thoroughly, allowing it to dry before wearing. Apply the same treatment to insoles, and it will add greatly to the health and comfort of the feet. The offensive odor of the feet is as likely to be caused by an unhealthy condition of the sweat-glands as by neglected feet, but the feet should be often bathed.

Floral—The Giant Yellow Hibiscus is a perennial, but not hardy in the central states. If started early indoors, it may be placed in the border about the middle of May, and will bloom the first year. About the middle of November the roots should be lifted and wintered in the cellar in slightly moist soil. It grows several feet high, has enormous flowers of a beautiful yellow, and is sometimes called the giant primrose. The seeds germinate readily.

C. H. D.—Hoods, scarfs, and the like made of Angora wool may be washed perfectly clean by putting in a bag with a quantity of very hot flour and rubbed between the hands as if washing. The flour can be heated in the oven, stirring to keep it from burning. If very much soiled, two rubbings may be necessary. When clean, hang in the wind or beat with switches to remove flour. White fur can be cleaned the same way. Use no water with the flour; it must be dry and hot.

Sufferer—Here are remedies for Ingrowing toe-nail: Wear a broad-toed shoe. Put a little tallow in a spoon and heat quite hot and drop on the affected part, after washing it quite clean. The tallow cools quickly and no harm is done; repeat in a day or two. Another is to burn alum on the stove until it is a white powder, then, with a tooth-pick, crowd all you can between the nail and the toe; if very badly affected, repeat several times a day. Another way is to saturate a bit of cotton batting with strong camphor and

## A Fine Pair of Tension Shears

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