



The Home Department

Conducted by
Helen Watts McKee

The Booster

I'd rather be a booster than a knocker any day.
I'd rather tinge with hope than doubt the words I have to say.
I'd rather miss my guess
On another man's success
Than to view his bitter struggle and prophesy his fall.
I would rather say "he's coming"
Than "he's going," when I'm summing
Up the labors of my brothers. I would rather boost them all.

I would rather speak the kind things than the mean things any day,
I'd rather swing a baton than a hammer, let me say,
I would rather sing my rhyme
In a sort of two-step time
Than to let it drag in dirges in a gloomy, heavy style.
I would rather say "God bless you!"
And with words of cheer impress you,
Than to preach about your follies all the while.

I would rather be a booster than a knocker any day.
I'd rather praise than criticize in what I have to say;
I'd rather not be wise,
At the cost of others' sighs,
I would rather see the good things than the evil that men do;
I would rather far be wrong
When I boost a man along
Than be perfect in my judgment, but make everybody blue.
—Detroit Free Press.

Our June Brides

The first year of married life is made up of trials, tears, mistakes, perplexities, protestations, little quarrels and loving make-ups, for during this first twelve-month a new existence must be accepted by both the parties. The new existence is full of disillusion, clashes of tastes and tendencies, and the modifying or putting away of preconceived ideas of the fitness of things. But of this, every girl must be sure—when a man marries, he wants and expects a home, and if he is the man he should be, he will expect to make the living while the girl he marries will be expected to make the home. Whether the work, or the drudgery of the home shall be performed by the wife will depend very much upon the "living" the man can make; but the new home will never be a real home unless the wife learns to make and keep it, not being merely an ignorant figure-head over which contemptuous servants may make sport. Before marriage, few men stop to acquaint themselves with the woman's ability in the housekeeping or home-making line, and many girls either know nothing of such work, or, having spent their young years in the shop, office, store, or factory, have acquired a dislike to the work, and their ideas of what a home should be are vague in the extreme. The theory of "keeping house for two" is very alluring to their inexperienced eyes; but the hard, prosaic experience of actual facts is a difficult school for many of them. Because of the mutual ignorance of the realities of life, mistakes on one side, and impatience on the other, many couples make a sad wreck of the newly-launched life-boat. For this reason, it is strongly

urged that the "newly-weds" should not board, even with relatives, but should go to themselves. Even one room, arranged for light-housekeeping, so they are alone, is better than a finely furnished mansion occupied in community with others. They may think they know each other before marriage, but they don't. There are sharp edges, rough corners, and little irregularities of temper and disposition in each which the other has never even suspected, and all these must be toned down by associations not interfered with by others.

"The Boy Scout Movement"

Several requests have come to me for information as to the object of "the boy scout movement." It can hardly be plainly set forth in a few words, but the leaders emphatically insist that they have no wish to produce a generation of soldiers; that the military cast has been almost entirely discarded in America, the boy scouts having no drill and are prohibited from carrying weapons otherwise than pocketknives. The duties elaborated in the scout law are such as forbid lying, enjoin courtesy, obedience, loyalty, kindness to animals cheerfulness, and even thrift. Disobedience to the law may cause a scout to be expelled from the order. The following is given as the boy scout law: A scout's honor is to be trusted; a scout is loyal to his country, his officers, his parents and his employers. A scout's duty is to be useful and to help others. A scout is a friend to all, and a brother to every other scout, no matter to what social class the other belongs. A scout must never be a snob. A scout is a friend to animals. A scout obeys orders of his parents, patrol leaders or scout master, without question. A scout smiles and whistles under all circumstances. He never swears when put out; the punishment for swearing or use of bad language is a mug of cold water to be poured down the offenders' sleeve by the other scouts. A scout is thrifty; that is, he saves every penny he can and puts it into the bank. Ernest Seton, the originator of the movement, says: "Partly through the growth of immense cities; with the consequent specialization of industry, so that each individual has been required to do one small thing and shut his eyes to everything else; partly through the decay of small farming, which would offset this condition, for each mixed farm with a small college of handicraft; and partly through the stereotyped forms of religion losing their hold, we see a very different type of youth growing up in the country today. The boy scout movement is intended to combat this system, which has turned such a large proportion of our robust, manly, self-reliant boyhood into a lot of flat-chested cigarette smokers, with shaky nerves and doubtful vitality, and also to combat the evils of arena baseball, football and racing, by substituting the better, cleaner, saner pursuits of woodcraft and scouting."

Character in Hair

Men with fine, light hair are smart, conceited and, if they do not marry until late in life, are apt to grow cross and selfish. If a girl wishes to select a husband, she should learn to read his disposition by his hair.

Men with fine brown hair, light or dark, make the best husbands; they are quick, thoughtful and less apt to be selfish than the very light-haired, or very dark-haired brothers. Those whose hair turns gray prematurely are nearly always good fellows; are a little nervous, but brainy, sympathetic and very honorable. A prematurely gray-haired person is generally very scrupulous in money matters and in friendships, and very tolerant of one's shortcomings. Nearly all red-haired persons are smart, whether the hair is coarse or fine, but the finer the hair, the finer the smartness. Pale, blond-haired women, of the colorless, ashen kind, are impulsive, loving and fickle; not to be depended upon, but usually good company while they like you. Women with very dark brown hair are loyal, sympathetic and usually of tireless patience where they love; they are full of sentiment, emotional, enjoy keenly and suffer in like proportion, are easily touched by the woes of others, and are to be trusted. Women with fine black hair, touched with brown, are high-strung, loyal, and brainy. Those with very black hair, if it is coarse, are usually mean and suspicious. All women with very dark hair are quick tempered, and where dark eyes and dark complexions go with the dark hair, they have strong feeling. The dark haired women are more faithful than the light-haired, and if finely organized, just bubble over with sentiment.

"Gathering Up the Fragments"

The fruit season is now with us, and in order to have plenty of "good living" when the dark days shut us in next winter, time must be put in and advantage taken of the plenty the gardens, fields and orchards are now preparing for us. If possible, a canning outfit should be had; but if this cannot be, then, there are the new ways of jarring, canning and preserving, which are generally much less troublesome than the old ways. Housewives are learning that fruits need much less cooking than has been given it by the old-time housewives, and there are so many new devices and labor-savers that the work need not be so much of a bugbear as it has formerly been. New methods and labor-saving devices have simplified the work, and every housewife should acquaint herself with these new methods. The seeders, peelers, slicers and stoners, simplify the preparation of the solid fruits, while the vegetable choppers and slicers make relishes, pickles, and sauces easily prepared. Jellies are now made by heating the juices to boiling point, or even boiling them for a few minutes then adding the hot sugar, heated to such a degree that the slipping it into the bubbling juices does not stop the boiling, then letting the syrup just froth up well after the sugar is dissolved, after which it is put into the glasses and tumblers, let cool and covered with paraffin wax, when it will keep beautifully. For canning fruits, most housewives have now accepted the method of boiling around the full jars, rather than boiling the fruit before filling the jars. Tops and rubbers as well as jars must be sterilized by dipping in boiling hot water; the rubbers must not be allowed to lie in the water; they must be just dipped in it two or three times, then applied to the jar necks. Be sure to fit the tops and jars before at-

tempting to use them. Test them by filling with hot water, screwing down the lid tightly on the rubber, then turning the jar top end down, to test for leaks. This is extremely important, and must not be neglected.

For the Toilet

For those who spend much time at the seashore, and especially for those who go into the water, a few words of caution will be well. Before going into the water, rub into the skin, face, neck, arms, and behind the ears a plentiful supply of cold cream; rub it in well. One can hardly use too much, as it cleanses the pores beautifully. Remember to rub the cream behind the ears, all over the face and throat, and over the arms; cover the cream with a powder made of equal parts of French chalk and rice powder. The water will not take it all off, and it prevents blistering. The hair must be well protected from the salt water, as it ruins the hair, leaving it sticky and stringy. After leaving the water, use warm water first on the skin.

An excellent lotion to follow the bath is prepared as follows: Four ounces of alcohol, two ounces of glycerine, half a pint of orange flower or rose, or elderflower water, two ounces of powdered almonds, or the almond meal will answer, and half an ounce of salicylic acid. Dissolve the acid in the alcohol, add the glycerine, and add very slowly to the flower water in which the almond meal has been shaken. Use freely on the skin after the warm bath, to keep it soft. After severe exposure in the water, fill the burned skin with cucumber cream and leave on for half an hour; then bathe and use the above lotion.

Rose cream for sunburn is made as follows: White wax, one-half ounce; spermaceti, one-half ounce, sweet almond oil, two ounces. Melt all together in a double boiler, and mix well by stirring. Pour into a heated bowl and add very gradually one and one-half ounces of rose water, one-half ounce of witch hazel; beat to a cream and put into a covered jar. Apply freely before and after exposure to the sun. A harmless face powder dusted on the cream will benefit.

To Remove Tan and Freckles

Vegetables and fruit juices are much more to be recommended as bleaches than are drugs, as they are usually harmless and close at hand. Strawberry juice not only bleaches, but gives a pretty pink tinge to the skin. Rub the ripe fruit over the skin, let dry on, and in an hour or so, bathe with rosewater or witch hazel.

Orange juice is strongly recommended for face bleach, and has the advantage over lemon juice that it does not injure the delicate texture of the skin, as the strong acid of lemon, unmixed with some soothing liquid, is apt to do. If lemon juice is used, strain the juice into oatmeal water, made of boiling and straining the oatmeal. A ripe tomato is a favorite bleach with many. Slice, and rub the cut side over the skin, letting dry on; do this at night, every evening. The pulp of a ripe watermelon is also very good, indeed.

Nothing is better than the cucumber for bleaching. It is not necessary to make up into an expensive mess to get results. A rapid and effective bleach is made by just slicing up the cucumber and binding the slices on the discolored parts of the face and neck, leaving for an hour, and renewing. The juice, which contains the bleaching matter, may be extracted by cutting up the cucumber, skin and all, very thinly, and put into a porcelain dish; add a little water, and set where it