



SOME WONDERFUL SOAP-BUBBLES AND HOW TO MAKE THEM

Here are some wonderful soap-bubbles which every boy and girl can make easily. They are none of the little, old-fashioned clay-pipe bubbles which our great-grandparents and great-great-grandparents used to blow, but immense great spheres, some of which measure nine feet around! Indeed, what would our quaint ancestors have thought of such giant bubbles? What would they have thought of a soap film so tall that a little boy placed inside of it reaches to only half way up its shining sides? Then, too, just think of the fun they missed in not knowing how to blow a pin-wheel around inside of a bubble, or of blowing a great bubble through the hands, as the girl in the picture is doing; or of performing that pretty trick where a rose is shown inside of a bubble—a trick so easy of accomplishment that any boy or girl can do it at the first attempt. Why, here are lots of fun for you boys and girls—an almost endless amount of fun, for the tricks here pictured are only a few—but very few—of the marvelous things which may be done with soap and water.

Of course, the first question you will ask is how to make the solution, and I will tell you just here how to go about it in such a way that none of you can possibly go astray if you will but carefully follow the directions given:

Rub some soap—castile soap preferred—into a bowl of water until a heavy froth has formed on the surface. Then remove all froth, even every little bubble, and proceed to test the solution as follows: Dip an ordinary clay pipe into the mixture and blow a bubble four to five inches in diameter. While this bubble is still suspended from the pipe, quickly dip your forefinger well into the solution and then try to thrust it through into the hanging bubble. If you can push your finger right into the middle of the bubble, the solution is in good condition. If, however, the bubble breaks when you attempt to thrust your finger into it, the solution is not in proper condition, and more soap must be added to the mixture until bubbles can be made which will stand this test. Do not forget, it is of the

placed in the center and upon this the kitten was set. Afterwards a child's wooden hoop was lowered into the solution, and when this was well wet with the mixture it was lifted up with fair quickness, high over the kitten, when the film dropped from the hoop with the result as shown in the accompanying photograph.

The boy standing inside of the soap-film house was stood upon the block of wood in the center of pan, and the hoop was lifted with a quick, swish-



ing movement high above his head, as also shown in the photograph.

To blow a great bubble through the hands, first place the points of both forefingers and thumbs together, and then, with the hands flattened out, dip them into a pan of the mixture. On withdrawing your hands carefully, you will notice that the space between the forefingers and thumbs is crossed over with a soap film. Now slowly raise your hands, so as to bring them opposite to your mouth, and gently blow. The result will be that as shown in the picture. It may require two or three trials before success is attained. In blowing soap bubbles even, practice makes perfect.



utmost importance that every little bubble be removed from the surface of the solution before attempting any of the tricks here illustrated. Neglect to follow this advice is always visited with disastrous results.

Granting that your solution is now in perfect condition, I will now proceed to tell you just how to do the easy rose trick. First, pour some of the solution into a plate until the bottom of it is covered to the depth of one-sixteenth of an inch. With your fingers, well wet the rim of the plate with the same mixture. Then place in the center of it a rose, and over the rose a tin funnel. Now start to blow through the funnel very gently, and at the same time slowly begin to lift the funnel, continue blowing while always gradually raising the funnel higher and higher, until the latter is about three inches above the rose. Then carefully turn the funnel at right angles, and give it a sudden upward lift which will free it from the film, and your rose trick will have been accomplished.

To do the pin-wheel trick, first make a pin wheel of stiff writing paper, pin it to a short stick and fasten this in turn to the bottom of a plate



with sealing wax. Then place a bubble over it in the same manner as in rose trick. Now take a straw, thoroughly wet three or four inches of one end of it with the solution; then push the wet end right into the bubble and blow through it, when the pin-wheel will rapidly revolve. This is a very pretty and easy trick to do.

The kitten was placed inside the giant bubble as follows: A large pan nine feet in circumference was filled with the solution to the depth of two inches; then a block of wood was

HOME AND FASHIONS.

THINGS OF INTEREST TO THE WOMEN OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

Parasols of the Season Are Elaborate Affairs—Two Handsome Costumes—Mrs. Roosevelt Wearing "The Latest Thing in Coats"—Some Little Tips.

Chic Strappings.
Instead of going out of fashion, strapping is more in vogue than ever. On the winter materials, it was attractive and useful—and on summer fabrics it is pleasing and is a means of holding seams in shape, as well as being an ornament.

A new satin foulard gown, tailor-made, is strapped with broadcloth—and the effect is stunning! The silk has a blue background strewn with white posies, and the strappings are of blue cloth.

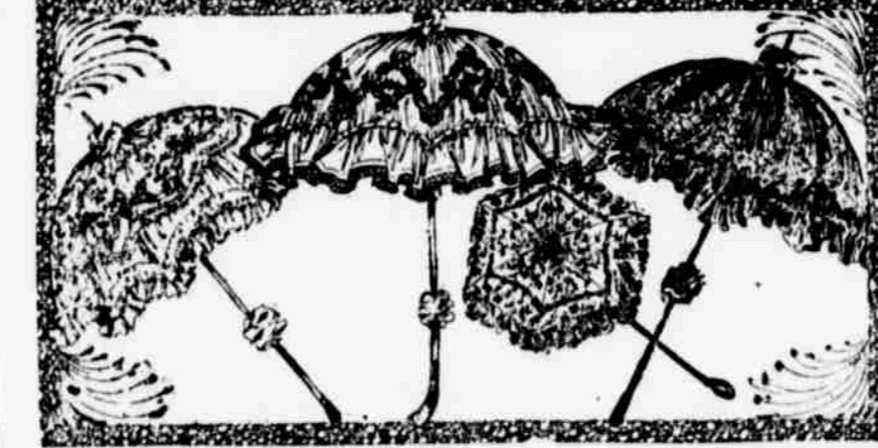
Shirt-waists show strappings applied in various ways. They are put on seams and applied in designs. The stitching is exquisite—when it isn't, the waist is dowdy as dowdy can be.

The Latest Thing in Coats.
The newest modification of the Eton or bolero jacket is a jaunty little affair termed the "coffee coat" or "Monte Carlo coat," the attractive features of which have already won the favor of the "First Lady of the Land," Mrs. Roosevelt, who has appeared on several occasions wearing a wrap of this type. Taffeta silk is best adapted to the garment, though it is also made up in moire, soft woolsens, etc.

Latest in Parasols.
If there is a thing dear to a woman's heart and enhancing to her beauty it is a lovely parasol. This season the designers seem to have tried themselves in bringing this artistic creation up to the requirements of feminine taste.

There is a parasol for every style of woman from the one who buys a Duchesse lace affair beehived with ivory and snugly cased in a long pale green straw box adorned with lilies of the valley and "choux" of white ribbon, to the one who buys a simple linen sunshade. For the conservative woman it is a joy to find the color and form she likes the best—the quiet fawn-colored parasol. For the pretty, fresh girl, or her more witted sister in a soft linen gown, this modish parasol is the thing par excellence. It has a silk spun lining in pink or blue, or any preferred color, and a lace insertion on the outside, showing the colored lining.

Then there are the exquisitely fine embroidered grass linens, with ruffles



sheer and shimmering. "Persian" fawn silks come next; these are nothing more than "chene" silks on which blurred roses and poppies of various colors are designed.

Pretty Cloth Gown.
Dark red cloth gown. Waist small, pointed cape of red silk edged with red and white striped silk. Lace jabot down front. Pointed bands of red and white striped silk down front; al-



so dart seams bottom of tabs edged with same silk. Belt of red silk. Skirt, bias ruffle trimmed with band of red and white silk.

Childless Mothers.
The wife who has passed her many years of married life in childless motherhood, has lost from out that life a greatness and pleasure that she may not have realized at first, but that is brought home to her with redoubled force and meaning when she has passed the zenith and is coming to un-

derstand that life is not perpetual youth.

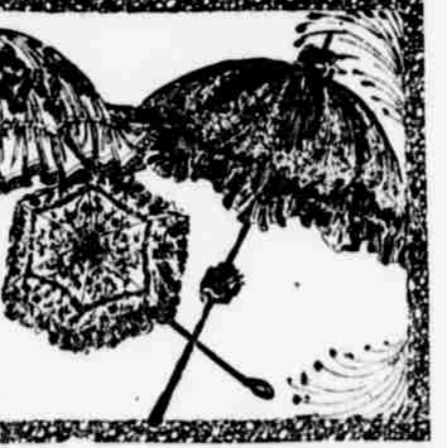
Keen anxiety and sorrow she may have missed also. Yet it is also true that "it were better to have love and lost than never to have loved at all." The childless mother has not known the depths of degradation to which a child can bring its parents, nor yet has she known the fulfillment of greatest love and bliss. Neither has she known the anguish of the sting of death, when her fondest hopes have been laid low. She has escaped great care and responsibility, but she has lost from her life in unalloyed joy more than she has escaped of sorrow. —The American Mother.

Handsome Neckwear.
Sheer white linen stocks, curved out under the chin and brought down in front in a rounded or pointed effect, frequently have scroll patterns inverted in this space. These are held together with fine lace stitches or perhaps braids. Many others are ornamented with fine lace or embroidery designs put on in applique, while those which are handsomely embroidered with white or colored cotton represent one of the smartest conceits.



Blouse of Crepe de Chine.
Pretty blouse of dull green crepe de chine, trimmed with fagoting done with silk of the same shade. The plastron and close-fitting undersleeves are of white luxell lace, and over the former is a pretty draped fichu of mousseline de sole, which passes through eyellet holes in the fronts of the blouse, and is knotted on the bust. The girle is of the crepe de chine fastened in front with an old gold buckle.—Wiener Chic.

The Fashionable Blouse.
Nearly all the newest corsages have a tiny basque in the back; sometimes



it is formed by the ribbons of the ceinture, but it is always a basque, nondescript as it may be.

For the street during shopping hours a great many blouses will be worn, much trimmed with the fashionable English embroideries, lace and tucking. The marked change in their cut is noticeable in the sleeve, which is more ample than last season, and in the shoulders, which show less inclination to sloping.

Easy to Get.
Have you a real smart all-over lace jacket?

If you haven't, and want one, and cannot pay the price in the shops—make one for yourself. Get an eton pattern and cut and fit it. Finish with a lace or beribboned edge. Use your skill with the needle and your good taste and—presto! you become the possessor of about the same thing on exhibit in the shops. You see, time and art and needlecraft and design must be counted in the price of the garment you admire in the shop.

Little Tips.
The juice of a lemon taken in hot water on awakening in the morning is an excellent liver corrective and is better than any anti-fat medicine invented.

The finest of manure acids is made by putting a teaspoonful of lemon juice in a cupful of warm water. This removes most stains from the fingers and nails.

To prevent a mustard plaster injuring the skin mix the mustard with the white of an egg.

Newest in Stocks.
Ribbons for neckwear, unless made up into fancy knotted stocks, are evidently passe. One might say that at present nothing is considered quite so chic as the separate stock, which is merely a shaped collar. By no means, however, is this a simple affair—quite the contrary. If a stock happens to be made with a drooping point in front then the space so secured usually exhibits an elaborate trimming of drawn work of pretty applique.

When a man orders spring lamb at a cheap restaurant he begins to realize how tough it is to die young.

SOME ILLS OF LIFE

OUR MODERN CIVILIZATION HAS ITS BAD FEATURES.

Yet the Men and Women of the Present Day Are Physically Superior to Their Ancestors—Evils in the Race for Superfluous Wealth.

Some features of civilized life are not wholesome. It does not insure a perfect digestion, which is the basis of good health. It is not healthful to breathe sewer gas in houses the plumbing of which has been passed by an inspector who receives Christmas gifts from the plumber. There are many other conditions which are not favorable to the best physical health. However, in spite of other drawbacks and disadvantages, there is every warrant to affirm that never has the standard of health, strength and agility been as high as it is to-day. Though an indoor life is vicious in its influence, the men and women of to-day—and especially the women—are capable of a greater physical endurance than has ever been known before. The first and best proof of this is that at the age when our grandfathers and their dames took their places in the chimney corner as capable only of vegetable existence, the men and women of to-day are at their best, and, as Dr. Stevenson complains, the grandmothers are demanding the right to run for public office, instead of being content to knit stockings. A believer in the physical superiority of the savage brought out the great-grandson of a famous Indian sprinter to pit him against the white runners of the colleges. Even after a systematic training he was beaten by amateurs. His celebrated ancestor had defeated every white runner here and in England, but his record has been surpassed long since.

Life in the open air is necessary to the best health, but there is no reason why the modern conveniences should be abandoned. On every hand are proofs of the physical superiority of the men and women of to-day over the people of any other known period. The rules of wholesome living are better understood and are more generally observed. It needs only for men to refrain from business excesses, from dissipating their energies in the pursuit of wealth, in order that they may find life well worth living. The too frequent suicide of successful business men may be traced to their long and absolute absorption in the work of money-getting and the discovery that it is profitless and unsatisfactory. The realization of the fact that wealth alone does not bring happiness comes only after it is too late to effect a change. The delusion that there is no more satisfying purpose than the accumulation of money is the chief obstacle in the way of man's happiness.

THE ORIGINAL HABITAT OF MAN

Prof. Dyche Advances Theory That the First Men Lived in the Arctic Regions.

Prof. Dyche of the University of Kansas, recently gave an informal lecture at the University club at Kansas City. His subject was "The Original Habitat of Man," and he advanced the theory that the first men inhabited the northern part of Greenland and the territory surrounding the poles.

In his trip to the northern part of Greenland Prof. Dyche found fossils of the sequoia, or California redwood tree. As an illustration of the fight of animals against advancing inclement nature Prof. Dyche cited the case of the mammoth, which was at first a heat-loving animal. Those which refused to leave their northern home gradually grew hair as a protection. When the environment became too severe the species perished.

Prof. Dyche drew conclusions from the flight of birds. He believes that birds migrate north to breed, because of an instinct acquired by centuries of returning to the original breeding grounds in the north.

Walls Built Downward.

The monster building now being erected on the flatiron block below Madison Square is the most striking example of modern office construction which people whose business and pleasure keep them above Canal street have had the opportunity to watch in daily growth.

One thing about it that impresses those unfamiliar with present architectural methods is the fact that parts of the outer walls are being built downward from the twelfth or thirteenth story to the fourth. Below the latter there is not yet any exterior wall.

It makes a strange sight for those unaccustomed to the curiosities to be seen in far down town Manhattan, and the fact that it is novel to many is apparent from the comments which one who passes among the Madison Square throngs cannot help overhearing.—New York Sun.

Knee-Deep in Kansas.

Mr. Eugene F. Ware, the new commissioner of pensions, who over the name of "Ironquill" long ago established his reputation as a wit and writer of verse, has been much interested for years in the condition of roads in his adopted state of Kansas. Recently Mr. R. W. Richardson, secretary of the National Good Roads Association, who is preparing to take a Good Roads Construction train across the continent, said to Mr. Ware: "How do the farmers in Kansas stand on the road question?" "Up to their knees," was the reply. —Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.

GOOD SAMPLE OF MEXICAN HUMOR

Unique Message Left for "Jones" by a Police Official.

"When you take up a residence in the City of Mexico," said an American who had lived there for several years, "you are waited upon by the police, who ask you how many beggars may call at your residence every morning and receive a dole. Your answer is recorded, and only the number of beggars mentioned dare show up. I let my brother with me at the house, and our answers to the police differed somewhat. Two weeks after their call a messenger came on an errand and inquired for Jones.

"What Jones?" I asked.

"Senior," he replied. "I know that there are two of you—the Jones-you-can-send-along-about-eight-of-em and the Jones-I-won't-feed-a-cussed-one-of-em, and the Jones I want is not the first."

"Then, as I'm the one who said eight beggars might come around, you don't want me."

"It cannot be. It is the I-won't-feed-a-cussed-one-of-em-Jones I want."

"But he is not in just now. Can you leave your message with me?"

"SI, senior. Tell him when he comes that if he don't want-to-feed-a-cussed-one-of-em-he-can-go-to-blazes-and-be-hanged-to-him."

BOYS ATTACKED THEIR TEACHER

But She Thrashed Several of Them and Horseshipped the Leader.

Miss Lulu Nelson of Osage, N. Y., a pretty and athletic school teacher of the Hooper's Valley school, has demonstrated her ability to care for herself by thrashing several pupils who attempted to assault her, and has been acquitted by a jury of flogging one of her assailants with a horse-whip.

Several pupils of the school, led by Ira Hillegas, had organized a plot to oust the teacher. Miss Nelson ordered young Hillegas to replenish the fire. He refused and she threatened him with a whip. He attempted to strike her with a coal scuttle, and the other boys in the plot came to his aid, but she was equal to the occasion and placed her would-be assailants hors de combat. Then with a large horse-whip she administered a thrashing to Hillegas, raising fourteen ridges on his arms and back and drawing blood in three places. He swore out a warrant for her arrest and she was tried before Judge Smith. When, at the close of the evidence, the jury rendered a verdict of not guilty, there was a dramatic demonstration in the court room.

Cure of Consumption.

Nearly every state and large city in the country is making some movement to aid in stamping out consumption. Massachusetts has a well-established sanitarium at Rutland, in that state. Vermont is considering a project of the same kind. The New York legislature has made two appropriations aggregating \$15,000 for the construction of a consumptives' sanitarium in the Adirondack region. The New Jersey legislature at its recent session voted \$50,000 for a similar purpose. The appropriation of \$100,000 by the Pennsylvania legislature in 1901 in aid of the White Haven sanitarium places this state by the side of other commonwealths in the fight against consumption. Dr. Rothrock's scheme to use the state forest reservations for the same purpose will doubtless realize good results in time. His knowledge on the subject is valuable, as he is the state commissioner of forestry.

That great good work can be accomplished by country sanitariums for the open and pure air treatment, especially in pine forests, has been demonstrated. At Rutland, in Massachusetts, the percentage of cured patients has steadily risen. In the first year 37 per cent of all cases of the disease in all its stages were cured; in the second year 45 per cent, and in the third year 50 per cent. The record of other sanitariums will probably show as good results.—Pittsburg Post.

Private Libraries in Mexico.

There are not a few fine and extensive private libraries in Mexico, for there are many book lovers among the educated people of this country. In the city libraries, ranging from 4,000 to 10,000 volumes exist, and one of the most valuable collections of "Americana," books relating to the discovery and early settlement of Latin America, is that of Don Jose Maria de Agreda, an erudite gentleman descended from an ancient and noble Spanish family, who is the librarian of the national museum. Senior Agreda's collection is noted for its many priceless volumes, for he has been collecting books in this city since he was a lad. He is an enthusiastic antiquarian, and no man is fitter for the great task of writing a history of the City of Mexico than this learned and cultivated gentleman, one of the ornaments of Mexican culture.—Mexican Herald.

Sol Smith Russell's Last Day.

Sol Smith Russell spent a good deal of his time in Washington after leaving the stage, and was a familiar figure at the theaters there, especially at the matinees. He was usually wheeled to and from the theater in an invalid's chair, and often as he was pushed through the lobbies someone would remark: "There's Sol Smith Russell; he will never act again." One day he overheard something of the kind, and, in his mild, cheerful, kindly way, replied: "You're mistaken; I am getting better every day; I am going to return to the stage next year in a new play." He took especial pleasure in witnessing the work of Joseph Jefferson.—Correspondence New York Post.