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Even the wisest men do a lot of foolish things.

The lazy man never seems to get tired of what he isn't doing.

If the United States soldiers are to fight fire instead of men, they should be armed with squirt guns.

Germany has sold a lot of second hand battleships to Turkey. That's the only kind Turkey could use.

The United States forest service is advertising for axlotomists. Hope if they find one they'll keep it chained.

Those who have confused county option and dry farming are assured by experts that they are not just the same.

Australia is having a year of exceptional prosperity as both exports and bank clearings show a great improvement.

The latest estimate of the population of this country is 93,600,000. Yet it is almost impossible to get together a satisfactory jury.

Des Moines, Ia., is disappointed in its census returns. Still, 86,368 people, if they all holler together, will make considerable noise.

The poorer classes of Paris alone are said to have eaten 200,000 horses. Evidently the automobile arrived not an hour too soon.

Your side of the argument may seem wholly convincing to you, but it isn't of much value if it fails to convince the other fellow.

It is a hopeful and wholesome sign of the times that teachers are coming back to believe in the value of good old fashioned mental discipline.

The aviators have done away with the "splendid isolation" of which England has always boasted by making the English channel an inconsequential business.

A reinforced concrete building that rises 235 feet above the street level has been erected in Liverpool. They are not so slow in the old country after all.

A 1793 1-cent piece brought \$340 in New York the other day. Judging by the way some people cling to their coppers, they know of an equally good market for them.

The chipper democrats should be notified that in 1906, the only fair comparison with this year, the republicans carried Vermont by nearly 3,000 less than now.

The submarine war craft of the future is evidently to be of increasing size. France again leads with plans for a submarine Dreadnaught of 1,000 tons displacement.

A Florida man is said to be training alligators to drive in harness. Thank you, the automobile or even a flying machine is preferable as a means of transportation.

It is easier to watch a three-ring circus than to keep a comprehensive grasp on the ever changing political situations of the country. It is more than usually varied and interesting.

The new torpedo boat destroyer Paulding with a speed of 33.04 knots an hour can not only run down an enemy, but can run away from an enemy if the odds are against her.

America consumed seven billion pounds of sugar last year, one-seventh of which was beet sugar produced at home. This is a large gain over the production of previous years.

Stamp collectors are waiting with interest for the issue of the new English stamp bearing the portrait of King George instead of King Edward. So we have our day and cease to be.

A Canadian doctor says most Americans are eaten up by dyspepsia. This is a great surprise to "most Americans." We have prided ourselves on having an average of pretty robust citizens.

A Chicago man tried to kill himself with a revolver, but his skull was so hard the bullet failed to penetrate. There must have been a soft spot somewhere, or he never would have tried it.

The socialist party officially sanctions woman suffrage and demands in its New York platform "equal suffrage for all adult men and women," and "equal pay for equal work to men and women employed by the state or any of its subdivisions."

Venice has a fishing fleet of 1,600

vessels that visit different portions of the Adriatic according to the season. It must take a large number of fish to keep so many boats busy.

St. Louis has an octogenarian minister who stayed at home this summer and filled the pulpits of younger preachers while they went away for their vacations. No need for Dr. Osler's services there.

Chicago's week's exhibition in all the stores and shops of everything "made in Chicago" was a success and the business men hope that mark may some day be as famous as the well known "made in Germany."

It cost \$15,000,000 to take the census and no man has been found so far who thinks the game worth the powder if he had to foot the bill, but with Uncle Sam to pay the price we are all interested to know the size of his family.

King Haakon of Norway took a course in dish washing during his service as a Danish cadet. Practical knowledge of this kind may come handy to a man, even if he is a king. It gives him an idea of how the other fellow feels.

The effort is being made to raise cotton in Hawaii. Everything seems to indicate that the experiment will be successful. And there is plenty of demand in the world for all the cotton they can raise.

The colleges of the country are opening this fall with the largest enrollment on record. College training is becoming more and more a matter of course for the young men and women of the country.

This country needs more men teachers, and the only reason it doesn't have them is because the salaries are too low to attract young men who are capable of making good teachers. For inferior teachers any salary is too high.

The "Swift," a torpedo boat destroyer, recently launched at Portsmouth, Eng., is true to its name and outdistances all competitors at a speed of over thirty knots an hour. Her fires are fed by petroleum and her turbines give 30,000 horsepower divided among four screws.

There seems little doubt that the automobile will soon supersede the fire horse and fire fighting will lose much of its picturesqueness when this comes to pass; but of all places where the motor seems to be the thing for the place, the fire engine should be counted first.

That President Taft has a high appreciation of the importance of the conservation problems and is more concerned to discover the best way to promote the highest public good than he is as to who shall secure the glory for originating it, was apparent from his speech in St. Paul.

The adoring young man who found himself provided with a hunting license instead of a marriage license when the time for the ceremony arrived evidently thought that he had returned to the olden times when the brides were won by force and swords were more convincing than bonbons.

A 15-year-old Boston girl recently succeeded in that foolish attempt in which so many strong men have failed, of swimming from Charleston bridge to Boston Light, a distance of twelve miles. It is a pity to use up such remarkable strength and risk life as well for no special object beyond doing an unusual thing.

The statistics which are given by the "Spectator," a life insurance paper, show a decided increase in the number of suicides in this country, and advances many theories as to the reason for this. Undoubtedly the increase is more apparent than real. The interest in keeping a record of such statistics is much greater than it was a few years ago.

The retiring president of the National Education association recently expressed his belief that in many of our best schools the way was made too easy for the pupils, thereby making the earnest use of their own minds unnecessary. Muscles grow strong through using them till they ache and brains are developed in the same manner.

The warden of a South Dakota prison is in a sad plight. He wants to establish a prison paper, but finds that there is not an editor among the inmates of the institution. The editor might readily be dispensed with as anyone can edit a paper, but worse yet there is not a printer in the penitentiary and everybody cannot set type.

Some of the republicans who find it so popular to throw brick bats at Joe Cannon now that they think he is down and out, may be down and out themselves when "Uncle Joe" is still in congress. Reliable information from Danville is that there is not the slightest danger of "Uncle Joe" losing his job this time and that the chances are that his term in office will depend upon his own wishes.

Kansas City has tried the scheme of

setting its prisoners for smaller offenses to work on a farm purchased for that purpose. Instead of being a constant burden on the city, these wrongdoers become a source of revenue, and work in the clear country air does much for the convicts. It helps them physically as well as morally and takes a load off the taxpayers. Is this not sufficient argument for trying the scheme widely?

We usually think of American citizens as without the possibility of becoming titled. But there is nothing in the constitution of the United States preventing an American citizen, who does not hold a federal office, from accepting a title of nobility from a foreign country if it is offered to him, and still retain his American citizenship. Several such instances have occurred in years past, but there seems no likelihood of a titled aristocracy becoming popular in this country.

The old curbing which is now being broken up and hauled off Norfolk avenue to make room for paving, could be utilized to very good advantage if it were piled up on a vacant lot and the hoboes given a job of breaking it up after they appear in police court. The broken rock would come in very handy to fill up bad places in the alleys and on unpaved streets of the city when needed, and in case of a prospective break in the dike during high water they would prove invaluable as a preventive.

The report of a triple alliance between Brazil, Chili and Argentina, may be premature, but it is to be hoped that it will prove true, since it would mean peace among the three strongest and most progressive states of the South American republic. Banded together these three states would have a formidable strength. The combined population is 32,000,000. Each has well trained and equipped troops and have a good start on fleets of Dreadnaughts.

President Taft's address before the national conservation congress at St. Paul was an able presentation of his ideas about the preservation for the use and needs of the people of the national resource of the country. In his preliminary remarks he said that a satisfactory conclusion as to means and methods for the accomplishment of this great work could only be reached promptly by avoiding acrimony, imputation of bad faith, and political controversy. In this statement the president is unquestionably correct.

Through the economy of the powers that be, the respectable sum of \$414,000 has been saved in the printing of the congressional records, pamphlets and speeches. Whether this saving has decreased the circulation of canned oratory so that thousands who might have read it and have been influenced to insure or to stand pat are indifferent, it is impossible to tell, but it is likely that many who have been in the habit of receiving several copies of their congressman's speeches, will be saved the trouble of burning those duplicates.

The pie has lately been suffering from various sources. It has been in the hands of its enemies, not its friends and consumers. The health department of the government has inspected and rejected the pie of commerce and given it a very bad character. But no one has dared to cast a shadow of suspicion on the home-made pie. It is admitted by all to be as dependable, as palatable, as nutritious and as uplifting as it was in colonial days. A sour pessimist, indeed, must be the man who does not hail the pumpkin pie season with joy.

The cholera in southern Russia has caused a panic among the people and it is impossible to get laborers to carry on the current business of the season. Exporters cannot get the 7,000 tons of wheat for which they have orders daily, loaded into cars, and the coal mines of the Don basin declare that that section will be ruined unless health conditions can be rapidly improved. Poor old Russia is always in trouble of some kind. If it isn't foreign war, it's revolution at home. If it isn't famine, it's pestilence.

This doesn't look as if justice is being done the men who fought the forest fires in the west, if it is true. The statement is made that the government refuses to allow the forty men who became blind and disabled, while fighting the fires, any fees for hospital services or any pay except for the actual days at work. This is an injustice and it is hoped that if the statement is true that steps will be taken at once to fully and completely recompense these, as well as all the others who became exhausted or injured in their efforts to save the forests.

**MURRAY'S GREAT SERVICE.**

In taking the bull by the horns and going after the bank examiners to find out why they are not reporting conditions of banks as they find them, Comptroller of the Currency Murray is doing a great service not only to the public in general, but to the banks themselves. He makes the re-

markable statement that all recent national bank failures could have been prevented if the examiners had reported conditions as they found them. Getting down to genuine examinations and correcting bad conditions, will have a tendency to put the whole banking business on a still more wholesome plane than ever it has been before.

A complete religious census is to be taken of the city of Chicago in the afternoon of October 8. It took the federal government six weeks to enumerate the inhabitants of the windy city. But the requirements of the religious census are simpler—name, age, residence, church, memberships or preference and relation to Sunday school, for each person.

Time is doing its perfect work for the cause of Irish home rule. In this present parliament the Irish, for the first time, are not only members for Ireland, but imperial legislators, while even the unionists are perceiving that the higher good of England and the empire demands that the Irish people be satisfied by grants that are just, honorable, and really expedient.

When a man takes a stand on a public platform to criticize the official acts of another, he is there on honor and should speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, just as much as though he were sworn in a court of justice. It takes a strong and honorable man to do this and unfortunately many of those who take part in our preliminary campaigns are neither big enough nor brave enough to avoid moral perjury.

American photographers have their nerve with them in emergencies and at the attempted assassination of Mayor Gaynor kept their cameras all working as long as he was in sight. The Japanese were equally impetuous and were able to supply photographs for use in the trial of Marquis Ito's assassin, but when a bomb was thrown at King Alphonso on the streets of Paris, the photographer was so unnerved as to forget his mission entirely.

In certain sections of California fireworks are found more effective than scare crows in protecting the great grain fields of the Sandhorn and other ranches from the vast flocks of wild geese and other aquatic fowl that settle on the grain at night and do immense damage. By frequently firing sky rockets and roman candles at various points around the ranch whenever a flock is heard "honking" in the sky the wild fowls are induced to give these places a wide berth.

During recent years there has sprung up quite a widespread dissatisfaction with and opposition to vaccination as a preventive of smallpox and much is being said by medical authorities on both sides of the question. In connection with this subject General Wood, whose medical training enables him to speak both as military man and a medical expert, gives his experiences in Cuba during the Spanish war as a practical demonstration of the efficacy of vaccination in checking one of the most terrific epidemics of smallpox in modern times. Such testimony as this ought to count for considerable.

**THE COLONEL TO REPORTERS.**

Now that Colonel Roosevelt is working on a newspaper, he seems to have a very kindly feeling toward the profession, and he handed out some very friendly advice at a dinner given by the Milwaukee Press club. Colonel Roosevelt is spoken of as an "editor," but actually he will not be ashamed to take his seat on the reporter's bench.

After all, the reporter's work is of the more permanent value, and the men who perform that function deserve to receive respectful treatment accordingly from the public.

An editorial is merely one man's opinion, and all opinions pass and fade away. A reporter is a historian of the world's acts, and history if written in the true, judicial spirit, never passes away.

The most satisfactory newspapers are those in which, however strongly pronounced editorial opinions may be expressed, the news columns treat political developments as a matter of news, in which all sides are entitled to fair treatment as a matter of historical justice. That, it is needless to say, is the policy of this newspaper.

**AROUND TOWN.**

Fremont has six miles of paved streets.

Why doesn't somebody chloroform Jack Frost?

By the way, we're in the midst of a political campaign.

Is Norfolk going to the bad? Forty men are down in the gutter today.

Why did those Fremonters have to trot out their best golfers, anyhow?

Was it last June or next June that the Union Pacific meant when it promised that new depot?

Anybody found a "topsy" doll on the street? A teeny, little baby girl broken. If you should find "Topsy" won't you be good enough to bring her

to The News office?

It doesn't take long for the truth to rise again. A year ago we all believed Doc Cook was the real goods.

It's like a three-ring circus to watch the public improvements in Norfolk—paving, library, Y. M. C. A., etc.

It's a silly question to ask how they came out at Fremont. If they'd won, they'd have told you before you asked.

Betting on Norfolk or Fremont in that golf match? And remember this: Everybody thought Jeffries would whip the negro.

A Norfolk woman out for dinner who spilled coffee on the table, offered to take the tablecloth home to wash it, and the hostess took her at her word.

**ATCHISON (LOBE SIGHTS).**

A married woman always likes it if women treat her husband coolly.

Aside from going to sleep, and forgetting there doesn't seem to be any general rule for happiness.

It must be a great help to mother that she is so constituted that ingratitude doesn't bother her much.

Occasionally a modest actress comes to town; one who says her \$500 dresses were made in New York instead of in Paris.

Women like to say this: "The only thing a man cannot forgive in his wife is her mental superiority."

If you have a "bad day," and feel tough, do you inflict your ill temper on those who have business with you? If you do, you are not a fair man.

An Atchison man has been sick so long that when his wife meets people on the streets, she says, without being asked: "He's just about the same."

Listen to a group of women long enough, and you will hear one of them name a certain medicine she is taking that will cure just anything.

We were never intended for an idle life; we feel so tough as a result of loafing on Sunday, that we are reasonably certain it was never intended we should be a gent or a man of leisure.

The loafer has a hard time of it. There are certain men who visit certain favorite loafing places in Atchison every day, and they always drop in timidly, as though they realize that their idleness is being remarked.

A great many years ago when there were Indians and bears, a woman wore her bonnet fastened on with strings; nowadays with a policeman at every corner to scare the Indians and bears away, she wears a hat pin a foot long.

"I am not very satisfactory to women," said an old bachelor, today; "they don't admire me, and I don't blame them; about all I have ever done for woman is that none of them have ever been called upon to weep because of my going away to war."

Hereafter, instead of hating the devil, we intend hating those people who are impolite and unfair, and who make a specialty of making life as uncomfortable as possible. And, instead of worshipping angels, we will in future always admire people who are nice.

If a woman tells how her husband proposed to her, every woman will drop her work to listen. It is related that an Atchison woman recently told her experience, and one woman listener became so interested she dropped her baby, and the baby broke in two, and she never noticed it.

The insurgents start so many stories that we don't know half the time what we are doing. If we should hear that George Washington were still alive, and writing letters abusing the corporations, we wouldn't feel safe in denying it.

Atchison people who crowded around Joe Schott last fall, to hear him tell about a trip to Germany, next gathered around Warrie Guthrie, who had been around the world. But now they are gathered around Frank Casey, who has just returned from the Reno prize fight.

There is some fear that automobiles will ruin the country. We sometimes think a greater danger is advertising. Magazines are being started almost as rapidly as automobiles are being manufactured and a page in the best ones costs more for one issue than a new automobile. And the magazine publishers are more unreliable about circulation than politicians are about their principles.

Men are not as big liars, we sometimes think, as generally believed. Many of the stories credited to them are invented by other men, as "jokes." W. B. Collett is reported as saying that during his recent fishing trip to the north, he caught a fish weighing forty pounds. What he really said was that fishing was poor; that the largest fish caught where he fished weighed twelve pounds.

The latest disease is called "Reception Paralysis." Women who stand in line at receptions and shake hands with several hundred guests, are subject to it. The day after the reception the victim feels a numbness in her arm; the next day her entire right side is numb, and the disease progresses slowly, until, at the end of the tenth day the paralysis strikes her heart, and she has fit.

# Home Course In Domestic Science

## XIV.—Principles of Home Decoration.

By EDITH G. CHARLTON,  
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**T**HE subject of home decoration and furnishing is so large and comes so closely to the individual life of the family that an outsider hesitates to make even the simplest suggestions. And yet just because the subject is large and important and because it is, on the whole, so little understood by the average person is one very good reason why instruction is needed along certain lines. All that I shall attempt, however, in these articles on home furnishing will be some of the very first principles, just a few hints for the women who are not sure of their own opinions on such matters, whose experience has been limited and whose opportunities for getting really good things are very few.

There was a time in the history of our country when the family was content with the home which simply afforded shelter. That was the primitive object of the home, an instinct devel-



COMFORTABLE LIVING ROOM

oped from early ages, when caves, rocks and later mounds of earth and wood furnished the dwelling place for the family. Undeveloped were the instincts which prompted primeval man to seek a place of shelter for his own little circle of human beings. They were, however, the beginning of the highest and strongest social institution in the world, that of family life and the private home. Now conditions have changed, people have developed, and the home must be something more than a place of shelter. It is still the keystone of the nation, the place where those qualities which make for good citizenship are developed, and therefore it is worthy of all the thought, all the intelligent planning and the noblest feelings that can be brought to it. The true home should reflect the character of the people who inhabit it, and above all else it should be of such a nature as to bring out the best there is in each individual beneath its roof. And a home in the true sense of the word can and does do this.

**Things Not to Do.**  
 Some of the most glaring faults in home furnishing are the commonest, those committed thoughtlessly or perhaps, to be more exact, those prompted by the dictates of fashion. It is so much easier very often to put into our homes and wear on our persons, even to put into our manner, those things which fashion says are right rather than to adopt those things which suit our own individuality, environment and needs.

Just because fashion states that a certain kind of wall paper, a certain color in carpets or certain styles in furniture are the "latest" and "newest" is no reason in the world why they should be put into your homes unless they will be suitable there. Yet very many times the decree goes forth and is followed blindly, with the result that beauty, harmony and repose are qualities totally ignored in many homes. Some one has said: "The world is full of beautiful things if one has money to buy them. The world is also full of ugly things—things false in art, in truth and beauty. They are things made to sell with only this idea behind them." So do not be tempted by the too common expression, "It is the very latest style," when buying furnishings for your home or wearing apparel for yourself unless the "very latest thing" has beauty and suitability to recommend it.

To have something like every one else is also another fault made in home furnishing. That is one reason why so many country houses try to reproduce on a cheaper scale the city home and why there are so many unattractive homes in smaller towns and country places. Ignorance or indifference to color and color harmony is another cause for lack of beauty in furnishing.

Again, pictures, furniture, ornaments and everything else are brought into our home without a thought of articles already there. The new and the old are combined without questioning whether one suits the other or not, and in consequence both are spoiled.

**Some Rules to Follow.**  
 To furnish a home satisfactorily one must always consider the style of house, its location, the use to which it

is to be put, as well as the cost of its furnishing. Not a single piece of furniture should be bought without some thought as to whether it is suitable for the home and its use; also whether it will be in harmony with furniture already in it.

When a woman has sufficient money at her command and can furnish the house completely from cellar to attic it is an easy matter to give the contract into the hands of a professional, occasionally with good results, sometimes disappointment. But when one must consider dollars carefully and furnish one room at a time, possibly only getting the absolute necessities for that room at first, it is a harder problem to solve. The latter woman, however, is the one whom I should like to help. Remember, then, in the first place not to buy anything unless it is appropriate to the use for which it is intended as well as for the completeness of the room. Remember to always select the real and substantial in preference to the showy imitation. If it is a question of tables, buy the simplest form, made of perfect wood, with best finish, rather than the elaborately carved, showy piece flimsily put together. A good enameled iron or plain brass bedstead will be infinitely more satisfactory in the end than one of cheap innard wood.

A large expenditure of money does not always imply a satisfactory home. Truth and harmony, the elements of beauty, may be secured in the most inexpensive cottage as well as in the palace.

The ideal country house is built on broad, generous lines. Never should it have the high, narrow, cramped roof frequently seen on crowded city streets, where space is at a premium. It should have also roomy verandas and porches, low ceilings, wide, low windows and hospitable looking doors opening into comfortable, homelike rooms. Such a house should be sincere in its furnishings—should not suggest imitation in any way. This impression of genuineness can be given by inexpensive material, even by homemade furniture, very much better than by showy workmanship carelessly performed.

**Treatment of High Ceilings.**  
 Some of the houses built forty or fifty years ago have ceilings too high to express real comfort. A room 10 by 12 feet with a twelve foot ceiling has the appearance of being extremely narrow, while a room the same size with a nine foot ceiling may give a real cozy effect. What is to be done with the high ceiling? The simplest way out of the difficulty is to cheat the eye into forgetfulness of those extra three feet. This can be done by using horizontal lines in the wall decoration. Either the ceiling paper can be brought down on the wall to the distance of three feet, the upper part of the wall may be finished with a frieze, or three feet at the base may be covered with canvas or wood paneling, then six feet of figured paper, finished with a narrow picture molding and joining the ceiling paper, which has been dropped three feet. Any of these methods will give the impression of a lower ceiling.

Borders have their place in wall decoration, but they should not be used in rooms with low ceilings. Such a room should be decorated with striped paper and have the wall covering extend close up to the angle formed by the ceiling, and here the picture molding is put on. Never use wide stripes or large designs of any kind on a small room, and bear in mind that simplicity in design and color is a good rule to follow in wall decorations as well as in any part of home furnishing.

**Good and Bad in Wall Covering.**  
 The owner of a new house is inclined to leave the walls undecorated for the first few months at least after the house is finished. His reason may be the added expense of decoration, or he may think he prefers the plain white wall just for its simplicity and because it is sanitary. If the walls have been finished with a smooth white surface it is more than likely every one will weary of them in a short time. Plain white walls give the feeling of being shut in a box, as if there were a limit to space. A smooth white surface also tires the eyes. Not so the rough plasters, which are quite generally used nowadays. And if to the plaster has been added a little color, a hint of gray or deep cream, the effect is satisfying for a long time. Indeed, for almost any room in the house, with the possible exception of the reception room or parlor, this rough surface simply tinted makes a most desirable wall finish. The smooth wall may be decorated in almost any color with calcimine or murex, giving a pleasing background for pictures. Whatever the wall decoration, it should be chosen with relation to the lighting of the room; also to the furnishings.

If the floor covering has considerable design and color, then the wall should have but one tint, and if the draperies are figured again be careful to select a flat color for the walls. Among the chief objections to wall paper are the exaggerated designs and too conspicuous colors, which are common in most of them. The size of the room and the kind of floor covering should largely determine whether the wall should be decorated with a paper having a pattern or a plain design. It is so much easier to err on the side of too much design than too little that unless you are sure of your knowledge of color combination it is generally better to keep to plain effects.

**Father Knows.**  
 She—Did you say anything to papa about your being too young? He—Yes. But he said when I once began to pay your bills I should age rapidly enough.—New York Journal.

**Know What His Few Days Meant.**  
 Quickly—By that bye, have you got \$10 about you that you don't need for a few days? Snuggly—I have, but I might need it some time.—Exchange.