

The Bee's Home Magazine Page

Beauty

Secrets for the Working Girl from Pretty Belle Baker



Beautiful Belle Baker.

By LILIAN LAUFERTY.

"If I were a little five-dollar-a-week shop girl, and some all-the-comforts-of-home luxurious society lady told me how to acquire charm and loveliness, I might expect that it is easy to be dainty and sweet when you have no handicap like mine, but instead a flying start like hers. However, if a girl whose handicap was far greater than mine had ever been here to tell me how to be lovely on my 'five per,' I think I would listen.

"So please hearken to Belle Baker, who started her career in a 'ladies' waist factory' when she was 3 years old, and now—after a lapse of ten years, as the programs say—is a popular vaudeville star who has just returned from a happy tour of the Orpheum circuit.

"They used to hide me in a box of waists when the inspector came around, and finally they were afraid to keep me at the factory," said the dark-eyed Belle. "So I had to leave and find work in another factory, for I was the oldest of six children and we were poor in a way you probably know nothing about. Factory after factory dismissed me because they were afraid to keep a child so young in their employ. I tried selling lemonade and newspapers—but I did have to work so hard and make so little money that I finally went to a music hall and offered my services free if they would just give me a chance to sing.

"I calmly told them that I had a beautiful voice, and my self-confidence must have impressed them, for they tried me and then gave me the princely salary of \$3 a week. In three years I worked up to \$15—and so I can talk to wage earners on their own levels, even though the last three years have brought me far more prosperity than I ever dreamed was possible in my early days.

"I still have to make a study of how to induce money to go a long way, for I have an invalid mother and her three children out in the country. They look to me for everything—and so I am ready to talk about how to look as well as possible on as little money as possible.

"Now I think that cheap little dresses may be just as sweet as most expensive things. And if you are clever at copying, you may go and look in the Fifth avenue windows quite free of charge, and copy a \$20 hat for \$4. I know, for I have done it—and still do it now and then.

"Learn to observe finely dressed women—and then in simple materials copy whatever of their costume will be in good taste for your station in life. But the girl on a small salary who wants to have all the things her wealthy sisters have will often look so over-dressed as to bring a question of her respectability—and she won't save. And the poor girl must cultivate the habit of saving—or whenever she thinks about the possible rainy day, why, then unbecoming worry wrinkles will come.

"A poor girl who wants to look well must patronize east side tailors and bring them Fifth avenue ideas, and must pick up bargain basement silk stockings of the best hose variety at 15c cents a pair if she wants to wear silk hosiery.

"I believe the poor girl's greatest help toward beauty is health. Milk and a sandwich for lunch instead of doughnuts and pie and chocolate eclairs—more fruit and less sweets, and plenty of baths. Why, I myself think two or three a day are not too many in the hot summer days. But a daily bath and all the sensible food we can possibly afford, and a jar of good cold cream to take the city dust out of the pores of her face are the best beauty-hints for the poor girl—or her rich sister—that I know.

"Don't envy the girl who has more than you—try to get happiness right at home by bringing it there, and do relax instead of rushing feverishly off to have a 'good time' when you come home all tired from work. For if you look sweet and daintily clean and fresh and rested, you will have the best kind of good looks to help you on in the ambition I share with all of you—to make good."

And this is pretty Belle Baker's kindly message to all her little sisters of toil.

The Result



"Where did you go for your honeymoon, Major?" "Went broke."

Nature Schools

Children Should Not Be Forced to Study Subjects to Which Their Nature is Indifferent—Outdoor Schools and Gardens Suggested as Solution to This All-Interesting Problem

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

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Great changes are taking place all over the world in methods of education. The former things are passing away, and the new things are better than the old.

A school of organic education has been established the last two years in Fairhope, Ala., and the idea is now being talked and spread broadcast by progressive individuals.

Marietta Johnson, the principal of this parent school, has given her life and vitality to making the nature method a success.

She has been at Fairhope, Conn., giving a demonstration of her methods to over sixty pupils and twenty-six adults. It is her ambition and hope to make this demonstration so convincing that the public schools will follow her methods in instruction.

Here are some of Mrs. Johnson's very same ideas:

"We know that many children fail in school. We know that many grow indifferent and unhappy. We know that some are not strong enough to meet the 'requirements.' Then why is the name of education should we continue the treatment when the response is unsatisfactory?"

"Why not sanely and bravely look the little child in the face and throw away all of the 'traditions of the elders' and all of our unrighteous requirements, and simply and religiously meet his requirements? How shall we know them? By the symptoms of his response or reaction. The test of a school is the condition of the child—bodily—mentally—spiritually."

"What does the body need? Fresh air, cut-of-dress plays, freedom, no stationary desks, no enforced silence, but quiet only when the occupation requires it. Much choice in occupation, physical coordination through creative handwork. What does the mind require? Time to observe, investigate, think and reason out a few things—often help and guidance from the teacher, but rarely ordered attention—experience, activities in harmony with age and interests—that is, things of sense in the early years, books, experience of others, and abstractions in the later years.

"Why should education insist upon being uneducational? Our insane desire to 'educate' is a fatal barrier to development, which is the only true education. Could a child's conscious striving and over-acting make him taller or broader?

Neither will conscious striving and over-study make him wiser or better.

"Why not act as reasonably in education as in other things? If the nature of the little child requires freedom, why not give freedom instead of requiring him to sit at stationary desks and be silent? If his nature requires out-of-door fresh air, why not give that? Can't he learn anything out of doors? If his seeing should not be at close range, why give him a book at so young an age? Can't he learn anything without books?"

"What is to prevent our taking the desks out of the room, and removing the 'intellectual requirements' of the first grades in any city? Instead of desks have tables at which the children may work. Instead of requirements—in reading, writing, numbers, etc.—let the children sing and play, make things of paper, cardboard and textiles, taking care that the nervous system is not violated by too close work. Let them have gardens in which they may plant what they choose and care for in their own way with the sympathetic assistance of the teacher. Let them have stories of geography, history and literature. Give

them an opportunity to learn to speak some other modern language than their own. Let them have water colors and clay which they may freely use. Allow the teacher to take them out of doors at any hour she may wish, taking them to parks and museums for the pleasure and profit of going and seeing rather than to prepare them to 'pass' any particular examination."

All these wholesome ideas and many more were discussed and explained and proven by the United Workers of Greenwich, Greenwich, Conn.

There was also a conference on organic education held at Havesmeyer school, Greenwich, Conn., on Thursday, July 31.

The purpose of this conference was to perfect plans for the development of this point of view in child education and to establish centers where the principles may be applied and where teachers may be trained.

Such a center exists in the summer school now in session in Greenwich, under the direction of Mrs. Marietta L. Johnson, founder of the organic school at Fairhope, Ala.

Inviting Callers

By MRS. FRANK LEARNED

Author of "The Etiquette of New York Today."

Many little questions are coming up constantly in the minds of people who are in search of the correct thing in manners. Small problems, which are puzzling, need to be solved.

For instance, a young woman or girl may be uncertain whether she should ask a man to call or wait for a request from him. Now, in social life, the rule is well understood that a woman has the right to choose who may be admitted to her house, and this rule should be kept in mind in a decision asking a man to call or withholding that privilege. A woman does not, therefore, hasten to ask a man to call who has just been introduced to her, and certainly does not if she knows very little about him. If she should do so she would seem very eager for his society, as well as rather injudicious in her selection of friends.

In the world of society a mother would usually know most of the young men whom her daughter would meet. They belong, for the most part, to families known to each other. When it is possible the invitation to call may be made by a girl's mother, who might say, informally: "We are always at home on Thursday afternoons," or "We like to have friends come in on Sunday afternoons, and shall be glad to see you." A remark of this sort gives ease in every direction.

A man therefore understands that he should wait to be given the privilege of calling. He should not ask a girl if he may call to see her unless he has some good reason to think that the suggestion might come from him, but he should know her quite well before making it.

Another reason why a girl should not be in haste to ask a man to call is that if he should prove indifferent to the privilege granted she has the unpleasant sensation that he is not anxious for her society.

If a man has been introduced to a girl at the house of intimate friends, and there is reason to believe that he is a desirable acquaintance, an exception may be made to the general rule of not asking him to call after a first meeting or conversation. In a case of this sort the young people may have heard much of each other and may become in a friendly footing quickly. The important thing is for a girl to be careful in her selection of friends. Of course, it is only respectful for a man to wish to be introduced to a girl's parents and there should be no delay about this.

It is not correct for a girl to urge a man to call who has failed to appreciate the courtesy offered, nor is it advisable to seem so anxious for his attentions as to name a time for him to come when he has not even inquired when he might find her at home.

In large cities evening visits are out of fashion.

An Attractive Bathing Suit Fully Described by Olivette



By OLIVETTE.

The scalloped bathing suit is one of the summer's fancies. The little dress we portray has a foundation of gray satin, trimmed in plaid satin of gray and Geneva blue. The suit opens down the front and is trimmed in self-buttons in a double row down its full length. The deep scallops at the bottom are bound in the plaid, and in turn the scalloped swallow-tailed redingote of the plaid is bound in the gray satin. The undersleeve is of the plaid, and the upper sleeve is made kimono fashion and is a continuation of the gray satin yoke, which has little half-inch tucks in groups of three. The neck is cut in a modest V and is piped, yoke-fashion, in the plaid.

Be a Woman

The saying, "Be a Man," ought to be changed in certain circumstances

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX

The boy, a big husky youth of 14, had complained incessantly of his troubles all day.

"Oh," I said at last in some impatience, "why can't you be a little braver? For pity's sake, try to be a man!"

The words had no sooner left my lips than I felt to wondering. I had urged him to "Be a Man!" If I could take him by the arm and lead him to some man who would be to him a shining example, where would I find him?

Where could I find a man who would bare his back to the rod and make no complaint?

Was there a man who could teach him patience, gentleness, forbearance, charity, tenderness?

Was there a man whom he could emulate, day after day, and increase his strength in so doing?

I cast my eyes around all the men I knew in search of one who on all occasions knew how to be a man.

One was quick of temper, irritable, rash, headlong, and though withal a good man, the boy would find no instructions there in the lesson of patience everyone must learn.

Another blustered about his bravery and fooled all but those who knew that when there was a mysterious noise at his house in the night, his wife had to investigate.

Another had a reputation widespread for philanthropy, and only the close-observing saw that his family lacked the necessities of life in order that he might enjoy seeing his name on the billboards with an imposing row of figures after it.

All cared more for their own creature comforts than for the well-being of the lady who supplied them. All complained loudly of a little pain, and there was not a man among them who did not say often to his wife, "Look, what a burden our marriage has put on my shoulders!" taking no note of the greater burden bending her back.

All were selfish, thinking only of the gratification of their own desires and showing a regard for others only in the degree to which they supplied them.

There were few who had both physical and moral courage, and almost none as good in their thoughts as the law compelled them to be in their actions.

Then there passed before my eyes a procession of woman, patient under long suffering, brave when everyone around them faltered, denying themselves that they might give to those they loved, cheerful and smiling when there wasn't a scrap of hope left, inspiring, cheering, urging on the men who walked beside them and throwing arms of protecting tenderness around husband and children!

It was a noble sight. It filled my eyes with tears, and I felt an emotion too deep, and somehow too sacred, to find vent in cheering.

"I will take it back," I said to the young man. "Don't be a man! Be a woman!"

Advice to the Lovelorn

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX

It Were Better Not.

Dear Miss Fairfax: For the last year I have known a young lady three years my junior. As we live on the same street, we meet and converse very frequently. Now, I care very much for her and have tried to show this fact through my actions. As I am a student much of my time is taken up by my studies, and so I have decided that, unless she cares for me, I would only be wasting time by meeting her whenever. Since her actions did not show whether or not she loves me, I wrote her a letter explaining my circumstances, including the fact that it would be five or six years before I would be through with my studies, and asked that she write me a letter telling me whether or not she cares for me. Do you think that I was correct in taking that measure to find out her affection for me? "ME LIBERA."

You asked her to reveal her heart to you, at the same time telling her that you could offer nothing in return. It was a little selfish in you, and I hope she refused to answer. Wait till in position to marry her before asking her if she loves you.

New Agriculture

By REV. THOMAS B. GREGORY

The "New Agriculture," which is working such wonders all over the civilized world of today, may be said to have had its beginning fifty-four years ago this month with the publication of Liebig's "Letters on Agriculture."

As is the case with the planted seed, ideas must wait for their fruitage, and consequently Liebig's teachings did not at once realize their harvest; but with the birth of the twentieth century we began hearing of the great things that were being done at the "experimental stations" of the state and national governments—how they were tilling the earth and making her laugh with harvests that were little short of the miraculous.

Spurred on by these reports, individual farmers began to prick up their ears and

to look for better results from their labors. Inquiries began pouring into the stations, the agents of the government went out to meet the farmers, and as a consequence agriculture all over the country is undergoing a radical change for agrarians to seed winter wheat where the best.

Before Liebig's day the chemistry of soils was scarcely understood, and scarcely any one knew the way in which plants were nourished; but the great German by throwing daylight upon the matter, laid the sure foundation for one of the most important revolutions of history.

The present-day achievements of agriculture surpass in wonderfulness the tales of the "Arabian Nights," and the end is not yet. Every day, aided by the science of organic chemistry, for which we must largely thank Liebig, the farmer is working miracles upon his land.

The one-time widely accepted doctrine of Malthus, that the human race was rapidly encroaching upon the producing power of the earth and that by and by people must starve to death, is now shown to be sheer nonsense. We are assured, by the actual achievements of present day scientific agriculture, that Malthusianism was never more than a baseless dream.

