

Our Women and Children

Conducted by
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HOME VS. STREET CORNER

As a part of the recent entrance examination at an American college of high standing, the candidates for admission were asked to write upon what they regarded as the reform: most necessary to be made among the boys of their acquaintance. The replies taken as a whole brought out two facts of great interest: first, that the writers almost all mentioned cigarette smoking, the use of bad language, boastfulness and loafing or street corners as the evils most common to boys of seventeen; and, second, that they agreed even more generally in naming the corner loafing as the most serious fault, both in itself and as a cause of the others.

To older people the information is not new, but it is none the less important. Those college boys, for all their youth,—perhaps, indeed, because of it,—see with clear eyes. The earnestness with which they announce their discovery and ask for reform should awaken the zeal of those who have the remedy so largely in their hands.

One obvious way to prevent a boy from spending his evenings in the streets is to make home more attractive to him. How many parents try to do it? Listen to what one college boy says: "Although sometimes a boy will not seem to care whether his father is interested in him or not, he is secretly pleased when he co-operates with him." Fathers and mothers who have never tried the plan should act on that hint for a week, and watch the result on the boy. They will also find it of interest to notice, too, whether the inconvenience to themselves is real or only fancied.

But every boy has the "gang" instinct, which must play its part at a certain stage of his development. The trouble is that it is difficult to use it for the boy's good because of the absurd but undeniable fact that boys at one period of their lives take pleasure in appearing worse than they really are. "The time-worn philosophy of boyhood and youth is that the brave men are the bad men. The worse a man may be, the more worthy of imitation he is."

Most youths soon outgrow the days of their allegiance to the motto, "Seem and not be." None the less, street-corner loafing can do them nothing but harm. The tone of the individual, instead of being raised by that of the group, is lowered by it. He loses the inspiration that springs from common feeling and action in a good cause, and for that loss he may suffer all the rest of his life.

The faults in boys are due partly to themselves and partly to their parents. The best way that fathers and mothers can help their sons to correct their shortcomings is to try to remedy those for which they themselves are responsible.—Youth's Companion.

THE WINDS

By Adelbert F. Caldwell
The West Wind met the South Wind,
And cried out in surprise,
"How happens it you're blowing—
I can scarce believe my eyes!
Did not the North Wind bluster
He'd blow alone today?"

"Yes," gently said the South Wind,
"But he blew himself away!"
—Ex.

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

When your blanket is worn at the top and foot, do not use the good part for an ironing blanket or table pads. Cut off the worn parts, bind the good parts with satin ribbon and if not too much worn put a wreath in the center or stencil a border of rabbits or geese or ducks on it. They make excellent baby blankets.

When sewing on hooks and eyes, or fasteners, pin a tape measure where the hooks are to go and sew them an inch apart. Then pin the tape measure on the opposite side and sew on the eyes. You will find in this manner you can do the work much quicker and it is less wearisome than measuring each one.

Perhaps you are making your children's summer clothes and bemoaning the fact that they insist on growing out of their clothes so fast that you can hardly keep them properly dressed. And then you would like to use last summer's dress this summer, as it is good enough for afternoons, but the sleeves are entirely too short and Mary or Alice has used the scraps that were left for doll clothes. Too provoking, isn't it, because the hem could be made narrower or let out en-sleeves! Now, the best way to provide for this is in the cuffs. Cut the cuffs about one-third wider than wanted, then stitch one side to the sleeve and sew sleeve and cuff seam together before sewing other side of cuff to sleeves. Turn sleeve wrong side out and turn the extra width of cuff and whip to sleeve. When the sleeve is to be lengthened, it is an easy matter to take out the whipping stitches, let down the cuff and whip it into place again.

Buy lemons when cheap and store in a box of sawdust. They will keep fresh for weeks.

Paper in which butter, margarines tirely and faced—but, oh, these or lard has been wrapped should be kept and used as a lining for cake tins and as a covering for a pudding which is to be steamed and for wrapping up sweet roly-polies before putting them into a cloth to be boiled. These papers are all ready without any more greasing, so there is a very great saving of both time and labor.

A tiny pinch of carbonate of soda well stirred into the milk as soon as it arrives will help to keep it sweet in hot weather.

AN "ALICE IN WONDERLAND" PARTY

Last Saturday afternoon, from 2 to 6 p. m. Mrs. Alfred Jones gave an "Alice in Wonderland Party" in honor of the eleventh birthday of her daughter, Florence.

Just as the clock struck twelve in Wonderland, Alice (who was represented by Miss Florence) led her little guests through the "Magic Looking Glass" into Wonderland, where they ate of the mystic cake, partook of the "magic draught" and for two hours enjoyed the delights of Wonderland. Alice then led her little friends into the dining room where all enjoyed the "Mad Tea Party." The little girls expressed themselves as having a delightful time and declared that the hour of six came all too quickly.

John Ruskin Cigar, 5 cents. Biggest and Best.

THE LABOR SITUATION

The labor situation in the west is most acute. There are demands for more than 1,000 Colored men and the labor cannot be supplied. The Monitor has been working for some time in trying to induce firms to advance transportation for the Colored men of the South who want to leave, but has not yet succeeded. Past experience of these firms make them rather afraid to advance several thousands of dollars in transportation, but they must come to it eventually. The Colored men whom The Monitor brings from

the South can be depended upon to pay back every cent advanced for transportation, for only the best are chosen. We believe that it will only be a matter of a week or so when these companies will be willing to trust our applicants. Farmers are now writing in to us for men and we are sending them our lists of farm help so that they may get into communication with those of our people who wish to leave the South. Labor conditions are critical and industries will make some arrangements for labor in the very near future.

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