

PROTECT THE BIRDS.

William Dutcher, president of the American Audubon society, estimates that birds save American farmers annually \$200,000,000 in the destruction of harmful insects and noxious weeds. He further computes that the savings would amount to \$38,000,000 more if that old harridan of a tyrant, Fashion, did not decree that milliners shall ornament women's hats with the plumage of many of the most valuable of the feathered tribe. Scientists have estimated that human life on our planet long since would have been extinct as a consequence of the destruction of vegetable life if birds had not come to the rescue and made perpetual and resolute war on insect life, says the Cincinnati Enquirer. In this good year 1909 the joint worm is playing havoc with the wheat crop of central Ohio, and that could not have been if the men and boys of Ohio had not levied constant war on the farmers' best friends, the birds of the field, the orchard and the forest. Every bluebird is annually worth to the farmer triple its weight in silver, and every wren is annually worth to the gardener its weight in gold. The sparrow is invaluable to the fruit grower, and the woodpecker does yeoman service in the cause of a rich harvest.

St. Petersburg reports that the presence of cholera is militating seriously against summer tourist travel. This ought to be reassuring to all Europe. When people wisely stay away from centers of disease there will be less likelihood that the germs will be scattered all over the continent. If St. Petersburg cares for the traffic she has lost temporarily she should hasten her sanitation and also increase effort to stamp out the cholera. The drinking water there is contaminated, and every tourist who goes to the Russian capital takes a risk every time he drinks water that has not been boiled.

Now they are saying that ex-President Reyes of Colombia, who cabled his resignation from Europe, "salted down" \$25,000,000, and his countrymen are asking where he got it and how they can oblige him to give it up. But these may be merely malicious misrepresentations. Castro, who left Venezuela for Venezuela's good, in the opinion of a great many persons, was credited with fabulous riches. But according to later developments his possessions shrank to comparatively little measure.

As was expected, the cotton crop of 1908 was larger than the speculators for a rise pretended, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. It amounted to 13,587,000 bales, so the bureau of the census says, or 2,312,000 more than that of 1907. Only twice—in 1904 and in 1906—was the yield greater than that of 1908. The crop of 1904, which broke all the records, was a little below the 14,000,000-bale mark. As, at present prices, cotton is a highly profitable crop, the presumption is that the acreage of 1909 is up at high figures.

The English prime minister, in speaking of the possible invasion of England, the national bugaboo just now, gave the house of commons the gloomy information that if once Britannia ceased to rule the waves, somebody else would boss her. If this does not produce adequate appropriations for national defenses, other appeals are useless.

Baby carriages, along with other vehicles, must carry red lights at the rear, in accordance with the speed laws of Los Angeles. This is the first intimation given anywhere of the danger to the public from baby carriages, aside from their painful, though not perilous, practice of rolling over feelings and toes on the sidewalk.

A man in Brooklyn, bitten by a dog, worried himself to death, although physicians assured him he had no signs of the dreaded disease. This instance shows how dangerous are the senseless panics and "mad-dog" scares which come about regularly every summer.

The Simplified Spelling society has held its third annual meeting. As a reminder to a forgetful public that the society is still in existence, the meeting appears to be a qualified success. Otherwise the public is still spelling the same old way.

Big orders for steel, notably for the kinds used in structural work, continue to pour in, this being one of the most marked indications of the continuous performance in industrial activity.

France does not mind its cold weather so much as it does the frost on the tourist crop.

A good many castles in Spain are for rent.

# NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL

## Congress Pages Need Supervision



WASHINGTON.—Being much larger than the senate, with many more members to look out for and more ground to cover, the house is allowed 44 page boys, and in age they are the seniors of the senate pages, while their pay is just the same. House pages must be between the ages of fourteen and 18 years. They go on duty at nine o'clock each day and stay until the house adjourns. They place the copies of the Record on the desks of members, keep the desks in order and are at the beck and call of members whenever wanted. They are under the immediate supervision of a chief page on each side of the house. Some of them are assigned to duty as telegraph pages and others as telephone pages, but most of them are on duty on the floor.

The house pages are appointed on the recommendation of members by the head doorkeeper, who has general supervision of the boys. Generally, the member who has secured the boy's appointment will look after his physical and moral welfare while he is here, and it has happened that a

member has sent home a boy who fell into bad ways and could not be brought under discipline. There is not such a large proportion of the district boys in the house as in the senate. They come from many states, but some of the more distant states are not represented.

It is doubtless a fact that the boys in both houses of congress are under closer supervision than was the case at one time. A few examples opened the eyes of the authorities to what dangers might confront boys far from home without the refining influences that are inseparable from a mother's love and care. While the restraint is not irksome, it is designed to be at least wholesome and for the entire good of the youths who may very likely grow up to be themselves makers of laws and rulers of the land.

Without doubt it has been a great trial to most of the youngsters to be deprived of their vacations for such a long time. The call of the woods and fields is strangely insistent to youth. Every normal, healthy, manly boy yearns to get out in the open—to swim, ride, shoot, sail or disport himself in the water. To be confined within even marble walls cannot compensate for the freedom of the fields, and so the page boys are happy at last in the prospect of unlimited enjoyment for a time and a rest from the cares which sit but ill at best on young shoulders.

## Washington Women Are Auction Mad



THE loyal legion of congress women, who hung on in Washington during the dog days, encouraging their husbands, found surcease for sultry solitude in auctions. The Washington female is auction mad. There's a greater glamour here over the sale of other people's old rubbish than anywhere else in the country. Power is always changing hands. Nobody puts in his high estate, and when the dignitaries get their walking papers they sell out all their household goods, as a rule. Hence the avid feminine scramble for foreign and historic relics. The smartest society is always to be found in the fashionable auction rooms in Washington.

"The retiring foreign minister" dodge is worked to a fine financial finish by foxy auctioneers. There are usually more auctions to celebrate

their retiring than there are ministers to retire. But who's going to keep tabs? Diplomatic debris is always at a premium. Discards from legations whether genuine or apocryphal, are gobbled gluttonously. Most congressional wives go back home laden with sacred relics from auction houses, more or less authenticated.

One of these ardent ladies picked up recently, at a rare bargain, in prime condition apparently, an oriental rug, warranted to have been highly prized by a prominent diplomat, who parted with it reluctantly upon his recall to his own country. The rug, which had never known a foreign footfall, wore beautifully for a month or two, then fell all to pieces at one fell swoop, like the "wonderful one-horse shay." The fabric, which was literally worn in holes, had been strengthened and renewed by a preparation of glue on the back, the threadbare spots filled up to a firm consistency by the use of red egg dye paint. The disenchanted lady had only a shoddy rug to show for her \$75 expenditure. Still the thrall of the auction room never diminishes.

## National Capital Is a Clean City



HIGH tribute to the cleanliness of the streets of the national capital was paid recently by Joseph A. Gleason, general superintendent of the department of public works of New Orleans.

He called at the district building to find out how it was done, and chatted with Commissioner West and Superintendent James M. Wood of the street-cleaning department.

"Washington is the cleanest and the best city I have been in," he told Commissioner West, after relating experiences in visiting many of the leading cities of the eastern and central states. "I want to find out how you do it."

During his conference with Superintendent Wood of the street-

cleaning department, it was discovered that there is about ten times as much street area in the district to be cared for as in New Orleans; but the visiting official told the local heads that the streets of Washington are cleaner than those in New Orleans.

The New Orleans official went carefully into all the details of the system of street cleaning in the national capital, and declared that he found many new ideas which could be used in the southern city.

One of the advanced steps taken in New Orleans looking to cleanliness, Superintendent Gleason explained, was along the line of making the street railway companies sprinkle their tracks. While the old lines of the city cannot be made to carry out that course, the new lines are given charters containing a compulsory clause. The results are excellent, it was reported, and the system is to be extended in the future. Nothing like this has been tried in the district.

## Craze For Presidential "Relics"



THE presidential people never cease to be objects of the most poignant interest. They never pall on the public curiosity, even here in Washington, where presidents are human nature's daily food.

Shortly before Mrs. Taft's departure for her summering she attended a concert at a fashionable theater. Her discarded program dropped to the floor as she got up to leave. Instantly those near by who were watching every motion of the notable lady made a stampede for the worthless piece of paper, each anxious to secure it as a relic.

On one of her latest shopping expeditions, Mrs. Taft, being a careful

and economical buyer, deliberated for a considerable while over the choice of a piece of lace at the lace counter. After she had finally made her selection and departed, a fellow-customer of the shop, much more showily and handsomely dressed than the president's wife, who, from a little distance had been watching the proceedings like a hawk, pounced down upon the saleswoman that Mrs. Taft had just released, who was busy folding up her stock. "Which piece did Mrs. Taft buy?" asked the eager onlooker with avidity. She was shown. "I'll take all the rest of that piece of lace," the woman feverishly declared. The Taftian touch and the Taftian taste had given the dry fabric a fictitious value in the purchaser's eyes, truly ludicrous.

A local paper recently remarked in all seriousness that Mrs. Taft was seen not long ago walking demagogically down F street, "carrying her pocketbook in her hand." An eccentric proceeding not to carry it in her teeth!

## Popular in Paris



The gown on the right is of cornflower blue marquisette, unlined. It is trimmed with bands of Egyptian embroidery in tones of green and blue. The hat is of gold-yellow, trimmed in hydrangeas and velvet ribbon.

The frock in the middle is of white linen, with a trimming of blue and white embroidery. The vest is of tacked silk mull, and a cravat of black satin. The hat is of black Milan straw, with black velvet ribbon and a white silette.

The gown on the left is of amethyst batiste, with insertions of filet lace and a chemisette of white mull. The hat is of violet straw, with a double plaiting of lace.

## ELBOWS REQUIRE MUCH CARE CARRY ALL THE IMPEDIMENTA

Effects of Season of Net and Lace Sleeves Must Be Carefully Removed.

Elbows which have been scarified by a season of net and lace sleeves will need very careful tending before they may appear with grace in the ball dresses of winter. One authority advises rubbing the joint every night with olive or almond oil, giving it a good scrub with a stiff brush and soap and water beforehand. A careful drying with a soft old cloth is an important point, but it is while the flesh is still warm and the pores open that the oil is supplied. In extreme cases of roughness the operation is helped by an oil-soaked pad which should be bound on at night.

A flesh brush may also be employed to advantage on the small eruptions which sometimes appear on the upper arm and upon the back between the shoulders. As lack of circulation is generally the cause of these, the friction will cause their entire disappearance in time and keep the skin immune from a second crop. The flesh brush is likewise necessary for removing the dead skin from the body, for if these dry particles are left to smother the pores the skin can never present a healthy or clean look. Use the brush with a five-minute's dry rub, and then after the bath wield it courageously for a good five minutes more.

Useful Dressing Pouches Have Attained the Popularity That They Deserve.

Automobile dressing pouches are rapidly superseding all kindred receptacles, as they not only hold an amazing amount of luggage, but may be crowded into a surprisingly small space. They are made of tan or stone gray waterproof moire, leather lined and strap handled, of khaki rubber-proof material, English pigskin, patent leather, russet or black, alligator and genuine walrus skin.

Grain leathers of various kinds of finish are employed for combination bags, which have a lower portion adapted for holding skirts and an upper section supplied with cold cream, boracic acid and soap receptacles, as well as compartments for brushes and manicure tools.

While club, kit, Oxford and Gladstone bags in real walrus skin are deemed exceedingly smart, they are rather difficult to handle, whereas the oblong shaped leather lined wicker dressing bags are wonderfully light of weight, capacious and the very latest device for holding motoring luggage.

## PRETTY TAFFETA WAIST.



Blouse of biscuit-colored taffeta trimmed with narrow brown velvet ribbon, the ends of which are fastened with gold buttons.

The tucked chemisette is of chiffon, with yoke of guipure, of which the cuffs are also made.

## Suits for the Autumn.

There has been much conjecture concerning the tailored suit of the future should the panier become popular. But at last an inkling has been given of what we may expect.

One of the suits for earliest autumn is of cheviot, with a very long coat. The gown underneath is trimmed around the hips with a short tunic of the cloth itself. This, while it fits the figure, is cut on pouter lines or circular, and it is only evident when the coat is removed.

## FIXES THE DANCING SLIPPER

Small Piece of Waxed Tape All That Is Necessary for Comfort and Safety.

Many girls find the low-cut shoes and pumps difficult to keep on at the heel, but since this style of shoe is fashionable they persist in wearing them on all occasions. A piece of waxed tape, the narrowest width procurable, run through the binding at the top of the shoe and tied beneath the bow or rosette in front, will help considerably to keep the boot from "bumping" up and down at the heel. The same scheme may be tried with satin evening slippers.

For suede pumps, black or white, bows made of the same leather are now more fashionable than either felt ribbon pump bows or fancy buckles.

In purchasing suede pumps it is better to buy those with wooden heels, as the leather heel runs off so quickly and thus ruins the whole effect of the shoe. In white shoes especially it is advisable not to have the leather-covered heels, which become stained so quickly with grass or mud, and which stains it is often impossible to eradicate.

## Fashions in Trimmings.

In trimmings Dame Fashion has stamped her approval on pipings, laces, buttons of the large and small sizes, embroidery and braids on the late summer gowns. Princess, baby Irish, duchess lace are all used. The nets, which have answered the purpose of collar and vest for so long, are relegated to second position.

## Slips for Frocks.

The shops now offer at small prices slips of mullin, white or colored, to go under transparent frocks. These have a lace-edged ruffle, are cut low in the neck, and have straps on the shoulders edged with lace.

## Silk or Crepe de Chine.

When cleaning small pieces of silk or crepe de chine or any fancy piece, first wash in castile soap and hot water, then dip in benzine, which lends color and brilliancy to it.

## ONE ON JOHNNY.



He was a balmy-headed Johnny, with little cash. She was both pretty and pert. He said: "Do you know, Dolly, I am something of a mimic? I can take almost anybody off."

She said: "Then take yourself off, old boy. I'm expecting some one to take me to supper."

All in Fight Against Tuberculosis. Prevention of tuberculosis versus dividends is the proposition which some of our largest insurance companies are now trying to establish. The Metropolitan Life recently applied for permission to erect a sanatorium for its policy holders and employees afflicted with tuberculosis, but the application was refused on grounds of illegality by New York State Superintendent of Insurance Hotchkiss. The company is, however, conducting an active educational campaign by distributing 2,500,000 pamphlets among its policy holders. The Provident Savings Life Assurance society has also established a health bureau, where its policy holders may receive free medical advice. Several fraternal orders, notably the Modern Woodmen, Knights of Pythias, Royal League, Royal Arcanum and Workmen's Circle, have already established or are contemplating the erection of sanatoria for their tuberculous members.

## A Noble Love.

"Is the contract of dowry properly drawn up, signed and witnessed?" asked the count of Castle-on-the-Bum.

"Yes," sighed Gladys Golden.

"There are no loopholes through which your wise lawyers of Philadelphia might creep?"

"Not a loophole," said the fair Gladys.

"And your father's holdings in Anagamatad Whalebone, American Cheese and Macaroni and Tin Soap-Plate 6s have not been affected by the recent depression?"

"No, dearest," answered Miss Golden, firmly.

"Then I love you," said the noble count; and two fond hearts beat as one.—Puck.

## Sit Up.

Much rot has recently been writ, and wags have rent their brains asunder, in trying to make food for wit this dreadnaught lid the girls hide under. What need have men to knock it so? They do not have to sweat beneath it. Is it because the fellows know the landscape has been robbed to wreathe it? We are no judge of ladies' lids, and care not what your choice or vote is; it's not what's on but in girls' heads that makes us sit up and take notice.—Bard of Benzie.

## About Time.

Dorothy—Can I have some water to christen my doll, mamma?

Mother—Oh! no. I don't like you to play with water.

Dorothy—Well, can I have some wax to waxinate her? I'm sure she ought to have something done by now. I've had her three months.—Windsor Magazine.

## An Escape.

"Are you sure that indicator registered the correct fare?"

"Yes," answered the taxicabman.

"You aren't kicking, are you?"

"No, I'm congratulating myself. If we went that far in so short a time we were mighty lucky not to get arrested for scorching."—Washington Star.

## Willing to Try.

She—Do you think it would take you long to love a girl?

He—I don't know. How long have you got?—Yonkers Statesman.

## IT WORKS

The Laborer Eats Food That Would Wreck an Office Man.

Men who are actively engaged at hard work can sometimes eat food that would wreck a man who is more closely confined.

This is illustrated in the following story:

"I was for 12 years clerk in a store working actively and drank coffee all the time without much trouble until after I entered the telegraph service.

"There I got very little exercise and drinking strong coffee, my nerves were unsteady and my stomach got weak and I was soon a very sick man. I quit meat and tobacco and in fact I stopped eating everything which I thought might affect me except coffee, but still my condition grew worse, and I was all but a wreck.

"I finally quit coffee and commenced to use Postum a few years ago, and I am speaking the truth when I say, my condition commenced to improve immediately and today I am well and can eat anything I want without any bad effects, all due to shifting from coffee to Postum.

"I told my wife today I believed I could digest a brick if I had a cup of postum to go with it.

"We make it according to directions boiling it full 20 minutes and use good rich cream and it is certainly delicious."

Look in pkgs. for a copy of the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

## There's a Reason.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.