

THE ONLOOKER
WILBUR D. NESSIT

VEGETARIAN MILLINERY



Spring bonnets will be trimmed with vegetables and fruits.—Fashion Note.

Put aside the muslin daisies and the purple velvet roses.

And the cotton-battling buds that nodded lightly.

For the milliner hereafter will say when she sews she sows.

And will cultivate your taste with bonnets slightly.

For the gay, flirtatious lady there'll be bonnets full of eyes.

In the cluster of potatoes in the trimming.

And a bathing bonnet, also, will be fashioned in the guise.

Of a watermelon to be worn while swimming.

Green cucumbers and red peppers for the woman who is sour.

Will accentuate her disposition acid.

And a pumpkin shell effect may be devised in half an hour.

For a woman who is comfortably placid.

And the lady who is verging on a dim, uncertain age.

Will be fitted with a dream in elderberries.

While a milkweed hat will be for those who earn their daily wage.

In the light and easy labor of the dairies.

So we halt the change of fashion with a tribute of the pen.

And we look for bushel measures in a bonnet.

But alas, we fear that many of the gruff and grouchy men.

Will declare each hat has got a lemon on it.

That Man Yet.

The man with the iridescent whiskers and the emotional adams apple wags into the office, smiles kindly at the copy boy, and takes his regular position at the desk of the poor but proud plodder who is sharpening a thick pencil as a preliminary to writing some early spring rhymes.

"I've got rather a clever one for you, if you want to make use of it," says the visitor. "What is the difference between a popular actor who has climbed the ladder of fame round by round and is now playing a romantic part calling for a waving curl across his brow, and who sends the call boy to borrow some paste from the property man with which to affix the curl to his wig—what is the difference between him and a young fellow whose girl has eloped mysteriously and who is attempting to be a detective and discover her whereabouts, but thus far has met with no success?"

"What is the actor in—musical comedy?"

"That has nothing to do with the—"

"But it has. In that case he didn't climb the ladder of fame; he took an elevator."

"That is inconsequential. The question is—"

"Don't repeat it. And why does the young fellow pursue the fair young gyrril?"

"It isn't necessary to analyze the—"

"There must be a reason for all this. If she spurned him, why did he persist. Had she been writing mash notes to the actor?"

"You don't grasp the—"

"Did the actor pad, also?"

"How do I know?"

"Don't be testy about it. The case is really interesting. Do you think the girl went to St. Joe? You said we didn't need to analyze it, but this may be an Eliza crossing the ice."

Replacing the thick cigar with the gold band in his pocket, the visitor repressed the harsh words that come to his lips, and says:

"One wants some glue for his curl and the other wants some glue to his girl, but I shall give this joke to some one more deserving, sir."

"Some one more deserving of such a fate?" inquires the pale but proud plodder.

But there came no word out of the echoes silence, which fell upon the bleak and barren meadowlands with a gloomy intensity which boded ill to the wayfarers. And the pitiless stars dripped their cold light into the abyss of night.

That Was Awful.

"Have you heard the awful scandal about Mr. Hildupus?"

"Mercy, no! What is it?"

"They won't tell."

"Isn't that awful."

She Liked the Place.

"My mistress has such good taste," said the lady's maid. "She always selects gowns and ribbons that are so becoming to me."

Wilbur D. Nessit.

HAS NOT SLEPT SINCE LIGHTNING STRUCK HIM

NEW JERSEY POLICE CHIEF CLAIMS HE HAS NOT SLUMBERED IN TWENTY YEARS.

Hackettstown, N. J.—Alonzo Wire of this place, 12 years head of the police department, says that for the last 20 years he has not closed his eyes in sleep. He came near it, he says, several times recently, when he found himself getting drowsy in front of a hot fire, but when he would attempt to take advantage of it and lie down to compose himself for the long-sought nap, sleep would flit away and he would pass the night, as he passed so many others, in wide-eyed wakefulness.

He does not go to bed now, but reclines on a couch in the front room of his home, where in the darkness he



The Bolt Made Him Deaf for a Time.

allows his thoughts to wander and confuse themselves as they will in the nearest semblance to sleep of which he is capable.

Neither Wire nor the physicians who have studied his case are able to assign a cause for the condition, nor can they explain why it is that he has retained a state of robust health for all these years of insomnia.

He has even done hard manual work in the open air at frequent intervals without being able to woo the coy goddess of sleep.

The only result at all noticeable from his long-continued wakefulness has been a loss of weight in the past score of years, amounting to between 75 and 80 pounds. He used to weigh nearly 250 pounds, and now he tips the scale at barely 200.

Wire says he believes that a stroke of lightning he received 30 years ago might have something to do with his peculiarity, though it happened years before he first suffered with insomnia. The bolt made him deaf for a time. He was driving a team of horses into a barn at the approach of a thunderstorm. The horses were knocked down and other men were stunned.

For some years while suffering from insomnia Wire had a job as night watchman for the Lackawanna railroad, but he never slept during the day. Mrs. Ware bears him out in that statement. He is the alarm clock for the family. No matter what time one of them wants to get up in the morning, Father Wire is there to rouse him. He listens all through the night to the striking of the town clock.

Wire says he suffers from more or less restlessness at times, but the strange malady has not impaired his health or strength to any degree. His physician, who says that Wire's age, 63, is such now that he ought to have regular and ample rest, has been treating him with a view to inducing drowsiness, but thus far without result.

Real Boy.

An illustration of a belief she has that the kindergarten is quite as productive of mirth as it is of other things, Mrs. Josephine Daskam Bacon, in her new Harper book, *The Biography of a Boy*, relates what happened to Binks when at the kindergarten he was set to making lemon-colored, glazed-paper chains. Binks objected to forging them, expressed aversion to them when finished, and then suddenly recoiled upon himself, producing them at a truly prolific rate. The teacher hoped that his industry had not been accompanied with smearing of paste upon his person.

"No, there isn't too much paste on 'em," he assured her affably; "there isn't none at all. I made 'em without."

"Listen, children, while clever little Martin tells us how he made the ends of his strips hold together without using paste," cried Mrs. Trayner, trustfully.

"I spit on 'em," said Binks briefly.

Black Canary and White Sparrows.

Yesterday the fifty-first annual national cage bird show, promoted by the London and Provincial Ornithological society, was opened at the Crystal Palace. The total entry is about 3,000.

One class was a collection of curiosities. A white jackdaw, two white sparrows, a white "blackbird" and a clear yellow yellowhammer were benched. A Hunstein bird of paradise, valued at £1,500, and a black canary attracted a great deal of attention.—London Daily News.

WOMAN'S INTERESTS

GOOD BOOK COVER

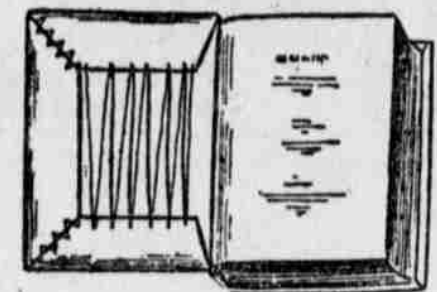
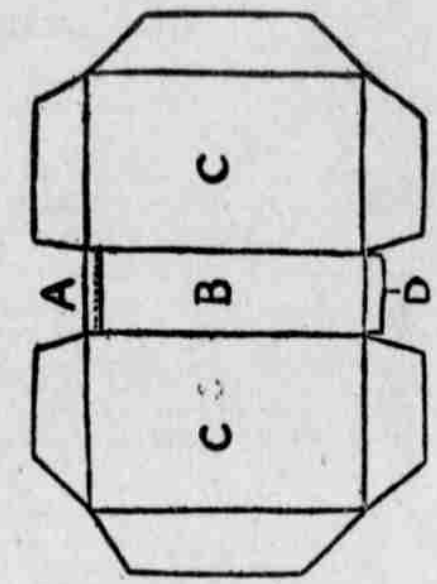
PERHAPS THE MOST PRACTICAL OF ALL METHODS.

Thoroughly Protects the Binding Without in the Least Detracting from the Appearance of the Volume.

Our illustration shows one of the most practical methods of covering a book. It is specially to be recommended for school books; it is advisable to have the same color for each of a set of books; linen, of which there are many pretty dark colors to be bought, is suitable for the purpose; so also is casement cloth.

The cover must, of course, be made specially to fit the book it is intended for, and then sewn on over the sides. The diagram clearly shows the shape in which the material should be cut out, and the portion indicated by "C" should be exactly the size of one side of the book. "B" represents the back, and there are small tabs of material at the top and bottom which must be folded over and sewn down before the cover is attached to the book. "D" indicates one of the tabs, and "A" shows the other sewn down in its place.

The lower sketch with the book open shows how the cover should be sewn together at the corners, and a few stitches of strong thread drawn through the upper and lower tabs serve to tighten the cover on to the



Practical Covering for a Book.

binding and keep it in its place. A cover of this kind, made of good strong material, will thoroughly protect the binding of the book and last an almost unlimited time.

HAVE CHARM OF SIMPLICITY

Evening Frocks, Although Elaborate and Expensive, All Made to Convey This Suggestion.

It is a relief to find that among the new evening frocks there is a suggestion of simplicity. Of course, the elegance of the elaborate embroideries and combinations of materials is tempting, but invariably expensive, and therefore beyond the reach of those who must consider the question of ways and means.

Soft satin seems to be an ideal material for simple evening gowns. One beautifully designed model relies almost entirely upon folds to gain a charming effect. The bodice is, of course, low-necked, but it is pointed in cut, this shape being secured by the crossed folds.

The sleeves are of draped folds of silk. Just to relieve any emphasis on this idea, wide brochettes of satin, braided with narrow souchette in a large, effective design, pass from the irregular waist line over the shoulders. The waist line is secured by a pointed skirt line at the top, which is ornamented with a running design of braid, and gives just the right amount of decoration for this frock.

Simplicity is certainly a safe side on which to err. There is always a quiet satisfaction in the recognition that a simple gown worn with grace and "an air" is appropriate on any occasion, whereas overornamentation frequently means discomfort on the part of the wearer.

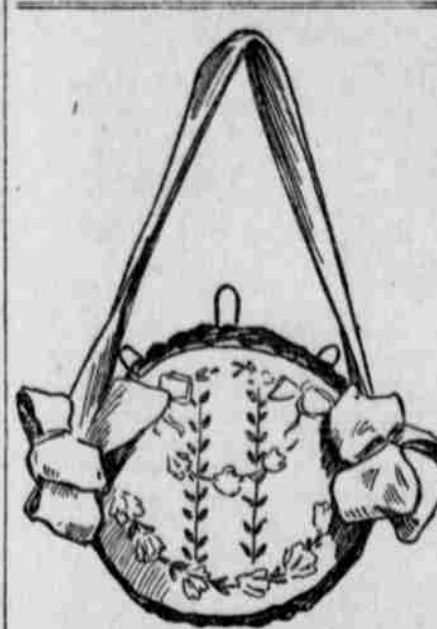
Good Skin Lotion.

A home-made lotion that is excellent for skins and will prevent premature wrinkles is made by boiling 12 tablespoonfuls of pearl barley in a quart of water until the gluten is extracted. Strain through a fine linen and add to the liquid a teaspoonful of tincture of benzoin.

SILKEN CUSHION FOR PINS

Ornamental Trifle That Fits Well with Other Accessories of the Dressing Room.

Very handy is this little cushion for hanging on the looking glass, or any convenient place near a dressing table. Two pieces of silk are cut in rounds about five inches in diameter. They are each worked with design shown,



with ribbon. If pale green is used for the silk, the ribbon might be in soft shades of pink, blue and darker green, the pink being used for the flowers, and the blue for the bows at the top. These circles of silk are stretched over cardboard that has first a thin layer of wadding over it. A strip of net about an inch in width is sewn between the two circles to join them together; stuff the inside with pieces of wool cut up finely; the edge all round is finished with fine cord arranged in loops on edge of each circle, bows of ribbon trim each side, and attached to them are the ends of the ribbon that forms the loop for hanging up by.

REASON FOR ITS POPULARITY

Handsome and Convenient Mattress Pincushion Never Seems to Lose Its Favor.

Whatever style of pincushion comes or goes with the passing hour, the mattress form seems to be perennial. The reason of this is not hard to guess when one has ever been owned. Whether on one's dressing table or in traveling nothing quite takes its place for convenience as well as good looks.

This style of cushion may be made in all sizes, from those ten inches long by eight inches wide, in which can be stuck safety pins of all kinds, as well as a full assortment of ordinary pins, to the tiny ones four inches long by two and a half inches wide, so convenient to keep in a traveling bag ready stocked.

The amount of material needed for such a cushion is easily gauged. Buy ribbon the exact width of the cushion to be made and twice the length, with enough over to turn in a narrow seam at each end. There should also be enough inch-wide ribbon, the same shade, to go around the four sides. If desired, there can be an extra strip of this ribbon to sew to one end as a hanger.

Overcast the narrow ribbon to top and bottom, leaving the upper end open to slip in the filling. This may either be bran or wool wadding, enough to make a thick, full cushion. Overcast the end and tuft with embroidery silk or gilt thread, using a long needle.

USES FOR THE DARNING EGG

Well Described as Household Friend—Many Ways in Which It Can Be Employed.

A darning egg may be a household friend, at least to the mending members of the household.

Darns in sleeves can be much more neatly repaired if the break is stretched over a small black darning egg.

The egg can likewise be slipped into trouser pockets that have torn and make their mending much simpler. A torn place in the crown of a hat or in a portion of the trimming can also be repaired quickly by using a darning egg.

When the darning egg cannot be found for mending purposes the break can be stretched over the top of a small egg cup. Thus held taut it can be neatly darned. This is particularly good for holes in lace, which must be repaired by working as nearly as may be in the mesh stitches.

New Hat Bands.

White hats are at the top of fashion. Girls are wearing mushroom sailors of white beaver and felt trimmed only with a black and white or a colored band such as are sold for boys' hats.

LIBRARY IS COSTLY

More Than Million Spent Yearly on Washington Institution.

Collections During 1910 Included Over 200,000 Books, Pamphlets and Manuscripts—Some Purchased While Others Were Presented.

The Congressional library, a national institution, in which the people of the country are displaying more pride as the years go by, added 212,119 books, pamphlets and manuscripts to its collection during the last year. The most important gift of printed material

was from the Chinese government, a set of the great Chinese encyclopedia, comprising over 5,000 (in Chinese) volumes. This was brought to Washington by the special ambassador charged with the acknowledgments of China to the United States for the remission of the "boxer indemnity." Herbert Putnam, librarian, says that the term "encyclopedia" expresses very imperfectly the scope of this work. He points out that China alone—the government itself of China—has attempted to embody in this literary record the entire knowledge of an epoch.

Among the gifts of individual material having special interest were more than a hundred printed volumes from the library of George Bancroft, presented by Mrs. J. C. Bancroft Davis. These include an extra illustrated copy of Bancroft's own history and a unique copy of the plates illustrating the stained glass in St. John's church in Washington. The collection of manuscripts was enriched during the year by several notable gifts, among which may be mentioned that of J. P. MacLean of Franklin, O., of a large number of papers illustrating the progress of the Shaker movement in Ohio, comprising letters from and to the community at Union village, records of the village, biographical notebooks, music, prayers and journals, the whole forming a valuable record of the rise of Shakerism in the middle west.

The Burton Harrison collection, which came in during the year, is also highly prized. It consists of letters to his father, Burton N. Harrison, his grandfather, Jesse Burton Harrison, and his great-grandfather, Samuel Jordan Harrison, from Thomas Jefferson, Henry Clay, R. R. Gurley, N. P. Trist, Jefferson Davis and others, all especially the Jefferson Davis letters, throwing important light on historical events. Mrs. William Reed of Baltimore added to the collection of the year the private diary kept by William B. Reed during his mission to China in 1857-1859. Dr. Stuyvesant Fish Morris placed in the collection the certificates of election as president and vice-president of the United States of Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren, in 1833, and the certificate of election as president of Martin Van Buren in 1837.

The transfer of manuscripts heretofore preserved in other government offices to the division of manuscripts in the library brought some important accessions during the year. The state department transferred all the applications for office during the administration of George Washington and the journal and minutes of the electoral college of 1877; the treasury department, the original vouchers and accounts of George Washington's expenses during the whole period of the revolution; the interior department the rich collection of historical documents filed in connection with the revolutionary pension claims, and papers pertaining to the slave trade and negro colonization in 1862-1872; the postoffice department, certain miscellaneous papers, being drafts of letters, opinions of assistant attorneys general and applications for office from 1825 to 1875.

This work of rescuing from the various departments of the government papers and documents having a historical value is to go on.

The more important purchases of the library during the year include the letters and log books of Admiral Sir George Cockburn (1772-1853), in 54 volumes, embracing a narrative of the proceedings of Lord Nelson's squadron in the cruise from Gibraltar and the battle of the Nile; Cockburn's mission from Spain to her American colonies in 1811; the orders and movements of the British squadron in American waters in 1814 and the voyage to St. Helena, whither he carried Napoleon in 1815. The Bosman papers were also purchased during the year. John Leeds Bosman was a historian of Maryland who from 1757 to 1823 lived on the eastern shore of Chesapeake bay, where he conducted a large estate and pursued the life of an antiquarian and historian. He left his library and papers to his nephew, John Leeds Kerr, who was a representative in congress from 1825 to 1829 and from 1831 to 1833. This collection of manuscripts, which is now regarded as having great value, was purchased from the descendants of John Leeds Kerr.

During the year the Jefferson and Hamilton collections were added to by the purchase of additional letters, and an interesting contribution to the history of South Carolina federalism was obtained in a number of letters from Hamilton, Timothy Pickens and John Quincy Adams to William Loughton Smith, a representative

from South Carolina in the First congress. The transcript of historical documents relating to American colonial affairs in the public record office and British museum in London and the Bodleian library at Oxford are now reaching the library. These records, as far as transcribed, aggregate about 67,500 folios of foolscap size.

The copyright business of the library continues to expand. The gross receipts in the office of the register of copyrights during the last year were \$87,085.53. The entries of titles for the year numbered 120,131. Of these entries 108,281 were titles of the productions of citizens or residents of the United States and 11,850 were titles of works by foreigners. The congressional library is now costing the people of the country approximately \$1,000,000 a year. More than 1,000,000 tourists visited the library during the last year. It is much more than a show place and students from every section of the United States come here to pursue research work within its walls. Those persons who have charge of the library, through correspondence with scholars and students throughout the country, as well as with correspondence with other libraries, are quite firmly convinced that the people of the United States wish to see the library supported in first-class style.

ADMIRAL EVANS' RETIREMENT

"Fighting Bob" is Now Really Out of the Service After Honorable Career.

"Fighting Bob" Evans, seadog and diplomat, is now out of the navy. He has been on detached duty upon the general naval board, but has severed his connection with that body and will now pursue his military work.

Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans is one of the most picturesque characters in the eyes of the world to-day. He entered the naval academy 50 years ago, and was a good deal of a kid yet when he entered service during the war of the rebellion. From that day 50 years ago up to Wednesday, January 26, there has not been a day that he has not been upon active duty. He is now 64 years old. He will soon print the story of his life under the title "The American Admiral's Log." He is one of the most popular men in public life, and it is a popularity that has not been eviscerated. He has retained his hold upon the hearts of the public through all these tumbling years of activity, and is loved by every man ashore as "Fighting Bob," and yet he is in no sense of the word a belligerent, being a man only of keen judgment and firmness of purpose. When he made up his mind that an attack should be made he made it, and this determined purpose of his is one of the things that has endeared him to the blue-jackets. Admiral Evans had first command of the 13 battleships which made the year's trip around the world, and he remembers with a thrill of pride his entrance into San Francisco with those 18 great battleships in May, 1908, after the cruise around the Horn. He was detached three days after landing, and retired the following August. He was promptly assigned to duty in connection with the general board, from which he was recently detached. Rear Admiral Evans' career has been singularly happy and well rounded, and he enters private life with all the accompaniments of love, honor and troops of friends.

Desire for Elkins' Dough.

Few men in America and none in official life receive such a varied assortment of mail as does Senator Elkins and his family. The notoriety the Elkins family gained when there was so much discussion about the duke of the Abruzzi and the possible marriage of Miss Katherine Elkins to that scion of the Italian royal family caused the name of Elkins to be known in every part of the world. As a result every mail brings hundreds of letters from all parts of this country and from every civilized nook and corner of the world, including islands that are not placed in some of the older geographies. The writers of these letters assume that the Elkins' wealth is equal to all the fabulous fortunes of fiction and history. They ask for all sorts of things—in fact everything the human mind can conceive that money can buy.

Barthold His Own Chauffeur.

Congressman Barthold of St. Louis is the proprietor, or rather owner, of a brand new automobile. Having a taste for mechanics and knowing how to turn a steering wheel, shift a few levers and press a few buttons, the Missouri congressman has determined to be his own chauffeur and is taking rides about Washington. So far he has not been able to induce many of his friends to go with him, for, though they know he is a great peace advocate, and would not have bloodshed under any circumstances, they fear that even in the peaceful pursuit of running an automobile he might be dangerous until he becomes a trifle more expert.

Coudrey Taxicabs.

Congressman Coudrey would regulate taxicab charges in the District of Columbia and has introduced a bill to that end. A man, speaking of this bill the other day, said it is all right for a member of congress to give attention to everything in the District of Columbia, but in view of the overcharge of the St. Louis cabman for conveying Senator Stone to the station, he thought Missouri congressmen were afforded ample opportunity to give some attention to cab fares in their own cities.