

# Social Forms and Entertainments



## Three Chinese Games.

"Let Out the Doves."—At the cry of "Let out the doves" one of the larger girls takes hold of the hands of two of the smaller girls, one of whom represents a dove and the other a hawk. The hawk stands behind the big girl, and the dove in front of her. She throws the dove away as she might toss a bird in the air, and as the child runs she waves her arms as though they were wings. The hawk is then thrown in the same way, and it follows the dove. The big girl then claps her hands as the Chinese do to bring their pet birds to them, and the dove, if not caught, returns to the cage.

Seek for Gold.—This is a variation of our popular "Jacks." Several girls gather up some pebbles, squat down in a group, and scatter all the pebbles. Then one draws her finger between two of the stones and snaps one against the other. If she hits it, the two stones are taken up and put aside to her credit. She is entitled to draw her finger again between two more and snaps them. When she misses another girl takes up what pebbles are left, scatters them, snaps them, takes them up, and so on until one or another child gets the most of the pebbles and the game is won.

"Kick the Marbles."—Two boys and two marbles are required. The first boy says to the second: "Kick this marble north (south, east, west)," pointing to one of the marbles. Only one kick is allowed. If he succeeds, he wins; if he fails, the other wins. If he puts it north as ordered, he may kick again to hit the other marble, in which case he wins again. If he hits the marble and goes north, as ordered, at one kick, he wins double.

Each boy tries to leave the marbles in as difficult a position as possible for his successor; and here comes in a peculiarity which makes this game unique among all games. If the position in which the marbles are left is too difficult for the other to play, he may refuse to kick, and the first boy is obliged to play his own difficult game.

## New Version of a Peanut Party.

Arrange tables as for a progressive card game, only place a generous handful of peanuts (in the shell) in the center of each table and provide a pair of tongs like those that come in boxes of candy, for each player. After the fashion of Jack straws, the game is to see how many peanuts can be removed without moving one. When one is moved the player gives up and the next one tries. At the end of twenty minutes a bell is rung and the player at each table having the most peanuts progresses. The winners at the different tables play another round until there is only one winner, who receives the reward, which may be a large peanut candy box filled with salted peanuts.

Children love this game. The main thing is to impress upon them all is that they must play fair.

## Stood-Ball (England).

This game originated first in merrie England, and was played by the milk-maids:

A certain number of "stoos" (flat stones in the open air and cushions in-

doors) are set up in circular form, at a considerable distance from each other, and every one of them is occupied by a single player; when the ball is thrown with the hand up in the air by "it," who stands in the center of the circle, every one of the players is obliged to alter his situation, running in succession from stool to stool, and if he who threw the ball can regain it in time to strike any one of the players before reaching the stool to which he is running, "it" takes his place, and the person touched must throw the ball until he can in like manner return to the circle. Rising quickly from the stone or cushion requires considerable agility on the part of the players.

## Buck the Indian.

Two captains are chosen, and each captain then chooses alternately the remaining company until two long lines are formed. They face each other, holding hands tightly. One captain calls the name of one of his strongest boys, and this boy runs and hurls himself between two boys of the opposing side. If he succeeds in breaking through, he takes back with him to his own side all the boys on the line below the place where he broke through. If he is unsuccessful, he must join the enemy's side. This is kept up, each side taking a turn until all the boys are on one side, the captain included.

The strongest boys should be stationed near the top of the line, near the captain, and strategem is shown in trying to catch the strong boys off their guard, by pretending to tackle the weak boys at the bottom of the line.

## A Juggling Match.

At English country fairs this amusement used to be in great favor:

A large circle, inclosed by a rope, was occupied by nine or ten people, and all except one were blindfolded. This one was called the "jingler," because he held in his hand a small bell, which he rang incessantly. His companions, following the sound of the bell, tried to catch him. If at the end of an allotted time he was not caught, he received a prize; otherwise the prize went to the catcher.

## Pebble-Chase (Greek).

In this more modern amusement of the Greek children, the leader stands amongst the players, holding a pebble between the palms of his hands. Each player extends his hands, palm to palm, and the leader puts his hands between the palms of each player, ostensibly to drop in the pebble he is holding. The player who receives the pebble is chased by the others, and may only be saved by returning to the leader and giving the pebble to him. The chase may begin as soon as the players suspect who has the pebble, so each player should carefully watch the hands and faces of the others to see who gets it, and as soon as he suspects one, start to chase him. Leaders and players must exercise ingenuity to keep the secret of the whereabouts of the pebble, but not after the last pair of hands has been passed.

## MADAME MERRI.

### Latest Fashion in Shoes.

Shoes are now more elaborate than ever. High shoes are worn in the morning only, with the tailor-made costumes and for traveling or for sport. The shoes are of an infinite variety. The vamps are shorter than ever. The uppers are made of stuff to match the dress or in leather of the same shade. The newest fastening is arranged with small interlaced straps, buttoning on each side with flat buttons.

Tan shoes are having an aftermath of success, and they harmonize very happily with the dull tints of the satins and furs worn by the smart woman.

# For the LITTLE ONES

## BOYS' TEST OF SOILS

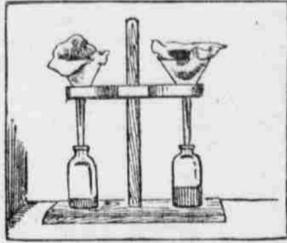
### Interesting Experiments of Four Ohio Youths.

#### Most Impressive Lesson Learned Was from What They Did Rather Than from What They Read—Results of Trials.

(By PROF. A. B. GRAHAM, Ohio College of Agriculture.)

Four boys who were members of the same country school had read about how the soil had been formed by glaciers; they had seen the soil on the hillside farm gradually removed by tiny streams and deposited on the nearby level farm.

They had noticed the effects of freezing and thawing on high banks and the sides of the ditches. But there were some facts about soils that which they knew only by what they read. Each one resolved to contrib-



ute some simple apparatus which would be needed in making some simple tests of the truth of the statements made in the books.

With lamp chimneys, thin muslin and some flat-bottomed pans, they planned to find out for themselves how rapidly different kinds of soil permitted water to pass through them.

After tying the muslin on the bottom of each chimney they filled one with very black soil (humus), one with clay, one with loam, and one with sand (each containing the same amount of soil); to the upper part of each chimney they tied strings which served as balls through which to run a broomstick.

Each end of the broomstick rested on the seat of a desk. The pans were placed beneath the chimneys. At the same time, exactly the same quantity of water was poured on the soil in each chimney.

Through which do you suppose the water ran most quickly?

Which was the last to permit it to run through?

Which one held the most water? Which one retained the least water?

On another day, they filled the same chimneys with the same kinds of soil—humus, clay, loam, and sand—and set each one on two small chips on the bottom of the flat pans.

Instead of pouring the water into the chimneys, they poured the same quantity into each pan. They did this to learn from the experiment which soil would allow water to arise most rapidly. Through which do you think it rose most rapidly?

The next Friday morning, each boy had a common thermometer and a good sized tin can. Into each can was placed the same kind of soil. In the center of each of two cans the thermometers were placed deep enough to allow the freezing point to be just above the soil; in the other two they were deep enough to allow them to remain upright.

At the first recess, the temperature of each was read and noted. Into the can containing a deeply-covered thermometer and into one having the thermometer not so deeply covered, the same quantity of water was poured.



The other two cans of soil remained dry. At the close of the school, the thermometers were read again. Which soils showed the highest temperatures? Which the lowest?

At another time they punched holes at different heights in the sides of some old tin cans; the cans were then filled with the same kind of soil and the same quantity of water was poured into each can.

It was observed that little or no water ran through the holes while it was flowing downward through the soil, but as the soil became over-saturated from the bottom upward the water began to run out.

The bottom of the pan represented a blue clay, hard pan, rock, or any other hard layer through which water could not easily pass. The hole in the can represented the underground drain through which water the soil could not hold would flow away.

They learned that the soil like a

sponge, will hold only a certain quantity of water.

Do you suppose that they concluded that tile drains should be made shallow or deep? What do you suppose they learned about soils having gravel or sand subsoils?

The next week, these boys came to school with small strips of litmus paper, which they purchased for five cents at the drug store, some clean saucers, and some samples of soil taken from different places.

One touched some vinegar (acid) with the litmus paper to see what change would be made in its color; one touched some lemon juice; another placed a piece against a raw piece of tomato. Then they touched some dampened soda, wood ashes, and lime. These they found to be alkaline; that is they acted much like lye.

They learned that by carefully mixing a little lime water and vinegar no change in the color of the litmus paper would be made. They had read that such a substance was said to be neutral. They learned that the chlorine water was neutral.

The samples of soil were separately mixed with rain water to a stiff mud, and a piece of litmus paper pushed into each and allowed to remain two or three minutes.

Three found that their papers were darkened from being wet, but that there were no marked changes in the color. The soils tested therefore were neutral.

One boy found his paper turned a brickish red. That was decided to be an acid or sour soil. It was learned that it needed draining or liming, or perhaps both, to neutralize it.

The most impressive lesson these boys learned was from what they did, rather than what they read. What these four boys did any other boys of the upper elementary grades in any school can do.

## MAGNETIC NAVY IS AMUSING

### Mysterious Movements of Little Boats Caused by Magnet and Concealed Magnetized Needles.

To build this navy thin pieces of cedar or pine wood and some magnetized sewing needles are necessary. Cut the pieces of wood into lengths a little longer than the needles used and about one-fourth of an inch in width. Make one end of each boat pointed for the bow. After the boats are all ready turn them upside down and lay a magnetized needle upon each where the keel should be. Now light a paraffine candle and let a drop of hot paraffine fall upon each needle and boat. Take a hot nail and smooth



The Magnetic Navy.

the paraffine out over each needle. The boats are now ready to place in a large vessel of water where they will act very queerly toward each other, says the Popular Electricity. By holding a magnet near the boats they may be made to move about in a mysterious way.

## RIDDLES.

Why is a steam engine at a fire an anomaly? Because it works and plays at the same time.

What word is it of five letters, of which two being removed, only one will remain? Stone.

Why is a fly taller than most men? Because he stands over six feet without shoes or stockings.

What kind of anchor does a drunken sailor like best? An anchor of brandy.

Why should a false friend never leave his house? Because you might look in and "find him out."

When is a man hospitable and a cheat at the same time? When he takes you in.

Why is a divinity student like a merchant? Because he studies the prophets (profits).

In what part of the church do they ring the bells? At the altar.

What is that of which the common sort is the best? Sense.

Where did Noah strike the first nail in the ark? On the head.

Why is an accepted suitor like a person guilty of a crime? Because he ought to be transported.

Enough for one, too much for two, and nothing for three; takes one to make and two to keep? A secret.

What game does a lady's "dress improver" resemble? Back-gammon.

Why is a girl not a noun? Because a lass (alas) is an interjection.

# AS THIEF IN NIGHT

## Clever Ruse by Which the Only French Cook in Town Was Rescued.

BY H. M. EGGERT.

Lindsay's mentality was not devoid of an element of humor in its composition, and the incongruity of his mission appealed to this latent sense as he stepped quietly out of his house at night and looked back into the well-lit parlor. He saw his wife seated in her chair, reading as calmly as though he had gone out upon the most ordinary visit to some friend. She hardly raised her eyes when he said good-by to her, yet there had been an emotional scene only that morning, and it was this that had nerved Lindsay to his resolution.

He could endure his wife's complaints no longer. He was resolved to put an end to them for ever. And he was going like a thief by night to steal the most precious jewel of Markham's household.

He had fought down the impulse toward dishonor for many weeks. But now the time had come when he could resist no longer. Life without Lucille would have no zest. His home had grown to be no home to him. His very food had lost its savor. He thought of Lucille constantly, grinding his teeth as he pictured her with Markham, busy about her simple household duties.

Markham had brought her back to America after his last visit to France. When she arrived she was a simple country girl, innocent, ignorant of the language of her adopted country. She had met few men; she had never even been engaged before. And once in Markham's power he watched her jealously. He would hardly permit her to leave his home. He could not bear that his acquaintances should have speech with her, lest somebody steal her from him.

Strangely enough, it was Mrs. Lindsay who had first met her, and it was she who had introduced Lindsay on one of the rare occasions when Lucille had snatched a short respite from Markham's tyranny. It was at a friend's house. Mrs. Lindsay was taken at once with the pale, beautiful French girl. But it was Lindsay who had pursued the acquaintance.

Markham and he were not on friendly terms. He knew enough of



Walked as Though He Trod on Air.

the man's cowardly nature to be aware that, once Lucille and he were together, there would be no pursuit. At last the time had arrived when he was able to propose his plan.

She looked at him with veiled terror, and yet with a joy that she could hardly conceal. Yet her fear was paramount, and, singularly enough, its origin was essentially a feminine one, psychologically. She was anxious about her little treasures. Markham would keep them; she knew his vindictive nature. But Lindsay only laughed.

"I will give you more than Markham can ever give you," he said gaily. And then outlined his plan. Markham was not always home before nightfall. Let her appoint some day when he would be detained at his office. It would then be the simplest thing for him to cover the two miles between their houses and meet her after dark when there were no prying eyes to see. She must have her possessions—what she could pack into a suitcase—ready, and he would take her away, never to see Markham again.

"But if he comes after me?" she asked, still half afraid.

Lindsay had laughed at that, and his contempt for Markham seemed to find an answer in the girl's soul. She told him many little details of the man; his tyranny, his greed. Once, when she had not prepared a dish exactly to his liking he had sworn at her. She had never forgotten that. Yes, she would go.

And Lindsay, looking back at his wife in her chair, felt not the least compunction. For he was going to end her complaints effectively and for ever.

Markham was not to be home that night. So much he had discovered, and he had sent Lucille a message by a trusted confidant. Now he strode out into the dark eagerly, his mind tense upon his mission, every nerve tingling with the thought of the ecstatic happiness that lay in store for him. Once she was his he would

guard her as the apple of his eye. There was none like her; he had known no woman like her in all his experience. As for his future plans, he cared nothing. He had arranged for what money would be necessary; for the rest fate must decide.

And she was waiting for him. As he approached the outhouse where the man he hated lived he saw her, a sinuous shadow in the doorway. He crouched among the garden shrubs as he heard footsteps approaching. At first he feared that it was his enemy, but it was only some belated wayfarer, walking up the long ascent from the station. Presently all was silent and he emerged from his place of concealment. She saw him and turned to him.

"Lucille!" he whispered. She was as self-possessed, her poise was a firm as though she were going upon the most ordinary mission. She handed him the suitcase—a dainty French affair, bulging with the few articles that she had managed to pack into it. There was no time for rapture. Together they started down the garden path. Suddenly she stopped. "I have forgotten it!" she exclaimed.

"What!" "My mother's photograph. It is upstairs, in my room. I must get it—I cannot go without it!"

He could not refuse the simple wish which revealed such qualities of heart. He waited for what seemed an eternity. Presently she was back again, and still nobody stirred but they two, in the garden, under the whispering trees. And so he led her away.

The suitcase was weighty, but he walked as though he trod on air, and Lucille strode at his side. Sometimes, when a cloud veiled the face of the moon Lindsay looked up, hardly daring to believe that she was really his at last—forever, he hoped. His heart throbbled madly and the two miles seemed but a few short city blocks. At last they stood outside his house again, and, looking through the window, Lindsay perceived that his wife still occupied the same chair and held the same book. All the emotions that had possessed him had been entirely unknown to her; she read as tranquilly as though nothing were at stake.

Then a sense of unutterable love for this quiet woman in the chair welled up in Lindsay's heart. He turned to the girl and spoke almost curtly.

"I am going in to tell her," he said. "To tell your wife?"

"Yes—everything. But wait for me I shall not abandon you. Have no fear. It will be but a moment."

The waiting girl saw Lindsay disappear within the house; she saw him bend over his wife, saw her start up incredulously and look at him with eyes that searched his soul. Then she was running out of the house, with Lindsay at her side.

"You! Lucille!" she cried.

"Yes, madame."

"And you have come to stay? You will not leave us?" She turned to her husband. "O, my dear," she cried, "to think that we should own the only French cook in Stapleton. And it's true!" She seized the girl's hands and almost pulled her through the door. (Copyright, 1913, by W. G. Chapman.)

## HIS FAVORITE CARD TRICK

### It's a Pathetic Sight When He Exhibits to a Bunch of Girls.

Is there anything in the world so pathetic as the spectacle of a young man showing his favorite trick with cards to a bunch of girls? The slaughter goes something like this. Let us suppose that the man speaks first:

"I used to know a clever trick with cards. If you like, I'll try to show it to you while we're waiting. Miss Margaret, will you please choose a card from this pack?"

"I am to choose? Which card do I take?"

"Any one you like."

"But how can I tell, when you show me only the backs of the cards and the backs are all exactly alike?"

"That's it. You just choose one at random."

"Oh, that's the way? But is that fair? Well, I'll choose. I've got the jack of hearts."

"Oh, no! You mustn't tell me the card you pick. That's what I'm supposed to tell you, you know. Put it back into the deck and choose another."

"Why can't I keep this one? I can remember it better."

"Yes, but then there wouldn't be any trick. You see, you are to take a card that I don't see, and then I'm to find out the one you looked at."

"Oh! You couldn't do that! Well, I pick this one."

"Very well. Now look at it and put it back into the pack."

"What part of the pack shall I put it in?"

"But how can you tell what card it is if you don't know where I put it? Well, there it goes."

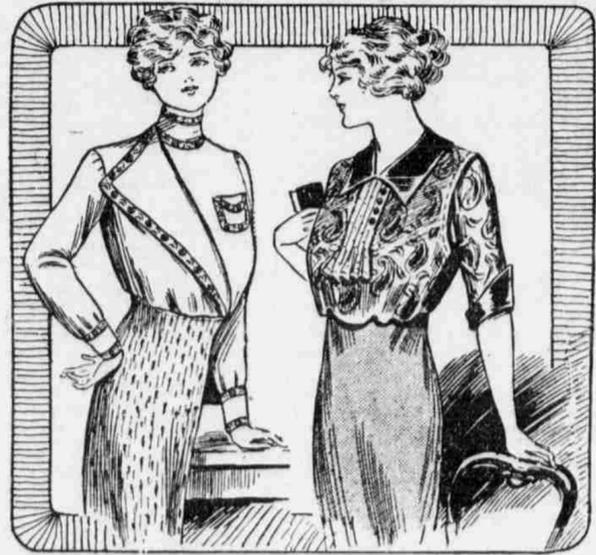
"Now take the deck and shuffle it. Now give it to me. Presto—there! Is this the card you chose?"

"Oh, dear—I don't know. I forgot to look and see which one I took. Does that make any difference? I should think the trick would be better if I didn't know. Oh, look! Here's Helen, and now there are enough to play bridge. Helen, you should have been here sooner. Mr. Smith has been showing us the most wonderful tricks with cards!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## Had Some Choice.

"I thought," he remarked, "you said you could die dancing." "So I did," came the reply, "but I didn't want to be trapped to death, did I?"—London Tit-Bits.

## Two Simple Blouses That Are Among the Prettiest



The costume at the left is a simple little blouse for delaine, Viyella, or firm cotton material; a revers is taken down the right side of front and is edged with galloon or fancy braid; two rows of this trim the collar and cuffs, also edge the pocket.

Materials required: 1½ yard 33 inches wide, 3 yards braid.

The other shows a dainty little blouse of Paisley foulard; it has col-

lar and cuffs of brown satin. The sleeves are set to a large armhole under a wrapped seam. A dainty finish is given by the jabot, which is of spotted ninon, partly pleated, then falling in a frill. Four satin-covered buttons add to the trimming on the right side.

Material required: 1½ yard foulard 40 inches wide, ½ yard satin 40 inches wide.