

THE WALKING FAD.

A revival of interest in pedestrianism is reported from New York, where, probably, the "automobile knees" and other ailments new and old, due either to the craze for automobiling or simple neglect of ordinary healthful exercise, are to be found at their worst. In any event the walking fad has taken a strong hold on the metropolis and many walking clubs are being formed. The value of walking as a pleasurable and health-promoting exercise cannot be denied. The trouble with most people is that they do not walk enough to realize its benefits. Automobiles for those that can afford them and the trolleys for the less-favored many offer a tempting case of transportation that is hard to resist. As a result there are few men who can engage in a brisk long walk without becoming overfatigued. The present revival of walking, if it does not prove to be only a passing fad, may accomplish great good in getting men away from the dreary monotony of paved streets and the dust and smoke-laden atmosphere of the cities, out into the clean, pure, invigorating air of the country, refreshing their lungs, toning up their circulation, driving away many of the minor ills that annoy and giving them a cleaner and better outlook on life.

Somehow the impression has gone abroad that Boston has invented a new slang word, and that the same is "fudgy," says the Boston Post. Even the usually well informed New York Herald remarks that "from the rarefied air of Boston a new bit of slang has been evolved, a poor, anemic word, 'fudgy,' used to indicate that everything is as it should be. It will doubtless prove a convenient term in Boston, a city in which a vast number of people look upon them with complacency and declare that the town could not be improved upon. But it will never take root in a city like ours, which is always being reformed and uplifted and rebuilt and investigated." The Herald and all other newspapers that mention the matter are barking up the wrong tree. "Fudgy" is not Boston slang and never will be. It is unheard, save perhaps from the lips of a few noodles who are said to have enriched their dancing vocabulary with the word. But they amount to nothing; they can not make slang. Slang comes from other and abler quarters.

What's the matter with the girls these days? Can't they hold the attention of any one? Is it necessary to keep repeating the word "listen" in an ordinary talk where the "talkee" is all attention? A miss of perhaps seven-teen years asked for a certain brand of face powder in a drug store recently, says the New York Sun. This is a fair account of what she said: "Listen! I want a box of yuh face powder. Listen! Do you keep that there kind that comes with—a mirror? You know the kind I mean. Listen! What shade do you think I need? Is Raychel (Rachel) too dark? Listen—" That was as much as I heard. But it was enough. If a girl has a toothache, or a wart on her finger, or a headache, it is "Listen, listen, listen," to the patient or in many cases impatient drug clerk. No miss, it seems, considers her vocabulary up to date unless it is burdened with "listen." Girls, take a tip. Put "listen" on the shelf.

A dispatch from London states that two tiny coffins have been found in the monastic burial ground of Peterborough and have been placed in Peterborough Cathedral. One is two feet six inches in length and the other two feet eight inches. They are said to be the coffins of the twin children of King Canute (995-1035), who were drowned in Whittlesey Mere as they were crossing to be educated at Peterborough Abbey. Every reader of English history is familiar with the anecdote of the courtiers who told King Canute that he was the lord of the waves as well as of the land, and will recall the dramatic way in which he rebuked their flattery by setting his chair on the beach while the tide was rising and commanding the waves not to engulf it, which, however, they promptly did. But the still more impressive circumstance that two of Canute's children lost their lives by drowning probably will be news to the general reader, though it happened nine centuries ago.

Newport News boiler maker saw the surgeon's instruments, rose alertly from the operating slab, and ran away, not allowing them to operate for appendicitis. Now he's fully recovered. Question: What fee are the surgeons entitled to for working the cure?

Knitting is being taken up by some of the British peers as a better means of killing time than solitaire, because "you have something to show for it." This may be the germ of an idea of going to work.

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

GOOD COUNTRY ROADS

Narrow-Tired Wagon Is Most Destructive Agent.

Highways Also Have Been Ruined by Wrong Method of Working—Different System of Supervision Is Advocated.

Good country roads are ruined in many ways, some of which must be laid at the doors of the officials in charge, and some we can only hold the farmers themselves responsible for. Good roads are ruined by weather, water and wanton neglect. Man is the chief destructive agent and we must pay some attention to him and his ways, says the Western Farmer.

Any good dirt road can be ruined in a short time by hauling heavy loads over it in narrow tired wagons. The common one and three-fourth inch tire does more harm to country roads than any other destructive agent. We wonder why the farmers will continue buying these wheels when a broad tire—say four-inch—will make rather than destroy good roads. The broad tired wagon pulls easier and that should be sufficient reason why the change should be made.

It seems a waste of money to make a dirt road hard and smooth, dragged at the proper time and all that, and then have a lot of men haul big loads of grain, hay, wood or what not over it just after a rain and their narrow tires cutting away in. Of course they all keep in the one track so each succeeding tire cuts a little deeper. If another rain comes before the ruts are dragged full then the whole road goes to pieces. There should be a tax or some legal penalty against the narrow tired wagon. We are not pleading for low wheels, though we believe in them, too, but we do urge every one to buy wide tires. The old wheels can be made over and wide tires put on at a slight cost.

Roads have been ruined by the mile by the wrong method of working. The old system of working out the road tax under a supervisor or road boss is wrong. It never yet has made a good stretch of road. It never will. The practice of tearing up the road in the fall after harvest—because that's the only time he can get farmers to work—plowing the sodded sides up and scalping the whole conglomeration of sods, stones and clods into the middle of the road is the worst system that ever can be practiced. The season is wrong, the system is wrong and the road is bad all winter and next spring.

Who has not seen brush piled in soft places, gravel dumped in mud holes, and even sand put in chuck holes by these road bosses? It's a sure way to make a bad road worse. Who has not seen dense groves of tall willows pile the road full of snow which made a mud hole exist there for weeks after the rest of the road was dry? What is the remedy? A different system of road supervision. Remove the office from politics, get men who have studied or will study road building and keep them as long as they are efficient. Pay road tax in cash and let this skilled road boss hire his men. He should keep the same men all the time. They become more efficient all the time.

FOR MORE IMPROVED ROADS

Much Valuable Assistance Rendered by Office of Public Roads—Perishable Products Wasted.

Many of the model highway laws in various states have been prepared under the advice of the road experts of the department of agriculture, and all the data and statistics of the office of public roads are at the disposal of the legislatures.

In the last bulletin of the office of public roads it was stated that at the close of 1909, 8.66 per cent. of the roads in the United States were improved. This represents a gain in the total road mileage improved for the five-year period, 1904-1909, of 1.52 per cent., or, in other words, the percentage of improved roads has increased during this period from 7.14 to 8.66 per cent.

In the three years that have elapsed since then, it is roughly estimated that the percentage of improved roads has gone well beyond 9 per cent., and possibly close to 10 per cent. It is estimated that if 20 per cent. of the public highways were improved—each highway being selected and improved with a view to the proportionate traffic upon it—a high degree of efficiency in highway transportation would be reached. It is figured that millions of dollars would be saved annually in the transportation of crops, the wear and tear on horses and vehicles, and in the minimizing of the waste in truck farming. Where roads are bad, the farmers frequently find it impossible to get their products to the shipping points and thus perishable products are wasted, perceptibly increasing the cost of living.

Irish Crochet in Colors. The new Irish crochet, printed in colors, strongly resembles the Bulgarian designs. Bands of this trimming are used as a bordering on thin crepons and voiles. Colored voiles, such as champagne, pale gray, rose pink, etc., are trimmed with bands of all-white Irish crochet, while all-white voiles and crepons are trimmed with the Irish crochet in color.

Pretty Hat for Child Has Braid Brim of Sapphire Blue



For little misses from nine to fourteen years old a great number of shapes to choose from have been provided. New fabrics and new colorings furnish, too, opportunities for unusual millinery for children. It is a season of gay colors and odd fabrics.

Ratine in silk has been employed with fine results in hats for misses. Soft crowns of this material are combined with braid-covered brims. A hat of this sort looks best trimmed with ribbon.

Another sort of crown with a braid brim is shown in this picture. This is an unusually pretty hat with braid

BEAUTIFUL EVENING GOWN



An evening gown of black satin and gold embroidered lace over grosgrain silk. The waist ends in a pointed back panel.

Trimmings From Chinese Skirts. Chinese skirts in the original certainly possess as many varied uses as the famous porker, whose only loss is its squeal. The front and back panels, with their rich embroideries in Peking stitch, make exquisite long sailor collars which will miraculously turn your most commonplace frock into a veritable creation. The yards on yards of two-toned Chinese blue embroidery bandings make trimming galore for a stunning gown and hat. A striking parol in these days of unique ones, is made from the skirt's pleated and embroidered sides, and an equally effective piano lamp shade can be evolved from the same, with the addition of the panels.

Protecting Jewelry. It is well to cover jewelry with a thin coat of collodion when storing it in the safety deposit vault. The collodion can be dissolved with alcohol or ether when the jewelry is brought forth again. Jewelry of almost every description can be thoroughly cleaned with soap and water. It should then be packed in boxwood sawdust for several hours until it is dry in every crevice.

ADORNING THE GUEST ROOM

Particularly Effective Touches May Be Given to Draperies, Especially if They Are of Cretonne.

If you have cretonne draperies in your guest room there are many attractive articles you can make to add comfort and beauty to the room. Purchase cretonne to match, or, if this is impossible, a design showing the same coloring.

Lovely bureau scarfs are fashioned by cutting the cretonne the exact dimensions of the bureau top. Cover this with white marquisette and between the top and the china silk lining place one thickness of cotton wadding. Whipstitch the edges together and finish them with a narrow edging of gold lace.

The marquisette softens the colors of the cretonne, producing a pastel effect.

A rectangular sofa cushion can be made of the same materials, and is particularly beautiful when ornamented with a large flat bow of ribbon in one corner.

In rose designs the cretonne is extremely artistic when veiled with marquisette.

For the dressing table a long pin-cushion should be made to match. Finish either end with a rosette of satin ribbon.

Frames for sewing stands can be purchased to match any wood, and it would be nice to supply your guest room with one with a cretonne top to match the draperies.

Cover the cretonne with the marquisette and line it with china silk. Gather this with a heading to the frame and finish each corner with a bow of ribbon. The top hangs pocket-like from the frame and holds all the articles necessary for mending. This is a very useful article, and the well-appointed guest room should be supplied with sewing stand.

Fashionable Colors.

This is the time of year when colors change, just as do hats and gowns. Court blue is one of the latest. It is a cross between electric and gendarme.

Taupe has shed its brown tinge and has acquired the tint like elephant gray.

One of the prettiest blues is blue vig, a deep and yet bright shade. Shrimp is the favored pink.

A glorious red which looks extremely well with white is called rouge Venetian.

Chalk white is a vogue. Amaranth is a claret shade. Caramel is another pretty edition of brown.

Verdegris is one of the smartest greens. Mimosa is a yellow that verges on orange.

Petunia is the successor of the fuchsia medley, with the purple and red tints predominating.

Judge's Pullet Is Some Layer.

Tarrytown, N. Y.—Judge Robert F. White owns a buff pullet of remarkable egg-laying ability. A few days ago D. C. Paulding, a fancier, made the statement that he owned a hen that had laid 235 eggs in the year ending January 31. Judge White came back at his neighbor with the statement that his pullet had laid 287 eggs in the year from Feb. 7, 1912. Judge White says the hen is the only one he has.

ESKIMO IS MORE CIVILIZED

Coming of the White Man Shows Revolution in Lives of Northern People.

Nome, Alaska.—The coming of the white man is effecting a slow revolution in the lives of the Alaska eskimo, especially those who spend the warm months at Nome. These Eskimo, who live on a bench all summer, have already picked up many of the ways of cultivation, eat some of the white man's food and wear some of his clothes. They are still very dirty, however, love blubber and all fat as well as ever and prefer fishing to any other variety of toil. They are literally children of the sea, which yields



Eskimo Preparing a Skin.

them food, raiment, light and fuel. They are very skillful seal hunters and expert boatmen. The boats are made of skins stretched taut over a rigid frame and some of them are exceedingly difficult to manage.

The beach at Nome is wide and sandy and the Eskimo enjoy the time they spend there. Tents are pitched, but the shelter of the great boats turned on their sides is depended upon to a large extent. Cheap cooking utensils bought at the stores have replaced many of the crude dishes formerly used, and sometimes an old stove is seen in use.

The Eskimo men are rather skillful with tools, and the women do certain kinds of needlework expertly. The heavy garments of skin are remarkably well made and even the shoes of skin are fashioned much more neatly than one might expect. In winter very heavy furs are worn, and the head is covered with a large hood. The men have devised various rough, but highly efficient tools and use them deftly to make boats, sleds and weapons.

Although the Eskimo are indescribably filthy and inclined to take advantage in some ways, they are almost invariably good natured and fond of a joke. They are intelligent, quick to learn from people and enjoy the game of civilization. They are not at all belligerent and avoid a quarrel if they can.

A CHALLENGE TO GERMANY

Delcasse's Appointment to St. Petersburg and Big Increase in French Army Taken as Defiance.

London.—In the present critical situation in European politics, France, Germany, England and Russia are all watching each other to see which takes the first step.

A British diplomat, discussing the elements imparted to the situation by the accession of Poincare to the French presidency, said:

"It is admitted by all who are acquainted with the currents of diplomacy in Europe that the coming of Poincare has put more electricity into the Franco-German situation than there has been in many years. The appointment of Delcasse, who has an avowed partisan policy, as ambassador to St. Petersburg, and the increasing of France's army constitute nothing less than a direct challenge to Germany, the answer to which has not yet been given and which, when it comes, may stagger the world with its suddenness.

"That Germany, which insisted on the dismissal of Delcasse from the cabinet in 1906 as a result of the Moroccan imbroglio, giving the French the alternative of war, should now eat humble pie in the face of this open defiance from the head of the republic, is at the present moment," the diplomatist said, "a matter of undisputed amazement to all the chancelleries of the world. Indeed, never within the last ten years, not even in the Moroccan crisis, has a Franco-German war been nearer."

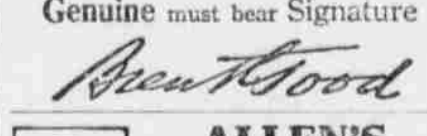
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Backache makes life a burden. Headaches, dizzy spells and dizzying urinary disorders are a constant trial. Take warning! Suspect kidney trouble. Look about for a good kidney remedy. Learn from one who has found relief from the same suffering. Get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Lee had.

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A Hundred Years Ago. There were strong indications that Europe would become involved in a disastrous war.

It was feared by some people that the government at Washington was going to wreck things beyond the possibility of repair.

Hetty Green hadn't saved a cent. Indiana had less than twenty successful authors.

It was generally believed that the rich were getting richer and the poor poorer.

Old inhabitants were insisting that the climate had changed for the worse since they were boys.

No Englishman had considered it necessary to write his impressions of the United States.

Not a Minute Wasted. "Can I get my pants pressed while you cut my hair?" "Certainly, sir."

"All right. Boy, shine my shoes at the same time and hand me that newspaper. By the way, get the restaurant next door to send in a couple of sandwiches, and I can be eating my lunch."

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And many a homely woman presides over a happy home.

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