

WASHINGTON CITY SIDELIGHTS



Model Houses Planned as Mrs. Wilson Memorial

WASHINGTON.—Plans for the block of buildings to be erected in Washington as a memorial to Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, on which the country's foremost woman architects have been working, are in the hands of Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, president of the woman's department of the Civic federation.

A block of two-family brick houses will be built, consisting of two and four-room apartments with bath, the bedroom of good size, light and airy; the second room will be a combination kitchen and living room and all will face either the street or back yards; there will be no rooms built on courts. Each apartment will have a private entrance from the street into the yards, so there will be no public hall problem, and the idea of privacy and a real home will be inculcated.

In the rear of each house will be a yard where children may play under the mother's eye, safe from dangers of traffic and street accidents. Considerable space will be set aside for a community playground for the children.

In the center of the group of houses will be a building used as a place of gathering, constituting a neighborhood center where there may be dancing, entertainments and general meetings. A day nursery will be installed and a competent woman placed in charge of it. A community laundry will be installed in the center building, fitted up in model fashion; tubs, hot and cold water, steam dryers or good space for open-air drying will be provided. The laundry and the day nursery were points in which Mrs. Wilson was decidedly interested. The rents of the houses will range from \$7.50 to \$12 a month.

"Don'ts" for Letter Writers in Navy Department

AN OFFICIAL list of "don'ts" for letter writers in the navy department compiled by Samuel McGowan, paymaster-general, is the subject of much comment among naval officers here who have seen copies of the order.

Here are some of the "don'ts":

- "Don't write at all unless you have something to say; and having said it, stop."
- "Don't answer a letter just because somebody else wants you to. If you did, many a purposeless correspondence might go on indefinitely."
- "Don't give reasons or explanations unless they are called for."
- "Don't write anything in a perfunctory way; remember always that each letter or indorsement should bear the impress of the writer's dignity, courtesy and intelligence."
- "Don't hesitate to say 'no' if that is the proper answer; having said it, don't attempt to suggest an alternative aimed to circumvent your own 'no.'"
- "Don't discuss people; discuss things."
- "Don't write anything quarrelsome; it would probably not be signed."
- "Don't get excited; or, if you do, don't record the fact on paper."
- "Don't use long words when it can be helped (and it generally can)."
- "Don't say 'shall,' 'must' or 'should' if you mean 'will'; 'verbal' when you mean 'oral,' 'amount' when you mean 'quantity,' 'in reference' when you mean 'with reference,' 'in accord' when you mean 'scarcely' or 'with the view of' when you mean 'with a view to.'"
- "Don't send a letter back unless the regulations require it. Originals are worth far more than copies for future reference."
- "Don't try to put a whole letter into the 'subject;' leaving nothing at all to say under it."
- "Don't write anything that has the least semblance of inflicting a punishment or of encroaching in any other way on the proper prerogatives of any other bureau or office. The legitimate function of this particular bureau is to supply the fleet and to account therefor; and any attempt at aggressive expansion must of necessity have the effect of crippling our work and, to that extent, weakening the navy—it being a fact beyond dispute that if we simply mind our own business there is plenty of it to take up all our time."



HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT

DEPENDENCE ON DIRT ROADS

They Are of Much Importance to Farmer and Are Good Nine Months in Year if Properly Cared For.

For many years nine-tenths of the roads in the country must be dirt roads. It is on these roads that farmers for the most part go to church and to school. They are much more important than the greater highways of travel in the country. We have a great demand for "good roads," meaning hard-surfaced roads of some sort, whether brick, macadam, gravel or cement; but we have come to a point now when it should be known to all men that since the advent of the automobile no limestone road is worth putting down. In the corn belt, about the only road material we have, outside of our dirt roads, is limestone. The brick road is better in the end than macadam, because it will endure the strain of automobile travel. The cement road is yet in the experimental stage. The gravel road is only possible where gravel is near. Hence the great majority of our farm folks must travel to and from the church and school and nearby town over dirt roads.

If the dirt road is first properly drained to take off the water that comes in from below or from the side, if it is properly graded up and there are good, permanent culverts and bridges, and it is then properly dragged, the dirt road is good enough for nine months in the year, and longer. If the above conditions are complied with, it is better during most of that time than any macadam or brick road that ever was built.

Some of our readers will say: "Oh, you are singing that old song again. You are talking about the drag." Verily, we are. In our recent trips East, we have been glad to see that farmers in Ohio and Pennsylvania are dragging, says Wallace's Farmer. Although the drag is not as useful there as here, on account of the stones in the road, they are nevertheless using the drag.

There is no use dragging the road until it has been drained and rounded up by the scraper; but after that is done, the drag is the best tool that can be used. Our readers who have automobiles often find during the summer a piece of dragged road that is a delight; and then they run onto a piece where the supervisors evidently had no gumption, a piece of road that causes vexation of spirit if not internal profanity every time the farmer rides over it. It is enough to make even a righteous man mad.

One thing we want to remind you of—that the longer a road has been dragged, the better it becomes. We have never claimed that you could make a perfect dragged road inside of about six years of proper dragging; but dragging improves it from the start, and in time the clay of the road becomes almost like brick, but at the same time smooth and elastic; and if the road be oval and well drained, it is an ideal road.

Our farmers who do not want to take their wives and families over humpety, bumpety roads, and make them disgusted every time they go to church or to town, should see to it



Road After Improvement With Top Soil Gravel.

that the roads freeze up as smooth as possible this winter. They should get out after every rain now, and drag. "Drag, brother, drag!" If another rain comes, get on the road again and drag some more. Every farmer on these dirt roads should see that his road is dragged smooth before it freezes up. Then there will be no trouble except snow. Dragging won't help that; but nothing else will, not even hard surfacing.

Poor Highways.

Poor highways lessen the profit of labor, increase the cost of living, burden the enterprise of the people, dull the morality of our citizenship and hold down the educational advancement of the country.

Cement Culvert Joints.

Fill all culvert joints with cement. You don't want water to escape through joints.

Lead to Better Times.

Good roads lead to better times.

LITTLE PARABLE OF LIFE

Aptly Compared to Journey Through Comfortable Passage Leading to One Small Room.

I will tell you a little parable. Each life is like a wonderful castle, with hundreds of mysterious rooms. Through the whole expanse of that castle runs a broad, comfortable passage—ultimately leading to the small room that contains an honored and peaceful deathbed.

If you would be safe, you must stay in this passage. You must pass by without opening them the hundreds of alluring doors. You must pass without following them the secret winding stairs leading up or down to unknown places—

You will never know all you really own. You will never see the festive hall with its brilliant revels, nor the great-lit chapel with its mystic ecclesiastical—you will never find the hidden chamber with its lotus joys, nor the romantic balcony with its bizarre assemblage—you will never reach the tiny tower room with its view across land and sea and up into the skies.

And you will never see the dark cells where weird things are kept—nor the ghastly dungeon deep down below the ground, where one lies sobbing and bleeding and broken, and whence there is no returning.

I have opened many a door in my castle—said Christine—and I fear I shall never find my way back to the broad, comfortable passage.—Smart Set.

Of More Importance.

Mr. Arthur H. Engelbach, in his collection of anecdotes of the British bench, tells this story about Lord Braxfield, who was among the last of the Scotch judges who rigidly adhered to the broad Scotch dialect.

"Hae ye ony counsel mon?" he said to Haurice Margot, when placed at the bar.

"No," was the reply.

"Do ye want to hae ony appoinnt?" continued the judge.

"No," said Margot; "I only want an interpreter to make me understand what your lordship says."

Came Natural.

Bacon.—They say that president of the bank who got away with a lot of the money began his career as janitor of the institution.

Egbert.—Never forgot his early training to clean out the bank, evidently.

Principal Products.

Teacher—What is the elephant hunted for, Emerson?

Bright Pupil—Magazine articles.—Puck.

Almost Human.

"I'm going on a strike," said the match.

"Better not," responded the old pipe.

"You'll lose your head if you do."

Liberal Doses.

Subbubs—How often is this medicine to be taken?

Doctor—Between cooks.

But, then, monkeys had the first family trees.

A joke is seldom as funny the morning after as it was the night before.

Bacteria in Coal.

Mr. C. Potter has recently shown before the Royal society in London that in certain conditions of exposure to the air charcoal, coal, peat and other amorphous forms of carbon undergo a slow process of oxidation: produced by bacteria. It is suggested that this fact may account for the deterioration of stored coal, its gradual loss of weight, and its occasional spontaneous heating in ships' bunkers. If the bacteria are not the sole cause of these things they may induce them, chemical oxidation accompanying and continuing that begun by the organic agents. The carbonization of vegetable coals, says a French writer, is due to the intervention of microbes at the beginning of their fossilization. When the coal reaches the air again, other bacteria: take up the work of fermentation that was interrupted millions of years ago.—Youth's Companion.

Mount of Olives.

The Mount of Olives has seen some remarkable happenings and apparently it is to see others. Now that a military wireless station has been installed on its almost treeless top some persons may say that it has been desecrated, thinking it should not be made subject to modern inventions, especially those used in war, but should be left as nearly as possible as it was in the days of Christ. Modern war, like ancient war, however, is no respecter of sacred places. Less than a half century after Christ was seen on the earth for the last time a Roman general cut down all the trees on the top of the Mount of Olives and there have not been many trees there since, which may have made the work of installing the wireless plant less difficult.

A Bull's-eye.

E. Berry Wall said at a dinner in New York:

"Woman's dress nowadays is beautiful—beautiful but shocking. The slashed skirt, to be sure, has disappeared—but it has only disappeared to make room for the lace panel."

"A stupid greenhorn of a butler scored a bull's-eye unconsciously the other day."

"Is Mrs. Blane in?" a late caller asked him.

"Yes, sir; she's in," said the butler, "but she ain't at home, sir. She's upstairs undressin' for a dinner dance."

—Washington Star.

Good Advice.

Bacon—I see it said that many persons are apt to remain too long in a cold bath, and care should be taken to avoid this mistake, which has a debilitating effect if indulged in often.

Egbert—If you happen to break through the ice this winter, remember that. Don't stay in too long.

Sized Up.

Mrs. Crawford—What makes you think that she knows her husband thoroughly?

Mrs. Crabshaw—Because she can tell exactly how much money to take out of his pocket without his missing it.—Judge.

It pays to be polite, but we don't think it quite necessary to bow when you go to milk a cow.

Gossip generally means taking two and two and making three.

POINT IN CHILD EDUCATION

Before Punishment of Faults There Should Be Careful Weighing of Motives.

Is it not true that parents often seek their own peace and comfort rather than the welfare and reformation of a child in the punishment of faults? "Let us do the easiest and have it over." One of the most vital points in child education is the careful weighing of motives and temperaments. Be firm and calm—and that is reasonable. The close relationship of body, mind and soul demands a consideration of this trinity of each individual in order to have a healthful unit. Poor digestion makes an irritable temper, a defect of vision may be at the root of a moral obliquity, and deafness makes for seeming, idiosyncrasy. Many physicians have failed to help solve a mother problem because they have not understood the child's defect, which was far removed from the superficial symptoms.—Modern Priscilla.

Titus' Sack of Jerusalem.

The Emperor Titus was counted one of the greatest soldiers ever produced by Rome, and for his almost miraculous slaughter he was entitled "The Joy of the World." In the year 70 Titus made Jerusalem a charnel house. It is estimated that during the siege he killed 2,500,000 Jews. Finally the living behind the walls of Jerusalem became so weak they could no longer throw their dead over the walls and then Titus marched in with his victorious army. When the sun set Titus had killed every man, woman and child in the place and his soldiers actually waded ankle deep in blood in the gutters.

Why We Need More Calcium.

Science now declares that we ought to make calcium one of the ingredients of bread in order to give our bodies more of this useful element. Unless we eat an abundance of milk and vegetables most of us do not get a sufficient amount of calcium, particularly if we take our carbohydrates in the form of bread, potatoes and beer. Hardening of the arteries and a number of other modern diseases are thought to be due to an insufficient amount of calcium in the diet. To supply this lack it is proposed to use in breadmaking a preparation composed of rye flour and calcium chloride.

Exit Father.

Little Girl—My father says he has often seen you act.

Pleased Actress—What did he say he saw me act in, dear?

Little Girl—In the 70's.—Puck.

Heard at the Concert.

"She sings with a good deal of expression, doesn't she?"

"Yes, she does, but it's the kind of expression you must close your eyes to appreciate."

It's Off.

"How about you and that telephone girl?"

"She has sent me back my solitaire."

"Ring off, eh?"

Much of the wisdom of the wise is reflected from the foolishness of the foolish.—Macon Telegraph.

Diplomats Now Call Washington Plymouth Rock

WASHINGTON has been nicknamed "Plymouth Rock" in diplomatic circles. Formerly it was considered one of the most desirable posts, especially for bachelors. Several bills passed by the present congress, however, have had the effect of almost putting the city in the class of one of the towns carefully managed by the Puritans a couple of centuries ago.



If strains of music percolate through the window of an apartment, a policeman immediately makes a note of the fact, with name and number. If such concerts take place often, the police are likely to make a personal investigation. Such investigations are sometimes followed by the arrival of patrol wagons, even in the most select sections of the city. Though diplomats are not liable to arrest for misdemeanors, they practice discretion in affairs that might be brought to the attention of their embassies.

Money will not buy liquor after one o'clock in the morning or on Sunday. Even the Metropolitan club, sometimes supposed to be in a class by itself, has been affected by the latest legislation.

Drinks are not "sold, dispensed, or given away" in the club on Sunday or after one in the morning.

The real guests at hotels also must go thirsty at the prohibited times. The law is so written that it is impossible for hotel managements to serve liquor legally on Sunday, even though it was paid for on the previous day.

That is why diplomats, accustomed to continental life, are calling this nation's capital "Plymouth Rock."

Debutantes Are Leaving Off Their Long Gloves

THE debutantes this season are not wearing long white kid gloves to dances; in fact, they are hardly wearing them at all. There are many reasons given for this. Some say that Mme. Bakmeteff, wife of the Russian ambassador, seldom wears gloves, and if she does wear them to a party she removes them shortly after arriving. Mme. Dumba, wife of the ambassador of Austria-Hungary, also frequently is seen without gloves.

At a dinner-dance recently at the Army and Navy club a debutante of this season pulled off her gloves and remarked that if Mme. Bakmeteff could "get away with it," she could. Her lead was followed by everyone dancing in the place.

The two debutante daughters of Postmaster-General and Mrs. Burleson never wear gloves to dances, and Genevieve Clark often appears without long white gloves.

Of course, the fashion of having long tulle sleeves in evening gowns has much to do with it, for a short glove looks awkward and a long one is unnecessary.

It has been said that since women are taking their knitting to the theaters and to dances and everywhere else, gloves are useless for them; then too the increased cost of imported gloves may play a small part in it.

At the hops at the Military academy and the Naval academy none of the dancers wear long kid gloves.



Money for Money— Pound for Pound

—there's no food that equals Grape-Nuts in concentrated food-strength.

A pretty big claim, but listen—

"All-wheat food" sounds good to most people, but Grape-Nuts goes one better. It not only contains the entire nutriment of wheat, but also the rich nourishment of barley.

More! Grape-Nuts is long baked and digests quickly. Most wheat foods—bread for instance and some so-called breakfast foods—require 2½ to 3 hours for digestion.

Grape-Nuts food digests generally in about one hour.

Being highly concentrated, there's more actual food value, weight for weight, in Grape-Nuts than in some other foods sold in bigger packages.

Grape-Nuts contains the vital bone, muscle and nerve making phosphates necessary for health and life, but lacking in most wheat foods—white bread especially. A daily ration of Grape-Nuts readily makes up for this lack.

Ready to eat from the package, appetizing, nourishing, economical—

"There's a Reason" for Grape-Nuts

—sold by Grocers everywhere.

