

FOR AND ABOUT THE WOMEN FOLKS

Can We Believe It?

MRS THOMPSON discourses in the North American Review: "Since marriage is a state to which all women in the course of nature, barring accident, attain, it is to effects as determined by marriage that one must look in defining the principles which should govern the action of women. Facts concerning the wage-earning of wives, therefore, do not describe conditions of one class of women only; they represent the final equation of the matter bearing upon the sex. Therefore:

"The practice of so-called economic independence has achieved for women financial results indicated in the fact that her average earnings are less than \$1 a day.

"The effect of the practice upon economic interests is to lessen efficiency and to increase the cost of production.

"The effect upon the woman herself is to impair her physical fitness for the maternal function, and to subject her to a false system of education, which mentally and morally unfits her for her economic office in the family.

"The effect upon society is to promote pauperdom, both by increasing the expense of living and by robbing men of the responsibility which gives them force and success in their natural office of dispenser of wealth to the family.

"In a word, the truth about woman in industry is, she is a frightful failure."

Gems for Summer Girls.

LAST summer it was beads. The summer girl had a bead chain for every frock, and did not mind in the least if she was compared to an Indian squaw.

This year it is a link chain, set in tiny gems. The girl who can dig up an heirloom in old silver, the links blackened by age and the gems quaintly carved, is to be accounted in great luck. Wealthy women are scouring curio shops and paying absurd prices for them.

The girl who has neither heirlooms nor great wealth contents herself with one of the clever imitations which can be picked up for a song at any store.

The links are small and wirelike, flat rather than round, and set at intervals of three, four or five, with flat, oblong jeweled slides.

A dainty birthday gift for a young girl is long, slender summer chain of gold set in her birth stone. If the girl does not care for her birthstone, the alternative is the Indian emerald, a shade lighter than the real emerald, a shade now enjoying a vogue. The Indian emerald and the real gem are sometimes combined to give a peculiar shaded effect.

As a pendant for these chains, the old-fashioned Latin cross is regarded as exactly the right thing.

An importer recently showed a model, four inches long, set in jewels, which graduated in size from the ends of the arms toward the center, the circle around the heart of the cross being as fine as pin points and sparkling in myriad hues. The price was \$3,000. In a few weeks a clever imitation of this cross was on the market at 75 cents.

Sometimes the crosses are set in colored gems surrounded by pearls or diamonds. Women who do not have to count pennies have chains set in gems to match their various gowns.

Birthstones seem to be enjoying more than ordinary vogue, and the newest thing in a brooch shows a small gold quill, high-

ly chased and set with a single birthstone in its center. Rings are flat and stolid looking, with heavy settings, including an arrangement of gems whose first letters spell out such words as "Regards" or "Dearest."

Rhinestones will be much employed in summer jewelry, and a new imitation is being imported heavily. This is used for large pieces, such as hats. For wear with the inevitable white lace hat, there is nothing more striking than an imitation cut as large as a quarter with thirty-two faces, which catch the light admirably.

Jeweled side combs in new designs are shown. Last year the comb turned its decorated face outward, toward the ear. This season, with the hair parted in the middle, the two combs turn their decorated edges toward each other, running straight up and down the back, and leaving the neat, white part fully exposed.

Combs of amber or tortoise have scalloped edges, each scallop thickly encrusted with marvelously clever imitation gems.

Aluminum Baby Carriages.

IN ENGLAND there are made baby carriages with aluminum bodies. They are described as the latest thing in baby carriages.

This aluminum baby carriage is modeled precisely on the lines of what is known here as the English baby carriage. It is only half the weight of the ordinary wooden carriages, and it is said of it that it "will prove a great boon in hilly districts."

It should be borne in mind, however, that "half the weight" refers to half the weight of a wooden carriage of the type commonly used in England, and that while there are now being used here an increasing number

of English baby carriages with wooden bodies, the great majority of the baby carriages used in this country are made with lighter bodies of wickerwork.

A New York dealer in baby carriages said that he had not heard of the importation of any of these aluminum baby carriages into this country, and that he did not see why they should be needed here; that there were made here baby carriages, with steel ball bearing axles, that rolled so easily and smoothly that a touch would send them half the length of the store floor; and he could not imagine a carriage rolling and handling more easily than that, or that one to run more easily could be required in this country.

Demand for Business Women.

THERE are 100 women in New York, some young and some, er—not, who have salaries bigger than United States senators. There are 200 more who make as much as a congressman. Mr. Rockefeller's secretary, of whom mention has heretofore been made in this correspondence, has an income of \$14,000 a year, and the young, or at least not old, woman who occupies a similar relation to H. H. Rogers, also a Standard oil magnate, drags off \$10,000 a year. These girls all begin as stenographers. Then they are found to possess the necessary good sense and diplomacy to answer routine letters without calling the boss of the job to their aid. Later they are found to be competent to handle delicate matters of business, and then the boss begins to rely on them. He may be at his country place, fifty miles out of town, and he will telephone the office. The secretary tells him what's doing, and then he will probably say:

"Well, use your own judgment in this matter and that." He usually finds that "her own judgment" is good. So it happens that many of the big things reported in the financial columns of the daily newspapers are really negotiated by the young woman secretary. Not only in this field are women showing their capacity, but in others equally as important. The big hotels in New York find that women cashiers and auditors are the most reliable. They do not play the races, and they are not tempted to enter into conspiracies to rob their employers. A copy of the Hotel Gazette contains a remarkable news item not printed in any of the daily papers. A man who owns two of the biggest hotels in San Francisco is in New York looking for women auditors and cashiers. He says the last three men he employed in these responsible positions have absconded, and he is determined hereafter to employ none but women. Mr. Hawk of the Manhattan has an abiding faith in the honesty of women, and so has Mr. Hilliard of the Waldorf. The new Astor hotel is to have women auditors and cashiers.

Know What She Wears.

TO BE as much of a companion to his wife or sweetheart as possible," says the Chicago Tribune, "a man should devote some study to the technique of dress making. He should be able to talk intelligently on the subject which lies closest to a woman's heart. This is the subject of dress. In order to post himself on the styles and the terms of expression used in the discussion of gowns and toilets he should read the fashion columns in the papers.

"When the new dress is worn for the first time his first question should be, 'Have you bought enough material for the parasol?' By this question he will show that he knows the importance of the parasol this season in heightening the effect of the tout ensemble. He can deftly remark that one of the prettiest parasols he has seen was one having rich incrustations of contrasting nature."

"When it comes to discussing the forthcoming wedding gowns it would be proper to say that he personally favors the Louis XV, and pompadour modes, because they demand rich materials and can only be taken up by a limited number. The following terms would then be in order: Pink panne, apron of white mousseline, a corsage that makes a curve over the bust, bias frills, sheer stuff, and flower sashes on bodices. If he is not careful he may mention a number of things found only on menu cards or used in farming. He must understand that shirring has no reference to eggs, rucking to Charlotte russe, scallops to oysters, periwinkles to seashells, galleons to quarts, or yokes to oxen.

"A bodice is not a bo-sain, even if it does taper to a point, because a bodice, to be right, should come down in a long, prim point, old timey, pretty and irrational. A hat is not a parlor window, even if a lace curtain does fall at the back. These elementary distinctions must be learned.

"But to appear truly learned, inquiry should be made as to the djibbich. A man may know other things, but if he lets the djibbich escape him he is lost. It should be long, loose and straight, cut out at the throat and 'endowed' with flowing sleeves."

Chat About Women

At a cost of nearly \$30,000 Miss Helen Miller Gould has just had built a new club house for boys and young men, to be named the Lyndhurst club, near Irvington, on the Hudson.

Miss Annie Wheeler is almost as well known as her illustrious father, General Joseph Wheeler. During the Spanish-American war she earned the sobriquet of "Angel of Mercy" in the fever stricken army hospitals, and stories of her heroism and tenderness have been told since the white flag of peace meant an end of her heroic service to her country. Miss Wheeler has spent the entire winter in New York, where she has been a prominent figure in society. The warmest friendship exists between Miss Wheeler and Miss Helen Gould.

The University of Halle mentions the interesting fact that this institution was the first in Germany to give the medical degree to a woman. It was in 1754 that the university created a daughter of Dr. Leporin of Halle, a "doctor medicinae." Her scientific studies had been carried on under the direction of her father, but in the university halls she had defended a set of theses that secured her these academic honors. She is no doubt the pioneer of the modern university movement among the women of Germany.

A silver-haired American woman is still living who posed for many a day as the queen of England. And she still recalls with a shudder the burden of forty pounds of royal clothes which she wore for many weary hours. Shortly after the coronation of Queen Victoria the Society of St. George and St. Anthony of Philadelphia commissioned Thomas Sully to paint a portrait of the queen in her coronation robes. The artist went to England, accompanied by his daughter Blanche, a young woman of eighteen summers. The queen received him graciously and sat for him till the head was finished. She then relinquished the task to the artist's daughter, who sat dressed in the queen's robes for many a long day. Mr. Sully received \$40,000 for the portrait and Miss Blanche was made happy by an autograph letter from the queen and the present of a diamond ring.

Frills of Fashion

Aluminum braid in various widths is used for trimming.

The very lightest pink and blue batiste is in favor for underclothing.

Black chiffon taffeta walking gowns, with instep skirt, are in favor for street and carriage wear.

To match her white costume it is predicted that the summer girl will wear white combs.

A green parasol has a green stick, the end of the handle finished with a duck's head in the same green and with a black bill.

The small, square-cornered cushions of silk used for filling in the top of a straight front corset often are ornamented in the center with ribbon flowers.

A parasol handle of smooth, polished red wood makes a short bend at the top, has the end sharp pointed, and becomes the small head of a bird with a sharp bill.

The plain white linen collar and cuffs have a line of half-inch squares of the linen set in cornerwise just inside the edge, forming an openwork braid. It is a neat and effective finish.

One of the handsomest and daintiest of summer belts is of warp print silk in pompadour designs. The front is shirred, while the back ornamentation consists of buttons covered with the silk.

A pretty waist for a girl is of the printed net, with a tucked stock and cuffs, the material tucked yoke deep on the body of the waist. This, too, is made over silk. One pretty flower design shows clusters of delicate violet flowers.

Low shoes in white are of morocco, which gives them an unusual appearance. Another light shoe is of a lizard skin in the pale gray that is usually seen in purses, and in some of these the front part, where the eyelets are set, is of white.

A pale pink kimono is embroidered with a design of wistaria in white with pale gray-green leaves. Another of white, which is pretty, has also the wistaria design, but the blossoms in pale pink, the foliage green and the lining of the garment in pink.

