

FOR AND ABOUT THE WOMEN FOLKS

Novel Social War.

TWENTY young women, the elite of Logansport, Ind., have started a merry war on the young men of that community, accusing them of ingratitude and parsimony. They united in a protest against what they declared was "commercialism in love-making." They asserted that the young men of the city were long on the matter of accepting entertainment at their hands, but short on reciprocating with the return of pleasures that involved the expenditure of money. They prepared the following manifesto and caused its publication:

"This is a complaint from the girls of Logansport, a cry for relief from something which has been going on ever since the town was founded.

"We refer to the utter selfishness of the young men of Logansport. They are perfectly willing to sit around night after night, mopping up our heat, eating our fudge and giving us the great pleasure of their company (?), but when a pleasure that costs money—well, that's a different matter! One young lady sums it up in a remark that if smiling cost the boys anything they would not be so generous with their smiles.

"Such a thing as taking the girls driving, sending candy, books or flowers is never even thought of. The boys in other towns are not of this caliber, and there is no excuse for our boys. We are tired of it, and wish to say so in good, round terms.

"A hint is usually sufficient, boys. Get busy!"

This manifesto was signed "Twenty Logansport Girls," and the paper in which it appeared maintained the utmost secrecy as to the identity of the girls, but the unanimity with which the whole town united in crediting the authorship of the letter to a clique of girls who are the acknowledged society belles of the city left little room for doubt that they were the ones responsible for the charges against the young men.

The identity of the young women being so apparent to everyone, the young men against whom the objections were directed were thrown immediately under the "spot light," and they recognized that it was up to them to follow the advice of the young women and "get busy." This they did in an effective way, but the means they adopted were quite evidently a surprise to the perpetrators of the protest.

After a few preliminary conferences the young men decided that if the young women had appreciated their services as escorts on picnicking excursions, in athletic tournaments, at dances, theater parties, buggy rides and in numerous other ways so little there was no use of their continuing these efforts. They felt cut and decided upon a line of action that was heroic, but which they declare has already been productive of good results. They planned a boycott of the girls and immediately put it into execution. A "round robin" was prepared and signed by several of the young men, and it was distributed to the younger set of youths, to whom the offending young women turned for assistance when the boycott was first announced. At any rate, the younger set is joining the ranks of striking beaux, which have been augmented by even the "steadies" of some of the young women. Matrimonial prospects among the younger society people of the town are consequently limited and the ministers of the city are becoming worried over this turn of affairs.

The "round robin" of the young men was as follows:

"After considering well the alleged grievances of the twenty young society dames who have been distributing free fudge to an ungrateful following of suitors we have decided that our best efforts cannot be swift enough to satisfy feminine appetites sharpened by the society novel. We admit that we cannot keep pace with a society wherein the heroine opens scented notes while sipping her chocolate before rising nor make good the dreams which picture a maid carting in huge bunches of violets.

"Then, too, listening lightly to gossip concerning our friends, discourses on what 'I said' and 'she said,' the tales of black cats crossing one's path and the direful consequences; kindergarten dissertations on the advantages of counting stars; suggestions on the delights that would result from our getting up a dance Tuesday night, a picnic Thursday, a theater party Friday night and the joy to be obtained from a moonlight buggy ride around Broad Ripple; all these things which we have endured with monotonous regularity all summer, only to be told that we have not done enough and that we are 'frozen' is too great a strain. We conclude that a rest cure is what we need. A rest cure may be good for the girls as well, or they may be able to discover a band of gallants with the incomes of millionaires and nothing to do but spend them if we but give them the opportunity.

"In the belief that these things may come to pass we hereby pledge ourselves that until January 1, 1905, we will not escort a Logansport young woman to a theater, dance or any place of amusement; that we will not present them with flowers, bonbons or anything of a pecuniary value; that we will even desist from the customary gifts at Christmas time.

"Inasmuch as this is leap year, we feel that it is no more than just that we should expect any advances from henceforth to come from the young women. We wish them joy in the course they have taken."

The social war has created much interest and amusement in Logansport. On the whole, however, it is taken quite seriously by the citizens.

Lingerie Hints for Home Sewers.

In the term "tailored," as applied to effects in lingerie, did not seem incongruous, it might be said that the autumn fashions, in this all-important part of the feminine wardrobe, are bordering on tailored lines. Many of the sets are without a yard of lace or insertion, fine hemstitching and hand embroidery being the only trimming.

Linen mesh promises to be a favorite style of underwear for winter weather. Hitherto only men's garments have been made up of this fabric, but the present season shows it in separate garments and in union suits for women and children. It is a porous fabric which fits very closely to the body, and is said to be the most healthful of all meshes for wearing next to the skin. It enables the perspiration to leave the body freely, and at the same time it fits snugly and retains the heat. The adoption of the union suit in this mesh, with short knickers and with a low neck and no sleeves, is quite general.

Convent-made lingerie is gaining a wide popularity among women whose purses will permit of their buying it. There is nothing in lingerie which can compare with it in texture, design and handwork. Sets of four pieces, knickers, chemis, gown

and petticoat are embroidered heavily in white linen, carrying out the daintiest of flower patterns in sprays and vines. The edges are traced in an irregular design and finely buttonholed, while a beading effect is carried out in the same stitch, each of the perforations being a tiny buttonhole. It resembles the broderie anglaise work, which is also seen on much of the fine linen lingerie, especially in gowns and petticoats.

The new Chinese models are more scant than in former seasons and fit the body more like a princess gown, with sufficient flare at the bottom to serve the purpose of a short skirt.

French flannel skirts, knee-length, are exquisite in their design. The finest of handwork above the hem, in white silk, takes the place of ruffles. White is the favorite color, but the French flannels come also in dainty tones of pink and blue and lavender.

The surplice corset cover is the most satisfactory undergarment for wear with shirt-waists. It is made of nainsook or linen, and can be drawn as closely as desired across the front and buttoned in the back at the waist line. It serves admirably as a lining to a loose blouse and is sufficiently warm for cold weather. A combination corset cover and short skirt is an innovation in lingerie. It obviates the difficulty of disposing of tape ends and knots.

Some women always prefer lace trimmed lingerie and they can suit even their most fastidious tastes in this line. The introduction of plain embroidered effects has not detracted from the elaborateness of lace effects.

Umbrella knickers are not among the newest models; but the short garment, just reaching to the knee and split on the outer sides for about six inches with lace running in a V-shape to the point, are much in evidence. Ribbon about an inch wide is traced through embroidery beading and ends in a bow on both sides.

Dresden ribbons are being employed for trimming much of the French underwear, especially in the showy lace sets. There is a decided tendency towards white wash ribbon for lingerie if the simplest sort.

A Swiss lisle undervest, a closely woven material that will serve well in cold weather, is found in the importations together with silk vests in all colors, hand-embroidered in Parisian effects.

What Makes Real Charm in a Woman?

THE sweet, blessed river of charm is fed by many springs. Chief among them are:

"A kindly, optimistic disposition.

"A great desire to please.

"A sunny temper.

"A power of flattery; so subtle one must never suspect its existence.

"Quick sympathies.

"A rounded adaptability (so that no corners get in the way of one's pet prejudices).

"Being a good listener. That means being interested and responsive, not silent.

"Absence of all very strong convictions. This leaves the charmer ready to adopt ours.

"A little dash of unsuspected insincerity.

"Sincerity and strength of character are admirable and most precious for close and continuous association, but they do not make for charm. Most people (and the stronger the character the more likely) have the defects of their virtues.

"Beauty is not essential, but grace of bearing and daintiness in surroundings, with an air of the world going well with one, are. They give a sense of ease and restfulness.

"The charming woman never has grievances; never lives in a vale of tears or sits in judgment. She is the pleader, the consolator.

"Finally, she must have what the old writers call 'a pretty wit.'

"And there, madame, is your charming woman."

The above is a letter which appeared in a New York paper in response to some request for different ideas of a charming woman, and there are points in it worthy of comment, says a contributor to the St. Paul Globe. One thing is quite evident, and that is it was written by a thoughtful person who has not formed his opinion impulsively and knows whereof he speaks. "A great desire to please" might be regarded as evidence of a certain insincerity on the part of a woman, but this writer does not think so. Indeed, a great desire to please usually springs from a warm heart and is a much more charming characteristic than an indifference to the opinion of others and not caring whether one is liked or not. Many will disagree with the writer in thinking that a power of subtle flattery is desirable, but few persons who have come much in contact with others or who know life will disagree. The woman who is charming knows how to flatter with sincerity, if such an expression may be allowed. It is always pleasant to meet this sort of a charming woman because she makes us feel kindly toward ourselves. She brings out our good points and makes us appear well. That is a secret of many a woman's charm; she knows how to make her friends appear at their best.

What Women Are Doing.

The richest women in the United States are said to be Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, sr., \$80,000,000; Mrs. C. P. Huntington, 175,000,000; Mrs. R. J. C. Walker (daughter of William W. Aldrich), \$60,000,000; Mrs. Henry C. Potter, \$45,000,000; Mrs. Ogden G. Lusk, \$25,000,000; and Mrs. Betty Green, 13,000,000.

Mrs. Mary King Waddington, widow of William Henry Waddington, who was prime minister of France under President Grey, has arrived in New York after an absence of thirty-nine years. She is a member of one of the oldest families of New York and a sister to General Charles King, the well-known novelist.

The empress of Japan not only smokes, but uses a silver pipe with a stem ten inches long. The bowl is small—in fact, only a quantity of tobacco sufficient to give the smoker two or three whiffs can be put into it. Then the ashes are knocked out and the pipe is carefully cleaned before it is refilled—a process gone through many times in the course of an afternoon.

Mrs. Panny N. Berthe, who superintends the bee and honey exhibit at the St. Louis exposition, is one of the most successful speculators in the world. She has an apiary at Winona in Minnesota and for three years has filled the office of treasurer of the Bee Raisers' association of that state. She says: "I consider bee culture one of the most pleasant and profitable occupations for women."

Somerset county, Maine, is bragging a bit on its smart women. An East Kowhegan correspondent started the ball a-rolling and other towns are reporting. For instance, one of Larone's smart women ran the mowing machine to cut thirty-five tons of hay; did all the raking, helped load and unload and did the housework for a family of five, which includes a young child, and is very much alive today. And from Brown's Corner: Mrs. John Richards has assisted in doing the housework for thirteen in family and did all the raking on four farms, and when her husband cut the hay on the fourth farm she did the housework all alone for twenty-one men and did the raking.

