

For and About Women Foks

Home Problem Biggest of All.
MRS. REBECCA HARDING DAVIS discusses the "Recovery of Home Life" in the Independent in a very optimistic tone. She declares that with good pay and proper treatment plenty of home servants may be obtained from the ranks of the immigrants who are now turning toward the factories, and thus sums up the situation as she views it:

"In the eastern cities, if you have the money, you can command a corps of skilled English servants. If you live in the west, Chinese and Japanese will do the work with ability and intelligence. In the south better service will be had when years enough have passed to convince colored friends that they cannot all be professional men and women."

"This is cheerfulness under difficulties, indeed," comments the Washington Post. "What are eastern people to do who are not rich enough to command even one high-priced English servant, to say nothing of a corps? Raw immigrant girls cannot fill the bill, and when they cease to be raw they quit housework. Northern colored help is scarce, and worthless when found. The less said of the southern young colored help the better. With abundant raw material, the southern housewife is forced to do her own work if it is done right."

"In the west the servant problem is more disheartening than in the east or south. Chinese cooks command \$40 and upward per month, and there are fifty jobs waiting for every one. Chinese boys have virtually disappeared. A few thousand Japs are scattered through the west, doing housework. They are far inferior to the Chinese, both as to thoroughness and reliability. White servants are almost unknown. Few American girls will work in the kitchen. White women are snatched up by waiting bachelors all through the west and installed as heads of their own households instead of servants. A member of the cabinet, appalled at the prospect of conducting his establishment in Washington this winter with the help available, went personally to the Chinese consul general at San Francisco and offered to pay high wages and all expenses to three Chinese servants. None could be obtained for work in Washington."

"We fail to see much room for cheerfulness in the outlook. It appears to me that the American housewife must put on the apron herself or abandon the home."

Laundry Work for Beauty.

Women who are obliged to do their own washing will rejoice to learn that what is considered disagreeable toil is a genuine maker of beauty. The discovery was made by a Brooklyn woman and the details given in an anxious word by the Brooklyn Eagle. This is the way it works:

When you start in to wash—soaking the clothes—be sure that the water is clear and soft. Hard water injures the hands and does the clothes no good. Let the water be soft and clear. Filtered water, softened by borax, would be the best for the hands. The next best thing is good rain water with plenty of borax dissolved in the water. To soak a shirtwaist throw open the windows and lift the shirtwaist high in your hands. This gives the arm and shoulder exercise. Dip it in the tub, lift it again and keep on lifting and dipping until the shirtwaist is wet thoroughly. Then let it lie in the deep water.

Open the windows before you begin. Working with closed windows, winter or summer, is a poor plan. A close room injures the lungs and makes the complexion muddy. Moreover, it is bad for the tissues. Women with adipose tissue invariably work in a warm room.

Washerwomen, cooks and houseworkers of all kinds are almost always too stout. They get fat in spite of the exercise they take. This is because the room in which they work is too warm and too close. It breeds a kind of unhealthy fat. If they would throw open the windows and breathe deeply they would be a great deal better off. Hot air, remember, makes you stout and it makes you ugly. It makes your muscles soft and your nerves unsteady. It gives the skin a dull, puffy look as though one were made of putty.

Soak your clothes in a cool room with the windows open and remember that all your laundry operations should be conducted in the same way. The washerwomen of France wash in the open air in a brook, rubbing their clothes against the stones. The air is clear and good; the water is cool and soft; the stones afford just the right amount of friction and there is always the brook in which one can wade and cool off. The girl who can do her laundry work daily under such circumstances would be blest indeed. She would be independent of beauty parlors.

When she comes to the washing for her clothes she must be careful. The air must be good, the soap must be of the best, the water must be soft and she must understand the art of getting all the benefit possible. If she does it right she will take a Turkish bath at an expense whatever; if she does not do it as she should do it she will be uncomfortable all the rest of the day.

Dress lightly and entirely in wash fabrics. Wear no flannel next to the skin, and if possible dress in two or three garments. It would be very nice if one could go bare-footed, but there are few who can do this. Besides barefootedness tends to widen the foot and break down the arch of the instep. Therefore it is best to wear the shoes one is accustomed to wearing. The temperature of the room should be cool and there should be a draught blowing through it.

Let your clothing be of the kind that can be taken off as soon as you have finished your work and put out to air. Better still, wear a fresh suit for your laundry work, a plain shirtwaist that can be turned in at the neck and a calico skirt. This is an ideal laundry work outfit. Don't dress up too much. No one is going to see you.

Washing the clothes in the hot sud steam the skin and makes the complexion better. If the sweat stands out in beads so much the better. You are getting a Turkish bath. Never be afraid to sweat. The finest portions of the skin are those that sweat the most profusely. The plans of the hand, in spite of the hard work they do, are soft; the chest upon which the perspiration breaks out in beads is fine and smooth. Sweat all you can. It is good for you. Paddle in the sud until you are wet with perspiration. It is that which is a bad thing to suddenly check the perspiration and for this reason it is well to cool off a little before going out to hang up the clothes. Let the system cool gradually.

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Boston Store.

usually. Drink a glass of spring water, wash the hands in cold water. Cool off little by little, taking twenty minutes for it. Then go out and hang up the clothes. If you cool off too suddenly you will check the perspiration and the cold will close the pores and clog them. This will give you a touch of rheumatism, which can only be cured by steaming the pores open again. If you find your back lame from suddenly going out in the cold air you will have to apply hot cloths to open the closed pores and you will have to rub your back well with oil after you have opened the pores. In this way, and in this way only, will you restore your back to limberness again.

Hanging up clothes is glorious exercise. Put your laundry in a basket. Balance the basket upon your head and start off. Hold your chin up; let your head be erect; breathe through your nostrils and let your stride be long and steady. Now, if ever, is the time to try deep breathing. And it will give you outdoor exercise.

The Clothing Problem.
 Frances Power Cobbe was born in Dublin in 1822 and educated at Brighton, and now, in her old age is living at Hengrave, in North Wales. She has been active all her life as a writer and a worker for humane reforms. At the age of 83 she undertakes, in an article on "The Valetudinarianism of Women," to formulate the laws which should govern dress; and here is what she says:

1. Human clothing has three reasons d'etre, which, in order of precedence, are: I. Health. II. Decency. III. Beauty.
2. Health demands—
 a. Maintenance of proper temperature of the body by exclusion of excessive heat and cold.
 b. Protection from injury by rain, snow, dust, dirt, stones to the feet, insects, etc.
 c. Preservation of liberty of action to all the organs of the body and freedom from pressure.
3. Decency demands—
 a. Concealment of some portions of the human frame.
 b. Distinction between the habiliments of men and women sufficient to avert mistake.
4. Fitness to the age and character of the wearer.
5. Convenience, when possible, of any disgusting personal defect.
6. Beauty demands—
 a. Truthfulness. The dress must be genuine throughout, without any false pads, false hair, or false anything.
 b. Graceful forms of drapery.
 c. Harmonious colors.
 d. Such moderate consistency with prevailing modes of dress as shall produce the impression of sociability and suavity, and avoid that of self-assertion.
 e. Individuality; the dress suiting the wearer as if it were an outer body belonging to the same soul.

This is a tabulation of fundamental truths worthy of the attention of modistes the world over, and also worthy of the attention of every woman of intelligence who desires to dress in a manner that will avoid frumpiness and not endanger health.

Artist in Wood Engraving.
 It is admitted by authorities that the greatest achievement in wood engraving has been reached in America, since our artists have carried it to a degree of perfection unparalleled anywhere else in the world. The only woman in America who practices the art is Miss Caroline A. Powell of Boston. Her work is remarkable for its brilliancy of effects in pure black and white, requiring the most delicate skill in its manual execution and a feeling and intuition with respect to the correct interpretation of values and textures of a very high order. The method being a relief process, the varying values are obtained by the most delicate cutting of lines, dots and minute pecks. Blacks are obtained by leaving the wood uncut and pure white by cutting the wood entirely away. Miss Powell, who was born in Dublin, Ireland, was a pupil of Timothy Cole and studied drawing at the National Academy of Design.

Hints for Housewives.
 A New York woman recommends a novel remedy for cinder in the eye, viz., a loop of horsehair run up under the lid. Of course, the hair should be thoroughly sterilized before being used.

The tops of wardrobes and cupboards (that do not reach to the ceiling) should have papers laid over them not only to keep dust from sifting down, but to lighten the monthly house cleaning.

A novel way for one's overshoes to be identified is to fasten them together with a clothespin bearing one's name. A more practical idea, however, will be to write a name in each shoe with red ink.

When the wash-boiler is rusted, place the clothes in a bag or old paper and before putting them in to boil, writes a correspondent. But why not try the up-to-date soaps that do away with the boiling?

Small pieces of cotton batting, slightly scoured, make dust which should be burned after use. A medium-sized camel's-hair paint brush is most useful in dusting the carving of furniture.

A quick-witted woman stopped the flow from her cut around the edge of a buttonhole with the loop of hair as mentioned in the first of these hints. This is recommended for children's clothes that will have hard usage.

If newspapers are spread on the floor before the stove when ashes are to be removed, much work will be saved, for the papers can be gathered up and burned and there will be no necessity for sweeping. The ashes should be sprinkled with water before the pan is overturned.

All kinds of leather shoes can be cleaned and polished with milk, which should be put on generously, allowed to dry, then polished with a dry flannel. Rubber-soled tennis shoes have proved most desirable in which to do housework, as they save both noise and dirt. They are also preservers of hardwood floors, and seldom cost over 50 cents.

Frills of Fashion.
 Golf and the outdoor sports brought the hair ribbon back into favor. Soft velvet crowns on the order of Tams appear on many of the new hats.

Prune is one of the new colors for hats. A handsome one of this shade is raised at the front to show masses of myrtle green plumes.

The new slippers have Louis Quinze heels and peculiarly narrow toes. With the one exception of buttons, made of the material of the dress, the new evening slippers are of kid, suede or silk.

A bunch of pink roses in the center of the front of the rim of a big black hat holds in place the black dotted net veil, which is edged with applique work. The veil covers the hat and falls to the waist in the back.

There seems to be no diminution in the popularity of the chemisette. The newest ones are exquisite in their patterns and as delicate as cobwebs. The fashion is a delightfully clean one, as those chemisettes may be washed rather than cleaned.

Shell buckles are now, and a large one holds the stems of two shaded plumes in the peacock colors on a deep blue hat. A hat with an ashes of roses velvet trim has a soft, creamy tannish red or soft old blue. There is a single pink rose at the front.

One of the new long velveteen and a half long, that is made of bobbinet dots after the fashion of point d'esprit, does not mean that the dots are woven in. These dots are neither large nor small and are more square than anything else. The velveteen is of rather more than average velvety width and is edged with a two-inch band of chiffon to match.

Give the Baby Water.
 A great many babies are suffering from thirst, says Medical Talk. Especially nursing babies. If the baby cries and indicates any desire for drink it is simply allowed to nurse a little more.

But milk does not satisfy its thirst. It should have water. A teaspoonful of water every now and then during the day would do the baby good. It should not be nursed every time it cries and wants something. Every three hours is often enough to nurse the baby. But water should be given it every half hour, if necessary.

The other day a mother consulted me about her baby. It had lain awake two

hours, feverish and restless. She could not quiet it, although she did the usual things. I examined the child and found it healthy. It was a nursing babe. I then asked the mother if she ever gave it any water. She said no. She was directed to get an ordinary nipple, a Hygeia nursing nipple, put some water in a bottle and take it to bed with her the next night. Whenever the child wanted to nurse give it water out of the bottle.

She did so. It worked like magic. The baby gave her no trouble whatever. That mother would not take \$100 for that little bit of information.

If the child is restless during the night give it a little water. To make it a little more convenient have the water all ready in a nursing bottle. But, if not, get up and give it a little water. During the hot months especially the child needs water, plenty of it. Do not be afraid of it. The water should not be too cold for a young babe, else it is liable to have colic.

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For sale by all druggists and is the only skin beautifier.

Chats About Women.
 When Miss Mable Hemingway was married several days ago she was presented by John D. Rockefeller with a beautiful villa and a check for \$100,000. She is the daughter of the Rockefeller family.

Miss May Liang, daughter of the Chinese minister, is quite the most picturesque figure in Washington society. She returns to the location with her father this week, after a delightful summer spent in Massachusetts, most of the time at Amherst, where the minister has placed his son, Arlie and Arlo, in school.

Miss Katherine E. Conway, the editor of the Boston Pilot, has accepted an invitation to visit the New England Exposition at Lowell, which has been given by Marie Cahill to establish a summer home for the chorist women of the American stage, the governing body to be known as the Mary Anderson Guild.

Mrs. Sallie Knapp and Cos of Evanston, Ill., who died of typhoid fever in California, has left a musical work in the melodrama of "The Wabash" which seems destined to become a memorial to the author. The composition is a fine musical setting to portions of Longfellow's epic of Indian life, genuine Indian themes being used in its construction.

The foremost woman painter in Germany, Fraulein Grete Waldau, has recently been presented by the emperor with the order of honor, being the only woman artist in Germany upon whom such royal favor has been conferred. The emperor owns several of her paintings and takes the greatest interest in her work, aiding her by every means in his power.

Mrs. E. J. Way from South Africa, has been winning honors as a crack shot in an English shooting tournament. Clad in a brown shooting costume, she shot the full military prone position at 500 yards and in a sweepstakes made it out of a possible 25. When aiming she brings the brim of her hat closely over the sight, so that the bar is in perfect shade. She twists her boot pattern along around the upper arm and shoots with great steadiness.

Attention was called lately to the pitifully small wages paid to well educated women engaged in clerical labor in London. It is to offer an outlet for this surplus that Lady Warwick is conducting at Studley castle, Warwickshire, an agricultural and horticultural college. The school was founded eight years ago and has provided many young women with useful and fairly remunerative work, and has provided many requests for trained workers than can be supplied. At present there are about forty students.

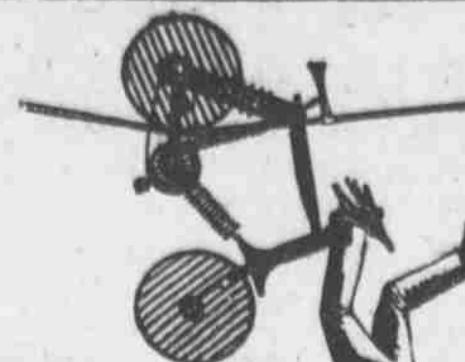
In Chicago the first real co-operative social settlement house is being erected by Mrs. Harriet M. Van de Weyer, a well known clubwoman and social settlement worker. For some years she has been the head of a small settlement in a thrifty community composed of mechanics and laboring men and it has long been her ambition to build a large house which would serve as a social center for the community. Every one who desires may belong to the association and many of the members have bought one or more shares.

Watch for a Drop
 of thirty or forty degrees in your thermometer. You will be sorry then you put it off.

With enough hot water? It costs nothing to talk to us about it. We have the **WATER FRONTS** and workmen to make the connections. Don't let any dealer put you off by saying repairs cannot be had in Omaha. We have **ONE THOUSAND CARLOADS** of stove, range and furnace repairs. Be from — and Telephone 960.

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