

# Activities of Women in Various Walks of Life

**Shopping for Brides-to-be.**  
**YOUNG WOMAN**, who found herself facing the problem of self-support, though tied to her home by an invalid parent, hit upon a plan which proved successful enough to be worth copying.

The girl was deft with her needle and had the added gift of being able to draw her own designs and monograms. She decided to make outfits for prospective brides.

A business friend of hers, who was to be married, had a good income, but little time to bother with her dressmaker. When the young woman offered to look after everything for her the bride-to-be was delighted to give her the order.

Knowing the importance of not sitting too steadily at the needle, the young woman became an accredited shopper and purchased materials, table and bed linen, and everything needed for a tressaure, outside of clothes and millinery.

Being a judicious shopper, time and money were saved for the bride-elect, and her friend had the benefit of commissions and many valuable suggestions for her work.

Underwear was made by the newest French pattern, but not at importers' prices. Tablecloths, napkins, towels, dollies and centerpieces were hemmed, marked and embroidered; even dish towels and washings were prepared.

It took time and work, but by systematizing and by taking exercise in the open air for at least one hour a day, a necessary duty, the young woman's health did not suffer.

Prices were rather difficult to arrange, but, as the bride-elect paid for all materials, though her friend got the commission, she arranged them on a time basis for actual work done. While fancy prices were not charged, the mistake was not made of undercharging.

So successful was the first outfit, that orders from other business women, who contemplated matrimony, crowded in until now that young woman has three or four helpers and keeps them all busy.

In such an occupation one must keep up with the latest fashions, and, if possible, she should try to give original touches. Her work should be done in a clean, airy place, and should be no delay with the execution. The young woman outfits insist on orders being given in ample time to be finished a month at least before the wedding.

She arranges with the bride-elect on the exact amount to be spent, and understands fully her needs and taste. The girl takes such interest in her work that it is a pleasure to her to give as much as possible for the sum allowed.

Everything is on a business basis, bills are itemized, and it is clearly understood that they must be paid in a set time.

**Women's Great Work.**  
 The proposition of the state of Virginia to buy Mount Vernon as a national monument is one which does Virginia much honor. But it has evoked strong opposition from some of the leading women of the country, who resent the proposal to take out of the hands of the American women the monumental enterprise for which the nation owes them a lasting debt of gratitude.

For fifty years, says the Kansas City Journal, they have had control of Mount Vernon, the most interesting historical souvenir in the land, and there has never been the slightest hint of mismanagement, even through incompetency, to say nothing of dishonesty.

The small fee of 25 cents charged for admission to the grounds is hardly worth considering from a financial standpoint. No American who cares enough about George Washington to wish to visit Mount Vernon will be prevented from doing so by such an insignificant charge. In all probability any one who could not afford the fee would be permitted to enter, while the establishment of an admission fee keeps out loafing vagabonds.

But Mount Vernon really ought to be the property of the United States. It would be no reflection on the women of America, who have done such a nobly patriotic work for the historic home of Washington to pass into the hands of the government. On the contrary, the debt would be none the less if after fifty years Mount Vernon should become as much a part of the nation as the capitol or the White House.

The treaty was originally bought from John Augustine Washington for \$200,000, and hundreds of thousands of dollars have been expended on it since the first purchase. No finer patriotism was ever displayed by the women of any country than that which actuated the women of America in preserving the priceless relics of Washington in the ancestral home which has become the nation's most sacred shrine. Their work has been splendidly done, and they may well place the fruits of half a century of devotion in the hands of the national government.

**One Woman's Civil Service.**  
 No one at this time in Kansas recalled more vividly what happened, but some twenty years ago, when the city fathers of the thriving little Michigan town with the Indian name erected their finest building on the public square, they placed on its topmost pinnacle the allegorical figure of a woman, says Mabel Potter Dargatz in The Delineator. The stately white lady watching over their civic progress through sunlight and storm is today emblematic of a reality, the city's oversight.

The Rev. Caroline Bartlett, now Mrs. Crofts, was called to Kansas in 1890, to minister to a church. She readily remained to minister to the whole city. Some of the people had told her they wanted the church kept up so that there might always be a minister in case of funerals. But she planned other things than funerals. And she did them. In a little while a new \$25,000 building had risen on the site of the old place of worship and the minister dedicated it to Unitarian religion. Let us no longer call it Unitarian, she said, for that term segregates us and the things that separate are superficial, while the things

that unite all who are striving for a better world are fundamental. To the People's church there flowed an overflowing congregation of all creeds and none.

The church became famous as an institutional church in the days when it was a new revelation that religion has quite as much relation to the here as to the hereafter. On the seventh day the members prayed, "Thy kingdom come on earth," and on six days they worked to answer the prayer. The children in the Sunday school were supplied with a new kind of lesson leaflet, "Studies in Good Citizenship," that dealt with familiar functions of the city government and held up well-known characters for emulation. Washington and Lincoln were substituted for Abraham and Jacob of the old method; and Kaimazoo, the minister contended, ought to be made as sacred as Jerusalem. There arrived a gift of \$2,000 as an endowment, and activities for the betterment of the city were the town's mainstay. A free public kindergarten, a women's gymnasium, a manual-training and a household-science school. The minister believed the chief function of a church to be the inauguration of good works, later to be carried on at public expense when their usefulness has been demonstrated to the community.

**Putting Away Furs.**  
 Furs are kept out much longer than they were. Some women who spend the summer at seashore or mountains keep at least one box out of camphor the year around. By the first of June, however, all furs should be put in their summer storage place.

The idea that it is necessary to have furs packed professionally is not correct. If one has large pieces, coats, fur-lined wraps, or handsome sable muffs and boas, the money expended may often be saved. Especially if a house is to be closed for months, it is well to have furs packed for storage. Robbers make a point of hunting them, and every season brings a record of stolen furs from unoccupied homes.

It is perfectly possible to put away furs so carefully that there is small danger of their becoming damaged. Nor is it the task many women consider it.

For at least a week before putting the furs in boxes they should be hung on a line to air and sun. At intervals they can be beaten lightly or shaken. Take the furs in at night for fear of the weather and thieves.

Go over the furs with a coarse comb in addition to the beating. This will bring possible moths to the surface. The combing is best done in the open air. As dirt is a moth collector, it is well to clean the furs before packing. This is beneficial even to dark furs, and should always be done to white ones.

Dark furs that have become very greasy can be rubbed with a little pure turpentine and then later washed with camphor and rubbed with bran slightly moistened with gasoline. Finally dry bran can be rubbed in, allowed to stay for a few hours, then shaken out.

White furs can be cleaned by rubbing them with white starch mixed with gasoline until the first dirt has come off. Then apply dry starch or powdered magnesia and put in a dark place for a day. Be careful to shake out the starch before final packing.

Do not neglect plenty of newspapers in fur packing. Coats of heavy pieces keep well sewed up in heavy fur sacks. A newspaper is inserted in the top, the edges turned down all around to shut out air and dust, and the neck of the bag is then tightly tied. If you can find a bag large enough, the coat should be put on a hanger.

Some women have such implicit faith in paper as protection that they use no camphor or other moth preventive. It is safer to eater pieces of camphor or tar balls in the bottom of the bag. Never let them touch the fur itself, as it is apt to discolor.

Small furs should go in their boxes, with pieces of newspaper tucked in around them. The lids should then be sealed with gum strips or adhesive paper, or the whole box should be wrapped in heavy yellow paper.

Keep the boxes, when wrapped, in a cool, dry, dark place. An unused closet is better than most cellars. It is safer and the furs will not be affected by dampness.

If one has an air-tight cedar closet, many women prefer to hang their furs in it unwrapped, or loosely tied in paper bags. They are then taken out, sunned, and aired every few weeks during the summer. This method is more trouble and no safe more careful, if more troublesome, storing.

**The Home as a School.**  
 Not long ago, says a writer in Success, I visited a home where such exceptionally good breeding practices by all the members of the family that it made a great impression upon me.

This home is the most remarkable school of good manners, refinement and culture generally I have ever been in. The parents are bringing up their children to practice their best manners on all occasions. They do not know what company manners mean.

The boys have been taught to treat their sisters with as much deference as though they were stranger guests. The politeness, courtesy and consideration which the members of this family show toward one another are most refreshing and beautiful. Coarseness, gruffness, lack of delicacy find no place there.

Both boys and girls have been trained from infancy to make themselves interesting and to entertain and try to make others happy.

The entire family make it a rule to dress before dinner in the evening, just as they would if special company were expected.

Their table manners are especially marked. At table every one is expected to be at his best, not to bring any grooves, or a long or sad face to it, but to contribute his best thought, his wittiest sayings, to the conversation. Every member of the family is expected to do his best to make the meal a really happy occasion. There is a sort of rivalry to see who can be the most entertaining or contribute the pickiest bits of conversation. There is no indication of drowsiness in this family, because every one is trained to laugh and be happy, and laughter is a fatal enemy of indigestion.

The etiquette of the table is also strictly observed. Every member of the family tries to do just the proper thing and always to be mindful of others' rights. Kindness seems to be practiced for the joy of it, not for the sake of creating a good impression on friends and acquaintances.

There is in this home an air of peculiar refinement which is very charming. The children are early taught to greet callers and guests cordially, heartily, in real southern, hospitable fashion, and to make them feel that they are very welcome. They are taught to make every one feel comfortable and at home, so that there will be no sense of restraint.

**The Matrimonial Market.**  
 There has been a break selling movement of some notable Newport varieties, many substantial sales being reported, says Life. Tall western blondes are quoted at a premium, and there has been a steady demand for the blue-eyed varieties. Boston rubings remain unchanged, the demand for

back bay specimens being confined almost exclusively to hardy western miners. Connecticut school marms continue firm. Delaware coaches fold their own and were dealt in freely on reports of a coming shortage in Virginia F. V.'s. These specimens, by the way, owing to their great scarcity, continue to rise steadily in value.

Kentucky blue grass belles were eagerly snatched up when offered. A few odd lots were taken for London, but in general the home market quickly absorbed them.

The shipments from California continue to grow in importance and interest, outclassing easily the principal hot house varieties of the coast. The crop continues to yield abundant returns. These varieties are very popular, being easily loved and showing no effects from transplanting.

The Chicago market sold off considerably at the opening, the feature being the great strength in alimony widows. There were some wide fluctuations in standard side issues. On the curb wild offerings of odd lots of bridge funds, Indiana potestesses and Christian advokators brunettes caused wide demoralization, but later the market became steadier under a short covering of Alabama Girlings, Fluffy Ruffies, both preferred and common (mostly all common) were dead.

In view of the industrial conditions prevailing, great caution was observed by both the public and the professionals. A swell appearance, handsome form, and warm gentle manner which is usually grabbed upon sight, was subjected to critical inspection, and extravagant clothes wearing habits and other characteristics carefully gone into before sales.

The bond market was dull, short term being the feature.

**Leaves from Fashion's Notebook.**  
 Linen and shantung are the leading fabrics for the coming season, both for the two and three-piece costumes.

The rosette of velvet for millinery use is being replaced by one formed of small quilts in black, white and color.

Crêtone belts with the figures stamped in blue are to be had, and these are quite charming. They are finished at the edges with a narrow piping of Beif blue linen, and have pearl buckles.

Any girl who is clever with brush and colors could add a distinctive touch to a white mink hood by painting the diamonds on the delicate tons of blue made famous by the Dutch pottery workers.

A new shade much in vogue is a combination of pink and brown, suggesting terra cotta. It is most effective in shantung, when it takes on rose-petal hints, and is good in the soft cloth or mousseline de soie. It is not a desirable shade in liberty or similar shiny fabrics.

Shantung serge is a new material. It is fashioned from the same sort of spun silk as the ordinary shantung, but of French, rather than Oriental, origin. Something similar is silk serge—a spun silk that suggests its weight and comes quite like serge. Both materials are admirable for traveling suits.

Dyed Leghorn is a novel development of this favorite pink and brown, suggesting terra cotta. It is most effective in shantung, when it takes on rose-petal hints, and is good in the soft cloth or mousseline de soie. It is not a desirable shade in liberty or similar shiny fabrics.

A pretty evening gown is made of tulle embroidered all over in a running pattern of trailing leaves in very fine gold and silver thread. Another black frock of the new serge is trimmed with the new shades of blue-green Leghorn and a bunch of dyed green wheat on the other.

These are models among the wraps which remind one of the visits and mantles of our mothers and grandmothers.

**Superior Business Instinct.**  
 "Again have I been reminded of my wife's superior business instinct," said the worried looking man. "The first of May we rented our apartment furnished for the summer, and went to a hotel to stay until time to go to the country. When moving we found that one of our traps had been opened. My wife ordered that trunk taken to the hotel with the rest of our baggage. I remonstrated. Its contents were not likely to be needed for some time, and I didn't see any sense in

## Variety Shown in Seasonable Wraps

**N**EW YORK, May 29.—Picture-guessing has run riot in the wrap world of the season, and designers have drawn from all periods and lands in the shaping and adorning of the cloaks, capes and mantles.

Of the most novel departure in the province of wraps we have spoken before. The line of long loose coats suitable for traveling, motoring, etc., is endless, and remarkably good looking models of this class are shown in serge, covert, cheviot, homespun, pongee, linens, mixed wools, crêpe-venetted wools, mohair, etc. but the dressey wrap in color is almost always on picture-embroidered silk or other dressey draped or handemely trimmed. Such wraps call for long frocks and are really practical only for carriage wear, so the woman who walks will find a wrap en suite with her afternoon frock rather more serviceable than one of the picturesque separate cloaks, though the latter will give good evening service.

There are models among the wraps which remind one of the visits and mantles of our mothers and grandmothers. Many of the sheer coats are made en suite with a coat or tunic and echo the color scheme of the frock, but for separate cloak use the airy garments are chiefly in black, soutache or silk embroidery, or perhaps with a touch of gold among the

coats of this semi-severe type there is little to save in the pongee, which has been the line of long loose coats suitable for traveling, motoring, etc., is endless, and remarkably good looking models of this class are shown in serge, covert, cheviot, homespun, pongee, linens, mixed wools, crêpe-venetted wools, mohair, etc. but the dressey wrap in color is almost always on picture-embroidered silk or other dressey draped or handemely trimmed. Such wraps call for long frocks and are really practical only for carriage wear, so the woman who walks will find a wrap en suite with her afternoon frock rather more serviceable than one of the picturesque separate cloaks, though the latter will give good evening service.

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**Short Stories**

**Generous Toward Widows.**  
 All widows within a radius of five miles of the "Charity farm" in Pike county, Ind., are the beneficiaries in a strange bequest made by an aged man named Dean, familiarly known over the country as "Old Man Dean's."

Dean, who was a bachelor, was the owner of a tract of land embracing 500 acres. When he died and his will was read it was found this land had been left in the care of a board of three trustees, who, under the terms of the will, were to pay the taxes annually and then to spend the remainder of the profits of the farm for the benefit of widows living within five miles of the land. It was also provided that on the death of a trustee the remaining two should appoint a third, making the board perpetual. The land has been rented from year to year, but little profit has been made from it, and only one widow, it is said, has benefited by "Old Man Dean's" bequest.

A few days ago, however, the board of trustees granted an oil lease on the land and a drilling outfit will be placed at work there soon. The prospect of oil on the farm is good. The royalties from the oil may amount to thousands. Also, since will says nothing of the term of residence within the five miles, widows are likely to move in and there is some speculation as to the outcome.

**Amazonian Modesty.**  
 A colored woman of generous proportions was on the witness stand in the superior court before Judge Weir the other day and she made such a good witness for the plaintiff that the attorney for the defense planned to throw "cold water" on what she said by finding fault with her character.

"Let me see, you have been arrested haven't you?" the attorney asked on cross-examination.

"Don't care to 'scuss thawt natch," she replied shortly.

"But you must answer the question," the attorney told her. "The law requires you to answer whether you care or not."

"Well, I ain't been 'rested but once," she said reluctantly.

"Tell us what that was for."

"Now, look a heah," said the witness, getting angry, "do you think I'm goin' to

get you all my private business? I guess "What lord?" repeated the astonished American, "the Lord Jehovah?"

For a moment the doorkeeper hesitated and then admitted him. Turning to an assistant standing near, he said:

"He must mean one of those poor Scotch lairds"—Epstein Herald.

**Campaign Orator.**  
 Leonora O'Reilly, who is perhaps the most powerful orator among the American suffragettes, was complimented at a luncheon in Boston on her eloquence.

"It is my splendid subject," said Miss O'Reilly, modestly, "that makes me seem to speak well. My subject affords me many telling things to say, and I say them simply. That is all."

"If I try to avoid," she resumed, "the sort of oratory that marks the average political campaign. That is frightful."

"One night on the East Side I saw a workman I knew lounging at the doorway of a public hall, and from inside came a continuous and earnest bellowing."

"Do you know whose speaking?" I asked my friend, "or haven't you been in?"

"Oh, yes, I've been in," said he. "Assemblerman Blag is speaking."

"What about?" I inquired.

"My friend sighed and shook his head. "He didn't say," he answered.—Boston Herald.



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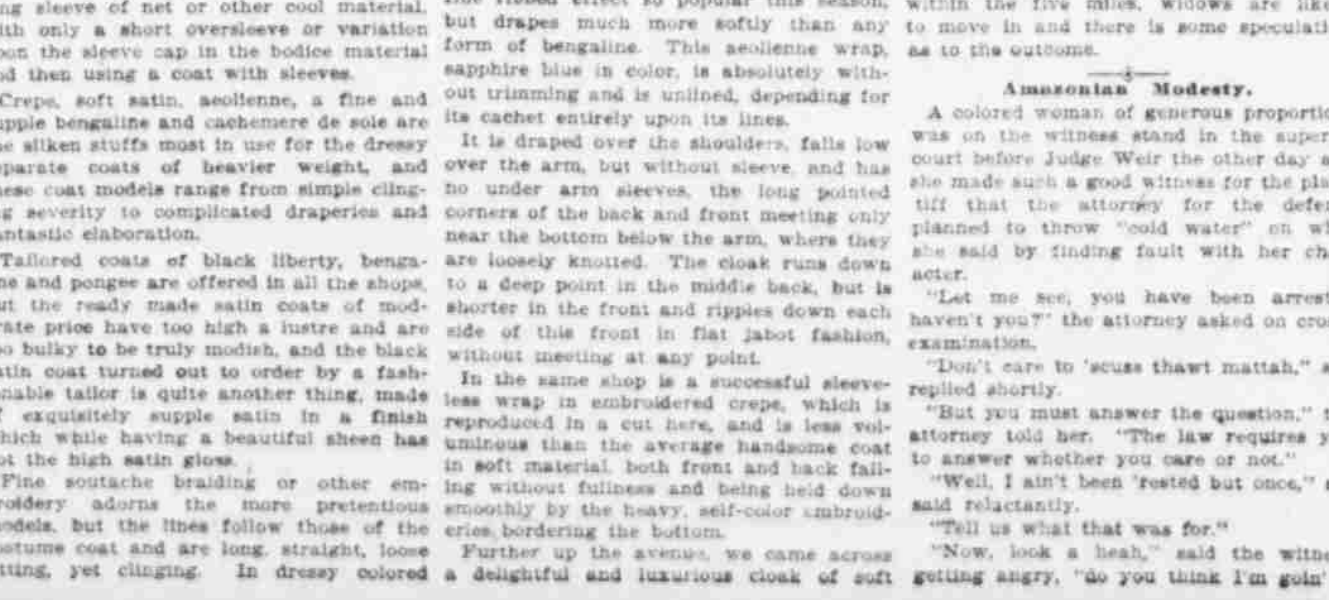
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