

TALL GIRLS ALL THE RAGE

Stretch, Girls, or You'll be Counted as a Has-Been

SHORT ONES ARE TRYING, TOO

Old Fashioned House Where Chandeliers Were Removed and Even Cellings Too Near to the Floor.

If the number of very tall women continues to increase the architecture of certain rooms will have to be changed. For instance, in several high class residence streets are certain rows of comparatively small houses, two and a half, three and three and a half stories high. These houses are always in demand. From time to time extra bath rooms and heating plants have been installed in one or another, otherwise even to the brass knocker on some doors, the houses are practically the same as when built. This in fact is one of their charms, or rather it used to be. An agent who used to have an easy time when it came to renting one particular row of these houses received a shock not long after a new tenant had signed a lease and moved into one of them, when told that unless the drawing room chandeliers were heightened the tenant would have to move out again. What was the matter? The agent wanted to know. Those chandeliers with their beautiful prisms and brass mountings had always been among the most admired features of the house.

"Oh, yes," responded the lady, "we have no fault to find with them except that they are hung too low."

"I did not find this out till yesterday. When I had an informal afternoon reception and a guest was caught fast by the top of one of the prisms on her hat in a drop of the chandelier, and I noticed that ever so many of the young women had to circle away from the chandeliers as they moved about the room."

Never Such a Complaint.

"But I never had such a complaint before," protested the agent, getting up and standing under the chandelier, which was certainly a good bit above his head.

"How tall are you?" asked the tenant.

"About five feet ten and a half inches, madame."

"You don't look it," returned madame. "At any rate many of my daughter's friends, wearing as they did enormously high hats, looked about seven feet, and I'm sure they had an awkward time of it looking those chandeliers."

"Alice!" she called. Alice came in equipped for the street—a tall girl in a smooth hat decorated with an imposing plume. At her mother's request she circled under the offending chandelier, the central drops of which and her cigarette almost met.

"You see," madame exclaimed significantly. "And my daughter is not nearly so tall as some of her friends."

The agent did see. He saw also that to heighten those chandeliers would bring a big slice of the profits from that house for a year and that there would be a "big kick coming" as he told the tenant, from the owner, a man who did not happen to have tall daughters. Nevertheless those chandeliers were heightened, the tenant herself taking her complaint to the owner.

How Room Clear Out of It.

More significant still is the case of a merchant in a populous and popular thoroughfare, a well paying adjunct of whose business is a tea room. This tea room is in two adjoining sections, the rear section, which is reached by two or three steps up, being about three feet lower in the ceiling than the other. Opening from the former is a pretty little parlor containing pins, powder and other accessories to the female toilet. A few years ago when the tea room was first opened the rear room was the favorite. Of late the merchant has noticed that the rear room, the larger of the two, by the way, is less popular than the front. One day he asked the head waitress why this was.

"I think it's because the ceiling is so low, sir," she told him.

"But the ceiling has always been like that and customers seemed to like it," he said, puzzled.

"Maybe it's because the women are wearing such high hats," the waitress went on. "I heard one woman say the other day as she came out of the parlor that she felt as if she were taking the door along with her."

After that for a day or two the proprietor kept his eyes open and wondered why he had not been noticed how many very tall women visited that tea room. As one and another took the steps to the rear room it really looked to him as if there might be danger of military grading the electric bulbs drooping a few inches from the ceiling. Something would have to be done he saw and done soon if he would keep his business. As a result in the early summer seasons and carpenter's mallets in and proceeded to sink the floor of the rear room to a level with the front room.

How Skirts Have Grown.

When this anecdote was told to the manager of the dressmaking department of a large store she nodded understandingly. With a wave of her hand toward a long row of very tall cases filled with imported costumes displayed on lay figures she remarked:

"It was only yesterday that a customer asked me if we had any patrons tall enough to wear some of those gowns, and I told her yes, we had. In reality, though, there are two or three skirts in the cases that may have to be shortened before they are worn. In all lines of ready-made costumes, the imported and the domestic, too, costing hundreds of dollars or a few dollars, the manufacturers are taking no chances. It is easy enough to shorten a skirt, but almost impossible to lengthen it, and as the number of tall women, especially among the prosperous classes, has been steadily on the increase for some years, they make more and more tall sizes."

"One of my best customers, who has three strapping daughters, was in here the other day with the girls' grandmother, who is not more than five feet tall at the most. The mother of the girls is three or four inches taller than that and her daughters range from 5 feet 7 inches to 5 feet 11 inches. Commenting on this difference in the height of three generations of women, the grandmother said that when she was a girl it was not considered good form for girls to indulge in athletics and that few young women walked much then either. The popularity of outdoor sports of late years had a good deal to do, she thought, with the increase in the average height of women, and I agreed with her. The public schools are now giving poor girls a chance to have a try at gymnastics and I'm glad of it. When I went to school we had nothing of the kind to help us along."

But Daughter is Taller.

"There was a woman in here the other day," said the head of a women's costume establishment, "making an awful fuss because her daughter's trousseau was costing a lot more than her own had cost. 'Madam,' I told her, 'your daughter is six inches taller than you are and proportioned accordingly, therefore at least a third more material goes into every garment of hers' than was needed to make your things and every extra yard means an extra few dollars."

She had not thought of that at all. The average waist used to be thirty-four inches bust measure. The average size now is thirty-six and thirty-eight inches."

At the suggestion that women of succeeding generations might be taller still than the tallest women of the present day, the manager exclaimed:

"Mercy, I hope not! It's hard enough now, because of their length, to display to advantage some of the costumes of this season." Then she added: "As a matter of fact many young women like to accent their height by wearing tall heels and snorriest hats. It's a sort of fad just now. By adopting a different style of dress they would look inches shorter, or their natural height."

To create something of a sensation, particularly if they are very, very good looking, they try to look six feet tall, or nearly that. It's perfectly wonderful what a young woman can accomplish in this direction when she starts out to try."

NO NEED TO IMPORT GRAIN

American Farmer Can Supply Demand for Years to Come.

SO ASSERTS SECRETARY WILSON

He Refers to Present Farming Methods as Soil Robbers—Wheat Probably Won't Go Below Dollar a Bushel.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Some day the steady increase of population in the United States is bound to overtax the ability of the farmer to provide for its sustenance, but that day is very remote, according to Secretary Wilson of the Agriculture department.

Nor will the necessity cause grain to be imported. Everything depends on the disposition of the American farmer to make the most of the resources of his land, and to improve his methods of agriculture in accordance with the needs of the people.

The secretary is in an optimistic mood just now, and he pointed to the figures of the crop production within his reach showing that the value of the American farmer's output for one single year aggregated the enormous total of \$7,250,000,000.

Still far That Figure.

The prospect for a great increase in the production of wheat is excellent, in the opinion of Secretary Wilson, and for two reasons: first, the greatly enhanced market value of that staple would surely tempt the American farmer to plant more wheat, and, second, thanks to the discovery of the possibility of growing durum wheat in a large part of the country hitherto regarded as unarable, there would be a great addition to the total of the annual crop.

Last year 90,000,000 bushels of durum wheat were grown in the United States, and Dr. Galloway, who is making a special study of the possibilities of this new grain, seconded the secretary's hopeful view of the situation by insisting the word that at twenty-one stations in the west investigators were ascertaining the conditions of its growth.

Durum is a Siberian grain, peculiarly fit for soils where there is but a small amount of moisture present. The agricultural department has found that it will grow well west of the 100th meridian in the north-west, which means anywhere west of the middle Dakotas and in the semi-dry regions of eastern Washington and Oregon.

Call It Soil Robbery.

But the department does not like the methods that are being pursued by the growers.

"Soil robbery," exclaimed Dr. Galloway, and the secretary assented to the designation. Great syndicates are farming tracts of 10,000 acres in wheat, planting the crop again and again without regard to the necessary rotation that would insure the soil against exhaustion.

That was one of the things the secretary had in mind when he said that better farming methods would be required to produce all the wheat that the American people would need.

One last question was asked the secretary.

"Will American wheat go below one dollar again?"

"Probably not," he replied, "but there is no telling what might follow such a disturbance in the industrial and financial world as we had in 1907, and should we again meet such a crisis it is possible that there would again be 50 cent wheat."

COMPLICATES SALE FOR TAXES

Death of Treasurer Makes It Impossible to Comply With Law at Mitchell.

MITCHELL, S. D., Nov. 6.—(Special.)—George H. Miner, the county treasurer, died today, after an illness of six months, aged about 60 years. He was taken sick with diabetes and for a time it was thought he would recover from the disease, but failed to make the improvement anticipated.

His death brings about a complication concerning the matters in the county treasurer's office, with reference to the sale of the delinquent taxes, which is scheduled to take place next Monday, November 8. Some question arose as to the legality of the sale of the delinquent taxes by an appointed treasurer when not made in strict compliance with the law. The law requires that the commissioners can appoint in the case of a vacancy, but that five days' notice shall be given of the meeting. With Mr. Miner's death occurring today there is not the five days in which to give the required notice. Under the absolute necessity of having a county treasurer to officiate at the tax sale, State Attorney Herbert late this afternoon authorized the county auditor to call a special meeting for Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at which time the treasurer shall be appointed. The state attorney said that at most the appointment is an irregularity at this time, but he believed that it is a substantial compliance with the law, which does not require impossible and unreasonable things.

Mr. Miner was an old resident of the state and territory, coming to the territory forty years ago and locating in the immediate vicinity of Yankton, and he has lived through the periods of adversity and prosperity.

Our Own Ministers.

"Mistah Walkah, kin yo' tell me do diff'ence between a lady's gown and do driver of a public library delivery wagon?"

"No, George; I give that one up. What is the difference between a lady's gown and the driver of a public library delivery wagon?"

"The one has hooks in do back an' the ud-dah has hooks in do back."

"Ladies and gentlemen, the gifted tenor, Mr. Stannup H. Howell, who is singing the popular sentimental ballad, 'Baby, Please Don't Scatter Cracker Crumbs in the Bed,'"—Chicago Tribune.

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Advertisement for 'The Peoples Store' featuring various furniture items like beds, burners, and tables, with prices and terms listed. Includes the slogan 'All the Comforts of Home for You' and 'Upon the Most Liberal, Simplest, Most Satisfactory and Dignified Credit-Giving Terms in America'.

Advertisement for 'Wolff' women's coats, featuring the text 'Monday we announce a sale of Women's Coats at \$25.00' and 'The Woman's Shop 1517 Douglas St. Formerly Hotel Room'. Includes the slogan 'Properly cut and made' and 'Our materials are of the best'.

Advertisement for 'Baby Mine' skin cream, featuring the text 'CAN YOU SMILE? HERE'S HOW' and 'Beauty Professor Tells What Really is Necessary for Good One'. Includes a detailed testimonial about skin care and the slogan 'Mother's Friend'.