



New Things Not Found in Any Books.

BIG HANDS.

For Detail And SMALL HANDS for Construction

ONE naturally thinks of a powerful personality as occupying a large amount of space, as having much bodily force, but this is by no means true. Great men and women have been of all statures, complexions and temperaments, but the one characteristic which they hold in common is the size of the hand.

The reason is not far to seek; it is a mere matter of cause and effect. The cause is the mental make-up of the individual; the effect is the type of hand.

Writers, orators and statesmen have notoriously small hands, and these are the persons who have made history, moved nations and moulded thought; and these, too, are the persons in whom the faculty of constructiveness

Since the Time of the Aztecs GREAT RULERS Have Possessed SMALL HANDS

is greater than that of perception of detail. Conversely, the large hand deals successfully with matters of routine, and is not constructive.

A glance at the history of nations will give surprising light upon this fact, which has so oddly escaped attention. The Pyramids, those stupendous piles of masonry, which have never been equalled by any product of modern machinery, were put up, unaided, by the smallest handed people in the world. The mummies which have been dug out of the age-old tombs of Egypt, and which contain the bodies of those who built the Pyramids, attest this fact, already plain, from the ancient Egyptian sculptures, and from the size of bracelets and rings found in the buried cities of Egypt.

The same thing is true of America's ancient and most constructive race—the Aztecs, the vast ruins of whose temples have yielded up mummies similar to those of Egypt.

The small hand—and remember, this "smallness" must be estimated in relation to the size of the individual—is the expression of a mind which is not occupied with the trifles, or the processes of existence, but with the results. Thomas Edison, who says, himself, that he knows less of electricity and its laws than the merest child, is a wizard in dealing with the details of electrical things. Nicola Tesla, who says that he has not the patience to work out the marvellous knowledge which is his, knows more about the laws of electricity than any other man living, and it is he who has given all the real constructive ideas of the practical men, like Edison. Now Edison has a very large



"The man who paints with great detail has large hands while the painter of mammoth pictures has small hands."

hand, and Mr. Tesla has a small, compact one!

Painters have large or small hands, in proportion to the degree with which they deal with detail. You would, naturally, imagine that the wonderful painting of a flower, of a cat, of many figures, must have been done by a small, fine hand, but that is not the case. The kind of a hand which paints the picture of wonderful detail is nearly always large, even out of proportion to his body, while the vast canvas, in which hill and valley and stream seem to have fairly flowed upon the background, and from which you must step away to see it—that canvas was prepared by a small, delicate hand, which could hardly hold the brushes for the great work.

Women who embroider beautiful, intricate designs usually have extraordinarily large hands. Just compare the hands of the ladies on the porch of any Summer resort. Those who are doing the fine sewing and embroidery have large hands, while those who are playing the piano within doors, or reading, have small ones. Look and see if it is not so.

Tailors who are good "cutters" usually have fine, delicate hands, despite the fact that their work requires a good deal of strength, while the men who make the buttonholes and put in the linings have very heavy, large hands. This is also a fact which can easily be observed.

No one is ignorant that the Greeks, who gave us models of such beauty in architecture and sculpture that they are still being used, after two thousand years, were a wonderful people, but it is noteworthy, in this study of hands, that they did not leave a permanent state, or abiding laws. They were, essentially, people of detail.

Their princesses personally washed their own linen, their king's sons tended the flocks of cattle and sheep, and every mistress of a house took an active part in looking after the meals, and in weaving and making the garments for her family. This was not of necessity, for Greece was a rich state, and they could leave to others that part of the work, as is the way of the constructive mind. Now, the Greeks had very large hands, and, therefore, true to their type, their state fell as soon as it was a question of making others work for them.

This faculty of using the work—the manual work—of others, is the distinguishing trait of the constructive mind, which is typified by the small hand, and this is why the small-handed type of humanity is nearly always in a ruling position in the world—it knows how to use the work of others and how to direct it.

The reason that people of constructive minds can rule in all departments of life is that they make of themselves and their associates a complete working unit. The business man who runs a factory cannot perform every detail of his manufacture, but he knows how to choose, and employ the men who can, and when he is especially successful at so doing, he has a small, fine hand, no matter what his bodily stature may be.

The lesson of this great fact is, that every man may examine his hands and see to what branch of work he is fitted—if he is a large handed man, he ought to perform detail work. If he is a small-handed man, he ought to develop his mind, so that he may intelligently direct the work of others.

Why We Enjoy a HEAVY RAIN

THERE are few things that are more depressing than a drizzle. On the other hand, there is no condition of the atmosphere which is more invigorating than the first half hour after a heavy rain. Depression and elevation of spirits are natural phenomena and as such have natural causes. It is of interest to observe that this responsiveness to different types of rain indicates to a wonderful degree how sensitive we are to electricity in the air.

Comparatively recently it has been shown that the air is a conductor of electricity, though a poor one, and still more recently it has been learned that the cause of the conductivity of the air is because of the presence of ions. These ions, it will be remembered, consist of atoms split up usually by electro-motive forces and are always highly charged with electricity, which may be either positive or negative. These ions are discharged into the atmosphere in two principal ways: 1. By the waves given off from radio-active substances in the earth. 2. By the effect of the ultra-violet rays of sunlight upon the upper air. Another possible source of the ions is the breaking up of molecules of air into positive and negative ions either by impact, friction, or even spontaneously.

The earth, as is well known, is heavily charged with negative electricity and this fact has given great trouble to scientists holding the views of positive and negative ions in the air, for it is argued that the negative attraction of the earth would immediately bring down all the positive ions and

thus the earth would lose its negative charge. One of the reasons that is given is that the speed of negative ions is so much greater than that of positive ions that their earth influence is greater.

Now negative ions with their rapid movement promote condensation into clouds so much more readily than positive ions that cloud formations are usually negatively charged and the rain and snow that fall to the earth are negatively charged. This also adds to the negative electricity of the earth. But large raindrops are usually formed round the large positive ions and these are generally released from a heavily electrified negatively charged cloud. The result is that as a rule large raindrops are positively electrified and small drops negatively so. The thunder shower with big drops brings a positive charge, the drizzle brings negative. (The precise relation of positive and negative ions in the upper air is not known and the suggestions made are technical in the highest degree.)

A positive electric charge is stimulating to most men and women, and a negative charge depressing. An air not charged with ions or but little filled with these minute electrical particles is usually felt to be a "lifeless" air, while an atmosphere heavily charged with negative ions is pleasant, but "relaxing" air with many positive ions is invigorating. The descent of heavy rain, therefore, and the freeing of the positive ions gives a sense of invigoration after a thunder shower.

YOU MIGHT TRY--

Scraping Potatoes.

TO make new potatoes scrape easily, put them to soak a little while with a small piece of common soda in the water. You will find they scrape and clean beautifully; also the fingers will not be soiled.

Eat an Apple.

AN apple eaten before breakfast serves as a natural stimulus to the digestive organs. In fact, any fruit eaten raw is nutritious at breakfast.

Aching Eyes.

WHEN the eyes ache, relieve them by closing the lids for five or ten minutes. If they have a burning sensation, bathe them with hot water to which a dash of witch-hazel has been added; if the whites are yellow and the pupils dull, strict attention should be paid to diet.

Shoe-Lace Tips.

WHEN the tips of shoe-laces pull off, twist the ends of the strings and dip into the glue bottle. When dry they are as good or better than when new.

Legends of the TREE OF LIFE

THE account of the Tree of Life in the second and third chapters of the Book of Genesis has puzzled many bible-readers, who do not know the origin of this legend. In Genesis, Chapter II, XVII, is the following: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day, that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die." As related further both Adam and Eve ate of this tree, and while they were driven forth from Eden they did not die on that day, or for many years afterwards.

These apparent contradictions are explained by scholars as being due to the fact that the editor of the Scriptures had several sources before him, and made extracts from each without taking the trouble to reconcile them in every small particular.

But there is much more behind the legend than this. Every one who has studied the subject knows that the Hebrews originated from Ur of the Chaldees, or Babylonia and that they brought many traditions of the Babylonians with them at that time, helping themselves to other traditions later when they were taken captive into Babylon, and then returned to rebuild the Temple at Jerusalem.

The Babylonians had this tradition of a great Tree of Life, as is proved by the tablets and clay cylinders dug up in Babylonia, on which are found pictures of a tree, with a serpent coiled around it and the figures of a man and woman seated beneath it. But even more than this. In the famous Nimrod Epic, the great national poem preserving some of the most ancient traditions of the Babylonians is an account of the great

Journey which Nimrod, the hero, made to the Under-world in search of the fountain of life, whose waters were to cure him of the dread disease with which Ishtar, the Babylonian goddess of love had afflicted him, because he had rejected her advances.

Nimrod goes on the long journey and finds his ancestor, Eir-Napsistim (the Babylonian Noah) who tells his heroic descendant all about the creation of the world and the mighty flood which descended upon the earth while he was alive. Nimrod is instructed how to reach the Fountain of Life, where he is cured by the magic waters.

Other nations have more or less similar tales about a Tree of Life, and none are more remarkable than those preserved in the famous Persian classic called "The Tales of a Parrot." According to one of these stories a prince who is very ill sends a wise parrot to find some fruit of the Tree of Life. When he returns with it the prince has his doubts. He then sends some of his servants to bring him the first apple that fell from the tree of existence. It happened, however, that a black serpent had poisoned it, and when the prince tries the fruit on an old woman she drops dead. The prince doubts the parrot to death, but the parrot begs the prince first to go to the Tree of Life himself and try the fruit. He goes, and bringing back some of the apples gives a part of one to an old woman "who, from age and infirmity had not stirred abroad for years." She no sooner tasted it than she was changed into a beauty of eighteen. The prince was convinced, thanked the wise parrot, ate of the fruit, and is still alive, as many believe.

Why BABY TALK Is Harmful

THE use of the words "cute," "cunning" and "old-fashioned" as applied to children, although they are heavy with antiquity, are serious evidences of the existence of a real evil. It is of great importance to the development of a child that it should be surrounded with everything that is helpful, and modern science is laying especial stress on the help that lies in the expectation of good things. It is a common thing to hear the parent or other relative of a fairly intelligent child quoting as a "funny story" some sentence of the child's in which he or she has used a long word, although the word may have been rightly used.

As many such stories are told before the children themselves this fatal error has two dangers, either that the child may become conceited and desirous of showing off, in which case it will get hold of all the long words possible and use them whether they have any meaning or not; or else, that the child will fail to develop the use of proper words for fear of being laughed at. It is not right to laugh at a child at any time, but to laugh at a child for doing right is so obvious an injustice that it is a wonder it continues at all.

Closely allied with this is the mistake of speaking to children in a way far less gram-

matical than grown-up people would consider possible among themselves. At the very time that it is important that a child should learn the balance of phrases and the use of the right word in the right place, careless mothers and fathers will permit utter carelessness of speech and even the use of "baby-talk," which is a crime in a child's upbringing. There is no reason to expect a child to speak ungrammatically! A child does not learn speech through grammar, but grammar through speech, and there are scores of cultured people to whom a grammatical slip is impossible who know absolutely nothing of formal grammar. Many of the writers who are distinguished for good literary style have no memory of the exact definitions that occur in Parsing and Analysis.

Children say enough really witty things without spoiling all their ideas about speech by laughing before them at every sign of their advancement. A misplaced word may be laughed at if the relation of the sentence is ludicrous, but the reason should be shown the child in order that the word may be used rightly the next time; under no circumstances, however, should a child be permitted to hear its fair development being treated as a joke.

Why a TOAD Is Worth \$90

IT has long been known that toads should never be killed because of their value in a garden where they eat so many insects that would otherwise destroy the vegetables. But only recent estimates, made from careful observation on experimental farms by experts gives us any idea of the actual worth of a toad.

And so the next time you see Mr. Toad hopping across the walk do not step on him or molest him, but step around respectfully. If you are an amateur gardener you might even bow to him—a deep ninety-dollar bow, for that is what he is worth in just one season.

Without the toad it would be practically impossible to raise vegetables and flowers and the like. We would be overrun with all sorts of insects, and no device known can exterminate the various vegetation-destroying bugs, beetles, flies, worms, etc., with one fraction of the rapidity or skill of the plain little unemotional, undemonstrative, meek and lowly toad.

After watching toads from sunrise to sunset, the experts finally, by comparing notes and striking an average, were able to make an estimate as to the number of insects these toads eat in a day, and this estimate is held to be as nearly correct as it is possible to get.

In the course of a year a toad will eat five dollars' worth of each of the following insects: The cut-worm, the rose beetle, the gypsy moth and the potato bug. He will consume ten dollars' worth of army worms—those pests which advance in regular formation, and whose devastating, onward progress can be checked by absolutely nothing save the insatiable toad, who will eat fifty-five army worms without batting an eyelash.

In the warm sections, where the common but dangerous household centipede prevails, a toad, permitted to range the infested rooms, will keep them entirely clear, and this service is worth twenty-five dollars a year, since that is what a professional "bug-chaser" would charge.

A few pet toads, kept in the house, will keep it free of flies. This service is hard to estimate, since there is no way of computing the annoyance and danger of having germ-infected flies about, but it ought to be worth at least twenty-five dollars a year, oughtn't it? The common black ants, which destroy nasturtiums and all low-growing plants, would infest every green thing above ground if it were not for toads. Surely



The insects a toad eats in a Season Would Have Destroyed \$90 Worth of Vegetables.

that is worth five dollars a year. So that, taken altogether, Mr. Toad is worth to us, even at a moderate estimate as follows:

Cut-worms	.....	\$5.00
Rose beetles	.....	5.00
Centipedes	.....	25.00
Army worms	.....	10.00
Gypsy moth caterpillars	.....	5.00
Celery worms	.....	5.00
Flies	.....	25.00
Ants	.....	5.00
Potato bugs	.....	5.00
		\$90.00

Why Fish Is Not a BRAIN FOOD

YOU have heard your father, and probably your grandfather, declare that fish is a splendid brain food. Perhaps they looked at you, chuckled and repeated that ancient jest to the effect that it might be a good thing if you ate a whale every morning for breakfast.

But the point is that fish is NOT a brain food. That is, it is not any better brain food than beef. Recent discoveries show two most excellent reasons why fish is not a brain food. In the first place, it was claimed that fish contains an unusually large pro-

portion of phosphorus. In the second place it was claimed that phosphorus is one of the very best of brain foods.

Now it is learned there is no more phosphorus in fish than in beef. And, furthermore, it is learned that phosphorus is NOT a brain food. This should end for all time the fallacy that fish is the very best of foods for the brain.

Phosphorus, eminent physiologists now declare, is no more necessary to the well-being of the brain than nitrogen, potassium or any other element which occurs in its tissues.

How to Care for BURNS

IT very frequently happens that the shock resulting from burns proves as serious or even more serious than the burn itself, and physicians who are called in such emergencies devote their energies and skill to assisting the victim in recovering from the shock.

A coal may burn deeply through the flesh and muscles and yet not cause as great a shock as a burn that extends over a larger area, but merely burns the skin and does not injure the flesh and muscles.

Nearly every one knows that oils and flour prevent pain in the case of most burns, and they apply it, but they are not aware that cleanliness and great care to keep out germs are the most important things of all. While fire kills the germs about the wound, it does not prevent others from getting in and thereby doing great damage.

In case of a serious burn, make no attempt to dress it yourself, but call in a doctor. And even in a burn on the face, if apparently slight, it is safer to call in a physician because he will know how to dress the injuries to avoid the least chance of disfigurement.

If you attempted to dress face burns you might stop the pain, but at the same time you would not heal the burn properly and a scar would result that would disfigure you for the remainder of your days.

Nothing that can possibly be contaminated should go near a burn. Rags and oils and flour and such things are all right to stop the pain, but the chances are they may not be entirely germ-free. Keep boric acid in the house for just an emergency and a case of burns dust this over the injured place.

When blisters occur they should be opened, but care should be taken in pricking them. A darned needle is all right, but it should be cleaned from all possible germs first by holding it in a blaze. Whether dressing your own burns or those of another, wash your hands thoroughly and clean the nails, as this will frequently prevent germs that are always more or less on the hands from getting into the burn.

After pricking the blister mop the water in it with absorbent cotton and powder with the boric acid powder.

About Your GAS RANGE

YOU can cook ordinary pastry in the same oven with onions or cabbage without danger of its being tainted by the smell of the vegetables; but you should never put custards or any dish that is largely composed of milk, cheese or eggs in the same oven with such strongly flavored vegetables.

If the oven of your gas range smokes when you are heating it the trouble is probably due to the accumulation of grease on the oven linings. This can be prevented by carefully wiping out the oven after it has been used for roasting meats.

When broiling a steak or any other piece of meat always leave the door of the broiling oven open. This insures proper ventilation and prevents the meat from catching

Many cooks are troubled by fish sticking to the broiling grid. This can be avoided by thoroughly greasing the grid before placing the fish on it.

The lower oven should always be used for roasting meats, because in this oven you get the direct flame heat which sears the meat and thus retains all its delicious flavor and nourishing juices.

Careless maids frequently, in lighting the gas range, hold the match until it is burned to the fingers and then drop the match or what is left of it, beneath the perforated fire plate. In these cases collect dust and may catch fire and spoil some dish that is cooking. The best method is to clean the gas range every night, just as the old-fashioned stoves were cleaned out and kindlings laid for the morning fire.