

The Bee's Home Magazine Page

TAKE YOUR PRAISE SUPPLY OUT OF STORAGE.

By ADA PATTERSON.

She is a successful hairdresser. She is wise. That is the reason she is successful. She came in to her neat and popular little shop, breathless from hurrying. She ordered her assistant to get the brushes and tonic ready, while she looked at her hat. She has respect of, and is economical of, the time of others. Another reason she is successful. It is well to glean the success rules and methods of others by the way.

"I've just come from a dear little woman whose hair I dress every morning," she said. "She is 74 and lives alone. She was wearing a pretty little boudoir cap trimmed with old rose ribbons. I told her how pretty the rose ribbons looked against her white hair and asked her to notice the glow they gave her cheeks. She is a strange, silent little woman, but I saw she was pleased at the compliment. They never get too old for that."



While the hair dresser brushed my hair with long strokes, burnishing it by the magic of her skill, I thought as I have often thought, how great is her practical wisdom. At least half the art of getting on consists in treating persons well. I was about to say "handing people," but there are those who would object to the phrase. It has too much of the flavor of hypocrisy in it. Trucking, cringing and Uriah Heeping are one thing, but sincere praise is another, a very different other.

Don't keep your supply of praise in cold storage. If you didn't take it out with you, furs for the winter, get it out at once and give it plenty of exercise for the rest of the season. The winter will be far pleasanter for you and you will make it pleasanter for others. Unwillingness to praise is generally due to two traits, the fear of being classed with flatterers, and a mental laziness that makes us put off the compliment to another day, a day that somehow never comes. I will not insult any reader of this by charging him or her, as meanness motive for withholding praise, which is envy. More persons withhold praise through carelessness than through unkindness, through shyness than through selfishness.

The words of praise that can be truthfully spoken should never be withheld. On the streets of the South American cities this rule is so zealously followed that men as they pass beautiful maids or matrons on the streets inform them of their admiration. The custom would not be a safe one in North American communities. We would better place that dangerous custom among the exceptions, to be avoided.

But the business man who comes home at night and tells his wife of a coup of his that day, should be praised for his cleverness. He is as hungry for that praise as the little boy of the family who has "licked" the school bully, even though he emerged from the conflict with a discolored eye, or the little girl who has made her first doll dress, testimony of which she shows in a punctured little forefinger. For the business world is a place of many bruises so deep that they have been killed by them. So, when the man tells you what he has done downtown today he isn't bragging. He is setting up the milestone of his life to make some unusual effort and he will be humbly grateful to you for a bit of praise.

The woman of the comb and brush, the tonic and the word of honest praise, uttered wisdom. "They never get too old to like a word of praise." She might have added that they are never too young. The pudgier, newest baby soon understands that a smile is praise and reflects it in his toothless way. The child at school works better for it. The woman in her home, the man in his shop or office, he who is at the splendid summit of life, they who are slowly slipping down into the shadows need it. It is a need of the soul as great as the body's craving for food or the heart's famine for affection. Variety is a trivial trait. Love of approbation is a strong and useful one.

Be as lavish with it as the earth is with food and nature with sunshine.

Do You Know That

The returns compiled by "Lloyd's" show that, excluding warships, there were 47 vessels of 1,721,124 tons gross under construction in the United Kingdom at the close of the quarter ended June 30.

Sea fowls' eggs are almost conical in form, so that they will only roll in a circle. As many of them are laid on the bare ledges of high rocks, this provision of nature prevents them rolling off.

The Cost of Woman's Dress

Much Cheaper to Appear Well Now Than Ten Years Ago, Says Ethel Barrymore

By ETHEL BARRYMORE.

Does it cost more for women to dress well today than it did ten years ago? No, it costs less and even with this reduced expense woman can look better gowned.

How much should a woman spend upon dress is a big question. What a woman spends, or should spend for dress depends entirely upon her income and upon what she must spend for other purposes. A woman today may dress well upon very little. One can get ready-made things so cheaply in the stores nowadays that it is much easier to dress well at a modest figure than formerly—say ten years ago. I've been through many shops lately, and I have been amazed at the beauty of the displays and the very



Ethel Barrymore Seated at Her Piano.

modest prices at which apparel may be purchased.

Why, today one may get a little dress for \$4 or \$6 that would have cost \$25 at least only a few years ago, and all the trouble and annoyance of dressmakers and fittings is obviated. You see a frock in the shop that you like, try it on, find it's all right, have it sent home, then put it on and wear it. That's all there is to it. Last summer I bought a dress for \$1.50. I was going through one of the

shops, saw a pretty little pink thing I liked and purchased it. It was just what I wanted, and I put it on and wore it about the house all summer.

"But to say how much a woman should, or shouldn't spend upon her clothes is more than I can tell. I never keep track of how much I spend although I spend less now than I did before I was married and had two babies to look after. You know, I have responsibilities now that I didn't have a few years ago.

"I think all women today dress better and look better at less expense than they ever did. There never were any more becoming fashions than the present ones, and never did women dress at as little expense.

"I don't think the woman of today over-dresses or underdresses. There are exaggerations of the prevailing modes, of course, but as a general thing the woman of today is smartly and becomingly gowned and more attractive than ever."

Odd Animals and Their Ways



This striking photograph of a ferret was taken just as it emerged from a rabbit hole.

By GARRETT P. SERVINS.

This striking photograph of a ferret was taken just as it emerged from a rabbit hole.

One of the latest applications of photography is for the study of animals amid their natural surroundings and in performance of their every-day acts and tasks. The accompanying picture of a ferret issuing from the rabbit hole which it has been ransacking in the service of its human master is an example of the interesting results often obtained. No description and no illustration made by hand could give so vivid an impression of the life of the animal.

The ferret is one of the most peculiar members of the animal kingdom. It belongs also to an extraordinary family, that of the weasels. A branch of this

family is called the "polecats," the European representatives of our skunks, and the ferret is a species of polecat, generally an albino, yellowish-white in color, with pink eyes.

To hunt and kill mice, rats, rabbits and other small animals is the ferret's delight. It is coldly methodical in its murderous pursuits, and while it serves its master well, never tiring in the chase, and never shrinking from an attack, it exhibits no trace of affection or attachment toward its trainer, as nobler animals do. The ferret is a typical killer and blood shedder. It has no friends, and apparently wants none. It cannot be trusted, and will sometimes attack small children.

It likes to kill not for the sake of food, but for the sake of killing. The mere

act of taking the life of another creature is a pleasure to it. How it got this blood-thirsty strain in its nature no one can tell. Its appetite for slaughter serves well in ridding our houses of rats and mice, but what use is it to the ferret to kill those creatures? Its nature is that of a demon, and wherever it sees the life-blood beating at a throat its brutal instinct urges it to slit the throat with its keen teeth and let the life blood out!

It is quite in keeping with the abhorrent character of the ferret that one of its family relatives is the skunk. The skunk is an American animal, possessing, like the European polecat, a weapon or means of defense that is as effective as it is uncommon. This consists in a fetid liquid which the skunk is able to project to a distance of ten or fifteen feet and which is one of the mysteries of the animal chemistry. The odor of this liquid can be distinguished at the distance of a mile, while objects, especially clothing, that are once contaminated with it can seldom be freed entirely from its offensive smell.

An interesting fact is that other animals find the odor of the skunk as intolerable as we do, and all of them flee from it. A horse ridden along a country road at night is as fearful of a skunk as his rider. Peculiar consequences flow from the perfection of the odoriferous defense of the skunk. It has become one of the most laudably of animals—lazy, slow moving and habitually fat. It seldom has either to run or to exert itself violently, when it is attacked. It simply shoots out its terror-breeding liquid, and its boldest enemies take to their heels. Consequently it leads a quiet, untroubled life, raiding hen roosts for eggs and chickens and growing fat in spite of the farmer and his dogs, either of whom would make a jump and a run on coming unexpectedly into its presence.

Curious again is the fact that the flesh of the skunk is said by persons who can purtude themselves to eat it to be very sweet and palatable, while skunk fur has of late years been coming more and more into the market and commanding higher and higher prices. The raising of these animals on "skunk farms" for the sake of their fur has become a recognized industry.

Between the cruel, blood-letting ferret and his cousin, the well-defended, but un-aggressive skunk, it is easy to make choice.

Advice to Lovelorn : By Beatrice Fairfax

It is Her Privilege.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a young man of 23, and am deeply in love with a young lady five years my junior. When I am with her this young lady seems to care a good deal for me, but when I am not with her she goes around with other young men. While I am not formally engaged, there is an understanding between me. Do you think it would be right for me to ask her to give up the company of the other young men before I have given her the ring?

HOPEFUL.

Since you are not engaged, the girl you love is not under any obligation to give up the attention of other young men. If you want to be her one and only cavalier, you must first tell her of your love.

"Do You Love Him?"

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a young girl of 23, I am considered pretty and am in comfortable circumstances. My parents wish me to marry a wealthy foreigner. He is seven years my senior and mentally my superior. He is a man of excellent principles. Now, the question is, should I continue seeing him or give him up?

It is your own heart that must answer you. Certainly it does not matter what your friends think or what foolish prejudices they have against people who are not of American birth. If you love the man as much as you admire and respect him, marry him, by all means.

His Mother.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a girl of 18 and have been keeping company with a

man two years my senior. I love him and he loves me dearly. When he was a child his mother deserted him and his father. His father was granted a divorce. He grew up to dislike his mother, but for the last year he goes to see her often. As my parents disapprove of this I have asked him why he does so? He answered me that whatever she did she was always his mother. I am afraid that if I marry him his mother will live with us.

PUZZLED.

My dear girl, you are certainly going out "your way" to borrow trouble. I think rather well of this young man for seeking out his mother in friendship. But I doubt if he will insist on his bride sharing her home with another woman. That never works well.

Letters Often Miscarry.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I was introduced to a young man about three years ago, and met him again last winter. He seemed very much pleased. Then his business called him away. He wrote, and asked me to write, which I did. Soon afterward I received a letter stating how pleased he was to hear from me, and asked me to write again. Six months elapsed and as yet he has not recognized my letter. Do you think it would be proper to write and ask him if he received it?

Z. F. V.

By all means write to the young man. In all probability he did not receive your letter for he need not have written asking you to correspond, and the fact that he did shows that he desired to hear from you. So why should he have rudely terminated your correspondence?

Are You a Successful Guest?

By JEANNE GASTON.

"She makes such a charming hostess, it's a delight to visit her." You have heard that remark a score of times, but have you ever heard anyone say of you or your dearest friend, "She is a charming guest, it's a joy to have her!"

I am afraid that we all are rather apt to consider that a hostess has very clearly defined duties toward her guests, while the guests are absolved of the duty of considering the wishes of their hostess. Always the most difficult point in visiting people who are both very intimate friends is to know exactly how far one may share all the little familiarities of family life. The familiar phrase,

"Make yourself at home," ought not to be accepted literally. It is not, for instance, good taste to rush into the bedroom of the eldest daughter first thing in the morning with a "do lend me some hairpins, there's a dear!"

And it is very tactless, indeed, to invade the kitchen, talk to the cook, criticize her making a beef, olives and constitute oneself domestic aide-de-camp to the kitchen maid. I have known women do these things, in all good-heartedness, but an appalling unpopularity of the tactlessness of it all. Women are usually a little sensitive about their domestic arrangements and resent the least suggestion of interference; a visitor, therefore, is always wise in keeping away from the sacred portal of the kitchen.

Perhaps the most irritating guest imaginable is the woman who has no dislikes or likes. You make certain plans tentatively, ask her what she would care to do, and with annoying inference she replies, "Anything you like dear."

Even if one doesn't feel particularly enthusiastic over a certain plan, how

much more polite it is to assume a little warmth than to chill your hostess with the "don't-mind-what-I-do" attitude. I know I should infinitely prefer a guest of mine to be quite frank in her dislike of a proposed outing or entertainment than to appear indifferent. You feel that it is quite impossible to please the indifferent guest, for you never know what she wants or doesn't want, and it is something of a relief when she packs her suitcase and says good-bye.

Only a woman quite ignorant of good form would make plans for the visiting or reception of friends unknown to her hostess without first consulting her. But if permission to do so is graciously accorded, it ought not to be abused. If you are visiting in a town where you have many friends it is better to pay a series of rapid visits than to make one house your center and do your visiting from there.

The great secret of being a successful guest is to adapt yourself as far as possible to the habits of the family. Don't intrude where your sense of that tells you you are not wanted. A good plan is to make some excuse for remaining in your bedroom for an hour or two in the morning. This leaves your hostess free to get on with her work and she won't be worrying about entertaining you all the time. If there is any little service you can do, such as taking the children for a walk, or doing some shopping, no doubt your hostess will be glad of your offer.

And after the visit? It is strange how often the little note or thanks is forgotten. Yet, whether the visit is simply for a week-end or for several weeks, the letter of thanks is equally important. Make your hostess feel that you really have had a happy time, and that you were genuinely sorry to come away. A hurriedly written "So many thanks for the happy time, hope all are well," is surely an unworthy return for all the efforts made by one's hostess to give one more than a merely "jolly" time.

To be a successful guest requires a little thought, a good deal of tact, and an illimitable amount of sunny good nature and graciousness.

In-Shoots

Fine table linen never flavors a poorly cooked meal.

Every election demonstrates that a lot of us do not vote as we pray.

All things come to the one who waits in the right kind of an eating joint.

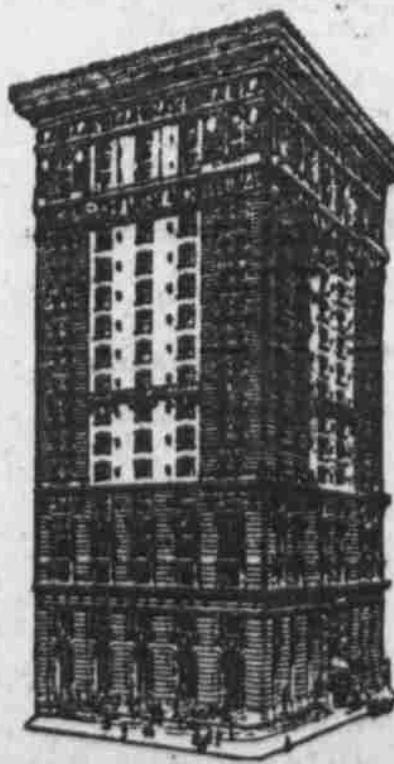
Some girls never seem to learn anything at boarding school except to be snippy.

When a fellow awakes from love's young dream he often wonders how he ever came to sleep so long.

It is about as well to tell of your good deeds on the tombstone. The world will never remember them otherwise.

It is seldom, when a woman marries a man to reform him, that she is sure whether she has been successful or not.

It is unnecessary to tell a girl that you are in love with her. She is generally aware of the fact long before you are.



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