

Health Hints -:- Fashions -:- Woman's Work -:- Household Topics

Correct Speech

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX.

"An Interested Young Man" has written me asking me to plead with my girls in behalf of the much-abused English language. Here is part of his letter: "It has occurred to me that girls are forever asking the same grammatical errors, and that even if they are beautifully dressed and very pretty, they will be regarded as ordinary when they make such blunders as 'I don't know nothing' or 'the ain't such a bad fellow.'" "Not long ago I stood near two girls who were very nice looking and well dressed. They were discussing one of our articles. They expressed really thoughtful views, but their grammar was pitiable. Girls give thought to fashion, why not bring some thought to bear on how they speak?" Let me follow this quotation by one of our charming writers, William J. Locke: "We have the richest language at ever a people has accreted, and a use it as if it were the poorest. We ward up our infinite wealth of words between the boards of dictionaries, and speech dole out the worn bronze image of our vocabulary. We are the misers of philological history. And when we can save our pennies and pass a counterfeit coin of slang as happy as if we heard a blind

beggar thank us for putting a penny's worth into his hat." Charming diction marks the real lady and the cultured man. Any of us can be rich in words. It requires a little watching of our own verbal tendencies and quite a little study of good literature. But it is worth the effort.

As my correspondent wisely observes, beauty and good clothes are not the only hall marks of refinement. The shabbiest woman in the world can win a certain amount of respectful attention from thoughtful people if she talks in a well modulated voice and expresses herself in well chosen words.

Americans are famous for their alluring, stoupy speech. We drop our g's and elide our final vowels. Most of us pronounce "to" "tuh" and act as if the conjunction "and" were the article "an." The double negative, the split infinitive, the singular verb with a plural subject—all these are too common.

Why call everything "cute" or "peachy" or "bully" or "scrumptious"? These are cheap words which may be idly flung about by any careless creature. Life is full of nice shades of meaning—and if you question my use of the word "plum" here is our prime opportunity to search out the dictionary and begin to acquaint yourself with the beautiful, fertile plains and the lofty mountain tops of our much-abused but vivid, glowing and dignified language.

For All Hours of a Summer Day

Reproduced by Special Arrangement with Harper's Bazar



Striped linen is effectively handled in this tub dress for mornings. Soulie again shows a preference for the plain bodice. Swiss embroidery and black ribbon velvet are the only trimming.

Flowered marquisette, showing pink roses on a white ground, may indeed be sophisticated when made in to a costume for the summer reception. Heavily braided cord and tassels of pink silk.

Soulie's attention to detail is fittingly displayed in an elaborate costume of embroidered chiffon crepe and gros de Londres, all in white. The high collar is distinctive.

Bullock is a lover of the paintings of Watteau and Fragonard, else he could never attain the airiness and grace of his creations, says Emile De Joncaire in her letter from Paris in the May number of Harper's Bazar. Some of his evening and afternoon gowns have unlined skirts of voile or chiffon, but a short underpetticoat of silver or lace falls a little below the knees.

One evening gown of white tulle, called Mont Rayet, is trimmed with circular strips of heliotrope ribbon embroidered in silver thread, giving the impression of brocade silk. The skirt is caught up and draped to give a shortened effect on one hip, and a garland of pink roses is drawn across the bodice and into the tulle drapery at the hip.

Another pretty evening gown of pink and blue tulle is entirely without sleeves. Silver ribbon shoulderstraps and a touch of silver at the waist line blend delightfully with the pink roses which trim the bodice. The lower part of the skirt, from about the knees down, is of blue tulle, which lays very full over a petticoat festooned with pink roses.

For evening wear Bullock has created superb brocades by embroidering raised flowers in varied tints on faille, the leaves often being covered by a thickness of tulle touched with threads of dull gold. One of these creations, made for Mary Garden, is an emerald green embroidered with pink roses, draped on the hips, and has a simple waist relieved by dull gold lace. Another "Garden" gown is of black net, embroidered with motifs of silver and rhinestones.

For street wear Bullock shows a choice of voiles and taffetas combined with chiffon and faille, many of the voiles being trimmed with taffeta in Roman stripes. Many of his street suits have the most fascinating little mantles and capes

crossing in front, leaving the back straight and loose, thus assuring a youthful line.

The tailored costumes have full skirts, most of them being of the length to which we have become accustomed. As a general rule the sleeves of his tailored suits are long and the collars are of lingerie.

Bullock has the reputation of creating the most spectacular dresses in Paris, and among the great houses now open, he is the only one using in his color combinations the modern palette of pure color as seen in the decorations of Bakst.

The two most marked details of the Paquin collection are straw trimming and the collars, which, by their special cut seem to lengthen and broaden the bust-line. The collars rather resemble fichus, being high at the back and quite low in the front, leaving the throat free. Skirts shown by this house are not very short, and

some are trimmed with bias strips of straw which help to give the necessary flare. Several of the models have mousseline pantalets of the lightest colors, only visible when the skirt is lifted.

Tailored suits at Paquin's are fairly tight fitting, the coats in some instances resembling basques. These coats are full about the hips and generally a little longer than the hip-line. Sleeves are long and tight, but leg-of-muttons are shown.

In the Paquin group there are several good-looking, very loose taffeta coats specially made to be worn over fragile gowns, and also silk dresses with tight fitting bodices giving a slender effect. The skirts, charming combinations of tulle and lace, have most interesting lines. One of the loveliest models is of mole-tinted tulle and lace blending harmoniously with old blue satin and giving the illusion of a faded pastel of the past.

Girls Who Win Out

Teacher's Final Success

By JANE McLEAN.

Miss Smith taught school. There was nothing remarkable about that fact, nor was there anything extraordinary about Miss Smith herself. She did not look upon her work in the light of a profession, nor of a career carefully chosen and painstakingly adhered to.

She was just one of a thousand other school teachers. She had never heard of special branches, or, if she had, it never occurred to her to think whether or not she was suited to her work. She simply taught school because her education in the normal college made it possible.

From the time that she was a small girl her mother had always said with a gratified smile that they were making a teacher out of Maud. "Her father and I never had the chance, but we want Maud to have a real education."

And so Maud had conscientiously worked her way through the high school and normal, and was now a regular teacher. She taught arithmetic, geography, history, spelling, reading and nature study. She had no knack of making these subjects of peculiar interest to the children who met in her room every day.

She simply plodded carefully along, preparing her lessons carefully day by day—bored, if she had stopped to think of it at all, and yet she considered herself a worker.

However, there was just one thing that made Miss Smith different from some of the other teachers. She loved children. She liked their shy attempts at friendship, she liked it when they brought their small problems for her to solve, and, strange to say, discipline in Miss Smith's room was not so necessary as it was elsewhere.

It all came about through Johnny Deering, who was the acknowledged bad boy of the school. Teachers dreaded him, and when it finally came time to hand him over to Miss Smith, Miss Bascom of the grade below gave him up with a sigh of relief at the knowledge that a year of torment was happily over.

Johnny knew all the dodges that are usually employed to make teachers furious. He knew how to aim spit balls, and how to draw atrocious pictures of teacher in heavy chalk on the blackboard. But Miss Smith never struck his fingers with a ruler, nor did she keep him in after school. She just laughed at the awful pictures when Johnny aimed balls across the room. And when Johnny discovered that he was not making such a hit, he didn't find it as much fun as he had under fidgety, fretful Miss Bascom.

Other teachers asked Miss Smith how she endured life with Johnny Deering, and Miss Smith always made some laughing rejoinder. Everyone marvelled, and life continued to go on for Miss Smith in quite the same way as usual, only she was really interested in Johnny Deering. She wanted to make him like her.

One day she encountered Johnny's eyes regarding her interestedly as she explained a point in nature study, and their absorbed interest made her think of a story that she promptly told, to illustrate her point.

She forgot herself and told the story well, the children hung on her words, and for the first time in her life she was flushed and happy. The principal had come quietly into the room as she spoke, and coming up to her desk after school he said evenly:

"I think you have quite a knack with children, Miss Smith. I think I shall put you in charge of the children's special; you are certainly qualified."

Miss Smith's usually quiet hands tightened in her lap, but her cup of happiness was not quite empty. Johnny Deering slid softly up to her desk and held out a rough little hand impulsively.

"Say, you're peach," he said shyly, "I like you." And Miss Smith at last knew what it meant to have a real career.

The heaviest cannon used at the time of the American revolution were eighteen pounders.

Engaged Couples and Love Blindness

By DOROTHY DIX.

There is no subject concerning which there is a wider difference of opinion than that of the ethics of a betrothal. Among foreign people a marriage engagement is almost as solemn and serious a matter as the wedding. In the east of our own country an engagement to a other man except her fiancé keeps every girl, while it doesn't bind him to the altar if he happens to change his mind. In the south, where they know how to play the love game, an engagement is merely a preliminary skirmish along the matrimonial line, and, short of the wedding day, either party can draw back with honor, and without breach of promise suits.

Nor do individuals agree as to what privileges and rights an engagement bestows upon the betrothed. There are men who think that an engagement gives them the full authority of matrimony, and that they have a perfect right to boss their fiancées, and do the jealous Turk act whenever any other man shows their particular ladylove the slightest attention.

And there are girls who think that being engaged to a man gives them the privilege of policing their betrothed and to raise Cain every time their own fiancé looks at another woman, or give evidence that they are aware that there is another skirt in the world.

This is pushing a good thing too far. It is a tyranny of the most galling domestic brand. It is time enough for one to assume the attitude of a keeper and one-who-must-be-obeyed, when one actually marries and the engaged should reflect that, after all, until the wedding ceremony has been performed he or she has only an option on the party of the other part. The trade has not been closed nor the goods delivered.

It is selfish and overbearing for a man before a marriage to narrow a girl down to his exclusive society and whatever attentions he chooses to bestow upon her. There is time enough for that when she is his wife and can make him take her about to please all who are to go. Likewise it is both silly and cattish for a woman to keep a man tied to her apron strings during the days of her engagement. He will have plenty of that sort of thing afterward when he will have to produce an alibi for every evening he spends away from her.

As a matter of fact, there would be a great many more happy marriages if engaged couples looked upon their betrothal as merely a period of probation during which they undertook the serious task of finding out something about each other's character and disposition and whether they were temperamentally suited and likely to make of matrimony a glad sweet song instead of a Killenny cat fight.

There are a great many worthy men and admirable women who, with the best intentions in the world and even with a sincere affection for each other, are so antagonistic by nature that if they marry they will make each other more miserable than any deliberate villain could. It should be the province of the engagement to reveal this state of affairs and to give the hapless couple a chance to withdraw on the safe side of the altar.

It is a thousand pities that engaged couples, instead of billing and cooing, and asking each other "soo docky is not?" and "no ever get tired of me?" and does "oo love me a million, billion, trillion bushels?" don't use the precious opportunity to find out what are other things of the real problems of real life, and investigate each other's tastes on every subject from politics to pie.

There wouldn't be so many divorces if every engaged man would pin a girl down to brass tacks before he married her and ascertain if she was prepared to do her own cooking, and make her own clothes, and undertake the hardships of a poor man's wife. Nor would there be so many family apats, or so many neglected wives if the engaged young man would find out whether his sweetheart had advanced views about women's rights, and intelligence enough to understand when he talked to her about the books in which he was interested.

Nor would there be so many disappointed wives if engaged girls would get the views of their future lords on the subject of a wife's rights, financial and otherwise, and find out whether the man she was purposing to marry intended to make an unpaid servant, a plaything, or a real companion of her.

Every engaged man and woman should be a Sherlock Holmes on the trail of the man or woman he or she is purposing to marry. Every characteristic should be studied, every word weighed, every act analyzed, and if the investigation convinced either party that the marriage would be a mistake there should be no difficulty in breaking the engagement, and no discredit attached to doing so.

For this reason the breach of promise suit should be thrown out of court, and the man or woman who breaks an engagement, instead of being regarded as a scoundrel, should be honored for having the courage to own up to having made a mistake, and taken steps to correct it before it was too late. At most a broken engagement is a pin prick to affection and pride, but a divorce or miserable marriage is a stab at the very heart of society.

Advice to Lovelorn
By Beatrice Fairfax.

The "Other Girl."

Dear Miss Fairfax: A certain young man has been going about with a young girl for some time, who he has been told would be his wife, but his mother says I will never have any luck if I do not get out of his going with the other girl. A. S. BUCKLEY.

Don't be unfair to the other girl. You won't be happy if you deprive her of happiness, nor will you ever feel safe and contented with a man whose fondness you understand and whose stability is doubtful. The girl suggests the possibility of similar treatment for you.

Kindness to an Invalid.

Dear Miss Fairfax: Will you please advise me if it would be better to send an invalid to a sanitarium or to have her stay at home? I have never seen the girl, so she is an invalid, but I am greatly interested in her family and their ambitions toward her. DOROTHY.

It would be very unkind to send you to send a girl to a sanitarium. I understand of course it is perfectly proper, but I am having my answer on a try once that principle—it would be kind.

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Instead of destroying the enamel on saucepans by scouring with gritty sand, stovetops, try the plan of boiling in them, now and again, water mixed with a little chloride of lime. It almost immediately restores the most discolored surface to a condition of snowy whiteness.

When cleaning wine-stained decanters, put into them, some tea leaves, a little sand, and some warm, soapy water. Shake well till the stain is removed, then rinse thoroughly in clear water and stand upside down to drain dry.

Colored handkerchiefs, or handkerchiefs with colored borders and spots should be soaked in cold water for a short time before they are washed. This will prevent the colors from running or fading.

To clean wall paper make a paste with three cups of flour, three tablespoonfuls of ammonia, and one and a half cups of water. Roll it into balls and rub over the paper. It makes it as clean as when new.

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TODAY'S DAINTIEST DISH

COOKERY IS BECOME A NOBLE SCIENCE

A Delicious Dish—Curried Beans

By CONSTANCE CLARKE.

Those who know the deliciousness of curried beans, properly cooked and served, cannot but wonder why it does not appear oftener on the home table. In the days of our Puritan forefathers this palatable dish of baked beans played an important part in the daily menu. Meats now are high in price in nearly every section of the country; therefore the housekeeper who is studying real economy to furnish her family with the most nourishing food for the least money should choose this most healthful of vegetables to vary the menu.

Boil one cup of navy beans until soft; chop one onion, one apple and a carrot very fine, fry them in butter. Drain over them one teaspoonful of flour and curry powder mixed, and a seasoning of pepper and salt. Add the beans, mix well together, and put them in a casserole. Garnish the top with strips of bacon and bake in a slow oven. Just before serving put a paper roll around the dish and serve hot.

Tuesday—Old-Fashioned Doughnuts