

Woman's Realm

Feminine Press Agent.

The only woman in the world who travels as press agent for a circus, it is said, is Lillian Calvert Van Osten, who left the stage to exploit the merits of a Wild West show. Though called "Miss" and looking little more than a girl, she is a Mrs., and her husband, who is advertising manager of the show, travels with her. Miss Van Osten's business is to call upon the newspapers to induce them to print good notices concerning the show, and she has secured concessions that men could not. Miss Van Osten finds her life many-sided and far from prosaic, and declares she gets a world of happiness in the experiences of her Bohemian life living in an advertising car.—The Pilgrim.

Fad For Scent.

The old prejudice against perfumes has died out with the passing of musk and patchouli. Those crude odors which make a room sickening after an hour or so were considered vulgar, but the delicate sachets and refined distillations which have taken their places are more popular than ever were the musk and patchouli. The woman of taste chooses one favorite odor and sees to it that her soaps, her powders, her creams, her gowns, her gloves, her curtains and her bath are all scented with it. The odor of a single flower, as popular a few seasons past, has given place to Paris concoctions or mixtures called bouquets. The most fashionable women have an exclusive bouquet made to order, the secret of which is kept from all others.

Successful Women Drummers.

"There are numbers of them in Philadelphia," said a well known traveling man, speaking of women drummers, "and they are most successful—more successful than the men." "One of the most successful drummers I know is an old lady who lives here. She is a grandmother, and through reverses of fortune was obliged to take to the road, carrying on her husband's business. She's old and comparatively feeble, but she can sell more goods than any man." "I understand that to-day she has bought a fine house, and sends a granddaughter through college by her work. There are lots of women on the road who make a business of selling, and though it does not seem to be a strictly feminine field, they succeed in the work."—Philadelphia Record.

Glittering Fans.

The medium sized fan, measuring eight or nine inches, will be the popular ones this year, dealers say. Larger fans, those decorated with real lace and ostrich feathers, will also be fashionable, and as for the smallest fans of all, those perhaps five inches long, this season will see their glorification. It is the exceptional fan that is not partially or entirely covered with spangles.

The queer thing about it, though, is that it may be as dignified as it is mischievous. The smallest fans, as well as the medium sized ones used for dances and dinners, are practically all made on the same order, though of course the former do not admit of the elaboration of design found on the larger size.

The gauze foundation prevails and is treated with adornment in spangles, and painting or applied lace or silk in charming designs. Spangles come in different shapes. The round or sharply pointed oval shapes are the most popular, the latter being largely used for flower petals in spangle design.

A great bachelor button flower done in silver spangles of the oval shape on a white fan is very attractive. On a black fan is seen an iridescent bird perched on a gold branch that bears silver fruit.

Green fans are new and well liked, as are also those in the modish raspberry hue. The latter spangled in a design of gold are especially effective.

Hand painted flowers, like roses and poppies, sprinkled with a little spangle dew, make a delightfully airy, dainty finish.

Applications of white lace on black grounds or black lace on white grounds are much sought after. Fans of white gauze on one side and of black on the other give a cloudy background which spangles of lace show effectively.—New York Sun.

Chinese Mother.

The Chinese mother is very fond of her children, says Paul Hunter in the Pilgrim. She is happy in their company and spends much time caring for them. In a Chinese family the birth of a child is a greater event than with other Orientals. Long before the child is born the mother performs the rites and ceremonies to propitiate the gods that her child may be a boy. At birth, the little fellow is wrapped in old rags, and in winter is sometimes put in a bag of sand sewed close around its neck to keep the little one warm. Great rejoicing follows the birth of a boy; otherwise, there is an air of chastened disappointment. But good Chinese parents make the best of their little lassies, becoming very fond and even proud of them. I have known more than one Chinese father to exhibit his toddling wee girl for approval, though always with the customary national verbal depreciation of what belongs to one. Indeed, this evidence of excessive courtesy may be found everywhere in this strange land.

A PRECOCIOUS CHILD.

Hindu Children and Their Peculiarly of Speech

Hindu children are not like those of the Western world. They have a singular maturity of speech, caught from their elders, and tinged by imaginative charm, and they are as quick-witted, as subtle in their judgment of character as those elders themselves. Pagal is a little boy described in Cornelia Sorabji's "Sun Babies," a book made up of delightful studies of the child life of India. The child is first introduced to the reader in the ante-chamber of the man who he hopes will become his employer, and who is magnificently referred to as the "Presence."

Pagal made a low obeisance, and then, asked to tell what he had come for, responded: "Presence, I am a man child. While my years were yet few my mother turned me adrift to earn my living. I have never gone foodless, but the work I did was the work of a child. Now that my years are many, I would do the work of a man."

His many years seemed to number about seven. "The Presence wonders about that child work," he explained. "Two years, maybe three, have I sat at the sahib's door, being the hand to bear the note things to and fro; and much knowledge of the world have I thus gained. Now that I am come to man's estate, 'tis higher work should be my portion."

Pagal was gently persistent, he was shrewdly diplomatic, and he got forth with a chance to pull the punks—the swiveling fan—in the chambers of the potentate. He expressed his joy, and then prudence impelled him to bargain about his pay.

"Let my wages come to me," said he, "in daily coppers. It is not good for a man child to get into the claws of the money lender."

His employer hoped to make it easier for him by arranging that he should eat with the gardener, who was of the same caste, and sleep in the servants' quarters. But he would not consent.

"A man gets settled," he said, "even in his ways of eating." He could cook for himself. In the day parched rice and earthnuts would be enough to kill hunger, "and when my work is done, the evening meal is well flavored at my poor idle hands."

So he arranged a kitchen out of doors, and diplomatically asserted that he knew his employer would understand. "The Presence will say, 'Let him have as much license in these matters as the birds yonder, who live in my trees and feed all over my garden, and sleep in the boughs at night time.'"

What "Presence" could deny him?

WORDS OF WISDOM.

The true man is greater than anything he can make.

When each does his own work the work of all is done.

If you eat leaks it's hard to keep the fact from leaking out.

Some men would forget there was a God if they never had any trouble.

No nation can be destroyed while it possesses a good home life.—J. G. Holland.

It requires as much reflection and wisdom to know what is not to be put into a sermon as what is.—Cecil.

What is it that love does to a woman? Without it she only sleeps; with it, alone, she lives.—Ouida (Louise de la Ramee).

Salaried Daughters.

Where there is need of her work in the home, and often help has to be hired to take her place, the daughter should be given a regular salary, approximately the equivalent of what she could earn outside after making allowance for board, room rent and the numberless privileges a girl has in her father's house. The salary should be at least what would have to be paid for the same work if a stranger were called in to do it, and the duties should be as distinctly defined and as promptly and efficiently performed. This is a very different thing from an allowance without definite duties.

We know of several families where this plan has worked successfully. In one instance the daughter, while unmarried, became a capable housekeeper and manager, buying all supplies and relieving both parents of care and annoyance, for which she received a housekeeper's wages at the end of every month. Another, whose mother is an invalid, gets a weekly envelope containing the same amount that would have been paid a nurse. Both these salaried daughters were happy, contented and efficient, and each had a feeling of independence and self-reliance never to be attained under the "allowance" system or the usual haphazard appeal to father for money to gratify needs or whims.—Independent.

Fear Each New Governor.

Every time Kansas installs a new Governor about fifty convicts in the penitentiary at Lansing tremble with fear. They are men being held in prison awaiting the Governor's order to be hanged. In Kansas the Governor must sign a death warrant before a murderer can be hanged. Many years ago hanging was virtually abolished in the State by the refusal of the Governor to sign the death warrant. Life imprisonment is the extreme penalty applied, although the murderer is sentenced to hang. Every time there is a change of administrations the "hang" men in prison become nervous. They fear that some time Kansas will elect a man as Governor who believes in hanging for capital offenses, and that he will sign a whole bunch of death warrants at one time and have a big hanging bee.—Atchison Globe.

The Farm

Importing Draft Mares.

Many farmers are constantly asking the importer for pure bred draft and coach mares, but the price most farmers want to pay will not justify the importers in importing draft mares of any breed. It would be folly to import cheap, small draft mares and young fillies that will breed cost more in England, France and Belgium than our farmers want to pay, hence the farmers must do without imported mares or buy home bred just as good, but these are now much higher in price than last year, and but few to be had at any price. The farmers have blindly looked for cheap draft mares, and have cheated themselves every year out of a colt worth the price of a good mare rather than pay what they are worth for breeding. A few farmers have had the courage to pay \$1000 apiece for pure draft mares, and every colt is worth that much as soon as it is three years old, and two or three pairs of colts soon start a good breeding stud that breeds rapidly into money on a large scale.—Live Stock Journal.

What the Horse Knows.

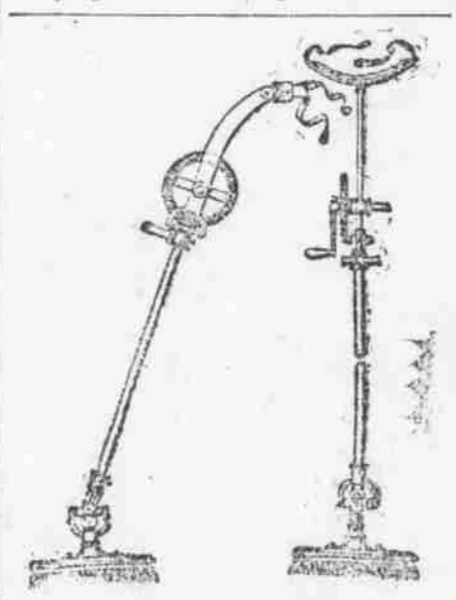
The horse does know a few things, though some of us seem to question this fact at times, says a writer in the Farm Journal.

He knows when one speaks to him kindly, and although some so-called human beings may not always appreciate the kindly tone the horse always does. The horse that trusts his master will do anything he can for him. And that is not the promise of a politician, either. The horse will do it or die. About as fine a tribute as I ever heard paid a horse was the statement of his owner that he was sure that the animal would leap straight out of the back door of a basement barn ten feet down if told to do so. True, faithful animal! And yet some men abuse him!

The horse knows the way home, no matter how dark it may be, nor how far he may have traveled from home. His driver may trust him to make all the turns and reach his own stable safely. The horse knows the friend who gives him sugar and bites of apples. And he watches for that friend, and when he appears asks as plainly as he can: "Got anything for me to-day?"

Human Scrubbing Machine.

The human scrubbing machine is the latest achievement of the American inventor. There have been many contrivances offered to facilitate the arduous task of floor scrubbing, but none of them has ever achieved the distinction in the way of novelty attained by the device shown in the accompanying illustration. The scrubbing contrivance consists of a large brush supported on a handle, and mechanical means for revolving the brush by hand, together with a breastplate to allow the operator to exert any desired pressure. The breastplate, which is padded for comfort, and provided with suitable straps for fastening to the body, is pivoted on the upper end of the frame carrying the shaft and gear for the rotation of the brush, the method of operation being evident from an inspection of the illustration. The brush itself is preferably made cylindrical in shape and provided in the peripheral face on its back with a cushion of rubber around the rim to prevent marring of furniture, baseboards or other articles in the room with which the brush is liable to come in contact.—Philadelphia Record.



HARNES FOR THE SCRUBBER.

tation of the brush, the method of operation being evident from an inspection of the illustration. The brush itself is preferably made cylindrical in shape and provided in the peripheral face on its back with a cushion of rubber around the rim to prevent marring of furniture, baseboards or other articles in the room with which the brush is liable to come in contact.—Philadelphia Record.

Facts to Remember.

Experiment work on the farm may be performed on small plots at a moderate cost. There is no system of education that can equal the work of the farmer himself in experimenting, as soils differ, and work done on one farm may not apply to another. When the farmer begins to experiment he finds out where he made mistakes which he is thereby enabled to avoid in the future.

Potato tops cost the farmer more than tubers in fertility. The solid matter of the tubers is mostly starch, while the tops contain a large proportion of potash, for which reason potash is an essential ingredient in the cultivation of potatoes, as healthy tops and vigorous growth conduce to a large production of tubers. The tops of all root crops should be saved and added to the manure heap.

Manure cannot be estimated by the cord so far as its value is concerned. The liquid or gaseous portions are the most valuable and also the most difficult to retain. The value of a cord of manure depends largely upon the kind of food from which it was produced and the manner in which it was preserved.

The farm is a sure source of income, and though the profits of some years

may be very little, yet the farmer quickly receives benefit during business activity. In many occupations, panics or business depression sweeps away all, the manufacturer and merchant being ruined, but the farm remains ever ready to offer an income on the first revival of prosperity.

The hired man on the farm will make himself indispensable to the farmer, and will receive good wages if he is interested and painstaking in his work. He should know what to do and take a personal interest in the progress of the crops. If he waits for orders, and does only what he is directed to perform, he will not prove as valuable as when he understands what is required and does it without being prompted.—E. R. B., in The Epitomist.

Mixing Concrete.

In mixing concrete for general use the following proportions are perhaps the best: One barrel cement to three barrels sand and five barrels gravel. In this mixture the voids or spaces between the stones are entirely filled, and when hardened or set, the concrete virtually becomes a solid monolith.

To secure the best results mix the concrete as follows: Have the gravel washed and in readiness, usually on a platform of planking or boards, to permit easy shoveling and insure against waste. Add enough water to the cement and sand, which have been thoroughly mixed in a mortar bed, to make a thin mortar, not too thin, however, to permit easy shoveling. Spread the mortar on the gravel and thoroughly mix by turning with shovel until the mortar and gravel are well incorporated. Then without delay shovel the batch of concrete into the forms or spread it on the floor as the case may be, being careful not to exceed layers of eight inches at each filling. Each layer must be tamped and rammed till water flushes at the top.

Proceed in this manner till the forms are filled. In hot summer weather damp cloths or boards should be placed over the top of the concrete to keep it from checking after the final layer has been placed in the forms. The forms must necessarily be water tight, and the concrete worked back from the boards with a spade so the softer material may flow to the outside and insure a smooth surface. If this last is not done voids will surely result and the work will be disappointing. Let the concrete rest four or six days before removing the planking, concrete being somewhat brittle until thoroughly hardened, and while in the "green" state easily broken.—Cement News.

Hairy Vetch and Its Uses.

Since the introduction of the common vetch, as a forage plant, a few years ago, several varieties have come to the front, none of which have proved of greater value than that called "hairy" or "winter" vetch. Considerable seed of this particular variety has been sown in Oregon and California during the past few years, and excellent results have been derived along the particular lines for which vetch is adapted. In the first place vetch is valuable as a soil improver, and for this reason the man with the young orchard can make good use of it. A good plan in this regard is to sow the vetch, forty pounds to the acre, between rows of trees, leaving a space of five or six feet on each side of the row, to cultivate. Let the vetch grow and mature. Then cut, and enough seed will shell out to seed the ground for the next year. But the vetch is recommended for the orchard only till the trees have reached their third year. The principal objection to vetch is the high price demanded for the seed. Hairy vetch seed cannot be bought for less than \$4.50 per bushel, and is sometimes hard to get for \$6 a bushel. Again, vetch is a sprawling grower, and absolutely defies the mower-sickle, if not sown with wheat or some other stiff-stalked cereal to hold it up. Vetch that makes a thick mat of twelve or fifteen inches when straightened out takes the form of individual stalks three or four or even six feet in length. The fall is the best time to plant, and it should be sown on well prepared ground.—D. H. Stovall, in The Epitomist.

Notes About Horses.

The stable must have good ventilation as well as good light.

No matter what it costs you cannot afford to feed the horses sparingly when they work hard.

The most useful farm horse is a grade draft of medium size, well muscled, active and good dispositioned.

Some linseed meal is very beneficial to horses and will go a great way toward making their coats black and sleek.

Neither stallions or mares should be allowed to become very fat at any time, but the mares should be well fed while nursing the foal.

Strength, endurance and speed are not developed by violent usage, but rather by a judicious amount of exercise given so as to develop but not strain.

Horses should never be made to cut moidly hay, as nothing is worse in leading to maring, whisking and other arrangements of the wind. If moidly hay must be fed let it be dampened.

Oats contain the greater proportion of flesh forming elements and corn the greater proportion of fat forming elements, and this is why oats is a superior feed for horses.

A Zangwill Story.

Andrew Lang once wrote to Israel Zangwill to ask him if he would take part in a certain entertainment for the benefit of charity. He received the following reply: "If A. Lang will, 'I. Zangwill'."—Lippincott's.

POPULAR SCIENCE

Compressed paper pulp, impregnated with certain salts, is molded into the form of saucers, which, on account of their lightness, were used largely by the Japanese army in Manchuria.

Investigation of the properties of mineral springs by Dr. H. Maché, of Vienna, seems to establish the fact that many of them have radio-activity, which certainly points toward radium as one of their curative properties.

That it is a good deal of a strain on the nerves to discover gold is shown by the story of an Australian official, who wished to telegraph the news of the finding of the precious metal in his district. A small boy, seeking for a stone to throw at a crow, had picked up what proved to be a nugget of pure gold. In his excitement the official overlooked the main point entirely and wrote this: "Boy picked up a stone to throw at a crow," and nothing more.

If the ancient Greeks could revisit the earth they would hardly recognize their beautiful country, if the statements made by Dr. Hennig, of Berlin, can be sustained. Attica has lost the greater part of its forests, the rainfall has decreased and the temperature has increased. The heat in the open air, Dr. Hennig says, is now so great that the Olympic games of antiquity would be virtually impossible to-day. Many other parts of the earth show similar changes. The once beautiful oasis in the Syrian desert, where Zenobia reigned over Palmyra, is now a desolate waste. In Upper Egypt, where only 100 years ago rain was abundant, drought now usually prevails.

Study of the fishes on the two sides of the isthmus has led to the conclusion that in the Miocene epoch there was at Panama open communication between the Atlantic and Pacific. This period is arrived at by considering the time that would be needed for the development of the specific differences now existing between the fishes in the opposite ocean waters, and the geological date thus fixed is made more probable by the fact that study of the fossil mammals of North and South America indicates that the continuity of the land between the continents was interrupted during a large part of the Tertiary age, and was not re-established until the close of the Miocene.

MAN AND NATURE.

The Struggle between the Beast Side and the Intellect.

Nature tends obstinately. Michelet thinks, to bring back toward primitive animality, to unmake, the civilized man. It is perhaps still her dream to have sons like her—men all nature.

Humanity, in its earliest age, could be but that, and legitimately. It had then to take possession of the world which had just been born. It engaged in sternest combat with the primitive, shaggy creatures, well armed with teeth and claws, that looked with contempt at this last born of creation without claws, unprotected by hair, all naked and unarmed.

To conquer these creatures man must be like them. "He also must belong to this lower world, or rather he must take on the two natures—that is to say, he must needs become at once man and beast, possessed of instinctive craft as well as bloodthirsty fury. The victory, which rested decisively, at so many points of the globe, with the weaker, shows none the less the original superiority of the conquered. In the man-beast, at first controlled entirely by physical fatalities, slept already as in the chrysalis the true man, who walks upright and with his face to the heavens."

And this true man, little by little, set himself free. "To-day mind is decidedly the victor. To the heavy dreams of a troubled blood, to the energy of the brute, has succeeded the nervous life of delicate, intelligent sensibility; in short the higher life." But the beast is not dead; he must be watched.—International Quarterly.

A Varied Career.

Samuel Crowther, the oldest town-crier, has died at Droithwick, his birthplace, at the age of ninety. His last public crying took place in May last. During his long life he had played many parts, including those of a scare-bird of birds from wheat, gravel digger, bricklayer's laborer, policeman, surveyor's assistant, bailiff, auctioneer, porter, Liberal agent, volunteer and bell-ringer. At the time of his diamond wedding he possessed ten sons and daughters, fifty grand-children, and twenty great-grandchildren. He lived in the reign of five monarchs, and was born before Waterloo was fought. His wife, who survives him, is in her eighty-ninth year, and lives at the County almshouse.—London Telegraph.

Mapping Africa.

The topography of Africa is being mapped to take shape, at least in Senegal, where up to a couple of years ago it was in a state of chaos as to the inevitable result of mere hand to mouth work, done always to meet an immediate emergency and often in great haste. In 1903 the Governor-General of West Africa requested the appointment of an officer from the army geographical department, and this officer, Captain Cavrois, has organized a permanent topographical survey for French West Africa. The two best sections of an official large scale map of Senegal have already been printed, and in three years the work will have been completed in more than thirty sections.—London-Globe.