FASHION NOTES

Interesting Items for the Fair Sex

PORTABLE CORNER CLOSETS

Short leases and the moving habit, on contracted by some city dwell- ake the search for portable ure, especially that which looks ough built in, one of deep inter-

nterior decorators, realizing the act, are creating a demand for this class of furnishings which the manufacturers and craftsmen must supply. Decorators have turned their attention mainly to corner closets, which re an especial weakness of women, d have adapted many beautiful ex- ples from those found preserved our museums and private collec- ns of antique pieces.

Perhaps the Colonial period is the hest in suggestion, though much of bears memory marks of the better d English makers, peculiarly adapt- to American needs. One old closet this type stands eight feet tall. depth is two feet six inches and is made of the most beautifully rked black walnut. At the bottom re are two compartments, 18 inches p, with doors having excellent locks.

The top of the compartments forms the first shelf. The next open shelf—18 inches above—is scalloped back a shallow half-moon shape with little half-circles to hold a fringe of silver teaspoons on the edge.

Some Fine Examples

The next shelf has the same edge to hold stemmed tumblers, and the top shelf has a row of hooks for hanging the dainty old china teacups on. This part of the closet is without doors but is quaint and fascinating. The top serves as a "pewter" shelf and has a rail to keep the pieces from joggling off.

The corner closet having the open shelves is first cousin to the old "whatnot," rare examples of which are still met with in furniture collections. Doors are a great protection from the dust and damage, and in many instances they add to closets made from the old designs.

Closets with solid doors below, then an open shelf of 12 to 18 inches according to desire, with the upper shelves protected with a door, or doors, having diamond-panel glass set in, are popular.

All portable closets have ball-bearing castors so they may be readily moved, and the taller ones are almost always built in two sections which fit together with pegs and holes. They fit together so perfectly there is no danger of their having a rickety tendency which would endanger their contents.

All the old closets were built of hardwood, variously polished and varnished with elaborate hinges, knobs, handles and locks which formed the decorative finish. Those in bright brass and in Dutch or Japanese silver, require frequent polishing to keep them up to the right standard of brilliancy.

Unusual New Types

Modern closets are carried out in plain yellow pine, well seasoned and filled, then they are painted and decorated to fit the rooms in which they are to be used. Some are painted in black and ornamented with designs of fruit, flowers, figures or scenic panels, in natural colors. Others are painted in Chinese red, varnished to a high polish, and the decorations are of Chinese design and are worked out in gold with black shadows. Elaborate metal hinges are used on this type of closet and are very attractive.

Other closets done in other wood are simply sand papered, filled and varnished to bring out their natural wood grain. Still others are painted in futurist fashion, shaded blue and green swirling into a definite design at certain points where a meremaid, a fish or a human figure works itself distinctly into view, colorful but ultra modern in school.

Everyone is conscious of the charm of the octagonal room ,and a bit of the charm may be brought into a square room by cutting off two of its corners with portable corner closets, a third corner being disguised by a triangular-shaped tea table, or serving table, built with three center drawers reaching the floor. The table, of course, like the closets, matching the woodwork in the room, black, with yellow walls, for instance, or some other contrast.

New Stories for Motion Pictures

Most big film companies want original stories, written especially for the screen. The big film companies believe that writers developed solely to supply the needs of the screen will do more good in the upbuilding of the motion picture, than released plays, novels and magazine stories. Neither is it thought that established authors are necessary to the screen. Any new writer, if he can write good screen stories—stories where the action really happens, instead of being talked about—comedies where the humor lies in the situations and incidents, instead of the lines—stories that can be told in pantomine rather than by subtitles, can be assured that his stories will find a market.

"As long as motion picture producers continue to pay big prices for a play that has been a failure on the stage and hesitate about accepting an original scenario written especially for the screen," says J. C. Brownell, "just as long do they continue to admit that the screen is inferior to the stage in artistry and in public estimation.

"All stage plays, in order to make acceptable material for the screen, must be rewritten. Dialogue must be changed into action; continuity must be supplied; the many things that are supposed to occur between acts must be actually shown to happen in the film version of the story. Then, if the play has intrinsic value, and it is properly played and directed ,it will make a good picture.

"The majority of plays, however, are not suitable for the screen, as many producers have learned at great cost. When a big price is paid for a stage success the producer is simply paying for prestige—for a name—for an advertising point. He thus gives to the spoken play first place in importance over the silent drama, when the producer has in his power with his vast resources and his vast audience, to put the screen production in the first place and so popularize an original story that it will be sought after as a vehicle of some star of the audible stage.

"The stage and the screen are allied, it is true. Both belong to the dramatic family, but their relationship does not go much further. Each requires individual treatment; each has its own technique. Occasionally you will find a play that lends itself to screen treatment, but in the majority of cases but the bare outline can be utilized and the rest of the garment must be supplied out of the whole cloth.

"I prefer original stories—stories written by men who understand the requirements of the screen and written for the screen. Or I will buy clever magazine stories that contain the ingredients of a good motion picture play."

Borders for Gardens

The best place for a hardy border is against a wall, or along a walk, leaving a space of grass between.

To make a new border, remove the sod and soil to a depth of about two feet. When refilling, put a layer of clinkers or small stones in the bottom for drainage; then, sods, face down, or leaves. After that, mix chopped sod, coarse fertilizer and inch bone, and fill in a few inches from the top. The top layer should be fine garden loam, with a depth of about five inches.

Flower beds for annuals are more easily made, as it is only necessary to remove about six inches of the top soil and fill in fertilizer, mixing with the soil underneath.

A small bed of Everbearing strawberries is a profitable investment for the home garden. Select a place where well fertilized vegetables were grown the previous year. Have your bed all ready before the plants arrive. Progressive and Superb are good varieties and should provide berries up to the coming of frost. Set the plants 12 to 18 inches apart in rows two or three feet from each other. Keep the blossoms pinched ... July and you will get fru spring.

For home use the bed may be six feet wide with a row down the center and a row on each side about a foot in. Trench each row 18 inches. Put plenty of fertilizer in the bottom and fill it four inches from the top. Plant the crowns, spreading out the roots very carefully. Add more soil and level up as the plants grow.

Typhoons can rise only in hot, damp, still air, and therefore do not occur outside the tropics.

Less than half the people struck by lightning are killed.

Recent statistics show that 1,725 british girls married American doughboys.

Cashmere shawls are manufactured from the hair of a diminutive goat found in Tibet.

A wag, referring to the publishing firm of "Stewart & Kidd," writes us that he likes the form "Stewart and Son better.—Exchange.

In converting an English park into an airdome, engineers buried several hundred feet of the river and made it ow through an inverted double siphon ..t of concrete.

What Makes You Want to Stretch

The necessity or desire to stretch comes to us because certain parts of the body are not receiving the proper amount of blood circulation and it is these parts that we stretch at such times.

If you have even been to a ball game, you know, of course, that it has become customary for the crowd, no matter how large, to stretch its legs and arms during the last half of the seventh inning. In fact that has come to be a fixture at ball games and is universally known as the "stretch inning."

Now, it is not so much the result of a desire to encourage the home team as the natural following out of nature's laws that originally started this practice. The end of the seventh inning at a ball game generally means that the crowd has been sitting quite still for the greater part of an hour and a half, just long enough for the circulation to become poor in parts of the body, and the custom of stretching at a ball game thus comes from the necessity of getting a little more speed into the action of the heart to increase the blood supply.

In other words, the stretching constitutes a mild form of exercise. You will notice the ball players themselves do not stretch in the last half of the seventh inning. They are getting enough exercise without that.

It is natural, however, for us to stretch as we wake up from sleep after having lain quietly in one position for one or more hours. It is nature's way of causing the heart to work faster.—From the Book of Wonders. Published and copyrighted by the Bureau of Industrial Education, Inc., Washington, D. C.

Spanish Novelist What He Thinks of Place of Women

Blasco Ibanez, the Spanish novelist of world fame, author of "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," has been touring the United States and peering with Spanish eyes into the intricate social system of which we are sole owners and directors.

Ibanez has his own ideas regarding the proper importance of women in the world. They do not, apparently, quite agree with those held by at least a fair majority of the wormen of today.

"In this country," he said, "the women have time for culture and the arts, while their husbands pursue dollars, and they have wonderful opportunities for education and wonderful freedom. I will admit I prefer to see the man direct the family, but that does not mean that I would ever advise husbands to 'treat 'em rough' or use cave-man tactics."

At HOME

A Department for Industrious Housewives

While eggs are high, try placing marshmallows cut in halves on top of any dessert (including pies), where formerly meringue has been used.

If you wish to whip cream and feel doubtful as to its whipping qualities try putting in half a teaspoonful of baking powder and a dessert spoonful of granulated sugar to the pint, then proceed.

Oh yes, try a generous pinch of baking powder in your one egg (white) for icing, and the two-egg omelet. The baking powder seems to keep them both from shrinking and falling.

Try using a little bit of preserve and jelly which left over and crystallized in your puddings. It sweetens and imparts a delightful flavor at the same time.

Polo in Great Britain as well as in France, Belgium and Spain will boom in 1920, it is predicted by enthusiasts.

It is said that at 60 years of age a woman's chance of marrying is one-tenth of 1 per cent, or one chance in 1000.

"Mistah, I wants a ticket in de gallery."

"There it is. A dollar and ten cents, please."

"What's dat ten cents fo'?"

"War tax."

"Who's fightin' now?"

Dutch manufacturer are going to introduce the wooden shoe to the American people. Representatives of several large factories have left for the United States, where they will try to interest wholesale and retail shoe dealers in wooden footwear.

"We should avoid even the appearance of evil," said the good deacon. "Then tell my maiden aunt to discard her corkscrew curls," retorted the unregenerate backslider.

Training Little Citizens

AN INDOOR GARDEN FOR CHILDREN

By Ellen Eddy Shaw

During the early Spring it is delightful to have something growing in the house or in the schoolroom to interest little boys and girls in what is going to happen very soon outdoors.

If father or the older boys in the manual training shop will make a rectangular box with glass sides, line the bottom with zinc, and have a glass cover which may be opened slightly to let in the air, the children will have a fine little conservatory of their own. Put about four inches of rich soil in the bottom of the box and either plant or transplant into the soil some bits of growing life. For example, buy a small coco palm, some holly fern, a ptesis, any begonia except the Rex begnoia, and a small asparagus fern, letting the last named trail along the soil of the little greenhouse. The earth should be kept moist, and the box set in the sunlight, preferably in a sunny window. The cover should be raised a little during the day to allow the air to enter, but not wide enough to permit too much of the water within the little green house to evaporate.

If it is impossible to buy suitable plants, and it might be in some places, plant in the soil some seeds of common geraniums, of beans, oats, corn and some of sweet alyssum. These seeds will sprout quickly, and while the grains will not last long, the little geraniums and sweet alyssum will last a long time.

If you live in the country where woods are close by, then get some moss from underneath the leaves and some hepatica plants and put these in the small greenhouse. You may use a large fish bowl for the purpose, but the box with the zinc bottom is really a better arrangement. Any child will take a great deal of joy and pleasure in having a little conservatory of this kind, and will also take a greater interest in working in the outdoor garden because of this experience.

Pure Blood Chicks Sure to Pay Best

By F. T. MAC FEELY

Seven years experience in the poultry business exclusively, has convinced P. E. Squires, of Indiana, that it pays to feed only the best stock. When Mr. Squires first entered the business he began with nothing but scrubs—left-over chicks from regular orders at a nearby hatchery. The flock consisted of 450 day old chicks.

Even with his poor start he was successful in maintaining a high-average yield of eggs and meat. With good care and proper feeding, this flock grew to more than 1200 chickens the second year, aside from those that died and those that were sold. At the end of the third year Mr. Squires cleared a net profit of more than $500, in addition to living expenses.

But he was not satisfied. He wanted greater returns in payment for his labor and the interest on his capital, so he decided to try pure-bred stock. Using the $500 as a start, he built another series of coops and purchased 100 pure-blood Rhode Island Reds, day-old chicks only. He still kept a comparison, to see if it really paid to raise pure-bred poultry.

Mr. Squires has figures to show that the 100 pure blood chicks have brought bigger profits in the past four years than the 450 scrubs have returned in the past seven years. The pure-blood hens are better layers, the chickens are heavier and more healthy. Besides this, Mr. Squires gets a better price for the settings, and when he sells a breeding cock he gets twice as much for it as for the scrub. In fact, he is unable to sell his scrub cocks, except for meat. Mr. Squires is getting rid of his scrubs entirely.

That a small leak will sink a great ship. Beware of small expenses.

That a business is like a bicycle—if it stands still it falls down.

That a failure may be a rung in the ladder leading to success.

That one investment that pays good dividends is stick-to-itiveness.

That it is a wise man who knows that a wise man does not know too much.

To save wear on your garbage can in the winter, always put the pail in the cellar the night before the collectors come so that it can thaw out, and will not have to be pounded to pieces to be emptied.

Concerning Mme. Georges Carpentier

Although she is still in her early twenties, practically but a carefree school girl, Mme. Carpentier impresses at first sight by her "aliveness," her joie de vivre. She radiates health, happiness and charm. Her brain is alert, her sympathies alive and her sense of humor alert to the nth degree, according to the New York Evening Post.

"The American people are so beautiful!" she exclaimed enthusiastically. "They are just as chic as our women. I love the shape of their faces, the way they dress their hair, the way they walk and their charming manners."

Although their married life is so new, M. and Mme. Carpentier have already decided how "to live twenty-four hours every day." Their schedule is so sane that there is no doubt that it will easily be accomplished.

"We begin our day at eight o'clock," they told in unison. "We drive to the woods and then take a long walk."

"My husband eats anything," continued the wife, as though delighted that though married to a celebrity she would not have to spend her future thinking out new and strange dishes to tempt his appetite. "He is not fastidious, although he never eats much meat, but lots of green vegetables."

Already in Paris Mme. Carpentier has been initiated into the mysteries of American dances. "I love to dance," she almost warbled. "In Paris we dance every afternoon at 5 o'clock and have jazz music, too." Movies also have a big fascination for this Parisienne. She is interested in the studio work her husband contemplates in this country, but she does not hanker for the limelight for herself. Her role is to be that of the interested spectator.

"I adore Charlo," she murmured gleefully. Then somebody interpreted that Charlo was no other than Charlie Chaplin, that all small boys in Paris went to and from the movies chanting "Charlo, Charlo." Norma Talmadge, Mary Pickford, Nazimova are also hung high in Mme. Carpentiere's gallery of famous movie stars.

CINEMA CHUCKLES

Mme. Schumann-Heink during a recent visit to Universal City was amused at an incident related by Garret Graham, assistant to Charles L Hertzman of the publicity department. Graham, during the war, was stationed at an army camp near San Diego and heard Mme. Schumann-Heink sing for the soldiers. She sang several simple songs, not wishing to have the music "go over the heads" of her audience, and then asked for "requests" from the soldiers.

Two rural recruits on the edge of the crowd who had expected a cabaret performance, called for "Over There.' She laughingly explained that she had never learned "Over There," declaring that there were so many words in it she coundn't pronounce them all.

The pair turned away in disgust. Afterward they said to a comrade: "The show was the bunk. She didn't know a single new song. Everybody's heard 'The Rosary,' and 'The End of a Perfect Day.'"

Jack Ford, Universal director, took an English friend to a ball game between the Universal City team and the nine from a rival studio. The British cousin bombarded Ford with a volley of what, to him, seemed silly questions. Finally the crowd yelled "foul" at what looked like a hit but turned out to be otherwise. The Englishman by this time had developed quite a sense of humor. "Foul," he said to Ford. "Oh, I say, I saw no feathers."

This was too much for Jack, who came back with, "No, you saphead, this happens to be a picked nine."

Certain terms and idioms of a profession or trade will creep into one's vocabulary and, like slang, will sometimes prove more expressive than English a la Webster. Entering the office of Erich von Stroheim, Universal director of "Blind Husbands" and "The Devil's Pass Key," Charles Hertzman, publicity director, found Von pouring over a score of printed forms.

"Having trouble with your income tax?" inquired Herman.

"I'll say so," remarked the director. "I've just about decided to have it put into continuity."

Before she recrosses the Atlantic it is quite certain that most of the nooks and crannies of New York will have been explored by this enterprising Parisienne. She is not likely to be content with what the highways supply. The more she talks the more she reveals the fact that she is keen to "see the wheels go round," to find out for herself just how and why things are done.

And Just Beneath Your Hat Brim

By GEORGE BRINTON BEAL

Learn to use your ears. Don't be so proud of having a mouth, and a voice capable of filling it with words, that you forget how to listen. To listen is to learn. Talking is a mighty fine exercise—for developing the other fellow's schemes and ideas. Put a maximum silencer on your mouth and let him develop yours. The successful man is the successful listener. When you have something to say, say it and shut up. Even a parrot learns by listning. He first hears what the other fellow has to say and acts accordingly. You would do well to follow his example. A human being comes equipped with two ears and one mouth. Use them that way.

The man who likes to mingle with the crowd should never aspire to the pinnacle of fame.

Strassburg is a Famous Cathedral

Strassburg, capital of Alsace, called the bulwark of the Holy Roman Empire by Emperor Maximilian I, is famed for its cathedral and pate de foie gras and prized for its commercial and military importance. Its cathedral, whose building extended over four centuries, says a National Geographic society bulletin, typifies the diverse influences to which the city has been subjected. The facade especiallp presents a singularly happy especially presents a singularly happy man stlyes of cathedral architecture.

Buggins—"Queer a girl can never hit anything she aims at."

Muggins—"That isn't altogether true. Haven't you ever watched a girl throwing boquets at herself?"

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