HOW AMERICANS LOVE

ITALIANS THINK THEY RUN AFFAIRS ON BUSINESS PLAN.

May Wait Years Until They Acquire What They Consider Necessary Capital Before Marrying — His Lady Flirts a Plenty Meanwhile.

Concerning love, the American has the most extravagant theories that have ever been conceived by the brain of man. First of all, he believes he can with impunity do without love, or at least that its impulses can be regulated, just as Niagara is harnessed to produce motive power, says a writer in L'Illustrazione Italiana. Some young men in America confess that they think of their sweethearts only on Sunday afternoons, when they are free from business, after 3 o'clock, while other assert that they are yet too poor to think of love, that they will fall in love and willingly marry in three, four or five years, when their capital shall have reached some stated figure, not a cent more, not a cent less. Conversation among men is therefore most chaste, out of deliberate prudence.

Then, the American gravely believes his lady, to be like himself, that is to say, loyally exact in waxing enthusiastic about the three years, and not about the two and three-quarters; able to await without impatience that given year and that given month in which he, according to his astronomical and financial calculations, has decided to wed her.

He is willing that in the interval she shall travel in Europe with a friend or two, for he is thoroughly convinced of the absolute superiority of the American over every other man in the world that a more or less protracted distraction on the part of his fiancee with a Frenchman or with an Italian, with a Spaniard or with an Austrian, seems to him just as impossible as a flirtation on his own part with a negress, and even if possible, at any rate temporary and harmless. The letters in which American girls describe to their "flirts," to their fiances on the other side of the ocean, their moonlight strolls in the Coliseum or in the Bois de Boulogne, are prodigies of cunning, all based upon equivocation and the unconquerable pride of the perfect "Yankee."

Even when in America, the American woman keeps many strings to her bow, under the inoffensive name of "flirts," waiting to choose at the opportune moment and after suitable experience, the richest man the strongest man, the most notable man, the most elegant man, etc. The others are cast aside.

Love must be treated in a business-like way, not in the sense of profiting by it, for chasers of dowries are rare in America, but in the sense that it should be dispatched rapidly and should not cause the loss of too much time. What method is swifter than advertising? A letter dropped into the post, an appointment, a few calls, an engagement, presents, marriage—above all many presents.

And, reasoning thus, Americans have a highly satisfied air.

This does not prevent even America from having many genuinely happy marriages, but this is due solely to the goodness of the woman.

HOUSEHOLD SUGGESTIONS.

A paste of starch or flour will remove blood stains.

Salt sprinkled on the bottom of the oven will keep cakes from burning.

Salt sprinkled on the fire will give the blue flame so much desired for broiling.

The juice of onions will quickly allay the intolerable stinging pain from a bee or wasp sting.

A panful of lime kept in the cupboard where jams and preserves are stored away will prevent moulding.

Use boiling water when it first boils, or the gases will escape and the water become flat.

Wrap boiled or roasted meat that is to be used cold in a moist cloth to make it more tender.

The white of an egg dropped into a pot of soup will gather to it all impurities. When it curdles remove it.

Soap mixed with whiting will stop a gas or water leaking in a pipe until it can be properly attended to.

A lump of sugar put in to boil with green vegetables will preserve their color and improve the flavor, especially that of peas.

Fruits may be preserved in the natural state for a year by packing in powdered cork, provided, of course, that all unsound parts are first removed.

In boiling eggs hard put them in boiling water. It will prevent the yolks from turning black.

Color Blending.

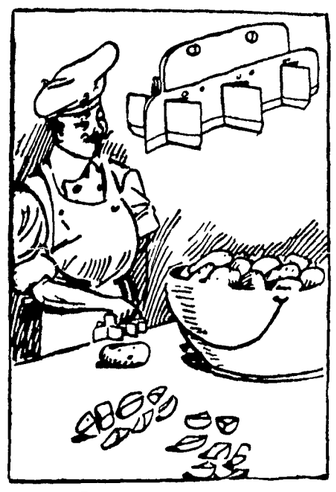
Colors disagree, just as men and women do. Most shades of red go together, and violet can be combined with any shade of black but is not very effective with white. It goes well with certain shades of red. Greens are most effective when combined with other tones of green. The different shades of brown is an old but somewhat unfashionable combination, says Home Chat.

The gold and silver that are in the lead of all trimmings just now are used with any and every color. There are some combinations, however, that are particularly effective. Black and silver is preferable to black and gold, but white and gold is in fine fashion.

KNIFE THAT DOES THE WORK.

One Operation Cuts the Potato Into Eight Pieces.

Ingenious people are on the lookout for some device that will prove a household necessity, as they realize it will command a ready market. As an example, an Iowa man has introduced a knife for cutting potatoes that does eight times the work of the ordinary knife. Instead of requiring eight cuts to divide the potato into pieces it is all done at one operation. The illustration plainly shows the construction of this knife, no description being necessary. Six small blades and one center blade, attached to a handle, are all that is required. One stab at a potato divides it into eight pieces, each piece being of practically the same size. In hotels, restaurants, etc., where thousands of potatoes are cut up each day, this knife woud save considerable labor and time.



Saves Time Cutting.

Dark or Fair Women.

As a rule the dark complexioned woman is more reserved, less superficial and emotional than her lighter sister. Though the blonde may appear fairer, after middle age the brunette wears her age better.

In the depth of a pair of blue eyes you can read love and devotion; in the kindly brown eyes you will find that consistency, love, less enthusiastic but more lasting, and anything sympathy which a professional man needs. It is not only a wife you are considering, but a companion and helpmate, a girl with some common sense and judgment, which you will have to call on frequently as reserve power, says the Boston Globe.

Twenty a man owes his success to his wife. The qualities essential for this are most frequently found under the crown of dark hair. Through study and observation we find there is more stability of character and love of home in the darker woman, while the blonde requires the incense of admiration always burned at her shrine.

And lastly, a man is justly proud of the tall and graceful woman by his side.

FASHION'S MANDATE.

Heavy, corset-like, gorgeously embroidered with gold thread in Egyptian fashion, is made in wide bands which are inset most effectively in cloth.

Soutache braiding is used on nets and chiffons as well as upon cloth and velvet.

Tartan plaids are finding much favor as trimming and appear in piping, girdles, belts, buckles, buttons, etc.

Silk crochet buttons are revived and are to be had in all the fashionable colors.

Colored gloves have supplanted white ones in Parisian favor, and tan, gray or black long gloves are the correct thing for street wear.

Some remarkably beautiful trimmings for mourning gowns are in the form of bands and motifs of crepe heavily embroidered by hand in black.

Wooden buttons inset with steel are upon some of the imported street frocks.

Tulle will be much worn for evening, and tulle with chenille spots is the material for some especially pretty evenings gowns.

Husbands' Failings.

If you are disappointed in your husband after you are married, probably he is just as much disappointed in you. Human nature is faulty, and it is well to bear in mind that there is usually blame attached to both sides. Make a solemn resolution that when a trouble is past you will never mention it again, nor allow your mind to dwell upon it more than you can avoid. Keep your temper always. Never show resentful feeling after a past affair. In every way let your husband see that instead of giving way to temper and injured feelings, you are doing your best to do right.

Our Daily Chances.

If we are constantly on the watch, we shall find plenty of opportunities to do good deeds. They may not be great deeds in the world's eyes, but it is the little thoughtful, everyday kindnesses that make the whole world better and happier. We see someone in trouble and say a kind, sympathizing word, and that person's trouble is lightened. We have a chance to do some little service in our home, to wait on someone who is tired, or to run an errand cheerfully, and we feel happier for this all day.—Woman's Life.

MEN TO WEAR WEDDING RINGS.

This Foreign Custom Becoming Popular Here.

Wedding rings for men are more of a fancy than ever among women, says Home Chat.

Following the custom of the French and Germans in presenting rings to the bridegrooms, American women have gone a degree beyond, for instead of giving their husbands plain gold rings at the ceremony, seal or stone settings are selected.

Of the three varieties, the seal ring gives an opportunity for more display of sentiment than either of the others, for on it the bride may have her initials entwined with those of her future husband in a most conspicuous but artistic fashion. Many of them prefer using a shield or coat of arms. In the latter case the crest of the husband is carved on the stone.

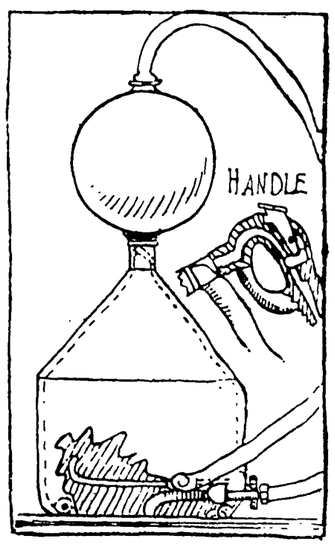
When a ring with a setting is presented for a wedding gift or during the ceremony it is usually something plain, such as a bloodstone, or one of the handsome but simple semi-precious kinds so popular now. Few of these are faceted or cut except to correspond with the shape of the ring. Any inscription on them is, of course, on the inside.

The plain round wedding ring in either a wide, narrow, heavy or light weight quality, is chosen as much as either of the other two kinds for a service, and in some cases the bride and bridegroom select them at the same time and choose those of the same so that there is practically no difference in the two except in size and with the inscription inside, or in all of these rings the customary wording and lettering as A. T. L. or G. A. B., with the date, is followed just the same as with the ring the bride receives, the only change being that the bride's initials come first, since she gives the ring to the bridegroom.

When convenient the man's ring is slipped on during the cremony as soon as the bride receives hers, but if this makes an awkward break in the service then the bridegroom does not get his ring until the ceremony is concluded.

Does Away With Sweeping.

One of the greatest inventions of the present time is the suction machine for renovating and cleaning hotels, apartment houses, etc. No sweeping is necessary. The power necessary to operate the apparatus is furnished by an engine fitted with a vacuum and supplied by means of rubber hose. The dust is forced into the machine by suction, it being possible to clean every part of the room, ceilings, floors, walls, furniture, etc. Up to the present time this machine has been used for large operations only. Now a Chicago inventor has patented a similar machine, which can be used in every household. The power apparatus is stationed in an outhouse or other out of the way place and the renovator, reduced in size so that it can be manipulated by anybody. Expert skill is not required. In cleaning the rooms the dust is gathered up in the collector, and when the entire house is cleaned the renovator is taken to the cellar and the dust removed. Its superiority over the ordinary method of sweping will be at once apparent.



Sucks Up the Dust.

Linen Hints.

When hanging your linen to dry, use two lines comparatively close and parallel for your tablecloths and sheets.

Throw one selvedge side of your tablecloth over one line toward the other, allowing it to hang down about a quarter of a yard, and being careful to pin it a short distance from the ends. Take the opposite of your cloth and throw it over the other line and pin it in the same manner.

This will form a sort of bag, and will prevent to a considerable extent the wild blowing of the tablecloth in windy weather.

After the table linen is thoroughly dried, remove it from the line and prepare to dampen it. A whisk broom is excellent for the purpose.

Table linen in order to bring out the bright gloss that makes it attractive, should be dampened quite considerably.

Sprinkle the tablecloths freely, being sure that the selvedge ends or hemstitched borders are thoroughly damp, says Woman's Life. Roll up tightly, patting the roll frequently to spread the dampness.

The fate of all of us, men and women alike, is to be forever wanting what we have not.

KEEP THEIR YOUTH

MODERN WOMEN WHO REFUSE TO GROW OLD.

Enjoying Life as the Best Means of Living It—Ignoring All Responsibilities—Cause and Excuse for Social Extravagances.

We live in an age when women are to the fore in everything after a long period of suppression. As a natural reaction from such suppression they have become the gay, giddy, brilliant things we see who refuse to grow older than a mild thirty-five until they suddenly drop upon four score, who are so frisky, so smart, so up to date that they keep the world spinning to a hundred varying fads and fancies and who insist that enjoying life is the best means of living it.

It is this class who are responsible for my phrase, the youth of temperament," writes "Rita" in the London Chronicle. For temperament has a great deal to do with the way we live and the absurdities we commit. Some people are born young and some are born old. The one class never seem to achieve anything save a gay irresponsibility in all matters concerning existence. The other are staid and gloomy and despondent from childhood onward. What one lacks the other emphasizes and by rule of contrast the light and joyous temperament lays a higher claim to popularity. Smiles are always more pleasing than frowns and to be approved even by insincerity is far more agreeable than the blunt and wholesome truths whose ultimate results we know but refuse to anticipate.

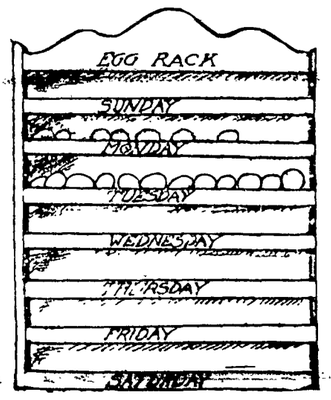
The temperament of youth excuses even the follies of a grandmother and permits respectable "fifty" to garb itself as romantic sixteen would scarcely dream of doing. From tight lacing to henna dyeing the frisky matron is a study in successful artifice. She defies time and defies social opinion and turns herself out season after season with a brand new picturesqueness that astonishes her friends and infuriates her enemies. That she should be tireless, gay, good humored is an affront to staid years and appropriated responsibilities and hence its perennial youth. A woman learns from the beauty doctors and the confidential columns of the ladies' papers that to frown or to worry or to bother one's head about bills and families or housekeeping is ruinous to a soft, fair complexion and brings crows' feet, wrinkles and gray hairs.

Twenty five years ago it was almost impossible to find such a thing as an establishment for [illegible]. Now there is not a fashionable street or a country town without a professor of that useful business. It is to America we owe the introduction as well as that of the expensive [illegible], artist, the "color specialist." Such artists and [illegible] have added great [illegible] to the [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] knowledge of [illegible] services, and [illegible] the use of them for doing so. This was seen to breathe of "make up" was to be pronounced declasse, when only one class of womanhood used it as an adjunct of advertisement. We have changed all that.

Handy Egg Rack.

The accompanying photograph shows an egg rack which I find of great convenience, as it enables the family to know just what day the eggs on hand were laid, says a writer in Suburban Life.

The idea was brought to my mind while getting a lot of eggs daily, as we occasionally had a spoiled one on the table, due to the fact that all of the eggs, as fast as collected, were placed in an egg basket, there being no way of telling the oldest egg from those just laid.



The rack is very simple, and any man handy with tools can put it together in a few hours.

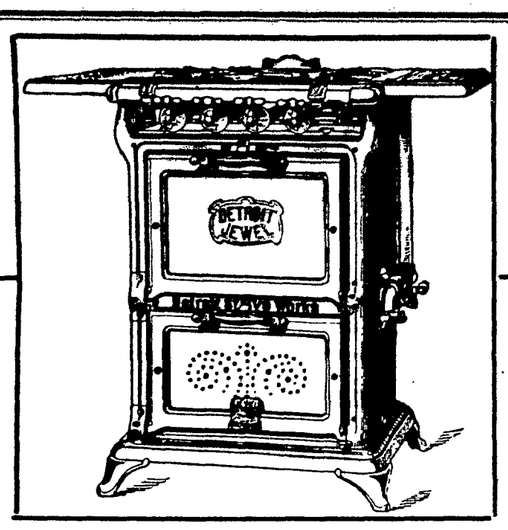
Cheese Colored to Order.

Different parts of the country have very strongly marked tastes as to the color of cheese.

You could not sell at any price in Birmingham a cheese that is in great demand in Coventry, and if you sent some of the kind demanded in Norfolk to Manchester it would at once be returned. East Anglia demands a cheese of brickred color, while Lancashire must have "Manchester white," and the other northern counties go in for a golden-tinted cheese. Nearly all cheese is prepared to the carefully worded order of the probable buyer.—Home Chat.

To Keep Violets.

The very best way to keep violets fresh is not to put them in water, but to throw over them a handkerchief thoroughly wet, and set them in a draught.



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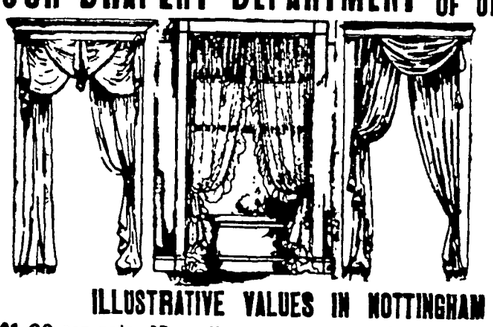

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