

# THE HELPER

By PAULINE D. EDWARDS

If the fool killer comes this way he'll sure enough give me an invite to put my head on the log where I kill the chickens. I've not only made a blunder, but a double blunder. In trying to help two people at once. There was Charlie Burnes moping around, plin' because he had no one to help him run his farm, no companion or nothin', and there was Susan Nutter with a step-mother and unhappy at home. I thought they'd do well to marry, so I butted in and arranged the matter between 'em. I had no interest in it; I only consented to be a go-between out of the kindness o' my heart. I'm an old maid myself and wouldn't marry the best man on earth. I hadn't got no call to marry. I got my own house and ground all paid for and \$50 a month from bond and mortgage besides. So I'm out of the matrimonial question. But I'm not the only one in the world to be considered. Maybe what'd kill me might cure others.

"Thinkin' that a-way, I told Charlie about Susan and Susan about Charlie. I praised Charlie to Susan, and this together with the hard time she was havin' at home, made her powerful anxious to get him. But somehow o' another she got the idea that if he seen her he wouldn't have her, so she told me I could tell him if he'd take her entirely on my recommend it 'ud be a go. Charlie he thought if he seen what an ungrateful feller he was she wouldn't have him neither, so he consented. I didn't see no harm in this, for Susan was as fine a lookin' feller as ever I soltered a plow.

"The mornin' o' the weddin' I helped Susan to get on a white muslin dress, and when the other fixin' was all on she looked lovely. The clock struck the hour for the weddin', the house was chuck full o' the neighbors—I furnished the cake and things—and up drives Charlie in his two-horse wagon, with a suit o' new store clothes on, lookin' fine and manly. I met him at the door and tuk him in to the settin' room, where Susan was a standin' waitin'. Susan blushed a little, and I seen a mighty pleased look come over Charlie's face. But there wasn't no time to get acquainted, for the parson stepped in, and before they knowed it they was married. Then, after the smack set in the dinin' room, Charlie tuk his wife out to the wagon and driv' off, followed by the usual shower o' rice and old sippers.

"Reckon you'll say there isn't nothin' so foolish about this, and I don't know as there would 'a' been if it could 'a' been done without a go-between. 'Yess there's a natural course sich things have to run, just like measles. A wrong treatment o' measles is apt to drive 'em in. In Charlie's and Susan's case the courtin' and the gittin' used to workin' in matrimonial harness was shrewd on 'em all to once. If the courtin' had been done in its proper time the new harness wouldn't 'a' been so hard to get used to.

"It wasn't three days after the weddin' when Susan she come to me all a-shew, and she says, says she, 'Miss Shaw, what'd you do to me up to sich a man as that for?' 'What's the trouble?' says I. 'He never speaks to me as he used to no more'n if I'd come in to be hired help.' 'I don't know nothin' 'bout men,' says I, 'but I warn't tell that they have all sorts o' ways about 'em that don't mean nothin'. If he don't want to talk at breakfast, wait till dinner. Maybe he'll have somethin' to say by that time that's worth hearin'.'

"Well, she went away only half pacified, and pretty soon in comes Charlie, and he wants to know what I had agin him to marry him to a woman who talked all the time at breakfast—just the time of day he felt chipper and liked talkin' himself—and wouldn't give him a chance to get in a word. I told him I was a woman myself and knowed that there was times a woman had to talk and times she had to cry and if he wanted to get one different from this he'd have to get her made to order.

"For months they was a-runnin' to me complainin' because I got 'em into a fix, and I got mighty tired of it.

"One evenin' I got out my mares and driv' over to Charlie's farm. Charlie was a-sittin' on the porch smokin' his cob pipe, and Susan was inside doin' the supper dishes. I sit still in the buggy, with the whip in my hand, for I knowed what I was a-goin' to do, and I thought it 'ud be prudent to be ready to move on sudden.

"'Charlie,' I says, says I, 'I come over to ax your parlin' for tyin' up with a gal that's got one o' the worst tempers I ever hear of.'

"I hadn't hardly got the words out o' my mouth before Susan comes to the door with a plate with a dishcloth and fire in her eye. 'What's that y' say?' she says, mighty hot. 'I says,' says I, 'I've come over a-purpose to tell you, Susan, that I'm mighty sorry for what I done, persuadin' you to marry the worst man in the world to get on with. He's the conserndest.'

"John reached down for the iron scraper beside the steps, but he was too late. Susan slied the plate 'she was wipin' at me, and it went with an inch of my nose. I give the mares a cut with the whip and got out, followed by most o' the movables in the house, Charlie and Susan both a-ridin' at me.

"'Laws a-mercy, what's this?' 'It's a girl. We've named her Arabella Marie after the dear woman who brought us together.'

## WHAT DOES DEATH MEAN?

An Artist Called It "the Chance to Explore the Infinite."

A new definition of death is that by a French artist, who has now tested the truth of his own words. "Death," said he, "is the chance to explore the infinite." The definition is in the same mood as that of the late Charles Frohman as he went down on the Lusitania. It is a bit more definite, however, than "Death is life's most beautiful adventure." It expresses the nature of the adventure.

This French artist, it seems, was enamored of the space idea. He was ever viewing the world as a vessel voyaging. He endeavored with artist vision to visualize the world as rushing through infinitude by other worlds or in a stream of comets, planets, asteroids, suns. And his dream was of lights across the gulfs to Mars, to Venus, outside the solar system, to Sirius and the greater stars. With paint he strove to render what Goethe expresses in the song of the archangels in the opening of "Faust."

All the kinds of us pass over, willing, reluctantly. We have no choice and there are no exemptions. Probably we have no choice concerning what death is to be. Whether it means extinction or confers immortality, whether it is a glorious adventure or usher us into another sordid existence bound by another death, we have no power to determine. We await its coming and its solution, both. We are its victims or its beneficiaries, but we have no power to change its destiny. The bold dreamer welcomes its opportunity. The tired spirit is reconciled to it as rest. Perhaps it will bring to every man his different hope. Let us go to rest.—Minneapolis Journal.

## FIT THE MAN TO THE JOB.

Square Pegs Are Not Made to Go Into Round Holes.

In the American Magazine is an article entitled "Are You a Square Peg in a Round Hole?" by Herman Schneider, dean of the school of engineering at the University of Cincinnati. Dean Schneider has devoted his life to making successes out of failures and to finding the right job for the right man. He believes that failure is seldom more than an indication of the right path to success. Among other things he says: "Every individual has certain general traits; every kind of work has certain general characteristics. The problem is to interpret the traits of the individual, classify the characteristics of the job and then guide the individual into the job for which he is supremely fitted. This is one real employment problem.

"There are very many human characteristics, but there are a few broad and general ones which frequently make for success or failure.

"There is a type of a man who wants to get on the same car every morning get off at the same corner, go to the same shop, ring up at the same clock, stop his lunch in the same locker, go to the same machine and do the same class of work day after day. Another type of man would go crazy under this routine. He wants to move about, meet new people, see and do things. The first is settled; the second is roving. The first might make a good man for a shop manufacturing a standard product; the second might make a good railroad man or a good outdoor carpenter. A failure in one line of work may prove a big success in another."

**United States of America.**  
The assumption of the title "the United States of America" first appears in Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence, and in this particular the first draft was not altered by the congress in ordaining the Declaration. The words are found in the final paragraph and thus appear in the official copy on file: "We there fore, the representatives of the United States of America, in general congress assembled"—On Sept. 9, 1776, the congress first officially designated the new nation by the title and style of the United States of America.

**Sip Hot Water to Relieve Coughing.**  
Persons chronically ill, especially those suffering from consumption, have sudden and wearing attacks of coughing. In an emergency, the Medical Forging says, hot water will often prove very effective. Water is much better than some of the remedies which disorder digestion and spoil the appetite. Water very hot, almost boiling, should be sipped when the paroxysms come on.

**A Hemming Tip.**  
In sewing hems of towels or sheets or muslin, in starting them from the end place a piece of paper under the needle and sew through it for about two inches, then on to the hem. This will prevent the clogging of the thread and needle. Then after tearing off the paper the threads are there for tying the end.

**Height of Hopefulness.**  
He—After I am out of college, darling, I may have to wait a few months before I can make enough to support you. She—It is so hard to wait. He (bravely)—I know it. But of course you know the world doesn't know anything about me yet.—Exchange.

**Ambiguous.**  
"How are you, old man? Feeling pretty strong?"  
"No, only just managing to keep out of the grave."  
"Oh, I'm sorry to hear that!"

Reason, prudence, caution, courage, justice, co-operation and conciliation are requisites to economic growth and strength.—Elbert H. Gary.

## There Are...

During his visit to the United States General Joffre was hunted through skyscrapers, flung from New York to Chicago on a fast train and in general taken care of with the breathless assiduity which characterizes American hospitality.

On the eve of his departure for Montreal he was asked by a reporter to state freely and frankly which one of our national characteristics had most impressed him during his stay.

"Well, since you put it that way," replied Joffre, "I have been chiefly impressed by your blunt outspokenness and, if I may venture to say so, your lack of respect to your superiors."

"Our superiors!" exclaimed the reporter in blank amazement. "But we haven't any!"

"And," remarked Joffre in telling the story, "after making acquaintance with their wonderful country and its still more wonderful inhabitants I have come to the conclusion that what that reporter said was about right."

**The Mighty Amazon.**  
The Amazon, which flows through Brazil from west to east, is the mightiest river in the world. It rises in the Andes, and its course to the Atlantic is over 4,000 miles. It has more than 1,100 tributaries, the chief being the Madeira, which is 1,800 miles long, and the Rio Negro, 1,350 miles long. The extent of the waters of this majestic river is the largest in the world, over 30,000 miles of its surface being of a navigable nature. It drains nearly 3,000,000 square miles of territory. There are something like 1,200 different kinds of birds which are exclusive to the valleys of this wonderful river and thousands of varieties of animal life which are unknown in any other part of the world. The soil of the basin of the Amazon is so rich that for every bushel of maize planted it is estimated that 800 can be harvested.

**Tone Quality in Music.**  
Tone quality is a great factor in music. Vibrations in their multiples and relations determine tone. Various instruments vary in tone quality just as does the human voice. A bell, once cast, remains the same in tone, sonorous or clear, to the end of its usefulness. A violin is more than a bell, and on fine violins the most subtle nuances of tone quality can be produced. The higher the harmonics, or overtones, the more elaborate and delicate the combinations the more exquisite the tone quality of the instrument.

The human voice is greatest in tone quality, excelling the instrument, because the singer's harmonics are based not alone upon physical proportions, but also upon the heart and soul of the individual.—Exchange.

**Coveted Feathers.**  
Mamo is the name of a beautiful bird of the Hawaiian Islands, now believed to be extinct, having been destroyed for the sake of its golden yellow feathers, used in former days to decorate the state robes of chiefs.

The coveted feathers of the mamo bird were a small tuft about an inch long beneath each wing. The royal cloak of the Hawaiian King Kamehameha I, made of these rare feathers, was four feet long and eleven and a half feet wide at the bottom. This cloak of mamo tufts is said to have been buried with one of the later Hawaiian kings. The plumage of the mamo was generally black, excepting the lower back and parts of the wings, which were yellow.

**Tropical Rains.**  
Tropical rains are of relatively short duration by reason of the small number of cyclonic storms in the tropics, and this duration is fairly uniform throughout the year.

The heaviest general rainfalls in Porto Rico are associated with West Indian hurricanes. The historic hurricane of Aug. 8, 1890, precipitated rainfall equivalent to 1,113 tons per acre.

**Crossed Eyes.**  
Squint is caused by an unequal action of the muscles of the eyeball. If the muscles which move the eyeball outward are shorter than those which move it inward, divergent squint results. If the internal muscles are the stronger the result is convergent squint.

**Just Like the Boy.**  
"Errand boys are very scarce. I can furnish you with an office girl."  
"These innovations disturb me. I can't get used to 'em."  
"You won't notice the difference. This girl can whistle."—Pittsburgh Post.

**PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.**

**Remedies For Sourwy.**  
The juices of fruit—oranges, lemons, prunes are well known remedies for sourwy, but it has been found that the white potato has proved just as useful. For young children a small portion of the potato is required, one tablespoonful of mashed potato to one pint of water and added to twenty-four ounces of milk instead of the usual cereals. Care must be taken to pare the potato very thin. An average sized potato (balled) will provide the amount needed. The vitamins may be retained by adding the mashed potato to the water in which it was boiled. This is a very simple and easy cure and one which a child will willingly take without objecting.

## A Marital Preparation

By SADIE OLCOTT

"Harry," said Bess, "I've been thinking what an awful thing it is for a girl to trust her whole future to a man not knowing whether he's going to make a good husband or a horrid one. I've a good mind to break our engagement."

"Strange, isn't it? I was thinking the same thing about a man's tying himself up for life to a woman. My uncle says a man runs an awful risk when he marries."

"How should he know? He's never been married."

"I've no doubt that your aunt, who is an elderly maiden, put all this distrust into your head. I've often heard her say she wouldn't marry the best man in the world."

"Aunt Martha has a very clear idea of men's faults."

"So has my Uncle Jim of women's shortcomings. But, as I said a moment ago, I've been thinking myself that it's like taking a cold plunge to be married. If you think you don't care to risk it perhaps we'd better break it off."

She pouted at this and bent her eyes down on a locket she was toying with.

"Uncle Jim says," he continued, "that marriage is all very well so long as the spooling lasts, but just as soon as a couple come down to the real thing the girl discovers that she hasn't got exactly what she wanted, or the fellow finds he's made a bull, or both do, and the fracas begins. Now, suppose we stop spooling and treat each other in that friendly way married people do. We'd find out the cause of future dissatisfaction and could make up our minds with deliberation whether we'd better risk it or not."

"That's a good idea. When shall we begin—now?"

"No; the next time we meet."

He didn't care to begin now, because it was only 11 o'clock at night and he was quite sure he would wish to spoon with her till 2, when they made preparations for parting, which required half an hour more, and finally succeeded in dragging themselves away from each other at 3. They were to begin their humdrum matrimonial treatment at their next meeting, and in order to be well prepared he was not to call again for three days. When the time was up he had nerved himself to act like a man who had been married ten years.

He gave her a perfunctory kiss and, throwing himself into an easy chair, asked if anything new had turned up since he saw her last. She gave him a scornful glance, made no reply and, taking a seat in another part of the room, took up a book she had been reading.

He yawned and, taking a cigarette from a box, lit it, leaned back and smoked. There was a long silence. It was only a few minutes, but it seemed long.

"Been to your aunt's today?" he asked.

"No. Is your uncle well?"

"Very."

Another silence, during which he took up a magazine from a table, turned over the leaves and threw it down.

"Been a big storm lately?"

"Not that I know of. Why do you ask?"

"Oh, I see a picture of a capsized ship in the book you're reading."

This called her attention to the inverted position of the volume, and she reversed it. There was no sound except the turning of its leaves, which occurred so rapidly that she must have been capable of reading a page every ten seconds. Finally he said, with a yawn:

"I shall have to go to bed early to-night. I've been up till late for several nights."

"I'm sorry you must go early."

He took out his watch. It was a quarter to 9. "I think I'll go now," he said. "I'll drop into the club for a few minutes before I go to my room."

"Good night."

Since he had not risen this was somewhat unexpected. He arose with a scowl on his brow and, without saying a word of adieu, strode to the closet in the hall and was hunting for his hat and cane when he heard a sob directly behind him. She was there holding her handkerchief to her eyes. He clasped her in his arms, and her head fell on his shoulder. There was an impressive silence for some moments, which he broke.

"I don't believe this test plan is at all necessary."

"I—don't—think so."

"I'm sure there are no disagreeable features about you that would cause me to wish myself unmarried."

"You won't treat me badly, will you, Harry, dear?"

"No."

The promise was sealed with a kiss.

"Must you go so early?"

"By no means. Now that we have proved that we love each other there's no possibility of our being dissatisfied with each other after marriage."

He was not so sleepy as he had supposed. At any rate, it was half past 3 in the morning when he took his departure.

He has now been married ten years, and he wonders what they said to each other between 8 p. m. and 3 a. m. during their sittings when they were engaged.

## How the World is Fed

A study of how the world is fed reveals many interesting facts. Australia, the smallest continent, for instance, is the largest meat center of the world. Asia, largest continent, on the other hand, is the smallest meat center among them. Africa and South America lean toward vegetarianism, while Europe and North America are large consumers of meat and other animal products. Taking the world's supply of cattle, hogs and sheep, writes Harold J. Shepstone in the Millgate Monthly, it appears that mankind at large uses in the neighborhood of 20,000,000 tons of meat a year. This would be an average of about thirty-five pounds per capita throughout the world. In butcher's meat we find the Australian consumes 102 pounds, the American 172 pounds, the Englishman 110 pounds, the German 113 pounds, the Frenchman and Belgian eighty pounds, the Russian fifty pounds.—Manchester Guardian.

## Activity of the Tongue

Nobody's tongue is still for a moment at all events, in waking hours. The tongue is the most incessantly active of all the body's members.

We think of the tongue as an organ of speech, but it is also an organ of feeling. When one eats it is constantly feeling about in the mouth and deciding out of its own "mind" what particles of food are small enough or too big to swallow.

Yes, indeed, the tongue has a kind of its own—its own—its own—its own—that is busy at all times in regulating the supply of food to the stomach. But for its incessant guardianship we should suffer much oftener than we do from the distresses of indigestion.

We think of the finger ends as our most sensitive organs of feeling. They are not such at all. The end of the tongue is incomparably more delicate and discriminating.—Philadelphia Ledger.

## Invisible Envelopes

The ordinary envelope with which the flaps of envelopes are gummed is composed of gum arabic or dextrine and is only too amenable to the persuasive powers of moisture or "steaming" in the hands of the unscrupulous. Persons who wish to guard their inclosures, whether emotional or financial, against such pilfering can seal their letters by a method referred to in the *Annales des Telegraphes*. This consists in applying whiffs of egg to the flap of an ungrammed envelope, then before it has time to dry of itself sealing it by passing a hot iron over it. If the temperature of the latter is from 90 degrees to 100 degrees C. the albumen will be coagulated and the two surfaces of the paper will be sealily united and water tight.

## Watch For Your Chances

"Every young man has chances coming his way constantly; it is not a question of having chances, but of recognizing chances when they come," says President Bedford of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. "You sometimes hear a fellow say, 'I had a chance once, but didn't take it.' Never mind the chance that is past; watch out for the next one and qualify to be able to seize it."

"Success that is worth while is, after all, very largely a matter of plain, everyday morality combined with tremendous industry and a deserved reputation for integrity and for fairness toward the other fellow."—B. C. Forbes in *Leslie's*.

## Japan's New Naval Base

Japan's purchase from Portugal of the little island of Macao, at the mouth of the Canton river, near Hongkong, has given Japan a strong naval base, such as Gibraltar gives to Great Britain and Heligoland gives to Germany. It can be used to menace any European power that tries to thwart the ambitions of Japan in China.

## Mint

Mint occurs only in Matthew xlii, 26, and Luke xi, 42, as one of those herbs the tithes of which the Jews were scrupulously exact in paying. The horse mint is common in Syria.

## Not Identical

"Time is money," remarked the proverbialist.

"And yet the man with millions is the one who seldom seems to have five minutes to spare."—Washington Star.

## Thanksgiving Surprise

THE most un-American Thanksgiving I ever spent was in a French hotel ten years ago," says a woman contributor to the *New York Globe*. "The proprietor was a friendly old soul and liberal to a fault. He not only invited all the guests in the house to dinner, but he sent invitations to ex-guests as well. 'One family who had spent the previous winter with him had gone home to America, leaving their daughter at school. Old M. Blanc sent an invitation to the school, and the daughter, Americaine and a governess came to Paris and spent the day at the hotel. 'I had a country house near Paris then, but M. Blanc did not forget me either. So I went into Paris, taking my two girls with me. The hotel was a small one, but well known, and it was a rendezvous for many interesting Americans. The tables were decorated with holly and mistletoe.

"M. Blanc in his ardent had raised up our American fives. He moved about smiling mysteriously and whispering to questioners that he had a surprise in store for us—a dessert which would make us all feel as if we were not in Paris at all, but back in that favored 'chou vous' (at home) where we had come.

"There was much laughing and merriment, and we drank M. Blanc's health in his best wine as a mark of appreciation. His waiter soon appeared tottering beneath the weight of a huge plum pudding wreathed in holly and bearing an American and a French flag.

"Of course we heaped him with praise. He beamed and beamed, poured brandy over his chef d'oeuvre and lighted it, served it himself and said to each person as they thanked him: 'Dieu! I not tell you you would like this choux you? It is good and hot. Your national dish! Will you have some more, sire?'

## Thanksgiving and "Thanksgiving"

To sing a song of thanks to God in inspiring to live a life of service with your brother is improving the world. Were we less idealistic we should view with fine satisfaction the sight of men and women differing in their religious beliefs, yet joining together in thanking God. What we plead for is not a yearly Thanksgiving to God, but a daily thanksgiving with God. Our aim is not constant to see men just together once a year, banishing prejudice and hatred, but to behold them at work together every day in the year, absolutely forgetting religious differences, ignoring theological doctrines, and judging a man by his conduct, not prejudging him by his creed or race. The celebration of this day is highly to be commended. It stands as the highest expression of present day religious observation, yet its true worth is only achieved when we carry into the entire year what the day symbolizes to us all. Thanksgiving is praiseworthy, but thanksgiving is divine.—Rev. Dr. Joseph I. Coffey, Pittsburgh.

## Causes For Gratitude

If over we are tempted to say that, though others have much to be thankful for, our lives are hard and our paths are thorny let us stop a moment and see by what standard we are measuring our blessings. If we look at a cripple plodding along with crutches we cannot help being thankful that we have feet which serve us so well and that we can walk and run without so much as considering that effort. When the rain beats on the roof at night we may be thankful for the house that shelters us. When the doctor calls next door to see an invalid who is tossing with fever we may be thankful that we are well. If there are flowers on the doormat across the street we may be thankful that there are no vacant chairs in our home.—Margaret M. Sappeler.

## BRINGING IN THE BIRD



**PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.**

**Worry in Sickness.**  
When an animal is sick it does not worry about it nor about the outcome. Its mental attitude does not hinder nature's healing processes. It goes into the sunshine, takes the rest cure and stops eating and recovers. But if we have rheumatism in one joint we expect other joints to become affected. We worry about it. It is, of course, well established that the right mental attitude assists in cure, and it is equally important to understand that the wrong mental attitude hinders health restoration. Reason, imagination and will power are big factors in the restoration and maintenance of health. Every one should know the laws of suggestion and apply them in relation to health. Discover what habits of living—exercise, breathing, diet, mental habits especially—are conducive to health, live hygienically and expect health, happiness and success. The right mental attitude is vitally important.