

HUNTING CULTURE

By FAY HAROLD.

Her name was Mary Ann, spelled Merian. She hated to be ordered about like a child; hated gingham aprons, lacy blouses and gloves. But, most of all, she hated to see her father put his stockings into the wash, yawning kitchen oven. She hated the country and everything vulgar. "It ain't fair," she said stormily to her patient mother. "I want to leave this place. Can't I go to the city? Can't I? Why do you keep me here? You don't love me; you hate me!" She demanded her rights hysterically. "The life on the farm was stifling her. She wanted culture in her surroundings. She was thwarted, denied, here. What was there to see on a farm? "Wait a few years," said Ma Todd soothingly. "Your father will send the farm. He'll be too old to run it, and you'll never take any interest in it. "Y-ats!" wailed Merian. "A few years! I'll die! I want a career!" "My land!" said Pa Todd, pulling his feet from the oven. "What is it now? We've sent her to school, she's taking three correspondence courses in some 'ologies' or other. Career, is it? Your career is right here, helping me!" "But I'm stifled!" cried Merian. "I want to write plays!" "Write 'em!" said Pa. "Start right now if you want to!" There then was another storm in the Todd kitchen. "I always wanted to hear a Symphonie concert and that Bunker Hill monument myself," said Ma, wiping her eyes on her sleeve in the way that worried sensitive Merian. "I guess the longing is born in you. As far as I'm concerned, you can go to Boston for the winter." She shut her mouth firmly and went out to the back porch. "Now, pa," said Merian gloomily, "I hope you'll see New York—its big, big!" "If your ma says you can go that fixes it, and you know it. Boston is big enough for you, I guess. Later on, Ma Todd wept abundantly, and Pa Todd wore a most serious expression; but Merian held them to their promise and prepared for the city. That Pa and Ma Todd were homesick they never admitted. Merian's letters were crawling out scanty notes that told nothing of her career. Ma was for going after her, but Pa restrained her. Suddenly she heard Pa hollering and saw the waving of his hat. She knew at once Merian was coming home. She sprang to her feet, rushed down the road and drew the girl into her arms. "I've done something awful," said Merian after the kissing and weeping was over. "I hope you'll forgive me. I've failed and I— "We expected that," said Pa. "And I want to come home to live." "And where else would you live?" asked Ma. "But I want to bring him with me. You'll like him. I'm married. He knows everything—he's behind the fence." "Ma and pa stood staring at the new husband. "Well, come in," said Ma practically. "I'll get supper." "I'll get it," said Merian firmly. "I've been fussing a kitchenette six months. Ain't this grand, Charlie?" "I'll say it is," agreed the new husband. "Classy here. Some life." Pa and Ma started. Merian in her search for culture had found this! "Did you climb Bunker Hill?" asked Ma quickly. "No," said Merian. "I had no time. It ain't in Boston anyway." "Oh—," said Ma in disappointment. "Did you hear the orchestra?" "I forgot. Charlie, you never took me." "See not," answered Charlie, taking off his coat. "Not for me." "But, dearie," went on Ma determinedly, "didn't you see the North Church or the burying grounds or nothing?" "What we want to sit round burying grounds for?" scoffed Charlie. "Where's your plan and your culture and everything? I sent you for! What have you seen?" asked Pa. "She's seen everything all right," said Charlie proudly. "I showed her about, don't worry. She's been in every cabaret and movie in town. She'll settle down now. The country life is the life when you're ready for it. We are. What time do I get up here, pop?" "Four a. m.," said Pa shortly. "I'm game," said Charlie. "Mary Ann, hustle the cats. A farmer's life for me—tra-la-la!" "He orders me round as though I was a little kid. Ain't he wonderful?" giggled Merian. "He's up-to-date. He can hustle for you, pa, and I'll hustle for ma and we'll all be happy together like you always wanted." "But, dearie," protested Ma softly, "what about the highbrows, the Art Museum, the concerts and Bunker Hill? You ain't seen nothing." "I've had one grand good time. But I'm 20 pounds thinner, ma. Dancing ain't it?" "This is a rat," said Pa, "and haven't learned a thing as I can see. Where's the Culture—what you got to show for it all?—nothing!" "Why, pa," said Merian in amazement, "you forget I got Charlie!"

PLUMBER BOUGHT A COROT

And Art Deal Which Family Condemned Netted a Profit of \$71,000 for His Estate.

It would seem that the plumber's capacity for making money is not necessarily confined to his business. William B. McCormick, writing in Arts and Decoration, tells of one with nothing except his instinct to guide him who bought a superb Corot that enriched his estate by many thousands of dollars. During the exhibition of a famous collection of art objects in New York twenty-five years ago, the attendant in the gallery where the collection was shown noticed an unassuming and not very well-dressed man spending a considerable time each day in front of Corot's "Lake Nemi." One of the pictures in the collection, the painting depicts a woman in a well-known, in the picture buying world. It appeared later that he had bought the picture and there was a family row over the matter. But he stuck to his plan and on the night the canvas came up for sale it was knocked down to him for \$14,000. As long as he lived his family never forgave him for his extravagance. But they were forced to change their opinion of his action for when the painting was sold after his death it brought \$85,000. A single investment of this man's life-time earnings brought him a profit of \$71,000.

FURS ARE FAVORED

Peltry Promises to Be More Luxurious Than Ever Before.

Extraordinary Large Collars Are Striking Feature; Gorgeous Linings of Costly Materials.

Those who know say the furs of the coming season will be more luxurious than ever before. Especially costly and attractive are the new coats. Of these the extraordinary large collars are a striking feature. One of the smartest coats shows a deep shawl collar and panels in front and back, which are drawn together and held in place at the sides by means of cords and tassels of fur. Many of the coats show linings at least gorgeous as their exteriors. The linings are made of costly satins and brocades and trimmed with elaborate hand embroidery. In some cases the embroidery is used as a border



Muskrat Coat With Large Collar.

around the bottom of the coat; in others single flowers, among which pansies are favorites, are scattered over the entire lining. Many dyed furs, such as skunk and squirrel are being used. Seal and ermine are also very popular.

USE OF BRAID AS TRIMMING

Embellishment May Be Effectively Applied on Skirt, Jacket and Chemise Dress.

So much has been said of trimmings that it might appear that the designer's imagination had been taxed to the utmost but there are new things appearing each week. In the way of using braids along the developments are most interesting. A novel way of applying braid as a trimming is seen in the use of six strips sewn together and applied lengthwise in groups of three at the sides of the skirt, giving somewhat the appearance of plaits. Again, the skirt and jacket of a very smart blue serge suit show five very small gores, each edged with black braid let in at either side of the hip. Then there are chemise dresses braided in conventional designs from the waistline to the hem. A striking effect is obtained by trimming a black cloth dress of this type with flat white braid. A frock of tobacco brown duvetyn has a cape back cut in one with the sleeves. A most unusual trimming appears on this cape in the form of two-inch bands of cutout embroidery, through which the cape lining of crepe georgette shows. The cutout embroidery appears again down the sides of the skirt.

CLOTHES THAT KIDDIES LIKE

Youngsters Appreciate Having Garments Decorated With Pictures That Appeal to Them.

Of course, when one is only six, one hasn't a very elaborate vocabulary to use in expressing one's love for clothes whose trimmings are really interesting. The only thing to do is to insist every time mother dresses one that one wear the frock with the elephant, pig, flowernot or what not on it. And that is just what the kiddies do. They like their clothes to express all trimming propensities in the form of pictures with which they are familiar, and they don't hesitate to say so. Mothers can sensibly gratify this desire on the part of their children by using only decorative "pictures" for frocks, reserving animals for play-clothes, bibs, aprons (at least this will be a clever way to make the youngsters like the traditionally hated apron and bib) and then not spending more time upon either the embroidery or applique, as the case may be, than is fitting for the importance of the garment.

CYCLES OF LIFE AND DEATH

Interesting Speculation Concerning Possible Composition of Corporeal Atoms of the Body.

Did you know that perhaps somewhere in your body is a bit of Julius Caesar, or perhaps King Solomon, John Phil. scientist, in his "Seven Follies of Science," says: "From birth to death we have been continually borrowing, continually paying back. Part of our physical organization may have come from the fruit of the tropics part from the mosses of the frozen North. We may hold in our bones, muscles and brains materials which once formed parts of sheep, wolves, and in all the millions of years during which composition and decomposition of organic matter has gone on, it is quite probable that some portion of our physical system may have formed part of the material organization of thousands of other animals, men included. The molecule may have in its body atoms which once formed part of Homer, of Plato and of Archimedes. In the frame of the beggar may be built material which once formed part of Solomon, and some atoms which enabled Alexander or Bruce to achieve their fame may now form part of the body of a leper. Even among the corporeal atoms which now make up our own bodies may be particles which helped to incarnate the person of Jesus Christ, or which lent physical energy to the burning eloquence of St. Paul. Organic life has gone on unceasingly for untold ages in ever-repeating cycles. We cannot move a muscle, or give way to an emotion, or even think a thought without burning up some part of our corporeal frame, and the used up material is specially elevated and then transformed into the clothing of a new life."

HOW DO YOU SAY IT?

By C. N. Lurie

Common Errors in English and How to Avoid Them

"AIN'T." IN THESE articles, some of the more common errors in speech and writing are pointed out. Careful study of these short lessons, with the use of a standard grammar, will assist the reader in acquiring the habit of speaking and writing correctly. One of the most common errors is the use of "ain't." This word is a combination of the verb "am" and the adverb "not," or of the verb "are" and the adverb "not." Very many persons say "he ain't," "she ain't" or "I ain't," but few, if any, of them would say "he ain't" or "he are not." Indeed, while the use of "ain't" with "I" or "we" or "you" or "they" or plural nouns is strictly speaking, grammatically correct, the use of "ain't" is certainly inelegant and is condemned by many authorities on English grammar. It should disappear altogether from the language, in spite of its long history. Correct usage is: "I am not" or "I'm not"; "he, she or it is not, or isn't"; "we, you, they are not." Working delegates usually ride at the expense of others. The harder a man labors the less time he has to whine. Lucky is the woman who can tell a lie when she hears it. Styles sometimes make a handsome woman look otherwise.

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HAD A DEGREE OF MERCY

Executioners of Chinese Robber, Sentenced to Be Buried Alive, Shortened His Agony.

A correspondent in China sends the following: In Ho Lok, a little village just north of Canton, there lived one Tsao Ah Sun. There was a crowd of people that he had stolen many years before to be buried. The only way to get rid of the body was to bury it in a hole. Tsao Ah Sun stole his last ox a month or two ago, and when the ox and ox cart went out he led to the hole. He was caught and led to the hole. He had not finished his preparations to be buried alive in his neighborhood. He was found guilty and given the maximum penalty, namely, to be buried alive. On the day of execution the village watchmen beat the gongs and all the young men of the village gathered around a rectangular hole eight feet deep. Before Tsao Ah Sun was invited to make his resting place in the hole he was feasted with wine and meat while the others performed sacrifices for the benefit of his soul. The rite being ended two watchmen lowered Tsao Ah Sun into the hole, head downward, and while all the young men and spectators shouted the watchmen of another village shot at the convict with a machine gun loaded with shot which pierced the body of the victim in numerous places.

NO OLD MAIDS IN BABYLON

Ancient City Had a System Which Assured the Marriage of All the Females.

The first known auctions of the world were held in Babylon many centuries before Christ. The auctions auctioned consisted of all the virgins in the city and the sale was held once a year. On the day selected the girls were brought to the market place and were ordered to remove their garments. All the young men of the city were also gathered and the maidens, one by one, were led to a block where the youth of the city could inspect them. The beautiful girls were sold first and every effort made to get as much as possible for their charms. The young men of those days were not eager to win the fairest maid possible by bidding as men of a later age were to win them by brave deeds or plaudits. As a result fortunes were in the hands of the auctioneer by the time the homely girls were reached. This fortune was then divided up and the auctioneer took a new life. The homeliest girl was given the largest part of the money collected from beauty and many a poor man found himself with a very homely wife but a comfortable start in business. The system at least did away with old maids and bachelors and insured a steady growth of population and few dependents on the state.

When Diners Ate Their Plates.

The word fritter, which with cooler weather will become popular once more, originates from an old French word meaning to fry, which comes from the Latin past participle of the verb frigere, to freeze.

Similarly, fressasse takes its name from the same Latin verb or from the French "fresser," meaning to break into pieces, or, as some experts believe, from the Latin "frescare," to rub. Any meat fried in a pan is fressasse, according to French culinary definition.

Another word of French and Latin birth is tart. Tart is a culinary corruption of the word "tourte" (French), derived from "tortine," a slice of bread. This comes from the Latin "torquus," to twist, hence the word "tort" means a twist or roll of bread. In the middle ages there was a deficiency in plates, and so for a substitute, an undercrust of bread served as a plate. For a long time in France this undercrust of the "tourte" or "tartine" was the most common of plates. After everything had been served diners ate even their "plates."

In these dinner plates, made of dinner rolls, came to be prepared specially and developed into a cake-like batter, which was filled with dairy food. And so they were called tarts and tartlets, and were served as a distinct dish—Gas Logic.

Stradivarius Violins.

Stradivarius was born in 1644 and died in 1737. He worked until he was over 90 years of age and turned out a large number of violins and violoncellos. Altogether it has been estimated that about one thousand violins are attributed to him and about three hundred other instruments, among them different kinds of viols, some bass viols and also some lutes, guitars and mandorras, very exquisitely wrought. Eugene Ysaye and Jan Kubelik are both the owners of genuine Stradivarius violins. The label in a genuine instrument is supposed to have been made of paper.

Two Views.

"We'll never get rich if you keep on spending all I make." "That's true, and we'll never get rich if you don't hustle a bit and try to make a little more than I can spend."

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