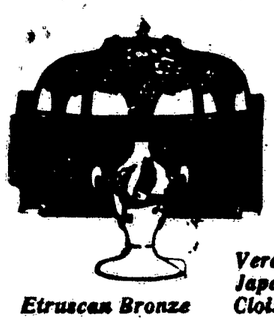

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VAIN LITTLE CRICKET.

ONE night a little Cricket was singing loudly when a Toad which had been dozing by the trunk of a tree said: "Oh, do be quiet! I never heard such a noi e as you and your family make."

"Very true," replied the little creature, "for our family are, of course, the best singers in the world. We can make a great noise, as you have said."

"But that does not make you the best singers in the world," replied the Toad. "Did you never hear the birds singing in the trees, silly creature?"

"Why should I listen to the birds when I can sing better than they do?"

asked the Cricket. "Just listen now. Our family are tuning up and I am sure birds could not sing louder."

"If you would take the trouble to listen some time when the birds are singing in the daytime I am sure you would not be so vain," said the Toad.

"Ah, there you are!" exclaimed the Cricket. "In the daytime you say; why do the birds not sing at night. I ask you, my friend? I will tell you; because they dare not compare voices with my family; that is why. We can outsing them and they do not wish to let everyone know that the Crickets have the best voices."

"If you would come out in the daytime and sing," said the Toad, "I am sure you would have to agree with me that the birds can sing louder and more sweetly than your family. I think you are the ones who are afraid to have a contest, not the birds."

"Not at all," said the Cricket, "but why should we come out in the sunlight when we much prefer the nighttime to be abroad? We know that our family sings better than any other in the world. Let the birds, if they doubt this, come out at night and sing with us."

"You are a silly and conceited little creature," said the Toad, hopping away, for it was almost daylight by this time.

"You awoke me from my morning nap with your silly chirping," said a big Robin flying down from his home in the branches of the tree.

"And so you think your family can outsing mine, do you? Well, there will be one less at any rate tonight to help your family sing, friend Cricket, and I believe my children would enjoy you for breakfast."

"You see, Mr. Toad, it is just as I told you," chirped the vain Cricket, as the Robin flew up in the tree with him in his bill, "the birds are jealous of our voices, for this fellow is taking me to his children that they may have their voice improved by eating one of the finest singers in the world."

The Robin thought this so funny he had to laugh, and when he opened his mouth down fell the Cricket to the ground and quickly hopped away.

But he gave one last chirp as he went. "The very best singers in the world, the very best," he said, as he crawled out of sight.

"Well," said the Toad, who had stopped to see what happened, "I suppose if he thinks so it really does not matter what others think."

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HOW

DEATH VALLEY VOYAGERS HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES.—Death valley has a reputation for destroying the hopes of man largely because man is by nature a selfish being, according to John Stanton of Boise City, Okla., who claims that most of the human beings who perish in that arid tract of territory owe their destruction to the individuals who go before them.

"Death valley presents a picture of the two sides of human nature," said Mr. Stanton. "It shows on one side the good, the beautiful and the true, while on the other hand it depicts the most despicable trait in humanity—selfishness. For instance, one of the reasons why most of the voyagers in Death valley come to grief is because they cannot find water holes. There are men who know where these water holes are—men who have discovered them and men who erect signs to point the way to them. But after these real human beings have gone to all the trouble of erecting the signs, putting directions on them as best they can, the selfish travelers come along and, needing the signs for firewood, destroy them.

"Just for the satisfaction of a moment, the utility that comes from a kindling fire which could be built with a little more effort if the parties were to search for the firewood without using the guideposts, some people jeopardize the lives of those who follow them. That is the story of Death valley. The place has many tragedies to its record, but one-half if not more of them could have been averted if human nature had kept itself in control; if selfishness were not such a strong trait. Death valley isn't half so dangerous to mankind as these men."

GOT ITS NAME FROM STREAM

How New York's Famous "Maiden Lane" Received Nomenclature That Is World Famous.

Maiden lane, the home of the jewelry and diamond business in New York, and known over the world for that fact, received its name before it was a street. It took it from a very pretty little stream that ran across that part of the city. It was the custom in that day, before the time of wringers and washing machines, for the young women to do the family washing.

The clothes were carried here and the day spent in cleansing them in what is described as a rippling brook. Some of the men who have dug into New York's early history profess to have discovered that it was also a place where the young men of the time repaired, being pretty certain of getting a chance to talk with the girls.

The stream was outside the city as it existed at that time, most of it being behind the big wooden wall that Peter Stuyvesant had built, so that in order to get to Maiden lane it was necessary to go out through the gate with the family wash. There is nothing to show that Monday was then the popular washday with families, as it is now and was later. But it is likely the Dutch began to get things to rights early in the week, and it probably was Monday that saw the greatest gathering of maidens along the little stream, washing and rinsing clothes.

How We Got Word "Fluke."

The word "fluke" traces its direct ancestry to the Anglo-Saxon word "floc," which is first cousin to the Icelandic "flokk." There are several kinds of flukes. There is the fish commonly designated in high priced restaurants as "filet of sole." There is the broad portion of an anchor, the part that does the business of digging into the mud and holding the boat. And there is the happy chance by which a player wins a game.

There is so strong a resemblance in shape between the business end of an anchor and the fish called a fluke that the application of the word to the anchor is perfectly logical.

There is also so strong a resemblance between the awkwardness of the fish called a fluke and the awkwardness of a player who makes a billiard shot by an accident, that such a shot can quite appropriately be described as a "fluke."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

How Word "Hussy" Came.

Did it ever occur to you that there is no reproach necessarily implied in the use of the word "hussy?" Well, there isn't, on the authority of the dictionary.

"Hussy" is a corruption of "huswife," an abbreviation corresponding to the word "hubby" for husband. Huswife, in its turn, is another form of housewife.

Of course the corruption or abbreviation of "housewife" originally carried the meaning of endearment or familiar appellation.

But the word has traveled a long way and it has traveled downward—in the course of the centuries. So in its modern meaning, actual or implied—the word "hussy" is not recommended for use, even under provocation.

For "hussy," as now used, means "a pert, forward girl; a jade; a jilt." So there you are.—Milwaukee Journal.

WHY

Fear Is Chief Obstacle to Progress of Mankind

J. S. Knox of Cleveland, lecturer and writer on personal efficiency, in discussing salesmanship recently, declared:

"You have just three things to offer to the world—brains, character and muscle. Which are you going to offer? If you offer brains, you are a 'chin-upper.' If you offer nothing but muscle, you are a 'chin-downer.' What can you sell for a price—your best, your second best, or your worst? Brains come high, but unless you have something better to offer than mere brains you are headed straight for the penitentiary. Character, in combination with brains, correctly trained, is the best-paid product in the world."

"What do you regard as the chief obstacle to success?" he was asked.

"Fear!" he exclaimed emphatically. "Fear and ignorance. Fear is the great foe of the race. It robs us of the best there is in life. If we submit to fear, it will hold us down in poverty, misery, despair.

"Knowledge is the antidote for fear, as surely as light is the antidote for darkness. Courage and self-confidence are the results of knowledge. Success is not so much a matter of brain as it is of getting the right facts and learning how to use them. There is no such thing in life as an opportunity for any man unless he is ready for it. You can create opportunities by developing your native powers, by gathering practical information and ideas.

"America's greatest tragedy and greatest loss is due to lack of education. If a man doubled the use of his brain power the world would be tremendously benefited, as well as the man himself. The great American desert is not located west of the Mississippi river, but under the hat of the average man, because he uses only a small percentage of his native talent."—Leslie's.

TASK IS BEYOND SCIENTISTS

Why It Is Improbable That Mankind Will Ever Be Able to See a Molecule.

Shall we ever be able to get a microscope so powerful that it will show us a molecule? Science believes not. While the ultra-microscope enables us to detect an object as small as a five-millionth part of an inch in diameter—that is, the 25-million-millionth of a square inch—a molecule of hydrogen is only one-thirtieth of this.

The principle of the ultra-microscope is simply that, instead of directing a powerful beam of light into the microscope through the liquid to be examined, it is sent horizontally into the liquid at right angles to the line of vision—from the side. Then, if the liquid is optically empty—if it has no floating particles—there is nothing to reflect the light, and the field of vision appears quite dark.

If, on the other hand, tiny particles are present in the liquid, the light is reflected, and the minute points of light stand out against the dark background, making the particles visible.

Why Fatigue Is Dangerous.

For fatigue can be quite a dangerous and costly luxury where many workers are employed. It is found that it bears quite pointedly on the rate of production, and hence its cost, and on the accident and illness curves and on many other elements that enter into industrial efficiency.

Surprising variations in the fatigue caused by different kinds of work and among workers in the same kind of employment have been found.

In lathe machine work operations in a munition factory it was found the average fall of strength from morning until knocking off time was 28.67 per cent. The average for other work in the same factory was as low as 24.52 per cent. There was much wider variation among individuals.—Milwaukee Journal.

Why Newfoundland Is Important.

One importance of Newfoundland is its geographical position. St. John's, the chief port and capital of the country, is 1,000 miles nearer England than is New York. In fact, it is only 1,466 miles from the coast of Ireland, so greatly does the Atlantic shrink off the coast of Newfoundland. That is why this unique country has had the distinction of receiving the first trans-Atlantic wireless message at St. John's in 1901; and also why the first nonstop trans-Atlantic airplane flight started from the same vicinity. The Cape Race light is the first greeting from America to ships on the northern route from Europe, and it is the last to flash godspeed to east-bound vessels. Newfoundland is verily the stepping stone between America and Europe.—World's Work.

Why Cultivation Is Imperative.

A scientific reason for the value of cultivation or tilth in agriculture has been suggested by an interesting capillary phenomenon reported in Germany. A block of plaster of paris or other porous material was moistened with salt solution, and on drying it was found that evaporation withdrew the salt, depositing it at the surface. Hoeing or stirring the soil facilitates evaporation by exposing a greater total surface. Jerome Alexander, in Science, concludes that the rising of the subsurface water brings to roots soluble substances serving as plant food, and that the capillary rise of water also explains the curious fact that cultivation in dry weather tends to furnish moisture to the growing crop.

PELTRY HAS CALL

Fur to Adorn Suits and Coats as Collars, Cuffs, Borders.

Tricotine Suits for Early Wear With Moussyne and Duvet de Laine for Winter.

Fabrics which have found especial favor for the fall season are represented in the collection of suits and coats now being shown. For early wear tricotine is a medium used to fashion suits, with moussyne and duvet de laine for colder weather. Coats evidence a liking for panvelaine, moussyne and bolivia. Fur is used to advantage on both suits and coats, forming collars, cuffs and borders.

A suit of corrento blue moussyne shows the jacket trimmed with a blue fox collar and cuffs, the blue tones further accented in floss embroideries which describe arrow motifs at the bust and at the back form a panel showing greater width at the shoulders than at the hips. Finger-tip length jackets are highly favored.

A suit devoid of fur adornment, developed along more tailored lines, is also formed of moussyne. An interesting treatment is noted in the back section of the jacket, where soft fullness above the waistline develops into strap treatments below the waistline. The treatment is reversed at the front, where strappings terminate in softly pouched pockets.

Coats in many instances feature the flat back and front with fullness introduced at the sides, an effect at once youthful and flattering. Panvelaine fashions a coat of this sort, the lower skirt section treated with a series of self cord tuckings which are repeated on the flare sleeves. A shawl collar of squirrel adds to the attractiveness of this number.

The wide flowing sleeve is advocated, one model showing a marked use of this mode being made of panvelaine. The sleeves are so cut as to be worn flying open at the lower edge or caught together. Bands of wolf fur add to the flare effect.

The bodice section is cut full and straight and embroidered on the sleeves, and back with self floss and gold metal thread. A round cord girdle marks the low waistline at the back with a self belt crossing the front and tying loosely.

Gray bolivia is chosen to fashion a coat trimmed with beaver. This is a full straight model with a band of the fur marking the low waistline. Self tucks of slender order emanate from the neckline in sunburst effect, and an interesting handling is seen in the sleeves cut with a deep armhole, the lower sleeve in ruffle form, the wrist belted with a band of the fur. A wide beaver collar finishes the neck.

THE SILK SPORT SWEATER

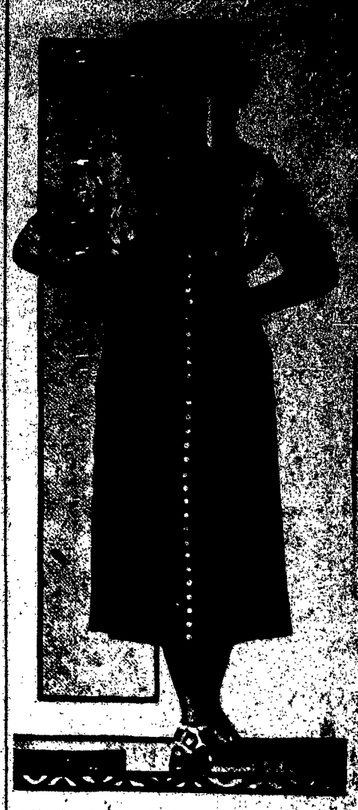
The silk and wool jersey sport skirt continues popular. If, as illustrated, there is a new detail in the design, all the better. A black silk sweater completes the outfit.

REAL COLLARS FOR NIGHTIES

Decoration for Fall and Winter Garments Finished With Lace or Embroidered Edging.

The new lines of fall and winter undergarments show many nightgowns equipped with short sleeves, just above the elbow. Some sleeves are straight and plain, others flare in bell-shape, while the little puff sleeves finished with bands of lace, embroidery or ribbon are featured. Real collars, not merely low neck line finished with lace or embroidery edging, are shown on many new nightgowns, a tailored silk model seen having a collar much like those appearing on tailored silk blouses, and held together with a little bow of ribbon. Another silk gown had a flat turn-back collar of stripe of chiffon and lace.

The pajama type of negligee continues to be approved, brocade and plain satin being combined in some charming garments of this kind.



Paris is producing voguish designs with short skirts despite its dictum of length. As a sample this is a smart street frock with skirt trimmed with buttons of mother o' pearl. The blouse is of striped silk.

HOW NEW VEILS ARE WORN

Face Covering Floats Out and Hangs to Shoulders, Adding Graceful-ness to Wearer.

How do you wear your veil? Inquires the New York Sun.

Do you pull a large meshed veil over your face so that the tip of your round-ended nose pushes through or the end of your pointed nose sticks out?

Do you pull the veil tightly across your forehead so that your eye lashes catch in it?

Do you always have an irritating little excess of veil under the chin that you repeatedly roll and twist up to a little bunch to get it out of the way?

Do you get the veil on so that it draws in some places and sags in others?

Do you have trouble because the veil slips from around your hat down over your eyes, while it remains secure around your neck and chin?

Do you lose the ends at the back from their fastening and find them floating out in the winds of heaven behind you?

Of course if you follow the fashion in veils you need do none of these things, for the really smart veil nowadays floats loosely at the back and is not held in at all, unless around the throat. Some of the new veils are made with little ruffs of shirring of tulle or ribbon that fasten about the throat. Above this band the veil puffs and balloons and little effort is made to keep it taut and smooth.

Some of the new veils are exceedingly attractive. They are made so that they flare in almost circular fashion from the small hats with which they are worn. They float out and down to the shoulders and add much graceful-ness to their wearer.

The tight, snug veil is often considered in Europe a typically American trick. That is to say, Europeans consider the American woman a mistress at arranging the snug veil.

TO BEAUTIFY FALL PLUMAGE

Metallic Decorations Now Produced by New Process Which Greatly Lessens the Cost.

Metallic plumages are to be a [illegible] factor this fall, and various treatments have been employed to create a [illegible]ical that will give the required metallic surface and coloring to plumage without labor, waste and damage to the feather stock. A formula has been perfected by a leading [illegible] powder manufacturer, whereby cost and time required in preparing the plumage have been cut down [illegible]. The solution [illegible] use is combined with [illegible], antique or other finish, [illegible] the minimum cost [illegible] bronzing or oxidizing a [illegible] cents, but the new liquid [illegible] this to half a cent. The time required in the process has been [illegible] down to two minutes.

WOOL SHAWLS FOR WINTER

Wrap That May Be Thrown Over Shoulders Carelessly With Coat Fright Back.

The desire for [illegible] not, it seems, just [illegible] for we are to have [illegible] winter, too. They are to be [illegible] embroidered, and, generally, they are to retain [illegible] and charm possessed by [illegible] colored ones of this [illegible].

Women have found [illegible] ing to part with their [illegible] are practical [illegible] robe, to be [illegible] throw [illegible]