

# From the Woman's Point of View.

By VERITY.

## TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

### To Those About to Build.

The greatest labour-saving device is a well-planned house. In the planning of the house the most important thing is that the living rooms shall be so planned that they take full advantage of sunlight and fresh air. How often does one see houses planned so that the kitchen gets all the best sun, making it unbearably hot to work in in summer, although, of course, this keeps the meat safe and warm, and the chief living room facing, perhaps, east and getting practically no sun in the winter. It is essential to see that all living rooms so far as possible get some sun during the winter months.

### One or two Stories?

As a general rule a better plan can be worked out with a two-story house than a single story, for the upper tier of rooms can get better direct sunlight than if they were all placed side by side on one floor. Again, I am sure that it is far more healthy to sleep upstairs than down, with only lin. flooring, with many joints, between the ground (from which damp air rises at night) and the sleeper. With two stories we get a cushion of dry air in the living rooms (occupied during the day), between the sleeper and the ground. I am quite satisfied that the prevalence of rheumatism in New Zealand is largely due to sleeping in one-story houses during the damp winters. There is a by-law throughout the length and breadth of England which compels house builders to cover the whole site under the house with a layer of 6 inches of concrete to prevent damp air rising into the dwelling. England would not spend hundreds of thousands of pounds laying all this concrete if no damp air arose from the ground into the house. So sleep upstairs, if possible, is my advice. Another advantage of upstairs bedrooms is that windows may be left open without cats jumping in at night, and may be left open all day without the feeling that someone may lift the silver off the dressing table!

### Central Heating.

Another matter to be considered is central heating. Personally, I am all for it—it is necessary in a wooden house, and it is not a very costly item, all things considered; but two boilers should be provided where the hot water service is also from a domestic boiler. If this is done, then in the summer, when no heating is required, except for domestic hot water service, only a small boiler has to be stoked, which means a big saving in fuel. Another good arrangement, where cost will not be a consideration, is to have a 1½ inch larger boiler for the domestic hot water supply, and to run from this one or two radiators only, one in the hall, and, if two are installed, one on the landing upstairs, also a nickel-plated towel rail in the bathroom. A small installation of this description will mean very little extra cost and fuel, and will do much to take off the rawness of the air throughout the whole house during the winter months.—Stanley W. Fearn, A.R.I.B.A., from 2YA.

### Will Shingle Go?

Are the shingle and the bob at last going out of fashion? This is a question that is agitating the whole world of women. Though some fashionable hairdressers are still doubtful, others believe that the return to long hair has already begun.

These latter have found a champion in Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, who, speaking in Lancashire, said that the "fad of bobbed hair is passing and hair is being dressed more in accordance with the Greek style, which has never yet been surpassed for beauty."

While, the Conduit Street Court hairdresser, thinks long hair is coming back, but only by degrees. Other notable hairdressers, again, do not believe that long hair will ever be general again, although women are wearing their hair just a little longer.

### Three Pairs of Stockings a Day.

The one and only Mistinguett—the owner of "the most beautiful legs in the world,"—has been in London for a few days, collecting English girls to take part in a revue in Berlin. She gets over a hundred letters a week from women asking for advice as to how to beautify their legs, but it is quite untrue that she has any secret. "The only advice I can give them," she says, "is to go and get a new pair if they can." Mistinguett wears three pairs of stockings a day—one for the morning, one for afternoon, and one for evening. Once worn they are thrown away.

### Song of the Skirt.

"Half an inch, half an inch, half an inch shorter,  
The skirts are the same of mother and daughter,  
When the wind blows each of them shows  
Half an inch, half an inch more than they oughter."

These lines, written by the Bishop of Ely, were quoted by Viscount Lascelles recently at a dinner in London to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the foundation of the Tavistock Square Clinic for Functional Nervous Diseases. He was referring to the woollen and worsted trades in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and he said they had fallen on evil times, for they were the victims of fashion. The cloth they made was used for ladies' dresses.

"I hope, ladies," he said, after quoting the lines, "that what you save on those half inches you will devote to the Tavistock Clinic."

"I, too, am a mother," said the elephant, as she trod on the hen pheasant, and compassionately sat on the eggs in her place.

## LONDON'S APRIL

*The town I love is an April Lady,  
Wistfully tender beneath the rain.  
Sparrows cheeping on green-starred  
branches,  
Telling the streets it is spring  
again.*

*Daffodil mornings of early summer,  
August evenings of purple haze,  
Hot, fierce noontides and chill grey  
dawnings,  
Winter suns and their smouldering  
blaze.*

*Many her moods, now cold, now  
ardent,*

*Listless, joyous, or dull with  
pain;*

*But the London I love is an April  
Lady,*

*Wistfully tender in mist and  
rain.*

## TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

### The Problem of "Our Girls."

One of the chief features of the "Women's Hour" broadcast every morning from Studio 3LO, Melbourne, promises to be the series of talks on that much-discussed subject, "What to do with our girls." Knowing that so much depends on such a series, and that country parents will be glad of the sound advice of experts on such an important subject, no pains have been spared to consult the best educational authorities on the matter: the domestic side of the question has been by no means forgotten, and all types of young people have been taken into consideration. Thus parents will be advised what to do with the "brainy" youngster, with a flair for drawing, journalism, or the scholastic profession, the artistic miss who is very deft with the needle and the arrangements of colour schemes, or the practical lass with a leaning towards cooking and house-keeping.

The man who laughs at his own jokes is like a hen that cackles after she has laid an egg. But nobody blames the hen.

### The Easter Bride.

"Marriage, the happiest bond of love if hands were only joined when hearts agree." As far back as human history is recorded lovers have pledged their troth by the same symbol of eternity, as is used to-day—the ring—diamonds being always the favoured stone. Upon the completion of this important event, the prospective bridegroom considers the question of a home and furnishings, while the prospective bride starts on her glory box and trousseau. The girl of to-day realises the value of quality, therefore her box contains the purest of linens that will give her endless wear and so save unnecessary expense in a short period. One of the most useful and most popular present day gifts is crystal de luxe. It is most difficult to portray by means of a spoken word the lustre, beauty, and subtle charm of English hand cut crystal. A useful and appreciated gift is a water set with a round crystal tray, a boon to every careful housewife. One of the latest productions is a beautiful hand-painted crystal fruit salad service with cherry design enamelled in each piece, being very effective. Another late arrival is the crystal iced fruit salad service composed as follows:—One chilled ice bowl, one salad bowl and six fruit salad dishes on stems—each piece is heavily cut and shows up with exquisite brilliancy and transparency. Next in usefulness is Royal Doulton—the Royal Doulton potteries have just sent out a selection of China supper sets. These sets contain one oblong tray for sandwiches, etc., and six square plates, the patterns are up to Royal Doulton standard and the sets make a very dainty gift. Another most useful gift is linen napery which comprises such useful articles as afternoon tea and supper cloths, runners, tray cloths, pillow shams, cosy covers, luncheon sets, serviettes. These are obtainable in beautiful embroidered designs in pastel shades or plain.

### The Bridal Toilette.

One outstanding model for the bride is carried out in fine French taffeta wonderfully hand-worked in pastel shades—with this is worn a bridal veil of ivory tulle fancy embroidered scallops, bell motif corner design embroidered in shell pink and coral design surround. Silver brocade one-bar shoes and silver grey chiffon hose—a vanity bag of lily of the valley may be carried instead of bouquet. The bridesmaid's frock of Picador blue taffeta is in the same style with fine lace front in champagne shade. Another beautiful toilette is the bride's frock of cream georgette over rose blush georgette, three tier skirt, the model daintily finished with small design of crystal beads. A pink tulle bridal veil is worn with this gown, hemmed, embroidered in fancy stitches of self-coloured silk, large silver embroidered strap in corner. Brocade shoes and self-coloured hose are worn with this gown. Charming bridesmaids' gowns are of pink georgette of same shade, also daintily beaded. The one colour trousseau is dead—the two-colour is more economical and thoroughly satisfactory to the bride, who has to count her cheques before they are cashed. The brown and beige wardrobe is the most practical known to women—smart, but not too striking—easy to match with accessories, and generally becoming to many types. The new stockinette three-piece suit is most useful—one smart suit of muscade fine stockinette consists of plain skirt, new sleeveless jumper with square neck finished with narrow horizontal bands of cream, cardigan with collar and pockets—to complete this outdoor wardrobe is a velour coat the same tone cut on straight lines, the chief feature being vertical tucking from shoulder to hem, collar and cuffs of dyed skunk. With this is worn one of the new soft velour hats to match or in a darker tone. The smart shoe worn with this is the one-bar lizard shoes in tone to match.

### Evening Gowns.

Evening frocks for the bride this season are things to dream about, lace for which a long time has been neglected has returned to favour. Georgettes are ever so daintily and beautifully beaded. One delightful frock for the bride is a rosebud pink georgette wonderfully embroidered with crystal beads to tone. Very popular this season and most useful to the bride would be the black chiffon velvet made very simply with square neck and slightly flared skirt. With this would be worn rows and rows of pearls. Afternoon frocks give a brightness and gaiety which is very attractive. One may say this season there are not two lines in a frock, but a dozen, yet they all fall together to make a pleasant effect. The amazing thing about the new model is that even when carried out in a dark colour, they manage to look cheerful. A suitable frock for this occasion is carried in beige georgette finished with bands and embroidered in deeper tone, skirt has tiny tucking across front. Another useful type of frock is stone crepe de chine cut on tailored lines with pleats in skirt, collar and vest front of white georgette finished with touches of red. To match these frocks one would choose a small fitting hat of fine felt turned up at front and finished with fancy buckle. Gun metal one-bar shoes are very popular this season with this class of frock.—Mrs. R. Thomas, 2YA.

## The Letters of Annabel Lee

My Dear Elisabeth:

The ball given to the commander and officers of the sloop Cassiopee in the Allen Hall, at Dunedin, by the French Club and students of the University, was a brilliant function. Captain Auvergny came with his officers; and Mr. Sidey, accompanied by Mrs. Sidey, forgot that his long daylight has faded into night, and comported himself wisely and well as Chancellor of the University. Dr. Thompson (President of the French Club) and Mrs. Thompson acted as hosts, the latter striking an individual note in her blue gown and long fringed shawl; M. Paul Saldaigne (Vice-President) came with Madame Saldaigne; also the Mayor and Mrs. Taverner; Mr. Skinner, recently returned from scientific research abroad, and Mrs. Skinner, extremely striking in black with an unusual necklace of gold; and Dr. Marshall Macdonald and Mrs. Macdonald (who wore lovely crystal jewellery). Music was rendered of the most beautiful, Miss Vickers being in charming voice, M. Saldaigne singing the songs of France with his own true art; and one hopes the visiting guests found it agreeable to listen to their delightful language so musically spoken and sung. Supper was sumptuous and set out with taste and tact in two rooms; all contributing to the success of this gay and gladsome party, at which the younger dancing men donned colourful paper hats of a variety most frolicsome, thereby greatly enhancing the fun of this festa of uncommon quality.

Those who saw Sir J. M. Barrie's "Quality Street" a decade ago will recall its old-world fragrance and wistful charm; and perchance will go to the De Luxe Theatre this week hoping to experience their "first, fine, careless rapture." And they will be disappointed. The picture play, charming enough in its way, fails to reproduce the subtlety, the gentle detachment, the leisured courtliness depicted with the inimitable art of the most beloved English playwrights. Proud little Phoebe, however, is still very sweet in her high-waisted gown, her high coiffure and caressing curls delicious enough to cause one to view distrustfully the present slick vogue. The rest of the cast is adequate; and Mr. Conrad Nagel's conception of Dr. Valentine Brown a very fine achievement. A graceful cavalier, and a winning one, he pays court to his Jane-Aus-

ten-ish lovely lady with decorous charm, and marches off to the Napoleonic wars with gallantry and dash. This actor has the art, most rare in the Picture world, of dignity and grace in movement and repose; this being in direct contrast to the incessant trip-tripping of the feminine star. Why scamp, it is pardonable to wonder, when to walk is so simple? This is a question, however, only to be elucidated by a chorus of Hollywood hours. The picture is delightfully produced, with its street of remembrances and quaint old house furnished with the stiff furniture, Victorian brackets and candelabra of a past century; the prevailing atmosphere heightened by the amorous ditties so tunefully warbled by Mr. Wood, and the saccharine selections on the mighty Wurlitzer, calculated to bring a tear to the eye of the sentimentalist, but entirely unworthy of that wonderful instrument. The play goes its pretty way like a chapter of diluted Cranford, and is calculated to charm large audiences. Very clever, very complete, very attractive; but it is not Barrie.

On recent quest for certain adjuncts of importance, decorative and domestic, good luck conveyed me to a happy hunting-ground of electrical contrivances many, varied, and entirely irresistible to the heart of woman, be she bachelor contriving hasty and heterogeneous dinner of sorts upon a more or less adequate cooker, or modern chatelaine of a home that, with labour-saving devices, artistic architecture, and simple and beautiful appointments, approximates to an ideal that has long eluded the female of the New Zealand species. Intriguing were compact contrivances of British manufacture, combining individual virtues of frizzling the breakfast bacon, browning the breakfast bread, and, when tipped up, capable of conversion into a radiator diffusing cheer and consolation in the chilly autumn evenings already upon us, and a luxury of raving to those who hitherto have shivered disconsolately in the fireless apartments of suburbia. In price quite moderate, a small Peter Pan was the cooker that reached my heart, and ere long it will glow in the small and Chelseaish flat where at present I find haven from a clamorous and insistent world.

Miss Kathleen Woodward, of humble origin and a pluck sublime, has

written the story of the life of Queen Mary of England, no less. And she has done it very well indeed. Meeting with courtesy unparalleled from the royal quarry and her immediate retinue, Miss Woodward tells us things we really want to hear about the dear and austere Lady who, on her gentle pedestal of perfection sets so lovely an example to her subjects of able, dignified, unselfish womanhood. A long list, that of the virtues of Queen Mary; we all know it by heart, but, after glancing through Miss Woodward's comprehensive pages, perhaps become more acutely conscious of fineness of character and breadth of tolerance revealing themselves in intimate regard for, and service towards, the people of her realm, in wise ordering of homes of beauty held in trust for the nation, and intimate, perfect companionship with husband and children. The childish years and girlhood of "Princess May" are described, the diffidence of this royal girl, her lack of small, chattering, conversational inanities, and her lovable shyness; the great and selfless labours during the War years in striking contrast, while many pleasant small anecdotes are very human in friendly simplicity, as told by this chronicler, who is obviously that out-of-date litterateur, a hero-worshipping scribe. In this transgression, if it be a transgression, she is in company with the immortal; for, had it not been for Boswell, that inspired satellite and biographer, we should not have had the Johnsonian Life, the most famous of them all. This eulogy of Miss Woodward's is of especial interest, coming, as it does, from one who abides in the opposite camp, a wage-earner, a toiler and a socialist, who has read extensively, and observed the people and politics of her time, particularly as affecting women, with a wide-eyed intelligence. In her loving admiration for our English Queen, she is at one with the words of the poet Swinburne when he wrote of another royal Mary, beautiful and luckless and sad:

No maid who strays with steps unwary

Through snares unseen;  
But one to live and die for—  
Mary the Queen!

Your

ANNABEL LEE.

## LOYALTY

"Remember that life is made up of loyalty: loyalty to your friends; loyalty to things beautiful and good; loyalty to the country in which you live; loyalty to your King; and, above all, for this holds all other loyalties together, loyalty to God."

—Queen Mary, Buckingham Palace, March 3, 1923.

### Grilled Chop a la Maitre d'Hotel.

One loin chop, 1 teaspoonful chopped parsley, 1oz. butter, pepper and salt, 1 teaspoonful lemon juice. Take all superfluous fat from the chop and roll round to make a nice shape. Put under the hot grill of the stove and grill from ten to twelve minutes. Serve with the butter. Steak can also be cooked and served in this way. To make the batter, put all the ingredients on to a plate and work with the knife until the butter absorbs the lemon juice and parsley. A mint leaf chopped fine and added is an improvement.

### Pineapple Mould.

One small tin pineapple, ½ pint custard, 8oz. sugar, 1oz. powdered gelatine, ½ pint water. Method: Dissolve gelatine in water, add sugar, make custard, using ½ pint milk and 1 egg. When this is thick mix it with the pineapple cut small, add gelatine and water slowly, stirring well. Stir occasionally while cooling, and when just beginning to set pour into a wet mould.

### Safety First.

When cutting oranges and lemons for marmalade, put a silver thimble on the first finger of the left hand; the fruit can then be shredded quite fine without any danger of cutting the finger.

When your throat pricks  
Take  
**Pulmonas**  
FOR COUGHS AND COLDS