

THE ELECTRIC HOME JOURNAL

A FRIEND living in London has written bewailing the fact that it is almost impossible to hire an electric gramophone for a party. For one thing, nobody seems to have thought of opening such an agency, and again it would be a difficult matter to arrange, as the electric current varies in different districts. However, now that nearly all Wellington is on the 230 voltage, this should be an idea for the gramophone dealers.

ONE of the greatest inventions for labour-saving is the vegetable paring machine. Of course, this for the average home would be a great extravagance. But just think what a blessing such a unit must be in hospitals, hotels, schools and all big institutions. The peeling is done entirely by friction, turning out potatoes, carrots, turnips, and parsnips all smooth, clean and in their natural shape, causing only an average wastage of 10 per cent. One of our leading Wellington men's clubs have already installed one, and I believe are very proud of their possession.

AT a friend's house recently I was shown one of the latest designs in burglar-proof cigarette-boxes. It is made in the form of a miniature wireless set. Manipulation of a switch releases a drawer, with two compartments, for Turkish and Virginian cigarettes, while a musical box, concealed within, announces to the world with the tinkle of a popular tune that you are helping yourself to a cigarette.

IN an old copy of an English paper I came across the following recipe for delightful conversation. Ingredients: "One or two men of great culture (but endowed with the human spirit that survives it) added to one or two beautiful women who have knocked about the world, in the best sense of the term; one or two listeners, and a strong, silent man who doesn't chatter too much; a little dash of slang; sparing with the vermillion, and that with a bite in it. Not the ridicule of one human butt, but plenty of thrusts with the rapier of wit, assuaged with the balm of humour. Conversation should be like a soufflé, but with some nourishment in it."

ACCOUNTS have come to hand of the wedding of Sumurun, the mannequin queen, to a well-known French artist in Paris. There were great celebrations amongst the artists of the Latin Quarter, who made an

arch of paint-brushes over the heads of the bridal couple as they issued from the church. Later on many famous people attended the reception, which was held in a Montparnasse studio. Sumurun, who is acknowledged to be the world's most perfect mannequin, and whose beauty is distinctly Oriental in type, is in reality an English girl, born in London.

A NEW and most useful idea in the shape of a "dog park" has been inaugurated by the Picadilly Theatre, London. The accommodation consists of separate enclosures for each dog on the roof of the theatre, the charge being 3d. per animal. "Tail-waggers" are allowed in free. It is to be hoped that the walls and roof of the above-mentioned theatre are sound-proof!

SOMEWHERE on the Continent there is a labour-saving house so earnest about its saving of labour that when you step on the mat your tread makes something fly up and brush your boots.

IN my cooking experiments I tried this orange pudding, and found it excellent. Slice 3 or 4 oranges, and shake over them half a cup of sugar.

THOSE hero worshippers whose enthusiasm leads them to christen their offspring with the name of the object of their devotion had better take warning. Quite recently a Hungarian operatic star was awarded damages against a racehorse owner who gave her name to one of his stud. The ruling of the court was that one's name is inviolable, and must not be bestowed by others on undesirable objects. There is something to be said for this aspect of the matter. After all, nobody can prophesy whether a certain horse will be a star performer or a "dud," and it is certainly not much honour to be identified with an animal that comes in a good last!

NOW that summer is within measurable distance it may not be out of place to mention a few beach accessories for the holidays. There is the beach bag, repeating the fabric and shade of the beach costume. They may be made of rubberised crepe or terry cloth, and are mostly large and are carried over the arm by a broad strap of the material. Beach clogs are the latest footwear on the sands. They are made of cork, or of rubber and canvas, double-soled, and matching the

FROM its corps of efficiency experts, the United States Retail Drapery Association has received a report in favour of employing slim girls (says a correspondent in the "Daily Sketch.") Stout girls, it is asserted, are generally more agreeable; but, "in these days when space is so valuable, they take up too much room behind counters and in lifts . . ." Stout citizens are now carried in trains and buses on the same terms as their lean brethren; but if efficiency experts take to compiling statistics to show what undue proportion of the world's space they occupy, the "fat" will indeed be, if not in the fire, at any rate "in the soup."

A NOVEL idea for a Christmas present is to give a box of stationery, in which the envelopes are already stamped. So often one writes a letter in a hurry for the mail, and can find not a single stamp in the house—and at such a crisis the shops are sure to be shut. These are the moments when we bless our thoughtful friend.

A FRIEND of mine was invited to a church recently with a society beauty, whose house is in a fashionable quarter of London. She was amazed to see motor-vans outside the house and long cables stretching to the top windows. There was a continual hum of electricity and wires all over the place. "Spring cleaning?" she asked her hostess in surprise. "Talkies," was the illuminating reply. There will surely be no secret meetings of politicians in that house, where one's most brilliant indiscretions may be broadcast to the world.

ELECTRIC light lamps will last much longer if they are wiped regularly with a cloth dipped in soap water and carefully dried.

A MODERN homy home; vacuum cleaner and electric clothes-drier, and one of these new noiseless electric refrigerators—I mean what a convenience that is! I never could understand why they made so much fuss over Babe Ruth, or even a real scientific pioneer like Lindbergh, when we haven't yet done anything to boost the honest-to-go master genius that invented the electric refrigerator. Think of what it will do! Give you every sort of frozen dessert. Get rid of the iceman that tracks mud on the back porch! Provide ice-water, so you can have a refreshing drink night or day! What I always say is these fellows can have their big libraries, their

A Thought for the Week

You can always get what you want by appealing to people's emotions. But unless you've touched their intelligence they'll regret their decision afterwards.

—Alec Waugh (in *Nor Many Waters*).

Make a custard with one pint of milk, the yolks of two eggs, and a tablespoonful of cornflour. Pour this, when cold, over the oranges. Whisk the whites of the eggs with two tablespoonfuls of icing sugar, and spread over the pudding. Place in the oven and bake till light brown.

THERE is at present a revival of mother o' pearl necklaces. They are long, reaching in some cases to the waist, and are composed of irregular shapes of stones strung on a silk thread, with knots between each pearl. Pink mother o' pearl is particularly fashionable at the moment, and is much admired by her Majesty the Queen.

brighter hues in the costume. Beach rugs of terry cloth or crash, cushions in all styles, with weatherproof covers and umbrellas large enough to shelter several people are but a few of the articles which will add to the comfort of the sea-side holiday.

THE SOCIETY for the overseas settlement of British women possesses an old Georgian house in Leicestershire, where its girls are trained in all the arts of a housewife. Their fares are paid from their homes, they get free training in cooking and general housework for two months, and they are given a free passage to the colony to which they decide to emigrate.