

# THE ELECTRIC HOME JOURNAL

**DOG-LOVERS** living in flats are often at a loss to know how to have their animals washed. A friend from London has just written telling me how some flat-dwellers manage over there. There is an institution called the "Dogs' Bath Club," with rooms containing enamel baths for dogs of all sizes. A white-coated attendant works long hose-pipes for shampoos, and there are electric driers which do their work efficiently and rapidly. A comfortable lounge is provided for the dog-owners, who may read magazines or regale themselves with cocktails from the well-stocked bar.

THE following "shock-ing verse" appeared recently in a London daily: At 2 a.m., the electrician came Home in a merry state. "Watt's the matter Joe?" his wife called out, Wire you insulate?"

**SIR FELIX POLE**, in his speech at the annual luncheon of the Electrical Association for Women, said that when he contemplated the 1½d. post, no matter whether the letter came from Land's End or next door, and when he contemplated the penny newspaper and ninepenny telegram—the same price in each case in any locality—he looked forward to the time when the price of electricity would be the same everywhere.

IS there any woman of the present day who thinks she can do without a vacuum-cleaner? It would be interesting to know. We all know that the suction-sweeper is the only method which extracts the dirt, which we are sure is not there, but which nevertheless mysteriously finds its way into the vacuum-cleaner's dust-bag. Personally, it always gives me great satisfaction when I open the dust-bag and empty its contents and find such a quantity of "invisible dust" to prove the efficiency of my machine. But I do look after my cleaner. Simple as it all is, you must give it attention if you want the best results. It must be oiled at intervals, as it is a machine of moving parts. Empty your dust-bag regularly, and clean off any hairs, strings, threads and "bits" which accumulate on the brush. Coil up your flexible neatly to avoid kinks and tangles; if this is not done it often becomes chafed, and ends in causing a short circuit and a blown fuse. The average child can handle a vacuum-cleaner, and yearly we are having improvements in design and workman-

ship, so that these machines are becoming little short of perfection.

THE connection between skirts and chairs may not be evident at the first glance, but I am assured by the representative of a big American furniture firm that a very real one exists. For example, every time women's skirts alter in length the height of chairs and tables varies likewise—which is all to the profit of the manufacturers. At the present time, the low easy chair has been displaced in favour of the more upright ones.

THE car of the future will be a complete harmony in two colours (says an English writer). Manufacturers, recognising feminine influence in the choice of a car, are catering more and more for the sex. Imagine a sports coupe: the fabric body and the mudguards a pale green, and the tires, radiator, and all metal fittings of the same colour and shade; the wheels, chairs, and the interior upholstery cream, with the mouldings of the body and the bonnet vents picked out in cream, too. Nothing in the car would clash with the scheme. Even the instruments on the dashboard would be in green stainless steel, and have cream dials with green lettering. Equally effective would be a combination of rose and white, or for more formal use black and red or black and white.

dows, with a window seat, and on either side built-in bookcases to the height of the window taking up the whole length of the end of the room. Cupboards may be built in, instead of shelves for the lower part, if the house is small and more cupboard space is desirable.

WHEN building, it is well worth your while to go into the extra cost of using "Vita" glass windows. I heard recently that they were worth their weight in gold. I took this remark too literally. What was meant was that the wonderful effect this glass had on health was miraculous. It is supposed to admit the invisible ultra-violet rays, and as so many of us have to be indoors so much, if this new glass is fitted into our windows and sunporch we will have all the sunburn and vigour, even in the winter months, that the greatest health advocate could desire.

THE town of Buxton in England has an enterprising municipal electricity department. At a recent pageant held in the town there appeared a wonderful summer-house on wheels, propelled by electricity. It was divided into two compartments, a kitchen and a drawing-room, showing various electrical devices for use in

I SPENT an hour the other day trying to rid an oak table of heat marks. I tried different kinds of oil, beeswax and turpentine, and elbow grease, but nothing happened. I rang the furniture-maker where this table had been made to come up to restrain and repolish it for me; but, being honest, he told me to rub a little linseed oil on the mark, and then apply, very lightly, a little spirits of camphor on a rag—then some more oil and camphor, repeating until the mark disappeared. The result was wonderful; there is not the slightest white mark left.

AT a children's party recently there were two novel ideas which were new to me. The first was "windmills" on the cake, which were blown instead of the usual "blowing-out of candles." The other was that at each place a birthday candle was placed. On a very charming Dutch plate was a whole slice of pineapple, and on top of this was placed upright a small banana. Angelica was used for the wick and the candlestick handle, and slightly whipped cream for the candle-grease.

TWO-WAY switches save one's temper. For those who like reading in bed (and who does not?) it is a constant source of irritation to have to get out on cold nights to turn off the light. A switch-cord hanging over the bed, or an extra switch at the bedside, will do away with this. For the stairs two-way switches are a necessity, one at the top and another at the foot, so that the light can be turned on or off by either. Also, though not absolutely essential, a two-way switch is useful for the hall-porch light. When guests arrive the outside light is turned on so that they can see the path, and one in the hall is automatically turned off. Once they are indoors the switch is reversed, and the hall light turned on.

TABLECLOTHS made of soft oil-cloth with a dainty all-over pattern are excellent for picnic use. However soiled they become they can be quickly and easily cleaned by being wiped over with a damp cloth.

AT one time the bathroom used to be the Cinderella in the house. So long as there was hot water nobody bothered about the furnishings, and oddments of chairs and tables were

## Thought For the Week.

WHY always rattle a sword and be in the right? A little reasonableness and everything goes better.

—Lioi Feuchtwanger in "The Ugly Duchess."

SUN-BATHING should be vigorously controlled (says a writer in "Better Health"). Initial exposure should be short, a few minutes, and only a portion of the body at a time. The head should be protected. Day by day the length of the exposure and the amount of the body to be exposed can be gradually increased, until by the end of the third week the whole body can be exposed for a considerable period. It should be noted, also, that exposure of the body to the air on sunless, warm days is also most health-giving, as the movement of the air energises the body and even sunless air contains a considerable degree of the ultra-violet rays.

AN effective finish for the end of a room are jutting out casement win-

dows. On the outside were painted such slogans as: "Electricity wins all the tests without the ashes," and "Cook without cooking the cook."

FIVE guests at a recent luncheon party in a London hotel began to discuss a business scheme, and became so enthusiastic that they began to draft the points of an agreement on the tablecloth. One member of the party suggested jokingly that each guest should sign the notes. This was actually done, and the cloth placed for security in the hotel safe. At the weekend it was brought forth, carefully wrapped up and sealed, and dispatched by air to Paris to be produced as evidence at an important business meeting.