

**M**ICROPHONE actors, vocalists, and speakers little dream what a responsibility they have on their shoulders not to damage this sensitive unit. A heroine in a radio play, according to her part, had to shriek at the end of her speech. She yelled—and the result? Well, it cost the broadcasting company £40 to repair the damage. For this noise pierced violently through the primary and secondary coils, leaped desperately, but noiselessly across the condensers, and rushed into a transmitting valve, which spluttered and gave up the ghost. (With apologies to "Retired Volt.")

*"The man who never made a mistake never made anything."*

**I**T is strange that otherwise upright and honest people think it is not wrong to defraud the Customs officers, and do their best to conceal anything on which there is duty to pay. Is it a surviving trait of the old smuggling days? There is a story of an enterprising woman who succeeded in a clever ruse. Unclaimed goods were auctioned, and among those "put up" was a crate of gloves. They were found to be all for the right hand, so they were "knocked down" very cheaply. Customs officers talking one day discussed this curious crate, when a Bristol official overhearing told them they had had a similar crate for left-hand gloves, which was sold for a mere song! "Would this pass the Customs, I wonder, if we had gloves sent out one at a time, and never in pairs?"

**I**F your face is thin (says a writer in the "Home") it demands a soft style of hairdressing. Let the hair



**Cook's opinion of a broadcaster!**

—she thinks he's wonderful during the evening programme—but when it comes to baking she'd sooner have a tin of ANCHOR SKIM MILK POWDER on the shelf than the finest radio going. A few spoonfuls added to every mixing means more delicious scones and cakes—higher food value—and a freshness that lasts for DAYS.

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be full at the sides, but do not draw it forward too much on to the cheeks, for this will only tend to accentuate their thinness. If your forehead is low and your face oval, part your hair in the middle. It should suit you. If your neck is not long, do not dress your hair very low at the back. Instead, arrange your coil, swathe, or curls high in the nape of your neck. If your ears are a pretty shape, curls nestling loosely in the neck and at the sides behind the ears look charming. If your face is narrow, your parting should be rather low at the side, as this gives breadth. For a broad face it should be nearer the centre.

**I**T is not long ago since I was telling you about the new Cambridge Theatre in London, replete with every modern convenience for the comfort of its patrons. Now there is another addition to London's new playhouses, the Whitehall, which is said to be the perfect theatre. To begin with, the proscenium arch has been projected forward to include front rows of the stalls, thus imparting a delightful air of intimacy to the building. When the cloakroom accommodation is a special feature, including, as it does, a room set aside for business women who come direct to the theatre and wish to change into evening dress. Even the men are to be kept in good humour, and lest their womenfolk should keep them waiting, the mirrors are specially tinted so that a glance satisfies her ladyship that her complexion is perfect. Can an obliging management do more?

**"GENIUS** analytically," says Edison "is 1 per-cent. inspiration and 99 per-cent. perspiration." Edison was never afraid of work, and determination to succeed, coupled with the fact that no idea of failure ever entered his mind, has resulted in the tremendous success as an inventor. He worked on his first machine to produce speech in 1876. One night after long research he entered his laboratory, locked the door, and put the key in his pocket. He then pointed to the phonograph and said to his assistants, "We none of us leave the room until this thing speaks." And eventually it did!

**MR. CYRIL SCOTT**, the British composer, had some very definite views about the value of wireless when speaking recently at the Radio Exhibition at Olympia. "The dissemination of wireless," he said, "may be instrumental in changing the whole temperament of the race in the course of time. It may ginger-up their minds, tickle-up their brains, and make them think a bit quicker. Their slow-moving legs will feel more like dancing, and so on. Before the introduction of radio we had no musical gloom-dispeller handy. So if we couldn't play the piano or did not possess a gramophone we had to put up with gloominess or get rid of it as best we could."

—ALISON.

### Lady Smokers, Read This!

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## Light Shades for Decoration

### Endless Variety Possible

**T**HE use of shaded electric lights for decorative purposes is coming into more general practice and those who have tried this method of brightening up a room have found that highly effective results can be achieved.

The keynote of success is to have several lighting points in a room. The old style of hanging a single lamp in the centre of each room is woefully out of date, though still very common. Take a living room, for instance. Certainly a central light is essential for general purposes, but in addition, at the back of a favourite reading chair, above a writing table, piano, lounge or sofa, a light should be placed.

These need to be shaded and ingenious housewives realise that it is not necessary always to obtain expensive shades. A more satisfactory practice is to use coloured paper shades and to change them when they begin to show signs of wear or when the colour used begins to tire the eyes.

A room can be freshened up wonderfully by a change in the colour of the electric lamp shades, and the use of coloured lamps is also to be recommended. This method of decoration can even be used as an alternative to the purchase of expensive furniture. It all depends, however, on the provision of an ample number of lighting points which are the greatest comfort-providers in a home. It is worth while when building a home to remember the value of ample lighting points because the initial expense is slight and the more points there are the less electric current is consumed.

### Church Run by Women

**T**WO young women graduates of Manchester University have started a joint pastorate as Ministers of a Leeds Congregational Church. The church is situated in a crowded industrial area, and though the district bristles with difficulties and problems, the youthful ministers are in no way daunted. Their ideas include making a garden out of the chapel yard, the church to be open all day and every day; a children's corner in the church with books and pictures, and a bowl of water and soap for grubby hands. Outside they will build a "public-house" of a new type, with rest rooms for men and women, and playrooms for children.

The church, which is very old, was formerly patronised by a wealthy and fashionable congregation, and rows of carriages stood outside during the services. Now, however, there will be rows of prams instead, "and that," said one of the young pastors, "will be much better."

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## A Rare Sight Beauties of Local Garden

**T**HE people of Wellington do not fully realise the beauties that are so close at hand. They pick up "English Homes and Gardens," and are envious when they see the wonderful gardens, but at Waikanae some enterprising and artistic people have planted out at least half an acre of imported irises.

This week the sight was a glory to behold, and an artist would be at a loss to do justice to the picture. There were one hundred and eighty varieties, and as one walked among them each seem to surpass the last in beauty. One handsome bloom, by name "Iris King," in colour crimson-maroon, margined with gold, brought forth exclamations of admiration.

"Bruno" was marvellous. It was bronze-coloured, tinted with lavender shading to a yellow at the base. Then came "Asia," a dignified bloom of unusual colouring—pale silvery lavender, with falls of light violet purple colouring. The beauty of colour was indescribable. "Earth hath not anything to show more fair; dull would he be of soul who could pass by a sight so touching in its majesty."

### "Roning the Boast"

**A**PROPOS of Dr. Spooner, said to be responsible for so many so-called "Spoonerisms," I think the most amusing I have heard was when he threatened to write to the father of one of his pupils, telling him he had "deliberately tasted two worms" (wasted two terms). I amused my family one Sunday morning by asking my husband if he would "roast the bone" for me. He said, "Certainly, but what bone do you want roasted?" "Oh, I mean to say, 'ron the boast,'" I answered, then, seeing by their faces that I was still wrong, I managed to ask him to "bone the roast." "BECKY."

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