



The House Beautiful is the House Sanitary

when Alabastine is applied to the walls. This beautiful modern flat-toned wall finish is sparkling alabaster rock, ground to a fine-grain powder. It has natural antiseptic qualities that destroy disease germs and banish vermin.

Alabastine can be put on by anyone, skilled or unskilled, covers well and spreads evenly without brush marks. Painters and decorators like to use it because of the pleasing effects obtained and all 'round satisfaction it gives.

Modern standards of taste require soft, flat tones—that walls constitute what they are intended for, suitable backgrounds. Here Alabastine is ideal and gives results superior to the most expensive methods at far less cost.

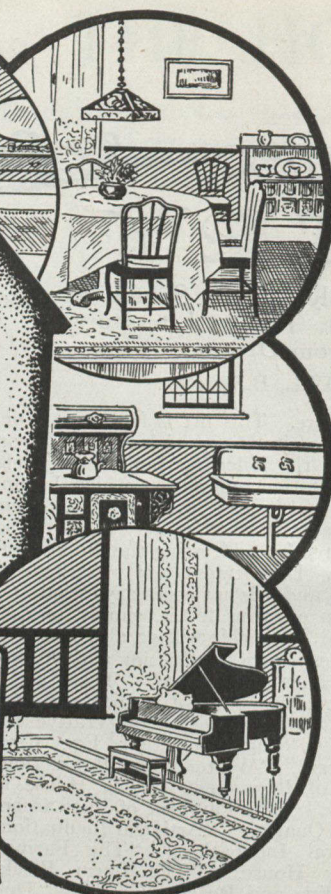
We furnish users of Alabastine with complete plans of interior decoration and stencils, free. Our artists also advise individually when desired, without charge.

Let us tell you more about Alabastine. Just send a postcard with your name and address and we will mail you our booklet "Modern Wall Decoration" free. Do it to-day.

The Alabastine Co., Ltd. Paris, Ontario

CHURCH'S Cold Water

Alabastine



THE WAY TO MAKE A BOOK

By L. M. MONTGOMERY

Author of "Anne of Green Gables", etc.

AN old joke will probably be familiar to all who read this article. A woman who had one child was anxious to train it properly. Feeling herself to be very ignorant of such a subject, she appealed for instruction to a friend who had seven children.

"My dear," said her friend, "there is no use asking me how to bring up children because I really don't know anything more about it than you do. But just ask the first old maid you meet and she will be able to tell you all about it."

And it is just so in regard to the writing of books. Those who never write books can so easily tell how it is done and how it should be done. It is as easy for them as rolling off a log. For those of us who have written books it is an exceedingly hard thing.

My own experience is that books—real "live" books—are *not* written. Like *Topsy*, they "grow." The function of the author is simply to follow the growth and record it.

"Perhaps it may turn out a song,
Perhaps turn out a sermon."

Never mind what it turns out. As long as it grows out of your life it will have life in it, and the great pulse of humanity everywhere will thrill and throb to that life.

Before attempting to write a book, be sure you have something to say—something that *demands* to be said. It need not be a very great or lofty or profound something; it is not given to many of us utter

"Jewels five words long
That on the stretched forefinger of all
time
Sparkle for ever."

But if we have something to say that will bring a whiff of fragrance to a tired soul and to a weary heart, or a glint of sunshine to a clouded life, then that something is worth saying, and it is our duty to try to say it as well as in us lies.

A book to be worth anything, must have a good central idea. I do not say a plot, for many very successful books have little or no plot. Certainly, a logical and well-constructed plot adds strength and charm to any book and increases the chances of its success. But a central idea—a purpose of some sort—a book must have. It is not to be flung in the reader's face; it is not to be obtruded in every paragraph or chapter; but it must be there, as the spine is in the human body, to hold the book together; and all that follows, characters, incidents and conversations, must be developed in harmony with this idea or purpose.

One should not try to write a book impulsively or accidentally, as it were. The idea may come by impulse or accident, but it must be worked out with care and skill, or its embodiment will never partake of the essence of true art. Write—and put what you have written away; read it over weeks later; cut, prune, and rewrite. Repeat this process until your work seems to you as good as you can make it. Never mind what outside critics say. They will all differ from each other in their opinions, so there is really not a great deal to be learned from them. Be your own severest critic. Never let a sentence in your work get by you until you are convinced that it is as perfect as you can make it. Somebody else may be able to improve it vastly. Never mind. Do *your* best—and do it sincerely. Don't try to write like some other author. Don't try to "hit the public taste." The public taste doesn't really like being hit. It prefers to be allured into some fresh pasture, surprised with some unexpected tid-bit.

An accusation is often made against us novelists that we paint our characters—especially our ridiculous or unpleasant characters—"from life." The public seems determined not to allow the smallest particle of creative talent to an author. If you write a book you *must* have drawn your characters "from life." You, yourself, are, of course, the hero or heroine; your unfortunate neighbors supply the other portraits. People will cheerfully tell you that they know this or that character of your books intimately. This will aggravate you at first, but later on you will learn to laugh at it. It is, in reality, a subtle compliment—though it is not always meant to be. It is at least a tribute to the "life-likeness" of your book people.

But no true artist ever draws exactly from life. We must *study* from life, working in hints gathered here and there, bits of character, personal or mental idiosyncrasies, humorous remarks, tales, or legends, making use of the real to perfect

(Continued on page 26)

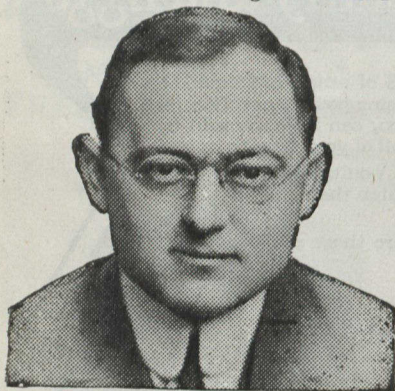
CATARRH TRUTH

Told in a Simple Way

No Apparatus, Inhalers, Salves, Lotions,
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Electricity

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It is a new way. It is something absolutely different. No lotions, sprays or sickly smelling salves or creams. No atomizer, or any apparatus of any kind. Nothing to smoke or inhale. No steaming or rubbing or injections. No electricity or vibration or massage. No powder; no plasters; no keeping in the house. Nothing of that kind at



all. Something new and different, something delightful and healthful, something instantly successful. You do not have to wait, and linger and pay out a lot of money. You can stop it overnight—and I will gladly tell you how—FREE. I am not a doctor and this is not a so-called doctor's prescription—but I am cured and my friends are cured, and you can be cured. Your suffering will stop at once like magic.

I Am Free—You Can Be Free

My catarrh was filthy and loathsome. It made me ill. It dulled my mind. It undermined my health and was weakening my will. The hawking, coughing, spitting made me obnoxious to all, and my foul breath and disgusting habits made even my loved ones avoid me secretly. My delight in life was dulled and my faculties impaired. I knew that in time it would bring me to an untimely grave, because every moment of the day and night it was slowly yet surely sapping my vitality.

But I found a cure, and I am ready to tell you about it FREE. Write me promptly.

RISK JUST ONE CENT

Send no money. Just your name and address on a postal card. Say: "Dear Sam Katz: Please tell me how you cured your catarrh and how I can cure mine." That's all you need to say, I will understand, and I will write to you with complete information. FREE at once. Do not delay. Send postal card or write me a letter to-day. Don't think of turning this rage until you have asked for this wonderful treatment that can do for you what it has done for me.

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You will be surprised how quick you will get the desired result. You will be more surprised at the small amount of rubbing necessary. You will be pleased at the little polish used.

O-CEDAR POLISH cuts work in half—it cleans as it polishes.

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Do Your Washing the
"EASY" way. SUC-
TION—not Friction

NO woman needs to be informed as to the body strain, and hard work, caused by the old-fashioned method of washing. Don't you dread the extra house-cleaning wash and put it off until it must be done? You may make a clean job of your lace curtains, woolen blankets, heavy quilts, comforters, etc., but you know you take the work out of yourself. Imagine if you can, the man of the house in the back-breaking operation of washing by means of the washboard. Washing has to be done at least 52 times in a year; is there not some easier and better way of doing it?



The "EASY" Washer differs radically from all others. It will not wear the clothes, and will wash anything from the finest to the heaviest. Like a vacuum cleaner, it sucks the dirt out of the mesh of the garments. In fact it washes on the vacuum principle forcing the suds through the clothes by means of air compression and vacuum suction. The "EASY" Washer can be furnished for your relief either for hand power, gasoline engine, or to attach to the ordinary electric socket.

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