



CORRESPONDENCE.

Address all communications to Women's Department, office of Tribune, 106, 108 Adelaide street.

Write only on one side of paper.

The Correspondence Column is open to all, and questions of interest to women will be cheerfully answered.

Toronto, Oct. 10, 1905.

Editor of "Woman's Column" of The Tribune:

Dear Madam,—Will you please answer one or two questions which I give below?

I have noticed of late, that in curling my hair, the ends split apart. Can you suggest a remedy for this?

Also will you please give me a good receipt for removing blackheads, freckles, etc., with which I have been troubled.

Yours anxiously,

X. Y. Z.

Since the ends of the hair, shampoo with tar soap, and use Herpicide as a dressing.

Freckles consist of a deposit of oxide of iron in the blood; they may often be dissipated by painting with tincture of iodine, or by a cautious use of a weak solution of nitromuriatic acid.

Acne, commonly called blackheads, may be cured by a careful attention to diet. This is of more importance than washes or medicine. Errors in diet will often bring out a plentiful crop of blackheads, so avoid articles of food that are fried in butter or fat of any kind, pastries and liquors. A safe and useful lotion is made of precipitated sulphur, combined with mucilage of sassafras, with glycerine and camphor; or an ointment of precipitated sulphur and vaseline, a drachm to the ounce. Apply going to bed.

Toronto, Oct. 9, 1905.

To the Editor of "Interest to Women," Tribune:

Dear Madam,—Could you give me your idea as to whether dancing is as healthful an exercise as skating, or are you in favor of either? I have my own opinions, but would like to have the opinion of one who understands better than myself. Hoping to hear from you in your columns, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Snow Pierslvth.

I do think that dancing and skating are both healthful exercises, if not abused. The trouble with most young people is that they are careless. Authorities on this question claim that skating brings into play all the muscles of the body, and sets the blood circulating, and as this pastime must necessarily be indulged in in the open air, there is less danger from overheating, while dancing is usually in crowded, heated rooms. The mode of dressing for dancing being so much lighter than for skating, makes it less healthful, because of the increased opportunity for catching cold. I have noticed young, delicate girls, thinly clad,

getting heated in the dance, seeking to cool off in a draught or in some cold spot, often laying the foundation for incurable disease; so while I think that dancing in itself is not harmful, the carelessness displayed by its devotees makes it less desirable than skating. I am certainly in favor of both, if rightly indulged in.

Tribune, Toronto:

Dear Madam,—I wish you would inform me through the medium of your valuable columns, why it is regarded as improper for a lady to attend a theatre unaccompanied by a gentleman. Also, do you not think it is very bad manners to eat bon-bons, nuts or fruit of any description during the performance and between the acts of the play.

Oliver Twist.

Don't you think that the impropriety you speak of is largely in the imagination. In the early Victorian Age it was considered a serious breach of good breeding for a woman of the upper or middle classes to even be seen on the streets alone; they must always be accompanied by a gentleman or by a servant. But conditions are changing in regard to this matter, as in all other things. With the advent of what is known as the New Woman there has grown up a spirit of independence that has made it possible for a woman to go alone to almost every public assembly. In France, I believe, there are still many restrictions, but I think they are passing away even there; in American and Canada also our women enjoy a larger measure of freedom than in any other country on the globe.

It altogether depends on how we view good manners. To those who live to eat, I have no doubt it would be a great hardship to deprive them of their bon-bons or fruit, or any other eatables, as I suppose to these people it is half the pleasure of living. To those who only eat to live it would be quite possible to attend a theatre without supplying themselves with a meal. Personally, I think it very bad form, and would like to see the habit discontinued.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

Dear Madam,—Kindly let me know whether the bakers are on strike yet, and if there has been any settlement among them, as our baker said he heard there was a settlement, so I would like to know, as I am very much interested in it. And oblige,

Mrs. M.

Mrs. M., for the first question in your letter I refer you to last week's reply to Mrs. N. I have not heard of any settlement of the bakers' trouble. I would advise you to pay no attention to any statement made by outsiders. I have no doubt the bakers themselves will make an official announcement as soon as the trouble is over. It is pleasing to know that you are interested, and I hope you will use your influence in the right direction—on behalf of these men who are fighting for their existence. The winning of this battle will mean so much to them, and I think there is no field

in the economic struggle where women can do more. Supplying the staff of life is so purely the province of women that it is for her to show whether these men shall make a living wage or not. Use your voice, and above all, use your patronage, in showing the unfair firms that they cannot have things all their own way. It is the people who must decide.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

Dear Madam,—Would you kindly tell me if you take gentlemen members in the Women's International Union Label League, as I would like to join it. What are your fees and initiation?

And oblige,

Harry B.

Yes, I understand that union men are eligible for membership in the W. I. U. L. L. For information as to fees and conditions of membership you can get all you require from the secretary of league. You will find his address in the Roster of The Tribune. I am sure he will be glad to furnish you with all particulars.

Toronto, Oct. 9, 1905.

Dear Madam,—I thank you for the use made of my queries to you of the past week. Your replies are very satisfactory. If my guess in regard to your identity is correct, The Tribune will have an able and recognized champion of the labor movement for its Women's Department. Your answers open up a whole vista of questions before your enquirer. Woman has been used in the past for the furtherance of a great many movements, sometimes against her best interests.

The religions of the world would never have existed but for her unswerving loyalty to the animating principles which on the face of them could have no other effect but good. Women, recognizing intuitively those great truths, the Fatherhood of God, and its essential recognition, before the Brotherhood of Man could become possible, unquestionably followed the path, blazed right or wrong, their physis sense teaching them that what was best would live, irrespective of their teacher's aims in the matter.

The social and industrial questions naturally follow in the wake of political and religious freedom; in order to make them operative, we must obtain economic freedom. Naturally, those conditions of life assured, no one could have any objections to the fullest special freedom. All would be equals. Equals, peers, man or woman could not be coerced. Would you, in your next issue, give us some light on why the legal measures in the interest of those employed in factories and stores are so glaringly inoperative; also how can the employers and manufacturers, in your opinion, be forced to follow lawful methods in the premises?

Very truly yours,

An Enquirer.

It gives me considerable pleasure to welcome you again to Women's Department. I hope you will come often.

Yes, friend, women have been used in the past for the furtherance of great movements, and as you say, not always in her best interests. The reason why this should be so is, I think, not hard to find.

Women are naturally intuitive, but they do not always give intuition fair play. For ages past the emotional side of women's nature has been cultivated, to the exclusion of her logical reasoning powers. Why this is so is perhaps best known to men. She has done more from motives of sentiment than she otherwise would have done if she had allowed intuition full play; but there are women in the world who have cultivated the powers lying dormant in every woman, and the result is we have such women as Susan B. Anthony, Mrs. Cady Stanton, Mary Walstonecroft, Lady Florence Dixie, and many others, who have not waited for someone to blaze a path for them; they have made a path for themselves, with individuality enough to follow that path, looking neither to the right or left. In spite of the fact

that no abuse was too crude or coarse to level at these women, who dared to be natural, these women knew that what was best would live, without any reference to so-called teachers.

Yes, you are right, I think. Social and industrial questions are a part of the whole. I certainly think it would be impossible to have economic freedom without political freedom. Religious freedom we already have to some extent, but that economic freedom would make us all equal (oh, no), that all might have an equal opportunity. I grant you that intellectual or even physical equality is impossible, and as to the fullest social freedom, well, when men are able to discriminate between license and liberty, then, and not until then, can we have perfect freedom. I am afraid we have not reached that point yet. As to why legal measures are inoperative in factories and workshops, isn't it obvious why? Do you forget that those who make the laws are interested in seeing them made inoperative? Is it not true that many of those whom we (the people) send to make these laws are presidents and officials of corporations and trusts? How can you expect them to cut their own throats? Besides, was there ever a law affecting labor interests framed that did not have a loophole which made it ineffective?

It would be very difficult for me to outline any plan which would force employers and manufacturers to use careful methods in their dealings with their employees. The only method I can see is perfect organization of the workers, not only industrially, but politically. The remedy is in the hands of the people themselves.

HOW IT LOOKED.

"Dear John," wrote Mrs. Newlywed from the shore, "I enclose the hotel bill."

"Dear Jane, I enclose check," wrote John, "but please don't buy any more hotels at this price—they are robbing you."

HEREDITY.

Milley—You think, then, that the children inherit the chills and fever from their parents?

Ralph—Certainly I do. Their mother was a Boston girl and their father came from Cuba.

ONLY A DREAM.

She—I dreamed last night that you and I were married.

He—Weren't you glad?

"Awfully—when I woke up!"

LITTLE TO REQUIRE.

Ethel—Don't you think that marriage should be a civil contract?

Beatrice—Well, I think they should at least be civil until the honeymoon is over.

NATURAL INFERENCE.

Mrs. Smith—I called my husband back to kiss him good-by this morning."

Mrs. Jones—And what did he say?

Mrs. Smith—He said, "What's the matter, Cordelia? Did you forget to go through my pockets last night?"

Eat none but union bread.

Union men who wear overalls all the week around an engine or lathe and get grease and smut on their hands are as good as the men who work in a suit of broadcloth with a "biled" shirt on. There are too many classes in labor ranks as well as in the church and in society. Six feet of earth will make them equal.