

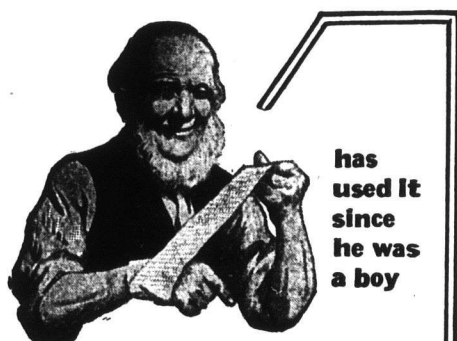
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Correspondence

A Debating Suggestion

Dear Editor and Readers — I am a reader of The Western Home Monthly, and I have often wished to join the ones who express their views through your correspondence page. I am teaching a country school east of La Fleche. I have a large number of foreign pupils, nearly all French. This is my fourth year as a pedagogue. I am of the opinion that we could, with the consent of some of your correspondents, form a sort of debating society. It would, I am sure, enable us to pass some very pleasant moments as well as being very beneficial to us. I would certainly like to encounter either "Sunshine," "Aloho Oe," or "Spitfire" in a good debate. Would also like to correspond with some of the other teachers on such things as might crop up which might prove interesting. Hoping to hear more of "Spitfire," I am—"Old Nick."

A Word for the City

Dear Editor and Readers—First of all, I must say how pleased we are to get a real Western magazine breathing the spirit of our great country. Nothing but optimism could exist in such a region as the land we call home, and your paper is a great factor in spreading this spirit broadcast. It is also a help to us in our daily problems, for which we thank you. Every page is good, but I am especially interested in that given over to correspondence. "November" is like a breeze from our mountain clime, vigorous and bracing, and I should like to meet more of her kind. To "Busy Bach" I would suggest as an easy way of dish-washing getting someone else to do it. Any better suggestions? "Sunshine" opens up a topic that could be discussed from now till doomsday. I am a city girl and have no complaints to make about my lot. The country may be lovely, no doubt is, but I think the city deserves its share of praise. I know our city does, for beauty in every form exists here—hills and chasms, streams and waterfalls, trees and flowers, and, best of all, blue skies and singing birds. We give "Sunshine" an invitation to come and see it. Some has said that Ralph Connor was their favorite author. Yes, he is the true genius of the West, and portrays through that magic pen of his scenes that make our eyes kindle and hearts throb with joy to call it our home. Oh, that there were more like him! But I must not take up too much space, so will close by wishing our magazine the success it deserves.

— "Maid of the West."

P.S.—I enclose some verses.

OH, SOUL OF THE WEST!

Oh, Soul of the West! thy children teach,
Make us brave and strong that we may reach
The prize that thou givest to all who run
The race of the strong which can be won.

Oh, Soul of the West! great, brave and kind,
May we thy precepts bear in mind;
May we in thought and deed be true,
And do unto others as we'd have them do.



Drinking in every detail!

Oh, Soul of the West! the glorious West,
May we be equal to the test
That thou hast given to each and all
Of those who hearken unto thy call.

Oh, Soul of the West! may thy sons grow
In strength and grandeur as thou hast grown;
May we, like our sires, love all mankind,
And do deeds of kindness when chance we find.

Then, Soul of the West! we too will be
Great, as thou'rt great, true, brave and free;
And in the growth of the years we will prove
That great is our nation—the land we most love.

A Daughter of the Soil

Dear Editor and Readers—This is my first letter to The Western Home Monthly, but I have often read the letters and wished I belonged to such a friendly circle. Now, I see my wish come true, and I have arrived at last. "Spitfire," we have many things in common, being members of the same profession. I read with interest your letter in the April number. What you say regarding teacher's residences has a great deal of truth in it. So very few of us have mothers or sisters who are able to be with us, and even maiden aunts are scarce in this country, that a teacherage would not be an unmixed blessing. Of course, in many of our foreign districts it may be necessary, but in most places throughout the West (at least in my experience) the teacher is taken in and made one of the family if she cares to make herself agreeable. Of course, even in boarding houses, as in other things, there is the exception that proves the rule. Enough for school teachers. Girls, have you discovered a name which fits a man who does his own housekeeping? Now here is a chance to become famous by adding a new word to our glorious, but incomplete language. Get busy! I am not going to wish you luck as I am cheering for myself, but I do love competition. "Sunshine," you have advanced a subject for discussion which many of us see at a different angle. I am a farmer's daughter, but have spent much of my life in towns and cities. I have always been a devoted daughter of the soil, but this winter has rather damped my enthusiasm. Perhaps when I hear a meadow lark and pick my first crocus, I shall return to my old allegiance, but I am afraid the first breath of next November will send my heart fluttering down into my "brogans" and, like the birds, I shall basely desert in face of the foe. As this is my first letter, I do not wish to take up space. May I come again and visit? I love visiting and enjoy letters. My address is with the editor. Au revoir.

— "Bubbles."

About the Teacherage

Dear Editor and Readers—We have taken The Western Home Monthly for many years and I usually read the correspondence section with much interest,

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