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a small sum of Money,
Owner can have same
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Letting Out the Tucks.

By RUTH CAMERON.

One need not be a judge to need the judicial mind. Just about every one of us could use it just about every day. For instance, the difference between two pupils; the mother (elsewhere I have referred to her as the mother and a girl) trying to discipline wisely and the father in his business department, in deciding to spend our money most

judicial mind needed for the Budget.

In the last need of the judicial mind I am thinking of most every day. A woman who has to budget on a rising income, the matter to her attention, spoken of being interested in the budget. "I had of course, I like to," she said. "I've a good mind to let it be. And then, impulsively, I let it be letting out too many

thought they were justified in spending more.

Let me explain, she went on: "I know we have rather more to spend than we did a year ago, and it is the hardest part of me to decide just where and how to spend. The first year that John's income was so well and we began to let out tucks every year, and as you know, I went to a better apartment, had dancing and piano lessons for the children where I had been having them for the before. And then we indulged in all sorts of little ways, like lunch at a good place if it was lunch at noon. We went to the theatre often and John started a much more expensive cigar and bringing me home flowers."

"You can guess what she asked."

"An income half as much as we had had the previous

year, we didn't save quite as much."

Too Many Tucks Let Out Spoil The Fit.

"That taught us a lesson. We needed to let out some tucks, but we had let out so many tucks in our expenses that they were too large for our income, instead of too small. Of course, it would have been foolish not to let out any tucks, but the point is when to stop. You can't let out everywhere, and you have to decide what you want most and what counts the most and let other things go. It's the hardest thing."

"I think," she concluded, "that I will accept the loan of that book after all."

And I gave it most gladly, having already been amply repaid (if repayment were necessary) in the suggestive story of too many let-out tucks spoiling the fit.

Fortunes in War Stamps.

How much money has been invested in postage-stamps issued in consequence of the war? Two issues of Red Cross stamps of the Belgian Congo are of a total face value of about \$3, and if anybody wants a single set of similar stamps for North Borneo he will have to pay for it about \$4. Yet that is only a beginning.

A collection must include some stamps of German Togoland, and these are priced from a few shillings up to £160 apiece, though the rarer varieties are now generally from £40 to £70 each.

Other essential items are German New Guinea, Bursah, Bagdad, and other stamps illustrating occupation by the Allies. Now, for a certain New Guinea stamp, issued at 4d., the market price is £150, and stamps of Bursah, and Bagdad are so rare that forgeries are cropping out—one by one, of course—everywhere.

"Errors," too, are wanted, and these—phew! The Jamaica 1/4d. orange war stamp, for instance, costs in the usual way about 5d.; but if the surcharge is printed "WAR STAMP" the price is £65. While, again, you can have a perfect Trinidad war stamp for 1s. 3d., or less, you are asked £300 for one with the surcharge—"War Tax"—upside down!

But do collectors actually pay such amazing prices for rarities? As a fact, one recently gave £700 for two Togo stamps.

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Just Folks
THE THINGS THAT ARE NOT SO.
I sometimes think we grown-ups know too many things that are not so; We spend our time, or so it seems, Shattering the children's fondest dreams, And filling little eyes with mist By proving fairies don't exist.

Perhaps we ought to teach the youth To tread the rugged way of truth, And make them think this world a place Where everything is commonplace And only that is true, which they Can see and touch from day to day.

And yet that robs each girl and boy Of all imaginary joy Who follows strictly Truth's stern laws, Deprives a child of Santa Claus, And takes from every rose bush fair The fairies that are dwelling there.

When children ask if things are so, It's seldom that I tell them, "No." In fancy's fashion I contrive To keep their fairy-folk alive. Rather than end their dreams in grief, I try to strengthen their belief.

I tell of fairies I have met Dancing about the misgenette, And as their eyes are open wide With wonderment, with tender pride I scratch my dull, slow-witted head Recalling what they did and said.

I think for such a golden life I'll be forgiven by and by. Too soon those little eyes will weep O'er broken dreams they cannot keep. Too soon, I'm sure, they'll come to know How many cherished joys aren't so.

Spanish Flu
Claims Many Victims in Canada and should be guarded against.

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Giant Rafts.

One of the most important devices to overcome the shortage of shipping is the construction of giant rafts for timber carrying. Not many weeks ago one of these structures, displacing 6,000 tons, completed the passage between a Swedish and a Danish port, a distance of 450 miles, and so successful was the experiment that it is to be developed.

A British firm of importers has ordered two of these timber carriers for a rafting service across the North Sea, and the United States Railway Administration placed contracts recently for forty barges for a regular service on the Mississippi River. These will have a capacity of 2,000 tons each.

When Women Marry.

(By Statistical Expert.)

It is said that thousands of so-called "old maids" would be wearing wedding-rings to-day if they had only made a little study of their matrimonial chances and profited by it. If, for example, they had known the best period at which to secure a husband, and in what particular class of men to look for him.

Thus it is useful to know that the great "harvest time" for the spinster is between the ages of twenty-five and twenty-nine; for, rather strange to say, it is during these five years that a woman's chances of a husband are at their rosiest, when one spinster out of every eight wears a wedding-gown.

Odds Against the Flappers.

At the ages of twenty to twenty-four, when she naturally considers herself more attractive to men, the odds against her are much greater—actually twelve to one; and at the later period, thirty to thirty-four, if she marries at all, she will be the only lucky one of twenty-three of the same age.

At fifteen to nineteen she has only one chance in seventy-two; and after thirty-four her prospects of the altar dwindle until at forty they are only one in fifty-nine.

Thus the spinster in search of a husband will be wise to practise her allurements for all she is worth in her late twenties.

If a woman has already worn one wedding-ring and is hoping for another, she will find her chances better even than when she was a maid; for in the race for the matrimonial stakes the betting is always on the widow, against the spinster.

Thus between twenty and twenty-four the widow's chance of a husband is sixty per cent. greater than that of the spinster of similar age. Between twenty-five and thirty-four, it is nearly twice as good; and during the next ten years it is as forty to twenty-three.

The Merry Widow.

And the widow scores not only at every age, but in both sections of the matrimonial field. It is true that it is a close race for the bachelor stakes, the widows capturing, on the average, more in the thousand than the spinsters; but when it comes to fascinating widowers, they win "hands down," taking three for every two that fall to the spinster's lot.

Thus while the spinster is making hay during the best harvest period (and, indeed, at every other age) she must keep a sharp eye on the "merry widow," who is her most formidable rival.

No less important than for a woman to know when her chances are at their best, it is to know where to look most hopefully for the husband she wants.

Thus one bachelor of twenty-five to

thirty-four is matrimonially worth forty boys under twenty; three men of thirty-five to forty-four; or eight of forty-five to fifty-four.

The woman who wishes to give herself the best chance of success will thus bring her batteries to bear on the man of twenty-five to thirty-four, and leave the younger and older men alone. If she fails (and we hope she won't), she can next turn her fascinations on the men in the next group, thirty-five to forty-four, with some hope of success.—Tit-Bits.

LIFE IS EXPENSIVE.

My week of honest toil is done, subsidised is my smoke; I draw down quite a bunch of mon—and yet I'm always broke. My friends remark, "With what you earn expense should be sweet; you should have coin to burn and live in Easy Street." But oh, the fierce and frightful cost of everything that's made! My bank account looks like a frost, when all my bills are paid. The dentist plugs my hollow tooth, nor needs my shrieks and groans, and when he's done he said, "In sooth, my charge is twenty bones." The surgeon amputates my limb, and feeds me pills of nux, and says, his manner stern and grim, "Dig up a hundred bucks. Mechanics, men of wondrous skill, repair my buzz-buzz cart; and when they bring along their bill I have a broken heart. I spend some coin at every turn, no charge is ever small; it makes no odds how much I earn I have to blow it all. Last night I met a millionaire, grown rich on oil and steel; he wished to ride, but lacked the fare, and borrowed half a wheel. The soul replines, the spirit droops, existence comes so high; will prices ever loop the loops? Will profiteering die?

Milady's Boudoir.

ABOUT SELECTING RUGS.

"We have taken on the study of rugs in school," remarked Marjorie petulantly one day, hurling her books into the very corner and displaying rather a bold showing of temper. "Do you like the study of rugs, Mademoiselle?" asked Marie. "Of course not, why should they interest me, and I care not whether a Persian rug is meant for the kitchen or the library, and I don't believe you do either."

"I cannot agree with you," replied Marie. "I have travelled through Brussels, Paris, and in fact, all the oriental countries, where rugs mean more than furniture, and I must admit that they have come to mean a great deal in my life, too."

"For instance, if you were furnishing a home, you would realise that whatever rugs you select you have to use for a long while, because of their great cost. You would then wish to choose the very best in quality as well as in artistic value."

"Rugs bear in their weavings and colorings, ancient symbolism and if you were to know the stories of all the rugs in your home, it would interest you, and your friends. Sometimes, romances are intricately woven in the rugs. Tapestries too, portray stories."

"Well, I had not thought of that. It is interesting, isn't it?" Marjorie reluctantly admitted.

"Oh, you will find it very interesting, and you will grow to love rugs as you do books and pictures. Good rugs last a life time, and become more beautiful with long usage."

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