

In Case of Fire.

In case of fire, if the burning articles are at once splashed with a solution of salt and nitrate of ammonia an incombustible coating is formed. This is a preparation which can be made at home at a trifling cost, and should be kept on hand. Dissolve 20 pounds of common salt and 10 pounds of nitrate of ammonia in 7 gallons of water. Pour this into quart bottles of thin glass and fire grenades are at hand ready for use. These bottles must be tightly corked and sealed to prevent evaporation, and in case of fire they must be thrown near the flames, so as to break and liberate the gas contained. At least two dozen of these bottles should be ready for an emergency.

In this connection it is well to remember that water on burning oil scatters the flame, but that flour will extinguish it. Sift thrown upon a fire if the chimney is burning will help to deaden the blaze.

If a fire once gets under headway a covering becomes a necessity. A silk handkerchief moistened and wrapped about the mouth and nostrils prevents suffocation from smoke; failing this, a piece of wet flannel will answer.

Should smoke fill the room, remember that it goes first to the top of the room and then to the floor. Wrap a blanket or woollen garment about you, with the wet cloth over your face, drop on your hands and knees and crawl to the window.

Bear in mind that there is no more danger in getting down from a three-story window than from the first floor if you keep a firm hold of the rope or ladder. Do not slide, but go hand over hand.

Some Enterprising Soap-Bubble Tricks.

"Any one can perform these soap-bubble tricks by the exercise of a little care," writes Meredith Nugent, in *The Ladies' Home Journal* for July. "To make a bubble rest upon a flower dip a dahlia or other stiff-petaled flower into the solution and then with a pipe or funnel blow a bubble upon the top of it.

"To make bubbles and noise, dip the end of an ordinary tin fish horn well into the solution and blow gently until quite a large bubble has been formed. Then four or five loud blasts may be sounded on the horn without injuring the bubble in the least.

"To make six bubbles inside of one another, dip the end of a straw in the soapy water and after resting the wet end upon an inverted plate or sheet of glass, which should have been previously wet with the solution, blow a bubble about six inches in diameter. Then dip the straw well into the solution again, thrust it through the centre of this first bubble and blow another. Continue in this manner until the bubbles have all been placed."

A Quick Reply.

That quick wit is not confined to cities was proven last spring by a young woman who was rambling along one of our roads.

She was dressed smartly, and when she met a small bare-legged urchin carrying a bird's nest with eggs in it, she did not hesitate to stop him.

"You are a wicked boy," she said. "How could you rob that nest? No doubt the poor mother is now grieving for the loss of her eggs."

"Oh, she don't care," said the boy, edging away, "She's on your hat."

Girls' Outfits for Summer Visits.

A CAREFUL SELECTION SHOULD BE MADE AND THE TRUNKS SHOULD NOT BE TOO LARGE.

When we are to be guests at a friend's house or at an inn we need not transport thither our entire wardrobe. A little planning will indicate the trim, short traveling skirt, the shirt-waist and jacket, and the neat sailor hat for the journey; the pretty reception dress, the evening and dinner costume, and the ample supply of fresh waists for everyday wear, with golf and bicycle skirt. A small trunk and a hand-bag will usually contain an outfit for a fortnight's visit, and a dress-suit case lends itself accommodatingly to the requirements of three or four days or a week. Experienced travelers cross the Atlantic and spend three months in Europe encumbered with less luggage than some young women carry to the White Mountains or to the Adirondacks for a single month. For many reasons a trunk is a comfortable adjunct when a person is away from home, but it should not be too large and it should be judiciously packed.—Margaret E. Sangster, in *The Ladies' Home Journal* for July.

Good-Night.

GORDON A. MAY, IN *LESLEY'S MONTHLY* FOR JULY.

Good-night.

The tiny stars peep out on high;

The silvery moon; the dark blue sky.

The zephyrs whisper; the owls cry.

Good-night.

Good-night.

The busy marts of trade are still;

The water murmurs o'er the mill;

While softly sings the whippoorwill.

Good-night.

Good-night.

The children scamper off to bed,

And "Now I lay me down," is said;

The candle snuffed, the Bible read.

Good-night.

Good-night.

The church bells toll; the west winds sigh;

The hearth-fires flicker, and then die,

While prayer is raised to God on high.

Good-night.

Good-night.

So when the night of death is nigh,

And heaven's gates before us lie,

We'll gently whisper as we die,

Good-night.

The Giant of Bad-Habit Land.

In Bad-Habit Land there lives a very ugly and terrible giant. He is king, and all the people do his bidding every day and night. He never pays them with anything but tears and trouble, and he is so strong that they can never get away from him. It is his wicked delight to steal little people; so look out, boys and girls, for the roads of I-don't-want-to-mind and I-will-have-my-own-way lead straight to his castle.—Selected.

Sparks From Other Anvils.

Christian Observer:—There has been a discussion of late in the *Atlanta Constitution* on the question whether there is a hell or not. If the discussion could settle the fact, there might be some use in it. But since God has declared that there is a hell, a wiser subject of debate would be how we may escape it.

Christian Guardian:—In many spheres of labor to-day total abstinence is a necessity to the highest success. And it will be increasingly so as the years go by. We should teach our boys in the home and the Sunday-school, and day-school as well, that liquor-drinking is mortal folly and sin, and that it is economic folly and suicide as well.

Lutheran Observer:—Character has come to have a commercial value, but still more has it value in the treasure laid up in heaven and in the peace of mine and soul which it gives on this earth. The highest character that man can have, the character that includes everything which means integrity and honor, is that of the earnest, faithful follower of Christ.

Belfast Witness:—No we have only to say on this matter that the way is open to co-operation and fraternity in Scotland or anywhere else, if the Episcopalian Church will take the first essential and indispensable step, that is ACKNOWLEDGE THE CATHOLICITY AND APOSTOLICITY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. So long as the Church denies that the other is a Church at all, with valid orders and Sacraments, it is mere sentimental twaddle to talk of unity.

Presbyterian Witness: There is no trouble concerning the Confession in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The trouble at present is largely confined to our brethren in the United States. Some want a greater emphasis on the love of God, and a clear statement of the duty of evangelizing the Heathen world. Others propose that, leaving the Confession unchanged, a statement should be prepared declaring in the language of to-day how the Church understands certain sections. Our own conviction is that it is best to leave the Confession untouched, and to express anew in present day English its doctrines, as has been done, for example, by the Presbyterian Church in England, and with greater reserve by the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

Christian Observer:—The members of any Church should be familiar with the main tenets of the Church with which they hold connection. They should be able to give a reason for the hope that is in them, and to understand why they have connection with this or that branch of the Church. For Presbyterians in particular this is of the utmost significance. They have splendid creed statements in their Confession of Faith and Catechisms. As instruments of religious instruction, these are unsurpassed. They gather up into concise form the main teachings of the Scriptures upon the great verities of the Christian religion. They do not take the place of the word of God, but they give its interpretation in a comprehensive summary. Presbyterians should use what is their heritage in this respect, and not remain ignorant of the teachings of their Church.

Teacher (after some explanation)—Now, children, what is an epidemic?

Bright Scholar:—It's where everybody gets sick and we don't have to go to school for ever so long.