

# Practical Arts and Pictorial Diversion for Women



HUMANITARIANS

Coll's Weekly Cartoon on American Society.

## Women's Ways of Making Money

Many Make Their Living by the Profession of Teaching—How to Succeed

By Cynthia Westover Alden

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OUT of the whole number of women in the United States, American and foreign-born, educated and uneducated, black, white, yellow and red, about one in every fifty-five makes a living at teaching, in the public schools, in the private schools, in the Sunday schools, in the A. B. C. schools, in the spelling, in the penmanship, in the English grammar and the higher, if less important, scholastic acquisitions.

In New York city the whole population is rather less than four millions, and the number of adult women less than eight hundred thousand. There are more than eleven thousand women teachers in the public schools alone, and those employed in the parochial and private schools at the same work bring the number up to more than fifteen thousand. Figure it out for yourself. Then, remember that while in many villages and small cities the proportion is less, because the economies of the graded school are not balanced by so large an influx of outside pupils as come to New York or Boston or Philadelphia, in the country districts, where one teacher often has less than fifteen children in her school and where the teachers must, therefore, be more numerous as compared with population, I think you will agree with me that the ratio in New York stands for the average all over the country.

Now, any one occupation that attracts and holds nearly 2 per cent. of the adult women in the country is worth the careful consideration of the young woman who has her living to make. Remember, I say young woman here. Teaching is a profession to be learned, and accepted as a life matter, always admitting the possibility of having it cut short by matrimony. Barring this, it should end only in death, or a pension for long and faithful services. The mature woman can no more expect to learn it than she could expect to learn surgery. It may as well be understood, then, that this article is for the young.

The ambition to be a teacher is legitimate and proper, even regarded as distinct from the ambition to earn wages. The teacher has the best opportunity in the world to do something worth making the world better. Nevertheless, I presume the number of girls who think of it much, except as a means of getting a living, is small. Idealists are always in the rather petty minority.

**Pay of Teachers.** The pay of teachers runs from \$200 a year up to about \$1500. To quote higher figures would be misleading, and yet there are several women in the metropolitan educational system who make \$2000 or \$3000 a year, and three who make \$4000. The latter are district superintendents, the former principals. As out of the rank, and the chances of women for getting the higher salaries paid for the superintending of teachers are growing better every year. It may be stated without qualification that there is no field open to the sex where there is so much scope for the ambition that craves practical success as this one.

Even in the country, where fifty years ago the teacher was a "poor old woman," and got, in addition to a somewhat eccentric livelihood, from \$20 to \$30 a month, there has been a great improvement. Boarding around is obsolete, and if wages are not too high, they are in fair proportion with the expenses of living in the community where they are paid. The minimum in New York is \$60 a year, or \$16 for each week of actual teaching, allowing twelve weeks

for vacations. Increases are provided by law, automatic in their operation, and based on length of service. I believe no American city deals more liberally with its teachers than this, and so the showing may be regarded as the high-water mark in the high-water country of the world, so far as recognition of the dignity of the teacher's profession goes. There is a pension also paid after twenty-five years of service. That is half of the salary drawn at the time of quitting, and it is generally enough to provide for old age.

Most of the positions, as noted above, are public positions, the salaries being paid by the taxpaying community. It follows that, to some extent, the coveted places go to the daughters or sisters of men who have political influence in the neighborhood. This is true in larger measure of the country than of the city. But so many have to be chosen in the aggregate that there is plenty of chance for a capable young woman who is willing to wait her opportunity, substitute where she can and get impatient.

**Hours on Duty.** The hours of work are really longer than they appear. It seems, at first thought, as if the time from 8:45 to 12, and from 1:45 to 3 P. M. makes a brief working day. And when, in addition, the would-be teacher thinks that there is no evening work, and that only five days in the week are expected of any one, she grows enthusiastic. But I have known teachers who would spend the evening hours in their rooms, often up to midnight, conscientiously reading and correcting compositions, or marking examination papers; who make it a point to call on the parents of difficult pupils, after school hours, and had little time to themselves, after all.

They were the good teachers. Unless you are going to be a good teacher, don't try it at all. Therefore, I hope the supposed shortness of hours will not be an element in your selection of this occupation. The vacation is an especial inducement. It's a slight suggestion of heaven to a girl who has contemplated shop work to think of twelve weeks each year to be spent at her own sweet will, with money enough to go where she pleases. And I don't advise you to ignore this. It is legitimate and proper to rest after a hard year's work. You are in better shape for the next year.

In the matter of tenure of office, teachers are much better off than they used to be. Absolute subordination to the use of a political board exists almost nowhere. Most of the States have a superintendent, who has the final judgment on the removal of a teacher. This, however, is in many sections able to keep part of the teacher by employing teachers on yearly contracts, and re-employing them or not, as they see fit.

## Some Points for the Woman With One Servant

How the Table Should be Set—Teaching Maid to Wait on Table

By Eleanor B. Clapp

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THE mistress of some households seem to imagine that because they are only able to afford a "girl for general housework" it is impossible for her to wait on the table properly. No matter how light her duties may otherwise be.

Now, when the family is small and the work not too heavy, one domestic, with a little assistance from the lady of the house, can easily do it all and yet find time to pass the viands correctly at dinner. At breakfast or luncheon, unless guests are present, all that should be required of such a maid in the way of waiting is that she be like "Sally" in "David Harum," who was for "bringing in and taking out," leaving the family to do their own waiting.

Now, it is not at all difficult to teach a servant to wait on the table properly if one is only willing to take the requisite time and pains. First show the maid how to set the table as it should be done. Remove the cloth that covers it between meals, fold this carefully, and put it away. Then cover the table with the Canton flannel or felt pad that should always be under the tablecloth to make it smooth and soft; next the cloth itself, is put in place, care being taken to get it straight. Impress also upon the maid that when she removes the cloth to put it away she must fold it in the form of a growing plant with the pot disguised by a pretty wrapping of crepe

paper. If no other floral decoration is available. Lay at one end of the table before the head of the family a white linen carving cloth where the roast or principal dish of the meal is to be served. It is very pretty, as well as extremely fashionable, to light the table with candles in tall silver or glass or china holders. Either two or four of these can be used, placed diagonally on the table, one at each end, and the other two in the center. Now, if guests are expected, tiny dishes of cut-glass or silver—two or at most three for a small dinner—should be placed on the table. Of course, to a great extent, this depends on the menu and the number of courses at the dinner. At an ordinary dinner, this cover consists of two or three of the following: a small silver or glass salt cellar, next to the glass salt cellar next to the glass salt cellar. These should be of the open "shaker" or "individual" type, no longer considered in good taste. Tiny silver pots, one of black and one of red pepper, are put on the table, either the oil or vinegar cruets or a can of water, as it is considered better taste to serve these latter articles from the sideboard.

### SETTING THE TABLE

Now, let us consider each individual place, or "cover," to use what somebody once called it "professionalism," this depends on the menu and the number of courses at the dinner. At an ordinary dinner, this cover consists of two or three of the following: a small silver or glass salt cellar, next to the glass salt cellar next to the glass salt cellar. These should be of the open "shaker" or "individual" type, no longer considered in good taste. Tiny silver pots, one of black and one of red pepper, are put on the table, either the oil or vinegar cruets or a can of water, as it is considered better taste to serve these latter articles from the sideboard.

When there is much fever or there is much blood or mucus in the stools, it is well to irrigate the bowels. This treatment will often help to bring down the fever. If possible, the doctor or the trained nurse should do this, at least for the first time; but if the mother is too far away to obtain such help in time, when going any distance from stores for the first time, the mother should take a fountain syringe and a soft rubber catheter, which will be found invaluable in time of need. This catheter must be a very long one and have a hole at the end, as well as one at the side.

The fountain syringe should be filled with a quart of warm water, which has been boiled and cooled to a temperature of 95 to 100 degrees. Add a teaspoonful of salt and hang or hold the bag about three feet above the child. The catheter should be inserted into the rectum of the syringe and pushed to the end of the syringe and held. Place the child on the table on his back or a little turned to the left side—the table should be covered with a pad and rubber cloth and have a basin close to the end of the table and a little below it so that the water which will flow from the child's rectum will run into the basin. The child's legs should be bent at right angles to his

body and the catheter gently inserted into the rectum for about two inches; then turn on the water and allow it to flow gradually into the intestines and come out again beside the tube, carefully pushing the catheter up until it is nearly all inside the intestines; if it does not go up readily, no force should be used. After a quart of water has been used leave the catheter in the intestines, but detach it from the syringe and very gently knead the abdomen of the baby so that the remaining water will run out through the catheter. When no more water comes, remove the catheter gently. Once a day for the first time, if the mother is unable to do this, or if the baby is restless or has much fever, do not forget that an alcohol sponge will often help him more than anything else. Frequently the mother will be all that is necessary to stop an attack of diarrhoea; but sometimes blinnet and other drugs are needed and should be ordered by a doctor.

### LEGGINGS FOR BABY

THE cutest baby legging is made of corduroy, or of the most durable of white. They are made to come all the way from the feet, buttoning closely from the knees down. Corduroy, even in delicate colors, has plenty of wear in it, and the lighter shades can be washed as often as they need to—white without showing in the least that it has been washed, and pink and blue showing it scarcely at all.

## Simplicity Best in the Trousseau

Too Many Young Women of Limited Means Indulge in Lavish Expenditures

Did you ever notice how some young women prepare for their wedding? They have been taken, some time or other, into the room where these treasures are stored, and introduced with much ado to drawers and closets full of lace and muslin finery, and to a big chest of shoes and hats and negligees and fine gowns. You admire extravagantly, and perhaps make a contribution to help swell the hoard.

Then you consider the circumstances of the girls' families. Their competence is very modest; perhaps they are really poor. In most cases the young women earn their own living. You look at this array and preparation, costing hundreds of dollars, and you say to yourself in consternation, "What are these girls thinking of?"

What indeed! Many young women seem to think that they are not properly equipped to launch into their new happiness unless they possess trunks full of expensive finery. Now, just think about it, girls! What real significance have clothes at this time? Though, alas! in many a wedding they are by a good percentage the most important consideration. Are you not coming to the man you love, laying at his feet in honest surrender an open heart, your own true self? And surely it is you he is thinking of, not the dearest of his bride, but the woman who has been to him just as you have always lived—modestly, simply? Is there anything dearer to him in this world than just yourself—just as he met you; just as he has known you; just as he takes you now to himself?

Of course, the girls who have lived in luxury, and who will continue to move with money at every turn, spend lavishly on their trousseaus. But that is nothing new to them. Their wedding prepara-

tions are only in accordance with the way they have always lived. To be sure, the wedding day is too dear a time to every young heart not to have special preparation. All the things dear to a bride should be tenderly gathered together. The "things" should be new; and they should be dainty and sweet—just like their owner. But, looking at it in its true light, nothing is so foolishly out of place as fancy, expensive lingerie, in lavish quantities, in the wardrobe of a bride of limited means. It is a fact to be lamented that the majority of young women are in this class, which sees nothing beyond as big a display as can possibly be managed. Not mentioning it as a matter of good taste, would it not be more practical, if the bride has but a few hundred dollars, to spend it upon some furnishing for the new home—something that both can enjoy together in comfort and sweet peace when trousseau furbelows are long ago worn out? But, you say, your fiancé is a man of means and can give you at the start all you could possibly want. Well, then, let your trousseau be simple and modest, like your past living, for principle's sake. Let him do so in fine clothes afterward, let him do so in his heart's content. But in the name of all that's practical, modest and tasteful, when you come to the one man in the world, come as you own true self, decked in clothes pretty and new and new, but not costing one penny beyond what you can afford. A word to the wise: The neater and sweeter you are, the more you show your true self, the more you show your greatest happiness in this wedding day is that you are coming into him, the happier he will be and the more will he devote his heart and life to you.

## Inexpensive Doll Furniture

SOME of the prettiest doll furniture ever invented was made for a little girl's Christmas gift last year out of nothing more costly than pale blue silesia and pasteboard boxes.

A two-pound candle box turned upside down, with the lid standing up at one end and a smaller piece of pasteboard fastened on the other end, formed the foundation for a bed.

These pieces were sewed together with strong thread, the tops of the respective headboards, and the inverted bottom of the box taken out and reset in the empty four-sided arrangement about half way down. Then the whole thing was neatly covered with silesia, and a bit of thin white stuff was laid over it and sewed firmly in place.

The bed clothes in themselves were a joy to the small mortal who received the gift. Tiny sheets were carefully hemmed, and the blanket was as cunning as could be—just a bit of flannel, buttoned around the raw edges with dotted swiss, with a lining of pale blue silesia, edged all the way round with lace. There was even a wee quilt, made of white cheesecloth and cotton batting, tufted with coarse blue silk.

Out of a wee box was made a tiny bed, in which the tiniest of all the dolls was put for frequent naps. The chairs were rather more imposing, although they were simply made of little square boxes for seats, with a longer piece of the pasteboard for a back. But the raw cotton was generously laid on both sides and back, covered with silesia and carefully tufted.