# NOTES AND REFLECTIONS.

HIEF among the tendencies of the moment as regards representative New York women, says a presum' ably well-informed writer on social topics in the New York Herald, is a most marked idea of economy. Economy in every way, even to the saving of the pennies, let alone the dollars, has come to be a growing enthusiasm. That this is not a theory, but a genuine condition, and that women with the biggest sort of incomes are actually practising what they preach, can be learned from all the prominent tradesmen, as war is making many of them genuinely blue, for the accounts of many of their best customers are falling decidedly off.

The idea of the day is that the country may sooner or later need money, that at all events scores of new charities and aid societies will probably spring up and that they themselves should begin to save now in order that they may be prepared when the call for funds comes. That is the feeling among the women of the "sets," and they are showing their willingness to be ready by making all to manage a household. sorts of little sacrifices.

This has not been told in print, for the reason that these women have. naturally, not talked about it, but it is, nevertheless, a fact. The average woman of fashion is having about a third as many new gowns as usual, and she is buying far less in the way of fripperies and novelties. A much smaller quantity of goods is being ordered daily from the butcher, the baker and the grocer, and there are some women who are actually keeping a close watch on the sugar and butter in their pantries, to see that neither of these articles is wasted. This on the part of women who have never done such a thing in all their lives before. Servants are being discharged and establishments quietly reduced.

St. Francis of Sales wrote a little book for those wno lived piously and holily in the midst of the world. In it he says: "I venture to state that the longest interval between one Communion and another, for those who wish to lead a devout life, should never exceed the period of one month."

The Catholic Columbian recently contained an article commenting upon the lack of respect which is oftentimes shown by certain classes towards the pepper. girl that works. We take the following extract from it:

The girl that works for whom there should be most respect is not the one that takes to typewriting or other outside employment where she is not indisensable, in order to get away from housework at home, where she is much needed. Nor is she the offspring of well to do parents who is able to spend all her wages on herself and other extravagances. But she is the virtuous and dutiful girl that gives all that she makes above her own simple wants for the maintenance of her nearest and dearest-to pay the rent, to keep the family together, to educate the younger children, to secure a home for her father and her mother in their old age. High society has no one better than her. Queens might do her reverence. She is one of God's gentlewomen.

All honor to her—the girl that works!

A contributor to an exchange refers to some of the peculiarities of taste of Fruits as Poisons," closes a lengthy some people in regard to diet. Here is article to the current number in the folwhat he says :-

'It seemed to me at one time,' said a man who eats carefully, 'that I had seen the li it of eccentric eating when a man I knew used to make his luncheon regularly on a chocolate éclair and a cup of tea. More surprising than that was another friend or mine who told me that he like better than any breakfast he had ever eaten one that consisted of piece of blue fish and a glass ice oream soda. During the World's Fair at Chicago I saw four persons sitting at a table in the best restaurant there. They were, eating shad. With it the two men were drinking sherry cobblers, while the women had selected the judicious accompaniment of lemonade. That was, of course, a painful spectacle. But I decided that it was merely Chicago and only sighed. I have learned now that these eccentricities of taste are not local. Lemonade and shad in Chicago can be balanced against bluefish and ice cream as a little phenomenon that is likely to occur anywhere. The last painful sight of this kind that has added to my experience occurred at the last place in the world where such a thing might have been expected. It was in the small cafe of a French restaurant where the patrons go for the cooking and not to hear the music, see the crowd or do anything but eat. The other night a man sat in a quiet corner eating mussels a la marinière and drinking boiled milk. I take off my hat to him. Not only must his digestion be remarkable, but he has also succeeded ing, incongruous and terrifying combina ba enjoying it. More remarkable still was the fact of his nationality. He was a Frenchman, and so new was he to this country that he could not speak Eng-

America's greatest medicine is Hood's ever.

"Will the love you are so rich in Light a fire within the kitchen? Or the little god of love turn the spit?"

THOUSANDS of mechanics and laborers, says the Rev. F. J. Watzel in his charming book, entitled "A Guide for Girls in the Journey of Life," recently published by B. Herder of St. Louis, Mo., are robbed of the nourishment which is no idea how to use the different materials to the best advantage and tasty and digestible.

But if people, says the same writer, are well off it may be urged that they employ cooks and housemaids to do the work. That is true, but if the mistress of the house understands nothing at all about cooking or housekeeping, if she is obliged to trust entirely to her servants, how will she be regarded by her dependents? How much will be wasted and equandered in the house? How can peace and happiness dwell in the home, when such girls marry and have

"There is nothing more irritable than a cough," says a doctor sasociated with public institution. "For some time I had been so fully assured of this that I determined, for one minute at least, to lessen the number of coughs heard in a certain ward in a hospital of the institution. By the promise of rewards and punishments I succeeded in inducing them to simply hold their breath when tempted to cough, and in a little while I was myself surprised to see how some of the children recovered from the disease. Constant coughing is like scratching a wound on the outside of the body. So long as it is done the wound will not heal. Let a person when tempted to cough draw a long breath and hold it until it warms and soothes every air cell, and some benefit will soon be derived from this process. The nitrogen which is thus refined acts as an anodyne to the mucous membrane, allaying the desire to cough, and giving the throat and lungs a chance to heal. At the same time a suitable medicine will aid Nature in her effort to recuperate.'

The question of what we are eating and drinking is of serious import, says a contributor to a magazine. There have come to light in recent years facts about adulterants of food products which show an extraordinary condition of affairs.

We eat artificial eggs.
We dust powdered black walnut on our food under the impression that it is

We use cotton seed oil on a salad and think it is olive oil.

We spread oleomargarine fat on our

bread believing that it is butter. We are befooled and befuddled on every hand by the purveyors of food and drink until we are never safe from imposition at the table.

It is not so very uncommon a thing in Germany, says an exchange, for a servant girl to remain in the employ of one family for forty years. In such cases, when the fortieth year is reached, the girl gets a golden cross from Empress Augusta Victoria. Last year twelve dozens of these crosses were distributed. Only one went to a Berlin domestic. It speaks as well for the mistress as for the maid, when the latter turns forty years in her employ.

Mrs. Rorer, a frequent contributor to the Ladies' Home Journal, under the peculiar title of "Fruits as Foods and lowing manner :-

If man, then, persists in using or trying to use that for which he has neither power for digestion nor assimilation, he. must, without doubt, pay the penalty. To many persons strawberries are such a violent poison that a single dish will produce a rash in less than two hours. The cooking of the fruit seems to destroy this active, irritating principle, but again, here comes our fashion of adding

Canned or preserved fruits, as well as jame and kindred articles, are to be condemned on account of the mass of sugar used. With the fruits it is more prone to fermentation, and even if the sugar is inverted we have a far greater amount than can be cared for by the liver, and here is the origin of the "torpid liver" we hear so much about The liver is not torpid at all, it is simply overworked. The given capacity is exhausted.

Fruits as foods are, then, peaches, apricots, nectarines; ripe, mellow apples; dates, figs, fresh and dried; prunes soda here with tea and chocolate éclairs | without skins; persimmons, papaws: very ripe or cooked bananas; guavas without seeds-fresh or canned without sugar; pineapples, grated or finely picked, never cut; mangoes, grapes; sweet plums without skins, sugar cherries, and an occasional cooked pear. Bartletts are excellent when canned without sugar.

The fruits which must be used most sparingly are lemons, oranges, shaddocks, currants, barberries, cranberries and strawberries. This applies most emphatically to those persons who are inclined to uric acid conditions. The rheumatic and gouty should also most rigidly abiu devising a most unusual, unappetiz stain. The tender lining of the child's stomach cannot, certainly, bear such tion of food and drink. He seemed to fruits any length of time; serious results must follow. The ripe, mellow peach is really the child's fruit.

### A SURE CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

There is no such thing. Scott's Emul-Sarsaparilla, which cures when all other, sion comes the nearest to it, but even preparations fail to do any good what that will not cure advanced cases, but taken in time it will cure this disease. different tones will be highly favored all Cigar Store, St. Lawrence Hall.

THE costumes which appeal most directly to young women just at present are, which an American fashion specialist calls, the graduation gowns, especially the particular kind that can be utilized as party gowns later on. In a recent contribution to New York papers, this searcher of the news contained in the food they eat, and suffer | says :-- White organdies and dotted musfrom insufficient nutrition, because their lins are the most attractive among the wives do not understand cooking, have cheaper materials for this purpose, as they can be made over white lawn and how dishes are prepared so as to be ruches of the muslin, frills of narrow white satin ribbon or inexpensive lace insertion and edging. White India silk is a very pretty material, but white taffeta has the lead among the silks this season. In the first place it should form

summer, and skirts of gray vigogne, mohair, canvas, étamine, ladies cloth, and repped silk or wool will very largely take the place of the useful and universal black skirt so long worn with fancy waists and jackets. Some of the smartest toilets worn at the recent fashionable gatherings in Paris-on varnishing day, at the horse show, and the likewere made of gray in some striking or elegant combination or wholly of one handsome fabric, with white silk or satin guimpe, and vest front trimmed with gold or silver braid, or again combined with mauve, red, or Spanish yellow. In evening toilets are some exquisite gowns in gray crèpe de Chine, crépon, nun's veiling, silk, or silk gauze, or monseline de soie, made up over rose colored or brilliant coquelicot red satin or taffeta.

One of the speakers at the recent Mothers' Congress protested against the abuse of children by the most well trimmed with tucks, tiny hemmed meaning mothers. He spoke against the practice of sending little babies out in carriages all of whose fittings were of dazzling white, and urged his hearers to reflect for a moment how they suffer in a snow landscape, with the sun shining brightly on it. The speaker might have the petticoat to be worn with the most gone on, says a writer in the Post, N. Y. simple as well as the most elaborate and told of numerous other ways in gown. It is as carefully fitted about the which mothers sacrifice the comfort of



the petticoat, as well as the dress skirt, touch the floor, and trail just a little at the back. This lengthening of the skirt is a positive feature of all gowns which make any pretensions to style, while dressy gowns for the house and evening wear have decided trains.

With the white taffeta petticoat for a foundation the organdie gowns with a simple slip of the same muslin under neath hang very prettily. Some of the dress skirts are made with tiny tucks with an inch or two space between them, or lace insertion set in various designs, either in squares, points, diamonds, or battlement form, and edged with a gathered row of narrow white satin baby ribbon. The same designs are reneated in the bodice, which is usually a simple full waist fastened at one side with a frill of lace. Other waists are made with a lace trimmed yoke, and occasionally one is completed with a fichu of the muslin edged with lace frills.

The five gored skirt and the circular gowns, and the apron front with the deep flour ce is very much like i. as well as the straight around Spanish flounce. Cut this circular and cover it with narrow lace edged ruffles and you have a very pretty effect, or use the straight breadths, trim with insertion or tucks, and gather it on in the old-fashioned way. Very simple muslin gowns are made with the five-gored skirt trimmed with three four inch ruffles narrowly hemmed, and having three tiny tucks in each, set on with a cord and heading, fully their own width apart The bodice and sleeves are tucked crosswise, tucked frills trim around the shoulders in the form of a yoke, and white satin ribbon forms the collar band and belt.

Entire costumes of gray in very many has been drawn by Mr. A. E. Patno,

hips as a dress skirt, the upper portion their children on picturesque or convenextending only to the knee. Below this tional principles. The little middy are two circular flounces, which gather a suits, for example, in which the small little at the top, the lower being attach-boys are exceedingly effective, are any-ed to the upper about midway, and both thing but comfortable for the sturdy legs are finished on the edges and at the which they envelop. It is almost as head with narrow pink ruches of silk. hard to run in the wide flapping trousers as in skirts, and more than one highshould be long enough all around to spirited boy has been known to mutiny against this swathing style of dress. A few years ago little girls in their artistic Kate Greenaway gowns were subjected to a similar penance. If any one is entitled to freedom, it is certainly an active child, to whom the bondage of clothes spells misery.

> Ruth Ashmore, in the May issue of the Ladies' Home Journal, says :

I have always maintained that it was the duty of every girl to look her best. Sne may look her best in a dainty cotton gown which cost but little, and which was made by her own deft fingers; indeed, she may look elegant in the dress, simple as it is, provided it is becoming, adapted to the lady and place, and, most important of all, absolutely neat. Per fect neatness is the keynote to a good appearance. Therefore, the girl who wishes to look well-and that is just as much her duty as that she should do right-must study how to keep her wardrobe in good condition, so that each garcut are both employed for the thin white | ment may be ready for wear when it is needed. Untidyness should be an unknown quantity. I have little faith in an untidy girl. She who goes without buttons on her shoes, wearing a torn skirt, a dusty hat and soiled gloves, can never possess real stability of character. The learning how to care for one's belongings is almost as necessary as the learning how to live a good life.

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> > Second Capital Prize.

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# CHATS TO YOUNG MEN.

The man who has only visions of indolence in some fancy position, says Benedist Bell a regular contributor to the Sacred Heart R view, unfits himself for all kinds of labor, even Government work, for which the petty politicians are always intriguing, and which requires in its capture an amount of wirepulling, if not corruption, that seldom makes the game worth the candle. The last work I would advise a young man to do would be that of a so called political character. It presents so many temptations to dishonesty that, unless a young man has a strong will, he is apt to fall into the way of his more disreputable associates. Of course, all citizens should take an interest in the election of proper efficials, but eternal hanging around city balls, State houses and similar places in search of a fat salary for little labor is demoralizing. I do not mean to say that for nearly every public salaried position there are a hundred applicants.

The first requisite in a good citizen is to be a good man-honest, industrious, generous and truthful, writes Secretary of the Navy Long in the Christian Register. Not every good man, however, fulfile all the conditions of good citizen ship. A good citizen is not only upright in his personal, social and business relations, but he takes an interest in the welfare and government of his country. He gives his attention to the interest of the neighborhood, his town and his State. He first informs himself thoroughly with regard to public questions. He looks at both sides; he avoids prejudice; he votes at every election; he takes part in primary meetings for the nominations of the candidates; he is not discouraged or sour because he is not himself chosen for office, or because he is disappointed at the defeat of his friends; he knows that the government or the people is the government of all the people, and that 'all the people' means all shades and conditions of people; he knows that such a great mass cannot always ac: with the utmost dis cretion or wisdom, and that its action, on the whole, is the action of the aver age intelligence and honesty. If, there fore, things sometimes go wrong, he will only work the harder to make them go right, remembering that in the long run, though with many a twist and turn like

Tennyson's brook, things do go right. The good citizen will not confine his public service merely to political mat ters. He will be alive and enterprising in everything that benefits the community in which he lives; he will not be afraid to stand up for the right sentiment, and to resist the wrong: he will take part in bettering the conditions of those around him by his example, by his charity, and by his participation in whatever makes for the public good and he will have his reward in the broad ening and strengthening of his own life which will be in propertion to the broadening and strengthening influence he brings upon the life ground around him.

Many young men incline towards the very unmanly practice of prying into the private affairs of their neighbors. A writer in the Baltimore Sun deals with this class in the following manner. He

Like many other qualities, inquisitive ness may be reprehensible or commend able according to the use that is made of it and the tact with which it is employed. Lequisitive people learn a great deal, or at least get much information, and if they confine their inquiries to legitimate topics on which they have a right to be informed, and if, moreover, their enquiries are directed to the obtaining of solid infor nation that will be of use to them, their inquisitiveness serves a good purpose. It is far differ ent with that inqui-iveness which deals only with petty affairs or scandals, and which is directed not to the obtaining of legitimate information, but to prving into other people's affairs. That kind of inquisitiveness is an impertinence which is properly resented. Men have property rights in their thoughts and opinions as real as the property rights in their pocketbooks. To pry into their thoughts against their will is an offence comparable to filching from their pock-

Another writer refers to the young men who go about retailing little scan-

dals. He writes: There are many men who have neither the courage nor the malice to say any thing really bad about their acquaint ances, but who go about making illnatured little comments that do as much

harm as the most serious accusations. People are alienated from their best friends by just such stabs in the dark. A comment is made, or a speech repeated. which is really not much in itself, not even enough to take cognizance of, but the little rift is made—the rift within



the lute, which, widening slowly, maketh, all the music mute.' A dangerous man' is sometimes said of such a person, but society in general rather likes the amusing criticism, and does not trouble itself to find out the truth of such mild aspersions, and hence their danger.

'I wonder why so and so is so changed,' is a remark frequently heard. We used to be so friendly, and now we are almost strangers.' A state of affairs which is frequently brought about by injudicious speeches by one who is too feeble and colorless to be dignified into being considered an enemy.

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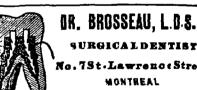
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