

In a year or two the fashion had very properly spread to nearly every household in the community. The women came to their senses. This episode shows in a grotesque way how foolish the human genus may be when it acts without thinking. The woman who first wore drawers in a New England village was taunted with not only wearing the garments of men, but with having designs on the vocations of men as well, and with being immodest. There appears to be a certain amount of truth in the criticism launched at this innovating lady, for the women of to-day not only wear the garments of men (beneath their skirts, of course), but have made serious inroads into the vocations of men, though no unprejudiced man will say that the women of to-day are immodest. The latest census in Britain shows that women are continuing to encroach on fields of industry formerly reserved for men. The returns, by occupations, show that there are 80 women auctioneers, 6 architects, 39 bailiffs, 316 blacksmiths, 3,071 brick-makers, 3,850 butchers, 54 chimney-sweeps, 1 dock laborer, 5,170 goldsmiths, 9,693 printers, 745 railway porters, 117,640 tailors, and 3 veterinary surgeons.

Effects of Boric Acid and Borax upon General Health.—The United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Chemistry. H. W. Wiley, Chief, has issued Circular 15, giving the plan of work and conclusions as to the effects of boric acid and borax on digestion and health. The interest of these experiments turns largely on the fact that borax is used in the preservation of butter and meats. The report shows that those who habitually eat butter and meat preserved with borax might be consuming half a gram, or a little more, of boric acid per diem. Would the ingestion of this amount be injurious to an otherwise healthy man? The report says: "The administration of borax and boric acid to the extent of one-half gram per diem yielded results markedly different from those obtained with larger quantities of the preservatives. This experiment, conducted as it was for a period of fifty days, was a rather severe test, and it appeared that in some instances a somewhat unfavorable result attended its use. On the whole, the results show that one-half gram per diem is too much for the normal man to receive regularly. On the other hand, it is evident that the normal man can receive one-half gram per diem of boric acid, or of borax expressed in terms of boric acid,