

The Home Circle.

THE ANNOYING, FUSSY GIRL.

The fussing girl is a real terror to the mother. She will do anything to get her own way in a day or a week. If she brings a dress, she knows that you will have to work it out for her. She will do anything to get her own way. She will do anything to get her own way.

While if she be a woman she is convinced that she has been specially sent by Providence to prevent others from growing content and easy, putting too much confidence in those around them, and generally settling on their feet—a new one puts it—but the recipients of her kind attentions say that her advent is a tornado that knocks them breathless and drives them a world of trouble to get their bearings right. It is only a few years ago that she was kindly scattered them to the four winds of heaven.

The fact is the individual who fusses, she who is, or she who would be, on one's nerves. One wishes that one could pick out one's sensibilities, wrap them in lead and pack them in properly loaded until she has passed by. Then perhaps one might be able to endure her, even perhaps in a way enjoy her, much as we appreciate the piece of starchy cake which our hostess assures us was made and baked by herself in her own kitchen, while muttering: "How clever of you," we are inwardly wondering how we can dispose of it without giving ourselves dyspepsia.

Such a girl comes on a visit, or rather she invites herself, and for various reasons one can't well decline the honor. She always writes in a hurry and signs herself "Ever yours, in great haste." It takes four or five separate letters to perfect her arrangements, for she never recollects all she means to say, and at last she sends you an almost unreadable general, because she has altered her train.

She arrives in a fuss, whirls you about hither and thither, drags you to this and that, "because you really should be seen at it, my dear. Never mind if you can't follow the speaker. You will do us no good, but humbles you and impresses her opinion on you that you want a lot of smartening up; makes you feel small and unimportant and as if you had hitherto wasted your time to a great extent.

She departs in a fuss, and the moment being gone, you suddenly realize that your machinery seems out of gear and your ordinary avocations, on your taking them up again, appear to be flat, stale and unprofitable.

But yet, little by little, you make a discovery which brings you to your feet. With all her talk, all her wise sayings, all her criticisms, she is doing nothing. You find bits of work begun, but none finished. Letters quarter written, books half read. And you find that by following your own quiet routine you accomplish more in a year than she would in a year—New York Telegram.

BAD READING FOR GIRLS.

The young girls of to-day as a rule read such silly and sentimental books that it is a wonder to those who know the conditions to which they are exposed to grow up weakly, sentimental beings themselves, says the Baltimore News.

The boys of the family are usually watched with eagle eyes by both parents and mater familias to see that they do not peruse highly colored detective stories of the Deadwood-Dick order, while it seems generally to be left to the natural instinct of girls to choose their reading matter; consequently many maids just entering their teens acquire a propensity for devouring trashy love stories. A book that does not among its characters fitted men a-plenty, all of whom sign for the hand of some "poor but honest" maid, aged not more than 17, is esteemed but uninteresting reading.

A plot is considered all that can be desired when a couple meet, love, are separated by the machinations of the villain, suffer much in the separation, but are finally reunited with a flourish of trumpets and are married. Occasional pathetic scenes are demanded, of course, the heroine herself often being a lachrymose little individual, whose lachrymose little individual, whose blue eyes are perpetually full of tears.

Numerous young girls with the full content and approbation of their parents, spend much of their time reading the ever popular Elsie books, which introduce the heroine at the tender age of 8, and take her through the successive stages until she is found in the last volume to be a governess. Some irreverent persons have insisted that there will certainly be a continuation showing her in heaven teaching the angels morality.

Certain it is that she is a very unpleasant, puritanical, and self-satisfied creature, who from infancy to old age and that a perusal of her life can hardly be of advantage to the immature mind.

There are plenty of good books, bright, witty and wholesome stories, that may be put into the hands of young girls with safety—stories that will interest and instruct, too, without thrusting the instruction unpleasantly upon the readers who are weary of all such efforts to give them a pill in a sugar coating. It is only a pity, therefore, to allow the youngsters to resort to inflammable novels of maudlin sentiment for amusement, and a ceaseless vigilance should be exerted to see that their tastes are cultivated along proper lines with the right sort of literature.

There are so many cough medicines in the market, that it is sometimes difficult to tell which is the best. If we had a cough, a cold or any affliction of the throat or lungs, we would try Bick's Laxative Compound Syrup. Those who have used it think it is far ahead of all other preparations recommended for such complaints. The little folks like it as if it is as pleasant as syrup.

THE WELL-DRESSED WOMAN.

A well-dressed woman is not in fashion. It is a mistake to think it is possible that clothes can be both costly and well made, and yet the general appearance of the wearer anything but desirable. The reason, therefore, is not that her clothes are not suitable for the work of the place, but that she has in hand, or that there is a part of her dress, in that they are not neatly and cleanly put on. There is an immense deal in the way people put on their clothes. Some people are always neat and dainty in every tiny detail, and others are as slovenly as the general run of the best of the world.

THE WOMAN OF THE WORLD.

An accomplished woman of the world should, above all things, possess the secret of never allowing her sentiments to be read in her face. Anger, grief, all that which is exaggerated can rage in her inner being, but never be allowed to be perceived. She should welcome her dearest enemies with the same gracious smile which serves for those of her preference; hear uttered before her the greatest untruths, allow croaklets to be committed without appearing astonished and indignant; at most a mocking curve of the lips or the eyes a little wider open than usual. Her conversation, somewhat empty in its substance, should be pleasant and sensible, especially in conversation with men. She speaks with the same ease as the criminal judge yesterday at the court of assizes, of the best actress, the new operetta, the latest fashions and of the profundity of the discourses of the world. She surveys the novelties exposed in her shops, without buying one of them, for all that she wears comes from special houses which know how to give a cachet to their production, a cachet which communicates itself to the woman of the world. She never wears a friend, at most she wears a smile, and that it is not till a long time after that the puncture appears. Nothing clashes or sticks in her. Her timidity does not render her awkward, her self-possession is not bold. Every woman who enters her can be distinguished. Nobility can be distinguished, distinction is that of art. The one is born with it, the other acquired.—Pittsburg Despatch.

With the Children.

Making up With Children.

The secret of "getting along" with children is to apply to them the ordinary rules of social life. It is a woman who romps with his children and in a few minutes whips one of them for not addressing him as "sir," need not be surprised if his children avoid his company. One of the commonest faults of social decency is not to quote Latin to a person who is known never to have studied the classics. Precisely the same fault can be committed if we use words of many syllables in conversing with children, but we commit a still greater discourtesy in either case by assuming with an air of patronage that the intellectual adult or the child has no ideas in common with our superior selves. The child of 5 and the man or woman of 50 are curiously alike in their interests, and they may converse with mutual advantage upon an endless variety of subjects.—Dr. A. L. Benedict in Woman's Home Companion.

SALUTING IN THE NAVY.

John Edward Jenks, editor of Army and Navy Register, writes in the Saturday Evening Post: "Someone has estimated that it costs a million dollars a year to fire the military and naval salutes of the world demanded by international and service etiquette. All governments use an inferior grade of ammunition for the purpose, the United States, for instance, expending its condensed powder in this way, but with even this economical resort, the noise and the smoke is prodigious. It has been said that the roar of the saluting gun never ceases—that is, at some place, during every second of time, a salute is being fired. This furnishes an idea of the general feature of such a noisy parade. The saluting customs are most critically observed by those whose duty it is to carry them out. In the army the regulations are very strict and complete, but in the navy, where our ships are constantly visiting foreign ports and are encountering new observances, the etiquette of saluting is quite formidable.

Especially on our ships of war rapid fire guns of the three-pounder type are used for firing salutes. They make sufficient noise with the minimum expenditure of powder, and noise is the principal feature of such a salute. When an American vessel is in a foreign port there there is also a distinguished naval officer of another government the latter sends a formal note to the Amer-

ican officer, telling him of the date and hour of his salute. It is his duty to pay his respects. The American officer, in order to be ready for the salute, sends the salute to the admiral's staff and directs him to have everything in readiness for the salute. He sends for the appointed hour, and orders that the flag of the government of the visitor be made ready for display.

An hour before the time of the salute, the salute staff has been completed for the salute. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired.

If it is in the hands of the salute staff, the salute is fired, and the salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired.

Salutes vary in different countries, but in view of the international exchange of courtesies, most nations have adopted the same number of guns for the salute. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired. The salute is fired.

One of the prettiest salutes is that of dipping the flag or bringing it hair-curling down the mast, holding it there a second and then running it to the top again. Merchant ships dip their flag but once. Pennants are never dipped, and are always displayed, day and night.

There are all sorts of rules which naval officers observe with the utmost care in the matter of salutes. A certain number of guns is stipulated for officers of different grades, and the salutes include not only military and naval salutes, but also the salute of the salute.

Most of the rules of salutes have come down to us from olden times, their origin being matters of conjecture. One of the most fruitful topics of controversy in this respect is the reason for practicing of firing three volleys over the bows of a ship under way. The most plausible and most generally accepted notion in explanation of the custom is that it is a survival of the ancient practice of ringing a bell or sounding a gong three times, which stood for "Ratione, Fidei, et Spu."

The idea of regulations most strictly adhered to by all nations is that there shall be no gun salutes between sunset and sunrise. The reasons for this are obvious. The noise would naturally disturb inhabitants of neighboring towns, and, under some conditions, might operate as a cause of accidents under cover of night and in the guise of salutes might be effected. One instance of the detrimental consequences of a violation of this custom was afforded in the port of Wei-Hai-Wei during the war between Japan and China.

The appearance of a Japanese flagship at that port after dark was the occasion of salute by a British naval officer who chanced to be there also. Fortunately the Chinese gained their first knowledge of the presence of the enemy by this accidental salute. There was a good deal of a diplomatic row over the affair, but it was explained away on the ground of individual carelessness. The mistake of not being able to protest against what was alleged to be a tribute to her dignity and worth.

Army and navy officers frequently discuss the usefulness of the gun salute. It is with the traditional "tomfoolery" of apparel and formality, which nearly all officers pretend to dislike. All of them realize that it is impulsive, and that "apeal full dress" and the display of flags and the salute from the guns add to the dignity of the government. These accessories are quite as necessary in the conduct of negotiations for the preservation of international comity as are the courtesies between our ships.

The idea of a gun salute probably has for its underlying motive the assurance of good-will, as demonstrated by the discharge of a gun with all the danger and none of the danger of a gun for the salute. The same idea is conveyed in the salute of the sword, bringing it to a position which

indicates that the holder has no desire to part with the sword, or to part with the salute through the body. In the past, the salute was such a manner as to show that they are not to be used to disfigure, or in the passing of the salute, our every-day salute, which may have come from the days when the helmet was removed to show the devotee's and peaceful attitude of his wearer.

Through naval salutes are costly and though officers sometimes believe they are unnecessary and frequently ask that they be omitted, it is likely that they will continue as part of the courtesy of nations.

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