Industry Nearly 5,000 Years Old.

About 4,083 years ago, a fourteen-year-old Chinese Empress named Si-ling Chi, observed a little worm busily spinning fibre on the leaves of a white mulberry tree. After she had watched this fascinating process until her curiosity was satisfied, she began to exercise her ingenuity by trying to gather up and reel the fibre.

Soon she made a demonstration to the ladies of her court and interested them in this new and absorbing amusement. Together the Empress and her court ladies busied themselves with the task of weaving this fibre into fabrics and embroidering with it. The results delighted them.

So far the Emperor looked upon the absorbing hobby of his little consort with tolerant amusement. To him and to the wise men of his court it was only a pretty game for foolish women. But one day he was startled out of his indifference when Si-Lang presented him with a beautiful ceremonial garment made from the worm's fibre. A garment of such a dazzling sheen had never before been seen at the court of China, and from then on it became the fashion for all members of the court to wear clothes made of this wonderful new fabric.

Silk Became the Fashion.

In this way the wearing of silk became the fashion throughout all China. The culture of silk became a national industry. China grew rich through the export of silken fabrics to India, Persia, Arabia and other parts of Asia. So valuable was this industry to China that it preserved the secret of silk culture with jealous care and death was the penalty decreed for anybody found taking or sending out of China the silk-worm, the eggs or the seed of the white mulberry tree. And for centuries neighboring countries sought vainly to obtain from China the secret of silk.

But about 350 B.C., however, there came into China a Prince of India who won the love of a Chinese Princess. Together they eloped into India, and the Princess, in order that she might be able to enjoy her familiar occupation in her new home, carried with her some silkworm eggs and seeds of the white mulberry tree. She smuggled them through by concealing them in her sandals. Not long afterward she disappeared mysteriously from her husband's palace and was never heard of again, but the secret she brought with her remained in India, and soon the courts of the Indian Rajahs were alive with vari-colored silken costumes.

One Man on Island of Girls.

An ideal "select seminary for young ladies," at least as far as freedom from masculine interference is concerned, was until recently situated on the Island of Papaelise, in the Ellice group, just north of the Fiji Islands, according to a Continental correspondent. Only one man, a caretaker, lived on the island. But the teacher was the only white person in the vicinity, and the "young ladies" were of chocolate hue. A school much of the same type as an English boarding school was conducted, according to Miss Joliffe, who founded the institution. The curriculum, however, was adjusted to the tides as the students lived on fish they caught themselves, and on cocoanuts, which were plentiful on the island.

The Mystery Explained.

At last the mystery, if there was a mystery, regarding the death of Lord Kitchener has been set at rest by the official publication by the German Admiralty of the facts in connection with the sinking of the Hampshire. The Germans assert that the vessel was not sunk by a submarine but by a torpedo or mine laid at the end of May, 1916, by Submarine U-75.

The Hampshire sailed on June 5th, and although a chartered mine sweeper had been sunk in the same field on June 2nd, and the fact was reported by the British Admiralty, the latter ordered the Hampshire to follow a course west of the Orkneys on the assumption that German submarines were not operating that far north. As the German document shows, however, a submarine commander, Lieutenant Kurt Beitzen, had laid a mine field in this well-known path of warships six days earlier.

Responsibility for the death of Kitchener, therefore, is sought to be placed upon the British Admiralty. It will be recalled that it was originally intended that Premier Lloyd George should also sail on the Hampshire. Pressure of home affairs kept him in London, and undoubtedly saved his life. But it was a trick of fate—or was it by enemy suggestion?—that the Hampshire should have been directed into the only mine field laid in the whole northern sea area by the Germans. The British side of the story should be given.—Morning Chronicle.

Let us put a smile on your countenance. Try a bottle of Brick's Tasteless at Stafford's Drug Store. Price $1.00; postage 20c. extra.—apr26,tf

HOUSE-CLEANING SALE

BAIRDS

Full of HELPFUL HINTS for Housekeepers

Peruse its columns and find out for yourself just the particular items that you need--then, come along at your earliest convenience, you will find the Values well worth coming for and willing clerks to assist you here, in every selection.

Another Lot of TURKISH PATTERNED HEARTH RUGS

Yes, another lot of those beautiful Hearth Rugs just to hand; reversible, fringed and extra heavy; unbeatable for wear and attractiveness. Note our Special prices; two sizes.
The Larger. Reg. $10.50 for **$7.65**
The Smaller. Reg. $7.75 for **$5.95**

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, MONDAY

WINDOW BLINDS and BLINDINGS

WINDOW BLINDINGS—Buff and Light and Dark Greens, in 28 and 32 inch, and Green only in 36 inch width; good grade Opaque Blindings. Worth up to 40c. yard. Friday, Saturday & Monday .. .. **25c.**

PLAIN BLINDS — Green and Buff Window Blinds plain; 32 and 36 inch width, on good strong spring rollers; complete with fittings. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **85c.**

The Greatest OPPORTUNITY for Years to Secure QUILT VALUES

28 only all White Marcella patterned Quilts, useful size for medium size beds; they are light weight, easy to wash and nicely patterned. Reg. $3.00. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.19**

22 only of heavier White Quilts, Marcella make; will give you years of serviceable wear. This assortment brings several different weights. The early shopper will get the pick. Reg. up to $4.70. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$3.49**

32 only larger size White Marcella patterned Quilts, plain hemmed ends; good looking Quilts for summer time and so easy to do up again. Worth $3.75. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.79**

HONEYCOMB QUILTS—These are extra large and good weight; the patterns are unusually good and clearly defined; they are not fringed, just a plain turnover hem. Value for $9.00 each. Friday, Saturday and Monday, each **$7.48**

Curtain Rods, etc.

CURTAIN RODS—Extension Brass Rods with large ball ends, complete with fittings. Friday, Saturday & Monday .. .. **23c.**

THE SLIDING ROD—Neat flat White Enamel Rods; fit flat to your sash; very simple and effective. Reg. 35c. Friday, Saturday & Monday .. .. **25c.**

WHITE ENAMEL CURTAIN RODS—A neat Curtain Rod for Summer hangings; simple to attach to your windows. Complete; Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. .. **22c.**

We are Quoting Keen Prices on Pretty SCRIMS

WHITE SCRIMS—We have some very handsome looking all White Scrims for this week, fancy worked edge and self bordered. Reg. 75c. yard value. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **65c.**

"BLUE BIRD" SCRIMS—Pretty looking White Scrims with a Blue Bird border; uncommon looking for your boudoir, hangings or drapes. Reg. 50c. yard. Special, Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **35c.**

FANCY SCRIMS—Dozens of pieces of lovely Curtain Scrims, White, Cream and Fancy, spotted, striped and floral patterns. Reg. up to 50c. Friday, Saturday and Monday.. .. .. **29c.**

PORTIER SCRIMS—Medium and dark mixtures; nice for folding doors; very uncommon looking; 36 inches wide. Up to 75c. yard. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. **59c.**

WHITE LACE CURTAINS—40 pairs of White Lace Curtains. These are handsomely patterned, fit to grace any room in your house; 3 yards long. Reg. $7.50. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$5.98**

PILLOW LOOPS—And Cushion Cords in a splendid array of shades; Navy, Green, V. Rose, Saxe, Gold Violet, Cardinal, Purple and mixed tones; real silky finish; large tassel ends. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **59c.**

Helps for the Time of HOUSE CLEANING

SCRUBBING CLOTHS—Coarse Crash Cloths, hemmed ready for hard usage and able to stand it. Reg. 25c. each. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **19c.**

GLASS CLOTHS—Best quality Linen Crash Glass Cloths, showing coloured border; hemmed ready for use. Reg. 65c. Friday, Saturday & Monday **49c.**

DUSTERS—Soft Crash Cloths in checks and plaids; medium size, hemmed; durable cloths. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **25c.**

LARGE TOWELS—Unbleached Turkish Towels, extra full size; Crimson checked centre. Reg. 85c. each. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **64c.**

BATH TOWELS—These are beautiful quality, all White in that soft Turkish finish; deep hemmed ends; full size. Regular $2.60 each. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.25**

GLASS TOWELINGS—Check Crash Glass Towelings, 20 inches wide; soft undressed finish. Reg. 55c. yard. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **45c.**

These Values Make it a Good Time to Renew Home LINENS

BATTENBURG CENTRES—Something handsome in Centres, deep Battenburg Lace edge and neatly embroidered linen centre, square shape. Reg. $1.00. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **89c.**

WHITE TABLE CLOTHS—16 only of beautiful White Damask Table Cloths, medium size, hemmed; these are unusually good quality. Secure one. Reg. $2.50. Friday, Saturday and Monday.. .. .. **$1.98**

SERVICEABLE TABLE CLOTHS—These are large size, extra strong quality Damask, showing coloured stripe or check; makes a very serviceable cloth; others in Crimson for everyday table cover. Reg. $3.75. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$1.89**

BUREAU CLOTHS—Pretty looking Cloths with a broad insertion of lace and a torchon lace edging; hemstitched border. $1.00 values. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **85c.**

TEA CLOTHS—White Linen Tea Cloths with a generous show of embroidery and a wide hemstitched border. Reg. 90c. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **78c.**

SILK EMBROIDERED CENTRES—Pretty oval Centres with rich looking coloured silk embroiderings and a silky fringed edge. Regular $3.00. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.45**

Ripping Values in MEN'S CAPS, SHIRTS, UNDERWEAR, SOCKS, etc.

MEN'S WHITE UNDERWEAR—Fine quality pure White Balbriggan Underwear for men; Sateen facings; all sizes, in Shirts and Pants. Reg. $1.50 garment. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$1.25**

MEN'S FLANNELETTE SHIRTS—Striped Flannelette Working Shirts, with a tidy looking collar; good value at $2.60. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.25**

PLAIN LINEN TOP SHIRTS—Shades of Helio, Blue and Cream; double soft cuffs; laundered neck bands; uncommon looking; not Coat style. Reg. $3.50. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.75**

MEN'S COLORED SOCKS—Spring weight, in shades of Slate, Navy and Cordovan. Secure your Summer's supply now. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **55c.**

MEN'S CYCLO BRACE—An easy wearing Brace with fine grade elastics; white cord fastenings. Special, Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. .. **48c.**

MEN'S WAIST BELTS — Narrow Tan Leather Waist Belts with Victorian nickel buckle; assorted sizes, neat and dressy. Reg. 60c. Special Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **50c.**

MEN'S COLLARED SHIRTS — In Cream or White with a buttoned point collar, pocket and single cuff; full fitting sizes. Reg. $3.00. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.78**

Men's $4.50 CAPS for $3.00

Satin lined, very latest shape, one piece crown, fashioned back and unbreakable peak; pretty shades. Reg. $4.50. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. **$3.00**

Spring Opening

We are Ready With the NEW THINGS in Ladies', Misses' and Children's Wear

45-incn DRESS EMBROIDERIES

White Dress Embroideries, made on fine White Lawns; some very handsome patterns. We have singled these out by reason of their attractiveness and good value. Reg. up to $2.60 yard. Friday, Saturday & Monday **$1.75**

PATENT BELTS—Patent leather Belts, wide and narrow makes; plain shades of Green, Cardinal, Pale Blue, Black; also mixed shades Black and Tan, Black and Grey. Reg. 40c. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. **29c.**

DUST CAPS—Fancy Cotton Dust Caps for wear about the housework; elastic at back; roll front; white pipings. You could use one. Friday, Sat'y. & Mon. **15c.**

PINK UNDERWEAR — Extra fine ribbed Jersey Underskirts and Knickers, in pretty Pink shade; V neck, crochet edge shoulder straps; sizes 36 to 40. Reg. 65c. garment. Friday, Saturday & Monday .. .. **52c.**

CHILDREN'S KNICKERS—Fine ribbed Pink Jersey Knickers; elastic waist and knee; to fit 6 to 10 years. Reg. 45c. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **38c.**

CAMISOLES — Rare looking White Lawn Camisoles, tucked yoke, sleeved and sleeveless; others trimmed with fine Val. lace and insertion, and in all-over embroidery. Reg. $2.80. Friday, Sat'y. and Mon. **$1.98**

CHILDREN'S NIGHTGOWNS—Embroidery trimmed White Lawn Nightgowns; short sleeves; to fit 8 to 14 years. Reg. 65c. Friday, Saturday and Mon. **54c.**

DRESDEN RIBBONS—One of the grandest displays of fancy Ribbons we have ever shown; 7½ inches wide, in Mervt and Brocaded Silk; suitable for Vanity Bags, Camisoles, Hair Ribbons or wide Sashes. Reg. up to $3.50 yard. Fri., Sat'y. & Mon. **$1.72**

JUST ARRIVED another lot of **SHAUNTUNG SILKS** in the Natural Shade, priced at **85c & $1.40** YARD.

LADIES' BLOUSES—A lovely selection of New Waists, not at all out of the way in price; some in White Muslin, and colored Striped Muslin; others in White Brilliant; roll collar of white Repp, convertible collars; sizes 38 to 44 inch. Reg. $3.50. Fri., Sat'y. & Mon. **$2.49**

Beautiful Silk Sweaters

And such lovable shades—Coral, Rose, Gold, Champagne, Bronze, Turquoise, Nile, Green, and Brown; some with collar; others without, buttoned front, girdle and pockets; also a few in Slip-over style in shades of Lavender, Beige, Apricot, Green and Bronze; assorted sizes. Reg. $13.50. Friday, Saturday & Monday **$8.75**

White Skirts

Ladies' White Street Skirts in good washing Gabardines and plain Linen, showing wide belt, pocket and shirred waist; pearl button trimmings; assorted sizes. Reg. $2.00. Fri., Sat'y. & Mon. **$1.69**

BOYS

are Clamouring for these things now. We will help you with the getting of them

BOYS' ENGLISH CAPS—Stylish, good looking and becoming Golf Caps for boys in assorted Grey Tweeds; Silk lined. Regular $1.50. Friday, Saturday and Monday, ... **$1.30**

BOYS' BLUE OVERALLS—Striped Blue Cotton Overalls, with patch pockets, bib and shoulder straps; to fit chaps from 6 to 11 years. Reg. $1.40 Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **98c.**

BOYS' CORDUROY PANTS—Knicker style; Fawn and Brown shade; extra good quality Corduroys; They look well with his Shirtwaist; to fit 8 to 15 years. Reg. $3.75. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$2.58**

BOYS' KHAKI PANTS—Strong Khaki Drill Pants, for boys from 6 to 14 years. He will need a pair; they are underpriced. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. **79c.**

ACCURATE TIME PIECES—Round Nickel Case with a good open face; alarms you when needed or silently records each passing hour. Special Friday, Saturday & Monday **$1.85**

"BIG BEN" ALARM CLOCKS—A favorite, reliable and everlasting for service; alarm continual or intermittent; sure to arouse you on time. Special Friday, Sat'y. and Mon. **$4.35**

WASHABLE GLOVES — A goodly assortment in Suede fabric and all Silk. The shades include Champagne, White and Black; self or contrasting stitched backs. Reg $1.60. Friday, Saturday and Monday **$1.39**

LADIES' SILK GLOVES—Mostly the smaller sizes, in Tan and Black; showing 2 dome wrist; superior quality. Reg. 90c. Friday, Saturday and Monday .. .. .. **69c.**

CONGOLEUM MATS

A range of good looking patterns, fancy centres and bordered; convenient size, 18 x 36 inch; to place where the wear comes most. Friday, Saturday and Monday.. .. .. **34c.**

James Baird LIMITED

Good Quality Stair Oil Cloth

White with pretty border, as well as fancy; these have a soft rubber like finish and will not crack.
15 inch. Special .. ..