

SERVANT GIRL QUESTION

WOMANFULLY GRAPPLED BY THE HAUSFRAU VEREIN.

A Thousand Domestic Servants Already Under the Benign Rule of the Council in W. Deliberations only One Man Has Stay—Premiums for Long Service.

[New York Sun]

The Deutscher Hausfrauen Verein met Wednesday afternoon in the assembly hall of the Café Logeling, 237 East Fifty-seventh street. About forty of the 234 members were present. The afternoon was spent in hearing the report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Sam Sanders, a young man who works in a bank every day until 3 and then goes to the office of the Verein at 107 East Fifty-ninth street, and spends two hours straightening out the feminine tangles there accumulated during the morning. By the constitutional provision there is only one man in the society.

Der Deutscher Hausfrauen Verein, or in the language of its English constitution, "The German Housewives' Society," was organized in 1895 by Mrs. Leo Rosenberg, a physician's wife. The object of the society, says the English translation of the constitution, is "to guard the interests of the employer as well as of the employee." The present practical application of this general statement is an effort to secure good servants for members of the society and to insure good treatment to servants hired through the society. This quotation from section 4 of the constitution is self-explanatory:

"The institution is conducted by a President, Vice-President-Director, four Directors, and one male Secretary-Treasurer receiving a salary."

Mr. Sanders, however, denies that he accepts a salary. "It is the part of a man who is to charity at all inclined," he says, "to keep the ladies apart from their annoyances."

The report of Mr. Sanders showed that since the society opened its office in September the membership has grown from 86 to 234. The treasury, which is filled by the initiation fees of \$3 and the semi-annual dues of \$2, has a surplus of \$708.25. The society has expended a little more than \$300 during its existence for clerk hire, rent, and incidental expenses.

Mrs. Rosenberg is an unassuming, attractive young woman who is very fluent and determined while she is speaking German and deliciously definite and diffident in expressing herself in English. In addressing the Verein she fairly bubbled over with pleasure in the way her scheme was working itself out. Her audience shared her joyousness. Spectacled grandmothers and anxious, inexperienced young matrons smiled and laughed aloud and smiled again while she recounted the simple objects and methods of the society and the success that seemed to come to them so easily. With cheerfulness that was almost hilarious she exhibited a letter that showed how nicely the benevolent end of the scheme worked. Section 15 of the constitution reads as follows:

Servants who have been placed in positions through this society will receive assistance in case of need from the funds of this society as far as practicable; in case of sickness they will receive free medical aid and medicines at the city physician's office as long as they cannot be placed in an hospital, provided, however, the servant is already in the employ of a member for four successive weeks and has contracted a sickness during this time.

On Tuesday, for the first time in the history of the society, a servant in the household of one of its members desired medical attention. Whereupon her mistress wrote a letter to the Secretary describing the "Kopflu h. Raekenschmerzen, grosse Müdigkeit und kein Appetit des Mädchens," and gave it to the sick servant to take to the office of the society. The housewife, it is provided, must always certify to the symptoms of the beneficiary. The servant took the letter to the Secretary's office. It was there stamped and with the stamped letter in hand as a voucher the servant went to Dr. Rosenberg, who gave her medicine without charge to the society. Mrs. Rosenberg read the housewife's letter and exhibited the society stamp on its back, and the assembly beamed on itself in merited self-appreciation.

The only point causing difference of opinion during the meeting concerned sections 16, 17 and 18 of the constitution, as follows:

- 16. Servants will receive from the society's funds the following premiums: (a) On ten years' uninterrupted service in a family..... \$100 (b) On five years' uninterrupted service in the same family..... 45 (c) On three years' uninterrupted service in the same family... 30 (d) On two years uninterrupted service in the same family..... 20

These premiums will be paid immediately upon leaving such position.

17. If the society shall not have sufficient funds wherewith to pay said premiums, an equal assessment shall be collected of each member to pay such premiums.

18. Only those servants are entitled to the premiums as specified in Section 16 who have been entered on the society's books as members and who can prove having been employed in a continuous service by a member of the society and under the latter's protection for one or the other term as specified in Section 16.

Mrs. Senner, wife of the Commissioner of Immigration, did not at all or in any way approve of the sixteenth section. Why, she asked, should a member who had kept bad servants, one after another, for short intervals, be required to pay assessments for reward to the servants of others who have no cause for dissatisfaction to show? In brief, she argued thus:

"I hire incompetent, blundering servants whom I cannot keep; they cost me great trouble and much expense. The Frau Doktorin has a servant who is

faithful, careful, and efficient. After all my troubles and griefs I must pay money out because she has had no troubles. It is not just! It is not reasonable!"

Mrs. Rosenberg pointed out that the possibility of assessment was more remote. There was money in plenty in the treasury now, and the membership was growing. Under the most desiring circumstances a servant could withdraw only \$195 from the treasury in twenty years. In that time her own employer alone would have contributed \$83 to the general fund. With the most meagre allowance for failures and deaths, there was ample promise of plenty of money in the treasury to meet all possible demands upon it. The assessment was only an emergency provision.

Mrs. Senner was not in the least convinced. Always smiling, and tipping her head one side or the other with engaging emphasis, she trippingly discoursed on the broad human principle of equity and common decency. ("Es schick sich gar nicht"). A gentle crescendo chorus chiming in a steadily growing undertone showed that she was gaining the approval of the Verein. One after another dropped into the discussion in a whisper, and gradually raised her voice as she became sure of her words.

The Vice President, Director, and the I, II, III, and IV, directors stated their faith in the constitution in the same general tone of voice, but always good-natured and rather as if pleased that a discussion had been started than as if under any strain of contention. Mr. Sanders rose and leaned over his table, and contributed his voice to the good-natured chorus. Mrs. Senner seated herself, rose, and sat once more, arguing gently, and with sweet determination all the time. The differences subsided and left Mrs. C. Fendler, a trustee of the Ladies' Health Protective Society, defending the established constitutional provisions. When she finished everybody said something more. Then everybody laughed, and the whole matter was laid over until the May meeting, with a committee of six to consider it meanwhile.

When adjournment was reached the members did not go out and quarrel by the door and in angry whifpering groups, as women's conventions have been known to do. They rose up in their chairs and laughed and everybody told how sorry all the others would be that they hadn't come. Though, of course, they said most charitably, the rainy weather fully excused the absent ones for not coming.

"We are so happy," said Mrs. Rosenberg to the reporters, "that it is all so nice. We were, oh, so very afraid at first, when perhaps it would not work well, that we would get into trouble. And did you see? One girl yesterday applied already for help when she was sick. It is very good. One thousand servants we have, and the past of every one is investigated. Now we want more members, so we can employ all the poor girls. Fight? Members of the Verein fight? No, of course not; they are educated already. See there!" and she pointed in eager triumph to that wonderful constitution. This is what the reporter read:

SEC. 12. The directors have the power to reject any person as a member of this society, whom they have reasons to suspect that she might harm the society. A committee of three, to be appointed by the President, will have to investigate matters quietly in such a case, make inquiries about the character of the applicant, and report within three days to the President. Should a member as such be cancelled then the servant or servants who have been placed with the aforesaid member will be called away, and she or they will forfeit all privileges offered by the society to said servant or servants.

SEC. 20. Obstinate servants or those who willfully neglect their duties and by their conduct give cause to their employer's well-founded complaint, will not be recommended again by the society when lapsing into the same faults; besides losing all privileges.

SEC. 21. Members who, by unjust treatment of servants supplied to them, do not rectify their conduct, or at least justify the same, will be expelled by the society.

SEC. 22. Every complainant has a right to insist on an immediate investigation of their complaint, and the directors are bound to investigate at once such complaints.

SEC. 23. All complaints are to be made in writing or verbally to the secretary at the society's office. Both parties, the employer and employee, have to submit to the decision of the president.

"Not a minute," interrupted Mrs. Fendler. "I would fight. I would my resignation hand in quickly!"

When the good women had departed Mr. Sanders looked long at the door while he smiled the ghost of a smile. Then he drank a glass of Rhein wine and set the glass down.

"It is proper that I should drink," he said. "If you did not know how mixed up women can be when they arrange office work you would drink, too. And when they start their cooking school—"

The treasurer secretary rolled his eyes in well bred despair.

Trained Nurses In Stores

A new departure in the equipment of large stores has been entered into here by the introduction of trained nurses to care for sick customers. While in a dry goods store recently I saw a woman faint and fall to the floor. In a moment the proprietor and a bright-looking woman in a plain gray dress and a white apron were at her side caring for her. The woman was a trained nurse. "This is something new," said the proprietor, "and we are the first to introduce it in the city. Almost every day we have sick persons to care for, and find our trained nurse a valuable adjunct. She knows how to bring a fainting woman to her senses and how to cure hysteria. If a doctor is needed she can care for the patient until a call is responded to.—N. Y. Paper.

Short Dresses Early.

As soon as the baby reaches its fifth month take off the long, cumbersome skirts, and put on skirts that come just about three inches below the feet. Then put on light, soft stockings and soft

morocco shoes. When the baby is six months old shorten the skirts still more, thus giving the child more freedom of limb. At the age of seven months put a baby on the floor, and let it race about as much as it likes. This will give it the strength required for creeping and walking, which soon follow. In these days it seems to be the habit and practice to carry children about in the arms and never allow them to go on the floor till they are big and old enough to walk. It is a great mistake to be eternally handling a child.

The Everlasting "Don't."

In an article on "Positive and Negative Training," in the New Crusade, Mrs. J. H. Kellogg once more points out the evils of "constantly nagging a child with 'Don't do this,' and 'Don't do that.'" She says that if mothers would banish the "don't" entirely from their vocabulary, except on occasions when some serious or important principle is involved, and in its place use the opposite "do," there would be a most salutary change of atmosphere in most homes. For example, instead of saying to the child, "Now, don't be selfish," urge him to see how many times he can think of and do for other people; instead of "Oh, don't talk so much," say "Now try and see if you can't be a good listener;" instead of "Now don't dally about your work" suggest that he see if he can have the task completed within a given time; instead of "Don't spill the water," "Now see how carefully you can carry the pail," and so on all through the category of don'ts. If the child is a small one and is about to pick up your scissors, or a sharp knife with which you are afraid he will harm himself, call his attention to something else rather than exclaim, "Don't touch that!" Such an exclamation only emphasizes the child's attention to the undesirable articles and makes him all the more eager to possess them. If there be need of the suppression of a wrong thing, substitute a right thing in its place. Consider for a moment the difference to a child between "Don't play in that water," and "Do come here and see this lovely flower," telling him something interesting about it, meanwhile, so that the water is entirely forgotten and the child is happy. The "don't" plan arouses his opposition, his antagonism, his obstinacy. The "do" policy invites peace and tranquility within his being. It is a great deal easier to divert the child's determination than to meet it with opposition.

The Feet and the Complexion.

The novel theory is advanced, and with a good show of scientific fact to back it, that the care of the feet has much to do with the complexion of the individual. It is positively asserted that no woman who habitually neglects her feet can be favored with that clear, transparent, cleanly complexion that all desire to possess. The pedal extremities should be kept warm and dry. They need frequent bathing, a nightly bath, if possible, in warm water and a brisk rubbing with a dry, coarse towel. The glands or pores of the feet are among the largest of the human frame, consequently the necessity of keeping them in the best order will be readily appreciated. The color of the feet are also a good index to health. When in fair condition the soles and heels, the tips of the toes and a narrow edge on the outside of the foot will be a rosy blush like pink, the tops will be white and the nails shine with a pearly, faintly pink luster. If a person is debilitated or anemic or in a low state of vitality the feet will indicate the fact more readily than the face. The heel, instead of blushing a tender, rosy pink, will show a livid, greenish yellow. The soles and toes will also pale to a yellowish hue and a general languor of the entire of the soles will become apparent.

The healthful exercise of the functions of the feet have a wonderful influence upon the complexion. Thick, flacid or oily skins, that local treatment is thrown away upon, will show a noticeable improvement, if treated through the feet. If the color is too high or a habitual, unbecoming flush overpreads the face, a hot foot bath upon retiring will decrease the unbecoming flush to a genteel pallor.

If the soles of the feet show a disposition to harden and toughen treat them to a vigorous course of massage. Bathe twenty minutes in hot water, in which a little borax has been dissolved, and while still moist rub into them thoroughly a quantity of mutton tallow that has been melted and is still warm. If there are callouses and corns bind a generous dab of the tallow over the spot after rubbing thoroughly, and the tenure of the corn will be a very short one indeed. This massage of the feet cannot be too highly recommended, either for those whose feet are beautiful pedal extremities or comfort in walking or standing. For feet that are persistently damp a tablespoonful of spirits of camphor in a bath of one pail will be found to have a tonic and cleansing effect, and is said to prevent the taking of cold from damp.

The dressing of the feet enters largely into their general comfort and well-being. If they are cramped and suffer from friction the facial expression and complexion will not fail to chronicle the fact. To the habitual cramping of the feet, the wearing of unhygienic make of the shoes, and general indifference to the care demanded by these sensitive members is due the flushed face, the blooming nose and broken veins that disfigure many cheeks, the bloodshot eyes and unlovely complexion, the owners of which would be very incredulous were they informed of the true source of these unbecoming ills.

Eaten Alive.

The most dainty dish to the Japanese epicure is none other than a living fish. This horrible delicacy is served as follows: Resting on a large dish is a mat formed of rounds of glass held together by plaited threads, on which is a living fish with gills and mouth moving regularly. At its back rises a bank of white shreds resembling damp isinglass, but in reality a colorless seaweed, while the fish itself rests on damp green algae. In front is a pile of small slices of sawfish garnished with a radiating tuft of variegated bamboo leaves. A portion of the living victim is now placed on a saucer and passed to one guest, and so on with the rest till the pile is consumed. Then the carver raises the skin (which has been already loosened) of the living fish, and proceeds to take slice after slice from the upper part. The creature has been carved while still alive, the pile of flesh first served consisting of the lower half of the body. This has been done with such consummate skill that no vital part has been touched. The heart, the liver, the gills and the stomach are left intact, while the damp seaweed on which the fish rests suffices to keep the lungs in action. The miserable victim looks on with lustrous eyes while its own body is consumed, probably the only instance of a living creature assisting as a spectator at its own entombment.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

NERVOUS Troubles are due to impoverished blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the One True Blood Purifier and NERVE TONIC.

Can't Eat

This is the complaint of thousands at this season. They have no appetite; food does not relish. They read the toning up of the stomach and digestive organs, which a course of Hood's Sarsaparilla will give them. It also purifies and enriches the blood, cures that distress after eating and internal misery only a dyspeptic can know, creates an appetite, overcomes that tired feeling and builds up and sustains the whole physical system. It so promptly and efficiently relieves dyspeptic symptoms and cures nervous headaches, that it seems to have almost "a magic touch."

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Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion. 25c.

larly. At its back rises a bank of white shreds resembling damp isinglass, but in reality a colorless seaweed, while the fish itself rests on damp green algae. In front is a pile of small slices of sawfish garnished with a radiating tuft of variegated bamboo leaves. A portion of the living victim is now placed on a saucer and passed to one guest, and so on with the rest till the pile is consumed. Then the carver raises the skin (which has been already loosened) of the living fish, and proceeds to take slice after slice from the upper part. The creature has been carved while still alive, the pile of flesh first served consisting of the lower half of the body. This has been done with such consummate skill that no vital part has been touched. The heart, the liver, the gills and the stomach are left intact, while the damp seaweed on which the fish rests suffices to keep the lungs in action. The miserable victim looks on with lustrous eyes while its own body is consumed, probably the only instance of a living creature assisting as a spectator at its own entombment.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Stood By Her Rights.

The woman lawyer slammed a pile of briefs down before the judge and said:—"I move to discharge this prisoner, on the ground that the prosecution have not proved their case and that the evidence is irrelevant and immaterial." "Motion granted," said the judge. "No more dastardly outrage was ever perpetrated," began the lawyer, "than the incarceration of this, my innocent client. He was engaged in the pursuit of his daily vocation, when the strong arm of the law descended upon him. He—" "Madam," said the judge, "have I not already told you that your motion was granted? The prisoner is discharged." "He was a man without guile," continued the fair counsellor. "He supported his family as best he could. He was in the midst of his family circle when a minion of the law entered and demanded his immediate incarceration."

"I have already decided in your favor, madam, as I have told you twice," drawled the judge. "What more do you want?" "What more do I want, indeed?" cried the woman lawyer, her face flushing to a crimson hue. "Why, I want to argue this case. I stand upon my constitutional right as a woman to have the last word, and I mean to have it." And she did.

Small Economies.

"Poverty is no disgrace, but it is very inconvenient," runs the New England proverb, and the inconvenience of not having little necessities at hand is a constant source of worry to the average house-keeper.

No amount of money will keep a kitchen or boudoir supplied with what is needed unless thoughtfulness be constantly exercised, and this thoughtfulness, joined to thriftiness, is one of the best lubricators of household wheels.

For instance, for some reason known only to the mysterious which decree the rules of trade jugs are always sold without corks, and grocers consider a wad of newspaper, or at best straw paper, an excellent substitute, especially for molasses.

Now, in every kitchen corks are tolerably plentiful, when not wanted, and if they are washed and saved, not by being thrown into a drawer along with soap and candles, but in a covered box, they would be accessible. A few might be used for keeping empty bottles free from dust.

Brown paper and paper bags are too frequently thrown into the fire or ash barrel, whereas, if they were carefully folded and in odd moments out into dish papers, croquettes and similar dishes would not be so often sent to table without being properly drained.

The clean bags should be saved for sending out of the house, for certain articles can be packed in them much more easily than in loose paper.

Large envelopes, such as are used for valentines and Christmas cards, are not easy to procure, yet they are, as a rule, cast aside, even when unsoiled; yet the lack of them at certain times is a source of much inconvenience.

A hint for those who cannot get just what they want is to cut two envelopes in half, and slip one over the other, pasting them securely, and at a point to make the combination the required size.

Cardboard, such as come on the back of memorandum pads, and as a rule is thrown into the waste-paper basket, is another article difficult to get just when it is wanted. Yet it does not take up much room in one's desk, nor do rubber bands, provided they are slipped into a little box such as the druggists use for powders or the jewelers for small purchases.

Mothers do not need to be told to save buttons of all kinds, but possibly some of them may not think to cut up old

trousers and jackets that are too ragged to give away, and yet out of which good-sized squares of cloth may be saved for mending.

Such garments should not be kept whole, for they serve only as breeding places for moths; but a lump of camphor will preserve them when in small pieces.

ADVICE TO A YOUNG MAN.

Don't be mean, my boy; don't do mean thin s and say mean things. Cultivate a feeling of kindness, a spirit of charity broad and pure for men and things. Believe the best of everybody, have faith in humanity, and as you think better of other people you will be better yourself. You can, with some accuracy, measure a man's character by the esteem in which he holds other men. When I hear a man repeatedly declaring that all other men are knaves, I want a strong endorsement on that man's paper before I'll lend him money. When a man assures me that all the temperance men in his town take their drinks on the sly, I wouldn't leave that man and my private demijohn—if I had one—together in a room five minutes. When a man tells me that he doesn't know one preacher who isn't a hypocrite, I have all the evidence I want that that man is a liar. Nine times in ten, and frequently oftener, you will find that men endeavor to disfigure all other men with their own weakness, failings and vices. So do you, my boy, think well and charitably of all people, for the world is full of good people.

And if you are mean, you cannot conceal it. People will know it. Our unfortunate, human fondness for gossip always puts us in possession of all the worse qualities of each other. Don't you and your intimate friends, my boy, discuss the weak and evil points in your neighbors' characters? Of course you do; and when you are the absent one, he assured, Telemachus, that your friends are in like manner dissecting you. Indeed they are. They know all about you, and that which you would have least known, they know the best.

And at any rate, my son, you know it, and that is enough. Sometimes I wonder what a mean man thinks about when he goes to bed. When he turns out the light and lies down. When the darkness closes in about him, and he is alone, and compelled to be honest with himself. And not a bright thought, not a generous impulse, not a manly act, not a word of blessing, not a grateful look, comes to bless him again. Not a penny dropped into the outstretched palm of poverty, nor the balm of a loving word dropped into an aching heart; no sunbeam of encouragement cast upon a struggling life; the strong right hand of fellowship reached out to help some fallen man to his feet—when none of these things come to him as the "God bless you" of the departed day, how he must hate himself! How he must try to roll away from himself and sleep on the other side of the bed. When the only victory he can think of is some mean victory in which he has wronged a neighbor. No wonder he always sneers when he tries to smile. How pure and fair and good all the rest of the world must look to him, and how cheerless and dusty and dreary must his own path appear. Why, even one lone, isolated act of meanness is enough to scatter cracker crumbs in the broad average, ordinary man, and what must be the feelings of a man whose whole life is given up to mean acts? When there is so much suffering and heartache and misery in the world, anyhow, why should you add one pound of wickedness or sadness to the general burdens? Don't be mean, my boy. Suffer in justice a thousand times rather than commit it once.—Burlington Hawkeye.

PATENT REPORT.

COMMUNICATION OF MESSRS. MARSH & LAURENCE.

Photographs. In this art 152 patents have been issued. The photograph art, including an active line of inventions, may be said to have had its origin in 1827. On February 19, 1838, the patent to Edison, No. 200,521, was issued. Probably the greatest advance in the art has been the cutting of the record in a solid body, (see patent No. 431,214, May 4, 1886, to Bell & Twinter) instead of indenting it by means of the vibratory style. By means of this improvement permanent and accurate records are made, and the photograph is put to many practical uses to which it was not adapted before said improvement.

The following patents have recently been granted to Canadian inventors: Canadian Patents—54,053, O. L. Gaudouy, St. Placide, stove.

54,060, A. Baribault, St. Casimir, milk heater.

54,062, J. B. Deslandes and P. Lajeunesse, St. Dominique, method for threshing clover.

American Patents—571,378, Evangelin-Gilmore, Hamilton, grate.

571,361, P. E. Guerdar and Nap. Mathieu, Montreal, hose coupling.

571,413, James Thompson, Hamilton, and G. Thompson, Dundas, Ont., iron pipe pattern.

571,475, Johnson M. Grover, Toronto, washing machine.

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At the distribution of the 11th instant, of The Society of Arts, of Canada, 1060 Notre Dame street, Mr. Alfred Higgins, 973 St. Catherine street, drew the second capital prize, value \$500. At the same distribution Mr. Geo. Dussault, 104 Carriere street, drew a prize valued at \$50.

Teddy—I tell you it's so.

Nellie—I say it is not.

Teddy—Well, mamma says it's so; and if mamma says it's so, it's so even if it isn't so.

If?

If you want to preserve apples, don't cause a break in the skin. The germs of decay thrive rapidly there. So the germs of consumption find good soil for work when the lining of the throat and lungs is bruised, made raw or injured by colds and coughs. Scott's Emulsion, with hypophosphites, will heal inflamed mucus membranes. The time to take it is before serious damage has been done. A 50-cent bottle is enough for an ordinary cold.

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