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**The Evening Chit-Chat**  
By **W. E. GARLAND**



Lives there a person in the land over twenty-one years of age who has not, at some period of his life, sent some product of his fertile brain to the magazines and newspapers?

Truly, judging by the number of people who write to ask me about the rules of this game, I doubt it.

"What class of work do editors want the most?"

"How should the manuscripts be arranged?"

"What are the best magazines to send work to?"

"What is the remuneration?"

"Do you have to have a story copyrighted before you send it?"

"When do magazines pay for work—on acceptance or publication?"

These are some of the most common of the forty-seven questions that the rising crop of would-be authors ask me, and since there seems to be such a general interest in the subject, I am going to answer them to the best of my ability in my space today, instead of replying to each query personally.

The largest literary demand of the present day, I am told, is for clever short stories of from 1,000 to 5,000 words, especially love stories. Interesting articles on any topic of timely interest comes next in salability. Poetry, especially by unknown authors, is extremely difficult—almost impossible to sell. Some magazines actually have their poetry supplied gratis by people who consider the joy of seeing it actually printed sufficient remuneration.

The conventional methods of arranging manuscript is something everyone who is trying to "break into" the game ought to understand. In the first place, have your work typewritten if you possibly can. That makes it that much clearer, and anything which is clear and doesn't have to be puzzled over, is much more apt to be appreciated and accepted. If you haven't your work typewritten, write it as legibly as possible. Never write on both sides of the paper. If written have the lines wide apart; if typewritten, use double spacing.

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Write the title on the middle of the first page a few inches from the top. Above it on the right hand corner, your full name and address—in the left hand corner, it is well to put the number of words. If you want the manuscript returned, enclose stamps. If you write a letter to the editor, make it very short, simply stating that you offer the enclosed manuscript to him and that if it is not accepted you would like it returned.

Write on small sheets of paper. Never roll your manuscript, but fold the sheets once or lay flat on cardboard and send in a large envelope. As to what are the best magazines to which to send your work, I cannot be definite as circumstances alter cases. That depends wholly on the style of your work. Read all the magazines you can get hold of and try to decide which style your own work approximates the most closely.

Some people send their work to story brokers, who, understanding the demands of the various magazines, try to dispose of the work for them and also criticize it.

Remuneration is a subject on which volumes could be written. Rudyard Kipling, they say, gets a dollar a word. Some small magazines and city newspapers pay three or four dollars a thousand words, and country newspapers sometimes pay a dollar or two for the same amount. Somewhere, between these two extremes, is the remuneration for the rest of us. Fifteen or twenty dollars a thousand words is a reasonable price for a story by an unknown author, while writers of reputation, such as Elzhor Hallowell Abbot, get \$500 or \$1,000 for a story of ordinary length. You do not have to have a story copyrighted before you send it.

As to the time of pay—a few magazines pay on acceptance, many more when the article is published. Incidentally, you must remember that most magazines are made up a year ahead, and the story accepted to-day may not appear for a year or two. Other magazines have stated times, such as once a month or once a quarter when they settle all their literary bills.

There, I hope these few suggestions will smooth the path to fame and fortune of many rising authors and authoresses.

*Red C...*

**Do You Feel This Way?**

Do you feel all tired out? Do you sometimes think you just can't work any at your profession or trade any longer? Do you have a poor appetite, and by awake at nights unable to sleep? Are your nerves all gone, and your stomach too? Has ambition to forge ahead in the world left you? If so, you might well stop and give up. You can do it if you will. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will make you a different individual. It will set your lazy liver to work. It will set things right in your stomach, and your appetite will come back. It will purify your blood. If there is any tendency in your family toward consumption, it will keep that dread destroyer away. Even after consumption has almost seized a foothold in the form of a lingering cough, bronchitis, or bleeding at the lungs, it will bring about a cure in 98 per cent. of all cases. It is a remedy prepared by Dr. R. W. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., whose advice is given free to all who wish to write for it. His great success has come from his wide experience and varied practice.

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**Household Notes.**

Camphorated oil, rubbed well into the wood, will take the white rings off an oak dining room table.

To remove the smell of fresh paint, put a pail of cold water in the room and change it every two or three hours.

White willow hats may be cleaned with oxalic acid dissolved in warm (not hot) water. Rinse very thoroughly.

Plumes may be cleaned with gasoline. Let them stand in it in a sealed jar overnight; then rinse in the morning.

A brush for washing vegetables should be in every kitchen. It does the work more quickly and thoroughly and also saves the hands.

Left-over baked beans form the foundation of a delicious soup to serve with croutons, which are bits of bread sauted brown in butter.

Fruit sauces may be saved and combined for a puddling sauce or made into a delicious ice. A fruit mincemeat is a splendid filling for pastry.

Soiled white chiffon may be dyed with Easter egg colors if care be taken to spread the dye gently white.

**BENARD'S LINIMENT CURE FOR DIPHTHERIA.**

When you buy gauge union suits drying. Dry it single, not doubling the chifon.

Persons who wear nose-glasses and who are troubled with excessive perspiration should chalk the sides of the bridge of the nose before putting on the glasses.

Clothespins and rope will not soil clothes if they are occasionally cleaned by boiling in the wash boiler. This is done in clean water, necessarily, and not in discarded wash water.

When darning a jagged tear, an embroidery hoop for holding the piece to be mended will be found very helpful. If a frame is used, one is not so apt to stretch the tear out of shape.

Powdered charcoal is a good disinfectant. It is very prompt in absorbing off-flava and gaseous bodies, and renders harmless and even useful those bodies which are easily changed.

To prevent white fabrics, such as table or silk evening gowns, choice lace or crepe shawls, from becoming yellow when packed away, sprinkle bits of white wax freely among the folds.

In making cookies if the dough is thoroughly chilled it will not only be lighter, but will not stick on the board when rolling. Some house-keepers also chill their doughnuts before frying.

When you buy gauge union suits

for the summer, paste a half-inch-wide tape around the open edges, stitching the tape by machine. This will prevent both stretching and tearing of the material.

Should one be so unfortunate as to get carbolic acid on the skin, other than for the purpose of cauterizing, (rain) will prevent the acid from causing the slightest burn.

A cook says she has learned from experience that it requires four heaping tablespoonsful of cornstarch to a quart of milk when making a blanc mange. A full ounce of gelatin is needed to jelly a quart of liquid.

When drying stale bread to use for crumbs, take care lest it remain in the oven too long. If it browns, much of its value is lost, for browned crumbs will not brown again when used for rolling croquettes or cutlets.

Mutton drippings will not set hard and sticky, as it usually does, if directly the fat is poured from the baking tin, the vessel containing it is put at the back of the stove and allowed to stay there until the stove itself cools.

An attractive luncheon dish is made of left-over strawberries, pieces of pineapple, bits of apricot or cherries in a marmalade, served in puff pastry pated cases. Any combination of preserved fruit will answer for this treat.

To remove grease from a kitchenable scrub well with hot water to which half a teaspoonful of whiting has been added; wipe and then dry thoroughly with a clean cloth. This will make the table look equal to new.

If you have only one or two pieces of good lace for jabots use them for under tabs and make several top ones of linen, embroidered in colors to match different dresses, and attach them together by a hook and loop or a small button.

If potatoes for baking are greased thoroughly before being put into the oven they will have a rich, satiny look and the outer skin will peel off as thin as tissue, leaving the rich nutritious part next the skin to be eaten instead of wasted.

To remove a scorch spot from serge treat it as you would any other stain. Sponge with a compound of gasoline and alcohol in equal parts, with the addition of a teaspoonful of household ammonia to the pint. Then sponge with pure ether.

Drain off the coffee left from breakfast or dinner, and place it in a cold place until the next day, when it may be converted into coffee jelly, to be served with whipped cream or used as a foundation for old-fashioned coffee cake or coffee cream.

To whiten handkerchiefs which have become bad color through careless washing, soak them for a night in a solution of pipeclay and warm water. Wash and boil them next day in the usual way, and they will come out looking beautifully white.

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