

In Lighter Vein

A Narrow Range of Choice.—Sylvia, supple and slender, and Aunt Belle, bulky and benign, had returned from a shopping tour. Each had been trying to buy a ready-made suit.

When they returned home, Sylvia was asked what success each had in her efforts to be fitted. "Well," said Sylvia, "I got along pretty well, but Aunt Belle is getting so fat that about all she can get, ready-made, is an umbrella."—Youth's Companion.

In the Rough.—How to "damn with faint praise," in characteristically Scottish fashion, is told in the following story. As it runs, a certain politician was playing golf on a Scottish course, when he remarked to his caddie, "By the way, the last time I was here, I played with Tom McGregor. He's a grand player!"

"Ay," said the caddie, "but ye could beat Tam McGregor noo."

Knowing what a skilful player McGregor had shown himself to be, the politician was immensely pleased at the caddie's compliment to his own improved play.

"Do you think so?" he exclaimed.

"Ay," came the slow reply. "Tam McGregor's deid!"

To Become An Author.—["What is the first step towards literary production? It is imperative, if you wish to write with any freshness at all, that you should utterly ruin your digestion."—H. G. Wells.]

"What have you dined on, husband mine?"

"Chocolate creams and ginger wine."

"What did you take as an appetizer?"

"Haggis and Sauerkraut a la Kaiser."

"Didn't they give you any sweet?"

"Hard-boiled eggs and whiskey neat."

"And your fruit, I trust, was over-ripe?"

"Doughnuts five with a pound of tripe."

"Have you had nothing at all since then?"

"Lobster and stout." "Then here's your pen,"

"You must do a chapter or two to-night; Have a banana and start to write."

—Punch.

Something More Simple.—The friends of a certain distinguished professor frequently dropped into his laboratory for a chat in the evening. Generally they found him busily engrossed in some experiment.

One evening, when two friends called, they found the professor bending anxiously over a spirit lamp, on which a small pot was bubbling.

"Well," said one of the callers, "what is it to-night?"

"Guess," murmured the professor.

"Micrococci?" asked one.

"No."

"Pneumococci?" asked the other.

"No."

"Spirochaetae?"

"No."

The callers ran the scale of micro-organisms as far as they knew it. Then one of them said:—

"Well, we give it up! What is it?"

The professor smiled blandly. "Sausages!"

Raising Legislation.—History Professor—"The Americans are the reformers of the world. Now, can you even mention, my dear sir, any Englishman who endeavoured to raise legislation to a higher plane?" Student—"Yes, sir; Guy Fawkes."—Harvard Lampoon.

Temptation.—An Irishman walked into a hotel and noticed two men fighting at the far end of the room. Leaning over the bar, he earnestly inquired of the bartender: "Is that a private fight or can anyone get into it?"—Life.

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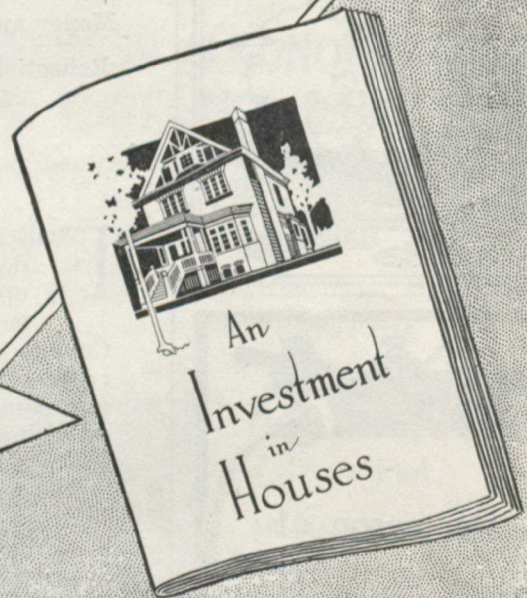
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