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Your Problems

Conducted by Mrs. Helen Law

Mothers and daughters of all ages are cordially invited to write to this department. Initials only will be published with each question and its answer as a means of identification, but full name and address must be given in each letter. Write on one side of paper only. Answers will be mailed direct if stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed. Address all correspondence for this department to Mrs. Helen Law, 235 Woodbine Ave., Toronto.

May:—1. It is not good form to wear face veils in the evening. The only excuse for a veil at night is when one is motoring. 2. Since your friend has invited you to her party and asks you to bring a man with you, it would be quite proper to write to a man whom you knew well and ask him to go. Word the note thus: My Dear — Miss — is giving a little party next Friday evening and has asked me to bring a man with me. Would you care to go? If you can, let me hear as soon as possible, and stop for me that evening at 7.45 o'clock. Very sincerely, May— . 3. To clean a straw sailor hat try the following: Dissolve one teaspoonful oxalic acid crystals in one cupful boiling water, and, after brushing the hat thoroughly to remove all dust, lay it on a flat surface and scrub with this solution, using a small brush for the purpose. Work rapidly, beginning with the crown; rinse in cold water, wipe dry and place on a flat cloth in the sun to dry. Do not let the hat become thoroughly saturated with the water.

Gardener:—Try cayenne pepper to rid cabbage heads of worms. Sprinkle the cabbage as soon as the worms appear. A remedy for cutworms and other grub is to mix the seed with sulphur before planting. This may be used with seed corn also.

Mrs. C. L.:—To make an endless clothesline fasten two grooved wheels wherever you want your line and stretch a wire line around the wheel. As you hang up each piece of clothing you can turn the wheel and thus make room for the next piece directly in front of you. The clothes may be taken from the line by this same convenient method, which saves many steps and is also a boon in case of rain.

E. T.:—A widow when preparing for her second marriage should drop the name of her former husband and have her household linen marked with her maiden name. Linen procured after her marriage should be marked with the name of her second husband.

Games:—The following are suggestions for your Sunday school picnic. You can have the usual races, of them for the younger folks, and games for the older persons. Fighting for the flag is a particularly time-consuming game for the younger boys and girls. You will need about a dozen medium-sized cotton flags of the inexpensive kind. One flag at a time is placed upright in the ground and girls or boys start in a race to get it. Give them some handicap. Boys can race with potato sacks, girls can race blindfolded going backward; or the boys can race crawling on their hands

and knees and the girls hopping on the right foot. Another way to race is to go as partners, each holding onto the opposite ends of a clothespin. Of course, the flags captured by each are retained. Ringing the Victory Bell is another good game. Form an arch of three cross poles, rising considerably above the heads of the company. Embed the uprights in the earth and nail the crosspiece firmly on. Then decorate the arch with red, white and blue bunting and from the top bar hang a large bell. The game consists in hitting this bell with balls which are provided, each player being given three or more throws in a round. The tape race is fun. Have as many lengths of tape as there will be players and have all the tapes about the same number of feet—ten or twelve—then provide several pairs of sharp scissors. Attach all the tapes to a fence. Four or six players may contest at once, according to the pairs of scissors available. The contestants hold the loose ends of the tapes, which they draw out taut. At the signal each player begins to split his tape up the center line with the scissors, the player arriving at the end which is tied winning the race. After each set has tried, match the winners for the final decision. This would be suitable for the older guests. Another race consists in pushing four pebbles over a prescribed course with walking sticks. All four must be rolled at once, each in turn.

X. Y. Z.:—The engagement ring is put on over the wedding ring and thus guards it. The former is removed before the ceremony, leaving the finger free. Then the bride slips back the engagement ring at her first opportunity.

W. B.:—To restore the color of black kid, mix ink with the white of an egg and apply with a soft sponge. To clean white kid, dip a clean white flannel cloth in a little ammonia and rub lightly on a cake of white soap. Rub the soiled parts gently, changing the cloth as soon as it becomes soiled. To polish tan shoes, wash the shoes clean with a sponge and warm water. Wipe with a dry cloth and let dry. Then rub freely with the inside of a banana peel. Wipe carefully with a dry cloth and polish with cotton flannel. Patent leather shoes should not be "polished" in the strict sense of the word. Apply a mixture of one part linseed oil to two parts cream to the shoes, rubbing it well in with a soft flannel cloth. This will keep the leather soft and it will not crack as readily.

Joe:—Even though you have not yet met the bride, the present should be sent to her. Wedding presents are never sent to the bridegroom.

Bedtime Stories

Tommy's Stamp Book.

When through my book of stamps I look,
What wondrous things I see!
It's dearer than the storybook
My mother reads to me.

With great delight ten times a day
I stop my play to glance
Upon these stamps of Paraguay,
Greece, Italy and France.

They beam on me in every hue
That in a stamp is seen—
In crimson, lavender and blue,
And cardinal and green.

I look upon the book with pride
To see its pages fill;
And yet I am not satisfied,
And shall not be until

The postman pauses in his tramp,
And in his outstretched hand
I see a letter with the stamp
They use in Fairyland.

The Fairy of the Roses.

Most people thought the old lady who lived in the house that stood all by itself was very queer and very cross; but Alline said she was cross only because she had rheumatism, and that if you could get her to tell a fairy story she would forget all about the pain, and be just as pleasant as anything.

"I'm going to her house now," said Alline, "for she promised she would tell me to-day about the fairies of the roses."

"Can you see that rose tree?" said the old lady, when Alline was comfortably seated on a stool beside her. "Well, it is owned by a fairy who, like the old woman who lived in a shoe, has more children than she knows what to do with. She is so dreadfully afraid of having anything happen to them that she has shut each one up tight in a rosebud. There they will stay until they grow big enough and strong enough to burst the buds open, and then each one will fly away."

"And where will they go?" asked Alline.

"That I cannot say," answered the

old lady; "there are so many of them, and they choose such different places. They are also very fond of disguises—sometimes one might take them for butterflies, at other times for humming birds. Often, when you can't see them at all, you can find out just about where they are by listening."

"Oh," cried Alline, "what do they say?"

The old lady shook her head. "Who can tell what they say? If that were possible, mortals would perhaps be wiser than they are. You can often hear them either whispering among the leaves—though there are some who will tell you it is only the wind—or singing by the brook a little tinkling song."

While the old lady and Alline were talking, a sudden shower that had come up passed over, and the sun shone again in all its warm brightness. The birds began to sing, and in through the window darted a hummingbird. It darted right out again; but not before the old lady and Alline had both seen it.

"Alline," the old lady said, "a bud on my rose tree looked this morning as if it might be pushed open soon. Go to the window and see if the fairy hasn't come out."

Alline ran to the window. "I see a great white rose," she said. "That little humming bird must have been the fairy. Oh, I'm so glad we both saw it!"

Sunlight for the Cellar.

There is a mistaken idea that a house is warmer if the cellar is not under the entire building. The argument is that there are no windows with crevices to let in the cold air. That may be true concerning the cracks next to the frames, but without doubt there will be dampness where the ground has not been excavated. Then the first-floor joists are nearer to the frost in the earth in the winter. Set the first-story beams well up from the grade, not less than 24 inches from the soil. If there is a distance of 30 inches between it is still better.

Excavate for a basement beneath the whole house, and do not be afraid to provide sufficient windows. There is nothing quite so dingy as that dark and damp space under the house. The expenditure of a few dollars would have made it light and cheerful. Do not try to bar the sunlight.