

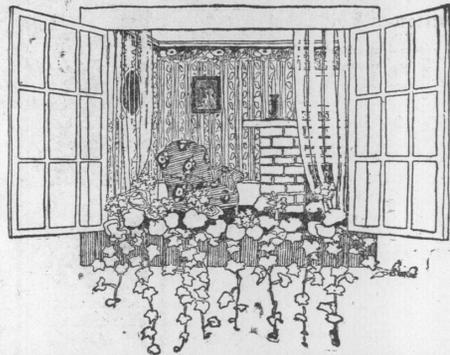
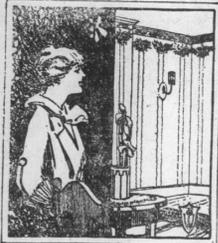
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Side Talks by Ruth Cameron

WHAT WILL THEY DO IN THE YEAR 2000?



Just about once in so often I am struck anew with the way in which from year to year we multiply the comforts and refinements and luxuries and consequently, the cost and complexity of living.

The last time this strain of thought came to me it was started by a Gloucester hammock. Do you remember the first Gloucester hammocks? They were made of plain khaki or duck and had mattresses two or three inches thick. And yet they were so luxurious compared to the ordinary hammock, with its constant effort to slump you down into a heap, that we thought them the height of luxury and came back from our wealthy friends' homes promising ourselves that some day we would have one of those hammocks on our verandahs.

It Was a Super Hammock. To-day—well, let me tell you about the hammock which started my train of thought. It was a super hammock. It had a mattress at least eight inches thick. It was covered with some very handsome material of soft green and heaped high with pillows to match. There was an extra mattress to lean back against, and one end of the hammock was arranged to lift up so that one could get a semi-reclining position. Also there was a stand and a canopy to match the hammock.

only beginning to be common. I remember how badly I needed a pair and how wonderful they seemed when I finally obtained them. To-day white shoes are a commonplace. Everybody wears them. Men, women and children wear them not for special occasions, but for every day. Probably half the women who read this have two or three pairs of white sneakers and shoes in their closets. And think of the time we spend keeping them clean!

White shoes naturally remind one of silk stockings. A woman in moderate circumstances told me the other day that her younger sister (in still more moderate circumstances) will not put on a pair of silk stockings that have little tops and feet. She thinks her sister is too economical because she wears that kind. That is the keynote of the whole thing—each decade has something a little better than the last.

Four Toothbrushes At Once. A decade ago the ordinary person had one toothbrush and used it twice a day (perhaps). To-day the same person has at least two toothbrushes, and I know a highly hygienic person who keeps four toothbrushes on hand and uses them at least five times a day.

Doubtless this is an excellent thing from the standpoint of hygiene, but I suppose it would be still more excellent to have half a dozen toothbrushes and use one every hour. Will the next generation do that?

The origin of the written or printed menu, or bill of fare, is 421 years old. The idea was developed by a Duke of Brunswick. He did not intend it for general use, but while at a banquet given in honor of the Diet of Rhenish at the Count Hugo de Mountford noticed a piece of parchment near the duke's plate, to which the duke referred frequently. When asked about it, he said it was a list of the dishes to be served. In the order they would arrive, which he had secured from the cook, in order that he might save his appetite for those dishes he liked best. Gourmands soon imitated the bright idea and later it appeared at banquets. From this the modern menu was gradually developed.

The menu, in the sense of details of the dinner, is as old as the art of cooking. Aristophanes, in his comedy "The Assembly of Women," wrote one of the most curious menus extant. It consisted of six lines, in which he named scores of rare delicacies that might be served at a banquet.

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The First Menu Card.
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Just Folks
by Edgar Guest
AUGUST.
It's August and it seems to me
The world's a hive of industry.
There's nothing but is working now
At topmost speed, as though somehow,
It had a task that it must do
And really has to hurry through.
If we had ears tuned just right
We'd hear the orchards' day and night
Molding their fruits to proper size
And if we had observing eyes
I fancy we could stand and see
The working methods of a tree.
All nature now is in a rush
To tint the apple with its blush
And gild with wondrous gold the grain
Before shall come September's rain.
Oh these are nature's busy days
She's working in a thousand ways
And doing everything she can
To satisfy the needs of man.
She has no time that she may waste,
To-day she toils with feverish haste
To have her products finished when
The frosts of winter come again.
On every hand, could we but see,
We should behold each plant and tree
Completing now with purpose true
The task it has been given to do.
Now nature toils for the yield,
And soon the vineyard's humblest grape
Shall have attained perfection's shape.

Mary Pickford to Retire.
That Mary Pickford is going to retire, following the completion of nine pictures for which she has contracted with the Big Four, was the statement made by Mrs. Charlotte Pickford,

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