

An Obsolete Word.

BY RUTH CAMERON.



A college president who was lecturing on the type of girl who succeeds, and the type of girl who fails, declared that one of the most common members of that latter class is the girl who always tries to blame anything untoward that happens to her, upon someone else. This kind of girl, he said, if she was passing through a gate and there was nobody else in sight, and she should tear her gown, would still think that the accident was somebody's fault.

We all know people like that—people who regard every unfortunate happening in the home or outside of it as somebody's fault, and are perfectly frantic if they cannot find someone to blame for anything that disturbs or inconveniences them.

When anything disagreeable occurs, these folks must immediately let off steam by blaming someone, and when, as sometimes happens, the disagreeable occurrence cannot really be traced to anyone, these people become absolutely explosive with pent-up blame.

For instance, in an office in which I once worked, the head man was of this type. One summer day when all the windows were open as a matter of course, the whole office force happened to be out of the room. One girl was at dinner, by his permission; another had gone downstairs with him to take down an important interview; and the office boy had been sent on an errand. During this period a quick summer shower came up and some important papers were injured by the rain. It was really impossible for

that man to blame anyone for this unfortunate happening, and we almost feared that his pent-up irritation would do him physical injury.

In all too many households, where some of the family have this desire to blame someone for everything that troubles them, the patient mother is the scapegoat of every accident and every irritation.

"Why wasn't the telephone answered to-day?" demands the son of the family. "I tried six times to get the house and they told me you didn't answer. It's too bad, mother. I don't see any use in our having a telephone if you can't answer it." Whereupon the patient Mrs. Griselda attempts to palliate her son's irritation by explaining that it was the maid's afternoon out, that her daughter was making candy in the kitchen, and that she herself had gone out on an errand for father.

"Why can't we ever have dinner ready on time?" raves father. "The meat didn't come until late? Why didn't you tell him what time you wanted it? You did? I don't believe you made it on time? You're always telling about something or other being late. I should think you could manage to have things delivered when we want them. I pay enough for them."

A great many things happen in this world that are nobody's fault—some things just plain happen, and others are unfortunate accidents or mistakes. It is a relief to have someone to blame when any of these things irritates one, but a relief of which only selfish and unjust people avail themselves; and in the truly generous person's dictionary, "fault" is an entirely obsolete word; the words "mistake" or "accident" have quite taken its place.

Ruth Cameron

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Household Notes.

A plain cloth dipped in hot water and then in a saucer of bran. Never use a knife or anything that will scratch the surface and it invite more sticking thereafter.

Carrots should be cut into slices instead of cubes, because the outside part, which is the darkest, is the richest. If cut into slices, this part is more equally distributed.

For a steamed cottage pudding, add a cupful of dates to the ordinary cottage pudding and steam the mixture instead of baking. This will be found excellent, being tasty as well as nutritious.

An improved pie pan has a blade fastened to the center, which revolves around the bottom of the pan, beneath the pie crust when the end protruding from the side of the dish is moved.

If leather in chair seats sticks to the clothing, sponge with a mixture of ether and alcohol, dampening the cloth lightly, and following it by wiping off with a clean flannel dampened with pure chloroform.

Jerusalem artichokes peeled and left in cold water to keep them from discoloring, and then sliced thin with a silver knife and served on lettuce leaves with a French dressing, make a delicious dinner salad.

It is becoming more and more the fashion to serve fruit salads with

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that every organ of the wonderful human body is dependent upon every other. If your liver goes wrong your blood will be impure; if your bowels are inactive your stomach and digestion will show it. And one trouble leads to another.

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SOPER & MOORE

game. These should be tossed in a French vinaigrette dressing of oil and vinegar, seasoned with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

When books become badly soiled on the edges, if not gilt edged, close the book tightly and erase the marks with an ink eraser. This will cut off all the rough edges, all soiled marks and leave the book quite clean.

Japanned ware should be washed with a sponge, dampened in warm water and dried immediately with a soft cloth. Obsolete spots can quickly be removed by rubbing with a woolen cloth dipped in sweet oil. Carrots will make delicious preserves. Take three-quarters of a pound of sugar to a pound of carrots. Add sufficient water to make a syrup and boil until the preserves are thick. A little ginger or lemon should be added to flavor.

The Bee.

BY H. L. RANN.



The bee is a small, nervous insect with four brittle legs and a self-stopping stinger which produces a very uncomfortable feeling when it is used. There are two kinds of bees—masculine and feminine. The masculine bee is a horn-poked individual who has about as much to say about the house as the husband of a suffragette. His is called a drone, and is not allowed to do anything but sit around, and look pleasant. Like the human drone, he would faint in reproachful accents if anybody should ask him to split a little kindling or turn the wringer. It is perfectly safe to insult a drone, as he has no stinger and cannot retaliate with a noiseless puncture. The feminine bee is one of the most vicious and unrelenting specimens of the female gender known to the temperate zone. One moment she is bright and sunny, flitting from flower to flower with the gentle hum of industry and a large gunny sack, and the next minute she is liable to climb into a man's lap and decorate him with art needlework and mosaic blisters. Many an honest and upright citizen, wearied with the toil and stress of life, has laid down under a catalpa tree for a well-earned siesta, only to be camped on with the utmost enthusiasm by a colony of honey bees and chased into the woodshed with several type-high bumps on his unprotected territory. Another brutal and desperate character is the humble bee, which always sings a few loud strains before perforating somebody's earlobe. After a small boy has slid into a nest of humble bees who are not feeling well, in his bare feet, he will not linger to offer any extended apology. The only member of the nobility in the bee family is the queen bee, whose feverish activity makes a 200-egg incubator look as if it was standing still. The bee does not work at her trade in the winter time, owing to the scarcity of raw material, but during the summer she gathers large quantities of honey and weaves it into neat, 2-pound pellets.

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