

At Home
Come in & Chat Awhile
—Ruth Raeburn.

My Dear Ollie:
It is just splendid that your club members are so interested in the various subjects you study and discuss. Anything I can do for you is pleasant work. This time I have chosen for study a name that is familiar to all lovers of music.

Franz Schubert
On January 31, 1797 Franz Peter Schubert was born at Lichtenthal, Vienna, Germany. His father was a parish school master. Very early in life Franz picked up the rudiments of music and at eight years of age his father began to teach him the violin. He learned singing from the choir-master, Michael Holzer, who once said that when ever he wished to teach him anything new he found that he had already mastered it. He regarded him with dum astonishment. When he was eleven years of age he entered a competition for the post of choir boy in the Imperial Chapel and was the selected candidate. This position entitled him to a free education in the Stadtkonvict School. It was soon after this his compositions first appeared. One of these were seen by Salieri who recognized talent in the boy and sent him to a great teacher for lessons in harmony. But this teacher soon sent him back saying "He has learned everything, and God has been his teacher". In the year 1813 his treble voice breaking, he was obliged to leave school and it was at this time he wrote his first symphony in D which was performed by the orchestra composed of members of the choir.

His family were musical. His father and two brothers joined with him in quartettes; his brothers playing first and second violin, his father the violin-cello and Franz the viola.
For three years after leaving school, not being able to obtain a congenial occupation he was compelled to be his father's assistant in teaching school. But a long list of compositions is assigned to these years. Schubert was an exceedingly shy man but made intimate friendships with other artists. Mayrhofer, a poet was one friend and Johann Michael Vogl was a great baritone set many of his poems to music. He met and introduced many of Schubert's songs to the public. These and other friends formed an enthusiastic band of kindred spirits.
Schubert had an unbounded veneration for Goethe and set a number of his finer songs to music and sent these settings to the poet himself. Goethe had not the slightest idea of the services Schubert was rendering to him and did not vouchsafe any notice of this offering. Today, many of Goethe's songs are far better known as Schubert's settings than Goethe's

writing!
In 1818 Schubert accepted the offer of a position as master of music to the family of Count Johann Esterhazy. It was while he was in this position that he became intimate with an amateur singer who was enthusiastic over Schubert's compositions and made a point of singing them everywhere. This was an immense assistance to the young composer's reputation, because publishers at this time were exceedingly timid.
Beethoven perused a number of Schubert's songs with great delight and said of him, "Truly Schubert possesses a spark of the divine fire." Schubert highly venerated Beethoven and was one of the thirty-eight torch bearers who stood beside the grave.

Schubert's six hundred songs form a unique and precious bequest to music. He wrote music as other men would write a letter. His fertility in musical ideas is unparalleled in the history of music. He had but to read a poem and its musical complement burst full grown from his brain.
Schubert was one of the most luckless of all great artists. His finest compositions were utterly disregarded during his lifetime. He never heard an orchestral rehearsal of his grandest symphony. After his death large bundles of his manuscripts were stuffed away and left to rot in a dark cupboard for many years until discovered by Messrs. Schumann and Grove. Some of his operas perished by the hands of an indiscriminating servant to light fires.
The charm of Schubert lies in his eternal youthfulness. He is the musician of Springtime. The generous ardor of budding manhood bubbles in his strains. His melodies are inspiring. At the early age of thirty-one he passed away and his body was laid to rest in a cemetery in Vienna near Beethoven.

—RUTH RAEBURN.

TO CONTROL WEATHER BY LOOSENING ARCTIC ICE

A new plan for human control of the weather, which Dr. E. E. Free in his "Week's Science" (New York), pronounces "much more in line with modern science than are the familiar schemes for rain-making, for damming the Gulf Stream and so on," is proposed by Herbert Janvrin Browne, a consulting meteorologist of Washington, D. C. Says Dr. Free: "A few idle war-ships, assembled by international cooperation and sent to bombard the ice cliffs of Greenland and of the Antarctic, might have profound effects. Mr. Browne believes, on the climates of temperate countries in both hemispheres. The movement of warm and cold water in the ocean currents is one of the chief factors. Mr. Browne recalls, in controlling the climates of various countries. Floating icebergs, brought down from the Coasts of Greenland into the North Atlantic ocean, absorb oceanic heat, he believes, and tend to affect the climate of Europe beneficially, especially in preventing summer droughts. Ant-

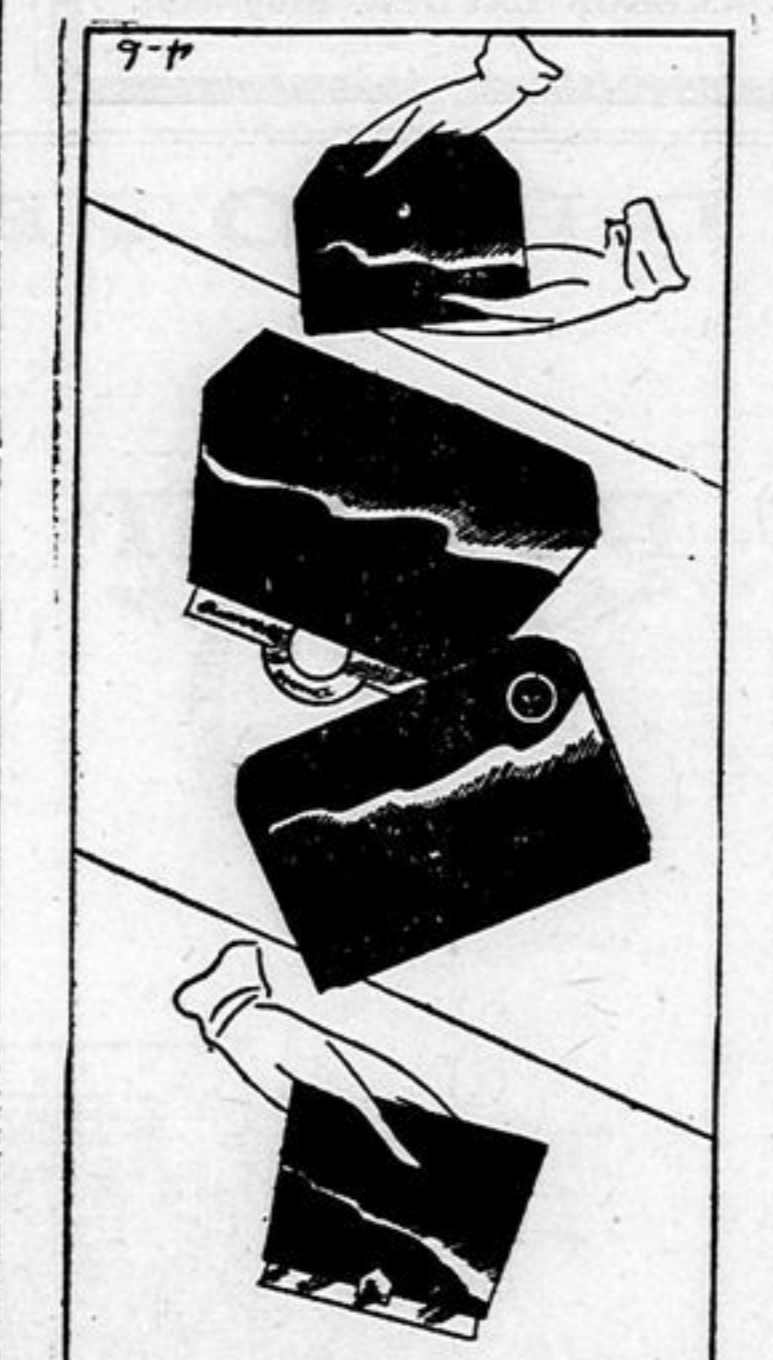
arctic ice, carried northward by the currents of the Southern oceans, has similar effects on the climate of Australia. Man might intervene in this iceberg-making with advantage. Mr. Browne believes, shooting off more ice when that would benefit world weather and holding back the ice when that seemed necessary. Comprehensive study of the world weather by an international commission of oceanographers, meteorologists and engineers is desirable, he concludes, to determine the practicability of his suggestion and to decide how best to apply it if it is found practicable."

Fashion Fancies



The Higher Waistline is More Than a Promise

At last! For months we have been hearing rumors of the higher waistline while designers continued to show models that ignored this rumor. Now, however, there is definite proof that the raised waistline is coming in. Here is a charming dress that features the new silhouette. It is of gray flat crepe, and flared in small godets at the knees. The bands of material which are sewed down have loose ends which tie in three pert little bows.



The Bags of the Moment are Conservative

Faddish tendencies in accessories may come and go, but there is no denying the practicality of the conservative vogue. Avoid the bizarre, the freakish and you will never be conspicuous for bad taste.
Here are four examples of conservatism in hand bags. Of shiny patent leather, molded on tailored lines, their uses are manifold. The first is trimmed with a gilt frame, the second features a monogram, the third an amber frame and the fourth a small gold ball. All are in good taste and extremely chic.



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WORK TO START ON AIRPORT 300 MILES OUT IN OCEAN

Construction of the first floating airport of several that have been planned for transatlantic airplane service will be begun immediately, according to an announcement recently by Henry J. Glelow, Inc., naval architects of 25 West Forty-Third street. It is to be anchored about 300 miles at sea, half way between New York and Bermuda.

The airport is to be a steel platform, 1,200 feet long, 400 feet wide, and rising normally at least 100 feet above the surface of the ocean. It is to be manned by a crew of forty-three men and will contain a machine shop, hotel and restaurant, and radio beacon to guide planes at night.

To hold this floating island in place there will be chains 21,150 feet long attached to specially designed sea anchors. Six thousand tons of steel and 2000 tons of iron will go into its

construction, and its cost is estimated at \$1,500,000. The Glelow concern has been retained as consulting engineers by the builders, the Armstrong Seadrome Development Company of Wilmington, Del.

It is understood that Mr. Armstrong expects the island to be in place by summer. Experimental flights then will be made between the mainland and Bermuda, using the seadrome as a stopping place. If these experiments are successful the construction of other floats for transatlantic service will be pushed as quickly as possible. The Armstrong Company already

has conducted tests with large Sikorsky amphibians on areas similar to that of the seadrome, and needed only 65 per cent of the available space. By scale model tests the company has convinced naval engineers that the seadrome will ride any waves up to 180 feet in height with practically no motion. Eight of these islands are contemplated, it is said in a chain to Europe by way of the Azores. Planes then would be able to leave New York at 6 o'clock in the morning and arrive at Plymouth, England, at 4:30 o'clock the following afternoon.

Expensive
"Dear John," the wife wrote from a fashionable resort, "I enclose the hotel bill."
"Dear Mary", he responded, "I enclose cheque to cover the bill, but please don't buy any more hotels at this figure. They are cheating you."



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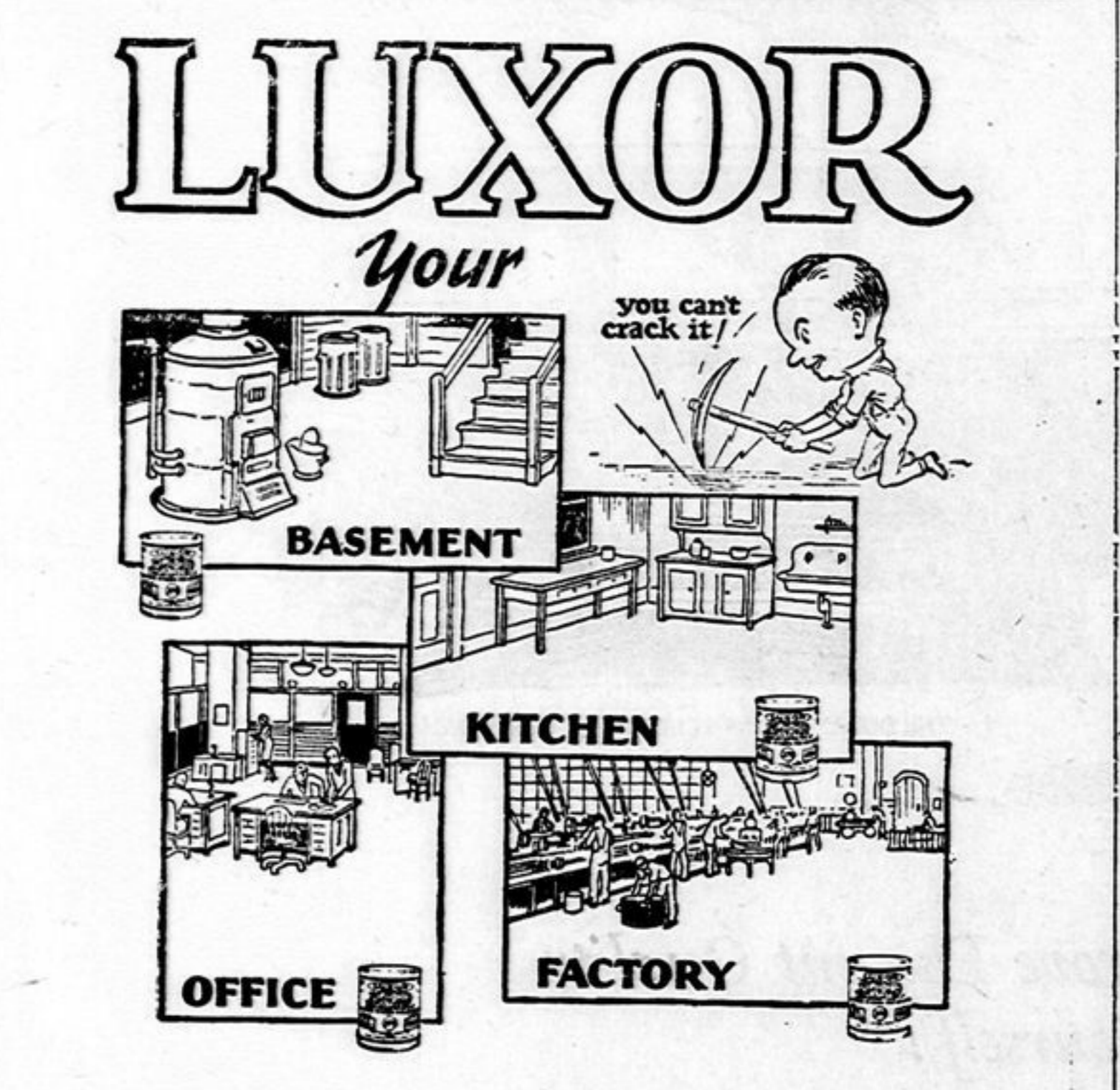
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