



# The Housewife's Corner

**Simple Hints on Upholstering.**  
Upholstering is a task for which most of us shrink. We imagine that it is impossible to the amateur or that it is of such enormous difficulty that we should be afraid to run the risk. As a matter of fact, it is not such a stupendous task. If the springs are in good shape and the hair does not require to be retaxed, the actual re-covering is simple; but often the cushions have sagged either from the crushing together of the hair, from the limpness of the springs or from the stretching of the webbing on which they rest, and all of these conditions complicate the undertaking. But even at the worst, upholstering is anything but impossible to a careful, handy worker.

The first step is to remove carefully the old covering so as not to tear or pull out of shape, as it will be needed for a pattern for the new. Then, if the hair is to be retaxed, take off the inner cover and take out all the hair, putting it out on a big piece of cloth or paper. The springs will then be exposed, and very often simply reversing them will make them very much more efficient; if they are broken, it is better to have none at all, if you cannot get new ones.

The materials that you will require for upholstering are: covering muslin, stout webbing, tacks, twine, upholsterer's needles, brade, a long, sharp shears and a small hammer. Press out the old covers so as to take out all wrinkles so that they will be used as patterns. If you are using material that has a decided pattern, see that you get a complete unit of the design in the center, as otherwise the effect will be lopsided.

It is best to begin with a chair that has only a seat to be covered; but if the back and arms are to be done, finish them before attacking the seat, as they are easier to manage in that way. When you get to the bottom, begin by fixing the webbing in a basket weave, pulling it as tight as you can and nailing it down firmly, leaving little space between the brads. On the way in which this foundation webbing is done the success of the whole work largely depends. Then put the springs in place, stitching them steadily with the twine, and over them draw a piece of the muslin and nail down to the frame. Get the thick layer of stuffing in place now, using either hair or the moss which comes for the purpose, and iron it the muslin snugly into place, taking great care to get quite smooth and tight, to prevent future wrinkling. The chair is then ready for the outside cover, but before putting it on mark where the centre comes and get it squarely in place. Fit smoothly, draw tightly down on the sides and tack firmly in place with the brads. Cover the raw edges with a harmonizing gimp, using small gimp tacks of the same color.

It is best to experiment first with some inexpensive material, but make sure to have it of a firm, close weave that will not drag and pull. After the first chair is done you will feel greater confidence, but do not let it tempt you to any relaxation from your first care.

### Useful Hints.

Raisins added to the nut salad will make it taste better.

To roll a jelly cake successfully the edges should be pared off.

Muffins, biscuits and griddle cakes are appropriate supper dishes.

Sauces and salad dressings can always be made in the morning.

Rose bushes will thrive if soap-suds and dishwasher are put on them.

Warm water and a good white soap can be used for cleaning almost any carpet.

After an electric iron is overheated it will require more current to make it hot.

Most any objectionable weed will die if it is cut off close to the ground and a little gasoline poured on the roots.

Spinach is very good if cooked until tender and then put through the colander. It should be dressed with drawn butter.

Bread should never be kept wrapped in a cloth. The cloth absorbs moisture and imparts an unpleasant taste.

Stubborn marks on white paint can sometimes be removed with gasoline in which a little plaster of paris has been dissolved.

A good way to keep the cellar or dairy from having an unpleasant odor is to whitewash the walls with lime that contains carbolic acid. One ounce of carbolic acid to a gallon of whitewash is the proper proportion.

When stitching chifton or any such material on the machine use the finest possible thread, and put a strip of thin paper under the goods and stitch them together. The paper can be torn away when the work is finished.

A good silver polish is made with one-half pound of prepared chalk mixed with as much household ammonia as the chalk will absorb. Add about four tablespoonfuls of denatured alcohol; put the mixture in a jar that will seal sufficiently to keep out the dust.

A good substitute for stair rods when brass ones cannot be afforded is this: Buy some thin canes which can be purchased cheap, cut off the bent part and shorten them to the length required; then paint each piece with brown paint. When fastened with staples these rods look tidy and wear quite a long time; thus saving expense and labor in cleaning.

### Selected Recipes.

**Frozen Pear Dessert.**—Without opening, pack can of fine pears in ice and salt, as for ice cream. Let it remain three or four hours. On taking out, wipe carefully and cut open around middle. If frozen very hard, wrap with towel dipped in hot water. Contently will come out in perfect rounds. Slice and serve with spoonful of whipped cream on each slice.

**Sour Cream Sauce.**—Yolks of two eggs, juice of one lemon, one teaspoon sugar, one-fourth teaspoon salt, one-half cup rich, heavy sour cream, minced parsley as needed. Beat yolks and sugar until thick, add lemon juice slowly, then salt and cream. Mix well. Serve either in sauce boat, or pour-over fish before serving. Parsley is sprinkled over sauce on fish, or used to garnish fish when sauce is served separately.

**Ginger Pudding.**—One-half cup molasses, one and one-half tablespoons melted butter, one-half cup sour milk, one teaspoon soda, one and five-eighths cups bread flour, one tablespoon orange juice, one-half teaspoon salt, one-half teaspoon ginger, grated rind one-half orange. Dissolve soda in sour milk, then add other ingredients. Beat all thoroughly, pour into well-buttered mold and steam about fifty minutes. Serve with orange sauce.

**Cream of Vegetable Soup.**—Dice three medium-sized carrots and five crisp stalks of celery and simmer in a little water until tender. With one large tablespoon of butter, two tablespoons flour and one and one-half pints milk make cream sauce. Season and let cook thoroughly. Add vegetables when tender and the small amount of liquid in which they were cooked; also one-half cup cooked rice, chopped white of one hard-boiled egg, and a few thin shavings of lemon rind, if latter flavor is liked. Vegetables may be put through colander, if preferred, and the soup strained after adding them.

**Boiled Fish.**—Clean trout or whitefish thoroughly and remove scales,

# A Railroad Novelist



PERHAPS the best known of the younger literary critics in America is Archie Bell of the "Cleveland Leader." For that reason his tribute to the work of a G. P. R. official is well worth attention. That work is a work of fiction, "Hearts and Faces" by name, and is as remote from Canadian railway life as anything could possibly be imagined. Here is what Archie Bell has to say:—

John Murray Gibbon was born in Colyton. His father is a tittering Scotchman. He is a graduate of Oxford, and he has taken special courses in philosophy at various German universities. And despite some of these things popularly considered handicaps to "getting on in the world," he came back to London and was soon editor of the well-known illustrated newspaper, "Black and White."

Realizing that he did not know as much as he wanted to know about art, a realization that came home to him each day as he sat at his editorial desk, he resigned and went to Paris to become an art student.

He lived in the famous Latin Quarter at night and spent the days in Colarossi's atelier. Then he went to Italy and Algiers, Japan and China, and to many other countries.

Then one day, an official position was offered him by the Canadian Pacific Railway. At the age of forty-one he has achieved distinction as a practical railroad man, despite all those years of preparation that were spent in pursuits so popularly believed to unfit a man for the practical life.

The busiest men are the ones who "find the most time." In the past two years, John Murray Gibbon has been attending to his railroad duties while on the other hand has been writing a novel, which has just been issued by the famous publishing house of John Lane in England and S. B. Gundy in Toronto.

"Hearts and Faces" is the story of an artist. It treats of the artistic temperament as it sallies forth into the warmer world from the somewhat unpromising environment of Scotland.

George Grange is found amid rather commonplace surroundings in the first few lines of the novel. There his character, at least the foundation for his character, is being formed. He never escapes from this environment, because he carries its effect with him wherever he goes.

Delightfully true pictures of Scottish ideals are sketched in the earlier chapters, and then with the first fling at the biting satire which frequently illuminates subsequent pages, George Grange, throws aside his university larder for the more practical and diligent toil of a committee waiting upon him and offers him a commission to paint a portrait of the big for a fashionable club. Gibbon draws a steady and grim picture of the intriguing London society folk whom he knows well enough—and occasionally he pays his respects to the American "climbers" in the smart set. There is no venom in his satire of his own people, nor of the foreigners, but he paints portraits in words that are carefully chosen and forcible.

His hero is thrown into this pulsating, human pot-pourri, and "keep his skirts clean" up to the great moment of his life, when he falls a victim of a designing woman and loses all.

Again Scotch pluck to the rescue, however, and he goes to Paris, where many of the scenes are doubtless somewhat autobiographical. It is his Quarter life of reality. Not that musical comedy version which we too often mistake for the reality, and not even that fascinating life sketched so indelibly by Henri de Waroux. John Alden Carpenter, of Chicago, is the staid music critic of the country to pick up their ears in the last two years. Caesar Franck was a school-teacher, even when he was writing his most famous symphony.

**LIFE-SAVING A CRIME.**  
Amazing Punishment Inflicted by German Authorities.

The weird and wonderful laws of Germany, which render the simple civilian's life a misery, have often been dilated on, but the most amazing of all punishments inflicted by the authorities of the Fatherland has yet to be related.

This dire offence was committed in a town in Alsace, where a schoolmaster, who had caught cramp while bathing, was rescued by an onlooker, at the risk of his life. The German authorities decided that the rescuer had committed the unpardonable offence of bathing in a prohibited place, and imposed a fine with costs.

In Vienna a young actress not long ago committed the crime of wearing correct uniform on the stage. For this act, which was held to degrade the dignity of the Army, she was fined a sum equal to \$8. This must seem strange even to the Huns; who demand that when a uniform is worn on the stage, it should be correct to a button.

A more justifiable punishment, in the opinion of many players, was imposed in the neutral country of Greece on a lady, who had to undergo fourteen days' incarceration for obstructing the view of a guardian of the peace by wearing a matinee hat at an opera in Athens.

Strict laws have, however, their comfortable side when you are anxious to get into prison.

A somewhat curious method of obtaining this end was employed by a destitute workman of Strasbourg, who was desirous of finding shelter in prison. The representatives of the law

refused to oblige him to the extent he wanted, so he rejoined with a volley of insulting expressions concerning the Ktirer. That did the trick, and he was rewarded with ascension which kept him in "quod" very nicely till the spring.

**HAVE A BANANA?**  
It Is As Much the Fruit of the Poor as the Rich.

The banana is one of the great curiosities of the vegetable kingdom. One cannot call it a tree, a bush, a shrub, a herb, or a vegetable, but a herbaceous plant with the status of a tree.

Though there is no woody fibre in any part of its structure, it sometimes grows as tall as thirty feet, and the bunches of fruit are so prolific that they are often heavier than the stalk that supports them. Of all fruits, the banana yields most food per acre. It yields forty times more by weight than the potato, and as much as 133 times more than wheat.

It is immune from disease of any sort, and no insect will attack it.

Nervous people often reject bananas that have become brown and mushy, fearing microbes. But such fear is needless. The banana is fit to eat as soon as it has lost all the green color, and remains fit no matter how black it may be, so long as the skin is unbroken; for until the latter occurs, there can be no admission of air and no decomposition.

Snubbed.  
Jack Blunt—Shall we get married?  
Miss Blight—I shall. What you do is of no interest to me.

# The Automobile



**A Few Simple Rules.**  
The owner who wants big tire mileage can get it, and big gasoline mileage along with it, if he will observe a few simple rules, and one of the most important of these lies in the way he stops and starts his car. Just note how one man will shut off his power almost a rod away and just coast up to the curb. He saves gas, his tires and his car all at once. Another man will drive right up to the curb and then jam on his brakes. His car will slide several feet and in that one time he put more wear and strain on his rear tires than a mile's ordinary driving.

The matter of starting the car is another important feature, if long wear is to be obtained from the tires. Always start away from the curb slowly. Just ease in the clutch and glide away. In this way the back wheels do not revolve uselessly two or three turns and grind the rubber tread off your rear tires. Sudden starting and stopping is not only hard on tires, but it is bad for the whole car.

In going around corners care should be taken to take the turns easily and smoothly, and slow down before get-

# THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.  
MAY 28.

The Council at Jerusalem.—Acts 15. 1-35. Golden Text, Gal. 5, 1.

Verse 22. Elders.—The term was taken over from the Jewish church. It is found as a name of a religious officer in pagan Egypt, as well as for secular officials. But it does not seem to have lost its original connotation of age (compare the name Senate), for in I. Pet. 5 it is contrasted with the "younger." The word presbyter, coming into our language through French, took the form priest, which usage attached to sacerdotal functions. Some of the most important officers in the Presbyterian Church are known as elders.

Bar-Sabbas.—Another unknown prophet (compare Lesson Text Studies for May 7, verse 1). Silas—Paul's later companion. His name is wrongly regarded as a contracted form of Silvanus, by which he is known from I. Thess. 2: 1 and elsewhere. The latter is really a similar-sounding Roman name chosen like Paul as an alternative to Saul. We cannot, however, explain why the Aramaic form is used in the narrative of Acts. Chief men—Or leaders. The word became later on a technical name for church officers, like leader in Methodism; see Heb. 13: 17 (rendered otherwise).

23. With the rendering in the text, brethren, unto the brethren, we have an attractive collection of like terms; but the margin, the elder brethren, is better. Antioch, Syria, Cilicia—Notice how restricted in local range is this Apostolic Decree. It was meant for the special conditions of the country between Antioch and Tarsus. Paul's letters never suggest that his addressees knew of it. Thus there is no abstinence from "flesh" offered to "idols" enjoyed upon the Corinthians, unless for the sake of a "weak brother's" conscience.

24. Troubled.—A much stronger word than the English. Thus in John 14: 1; 12: 27, etc., dismay would come nearer the meaning. Your souls—Unemphatic according to Semitic idiom, and meaning little more than you. To whom we gave no commandment.—The church repudiates them as no representatives of the Jerusalem brethren in any sense.

25. Having come.—The unanimous vote was a very wonderful thing, for both parties gave up a great deal. Note how they endorse the teaching of Barnabas and Paul with the emphatic testimony as to their devotion, and then appoint actual members of their own number to enforce the same teaching. There is no half-heartedness here.

28. To the Holy Spirit.—This takes up verse 8; the Spirit had shown that he made no distinction between circumcised and uncircumcised. The combination and to us seems daring; but they only meant that their decision was a registration of one which they clearly saw to have been already determined by God. Burden—For such was indeed the keeping of the law, as Peter emphatically declared in verse 10. Necessary—Why? The answer seems to be that all four were to the Jew taboos pure and simple, due to a long-established belief that demonic perils attended them all alike. Sexual impurity was not banned for moral reasons, but just because it involved the same demonic activity as eating the flesh of an animal improperly killed. The abstinence from these taboos was a necessary condition to be observed by Gentile Christians if they were to eat with Jewish Christians—they would otherwise be infected, as it were. It surprises us that Jews who had received Christ should not have outgrown such taboos;

# FROM OLD SCOTLAND

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HER BANKS AND BRAES.

**What Is Going On in the Highlands and Lowlands of Auld Scotia.**  
A ten per cent. advance in wages is being asked by Lancashire cotton operators.  
Bedford carpenters and joiners have come out on strike for an extra two cents per hour.  
Lady Mabel Smith, sister of Earl Fitzwilliam, has just taken up work as a farm hand.  
Great Britain has prohibited Danish owners from making contracts to carry oil in their ships.  
Smallpox has broken out in Atherton, the mining and manufacturing town near Manchester.  
The latest list issued by the Harrow School shows that 241 Harrovians have been killed in action.  
Great falls of cliff have taken place during the past week at Abbot's Cliff, between Folkestone and Dover.  
Lady Jellicoe's Sailors' Fund has despatched 100,000 comforts, representing about \$100,000, to the Grand Fleet.  
Lancashire colliers are returning from Australia and New Zealand to the mines in the Manchester coal-fields.  
Nearly 400 past and present members of University College, Reading, are now serving with the naval and military forces.  
Northampton Corporation tramway employees threaten to strike unless lost time is paid for the curtailment of four hours daily.  
Scarborough Watch Committee has decided to take no steps at present in regard to the employment of women as police officers.  
Outbreak of measles at Burnley has prevented attested men leaving for the army, and has stopped all visits home by active service men.  
Henry Oswald Johnson, a York chorister, who has won a commission from the ranks, is to be presented by the Dean and Chapter with a sword.  
Although situated in the heart of the Midland coal field, Nottingham is experiencing a serious coal famine, chiefly due to a scarcity of mine-laborers.  
The flying of kites has been prohibited at the parks and open spaces controlled by the L. C. C., except when authorized by competent military authority.  
At a meeting of the Essex War Agricultural Committee it was reported that the county education committee had agreed to release boys of 14 years of age from school and send them to work on the farms.  
Rugby and rowing have each given thirteen; and Rugby and rowing have both had ten wounded.  
It is proposed to establish a National Organization of Leather Goods Manufacturers to safeguard the interests of those who have been trying to replace German leather goods by British.  
The King has accepted a vellum-bound copy of the roll of honor of Dover College, which has over 650 Old Boys serving with the colors, 32 having won honors and 47 been mentioned in despatches.  
Exciting scenes were witnessed at a fire in Cranes Park, Surbiton, when Mr. Charlton, the occupier, with his wife and two children, had to escape by way of the verandah, from which they jumped into the garden below.  
Mr. S. H. Renshaw has intimated that he will give \$10,000 to bury in memory of his wife, and one in memory of his son, Lieut. A. Renshaw, who was killed in action at the Dardanelles.

**High Finance.**  
"You owe me \$40,000 which you say you can't pay," announced the financier. "Why don't you marry that eldest Knowall girl; she's worth twice that amount."  
"No, I can't do that; but you might marry her yourself and pay me the difference," replied the young Adonis.

**Solved.**  
"Now, Johnny," said the teacher, "suppose you wanted to build a \$1,000 house and had only \$700, what would you do?"  
"I 'tpose I'd have to marry a girl worth \$300," answered the young financier.

**Exactly.**  
"Would you—er—Marry me, Winnie?"  
"Oh! Algy, you surprise me? Certainly I'll marry you."  
"But—I'm not serious, doncher know! Cawn't you accept a joke?"  
"That's exactly what I've done."

**Foregone Conclusion.**  
Teacher—If a farmer sold 1,475 bushels of wheat for \$1.17 a bushel, what would he get?  
Boy—An automobile.

"You 'treat that gentleman very respectfully." "Yes, he is one of our earliest settlers." "An early settler? Why, man, he's not more than 40 years old." "No; but he pays his bills on the first of every month."

"I tell you, I'll be master of my house when I'm a man," said little Bennie. "That's what your father thought when he was your age, Bennie," replied the boy's mother.