

## ILL MANNERED ADVERBS HAVE WAY OF PLAYING QUEER TRICKS

Adverbs are the most ill-bred and ill-mannered, the most lawless of the parts of speech. They have no family history to brag about. It is true they have now been regularly adopted, but for a very good reason; the family likeness could not be denied. How could the genitive of the noun be concealed in the strange adverb needs in this sentence:

"And he must needs go through Samaria."—John 4:4?

The ancestry of most of them can be traced to nouns, pronouns and adverbs, says a writer in the Kansas City Star. They are the Ishmaelites of the parts of speech. They are waifs and strays, the odds and ends of language. Horne Tooke calls them "the common sink and repository of all heterogeneous, unknown corruptions."

Their manners are positively bad. They most shock Emily Post more than would a man eating pie with his knife. They never wait for an invitation; they crowd in where they don't belong, as when they split infinitives.

"To almost succeed is not enough." The grammarians rave and tear their hair. But the adverbs don't care. Sometimes they rudely shove aside a pronoun and take its place.

"Look unto the rock whence ye were hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye were digged." Isaiah 51:1. Often they trick us into putting them into wrong places, as they did the careful Thomas Bailey Aldrich, when he wrote:

"I only died last night."

Or they sneak in where they are not wanted at all and make us say what we don't mean, as in these sentences:

I have not seen her but once.

I have thought of marrying often.

Fortunately people understand what we mean. Nobody misunderstood the

little darkey, when he said, as he looked at his empty stocking Christmas morning: "I didn't want nothin' nohow." I mean nobody but school teachers; their logic makes one negative cancel another, whether it does or not.

They like to play practical jokes on us and make the most pious of us lie. And we hold up our hands in holy horror when we realize that we have said:

All criminals are not guilty.

They are always tempting us to lie with "absolutely," "sincerely," "respectfully," "truly," "awfully," etc. And who can resist the blandishments of the innocent looking "very?" A well-known columnist once offered a prize for justifiable use of "very." An equally well-known author won the prize by playing on the word as follows:

"Is your wife entertaining this winter?"

"Not very."

Sometimes adverbs mask themselves and play hide-and-seek with adjectives. In the sentence: "He walks erect," is "erect" an adverb or an adjective? In this sentence from Dickens:

"The fog came pouring in at every chink and keyhole," does "pouring" have more adverbial or more adjectival value? Nobody knows and the best way to decide the matter is to flip a penny. And what do you say about such expressions as "boiling hot," "stinging cold," "dripping wet?" Are -ing words adverbs of degree or not? Of course, in the following sentence from Mrs. Madison:

"The world seems to be running mad with one thing and another," "what" can be nothing but an adverb, no matter what it looks like.

They'll fool if they can. "I feel pretty good," "We're mighty glad to see you," "We had a right good time," and "We didn't realize we had stayed that long" are such common and such friendly expressions that we ought to pardon the adverbs for taking adjective forms. But the crabbed grammarians won't.

### TIME FOR FLIGHT

My lord, where'er a lady fair  
Commends the luster of your hair  
Adores your spats, admires your hat  
Or compliments on this and that  
Of your attire, be quite at ease  
No danger lurks in such as these  
But when she readjusts your tie  
Pick up your dogs, my lord and fly!

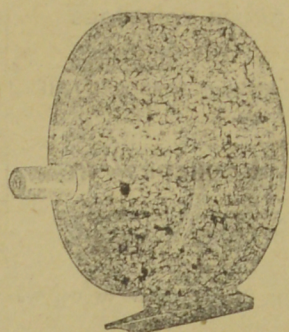
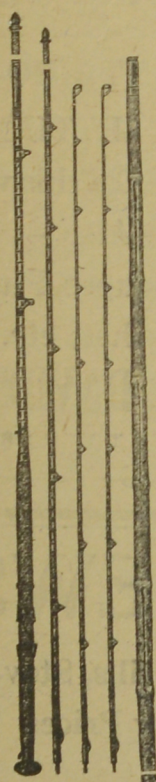
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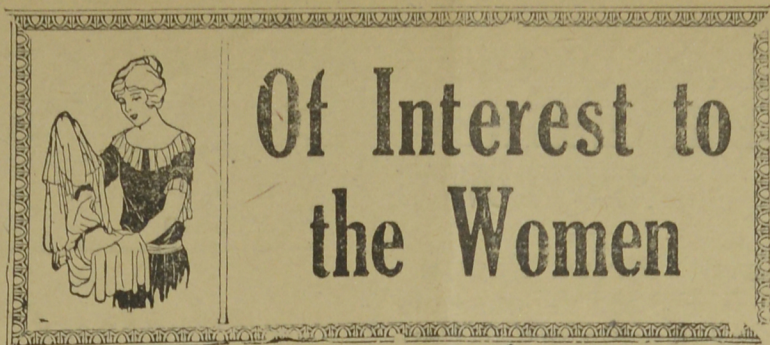
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The combination of two fabrics increases the effectiveness of fall costumes.

The upturned brim is a feature well liked in new millinery.

The surplice closing is a slenderizing feature of the larger woman's wardrobe.

Very smart new gowns adopt the vestee as a smart feature.

Black and white checks and plaids make fashionable gowns when cut on the bias.

Some frocks especially those that close at the side, are beltless.

The square scarf of surah silk in different color combinations is a new fall accessory.

Macaroni is a valuable food.

Add parsley to cream of potato soup.

For the tailored made American mink, summer ermine and mole are the furs utilized.

Paris gives renewed importance to laces, fringe and gold.

The preference for anything gold is noted wherever costumes are displayed.

Pockets are strapped and some are cut circular bulging from the garment.

If possible add flavoring extracts to a mixture when cold.

Lard is good for burns.

Velvets, brocades and the lavish use of fur indicate a season of extravagance.

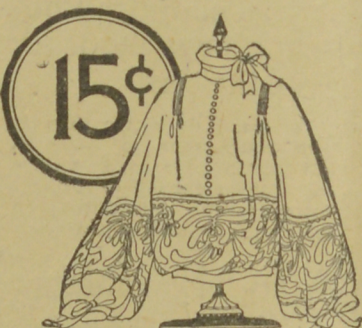
Fronts of coats and dresses are cut in circular lines while backs remain flat.

For formal coats, black caracul with Kolinsky is smart.

To remove stains from glass flower bowls fill with a weak solution of vinegar and water and let stand several hours.

### SUICIDE TENDENCY

Budapest—The Hungarian government is to build a home for persons tired of life. The increasing number of suicides is the reason.



### A Stylish Blouse

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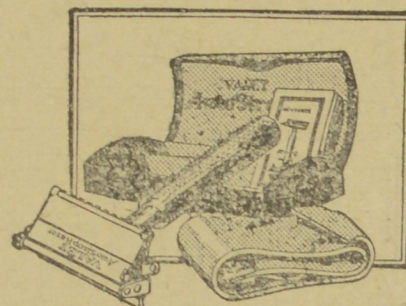
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