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Of Interest to Women

GOOD VOICE IS SOUND CHARM BASIS

Trivialities Fail Conversationalist—Self-Instruction Modulates Tone

Why are there so many truly charming singers, entertainers, actresses and actors? One of their outstanding charm assets is within reach of almost everyone, says Cyrena Van Gordon, the transformed "ugly duckling"—a pleasant voice. She suggests how you can improve your own voice and ability as a conversationalist.

Have you ever listened to yourself talk—really listened?

It may be a shock, but try it. A well modulated, pleasant voice that enunciates distinctly and really has something to say is one of the invariable marks to charm and good breeding.

Both Katherine Cornell and Helen Hayes owe a large measure of their success as outstanding actresses to the rich, vibrant quality of their voices. Radio stars, with the exception of those who perform on some instrument, are almost entirely dependent upon their voices to put personality across to audiences. The warm friendliness of his voice is one of President Roosevelt's assets.

But, you do not have to be an actress, a radio star, or indeed a public figure of any kind in order to need a pleasant voice. And you don't need to have a teacher to help you improve your tones. Your own ear, if you will give it a chance, will guide you in detecting and eliminating shrill and raucous sounds.

Speak so You Can Be Understood

In conversation the important thing is to have something to say—then to say it in a voice pleasantly modulated and in distinct and readily understood speech.

Don't mumble, don't hesitate and stammer. Don't make it necessary for your listeners to ask apologetically what you said. You are the one, under those circumstances, who should apologize. Say what you have to say clearly and quietly. It will be just as forceful, perhaps more so, than if you shout.

Reading your newspaper out loud to your family, if they will listen to you is, incidentally, one of the best methods I know for improving your speaking voice. It gives you an opportunity to practice diction and clear enunciation. You might even try some of the time-honored, tongue-twisters,

such as "Peter Piper picked a peck of purple pippins" or "She sells sea shells."

If your conversation is limited to trivialities about your own or your neighbor's daily life, it is time for you to get some new interests. It isn't necessary to read Shakespeare, listen to Bach and go to picture galleries to be interesting.

There are interesting items about every person you meet, in every conversation you hear; in every paper, magazine and book you read; in fact, in every experience and interest in your life. It is your awareness of the fascinating things about you and your ability to recount them, that will make you a good conversationalist.

Listening is Desirable Ability

One of the most interesting talkers I have ever known was bedridden. She never left her cottage on the edge of our town, and seldom her room, but she had such an avid interest in life that she brought to every conversation a lively play of anecdote and illuminating comment.

Being a good conversationalist, implies being a good listener and having the ability to draw others out. Being a good listener is, in the opinion of many persons, more important to charm than being a good talker.

Another thing, you never have to pretend that you know something you don't. You are sure to get into deep water if you do. And you are much more likely to charm beholders if you acknowledge your inexperience and say, "Won't you please tell me about it?"

In the "Clinging Vine," a play that had a run on Broadway a few seasons ago, the old-fashioned grandmother tells her business-girl granddaughter that she needs just three conversational adjuncts to prove attractive to men: "I don't know," "Do go on," and "Aren't you wonderful?"

Suitors require I think, considerably more than these not-so-simple phrases in these modern, highly competitive days, but the point made by the old gentlewoman is important in social intercourse. You must really show an interest in the other person's activities and interests, give him (or her) a chance to display knowledge and air

views. And you have to make them think that they are indeed 'wonderful'.

Irene Castle Shuns Hobby Talk
Irene Castle, the famous dancer, who introduced hair-bobbing to respectable women, has to the nth degree the faculty of drawing out comparative strangers and letting them entertain themselves by simply letting them talk about things that interest them. She almost never discusses her own business—not even her beloved dogs.

If you were to call at her canine orphanage in Deerfield, Ill., which she has christened 'Orphans of the Storm' you'll probably spend your time talking about your own favorite pooch and his tricks rather than about the 200 dogs she cares for in her institution.

Claudette Colbert is another glamorous individual who has a way of making everybody she comes in contact with feel that they are important and 'wonderful.' She smiles a great deal, nods encouragingly and knows how to ask leading questions. This charming young actress is a simple, unaffected person, with none of the airs of some popular stars. Her favorite mode of travel, incidentally, is on a tramp steamer where she can wear old clothes, read plenty of books and not have to be social.

DESSERTS THAT DESERVE A TRIAL

Chocolate Blanc Mange

Mix five tablespoons of cocoa with half a cup of sugar and melt in a double boiler. Beat two eggs thoroughly and add five tablespoons of cornstarch, mixing well. Scald a quart of rich milk in a double boiler and gradually add the sugar and the cocoa. When this is dissolved add the cornstarch and eggs, adding the milk slowly to the cornstarch, and then putting all back in the double boiler. Beat thoroughly and cook for five or ten minutes, until the cornstarch taste is eliminated. Remove and pour into dampened molds. Cool and serve with cream.

Chocolate Cornstarch Dessert

This rule calls for two cups of milk, ½ cup granulated sugar, one square of unsweetened chocolate, two tablespoons of cornstarch and half a pint of whipped cream. The milk and sugar should first be thoroughly dissolved in a double boiler. Then the square of chocolate should be added and melted and stirred smooth. Then the cornstarch, dissolved in a little cold milk, should be added to the hot mixture and the whole cooked thoroughly for twenty minutes. When it is thoroughly cooked it should be poured into cups to harden and kept

on ice till needed. When needed the cups should be turned out on dessert plates, and topped off with a tablespoon of whipped cream.

Grape Juice Sponge

Bring one cup of grape juice and one cup of water to a boil, thicken with two tablespoons of cornstarch previously mixed smooth in cold water. Add one-half cup of sugar and a small pinch of salt. Let mixture cook in double boiler while beating the whites of two eggs to stiff froth. Slowly pour the hot mixture on the eggs and beat briskly until it is all taken up. Serve very cold in individual cups with a custard poured over.

Grape Juice Jelly

Soak a tablespoon of gelatine in a quarter of a cup of cold water and when it is soft pour over it half a cup of boiling water. Stir until the gelatine is dissolved and then add a tablespoon of strained lemon juice, a cup of grape juice and a quarter of a cup of sugar. Pour in a mold and chill and serve with whipped cream.

USEFUL HOUSE HINTS

To keep celery crisp, put a small peeled potato in the water in which it is soaked.

When cutting butter into squares for table use, wrap one thickness of paper around the knife blade. There will then be no broken or ragged edges.

When boiling fish, add a few drops of vinegar to the water. The fish will then be quite firm and very white.

Cold tea is a good fertilizer for house plants.

Flour should be fully covered in a dry, cool place.

It is better to remove print butter from the cardboard container once it has been opened.

Many reversible carpets are spoiled by black lines on the side laid next to the floor. These are caused by dust working up, between boards that do not fit very well. If felt cannot be afforded a good plan is to fill the spaces between the boards with paper which has been soaked in water and then worked up into a soft pulp. When the pulp is dry in the crevices cover the floor with either brown paper or newspapers doubled, as this entirely prevents those disfiguring lines which often make it impossible to reverse a carpet.

PARIS, France, May 11—More than sixty preventive arrests were reported following minor clashes between Rightist political organizations and Popular Front adherents.

WRITERS, BOOKS ARE DISCUSSED BY O. DOUGLAS

TORONTO, May 9—When O. Douglas sets out to write a book she has no definite preconceived idea of what she is going to write, and she never knows what her plot will be. She simply sits down with a pile of white paper in front of her and a pencil and begins to write.

So she informed members of the Women's Canadian Club who filled the auditorium of Eaton's College Street yesterday afternoon.

O. Douglas (who is Miss Anna Buchanan, sister of the Governor-General of Canada) is a captivating person, with a clear musical voice and a delightful sense of humor, with which in yesterday's address she completely won the hearts of her audience.

Miss Buchanan said she was not going to write a book on Canada; she was finding out the vastness of the country.

"We women are the worst of readers," Miss Buchanan launched a deliciously humorous tirade "Men give a book a chance—settle back comfortably in an armchair with a pipe. But I've seen women sit down on the edge of a chair to start a new book while waiting for a dentist's appointment. She says to herself, 'I don't believe I'm going to like this,' and turns to find what the ending is. She doesn't give the book a chance."

"If there are queer things about people who write, there are even queerer things about people who read. Next time you are in a public library just watch them. They are better than people in a play."

When people say coily to O. Douglas: "Now you're not to put me into a book," she feels like saying (she said) "Is it likely?" Others, conversely, grumble, "I don't see why you don't put me into a book!"

There are, however, great snares about putting real people and real happenings into a book. In one of her books, she confided, she made a tubercular girl die. Later, she received a letter from a patient in a sanitarium disappointed that the author had drawn such a hopeless picture. "Never since have I made anyone die of any known disease!"

Miss Buchanan said she always felt like laughing at the person who said: "I love reading, but I never get time." Then there was the person who read tremendously but without discrimination, until he developed a mental dyspepsia.

To the true reader, books are among the greatest gifts of life. They mean ease in the midst of worry. They give laughter. They teach les-

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sons on how to be pitiful, how to live quietly in an unquiet world, how a person might possess his soul in patience. Books bring the companionship of great minds."

Mrs. H. P. Plumptre moved a vote of thanks to Miss Buchanan, who, in reply, stated that never before had she addressed so sympathetic an audience.

Mrs. J. G. Althouse seconded the vote of thanks, and Mrs. F. N. G. Starr presided in the absence from the city of the President.

Mrs. Herbert A. Bruce and Mrs. John Buchanan, mother of Lord Tweedsmuir, were distinguished guests.

Tea in the Round Room was a charming feature of the afternoon, when the many members were received by Miss Buchanan and Mrs. F. N. G. Starr.

QUEBEC, P. Q., May 11—Hon. T. D. Bouchard, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Trade and Industry, and Hon. Hector Authier, Minister of Colonization, will go to Ottawa next Monday, there to meet Hon. Norman McL. Rogers, Minister of Labor, in charge of unemployment relief, to discuss co-operation between both Federal and Provincial Governments, as regards the back-to-the-land movement.

The Gordon plan recognized the principle of help by Ottawa to colonization though later the latter was abandoned. Messrs. Bouchard and Authier will endeavor to have it re-established.

If You Intend Building or Repairing this Year

It will be wise for you to use Ryan's Genuine Chimney Brick, made expressly for chimneys, which can be obtained at practically all leading hardware stores in New Brunswick and the State of Maine. Don't use old brick back over again in your chimney—don't use ordinary building brick in your chimney because this class of brick are burned so hard to keep out moisture that the pores are plugged and when the chimney burns out the heat cannot escape with the result that the brick become red hot and 9 times out of 10 the building goes up in smoke. This is not so with Ryan's Chimney Brick, which are porous so that when the chimney burns out the brick do not become red hot because the heat gradually escapes through the pores and the building does not go up in smoke.

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Nothing is so terrifying as to be awakened in the small hours of the morning with the smell of smoke and the crackling of fire, all from the use of ordinary building brick in the chimney, which have become red hot and set the house on fire.

It is suggested that you listen in on C.F.N.B. any evening at 7.20 when you will hear a talk on Ryan's Genuine Chimney Brick.

You should not only build your chimney of brick but also your home because by building with brick your troubles are over and by building with wood your troubles come afterwards.

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