

**FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.**

**DAILY THOUGHT.**

A waistcoat of broadcloth or of fustian is alike to an aching heart, and we laugh no merrier on velvet cushions than we did on wooden chairs.

The looked-for change in the fashions is here. The vogue of the straight chemise dress, though we may love it, is attacked. New ideas suggesting greater width in skirts, tighter lines in bodices, lavish embroidery, plaited frills, long waists, lines draped slightly cross-wise, bustles of the Eighties modernized and unstiffened, made their bow in the French openings. There was also to be found the influence of the Far East with its soft, long draperies and the styles of 1830, as well as some pretty straight frocks which reflect no particular period, but are none the less smart.

When making a narrow ruffle for an organdy collar recently, I was delighted to find a way of producing the desirable fluted effect. After removing both needle and bobbin from the sewing machine, I put on the appliance for gathering, having first adjusted the gatherer to make the very full gathers that are almost like any tiny plaits. Then I passed the outer edge of the ruffle through the gatherer and proceeded exactly as if I were stitching and gathering. Of course, as the needle was out, the material showed no holes, but the edge of the ruffle was sharply creased by its passage through the gatherer, and the result was an evenly crimped ruffle. Any material with enough stiffness to show plaiting—and, best of all, the edges of ruffles on laundered waists—can be given a delightfully crisp and fresh appearance in a very few minutes.

When sewing up the bottom of new pillow-cases, I always sew a tiny piece of muslin about three inches square inside the pillow-case at each end. These small pieces of muslin are seamed into the case, and being inside, do not show when the pillow-cases are being used. However, when the pillow-cases are washed, turn them wrong side out and hang them on the line by means of the squares of muslin. Then there is no danger of tearing or wearing out the corners of the pillow-cases by hanging them on the line, especially in cold weather.

When making dresses or shirtwaists with turn-back cuffs I have found that when the tiniest snap is sewed on the cuff about one inch from the edge and fastened to the sleeve, the cuff always stays in place. More than that, when the garment is laundered, the sleeve can readily be unfastened and does not have to be tacked each time it is washed. On children's clothes, this is particularly useful as a time-saver.

In sewing hand-made lace on undergarments, I have found it a great help to sew the lace on a piece of very narrow tape first. Then, sew the tape on the garment. The lace is not only easier to sew on this way, but it can be ripped off much more easily when the garment is worn out, as hand-made lace will almost always outwear two suits of underwear.

Rolling and whipping lace on entredeux to curved or bias edges is made very much easier if a row of machine stitching is first put on the edge of the material to be rolled. It makes it much stronger, and the edge does not pull out.

With the grains of sugar almost as precious as gold dust, any advice which makes it possible to reduce the monthly expenditure of sugar is quite welcome. Here is one of the recipes which effects considerable saving:

Dumplings are favorites in any form, and yet those cooked in fruit sauce are perhaps the most tasty, the fruit sauce has all the flavor of fresh fruit and eliminates the necessity of using any sugar in the recipe at all. Sift together two cupsful of pastry flour, 8 teaspoonfuls of baking powder, and one teaspoonful of salt; then add about three-fourths cupful of milk, or enough to make a stiff dough, mixing it with a knife. In the meantime make a syrup of two cupsful of jam, raspberry, strawberry, or any flavor you prefer, and three cupsful of water. When the syrup has come to a boil, drop the dough mixture on immediately and steam the dumplings for twelve minutes. Remove them at once and arrange in a deep serving dish. Pour the remainder of the syrup around them and serve hot.—Good Housekeeping.

"I just wish you could see the garment bags that my husband brought home to me last week," the little bride said. "They are the very nicest things you could imagine. They are big bags made of some sort of prepared paper, chemically treated, I suppose, with something that the moths don't like. They smell a bit like tar and a bit like cedar, but the odor is not at all offensive."

"There is a stiff rod across the top, and there are two or three hooks inside, so several garments can be hung inside of each one. You simply put the garment to be put away on a coat hanger, and hang it inside the bag. This is airtight, and it will protect the things from dust and dirt as well as moths. One of the nicest things about it is that there isn't any folding to do, as there is when you use boxes, and so the articles come out in the fall absolutely unwrinkled."

"That is a great asset," Mrs. M. said, interestedly. "I have had to send the coats and suits often to the cleaners just to get the wrinkles out. But there are some things that have to be folded, like blankets."

"I know," answered the little bride, "and with the bags was a roll of the prepared paper same as the bags for wrappings, twelve sheets in the roll, over a yard each way. They will be great to wrap the flat pieces in and to line boxes with."

There are several sizes, a big one, thirty inches wide, a yard and a half long and five inches thick, for two big

fur coats. There were some smaller and one size was just right for muffs and neckpieces. These bags are very easy to get into so one can look at the things once in a while during the summer and see if they are safe.

**ASTOUNDING ANNUAL LOSS OF BENEFICIAL WILD LIFE THROUGH STRAY DOMESTIC CATS.**

Do stray domestic cats materially destroy beneficial wild life? This question frequently arises in the minds of nature lovers everywhere and has been answered conclusively in the affirmative by many experts on wild life conservation with nationwide reputations. Prof. E. H. Forbush, of the State Board of Agriculture, of Massachusetts, in an exhaustive bulletin on the subject states that some cats have been known to kill more than fifty beneficial song birds and insectivorous birds annually, and that stray cats frequently kill large numbers of young game birds and animals, especially quail, rabbits, ruffed grouse, ring-neck pheasants, young wild turkeys, etc. He says, "It is our duty to eliminate the vagrant or feral cat as we would a wolf."

Dr. Frank M. Chapman, of the American Museum of Natural History and author of exhaustive ornithological works, has been quoted as saying: "The most important problem confronting bird protectors today is the devising of a proper means for the disposition of the surplus cat population of this country. By surplus population we mean that very large proportion of cats which do not receive the care due a domesticated or pet animal, and which are, therefore, practically dependent on their own efforts for food."

It is most unfortunate that in a number of sections of Pennsylvania people are so superstitious about moving cats when changing their place of abode that these animals are frequently left behind. In other sections the same kind of false superstition deters people from killing surplus cats with the result that such animals are taken many miles from home and released frequently in forest sections abounding in game and other beneficial wild life. Either of these methods is most despicable and should be highly condemned wherever prevalent, because such animals and their natural off-spring must kill for a living all the year round just the same as a wild cat, or a fox, or a weasel with the result that tons of beneficial wild life consisting of song and insectivorous birds and game birds and animals are destroyed in Pennsylvania each year through the stray, homeless, field-hunting domestic cats.

In addition to the destruction of wild life, stray cats frequently carry disease germs from garbage receptacles, infected homes, etc., to the unsuspecting tot whose parents little dream that the pet cat is sealing the tomb of their own children.

In view of the foregoing all persons should see to it that stray, homeless cats are humanely disposed of wherever found and some few bird and game killing cats with excellent homes likewise need proper restraint on the part of their owners. In Pennsylvania, according to an opinion of the Attorney General, cats are not accorded any protection whatever by law, so that no one need hesitate to dispose of stray, homeless cats at any time. Are you ready to help avoid this astounding toll on our beneficial wild life?

SETH C. GORDON,  
Sec'y Game Commission.

**World-Wide Shortage of Wheat Predicted. England is Hard Hit.**

Indication of a world-wide shortage of wheat this year and a world-wide increase in demand, has been reported by the American Agricultural Trade Commissioner at London, who said bread was selling in England at what was generally considered the highest price the workingman would tolerate without grave disorder.

With Russia still in a chaotic state, there is little to be expected from that country in the way of wheat exports and Europe naturally turns to the United States, Canada, Australia, India and Argentina.

Some European countries will be compelled to import much larger quantities of wheat than in pre-war times, provided they are able to arrange satisfactory credits, the report said. Conflicting reports in London from Russia place wheat available for export at 35,000,000 to 140,000,000 bushels.

United States imports, the Commissioner reported, were ranging from \$3.04 to \$4.11 or an average of \$3.46 a bushel.

**ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF PROHIBITION.**

Allegheny, Pa.—Economies in public administration are already beginning to appear hereabouts as a result of the federal prohibition amendment, according to officials connected with various public institutions. The exodus of the saloon has caused a marked decrease in the number of prisoners in the Allegheny county workhouse.

says the report of the superintendent of the institution. On December 31, 1919, there were fewer prisoners there than at any time since May 31, 1888. "In 1919," says the report, "3428 prisoners were received, or more than 300 less than the average for 50 years." The superintendent also says that the necessity for an inebriate asylum is much lessened, and he recommends that consideration be given to the question of whether it would be wise and economical to establish a prison hospital as originally planned.—The Christian Science Monitor.

**Big Reduction in Relief Work.**

Cortland, N. Y.—A marked reduction in poverty as a result of prohibition is reported by Walter Angell, social worker and an authority on home conditions in this city. The number of persons to whom he administered temporary relief dropped from 700 in the winter of 1918 to 200 in the winter of 1919, he says, and not a case of improper guardianship of children was reported. It is no longer a common occurrence to find children lacking shoes and clothing or families living on potatoes and water, according to Mr. Angell.

During the last six months of wet rule there were 58 cases of offenses other than drunkenness in the city

court; during the first six months of dry rule these were reduced to 46. There were 116 cases of intoxication during the last six months of wet rule, but during the first six months of the dry regime these were reduced to 21. An even sharper contrast is shown in the number of crimes committed during the last wet month and the first dry month, the figures being 52 and eight, respectively. Real estate men say that it is practically impossible to rent or buy a house in Cortland, that many former saloons are occupied, and that rents of places vacated by saloons will in time equal or exceed former rates.—The Christian Science Monitor.

—Fineknife plaitings and ruches are an accepted form for trimming on many spring models, particularly on frocks, suits and wraps of taffeta.

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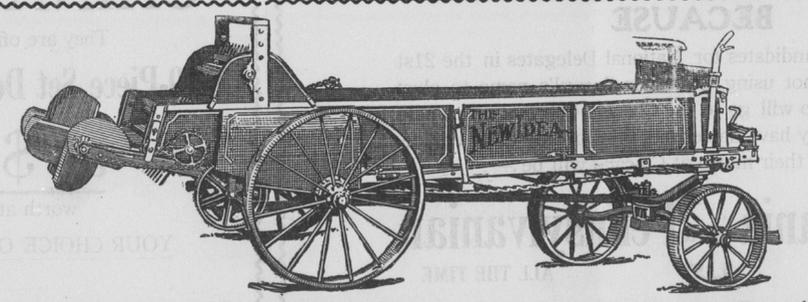
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This mark-down May sale will give each customer the opportunity to save from 20 to 50 per cent. on every Coat and Suit—all this season's models. Sport Coats from \$10 up. Full length Coats from \$15 up. Ladies' Suits from \$23 up.

**Shirt Waists.**

All Shirt Waists are put in the May special sale. New models of fine Voile from \$2.25 up.

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Slip-over Sweaters, Children's Sweaters and Tuxedos are in the May reduction.

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**Shoes.**

**Shoes.**

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