

THE EDICTS OF FASHION.

New York City.—The demand for fancy waists increases month by month. The May Manton model illustrated exemplifies the latest features and is suited alike to the entire



WOMAN'S FANCY WAIST.

time and the odd skirt. Panné velvet, satin, tulle and still newer genre plush, are all suitable for the latter, all dress materials for the former; but as shown the waist is made from soft-finished white tulle in combination with cream sulphur over white and pale yellow panne velvet.

forty-four inches wide, or four and three-quarter yards fifty inches wide, will be required.

The Pinked-Out Ruche.

Taffeta trims a white gauze dress for a young girl in charming fashion. A ruching of taffeta with pinked-out edges is put on very full at the hem of the skirt, which it causes to "boultonner," as the phrase goes, about the feet. While silk is used for these pretty ruches, an all-white costume is the proper thing for a young girl in her first season, and is so worn even when it happens she "flirts up" better with a touch of vivid color. This is supplied by means of "floral garlands," as the pretentious expression goes.

A Fine, Flimsy Affair.

The single-mesh veil, a fine, flimsy affair, is in demand just now in Paris and London. It will be right welcome on this side of the Atlantic if it supplies the ornate fancy tissues and fish-net caprices which make for ladies an effectual disguise.

A Young Girl's Dress.

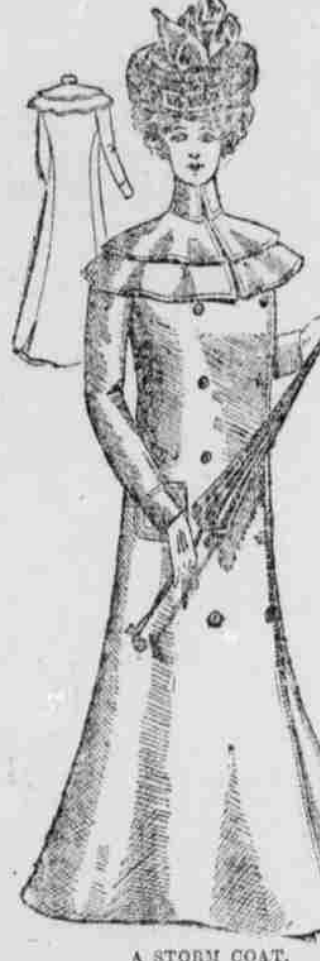
The correct shade of pink or red cloth worn by young girls at receptions now goes by the name of "pale strawberry." Not a bad descriptive title.

Violets Still Popular.

Violets are still the most popular flowers worn; they are tied with gold ribbon, the ends finished with violet silk tassels.

Woman's Breakfast Jacket.

The breakfast jacket that is stylish and comfortable at the same time has



A STORM COAT.

be carefully boned. The back proper fits snugly across the shoulders and is drawn down in fulness at the waist line. The lace plastron is attached to the right lining front included in the shoulder seam and hooks over into place at the left. Single box pleats are formed on the edges of the fronts, a second being invisibly applied at evenly spaced distance. The trimming of velvet-edged insertion passes around the back at round yoke depth and finishes in pointed ends over the fronts in position as illustrated. The sleeves are in bishop style, finished with pointed cuffs. At the neck is a stiff collar that curves upward in stylish points.

The New Storm Coat.

The value of the coat that covers and protects the gown is too completely self-evident to require urging. The exceedingly smart May Manton model shown in the large cut has the merit of being absolutely simple and practical, as well as in the latest style and can be made to serve for a general utility garment, or a wrap to wear over evening gowns, as well as for stormy weather. As illustrated the material is waterproof cloth and the cloak is adapted to damp days; but made from broadcloth and lined with wadded silk it becomes an entirely satisfactory "sortie du bal," and made from covert cloth or other suitable material is again transformed into a stylish ulster or automobile coat.

become essential to every complete wardrobe. The May Manton model illustrated complies with all the requirements both of fashion and of the wearer and is smart at the same time that it means ease and comfort.

The back is seamless, but, together with the under-arm gorges, curves to fit the figure gracefully. The center fronts are laid in narrow tucks at the upper portion and fall free below the bust. The fronts proper are also tucked at the shoulders and are joined to the centre portions beneath the triangular, which can be embroidered on to the scalloped edge, or applied, as preferred. The sleeves are well-sloped, but not too snug for ease; and the scalloped lower edge flares over the hands. At the neck is a simple turn-over collar scalloped on its free edge, that can be worn with any style of necktie that may be chosen.



BREAKFAST JACKET.

and a quarter yards thirty-two inches wide, or two and a half yards forty-four inches wide when one material only is used.

DRUGGISTS AS DOCTORS

THE BUSINESS TRANSFORMED SINCE THE CIVIL WAR.

Old Professional Tells How They Had to Prescribe—Leeches, Cupping, Vaccination, and Spring Medicines—Ancient Apothecary Required to Draw Teeth.

"Before the war," began the druggist, whose memory and business date back to pre-Civil War days, speaking of the drug business as it was compared to what it is at present, "a druggist was expected to do a great deal in the way of prescribing. In 1858 the College of Pharmacy graduated some six men who now hundreds are graduated. Very few druggists had anything but practical experience. It is probable that at that time the English were the most scientifically educated in that line. Here the druggist was expected to do practical work, to understand minor surgery, leeching, blood letting and cupping. He could take a quart or so of blood when a patient came in and required it, and he could draw a tooth.

"Sometimes he would go out and make a call, and he was supposed to be thoroughly posted as to what constituted a dose of medicine, and to know the proper medicines to be given in different diseases. Nowadays a druggist is not supposed to know anything about a dose; his business is to understand the scientific preparation of medicines, and he is better qualified for analysis than for practical work.

"Chemistry enters more into the work of the druggist now than it did then. The whole science of medicine has changed, and it is enough to make the hair of an old-time druggist stand on end to see the doses of strychnine, arsenic and nux vomica that are given. Forty years ago an ounce of strychnine would last a druggist ten years, and now he will use it in a month. The old-time druggist would not have put up such prescriptions as are sent to him now if the physician had stood over him and told him every ingredient. A druggist is not supposed now to know anything about the prescription. If a prescription seems to call for something that he does not think right it makes no difference, he must put it up or he is held responsible.

"There was an interesting case of this kind a number of years ago in England. A physician gave a prescription in which there was an extra large amount of digitalis, which is used to stimulate the heart. The prescription was taken to several druggists before it was filled. The first six refused to put up the drug, as the prescription called for it. The seventh did, but the patient died. The case was taken to court, and it was decided that if the prescription had been filled in time the patient would have lived, and the six druggists were fined. Similar cases have been tried in the Supreme Court here. The physician is protected by law, but no one can understand the anxiety these excessive doses give the druggist. It is always possible that a mistake has been made.

"Now that we have telephones we can telephone to a physician to verify the prescription, but before we would hunt all day sometimes to find a man. They do not always like it, and some think that the question reflects upon their judgment, but many physicians are very thankful.

"How much did I get for that? Well, we charged twelve cents apiece for the leeches, and there were two of them, and I asked twenty-five cents for applying them—forty-nine cents. Doctors were glad to get fifty cents a visit at that time, and I have had a doctor, who afterward became famous and would not take less than \$10 for an office call, thank me for sending him a patient from whom he received \$2.

LEECHES STILL USED.

"Leeches are still used in country places, where they are taken from the ponds, though we always used the Swedish leeches. In many of the poorer neighborhoods, particularly where there are a good many bowlegs, they still use the leeches for black eyes.

"For regular bloodletting an incision was made in a vein in the arm and as much blood was let as seemed necessary to relieve the patient. That was a regular spring and fall medicine that many people took as they took their sulphur and molasses. I don't know why it should have been injurious as a remedy. Depressing medicines are given now to lessen the action of the heart in case of a fever, and I don't know that there is any more harm in the one than in the other.

"As for the sulphur and molasses, there might be less danger from contagious diseases if people took a little sulphur occasionally now. People used to take quantities of spring medicines and often in the fall as well. We used to put up from fifty to a hundred pounds of them every year, yellow dock, burdock, sassafras and sarsaparilla, and there were whole families who took their sulphur and molasses every spring, taking it three mornings and skipping it three.

"As for tooth drawing, I never did much of that myself, though I have done it. There was generally some one in the store who liked that work. It was great fun for the boys, and we used to get them in to experiment. If the tooth didn't come out very easily we would lance the gum all around, and it came out without any trouble, but it left the gum in a bad condition."

A LACK OF WORDS.

Young People's Limited Vocabulary and the Reasons For It.

Some college professors have suddenly discovered that many, if, indeed, not most, of the young men who go up for examinations cannot write down the answers to the questions in shapely English. These young men, say the professors, appear to be unacquainted with a sufficient number of English words to enable them to write what they desire to say. These professors are inclined to lay the blame on the primary schools and to accuse them of neglecting to teach English as it ought to be taught. The blame should be laid primarily on the colleges themselves. That young people as a rule have no vocabulary and no knowledge of the proper methods of forming sentences is something which cannot escape the general observer, and the inference that they are not properly taught at school is natural and not erroneous.

But the requirements for admission to all the colleges are such that instead of devoting time to the study of diction and prose composition the schools are compelled to put their pupils through elementary courses in English literature. There is altogether too much reading of Dryden's "Palamon and Arcite," Milton's "L'Allegro" and Burke on "Conciliation," and not half enough instruction in the use and abuse of words. In earlier days pupils had purity, propriety and precision hammered into them till they were forced to choose their words when they wrote and formed a habit of doing so when they talked.

In those same days there was a custom of making pupils study spelling and definition. The knowledge of words thus gained cannot be replaced. And the exercise of writing composition, followed by careful criticism of each pupil's work, is of incalculable value. There are schools ranking in the first class which have entirely dropped this part of the training of pupils. If the colleges would lay more stress in their requirements for entrance examinations in English on knowledge of the language and the use of it than on acquaintance with its literature, there would be less complaint about the inability of candidates for matriculation to write the answers to the questions.

And parents can do something. They can forbid peremptorily the employment of slang in the house. Compel the children to talk decent English at home, and they will widen their vocabulary at a rapid rate. Allow them to fall into the slovenly and debased habits of speech now regarded as smart in society and they will not be able to express themselves at any time in clean, pure English. And the chances are, too, that they will have nothing to express, for loose thought is a boon companion of loose speech.—New York Times.

AGRICULTURAL.

A Remedy For Worms in Sheep.

Sheep are subject to internal as well as external parasites, and examination of the flock as to the condition of the members should be made frequently. Worms sometimes infest sheep, and the flock will fall off in condition before the fact may be discovered. A little sulphur mixed with salt, placed where the sheep can get it at will, is considered a preventive and remedy, but sulphur should not be given during damp weather.

Poultry Breeding.

The causes of failure in the poultry business are always readily discovered. The experienced, careful, systematic breeder does not fail. The inexperienced, careless breeder will always fail. By inexperience we mean to include those who know something about fowls and who have bred them on a small scale, but branch out largely. It is one thing to manage a flock of twenty-five hens and quite another to manage a flock of several hundred, not to say thousands. Diseases are more difficult to prevent in large flocks. And the care of such flocks is much more difficult than the care of small ones, for we must depend upon hired help, and that is not always reliable in such delicate work as poultry requires. Poultry breeding should be entered into on a small scale and the business be enlarged only as rapidly as we find ourselves thoroughly familiar with the details of extensive poultry breeding.—the Epitome.

A Hog Hanger.

An Ohio farmer writes sketches the arrangement for hanging hogs when scalding, etc. It is made by taking a large pole about fifty feet long for lever and another about sixteen feet long for post. Set this post four feet in the ground and have a clevis-shaped iron (A) to support the lever on the post. This clevis is about one foot long and as wide as the post after squaring, with a crosspiece welded on near the middle of the bottom or round part. A three-quarter-inch hole is



AN ARRANGEMENT FOR HANGING HOGS.

made through the bottom of the clevis and the centre of crosspiece, through which an iron pin is run and driven into the top of the post, so as to permit the clevis to revolve on the post. Make a five-eight-inch hole in the long pole or lever about twelve feet from the large end. Raise lever up and hang in clevis. Attach a strong chain to large end, and have the scalding vat directly beneath this chain. Set a bench or a platform beside the vat, to scrape hog on end next to this platform erect a post with four cross-pieces on top to hang hogs on. Fasten a small rope to small end of lever to pull it down when lifting the hog in and out of scalding receptacle on bench and to hanging post.

Soil.

At a recent Farmers' Institute in Maine, Professor G. M. Govell, of the University of Maine, began by saying that the general opinion had gone abroad that the soil of the State of Maine was not fertile or productive, but the chemist had proved that this was not the case by analysis of the soil from various average Maine farms, and in every case it had been found to contain enough of the essential plant foods to produce maximum crops for an almost unlimited number of years; the reason why good crops were not produced lay in the fact that these ingredients were in such composition that while the chemist could easily find in the plant, were unable to do so; the farmer must, therefore, till the soil in such a manner that these plant foods would be available to the plant; this must be done by turning the soil and allowing the air to circulate freely through it. The same thing might be said of many of the worn-out farms elsewhere in New England, for in many there is need for returning to the soil a supply of organic matter, which was abundant when the land was newly cleared. This, by its decay in the soil, not only adds fertility, but makes it more porous that air may penetrate into it, and helps to make available the mineral elements in it. Where the farm is remote from large cities and not much stock is kept, the easiest and cheapest way to obtain the organic matter is to grow green crops to plow under. For this purpose clover stands at the head, where it will grow, but peas, buckwheat, rye and other green crops may be used.

Fall-Planted Trees.

Where one can oversee the digging and transplanting of fruit trees in the fall there is less likelihood of their being set back by the change. It is a crying shame in many parts of the country to see the utter indifference with which nurserymen take up trees sold to farmers and ship them to their destination in a condition that will cause total or partial failure. The only way to make them more careful is to have inserted in the purchasing contracts a clause requiring the nurseryman to make good any trees that die from exposure of roots or poor packing when shipped. There are plenty who will tell you that it does not hurt young trees to be dug up in the late fall, and even if the roots are disturbed it matters little. That sort of talk has just a little grain of truth in it. It does not hurt the young trees to be disturbed nearly as much as it does old ones; nor does it hurt them so much in late fall when the roots are frozen; but hurt them it does, and it will put any tree back from one to two seasons.

You can transplant a large, full-growing tree without checking its development in any way, and that is by digging up an enormous ball of

CHILDREN AND CASH.

Should Boys and Girls in School Have Spending Money?

An investigation which by many will be regarded as singular was conducted recently in a large school in St. Paul. It had for its purpose to determine in general the notion which children have of the practical uses of money.

A list of questions was furnished by the professor, which the children answered in writing, as in an ordinary examination. The questions sought to determine the child's estimate of money, which he had acquired in three different ways, namely, by gift, suggesting partial restraint as to spending; by earning, the most difficult means of acquiring, and by finding, by which he acquired with least difficulty. To these ends the following questions were asked:

"If you are given money, about how much each week?"

"If you earn money, about how much each week?"

"What do you do with your money?"

"If you ever found money, what did you do with it?"

"If you had \$1 to spend as you liked, what would you buy?"

It was found that of the 1263 children reporting, sixty-two per cent. earned, or were given money, or both, in amounts ranging from five cents to \$2 per week. Of those who thus received money fifty-seven per cent. made useful disposition of it, and of the 254 children who had found money twenty-eight per cent. put it to useful purposes. A noteworthy characteristic of the answers to the question relative to finding money was that sixty-four per cent. of those who had done so expressed having made attempt to restore it to the loser, and that eighty-two per cent. of those who had not found money stated that if they should do so they would "try to find the owner," or "put in the paper," if a large amount, or give it to the principal or teacher to be restored to the owner. The professor regards this as indicating the honesty of children in general and as furnishing a point for explanation by the materialists, who look upon a child as a little savage and upon boyhood and girlhood as a period of low moral tendencies.

DIVERGING DRIVES.

is artistic in itself. Every foot of walk or drive is a trouble, an expense and usually a distinct deduction from the artistic beauty of the place. They should, then, be designed to fit the actual demands of traffic about the place. The most practical thing is often to await the most explicit call for a walk. When a path begins to appear through the grass, the need of a walk is manifest and its general direction pretty accurately indicated.

Gentle curves are better than straight lines for walks, except upon small places or in a geometrical plan. These curves must be determined by the exercise of good taste and judgment, on the ground. A design made on paper is apt to be very unsatisfactory when transferred to the soil, unless it is made by an experienced hand from an accurate topographical survey. Even then it may not fit. Curves made up of arcs of circles are not very satisfactory, unless the arcs are comparatively short and judiciously combined. If a road is properly made, only a very short arc will be visible from any point; and this enables the designer when working on the ground to make many curves and combinations of curves which would be decidedly unpleasing if accurately plotted on a map.

When a walk or drive branches, each arm should take such a course as to appear to be the proper continuation of the trunk. Imagine how one arm would look with the other removed. Would it still be complete? Would the whole seem to be the perfectly natural course for the walk? Such bifurcations should not be at too obtuse an angle; and yet this angle of divergence is of quite minor importance if the foregoing consideration is kept fully in mind. The right and the faulty way of laying out branching walks is clearly shown in the accompanying diagram.—F. A. Waugh, in American Agriculturist.

Feeding Hens in Winter.

It is so easy, comparatively, to have hens lay in winter, that it is an inexcusable waste and bad management not to have them lay. To have plenty of fresh eggs upon our own table is a consideration that is worthy of all the effort that is required to stimulate the hens to lay; but the profit on the eggs we may have to sell in winter is far greater than the profit we derive from anything else that is produced on the farm. It is unnecessary to say anything about warmth in this connection, for we all know that without warmth, we cannot get eggs. It is equally unnecessary to mention the necessity of exercise or to mention the fact that plenty of litter with grain scattered through it is the proper means for inducing hens to exercise. Some other features of the business, however, may profitably receive notice. If we expect the highest success in winter egg production, we must feed a variety. When the thermometer is low, we should feed plenty of whole corn at night. Warm water twice a day, in cold weather, is very beneficial.

In very cold or stormy weather the fowls should be kept indoors. The practice of feeding corn all the time—which is common on the farm—is unwise. Corn is not an egg producer. It is a fat former, and for the production of eggs, nitrogenous foods are used. Wheat is a splendid food of this character, and it may be fed from January to December, with excellent results, a statement that cannot be made as to corn. Especially is much corn harmful to the large, comparatively inactive breeds. The small breeds, which are always active, can manage a steady corn diet better. It must always be remembered that a confined hen cannot be fed large quantities of corn as safely as one that is on the range. Yarded fowls can be kept successfully the entire year without a grain of corn, although as already said, corn at night in cold weather is excellent feed. The yolk of the egg of the yarded fowl is no less yellow as that of the eggs of the fowls that are on the range. The reason of this is the lack of green food and coloring matter. Yellow corn will give the higher color, but it is not advisable to feed it in sufficient quantities to accomplish the purpose, especially as the average consumer will be satisfied with a lighter colored yolk, if the egg is fresh. In the construction of houses, it may be said in this connection, provision should be made for the admission of plenty of sunshine in winter.—Horatio Wood, in Agricultural Epitome.

The Tortoise as a Weather Propbet.

Though the tortoise is an excellent weather propbet, the fact is known to comparatively few people. Tortoise farmers on the African coast notice that even twenty-four hours before rain falls these curious animals prepare for it by seeking the convenient shelter of overhanging rocks. It may be a bright, clear, sunny morning but the farmers believe implicitly in the tactics of the tortoise, who is seldom mistaken for the downpour is certain to come within the time stated.

A pet tortoise would be a practical present to bestow on one's friends. This curious premonition of the approach of rain is shared by many other animals and birds and may be explained partially by the fact that while rain is forming the atmosphere is decreasing in weight, but there may also be some need of moisture which makes them aware of its approach or some habit of life which make them thus sensitive.—Chicago Record.

Arithmetic 2000 Years Old.

Probably the oldest book for home lessons in arithmetic was recently unearthed in Egypt. The papyrus, which was in excellent condition, dates from about 1700 B. C.—that is, about 100 years before the time of Moses, or almost 3000 years ago. It proves that the Egyptians had a thorough knowledge of the elementary mathematics almost to the extent of our own. The papyrus has a long heading, "Direction How to Attain the Knowledge of all Dark Things," etc. Numerous examples show that their principal operations with entire units and fractions were made by means of addition and multiplication. Subtraction and divisions were not known in their present form, but correct results were obtained nevertheless. Equations were also found in the papyrus.—Newcastle (Eng.) Chronicle.

Thunder and Lightning in St. Paul.

There are still many famous by-narrators living. One of them, Dr. E. J. Hopkins, was a choir boy at St. Paul's in the time of Sidney Smith, and he had a budget of stories to tell of the dean. "A Miss Hackett was a well-known figure in St. Paul's congregation in those days, and the rolling thunder which the organ would sometimes give forth greatly amused her. Sidney Smith had noticed this, and Dr. Hopkins remembers hearing him say to the organist: 'Have you noticed, Mr. Goss, that whenever your organ thunders Miss Hackett's face always lights?'—St. James's Gazette.