



**FOR WOMAN'S BENEFIT**

Popularity of Dark Colors.

We quickly tire of colors unless we have an almost unlimited number of gowns in our wardrobe at one time. We weary ourselves and our friends by adopting everything oute in the way of dress. This perhaps accounts for the universal wearing of black apart from morning. Brown too, is popular and is almost as useful as the more somber hue.

**Care of Rings.**

As the wearing of many rings, both in the afternoon and evening, has become a pronounced fad, the care of the gems is worthy of attention. If you want your rings to last don't wear them with gloves. The constant friction wears off the points that hold the stones in place and the stones will drop out unless constant attention is paid to them. The wearer may not detect the loose stone, but a jeweler will see it at once. Rings should be sent to the jeweler's at least once a year to be overhauled if worn under gloves.

**The Lockets of a Duchess.**

The Duchess of Abercorn possesses a unique ornament. It is a gold chain from which hang thirteen amethyst lockets. The central one is large, and those on either side decrease in size till they reach the clasp at the back. A pretty story is attached to the necklace. The Duchess has had thirteen children. When the first was born, her husband asked her what gift she would like from him. She chose an amethyst locket, and after the birth of each of her children she received another locket to add to her chain.

**A Touch of Fashion.**

Little, old-fashioned silk tassels are used in a variety of ways. Two or three will dangle from the points of a broad, flat collar. They will act as a finish for the long revers, which start from a narrow point at the waist line and then broaden out as they reach the shoulders. They are seen on the position backs of a number of coats. Even the belt-buckle can boast a tassel this season, and the pearl cabochon, so fashionable in millinery, often shows a tassel center. An unusual belt which fastens with a tasselled buckle, is made of changeable gold-and-green braid. The buckle consists of two large corals set in rims of Roman gilt. This is the gilt that has a green finish, and the tassels of gold threads have the same greenish hue. Belts of braided satin ribbon are also in vogue. They fasten with a jewel, art nouveau or cameo buckle, and sometimes have short ribbon ends, tipped with a ribbon rose.—Woman's Home Companion.

**The Poise of the Hat.**

Paris seems to be mainly concerned with hats and sleeves. It is impossible to say that any one shape has things all its own way. The blue and green color whim is ubiquitous, but it favors a dozen different types of hats—hats little and hats big. The poise of the face is common, however, to all hat shapes, excepting the Louis Quinze toque and the Louis Seize picture hat, which both have brims sharply turning down over the features in front. The Parisian milliners are most amusing over the new poise, adjusting the hat with the greatest delicacy from behind and closely watching their own every movement in the reflecting mirror. A French milliner's handling of a delicate hat is a manual on manipulation all ready made. The new poise of the hat is not back on the head, but up from the back. The brim of the moment does not run with the head, but up and away from it; consequently the line of the forehead pouf of hair is left clean and undisturbed in silhouette and also in the full front. A brim may, and often does, project well forward, but it projects at an upward angle.

**The Unusual in Jewelry.**

Mother-of-pearl is used in many of the newest designs in jewelry. A novel "half ornament" was composed of a single cyclamen bloom, the petals carried out in mother-of-pearl which looked wonderfully natural, just tipped here and there with shellpink enamel. Pink coral also figures in the fantastic floral designs, and a number of unfamiliar colored stones are pressed into service. These are dark blue, blood red, orange, green and purple and with the dull gold and enamel of their settings have a wondrously rich effect. Cabochon gems are crowding the gipsy settings out of the market, and the single large stones, preferably the emerald, appear in every form, especially in rings, often encircled by a little belt of diamonds or brilliants, while next to diamonds and emeralds the most popular stone of the moment is undoubtedly the ruby. Jingles and charms now take the form of diamond chicks emerging from golden shells, golden rabbits with a belt of diamonds or rubies round their bodies or egg-shaped pendants composed of a single precious stone.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

**Cultivating Conversational Tones.**

Ladies in Europe are paying much attention to cultivating the speaking voice as a social embellishment. Many vocal culturists have a list of distinguished pupils who study purely to improve the conversational voice.

It is astonishing that the women of our country do not realize more generally the invaluable possession in a musical speaking voice, and remain so ignorant of the comparative ease with which such an attraction may be acquired and cultivated.

American women spend thousands of dollars upon other and less effective means of beautifying, such as cosmetics, massage, hair-dressings and manicuring, leaving the sense of sound, which, as a matter of fact, is far more potent than that of sight, entirely out of the question.

What is it which really makes a woman charming and lovable? It is that subtle fascination which breathes from her personality and throbs in the tones of her speaking voice. When a woman opens her mouth and speaks, unconsciously—to herself and often to the listener—the decree has gone forth which measures the power of her charm. The influence is undeniable, for back of the words lie the intangible qualities of soul which produce the music or the dissonance of speech.

Character is undoubtedly portrayed in the tones of the voice, and we may yet have those professors of acoustics who will be able to designate specific traits by particular intonations. This consideration should be a serious menace to those who possess ill-sounding voices.

Yet, strange to say, the noblest women often speak in hard, rasping tones. Refined circles abroad realize the necessity for mellow speech, and have set about modifying the discrepancy so often met with.—New York News.

**A Woman's Technical School.**

Plans are now being made in Boston for the first technical college for women ever established in this country. John Simmons, the founder, who died over 30 years ago, left a fortune for the establishment of this institution, and now, after a long delay of many years for the purpose of complying with all the conditions of the will, his wishes are about to be carried out. The college will teach household economics, secretarial work, library management, industrial designing, medicine, nursing, and possibly horticulture, the aim of the founder being to help women to earn a livelihood in occupations for which there is now no special training on a scientific basis. The plans of the trustees are for a college with such entrance requirements as are usually met by the courses in the high schools. The instruction to be offered will cover a period of four years, but provision is also to be made for those women who can only give a part of that time to preparing themselves for an industrial career.

A nucleus for this new institution already existed in the School for House-keeping, and after the first of the coming year the two will be merged. The old school offers a course for homemakers, and another for those who intend to follow housekeeping as a profession, and as it has accomplished great good along the lines of Mr. Simmons' idea, it will be most fittingly made a department of the new college. The course in household economics will educate the student in the science of nutrition, foods, and dietaries; will give practical knowledge on purchasing, cooking and preserving foods; will teach something about plumbing, ventilation, heating, lighting, sanitation, etc., and will fit the student to preside over a home of her own or to take care of the home of another. The institution is to open next fall, and the indications are that it will become as famous a school for women as the Boston School of Technology has become a school for boys.—Boston Transcript.



**FASHION NOTES**

Canvas in light tints is used for collar and cuffs on jackets of dark wool tailor suits.

Japanese wash silks come in Roman stripes and are among the attractive fabrics for waists.

A crown entirely of large pearls distinguishes a fetching millinery creation of point applique over white tulle.

Some of the newest silk petticoats have pompadour effects on white grounds. Among the solid colors soft green, blues and pinks are the most in demand.

The made-up califon velvets, which are used principally as hat drapery, have the end finished with two or three narrow tufts. The tufting is usually placed just above a wide hem.

Three bands of fancy silk braid caught together at intervals and fastened at the front with a small buckle form a dainty and fashionable belt. These belts are also to be had in bands of velvet.

Medallions, or variously shaped motifs of flowered silk, are inset in some of the white nun's veiling gowns, the edges being finished with a white silk cord or joined to the gown material with an open stitch.

A novelty lace cape is elbow length, and made of white applique lace over black taffeta. It is bordered with a silk ruffle, and has a high, ruff collar. The front is finished with long, black and white satin streamers.

White Renaissance lace, put on plain, adds a rich finish to a parasol of light blue silk. The lace extends to about two inches from the edge of the parasol, and from it there is a puff of blue chiffon shirred full about the rim of the parasol.



**CHILDREN'S COLUMN**

**Peppert Brittle.**

Of sugar take a cup or more (Some take two, some three or four). You pour it all into a pot And set it where the stove is hot; Now watch it or it will be burned If once away your eyes are turned; And when it bubbles, brown and thick Stir slowly or 'twill surely stick. You would not like to have it spill— A poor reward for honest toil. Some roasted peanuts near must stand, Already shelled by willing hand; And buttered pans you must prepare beforehand with the greatest care. Now when your sugar "candies" well— (Drop from the spoon and you can tell). Throw in the peanuts, stir them round, And be quite sure no shells are found. Then from the fire remove the pot And pour the mixture piping hot, Into the pans—then wait a little. And when it cools—you have your "Brittle,"—New York Mail and Express.

**Useful Head-gear.**

The average boy in a person of infinite resource, and never loses an opportunity to impress this fact upon his friends of the gentler sex.

"Huh! I wouldn't be bothered wearing my hat to a picnic!" said a little curly-haired dandy, contemptuously, to her brother, as they set off together, baskets in hand. "And your best one, too! I should think you'd have known enough to leave hats at home, Jimmie Lane!"

"Would you now?" said Jimmie, with swift but tolerant scorn. "Well, you just listen to me. I wore this hat because it's got a nice, stiff brim; and when I sail it in the brook, I can stand my hat on it. And I shall catch butterflies and beetles in it, and some red-capped moss for Aunt Jennie, and some pebbles for Ned Sumner's collection, because he's lame, and some birch-bark strips for mother, and then I can put the pepper and salt-shaker in it, too, when we come home; and your basket is small enough to go inside mine, so we'll each have just one thing to carry—and, if I can jam my hat into your basket, you won't have anything, miss!" added Jimmie, seized by a brilliant afterthought.—Christian Register.

**Sea Serpents Exist.**

At the mere mention of the sea serpent the average shore abiding person smiles complacently; those stories have long ago been placed in their proper class of sailors' yarns, he thinks. But sea serpents do exist, and by the million. A snake does not necessarily need to be a mile long to a serpent; the ordinary rattlesnake and the dangerous cobra belong to the family of serpents, and their average length is three or four feet. To this same class belongs the sea serpent of the China sea, the Indian ocean and the Bay of Bengal.

These serpents are sometimes found in schools hundreds of miles from land. They are seldom seen by the passengers on steamers, as the pounding of the screw frightens them away long before the vessel can come within sight, but the seamen of sailing ships are privileged to see these marine reptiles even more than they desire, sometimes. Slipping leisurely over the calm, oily water of the Bay of Bengal, where fresh breezes are rare, the noiseless sailing vessels often glide into large schools of sea snakes sunning themselves on the surface of the water. They average about four or five feet in length, and are colored as brilliantly as are most tropical creatures—green, red, yellow, orange, purple and blue.

Sitting on the jibboom of his vessel, the sailor sees them about him and under him by the thousands, squirming lazily about until the loom of the ship frightens them, when, with a whip of their tails, they shoot out of sight under the water.

It must not be supposed that these creatures are in any manner akin to the eel, for captured specimens show no signs of gills, or fins, common to all species of eel. Moreover, they are able to creep over anything solid. It is no uncommon thing for men on board the big English East Indiamen, trading regularly in those waters, to have unpleasantly close experiences with Indian ocean snakes. It sometimes happens that ropes are left dangling over the ship's side at night when the sea is calm and the vessel's headway is slow. The snakes will sometimes crawl up these ropes to the deck. The sailors are always barefooted in that climate, and when Jack accidentally steps on something soft, slimy, and squirming he is anxious to get away from it.—New York Tribune.

**An Odd Street Show.**

A sketch made on the streets of a town in the province of Bengal, India, shows a method somewhat unusual, even in that country, by which a tiger may be put on public exhibition. Instead of being confined in a zoo or menagerie, where the people are required to visit him and pay a regular price of admission, the tiger is carried around in the towns, where everybody can see him and pay or not, as they please. The native owner collects the small coins that people choose to pay, while his assistant attends to the team.

This tiger was captured when a cub, and when he was half grown or more, a strap of heavy leather was fastened around his neck and another around his flanks. For greater security these two straps are connected by a lighter one—running along the animal's back. Firmly attached to the neck strap, or yoke, are two stout iron chains fastened to the opposite ends of the platform-frame. Straps could not safely take the place of these front chains, for the tiger's

sharp teeth would soon gnaw through the leather and set him at liberty. To the hinder strap, or belt, are fastened two straps, each firmly looped to the platform-frame. Thus the powerful beast is firmly held captive, and at the same time is left sufficiently free in his motions to stand or crouch.

The platform is framed on two long, stout bamboo poles, which serve also as shafts for the small Indian ox which drags the cart. An ox not thoroughly trained would be in mortal terror of his load. The platform is mounted on two rough, heavy cart wheels such as are used in India, and the outfit is complete.

We can imagine the timid curiosity with which the women and especially the children in the streets of a town, or along the country road, would gaze at their strange visitor. They have heard many a story of the slaying of human beings by the dreaded "man-eater" of the jungle, and perhaps one of their own number has fallen a victim. The man-eater is usually an older tiger, whose strength is failing and whose teeth have partly lost their sharpness. Such a beast finds it easier to lurk in the vicinity of settlements and to pick up an occasional man, woman, or child, than to run down wild cattle.

The largest, fiercest, and most brightly colored tigers are found in the province of Bengal, near the mouths of the Ganges river, and not far from Calcutta. A full-grown Bengal tiger sometimes measures ten feet from nose to tip of tail. Such a monster makes no more account of springing upon a man than a cat does of seizing a mouse. He surpasses the lion in strength and ferocity, and has no rival among beasts of prey except the grizzly bear and the recently discovered giant bear of Alaska.—Dr. E. G. Murray-Aaron, in St. Nicholas.

**The Rabbit Woman.**

One of the most picturesque figures in New York is the Rabbit Woman who stands on Broadway, near Twentieth street. She is at her post rainy days and fair ones, in snow or in sunshine, always smiling and contented. Her broad German face beams with good nature when one stops to speak with her; and she gladly shows her wares, whether you mean to buy or not. By her side is a large covered basket, hiding away a number of tiny, warm white rabbits who sleep contentedly, all snuggled down together. When the Rabbit Woman is not busy with a customer, she is whispering to these pets or smoothing their fur or feeding them bits of carrot with as tender a care as any maternal rabbit could show.

As a passer-by stops to admire the little creatures, she beams with the delicious complacency of a mother showing her first baby. One sometimes wonders how she keeps up this interest in her small charges year after year, but her affection never grows tired. She has stood in her sheltered corner for ten years now, the familiar friend of the children of New York; and today she thinks her rabbits as charming and novel as she thought them a decade ago. She willingly hands out one to be hugged by the child who stops to admire and then passes on, just as a mother stops wheeling her baby carriage to let a chance admirer see her darling's face.

When she parts with one of her babies, she wraps it up carefully, and tucks it in a little box, all warmly lined and perfectly ventilated, and charges its purchasers to be very careful of it and very kind to it. Often, when some one stops to tell her of some rabbit which is well and happy in its new home, she will inquire particularly of its growth and intelligence, and comment on its remembered beauty and grace. Her child has been adopted, but it is her child still.

Down in the basket beside the rabbits there sometimes snuggle tiny Maltese kittens; and such beautiful kittens! Each is blue-gray, with bright, kitten-blue eyes; and each wears with distinct pride a little pink neck-ribbon. When it is wakened from its nap to promenade on the sidewalk before the eyes of some possible buyer, it holds its tail erect, like a banner. A rabbit put down beside it crouches and blinks its pretty pink eyes in helpless timidity, but not so the kitten; that marches about with an air of unmistakable conceit. The contrast to one of these exhibitions is one of the delicious bits of the performance.

The owner of these pets lives on a small farm on Long Island, and comes into town every day. She raises both rabbits and kittens herself, and says she sells every one of them. She is always spotlessly dressed in a quaint, foreign fashion; and one of her most attractive garments is her apron of blue and white checked gingham, embroidered with a pattern of kittens or rabbits in cross-stitch. This apron she is urged to take off and sell; and she complies with blushes and shame-faced smiles, only to appear on the morrow with another even more elaborate, fascinating as the her little pets, she is more fascinating herself, with her lovely, old-world quiet and content, and her love for her little charges and the children who love them, too.—Christain World.

**A True Philosopher.**

The greatest thing we ever saw in the way of a philosopher was a one-armed man in a manicure establishment who gloated because he got his work done for half price.—Washington Post.

**Steps That Cost.**

It costs the average young man a lot of money to trot on the course of true love.—Chicago News.



**FOR THE HOUSEWIFE**

**Ironing Without Irons.**

With nothing but soap and water it is possible to wash and iron handkerchiefs. It's all done on a window pane or on a large mirror. After the handkerchief is washed clean, spread it out smooth on one of the panes, and you will find that, being wet, it will stick there as though glued. It will stick there, too, after it is dry. You will peel it off like a plaster. And it will look fine; it will look, after its several hours of contact with the smooth, clean glass, as though it had been beautifully ironed by a laundress of unusual skill.—Philadelphia Record.

**The Family Medicine Cabinet.**

Medicines for family use should be kept in a locked cabinet hanging out of reach of children. Such a cabinet should be supplied with spirits of camphor, spirits of turpentine and linseed oil in pint bottles; sassafras oil and sweet oil in bottles holding at least four ounces; quinine in a tin box with a screw top (the safest form in which to buy and keep quinine); five or ten cents' worth of Epsom salts in a low glass or china jar with wide mouth (pint fruit cans do well for the purpose); a few sticks of lunar caustic, wrapped in paper and kept from the light, also in glass; and a small, wide-mouthed bottle of menthol crystals.—Ladies' Home Journal.

**Easy Way to Save Ice.**

I made a fortunate discovery at the beginning of the summer, that has lessened the amount of my ice bill. I tried first putting a newspaper over the ice in the refrigerator; but as I like to use the small piece, left in the box when the new ice comes, for my wafer cooler, I found this would not do, as the ice tasted of the paper. Then I tried wrapping the ice in flannel. This was good, but to keep a fresh flannel ready and all clean and sweet made extra labor.

Finally I spread a double thickness of old carpet over the outside top of the refrigerator. This was a perfect success. My ice account from April 1 to October 1 was \$2 less than the year previous, and we certainly had as warm a summer. I made more ices and frozen desserts this summer, too.—Good Housekeeping.

**A Hint to Busy Mothers.**

If busy mothers, with more sewing on hand than they know what to do with, would use a little system in this, as well as in all other home duties, it would save much work and any amount of worry. Almost all mothers have to attend personally to planning the clothes for the little folks, to the buying of materials, consulting with dressmakers as to how this or that should be made, and so on through a list of things necessary to the sewing season. It is really much more satisfactory to lay in a stock of materials, everything necessary, and have a good seamstress come to the house at stated intervals during the year, and then do all the sewing that is to be done—the making of new clothes and remodeling of old, providing the mother cannot afford all new. By having, say, two regular sewing periods every year, the plain wardrobe of a family can be kept in god shape with infinitely less trouble than by the constant a little every day method.—The Gentlewoman.



**HOUSEHOLD RECIPES**

**Wheat Fritters.**—Beat three eggs, add to them one and a half cupsful of milk, add flour to make a batter stiffer than for batter cakes, then beat in four level teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Drop by the spoonful into hot lard. When brown remove with a skimmer, drain on paper and serve with the following sauce: Beat together one cupful of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of butter, two level teaspoonfuls of flour. Pour over half a cupful of boiling water, flavor with lemon and boil until clear.

**Orange Custard.**—If you like a touch of the bitter orange, boil the rind of a small orange until tender and then mash to a pulp. Add to it the juice of two oranges and the yolks of four eggs beaten with half a cup of sugar. Pour into a pint of scalded milk and stir until the sugar is dissolved and the custard cool enough to pour into custard cups. Set away to stiffen. Just before serving rub some lump sugar over the rind of two oranges and then crush it; sprinkle this sugar over the top of the custards. Chopped almonds may be used instead of the sugar.

**Coconut Cream.**—Beat the whites of three eggs just enough to break the stringiness, add one cupful of milk and stir over the fire in a double boiler until as thick as custard. Soak one-third of a box of gelatine in one-third of a cupful of cold water; take the cooked custard from the fire, add the softened gelatine and stir until dissolved. Add five tablespoonfuls of sugar, stir again until dissolved and strain. Add one teaspoonful of vanilla and one cupful of freshly grated coconut and let stand until cold and beginning to set. Add one cupful of thick cream whipped to a solid froth, pour into a wetted mold and set on ice.



**NEW IDEAS IN TOILETTES**

New York City.—Sheer white organdie is used for this attractive dress with ecru lace for trimming. It is lined throughout with fine white lawn.



**FANCY WAIST WITH GATHERED SKIRT.**

which is preferred to taffeta this season in costumes for young girls.

The foundation of the waist is a fitted body lining, which closes in the centre back, and is faced with inserted tuckling to a round yoke depth.

The full front and backs are gathered at the upper and lower edges, and arranged to outline the yoke. They blouse stylishly over the ribbon belt. The berth consists of four separate pieces of lace, edged with narrow organdie ruffles. These are applied to outline of the yoke, and give a becoming breadth to the shoulders.

A plain lace collar completes the neck. The elbow sleeves are shaped with inside seams, and adjusted on



**PROMENADE COSTUME.**

narrow arm bands, from which depend deep platings of organdie. The waist may be made high or low neck, with short or long sleeves, as preferred.

The skirt is shaped with five gores that are finely gathered at the upper edge and arranged on a narrow belt that closes in the centre back. The fullness in the front and side gores is evenly distributed, and the back is more closely gathered. The skirt has a graceful sweep at the lower edge, and is trimmed with lace, applied in fanciful scroll and square design.

To make the waist for a miss of fourteen years will require one and one-half yards of thirty-six-inch material, with one-half yard of all-over lace.

To make the skirt for a miss of fourteen years will require four and one-half yards of thirty-six-inch material.

**A Stylish Walking Costume.**

Tan and black chevrot is stylishly trimmed with black moire in the costume shown in the large cut. The Eton is adjusted with shoulder and underarm seams, the back fitting smoothly from collar to waist.

The fronts are plain on the shoulders, and blouse slightly over the narrow belt that fastens with a small jet buckle. The fronts close in the centre with small black buttons and buttonholes. The neck is completed with a rolling collar of moire that forms long, narrow revers.

A circular skirt portion is added, and fits smoothly over the hips. This may, however, be omitted, and the blouse finished with a narrow belt, if preferred.

The sleeves are regulation coat models, with upper and under portions. They have comfortable fullness on



**A JAUNTY BLOUSE.**

ing a pleasing variety of stocks and fancy fronts.

To make the waist in the medium size will require two and one-half yards of thirty-six-inch material.