



Early to Bed.
Put children to bed early. If you have to look after your children yourself, don't let them sit up late, as a rule, on any terms. You need and ought to have some time to yourself for rest and recreation, and it will be bad for the children as well as for you if you don't get it. The important thing is to get your thoughts directed into fresh channels, or in time you will find it difficult to talk or think of anything except the house and the children.

A Velvet Skirt.
A new model of blue and white dotted velvet has the box-plaited skirt mounted on a hip yoke. Between the plaits at the bottom of the skirt are pointed motifs of black passementerie. The corsage is plaited and ornamented with applique to match the skirt. The bodice opens at the neck to display a collar and empiement of guipure. The sleeves are plaited to the wrist. A cuff of passementerie finishes the whole. The hat to go with it is of white felt trimmed with blue velvet and a white brim.

The Granny Muff.
A great furrier having declared that this should be a season of large muffs, the granny muff immediately became the fashion. Some fortunate women promptly visited their attics and unearthed the muffs carried by their grandmothers many years ago. Dame Fashion, who will always pause in her rapid flight long enough to pick up a forgotten style, saw that the granny muff was worth cultivating, and the result is that every woman has one genuine or otherwise. Some of the handsomest muffs are of sable, 30 inches round and half a yard wide. Others are melon shaped, and again another style is heart shaped. There are some lovely combinations of velvet and fur. Nothing is prettier than a muff of the same material as the gown worn; say a sapphire blue velvet is trimmed with sable and has the mat and muff to match.

Pretty Neckwear.
Everywhere smart neck ruffs and dress accessories are shown, and the girl that cannot afford to buy them can at least purchase the materials at the shop counters and construct them. Collars of all the popular laces are shown in abundance, and sets for wraps and gowns are of rare beauty. There are many new arrangements of silk in taffeta, shirred, and applique and braided. The collarette and neck boa has become a shoulder cape and has steadily lengthened, so that before long it will develop into a garment that will reach to the elbow and afford a degree of comfort not hitherto produced. The present period of dress is one in which light and delicate materials are very much used. There is a great amount of handwork and openwork effect, crochet, entre deux, hemstitching, drawnwork and every possible method of leaving an aperture in the construction of a garment.

Woman's Own Fault.
To speak frankly I believe every difficulty in household management is primarily due to mismanagement of my good lady on the start, writes Deshier Welch, in Good Housekeeping. I mean away back in the early periphery of things: Lack of system, lack of determination and studied purpose, and, finally, lack of knowledge. I absolutely believe that now, where you find a good cook you'll find a good wife. The palpable remedy for the present cook evil, as I have said elsewhere, is a housekeepers' trust—a big one, making a chain of cities—making it positively necessary when a servant wishes to obtain a position that she bear a card from the head office of the trust certifying that her character is entirely commendable—as testified to by her former employer, a member of the trust, and that her accomplishment as a chef de cuisine is of the class set forth on the card. By card rating her salary is governed. It seems to me that in time the young women thus seeking employment would strive hard to obtain as high a "commission" as possible from the trust. Most distinctly would this prove a great advantage to both mistress and servant.

The Root of Wedded Bliss.
Mrs. Clemmie Ellis, a Chicago club-woman, has made the startling discovery that the gentle art of dishwashing lies at the root of wedded bliss. Teach your boy to wash dishes and marriage will not be a failure. The young man who includes dishwashing among his accomplishments will make a good husband and "how to be happy though married" will no longer be a theme of pessimistic debate or light persiflage. Mrs. Ellis's underlying ideas in all this seem to be that the young man whose brilliant intellect is capable of mastering dishwashing will go on to master a lot more things, such as cooking, sweeping, bedmaking, etc., and that the sum total of these acquisitions, with the meek and lowly frame of mind they beget, will make a man a desirable helpmeet for any woman. If Mrs. Ellis is right dishwashing will effect a reform in the soul of man which it hasn't been able to work yet in the breast of woman. Most women have to wash dishes

more or less at some period of their lives, and women as a class have washed dishes for centuries, but it would take more than a Chicago club-woman to discover that the occupation of dishwashing has brought either sweetness or light into the feminine character.—New York Tribune.

Handiwork of Long Ago.
Chenille embroidery is being revived along with the knitting needle and the crochet hook. There was a time in the days of our great-grandmothers and grand-aunts when this was the popular fancy work. It is most effective when carefully wrought, and, as it is not an expensive handiwork, it is likely to be taken up, at least for a time, by the maids who like to try everything.

Chenille can be applied to a canvas or felt ground, and quite lovely articles can be contrived with both. Mats, chair backs, cushion covers and sachets can often be picked up for a mere trifle at the bargain day sale of some art needlework depot and transformed by chenille embroidery into important looking fancy work. Chenille can be used with a chenille needle as a working thread, but it is better to catch it down with couching in finer silk, for otherwise the desired curves will be difficult to obtain. This applies to the thick chenille; the very thin kind can, of course, be used as thread.

A lovely idea in chenille embroidery was worked out by a girl, who applied it to the sash ends of one of her evening gowns. The gown was blue and the sash oyster white satin. Upon the ends was wrought a true lovers' knot design. This was carried out in actual blue satin ribbon with a bordering of blue chenille. From the sides where the ribbon terminated was a sort of pendant of conventional flowers carried out in two shades of blue chenille, and from the flowers fell showers of silver sequins.—New York American.

Beads by the Quart.
No Indian squaw could prize her beaded ornaments more highly than does the modern English or American girl. Our fair cousins overseas push bead-wearing to the extremity. They go to church with chains of beads of different kinds around the throat, and in the Hyde Park "church parade" you see the fair dames sauntering along with many beaded chains swinging from their shoulders. If you are in mourning you wear a cable chain of black Irish bogwood beads, a very handsome ornament. If you are "in colors," and sometimes if you are not, you mount your beaded necklace or long chain.

In Venice one's attention is distracted from a proper appreciation of the capricious by thoughts of the iridescent Venetian glass beads to be purchased in shops or the manufactories. An American girl who visited the glass works at Venice a few weeks ago was curiously questioned as to where she had procured a narrow girdle of embroidered Indian bead work. Much surprised, she replied she had bought it in the city of Mexico, explaining that this was overseas on the American continent. The official who made the inquiry then informed the Americans that their wholesale trade in beads was largely with the North American Indians and the Chinese!

You can buy your Venetian beads by the "hank," if they are already strung on threads, or by the quart if they are loose in the deep bowls or trays. Neapolitan coral is very lovely, and some of it of a wonderfully pure color. It seems cheap to the average shopper, until you consider the duty on coral jewelry makes up the difference in cost. It is just about the same thing, then, and as you can buy all the coral you want in Philadelphia or New York, you may as well save your money for the charming little bronzes for which Naples is famous and which copy the wonderful classical models now collected in the National museum. Coral beads never go out of fashion, and little girls admire them more than amber beads.—Philadelphia Record.

Fashion Notes.
Bunchy or fluffy neckwear is quite passé; flatness alone prevails. The really smart tailor walking skirt has never a circular flounce as a foot finish.

Madam la Mode prophesies most confidently that the full skirt is the coming model. The low cuffure is the smartest for the street, to accommodate the flat, drooping hats so popular now. While zibeline is very fashionable this winter, smartly gowned women do not use the exaggeratedly long-haired kind.

Picturesque effects, with any quantity of lace and embroidery, are most prominent among the fashionable tea-gowns and negligees.

The mid-season hats, especially designed for wear at social functions, show some fairly ravishing color tones most artistically blended.

An exceedingly dainty pendant is in vogue, cut out of one piece of opal, with a diamond centre and suspended from a platinum chain.

Collars are omitted on many gowns and wraps to suit the prevailing craze for flat neck effects, narrow bands of embroidery being substituted.

A lacing of black bebo ribbon was the novel trimming effect joining the upper and lower part of a fur collar that came from a very smart furrier. The newest hatpin holder is a long bottle covered with a lace edged silk handkerchief in some delicate shade, the four corners drawn tightly together at the top, making a pretty finish.

Fashions of Today



New York City.—Box pleats unquestionably make the most marked and individual feature of the season. This stylish blouse combines them with the



BOX PLEATED BLOUSE.

fashionable big collar and loose sleeves and is essentially chic. As shown it is made of white pongee with collar shield and cuffs of twine colored lace over silk veiled with chiffon, and is daintily charming, but all silks, soft wools, fine linen and cotton fabrics are appropriate and the design suits both the odd waist and the costume.

The foundation is a smoothly fitted lining that closes at the center front. On it are arranged the plain back, the shield and the box pleated fronts. The back is smooth across the shoulders and drawn down in gathers at the waist line, but the fronts are gathered and droop slightly and becomingly over the belt. The sleeves are box pleated from the shoulders to slightly below the elbows, then fall in soft puffs and are gathered into deep cuffs. The close-

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The Flounces Growing in Importance.
Flounces are growing in fussiness and importance day by day, especially where evening exigencies are concerned. A charming creation suitable to a fair debutante was arranged in delicate pink chiffon, its trained skirt decked with three froth flounces, each one whereof was stitched with narrow ribbon and lace. The bebo bodice was finished by a pointed pelerine of the chiffon, dotted with diamonds and hemmed lace, and bore elbow sleeves, with handkerchief wing trills at their base.

The New Nightgown.
The bishop nightgown is among the newest things in lingerie. It has an elaborate lace yoke, alike back and front. The gown slips over the head and is drawn up with ribbons.

Lace Shoes.
Shoes and slippers of all-over lace are much worn. The delicate white lace is laid over satin of a pale tint. Black lace over white or colored satin is also seen.

Leather Fobs.
Leather fobs of black or brown take the place of tassels on the newest umbrellas. They are very smart.

Woman's Hungarian Dress Sleeve.
That the sleeve makes or mars the gown admits of no argument. It is the feature of features and more surely than any other determines style and date. The excellent model illustrated is up to date, correct and smart and



SERVICEABLE HOUSE JACKET.

ing is effected invisibly beneath the central pleat. To cut this waist in the medium size four yards of material twenty-one inches wide, three and one-half yards twenty-seven inches wide, three and one-half yards thirty-two inches wide, or two yards forty-four inches wide will be required, with one and three-fourth yards of all-over lace for collar, shield and cuffs.

Woman's House Jacket.
Dainty house jackets are essential to comfort and to making that best appearance under all conditions which it is every woman's duty to cultivate. The very pretty May Manton example shown in the large drawing is absolutely simple, and at the same time is attractive and becoming. The original is made of white lawn, with trimming of Valenciennes lace, but all washable fabrics are suitable as well as light weight wools and simple silks.

The jacket consists of fronts, back and side backs, with bell sleeves. Both the fronts and the back are tucked, the former to the yoke depth, the latter to the waist line, but fall in soft folds below the tucks. The sleeves are slightly flowing, but can be gathered into bands in bishop style, as shown in the small cut. At the neck is a standing collar with a turn-over portion of lace.

To cut this jacket in the medium size, four yards of material twenty-seven inches wide, three and one-fourth yards thirty-two inches wide, or two and one-fourth yards forty-four inches wide will be required, with three yards of insertion to trim as illustrated.

Blue and Silver House Gown.
A charming afternoon or reception gown is of pale blue louisine. The skirt is laid in rather loose accordion pleats and sweeps the ground on all sides. The waist is also accordion pleated and draped with blue chiffon pailletted in silver. The pointed neck yoke is of Venetian lace. The loose sleeve is a combination of louisine, the four corners drawn tightly together at the top, making a pretty finish.

sued alike to the making of new gowns and to remodeling. The full length or Hungarian sleeve is shown with upper portion and puff of one material and the cuff of lace, the three-quarter sleeve has a cap of lace and the short sleeve is tucked; but the plain cap can be used with the full length sleeve or for the short one whenever preferred and combinations and materials can be varied again and again.

The foundation is a fitted lining. On it are arranged the puffs of the full length model, and it is cut off to give the required length for the deep elbow and short sleeves. The cap for the full length sleeve is tucked and the puff is gathered at both edges. When elbow length is desired, the puff is finished to droop becomingly over the lower edge.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is: For full length, two and five-eighths yards twenty-one inches wide, two and one-eighth yards twenty-seven inches wide, or one and five-eighths yards forty-four inches wide, with one-half yard of all-over lace for cuffs; for three-quarter length, one and five-eighths yards twenty-one inches wide, one and five-eighths yards twenty-seven inches wide, or one and one-eighth yards forty-four inches wide, with one-half yard of all-over lace.



WOMAN'S DRESS SLEEVE.

lace for capes; for short sleeves, one yard twenty-one inches wide, one yard twenty-seven inches wide, or one-half yard forty-four inches wide.



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Iron Production.
The American Iron and Steel Association has just issued its circular of annual statistics regarding production in the iron trade. It gives the output of pig iron for 1902 as 17,821,300 gross tons, which agrees substantially with the estimate recently published by the Iron Age, and can safely be regarded as an accurate figure. As compared with 1901, last year's output of iron increased 1,942,900 tons, or 12 1/2 per cent., while the second half of 1902 showed an increase of 204,200 tons over the first half. Yet it will be remembered that owing to the scarcity of fuel occasioned by the coal strike a large number of blast furnaces were compelled to shut down, and that it was not really until July and the succeeding months that this began to affect the output of iron. The conclusion naturally follows that had it not been for certain powerful obstacles—one of which was the strike of the anthracite miners and another the congestion of freight traffic growing out of an insufficient equipment on the railroads—the expansion of our iron product, instead of pursuing a normal rate of growth during the last 12 months, would have been enormous and might have been excessive. As it is now, production not only in pig iron but in all other branches of the iron and steel industry is still held safely within the limits of consumption.

Annual Sprat Banquet.
The annual sprat banquet was held at Yarmouth, England, recently, when a select company sat down to a meal consisting of a score of courses. The banquet opened with sprats in aspic, and in quick succession came sprat soup, sprats, grilled and deviled, sprats kippered, sprats soured and sprats a la corporation—a clever arrangement of filleted sole wound round the boy of each little sprat. Another quaint dish was sprats on horseback—the fish being served on tiny mounds of bacon. The more lordly herring had its turn. There were sides of silver herring, smoked herrings, Yarmouth blotters and kippered herrings.

There are now at work in the rivers of the middle island of New Zealand about 240 dredges, each costing from \$25,000 to \$70,000, with the object of extracting gold from the deposits in the beds of the streams.

Novel Test for Office.
Persons aspiring to become balliffs at Ailwick, in Northumberland, England, have to go through a curious and somewhat unpleasant ordeal. Before the election the various candidates ride up in a body to a horse pond, and there, dismounting from their steeds, plunge into the water and struggle as best they may to the other side. The music of a brass band cheers them during their struggles in the dirty water. This ancient custom dates from the reign of King John, who once paid a visit to the town in 1210 and found no fitting welcome prepared for him. The blame of this state of unpreparedness was fastened on the luckless balliffs, who were promptly thrown into the horse pond by royal command.

It is proposed to cut a railroad tunnel through the mountain known as the Fauclle, in the Jura Alps, and so shorten the journey between Paris and Switzerland by two and a half hours.

Kissing a woman's lips is considered a great insult in Finland.

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