

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

FOR THE MOTHER.

Knicker are to be worn again by girls this season and again with the full skirts they take the place of a petticoat. They are sometimes made of the materials of the frock, but are generally of flannel or silk. When made of a material that is not washable they are fitted with an adjustable lining of thin cotton material, if not worn over the ordinary knit underwear.

The latest school coat ends a few inches above the knees, which is long enough for warmth and not too long for comfort in walking. It is cut in circular form, flares gradually from neck to hem, and the sleeves are ample. The frock is generally confined loosely with a stitched belt.

Flannel waists are worn more than for a long time, and the new flannel comes in beautiful pale colors, with hair line stripes, small checks or a small Persian design, and also plain. It washes like cotton and is just the thing for waists of brettele frocks. There is a variety of shapes in bretelles, but the simplest and most popular is quite narrow at the waist, is buttoned to the skirt band, and gradually widens to about four or five inches over the shoulder.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

ADMIRE AMERICAN FASHIONS.

In spite of the fact that many American young women go to Paris to get their trousseaux, Princess Cecilia, who on Kaiser Wilhelm's death will probably become Empress of Germany, because of her approaching marriage to the Crown Prince, is ordering a large part of her outfit in America. She is said to be one of the best dressed women in Germany, and, whereas, Teutonic belles until recently have not been noted for style, they have made such progress since the century's end that the compliment is not an empty one.

Princess Cecilia is especially choice in regard to her footwear. She has much smaller feet than those of the average German woman, and insists on a glove fit for her shoes. Every boot, shoe and slipper for her trousseau is being made in the United States, a firm having sent a special representative there to take the measure of her foot.

The Princess is also having a her summer shirtwaists made here, and has ordered most of her hats from a New York firm. She is said to greatly admire the dressy styles of the American women, and especially approves of the manner in which our women wear their clothes.—Newark Advertiser.

A READING CORNER.

Another effective arrangement is to turn an angle in a room with the assistance of the piano into an inviting reading corner. When converting a corner of this kind into a cozy nook the position of the piano from the musician's standpoint should be taken into consideration. No matter how artistic the setting, no detail in a room can be a success unless it adequately fulfills the purpose for which it is intended, and the reading corner is no exception.

To place a couch or settee with its back against a piano is altogether wrong. The piano may make an attractive screen if properly manipulated and form an excellent background for a seat, but the performer's advantage point is lost. Then another objection is that when playing or singing is going on a couch placed against the back of a piano must necessarily be left vacant, for it is hardly an un-mixed pleasure to listen to music with the drum of one's ear against the piano.

So the ideal way to put up a corner of this character is to draw a well-filled bookcase quite close to the back of the piano, with a luxurious lounging chair placed near it in a position where the light from the window may reach the reader.—Bridgeport Telegram.

WOMEN FLORISTS.

Women florists! Why not? Yes, indeed, why should not women try their hand and artisticity at this business as well as men, and it seems rather strange that it has not been tried long ago. It has now become quite a fad to employ women decorators, and they have proven to be a great benefit in this kind of work. There is great possibility of them overstepping the bounds of popularity and making the male portion feel rather out of place. At a recent wedding the decorations were most superb, and the hostess took great delight in making known the fact that a woman decorated. She also added that "as many times as I have had the house decorated, it has never looked so beautiful as now." The work may not be exactly genteel, and yet it is equally as much so as many other occupations. Women should know how to tie the effective bows on bouquets and such like, and many little touches might be added which practical man would not think of. Bridal bouquets and all of the flowers pertaining to the nuptial mass must needs be effective and artistic, and as has been said time again, only women are capable of obtaining the effects which are quite necessary for this occasion. In view of the fact that the female portion of the population have undertaken

almost every branch of the wage-earning proposition it is not surprising that they should readily take to this part of it.

CRINOLINE NOT RETURNING.

Although the women of fashion have received several severe and uncalculated shocks regarding the return of crinoline, the verdict has proved false, for which they should be duly thankful. But in its stead there are all sorts of clever substitutes, which, while they certainly do give a most graceful outline to the silhouette, are very far removed from the grotesqueness of the much-dreaded crinoline. Some women of daring have appeared on several occasions gowned in garments which looked suspiciously as though they were very much "crinolined," but any further than a few camels who are seeking for novelty nothing has been done. There is a certain class of women who have been trying to lead the fashion instead of being a follower, but the end is always inevitable, and they never get beyond making themselves ridiculous, conspicuous and the cause for much comment. It is true that gowns are not as flimsy as they might be, but Dame Fashion has brought the change about in her most tactful manner, and it is not felt to any great extent. There is a really delightful latitude in styles of this sort, and women who have heretofore found it difficult to dress becomingly, have at last found a vast variety to select from. A noticeable fact is that crepe de chine have an increasing vogue, and it is no wonder. They make up beautifully and allow of the greatest scope for trimming and using original and novel designs.—Washington Times.

THE NEW GLOVES.

"A pair of gloves for every gown and half a dozen extra pairs in neutral tones," is this season's motto for the up-to-date woman. For every fabric worn in this season's fashionable tints glove-makers have dyed a kid to match. Sometimes the shopper finds herself bewildered, as in the case of a mixed fabric, where the gloves come to match both the background and the figure. For instance, a new French button suiting shows a parrot-green silk dot on a dull brown ground, and the glove-maker offers both the brown and the green tint in kid. As a rule, the well-dressed woman selects the more quiet color, leaving the vivid tones, such as green, orange, rose or sapphire blue to her sister who likes startling effects. However, with the new, striking tints, such as burnt to-mato, onion brown and the peculiar amethyst shadings, the self-tone gloves must be employed, as no other coloring seems to tone well with the suiting.

There seems to be no hard and fast rule in the matter of length for street gloves. American manufacturers are offering both one and two button gloves, and from Paris come quantities of the three button length. The one button glove can be worn only when the dress and coat sleeve are very long. Neither Foster looks nor clasps appear on the smartest gloves, and large pearl buttons are used instead.

The athletic girl clings to natural toned chamois for early fall wear with her jersey or golf vest, and later will employ the heavy, knit gloves, which this season will come in all the popular tones for suits and jerseys. The tailored maid is now wearing goat-skin or mocha, but her favorite winter glove will be the reindeer kid. She does not permit the top of her glove to turn back, as her brother still does, but she buttons it snugly around her wrist.

In the evening gloves the sixteen button length has almost supplanted the thirty-two button mousquetaire, partly because elbow sleeves are in favor, and partly because Dame Fashion has decreed that for a short space between the short, puffed sleeve of jeweled epaulet effect and the end of a glove, a tempting glimpse of marble-white or dimpling pink flesh may be seen this winter.

The white gloves for evening wear have a rival in pale evening shades to match the glittering silks and delicate diaphanous weaves. Pale yellow will be much worn with white, as well as yellow evening gowns, and a new white evening glove shows a lining of delicate silk to match the frock, and even the deeper shades, such as American Beauty red, burnt orange and gray plaids. These gloves are presumably for theatre wear, and will do away with the muff, a source of annoyance in the playhouse. For evening wear black glove has entirely supplanted the more supple suede, which is rather unfortunate for the woman with large hands or stout arms, and very few white suede gloves are being sold.

The woman whose hands perspire should avoid the pale-tinted evening gloves and cling to white, as the delicate colorings fade in the hands of even the most expert cleaners.—Washington Star.

Women Not Counted.

More women are not counted as a personal entity in the census of Slam, but the Queen appears in bloomers and a fancy blouse at public receptions. Electric street cars, controlled by Danes, run at a fast pace over a 11-mile route in and about Bangkok.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS

TO DRIVE AWAY ANTS.

Sprips of wintergreen or ground ivy will drive away red ants. Branches of wormwood will serve the same purpose for black ants. The insects may be kept out of sugar barrels by drawing a wide chalk mark around the top near the edge.

MARKING INK ON LINEN.

Remove marking ink from linen thus: Paint the mark with a solution of cyanide of potassium, applied with a camel's hair brush. As soon as the ink disappears the linen should be rinsed in cold water and then washed in the ordinary way.

TARNISH ON SILVERWARE.

To prevent articles of silverware from tarnishing warm them when well cleaned and paint them over with a thin solution of collodion in alcohol, using a wide, soft brush for the purpose. Articles so treated must be wiped only with dry cloths.

THE TABLECLOTH.

Never leave the white cloth on between meals. It does not look well, and, besides, its freshness soon becomes marred with constant use. It should be folded carefully in the original creases after each meal and laid away in a drawer. It will be found an economy after a little trial.

A NOVEL PAPERWEIGHT.

Take five walnuts, make a hole in the end of each and dig out as much meat as possible. With a tape needle push a narrow ribbon through each one of the shells, connecting them together, and fill them with melted lead poured through the holes in the end, and tie the ribbon ends in a bow.—Connecticut Farmer.

VARNISHED FURNITURE.

Spots on varnished furniture are readily removed by being rubbed with essence of peppermint or spirits of camphor and afterward with linseed or olive oil. Rub the oil in well with a piece of flannel and then take a clean piece and rub again. Furniture which has become quite shabby looks like new after this process.

CLEANING ART SHADES.

Before being washed, colored counterpanes and art muslin shades should be soaked for fifteen minutes in cold water, to which add one cupful of salt to each bucket, using just sufficient to cover them; then wring light and wash in the usual manner. Treated in this way, they will retain their usual brightness till worn out, says Woman's Life. To insure complete success, the articles should be soaked in like manner previous to the first three washings.

DARNING STOCKINGS.

Darning stockings is never a very welcome task, and too often in the case where there is a large family the task seems almost endless. The following method will insure less darning, because the darns being more secure will last longer: Before beginning to darn a hole tack a piece of coarse net lightly to the stocking over the hole, then darn over the net and be sure to also darn well into the stockings as well to keep the darn firm. The net makes such a good foundation that the work is more quickly done, and the result is a much smoother and neater darn than one done in the old way.—Washington Star.



RECIPIES

Cream Pie—Mix one-half cup of sugar with two cups of this cream and the stiffly beaten whites of three eggs. Line a plate with rich paste and set in the oven until half baked. Draw to the front of the oven, pour in the cream and finish baking. By this method the crust will not soak and the filling will not be overcooked.

White Citron Cake—Cream one-half cup of butter, add one cup of sugar and beat well. Now add gradually three-quarters cup of milk alternately with two cups of flour sifted with four level teaspoons of baking powder. Now fold in carefully the stiffly beaten whites of four eggs and one-half cup of citron shaved fine and dredged with flour. Bake in a sheet and cover with a boiled icing.

Popcorn Balls or Bricks—To one cupful of brown sugar add a heaping teaspoonful of butter and three table-spoonfuls of water; boil until it ropes or hardens when dropped into cold water. While the sirup is boiling hot pour it over two quarts of popped corn, from which all round grain have been removed. Stir with a spoon until it is cool enough to be molded into shape with butter to facilitate work.

Pickled Mushrooms—Wash thoroughly, and if of convenient size, put whole into glass jars. Set these onto the rack of a steam-kettle with a cloth on the rack beneath the cans. Put in warm water to cover the rack and let steam fifteen minutes. Have ready enough vinegar scalded, with pepper-corns, cloves, mustard seed, celery seed, bay leaves and chili peppers, to fill the jars. Pour this into the jars. Adjust the rubbers and covers, and let cook five or six minutes, then screw down the covers and set aside. A table-spoonful of mixed spices will be enough for a quart jar.

Timely Fashion Hints

New York City.—Simple waists with vest effects are among the latest and most attractive of the season and will be greatly worn both with the ever-

the other way. The vogue of the ostrich feather was very firmly impressed at the horse show. The handsomest hats there were loaded with ostrich plumes in every lovely color and shade of color. Light blue and light pink seemed to have the preference. These colors were not as a rule pastel tones, but the good, old-fashioned, clear tones—sky-blue, baby blue and rose pink.

Nine-Gored Walking Skirt Inverted.

Walking skirts that provide generous fullness and flare yet are snug over the hips make the latest and most graceful shown. The model illustrated is admirable in every way and means comfort to the wearer as well as style. As shown it is made of tan-colored cravenette stitched with coriell silk and trimmed with fibre braid, but all suiting and skirting materials are appropriate and simple stitching can be used as a stitching in place of the braid when preferred.

The skirt is cut in nine gores with extensions at all front and side seams that form the tuck pleats, and can be stitched above the pleats, as illustrated, or finished with bands of braid. The fullness at the back is laid in inverted pleats that are stitched to match the seams and the upper edge can be finished with the belt or cut on dip outline and underfaced or bound as may be preferred.



useful odd skirt and as parts of complete gowns. This one shows admirable lines and is adapted to many materials, but in the case of the orig-

A LATE DESIGN BY MAY MANTON.



inal is made of onion brown chiffon taffeta with vest and trimming of ecru lace and is worn with a belt and the of silk in a slightly darker shade. The sleeves are the new "leg o' mutton" ones that are full and draped above the elbows and which give the broad shoulder line.

The waist is made with a fitted lining, which is optional, fronts, back and vest. The backs are tucked to form box pleats that give tapering lines to the figure, the fronts to form full length pleats at their edges and to yoke depth from the shoulders, the vest being arranged between the two former and the closing made invisibly beneath the edge of the left front. The sleeves are cut in one piece each, arranged over fitted linings that serve to hold the fullness in place.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is four and a quarter yards twenty-one inches wide, three and a half yards twenty-seven inches wide or two and one-eighth yards forty-four inches wide with one and one-eighth yards of all-over lace for vest and collar.

Paradise Plumes. If ostrich feathers ever threatened to give way to paradise plumes, something has happened to turn the tide

In Pale Blue. The simplest and prettiest of pale blue chiffon gowns has a shirred skirt trimmed with three wide tucks. The waist is low and has a double round bertha collar or revers of pale blue chiffon velvet edged with frills of blue chiffon. Where the collar meets is a cluster of shaded blue and white chiffon rosebuds with long stems and ends. The satin bodice girdle is very high and pointed and fastened on the side with rosettes of chiffon.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is eleven and one-quarter yards twenty-seven inches wide, six and a quarter yards forty-four inches wide or five yards fifty-two inches wide when material has figure or nap; eight and a quarter yards twenty-seven, five and a quarter yards forty-four or four and a half



NINE GORED WALKING SKIRT.

yards fifty-two inches wide when material has neither figure nor nap, with eight yards of braid to trim as illustrated.

With Stiffening. When the Paris models began to come in it was seen that nearly all the new petticoats and drop skirts had some stiffening set in at the head of the dust ruffle, while in a few it ascended to the height of the knee. Then some bright mind thought of putting in the petticoat a circular ruffle of very light-weight haircloth, and so the puzzle was most satisfactorily solved by the lily haircloth flounce, as it is called.

OUR GIRLS AND BOYS

WHEN LITTLE BROTHER'S SORRY.

When little brother's sorry, At first he pouts a while, And then about his dimpled mouth There grows a tiny smile. He looks at sister sideways, And creeping very near, He offers her his rocking horse, The toy he holds most dear! But sister shakes her flaxen head, "Why, then," he cries, "my kite? My knife? My candy lion? (I've only had one bite!) You won't have any toys at all? Why, then—I'll give you—this! Because, you see, I'm sorry, So, sister, take a kiss!" —Hannah Fernald, in Youth's Companion.

THE SWINGING RING.

On days when it is too stormy or too slushy to be comfortable out of doors there is generally a strongly expressed wish voiced by the younger members of the family that "there was something to do." The old games do not



STARTING THE SWINGING RING.

always suit, and most of them require too many players. Let us solve the problem.

Here is a pastime that is real fun, for it depends on skill. It is fun even when played alone, for you can always try to beat your own best previous score, and every time you try it you become just so much more expert. It is for girls as well as boys, so a brother and sister can spend a jolly afternoon at it without either wanting to see any friends, who are pretty sure not to come in on a very bad day.

You need two nails, a string and a ring of some kind, about six inches in diameter. If you have no old curtain ring or something else of that sort, you can easily make a ring that will serve your purpose perfectly well by getting a thin piece of board, marking a circle seven inches in diameter on its surface, and inside of that another circle six inches in diameter. Now drive a nail in the ceiling, if there is no hook for a lamp or a chandelier already there, and another nail in the wall with its head pointing upward at an angle of about 45 degrees. Suspend your ring from the nail in the ceiling by a string just long enough to allow the ring to swing its centre over the nail in the side wall and hang there. Now you are ready to begin.

Stand by the nail in the side of the wall with your right hand holding the ring close to the nail. Now push the ring away from you, trying to make it swing back and hook over the ring. There! Of course you didn't do it! The ring came back and struck the nail, but did not catch on it. In order to catch on the projecting nail the ring must swing in a circle. If you do it once out of your first ten tries you are lucky. It requires a very nice sense of distance, a careful eye and a light touch to do it just right. Not so easy as it seems, is it?

It takes a lot of practice to score three out of five tries. Get your brother to try it with you, and he will be astonished to find he is no better at this than you are. In fact, girls are best at this game, and, strange as it may seem, their judgment of distance more accurate.

Try a game of fifty points, with "innings" of ten points each. Of course the winner is the one who rings the nail the most times out of the fifty trials.—New York Mail and Express.

THE GOLDEN SPIDER.

A gilded tyrant, with velvety black markings, is the huge golden spider, sitting in her house woven of silken meshes. Her weaving, too, is marvelously strong, and the six guy ropes that support her swinging habitation some five feet long. And what may Madame Spider be watching for? Ah, a gay green grass hopper, that, with more athletic action than wisdom, springs right into the very midst of Madame Spider's net. And she has been on the alert for just such a victim. The web swings to and fro with such violence that one would expect it to be torn to shreds. But no, before the stupid grasshopper can possibly kick himself loose, and notwithstanding his struggles have torn a large rent in the web, he finds himself en-

cased in a silken shroud, deftly woven by his enemy, and in this he swings helplessly. Then Madame Spider comes down her zigzag stairway and sizes up her catch; maybe gives him a little nipping bite, and then leaves him to his fate, until such times as she wishes to serve him up for the family dinner.

There are many of these great golden spiders in thickets. All of them look sleek and well fed. There is an American spider which haunts evergreen trees and catches its prey by means of a lasso. The web of this spider is triangular in form, consisting of four longitudinal lines and a large number of cross fibres connecting them. Two corners of the triangle are attached to twigs, but the other corner, which terminates in a single thread, is held by the spider, perching on a neighboring twig. When a fly strikes the web the spider loosens his hold and the elastic threads instantly entangle the victim.

If you anchor a pole in a body of water, leaving the pole above the surface, and put a spider upon it, he will exhibit a marvelous intelligence by his plans of escape. At first he will spin a web several inches long and hang to one end, while he allows the other to float off in the wind in the hope that it will strike some object. Of course, this plan proves a failure. He waits till the wind shifts, perhaps, and then sends another silken bridge floating off in another direction. Another failure is followed by several other similar attempts until all points of the compass have been tried. If neither the resources nor the reasoning powers of the spider are exhausted, he climbs to the top of the pole and energetically goes to work to construct a silken balloon.

He has no hot air with which to inflate it, but he has the power of making it buoyant. When he gets his balloon finished he does not go off upon the mere supposition that it will carry him, as men often do, but he fastens it to a guy rope. He then gets into his aerial vehicle while it is fast and tests it to see whether its dimensions are capable of bearing him away. He sometimes finds that he had made it too small, in which case he hauls it down, takes it all apart and constructs it on a larger and better plan. A spider has been seen to make three different balloons before he became satisfied with his experiment. Then he will get in, snuff his guy rope and sail away to land as gracefully and as supremely independent of his surroundings as could well be imagined.

The diving bell is considered to be a great invention, yet long before man thought of his diving bell the water spider had hers, in which she reared her numerous family. There are several remarkable things about this nest. One of them is the manner in which it is made.

In that business-like manner which characterizes all spiders, she bodily plunges into the water and walks down the stem of a pond weed. When she has selected a suitable position for her silken palace she flexes a number of strong lines in all directions for anchorage. Then in the midst of these she constructs a beautiful web, somewhat in the shape of a thimble, but not quite so large. It is full of water, and therefore not like a diving bell. How is the water to be got out and replaced with air?

The true explanation is wonderful. She carries the whole of the air required from the surface. Her body and legs are covered with grayish hair; she plunges quickly into the water. The movement is so rapid that the air has not time to escape from her hairy coat, and she goes down surrounded by globules of air. When across the threshold of her own home she carefully dislodges this air by rubbing herself with her legs. The liberated bubbles immediately rise to the roof of her house and there remain. In this way she at length fills the whole bell and takes up her position in it, always head downward. Here she passes the winter, keeping snug and quiet until the warm days of spring invite her to the surface in quest of flies and other small insects.—Lippincott's Magazine.

Death of an Exile.

Miss Eliza Bayne died in the Lyon County, Kansas, poorhouse the other day. She came to America more than forty years ago from France. She was highly educated and intelligent. Her destination was Kansas City, where a half-brother had lived and died, and she was in quest of certain moneys which she had entrusted to the half-brother's care. During the fifteen years Miss Bayne lived in Emporia she kept about her person a silk French flag in which she desired to be buried and in which she was buried. After her death \$30 were found sewed in the seam of her dress. The poor old soul had been hoarding the money for years in order that she might not be buried as a pauper.—New York News.

All Japanese Are Gardeners.

Japan is a nation of gardeners. Every man, woman and child is passionately fond of flowers. Gardening is a religion.