

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

HATS MADE OF WOOD.

The Japanese are experts in the manufacture of summer hats, a large quantity of which are annually exported to this country. According to a dealer in these goods they are made of wood, but so thin and pliable is the fiber that it is usually mistaken for chip or straw, and some of the finest hats for women are made of this material. It has the texture of fine satin, but is really a shaving, poplar, spruce, cherry, Chinese cypress and other trees being planed in a special manner and with special tools. The shavings are dyed the colors desired and the strips are pleated like straw. Chip braid is the technical term and the material was exhibited at the St. Louis Fair—Indianapolis News.

NEEDLE USED BY MEN.

The masculine equivalent of the word needlewoman probably is not found in any grammar or dictionary. Yet the use of the needle by men is not at all uncommon. Sewing is a masculine occupation in India, and without going so far afield "needlemen" may easily be found. In Europe the art of needlecraft has some illustrious male devotees. The Grand Duke of Hesse is devoted to embroidery, and among the treasured possessions of Queen Alexandra is a magnificent shawl crocheted by the Crown Prince of Denmark. J. Cathart Watson, the representative of Orkney and Shetland Islands in the British House of Commons, knits his own stockings, and only the chaffing of fellow members has deterred him. It is said, from plying the knitting needles in the smoking room of the House of Commons, Gerald Balfour, nephew of the British Premier, is also fond of knitting, while Victor Bowring-Hanbury seeks mental relaxation in fine embroidery.

DO MEN LIKE CLEVER WOMEN?

A woman who has been visiting in London says apropos of her experiences and observations in the English capital: "The other day a placard outside a stationer's shop caught my eye, for in big letters diagonally across it were the words, 'Do Men Like Clever Women?' It is very funny, how eternally that silly question is thrust out. Of course, they like clever women; would be very silly if they didn't, and especially the woman who knows how to economize cleverly, who when the Stock Exchange is stagnant and things generally below par, knows how to keep things going without making her husband feel acutely the difference. And where does the clever economist tell out more than in matter of dress? The brainless is generally the extravagant woman—doesn't know how to adapt this and that and the other thing; doesn't know, for instance, how with some inexpensive ready-made thing perhaps to contrive a charming costume."—Indianapolis News.

JAPANESE WOMEN.

The Japanese woman is in many respects like her Western sister, though her methods of carrying out the same ideas may seem to be so different. For instance, while the Japanese woman could not be induced to tight lace her waist, she binds up her loins so tightly that she cannot walk, but must just shuffle. Though her clothes, too, seem to be free from ornament, she has her methods of being ornamental, and even extravagant.

For instance, every time her hair is taken down two hours are spent in re-dressing it, and nothing would induce her to go to a picnic or a theatre without popping into the sleeves of her kimono her little dressing case made of scarlet brocade, which contains her steel mirror and diminutive boxes of lip salve, face powder and eyebrow renovator; nor would she go to her temple to pray if her obi did not sit just as an obi ought to sit, and has ever sat, since it was adopted by the contemporaries of the Sun Goddess.—More Queer Things About Japan.

HAND EMBROIDERY A FEATURE.

Hand embroidery is a feature of the most charming of the new models. It appears in dainty touches on street and visiting toilettes, and to a far greater extent on some of the more elaborate dinner and reception costumes. Crepe de chine takes embroidery most effectively, as anyone who has observed the Japanese embroideries on crepe can testify. A handsome dinner gown is of one seam crepe de chine in a pale lemon tint, the double width material being necessary for satisfactorily carrying out the flowing lines of the skirt. The skirt falls in plain straight folds, its one decoration being the heavy rose pattern embroidered in fine silo silks, the garlands or sprays scattered irregularly from the hem to about knee depth. The embroidery is in the exact shade of the crepe de chine; this matching of the silks to the fabric color being a feature of the finest work. The bodice is a draped effect over a fully feather-boned lining, the sleeves or shoulder puffs ending in frills of lace and capped with lace appliques. A distinctive feature is the silk and velvet petal roses disposed of on the shoulder and bustline of the bodice, these matching in shade the roses on the skirt.—Washington Times.

TWO HINTS FOR SUMMER WEAR.

"It is because the sequin frock is always wreathed in smiles that it is re-

warded with such special favor?" asked a woman during a recent discussion of the ever interesting question of dress. "It is positively years ago since the deuce of the sequin frock was daily expected, but it flourishes still. The thing is always smiling, always sparkling and cheery; I believe that must be the secret of its success, of its impregnable position in the heart of woman-kind, and of mankind for the matter of that. Have I not myself been beguiled into a sequin frock, something all mother-of-pearl and very fine steel sequins, those contrasting with soft chenille embroideries, and lots of other details all going to make a most fascinating surface?"

The raised laces come in handy for one's summer dressmaking. One can do much with a wide band of raised lace and the newest raised patterns show wheels of lace as well as other designs. One very lovely pattern displays a row of raised roses, wonderful things with a lace background. One can get the biscuit colored laces and can use them for hip yokes in name only, for they are not more than a finger wide. They are really only a finish for the girle, which is of silk, folded deeply and pulled down to a point in the front and in the back. The girle is finished with a band of lace a finger deep, which has something the appearance of a hip yoke.



If all the girls who read beauty recipes should heed the advice given them to make themselves "kissable" they would have to wear veils in the streets.

Japanese women understand politics, but they will never vote without an entire reversal of Japanese etiquette. It is the highest of bad form for a woman to express an opinion contrary to that of her husband.

"Aly, dear," a well-known woman asked across the table at a recent dinner, "have we any children? I forget." Another silenced her husband at luncheon by saying: "Husbands are made to be seen, not to be heard."—London Truth.

A girl of twelve was committed to a reform school from a London court the other day. She had stolen money from her mother, taken off her little brother's clothes and sold them, and boiled the family cat alive." England always develops the newest things in new women.

A bride in a \$10,000 wedding dress rather takes the gimp out of the average society girl's zorglessness, but when the daughter of the Sultan marries there's nothing men about her bridal attire, and this was the costly wedding dress prepared by two "milliners" in the Yildiz Kiosk. It was seen thick with real pearls and the operation watched over by an officer and two soldiers to insure the "milliners" from swallowing any of the pearls.

For the first time, so far as is known, a marriage ceremony in England has been performed by a woman. This singular scene was witnessed in the Nonconformist Church in Blackburn, and what was also remarkable was that it was the minister himself who consented to stand aside in favor of the female deputy. The bride and bridegroom were standing talking to Mrs. Lewis, a well-known temperance advocate, and waiting for the minister, who, as he came in, overheard the bride remark: "I wish you could marry us, Mrs. Lewis." Thereupon the minister said: "Well, do so, Mrs. Lewis. Why not?" and so she did.

—Pretty— Things— to Wear.

A very handsome small hat was in two tones of blue straw, one of the rough spiny varieties.

Tabs are no longer worn. The very swell collars have nothing on the front, but fit closely to the neck.

A heavy white linen crash suit had the collar edged with green linen, and had a green emblem embroidered on the shield.

A very simple gown of mignonette green lousine, a very soft and clinging fabric, had a skirt shirred in a deep dip yoke, the shirring heavily corded.

Collar and cuff sets are a favorite. They come in any material, whether fine or coarse, and they are indeed a blessing for the business woman.

A beautiful parasol in pale blue taffeta had a border of natural linen crash embroidered in French knots in pale blue. Edging the linen was a tucked piece of silk about two inches wide.

The Persian effects, which are so prevalent on the summer frocks, are extending to the neckwear department. Every smart summer girl will include several of these in her assortment of summer collars.

The woman who is her own dressmaker finds it rather an easy matter to have collars which are becoming and well made. It is quite possible to match almost any color and material in the shops, and collars of any size, shape and style may be bought for comparatively small sums.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.



THE BURRO.

The burro is a tiny beast,
No bigger than a St. Bernard,
But he can haul an awful load
O'er any road, however hard.
He weighs about three hundred pounds,
And he can carry on his back
Six hundred pounds of copper ore
Tied up securely in a sack.

We lazy mortals ought to learn
A lesson from this little beast;
We groan and moan at every turn
When we are burdened in the least.
What would we think, we slothful men,
Who squirm around and rail at fate,
If each of us were now and then
Obliged to carry twice our weight?
—Milwaukee Sentinel.

A DIFFICULT PASSENGER.

An elephant is without doubt the most difficult passenger to load of any in the world. It is rarely that the best of them can be induced to walk aboard a ship as did the traditional park of elephants who boarded the ark. To overcome their objection they are usually first coaxed or forced to enter great wooden boxes, when they are securely fastened, and the entire outfit is hoisted with a derrick to the level of the deck and swung aboard.—New York News.

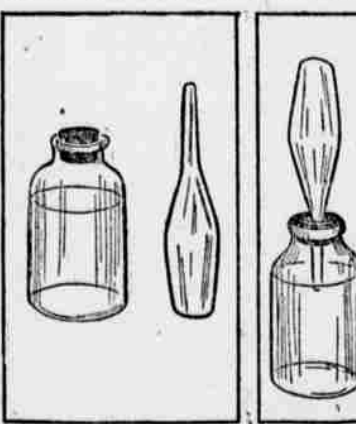
THE CROCODILE.

The following is a Chicago boy's composition on "The Crocodile." "The crocodile is a large animal that inhabits the Nile and loves to go on the sandy beach to bask in the sunshine and lay eggs. It looks some like a daschund, only there is more of it at the ends and it is bigger. There was a crocodile once that escaped from a circus. It roamed over the country, seeking in vain for pigs and small children to devour, and died of starvation in great anguish. You can ride on the back of a crocodile, but it is more comfortable to use a saddle. It is usually quiet, but is terrible when roused. We all ought to be thankful we are not a crocodile."

A SIMPLE BAROMETER.

The accompanying illustration, taken from the New York Evening Mail, shows a simple but reliable barometer that any boy or girl can make with very little trouble and at no cost. When you make a device of this kind yourself you take a good deal more interest in it than in one bought at the shop.

To make the barometer that we here illustrate the only articles needed are a wide mouthed pickle jar and a clean Venetian oil flask. Pour plain water into the pickle jar until it reaches to



HOW IT IS PUT TOGETHER.

within one-third of the top. Make a hole in the cork of the jar that will receive the neck of the flask, and allow it to go down far enough in the jar just to enter the water. That is all. The illustration shows the whole thing. Look at your barometer every day, and if you see that the water is well up in the neck of the flask the weather is going to be fine; if, on the contrary, the water has fallen it means that the air is damp and that the weather is likely to be stormy.

THE EAGLE'S EYE.

All birds of prey have a peculiarity of eye structure that enables them to see near or distant objects equally well. An eagle will ascend more than a mile in height, and from that great elevation can perceive its prey, small though it may be, and pounce on it with certainty. Yet it can examine an object close at hand just as well, thus possessing a power of accommodating its sight to distance that is impossible to the human eye.

In looking at this page you find that there is some particular distance, probably about ten inches, at which you can see each letter distinctly and read the words; but if you move the page off to a distance of forty inches, or bring it up to within five inches of your eyes, you cannot read it at all.

But the eagle has the power of altering what is called the focus of its eye as it pleases. It has only to look at an object from a distance of two miles or a few inches to see it equally well. The ball of the eye is surrounded by fifteen little plates, called sclerotic bones. They form a complete ring, and their edges slightly overlap each other. When it looks at a distant object this circle of bones expands, and the ball of the eye, being relieved from the pressure, becomes flatter; when it looks at a near object the circle contracts and the ball of the eye is squeezed into a rounder form.

All this is done involuntarily; it is simply a provision of nature. In human beings a very round eye is near-sighted,

and a flat eye is far-sighted; and the eagle has first one and then the other, as it may suit his purpose.—New York Evening Mail.

AUNT MARY STORIES.

Wolves were numerous in the early days in Indiana. My father always brought the sheep into a lot close to the house at night. We had two large dogs and a small house dog that had come with us from Kentucky. One cold winter night we heard the big dogs barking furiously, and we knew there were wolves in the neighborhood. My father sprang from the bed, put on his shoes and trousers, and ran outdoors. The little house dog followed at his heels and yelped piteously. Outside the sheep were huddled in the corner of the lot nearest the house, while a gaunt, big wolf was circling about trying to get past the dogs and at the sheep. On seeing my father the wolf started for the woods; the two big dogs in pursuit, but afraid to seize him. Now one of the dogs was a swift-running hound that could outrun any wolf. But once a wolf had gashed him with his teeth and the hound would never thereafter take hold of a wolf, although he would run after wolves, circle around them and try to bring them at bay. But the little house dog was afraid of wolves, not only for himself, but for my father. He was afraid my father would get too close to the wolves on this occasion and so he ran in front of him and tried to stop him. He got in my father's way and finally seized him by the trousers leg and tried to hold him. This exasperated my father, who was trying to catch up with the dogs that had nearly stopped the wolf. Finally, kicking the small dog loose he ran on, but the wolves had got then into the timber and could not be found.

Returning, he found that the small house dog had leaped up on a shed and then climbed up to the very comb of the house and stood there trembling in the moonlight. We had many a laugh afterward as we recalled the fact.—Indianapolis News.

WHEN A REINDEER IS ANGRY.

We were forced to wait three days after it had stopped snowing for a crust to form, so that we could travel again. It was with many misgivings that we began the last half of the journey, since the snow was now very deep and the danger of our sinking into drifts was great. To add to our general feeling of fear the reindeer behaved very badly and were exceedingly unruly. The wind had moderated somewhat, but it was still intensely cold.

We had traveled half the day without any serious mishap, and were beginning to forget our fears at starting out, when we sped merrily down a mountain side, singing and hollering at the top of our voices, and ran into a gulch and stuck there. The song stopped in our throats, and we sprang to our feet to sink waist deep in the drifts that had entrapped us.

Every movement of our bodies sank us deeper in the snowdrifts, and the infuriated reindeer, finding themselves caught in the banked-up snow almost to their haunches, turned upon us and would have paved us to death but for the forethought of Oosilik, who, seeing our danger, sprang forward and, hoisting the overturned pulks in his strong arms, brought them down over our heads and shoulders and pinned us out of sight in the snow.

We heard the hoofs of Uncle Ben beating of the pulk's side as he pawed up the snow in his efforts to get at us, and if we had not held to the straps and had not kept the pulk over us he would have tossed it into the air with one sweep of his horns, and would still have had his bout with us, in which case we should have been helpless and completely at his mercy.

For the first time we had occasion to see how fierce an angry reindeer can be. When he was convinced that he could not reach us, Uncle Ben turned upon Oosilik, and we heard the Eskime shouting and clubbing the deer as he ran in and out of the pulks in a swift circuit, pursued by the bellowing reindeer.

We spent an exciting half hour under the pulks, with the hoofs of the deer rattling like hail on the frozen boards, and then the unusual commotion ceased all at once, for the reindeer had found a lichen bed. In a jiffy they were pawing up the snow in their hurry to get at the succulent moss, and we were forgotten.

Amalik and Oosilik lifted the pulks from our heads and dug us out of the snow and set us on our feet. By the time the reindeer had eaten themselves into a passable humor Amalik and Oosilik led them back to the pulks.

We had four hours of traveling before we came in sight of the corral that had sent us the reindeer from Eaton Station. As soon as the deer scented the well-known corral they quickened their strides, so that we reached the station before it was quite dark, and crawled from the sleds with a deep feeling of relief, glad beyond measure to be at home after the perils of our protracted journey.—St. Nicholas.

Moscow is situated almost in the geometrical centre of European Russia.

THE WAR TAX BURDEN IS LIGHT IN JAPAN.

Where the New Imposts Fall—Question of Suffering or Prosperity—Stronger Industrially

War taxes have been so arranged in Japan that the burden principally falls upon the persons who ought to bear it. Take the new inheritance tax, for example; it will affect the wealthy class mostly. To an outsider it would appear as if a heavy burden had suddenly been placed upon the shoulders of the people by these special taxes, but it is not so, as special provision has been made to lighten the local taxes for municipal expenses, and notices have been sent all over the country to the local officials to lighten their expenditure, and by this reduction the average in taxation is not much increased. The following figures will explain this position: In 1904 the total of the imperial taxes showed an increase of 38,400,000 yen, but the prefectural taxes were 10,800,000, and the town and village taxes 12,200,000 yen less, so that, compared with the year before, the net increase in taxation was only 15,000,000 yen.

The amount for imperial and local taxes in 1904 was 27.57 yen per household. This was 1.76 yen more than the year before. Per person, it was 4.96, or an increase of thirty-two sen, compared with the year before. With regard to 1905, the increase will be eight yen per house, or 1.80 per individual. This, compared with the taxation of other countries, is very light; and then, again, a good deal of the money collected in taxes goes back to the people who are furnishing supplies for the war, and the profits from these transactions help the people to meet the increased taxation.

The farming class in Japan is much in the majority, and the rice crop of 1904 was so abnormally large and the prices of rice were so high that this class was a great gainer, and placed favorably for meeting taxes. The people, from patriotic reasons, have met the increased taxes with proper spirit, and respond willingly, so that the tax returns are much more satisfactory than in years before the war. The number of people proceeded against for non-payment of taxes is much decreased.

The increase in deposits in postal savings banks and in ordinary banks is a proof that the people are not suffering from over-taxation. It is a year since the outbreak of war, and the amount of money raised from the people for its prosecution is very large, and yet Japan's commercial and industrial position is much stronger to-day than before.

How Germans Do Business.

The following is a translation by Commercial Intelligence, London, from a report by the Austro-Hungarian Consul at Cairo: "Among commercial travelers engaged here during the 1903-4 season the Germans were far superior in number. Some sixty per cent. represented German firms, next being Italian houses with fifteen per cent. From seven to eight per cent. fell to the share of French firms, between six and seven to that of Austro-Hungarian, nearly six to that of Swiss, and only about four to that of English. But, then, the German travelers are not only numerically preponderant, but taken on the average they are smarter and more skillful than their competitors. No trip is too troublesome for them—no season too unfavorable. In every way they are most keenly alive to the interests of their firms. Not only do they control all districts where there is competition, but also buy up samples of competing goods, which their firms then imitate for the most part more cheaply."

Wonderful, If True.

The food of the gods appears to have been discovered at last.

According to a report of tests made by Dr. Clement and Dr. Huchard, formic acid can increase the strength of people in an extraordinary manner. One delicate subject who could only raise a light weight was, after being experimented upon, able to lift five times the amount.

Dr. Huchard's experiment upon himself is decidedly interesting. In two days, it is said, he doubled his strength, and in five days trebled it. To achieve this he had taken five grammes.

Formic acid is a colorless liquid found in the bodies of ants, in the hairs and other parts of certain caterpillars and in nettles. It has a pungent smell, is highly corrosive and may be prepared artificially in many different ways.

Formic acid and all its salts are strong reducing agents and precipitate metal from solution of gold, silver and mercury salts.—London Express

Fat Drummer's Mistake.

The fat drummer leaned over the desk, and grabbing the first piece of paper he could lay hands on, began to figure up his expense account for the day. The slip happened to be a "call" blank, and he began penciling his figures in the 3.30 column. First he jotted down 1.50 for buggy hire, then 15 cents for stamps, 35 cents for car fare, 1.60 for express charges, 1.10 for telegram, 50 cents for trunk straps, 5 cents for a paper and a quarter for messenger. Well, at 3.30 in the morning there was trouble and plenty of it. The night clerk supposed, of course, that the calls had been left in the ordinary way, and while he was a little surprised that so many guests wanted to get up at such an unearthly hour, he told the boys to wake Nos. 150, 15, 35, 100, 11, 50, 5 and 25. That's all.—Advertising Suggestions.

NEW IDEAS in TOILETTES

New York City.—Late spring and early summer always bring a demand for pretty dresses suited to commencement day, and here is one that is



charming in the extreme, yet quite simple. In the illustration it is shown with the half low neck and elbow sleeves that are so pretty and so fashionable, but it can be made high and with long sleeves if preferred. It would be effective made from alba-

can be opened, panels of velvet, silk or of another material with lines of braid may be inserted, and the required width may thus be obtained quite easily. Although the newest models of skirts are much fuller around the hips, there are two or three exceedingly attractive designs with comparatively little fullness, the latter being given by the sweeping flounce. A last year's plain skirt may be renovated and made up to date by pleats narrow at the top and gradually widening out towards the foot, and with narrow side pleats between and above the side-pleating bands of braid.—Harper's Bazar.

Fancy Shirred Eton.

The shirred Eton is one of the best liked of the season for the fashionable soft materials, and is always graceful and attractive worn by the women to whom it is suited. This one includes the new belt, which is shaped to give the waistcoat effect, and is exceptionally desirable. In the case of the model the material is pearl gray chiffon veiling, with banding that shows bits of Oriental embroidery, the color contrast being a most effective one. It is, however, adapted to almost all seasonable materials, while the possibilities of variation are very nearly numberless. In this instance the belt is of taffeta in the same shade, but it can be of any contrasting material and the trimming any banding applied, either after the manner suggested or on straight lines as may be liked. The sleeves are the new ones that are full, gathered into puffs and finished with becoming cuffs at the wrists.

A Late Design by May Manton.



cross, voile or any similar material, but, as illustrated, is of white organdie with bandings and frills of embroidery, while other similar materials also can be utilized.

The dress is an exceptionally graceful one, and is adapted to general wear as well as to the special occasions mentioned. The waist is full below the shallow yoke, while the berthia, supported by the puffed sleeves, gives breadth to the figure. The skirt is made in three pieces, the front gore, with circular side and back portions that are shirred at their upper edges.

For a girl of twelve years of age will be required six yards twenty-seven, five and a half yards thirty-two or four yards forty-four inches wide, with ten yards of embroidery and eleven yards of insertion to trim as illustrated.

For the Young Folks.

Pretty blouse waists, simply made, are among the latest models for the school girls, many of them made of plain material, worn with plaid skirts, or vice versa. Straps on the shoulder seams give a pretty effect. Russian dresses are still holding their own in popularity, being suited to many fabrics, and especially wash materials. The long-waisted effect given by the belt being pushed down and held in place by straps is very desirable. Many combinations are seen.

Renovated Gowns.

Shirred bands of taffeta, velvet or satin ribbon and braid of all kinds are extremely popular, and, thanks to their kindly aid, it is possible to renovate a last year's gown. If the skirt be narrow, then the seams toward the front

quarter yards twenty-one, three and two-quarter yards twenty-seven or two and a half yards forty-four inches wide.

wing of a hat, and outside shimmering in silky crispness.

A Wee Macgregor.

As quaint and pretty as possible is a new hat called the Wee Macgregor. It's a mere scrap of headgear, of the shape so familiar on the Scotch laddie. This means that it is long, narrow, inclined to be dented lengthwise, and follows the shape of the head with a downward droop at the back. It is suited for wear with a low coiffure.

