

OF INTEREST



Among the novelties in millinery are felt hats of a soft wood-color, set with polka dots of brown velvet scattered on both crown and brim.

Skirts with gumples are preferred to frocks made all in one piece with a yoke; when the material is a washable one, or some light wood, the gumples are always of lace and tucked muslin.

There are various reasons for the decline of the fashion. With straight hair it was always impossible. It needed the waves, which, if they are not supplied by nature, must be got from the hair dresser.

These imitation affairs are rarely able to deceive anybody. They usually look wiggly from the other side of the room in spite of the artistic way in which they are worn.

They are, of course, fitted over the brow and the lines on which they are made is very likely to show. If it is not visible it will at least give the hair drawn back from it a look of something that is not nature.

The substitutes, even when they were artistically mingled with the natural hair, were the beginning of the end. The pompadour was doomed from the time they were first used.

Now it is settled that the mode will go altogether as soon as the women of Paris have hair enough to return to the bang or fringe of old, which is said to be the fashion of the near future.

Of the many artistic designs in hair ornaments intended for present wear that are equally suited to both the high coiffure and low headress, are dainty, simple velvet bows and single flowers.

of refinement is nearly perfect. It is a graceful glide. Women also stand better. They are erect, with shoulders thrown back, and they have ceased throwing their hips back in an exaggerated manner, a fashion all too prevalent last season.

There are few modistes who have the ability to act as a casual glance determine the proper mode for the customer in hand. Such a talent is a chance of birth, not of education or cultivation.

Irrigation is a great advantage to the strawberry grower after the crop is taken off. The vines are mown off close and a heavy application of fertilizer and water given the entire piece.

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According to the report of the Collegiate Alumnae Association the number of college women, graduates of the big women's or co-educational colleges in the country is now 4000; 1400 have been added to the list within the last year.

One of the most interesting figures at the coming coronation will be that of a woman of whom most of the world has never heard. That is Miss Knudson, of Copenhagen, who taught Queen Alexandra the English language back in the good old homely Danish court days of which we have all read.

HORTICULTURE

Tobacco, oranges and pineapples are now being grown under glass or shelter, and those who have ventured into such work find that the method pays. More capital must be invested, but a farm of two acres under glass will farm a larger profit than an ordinary farm of 100 acres or more.

In Germany the seeds of peas, beans, cucumbers, etc., are started in a frame, and when a little green are lifted, the roots being dipped in a mixture of clay, chopped moss, water and loam, and on withdrawal are sprinkled with dry earth.

During the winter aphides on house plants cause much annoyance, but with care and attention they may be destroyed. Make a solution of an ounce of soap in a pint and a half of water.

Wash the furniture with a flannel cloth wrung out in cold or tepid water in which a little yellow soap has been dissolved. Brush the carved work with a soft hairbrush such as is used when cleaning silver when powder is used.



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If there is anything that modern agriculture teaches it is that more skill, knowledge and experience are required in successful fruit growing than almost any other branch of farming.

The claim that fruit growing successfully requires experts is absolutely untrue. Almost any one can raise pigs, poultry and general crops, and can make a moderate living. But few can produce fine fruits. A great many start in with the idea that they can, and then after falling as a result of their ignorance they condemn the whole business. It is not unnatural that they should influence others to be like them; there is no money in raising fruits.—American Cultivator.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS

A milliner's trick is to fasten a scrap of velvet over the first finger of the left hand, nap up, while hemming or otherwise at work on the wrong side of the velvet. The two naps are then together and there is no danger of matting or dampening, or soiling the most delicate shades.—Good House-keeping.

Carbolite oil is the best thing to apply to worn-out furniture. Rub it into the holes as much as possible, and apply two or three days in succession. Some people use turpentine instead of oil, but in any case it is no good to fancy the worms are going to be destroyed all at once.

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Banbury Tart—Chop a cupful of seeded raisins and two ounces of citron peel. Add a cupful of sugar, the grated rind and juice of a lemon, a pinch of salt and a beaten egg. Place on rounds of pastry. Brush half the edges with cold water, bring the other half over the mixture and press the edges together with the tines of a fork dipped in flour. Bake in a moderate oven.

Whole Wheat Gems with Dates—Separate two eggs; add to the yolks one-half pint of milk and one cup of whole rind rice; beat thoroughly, then add one-half cupful chopped dates, and a cup of flour about two minutes. Add a rounding teaspoonful of baking powder; mix and fold in the well-beaten whites of the eggs. Bake in greased gem tins for thirty minutes in a quick oven.

Nut Patties—Line patty tins with a rich pie dough and bake. Fill them with the following nut filling: One pint of milk, two eggs, one ounce of flour, three ounces of sugar, one cup of finely chopped nuts. Beat the eggs well and add to the milk. Moisten the flour in a little cold milk, add it with the sugar to the mixture. Cook until it thickens, then add the chopped nuts. Fill the patty shells, cover each with a meringue. Brown lightly in the oven. This is sufficient for twelve patties.

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It is against the law in the Argentine Republic to open registered mail to examine the contents, and jewelers have taken advantage of the fact to smuggle jewels into the country in registered letters and packages on a large scale.

The authorities know that the smuggling was being done, but there seemed absolutely no way of stopping it short of reopening the law concerning registered mail, and that would have been difficult.

Such evidence was, of course, sufficient for a court order to open the packages, and during a single one of the first weeks that the plan was tried more than \$20,000 worth of property was confiscated.

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Lord Avebury, the well known entomologist and zoologist, has declared his belief, after thirty years' study of the question, that insects possess intelligence and reasoning faculties. He says their mental processes differ from ours not so much in kind as in degree, and cites a number of curious instances which bear upon the mental ability, reasoning power and moral sense of insects.

Again, with regard to moral sense, communities of ants, though in numbers nearly as large as the population of New York, never quarrel or have family jars among themselves. They are not very ready to help one another, but individual acts of kindness are to be perceived. One instance came under his notice where a crippled ant was supported by his relatives for three months. Many eminent zoologists and entomologists have been of the opinion that insects are absolute automatons; that they weave their nests and spin their webs automatically as they digest their food; but this theory is strongly combated by Lord Avebury.

A typical scene in a Manchurian village is thus described by a correspondent of the London News: "One afternoon we pulled up near three shanties on a roadside, and a gang of Chinese—all squabbling and making noises like dogs growling over bones—fought with one another to get on a platform, where a boiler, made by a New York One Chinese was pushed backward and fell. His head hit the metal and cracked like a nut. He gave a wriggle and died. The Russians who saw the accident were affected. The Chinese laughed. He lay for an hour in the sun, until I undid his sleeping rug and spread it over his face. He was soon forgotten. A Chinese threw some hot water over a growling dog, and made it howl. At this there were shrieks of mirth. The engine puffed and groaned and jerked the wagons into progress. The last I saw of this spot was two Chinamen pitching mud at the same dog to keep it from sniffing at the body of the dead."

BOYDOIR CHAT

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It is said that the chrysanthemum is once again to be the popular flower for personal decoration. It is the Countess of Craven, who was, by the way, a New York girl before her marriage, who has made it so. She appeared at a recent flower show in London wearing a yellow satin gown trimmed with lapels, collar and cuffs of leather colored satin. Her yellow chiffon hat was trimmed with red and yellow chrysanthemums, and she carried a yellow chrysanthemum in her hand.

SPECIMEN PLANT OF THE SOY BEAN.

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