

CHILDREN IN FANCY DRESS

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEW YEARS EVE PARTY.

The costumes the little ones like best are those preferred by parents—wide choice offered by children's books—costs which are easily made at home.

The children have their share of the holiday festivities, and fluffy little party frocks of Hungary and lace are quite as important in the province of the small folk as are the more gorgeous party frocks among the grownups.

But there is nothing really new in children's dressy frocks. Handwork on fine small, delicate, linen, etc., is still the best in the design, and of course there is infinite variation of detail.

It is in the fancy dress party that the small folk have a chance to depart from the conventional limitations of child toilet; and though, as many mothers contend, it is a nuisance to prepare fancy costumes for the youngsters, the fun that those youngsters succeed in getting out of a successful costume party ought to repay any effort of preparation.

The Mansion House party in London always brings out a tremendous display of the possibilities in fancy dress for children, and it seems rather a pity that New York has no corresponding function, no occasion upon which we may enjoy the charming spectacle of hundreds of little folk in quaint and carefully planned costumes whose inspiration has been found in every land and every period.

If the mother has taste and delicate effects may be achieved at comparatively little expense, but considerable understanding and ingenuity must be brought to bear upon the problem if genuine success is to result.

Probably the dispensation is a merciful one, and a child is fortunate in its certainty of appearing beautiful to at least one person in the world; but the astigmatism brings about dire consequences in the matter of children's dress, and maternal pride makes a lamentable Watteau shepherdess of a small girl who might have made a creditable gipsy, or a stolid Spanish dancer of what might have been a picturesque Dutch peasant.

Given a nice choice of the character to be assumed, a choice taking into consideration the child's looks, manners and temperament, the planning of the costume is simple enough. A multitude of illustrated books full of costume suggestions awaits study in any library, and if one does not want historic data the illustrated children's books of modern publication offer a fertile field of search.

Mother Goose characters are always popular, and there are pictures galore representing these characters. The Mother Goose costumes have the advantage of being seldom expensive or difficult to copy, and while elaborate historical costumes and costumes copied from famous paintings, etc., may give great pleasure to the grownup onlookers, the fact remains that the costumes which are liked best by the children themselves and which add most to the success and gaiety of the occasion are those which are easily recognized by all the children.

Little Bo Peep and a Little Boy Blue, after the Mother Goose model, may not gratify maternal pride as acutely as would a Valerius Infancia or a Boy in Blue after Gainsborough, but the children will like them better and they will have more fun than their illustrious rivals.

The fairy tales, too, are full of suggestions for children's costumes, and the children of many lands are always well represented, at a fancy dress party. These foreign costumes may in some cases be as elaborate as one likes.

We have seen this last week a most exquisite Chinese costume prepared for a small girl to wear on New Year's eve, and, thanks to the globe trotting parents, the little lady will go clad in most resplendent fashion, all rich silks and gorgeous embroideries and gold. But her little cousin, who is to be a girl from Holland in wooden shoes and soft petticoats and muslin blouse and funny little cap, will be quite as attractive in her own way, though \$10 would cover the whole cost of her outfit.

The Dutch costume is a good and inexpensive one for a boy, too, and Italian, Spanish, German and Russian peasants offer good models demanding little expense, while the Montenegrin, Serbian and Hungarian costumes seem expressly designed for first aid to comic opera and fancy dress ball costumes.

We were told that at this same New Year's eve party of which we have spoken a small boy and a girl whose parents are able to gratify any whims are to be dressed in exact duplicates of "Merry Widow" costumes worn by Danilo and Sonia in the famous dance scene; but though these costumes are delightful it is only among the parents that they will be particularly admired.

The children will, as usual, give their votes to the clown and the jester, and Mephistopheles and Red Riding Hood and the witch and the cowboy and the Indians and the rest of the old familiar figures.

"Alice in Wonderland" is often drawn upon for fancy costumes; Robin Hood in Lincoln green, highwaymen in old time riding clothes and masks, pirates of the most practical kind, gay cavaliers—usually culled by envy of the pirates and clove-Turkish boutades in trousers and vests, dignified Arabs in turbans and burnous, quaint little grandmothers in full skirts, kerchiefs and caps and with knitting in hand, flower girls, organ grinders with stuffed monkey attachments—but there is no end to the list, and the children's fancy dress party is by long odds the jolliest and prettiest of the holiday merry-makings.

"OH, LORD! MAKE ME STYLISH!"

The Favorite Prayer of One Woman—There Are Others Like Her.

"Do I love pretty clothes? Why, with a sigh of rapture, 'I could eat my way into them!'"

The woman who said this made her hearers stare in astonishment, for as a matter of fact her clothes were not especially pretty and nobody had suspected her of a secret passion for fine fashions.

It was not so much of a surprise when another woman, whose frock would have spelled Paris even if the labels on her steamer trunk were not still fresh, exclaimed:

"Don't I know that! I feel! My favorite prayer is: 'Oh, Lord! make me stylish! Make me stylish!' And I almost end up with: 'And I can manage the rest!'"

Sometimes I really think I could."

Possibly these expressions were rather extravagant, even for women. But if there is one subject which will wake up the feminine mind and make it put something nice and jingling into the contribution box of conversation it is that same subject of clothes. Under that inspiration one of them uttered the following in deep and ardent tones:

"I told my dressmaker I wanted a gown so stunning that when I went into a restaurant every fork would drop!"

Another woman eyed a beautiful frock

MAKING UP FOR LAMPLIGHT

WOMEN APT TO LOOK TOO ARTIFICIAL BY NIGHT.

Powder and Paint More Conspicuous in the Evening Than by Day—Things Necessary to Good Looks by Artificial Light—Bright Eyes and Pink Cheeks.

"I am a lamplight artist," said a pretty woman with snapping black eyes, "and my trade is to make women look pretty in the evening."

"My experience is that most women look too artificial at night. They are under the impression that makeup does not show at night and so they spread it on."

"The result is that they look like waxen figures all painted and powdered for exhibition. They put on too much and they put it on in the wrong manner."

"The fact is that paint and powder show a great deal more at night than in the daytime. It is also true that makeup applied put on makes a woman look aged."

"Yet after all the actual makeup is not

take an assistant with me for this purpose. Then, while the hair is drying, I rub some olive oil over it.

"When the hair is being fluffed and brushed, it brings back the color in the most wonderful way. I have made 'When the hair is shining I begin to dress it, tending it up in many puffs, curling it around the ears, piling on the braids and making any number of tiny ringlets at the nape of the neck. I adjust the tress; either that or the more youthful bow of silver wire wound with ribbon or the bunch of artificial flowers. Finally I put in a few pin curls along the forehead."

"The makeup of the face starts with the perfuming of the skin. I dampen the skin with perfumed water, heated quite hot. On this I put a little perfumed cold cream, and over this I throw a cloud of face powder which I select to match the natural complexion."

"It shocks me to see the recklessness with which women select face powder. They pick out a powder without regard to the complexion, whether it is white or olive, deep yellow or a dark brown; yet skins are of all colors. I match the powder exactly, and that is why my cloud of powder never shows."

"Now comes the reddening of the cheeks. Few women understand the beneficial effect of a brisk rubbing with a slightly damp towel. It freshens the skin, gives

ARMY VIEW OF IT.

Some of the Officers Thought They Should Remove Hats in an Elevator.

It was in the Army Building and eight or nine officers who had been taking part in a court-martial got in the elevator at the top floor. At the fourth floor a young woman, supposedly an employee in the building, got in the car.

Two young Captains of infantry and a Lieutenant took off their caps. So did two of the Lieutenant-Colonels. The Colonel and the other Lieutenant-Colonel kept their hats on. The civilians uncovered. The Colonel and the other who had their hats on apparently felt that the situation was strained, and called for a remark.

"Both my hands are full," said the Colonel. "Well, it's a business elevator, anyway," said the Lieutenant-Colonel.

ALL DUE TO TEDDY BEARS.

They Are Blamed for Rise in Price of Parmiture and Fresh Cleans.

The popularity of the Teddy bear is causing trouble in the furniture business. It seems a far cry from the ubiquitous little animal to the upholstered parlor

THE SPOT ON THE CEILING

Mr. Finckelstein Talks About Leaky Steam Radiators.

"I hate to be growing all the time," said Mr. Finckelstein, "but we've just had a fresh stain come on the ceiling of one of our rooms, caused by water running through from a leaky steam radiator overhead."

"Of course, radiators ought to be set right as people ought to look out."

"Perhaps I ought not to blow my own horn again so soon, but I repeat that in all the time we have lived, in flats we have never yet spoiled a ceiling under us by letting water run down upon it from a leaky radiator. Perhaps we are looking in some other respects. At least as far as leaky steam radiators go we have always looked out for the people below as we'd like to have the people overhead look out for us."

"And yet I've known some of the nicest people in the world, people who were punctiliously scrupulous in every other respect, who were forgetful of their radiators. But we are none of us perfect, we all have our little shortcomings of one sort and another, and I suppose this must be theirs."

"One of our neighbors is a boss plasterer; an amiable man he is, and with a fine sense of humor."

"Why do you growl?" he says. "Why not take a look at it from another point of view? Don't you know that leaky radiators constitute one of the chief sources of revenue for plasterers and halmomiers? Do you want to take the bread out of people's mouths?"

"And I say no, I don't; that I am a friend of the plasterer and of the halmomier and of all men besides, and I want to see them all do well; and yet—for all the benefits it may be to others—I cannot bring myself to admire that spot on the ceiling."

CHILD MARRIAGES IN MEXICO.

Mexican Women Over 20 Have Not Much Chance of Being Married.

From the Mexican Herald.

Not the least of the romantic features of the marriages of Mexico are the ceremonies using children. The marriage of girls over 12 years of age and boys over 14 is permitted,

and most marriages in Mexico come in early life.

There are about 170 to 180 marriages a month in this capital, a ridiculous proportion in view of the fact that the population by the census of 1905 was 400,000, and is now probably nearer 600,000. This small proportion of legal marriages is due largely to the expense attending a religious ceremony; for the priest is obliged to collect, and the legal marriage is not sacred without the church service. Hence when he cannot have the church service, which is not expensive, performed.

The general law for women to marry in Mexico is about 20. The statistics for the last two months show the following figures on the marrying of women:

From 12 to 20 years, 21 from 21 to 25 years, 20 from 25 to 30 years, 17 over 30 years, 2.

No woman over 30 was married during the period. As is seen from these figures, the number of women who married at from 12 to 20 years is greater than any other. The age at which most women marry in Mexico is from 18 to 24. It is to be observed that in the higher class the girls marry generally when over 20, and some of them marry at 25 and over 30, while in the middle class a great majority of the women marry before they are 20 years old.

Among the lower class, on the contrary, the number of girls who marry before 20 is considerable, and many of them marry at 15, 14, and even 12 years. The most recent census of girls married at 15 and 16 are observed among the middle class and lower class people.

One of these is Angela Carmona, who married at 15 years; another is a Spanish girl, Rosario Gonzalez, who married at 15, and another is that of Eduarda Gutierrez, who married at 14.

As to the men, the age at which they generally marry is also from 21 to 30 years. The statistics for the last two months show that the number of men married at different ages was as follows:

From 14 to 20 years, 12 from 21 to 25 years, 20 from 25 to 30 years, 17 over 30 years, 2.

It is seen that the proportion of men marrying before 30 years is strong, although it is not as heavy as that of the women married under that age. The proportion of women married under 20 years is 126 to 26, while the same proportion among the men is 88 to 26.

In Mexico a woman above 30 is considered as not having much chance of being married, and in the middle class the chances are not great beyond 25 years.



FANCY DRESS FOR LITTLE FOLKS—THE CHILD OF 1800, A CHINESE BOY, A BELGIAN PEASANT GIRL, A SIXTEENTH CENTURY DAMSEL, A DUTCH LAD, AN ALBANIAN BRIGAND AND A MISS OF 1843.

upon a total stranger and sighed with envious admiration.

"I'd rather have that in my family than forty Maydowlers!"

Under similar provocation another woman said:

"I'd rather like that it could be absolutely good—or altogether bad."

Another one said:

"Clothes! Why, when the cook has on her best raiment, say 'Please' and 'Thank you' to her. And sometimes when the dressmaker has done her very best in my behalf the cook actually says 'Please' and 'Thank you' to me!"

Women can be equally eloquent in their scorn of clothes they don't like. A girl was looking in a milliner's window the other day when she caught sight of a particularly ugly hat.

"Wouldn't that make you want to go bareheaded?" she exclaimed.

"I wouldn't be caught stealing in a dress like that!" And "I wouldn't be found dead in a thing like soom when she exclaimed in disgust: "I wouldn't be caught picking my teeth in a gown like that!"

Law Made Him a Pauper.

From the Youngstown Telegram.

A young man was telling his troubles to some friends in a restaurant.

"Talk about bad luck," said he. "The law certainly played a mean trick on me when I was 17 years old."

"The friends showed interest and the young man continued:

"When I was that age my father and mother were divorced. I went with father and my sister went with mother. Father and I have been hard workers since I was a mere child."

the most important part of my work. Unless a woman will follow rules and take orders she will not be bright at night."

"I require my patrons to take a warm bath at night after coming home and to drink a cup of cool but not iced water. That will insure sound repose, and we all know that a good night's sleep is necessary to bright eyes."

"I have a special bath prescription for the woman who comes home at 4 A. M. tired to death with dancing and all dazed with the lights. It is a clover and lavender bath."

"A little bag containing a handful of dried clover tops and lavender flowers is thrown into the tub and the hot water is turned on. As the water cools the scent of the lavender and clover comes out and the bath becomes medicated and perfumed. It is a sure cure for insomnia."

"Bright eyes are necessary to the evening beauty, and I make them like stars by warm water and pine needle lotions and other eye washes made from sweet herbs. But to cure the sacks under the eyes a good night's sleep and plenty of fresh air and exercise are needed."

"I advise my customers to sleep with windows open top and bottom and a gentle breeze blowing through the room so that they can just feel it upon the face. This gives a good complexion."

"I make up women beginning at their hair, which is immensely important those days. I insist upon knowing exactly where they are going and how they are going to sit or stand."

"Hurry, yet as carefully as possible I have the hair shampooed. I always

it color, takes off the rough outer surface and makes the complexion youthful.

"A bit of rouge can be rubbed in afterward merely to hold the color firm. The tips of the ears need a little rouge, and the French woman puts rouge in her nostrils. But this is wretched taste. It makes the face full of witchery, but perhaps it is the wrong kind of attractiveness."

"I perfume the lips with spices, but I find the perfume of the clove too strong and too suggestive. Better some of the lip sponge which is in oil of rose and with which I paint the lips."

"My customers must follow certain directions for keeping the eyes in good condition. One of these is never to sit with the head turned. The strain of looking out from the side of the eye will surely affect the eye nerves."

"Another suggestion is never to sit under the lamplight. The downward glare is very unbecoming and the light makes the head ache. Let the light if possible come from the side or from below."

"Don't try to talk when tired. It gives the mouth a drawn look; simply smile and look pleased, but don't use the brain."

"And don't hurry when making up for evening. It takes time, so be sure to take plenty of time when doing it."

Sulphur Drives Away Hairs and Lice.

From the Forest Republican.

Here is a farmer's mode of ridding his premises of rats and mice: If you sprinkle sulphur on your barn floor and through your corn you gather it there will not have a rat or mouse to bother. I have done this for years and have never been bothered with rats or mice. I have an old corn in my barn at present and not a rat or mouse can be found. In sprinkling sulphur on the ground and a little through each load of my word for it, rats or mice can't stay there."

A pound of sulphur will be sufficient to preserve a large barn of corn, and is good for stock and will not hurt the corn or bread.

set, but there is really an intimate connection between the two.

While the plush skin of the Teddy bear is by no means identical with the plush used for upholstery, the same machine is used for making both. The enormous demand for the bearskin plush the last year or two has kept these machines so busy that comparatively little furniture plush has been turned out.

The consequence is that the latter material is scarce and high, the price having gone up almost 30 per cent. What is called fur cloth of all kinds has become higher because of the Teddy bears.

Plushes used for women's coats have suffered because the bears had to be equipped with a good skin, no matter what happened to mere furniture and women.

THE HONEYMOON SPECIAL.

A Train to Carry a Carload of Bills to and From the Pacific Coast.

The Honeymoon Special is the latest invention of the man who sits up nights to think of catching names for trains. This one is run between Chicago and the Pacific coast. It made its first trip December 15, and will repeat the performance according to the state of the matrimonial market.

The trip is for thirty days, which has led unfeeling persons to speak of the passengers being sent up for that period. Some plain ordinary folks are carried partly as ballast and partly to fill up the corners, but they must be hard proof so far as billing and coining are concerned.

The management of the Honeymoon Special has been entrusted to a crew well grounded in the subject. "What is the Chief Tip of a Tunnel?" and "Rice as Food—and Otherwise."

Arnold, Constable & Co

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GOLD AND SILVER METAL CREPES AND SILKS, HAND PAINTED SATINS, RICH BROCADES, BORDERED MOUSSELINES IN FLORAL DESIGNS, STRIPED AND BROCADED VELVETS, PRINT WARP TAFFETAS, CREPES, GAUZES, &c.

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Fine Blankets and Bedding

FRENCH BLANKETS, finest grades, in white, rose, blue and lavender, bound singly with wide moire ribbon, each 16.00, 18.00, 24.00

COMFORTABLES, Silk and Satin covered, in plain colors and figured effects, Down 11.00 to 22.00

SHEETS AND PILLOW CASES, Superior quality, Hemstitched and Embroidered. Irish Embroidered Spreads and Shams.

Important Announcement

Annual January Sales

WILL COMMENCE Thursday, January 2nd,

when we will offer most unusual values in Household and Decorative Linens, French and American Lingerie, Embroideries, etc.

Also Novelty Wash Fabrics for 1908

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30TH.

Fur and Fur Lined Coats

A number of Caracul and Black Russian Pony Skin Coats in the fashionable lengths and models, also Fur lined Coats for Men and Women at Special Prices.

Women's Dresses

A special lot of high grade Costumes for day and evening wear, consisting of Hots, Crepe de Chine, Velvets, Taffetas and Chiffon Cloths in most desirable shades. Regularly \$45.00 to \$65.00. 28.50

Coats and Suits

FOR MISSES AND SMALL WOMEN

PONY SKIN (CLOTH) COATS, full length, black only. Regularly \$35.00. 22.50

TAILORED SUITS, high class models, to close. Regularly \$75.00. 35.00

Tailored and Dress Waists

TAILORED WAISTS, fine washable flannels. Value \$3.50, \$5.00. 1.75, 3.75

DRESS WAISTS, washable nets and heavy crochet lace. Value \$9.00, \$12.50. 6.75, 8.50

DRESS WAISTS, Messaline and Chiffon Cloth. Value \$12.00, \$25.00. 6.75, 9.50

Dressmaking and Tailoring

Orders are now being accepted for Dinner, Reception and Wedding Gowns, Bridesmaids' and Party Dresses, Tailored Gowns, &c., at greatly modified prices.

The Remaining Paris Models

AT DECIDED PRICE REDUCTIONS

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