SOMETHING ABOUT THE AFFAIRS THAT INTEREST WOMEN.

PRETTY DESIGN FOR THE BODICE OF A CASHMERE FROCK.

WHAT TO WEAR INDOORS.

Daintiness Rather Than Elegance Should Be the Keynote of This.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY REPUBLIC.

Of course, the girl, or older woman, who has an income that is generous enough to permit of dozens of dresses a year, and a maid to look after her wardrobe, may be at all times perfectly dressed when indoors as well as when out, but this is the exceptional woman. It is the woman of average or small means who finds it something of a trouble to dress suitably and prettily when at home. And, sorry am I to say it, the majority of women take all too little care with their home toilets, except upon "company" occasions. Now, the dainty woman, the woman who thinks it worth while to appear attractive in the eyes of her household as well as among strangers, has pretty and becoming little costumes for the breakfast as well as the supper table.

First of all to be considered is the little dressing sacque that is now dignified by the name of breakfast jacket. While these are prettiest made of soft, plain or figured silks, more economical ones are made of lawn or batiste. In the warm, furnace-heated homes of today, the light, thin house jackets are to be preferred to those of woollen fabrics.

The plain blues, pinks, and reds in cotton stuffs make most attractive little jackets. When these are laundered they should not be starched, but ironed while damp, and they will then be as soft as new. A simple way to make one of these jackets is as follows: At the back, have a short, pointed yoke. Gather the seamless back portion of the jacket slightly to this, and draw in the extra fullness at the waist either in two rows of gathers or in small pleats, stitching a narrow band beneath it. The fronts are cut plain, with hems down each edge, a little fullness being allowed at each side of the hems at the neck, but none at the shoulders. Put ribbon strings at each underarm seam to tie at the front, or straps of the material sewn on at the sides, so that they will slope downward and give the long waist line at the front. The belt or tape that is put on at the back must be long enough to go about the waist and hook in front, so that the straps or ribbons will not need to be drawn tightly to hold the jacket in to the figure at the back. Make a little narrow, turned-over collar that is shaped into points at the front and edge this with a frill of rather wide lace, continuing the frill down the overlapping front edges of the jacket.

A pretty substitute for the lace on washable jackets is white mull, with very narrow footing, quilled on its edge. Make the sleeves of wear-worked after a coat-sleeve pattern, letting them go in the fashionable point over the hand, and frilling them to match the balance of the garment. Let the jacket come over the hips, and at the back six inches below the waist line, but slope it down several inches longer at the front. If desired, the jacket may be cut off at the shoulder, rounded at the corners and frilled all around. Three yards of lawn are enough for this style, and of lace or ruffing allow a little more than once and a half the length of all the edges you wish to trim. A dark skirt of light weight should be worn with the morning jackets. If one has a taffeta or other black silk skirt that has done good service for many occasions, one may remodel this with ruffles to hide the worn places, and have just the nicest sort of house skirt.

There are fetching little kimonos of silk or woolen stuffs, but these are decidedly negligee, and suitable only for wear about stairs. And it is the indoor gowns suitable for downstairs wear that I am now considering.

As to tea gowns, they are always graceful and pretty, and may be worn all day, or until late in the afternoon, if one wishes. The up-to-date tea gown is a charming affair. It is cut after the princess model, with a graceful train. Some of the newest open from the waist down to show a petticoat—or piece set under to give the effect of a petticoat—of lace, brocade, or embroidered stuff. Fancy bolеros are put on; the gown has a high, flaring collar; sleeves that fall away from the elbow, with lace or sheer silk undersleeves that are drawn up about the wrist and finished with a frill. Just at present figured materials are most fashionable in gowns of this sort. A New York fashion letter tells this about the imported house robes, which, if a little too costly and elaborate for the most of us, still may be considered, if one wants an idea of just what is modish in this line:

"A great deal of luxury and a touch of classic grace are characteristic of the newest princess house gowns and more youthfully made negligees. A number recently shown at a private exhibit reached America too late to figure among the holiday week novelties. The plainer styles are made of foulard, India, and surah silks, lined throughout with fine light flannel in pink, pale blue, cherry, old rose, etc., with matching satin strappings and ribbon bows and ends for trimming. Gowns of Oriental cashmere figured with fine brilliant Persian patterns have plain red silk blouse fronts and petticoats, open Turkish sleeves lined with the silk, and are fastened with a red-silk cord girdle. Robes of plain drab d'ete are lined with Persian-patterned silk and finished with short old-looking half-jackets in Moorish style, the elbow sleeves opening above undersleeves of silk net shirred into a frill at the wrist. Heliotrope cashmere gowns in Directoire style have high collars, revers, and petticoat fronts of pale yellow Liberty satin. In much more elaborate, expensive models, fur, costly sunburst laces, brocades, Lyons velvet, and jeweled passementeries play as important a part as in the construction of many of the choicest evening toilets of the season."

Afternoon gowns for informal luncheons and other "at home" occasions are simply charming this season. The soft wools, in cashmeres and vellinas, have turned beautiful and inexpensive little gowns for maids and matrons alike.

One of the daintiest of these frocks, which has just been made at home for a quiet young girl, is of gray wool dotted with white. There is a long overskirt, and both this and the plain underskirt are trimmed with a rather deep pleating of plain gray silk muslin headed by a quilling of narrow white satin ribbon. The bodice has a surplice vest of the gray cashmere silk, the pink showing through only faintly. Pleatings of the muslin and quillings of white ribbon trim the bodice also. There is a high stock of gray velvet, and a narrow stole of the velvet.

A new brown cashmere afternoon gown that will do nicely also for church or visiting wear has a short, rounded yoke and vest of white silk closely corded. Bodice and double skirt are trimmed in one of the new fixed silk braids, brown and white, but with only a touch of white now and then, and deep, knotted brown silk fringe.

All these gowns are cut with skirts hanging separate from the foundation skirt, which gives them the soft and graceful lines demanded by fashion just now. If the gowns must be made up inexpensively, hang them over the new cotton linings, which may be had in all colors and shades, for the lining, whether silk or cotton, must match the color of the gown.

The little fancy separate bodices are the nicest of all things for at-home evening wear, and a woman is a poor manager indeed who cannot afford one or two of these a season, for "short lengths," just enough to fashion such bodices from, can be had so reasonably, and one can make her blouse perfectly plain, trusting to a stock and fancy cravat to give it a most dressy air.

Do not spend all your dress allowance on elaborate out-of-door costumes, but devote a little of it to your indoor frocks as well.

MARY HANDY.

THE SEASON FOR DIARIES.

Hundreds of Little Books With Blank Pages Being Sold.

This is diary season.

Stop for a moment if you are passing the stationery counter in one of the big shops these days and watch the sales.

You will see the seven ages or stages of the diary keeper come, buy, and go in as many minutes, writes a woman in the Philadelphia Press.

First, the schoolgirl! That period of diary writing comes back to one redolent of pickled limes!

Her brother, who requires something small and compact to slip easily into a coat pocket.

Their older sister, who buys a volume with lock and key.

The young business man, who keeps a journal for business reference.

The proud mamma, who purchases something very dainty in white and gold in which to treasure the wit and wisdom of the brightest baby that ever lived.

The society matron, whose notes will probably skip from Newport to Florida and from London to Cairo.

Lastly, the old people, who can write the most delightful diaries of all.

Of the hundreds of these journals sold each day at this season of the year how many will be filled?

Answer, O spirit of 1899! Answer, O trunk-bottoms and closet shelves and neglected corners of 1899!

A pleasant journal pleasantly kept is a good thing.

How many sprightly bon mots; how many delightful thought scraps; how many home glimpses of the colossals we should have lost if no diaries had been written.

The spirit is, indeed, appreciative, but the memory weak.

A DUCHESS AT HOME.

The Lady Consuelo Is Devoted to Her Tiny Sons.

"Malbrouck s'en va-t-en-guerre" according to the old French song—which was written to celebrate the valorous achievements of the first Duke of "Marlboro,"—and his young Duchess will have to stay home in England with the babies.

Consuelo is a devoted mother, and her two boys occupy the most charming suite of rooms in the palace of Blenheim; they are as closely guarded from amateur photographers as from kidnappers did on "olden days," when the palace is open to the public, they are wheeled about the kitchen gardens in their blue and white perambulators. On other days their nurses take them for long rambles in the 50 acres of private grounds which surround the palace, and to the various schools and institutions of which the young Duchess is patroness.

The Duchess is taking riding lessons in order to accompany her husband and her sisters on the long rides which form so popular a feature of country life in England. She is interested in the breeding of the famous chargers which bear the name of her house, and she takes great delight in placing large mounted orders towards. The young ones here is much interested in the "game of cricket" and has had a tent erected on the grounds where she can sit and watch the lads who play by the hour. Golf, tennis, croquet, delightful, flirtatious lawn tennis, the gardens, gardeners, cricketers, etc., are playing against them. The Duke, who is a skillful cricketer, looks on idle and one of his friends leads the other. The two sons of the house are Jack, Albert Edward, William Churchill, Marquis of Blandford (who was named for the Prince of Wales, and for his grandfather, Mr. R. Churchill), and Lord Ivor, named for the Honorable Ivor Guest, who was the Duke's best man at his wedding.

KEEPING FLOWERS FRESH.

Means Employed by Experts to Keep Blossoms for Several Days.

There are several methods of reviving flowers known to experts, one of the chief reasons why they fade is because the stalks are bruised where they were cut or gathered. The way to remedy this is to take a fine thread of white and insert it at the end of the stem, leaving it a little way up. Then that moment place the stem full of damp cotton and water, place the flowers in tepid water with a dropper of silk, charcoal in which way, and a few sprays of greenery if possible, and so put in four the flowers will expand and look as if they had only just been gathered. In order to preserve their beauty for long as possible, every wedding guest should place flower or an a large cold bath for that purpose, or be placed in sheet and other vessels with lukewarm water, or pour it over them from a small can with a fine nozzle. In the morning cut about an inch from each stalk, and pour over every drop of the water, replacing it with fresh from which the chill has been taken. When the flowers are up for the wedding day, as they often are on birthdays or other domestic anniversaries, they look perfectly charming be-dewed with and often fade as soon as they are put in water.

Of course, there are bouquets and bouquets. If they consist of lilies or scattered blossoms mixed in with the foliage, the thing to do is to wrap the stems "sacrilegious" and put them for an hour in a little of the white vaseline, then a little of the lanoline and then some more rose water, and so on, until the whole is brought into a smooth cream. A small pestle and mortar will be necessary for this mixing, and it is to be assured that it is laborious work. The only other ingredients necessary are common rose and, if possible, that delicate indescent of violets which lends one when a dainty dish is prepared to a guest. This cream is an incomparable beauty and fully to cover without fear of injurious consequences.

CREPE DE CHINE BODICES.

Newer, Softer and Prettier Than Those of Taffeta.

Crepe de chine is a delightful material, much more so than taffeta silk waists, for it is material, with a little more expensive, will stand harder wear. Crepe de chine comes in all colors, but the fad at present is to have either a bright blue and black or red waist, or a black and white. The contrast waists are very becoming, especially if hand-drawn either with black or blue. They are never much up very elaborately. The idea apparently is to have as simple lines as possible, and the narrow pleats are more easy than the wide. While there is no bolero effect allowed there is more fullness on the lower part of the waist, and the yoke effect is given either in crepe de chine, in black velvet or in taffeta silk. Small bows of black velvet, and little fancy buttons put down the front of the waist, a little edge of black velvet around the cuffs and collar, and a black velvet belt and gracefully tie a red crepe de chine waist and look equally well on the blue, and, of course, the black edge keeps the cuffs and collar from soiling. A tucked black tulle is possible and very much so, even on a white waist, and it is the fashion where has come into play for the crepe waist is made that design of tulle or lace, black velvet is rather smarter.

BUBBLE PARTIES.

Jolly Indoor Game for the Little Folk to Play.

For winter time one of the best indoor entertainments is a soap bubble party. It cannot be given in a warm room. The windows must be propped before the arrival of the little guests, or it is wise to put them into a number of shallow boxes instead of one or two large ones. Allowance must be made for the fact that water requires half a thousand of shaved hard soap.

That an odour of glycerine enhances the fascination added to the soap increases the durability and brightness of the bubbles, I have never been much good at it, but it is well to let the children take their turns for ownership of the affair. For this they should be provided with some of the bright gay glasses. For bright and better bubbles can be blown with slender paper cornets. These should be made of stiff wrapping paper lined and pasted. The top end must be cut evenly perfect.

The bubbles, as the fashion in computer, may be used as jeweler's bells. They can be caught on the shoulders of on the head if a wooden cup is worn, carried around the room or rolled prettily up and down the sleeve. They break, of course, if they touch the hands or hair. A very large bubble, if one is made, can be thrown lightly too and the ceiling and then broken into half a dozen smaller balls with whiffs from a palm leaf fan, or a bubble of this size can be caught on the end of a rolled cornucopia and fastened to a second bubble. The glycerin makes them so tough that they will last for several minutes, and an excessive number of bubbles can be made from a very excessive chalk of eight or ten boys, slowdin, iridescent bulbs.

If there is an uncle or father who smokes, he can produce beautiful effects by filling the bubbles with smoke. This seems to enhance the exquisite colors and ponder the surface like a mirror, reflecting the objects in the room.

BABIES IN PRISONS.

The Innocent Little Strangers Are Tenderly Regarded by Convicts.

Very few people outside official circles know what a large number of babies are born every year in the infirmaries of prisons and penitentiaries, the little people always causing quite a flutter of attentiveness and excitement among female warders and prisoners alike, says a Philadelphia exchange.

The general lot of the women prisoners make the most pathetic efforts, by means of all manner of trifling scraps and odds and ends, to fabricate articles of wear and ornament for the outcast little stranger.

Quite three-fourths of the women volunteer to tend it, and it is often the case that the most refractory and difficult of the prisoners rather and greatly after by being allowed to do little things for it. Indeed, it acts throughout like a veritable ray of sunshine among the whole of the poor prisoners, who generally manage to get themselves into great good humor by suggesting as velvily as the prison rules will permit fantastic names for the child. Within a certain period of their birth these children are taken away from the mother and are tended elsewhere with the utmost care and humanity.

WAGNER'S RAG TIME.

The Great Composer Knew the Value of Syncopation.

Rag time has been given its rating by F. W. Root, musical authority. He says it bears the same relation to the great things of the musical world that Mother Goose's melodies do to the masterpieces of the world's literature.

While criticising this lowly but extremely popular sort of music, Mr. Root says it came from the great maestros of the earth. Wagner lapsed into it much after the manner of statesmen who sometimes get tired and crop into versification. Mozart also had moments of fatigue or exuberance, when he dashed off a few notes in the measure of the cakewalk melody.

Some of the great literateurs have written along the mental attitude of Mother Goose, says Mr. Root, and so have Bach and Beethoven yielded to the impulse to put their lofty thoughts into sharps and flats that would be appreciated in Halsted street. "I would not do away with ragtime music," said Mr. Root, according to the Chicago Tribune.

"If some one should ask me if I would blot out Mother Goose's rhymes I would say unhesitatingly I would not do it. Mother Goose is a good thing in its way—just in rag time.

"To make the matter plain, rag time is syncopation. All of the great masters have employed syncopated notes. That is all right, or the masters would not have done it. But they did not write all of their works in syncopation. That shows they thought it should be subtle, but we do not want too much of it.

"Now, Mother Goose is illiterate in a good sense, but suppose you had nothing else to feed you would get tired of it after awhile.

"What would you suppose be done about it? Why, do about it. The people who like it may have, after a while, to like something else better.

"What would I do, again the time comes? It is a question of the same thing, that's all. There is another thing in the world the matter with it. As I said, it is syncopation. Now, I know the masters would not have done it.

"Among many examples of our time an example of the time has been set in the setting of 'Old Hundred' to that measure."

VISITING TRAINED NURSES.

The New and Successful Plan of Serving by the Hour.

The new departure of hiring trained nurses by the hour is more and more popular in New York, says the Evening Telegram. Three or four years ago the experiment was first tried and it is being introduced into other cities throughout the country, says the Ledger. The suggestion was first made by Miss Kinsler, a young Englishwoman, who graduated at the Bellevue Training School in the eighties, and after a few years' exercise of her profession in New York, returned to her home in England. She found out to her surprise that only the very rich could afford to pay for the services of a trained attendant in the sickroom. The idea occurred to her that there was a great deal of work to be done by trained nurses in the sickroom, for a reasonable remuneration for a number of hours, instead of the usual custom of certain times of the day. She tried it with a number of other graduates, and it was found that only the very most exclusive cases of sickness need the services of a trained nurse for a whole day. The plan has been adopted in Boston and Philadelphia as well as in New York, and it has proved a great boon to those people who are not the wealthy people who can afford to pay for the services of a trained nurse for a whole day, and who find it difficult owing to their limited incomes to hire a nurse for their health. The idea is a boon to those who are in the middle class, which seems large, and who are unable to pay for a nurse for a whole day, but who are able to pay for a few hours' attendance in the sickroom. Many women who take the trained training course have homes of their own, and prefer to spend most of their time in the domestic atmosphere. To such the hourly engagements are especially welcome, keeping them in constant touch with the world and affording them a certain income.

WHAT MRS. DELAND SAYS.

She Advises the New Woman to Move On Less Hurriedly.

Mrs. Mariana Griswold of Boston has been polling the new women shrewly to order.

"The new woman is desirous of hoisting down every obstacle, from individual to the social and the individualistic ideas. Who thousand years have gone by, we must begin everything, we are not content with slow returns. The new woman's impatience is so incomparable! The new woman cannot wait. There seems to be a vast amount of arrogance in our hurrying desire to see the returns. I suppose this idea for time is really just our idea, and that is a contempt of our belief in God. Take courage to wait. Take courage to go forward. It seems to me that the principles of individualism and the sense of social responsibility are the two working hands in one great heart, and that heart is our life. It is time for us to see a little more largely, a little more widely! Don't think that God is so in hurry because we are so slow, or pushed on because we are in a hurry."

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S SCRAPBOOK.

Wouldst thou fashion for thyself a seemly life?
Then fret not over what is past and gone;
And spite of all thou mayest have lost behind,
Yet act as if life were just begun;
What each day wills the day itself will tell!
Do thine own task, and be therewith content;
What others do, that shalt thou fairly judge;
Be sure that thou no brother-mortal hate.
Then all besides leave to the master Power.
—Goethe.

"You can never make cranberries into candied cherries," says the cook, "though they may tell you that you can. A cranberry is a cranberry, and a cherry is a cherry, to the end of its days, and you can't make one taste like the other. But you can cook cranberries so that they will keep separate, and they are very good for a number of things and make a change from the ordinary stewed cranberry. You take a quart of cranberries and wash carefully and turn them into the dish in which they are to be cooked. Add butter the size of an English walnut, two cups of sugar, and a pinch of cinnamon, and cook until they are done. That sounds a little indefinite, but it is easy to tell. They must boil, not too hard, and it will be necessary to shake the dish in which they are cooking occasionally, and perhaps stir the berries up from the bottom of the pan, taking care not to mash them. No water is used except that which clings to them after they have been washed. When they are turned out they will look not unlike the candied cherries, though a trifle darker, and each one will stand out separately like well-cooked grains of rice. They are good to eat as cranberries, and they are pretty for garnishing with rice."

To make popped-corn balls take three quarts of popcorn, boil half a pint of molasses for twelve minutes or so, then put the popped corn into a large pan, pour the boiled molasses over it and stir it thoroughly together; make it into balls of the right size with your hands.

For popped-corn cakes have ready enough popped corn to fill a two-quart measure, salt it, and sift it through your fingers to remove all the loose salt and the unpopped kernels. Now make a candy with a cupful (a short half pint) of molasses, half a cupful of brown coarse sugar, a dessertspoonful of best vinegar, and about one-half ounce of fresh butter; when this is ready stir in as much of the corn as it will take up, then press the mixture into buttered or oiled tins, mark it out in cakes with a sharp knife, and leave till set.

Few stains are more obstinate than those made by vaseline. How to remove them was told recently by a domestic-science teacher. "Have ready," she said, "a moderately hot iron and four pieces of blotting paper. Put two thicknesses of the paper on a board and wet the spot thoroughly with benzine. Lay on the stained cloth, cover with two other pieces of blotting paper, and press quickly with the iron. An old stain may need two or even three applications to remove the stain. The caution is repeated that benzine, being very inflammable, must be used with great care."

Put a little lemon-juice or vinegar in the kettle which cauliflower or cabbage is boiled in. It will serve to keep it white while cooking. It also whitens and keeps firm celeriac. Apropos of boiling cabbage, the cook of one family manages this process without the usual disagreeable smell coming from it. Her secret, she says, is in cooking the vegetable very slowly, just steadily stewing it in fact, and keeping the pot closely covered.

A delicacy that is only now finding its way to exclusive tables is the preserved comquats which come to us from China. These are like oranges, preserved with the marvelous skill that only Chinese preserve-makers attain, and are a delicious novel dessert for the most. They are packed in attractive little stone pots.

A cooking-teacher's test for the frying point of fat fat is to drop in it a small piece of bread. If the bread browns on both sides while forty can be counted it is the right temperature for cooked foods like croquettes, bob-bailis, etc.

ABOUT LATE FASHIONS.

Tulle is edged with baby ribbon for the debutante.

Golden fleis have jeweled toes, which serve to lace up ball gaiters, slipper and corsets.

Much of the white crepe de chine is being sequined with silver, the bodices being adorned with lace boleros profusely bespangled with paillettes.

All the brides named Marguerite or Margaret this season present their bridesmaids with either lace pins or bouquet-holders of daisy design, set with diamonds or pearls.

Shoulder-straps and bags over the arms are made of small flowers. Larger blossoms, such as orchids, purple clematis and velvet pansies, are used alike on bodice and skirt, butterfly wings, tulle and other ethereal fabrics are employed for draperies.

Among dainty accessories to evening dress are the cigarette, dangling from a spray of diamonds, but there are also little pouch as bags with an assortment of all things out of them, and there is a return to a fashion of the Empress, a wide velvet book, with a couple of beaux, with no end, thickly drawn together in the middle and worked all over with gold.

Satin matching the gown is still considered the proper foundation of black satin is not chosen, with the finish of underskirts little satin lace, which may or may not be embedded by a small sparkling buckle. Anything in the way of ornament that interferes with the slender, graceful curve of the foot is to be avoided. The pointed evening slippers are not extremely low, but this winter. The heels of some of the newest models are somewhat higher and more narrowly curved than those recently worn, but the pretty strapped effects are still retained.

A rapid description of some pretty street gowns would include one of French blue cloth with a big scroll pattern worked in the skirt with bands of deerskin, the bright yellow and black of this for being most effective on the shade of blue, writes a correspondent from Paris to the New York Tribune. The bodice is a blouse with the same pattern ornamenting the front and with a high collar lined with fur. Extremely effective is a costume of black cloth made with Eton and tunic open on the side, both edged with sable. The underskirt and bit of skirt that shows are of white cloth embroidered with gold thread and jet beads. The high collar of the cloth underwaist is lined with fur. The Louis XV coats, with their rounded tails, are again fashionable, and steadily increasing in popularity. In drab velvet, that most stylish and material, a costume of this cut is very attractive. The skirt is divided by a curved band of gray fur that rises and is pinched under the box pleat in the back of the skirt. The coat has revers lined with fur, buttons and silver buttons. The gown with bolero and skirt opened over a panel, is by no means uncommon. A pretty example is of green satin cloth, trimmed with chinchilla. The fur not only edges the bolero and the open skirt, but makes clover designs that give a heavy, rich effect to the broadtail bordering the panels. The blouse and tunic are of pale yellow satin covered with lace incrustations. It is quite worth noting that pale yellow is a most popular color this year, and that it is in corresponding in evening gowns are ate trimmings for smart street suits.

True to Its Love.

I know of nothing that lasts, nor I,
Save a heart that is true to its love alway—
A love that is won with fear and sigh
And never changes or fades away.
In a breast that is oftener sad than gay,
A tender look and a constant mind—
These are the only things that stay.
All else flits on the wings of the wind!
Prince, I counsel you, never say
Aught for the years that are left behind!
Look you, keep love, when your dreams decay,
All else flits past on the wings of the wind!
—John Payne.

His Mother's Son.

"My niece Mary was always a well-meaning girl, but she would say the wrong thing almost every time," said one old gentleman to another, "and she's got a boy that's going to be her very counterpoint."

The old gentleman's eyes twinkled, and his ruddy, good-natured face was puckered with enjoyment as he drew from his pocketbook a small sheet of note paper, says the Youth's Companion.

"I sent Hal a toy monkey that plays all kinds of pranks when it's wound up," said he, chuckling. "Now, you listen to this letter of thanks I got from him. He's just 8 years old:

"'Dear Uncle Ned: I am delighted with the monkey, thank you. He makes me think of you very often. And whenever mamma winds him up, and he begins to jump, mamma and I feel as if we were back at your house where all those toys are and mamma will look at the monkey and say, 'That's your Uncle Ned all over!' Gratefully from your greatest HAL.'"

Her Little Boy.

"Always a little boy, to her,"
No matter how old he's grown,
Her eyes are filled to the strands of gray;
She's deaf to his manly tone.
His voice is the same as the day he asked:
"What makes the oil out pure?"
Eyes and ears, he's just the same—
A little boy, to her.

"Always a little boy to her,"
She heeds not the lines of care
That furrow his face, to her it is still
As it was in his boyhood, fair.
His hopes and his sorrows are dear to her
As they were in his small-boy days
He never changes, to her he's still
"My little boy," she says.

"Always a little boy to her,"
And to him she's the mother-love,
With the laughing eyes and the cheering smile
Of the boyhood days back there.
Back there, somewhere in the mist of years—
Back there with childish joy,
And to her he never the man we see,
But always "her little boy."

"Always a little boy to her,"
The careless touch of the years
Goes rapidly by, but its drumbeats are
Ever they touch her ears.
The smile that she sees is the smile of youth,
The wrinkles are dimples of joy,
His hair, with its gray, is as sunny as May;
He is always "her little boy."
—The Baltimore American.

How to Cook Oysters.

The cooking of oysters, especially when they are for an invalid, requires great care, for while it is important that they should be sufficiently done, they must not be overcooked, or they will be leathery and indigestible. Take the oysters from the shells and put them and the liquor into a small saucepan with just enough cold milk to cover them, and place the pan over a clear fire. Watch it closely, and directly boiling commences draw the pan to the side of the stove and leave it for two minutes; then drain the oysters, take off the beards and one or two are preferred. They make a tempting little dish served whole on toast with thick white sauce poured over them.

Saxon Housemaids.

Some of the laws relating to maids in Saxony are very curious. For instance, the employer is required to provide her maid with one pound of butter and one pound of coffee per month, or else with sufficient money to pay for the same. If the maid furnishes her own bedding she receives twenty-five farthings a night for so doing, in addition to her wages. Three months a month is allowed her for laundry expenses, and she is allowed a per cent on all purchases she makes. She must give a month's notice before leaving a place, and keep a book for recommendations (or otherwise) from her employer. In Saxony, as in other parts of Germany, a mistress is entitled to state the cause of her maid's leaving and also what is her character.

WOMEN OF TO-DAY.

Mrs. Mary Kennett of Santa Anna Valley, Cal., manages an orange grove that is bringing her a fortune. She does all the boxing of orchard machinery and implements.

Miss Anita Martin is a young woman who is known in Texas, her native state, as the "Turkey Queen." She has a farm on which, besides other things, she raises turkeys; she begins with five hens and a gobbler. Last year she made $500 raising turkeys.

Miss Adeline W. Torrey of Orange, N. J., after taking several lessons from a mushroom raiser, branched out for herself, and today can scarcely grow mushrooms fast enough to supply her customers. She has recently added to her mushroom raising a bed of violets, from which she also reaps a comfortable income.

Mrs. J. H. Rowland of Lawrence, Mich., runs the engine of her husband's planing mill, and in an emergency attends to the sawing and the turning lathe. She has been sole engineer of the mill for several years, and enjoys her work. Mrs. Rowland is 50 years old, and raised a large family of children before she became an engineer.

Miss Birdie Bauna of Columbia, Mo., is freight agent for the Wabash Railroad, and manages all the freight and transfer business of that road in Columbia. Aside from Miss Bauna's duties, which require her to meet every train during the day, she is accomplished as a cook, and at the Columbia Fair last summer took several premiums for the best pastry.

San Juan County, Colorado, has for its treasurer a young woman. Miss Nellie E. Tully, sister of Thomas H. Tully, private secretary to Governor Thomas. Miss Tully was born in Tonawanda, N. Y., and went to Silverton, Colo., in 1885. She was appointed Deputy Postmaster in that town, a position that she held until her election as County Treasurer. Miss Tully was a candidate on the Democratic ticket, and after an unusually lively campaign was elected by a majority of 325.

Seven.

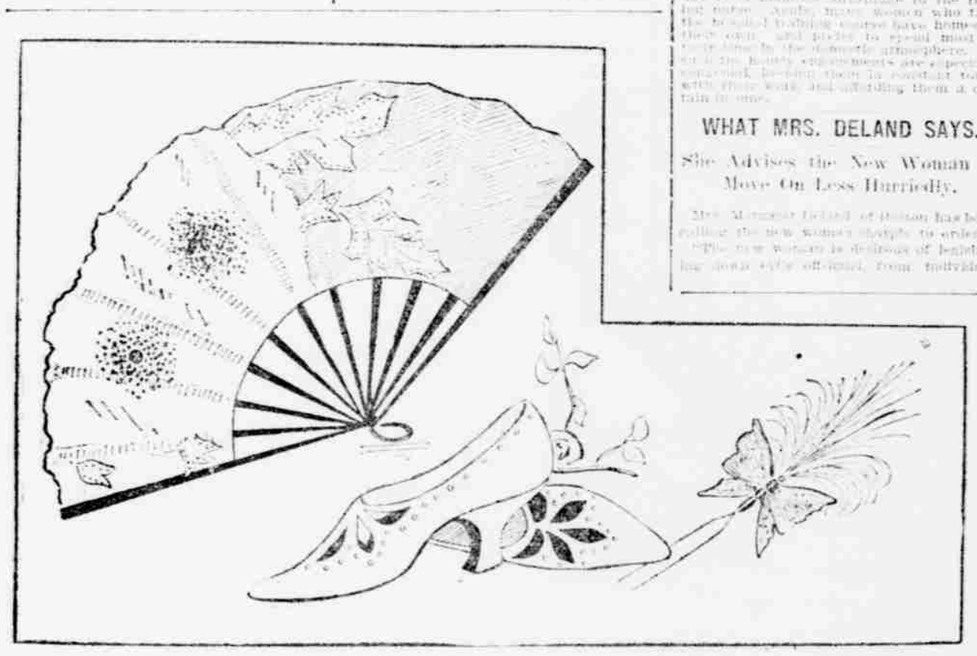
Seven stars in the sky,
And the moon and under
With seven loves she loves me,
With love surpassing wonder.

The love of the child for faith,
The love of the youth for winning;
The love of the lover, fearful, bold—
The love of the man that's shining.

The woman's love for love,
The love of the maid for heaven;
The mother-love—and this is last,
Yet! Her loves are seven.

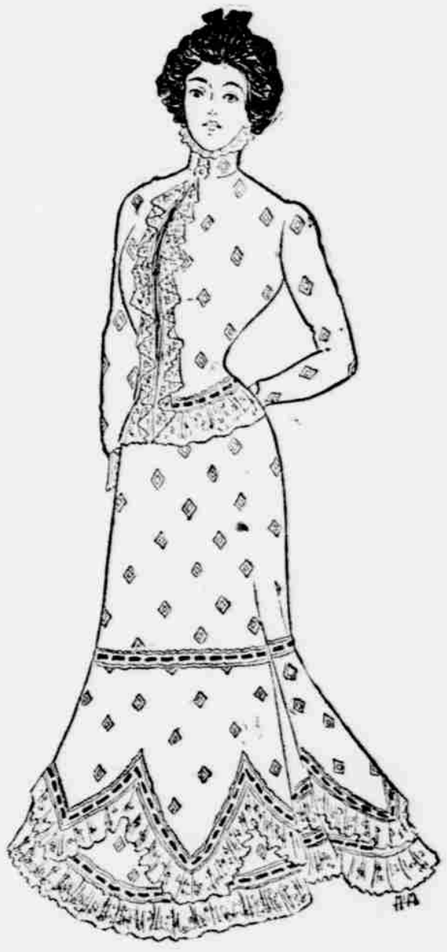
Seven stars overhead,
With the seven loves I bought her!
And the seven stars in the sky
Are a smoke of fire in my water.
—Post Wheeler, in The New York Press.

"What is a bachelor, Aunt Martha?" "Why, he's a man who thinks every girl that looks at him intends to marry him."—Indianapolis Journal.



FAN, SLIPPERS AND COIFFURE ORNAMENT FOR THE MODISH YOUNG WOMAN.

CHIFFON SCARF AND GIRDLE AS USED ON A FRENCH EVENING GOWN.



BREAKFAST COSTUME OF FIGURED CHINA SILK WITH LACE AND RIBBON TRIMMINGS.

Cooking Difficult?
TRY
LIEBIG
COMPANY'S EXTRACT OF BEEF
Note this signature in blue on every jar. Avoid substitutes.
J. v. Liebig