

BICYCLE GIRLS AND THE COSTUMES THEY WILL WEAR.

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 NEW YORK, May 27.—The bicycle girl of '98 will be a beautiful creature. Last year she was new; the year before she was newer; and the year before she was newest. This year she is settled and she knows how to dress herself. Bicycle dresses were bizarre two years ago and last season they were not much better. But the bicycle styles this year are all that can be desired. They are really beautiful creations such as one would not hesitate to wear anywhere. In travelling through New England last fall was surprised to notice how many

each two yards around and are brought up and hooked around the leg in Turkish trouser fashion. They are gathered around the belt with girdle in the back so that really you would not be conscious of the bloomer. The divided skirt and bloomer differ from each other only in that the bloomer hooks around the knee while the divided skirt falls open. The silk shirt waist will be worn largely on the wheel. You can get a quality of silk that really does wash. It is a china silk such as is used in men's neckties. It launders perfectly. The shirt waist is made with large sleeves and rather close fitting blouse. Avoid making a shirt waist with full

which makes it very ornamental on the wheel. Flashes of scarlet show up as the bicyclist pedals her way along the roads. You can say what you will about the waist to be worn, but after all there is nothing like the shirt waist. A little jacket or light coat can be tied on the handle bars to be put on in case of shower or if a cool breeze again do. But for regular cycling nothing will do except the shirt waist. The newest things in bicycle suits are the dresses in which more attention is paid to the lining than to the dress material. This is positively true of all the imported suits, and all those that are in gray or blue. Nothing very bright is worn. But when it comes to the lining it is a different matter. One of these dresses seen that sunny Sunday a week ago, was of new leaf green good lined with violine near silk. A shirt waist of violine China silk worn over it was a little jacket with a very short ruffle around the waist. The ruffle was lined with violine taffeta. The hat was of green with a scarlet bird with purple tail feathers. The gloves were white. This costume while not at all startling in effect was very becoming and was one of the prettiest seen that Sunday, in a long array of fashionable riders. Taffeta linings in bicycle skirts are a plague. They tear so soon and hang in long fringes around the feet. And here a word of caution must be spoken. Should these silk linings ever show a tendency to catch in the pedals or in the wheels, push hard and you will find that the silk will give and you can save yourself a fall. It is much better, however, to take the course of prevention than the pound of cure and before you start examine your facings to be sure that they are firm. It would be pleasant to say that the sailor and the Alpine were as fashionable as the Tam, because the sailor is so natty and the Alpine is so comfortable; but when all is told you must admit that the Tam is seen fully three times as often as the other two. The secret of the Tam's popularity can be traced to its economy. Anybody with a grain of ingenuity can make a Tam out of a "wheel" of cloth and an old trim. It requires no trimming except a roll of one side which can be stuck on at one side. A dozen Tams are not too many to carry a girl through the bicycle season. One to match every shirt waist. It is delightful to cheaply made for a hat. Certainly sets of a face and figure better if it harmonizes with the waist in some way.

WOMAN AS SHE SHOPS.

Things Done by Department Stores in Efforts to Please Their Customers. "It seems to me sometimes," remarked a superintendent of duty, "that our big department stores are run primarily for the convenience of shopping women, and in the back ground, the firm gets a little profit, if it may. Certainly the shopping women do not hesitate to demand the most extraordinary concessions. "A woman came into the carpet department the other day to look at floor coverings. She was extremely hard to please, and finally the salesman said that he would send home to her a roll of carpet that she might spread it on the floor and see if it harmonized with her hangings and furnishings, it being, she explained very difficult for her to carry their coloring in her eye. This was done, and a second visit from the customer followed. She wasn't quite sure that the shade was quite right, and would we mind sending up another roll which showed a little darker design? This was done, and the day after she came in enthusiastic. The carpet was perfectly suitable in every way, and we might go ahead and make it up. "It was a handsome moquette carpet, and the room was large, with several deviations from regularity. Measures were taken and the order finished at the prescribed time. It left the house one Thursday morning and was put down before night. On Friday she appeared at the store. In a few moments the salesman who had conducted the proceedings thus far sent for me. I found the woman in one of the most difficult moods we encounter in customers. She threw herself absolutely on our mercy. She said that we had done everything in our power, and she had supposed that the carpet was a perfect success; but she said, "invasion. It is absolutely intolerable. On the floor made up it looks very different from what it did on the floor spread out. It cheapens everything I've got in the room, takes the color out of some things and gives to others a



THE SKIRTED GIRL.

women wore bicycle dresses. On the cars, on the boat and journeying by stage and overland, the bicycle dress was the rule and the long skirt the exception. It was really refreshing to note how these New England ladies stepped on and off the railroad trains without getting entangled in a long skirt. It was delightful to see how easily they handled their baggage without cumbersome folds to bother them. After a little practice with the short skirt one becomes really graceful, and it is safe to say that the long traveling skirt has been banished from New England forever. Would that this might be the rule in other parts of the country. In August on a steaming hot day what is more refreshing than the sight of a young woman in a trim bicycle skirt with natty low shoes and comfortable blouse waist. And what is more enjoyable to the young woman herself than such a traveling garb?

BICYCLE SKIRTS. I noticed last week on a train going to Lenox, that fashionable Mecca for wealthy New Yorkers, a young woman in a traveling suit which caught my eye at once. It was so "fit." The skirt was made of a very light weight wool goods with a fine dot scattered over it and through it. The waist was of the same material with straps and belt of thin white patent leather. The hat was a Tam of leather and cloth with plumes stuck in one side. But the neatest thing was the adjustment of the skirt. This consisted of a row of large smoked pearl buttons set at intervals of three inches around the hips. Connecting the buttons and the belt was a little silver chain. This chain on being pulled at one side would lift the skirt until it was of convenient bicycle length. I saw another, later, which had links instead of buttons, the silver chain running through the links. This strap mechanism being more reliable as the chain could not slip off the rings as easily as it could off the buttons.

THE BLOOMER GIRL. The bloomer bicycle girl is almost gone but not quite. You still see her. She wears very large bloomers which are so arranged that when she stands you would scarcely think they were not skirts. Indeed you would hardly notice that fact even when she rides. The bloomers are

blouse for the wheel. The wind inflates the blouse and produces a most inconspicuous effect, similar to that of a balloon, on a bicycle. Have the waist as blouse as you please but fit it close at the sides and back and let it blow only in the front.

A NICE SKIRT. There is a very trim skirt for the century rider or for those who like to spend a great deal of time upon the wheel. It buttons at the side, concealing a voluminous pocket. The skirt is very short and is of a dust color. Quartz grey is an excellent shade for a bicycle skirt as it positively does not show mud or dust. This skirt is lined with a bright scarlet



THE CORRECT WAY OF FASTENING A BICYCLE SKIRT.

most unaccountable glare. Why, when I enter that room a feeling of nausea comes over me. I cannot describe it, but I cannot live with that carpet. Now what will you do about it?" "The question was rather a poser to me, for she was a good customer, and I knew that the firm would want to do everything possible. I suggested that it would be cheaper to have an inexpensive new carpeting put on the walls which was possibly the cause of this aesthetic disturbance. But no, she had just had new paper put on; that could not be changed. The carpet must come up and she would never have another one down there. She would have a hard wood floor. I suggested that we would like to furnish her estimates on the hard wood floor, but this she would not listen to. We could do something with the carpet, as she could not afford two \$300 coverings. Well, in the end I sent for the carpet. I agreed to deduct the value of the laying and making from her bill, and the carpet I would attempt to sell. We did make an effort, showing it to several persons, but the fact that it had been a mild aroused everybody's suspicion and we could not dispose of it. Finally we sent it to an auction room getting about half of the selling price. On referring the matter to the firm it was decided that half of the loss should be borne by the house in order to hold the customer, although there was not the slightest blame on our side and we had lost more than we were really expected to do in an effort to please the woman. "Another woman in the silk department bought a dress one afternoon, after putting over sixteen or twenty pieces and discussing with the friend who was with her every possible phase of silk, from the time the cocoon began to unfold until the material left the loom. In two days she was back. She laid the parcel on the

counter and asked for the head of the department. When he came she told him that it was true she had bought the silk in all fatness and that it was probably a good silk but she had decided that it was not a gray silk after all that she wanted, but a black one. She said it might seem a trifle to him, but that a silk dress to her meant a good deal, and she had concluded that it was very poor economy for her to get a gray one. She said that she had really had no idea of buying on the afternoon that she did, but the clerk was insistent and persuasive and against her better judgment she had yielded to him. "Now," she said, putting in as a clinching argument, "am I to suffer all the time that I wear one silk dress for being overpersuaded?" "On the face of it this transaction seems absurd, and yet the house decided that she could return the silk and choose a black one, but the salesman was instructed not to open his lips except to give her the price of the different pieces as she showed them to her. "These actual cases may seem almost

unreal, but they give a little idea of the concessions we make to the shopping public. Of course we exchange things constantly and re-exchange them and take back anything when any claim is made that it is not up to the warrant, but these are cases where the house was perfectly blameless. "A woman came to me the other day and returned three shirts that she said she had had four weeks. They had washed poorly, she said, and she showed me where the linen was all fretted away around the neck bands. Now it is very probable that her laundress uses some very powerful acid. I suggested this to her, but the suggestion was at once rejected as being impossible. The end of the matter was that we had three new bosoms put in these three shirts in our workroom, and they were duly returned to her. These are only two or three late cases. I could give scores more, all tending to prove that most shopping women

think that there are absolutely no obligations on their side which they are bound to respect."—New York Sun.

A Ranch Girl's Choice. Folks shook their heads, and whispered "round." In rather of a sneerin' way. That I was crazy, when they found me goin' to marry Tommy Gray. They hinted that I'd best be dead. "Than I jist let 'em talk an' said he. But I jes' let 'em talk an' said he. Pur though he might be wild at times, He never did no ser'us crimes. When I declined young Silas Pope, Who slung at me his ranch and herd, An' put the rowels in his hope Without a super-fluous word, An' offered Tom encouragement— Like a boy working for his hire— The neighbors round us nearly went in spasms, an' they used to tire Me half to death a-sayin' I Would take a tumble by an' by.

An' pa an' ma, both of 'em roared Like fat bulls, they got so wild, An' said they wist the blessed Lord Had tuk me when I was a child. They said if I would marry Si "I'd make big folks of all of us, But as for Tom, they knowed 'at I Would find he was a worthless cuss. I told 'em plain as A B C My heart was doin' it, not me.

An' all the same I married Tom, An' you jes' ort to see 'em stare To see him settle down an' come Right to the front, an' every care I ever had jes' gone away— Like a smoke before the prairie breeze, An' we're as happy as the day Is long, an' also, if you please, There ain't a neighbor left or right But thinks my Tom is out o' sight.

An' sometimes when I set an' peep At that fat bully they got so wild, Curled in his little crib asleep, Rememblin' Tom right to a hair, An' hear his pa in the corral A-singin' tunes in his delight, An' whistlin' dancin' music—well, I think I hit it mighty right. Like an' fur Si I shed no tears— He's gone to jail for stealin' steers.

—Denver Post.

Sober Second Thought. The removal of the scandal of Spain's centre of the American colonies is a just and meritorious act as it is patently a necessary act of surgery for the health of civilization.—Atlantic Monthly.

coloring matter of plants, called chlorophyll, to derive it from spinach. Canned foods, however, are more likely to contain lead from the solder. The tin plate of which the cans are made, also contain a good deal of lead, which is the most deadly of metal poisons, accumulating in the system and suddenly engendering the most frightful symptoms. Tea itself is a fearful poison, and zinc—the latter frequently used by the can makers as a flux—is another. Zinc in a more general sense, has been suspected of causing Bright's disease, and various metals are acted upon by the acids in the canned foods, and so more or less of them is dissolved in the food substance, which shows traces of them when analyzed.

THE MODERATE DRINKER VIEWED.
 One Kind Likes the Taste and Another the Effect of Alcohol.
 AS TO ADULTERATION OF FOOD.
 Medicine, Too, Comes in for a Large Share of the Pernicious Custom of Falsification—Comfortable Chair and Crossing the Legs.

The current issue of a medical journal says it is the fashion with many Prohibitionists to abuse the "moderate drinker" the logic of their reasoning being that there would be no drunkards but for moderate drinkers. At first blush that argument appears sound, but when we come to investigate it a little more closely, we find that, like many another hasty generalization, it conveys a fallacy consequent upon inaccurate observation. The British Medical Journal, commenting upon "a well-meaning appeal to the medical profession, issued by the Manchester and Salford Women's Christian Tem-

Among the commercial articles most commonly falsified, are the essential oils, great quantities of which are imported into the United States for use in manufacture of cologne, perfumery, candies, medicines, tinctures, cordials, aerated waters, etc. American importers actually prefer to buy adulterated brands because they are so much cheaper. These oils are separated by distillation from flowers, leaves, fruits, seeds and barks. To their presence, indeed, are due the characteristic odors of these various parts of different plants. The rose growers of Bulgaria, whence comes most of the rose supply of this country, adulterate their product with geranium oil and ginger-grass oil. The attar, by the way, is made by distilling the petals. Practically, all the orange and lemon oils that reach the United States, are sophisticated with turpentine, mineral oil and essence of peppermint. The oils are obtained from the skins of the orange and lemon.

Where drinkables are concerned, there is no end to adulteration. Cheap wines, put up to appeal to invalids, are chemical combinations with an alcohol base. Cognac brandy is made from potatoes and beets. Whisky, rum and gin are merely coeque spirits, with water and flavoring essences added. Beer is falsified with burnt sugar, licorice, cayenne, turpentine, mineral oil and essence of peppermint, soda, salt and glycerine with tobacco and hemp seed added to increase the intoxicating effect. Other ingredients of spirituous beverages are vitriol, opium, alum, copper, leadwood, and sugar of lead. "Bitters," advertised as "purely vegetable and non-alcoholic," invariably contain from twenty to fifty per cent. of alcohol. Orange elder is a chemical product purely being composed of sweetened water and acids, with a little orange oil for flavoring. It costs sixteen cents a gallon to make, and sells at two dollars and a half.

CROSSING THE LEGS. A recent writer earnestly protests against the common habit of crossing the legs at the knees when sitting, claiming that it is at least one cause of cold feet, headache, varicose veins, ulcers and other troubles due to poor circulation in the lower limbs. The reason of this lies in the fact that just under the knee, where the greatest pressure comes in this position, there are large veins, arteries and nerves, whose walls are pressed together, thus interfering more or less with the circulation and the sensation. It is said that women are more liable to acquire this habit than men, and that it is noticeable that when low chairs, adapted to the height of the person are furnished, the legs usually remain straight, and the feet firmly on the floor.

HOSPITALS IN THE FIELD.

Treatment of the Wounded According to the Plans of Army Surgeons. In the United States Army the hospital corps is divided into two detachments, one for service in the field hospitals, the other to man the ambulances and litters for the removal of the wounded from the field. The plan of a field hospital, as outlined by Col. Forwood, Assistant Surgeon-General, provides for four lines, separated by distance, which will be determined by the character of the battle field. The first line of hospital service is coincident with the line of battle, and includes the regimental surgeons, orderlies and company bearers. On the second line are the first dressing stations, furnished by the nearest point beyond range of the enemy's fire. Here ambulance surgeons attend to the wounds, and ambulances and litter bearers of the hospital corps convey the wounded to the third station. This is called the ambulance station. Reception, operating and dressing tents are erected, where the wounded can be attended until they can be removed to the division hospitals at the base of supplies. None of the hospital corps serve in the vanguard of the first dressing stations, but private from each company shall be designated as company bearers. They are taught how to handle wounded men and in first aid, in addition to their regular duties as armed combatants. They fight in the line until their services are required to attend the wounded, whom they convey to the first dressing places. There the injured are turned over to the ambulance bearers, who are under the direction of their own officers, and have nothing to do with the dressing of wounds. Their only care is to convey the wounded beyond the reach of the enemy's fire. On the first dressing stations, where the wounded receive their first attention, aside from such hastes bandaging as the regimental surgeons may be able to perform, there is a complete outfit of field hospital supplies. In the United States Army, the main medical stores are carried in army wagons, but as these cannot keep up with the line of battle, it is proposed that pack mules be employed to carry supplies to these dressing stations. A medical case or packer, so built as to fit the back of a mule, contains all the materials required, a variety of antiseptics, medicines for the relief of pain, bandages, splints, plasters, and other necessities. A cook and operating instruments. A canteen and company each of the divisions, carry a case, as this detachment reaches its station tents are set up, the medical cases are opened and their contents placed in readiness for use; an operating table is improvised by placing two of the folding campers together, so that they will afford a place on which to lay the wounded while the surgeon is working over them, while the cook sets up his tent and makes ready to prepare light nourishment. The dressing places are intended to be only temporary stopping places for the wounded. As soon as their immediate wants are attended to they are conveyed back to the ambulances, carried by the litter-bearers of the hospital corps. These ambulances carry them back to the division hospitals. The hospitals proper should be near enough to the base of the army to be supplied with a full outfit of medical and surgical supplies, comfortable cot beds, and other conveniences which are necessarily lacking in the field. Here the wounded are supposed to remain until they can be transported to permanent hospitals or to the hospital ships, as the case may be. In the Cuban campaign, in case the army moves so rapidly that the country wagons cannot keep up, or the country is so rough that they cannot easily be transported, the hospital flying detachments, consisting of light ambulance and medical wagons, which can go wherever troops can march. They will carry everything that the heavier supply trains contain, only in smaller quantities.—N. Y. Sun.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD AND MEDICINE. Three small green pickles contain the full medicinal dose of sulphate of copper (blue-stone)—three grains. Medicines, too, are falsified to a great extent, some drugs containing from forty to fifty per cent. of adulterants. It is easily imagined how such frauds are calculated to modify the chances of sick people for getting well, and how easily they can render the services of the most capable physician abortive. This branch of the adulteration business, in fact, goes a long way toward murder. Dried apples should not be omitted from the list of dangerous foods, inasmuch as they are apt to contain more or less zinc, which is a poison. The zinc comes from the drying plates of the metal, which are employed to give a pretty color to the apples. But the worst poisoning, and the most of it, is said to be done by canned foods, in which copper and other metals occur. Copper is used to color the peas and beans imported from France. It was found long ago that copper pots, if imperfectly cleaned, gave a beautiful green color to the beans and peas cooked in them. Later on, it was ascertained that a small quantity of copper salts, put into the pot, had the same effect, and this method is now employed. Unfortunately, copper is a violent emetic poison. There is no necessity for its use, apparently, inasmuch as one packer in Paris has invented a way of greening his peas and beans with natural



THE BICYCLE GIRL WHEN SHE GOES TRAVELING.