

THE WITCH'S HOUR

GAMES FOR YOUNG GIRLS' HALLOWE'EN PARTIES—ATTRACTIVE NOVELTIES IN FAVORS AND DECORATIONS

A PAGE FOR MISSES



Now approaches the witch's hour, when, hand in hand with jack-o'-lantern, she is prepared to scamper across the curtain for an interlude of frolic.

The black cat is with us again, and the bat, and the owl. The cauldron bubbles, the chestnuts burn upon the hearth, the Halloween cake gives up its ghostly prophecy of wealth, matrimony or a life of single blessedness.

In a thousand boarding schools a thousand girls will creep down the cellar stairs holding a mirror and a candle as the hour strikes twelve, looking fearfully for the reflected face which is to tell them of the future, and in more than a thousand apartment houses—where there are no cellar stairs—young women will eat an apple before a mirror and hold a candle by whose light they expect to see that same prophetic vision.

Black paper was most effective for the witch's costume and for that of the owl and black cat. Poor pussy had quite a difficult time—one of the smaller girls was chosen for this part—because the other guests at the frolic insisted on her going on all fours a large part of the time, which, in spite of her gymnastic training, was not altogether agreeable.

Equally amusing is a dance where the guests all appear as fruits of the autumn. There must of course be some liberty permitted in this sort of character costuming, for while it is comparatively easy for a properly built young person to appear as an ear of corn, it is rather difficult for her or him to assume the exact proportions of a tomato.

Squashes, radishes, potatoes and apples all fall to the lot of the boys. With the vegetable through there should mingle a sufficient sprinkling of the traditional Halloween characters. Nothing could be more amusing than the pairing off at such an assemblage. Miss Lettuce and jack-o'-lantern dancing together, followed by the witch and the tomato boy, the grape girl and the owl, picturesque Miss Autumn Leaf and a jolly brownie, make up a procession of quaint contrasts.

Most successful was a Halloween masquerade given at a girls' school last year. Fairyland was boldly raided for the characters, and every girl was asked to come as some one of "the little people," either as a historical character or as some particular sort of a sprite. The result was not only most amusing but beautiful as well, for there were elves and pixies, water sprites, fire fairies, cloud fairies, gnomes, goblins, naughty brownies, sharp chinned witches, &c. Queen Mab, Oberon, Titania and Puck were all there, and there was a most charming dryad, who set up her

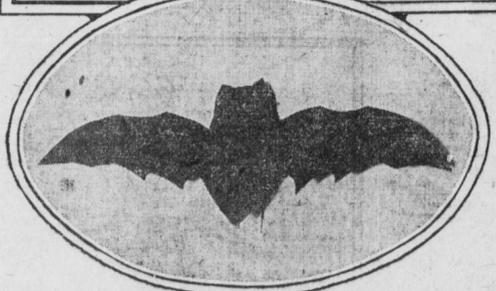
table or hung in different quarters of the room. The imitation ones are in the form of lanterns, lamp shades and candle shades.



Favors and Bonbon Boxes



The Pumpkin and Lettuce Boys on Parade



The Growsome Halloween Owl

How to Make a Motoring Veil

EVERY one has a motoring veil, and many and varied are the kinds used. Few women or girls can be said to look really pretty in one of these veils, but there are many degrees of attractiveness about them, and still greater differences of convenience, which, after all, is the really important point. Some are merely long pieces of chiffon tied on in any way, and they frequently blow off in a high wind, so it is really worth while to make one properly.

An English motoring veil which is most satisfactory is made in the following way:—Buy two yards of chiffon or chiffon cloth and cut it in half lengthwise from one end to a point twenty inches from the other end. Hem it across the two pieces of the lower end and all around the cut edges; the outer edges will, of course, be selvages. Then, where the slit stops, it must be closely buttonholed to prevent tearing further.

ALL the fruits, vegetables and nuts are used for Halloween decorations. Branches from nut trees with the nuts still on are the motif of some of the draperies to be found in paper, and corn stalks, tree bark, &c., are all considered suitable. For favors there are a great number of fascinating boxes, baskets and bundles containing bonbons, and there are ice cups also in a great variety of designs that are attractive and novel.

Mirror gazing must take place at midnight. The person who is performing the rite must be quite alone in the room, which should be dark except for the candle she holds. She eats an apple and looks straight in the mirror as the clock strikes twelve. She is rewarded by seeing her future husband's face in the mirror.

It must be evenly pared, so that the skin end and tossed over the shoulder. As it holds together and is about the same width, falls on the floor it may form a letter. When finished the paring is taken by one. If so, this is the first letter of the Christian name of one's future husband or wife.

SOCIAL AMENITIES FOR THE SCHOOL GIRL

A HABIT of punctuality will do more to win popularity and will bring in its path more fun and pleasure than any other one characteristic. Once a girl is known to be unpunctual she will be left out of many a spree arranged on the spur of the moment and requiring an instantaneous start.

Then there are the sick people to whom five or ten minutes' waiting means an interminable time and perhaps will bring far, far better not to set any exact time for a call with an invalid than to state positively an hour that it is impossible to keep.

The girl who hopes for popularity among her brothers and her brothers' friends had best acquire quickly the habit of punctuality. There is, perhaps, nothing which so irritates the opposite sex as to be kept waiting, and to be forced to sit idle waiting for a woman who "all day long has nothing in the world to do" is unpardonable. They may keep us waiting, of course, these lords of creation, but that is a different matter, and the girl who puts the right value on a good time will do well to learn early how to please these lords of creation.