

ALL THE  
LATEST  
FASHIONS

# Interesting for Women

USEFUL HINTS  
FOR THE  
HOUSEWIFE

## GOOD READING

BY LUCILLE DAUDET.

YOUNG people, however, who have not learned the holier messages of the printed page must begin with the accepted good things. They must even think with every volume they pick up for an afternoon's reading, that they are building up character or pulling it down, drinking in health or the summer rash. They must think lastly that they are making themselves fit or unfit for polite society.

The education of a well-bred girl nowadays pays considerable attention to proper reading, and so important is this thought that there are persons who make a business of suggesting authors and titles to the unsophisticated in matters of literature.

Certain books, dubbed by the average girl or boy as old-fashioned or merely religious, should form the nucleus of every young person's library. Indeed, no library would be complete without them, for they and others, too numerous to mention, are the very foundation of English literature. With their admirable style, great good sense and spiritual uplift, they are the actual eye-openers to all good and great reading. Most important among these are the holy bible, "The Pilgrim's Progress" and the plays of Shakespeare.

Considered only educationally, the bible can give more "pointers" on behavior, beauty of deed and word than all the other books of the world put together.

Take the first chapter of Genesis alone for ravishing suggestion, and halt with the last lines:

"And God saw everything that He had made and, behold, it was very good."

Who can read these beautiful and simple words without seeing in the story of the creation food for eternal and lovely thought? The heavens and the earth have been made and finished for us—for you and for me—and all the best of them.

This greatest of great books and all the others which deal nobly with real or supposed life teach us how to live, emphasize for our dull wits the nice points of conduct, instruct us in the very language of the stars.

Many lives by well-known authors are as interesting as fiction, if I must put the thing that way. What ambitious boy can read a good life of Abraham Lincoln without being thrilled with the hope of being as big and wonderful himself some day? What girl can go with Florence Nightingale through the Crimea without realizing the splendor of a life passed for others?

And both Lincoln and Florence Nightingale were great bible readers and the fact of being a bible reader does not preclude other books. Lincoln loved that dearest of all boy books, "Robinson Crusoe," and I have no doubt that if he were living today he would be reading "Huckleberry Finn" and "Treasure Island." Stanley's "In Darkest Africa," Nansen's "Farthest North" and a score of other books the right kind of boy calls "bully."

## EMBROIDERY

WHEN you are finishing a needle of silk, fasten it in the same way and clip the silk short, or it will work to the surface and later make the work look ragged. Billing silk pulls it and gives it a drawn look; always cut it.

In working a leaf or petal, the part which laps under should be worked first. You may begin in the center and work out at the base and work up, or at the edge and work in. A simple way is to begin at the apex of the leaf or petal, and then, after making a line of stitches down the center, work to the right until the right half is finished, then return to the apex and work the left side in the same way. In work that requires delicate shading, work up from the base on the whole petal or leaf. It is better to put in veinings last, over the finished leaf, rather than outlining them first and filling in around them.

To make shading artistic, so that there is no sign where one color ends and another begins, run the stitches of one color well up into the other, and do this unevenly.

## CHARMING NEGLIGEE



# Assisting Nature to Preserve Beauty



## CARING FOR CARNATIONS

BY EDNA EGAN.

THE carnation is one of the oldest flowers and should be more extensively cultivated by the amateur gardener. What garden is complete without its bed or border of these spicy blossoms?

There is something restful about the odor of carnations, and if your garden is to appeal to every sense, do not omit mignonette or carnations. The old-fashioned pinks are the varieties which always appeared in the gardens of our forefathers, and they lack none of the charm which the modern much-cultivated carnations possess.

Many gardeners, however, have so frequently failed in the cultivation of carnations that they become discouraged. Failure is due in the majority of cases to the beds, which have not been properly prepared. The ground must be drained thoroughly and exposed to the sun.

It is useless to try to grow carnations in heavy, soggy soil which has not been properly drained and mixed with fibrous loam, sand, wood ashes and other materials which tend to make it light. Before mixing these with the soil go over it carefully for wireworms, for these pests destroy carnations, and when once they obtain a hold in the garden it is difficult to eradicate them.

Carnations will thrive in any well-cultivated garden where the soil is an ordinary clayey loam. Dig deeply and enrich this with well-decayed stable manure. This flower will flourish as well in the town garden as in the country, and for this reason alone it should be widely cultivated.

If you purchase the young plants from the nursery, they may be set out in their beds now. Allow a foot of space between each plant and make a hole sufficiently deep to imbed the plant up to the lower leaves. Press the soil about the roots, and any plant which requires a support should be provided with one immediately after planting.

In three weeks scatter a top dressing of decayed manure over the soil. Use the hoe freely throughout the season to keep the top soil loose. The ground about the roots should never be disturbed.

When the flower buds appear give the plants a weekly application of liquid manure, for carnations require an unusual amount of fertilization.

To propagate carnations take cuts from the plants early in August and after they have rooted, transplant them to their permanent flowering quarters for the next year or place them in pots for the greenhouse display during the winter. It usually requires six weeks for the cuts to become rooted.

When sowing the seed in pans or boxes sprinkle thinly in sandy soil, mixed with leaf mold, covered with one-half inch of fine soil.

Dampen the soil and place in a hot-bed until they show above the soil. If you plant the seeds in the open garden, wait until the early part of May.

If you have never cultivated carnations, try it this year if you admire a profusion of colorful bloom.

## DECORATIONS FOR HATS

IT is entirely due to the hat ornament that the chapeau can be put in the class of the irresistible. So varied and clever are the little decorations that they demand a special description in the big fashion story.

One charming ring, through which loops of moire ribbon are run at the side of a straw turban, is of circles of wooden beads in the Bulgarian colors.

On a hat by Jennie Lanvin a flat rose of two shades of yellow wool is surrounded by a disk of brown and green silk leaves, folded from picot ribbon, and tinted with watercolors.

A high semicircle of pleated velvet ribbon is made of three rows, held at the lower edge by a flat folded bow. This ornament, in turn holds in place a cluster of soft coq feathers.

Peacock feathers form two rows around an iridescent blue and green jewel.

A fantasia of pheasant's wings is caught down on a brim by a butterfly of silk with jewels and embroidered coisposts.

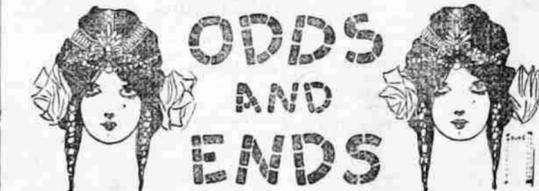
Very simple is a ring of knotted moire ribbon in two colors, orange and brown, surrounding a yellow rose made of swirled mousseline.

Scarabs in turquoise and lava are being used to form centers of feather cabochons.

The "flight" of little tailored bows is still seen up the side of high brims. Ribbon pompons are wired and top covered stems. These are made of overlapped loops around each other.

Question marks, so prominent in the coq and other feather quills, are being duplicated in stiffened grasses and ribbon-covered wires.

Picot ribbon, especially in the embroidered Bulgarian styles, will be used for tailored bands around the crowns.



OLD perspiration stains may be removed by applying oxalic acid and water in solution one part of the former to twenty parts of the latter.

IN cleaning fabrics great care should be taken not to rub them roughly between the hands. The gentle rubbing on of the solvent with a fresh cloth is sufficient.

ONE who has had considerable experience in carrying meal trays up and down stairs says that the secret of not spilling the contents of a glass or dish rests on this one thing: Always move the tray gently from side to side as you advance. This being done, there will be no spots on the tray cloth to tell of its journeyings.

EMBROIDERY and lace buttons will be worn a great deal this summer on wash garments. Do not attempt to wash these buttons by rubbing them on the washboard. Instead clean them first with a toothbrush, then wash the waist in the usual manner, fold the buttons inside and wring the waist by hand.

A CLEVER home cook, who is celebrated for her delicious cakes, gives this as a test for perfect icing: "To make sure that your frosting is just right, neither too hard nor too soft," she says, "pluck out a clean broom straw and bend it in the form of a loop. Dip this, held in this position, into the icing when you suspect you have it about right. Hold the straw with the ends to your mouth and blow. If the icing is just right it will form a bubble on the right. If no bubble is formed it is not yet hard enough. Just why this should be I have never heard. It is an old test that has come down to me from several generations of New England cake bakers, and I have never known it to fail."

TO take out wagon grease, which is two kinds, that made from coal tar may be removed from cloth by an application of petroleum; the other, made from animal fat, responds to a sponging with ether.

MAKE a small cushion roll six inches long and fill it with white wool. Tack this to one end of the sewing table, and there you have a handy cushion which holds pins ready for use. It saves looking for needles and pins when they are needed at once while sewing.

OLD incandescent gas mantles which are of no more use for their original purpose should never be thrown away, as they are excellent as a means of polishing metal. Each one should be saved as it is removed from the burner, and when a sufficient number have been collected, they should be ground to a powder and applied briskly by means of a soft rag slightly dampened and rubbed over the metal.

DON'T sugar the fruit that is served at the table, suggests a competent housewife. Have your berries or sliced peaches or other fruit nicely prepared and set on the table without sugar, because if any of the fruit is left the sugar will make it look unappetizing if served at another meal. Serve the sugar separately in a shaker.

IN dyeing at home amateurs often make the mistake of putting the dyed article through the wringer, possibly to avoid staining the hands for one reason, or perhaps hoping to dry the garment more quickly. This, however, should never be done, for the creases so formed are most obstinate, and, in fact, often only disappear with wear despite all pressing. Dyed articles should be squeezed from the bath and hung out of doors to dry.

## USE REAL ECONOMY

BY MRS. McCUNE.

TO the most of us, so some one has said, economy means going without the things we want in order that we may buy the things we need. In my various wanderings round about this good world of ours I have seen funny economies, foolish economies, sensible economies, heart-breaking economies—and a lot of others.

For instance, there was the Lady-of-Uncertain-Age who had a small and steady income which would have given her a comfortable living in a small town. But no, she hungered for the big city and her one great joy was to dine every night in some smart hotel. Of course, to do this she had to have two or three good looking frocks. So she lived in a furnished room, cooked her meals, breakfast and lunch, over a gas jet, wore a cheap ready made street dress, and in this way saved sufficient to have suitable dinner frocks, and a sumptuous meal every evening in a sumptuous place.

She was middle-aged enough that she didn't need an escort, and beside, most of the hotels knew her well, and respected their odd patron, whose delight in the bill of fare, the shaded lights, the service, and the music was so pathetically evident. She would make her breakfast of a cup of cocoa and a few crackers, her lunch of a boiled egg and more crackers, but at night she ate filet au champignons and forced artichokes and left a generous tip for her waiter.

A certain writer has a penchant for making over and altering her own clothes. She will lengthen sleeves and put fresh lace in her blouses with infinite care and at the cost of a great deal of time. After she had been altering a little batiste blouse which couldn't have cost more than \$5 originally and which had seen one season's wear, I made an estimate of the time it had taken her, and showed her in cold figures how she might easily have written at least a hundred dollars' worth of copy in that time—and sold it, too. Then I mildly suggested that sleeves at \$50 each was something a bit more expensive than she ought to wear. She protested to throw away, and that no seamstress would do such a puttering, tedious job.

You all know plenty of women who have a passion for utilizing left over food. Who make it their boast that they use every bit of foodstuff that comes into their house, and who are never so happy as when a steak bone and a spoonful of mashed potatoes await their magic touch to be turned into a banquet.

Well, don't you believe them. There is precious little good in using up your energy in a passionate study of the best way to dispose of three slices of stale bread and a cup of tomato soup. Many a woman will wear her life and energy out over nonsense like this, while her children run wild on the street and get into all sorts of bad company, because, all sorts of, she is in the kitchen, too busy thinking out a new kind of hash to give them the care and attention they should have.

Economy lies in using all your time to the best advantage, in buying nothing for which you have not some definite use at the time of purchase, in using your belongings when they are most appropriate, and in discarding them or passing them on to some one who can use them, when they are of no more use to you. And if you think for one moment that it is easy to do all of these things, just try them. The rarest bird of the human species is the person who is a true economist.