

ECONOMY IN USE OF INDOOR GOWN

Many Reasons Why New Fashion Has Met With Such General Approval.

NOW WORN WITH WARM COAT

Addition of Extra Garment Removes Practically Last Argument Against It—Designers Have Exhausted Their Ingenuity in Devising Effects That Will Please.

New York.—The one thing that appeals to the average woman concerning the strong incoming fashion of the indoor gown, is that it can be made from evening gowns that are not quite in the present picture. All those who are interested in the economics of dress have preached the loose tea gown for one's own home after six o'clock in the afternoon as a means of preserving one's other apparel; and rest assured, this is the reason the French use it, because they have no class so rich that it does not know thrift.

You know by personal experience that wearing the skirt belonging to the tailored suit in the house after the coat has been removed, is just merely ruining the suit; and dressing for dinner, which has become such a universal custom among nearly all classes of American life in the last six years, is too expensive a practice, for it means that one's evening gown suitable for someone else's dinner or a dance is used. A gracious compromise lies in the indoor robe.

Lacks Sufficient Warmth. The fault found with it in recent years has been that its flimsy quality

of their houses, but it has met with eager approval on this side of the water.

One indoor gown is of oxidized gray net, covered with steel paillettes, and it falls in a straight line from shoulders well on the floor, where it folds about the feet front and back. There is a girdle at the hips of immense imitation rubies set in a composition that looks like old silver, with a huge crystal in front and long fringes that hang to the knees. The neck of this is cut in the difficult renaissance fashion, and on each shoulder is an immense imitation ruby to clasp the front and back together. Over this, purely for the sake of riotous color, is a long, full coat that might be a Doge's mantle, or ruby red chiffon velvet, the same on both sides, and bordered with dark gray fur.

Oriental Effect. Another tea gown is oriental, with full trousers of silver net that are caught in at the ankles, a tunic of gauze that is girdled with old silver, an imitation turban, and a long coat of king's blue velvet lined with deep pink satin and trimmed with ermine. Still another indoor gown that has been brought over by the designers is of orange yellow chiffon, girdled high at the waist with gold and pearls, with a sweeping, imperial cape of yellow and gold brocade, ending in a long train; it is lined with pale blue velvet and broad bands of black seal hold it down on the shoulders.

The enthusiastic fashion for wearing indoor robes has brought about the introduction of brilliant blouses that are worn to all indoor affairs and which may be conected to put in combination with a separate skirt for constant usage at night in one's own house. These blouses hang limply from the shoulders, they are usually made of chiffon or panne velvet and always in a gorgeous color. The belt, which is placed at the normal waistline, is an extravagant affair of colored crystal or bullion or any other bit of decoration that recalls the art of other days.

There has been a dipping into old Aztec designs for clothes worn in the



FRENCH INDOOR ROBES, SUBSTITUTE FOR EVENING GOWNS.

One—Tea gown with tunic of silver over trousers that fasten at the ankle, with blue velvet coat trimmed with bands of ermine. Two—Gown of orange yellow chiffon, with cape of yellow and gold brocade trimmed with bands of black.

makes it too chilly for all houses, although overheating of American rooms is the rule instead of the incident.

This trouble has been offset by the new fashion which calls for a warm coat as a part of the tea gown. It is a wise procedure first to find out how these remarkably attractive new clothes are made and then, if not able to buy them at fountain-head, to look over the evening gowns and gaudy materials that one may possess and see if one or two such robes cannot be fashioned.

The appearance of these two gowns may be divided into two parts, the medieval and the empire. They swirl and slink and reveal the figure, and they glow with color.

Pictorial Gowns for the House.

A few of the most original indoor gowns worn by individuals have been imported from a famous studio in Venice. Importers have searched Italy for unique creations in fifteenth century styles, and old Italian pictures have been copied in richly colored velvets, furs and complex motifs of colored crystals.

The addition of the warm jacket to the indoor robe is a French conception because of the eternal chilliness

SMART TOUCHES THAT COUNT

Fit of the Cuffs is a Matter Worthy of Attention—Appearance of Boots Depends on Care.

This year the fit of the cuffs has much to do with the smartness of the costumes. The long, tight cuffs are meant to fit snugly about the wrist. So if you buy a ready-made frock with long cuffs that do not fit, have it remodeled to fit snugly and neatly. Then fit it with buttons, hooks and eyes or snap fasteners so that the sleeves may be taken on and off.

Much to milady's gratification, smart white kid boots, which are so fashionable today, are washable, just as the gloves may scrub with pure white soap and warm water. Before going to bed she puts shoe trees in her boots and bathes them, and in the morning, presto, behold, they are spotless and fresh as new.

The fashionable materials—georgette chiffon, crepe de chine, pussy willow, faille and lusterless taffeta—all are applicable, as well as hand embroidery in dull silks and dull jet beads. Mourning

street and in the house, but the Napoleonic era is also productive of much that is desired.

Typical of Blouse Styles.

One such blouse gives a good idea of what all the others are. It is of brilliant green chiffon, dropped over thin yellow satin, and hangs in loose folds to the hips, with the immense cape collar that is low in front and has its edges embroidered in black. It is fastened in front with square cut jet buttons, and the belt is made of four loose strands of jet beads held in place by unusually large black and white Napoleonic cameos. This is worn with a black velvet skirt. If a woman wants to adopt it for the house, it will bring any black skirt into the highlight of smartness.

Modeled on Old Styles.

All the straws show the tendency toward 1812 and 1830 in street clothes, borrowed from the men and not the women. One of the smartest new blue chevrons made for the south has a coat that looks like a daguerreotype, with its full peplum, its immense pockets, its tightly buttoned waist, flaring revers, and shawl collar that rises to the hair in back.

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ing crepe appears as trimming, also much hemstitching and combinations and sheer and heavy fabrics add to the chic of many of these waists.

New Neckwear.

The neck line is like the waistline, no longer a stationary thing. From Paris comes a high collar of black taffeta tied in the back with a flaring bow which falls over a circular collar of white organdie—the whole a fetching little affair which is especially becoming to the tall, slender woman. High collars are not easy to wear, but they are smart.

Chenille Fringed Negligees.

Deep chenille fringe edges the large shawl collar and wide Japanese sleeves of a simple, loose-hanging negligee of French rose chiffon velvet, the fringe matching perfectly.

Black Velvet and Ermine.

One of the newest black chiffon velvet frocks is made with a high empire waist and long sleeves. Its only decoration is a narrow roll of ermine to outline the round low-cut neck.

MULES AS MUNITION TRANSPORTS



Scene on the western front, showing shells being rushed to the lines on backs of mules, the roads being virtual quagmires.

NO MOOSE EVER "TREED" A MAN

Old Maine Guide Declares Animals Never Attack a Human Being.

EXPLODES POPULAR FABLES

Takes Little Stock in Birch-Bark Horn Calls—in Mating Season Bulls Will Respond to Any Noise.

Bangor, Me.—According to old Ben York, a famous hunter and guide in Maine for 60 years, no moose ever was known to "tree" a man in the sense in which the term is generally understood, numerous reports to the contrary being fables or at best exaggerations.

"In my day," said Ben York, "I have seen thousands of moose and killed hundreds of them. I have followed them days and nights, at all seasons. I have watched them for days at a time to learn their tricks; I have kept them in fenced inclosures near my camp for years at a time, and have tamed and driven them to harness all along the West Branch. More than all this, I have questioned reliable hunters and woodsmen who were alive and active when there were as many moose in Maine as there are hedgehogs now, and I have never known or learned from any reliable sources of a single instance of a human being being 'treed' by one of the animals.

Act Strangely at Times.

"During the mating season," says York, "the bulls act very strangely at times, rushing about in an aimless manner, climbing steep hills, swimming furious streams and placing themselves in peril of their lives in many ways. While the fury for combat is on an old bull he will crash through the woods, running his head against rocks and trees and often injuring himself seriously. If a man should get in the bull's way at such a time, why, very likely he would become a candidate for the hospital. At such a time the bull never stops to note how much damage he has done. He keeps racing right along at top speed until he gets all fagged out or meets a rival for the object of his affections.

"The stories that some guides tell," said York, "about moose driving hunters into trees and standing guard over them all night, pawing the ground and bellowing with rage, are inventions of nature fakery to awe greenhorns. I am convinced that no moose ever deliberately attacked a human being, unless wounded and crazed with pain, in which condition the meekest of animals often become dangerous; and whoever tells of being treed by a moose at any time or under any circumstances is drawing upon his imagination.

"I have seen two bull moose fight," he says, "while I stood within a few rods of them, and keep up the battle for half an hour without becoming aware of my presence. At other times I have paddled up to a mother moose when she was feeding on the roots of pond lilies with her head under water, and drawn off half a pint of her milk without alarming her. I have seen moose fight with wolves and bears, and have observed their extreme solicitude for their young; but never yet have I seen or known of a moose treed by a human being.

No Use for Moosehorn.

"While I'm talking about moose," York said, "I want to say that I take no stock in the so-called moosehorn for calling bulls to their destruction in the mating season. The cow moose, whose cry is said to be closely imitated by the birch-bark horn, utters a long and dolorous wail at times, whatever the time of year. I have stood close by several times while cow moose were making such cries, but never knew a bull to respond, although I have waited for hours. All through the mating season the bulls

are very alert to catch the slightest sound, and let a twig snap or an ax handle beat a tattoo on a hollow stump and the bull is away in the direction of the sound, following his defiant challenge. I have used the birch-bark horn with some success in calling moose, but I have done as well or better by rapping the butt of my rifle against the trunk of a tree or breaking a twig in the thicket. It is my belief that the dominant passion in the mind of a bull moose in mating time is to meet and defeat every rival, and that the dolorous cry of the cow neither attracts nor repels the male."

Many of the oldest hunters and guides agree with Mr. York concerning the treed of men by moose, but most of them believe that the birch-bark horn is very useful to the hunter.

"TANKS" FIGHT IN PAIRS

Known as Males and Females, Says Officer of Nova Scotia Battalion.

Kingsport, N. S.—A description of the operation of British "tanks" was given by Lieut. Harry W. Hiltz of the Nova Scotia battalion on his arrival here.

"There are two types of tanks, known as the male and female tank," he said. "They fight in pairs, a male and a female. The male tank carries two heavy guns and six machine guns and the female has two heavy guns and five machine guns.

"They certainly proved a great surprise to the Germans, and I might add to us as well, as they came lumbering along during the fight for Courcellette. They of course did better work than they have accomplished since, for the Germans have become accustomed to them and know better how to fight back. Nothing but a direct hit by a heavy shell will damage them in the least."

Lieutenant Hiltz says the new British war machine travels about two or three miles an hour and when it comes to a trench the front part draws up after the manner of a caterpillar attempting to get over an obstacle. At night when the tanks are used a white tape is run out ahead from the machine and serves as a guide for it.

WASHINGTON DEBUTANTE



Miss Margaret Fahnestock, daughter of Mrs. Gibson Fahnestock, was introduced to Washington society at a brilliant dinner and dance recently. Miss Fahnestock's Newport debut was staged last summer.

STOLEN KISS COST \$1,000

Gotham Hotel Chef Loses Damage Suit Brought by a Blushing Bride.

New York.—Mrs. Julia Nish, twenty-four, of Hartdale, did not get back a kiss which she says Xenophon Kuzmier, chef in the Hotel Gotham, stole from her one day last May. But then, Mrs. Nish, who had been married just two weeks at that time, did not try to recover the kiss.

Mrs. Nish's suit for \$5,000 damages, against Kuzmier came to trial the other day in White Plains, at which she testified, blushing, of course, before Judge Young and a jury.

"Mr. Kuzmier came to our apartment (in a house owned by Kuzmier) and said to me, 'I have come to kiss the bride.' I said to him, 'You can't kiss this bride.' I told him to leave and he did. But he came back two days later and asked me if I'd changed my mind. I ordered him to leave, and he left.

48,798 SUICIDES IN FIVE YEARS

Self-Destruction an Increasing Hazard in Life Insurance in This Country.

MOST NUMEROUS IN THE WEST

Statistics Show Suicide Rate Has Apparently Reached Stationary Level—Highest Rates in Years of Great Business Depression.

New York.—An intensive study of suicide in the United States, with statistics analyzing self-destruction from almost every possible angle, is published in the Spectator, a weekly insurance paper of this city.

The sections in which the greatest number of suicides occur, the ages at which the greatest number of persons end their lives, the relative number of self-killings of the present day as contrasted with other periods, are all analyzed by the writer, Frederick L. Hoffman.

The chief conclusion reached is that the suicide rate in this country, while fairly high, has apparently reached a stationary level. That is, it has increased but a tiny fraction during the last five years over the five years preceding.

An unexplainable, or unexplained, fact about American suicides is that they are far more numerous in the western, Rocky mountain and central regions than in the East. The further West the investigator looks, the more suicides he finds.

The Statistics.

The following table is based on the percentage of self-destructions per 100,000 of population during the five years ending with 1914:

Section.	Cities.	Suicides.	Per Ct.
Eastern	55	10,119	16.5
Central	17	7,393	23.0
Rocky Mountain	3	540	28.6
Pacific Coast	9	3,082	34.4

San Diego, Cal., has the record of the highest suicide rate in the country, it being 63.3 per 100,000 of population. San Francisco is not far behind, having a rate of 55.7. Sacramento is also a place conducive to suicide, apparently, for its rate is 51.2. These figures are for the year 1915, considered separately, and in each of those cases show increases over the percentage for the previous five years.

The figures for 100 American cities show that the general suicide rate for 1915 was 20.7, as against 20.3 for the period between 1910-14. The trifling increase throughout the whole country is caused by the great increase which the far Western cities had. San Diego's increase was 20.1, Sacramento's 19.6, San Francisco's 8.9.

Manhattan and the Bronx, which are analyzed together as a city, had a suicide rate during 1915 of 19.4 per 100,000, as against 18.6 during the five years before, an increase of 0.8. Back in the years between 1900-04 the rate was 21.7.

Augusta, Ga., had the lowest rate of all American cities which were investigated, the record in 1915 being four persons per 100,000. Mobile, Ala., also was low, with 5.3. Auburn, N. Y., had a record of 5.4.

High suicide rates, the Spectator points out, have to a certain extent been connected with years of bad business and years when business houses failed, as in 1894, following the 1893 panic, when the general rate was 15.3, and 1908, following the last panic, when the rate reached the highest mark in the country's history, 21.6.

The smaller the city the fewer the suicides, the investigator found. Of the 100 cities considered, 78 were under 250,000 population. These showed a self-destruction rate of 18.2 per 100,000. The 24 cities above the quarter-million mark showed an aggregate rate of 21.1.

More Men Than Women.

Many more men than women end their lives. The tables show that the highest rate for the male sex is 21.5 per cent and that the period of life at which this number of men commit suicide is between the ages of forty-five and fifty-four. The highest rate for women is 13.0 per cent, and the favorite age for self-destruction is between fifty-five and sixty-four.

Two boys between the ages of five and nine are on record as having killed themselves in the period between 1910-14. Ten was the most youthful age at which there is record of girls having committed suicide, 69 having made away with themselves between ten and fourteen years.

There were 48,798 suicides in the country between 1910 and 1914.

As to seasons, the greatest number of suicides appear to have occurred in May and June, the rate for those months being 9.3. The smallest number occur in January—7.4.

Firearms were the favorite method during the period under analysis, 14,432 persons having shot themselves. Poisoning was next, with 13,995. Then came hanging, with 7,007; asphyxiation, 5,834; cutting instruments, 3,142; drowning, 2,716, and jumping from high places, 834.

Despite the virtually stationary rate of suicide, the writer regards self-destruction, in his summing up, as an "increasing hazard in life insurance."

"But the next day he returned, said he 'just couldn't behave himself around me,' kissed me on the cheek and left the house quickly."

After the jurors had heard Mr. Kuzmier deny the alleged act they looked again at Mrs. Nish and then agreed that a fair price for the kiss was \$1,000. That was their verdict, anyway.

Oil obtained from seeds of Brazilian rubber trees has been found an acceptable substitute for lard used by Finnish painters.

BEST TOOLS ARE ESSENTIAL IN ORCHARD

Do you want to prune your fruit trees successfully? If you do, good tools are essential.

No man who pretends to be a fruit grower will be satisfied to work without the best implements, says F. S. Merrill, assistant in horticulture in the Kansas State Agricultural college.

"For the young trees," continues Mr. Merrill, "the best tool is the pruning knife, preferably of the hawk-bill type. If the knife is kept well sharpened, the cuts may be made smoother and closer to the trunk than with any other tool.

Shears for Young Trees. "The pruning shears or hand shears are widely used, especially for young trees. There are many different types of shears but there are few good ones. The steel should be considered in making a selection. The cheap shears will always prove most expensive. The shears having a volute spring have given better satisfaction than most types. The hand shears can be worked more easily and rapidly than the knife, but the cuts cannot be made so close. A sloping cut should be made to prevent crushing of limbs.

"The long-handled shears are widely used among fruit growers because of the speed with which they may be worked. This speed induces carelessness and cuts are often poorly made.

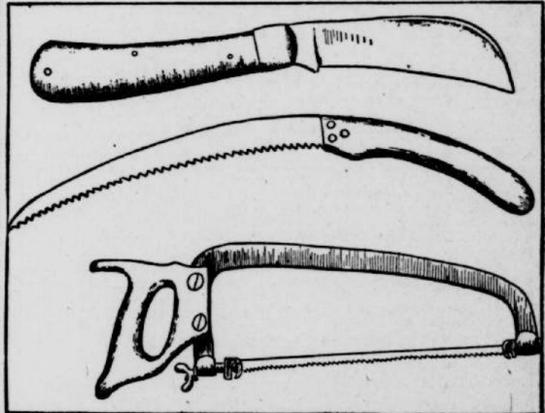
a crooked cut that requires another attack before a smooth surface can be had. It is also too heavy, and the back prevents a continual cut through a large limb. It cuts rapidly, however, and the low price of blades makes it possible to have a sharp saw at all times.

Using California Saw. "The California saw has a curved blade making a draw cut. This saw is well adapted to light work in the orchard and can be used to advantage in the smaller trees.

"A saw that has been used widely in the East can be generally recommended for the heavier pruning. This saw has a comparatively narrow blade, being three and one-half inches wide at the butt and one inch wide at the tip, and having seven teeth to the inch. It has a full grip handle so that it may be used with the gloved hand. The blade may be had in lengths varying from 18 to 24 inches. This saw works rapidly and is light in weight, durable and well balanced. The narrow blade makes it adapted to close work.

"Many implements have been offered that are attached to poles, but most of them are too unwieldy and many are too crude in workmanship to merit their use.

Pruner Must Know Facts. "Before pruning can be judiciously carried out, the pruner should have



ESSENTIAL TOOLS FOR PRUNING.

This type of pruner leaves stubs, and they should always be avoided.

Heading Back Small Limbs. "The pole pruner cannot be safely used except in heading back the small limbs. Here it is a great time saver and is a valuable tool. It is sure to leave stubs, however, when used on large limbs.

"The pruning saw is the most important tool in dealing with the older trees, especially in the neglected orchard. Many of the saws offered for this work are not only worthless but a menace. The two-edged saw has nothing to recommend its use, and it may badly damage the trees. The meat saw type is recommended by some men because the blade can be turned so that work may be done in close crotches. The point that gives this saw its advantage is also a point against it. The blade has a tendency to turn while cutting and often makes

some knowledge of the way in which the fruit buds are formed and on what portion of the tree the fruit is borne. The orchardist who practiced the same system of pruning for his apples as for his peaches would make a failure of his crop.

"The apple produces its fruit buds on short, crooked or irregular spurs that are two or more years old. In pruning, the object should be to produce the formation of new spurs and to save all that are already on the tree. Don't let a desire for regularity influence you to cut off those ugly objects, for they are the source of your crop. If the growing conditions are good, these spurs may persist for many years, but if the sunlight is shut out by broken trees, they can never grow again, and the only way they may be replaced is by training watersprouts. This is a slow and uncertain process."

CORN SMUT IS NOT INJURIOUS TO COWS

No Ill-Effects Shown After Forty-Nine Day Test at Colorado Experiment Station.

(By W. W. ROBBINS, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins.)

It is a quite common belief that corn smut is injurious to cattle. Numerous experiments have been made to ascertain whether or not this is true. One experimenter started feeding two ounces a day of the smut to each of two cows. Later the amount was increased to 11 pounds. The test lasted 49 days, but no serious results were evident. The cows had a normal milk yield at the end of the period.

Other experiments have given practically the same results, so that it may safely be said that corn smut, either in the field or in the prepared ration, is not poisonous to cattle.

CAREFUL SELECTION OF FRUIT PAYS WELL

Time Used in Picking, Packing and Grading Apples by Hand Is Well Spent.

Though it is poor business to put large apples only in the top of the box, R. S. Mackintosh, horticultural specialist, Minnesota University farm, says that time used in picking, grading and packing apples by hand is well spent. A uniform grading system, a good box and careful handling are requisites of high prices for fruit. All apples should be carefully picked by hand from the tree before they become "hard ripe," Mr. Mackintosh says. Those which become "water-cored" must be picked especially early.

Grades, particular attention being paid to the varieties of apples, should be carefully separated. All fruit

placed in the boxes of any grade should be uniform in shape and each grade must have a size limit, below which none in the grade falls. Not more than 10 per cent of the first-grade apples should vary from the standard type or size.

Regular apple barrels, or bushel or half-bushel baskets for the local market, are most convenient for packing choice apples. The first few layers should be packed with the stems down and after each half-bushel is put in, the barrel should be shaken to settle the fruit. The top should be put on firmly to keep the apples in place. A screw or a lever press is best for putting on the top.

After the barrel is filled and the head nailed securely in place, it should be turned over and should have the variety, the grade, and the size of the smallest apple written on the other end. This end is to be opened as the top.

RECLAMATION WILL INCREASE ACREAGE

Soils Department of the Iowa College Will Make Suggestions on Best Methods.

Such waste land as is represented by the eroded, sandy, acid, gumbo, hardpan, peat, alkali and "push" soils of the state need not be "dead capital," as is most often the case on farms in Iowa where such land occurs.

The soils section of the agricultural experiment station at Iowa state college has shown how much of this waste land can be made very productive and profitable. The department has worked out methods of successful soil management and stands ready to suggest to owners of such land the best treatment for their particular type of "dead capital" soil.

"A little planning and careful work in reclaiming such lands will mean an increase of acreage of from 5 to 10 per cent on many farms," says W. H. Stevenson, of the department.

ALFALFA TAKES PLANT FOOD

Each Cutting Removes Ten Pounds of Phosphorus and Thirty Pounds of Potassium to Ton.

If good crops of alfalfa are to be expected over a period of years it may be necessary to use proper fertilizers, says Dr. Charles K. Francis, chemist at the experiment station of Oklahoma A. and M. college.

"Alfalfa removes a large quantity of plant food at each cutting—something

like ten pounds of phosphorus and 30 pounds of potassium to the ton," says Doctor Francis. "This should be replaced if good crops are to be expected year after year. Very few Oklahoma soils are absolutely deficient in potassium, but many need additions of phosphorus."

Money for Experiments. Congress has appropriated money for experiments looking to the increase of production of sugar-beet seed in the United States.