

MINUTE FANCIES

THINGS OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

VITAL-POINTS & BEING WELL-DRESSED

WHEN a woman is well dressed it is often the little things that make her so. Nine out of ten times these little things are the vital points. To say that a woman is well dressed does not mean that she must be gowned elaborately in expensive clothes, but she must have paid attention to details—the little things that count.

Freshness is a thing desired in the necessities to a woman's dress. There should be a freshness of thought, however simple or small the accessory. Special attention should be paid to the sleeves, gloves, collars, stocks, belts, ties, parasols, purses, shoes, pins and all sort of trimmings. There are many ways of remodeling an old sleeve to make it in the height of fashion. They are sometimes handkerchiefs in the center to form the little elbow puffs. And again they are cut in an almost straight strip, slightly shaped at the wrist, which is made of narrow liberty silk, fitting snugly about the wrist. The latest three-quarter sleeve is of sheer transparent material, finished with a narrow lace trim.

The plastron is more complicated. It has a stock and narrow panel of finely tucked sheer lawn, gathered with three black buttons on the collar and five in a row down the center. The shaped piece of pale pink chambray is braided in simple pattern with a thick, flat white braid and piped with chambray of deep rose color, as is also the top of the stock. The shawl collar is a plain white plique embrodered in old rose dross, with cuffs to correspond.

During the coming season dangling tassels, beads, tassels and jeweled ornaments of all sorts will be attached almost everywhere on the gowns, and these little accessories will play quite a part in a successful toilet. One of the prettiest and sanest of these will be a little flat velvet ribbon, preferably black, about three-quarters of a yard in length. This passes about the neck, tying in a short, limp bow, the long ends having a gold, silver or black tassel dangling loose over the chest. Another is of gold cord twisted together and looped through two eyelets in the collar, instead of passing about the neck.

Contrasting narrow ribbons will be attached to the lace collars and stocks, either in bows or to complete the edge. A smart touch to almost any costume, and these pretty affairs will be much worn in the evening. The ribbons are long and soft, cut four inches wide on the bias. The edges are folded to the center, where it again folds, requiring no sewing. It is best to select a heavy quality of satin for the scarf, or else use light intrinsically laced in loosely. The chief charm of the scarf is in its soft, unswollen folds. The ends are sometimes knotted with tawnyed bullion or black silk with a few outer strands of jet or cut steel. This scarf is one of the chic and durable accessories.

Black footwear and gloves, according to the fashion makers, will again be in vogue this winter and fall. A few no doubt wear the tan variety, but these will not be so popular. Where light gloves are worn, tops will be decorated with folds of chiffon or regular suff-like top lace.

The latest fans are indeed small. The largest of these small fans has 18 thin ivory sticks covered in delicate blue chiffon over blue satin. Many of the latest fans are quite pretty, regardless of their size, being painted by hand and embroidered with tiny jet and cut steel.

The winter season will find French shoes worn by many of the fashionable women. There are, however, modified styles for the conservative woman. They are in soft kid, varnished tips, velvet tops and tassels. The shoes will be of a very soft kid, hand-made and with a long, narrow square toe, sometimes tipped or embroidered in jet, with a few outer strands of jet or cut steel.

The French shoes also come in different styles, the heavier and lighter ones. The heavier ones are of the French style, the lighter adapted for American women and these have been done away with to a certain extent. The very high heel worn by the French woman often makes an American woman look quite awkward, instead of giving the desired grace desired. The high heels are also injurious to the spine and are blamed for any number of ailments common among women. There is an especially good shoe for afternoon wear. It is of a dead-black finish and is made of black satin that will supersede all the other colors and styles this coming season.

The purses have changed somewhat. Mildly now goes forward with her wealth hanging in a very tiny bag at the end of a long chain. These bags will match the colors of the gowns and are often embroidered with beads to suit the taste of the owner. The designs are very simple for the most part and they can easily be made at home. They are sometimes of lavender suede, headed in purple and mauve beads, suspended on a chain of silver links. A new feature in the purses is a little pocket for suburban train tickets and a flat coin purse, thus preventing a wild search whenever car tickets or a small coin is needed.

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LACE VELS.

LACE VELS, so much worn this season, are very effective, if not altogether becoming to some women. They necessitate, however, very careful treatment, as they have a decided air of cheap finery if allowed to get soiled. A great many of these vels are a yard and a half in length and deep enough to go well over the hat and under the chin. Care should be taken in putting on the vels. They should be adjusted to suit the wearer in front and then a good smooth to the top of the hat at back and fasten with a veil pin.

If a woman has several of these vels she will find it convenient to get a long, narrow box that will hold several tubes made from newspapers. Pull out the edges of the veil carefully when it is taken off and roll smoothly on the newspaper tube that has been pasted with blue muslin. Blue paper muslin as well as one is sure that it does not rub off. The blue that keeps the lace from yellowing.

When rolling is troublesome, fold the veil neatly in a very tiny bag at the end of a long chain. These bags will match the colors of the gowns and are often embroidered with beads to suit the taste of the owner. The designs are very simple for the most part and they can easily be made at home. They are sometimes of lavender suede, headed in purple and mauve beads, suspended on a chain of silver links. A new feature in the purses is a little pocket for suburban train tickets and a flat coin purse, thus preventing a wild search whenever car tickets or a small coin is needed.

Plain Clothes for Children

Many American mothers the old custom of having "country clothes" for the children. Their hair must be curled or crimped in tight plaits; the ordinary play frock of gingham or percale is discarded and blue lawn or other material with sat inserting must be put on, and a wide-brimmed hat, overtrimmed with all sorts of flowers and bows is placed on the child's head to replace the bonnet.

Usually the six-year-old child is over-dressed by this year. Frequent admonitions to keep her clothes clean serve for a time, but then she will go on a "rampage" and the mother wonders what causes her misbehavior when visitors are in the house. Plain clothes for children mean happiness and, luckily, many mothers realize this fact, having done away with the old-time custom.

Plain clothes also mean a great saving for the household. The ready-made clothes one sees in the stores help in the era of simplicity of children's dress. Of course, every now and then we see a pretty little dress in some shop window, all covered with delicate embroidery and dery. The obliging shop girl will

offer the information that the dress is exactly like one made for a certain little princess and that it cost much money.

The mother is apt to think it hardly fair that her children should be dressed in gingham and percale. But as a fact, little princesses are not allowed to wear those kind of dresses—the kind that cost hundreds of dollars—until they are grown. Those little members of royalty often are garbed as other children, in gingham and percale.

The child loves a simple dress, a dress that can be used for all sorts of romping and playing. One practical mother adopts a color scheme in the dressing of each of her daughters and adheres to it with considerable satisfaction. Her scheme is to dress one daughter for a season in, say, coral, tan and white. There are little over-checked dresses and tan and white striped dresses, all to be worn with one big corn hat with a brown bow and a very dainty cap.

The smaller sister, on the other hand, is a decided blonde, and for her there is

nothing but blue. Blue gingham, blue corded percale, blue madras, a wide white hat with a navy blue bow, and a blue serge coat are arranged to give the little sister a variety of dresses.

Children's dresses should all be made in the very simplest of styles. They should be mostly of the one-piece effect, and the trimming should never be elaborate. There should be bands of white cotton braid on some of the dresses, and a few embroidered dots on others. There should be no ruffles in any of them and neck a ruffle in the entire wardrobe. The unity of color effect and simplicity of line make the child well dressed.

The wise mother believes in buying a good many frocks, making them as simple as possible and using the least expensive materials. These dresses—every one of them—should be discarded at the end of the season. The rapidly growing child looks her worst in a dress that is too small for her, either too short or too tight. But the dresses need not be thrown away. They should be passed down to the younger sister.

There should be no elaborate lingerie hats. The latter should not be too good for romping and playing. Children should be left free from the curse of fine clothes until they get to an age when dainty and fashionable mean pleasure to them. They should be dressed prettily, but as simply as possible, in order that they will be comfortable.

This also applies to the school clothes for the older children. Many of the latest French dresses for school are of the worsted wools and they are not suitable for the very young child. The hats for schoolgirls are exactly like those worn by older girls, with the exception that they are made much smaller and trimmed with a very dainty finish. Big bows and ribbons take the place of feathers and plumes in most cases.

Plaid is an early winter favorite as a material for the schoolgirl's frock. Green and blue is the most worn, and the blue is very simply done. The hat to go with this is made on the same shape as the order and is suggestive of the prevailing soft crown.

The old custom of the clothes for children is gradually going out and being long all the little ones will be dressed in very simple and comfortable. A skilled trained nurse once made the remark that a "good baby is a comfortable baby," and this same idea holds true with children. The good girl of six summers is the girl who is not dressed in starched garments, her hair done up in tight plaits and wearing shoes that pinch her little toes.

The Justweds Almost Buy A Cozy Little Home

"HOMER," began Mrs. Justwed in that hesitating, plaintive tone characteristic somehow of wives when they interrupt their husbands' personal of the evening paper to ask a favor or broach a difficult subject. "Do you think I'll find all the room we want in this flat this winter?"

Mr. J. grunted ambiguously—then looked up presently from the sporting page and exclaimed in that fashion equally characteristic of husbands when so interrupted. "What's the matter?"

"I was merely remarking," said Mrs. J. quite placidly, "that I think we will find the apartment rather crowded this winter."

"Crowded—fiddlesticks!" snapped Mr. J. "We lived in a flat last year, didn't we? Well, why not this year? What do you want to do—move? I hope you haven't got that fever again, madam! Let me remind you that I've looked at all the new apartments I'm going to this fall—no more of it for your Uncle Dudley! The other one—that is, the new one—is fair. Uh—Uh! Nothing doing! This little layout looks good enough for me!"

And he buried his nose again in the "sporting dope." But Mrs. J. was not in the least discouraged. She waited and watched patiently until he had become somebody, and was turning to the next, when she returned to the fray.

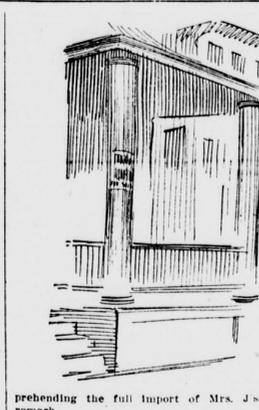
"I do not mean a new apartment, Homer," she said, as though Mr. J. had just concluded his remarks on the subject a second before, "but a house."

Mr. J. laid aside his paper in astonishment. "A house?" he exclaimed. "For the love of Mike, Blossom, what'll you be wanting? Never! Never! No cat to put out at night, no furnace to shake down and no drip-pen under the refrigerator to empty for morn'g! No tub—not if they'd give it to me rent free!"

Justwed signed forlornly and appealingly. "Oh, very well, then, Homer. But I had your interests solely at heart. I do so want to see you get along and be somebody."

Homer-dear sat up a bit straighter in his chair. "Be somebody?" he questioned. "Be somebody? Well, is living in a house going to make me somebody? Hub! I was under the impression it was considerably fashionable to live in apartments these days!"

Mr. J. paused dramatically before replying. "No, Homer-dear," she said presently, in measured, impressive tones, "living in a house isn't going to make you somebody, but—owning your own home will!"



prepending the full import of Mrs. J.'s remark. "Exactly!" cried Mrs. J. valiantly. And Homer-dear's attention won and her heart full of the subject, she saluted forth like an Amazon. Incidentally, too, he it stated, she sailed into Mr. Justwed for fair.

For the same rent they were paying for the apartment they could be purchasing their own home! Where? Impossible! Not a bit of it! She had seen the house herself—rented with her own eyes. It was a perfect dear of a house, too; eight rooms and bath and—well, if he'd hurry home from the bank the next afternoon she'd take him to see it. If then he didn't like it if he didn't become just as enthusiastic over it as she was—why—why—she'd promise never to mention the subject again!

Homer-dear objected. Homer-dear raved. Homer-dear ridiculed the idea. Homer-dear pleaded excuses. But in the end Homer-dear capitulated. "When a woman will, she will," and Homer-dear had no choice but to sidestep looking at the house from the start.

The next afternoon a man and a woman might have been seen reluctantly descending the steps of a trim little two-story house, set in the middle of a long row, and resplendent with freshly painted front porch and shutters, and spick and span as you please. The man turned when half way up the block and looked longingly at the house he had just left.



"It sure is a beauty, Blossom!" he remarked, with real enthusiasm. "Won't that little room on the third floor back make a dandy little den?"

"I knew you'd like it, Homer," she said. "I don't see how anybody could help liking it. And just think what can be done with the lower floor once it is fixed up. Artist! Why, the perspective possible is simply amazing!"

"Are you sure it can be bought for monthly payments of \$40?" asked the man, anxiously. "It scarcely seems possible. How do you know it? Who told you so? Why, it's only \$2 more a month than we're paying now for that crowded, cramped little apartment of ours."

"Yes, indeed, Homer," insisted the woman, "I'm sure of it. I'd swear, Molly Connor and her husband are buying one—they've just taken the one two doors above ours. That's what they're paying \$40 a month, including taxes, interest, water rent and—well, a whole lot of other things I don't even



know the meaning of."

"Oh, oh, but that just dandy!" exclaimed Mrs. J. with enthusiasm. "Do tell me all about it! I'm just crazy to know!"

"But, somehow, he wasn't in the least enthusiastic. In fact, he seemed worried."

"But, Blossom," he said—and it was plain he hated to say it—"you have to pay five hundred dollars down on the house first."

"Oh!" exclaimed Mrs. J. mournfully. "Five hundred dollars—where! And we haven't but two hundred in bank, have we?"

"No—no—only two hundred," admitted Homer-dear, sadly.

Mrs. J. was silent. Suddenly she jumped to her feet. "I have it!" she cried gaily. "I'll borrow the other three hundred! Surely the bank will lend it to you—you've been with them ten years!"

Mr. J. shook his head. "No, Blossom," he said, slowly. "I don't think the bank will lend it to you. I've got it on notes alone with an understanding with the president that they be paid on principal and interest. In a year. But that would be too much for us. We simply couldn't do it. If we could save only one hundred last year, how could we hope to save over three hundred this year? No, I've been thinking of that, but it's too big for us to try. Blossom, too big!"

"But we can, Homer—we can—we can save and economize—cut down on the table and—oh—without a scintilla, and—oh, I'm sure we can do it. I won't ask for a new hat even!"

Her courage was touching and Mr. J. perched her arm and said, "I'll see to it that we'll have it all at once if we wait until we get it all at once we never will have a home!"

And she burst into tears not rebellious ones, but tears of keen disappointment. Mr. J. was visibly depressed.

Presently he walked over to her and took her in his arms. "Cheer up," he said. "Cheer up. We'll rent the house anyway, though it will cost forty-two dollars a month. And then, if we like it and if we can save the other three hundred during the year, we'll buy it. I've made arrangements to that effect with the agent."

"Oh!" exclaimed Mrs. J. "Oh!" And she dried her eyes.

"But," she hesitated presently. "It does seem foolish to try to pay all that money out for a whole year—and and—and not have a cent of it apply on the purchase price. I think we were making a mistake, Homer. We ought to borrow the three hundred somewhere."

"That's—that's always the way with people who never own their own homes—they're always going to buy, but always waiting and waiting until they have the money in a lump sum. Now, don't let's be like them. We must buy that house next year if we like it, of course, please?"

"Please?"

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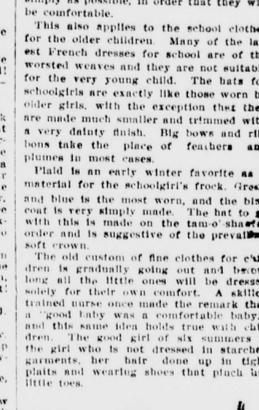
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Plain clothes mean happiness.

A CORNER FOR MEN

Little Fables of the Rising Young Man.

THE PLUGGER AND THE SKY-SHOOTER.

A CERTAIN business man, of wealth and position in his community, stopped off the other day at a college town, in a state of excitement, of his to see a football game. The son of his friend was playing on one of the teams, and the father induced the captain of the other team to accompany him to the contest. Paternal pride was on edge and every move of the boy was watched anxiously by the father. The business man, too, was interested, for the lad had long been a favorite of his—indeed, he felt almost as though the boy were his own.

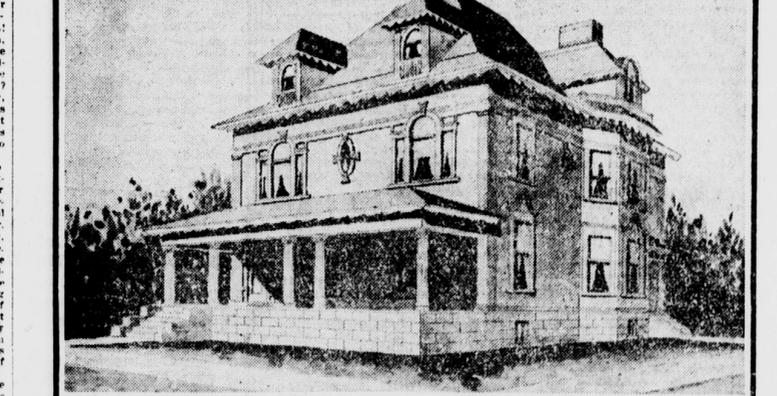
The game progressed, with the opposing team having a shade the better of it. Somehow the lad failed to do anything spectacular. The chap playing the opposite end on the team, however, was cheered to the echo several times for bits of sensational work, such as a difficult tackle, the recovery of a fumbled ball or a clever piece of interference. His work was all out in the open where the grandstand could not fail to identify him—not purposely, of course, but it simply happened that way.

The proud father's son came in for none of the applause. He seemed to be merely in the game—and always tangled up in the mass plays where it was difficult for the average spectator to see who was doing the good work. He was just eight or his name was not shouted aloud on the end of the college yell. He was overlooked in the shuffle.

"Jim," he said to his friend, "why doesn't the boy do something?"

A COMMODIOUS RESIDENCE.

DESIGNED BY CHAS. S. SEDGWICK, ARCHITECT.



THIS house is designed for a city lot. It is commodious, having all the accommodations and conveniences of a strictly up-to-date house. The size is 34 feet in width by 56 feet in depth, exclusive of piazza. It is designed to be of frame construction throughout, thoroughly well built and of best materials, using heavy studs for the outside walls and good-sized timbers, and all of the construction first class in every respect.

The first story floor is elevated four feet above the grade and the stories 9 feet 6 inches and 8 feet 6 inches in the clear, with the basement 8 feet. The entrance is at the left-hand side, with a reception-room and music-room in front, with living-room and dining-room back, the four rooms opening together on a wide side door. At the rear of dining-room and living-room is a cross-way hall, with side entrance, large coat closet and toilet-room. At the rear is the kitchen with butler's pantry and china closet, also a rear stairs, leading from basement to third story. The rooms are large in size and well lighted.

There is one main chimney with large fireplace in the living-room and rear chimney in the dining-room and rear chimney in the kitchen range and laundry direct below with drying-room in connection. The second story has four large front chambers and two small rear chambers, connected with sliding doors for children. All rooms are provided with ample closets and there is one

Great Trade in Toys.

OVER fifty million dollars worth of toys have been imported into this country in the past ten years. During the same period over five million dollars worth of toys have been exported. A million dollars worth of toys were exported during the last fiscal year, showing that there is an increase in the export trade. The value of toys imported, however, has dropped.

Toys are largely made in Germany. That is to say, Germany is the largest source of supply for the United States. The little German town of Sonneberg, in the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen, on the border of the North Sea, is perhaps the largest toy-making center in the world. This little town is credited with the annual production of twenty-four million toys, having an aggregate value of four million dollars. There are several other cities in Germany that do a big business in the manufacture of toys, among them being Nuremberg.

The opening in the center of the flap is covered by another flap, and on the inside of this is a groove to hold a row of matches. With one of these boxes the smoker can have the satisfaction of knowing that he has a complete equipment in his pocket and he saves the necessity of going through one pocket after another to find where he placed his matches, his cigarette papers, his tobacco, the last time he used them.

Smoker's Handy Box.

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SMOKERS who find a very complete and convenient set in a cigarette box designed by a New York man. This box has not only a space for ready-made woods, but is also adapted to carry loose tobacco and a quantity of matches. The device is about the size and shape of the average cigarette box, only a little thicker. The extra thickness is caused by a flap which has a piece of paper between the cigarette paper and the side compartments to hold the tobacco.

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