

INTEREST



WOMEN

A Question of Taste.
 Laced lace is a recent arrival in the midst. It is new, and means beauty, and these two qualities count righteously. But some authorities call in question the perfect taste combination in lace and jewels, argue, why seek to gild gold and the lily? A covetable exception is an aigrette for the hair, made of lace in the form of a butterfly, gemmed with diamonds. The lace of this jeweled lace rule high collar of Venetian lace point with pearls and diamonds, averages \$5000, and the deep lace necklaces cost in proportion.

The Tricks of All Trades.

The woman who is always stumbling things had an experience the other day, which she declares wounded her the deepest part of her nature and took her faith in an ancient institution. She was detained on the top of a big out-of-town store until the crowding of the elevators with the employes made her prefer to find her way out by the stairway. One of the doors of the building seemed, she thought, to be devoted solely to the storage of goods, and as she passed by the door of one of the rooms on this floor her attention was attracted by a man's voice exclaiming in tones of satisfaction: "There, they wouldn't take 'em nice and fresh. Let's see if I'll take 'em this way." Through an open door the astonished shopper saw a member of the firm industriously sprinkling a pile of clean shirts with a watering pot. An attendant briskly supplied fresh waists as the pile diminished, and preparations for a "great fire sale" were evidently under way. Next day the involuntary discoverer of the shrewd man to gratify the bargain hunter and herself unable to keep away from the "fire sale," and there, sure enough, were the crumpled half-a-dollar waists of the week before selling forty-nine cents, and plenty of take-aways.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

Habit of Some Dressmakers.

A woman who could well afford to wear her clothes made at the most exclusive mantuamaker's, and, in fact, to patronize some fashionable establishments for years, now buys all of her gowns from a large retail dry goods store, and is as well dressed as any one in New York. The amount of money saved is considerable. It was an economy, however, that drove her to the couturiere, but the accidental discovery that her clothes were worn by friends of Mme. Modiste before being delivered to her. On detecting a bit of impertinence her humiliation was equalled only by her righteous indignation, which was allowed full vent. Inquiry of a floor walker in a Broadway house elicited this information: It is neither new nor uncommon for dressmakers to favor particular clients with the loan of somebody's glet for a few hours' wear of an afternoon or evening, great care being taken to keep it out of range of the wearer's circle of acquaintances. One Mrs. Blank's gowns appeared at a ball given in Philadelphia the night before it was sent to her house in this city. She never was any the wiser. Then a dressmaker puts a customer day after day, making one excuse after another for the non-completion of dress and pretending to be not at home when said customer calls from time to time. It is pretty safe to assume that the garment has been lent out. We hear many complaints against this practice.—New York Press.

Hygiene and Footwear.

The same fundamental error of misplaced construction is apparent in the fashionable shoe or boot of the present day, both of men and women. A properly made boot should fit the foot accurately; the great toe should be in a straight line with the inside of the foot; the other side of a toe of a boot should slant outward and backward in conformity with the natural shape of the toes. The inevitable result of misshapen feet and boots is an impediment in walking and the presence of both corns, bunions and inflaming toe-nails. The widest part of the sole of a boot should correspond with the widest part of the sole of the foot, which is at the base of the toes; the heel should be made broad and firm, so as to give a firm and stable support. Even when the wearer is sitting to be able to remove all the toes with freedom, the sole of the boot should be flexible and as to fit into the shoe, under side of the sole of a boot should be made of leather of a boot should be made of leather, so as to conform readily to the foot. The stocking or sock should, whenever possible, be of woolly material or of a mixed material in which wool predominates. If no sock be worn, the boot needs to be high and close-fitting around the ankle, so as to prevent stones and dust getting into the boot. As to whether boots are preferable to shoes is rather a question of circumstance. In fine or dry weather, shoes are perhaps better than boots, as they permit of ventilation, and, by allowing free play to the ankle, tend to strengthen the muscles and ligaments connected with that joint. In wet weather, or when the nature of the ground is rough, boots should be worn.—American Queen.

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WOMEN AND THEIR WAYS

Young women ushers at church have been introduced by a Pennsylvania pastor, with the result of greatly increasing his congregation.

The Council of State of Christiania has decided that in future the oath of obedience taken by women in the marriage service shall be optional.

Queen Margherita of Italy is a great lover of flowers, and is a most successful amateur gardener—her favorites being carnations, violets and lilies of the valley.

The Southeastern Billposters' Association, of Moultrie, Ga., recently suspended its rules in order to admit a woman, Miss Cora Kimball, an efficient billposter.

Mrs. Harriet S. Bailey, who died recently, was one of the pioneers of the modern city of Buffalo, and its oldest resident. She was ninety-eight years old, and went to Buffalo in 1833.

Mme. Bottard, the oldest nurse in the Paris Salpêtrière, has retired after sixty-one years of service at the age of eighty years. Some years ago she was decorated with the Legion of Honor.

The tiny sheets of note paper so long high in popular favor have had their day, and it appears to be the latest fad with many to use paper only a trifle smaller than a sheet of music, inclosing it in an envelope of a corresponding size.

Princess Waldemar of Denmark, who has been known as a clever painter, has taken up sculpture also, and has modeled a hippopotamus for a charity bazaar in Copenhagen. Her husband, Prince Waldemar, is the youngest brother of Queen Alexandra.

Miss Belle Hyman, of Chicago, who has been appointed a trustee of the Illinois Industrial Home, has been blind since the age of four years, but is an accomplished musician and linguist. She is well known for her enthusiastic efforts to benefit the poor and sightless.

Miss Jessie M. Fry is acknowledged the champion rifle shot of Idaho. She has been an expert with the rifle since she was fifteen years of age. In addition she is a fine horsewoman, having conquered many a bronco on the Western plains. Miss Fry was formerly a school teacher.



FADS AND FANCIES

Batiste is now largely used for slips and linings to cotton and muslin gowns.

The hat ribbon, the girdle or sash, and the neck dressing often correspond. They must, at least, harmonize.

Good ideas have been evolved in new charms, among which are a miniature automobile, a pair of field glasses and a mounted field gun.

Spanish lace, in the black and creamy tints, is coming in again for incrustations and flouncings, and is peculiarly applicable to the silky surface of crystalline.

The new French poplins and mohairs to be so fashionably worn this fall are scarcely to be distinguished from the soft-ribbed Bengaines and other corded silks of their nature.

Beautiful lace sleeves, which are to be found in all lengths to be worn with different styles of gowns are in some instances given a lining of chiffon to soften the effect and bring out the design of the lace.

The very latest corset is a compromise between the old model and the later one with the exaggerated straight front. The straight line is not confined to the front entirely, but is distributed all around, making the curve at the back more natural.

Cretonne applications seen at their best are in a charming silvery gray coat which has the revers, cuffs and collar of a mauve design upon white cretonne and edged with a silver thread which gives the applications the effect of running into the material.



SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL

Battleships Massachusetts, Alabama and Kearsarge to be equipped for wireless telegraphy.

A \$90,000 electric lighting system is to be installed in the Church of Notre Dame in Paris. Heretofore the massive edifice has received its truly "dim religious light" from wax candles. It was feared that gas would damage the paintings and walls.

People often wonder why a thing that is a success on a small scale is often a failure when tried on a large scale. M. Nagell has recently been weighing bacteria, and he finds that they average about one-tenth-thousand-millionth of a milligram. The length of a generation is fifteen to forty minutes, and in seven days, if there were no limits to such expansion, a single germ would produce 4770 billions, which would weigh 7500 tons. Fortunately the rule of reproduction does not apply on such a large scale, for various natural checks result in keeping down the bacterial growth.

Aided by a special fund presented by a friend of the American Museum, says Science, Professor Osborn has sent out two expeditions especially in search of fossil horses—one to Texas and one to Eastern Colorado. Word has been received at the museum that the very first discovery made by the Texas party included a deposit of skulls of the three-toed horse, Protohippus, associated with parts of the limbs, feet and backbone. The find is an especially important one for the study of the evolution of the canine species. The Protohippus is thought to be the immediate successor of the true horse.

One of the methods of protecting broad grasslands from fire is to burn a swath called a "fire guard" around the area to be protected. A Montana stockman suggests that this offers a good opportunity for inventors to devise a machine which, passing over the ground like a horse rake, shall burn the grass clean from a space about eight or ten feet in width. Already an apparatus of this kind has been invented, using gasoline to set the grass on fire and a train of steel brushes to extinguish it before it has spread beyond the proper limits, but the stockman thinks that a cheaper machine can be made. "Fire guards," fifty miles or more in length, are desirable.

The loftiest engine room in the world is that located in a new cold storage warehouse in Chicago. Instead of following the conventional plan of placing the boilers and engines in basement they are to occupy space in the top story of the building 100 feet from the ground. This was done in order to prevent the heat rising through the cold storage rooms. The power equipment with ammonia machines, etc., weigh over 500 tons, which, when in full blast, would wreck an ordinary building. Hence special foundations were made for the structure, which rests upon 1800 piles driven sixty feet into the ground. Oil is used for fuel and electricity will be the motive power.

A French writer, Henri Coupin, says that the fact that, notwithstanding their simplicity, the songs of the birds cannot be imitated with musical instruments arises from the impossibility of reproducing their peculiar timbre. The notes of birds, while corresponding with our musical scale, also include vibrations occupying the intervals between our notes. The duration of birds' songs is usually very short, two or three seconds for thrushes and chaffinches, four or five seconds for blackcaps, but from two to five minutes for the lark. M. Coupin remarks that while one in every ten species of European bird is tuneful, the proportion diminishes to only one in a thousand among the gorgeously clad birds of the tropics.

Airship Possibilities.

If this Frenchman's air-ship is perfected the fancy of Mortimer Collins may no longer be described as purely whimsical. In "Squire Silchester's Whim," which was published in 1873, Mr. Achille Gilet steers his balloon from Guernsey to the English coast and descends on the Squire's estate.

"Very impertinent," said the Squire. "They are trespassing already. They ignore the important fact that the air above my manor is as much mine as the earth underneath."

"Ah, if balloons should become general," said Simonet, "that consideration would generate lawsuits. You would have to fence your plot of air, and set spring guns and man traps."—Boston Journal.

An Ancient Petroleum Spring.

In Zante, one of the Ionian Islands, there is a petroleum spring which has been known for nearly 3000 years. It is mentioned by Herodotus.

PROVING HIS CASE.

Harm That Can Be Done Humanity by a Fool Diet.

"Are you aware, sir, of what you are doing?"

The stout, florid-faced man in the restaurant, who was about to help himself to a generous portion of mince pie, looked up in astonishment at the nervous, thin, little individual opposite. "What do you mean?" he asked.

"I have been watching you," said the nervous man, "eating your dinner, and impelled as I am by a love of humanity, I cannot see you leave this table without a protest at the diet which you are killing yourself with. First, you had fish chowder. No protein, but slight hydrocarbonates. Then you had corned beef and cabbage, containing fully eighty per cent. of deleterious matter. Then you had pie, with a mountain of sugar. Are you aware, sir, that this can only be digested by the duodenum? Think of it! You'll be a wreck in a few years."

The stout man he addressed gazed at him compassionately for a moment. "You don't look as if your diet was doing you much good," he said quietly.

"That, sir," replied the thin man, "is no argument at all. You were healthy to start with, and I wasn't. You'll go to pieces in a short time, and I'll live to be an old man, because I know the percentage of fruit salts the human system can stand."

"You'll live for years beyond your allotted time, will you?" said the stout man.

"Yes, sir, I will."

"Then," said the stout man, as he rose and paid his check, "that only bears me out. It only shows what harm can be done to humanity by a fool diet."—Life.

Political Parties in France.

In France the parties have no programs in a strict sense; no precise formula that defines their politics and their demands. They have sentiments, passions, if you prefer it so, and general tendencies which suffice to classify the politicians and those who elect them. Politics in France is purely an "affaire de sentiment;" the elector votes for the candidate whose political feelings approach most nearly to his own; he is guided by the sympathies and antipathies manifested by the candidates, and by the personal relations which they entertain toward the people of one or the other party in each locality. This criterion allows the French countrymen to know the representative of their personal sentiments in so sure a way that they can rarely be deceived. The elector, when he sees a candidate arrive whose opinions are not clearly known, to him, does not stop at the party appellation that the unknown parades, but he observes what people patronize him, and what company he keeps; and the elector soon knows to which side he belongs.

French politics are directed not by parties, but by tendencies, and those who desire to understand them must give heed, not to the programs of the candidates, but to the sentiments of the electoral masses.—International Monthly.

Counting-Room Errors.

Somebody rises every now and then, but not often enough, it seems, to demand that more attention be paid in our schools to the proper teaching of the English language. To write and speak correctly should be considered the most important thing to be taught, but the pressure of other studies too often makes it subordinate. The manager of a large business house said lately that it costs his firm \$20,000 a year simply to correct errors in invoices and other papers, errors that are due to poor writing and bad English on the part of the employes in the office. Here is a house that loses enough every year, through the ignorance and carelessness of its clerks, to run a big school where young men and young women might be taught to write and speak correctly. As it is, the large business offices are secondary schools, where the really fundamental branches of education form the curriculum. Meanwhile the employes, because they cannot help themselves, undergo an expense that should be wholly unnecessary.

India's Locust Plague.

India has suffered this summer from another locust plague. The damage done to the fields and orchards, according to Indian Engineering, has been far greater than is generally appreciated. Early in April a "few millions were seen immigrating" from across the Ameer's territory, and shortly afterward myriads appeared on the rugged hills and valleys, traveling into India "at the rate of four miles a day." The Government in Punjab, Baluchistan and parts of Sind and Rajputana has been fighting against their inroads by means of the Siberian method. This consists of narrow trenches dug, and "strips of five-inch oil-cloth and eighteen-inch long-cloth being placed vertically to help the crawlers falling into the trenches, from which they are collected and burned with the aid of kerosene." On some of the railway lines gangs of men have had to shovel them off the tracks for miles.

FARM TOPICS

Raising the Calf.

A good practice is to let the calf have all its mother's milk for about four days. After that give a little whole milk diluted with warm skimmed milk. By the time it is three weeks old it can be put entirely on skimmed milk, to which should be added a little corn meal and ground flaxseed. As soon as the calf will eat hay or oats give it all that it will eat up clean.

Producing Early Lambs.

Begin by choosing only the thrifty ewes which you know are good milkers. Have them drop their lambs by January or early in February if possible. Keep ewes in thrifty condition, with not too much fat both before and after lambing. Feed them ground oats and wheat bran. Do not give too much during the first few weeks. I prefer beginning with a pint a day and gradually increasing this amount until they get all they will eat up clean.

Take particular pains to keep your feed trough and water tub clean. Give fresh water twice a day. I fix a place so that the lambs can go in and get corn meal, ground oats and bran, equal parts, whenever they want it. I have salt where my sheep have free access to it. I do not have any trouble in producing lambs that will weigh sixty pounds at ten to twelve months old.—E. E. Wright, in Orange Judd Farmer.

Diet For Hens.

Charcoal broken in small pieces has always been called a healthful article. Probably charred corn occasionally would be the better form of carbon. It is safer than to indulge too freely in the so-called health powders. The little chickens can take it with benefit—a feed for the flock, say about once in ten days. A varied diet is recommended. The appetite can be kept good in this way. Fowls are not unlike people, and, indeed, all animals in liking a change.

Careful feeding is as necessary in hot weather as cold. An expert poultry man well says: "Don't imagine the moulting fowls can get all the food they require, however good or extensive the range provided. They need a good, nourishing diet, and the simple 'hustle-and-pick-up' plan where there is a large flock is evidence of penuriousness and cruelty on the part of the poultry-keeper. Good sense should suggest that in hot weather they do not need a liberal supply of corn. Boiled oats, a little good wheat and an occasional supply of cooked lean meat is what they should have."

Caring For Bees.

To delay swarming give the bees plenty of room for the storage of honey, abundant ventilation beneath the brood frames and shade the hives from the direct rays of the summer sun. An increase in colonies means less comb honey. If the colonies are not all of equal strength, shift supers full of bees from the strongest to the weakest in the middle of the day during the honey flow, and there will be no discord. Ready filled supers from the strong colonies are exactly what the weaker ones require. This is a practical, easy way of strengthening weak colonies. When filled sections are taken off it is well to shift those nearest finished to the centre of the super. It is surprising how quickly the bees will finish when this is done. When the honey flow is nearing the end it is best to have sections which are half filled finished up as soon as possible. But there are always a few partly filled sections at the end of the honey flow. These are as good as gold to set the bees to work in the supers another year, that is, if they have had the proper care and kept perfectly clean.—Fannie M. Wood, in The Epitomist.

A Roadside Watering Place.

An old iron kettle, even if it has a hole in the bottom, can be utilized in the manner shown in the cut. A wall of rough stones is laid under it, using sand and cement mortar, and smoothly filling any break in the kettle with



WATER TROUGH MADE FROM A KETTLE.

the cement. The water can be brought into the kettle in a pipe over the top or through a hole drilled in the side. Such a watering place is an ornament to a roadside, as well as a great convenience.—American Agriculturist.