Foibles of Fashion

Fanciful Ideas in Muffs.

While flat muffs are more fashionable than the round variety the difference is not owing altogether to a preference for the flat, as the short-haired furs are made up in the first form, while the long haired are made into large round muffs.

Many of the flat muffs assume a rounded outline or even a tendency to a point at the lower part while the tops are narrower and are often curved or indented.

Many of the season's muffs and neck pieces are designed for special costumes and not for general wear. In muffs fancy runs riot; on some of the fanciful ones to go with certain costumes. Not only is lace used, but passementeries, bands of embroidery, and contrasting furs are used to make them more elaborate, if less beautiful and artistic, than though the fur itself were all.

Furs are even dyed to match gown materials, and browns and grays in many different shades are shown.

Autumn Calling Costume.

Here is an attractive calling gown, simple and in good taste. The ruffles are finished at the bottom with folds. The bands are of hand embroidered strips of the broadcloth of which the

gown is made. The vest-yoke and lower sleeves are of tucked liberty silk. The hat, with a soft roll and knot of velvet, is felt, both velvet and hat being of the new coque de roche shades.

New Use for Lace Collar.

One of the latest ideas for the use of the already heavily burdened lace collar is to make it, like charity, cover a multitude of sins in a loose negligee gown. For strict lounging purposes no one cares for a mass of frills and embroideries and lace streamers, but often one wishes to see an intimate friend without taking the trouble to change from a plain little negligee to one more elaborate. In such case be provided with a large, cape-shape lace collar, ready to be slipped quickly on, and the transformation is complete.

A beautiful little house gown may be fashioned from figured taffeta, with a pale green ground, liberally besprinkled with small, soft garlands or pink rosebuds, just such a silk as one's grandmother may have worn. The bodice is made with a neck cut modestly round and with rather tightly fitting backs and fronts. At the waist the bodice is sharply pointed before and behind, and is piped in every conceivable seam with pale green velvet. The skirt is very full and very long, and about twelve inches above the hem has a quaint arrangement of velvet bows and ruchings that might well have been copied from some old portrait or daguerreotype. The sleeves furnish the finishing touch to the quaint effect, buttoning along the outer seam from the elbow down over green velvet buttons.

Opera Glass Bags.

Heavy open laces are made over satin linings into opera glass bags this year. They are white, as a rule, but can be made in colors, lining and lace to match. A plain square bag is drawn up at the neck with ribbons carried through embroidered rings, set on the inside, the throat of the bag finished with a deep ruching of chiffon. A larger bag for carrying more of milady's trinkets is similarly made and set here and there on the outside with silver paillettes. So are other of the opera glass bags, which are drawn up at the mouth over two ball-finished bars of silver or gold. These bags are rounded at the lower corners, finished at the sides with dainty ribbon rosettes, and the ribbon handles are knotted. There may be paillette spangles or not, and of silver or gold.

Black Taffeta Popular.

Black taffeta gowns are having a big vogue among women who make it a rule never to be without a black gown of some sort, even if they wear it but seldom. Black velvet is oftenest employed for trimming in cases where elaborateness is desired. One beautiful model recently shown had the entire lower portion of the skirt consist of a very full-flaring, fitted flounce of velvet. In other cases simple stitching is resorted to.

Another favorite trimming for taffetas is mousseline, for an indisputable charm exists in the combination of opaque materials with gauzes, chiffons and laces and it finds its perfection in their combination, which is, of course, intended only for dressy gowns.

One of the new sleeves is made up of taffeta puffs and cross folds of the silk an inch wide, having plaited ruffles on the edges. The effect is very full and the sleeve from the elbow down is completed by a long gauntlet of brocade, draped on the bias and trimmed at the wrist with several quillings of Mechlin lace.

Utilizing Old Lace.

A rapid and easy way of embroidering and one which enables a woman to use up odds and ends of old and new lace, especially in floral design, is to cut the leaves from the net foundation and apply on a cotton, wool or silk gown. Work over the design, covering the figures well, with embroidered silk or mercerized cotton. The result is excellent. The embroidery stands out and the lace pattern answers the same purpose as a stamped design and in most cases is more attractive than the conventional patterns found in the shops.

With the Housewife

A plain brown or green wallpaper makes an ideal background for pictures, and the absence of pattern on walls adds immensely to the apparent size of the room.

Conveniently near the range in the kitchen should be placed the sink and the dresser, not too far from the table and range. You have then the principal articles so placed that the labor will be much lightened.

To save the knees of boys' ribbed stockings one mother reenforces them by sewing a piece of strong black cloth behind them before they are worn at all. It is remarkable how much longer stockings wear when treated in this way.

Polished iron work can be preserved from rust by an inexpensive mixture made of copal varnish mixed with as much olive oil as will give it a degree of greasiness, and afterward adding to this mixture as much spirit of turpentine as of varnish.

Plaited Skirt in Style.

The plaited skirt is one of the settled fashions for the coming season. Skirts must be full, but they must not be bulky about the hips. By plaited skirts is meant the several varieties that are used for the lighter fabrics. The most graceful skirt for walking just clears the ground. Drop skirts are still worn, although a few frocks are made up with the lined breadths.

Accordion and sun plaiting lose none of their popularity and skirts made of black voile crepe de chine, gauzes and nets will be much worn with the fancy Louis silk and velvet coats. A dainty model of black crepe de chine to be worn with a black velvet coat and an embroidered waistcoat is plaited in gores, the plaited gores alternating with others plain to the knee, where they fall into plaitings.

New Fur Garment.

One of the newest fur garments is more like a fichu than anything else attached to a velvet belt. The sleeves are smooth over the shoulders, extending to considerable width below the elbow. One of the latest furs is white astrachan dyed brown. This is made into coats, but more often into neck pieces and muffs. There is the same infinite variety in neck pieces and everything is found in them from huge stoles which envelope the shoulders to pieces of fur that are a little larger than a four-in-hand tie. The stole will reign supreme, however. Quite a number of the smaller fur garments while shaped are slightly draped about the shoulders and they fasten on the bust with an ornamental clasp. The ends may be long or short.

Odd and Pretty Work Basket.

A cornhusk and linen work basket is by no means so unattractive as it sounds. Braid the husks and join the braids, shaping into a wide basket. Make a cover and join it to the basket by a knot of husks. Line the inside with coarse cotton pads for both the bottom and sides of the basket.

Over this place a simply embroidered linen lining, carefully fitted, supplied with pockets, and caught to the basket so that it can be removed to be laundered. Into the bottom set a heavy pin and needle cushion, also covered with a washable linen cover. The basket, odd and so easily kept clean, will be a boon to any housewife.

While the Tea Brews

Fluffy tailored skirts are the most striking departures.

Pale colored gloves are worn as frequently as white ones.

For the knockabout suit there is nothing like good corduroy.

Long gloves with wrinkled tops are worn with the elbow sleeves.

White jet is used with beautiful effect on some of the white gowns.

With the silk dressy gown a cockade of silk to match is worn in the hair.

Velvet flowers in lovely shaded colors are used on some of the best hats.

Shoulders are spreading out to a prodigious and most unlovely width.

New ostrich plumes show the light color at the stem, deepening toward the tip.

One plaited length of ribbon looks like a cross between a cockade and a pompon.

Colors in English Velveteen.

Lovelier than ever in coloring, and of superlative quality, English velveteen appears among winter fabrics. It is shown in Malmaison red, mignonette green, and in clematis and a purple plum. There is a doves wing fawn and a realistic mushroom, a Japanese blue—that we should call green—and gray and white and cream.

Apple Pudding.

Butter a deep pudding dish and sprinkle with bread crumbs; line the sides of a dish with a rich pie crust and put a narrow strip around the bottom, so as to leave the center of the bottom uncovered; next fill the dish with finely cut apples with some sugar sprinkled between them; add a very little nutmeg, a pinch of cinnamon and a little butter in small pieces; cover with the same crust and bake one hour; when done turn the pudding out on to a dish and serve with hard sauce.

Raspberry Bavarian Cream.

Soften a quarter of a package of gelatine in half a cup of raspberry juice; dissolve over hot water; add the juice of half a lemon, a cupful of raspberry juice and half a cup of sugar; stir over ice water, and when it begins to "set" fold in a cupful and a half of double cream beaten solid. Pour into a mold. When cold serve surrounded with the froth from whipped cream.

Pale Green Cloth Waist.

Blouse of pale green cloth, trimmed with straps of white cloth, which are themselves trimmed with rows of pale green soutache and with motifs of sou

tache and blue velvet. The waistcoat is of white cloth, ornamented with little gold buttons.

The full sleeves are finished with bands of white cloth, trimmed with motifs of the soutache and velvet which form loose cuffs over tight under cuffs of white cloth, ornamented with gold buttons. The tucked collar is of white, with a turn-over of blue velvet.

Voile Over White Silk.

One of the prettiest white dresses seen recently was of loosely woven voile mounted over white silk. The skirt had a straight front apron bordered by a deep turn in plait, as it is hung from the waist about the hips and in the back small knife plaits stitched down for a few inches. Bordering the apron and continuing about the hem of the gown is a zigzag block pattern done in white mohair braid about a third of an inch wide. The blouse bolero has the same trimming about the shoulders and down the sides. The bolero opens in front to show a blouse of Japanese lien embroidery in blue. The revers are edged with ruffles of valenciennes lace, the sleeves are slightly short and finished with a cuff of the embroidery and from it falls a full fall of lace.

Ornaments for the Hair.

Ornaments for the hair are so varied as to be worth a volume of description.

One very pretty hair decoration consisted of two white tips, tied together with a big bow of white tulle, upon which were sewed the smallest of beads in gold and steel. The whole was fastened upon a hairpin so that it could be stuck into the hair.

A still prettier ornament being more effective, was a feather of pink. It was an ostrich feather, about eight inches long, very thick and curled at the tip to make a heavy head. At the base of this feather there was a pink bow of chiffon studded with pearl beads. The feather was fastened upon a long hairpin, which was designed to sink low into the hair.

Shading in Colors.

Beautiful ostrich feather sets, muff and long round boa, appear this year in the shaded effects which are to be found in so many things. There is the popular heliotrope, shading to palest lavender, and to go with another popular shade of the season—brown—the feathers graduate from a rich dark tone to a delicate cream. They are charming.

Batter for Pineapple Fritters.

Beat one egg without separating the white and yolk. Add half a cup of flour and one-fourth of a teaspoon of salt, and beat with a spoon until perfectly smooth. Then beat in one-fourth of a cup of milk.

Now, What Did He Mean?

"It's terribly slow here," wrote the war correspondent to his wife; "I haven't actually seen any fighting since I left home."

What New York Leaders of Fashion Are Wearing.

Pale green velvet, with shaded green leaves.

Black velvet, piped and trimmed with white velvet and jade set buttons.

Heavy velvet, in a rosette of shaded velvet.

How Only Son of the World's Richest Man Devotes Himself to His Bible Class

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., CONDUCTING HIS BIBLE CLASS.

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

A Rainy Sunday Morning at the Bible Class of the Heir of Richest Man in the World—Character Study of the Leader and His Methods—An Honest, Impartial, Uncolored Account of Just What Happened During an Hour of Bible Study with Young Mr. Rockefeller at the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, New York.

Item: It was shortly before 10 in the morning. Fifth avenue was comparatively deserted for three reasons, namely, it was Sabbath day, it was too early by some hours for an ease-and-luxury-loving residential section to be visibly astir, and it was raining—raining as when gray and ragged skies are being steadily unraveled upon an outwardly deserted city.

Standing—had there been any sun—in the shadow of the modest Fifth Avenue Baptist church spire in West Forty-sixth street, just off the mansioned avenue, an observer might have counted some hundred and fifty exceptions to the prevailing rule of metropolitan desertion. An observer also might have noticed a modest coupe, devoid of any crest or family insignia, just as the river was minus a cockade and livery, draw up at the church entrance and deposit a young man and a young woman upon the pavement.

Stepping first from the vehicle and raising his umbrella with such agility as an experienced teller may sometimes exhibit in handling specie, the young man escorted his companion to a small side entrance of the church and with her disappeared into the plain brick and stone edifice.

Had it not been raining, the couple—the young man and his wife—would have walked from their handsome Fifth avenue residence to the West Forty-sixth street church, instead of riding even in such an unpretentious conveyance as they used on this occasion. For the young John D. Rockefeller is endeavoring to live—as he preaches to his remarkable Bible class in the Fifth Avenue Baptist church—the simple life.

As founder, patron and leader of what has come to be known generally as the Rockefeller Bible class, which, incidentally, is of more numerical importance than the entire remaining Fifth Avenue Baptist Sabbath school, the younger Rockefeller occupies a position at once commanding and unique in the public gaze. Stray and striking passages from his weekly addresses to his class—addresses that are half-confidential discussions and half-sermons—wander regularly into print. But the manner in which he conducts his class, this young heir to the five hundred or more Rockefeller millions, of its personnel and attitude toward him, comparatively few glimpses have been obtained.

Having accompanied his wife, a daughter of Senator Nelson W. Aldrich of Rhode Island to the small waiting room adjoining the church proper, the young multi-millionaire leader, having been delayed a few minutes on account of the rain, hurried into the main body of the church, where some hundred and fifty class members and visitors were congregated.

Evidently the leader and the led were thoroughly en rapport. For his genial smile of greeting was vividly reflected upon nearly every face present. His smile had in it a searching warmth and cordiality that had the same thawing effect upon the beneficiaries as might a touch of sunlight upon the outside world. As a facial expression it was in many respects remarkable, beginning at the corners of the mouth, gradually taking in the whole mouth in its progress, extending to the shorn upper lip, and then swiftly enveloping the entire lower portion of the face.

Several times the smile was repeated, each time with the same revivifying effect upon the recipients, as the leader made his way to his appointed place in front of the congregated class. But it never quite reached nor included the steel gray eyes which possessed the extraordinary characteristic of never blinking, so far as could be casually observed.

Smiling his sixth, or maybe his seventh, consecutive smile, the young leader reached and ascended the slightly elevated platform. Although in doing so, he had his back to the audience for a fraction of a minute he conveyed a curious impression of not having taken his eyes from the assemblage. Choosing an ample chair of Tilian plush the young man sat down, folded his arms, and calmly proceeded to survey the faces turned toward him with their varying degrees of age and experience. Simultaneously with this movement, and as suddenly as the genial expression had appeared in his face on his entrance, it was eclipsed as though by a transitory cloud of some impenetrable texture.

Something about the silent, thoughtful figure on the platform bespoke the leader. His dominancy over the class was never for a moment weakened or lost. Did any one present permit his voice to touch an upper register or his foot to fall with a disturbing echo, the transgressor immediately directed an apologetic glance toward the platform as though to excuse the dereliction. Yet there was a homelike quality in the atmosphere which even the bleak and bare interior could not quite dispel.

Glancing at his watch and noting that it was time to begin, young Rockefeller arose and announced the processional hymn. Everybody stood up, and, led by a male quartet of exceptionally good voices recruited from the class members, joined in the song. Vocally the leader could be distinguished by his manner of prolonging the final notes after the other voices were lowered or hushed.

With the conclusion of the processional he remained standing while the class was seated. There was no suggestion of a smile now, as, locking his hands behind him and squarely facing his auditors while he swept them with his eyes, he announced that the text for the lesson would be the parable of the hidden treasure.

Whether it was a coincidence or whether the Rockefeller Bible class has a weakness for texts dealing with strictly material subjects remained unexplained. In a conversational tone young Rockefeller added that the text for the following week would be based upon the parable of the pearl. On the preceding Sunday, as he said, the parables of the mustard seed and the leaven had been respectively under consideration.

Raising his voice so as to reach every corner of the audience room and with a clear-cut, incisive tone, he repeated Matthew, xiv., 44: "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field."

His discourse was full of interest and apparently much enjoyed by the class. At its close a general discussion of the subject took place. Then Mr. Rockefeller again addressed the class briefly.

"Now let us sing," he concluded somewhat abruptly.

Signaling to the quartet in the choir loft with one hand and reaching for a hymnal with the other, the class leader joined in the hearty response that followed. As the final notes of the deep-toned organ concluded a trailing offertory, the young multi-millionaire class leader pronounced a brief benediction.

This done, the secretary made a number of announcements as to the program for the coming week, and the class adjourned, as customary, to the adjoining reception room, where members and visitors alike were to meet and converse personally with the young magnate.

His hand clasp was no less cordial than his smile on meeting a press representative until an interview was broached. His hands swiftly vanished behind his back. He glanced quickly about. Yet the smile remained as he said quietly: "I would prefer not to discuss the class work. We are always glad to welcome visitors and to show by our actions just what we are doing. But it is a family tradition that we permit our actions to do our talking."

"You do not regard it as a sacrifice to devote so much of your time to this work?" was suggested.

Again the mouth smiled while the iron-gray eyes remained immovable "In my talk this morning," he replied "I said something about the necessity of considering such things as a pleasure rather than as a sacrifice."—New York Times.

What Is a Typical American?

Every nation, or rather every historic race, has certain attributes in addition to the great and more obvious virtues it believes to be peculiarly its own, and in which it takes an especial pride, writes Henry Cabot Lodge in McClure's. We of the United States like to think of the typical American as a brave man and an honest man, very human, with no vain pretense to infallibility. We would have him simple in his home life, democratic in his ways, with the highest education that the world can give, kind to the weak, tender and loyal and true, never quarrelsome, but never afraid to fight, with a strong, sane sense of humor, and with a strain of adventure in his blood, which we shall never cease to love until those ancestors of ours who conquered a continent have drifted a good deal farther into the past than is the case to-day. These are the qualities which all men admire and respect and which thus combined we like to think peculiarly American.

Water Power in America.

About 60,000 water wheels are used for manufacturing in the United States, yielding 1,300,000-horse power or one-quarter to one-third of the whole power used. Of this total 250,000-horse power is used by the 2,000 mills in New England.

Speculating on Noah's Ark.

The Danes have been modeling a vessel on the exact lines of Noah's ark as described in Genesis. The model is 50 feet long, 5 feet wide and 3 feet high—one-tenth of Noah's measurements. It was floated on Oct. 30 with a party of engineers and professors on board and proved to be an admirable sea boat.

The event confirms the theory that the Babylonians had at an early period a sea-borne commerce, and that Noah's ship was driven by a severe storm into the Euphrates and high and dry up into the mountains.

The remembrance of this great storm, which destroyed whole cities, grew into the account of the flood as we have it, says the learned professors, but as their speculations are only suggestions, we know just as much about it as before, and no more.

To Study Land Question.

It is stated that Sir Gilbert Parker, author of "A Ladder of Swords," has gone to South Africa to make a special study of the land question there for his government.

Her Way of Dodging Duns.

The tenants of an uptown flat house had been greatly annoyed by persons who rang their bells and yet never came upstairs. Usually after a period of waiting it would be decided that the postman had called and there would follow a fruitless trip down stairs.

The annoyance was finally traced to an apartment two flights up, the callers invariably going to that door, and a little quiet detective work disclosed that the woman living there never answered a ring at her own bell.

Later it developed that she was heavily in debt. Those persons she wanted to see rang her bell and some one else's. The first brought the woman to the door; the second gave the caller admittance. If they rapped on the door the woman admitted them. If there was a ring at her upstairs bell she knew it was a bill collector, and let him ring on until he concluded that she was not in. Collectors ringing only her bell usually did not gain admittance unless the door were unlocked.

Not until the other tenants, in revenge, tipped off the collectors did the annoyance cease.—New York Press.

Gold Collects Microbes.

"The poor man," said the scientist, "hasn't everything against him. It has been discovered that gold collects disease germs to a greater extent than either silver or copper.

"Thus the poor man, with only quarters and dimes and pennies to handle, is safer than the rich man, with his eagles and double eagles. And the poor man, with his silver watch can ascertain the time without half the risk that the gold-watched rich man runs.

"Seriously," said the scientist, "it has been proved that gold has a greater attraction for disease germs than any other metal. Microbes crowd a piece of gold as commuters crowd the trains in the rush hours. Silver and copper, however, the poor man's metals, are not so overrun with microbes. On pennies or dimes there is always room for the little creatures to stretch their legs and move about a bit."

Science and Invention

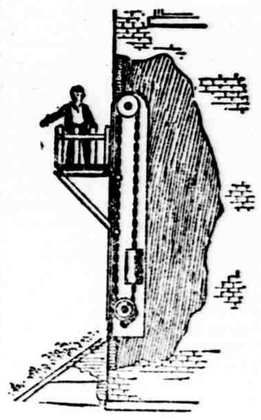
The Tactile Sense.

In a series of experiments on the topography of the tactile sensibility, made on children and adults, M. N. Vaschide has been able to show clearly the relation which exists between the circulation of the blood and the tactile sense, reports Cosmos. From these experiments it appears that there exists a close relation between the determination of the measure of the sense of touch and blood circulation. Tactile sensibility varies under the influence of a decreasing blood pressure, caused by compression or change of position, or of congestion, the delicacy or torpidity of the tactile sense being immediately dependent on the circulation. Between the variations of the normal state which represents the conditions of habitual determinations, and the different states of the circulation there seems to be a strict relation, these states ranging from an extreme delicacy when the blood circulates freely and constantly to a condition of hyperexcitability in states bordering on congestion.

Novel Fire Escape.

Everybody is more or less familiar with fire escapes and their uses, but it has been demonstrated that fire escapes are absolutely useless in case of panic. Tower fireproof fire escapes are supposed to be entirely safe, but when a crowd striving to get out of a burning building lose their heads, a panic follows and many lives are lost by persons being knocked down and trampled on. Rope and chain fire escapes are useful to a certain extent as are also outside frame steps.

A novel improvement in fire escapes, the invention of a South Dakota man, is shown here. It comprises a car in the form of a veranda, which is held normally in a position to be entered from a window of a building. This car slides on uprights, so that when a sufficient weight is placed on the car it descends, being operated



When Loaded Descends to the Ground.

by counterbalance weights attached on a sprocket chain. The weights can be so made as to not only overbalance the car or balcony, but also the weight of a man thereon, so that when the car is in a lowered position a fireman may enter it and when released it will ascend with a single passenger. When two or more passengers are on the car it will descend and after its load has been removed it will ascend again. By the introduction of a brake mechanism the car can be arrested at any point.

Silas J. Gilmore and William S. Percy of Buckmore, S. D., are the patentees.

Cloth with Fur.

Combining cloth with fur the same color was a fashionable fad of last winter that has been revived again this season. Perhaps the most attractive combinations are the brown cloth with sable, gray with chinchilla and moleskin colored cloth with the moleskin fur. It is a fad this year also to have the squirrel fur clipped short, and that makes it a darker gray, which is effective on cloth of the same shade. The fur is used in trimming as edging or in bands, but smartest of all styles is the one that has the jacket for the costume of the fur and then one or two bands on the skirt, edged either with bright crimson or orange braid or velvet.

When a chinchilla jacket is made to wear with cloth skirt the favorite design is the tight-fitted short coat or the perfectly shapeless loose one. On the tight-fitting design the favorite trimming is the passementerie frogs or braiding; on the loose style Irish lace and velvet are used and there is, as a rule, a velvet waistcoat of some contrasting color, braided most elaborately.

The gowns and ball gowns trimmed with fur are always effective, and this season it is decidedly the fashion to have an edging of fur around the hem of a tea gown or outlining the shoulders of a ball gown, an extremely odd ball gown of tulle with bands of sable caught with bunches of pink moss rosebuds being one of the latest models.

Science Finds New Animal.

A beastie novel to zoologists and all other scientific "ists" is a cross between a dog and a raccoon and has lately made a trip from northern Japan, its fatherland, to the New York zoological gardens. The Japanese call it a white fox and the American scientists say that it probably resembles a white Arctic fox more than any other creature, but they are christening it a raccoon dog. The director of the New York zoological park finds a puzzle in its habits, for all allied species of animals are inclined to hibernate in winter, and borrow suitable bedrooms wherever found for their winter's nap, and when they do not find a bedroom at hand they are fully able to dig a burrow of their own. The little alien from Japan, however, despite severest winter's cold, is up and about with no drowsiness and has such small, short and weak feet, with feeble claws, that it is not fitted to dig burrows. It is in general poorly equipped for self-preservation, has small, weak teeth, and needs a home whose population includes no bears, wolves or foxes.

Production of Steel.

It has been computed that for every 100 tons of pig iron consumed for all purposes the quantity of steel produced is approximately in Great Britain 63 tons; in Germany, 75 tons; in America, 80 tons.

Done Up.

Tourist—"Anything doing round here?"

Sad-Eyed Farmer—"Nope; not at present. Everybody's been done."

Good Ideas for the House Beautiful

New Slip Covers.

The slip covers so popular in the reign of Louis XIV are being more and more used in these days of soft coal and dirt; and the beautifully upholstered furniture, covered with its tufted damasks and brocatelles, is generally covered with "house-frocks" except on special occasions. The old-fashioned idea of leaving the summer slips of striped linen or appalling cretonnes on has passed. The cretonnes used are selected with care and suitability to the other decorations of the apartment. Some people make the great mistake of choosing large flowered designs for the furniture when the carpet and paper are also figured. One of the three at least, either the wall pa-

per, the carpet or the furniture covers, should be a plain color if the beholder does not wish to grow dizzy from too much pattern!

If fancy covers are chosen they should correspond as exactly as possible with the figure and colors in the wall paper. This effect is very pleasing in the boudoir or bedroom, provided that the carpet is plain or has a plain ground with sparsely scattered sprays or flowered border.

But not only chintzes or cretonnes are used as slip covers, but taffeta is much in demand. Not too cheap a quality, but one that will stand the wear and tear usually given to furniture, and not fade or look shiny. Double width is the best for the purpose. Of cheaper materials, denim, gingham, linen, chintz and cretonnes are all good. A large monogram is sometimes embroidered on the back of a plain cover.—Montreal Herald.

San Jose Scale.

A. F.—Is there any cure for the San Jose scale?

Extensive experiment made by entomologists and fruit growers during the last two years have shown conclusively that there is a practical remedy for the San Jose scale in the lime and sulphur wash which has for many years been used in California and Oregon. This consists of one pound of lime and half a pound of sulphur in each gallon of water, boiled together for two hours until the sulphur is thoroughly combined with the lime. A new method of preparing the lime and sulphur wash with greater ease and without the long boiling is now being experimented with. The combination of the sulphur with the lime in this new method depends upon the heat generated by mixing the lime and sulphur together and then slaking the lime with a strong solution of lye and water. The proportions used are 10 pounds of lime, 20 pounds of sulphur, 5 pounds concentrated lye, 60 gallons of water. A more recent formula substitutes washing soda for concentrated lye, which is another name for caustic soda.

The Mission of the Vine.

There is so much in modern life that conduces to ugliness in our surroundings! If you don't believe, think of the way in which we depend upon the telephone in every department of life. The business, the household, even the social machinery must use the telephone—and then—think of the poles! There must be stables to house the horses and the carriages of the well-to-do, yet every architect knows that it is a difficult matter to place artistic and appropriate outbuildings on the same grounds with the palatial residence, and not have them seem obtrusive, says a well-known architect. In the small city home, the back fence and the sheds of our neighbors are often a serious blot on the landscape, and the sensitive eye is offended daily by some bleak, bare, "necessary evil" in our surroundings, because of somebody's convenience being dependent thereon. I am often delighted to see how some simple quick-growing vine is used to screen off such disagreeable objects, and only wonder that more home-makers about Los Angeles and vicinity do not try to cover up more of the ugliness about them in this way.

For Prospective Builders.

The best house for the least practicable cost can only be obtained by building the same on paper first, the price paid for a full set of plans, specification and details will be money well spent, and instead of the owner finding himself with an unsatisfactory house, he will have a home with each detail worked out.

One important feature which is too often overlooked is the size of windows. Windows should be wide, not only from the advantage in the outside appearance over narrow openings, but from the point of view of the inside. A sash in a two-light window that is wider than high always renders more pleasing results than where reverse conditions obtain.

Size of Water Pipe.

J. L. S.—Would a three-quarter-inch pipe be large enough to carry water 360 feet with 10 feet of a fall?

A three-quarter-inch pipe would be large enough, provided the water is clean and pipe kept clear. If the pipe is running with a ten-foot head, it will deliver about three thousand gallons of water per day.

Flowers Rented in New York.

Flowers are rented in New York, and the same bouquet may serve at a succession of marriages.