

CHICAGO THE SEAT OF FASHION

Cuts Loose From Effete "Paree" and Sets a Pace of its Own

Modistes Refuse to Accept the Short Waist---Saying it Would Destroy American Women's Beautiful Forms

Fashions Dictated by National Modistes.

Waists to be much smaller. Hips to be much larger; pad if necessary. Ante-bellum hoopskirts not to return. Prices not to advance—if the patron kicks. Purple to be the predominating color.

Chicago, Sept. 23.—For the first time since it began to hold its sessions in Chicago, the dressmakers' convention will not attempt to raise the scale of prices on gowns. This is not because there isn't a way.

"We are not yet strong enough to do any effective work with prices," said Mrs. Baker, president of the association, today. Our membership is of good quality, but it is not numerous enough to raise rates and keep them where they should be in competition with so many modistes who do not belong to the association.

"Well, we shall have to keep on getting as much as we can," announced a small dressmaker from Indiana. This appeared to be the general opinion of the delegates. They told of the increased cost of materials and labor, and then appeared to relapse into short trances reckoning up those of their customers who would stand a slight increase in the bills.

The question of prices came up for a moment during a talk on corsets, given this morning by Miss M. E. Nolan, of New York, who said she had followed Lord Roberts' army through South Africa selling American stays to the Boer women.

Took to Them Like Ducks.

"What on earth did you do that for?" asked a startled Pinkerton detective, whose duty it is to exclude all other men from the hall.

"Orders," responded Miss Nolan, with military brevity. "I've sold corsets in China, Japan and all over the world. And the Boer women took to them like ducks to water. They never had heard of 'straight fronts' until I came to town. Before that they had been wearing horrid French things that twisted them all up."

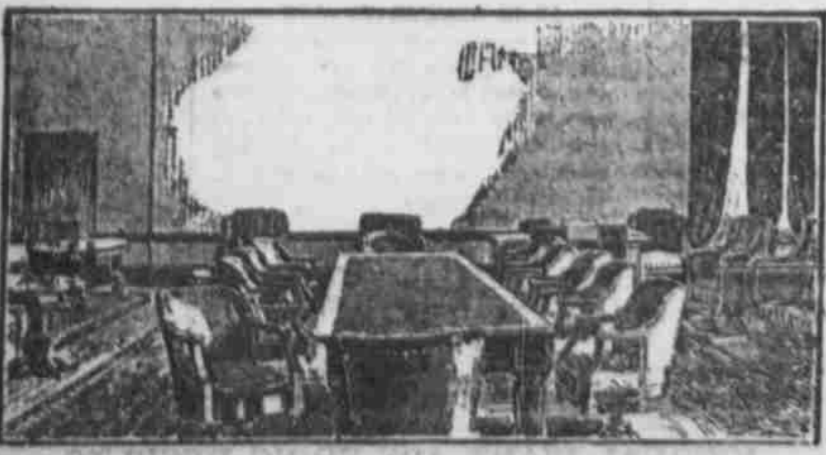
"The Boer women were willing to pay lots of money for American corsets," she continued. "They thought nothing of spending \$30 to \$40 apiece, because they could have better forms than ever before in their lives. Of course American women have better figures than anyone else, but you would be surprised how chic a modern cor-

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The room in which the Russian and Japanese peace commissioners held their conference and wrestled over the delicate diplomatic questions involved in the negotiations for a treaty of peace.

set would make those stout women look.

"There is one thing they wouldn't do, though," Miss Nolan added, parenthetically. "They would not use the boss supporters on the corsets."

A noisy inrush of new arrivals unfortunately drowned Miss Nolan's voice at this point, and her story of how she surmounted this difficulty was lost forever.

Hoopskirt Party Routed.

In the final "battle of the hoopskirts" at the convention the crinoline advocates were routed. It was not the innocent little hoops they and their models showed that alarmed the delegates, but it was the fear that these small beginnings might develop into a monster such as that which tyrannized over the world of fashion in the '50's.

Mrs. Belle Armstrong Whitney and Mrs. Hosac piroquetted about the stage in the "modified" hoops of their own design, and Mrs. Baker admitted that they appeared extremely graceful.

"But," said she, "you and I, ladies, may not happen to be blessed with such charming figures as Mrs. Hosac and Mrs. Whitney. Therefore, let us avoid anything that may grow into a monster to make us all ridiculous. We shall not support hoopskirts this year anyway."

Mrs. Baker registered another strong protest against the crinoline, because it would make an additional garment for women, who, she said, "already are overburdened with clothes."

Incredible Brutality.

I. would have been incredible brutality if Chas. F. Lemberger, of Syracuse, N. Y., had not done the best he could for his suffering son. "My boy," he says, "cut a fearful gash over his eye, so I applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve, which quickly healed it and saved his eye." Good for burns and ulcers, too. Only 25c at J. C. Perry's Drug Store.



The Rev. Charles S. Rahn, pastor of St. John's Evangelical church in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., who is attracting attention in the sporting world as a star baseball player. He was born in Schwenksville, Pa., in 1875, and is a find all-round athlete.

Our Leading Ones and Why.

We have as our "leaders" the celebrated Chickering piano, of Boston; the beautiful Weber of New York; the Lester, the Schumann, the Story & Clark, etc.

There must be a good reason why we selected these pianos. If the selection had been limited to these instruments there would not have been much virtue in our choice.

There would be nothing else to do. But we chose these out of nearly 200 makes manufactured in the United States.

We chose these pianos because we considered them the highest grade pianos it is possible to produce.

Our choice is reinforced and made of value to you when you know there was back of it eighteen years of experience in the manufacturing, wholesale and retail piano business, and an accurate knowledge of every piano on the market today.

It is of much greater value to you know that we have had the choice of practically all the high grade pianos manufactured.

The Chickering is made by the oldest established piano factory in the United States. It has maintained the highest possible standard for eighty-three years, a fact that entitles it to the serious consideration of every person who thinks of purchasing a piano. Whatever age and experience develops, combined with integrity and abundant capital, is embodied in the Chickering of today. The greatest triumph in piano manufacturing today are Chickering quarter and the smaller grand pianos made by this concern.

The Weber is an instrument that its manufacturers have endeavored to make superlative from the standard of tone. It is the embodiment of a musician's ideal of tone, and it is rightly claimed for it that "from the standpoint of that pure, rich sympathetic quality of tone, combined with the most unyielding durability, it stands alone."

These are some of the reasons, briefly, why we selected these great pianos for our leaders.

We have, in addition to these superb instruments, nearly thirty other makes of pianos, including the old New York aristocrat, the Hazelton, the lovely Haddarff, the substantial Steck, the wonderful, many-toned Crown Orchestral and Weser.

We believe it is possible for us to suit every taste, desire, whim or caprice that enters into the selection of a piano, whether it is from the standpoint of quality of the instrument, price or terms.

Purchases can be made as advantageously right here in Salem as they can in the largest store in Portland, Spokane or San Francisco. Our one price system is universal, and the same easy payment privileges extend to all purchasers. If we have not the particular style of instrument wanted, we can easily procure it for you from our large warehouse at Portland, Ore. If your purchase falls in any way to prove exactly as represented, it is "money back"—every purchaser a pleased purchaser is our aim.

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The Bishop's Garters.

An amusing story is told of Dr. Gora. He was once walking in the street when two little boys were attracted by his black episcopal garters. "Wot's 'em?" asked one in surprise. "Oh, 'e-'e-a Scotchman is mourning," was the reply.—London M. A. P.

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