

# VALUE OF DOMESTIC ARTS COURSE SHOWN BY HIGH SCHOOLS' EXHIBITS

Instruction Is Practical—It Includes Drawing and Cutting Dress Patterns, Remodeling and Repairing Worn Clothing as Well as Making Tailor-made Gowns for Street Wear and Evening Frocks.



Jefferson High School Sewing Class



Lincoln High School Girls Bustily At Work



Miss Fields Teaching Washington High School Sewing Class.



Miss Phipps' Room Washington High School Sewing Class.



Mrs. A.A. Sandorn, Supervisor of Sewing.

PORTLAND high schools have just been proving by means of exhibits that the domestic arts course, insofar as it relates to sewing, is one of the most necessary and advantageous subjects in the schools' curricula of the modern day.

In sewing exhibits held at the different schools, Jefferson furnished the proof May 16; Lincoln welcomed doubters May 21 and May 23; Washington also added its testimony.

Although it is but three years since the course was first introduced in the Portland schools, anyone who noted the different exhibits would be amazed at the range and scope of the work shown.

No small amount of the credit for the results is being given to Mrs. A. A. Sandorn, supervisor of sewing in the schools of Portland, with over 50 schools in which she must keep an eye on the work achieved. Courses have been planned by Mrs. Sandorn, beginning in the grade schools and ending in high school. Those acquainted with both the work and the subject declare that neither East nor West can improve be made.

The high school exhibits were remarkable for the diversity of articles shown. The results nimble fingers achieved were not only "plain and fancy sewing," but included all that lies between those generic terms.

Some idea of the value of the course may be gathered from the fact that at the Washington High School exhibit there were 30 young women, each wearing a gown she had made in class. And when it was pointed out that in one case the student had not worn a thimble or had a needle in her fingers until the preceding September, the wonder grew.

It was not only parents and relatives that admired the handiwork displayed. Many drawn to the school-rooms by curiosity found plenty of food for cogitation. Dainty aprons and undergarments, dresses varying from gingham frocks to elaborate party gowns, "tailor-made" coats and suits were but a few of the articles to be seen.

Naturally, the largest of the three exhibits was that made by Washington with its correspondingly large number

of students. In the other two high schools the final result was just as effective, if not composed of so many individual articles.

**Lessons Are Practical.**

The practical and scientific sides of sewing are the strong points brought out, little attention being paid to fancy sewing. Aside from making the garments the girls are taught to draft and cut their own patterns. They are also taught to use commercial patterns. The material is furnished by the girls and the garments are theirs. Old garments, dresses and coats are brought and made over by the pupils. The aim is to make the work as practical as possible in order to fit the girls for work in the home and teach them to utilize material at hand. The implements used at school are those which every ordinary home possesses, a sewing machine, a table for cutting, and a pressing board. It would be impossible to find a more practical course in sewing than is given in the Portland High Schools.

The work is begun in the grades where the practical stitches and seams are taught. The proper method of making the models and of handling the work gives the girls a drilling which thoroughly prepares them for the more advanced work in the high schools where they are taught the care and use of the sewing machine, the cutting and making of undergarments by pattern or drafting, leading up to the proper cutting, fitting and making of shirt-waist suits, simple dresses, more elaborate waists and skirts, one-piece dresses, tailored suits and coats, princess and semi-princess, evening and reception gowns. Children's garments and household sewing of all kinds have a place in the course.

**Result Is Apparent.**

As a natural result girls who, a year or more ago, would not more than think of making their own costumes than they would of performing some menial act, now consider that doing so gives them better results and more dresses with a smaller expenditure of money.

The following list compiled from the articles exhibited at Washington will

give some indication of the scope of the work done in the sewing classes. This was all done subsequent to February 6, 1912.

Dresses varying from plain to elaborate, 121; waists, plain, silk and fancy, 42; suits, wash and wool, 13; long coats, 4; separate skirts, wash and wool, 7; cloth patterns drafted and fitted, 40; kimonos, 6; children's dresses and aprons, 6; fancy aprons, 48; corset covers, 54; drawers, 45; petticoats, 43; nightgowns, 47; combination suits, 7.

Similar efficiency is being displayed by the boys taking up manual training in the city schools, including the school of trades. The training given to both girls and boys tends to make them self-sustaining from the moment they leave high school.

**Home Traditions Vanishing.**

**Women's Home Companion.**

Despite the many American women who are model housekeepers—and nowhere in the world are there to be found more delightful hostesses than the American women of the older generation—who still maintain throughout the country the best traditions of the home, nevertheless, an increasingly large number of the younger genera-

tion of matrons look upon the work of keeping house as a kind of necessary evil that is to be got through with as quickly as possible. They are neither to the manner born nor to the manner bred. Seldom ever do the younger matrons enjoy her home as a field of domestic activity in which she finds an opportunity for the full expression of her best efforts. Only occasionally do you find among the women of the younger generation one in whom the love of home and all its duties approaches an instinctive inclination. And if you inquire into the matter you will find in nine cases out of ten that she is foreign born or of foreign parentage and that her inclination has been fostered and encouraged by some sort of home training. But even these, however numerous they may be, do not constitute a sufficiently large number to affect materially the anti-domestic feeling that is rapidly growing more and more general. That this tendency to regard with distaste all forms of housework is not confined to the very rich is quite evident from the readiness of the average American girl to seek employment in office, store or factory rather than take up the duties of a home.

## India Women Are Modest

Government Knows Little About Vast Part of Country's Population.

BOMBAY, June 8.—To the observant traveler through India it is strikingly evident that the only women to be seen about in public are those of the lowest working classes. In Bombay, it is true, the Parsee women of all ranks are seen to move about freely, but though Asiatics, this small community has, to a very large extent, adopted European customs. The only woman who paid homage to the King-Emperor at the gorgeous masculine gathering of the great Durbar was the Begum of Bhopal, a Princess, a ruler, and a mother; she appeared, veiled, to swear fealty to her sovereign. This is typical of India. No Englishman in the Viceroy's Viceregal court knows anything about the women of India; what they feel, what they think, what they know, what they do; these millions and millions of women, these 150,000,000 wives and mothers are an absolutely unknown quantity to their rulers.

Happily for India, her ideal of womanhood is still the good mother and wife. To the India man his women-folk are sacred and apart, his mother's word is his law from his first conscious moment to her last, and the wife who has borne him sons is his most cherished possession.

This fierce modesty of the India woman, her shrinking from all mankind except the immediate circle of her own family and her chosen husband, seems to be inherent in the brains of all native women, whether Hindu, Mohammedan, Parsee, Jewess or Christian, and even among the aboriginal tribes.

It may seem extraordinary, but it is true, that the government of India has never fully grasped this strong "feminine" feeling among the women of the country; the viceroys and governors of this half of the vast population have never been considered for one moment in regard to the provision of medical relief. India is a country that has no poor laws, though her laboring classes are the poorest in the world. India possesses no old-age pensions, because family feeling is so strong that good relatives are seldom left in want, but India does rejoice in a state medical service, which, though primarily and practically for the benefit of the whole population, who otherwise would be left in the ignorant ministrations of the barber and his wife.

And what has been done for the women by this humane and beneficent government? Nothing, unless she chooses to be attended by a country doctor as is well known, the large majority of the respectable women of all classes will die rather than do.

Fifty years ago the government of India might be forgiven for this scandalous neglect, for at that time women doctors practically did not exist, but now, when medical women of the highest attainments and proficiency are available, equally competent as the doctors, to take positions in sole charge of women's hospitals under the aegis of the state, how can the government of India shut its eyes to the duty that lies before it?

A service of medical women for women, organized on the lines of the present existing service, under state recognition and control, and beginning on a however small a scale, would be one of the greatest boons to India that could ever be given to this country.

## POWER OF THE HUMAN EYE

Man Puts Savage Dogs to Flight With His Steady Stare.

Our Dumb Animals.

The following incident I relate as an example of this silent but effective method. Several years ago I was sketching in an orchard which I afterward learned had been repeatedly robbed by roughs from a settlement of hard characters a half mile away. Suddenly a large Newfoundland dog sprang out from a hedge that surmounted a series of terraces. With threatening growls he bounded toward me, his eyes glaring and foam running from his mouth. I ceased sketching and fixed my eyes on him as he descended, with all the intensity I could command.

"When the dog had reached the middle terrace he stopped, and though he barked furiously and showed his shining teeth, came no further. I stood motionless, and with a steady gaze as adamant. All at once he turned, and running up the terraces, disappeared behind the hedge. I resumed my sketching, but it was with a sense of weakness, resulting from the intense concentration of my will upon the dog.

"Five minutes passed when the Newfoundland again appeared. He did not stop, but he distinctly original in its plan and intention. It is built according to its surroundings as all homes should be.

A home should be considered from every standpoint before its construction is begun. This home is built on the very edge of the dense woods along the river bank, commanding a fine view from what is conventionally called the back of the house.

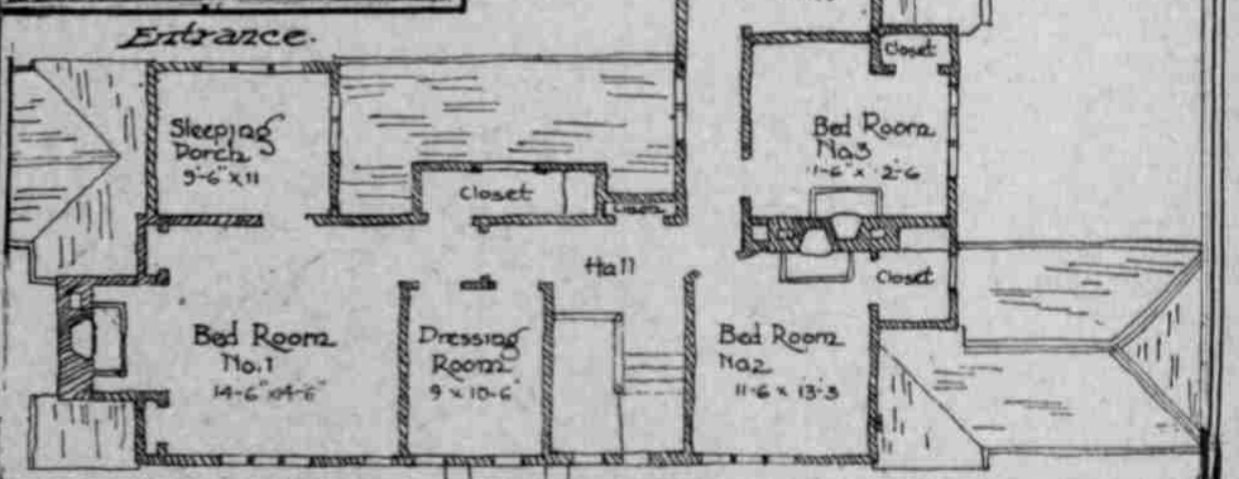
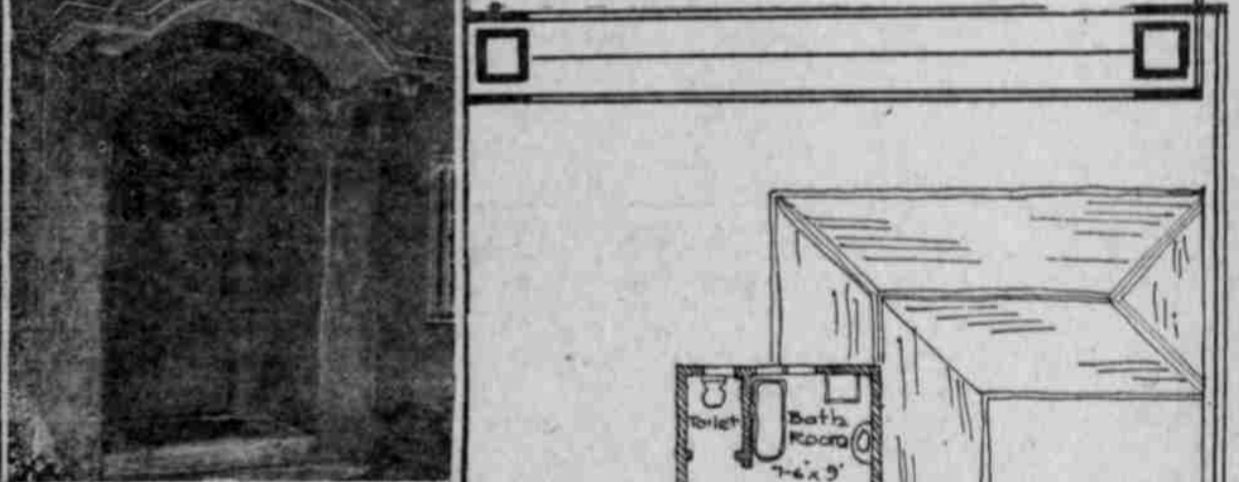
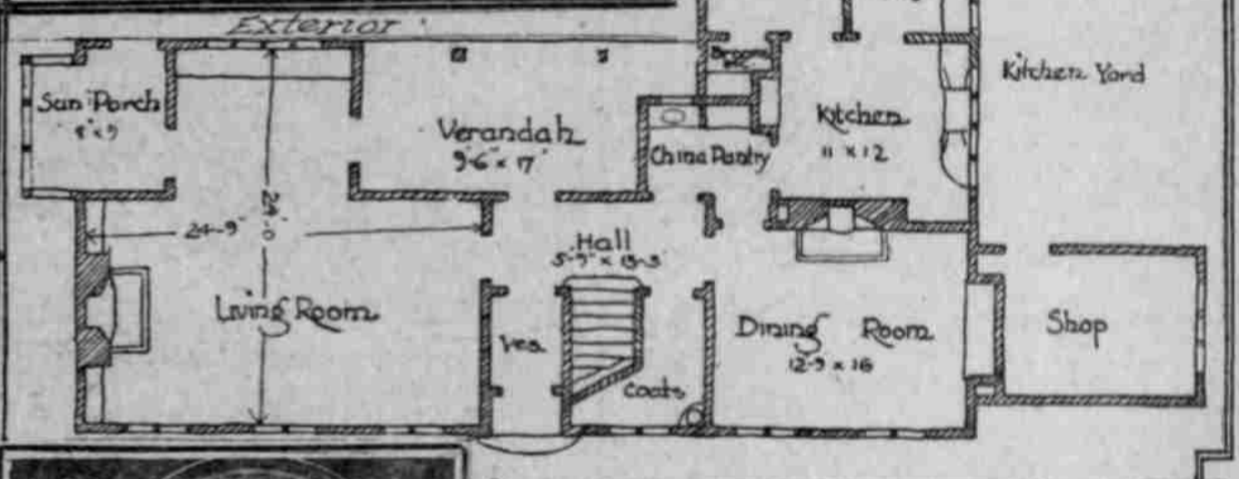
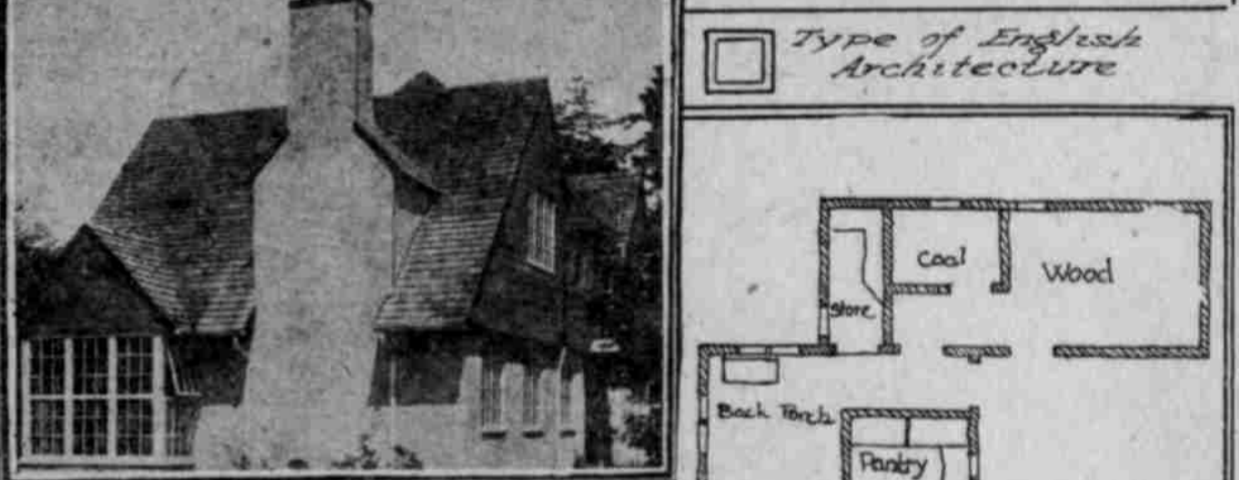
The entrance door is an especially good feature of the house to me. This opens into a hall that goes straight through the house in a large veranda facing the river. This veranda is charming with its originally designed floor of cement and tile, small red tile set in a good design in pure white cement. This is a good out-door sitting-room, where porch furniture is a feature. I would suggest a good Chinese rug—cotton rug in vegetable dyes that never fade and are soft and lovely in tone. The wicker furniture is all cushioned in bright English chintz. The awning cloth has the same coloring and gives brightness and a touch of color to a room with white walls opening on a green lawn surrounded by green trees and shrubs. There are terra cotta vases and benches that add distinction and charm. The whole house is done in ivory white, a daring scheme.

**Paneling Is Attractive.**

The living-room, hall, dining-room and sun porch all being paneled up to the top of the doors in white enamel. Above this enamel wainscot is an ivory wall and to add just a touch of color

# WORK OF ENGLISH ARCHITECT PROVES ORIGINAL IN PLAN AND INTENTION

Many Windows and French Doors Give Chance to Add Color to Rooms by Their Hangings—Sun Porch Is Popular and Is Enclosed in Glass—Fireplaces in Bedrooms Attractive.



BY LAURA BALDWIN DOOLITTLE

THIS week we have an interesting house done by an English architect which is distinctly original in its plan and intention. It is built according to its surroundings as all homes should be.

A home should be considered from every standpoint before its construction is begun. This home is built on the very edge of the dense woods along the river bank, commanding a fine view from what is conventionally called the back of the house.

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I suggest a stencil carrying out the design and coloring.

There are so many windows and French doors that it gives a chance to add color to the rooms by their hangings. The fireplace is built of cream-colored brick and the hearth is raised, which is a feature I like much. It's a big, roomy fireplace with built-in bookcases on each side.

The living-room is large and irregular in shape running the whole width of the home, having three large windows in front or on the street side and a stretch of four casement windows above, in shape running the whole width of the room that has a lovely view of the river and grounds.

The sun porch is charming and enclosed in glass. This is a fine den and is just the place for glazed chintz shades that are so popular with the birds, gay plumage and bright flowers. No other curtain or hanging is necessary when these shades are used and they make a frieze of color around the room on one side and part of the other two. This has the same red and white tile floor as the veranda. I like tile or cement floors in such parlors. One always wants a lot of potted plants and it's so much easier to keep the plants watered and healthy when one is not afraid of hurting the floor with the water that is always bound to run over, drop or spatter.

**Tables Are So Handy.**

The living-room has Oriental rugs and must have a lot of mahogany and wicker furniture and tables galore to make it homelike. Tables are such a satisfaction in furnishing a place—small tables to put in a corner here and by a big chair there, to hold a lamp, a few books, a paper knife, that

give comfort and produce the home atmosphere.

A seatable ample and well stocked with all the trappings is another feature for this room where there are so many corners just suitable for tables and cozy chairs. Big Chippendale winged chairs, upholstered in chintz are just the thing here with its background of ivory white. The hall has a vaulted ceiling and closed-in stairway. The fireplace in the dining-room has an angle nook with high-back stools on each side.

The scheme I have for this room is red-craft furniture, stained green-table and chairs—a Scotch rug in soft greens and red and bright chintz curtains. It is only by a profuse use of hangings and upholstery that one can bring enough color into a room or rooms like these but by carrying out the scheme properly a charming and original effect is produced.

**Bedrooms Are Simple.**

It is the same way with the bedrooms. The walls being all done in cream color with ivory woodwork, it takes a profusion of color in furnishings to make it "homely" and so there must be bed spreads with variances—simple curtains and hangings at doors in bright colored printed cretonnes to offset the lack of color in the walls.

It is always—a me—a difficult task to plan a home without papered walls and to overcome the coldness of plain walls I am using cut-out borders to match my cretonne hangings. This adds so much to the effectiveness of a color scheme, and on a cream colored background is charming.

Fireplaces in all the bed chambers add much to this house. A fireplace with a fire in it is of itself the best furnishing a room can have to give cheer and charm.