

For the INDUSTRIOUS NEEDLEWOMAN

By ADELAIDE BYRD

A CHRYSANTHEMUM CENTERPIECE

Design
by
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The
Complete
Centerpiece

WITH the lovely blossoms around us in florists' windows or on our own grounds, if we are that fortunate, I feel sure that you will greet the chrysanthemum in a lasting form with much joy.

The large centerpiece that I have had designed for you is especially effective in colors on either tan or white linen. I am particularly fond of gray linen for a background, as you have no doubt noticed by this time.

Just multiply this design by three, and you will have the beauty of the centerpiece in its entirety.

If you intend to trace it, you will find that the design is a swinging design that keeps the same center, which you can pin upon the material by means of a thumbtack. Follow any of the directions for transferring that are on another part of this page.

When you have completed the design, your next consideration is the working of it. It is very effective in outline stitch, using heavy mercerized thread. Another effective and quick method is a long-and-short stitch, worked in from the edges for a very short distance, slanting the threads down toward the base of each petal as you go along. In this case, work the small central pieces solid.

Then again, there is a great use now of the outline work combined with seed stitches to fill in with straight-parallel lines of darned stitches. This gives a solid effect on petals with surprisingly little work. Some time in the near future I am going to give you a centerpiece especially planned for this stitch.

The leaves of the present design you will work in long-and-short stitch, using green of a soft bluish tone, if you are working in colors.

A fine stem stitch for the stem is good, while a heavy outline stitch, whipped into a cord, is quicker and just as effective.

Pad the scallops with darned cotton and work with the regular buttonhole stitches around the border. The white thread for the all-white work and a dark brown for the yellow work are the favorites. Buttonhole the edge again to prevent fraying.

Generally speaking, there is a large graceful feature in a chrysanthemum design that few other flowers offer. Take advantage of this opportunity while it is here. Make one of these effective centerpieces for yourself or for a friend. You cannot regret it.

Some Gifts for the Men

WHAT shall I give John at Christmas? The question is an ancient one, yet every year it has to be solved, for every woman has a John, a Tom, a Frederick—some masculine friend or relative that she wishes to remember with a gift on Christmas morning.

If you make the gift yourself, it will add greatly to the pleasure of giving, besides showing a more personal interest in your friend than would something bought from a shop.

Men like dainty things and appreciate the interest a woman displays if she makes a gift with her own hands. A man always enjoys fine linen handkerchiefs; but if they are marked with his initial or monogram embroidered in one corner by the woman who presents the gift, he will prize them doubly.

Embroidering on linen is easy and fascinating work. After having the handkerchiefs marked with the desired letters, pad the outline with fine mercerized thread and work in the letters with the over-and-over stitch, taking care that the stitches are even and smooth.

A somewhat unusual gift, but one that will be greatly appreciated, is a half dozen one-inch squares of linen with his monogram embroidered thereon, intended to be inserted in his dress-shirt sleeves.

Plain silk ties with the initial embroidered on the end of the widest side is another suggestion. Do the work with floss in a contrasting color.

A broad black silk scarf, to wear under the topcoat to protect the shirt front when evening clothes are worn, should be marked with the gentleman's monogram. You can make him an attractive collarbox by buying a circular cardboard box six inches in diameter, such as confectioners use for candy and cake, and covering with coarse natural-colored linen.

Paste the linen over the outside, allowing it to cover the box to the point where the lid fits over. Bind the edge with flat linen tape. On the linen used for the box embroider the monogram in scarlet floss.

Handkerchiefs, cravat and glove cases are made of linen folded over like an envelope, the glove case ten inches long and five inches wide and the cravat case fourteen inches long and six inches wide.

These can be lined with silk or satin and delicately scented if you wish.

If you are wondering what to give your husband or brother or sweetheart, why not select one of the above-mentioned articles?

Make Your Own Handbags

FANCY handbags held by a long cord continue in fashion, especially if they match or correspond with the gown with which they are worn. It is not always possible to buy a bag that matches the costume; but don't let that disturb you, for they are not hard to make if you are fond of sewing and can embroider.

The bag that is to be carried with your black velvet suit, for example, can be made of velvet, embroidered with gold and inset with imitation jewels, thus making a very handsome bag.

The envelope bag is pretty and easy to make. Let us consider a bag of black velvet and gold. It can be made from a half yard of velvet, the same amount of gold-colored satin for the lining, three yards of heavy gold cord and enough gold-colored floss and gold thread to embroider any design you may fancy.

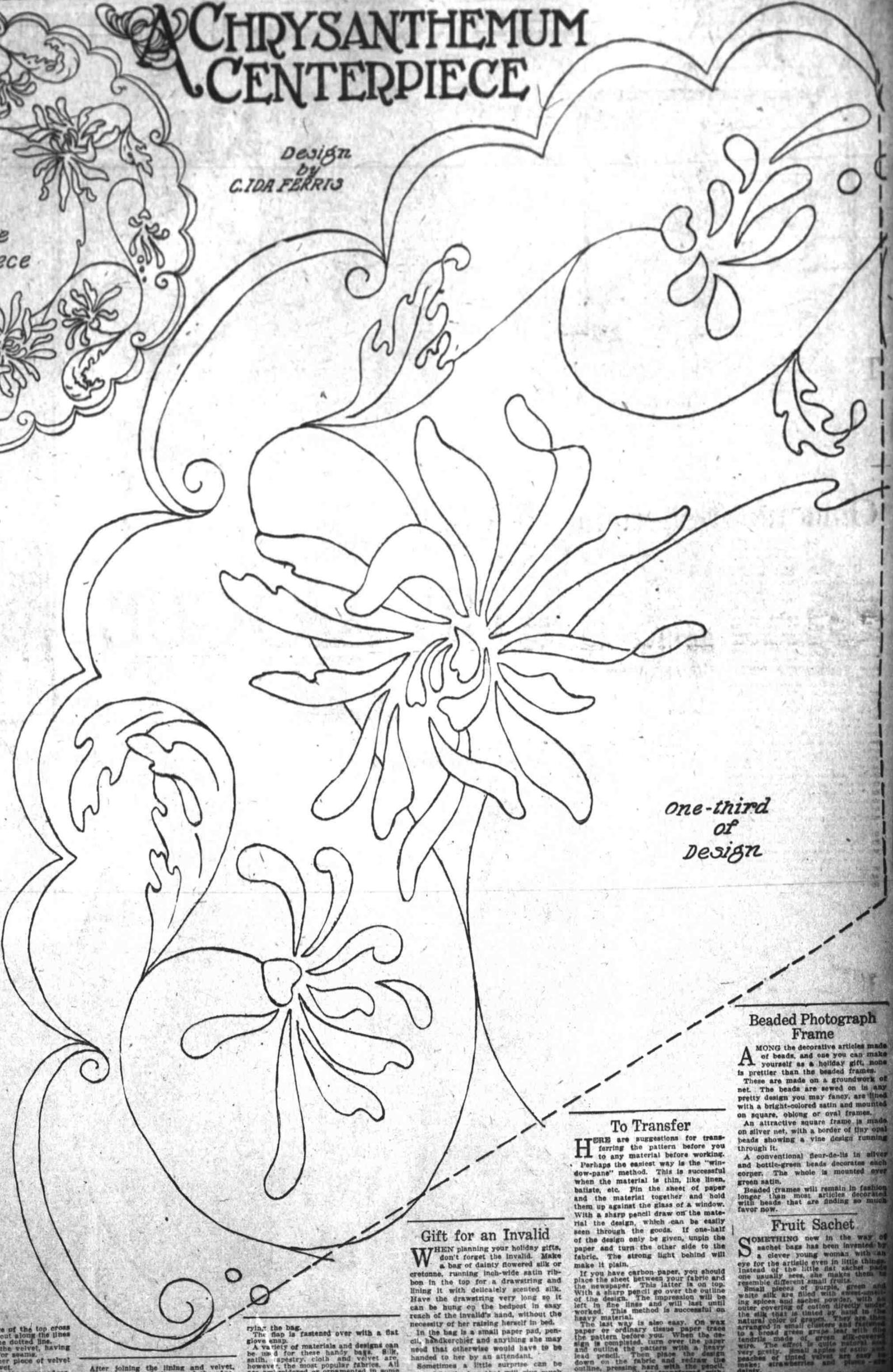
First cut a paper pattern fourteen inches long and ten inches wide. Four inches from one end mark a dotted line all the way across; measure two inches above this and mark another line.

Measure two inches from each edge of the top of the paper and draw a line to the lower edge. Then find the center of the top edge, and from there mark a line to each edge of the top cross line. Now cut along these lines, making a pointed flap, and also cut along the lines drawn from the bottom corners to the top, and fold over on the dotted line.

You have then the shape of the bag. Lay the pattern on the velvet, having the nap run toward the bottom, and cut, allowing a half inch for seams.

Now fold the pattern over on the dotted line and cut another piece of velvet that size. The lining satin is cut exactly the same as the velvet.

Sew the lining and velvet separately, joining them only at the open edges. Before joining tack a piece of whalebone along the edge where the flap folds over. The design is embroidered both on the flap and the front portion of the bag before it is made up.



One-third
of
Design

Beaded Photograph Frame

AMONG the decorative articles made of beads, and one you can make yourself as a holiday gift, none is prettier than the beaded frames.

These are made on a groundwork of net. The beads are sewed on in any pretty design you may fancy, are lined with a bright-colored satin and mounted on square, oblong or oval frames.

An attractive square frame is made on silver net, with a border of tiny opal beads showing a vine design running through it.

A conventional fleur-de-lis in silver and bottle-green beads decorates such a corner. The whole is mounted over green satin.

Beaded frames will remain in fashion longer than most articles decorated with beads that are finding so much favor now.

Fruit Sachet

SOMETHING new in the way of sachet bags has been invented by a clever young woman with an eye for the artistic even in little things.

Instead of the little flat sachet made one usually sees, she makes them to resemble different small fruits.

Small pieces of purple, green and white silk are filled with sweet-smelling spices and sachet powder, with an outer covering of satin directly under the silk that is tinted by hand to the natural color of grapes. They are then arranged in small clusters and fastened to a broad green grape leaf with fine tendrils made of green silk-covered wire. The effect is quite natural and very pretty. Small apples of satin and peaches of tinted velvet are easy to make; strawberries and pines are delicate.

The idea is new and altogether delightful.

To Transfer

HERE are suggestions for transferring the pattern before you to any material before working.

Perhaps the easiest way is the "window-pane" method. This is successful when the material is thin, like linen, batiste, etc. Pin the sheet of paper and the material together and hold them up against the glass of a window.

With a sharp pencil draw on the material the design, which can be easily seen through the goods. If one-half of the design only be given, unpin the paper and turn the other side to the fabric. The strong light behind will make it plain.

If you have carbon paper, you should place the sheet between your fabric and the newspaper. This latter is on top. With a sharp pencil go over the outline of the design. The impression will be left in fine lines and will last until worked. This method is successful on heavy material.

The last way is also easy. On wax paper or ordinary tissue paper trace the pattern before you. When the design is completed, turn over the paper and outline the pattern with a heavy lead pencil. Then place the design down on the fabric and redraw the outline, pressing hard with the pencil. The pattern will be transferred without difficulty.

Surely the way is easy.

Gift for an Invalid

WHEN planning your holiday gifts, don't forget the invalid. Make a bag of dainty flowered silk or cretonne, running inch-wide satin ribbon in the top for a drawstring and lining it with delicately scented silk.

Have the drawstring very long so it can be hung on the bedpost in easy reach of the invalid's hand, without the necessity of her raising herself in bed.

In the bag is a small paper pad, pencil, handkerchief and anything she may need that otherwise would have to be handed to her by an attendant.

Sometimes a little surprise can be slipped in the bag that will give much happiness and help to pass the weary hours of suffering.

tying the bag. The flap is fastened over with a flat glove snap.

A variety of materials and designs can be used for these handy bags. Silk, satin, crepe, cloth and velvet are, however, the most popular fabrics. All are embroidered or ornamented in some artistic manner, and the up-to-date woman will have one to match every costume she wears.

After joining the lining and velvet, sew a row of cord all around the edge, allowing two yards of cord to be doubled and fastened to the flap corners to slip the arm through when carrying the bag.