

FASHION FORECAST.

MODES THAT WILL BE SMART IN THE FALL.

A Revival of Second Empire Styles With Full Skirts Galore—A New Fabrics Scheme—Little Tailored Taffeta Coats.

Prophecies are rife concerning dress modes and fancies for early fall wear. It is claimed that there is to be a direct departure from empire and princess models in favor of second empire styles. These gowns with their full skirts shirred high into the waistband and adorned with frills and furbelows galore will be a strange revival.

But this rumor need not worry us much, for the change, if change there be, will not be so radical that the in-



SMART LACE COAT.

telligently purchased wardrobe will be de made in the autumn. A pleasing color scheme, however, that is promised much favor in the fall is the use of two fabrics in a costume of the same shade, but of different textures—for instance, a frock of some dull finished material trimmed with lustrous effects, possibly ribbon. The color tone in a combination of this kind is very chic and smart.

Little taffeta coats built on empire, puffy and flared lines and tailored as trimly as a cloth coat will be the modish separate wrap in the fall, as they have been all summer. When made of black taffeta they can be worn with any colored skirt. And they are particularly nice with the fashionable plaid suitcases. The dressier of these will have an extremely fetching carried-out in shirred effects with an inner covering. One would hardly call it a lining of delicate multi-embroideries or all over lace designed to protect the delicate lingerie blouse underneath. Tiny round pockets of embroidery placed upon the inside of the coat hold the wearer's favorite perfume hidden within a stiflen sachet.

Smart belts give a touch to a costume that nothing else does by way of trimming, and the latest band to encircle the hourglass waist of the moment is of softest glove kid. It fastens in the back with a monogram buckle, the initials interwoven and set in a circle much as one's monogram appears on stationery.

Fashions this season concern far more than the hat, the gown and wrap. Never before has the matter of modes taken such hold of each and every garment of the feminine wardrobe—shaping and fashioning it, if possible, more carefully than the outer garment. Great progress has been made in the fashioning of underwear. Two and three pieces are now skillfully combined into a one piece garment, every scrap of superfluous material being eliminated. Consequently our waists



LACE BLOUSE.

are no longer wound as many times as the coils of a dynamo with bands of cotton wrappings, but are round and trim, with never more than one muslin thickness over the corset. Even petticoats are of the knitted variety, with boucous of embroidered lawn that button on to the knee length knit top. Altogether the improvements in sartorial things keep pace with other wonderful discoveries.

The costume illustrated has a dainty coat carried out in lace and silk, and the waist pictured is a lace affair evolved from all over Valenciennes.

AMY VARNUM.

When Boiling Milk. When you have to boil milk wet the muslin first in cold water. The milk will not curdle.

THE PLAIN GIRL.

A Course of Treatment That Made Her Quite Attractive.

The plain girl was "tired to death" of being mentioned as "that plain girl over there" and looked long and scrutinizingly at her figure one day in the glass. After this scrutinizing process she determined to kill the faults of "plain Mary Brown." First of all she began some exercises for rounding out her figure. The one she used most frequently was this:

Stand erect, with the head held easily, arms at the side. Taking in a full breath very slowly, lift the arms shoulder high, at the same time rising on the toes. Now bend the knees very slowly, keeping the body in a well poised position, then rise very slowly, still on the toes. Then sink back to position.

This exercise she found developed a habit of walking, standing, sitting and rising correctly, straightened the shoulders and rounded out the hollows. Bending the knees did away with the stiffness, and with that the awkwardness disappeared.

Her face, neck and arms she bathed in very hot water every night, rubbed in a good cold cream and rubbed out every suggestion of a line or wrinkle. In the morning she washed her face with hot water, making a lather of soap on her hands, not touching a cloth to her skin. This was followed by a good dashing of clear hot water and that in turn by a vigorous spitting with the fingers dipped in cold water, says Woman's Life.

She practiced smiling to make the corners of her mouth turn up, and soon she found the forced smile had become a natural one; that the contented spirit within generated by the "smiling habit" was beginning to show itself in a happy expression, brightened eyes and an utter routing of all the old lines that erstwhile marked her face.

THE NURSERY.

Care of the Room Devoted to the Use of the Children.

Never sweep the nursery with an ordinary broom, as it raises too much dust. A soft hair broom should be used or else a flannel bag put over the regular broom. At least every other day the rugs should be taken up and shaken outdoors and the floor wiped up with a damp cloth, adding a few drops of carbolic acid or some other mild disinfectant to the water in which the cloth is dipped.

Never under any circumstances use a feather duster in the nursery. All the furniture, woodwork and pictures should be dusted every day with a damp cloth, being careful to dust behind the pictures as well as the other parts. Every week or two dust down the walls with a damp cloth tied to a broom. Cover the crib and bed with a large sheet when the room is swept and remove all the lighter pieces of furniture after they have been wiped off while the room is being cleaned.

At least twice a day, even in the coldest weather, the nursery windows should be opened both top and bottom for fully half an hour and the room fairly flooded with fresh air and sunshine also if you can get it.—New York Mail.

LAUNDRY LINES.

Soaking handkerchiefs all night in strong salt water will greatly facilitate their washing.

A little salt placed in the starch will prevent it from blowing out of the clothes on a windy day.

If books and eyes have rusted white goods put the garment into water in which has been dissolved a little cream of tartar and boil for a few minutes.

In washing the flannels should be attended to first, then muslins and fine pieces, while towels, dusters and rougher things should be left until the last.

The value of wringing clothes well cannot be overestimated. A good laundry dress squeezes out the last drop of soapy water and again rinses the garment well after she has thoroughly rinsed it.

If you are doubtful whether a muslin or print dress will wash well preface the washing by soaking it for ten minutes in a pail of tepid water, into which a teaspoonful of turpentine has been stirred.

The Important Kitchen.

In furnishing a house or choosing a flat much thought and care should be expended upon the kitchen. Here is the crux of the family happiness, the source of health and good spirits—too often its beauty and convenience are matters of little forethought—an airy, bright, well ventilated kitchen, with shelves, drawers, tables and stoves in positions which are the triumph of perfection as far as convenience and time saving are concerned. There is no reason why a kitchen should not be a pleasant place, yet it is usually the junk shop for all the old, broken down furniture and utensils in the house. Dirty, dirty brown walls, ugly tin and granite dishes on the walls and behind the stove dirt and dampness make a happy hunting ground for beetles and bugs. This is the horror of neat housewives with sanitary ambitions.

Crushed Velvet.

The following way of restoring the pile of velvet is said to be excellent: If it is only slightly crushed treat it in the same way as crumpled silk—by steaming it on the right side until heated through. If very much crushed wet it on the underside, let some one hold a hot iron bottom side upward and pass the wet side of the velvet slowly over the flat surface. When the steam rises thickly through the right side it will raise the pile with it, but without handling.

HOW TO SHOW A PROFIT.

Tricky Bookkeeping Puts Losses on the Profit Side.

The printed report of a municipal electric light plant in Indiana has just been received. It shows a profit. There is no question about it. It shows a large profit. The figures are there in black and white, and they show a profit equivalent to 30 per cent of the gross income and 18 per cent on the capital invested. That is what we call a profitable business.

How was this plant able to make so good a showing? In a way so simple that any municipal plant could adopt it with success if its superintendent were good at figures. And the best of it is that it makes competition by private plants impossible because—well, stockholders are too inquisitive.

In the first place the fixed charges for interest on the capital invested and for depreciation were entirely ignored. Then no allowance was made for taxes lost by having municipal instead of private ownership. Next, while full charge was made against the water department and the city offices for lights and supplies, the superintendent conveniently forgot to charge the lighting plant with the water used in its boilers and condensers or with its share of the salaries in the city accounting department. Insurance was also overlooked. Finally, to make assurance of profit doubly sure, a number of items properly pertaining to maintenance were charged to "new construction." At the same time the charge for street and public building lights was quite as high as in surrounding cities served by private companies, which had somehow or other to provide for all these omitted items.

It is perhaps needless to add that except for the judicious way in which the superintendent prepared his report a considerable deficit would have appeared instead of the gratifying profits. Of course the taxpayers will have to provide the money to make good these paper profits, but they may not for some years see the connection between their profitable plant and the higher tax rate, and meanwhile are happy in the contemplation of its profits and will doubtless testify enthusiastically to the benefits of municipal ownership.

From the above we may deduce the following rule for showing a profit: First, omit all items of expense that can without too much danger of detection be saddled upon the general tax list or other departments; second, charge in as vague a way as possible to new construction as many items of maintenance as may be necessary to show a large profit. (N. B.—The profit must be large to provide for the contingency of some carping critic discovering one or more of the concealed items of expense and ruthlessly drawing them forth from their hiding places.)

If the above rule is scrupulously followed there seems to be no reason why every municipal plant should not show a profit.—"Consolidating Municipal Ownership."

GONE OUT OF BUSINESS.

Millions Sunk in Unsuccessful Municipal Lighting Plants.

During the past few years at least sixty cities and towns in the United States have sold, leased or abandoned their lighting plants. In a few cases they still retain their distributing system, buying the current from some company, but in most instances they have gone out of the business entirely. A number of other places have made unsuccessful efforts to dispose of their plants.

As with few exceptions municipal lighting plants have been in operation but a short time, this is a remarkable showing of failure and one, it need hardly be said, that is sedulously avoided by those who for ends of their own are urging other cities to make similar experiments.

As it usually takes some years for a city to realize how great a burden it is carrying in its lighting plant, it is probable that the number of admitted failures will increase rapidly from now on, for, as an eminent electrical engineer recently said, "There are already indications that a considerable number of these municipalities which have engaged in improper undertakings are entering upon a period of financial difficulty."

Refurbished Bedstead.

One might term a bedstead recently evolved by an ingenious housewife a hybrid, yet it might be said in its favor that it combines the advantages of appearance of the mahogany four poster bed. This is accomplished by using the four posts of the mahogany bed with the springs and frame of the metal bed. A dainty tester and valance with a colonial spread entirely concealed the metal portion in the daytime, and its possessor says she prefers it to the entire mahogany bed. In explanation it might be said that the mahogany bedstead used was bought for a song at a sale, as the only good thing about it was the four fine posts.

How to Dry the Hair.

Some children catch cold very easily after having their hair washed. In order to dry it quickly and prevent this use for the final rinsing quite hot water in which a few drops of alcohol have been added. Then rub the hair well with alcohol and wring it out as dry as possible. Next take two or three towels, divide the hair and wipe each strand separately. Let the child sit in a warm room or, if possible, in the sun. Fan the hair and wipe each strand separately, and it soon will be perfectly dry.

MERELY HELPS POLITICIANS.

Easton Councilman Says That's What Municipal Ownership Does.

A statement was recently printed in the newspapers that Councilman Nevin of Easton, Pa., had said that "the operation of municipal plants amounts merely to the creation of a number of places to be filled by local politicians." Mr. Nevin, being asked if he was correctly quoted, sends the following reply:

"Dear Sir—In reply to your letter of recent date I would say that the item is correctly quoted. After nearly ten years' service as a councilman, elected against my own wishes, I am opposed to municipal ownership of anything so long as municipalities are ruled and controlled by politicians, and I know of no place where such is not the case. The employees of municipal plants (there are exceptions, of course) have no interest whatever in the plant, either as to its improvement or keeping it up to the required standard, much less as to its economy, so long as the taxpayer will pay. His principal aim is to serve his 'boss,' keep his place and draw his pay. I think the business of a city should be conducted the same as that of an individual. If, for example, light can be bought from a commercial company cheaper than it can be made, and it certainly can be (as the city is not in the commercial business), then it should be purchased from the lowest responsible bidder, and the executive force of the city should see to it that contracts are fully carried out. Yours very truly, D. W. NEVIN."

SOUTH MARION'S TROUBLE.

Unusual Situation in an Indiana City Over Light Assessments.

South Marion taxpayers say they will not pay any light assessment, and the city is confronted with an unusual situation. The cost of operating the plant is heavy, and the money now secured for the purpose is barely enough to pay the expenses. A number of South Marion business men say it is useless for the council even to assess them for lights next year, as they do not propose to pay and cannot be made to do so as long as the service is not satisfactory.

Even in other parts of the city where the lights are supposed to burn all night property owners have declared that they would under no condition pay their assessment, and the indications are that the city will have a hard time to collect it.

Attorneys have been consulted with the view of taking legal action to test the question, and the city may become engaged in a long drawn out controversy if the light assessment is added to the tax duplicates.—Marion (Ind.) Daily Leader.

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Glorious in flavor, gloriously sound, a glorious grower and a glorious shipper. Lilly ships tons of this cabbage seed across the continent, as this variety, perfected on Puget Sound, is admitted to be the best cabbage grown. Even rounder and more solid than the

ed to the tax duplicates.—Marion (Ind.) Daily Leader.

This Famous Institution Insolvent. Mr. T. Gibson Bowles, an ex-member of parliament, in a published letter on the subject of the postoffice deposits bank is insolvent. The government some years ago ceased the annual publication of the balance sheet. Mr. Bowles asserts, for the purpose of not disclosing the deficiency.—United States Consular Reports.

"Pay, Pay, Pay."

Under municipal ownership the motto that applies everywhere and all the time is that of Kipling's "Absentminded Beggar." You "pay, pay, pay."—New York Evening Mail.

Maid's Cap and Apron.

When one is giving a reception, tea or any little function in which the maid is in evidence at door or dressing rooms, a short, round apron with bib and fancy bretelles is worn, and the cap is a fancy little affair. One of the prettiest designs and easiest to make is a narrow lawn bow made with two short upstanding loops and two long ends and the bow set on a little half circle of frilled swiss. This is formed of a circular piece doubled over and caught down with the bow. The most approved cuffs and collars which can be worn now are the simple hemmed bands of swiss pinned on over, of about three inches depth in the cuffs and a low band for the neck.

Potato Patties.

Potato patties filled with minced vegetables make an attractive and tasty entree. Put hot boiled potatoes through a vegetable press, season them with salt, pepper and a little butter and add just enough flour to make a paste that can be rolled without breaking. Roll the mixture into a thick sheet, cut it out with a patty cutter, brush the cakes lightly with egg and bake. Fill the centers with peas and diced carrots, with French beans or asparagus heads. The patties may be baked before they are wanted and be reheated before serving.—New York Sun.

Raw Eggs Made Palatable.

If you have to take raw eggs to build up your strength (and there's nothing much better), take them without beating them up, without breaking the yolk. A dash of rich grape juice over the egg, a quick swallow, and although you feel that a glove stretcher has been applied to your throat, the egg is down, and all the taste is a delicious bit of grape juice. Try taking it another time with a squeeze of lemon juice on it or beaten up with lemon and sugar and water—egg lemonade, in fact. And heating it up with milk is still another way.

Breakfast Bacon.

Slice the bacon very thin and slice off the rind, lay the slices in a pan covering them with cracked ice. After fifteen minutes lift out and drain on a plate and broil on the low until the slices are browned. Break the slices into small pieces with a silver knife, mix with a soft boiled egg or a slice of ham and serve on toast. This is more time than the ordinary way and a little more trouble perhaps, but the deliciousness of it will reward the labor spent.

Kitchen Rugs.

Very neat and serviceable rugs to use in the kitchen can be made from old trousers legs and heavy dress materials which are past redemption in wearing apparel. Wash the material and cut it in strips about two inches wide. Sew the strips together, making three lengths, which braid together tightly. Make the center of the rug a heavy piece of material or a square carpet, cut oval or round, and sew the braided strip round and round until the rug is the desired size.

A Test of Housekeeping.

As good a test of the right sort of housekeeper as the old time one of looking in corners and under beds for dust is that of passing a cloth over the tops of doors and windows. Your true housewife will look to it that they be dusted as regularly as the furniture and every sweeping day will see them wiped off with a damp rag.

Plaiting a Skirt.

Plaits that are to be stitched only a certain number of inches from the waist line should be graduated from the front to the back and the depth of the plaits marked by a colored thread. The plaits, however, should be basted to the foot of the skirt and pressed carefully their entire length.

Household Safes.

The fashion of small safes composed in unlikely places is such a popular one that any piece of furniture may now be used to baffle burglars. The latest is a linen chest, a substantial thing of oak or cedar, which contrives to hide a safe. The safe is fire as well as burglar proof.

Effective Table Square.

A very effective table square was made at small cost from unbleached linen toweling twenty inches wide. Two lengths of linen were used and a line of heavy linen lace insertion was used to join the pieces. Narrow lace lace to match edged the square, and small round medallions of lace were let in at eight corners of the cloth.

CRIMSON GIANT RADISH.

The larger it grows the solidier it gets; twice the ordinary size. As hard as a bullet, while tender and deliciously crisp. Retains goodness long after maturity. 4-lb., 40c; packet, 10c.

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