FASHION NOTES

Interesting Items for the Fair Sex

The new rompers shown in the shops, called the Patsy, are very cute and a tiny tot will look adorable in them. These rompers have the wide Dutch bloomers, which are buttoned on a plain waist. The bloomers are finished at the knee with a band of white to which a touch of hand-work had been added, by using a bright-colored silk in the long and short stitch. These rompers have short sleeves, which are finished at the elbow with the same kind of bands. The neck is square and the long and short stitch is used here also. These rompers may be bought in orchid, pink, yellow and blue.

I recently saw in New York an odd frock which I thought you would like to know about. It was made of a light-colored serge, gray in color, and the middle of the front and back of its tunic was pleated. It had the regulation short sleeves and a plain bodice. Underneath this was worn an organdie slip which was embroidered with black toile circee. The collar was high and the sleeves were wide at the wrist.

Embroidered organdie muslin is also very widely used by most of the big shops.

One lovely model I saw the other day was a white organdie muslin embroidered in black tubes that had the appearance of jet, but were really made of celluloid.

From Paris there is a jacket for sports wear made of white leather and embroidered with high chenille fruits and it is worn over a skirt of black silk jersey smartly striped with a white galleon.

One of the most fascinating Egyptian frocks is made of mummy cloth and embroidered in the Egyptian reds, blues and yellows.

Another charming afternoon frock is made of ecru net embroidered with soft-toned silks, and paneled with loops of brown charmeuse.

A cunning little frock for the tiny miss is made of white linen with groups of smocking embroidered in pink. The sleeves are kimono in style and these are smocked on the shoulders. The pocket flaps are smocked also. The pleating at the neck, waist and sleeves are edged with pink worked in buttonhole stitch. The bottom of skirt is worked in running stitch of pink.

Something new from Paris in the way of an evening gown has just been brought to my attention. It is made of flesh-colored charmeuse and is embroidered all over in black and white pearls, with lines of black tubes. The lines are worked out in such a way as to give slimness and length to the figure. It has a short train and the neck is cut low in V-shape form, but it is not one of those extreme backless frocks.

Fresh Asparagus Provokes the Appetite

Asparagus should be cut of equal lengths and boiled, standing ends upward in a deep saucepan. Nearly two inches of the heads should be out of the water, the steam sufficing to cook them, as they form the tenderest part of the plant, whilst the hard stalky part is rendered soft and succulent by the longer boiling which this plan permits. Instead of the orthodox 20 minutes allotted to average asparagus by cooking horizontally, which half cooks the stalks and overcooks the heads, diminishing its flavor and consistence, a period of 30 or 40 minutes on the plan recommendedwill render fully one-third more of the stalk delicious, whilst the head will be properly cooked by steam alone.

If the tips only are to be used, cut the tender points in pieces one-fourth of an inch long. The harder portions may be used for soups and sauces. Wash carefully ,drain, drop into rapidly boiling salted water and cook ten minutes: drain. If to be served hot, have the sauce in readiness and serve at once; if the asparagus is wanted cold, drain at once and place on ice. Never allow it to stand in the water in which it was cooked as this will destroy its flavor and color.

Iced Tips With Lettuce Leaves

Epicures ask no better salad than these tips iced and served on lettuce leaves with a French dressing. For a luncheon salad rub all through a sieve, mashing and rubbing through as much as possible. Return to the fire, add a teaspoonful of celery salt, a teaspoon of paprika, one pint of hot milk and a tiny grating of nutmeg. When it comes to a boil draw to back of stove and add the yolks of two eggs beaten with half a cup of cream. Have in the soup tureen, pour over the hot dash of cayenne and a tablespoon of soup and serve at once. If a rich creamy combine is wanted have half a cup of whipped cream in the tureen, pour in the hot soup, give one stir a tablespoon of finelychopped parsley and serve.

Asparagus Tips in Croustades

These are nice served with broiled chicken or chops, or as a separate course following the meat. The croustades can be prepared in advance and heated in a quick oven when wanted. Trim slices of bread two inches thick free from crusts. Cut into squares three or four inches in size. With a pointed knife take from the center as much crumb as possible, leaving a small square box. Fry a golden brown in a kettle of hot fat; drain. Fill the centers with asparagus tips in any good sauce, or a well-made cream sauce.

Yellow Bechamel Sauce

Mix two tablespoons of flour and two of butter, cook until it begins to bubble, add gradually half a cup of hot stock and half a cup of milk When the sauce boils, set into a dish of hot water, and stir in the beaten yolks of two eggs, half a cup of cooked asparagus tips, a teaspoon of salt, a dashof cayenne and a tablespoon of lemon juice. In place of stock the water in which the asparagus was cooked may be used. This sauce is excellent served with broiled cutlets or with warmed-over meats. In this case add an extra half cup of asparagus tips.

Musical Brevities

Edouard Potjes, Belgian pianist, sailed on the Kroonland on May 1st for Antwerp.

The Washington carillon committee has been advised by Joseph Benyn, the greatest living player on bells, who is now as Meclin, Belgium, that he will arrive in Washington about June 15th or July 1st to select a site for the location of the national carillon which is to be erected there as a tribute to the American soldier dead.

The address of the Flonzaley Quartet for the last season has been Pullman Car Going Somewhere. They have played in all 96 engagements and have made the coast-to-coast trip. In all the long season of travel they feel they have established a record in not having missed one train connection.

Sue Harvard, the soprano, latest addition to the American group at the Metropolitan, hails from New Castle, Pa., which she left for Pittsburg, and in turn went from that city to become soprano soloist with the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in New York.

The famous English contralto, Clara Butt, was honored a few weeks ago by being created a Dame of the British Empire. This puts Mme. Butt in the same rank, decoratively speaking, with Dame Nellie Melba, and for the same reason—services rendered during the late war.

Electric Lights for the Fish

French fishermen have been experimenting with the use of two powerful electric lights on either end of the big net which is spread at night and while the hauls have been greater than usual it is not positively determined whether the results are entirely due to the lights or to the plentiful supply of fish.

Carelessness with Matches

All matches are dangerous from a fire standpoint. The ordinary "parlor" matches take fire at a very low temperature and can be lighted in many ways. They sometimes fall to the floor unnoticed and are lighted by being stepped on. When one is being scratched, part of the flaming head may fly into some inflammable material. Children are fond of playing with matches and do not realize the danger connected with them; even babies soon learn by imitation to strike them. Match holders should be placed well out of reach of the younger members of the family. Many fires are started by matches carelessly thrown down while they are still in flame or before the stick has ceased to glow. At all places in the house where matches are usually struck, a fireproof receptacle should be provided for the burned matches, and this should be emptied frequently. Smoking or striking matches in the barns or stables should never be allowed. Nor should hired hands or others be permitted to carry matches loose in their pockets. If the carrying of matches is necessary, insist upon the use of a good metal match safe, this will prevent single maches being pulled from the pocket accidentally.

The double-dipped matches which have come upon the market in recent years (those with heads of two colors) are much safer than the older kind, for they will not light except when scratched on the small tip, they are very unlikely to light when stepped upon, and the heads do not fly readily. But the least dangerous matches are those which will not light unless they are scratched upon the box which contains them. The manufacture and sale of single-dipped matches is recognized as undesirable by some States, which have laws forbidding it.

Queen of Vamps Has Passed Away

With the death, just announced, of Hortense Schneider—"La Belle Helene" and "La Grande Duchess de Gerolstein," as she was affectionately named for her creation of two roles in Offenbach's operas away back in the days of the second empire—passes a super-siren whose love affairs with royalty and nobility were the talk of Europe and who was said to have "kicked herself into the adoration of masculine Paris," as the first and greatest can-caniste.

Hortense Schneider, a 100 per cent "vamp" more than half a century before the word came into vogue, died at the age of 82. She was born in Bordeaux and went on the stage at 15, but it was in 1864 when she was a blonde beauty of 26, that she ruled as the uncrowned queen in the gay Paris of Napoleon III. He himself was mad over her and gave her, in her own words "a peck of jewels."

She began her Parisian career in one of the little summer theatres of the Champs Elysees. But her real debut was at the Comis theatre in the title role of the Princess of Offenbach's "La Belle Helene." From the contemporary description of her appearance, one gathers she would have made the same sort of hit dancing the "shimmy" in a Broadway theater of today.

Princes and dukes were at her feet—and paid royally for the privilege of being there. When she was starring in another Offenbach opera, "La Grande Duchesse de Geroldstein," Czar Alexander II of Russia telegraphed ahead to have a box reserved at her theatre and begged her to sup with him after the performance.

Nepoleon and the Empress Eugenie were virtually snubbed by the czar, for the sake of "La Grande Duchess," since he begged off from a state dinner the French rulers had arranged at the palace to rush to Hortense. Nor was he the only visiting royal personage who paid greater homage to the queen of the opera bouffe than to the empress of the French.

Among Hortense's admirers was one of the most famous Lovelaces of the day, the Duke de Grammot Caderouse. She nearly ruined him and then lent him 12,000 francs, intimating that she expected to be remembered in his will—his health has been undermined by his excesses. From his lawyer she exacted a receipt in which a cipher had been added to the 12,000 francs, making it 120,000. She got the money after the duke's death.

She was said to have received generous "hush money" from the Duke de Lynes and the Duke de Talleyrand and she had a series of hectic adventures with the Prince de Demidoff. After her success in the role, she called herself "La Grande Duchess de Gerolstein," and by flourishing this title once won the royal right to drive into the Champ de Mars when the great international exhibition was held there in 1867.

Until the fall of the second empire she could fill any theatre in Paris. During the Franco-Prussian war she bid herself, but returned to Paris with the accession of MacMahon and built a fantastic villa at the entrance of the Bois de Boulogne, the garden of which adjoined Prince Murat's, later James Gordon Bennett's residence.

There she gave wonderful entertainments, at which the heirs apparent of half the kingdoms of Europe were present. Naturally, she had many suitors, but she refused all offers until in 1881, she surprised all her friends by accepting the hand and name of an Italian, a Comte de Bionne. They soon separated, Hortense asserting that her husband was squandering her large fortune. Also there was some question as to the validity of his title. She withdrew to a convent in 1900, but did not long remain there.

Her last appearance in the news was in 1915, when she presented her beautiful villa at Fecamp to the Orpheliant des Arts, a society formed to care for the orphaned children of soldiers who had been in one of the artistic professions. At that time she was living in strict retirement at Auteuil, with only the memories of her romantic career as queen of opera and of hearts.

Stay-in-School Drive

In its campaign against illiteracy the Children's Bureau of the Department of Agriculture has organized a May stay-in-school drive to help show children the value of remaining in school to the end of the session. This will be followed in the fall by a back-to-school drive.

Conservation of Paper

Joining in the movement for the conservation of paper, the Postoffice Department is having re-stamped several million of the old two-cent post cards that may be used under the present one-cent rate. This not only saves paper, but saves the Government the cost of printing new cards.

STRANGE FISHING

There is a species of shark known as the hammerhead, which, in spite of its head, is fierce and wide awake. In certain waters of the South Pacific lives a shark, resembling the "black nurse" shark of the Florida and Gulf waters, which also has a remarkable head, because apparently it is totally lacking in brains.

One party of fishermen were drifting slowly across a shallow lagoon, watching the branched coral shrubs on the bottom, when the native paddler pointed out a huge brown fish sleeping down below on the sand.

"It's a shark," he said, "and if you will keep very still I'll catch it."

As at that particular time there was nothing in the boat but a coral hook, a small rope and the paddles the question as to how the catching would be accomplised was something of a mystery to the visitors. But the native soon made it clear.

Paddling the boat to one side, he allowed it to drift while he took the small rope, tied it to another piece that he fished out of the locker, and having made a slip noose in one end, fastened the other to the bow .

Then bidding his passengers to keep the boat as steady as they could, he slipped overboard and proceeded to the attack, single-handed, unarmed, except for the slip noose.

To say that the watchers were astonished hardly expresses it. Not knowing that the shark was brainless and harmless, they thought the deed heroic, if not suicidal.

They held their breath, expecting every moment to see a swirl in the water, a fin and the native caught in a pair of fearful jaws.

But the native was swimming softly. He had nearly come over the sleeping shark when, without a ripple, the man dived, and they could see him carefully approaching the big fish from behind, moving slowly along near the bottom.

Reaching the fish, he took the slip-noose and edged it beneath the long lobe of the tail; then seeing that the great sleeping creature did not move, he lifted the noose boldly, and with a quick jerk slipped it entirely over and tightened it about the tail.

This woke the monster, and he leaped, churning the water, and enveloping the native in a cloud of mud, out of which he poped like a cork. He grasped the gunwale and drew himself in just as the light craft was snatched ahead, and away they went in a wild rase over the reef.

For a few minutes it was wild indeed. One man held his knife ready to cut the rope should the steed reach deep water and dive. But here they were in shallow water, the shark in plain sight, whirling in circles among the coral heads or flashing straight away through the open spaces making the foam curl and their boat fly hissing over the surface.

On he went, turning, rounding, doubling, darting ahead, always toward the sea outside the lagoon. But suddenly he gave up. There was no pluck, no fight in him. He had tired himself out in his fight, and he allowed himself to be hauled to the surface like a water-soaked log.

The hammerhead proved to be eleven feet long. And his whole eleven feet were utilized by the natives.

Origin of Madonna Lily

Lilium Candidum, a native of Southern Europe, was introduced in 1596, making it the oldest lily in cultivation It is not only the loviest of lilies but the hardiest of the white lilies. Some gardeners may be inclined to dispute the hardiness of this lily, probably from the fact that they have purchased what looked like fine, strong bulbs, but were not careful to inquire where they were grown.

Great quantities of candidum lily bulbs are grown in the warm climate of Southern France, and these bulbs planted in the autumn do not stand severe winters well, while bulbs from Northern France can be depended on to thrive if properly treated.

Ben Johnson referred to the Madonna lily when he asked: "Have you seen but a white lilie blow?" Maeterlinck said of it: "The great white lily, the old lord of the gardens, the only authentic prince among all the commonalty issuing from the kitchen garden, the ditches, the copses, the pools and the moors, among the strangers come from none knows where, with his invariable six petalled chalice of silver, whose nobility dates back to that of the gods themselves the immemorial lily raises his ancient scepter, august, inviolate, which creates around it a zone of chastity, silence and light.".

Awkward Ways Waste Energy

From buttoning shoes to washing dishes, there is an easy and awkward way of doing all work, as everyone well knows. Now, along comes the scientist, who says his experiments show that, aside from feeling and looking more comfortable when you do your work in the right way, you also save considerable energy.

This fact is one of several which recent experiments made by the Office of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture have disclosed. These experiments have been made for the purpose of determining the energy requirements of an individual in the various circumstances of his daily life and for use in estimating the amounts and kinds of food required by him to meet the needs of his body for energy.

It was found that in the homely everyday task of dish washing when a woman washed dishes on a table so low that she was obliged to bend over, her energy output was 30 calories per hour. When she washed them on a table that was a little too high for comfort, it required 25 calories per per hour, while only 21 calories were used when the working surface was the right height.

It doesn't take long to saw off the legs of a table or to put blocks under it which will make it the right height.

At HOME

A Department for Industrious Housewives

For Pretty Tables

A new way to serve eggs and olives as a luncheon relish is worth trying. The eggs are first boiled hard and the shells taken off. From the large end slice off a bit to let the egg stand upright, and in the small end cut a hole large enough for a baby olive When the olives are inserted stand the eggs on a bed of lettuce leaves and pour over and around them some French dressing.

A delightful idea for serving fruit salad is to put it into a scooped-out pineapple. In its making all of the fruits are finely cut and seasoned and then placed on the husk of the pineapple. The strong, delicious odor of the fruit permeates the whole contents, and when served cold the salad is very delicious.

To Bead a Velvet Bag

In beading a velvet bag ,stamp the design on wrong side and it will be easier to see.

To embroider Very Sheer Material

Baste material to be embroidered on white waxed paper. This will be found more convenient than embroidery hoops, as the paper can be left on until the work is completed, and can be folded without removing paper from work.

Help for Hand-Hemming

Before doing any hand-hemming I run the article over with the narrow hemmer on sewing machine without threading the needle. This measures, turns and presses down the hem, also sets a nice standard for the length of the hand-stitches.

Nice, Sanitary Wash Cloth

Cut 15-inch squares of white mosquito netting and stitch them together in thicknesses of four. You will be surprised how soft they are. They are very dainty with a little crocheted edge of pink or blue.

Good Hemstitching Trick

Baste hem the desired width. Then with a large punch work needle hemstitch, but do not catch in hem. When finished, take a small needle and sew the hem down, picking up the long thread left by first work. This makes a beautifully hemstitched piece without drawing the threads.

Try This

Try a small baking powder can for cutting up potatoes when frying them.

Try sewing machine to gather with, lengthen the stitch and sew cloth you want to gather and then pull up on one thread—saves time.

Suffragists Plan Future of Alliance

Two proposals of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the International Suffrage Alliance, as to the future disposition of the alliance, have just been made public. The first proposition is that the alliance being no longer a necessary factor in the woman suffrage movement, shall dissolve at the end of its eighth convention which was held in Geneva recntly. The proposal also contains a resolution that the Internatinal Council of Women be urged to have its Committee on Woman Suffrage continue the alliance and aid women who have not yet secured the vote.

To Aid Suffrage

The second proposition suggests that inasmuch as the latin countries have made little progress in the woman suffrage movement, the alliance be continued with a view toward aiding unfranchised women of all countries and to furnish a medium of exchange of reports, investigations and studies among enfranchised women.

French Favor Alliance

The French women, who have not yet been enfranchised, are sending a strong delegation to the Suffrage Congress to support the second proposal. The French Woman Suffrage Alliance wants to extend the aims of the international association to include social and civil equality between the sexes.

The International Woman Suffrage Alliance has made 100,000,000 women politically free in 20 independent countries in the 18 years of its existence.

The Robin's Food

A long time ago some one got the notion that the common American robin is a foe to the orchadist and berry grower. The alleged discovery was promptly published broadcast and the fruit grower loaded his shot gun and went forth to slay the robin.

The fruit grower's investigation into the food habits of the robin went no further than observing that he sometimes ate cherries. It never occurred to the man with the shot gun to examine the contents of his victim's stomach. If he had done so with a mind open to conviction a surprise would have met him. The robins do eat early fruit, but the quantity is small in proportion to the number of insects they destroy.

The robin's diet consists chiefly of moths, butterflies, caterpillars, earthworms, cutworms and other creatures that the farmer can very well spare. The small fruit that the bird consumes is only his dessert after meat bird. He may be doing one a great service. Probably you will find that he has not eaten the young apple after all, but has dropped it on the ground.

If the robin plucks small apples from one's tree, it would be well to examine the apple before killing the A little further investigation will show that it contained a larva of the destructive codling moth ;the bird was not after the apple, but the larva.

Nestling birds live wholly on insect food. There were once watched a pair of robins that had their nest on a porch cap. From the time the young were hatched until they were ready to leave the nest, the parents visited them on an average of once every fifteen minutes, and brought at each visit from one to three insects.

Memphis Establishes Open-Air Markets

Two open-air consumers' retail markets for the direct sale of fruits and vegetables by farmers to consumers have recently been established at Memphis, Tenn., and placed under the direction of a competent superintendent.

To be successful, projects of this character must be conducted along sound business lines, say experts of the Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture, who have made a study of the subject.

In the case of Memphis, those immediately concerned made a careful examination of local conditions and then communicated with the Bureau of Markets. The bureau furnished full data with regard to geenral marketing methods, and also had a representative make a complete survey and analysis of the situation on the suggestion then offered as to the precise steps that should be taken to place the enterprise upon a sound basis.

The residents of Memphis are anxious to do something definite to help bring down food costs, and the Bureau of Markets feels that if the enthusiasm and good business judgment already displayed are continued the objective sought will be attained. Moreover, the establishment of these two consumers' retail markets is simply a beginning. It is expected that eventually not only will a well-equipped modern market in the downtown district be constructed but that a wholesale farmers' market will be erected and terminal market facilities developed.

Building Blocks of Molten Lava

It is believed that, with proper machinery, sewer pipes and bricks can be moulder from the lava of active volcanos in exactly the same manner as pipes are moulded from molten cently. The proposal also contains a material in foundries.

Mistook Kangaroo for Bird

A naturalist who accompanied Capt. Cook on his famous voyage oround the world mistook for a bird the first kangaroo he saw. This is not likely to surprise anybody who has seen kangaroos in their native wilds, for their leaping powers are so wonderful that at full speed they realyy look as if they were flying. A scientist, speaking of the matter, said: "I chanced to come across two 'old-man' kangaroos, huge creatures in the Australian bush, and measured the leaps of one of them. Thirty-two feet the tape line showed for each jump, taking it from toemark to toemark. It is marvelous to see one of these great marsupials streaking across country at immense bounds, literally throwing itself into the air with its mighty hind limbs, and hardly seeming to touch the earth in its flight."

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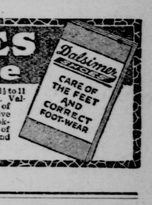


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