

FADS AND FANCIES OF FASHION

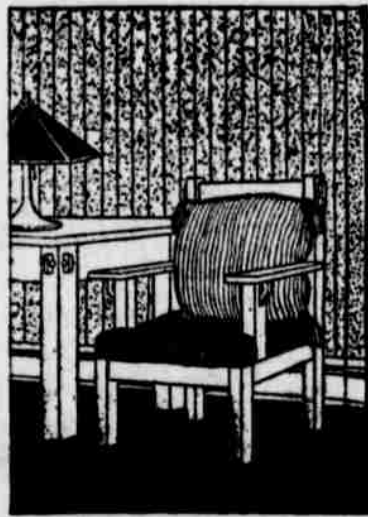
BRIGHT SPOT IN HOME

LIVING ROOM SHOULD BE KEPT ALWAYS ATTRACTIVE.

That Gathering Place for Family Should Be Homelike and Cheery Is a Matter of the First Importance.

A living room is always at the crossroads. When your son or daughter wanders into it in an obviously restless frame of mind it is due to an instinctive desire to find something there interesting or amusing enough to warrant staying at home, writes Roger Fulton in the New York Tribune. The preference is always for staying at home primarily. But if the interest—the invitation—is lacking there are always other places to go. The living room is the one place in the house where the family can be brought together and bound together. I often wonder if we realize just how much effect the appearance of home may have on the child and on his being satisfied to stay there. When a child resents having to stay in because "there is nothing to do" there is something radically wrong with his surroundings.

One sometimes sees a living room that looks like the typical doctor's reception room—stiff, formal and cold.



Too Much Stiffness.

Lacking all the warmth of some attractive personality. Everything looks newly bought, and is so stiffly arranged that one is almost afraid to sit down for fear of disarranging something. This type of room is hopeless. It is torture for a guest to spend half an hour there. How could the family be expected to live there? The other extreme is the living room that is entirely dominated by some member of the family to the exclusion of every one else. This type of room is if possible worse than the other.

Attractive ways of furnishing and decorating the living room are without limit. But, though everything in the room is newly bought, one's first endeavor should be to avoid the appearance of newness and "unnecessary"—Make it look lived in at once. Of equal importance is the artificial lighting. In providing lights, a glare must be avoided if the room is to retain any charm of appearance. On the other hand, it must not be so dark

NEEDLEWORK NOTES

Cheap handkerchiefs for school children can be made out of sheer lawn or India linen dresses.

Some of the most exquisite modern point lace is made in the Vienna schools by trained peasant labor.

Crocheted bedspreads are the fashion again. One of the prettiest patterns is formed of blocks crocheted together and may be made of carpet warp or a coarse white twisted crocheted cotton.

A practical overall apron has the sleeves reaching to the wrist and is cut slightly square at the neck, fastening at the back. Many people are having these in a light make of silk or wool to slip over a good dress when housekeeping and to save the trouble of too many changes of attire.

When sewing buttons on, if a narrow piece of tape is threaded through the button and a small hole pierced through the article and the tape drawn through and the ends of the tape stitched down flat on the wrong side, the button will be found to last as long as the article.

Cheerful and sewing silk are dangerous economies, and it is better to use such for basting and coarse hand sewing and have the best for machine sewing. Breaking thread or thread that knots is maddening, and silk that fades and breaks after it is sewed on the goods wastes one's time and ruins the temper.

Lace Jabots. Many of the newest large jabots are composed of three and four different kinds of laces. Cluny, French tulle, Irish crochet and shadow lace may all be combined with good effect

Use of Ostrich Feathers



and gloomy that it is impossible to read in it without injuring the eyes. In the older apartments and houses, where there are only the middle lights in the room, the only way of solving this difficulty is by the use of table lamps. These should be selected in view of their usefulness, as well as their decorative merit. Good looking and practical lamps are made for both electricity and gas, as well as for oil. Few "city bred" persons realize the real value of a good oil lamp for reading, or the cheerfulness that its light adds to the living room.

SELECT BOUQUET WITH CARE

Corsage Ornament of Sufficient Importance to Make or Mar the Costumes Worn Today.

The woman who collected the fascinating little compact bunches of flowers last year is now hesitating between them and the large single flowers.

The tiny bunches of roses, forget-me-nots and pansies have been replaced with single blossoms of velvet and silk or clusters of one variety.

The modish woman, when choosing the flowers to tuck in her stole or bodice, always bears in mind that it must be in season. At present she wears two or three china asters, a single chrysanthemum or a bunch of mountain-ash berries. These resemble a cluster of gleaming rubies against a suit of gray, black or blue velvet. The touch of vivid color is an absolute necessity this winter, and many costumes depend entirely on the corsage bouquet for this.

English violets give a lovely touch to gray and prune-colored gowns. They can be excellent imitations of the flowers, or made of narrow ribbon combined with green leaves. One clever woman uses the real leaves with ribbon flowers, which wilt slightly and give an excellent idea of the natural flowers.

Maidenhair fern is being combined with the corsage bouquet now. It softens any vivid color and blends with a gown in a very desirable manner. The real fern can be preserved, by the way, for days if the ends are burned off, thus forcing the sap up into the leaves. Asparagus fern is also a good addition to a silk flower.

Lilies of velvet, orchids of silk and velvet roses in any of the swirled or petaled forms vie with the small cluster flowers that are massed in bunches for a color effect.

Tinting Lace.

A weak solution of permanganate of potash will tint laces that deep shade of ecru so much used at present.

It must be carefully dissolved, otherwise it will produce stains which are impossible to remove.

Test the dye with a small piece of muslin before dipping the lace. If the color is too deep, dilute the solution until the required hue is obtained. Never allow the lace to remain in the dye; simply dip in and out again.

Tea or a solution of coffee is excellent to tint laces. The latter produces the fashionable string color.

Lace trimmings to match the material of the frock are much used this season.

With two or three simple colors even an amateur can produce good results.

STRIKINGLY NOVEL



Ruby velvet tricorne, edged with black Persian lamb, and trimmed with a side aigrette.

Brocaded Evening Cloaks. A popular material for evening cloaks this season is brocaded velvet, sometimes closely resembling in appearance and design the stamped velvet so widely used some years ago for upholstering furniture. The colors of these cloaks are often very brilliant, cobalt blue for example, trimmed with white fox; rose pink, trimmed with white panne and dark skunk, or bright mustard yellow.

A coat in material of the last named hue has a collar which at the back is so deep that it falls below the waist, where a strap holds it in place.

The directoire ruff made of ostrich feathers has been decidedly successful although it is not always becoming. It is smart and when worn to match the hat trimming or the gown is one of the most effective finishing touches.

These ruffs came in early in Paris and have been made in all colors to be worn with visiting or promenade gowns. They are good in the natural ostrich colors and in some of the rich, soft blues are particularly brilliant and handsome. The ruffs are made of long or short flues and finished with long loops and ends of velvet or silk ribbon.

Perhaps it was their success which has brought in such an array of ostrich boas and muffs for midwinter

wear. In these the natural ostrich and the light tints in colors show to best advantage.

Ostrich combined with marabout, or marabout trimmed with ostrich supply the most beautiful of muffs and neck pieces for evening wear. They are made up in all the light tints, in all white and the natural colors.

The ostrich band trimmings used on hat brim edges and French plumes on the millinery worn with these muffs and boa sets are placed in a setting where they show to best advantage. In fact, a plain gown is toned up by such accessories to the point of distinction. It is almost overloaded because the attention is focussed on the neck and headress.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

FASHIONS SPRING WILL BRING

From Present Outlook There Are to Be Many Changes From the Prevailing Styles.

The spring maid of 1913 is to be straight front, straight back, hipless and curveless. If fashionably attired, she will look like a straight line, with an oblique line at the tops, said oblique line being her hat, according to the latest bulletins sent out by the suit and cloak makers' conventions in Chicago.

Skirts are to be perfectly straight, looking like an envelope. Jackets are to be the same. Narrow skirts will prevail, hence they will be slashed so that the wearer may move with some degree of safety. The slash may be in the back, front or side. The slash will extend to a point just below the knee and will be skillfully concealed by pleats.

For plump, rotund women, who can not wear the positively straight lines, the fashion-makers have taken a lesson from the unspeakable Turk. For plump women there will be skirts of the voluminous, sheet-like robe of the desert roamer, drawn tightly about the ankles and full at the top. Oriental colors also will be drawn upon heavily in the new styles.

Returning to the slender woman, jackets will be cut on the same straight lines as the skirts. The cut-away pattern will prevail, and this calls for some decoration to fill in the front. For this purpose there will be a waistcoat, exactly like a man's vest, to finish the open coat. The spring coats will be striking of stripes and checks, the one finding the most favor among designers being the "rah-rah" 40 inches long, made of cream goods with a tan stripe.

METALLIC LACES IN FAVOR

Beautiful Combinations That Outdo the Real Thing Have Been Turned Out by the Designers.

While fabric laces are important and never out of fashion, as accessories to dress, this season they will be outshone by the metallic laces, which are one of its distinctive features. In pattern these follow many of the designs of the fabric laces, besides having some that are peculiar in themselves. Gold lace is so rich in combination with the colors now in fashion that it probably will hold first place despite the rumors that silver was to be the first of fashion's favorites in the line. A lovely evening gown has a deep painted gold lace flourish on an apricot satin skirt just below an overdress of embroidered chiffon, and the same lace is used to form the upper part of the bodice, extending over the upper of the arm to form short sleeves. Very often a slight touch of gold lace will bring out most effectively the color of a gown. One made of one of the new shades of red has only a tiny vest of gold lace, but it gives character to the entire gown.

Suede Collar Set.

In every color, but particularly in gray and in vivid scarlet, collar, cuff and belt sets are being produced. The material used is suede and the collar and cuffs are of the old-world Round-head pattern.

The collar turns down and the cuffs turn up, while the belt is straight and excessively neat. To be worn with the country tweed or serge suit the new sets are admirably adapted.

New Waists.

Many of the new waists combine broad revers with the new Robespierre collar, and they are very becoming to nearly every kind of figure.

PLAIN, PRETTY GOWN



(Photo, by Underwood & Underwood, N. Y.) Severe styles are now the designs of the fashionable Parisian dress designers. The photograph shows the latest creation known as the Monk's gown, turned out by Felix of Paris. It is of white broadcloth with tiny white crocheted buttons down the front of corsage cape and skirt. The corsage and skirt are made in one and is attached by a belt of the same material. Its very plainness makes the gown doubly attractive.

Fashionable Colors.

This is the time of year when colors change just as do hats and gowns. Court blue is one of the latest. It is a cross between electric and gendarme.

Taupe has shed its brown tinge and has acquired a tint like elephant gray.

One of the prettiest blues is blue vig, a deep and yet bright shade.

Shrimp is the favored pink. A glorious red which looks extremely well with white, is called rouge venetian.

Chalk white is en vogue. Amaranth is a claret shade. Verdigris is one of the smartest greens.

Mimosa is a yellow that verges on orange.

To Mend Gloves.

When a hole first appears in a glove turn the glove inside out, and, drawing the edges of the hole together, stick a piece of leather court plaster over it. The court plaster not only holds the parts together, but being leather makes it very strong.

Social Forms and Entertainments



Questions From "Rosebud."

I found your questions and answers last Sunday. I did not know they were in there until a friend of mine told me about them. I think they are so nice for young folks to read.

I have been going with a girl twenty years old, but she seems to be no older than myself (I am thirteen). We always went with the boys together, but she married recently, and do you think it all right for me to go to theaters at night alone with a boy. My mother does not approve of me having company very much. Do you think it any harm for a boy to kiss a girl? I suppose you think I am rather a flirt, but I just wanted your opinions on it. I hope you won't think I have asked too many questions.—Rosebud.

A mother is perfectly right who disapproves of a thirteen-year-old girl going alone at night to the theater. Don't do it and don't allow boys to kiss you. It is decidedly common and ill-bred and no boy of good birth and breeding who has the least respect for the girl asks her to do it, so if you are going with that kind of a boy you had better stop.

The Correct Answer.

Please state in your column the meaning of "R. S. V. P." and how to reply to this invitation:

MRS. J. M. SMITH
MRS. R. T. JONES
At Home

February Twenty-second
Three O'clock

R. S. V. P. "500."

To whom should answer be addressed?—Mrs. W.

The meaning of "R. S. V. P." is in English, "The favor of a reply is requested, if you please;" the French is "Repondez s'il vous plait." It is used to remind us that hostesses wish an answer to their invitations. In the case you mention, regret or accept to the one whose name heads the list, as it is probably at her home where the reception will be held.

For a Bride-Elect.

I am a young girl of twenty and of very limited means. I have a very dear friend who is going to be married. Could you please suggest something that I might give in her honor. I enjoy your columns immensely.—M. R. J.

Surely, entertain for your friend. Just because your purse is a bit light is no reason for not giving good times to others. Ask the girls to bring a dish towel apiece and mark the same for the bride-elect, then about five o'clock serve a tray with tea and two kinds of sandwiches, add candies and salted nuts and you will have sufficient, and girls love these cosy times.

Name for Girls' Club.

Would you kindly suggest a few names for a social club of girls ranging from the age of fifteen to seventeen years?—Popsy.

One of the dearest lot of girls I know, who meet as a little club, call themselves the "Happy Hearts;" so I think perhaps this name will just suit you.

Concerning a Wedding.

At a home wedding should the groom's attendant deliver to the pastor who performs the ceremony the wedding fees when the marriage certificate is given him, or after the ceremony is over?

Please accept my thanks for your answer through your paper.—A Constant Reader.

Give the minister the fee when the business is settled, just before the ceremony, for usually there is no good opportunity afterwards.

Initials Always Proper.

Is silver to be given a bride always engraved with the initials of her maiden name? Is her first name permissible to use?—M. L.

Yes, both silver and linen bear the initials of the bride. Near and dear friends sometimes use the first name, and sometimes a pet cognomen is engraved on a personal gift. This is done on silver picture frames, which are much in vogue at present, presumably to hold the husband-elect's photograph.

To Miss "Brown Eyes."

Begin your letter "Dear Mr. Blank." It is much better than to use his first name until you become more intimate friends, and sign yourself "Sincerely yours."

I think the elderly man can give you something costly without its being jewelry, but of course that is for you and your family to decide.

I see no harm in writing to the friend you mention after he writes to you first.

KEEPING FACE FRESH

Cosmetic Waters Indispensable for the Toilet.

For the Worried Woman a Little, Massaged into the Scalp, Will Be Found to Have a Magical Effect.

Refreshing toilet waters are a real necessity for the woman of dainty habits and many of these cosmetic waters can be prepared at home with little effort and without great expense. Nothing is more agreeable than a spray of cosmetic water after the tub bath at the close of a tiresome day. A little aromatic water dabbled on the face and neck will freshen one up wonderfully and often will prevent the tired drawn look which is very detrimental to beauty.

The business woman and the professional woman, whose daylight hours are spent in office or school or studio, will find it an excellent plan to keep a bottle of toilet water handy and two or three times during the day rub a little over the temples and on the back of the neck and on the hands. A little of the fragrant water massaged into the scalp will sometimes have a magical effect when the head feels heavy and the wits dull.

Some of the best of the purchased waters are violet, lavender, orange and elder flower, but the mixtures for home preparation possess a charm for the woman who likes to be individual in her toilet accessories, and the combination of the different ingredients brings out some very dainty odors.

One of the very delightful toilet waters and one which is really valuable for its tonic effect, is made from simple garden herbs. If these herbs can be procured in the fresh state the results will be more satisfactory, but if not, the dried ones will answer. The formula calls for one ounce of lavender flowers, three-quarters of an ounce each of the fresh tops of thyme rosemary, rue, sage and mint; one dram each of calamus, nutmegs, cloves and cinnamon, all of which should be bruised; one dram of camphor, two ounces of alcohol and one quart of strong white wine vinegar. Dissolve the camphor in the alcohol, add to the vinegar and put all the herbs and spices into the liquid; let it stand for ten days, when it should be strained through filter paper.

An excellent violet water can be made by simply emptying an ounce bottle of the toilet extract into a pint of the best alcohol and shaking the mixture till it is well blended. The same process, using any other scent, will answer the purpose, and lilac, crabapple and heliotrope are all desirable.

Heliotrope water is made from one-half pint of orange-flower water, four drams of coarsely powdered vanilla, one-half dram essence of ambergris, six drops oil of bitter almonds and the same amount of oil of cassia, and one quart of spirits of wine. Let stand for ten days, then filter through the porous paper especially used for such purposes.

Common cologne water requires one and one-half fluid ounces of oil of lavender, one-half ounce oil of rosemary, one ounce oil of lemon, twenty drops oil of cinnamon and one gallon alcohol. Mix well and bottle for use.

These are all good formulas and will prove satisfactory no matter which one is chosen.

Patsy—You will find that many cases of baldness are due to the fact that the pores of the scalp are filled with foreign matter which effectually clogs them and prevents the hair from pushing through. The hair follicles may not be destroyed at all, and may be ready to start a growth of hair if the clogged condition could be removed and the hair given a chance to grow. Sometimes there are tiny, and almost invisible plugs of dead skin, and when they are removed with a suitable tonic, the hair grows in a seemingly marvelous manner. It is really very simple, but is not generally understood.

Madge and Ruth—The hands are rather slow to yield to the influence of a building cream, but if you will use the lilac paste regularly at night and occasionally soak the hands in warm olive oil for twenty minutes you can bring back the youthful appearance again and greatly improve the texture of the skin as well. The lilac paste is prepared especially for the hands and is very agreeable to use.

Jonah—Baldness is frequently caused by the pores of the scalp becoming clogged, and this not only causes the hair to lose its vitality and fall out, but also effectually prevents the new hairs from pushing their way through to the surface. A tonic which cleanses the pores and stimulates the action of the hair follicles would be likely to start a healthy growth of hair, even on a perfectly bald head. The roots of the hair are contained in the scalp, and are always ready to grow new hair if we will but give nature half a chance. Oily tonics only serve to clog the pores and are not useful as "hair growers."

Florence—The intense heat used in the drying process is quite likely responsible for the condition of your hair. The hair should always be rubbed gently with soft absorbent towels and when dry brushed briskly for a few minutes. Do not irritate the scalp and do not use a brush which is too stiff.

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