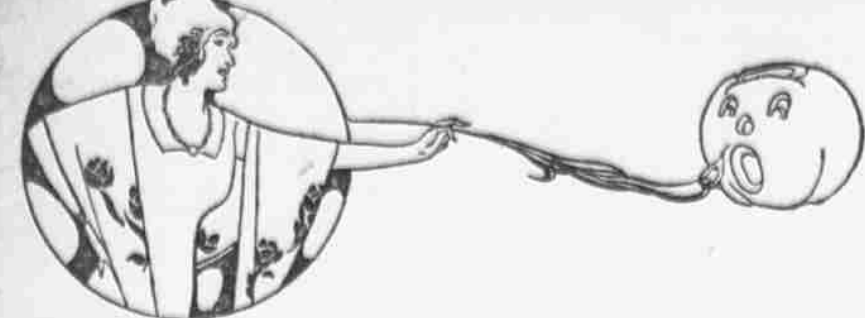


FRIVOLOUS FOIBLES AND FANCIES FANTASTIC THAT FASCINATE HALLOWEEN'S MAID

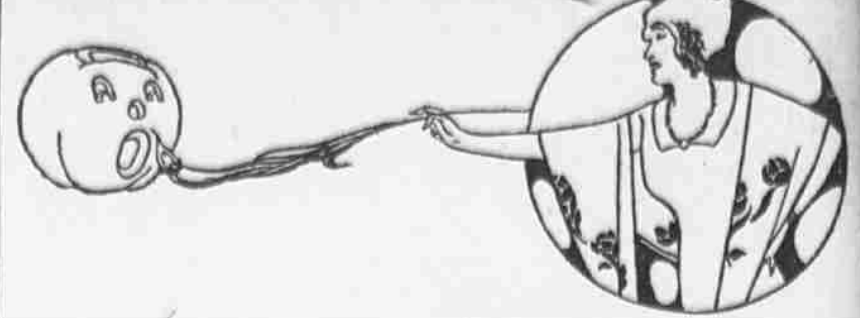
SUGGESTIONS FOR HALLOWEEN COSTUMES



FAIRIES' HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Halloween fairies were giving a party. There was the pumpkin fairy, in shimmering shining yellow; the apple fairy in russet and green; the nut fairies in golden browns, and many others into the bargain.

each separate pumpkin with her wand so that it would grow big and golden, and of a luscious flavor. The apple and peach and pear and apple fairies all had good reports as give of all their fruit trees, and the little nut fairies said that they had not only provided enough nuts for every child and grown-up person for miles around, but they had made sure of a supply for all the little furry, bright-eyed squirrels and chipmunks that would last all winter.



HALLOWEEN ENTERTAINMENT

In these days of apartment living one may have to beg, borrow or steal a cellar—a modern cellar, of course, clean and dry, with a cement floor—but certainly there is no place quite like it for a children's Halloween party. The descent to the cellar of itself puts one in the proper anticipatory spirit; the usual boxlike stairway, dimly lighted, is spooky just of itself.

Halloween Table Decoration

Halloween offers unlimited opportunities for artistic table decorations. Autumn harmonies prevail, the color schemes shown being chiefly orange, deep reds and browns. Of course, the weird black witches and white skeletons are also in evidence. One very charming table had a cloth made of orange crepe paper, with a border of witches and cats in black.

The Needle Game

Each guest should be given a needle and a tiny piece of butter, so that the needle may be greased. The needles are then placed in a basin of water, each guest watching his or her own needle carefully. By the law of magnetism and attraction the needle will rush apart or together, as the case may be, and the manner in which each needle behaves will betoken the actions and the relationships of the parties concerned in the game.

The Halloween Jinx

Yes, surely you know about it—the Halloween Jinx. It's only a theory, some people say, but nevertheless awful things have been known to happen when you made the Jinx. You see, Halloween is such a mysterious, eerie old night that the elves and goblins and hobgoblins and whatnots all creep from their holes and peer around. Well, if they should happen to see any kiddie or grown-up, either—with a frown on!

Turkish Delight

Soak one ounce of gelatine over night in a teacupful of water. Put one pound and a half of loaf sugar in an enameled saucepan, with a small teacupful of water. Stand till the sugar dissolves, then add the gelatine, the juice of two lemons and one teaspoonful of essence of lemon. Stir till it boils, then allow to boil for eight minutes. Rinse two dishes in cold water, pour half of the mixture into each and color one half with cochineal. Allow to stand over night, cut into squares and roll in icing sugar.

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IDEAS FOR A HALLOWEEN PARTY



Halloween is a time of rejoicing and festivity, and many delightful parties are given to celebrate it fittingly. The problem of entertaining the guests harasses many a hostess, and for her assistance the following time-honored games are recorded:

First in the list comes snapdragon. This game is a great favorite with the younger folks, and even the elders will enjoy it. About half a pint of brandy should be put into a dish and a match applied to it. The moment it catches fire the light in the room should be put out, so that the sole illumination comes from the blazing brandy.

Another delightful game is played with a mirror. The moon should be shining brightly, and the guest must walk several paces backward in the moonlight, holding a looking-glass in one hand and gazing all the time into the looking-glass. If the following verse is repeated, the face of the guest's future husband or wife, as the case may be, will appear in the glass:

The Shadow Game This is a splendid game for Halloween. A sheet or tablecloth should be stretched across the middle of the room and a lamp placed behind it on a table. The lights in the room are then put out, and one player sits at the side between the lamp and the sheet. The other players must then pass in turn behind the one sitting on the stool, their shadows being thrown upon the sheet. They make all sorts of contortions and grimaces, wear false noses and beards, etc., and the man on the stool must try to guess their identity. This is a rather difficult proposition, as the shadows seem strangely distorted and twisted.

An Old English Halloween Custom The girl or man who is anxious to know who her or his future companion for life will be will steal out on the night of Halloween quite alone, and will pluck a hair out of the head and cast it away, watching carefully in which direction the breeze may blow it. The future partner will live in the direction in which the hair blows. To make the charm work the following verse should be recited:

"I pluck this lock of hair off my head, I tell you, and I know you'll see it wed. If you'll pluck a hair by all the world around, Until you reach the spot where my true love is found."

Another game that will cause great interest among the guests is played in this fashion: Take three dishes. All one with clear water, the second with water into which some black ink has been poured, and leave the third dish empty. One of the guests is then blindfolded and led to the table where the three dishes are laid. The guest then dips his (or her) left forefinger into one of the dishes. If it is the empty dish, he is fated to be a bachelor all his life—or, if the player is a lady, she will be an old maid, if the finger is dipped into the inky water

The Walnut Tree

"Last Hallow Eve I sought a walnut tree, Three times I called, three times I walked above; Then in the tree I saw my true love's face." —Gay. If you wish to see the face of your future husband (or wife) walk out in the moonlight on Halloween to the nearest walnut tree, walk around it three times, calling out, "Let him that is to be my true love bring me some walnuts." The picture of the face of your future husband (or wife) gathering them in the tree!

The Rose Test, for Girls

Choose one for yourself and one for your lover. This requires two roses with long stems. American Beauties are splendid for this purpose. You must try the test in solitude, preferably in your own room. You must kneel down, fix your eyes on the rose chosen for your lover, twine the stems of the two flowers together and repeat the following aloud: "Twine, twine and intertwine, Let my love be wholly thine. If his heart be kind and true, Deeper grow his roots to me." If your lover loves you truly, the rose should grow deeper in color.

The Mirror Test

You must stand alone before a mirror and comb your hair by candlelight. A single candle should be used for this occasion. You will then see in the glass the face of your future life companion.

Fortune Telling on Halloween

One of the party should dress up as a witch or gipsy and tell the fortunes of each of the rest of the company. Another method is to write the fortunes on small pieces of white paper, using milk instead of ink, and when dry, place the slips in empty walnut shells. The shells can then be sealed up, all placed in a large receptacle and each guest now selects one. The opening of the walnut shells, the paper should be taken out and heated a little, when the milk will turn slightly brown and the writing be clearly revealed. Great surprise will be caused at those seeing the fortunes literally grow into view.

The Origin of Halloween

The only mysterious festival left to prosaic Americans is Halloween. Its origin is plainly Pagan, although the romantic element has come to us from England, Ireland and Scotland. Around the 1st of November the Druids were supposed to hold their worship of the sun god, thanking him for the harvest. Huge sacrificial fires were lighted in his honor, and kept lighted for days. This influence can still be seen in the "bonfire night" in Ireland. The Roman conquerors penetrated as far as Britain, and from them comes the custom of using nuts and apples on Halloween. On this night Saman, the lord of death, was believed to call together all the souls of the wicked. These were condemned to inhabit the bodies of beasts for a year, and Halloween marks their release. This fact—or belief—perhaps, marks the predominance of the mysterious element in Halloween. It is the night when witches, elves and evil spirits walk abroad. They sour the cream, the cats' tails together and perform the thousand and one pranks usually attributed to small boys. Robert Burns in his poem, "Halloween," gives us a good description of the ways employed to penetrate the veil of the future. Three nuts are placed on the hearth. Each is named after a lover. If one cracks, he will be unfaithful. If one burns, he will be faithful, etc. Many maidens ate an apple slowly before a looking-glass. The face of her future husband was supposed to peep over her shoulder. Children born on Halloween are supposed to have the power to perceive and communicate with spirits. Sir Walter Scott makes use of this in his romance, "The Monastery."

Ordeal of the Lighted Candle

A lighted candle should be placed in the middle of the room, and each guest should be blindfolded and told to "jump over it." Those who clear it without extinguishing the flame will have a happy and prosperous year ahead, but those who fail to clear it, or who knock it over, will be very unlucky for the next twelve months!

The Needle-threading Test

It is very hard to thread a needle when seated on a round bottle lid lengthwise on the floor. It will roll about in the most surprising fashion. The first who succeeds in threading the needle first will be the first to get married.

Around the Apple Tub

No Halloween party is complete without the tub of water. The tub is filled with cold water, its surface crowded with ruddy reddest of rosy cheeked apples. Some one should be selected as manager of the sports, as guests, in their excitement, need to be regulated and controlled, or they may tumble headlong into the tub! A line should be formed, and each should kneel in turn and bob or duck their heads down into the water, trying to secure an apple with the teeth. Frequently the remaining apple has to be pursued to the very bottom of the tub, but this makes the game all the more exciting, although the clothes are apt to get utterly soaked. To prevent this, the wise hostess will lay in a stock of water-proof bibs for the girls, while the men should remove collars, ties and coats.

Halloween in Frolics

Pretty games belong to Halloween more particularly than any other time of the year. Certainly, no other feast offers such a variety of them. Every country lends its peculiar customs, for Halloween is countless centuries old.

"Ships of Fate" is perhaps the prettiest and most romantic game of all. Little ships are made of half an English walnut shell, with little toothpick masts secured to the bottom of the shell with candle-grease. The name of each guest is printed or written on each boat. A little lighted candle is placed in the stern. Much amusement follows the gradual pairing off of the boats. The candle, of course, typifies good health. Whoever has the candle which burns the longest may expect a long and happy life. The boats may be improved upon in countless ways and look very attractive with the lights shining in the water.

A new version of the old custom of bobbing for apples is, perhaps, not so exciting, but decidedly more reassuring for the unfortunate victims who have to go home on a cold night with wet clothing. The apples are placed in a row, using green, yellow and red ones alternately. The guests are supplied with darts, or tiny bows and arrows. Shooting a red apple signifies success in love, a yellow one, money, and the green one health. An old English custom is that of hanging a stick parallel to the ceiling by a string cord. On one end of this is stuck a large lighted candle, on the other an apple. The stick is then spun around rapidly, and the guests are supposed to secure a bite of the apple. The pleasure of this game is very doubtful.

Marshmallow toasting, roasting chestnuts, apples, pop-corn, new corn and such things before the open fire are less strenuous and still popular amusements for Halloween.

The Raisin Race

Into a piece of string about a yard long a raisin is strung. Two people then take each an end in their mouths and hastily chew as much as possible. The one who reaches the raisin first will be wedded first.

Recipe for Halloween Peanut Candy

For a thick peanut candy boil together a cupful of sugar, a cupful of molasses and two tablespoonfuls of butter very slowly for about half an hour. Then try in cold water and when it is brittle add a cupful of shelled peanuts. Pour this mixture into the cakes with floured fingers. Lay them into a pan of heated fat; turn or hold before a bright fire. Mince onions may be added if approved. The omelette should be lifted with a spoon or knife to prevent its sticking to the pan, which it will do if it is a well-used pan. Take to table as soon as cooked. Jam or stewed fruit may be used with this omelette.

Barley Omelettes

Break two eggs into a basin, remove the specks and beat well (if at hand, throw in a spoonful of minced parsley), a dust of pepper and salt if for savory use; if a sweet one, add sugar. Stir into the beaten eggs enough boiled barley to make it the thickness of a rich batter, then form it into the cakes with floured fingers. Lay them into a pan of heated fat; turn or hold before a bright fire. Mince onions may be added if approved. The omelette should be lifted with a spoon or knife to prevent its sticking to the pan, which it will do if it is a well-used pan. Take to table as soon as cooked. Jam or stewed fruit may be used with this omelette.