

Chat of the Boudoir.

Louise silks with polka dots of the same color makes a charming dress for a young girl, and a pretty finish for this as well as other gowns is the open work stitch joining the seams in the skirt and the flounce to the upper portion. The flounce should be cut in circular shape, or if straight it should be tucked down in vertical lines a few inches from the top all around, so that the gathers can be dispensed with altogether. A group of tucks above the hem makes a pretty finish. Pretty collars of lace insertion set in between bands of finely tucked silk or mousseline are a good finish for the bodice and form all the trimming necessary. They are variously shaped, but one of the prettiest points down nearly to the belt at either side of the front, rounds across the back, meets the sleeve at the shoulder and fits up closely around the collar band. A narrow frill of lace edges it all around. One point in children's fashions, for girls over 10 years of age, is the downward dip at the waist line in front, and the smaller girls simulate this by lengthening the waist all around.

A noticeable feature of some of the latest gowns for the grown ups is the lavish use of fancy braids and galls of various kinds. For example a costume of black panne, which by the way is one of the fashionable materials for elegant morning and afternoon wear, has seven rows of black silk braid in wavy lines around the skirt. Braid borders the short coat finished with revers of baby lamb. Gold lace covers the close turn collar ending in a knot of lace in front over a high vest of dainty brocaded silk with gold strips and a flounced design. This is fastened with small gold buttons and gives an old time appearance to the costume. In combination we see cloth, panne and mousseline most artistically arranged, and all in the same color. An overskirt of cloth, which for this style of gown should be in some bright color, is finished around the edges in battlement shaped squares and falls over a deep box plaited flounce of panne. The bodice is of plaited chiffon partly covered by a bolero of cloth with a wide turn down lace collar. This style of a skirt fits the hips closely like a princess, and is sometimes cut to extend up on the bodice, forming a corselet belt. The idea of a lace or chiffon bodice under the bolero is a very useful one, and the chiffon is also used with cloth when there is no bolero. A wide bertha collar of the cloth, covered with gold and silk embroidery, is sufficient with cloth sleeves, also embroidered, and chiffon under sleeves.

Black panne gowns trimmed with bands of stitched cloth on skirt and bodice, the ends being fastened with small gold buttons, are extremely stylish, with a lace collar band striped around with gold and finished with cravat ends of lace. The dull gold, almost bronze in color, is very much used just at the moment and is considered much more smart than the brighter tones, which have lost their chic by universal adoption. Foreign fashion writers advise a very sparing use of gold, and a disposition of it in some form which can be readily removed, as its vogue is certain to be short lived. Yet there is very little evidence yet of any vanishing popularity. Medallions of lace masked with gold thread are prettily inset in the bodices of pale colored cloths so much worn. They are in the form of two stripes at either side of the front and back, or scattered over the entire bodice at equal distances apart, whichever mode you fancy. Pretty effects, too, are made by cutting out diamond squares in your cloth and crossing them with narrow velvet ribbon fastened at the ends with the tiniest gold buttons.

In variety nothing else in fashion can compare with the bolero unless it is the sleeve. One of the prettiest and latest of the bolero jackets is made without collar or revers and trimmed in various ways around the edge, one of which on a beige cloth gown, is a series of inch wide straps of flounced silk printed on the ends, and fastened to the jacket with a gold button or a row of fancy braid. In either case the straps are set under the edge of the bolero and may be alternated with ends of the cloth of the same width. In effective contrast is another mode which is in appearance three boleros one over the other, with a triple collar around the shoulders. Wide collars of various kinds are more and more in evidence all the time. They are called Louis XIII. collars but the name does not include all varieties. One of the finest linen lawns, handsomely hand embroidered around the edge, is shown in a pale blue cloth gown and so deep that it almost reaches the elbows. A wide black satin belt fastens up the front with gold buttons;

The bolero fastens with a black satin bow and buckle, and the vest and undersleeves are of pale blue chiffon with lines of fancy black lace beading sewn on to give a striped effect.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Chiffon, net and gauze with narrow bands of silk stitched on at intervals make very pretty vests. One row of embroidered polka dots down the centre of the bands is an effective addition.

Gold tissue roses are a stylish touch of color in the all black hats.

Accordion plaited chiffon finds many uses this season, one of which is the entire lining of an evening cloak over another lining of silk.

Writing with white ink on blue paper is said to be one of the ultra fashionable fads in Paris.

One of the elegant trifles in fashionable dress is a muff and boa to match made of white chiffon, and finished with sable in all the edges. A bunch of violets is added to the muff and the combination suggests summer as well as winter. Gold gauze is sometimes substituted for the chiffon and treated in the same manner.

A low crowned sailor hat made of tiffeta silk or velvet, and trimmed with a bunch of roses or pompons at one side, is considered the chic headgear for young women to wear in the morning. While more dressy afternoon hats are of felt in pale colors trimmed with ostrich feathers and flowers.

White silk blouses simply tucked are very much worn now with fancy stripes of ribbon lace, and narrow velvet ribbon or gold braid.

The raglan shirt waist seems to be one of the new varieties, and is well recommended for athletic young women, as it gives freedom of motion. The sleeve sets in from the collar band like a man's raglan coat, and there are small stitched in pockets at either side of the bust. Flannel shirt waists in a shade of tan finished with leather trimmings are one fancy, while the other extreme most universally worn is the white flannel waist trimmed with gold.

French knots in either black or white silk beautify some of the narrow gold braids. They are done by hand and one row through the centre is sufficient for the narrow widths.

The variety of fancy belts is legion, but one simple and very effective style much worn is a narrow gold galloon in black velvet an inch and a half wide. It is crossed at inch intervals with very narrow velvet bands and fastens in front with numerous long ends of velvet finished with gold forrets.

High crowned and broad trimmed hats are in prospect for the coming season as a suitable accompaniment for the wide lace collars.

A yoke of fur shaping down to the belt as a vest in front is the novel feature of a velvet blouse and the new lace collar falls from underneath this all around.

The most elegant evening wraps are very simple in effect, but extravagant to a degree as regards cost. A silk coat with a deep circular flounce of fur, fur collar and undersleeves, and a real lace scarf at the neck is one example, while another is of white cloth with no trimming except machine stitching and a collar and undersleeve of sable.

A pretty blouse to wear with a cloth skirt is made of meteor crepe matching the cloth in color. Lines of lace insertion are set in intervals all around between groups of tucks and small gold buttons decorate the front plait.

Pretty trimmings for collar bands, wristbands and waist decorations of various sorts are made by joining runs of braid with a lace stitch, or alternating narrow ribbon with braid and joining them in the same manner.

Crepe de chine is one of the most popular materials for the bridesmaid's gown.

Queen Wilhelmina's wedding dress is to be of silver brocade very soft and supple. It is cut in tunic form over flounces of chiffon and exquisite lace and embroidered all around the edge in orange blossoms and leaves, this flower being emblematic of the House of Orange-Nassau as well as the traditional bridal flower. Both bright and dull silver are used in the embroidery, which is dotted with small paillettes. The court train has the same decorations, a lit-

tle of which appears on the bodice, which is otherwise trimmed with lace.

ENGAGED GIRLS STUDY COOKING.

More Pupils at the Schools of the Saucepain Now than Ever Before.

Nothing in the previous history of cooking schools equals the wave of popularity that has swept the art of the sauceman into fashion this winter. The engaged girl is largely responsible for this state of affairs.

'Some engaged girls' approach the cooking school in anything but a respectful attitude,' said a well known cooking teacher.

'They start with a determination to learn how everything, from bread to biscuit glace, is made. They begin with white bread. They stagger through a course of breakfast dishes, including eggs, chops, fish and omelettes and never get much further, because about that time they actually get married. I often wonder if their cooks ever discover the extent of their culinary knowledge, and while submitting to their breakfast tyranny play fast and loose with lunch and dinner. Of course

where a girl pays for her own materials, as most of these girls do, they are at liberty to choose what they wish to learn. If one wants to feed a man on macaroons and kisses, with frozen pudding, meringues and sorbets, why, I can only let her have her way, especially when she says 'of course I never shall go into the kitchen myself in all probability, but I don't want to be at the mercy of my cook.'

'A girl who came here because her father said that she was too young to be married but that it she would take a course in cooking he would give his blessing and other substantial things, put herself through a course of frozen desserts and merronous glaces. She learned to decorate cakes until really they were fairy tales in white sugar and spent her last three lessons in making chocolate creams and every kind of candy she could suggest. I often wonder if she ices and decorates the breakfast rolls and makes sugar cupids on the game. But her father, after inquiring if she had been present, every lesson, submitted to the wedding. At a fair last winter I noticed her name among those of the patronesses in charge of the candy table and indirectly heard that Mrs. N. couldn't make enough nougat to satisfy the demand. So at least I know she hasn't forgotten all she learned.

'One of the things we often do for engaged girls is to outline kitchen outfits and coach the girl in the use of each article so that she in turn may be sure her cook doesn't go in ignorance. But most of the engaged girls come here with a determination to learn to do their duty by the stomachs of their future husbands and their pocketbooks as well. We get more such pupils every year and there is yet hope for the next generation of housekeepers.'

Naturally there are queer happenings at some of the cooking schools. At one this winter a pair of "squabs" were laid out to be boned and potted. A girl who received one happened to know something about carrier pigeons and to her dismay discovered both of the "squabs" were registered Red Cross carrier birds, bearing the usual numbered ring on the leg.

'The same cooking school boasts probably the highest-fed boarder in New York,' said one of the pupils. I doubt if any of the table boarders at the hypheated hotel fare any better and I do know three or four millionaires whose tables are set with far less elaborate food except on state occasions. This boarder is the janitor. Talk about the policeman or the millionaires Row post! Why, even he would envy the cooking school boarder.

For four years now this janitor has stood his cooking school diet. If the cooking school was advertising its excellencies, its perfections, it would only have to placard the janitor, 'I have boarded four years with the—Cooking School' and turn him loose on the streets. The janitor now weighs about 300. He is especially devoted to fine sauces and has grown to be a very discriminating critic. He has never yet found fault. Good reason why, because he gets the best of everything made by the girls.'

One thing the engaged girls are apt to do as soon as they are settled in their own establishments is to invite the cooking school teacher to dine.

'I used to accept with fear and trembling,' said a teacher. 'But I've found the tremble was generally wasted nerve energy for the girls made every effort to show how well they can order a dinner and I have eaten a number where the new mistress has not been too proud to assist at the oversight of its preparation. One girl didn't stop with the teachers, but invited the ten girls of her class also. The dinner most often referred to, however, in cooking school annals is one given two years ago by three girls, pupils and friends, to nine young men of their acquaintance. The dinner was given at the home of one of the

girls. The three girls prepared and cooked every dish served. And it was a dinner of which to be proud. The nine young men declared it was the finest they had ever eaten and looked on those three girls with awe after that. I suppose I ought to say three engagements resulted from the dinner. But I don't know.'

MAINE'S THREE-CENTURY PEOPLE.

A Number of Men and Women Whose age Exceed 100 Years.

A number of Maine people have lived in three centuries. Eben Lancaster of Bowdoinham in Sagadahoc county passed the century mark on Oct. 15, 1900, and is in good health and spirits for a man of his years. Last November he voted for President McKinley and afterward received a personal letter of thanks from the President for his support.

Patrick Kearney of Portland, a native of Ireland, is not far from 104. Until a few months ago he was about as lively as a man of 40, but he now rarely leaves his home.

Mrs Dorothy Scribner of Scribner's Mills in Cumberland county was 100 on May 25, 1900. Her grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier, who died at the age of 102. She has four living children and eleven grand-children, and is active and industrious.

Mrs. Eliza Pinkham of Millbridge in Washington county was born on Jan 7, 1796, and if she lives until Monday she will be 105. She was born in the county in which she resides and has always made her home there. She was married in 1820 and has been a widow for forty years. She lives with a son who has been blind since 1860, but works out of doors every day.

Mrs. Caroline Hight of South Norridgewock in Somerset county was born on July 5, 1800. She was the daughter of a man who fought at Lexington and at Bunker Hill. She has had eight children, five of whom are living.

Mrs. Ruth Curtis of Kennebunkport in York county celebrated her 100th birthday last month. She has a recollection of many incidents of the war of 1812. She has never ridden on or even seen a railroad train.

Edward Spencer of Lincoln in Penobscot county was born in Ireland on Jan. 2, 1797, and was 104 last Wednesday. He has been married four times and nineteen of his twenty five children are living. He served in the war of 1812.

Mrs. Salome Sellers of Deer Isle, who has been the subject of much attention in the newspapers, celebrated her 100th birthday on Oct. 5, 1900. She is a descendant of John Winslow of the Plymouth colony. She has been a member of the Baptist Church for eighty years and she lived in the same house for seventy years.

Mrs. Sellers's neighbor, Uncle Nathaniel Robbins, will be 101 on March 13.

A Play in a Temple.

A burlesque in the Temple of Heaven, China's Holy of Holies, is going on, and British officers are the actors.

The play riddles Chinese royalty. Capt. Hamilton impersonates Empress Dowager, who is made to sing topical songs and dance jigs. Capt. Hamilton says: 'Think of me in this frosty weather posing as Venus among the heathen; think of me in the 'altogether' at my time of life.'

Pres. Fane of the prize committee, who has been conducting auction sales of loot, sells the Empress Dowager at auction, describing her as 'a fine old bit of rare China.'

He bids 50 cents for her, saying that he can use her as a lady's maid. He appeals for bids for the dowager for the honor of China. Capt. Parke of the 7th Rajput regiment, who impersonates Prince Tuan, bids \$5 for the honor of China, whereupon the auctioneer calls:—

'Going, going, gone—the honor of China—sold for \$5. Prince Tuan, will you marry her?'

To this Prince Tuan replies:—'Ugh, the Dowager of China is a royal personage. She is sacred.'

It is easy to understand that a play such as this will scandalize the Chinese. Once a year the emperor of China visits the Temple of Heaven and prostrates himself.

A Great Constitutional Question.

Argument was begun in the Supreme court of the United States, December 17th on two cases, the decision in which is expected to fix the status of Porto Rico and the Philippine islands with respect to the United States. The cases arise from the assessment of duties on importations from the islands; but the fundamental question is whether the islands are a part of the United States or whether Congress has power to rule them as dependencies, without regard to the limitations which the

TO THE DEAF.—A rich lady, cured of her Deafness and Noises in the Head by Dr. Nicholson Artificial Ear Drums, has sent \$1,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Apply to The Institute, 750, Eighth Avenue, New York.



Rouse the torpid liver, and cure biliousness, sick headache, jaundice, nausea, indigestion, etc. They are invaluable to prevent a cold or break up a fever. Mild, gentle, certain, they are worthy your confidence. Purely vegetable, they can be taken by children or delicate women. Price, 25c. at all medicine dealers or by mail of C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

constitution imposes upon the government of territory within the United States.

'Yes,' said the great musical genius, as he watched the crowd of idolaters scramble for possession of the cigarette stub which he had just thrown away. 'I have suffered for my art. Many and many a day have I suffered. I have even gone without food. Ah! what pangs of hunger I have suffered! What pangs of indigestion I still suffer!' 'You put your whole heart into your work?' 'I did more than that. I put my stomach into it.'

Bought Yesterday—Cured Today.—Mrs. O. C. Burt, of 26 Broadway, New York, says: "I am surprised and delighted at the change for the better in my case in one day from the use of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. It worked like magic—there's no excuse for a person suffering pain with this remedy within reach. 50 cents. —8r

Change needed.—Doctor.—'You need more exercise.'

Indisposed.—'Why, I'm steadily engaged in painting houses, now.'

Doctor.—'Working by the day, I suspect?'

Indisposed.—'Yes.'

Doctor.—'Well you had better work by the piece for a while.'

The Pall of Rheumatic Pains.—When a sufferer finds permanent relief in such a meritorious medicine as South American Rheumatic Cure, how glad he is to tell it. C. W. Mayhew, of Thamesville, Ont., couldn't walk or feed himself for months—four years ago three bottles of this great remedy cured him—not a pain since—isn't that encouragement for rheumatic sufferers?—82

'The Badgers claim their baby is remarkably intelligent.' I guess she is. It seems to me that she yells blue murder in 17 different languages every night.'

Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes.—Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gives perfect relief in all cases of Organic or Sympathetic Heart Disease in 30 minutes, and speedily effects a cure. It is a peerless remedy for Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Smothering Spells, Pain in Left Side, and all symptoms of a Diseased Heart. One dose convinces.—83

'A New Jersey woman had a queer delusion the other night. She mistook herself for a potato bug.'

'Yes. At least she gave herself a dose of Paris green by mistake.'

What makes you Despondent?—Has the stomach gone wrong? Have the nerve centres grown tired and listless? Are you threatened with nervous prostration? South American Nerve is nature's corrector, makes the stomach right, gives a world of nerve force, keeps the circulation perfect. A regular constitution builder for rundown people. One lady says: "I owe my life to it."—84

The Chicago Man—That lady over there is from Chicago. Her foot is used as a model.

The St. Louis Man—Model of what—a gunboat?

What's the Trouble?—Is it Sick Headache? Is it Biliousness? Is it Stagnant Liver? Is your skin sallow? Do you feel more dead than alive? Your system needs toning—Your Liver isn't doing its work—Don't resort to strong drugs—Dr. Agnew's Little Pills, 10 cents for 40 doses, will work wonders for you.—85

Young Mother (to butcher)—I have brought my little baby, Mr. Ballwrinkle. Will you kindly weigh him? Butcher—Yes ma'am; bones an' all, I s'pose?

Dropsy is one Positive Sign of Kidney Disease.—Have you any of these unmistakable signs? Puffiness under the eyes? Swollen limbs? Smothering feeling? Change of the character of the urine? Exhaustion after least exertion? If you have these dropsical tendencies and you shouldn't delay an hour in putting yourself under the great South American Kidney Cure.—86

'Who is this 'Vox Populi' that writes for the papers so much?' 'I really can't tell you; all I know about him is that he's got the last syllable of his name all right.'

Have You a Skin Disease?—Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ringworm, Eczema, Itch, Barber's Itch, Ulcers, Blotches, Chronic Erysipelas, Liver Spots, Prurigo, Psoriasis, or other eruptions of the skin—what Dr. Agnew's Ointment has done for others it can do for you—cure you. One application gives relief.—35 cents.—87

Mistress—Did you tell the lady I was out? Servant Girl—No, ma'am; she said she knew you wasn't.

A Sour Stomach and a Sour Temper travel hand-in-hand and are the precursors of mental and physical wreck. Nine hundred and ninety-nineties in a thousand food ferment (indigestion) is the cause. Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets keep the stomach sweet—aid digestion—keep the nerve centres well balanced—they're nature's pancrea—pleasant and harmless. 35 cents.—88