

IN THE DOMAIN OF WOMAN.

FASHION FAVORS APRONS.

NEW YORK, Sept. 1.—Every now and then a passion for apron wearing seizes upon womankind. There is at this writing a pinnafore boom raging with impetuously pretty frills and irresistibly coquettishly contagious force even to the uttermost confines of fashion.



A SEPTEMBER TOILET OF TAN, WITH SASHES OF BROWN CREPE DE CHINE.

service and the most exquisite are of hand embroidered organdie and of linen decorated with a pattern of drawn work so elaborate and so fine that a spider's eyes would bulge with joy to see it.

High Heels Hold Sway. It was perfectly inevitable that the reign of short skirts and the influence of the apron would encourage the growth of high heels and slipper wearing.

Parisian Hose Supporters. It is consistent, of course, for the gaiety in the stockings to be reflected in the coloring of all elastic, and over from giddy Paris has already come our stock of autumn hose supporters.

Essence for the Autumn. Meantime, with praiseworthy thrift, every woman's mind is bent in anticipation of the more important matter of the form of the autumn dress with which she is

to be clothed. What is the coming thing? That is the question. Mrs. Fashion herself refuses to be hurried. She reveals the workings of her genius in good, but leisurely time, and so far we have got only to the point where we know that skirts perpendicularly tucked are to hold their vogue, and that all the fullness is going to take a bounce-like effect about the feet.

Save to some special ateliers of that sacred street of Paris, where the goddesses of fashion and invention reign in harmonious authority, there is nothing more "du moment" than this sweet little suit. It is a frock for September and it is a warm tone of tan that flatters the complexion near which it is worn.

TRIALS OF THE MINISTER'S WIFE.

A Few Grievances Aired by One of the Victims.

"The duty of a minister's wife, it might properly be considered, is to keep herself informed concerning the work of the mission boards of her denomination, write for 'The Minister's Wife' in the September Ladies' Home Journal, 'The wife of the minister may be a valuable and yet not an overburdened member of the missionary societies if she quietly hold her societies in league with denominational work. No one else can do this so well, because the minister will supply the needed information. On occasions where it is necessary for the church to be represented in the women's councils it is fitting that the minister's wife should go, if she feels inclined. If she is timid and shrinking, such publicity is torture, and there is no reason why she should force herself to submit to it.



FOR THE SMART WAITRESS.

refreshing. The lack of privacy and the sacrifice of dignity that must accompany it are as nothing, however, to the deprivation that most of us feel when we are denied the right to choose our own friends. It is only common sense to suppose that some people in the parish are going to be more congenial companions than others for the minister's wife, who was probably a very human girl once. A minister's wife rarely dares to make close friends among her husband's people, because she is a woman of sense; there are others which she may not have, because she is a woman of discretion; her friendships are not to be achieved; they are to be thrust upon her, or denied. Greater than any difficulty of this sort is a more practical one regarding hospitality. When a visiting clergyman comes to the church, when missionaries and secretaries, and evangelists, and lecturers appear, the parish is usually willing to have the minister's wife reap all the blessing from the entertainment of angels, unawares.

to be tyrannized over by circumstances. She, more than many, needs to think out her life with care, and come to definite conclusions by which she is willing to abide. No regulations can be laid down for all alike, for a woman must be herself the judge of her abilities. Let her see to it, however, that she remains unimpaired by those who would seek to direct her. It may be laid down as a part of the remedy that no minister's wife should be at the head of more than one organization, and if her home cares are many she should not attempt even that. If she desires to take a class in Sunday school she need not be given the worst class of boys, nor the most difficult class of little children."

IDEAL BEDROOMS.

"A Perfect Dream" Achieved by an Uptown Architect.

The ideal bedroom is achieved at last, and with due respect to the demands of beauty and hygiene and genuine comfort. There is a woman in New York who has brought about the happy condition by first studying at home and abroad to perfect her genius for the decoration of sleeping apartments only. No other quarter of a house will she undertake to advise upon, and one of the first persons to recognize and employ her genius was the master of that beautiful Roman palace by the sea that washes the Newport cliffs.

Every one of her bedrooms proved a triumph of artistic beauty and luxurious ease, and when asked how she managed it she smilingly replied that "When the second floor of the Italian villa was given me to adorn I got down my collection of pictures of sleeping rooms in Italian palaces and from them I copied direct from the painting. Here is one taken direct from a famous painting. Ruskin said it was an ideal room, and it is, especially for a summer home. The floor is bare, with rugs, the ventilation quite perfect by reason of the quaint round windows, high in the wall, and the coloring I copied direct from the painting. A perfect Italian room, but when you get in that quaint bed it is made of the finest hair on the best springs. No hard, little, medieval couch that, and in the wainscot about the walls are glorious cupboards, for hats, gowns at full length, shoes, boxes and even the daintiest medicine chest.

"On the wall by the bed hangs an oil painting of a woman in a long, flowing dress, standing and looking forward. The room is filled with light and air, and the furniture is simple and elegant. The walls are decorated with pictures of sleeping rooms in Italian palaces, and the floor is bare with rugs. The ventilation is perfect by reason of the quaint round windows, high in the wall, and the coloring is copied direct from the painting.

There are tricks in all trades, and the tricks of the jewelers are sometimes so adroit as to deceive the most expert who are unfamiliar with them. Large rubies can now be made out of small that would, when cut, take in even an expert lapidary if he trusted to his eye only. He must examine them with a microscope to detect the vamped-up stone. Some bubbles in it are then visible, that is all. The double refraction, that depth of color which is a carrea to the eye, and the hardness are there. The vamped-up ruby is produced by melting the small rubies into one. A clever device of jewelers who go in for cheapness—or cheating—is to set a rose diamond on a foundation of paste. The gold setting hides the joint.

The first application on a large scale of this trick took place not long ago at Brussels. A man entered a jeweler's shop, and saying he had lost at roulette and needed money, at once offered for sale his wife's necklace. The price he asked was only half the apparent value. The jeweler examined it, found the wide refraction of the diamond which is the cause of those brilliant fireworks, but still was mistrustful.

Avoided at Saratoga.

Never before at Saratoga have large women—women of stature and weight—either—been as much in style as during the present season. Men who have been visiting Saratoga for thirty years solemnly affirm that never during that whole time were there so many women who weighed from 175 to 200 pounds as are of view this season. There is also expert testimony to be secured that never have there been so many overdressed women and such a vast display of diamonds, turquoise and marquisé rings.

One of the women guests at the Grand Union hotel is conspicuous for both her weight and height. She is at least six feet three inches tall and weighs 175 pounds. She is also accounted the most tastefully garbed woman in Saratoga, for in spite of

her immense proportions she is most admirably and suitably gowned, both morning and evening. The other larger women who sit on the piazzas of the Grand Union are dying to find out the name of her dressmaker.

A well known actress, who is herself well advanced in the heavyweight class, said the other evening that she had never seen a larger woman who was so properly attired. "I will find out her dressmaker," she said, "because I need her. She must be a wonder."

Fritts of Fashion.

The collars of gowns are to be lower, a fashion which can readily be adopted with audacious confidence by the young. A new twist to the old, slightly rough surface, manufactured for the making of



A CREME WHITE VEILING, TRIMMED WITH TUCKED MEDALLIONS OF SCARLET SILK, SET IN FRAMES OF CREAM LACE.

smart traveling and walking costumes, resembles the weave of French vicuna. Handsome qualities of lightweight Venetian, in blue, mauve and rich fruit colors, including red, will be much used for the first week costumes of next season. Costumes in solid colors are the novelty of the hour—everything to match a rather expensive fashion, but always a desirable one and indicative often of the well-dressed woman.

Huge artificial flowers of chiffon, wonderfully tinted, are among the new millinery novelties and in many cases have jeweled centers. They are remarkably effective on the lace, tulle and chiffon evening toques that are to be worn.

The earliest importations of autumn dress goods showed smooth finished surfaces, but now there is an incoming wave of zifelines goods with very rough hairy surfaces. Many of these materials show pronounced white hairs or dark backgrounds. They are to be worn with youthful costumes of tweed and cheviot this fall are Lady-smith models of rough felt-Suzette styles, they are called. Upon them quilts and stiff feathers are secured with knots of brilliant gold and pastel hues, or equally brilliant nasturtium yellow velvet.

The fancy for combining blue with certain shades of green still prevails, though it has been worn so much that many have tired of it. The newer rhododendron blending of pink and blue is apt to form mauve and is therefore not generally becoming. The blue life admittance on those who are fair enough to wear it.

The plain black velvet slippers may be as desirable accessories for the outdoor mode for winter wear, but shoemakers are certainly turning out shoes that are far from plain and are veritable works of art. Jeweled buckles are decidedly in evidence and the embossed leather also appears. A low white shoe with a deep instep flap has both flap and toe embroidered in gold and red and pastel hues, or equally brilliant nasturtium yellow velvet.

SIX BEWITCHING LADY APRONS.

orders came in fast and furious, and now I am as busy as a bee, for I not only try to make my decorative work beautiful, but becoming as well. As a rule, I get rid of as much unnecessary drapery as possible, for hygiene's sake, but I never decorate in colors that will create a hard or ugly atmosphere. Here is quite an ideal modern bedroom done in green and white and gold. It is designed for a young woman who is not very strong and spends a good deal of time in bed.

"You see, I always consider the occupant of a room if I can, and as she is often invalided, I did away with the superfluous draperies and tried to create a cheering atmosphere by treating the walls in a solid tone of green. That coloring I could

not have done in any other way. The ideal bedroom is achieved at last, and with due respect to the demands of beauty and hygiene and genuine comfort. There is a woman in New York who has brought about the happy condition by first studying at home and abroad to perfect her genius for the decoration of sleeping apartments only.

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