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FASHION

Can you tie the new chou?
Chou tying is an art, a fine art you will say after you have tried it. It requires practice, and you can profitably put in all your spare moments for a week upon it.

When you see the girl behind the ribbon counter toss a piece of ribbon into the air and bring it back in the form of a loop and when you notice how she turns and twists, pulls and manipulates it and how, with a final yank, she draws it into a bow, you will, perhaps, think that the whole business is an easy one and that you can go home and do likewise, writes Augusta Prescott in the Detroit Free Press. But, when you come to the actual tying of the ribbon with your own hands, you will find that it is not quite so easy. Your chou will have an "all but" look which characterizes so many home productions, and when you put it on you will feel as though it were a blemish to your gown rather than an ornament.

Now to tie a chou right, begin right. Do not use old ribbon. If you were to give the girl behind the ribbon counter the old scraps out of your ribbon box and were to tell her to make a summer chou out of those old pieces she would laugh at you and explain to you how impossible it was to bring anything fresh out of your old ends.

Wrinkled ribbons of uncertain lengths and still more uncertain hues, faded sections of lace and odd bits of flowers, queer looking passementeries and ragged insertions will never in the world become handsome just by being made up into choux.

For the new London chou take two yards of ribbon. If you want long ends for the back of your sash take more. If it is for the back of your neck two yards will be enough. If you want it for your hair one and one-half yards will do, and if it is for your belt you can get along with the same quantity.

HOW TO TIE IT.

Take the ribbon in the middle and hold it up in front of you. Pull out one nice long loop, twist the ribbon and make a bow knot, just as you have tied a bow all your life.

Do not pull it tightly, but, while the middle is open and loose, make another bow by pulling a loop of ribbon through the knot, and still another.

You will have four bows. Grab the two upper ones tightly, one in each hand, and pull. This will tighten your knot.

Gradually arrange the loops, pulling at the knot all the time and twisting it, and keep on doing this until you have four nice bows with two hanging ends and a hard knot in the middle holding them all.

The secret of bow-tying is this hard knot in the middle. It ruins your ribbon of course, and the ribbon can never be used for anything else. The bow cannot be untied, you will understand, but must remain in just that fashion forever, but if you hope for anything that is smart looking you must pull the ribbon hard and make this middle knot tight.

To quote the girl behind the ribbon counter, who is the professional bow maker of the establishment and whose busy fingers are at work from morn till night, "The knot is the whole thing; pull it tight," and you will understand it after you have watched it her a few minutes and have gone home to tie a bow for yourself.

A woman who makes a business of arranging the small things of dress declares that she depends upon the ribbon ornaments this year for the summer touches of the costume.

Said she: "I buy ribbon by the bolt and make it up by the bow. There are as many bows as there are hands to tie them, and I have personally designed thousands for the framing of the gowns that pass through my hands.

"One of my latest devices with rib-

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bon is to cover buttons with it. I tie a neat little bow, no bigger than a quarter, and into the knot I slip a button in such a way that the shank can be used. This makes a very neat ornament and the bow looks brighter and stays in place better than if it were sewed on tight and flat."

Another way to use narrow ribbon is through lace. You thread a blunt needle with ribbon and you work lace with it. You work the lace by going around the pattern with ribbon, and so you make a very durable trimming that is a little different from applique and much less work.

The dress of the late season threatened to become more ribbon trimmed than that of the early year. There is a new fancy for taking a wide ribbon and running it through the hat brim just as though you were taking long stitches. Five or six stitches of the ribbon will go all the way around the brim and the whole is tied at the back in a bow, with ends that hang right down to the stock.

The stock is treated similarly and one of the new arrangements shows ribbon two inches wide threaded through the stock perfectly flat and tied at the back in a bow.

Nearly all of the new trimmings have ribbons, either for a foundation or ribbon in them; and it looks as though autumn modes would be largely founded upon ribbon designs.

It is a pity that this material cannot be made cheaper, for really there is nothing much more expensive to buy and to use than ribbon itself. Those who are of an economical turn of mind and who do not mind a little work, can buy taffeta silk and make their ribbon.

A yard of taffeta, cut on the bias and hemmed on each side, or doubled and neatly finished, will really make a great deal of ribbon. This is just a suggestion for the woman who wants to look nice and who does not want to pay the price.

Editor—There's plenty of meat in that story.

Reporter—Yes, it's about a family skeleton.

* * *

Ted—Why are you so opposed to the small families of the rich?

Ned—Our millionaires haven't daughters enough to go around.

* * *

Mr. Munitaux—What do you want of a yacht? I could never see any pleasure in yachting.

Mrs. Munitaux—That is just like you; you think of nothing but pleasure.

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