

What Can We Do?



Through the newspapers we learn that the Navy League is asking for sewing kits for the marines now in training for service in France. The league calls for 6,500 of these sewing kits and they are inexpensive and easy to make; so here is an answer to the question at the beginning of this article.

The marines call a sewing kit a "hussiff," which is the marines' way of saying "housewife." And before we get through making sewing kits we are likely to find "hussiff" has been added to the English language and to have to look in the dictionary for its derivation.

The "hussiff" is made of cotton khaki and sewed with red thread. It is 13 inches long and 7 1/2 inches wide and has five pockets 3 1/2 inches deep by 2 1/2 inches wide. A top flap covers over the pockets. A red tape, sewed

on the back of the center pocket, ties the kit when it is rolled up.

The kit is fitted with the following articles: A pair of blunt-pointed scissors four inches long, No. 1 needles, a thimble, an assortment of safety pins, cards wound with heavy khaki, black and white thread and two safety pins strung with khaki buttons.

The Red Cross is issuing calls for ration heaters. They are made of newspapers folded and pasted into tight rolls of a certain size, then cut and rolled in paraffin. They serve to heat the food and drink of the soldiers and should be placed in the comfort bags made for the men in service. Many thousands of them will be needed and they are so simple that children can make them.

Directions for making these heaters can be obtained from Miss Cook at the Chicago chapter headquarters of the Red Cross.

It Is a Velvet Season



"It is a velvet season" say the milliners, and the displays of new millinery for fall leave no room in the mind for doubting this assertion. Plain and panne velvet dominate all the showings. Hatter's plush, with a surface much like panne velvet, is represented, and heavy velours and duvetyn—both velvety in appearance—are in the running. In plain velvet and in velours and duvetyn the quiet, rich colors approved by fashionables are at their best. Panné velvet and hatter's plush both look best in black and white and in the darkest shades of sedate colors, to which they add brilliance.

Trimings are very simple and not permitted to interfere with the lines of the shapes in any way. Fancy features, including ostrich, ribbons and ornaments, are relied upon for decorative features. Small ostrich tips, used in groups, are returning after an exile of several seasons, along with draped turbans of velvet, and they look so well together that there is a sort of kinship between them. It is hard to think of velvet without being reminded of ostrich. Wide-brimmed hats with a fringe of ostrich laid upon the upper brims have already made an assured success.

Coque feathers and furs in pompons

are sure to be found on the classiest hats, sharing honors with flat applique flowers made of fur. Since so many hats are made of velvet the ingenuity of trimmers is exercised to place the covering on the shape in a variety of ways, as may be gathered from the group of chic velvet hats pictured here. The combination of two colors in one or two fabrics, as midnight blue and wine-colored velvet, or black velvet with beige velour, in the body of shapes, is a feature worth noting in new millinery. It appears in the smartest patterns.

Soft, draped crowns and bulky crowns have already impressed themselves on the styles for winter. Among the latter the "bag" crown is a Paris importation, made like the paper bags used in France, and inverted on various brims. The bulky crown looks best on women with round, plump faces. One of them is shown in the hat at the left of the group. The draped crown, which may be pinned at any angle becoming to the wearer, appears in the center hat, while the hat at the right attests to the survival of the fittest with the round crown and rolling brim of the French sailor.

Julia Bottomley

IS SUBSTITUTE FOR LINEN

Handpainted Oilcloth Utilized to Make Attractive Runners and Luncheon Sets.

There is a saying that in these days of war prices, only the millionaire's wife can afford to use real linen in her dining room. A great many women are substituting handpainted oilcloth for the accustomed lace and linen luncheon sets, says the Philadelphia North American.

Stunning sets in black enameled oilcloth for the out-of-door English breakfast or porch luncheon are decorated with bunches of brilliantly colored fruit. A large center doily is used, with four each of the medium and small sizes. An ordinary enameled kitchen pie plate painted black and decorated with the same design makes a unique bread or sandwich plate and a papier mache bowl stained black and decorated with the fruit motif on the outside, filled with luscious grapes and oranges, is the most stunning kind of a centerpiece.

The square luncheon set is rather new, developed in an oilcloth stenciled with field flowers in brilliant blues and reds and yellows.

Deft blue with sprays of small pink flowers or pale green with black and white will make very pleasing combinations.

Instead of the conventional center and individual plate doilies, two narrow runners crossed at right angles in the center covering four places are particularly good on the small square table. In this case stenciling the ends of the runners, the center one, and perhaps a narrow border design will be all the decorations necessary.

The practical value of using oilcloth as a substitute for table linens is apparent. After the meal, wipe off the cloth, and your work is done. No wear and tear on the linen and no laundry bill to pay.

New Tailored Blouse.

The new tailored blouse is developed with front and back yokes, from which box plaits are laid, says the Dry Goods Economist, as there may be a cluster of plaits in the center back and on either side of the front. The high collar is not figuring largely in the tailored models, the flat collar that reaches far down the front being favored.

Narrow fluting is a feature of these waists. It is used to edge collar, cuffs and front.

Line Your Muff.

Line your winter muff with velvet; if you haven't new velvet, use old. It will never wear out, is much warmer than silk, and one doesn't have to be constantly relining, as one does with silk.

DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER

AUTUMN LEAVES.

"Ah," said the autumn leaves, "now is the time of the year for our great and wonderful party."



"Are you going to have one soon?" asked Mr. Wind.

"We hope to have one very, very soon," said the leaves as they blew about.

"The reason I asked," said Mr. Wind, "was because I did not want to have any other engagement on the day that you give your party. It would be the sort of a party I would enjoy and I trust you will invite me."

Many of the Guests Came Riding.

"Well," laughed the leaves, "we couldn't very well have the sort of a party we want without you. We want your help in the races and jumps and scampers. We need you to say, 'Ready, Set, Go.' We could never go without you, Mr. Wind. And so we talked about this party right before you, hoping you would show a great interest."

"And I did, didn't I?" asked Mr. Wind.

"Yes, indeed," said the leaves. They kept flying to the ground. Many were still on the trees—in fact most of them were, but the first ones to drop off and blow about were ready for the first party of the season.

"It will be the way it always is, I suppose," said Mr. Wind. "A great many leaves will come which are not invited."

"Now Mr. Wind," said the leaves already on the ground, "that is not fair."

"And why not?" asked Mr. Wind as he whistled a merry tune and looked quite happy and also quite naughty.

"Because you know full well, Mr. Wind," said the leaves, "that the others which will come uninvited will be blown here by you. You will simply not allow them to stay on the trees. You will send a great many to the party."

"Some, it is true you will leave alone, but others you will send, oh, many, many others."

"And why shouldn't I?" asked Mr. Wind. "Won't they enjoy your party?"

"We hope so," said the leaves.

"Shall I send the Breeze children off with the invitations?"

"Please," said the leaves. So off flew the Breeze Brothers and soon the guests began to arrive. It was almost like a storm of leaves.

"Ah," said old Mr. Wind, "this will be a party after my own windy heart. How I will enjoy it! What dancing and races I will start. Heigh-ho, heigh-ho."

Just at that moment the fairies and gnomes all came running to the party. "May we come?" they asked. And of course the leaves were honored and delighted.

The fairies wore dresses of leaves—leaves still green. On top of the green leaves many of the guests came riding, and as the fairies and gnomes threw off their capes, all the leaves danced off from their arms, their shoulders and their caps and bonnets.

Such merriment as there was and how Mr. Wind did make the leaves race and dance. Of course many blew down from the trees—just as the others had said—many uninvited guests. But Mr. Wind treated them all alike and they were as happy as could be.

The fairies and gnomes made houses out of the leaves and Mr. Wind would stay quite still and watch their work. Just as soon as it was all finished he would blow with might and main, and the leaves would all have to dance off again.

"We can't stay still," they whispered as they rustled away, "we would like to be a part of your house but we simply must dance."

Then the fairies and gnomes would cover each other up in beds of leaves. As soon as any fairy or gnome was snug inside a leaf bed, once more Mr. Wind would blow and the leaves all fly off.

"Please don't it was like a think I am a mean Storm of Leaves. Old Wind," he said, "but I just simply cannot resist having all this fun."

"We love it too," said the fairies and gnomes. "It wouldn't be a regular party given by the autumn leaves if you didn't play all these pranks, Mr. Wind."

Again Mr. Wind blew so they gave up talking and danced and played until he grew tired and the leaves slept on the ground. Then the fairies and gnomes went back to Fairy Land!

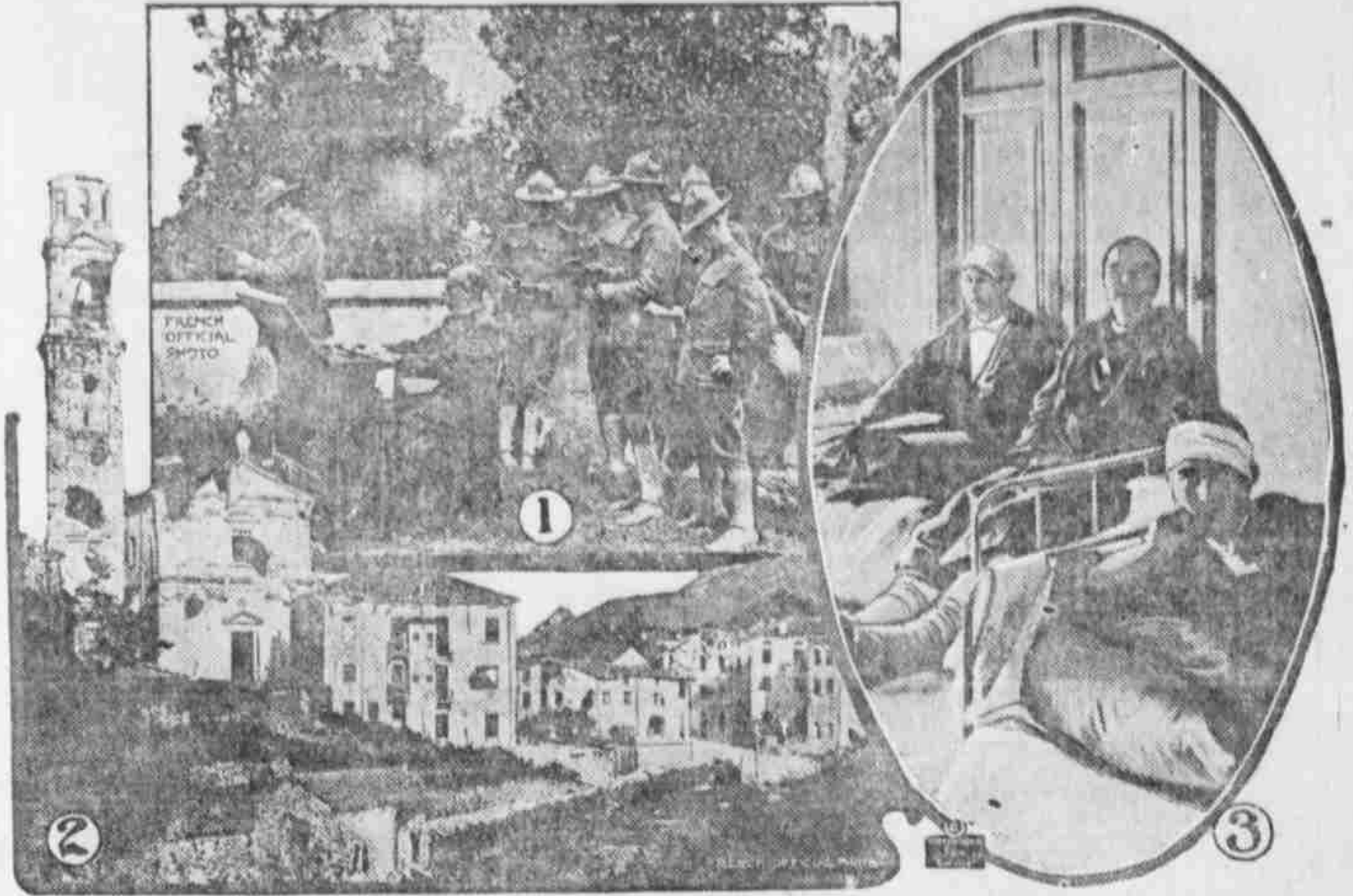
Old Ones First.

Father—Tommy, go out to the barn and hitch the horse to the old wagon.

Son—Why not to the new wagon, father?

Father—Wear out the old first is my motto, son.

Son—Well, then, father, you go out and hitch up the horse.



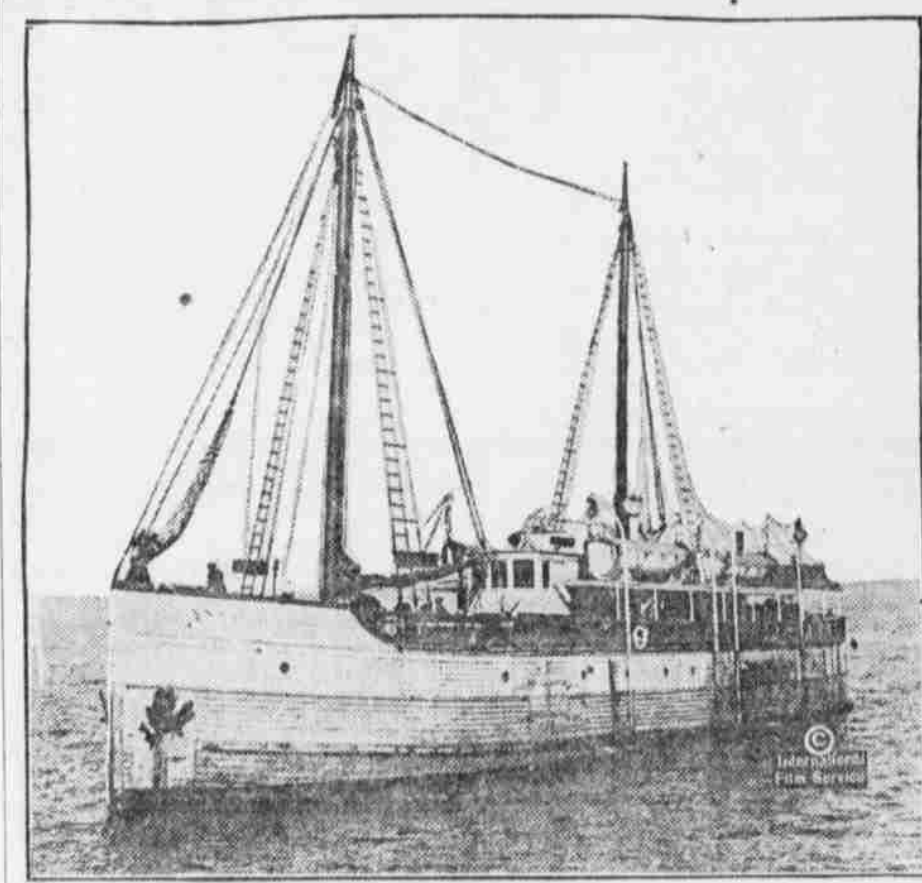
1—Soldiers of the American expeditionary force in France singing hymns at their Sunday church service. 2—The main church of Vels d' Astico, Italy, destroyed by Austrian shells. 3—First photograph of wounded members of the "Battalion of Death," the heroic organization of Russian fighting women, in a Petrograd hospital.

ASSEMBLED IN DUBLIN TO SETTLE THE DESTINY OF IRELAND



Group taken at Trinity college, Dublin, Ireland, at the fifth meeting of the Irish convention. At the meeting the chairmanship was taken by Sir Horace Plunkett, who is shown seated in center of first row, eighth from the extreme left. These are the men who are trying to solve the problem of government in Ireland so as to satisfy all.

VESSEL THAT CARRIED ALLEGED SLACKERS MASS AT ALTAR OF SNOW

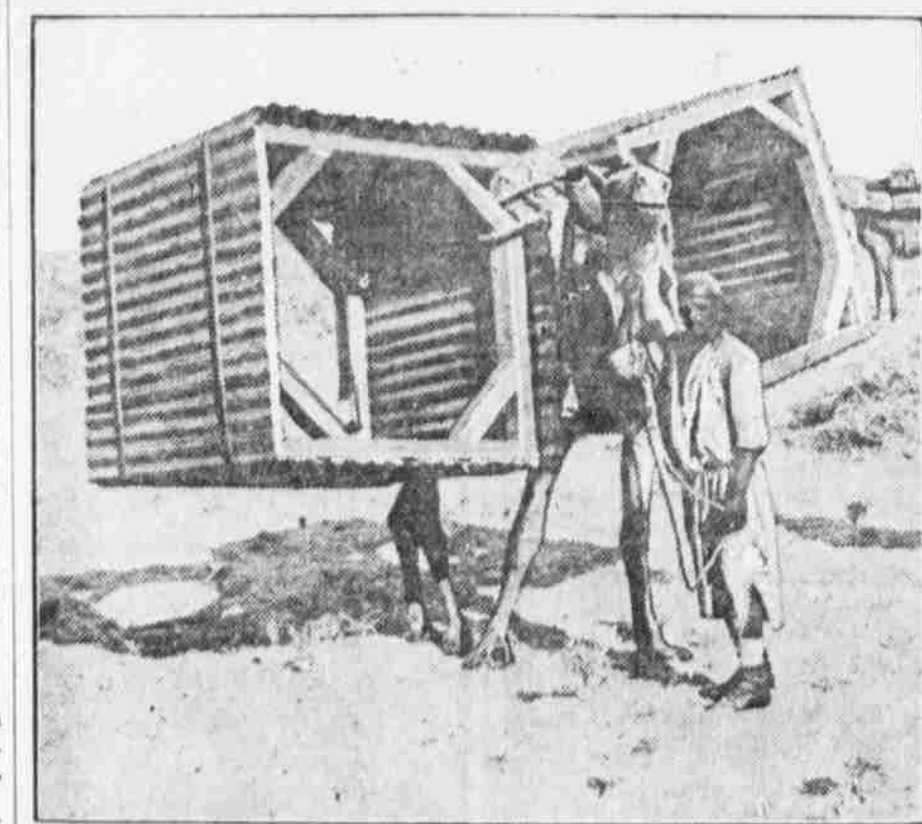


This is the vessel that was overhauled and boarded off lower California, and from which two alleged draft riot leaders and seven "slacker" suspects were taken and locked up in San Diego.



In the shadow of the lofty mountains of the Carso at this impressive white altar of snow a priest is celebrating a military mass. His congregation is made up of Italian soldiers, who are battling in the snow-clad mountains to wrest lands peopled by Italians from the dominion of the Austrians. A broad ray of the sun was shot down through the snow-covered mountain peaks and has beautifully illuminated the altar in front of which the priest is praying.

"WATER WAGON" A LOAD FOR CAMELS



Camel belonging to British troops operating on the Palestine front carrying water-tank linings out of action. The water problem is one of the most serious of those that confront the British in that field of conflict.

War Weddings Decline in Glasgow.

War weddings are on the decline, if one is to accept the figures regarding irregular marriages in Glasgow as conclusive. In 1915 all records were broken, the number of couples whose weddings were legalized by the sheriff exceeding anything hitherto known. Last year there was a drop, though the total for the year was still considerable, and far in advance of normal times. The present year shows a further decrease. One day, for instance, there were 32 civil marriages in the county buildings, bringing the total for the year so far to 1,440. At the same date last year the total was 1,760.

Good-by Leather Shoes.

The leather shoe is becoming so expensive that it will soon be out of the reach of all but the rich; therefore, according to Andrew H. King, writing in Metallurgical and Chemical Engineering, its place is to be taken by shoes with soles of rubber and uppers of canvas. The properly made rubber sole, into which ground cotton waste and leather dust are incorporated, will outwear two or three leather soles and will not slip on wet pavement.