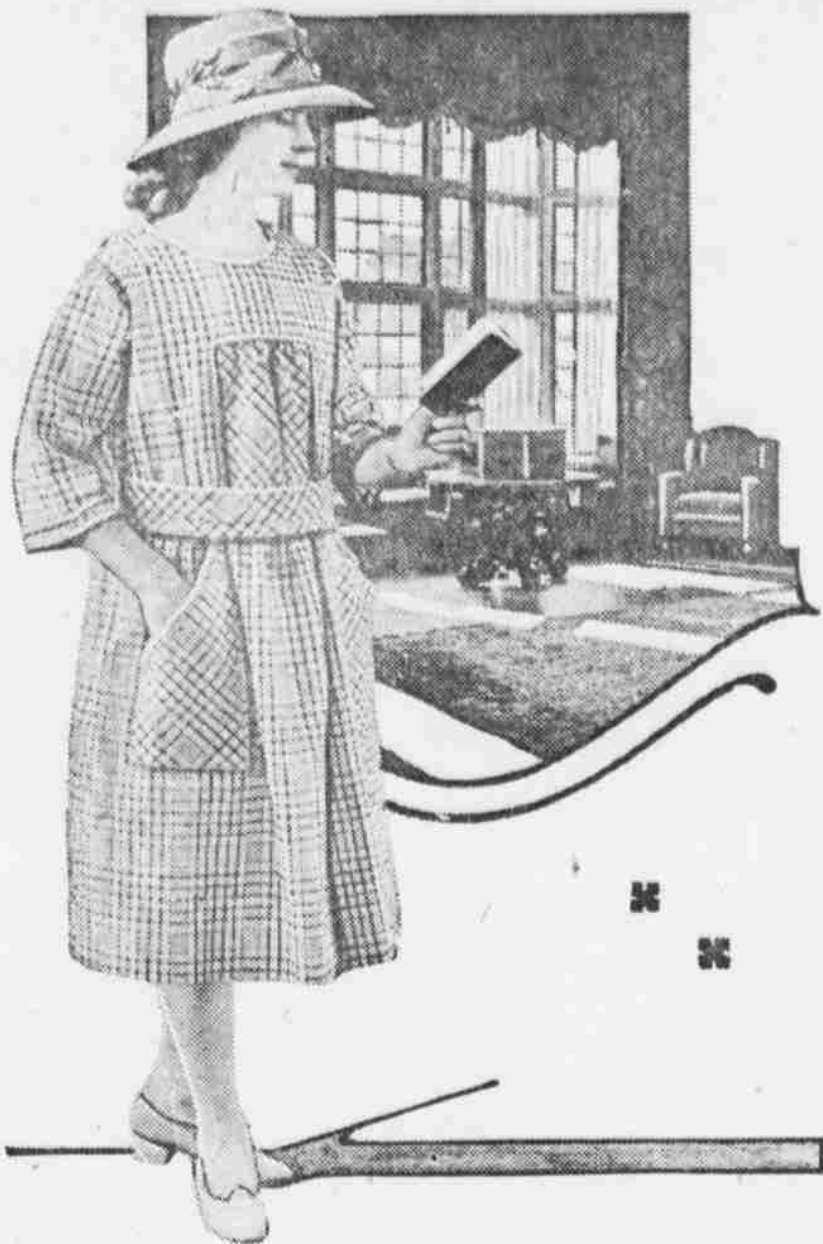


FASHION'S EYES LINGER ON FINE COTTONS



The shop windows are full of beautiful new cotton materials that lead our thoughts to the coming of spring. When the holidays are over, fashion has turned her back upon winter—all her talk is of summery clothes and summer lands, and it is evident already that her fickle eyes linger longest on fine cottons. Unless all the signs fail, they are to have a great vogue—the exquisitely fine weaves forecast designing and workmanship keyed up to their level in all kinds of apparel. This means a return to needlework, embroidery and laces for decoration and that clothes are to be well made.

But the average woman is less interested just now in the sheer, fine cottons, than in the new ginghams, or chambrays, and other weaves that are to clothe her small fry when summer rolls around—she is captivated by these immediately. They are here, and along with them are the displays of children's frocks for school and for other wear, made of cotton fabrics. They are simply and unusually well designed; women who do their children's sewing can hardly do better than to copy them; for they are the product of trained specialists.

The "difficult" age—anywhere from nine to fifteen—is taken care of by these experts with wonderful skill; they know how to bring out the charms of the flapper and how to conceal her defects. In the picture a plaid gingham dress for a girl of twelve is an example of excellent designing that will prove becoming, even lending something of grace to an awkward child. It is nicely finished with pipings of white pique and there are several little points in its making that deserve consideration—its length, which is about six inches below the knees, the gathered panel set in at the front, being the most outstanding. Large pockets sloped at the top into points, three-quarter length sleeves and a belt that is a wide French fold made of bias strip of the gingham, are items that give it its chic character. The fastening on the shoulder with round pearl buttons is a little detail, but it is in keeping with the rest of the designing.

Colors are pleasing in the new ginghams, and any of them can be used with white pipings. Some of the new frocks have white cuffs and collars; there is a great variety in them.

PLEADING THE CAUSE OF FANS

There are some beautiful and more or less useless accessories of dress that fashion never frowns upon; although she treats them with considerable indifference for lengthy periods of time. Fans and long ear-rings are instances. About the time that we think they are forgotten, not to be recalled, they emerge and find a welcome as if they were something new. This season has seen the reappearance of fans—with fashion smiling upon those made of feathers, and certainly nothing ever pleaded the cause of fans more convincingly than these airy and smart luxuries.

The holidays developed the vogue of fans made of ostrich feathers, for they were bought more freely than others; but the ostrich feathers, however

increase in size with the length of the feathers. They are made in many beautiful, gay colors. Cleopatra was never cooled by a fan more beautiful than that of peacock feathers shown at the center of the group. The incomparable markings and colorings of the natural feathers make them the most admired of the feathers used for fans. These are mounted on tortoise shell or other sticks, and are beautiful and unchanging.

Very long, curled ostrich plumes make the splendid fan at the bottom of the group. These are shown in many brilliant and many light colors, and carried as the most important item in the evening costume. They belong with the rich, metallic brocades and clothes that have held sway in the realm of evening gowns and coats. They are only at home in company of this kind.

The story of fans is too long to be so briefly told, but among the successful novelties are small palm leaf fans, painted in colors and bound about the edges with gold braid or faille ribbon. Small bouquets of silk flowers are mounted against the fans just above the handles, all wound with ribbon like that used for blinding. A full bow of the same ribbon is tied over the stems of the flowers. This is something new in fans, revealing our old and useful friend, the palm leaf fan, all dressed up in fine attire.



Julia Bottomley

Sports Materials.

In sports materials one will find the most attractive materials both in silks and wools. Camel's hair, while not necessarily a sports material, is the material selected for some very distinguished models in sports suits and utility wraps or coats. The colors are very new, among them a slate color, a heather mixture, a greenish gray and a soft shade of tan. None of these have been so far able to supersede in favor the conventional chambray color, however, which is seen both in suits and the large and comfortable coat that is worn over the riding habit or in the auto.

The Untrimmed Necks. The shallow, untrimmed necks require a wearer whose good looks are extreme.

WHO'S WHO in the WORLD

MARTENS' PLACE IN "WHO'S WHO"

"Ambassador" Martens (portrait herewith) is the center of what may prove quite a storm. Senator Kenyon of Iowa introduced a resolution in part as follows:

"Whereas one Ludwig C. A. K. Martens claims to be an ambassador to the United States from the Russian soviet government; and

"Whereas he refuses to answer certain questions before the Lusk investigating committee in the city of New York, on the ground that he is such ambassador and entitled to diplomatic privileges; and

"Whereas said Martens has headquarters in the city of New York and is alleged to be directing propaganda against this government;

"Resolved, That the committee on foreign relations is hereby authorized and directed, through the full committee or through any subcommittee thereof, to investigate as speedily as possible the status of said Martens, what alleged government or power in Europe he represents; what, if any, recognition of any kind has been accorded him by this government."

The resolution was passed, after a long debate, with an amendment by Senator Borah of Idaho which widens the scope of the investigation to include "all facts relative to the activities of any other parties or organizations bearing upon or relating to Russia or Russian propaganda in this country."



POLK AND PEACE DELEGATES RETURN



The members of the American delegation to the international peace conference at Paris have returned. Frank Polk, assistant secretary of state (portrait herewith); Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, the military adviser to the American delegation; Colonels Grant, Browning, Embick, and Wallace of General Bliss' staff, and Henry White, former ambassador to France and a delegate to the conference, were in the party.

Mr. Polk said he had entirely recovered from the serious indisposition from which he was suffering when he went to France last June.

The great need of Europe is a proper distribution system which would permit supplies of all kinds, from coal to food, to be sent where they are most urgently needed, is the opinion expressed by General Bliss.

The morale of the European nations is largely tied up with the economic situation, he declared, and running through nearly all the troubles which exist there is the question of faulty distribution.

All the countries would benefit from such a united effort, he said, and the countries which are now in the best position economically would gain from the strength given to the weaker powers.

LANE TO LEAVE THE WILSON CABINET

Secretary Franklin K. Lane of the department of the interior has made the following statement concerning the report that he has resigned from the cabinet: "I have not sent a resignation to the president nor even written it, but I do contemplate going out of the cabinet and have withheld talking to the president about it because I do not wish to add to his burdens or worries at this time. Nor do I know when the time will come when I can. I have thought it unkind to say anything to him about the matter and that any mention of it now by anyone would be a needless annoyance."

Secretary Lane's admirers—and their name is legion—have often said that if he had been born in 1867 instead of 1864 they would not have to speak of him as "Mr. Presidential Impossibility." The point is that he was born in Prince Edward Island and was taken to California at the age of three by his father.

Many thousands of nature lovers think well of Secretary Lane for what he has done for the national parks. Largely because of his efforts, the national parks have become known to the American people and are now regarded as a great national economic asset instead of a financial liability.



UNCLE SAM HAS TOO MANY DOCTORS



The senate has passed a concurrent resolution creating a joint committee to make a survey of and to report on the activities of governmental departments, bureaus and agencies which relate to public health. It is said that there are 47 different departments of health activities in Washington.

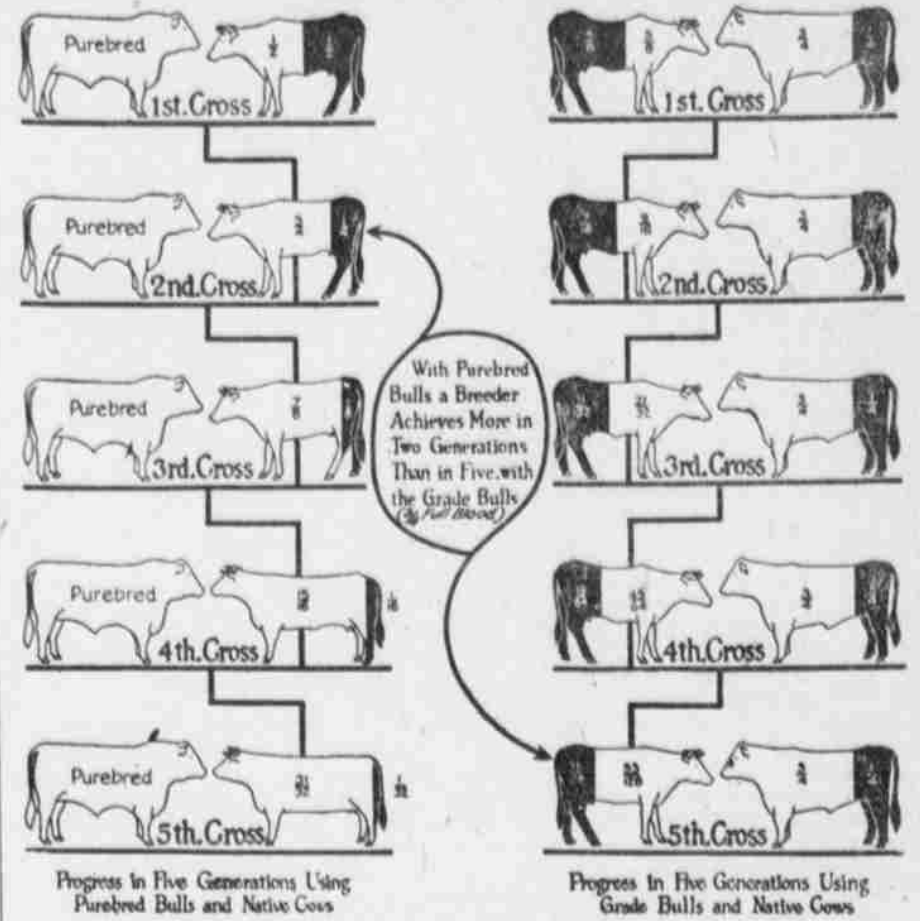
Senator France of Maryland, (portrait herewith), who is a prominent physician, is probably responsible for the creation of a special committee of six to hold hearings in place of the public health committee. The committee is directed to report by June 1, 1920.

The statutory powers and duties conferred by the congress on any department, division, bureau, office, or agency of the United States government to carry on any work pertaining to the conservation and improvement of the public health.

The organization now existing in the federal government for the purpose of carrying out these powers and duties, together with the personnel, appropriations, and expenditures.

The co-operation and co-ordination now existing between the government of the United States and the governments of the several states or extragovernmental agencies for the conservation or improvement of the public health.

WHAT IT MEANS IN LONG RUN TO USE PUREBRED SIRES INSTEAD OF GRADES



See How Rapidly the Proportion of Scrub Blood (Black Portion) Diminishes When a Purebred Sire is Used.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Tom Jones and John Brown live on adjoining farms. Each of them owns a scrub cow. The county agent gave them a United States department of agriculture bulletin on grading up by the use of better sires, and they have decided to try it.

Joe Smith, who lives a mile down the road, owns a three-quarters grade Shorthorn bull. The nearest purebred Shorthorn bull is a herd header at the Ellendale farm, seven miles away. Now, there isn't a great deal of difference—on the outside—between a three-quarters blood and a purebred. Tom Jones, being busy, patronizes Joe Smith's three-quarters Shorthorn bull. John Brown, remembering a copy-book maxim that whatever is worth doing is worth doing well, takes the trouble and the time to patronize the pure-bred bull at the Ellendale farm.

Short Cut to Good Blood.

There would not seem to be very much difference in the offspring. But, in actual fact, John Brown accomplishes in two crosses a result that is a little better than Tom Jones gets in five crosses. In about four years John Brown has an animal of a fraction higher grade than Tom Jones can get in about 15 years.

There may be no way to show it mathematically, but every reasonable man knows that the difference between four years and 15 years is greater than the difference between a mile and seven miles.

Or, put it in somewhat different form. Say that both Tom Jones and John Brown own a number of scrub cows and desire to buy bulls. Jones, being penny-wise, buys a three-quarters Shorthorn for \$150. Brown pays \$400 for a pure-bred Shorthorn. Most men will agree that the difference between 4 years and 15 years is greater than the difference between \$150 and \$400.

The thing needs a little diagramming to make the differences stand out. Here is what John Brown did by breeding his scrub cow to the purebred bull: 1 plus 0 equals 1; divided by 2, equals 1/2.

John Brown's calf was half Shorthorn and half scrub.

Here is what Tom Jones did by breeding his scrub cow to the three-quarters bull:

3/4 plus 0 equals 3/4; divided by 2, equals 3/8.

Tom Jones' calf was three-eighths Shorthorn and five-eighths scrub. Not much difference in the first generation—but wait. Using those helper calves as breeding stock and mating them with the same kind of bulls, here is what happens:

John Brown gets 1 plus 1/2 which equals 3/2; divided by 2, equals 3/4.

Tom Jones gets 3/4 plus 3/4, equals 9/8; divided by 2 equals 9/16.

John Brown's calf in the second generation outrades Tom Jones' calf in the second generation by 1/8 Shorthorn blood.

It Pays to Start Right.

And Tom Jones has to breed three other generations of cattle (using the same kind of sire) to bring his cattle up to approximately the same grade as John Brown's second generation of offspring. In the meantime, using the same kind of bull, John Brown has graded his cattle up till the offspring of the original scrub cows contain 31/32 Shorthorn blood and only 1/32 scrub blood. Tom Jones' cattle, in the same generation, contain 93/128 Shorthorn blood and 35/128 scrub blood. Jones' herd, after 15 years of work, still retains 35 times as much scrub blood as John Brown's cattle—all because, 15 years ago, John Brown took the time and the trouble to travel seven miles instead of a mile, or saw his way clear to spend \$400 instead of \$150. The cost of bulls varies greatly, of course, according to quality of breeding, age, and other factors.

The moral of the story, as the breeding experts of the United States department of agriculture tell it, is to use pure-bred sires for herd improvement. Replace the scrub sires and the grade sires with good pure-breds. Join the "Better-Sires Better-Stock" campaign. And consult your county agent, your agricultural college or the United States department of agriculture from time to time for whatever information you may need.

PAY MORE ATTENTION TO MARKET PROBLEMS

Fact Is Shown by Survey Conducted by Bureau of Markets.

Model Law Incorporated in Whole by One State and With Practically No Changes in Other—Bureaus Established.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

That marketing problems are being given more and more attention by state governments is shown by a survey which the bureau of markets has been conducting.

Following the example of the federal government, 30 states have established bureaus of markets or similar agencies to study the buying and selling of farm products. Four state legislatures created such bureaus last year. The model law prepared by the bureau of markets has been adopted by one state with practically no change and has been incorporated wholly or in part in the laws of several other states. In a few cases state departments of agriculture have begun marketing work under authority of general clauses in their laws.

The activities of the bureaus vary from simply studying the conditions affecting marketing, through regulation of marketing practices, to the actual buying and selling of farm products. This latter activity, however, has been discontinued in at least one state. Most of the bureaus have authority to establish grades and standards, inspect farm produce, and maintain market news services.

RECEIPTS OF DURUM WHEAT

At Seven Primary Markets About 33,300,000 Bushels Were Received in Last Fiscal Year.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Receipts of durum wheat at seven primary markets were about 33,300,000 bushels in the year ending June 30, 1919. During the last five years they were as high as 43,900,000 bushels in 1916 and as low as 16,100,000 bushels in 1918. Exports of this wheat ranged from about 24,800,000 bushels in 1916 to 6,600,000 bushels in 1918 and the exports of the fiscal year 1919 were about 18,300,000 bushels. This is a hard wheat with high gluten content when grown on dry-land farms, and is suitable for macaroni and other paste products. Before the war its chief competitor in the markets of southern France and Italy, the principal destinations of the exports, was similar wheat from southern Russia.

LIVE STOCK NOTES

- Too much salt is poisonous to hogs.
- Oats and bran make a fine ration for the colt.
- Clean hog pens mean greater profits from that source.
- Pasture grass constitutes a balanced ration in itself for live stock.
- Drainage has much to do with the safety and danger of the hog pen.
- The bull is of very changeable moods, and one never can tell when that mood is going to change.