

## VARIETIES OF LINEN.

ALL SORTS OF THE MATERIAL NOW IN VOGUE.

New Taffetas Are Soft and Supple—Great Favor Shown Pongees—Some Inelaborate Evening Gowns Are Sketched by the Artist.

New York correspondence:

**A**RTISTS of linen range from coarse, open meshed weaves to the finest that can be made. Many of the latter grade are exquisite of themselves, yet are enriched with embroideries to an extent that makes them an extravagance for most women. The kinds, however, that are much less expensive have beauty in positive degree, while the manner in which they wash is an unmistakable charm. Shirt waist suits in linen are almost as stylish and smart as like suits in silk, and it is a temptation to have several, since no two need be at all alike. Much white is seen in these weaves, but white is not to rank so high this summer as it did a year ago, so it should not be taken up to the exclusion of something newer. The open weaves,

fetas may be a bit more in favor. Two dresses of pongee are sketched to-day; one of natural color in the initial, with trimming of brown velvet ribbon and buttons and Irish point lace, and one of white, at the left in the next picture, with yoke of brussels lace. A taffeta model appears across this picture. It was finished with cut pieces and cluny lace in a fashion characteristic of this summer. Black taffetas and pongees are attractive, especially for middle-aged wearers. A suggestion for the use of voile in tailoring is conveyed in the gown of it appearing between the two dresses last described. The trimming here was Russian lace, with black voilet facing for the jacket, the color of the voile being tan. While some lace is put on tailor suits, no such quantity of it as was used two years ago is permitted, and skirts are many that have no other ornamentation than pleats of splendid accuracy. These pleats are especially admirable in walking suits—or are until the wearer has sat down in the skirt a few times, when their appearance in rear view is about spoiled.

These same walking suits are open to criticism because of the length of their skirts, which touch with the wearer's every step. That doesn't recommend them to economizers, who will not understand readily why these should replace the skirt two inches shorter, especially as the newer suits are not considered as any more dressy than were the others. New tailored skirts for outing sports are severely finished and are made snug about the hips.

Transparent and semi-transparent dress materials are notable for the beauty of the flowered sorts. In some great blossoms are sprinkled all over the ground, while in others tiny bloom trails about in beautiful sprays. Some of the larger flowerings are bold, indeed, but they are to be worn, and will have the effect of rendering pleasantly inconspicuous the more moderate examples of the same treatment. White and cream

especially, seem to have lost their favor, though the exquisitely fine sorts in white never will pass out. Sorts with fancy borders and striped and checked weaves are new this season, and many of these goods are to be had at lower prices than new materials usually command.

The first of the summer's showings of new taffetas had them seem wondrous for softness and suppleness, the contrast with the crispness that used to be associated with this silk making the new kinds all the more impressive. But later

whites are often the ground colors, so the bloom stands out pretty well. These materials are employed for evening and dancing dresses, some made in the extreme of elaboration, others in reasonable simplicity. Not all evening gowns are planned to be wonders of highly wrought effects, but you may depend that the comparatively simple one that doesn't have its original touch will not rank as much of a success. Three evening dresses are put here by the artist, a pink or-gandy trimmed with white silk embroid-



SUMMER'S SILKS AND TAILORING.

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INELABORATE EVENING GOWNS.

stocks of these goods are still more noticeable for this same quality. If when skirts had to swish and crackle, a woman would exterminate her pin money in order to attain that frou frou, what will she do now to possess some of this splendid dress material? Pongees are very stylish silks, too, though the taf-

ery, a white dotted lace finished with black satin ribbon and hierre lace insertion, and a yellow silk mull set off with passementerie and embroidery. When flowered stuffs are combined with plain weaves, as is permitted by the fashions, a new grade of gown is touched and another field of old-time styles is invaded.

# EDITORIALS

OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

### American Husbands.

**A** WRITER in the London Telegraph deplors the fact that the American husband of the "middle class" does not interfere in domestic affairs and "seldom examines the accounts of the grocer, the butcher or the baker and hardly knows the cost of staple articles of food." He also regrets that the husband is extravagant and "does not make his wife a regular allowance, but gives her as much as he can spare, freely, but without system."

These are simple extracts from the writer's long article and it shows the vast difference between the American and the English husband. In England the husband thinks that he has to "keep tab" on every penny and dole money out to his wife in gingerly portions and, to the American way of thinking, look upon his wife merely as a servant.

The writer in the London paper is perfectly right in his report. The American husband is extravagant. He does not bother his head with the price of meat and flour and potatoes and other things for the table. Why should he do so? He has confidence in his wife. The culinary department is not his department. He runs things in his office and allows his wife to run things at home. Both parties are well content. He has no interest whatsoever in the bill sent in by his grocer or butcher beyond paying it. He knows that his wife has done the best she could. On the other hand, the wife does not concern herself with his business. She knows that the bills are paid promptly and that her husband is satisfied. That is all she thinks about the business.

The natural independence of the average American girl would resent a husband's constant interference in her household duties and expenses. She considers herself perfectly capable of looking after that end of the family, and she is right. This shows the difference between American and English girls.—St. Louis Republic.

### The Hero in Politics.

**T**HE case of Captain Richmond Pearson Hobson shows that the war hero does not always have the open sesame to the prizes of politics. Young Hobson resigned from the navy a year or two ago, and announced that he intended to seek an election to Congress. One of his objects in Congress, as he recently declared, would have been to work for the construction of a bigger navy for the United States than England has. He would give this country the same pre-eminence on the sea that Great Britain has had for the past third of a century, even if this necessitated the expenditure, within the next twenty years, of two or three billions of dollars.

But Hobson's war record did not prove to be so powerful an asset as he and some others supposed it would be. He has been beaten by John H. Bankhead, of the Sixth Alabama District, a very much less picturesque person, but a person who has had an experience of eighteen years in Congress, and who served in the Legislature of his State many years before going to Washington, while Hobson never has had any political service of any sort.

Like his companion in arms, Dewey, the hero of the Merrimac has had bad luck in politics. The sailors in this country have been less fortunate than soldiers. Moreover, the war in which Hobson figured has given no political prize to anybody except President Roosevelt. It furnished him the governorship of New York, and this led to the presidency. The chances are that it has no more political posts for anybody.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### Will Penmanship Become a Lost Art.

**D**ISCUSSION of "vertical writing" in the schools, which has been revived of late, naturally raises the question as to the future status of penmanship as a means of recording the facts of commercial exchange or conveying the thoughts of men.

Is penmanship destined to become a lost art.

"Vertical handwriting" was introduced in the schools because it was supposed to be better adapted to the needs of our time than the old Spencerian, running hand. It is more condensed, and, if properly taught, more legible than the old style. But now comes the parental objector with the contention that the "vertical" writing disqualifies the child for clerical positions in mercantile or banking con-

cerns, that it is "not a good hand for bookkeeping." And yet it was this objection to the old, running, long hand that led to the introduction of the vertical system, whose condensed, legible form was supposed to adapt it perfectly to mercantile uses.

The question suggested by the discussion of "vertical writing" is: How long will penmanship of any kind last? How long will we need to teach it in the schools? Isn't the typewriter supplanting it in all departments of business endeavor?

To discuss intelligently these questions we have first to get rid of the notion that there is anything sacred about "penmanship." Following the law of evolution, if it becomes useless, it will have to go. As a matter of fact, isn't its usefulness even now confined to social correspondence and bookkeeping? How long will it take to break down the social barriers against the use of the typewriter for polite correspondence? May not the typewriter become as common and as necessary in the home as the sewing machine?

As for bookkeeping, machines have already been invented for writing in books, and it can be but a question of time when mechanical ingenuity will supply the perfect and practical bookkeeping typewriter. And then what will become of penmanship—and the sticklers for a particular form of writing?—Chicago Record-Herald.

### Mixed Marriages.

**T**HE people who have lately been agitating the question of "mixed marriages" of various sorts—meaning by the term, marriages between people of different white races and different sects—are, of course, looking at the question from their own race or religious standpoint altogether. This is a matter in which all the bane, or all the good, depends on the point of view.

Broadly speaking, the interest of the American nation lies in a multiplicity of mixed marriages. The safety of the republic demands that there shall be no upgrowth of castes, no hard and fast delimitation of component elements. Our public schools are the greatest mixing agency on the earth. Our politics are themselves a mixed marriage of races and cults. America is the melting pot of the nations.

Our young people have taken their cue from the school and the hustings. They mix, and no one can stop them from mixing. Nine out of ten of the young families known to every reader of these words are probably in some sense fusions. Religious considerations are a more potent bar to mixture than race considerations, save when the race happens to be African. But even religious bars fall before a fusion of elements which is proceeding here on a grander scale, and in more rapid movement, than has ever before been known.

Love laughs at canons, at rules, even at anathemas. Perhaps it would often do better to obey them than to scorn them. It all depends, in the last resort, upon the individual will. And we have here a land in which Cupid is as free as air, with no will or tradition or authority to overmaster him.—New York Mail and Express.

### Boy Bandits and Their Origin.

**T**HERE is a great moral in the execution of the three Chicago boy bandits, and it shows that there is something worse for boys than cigarettes. It is the dime novel that glorifies the deeds of train robbers, bank robbers and other robbers. This may be the initiation of public sentiment building for the suppression of publishing houses that issue such pernicious books.

Four legal hangings and one prospective hanging in Illinois and Missouri and nine murders are the latest crop of this kind of printing. The criminal press becomes as much a part of the care of the state as the criminal who performs the homicides. The criminal play staged at the theater is also part of the machinery that supplies gallow's fruit. A censorship of publications and of plays is likely to suggest itself to the public mind, although Uncle Sam's supervision of the United States mails in some measure serves the purpose.

This is a free country in which no one is allowed to incite to crime by public speech. Is any one to be permitted to incite to crime by public print? Books sold under the name of "The Boy Bandits" or similar titles will continue to do their pernicious work until public authority must interfere.—Illustrated Home Journal.

### FEED CALVES COD-LIVER OIL.

Animals Make Great Gains on This Kind of Nourishment.

An attempt is being made to substitute cod-liver oil for the natural fat of milk in feeding calves, according to the Philadelphia Record. Milk contains, as is generally known, all the nutrients necessary for the full development of young animal life. If one of these elements is removed it has to be replaced with a substitute of like kind in order to insure thrifty development. Butter fat and cream, of course, are the most highly prized and valuable of dairy products and some resourceful individual suggested that these might be extracted by pressing the whole milk through a separator and their loss be made up to the calf by adding an equivalent amount of cod-liver oil, another fat nutrient.

Experiments have accordingly been in progress for some time at one of the agricultural colleges in Yorkshire and recent reports seem to indicate that they are entirely successful. There is but little labor involved. The cod-liver oil and skim milk is a cheaper feed than the whole milk and the calves appear to thrive on it. During a feeding experiment embracing some 28 weeks it was found that the average daily gain of the calves fed on whole milk until they were weaned was 2 pounds; those fed on skim milk and oil and continued on an oil ration, 2.4 pounds, while those which had been fed oil and milk but from which the

### SOLDIERS SEATED WITHOUT CHAIRS.



Soldiers in the French army have a drill to perfect them in the art of sitting down comfortably without chairs.

A dozen or more men stand in a circle each facing the back of the next in line, at a carefully calculated distance apart. At the word of command they sit down, each resting on the knees of the man behind him. In this way, as the accompanying picture illustrates, the weight is distributed around the entire circle.

oil was subsequently withheld gained only 2.1 pounds.

On slaughtering the animals no injurious effects on the flesh could be discovered. The daily ration that appeared to be successful was made up of five quarts of skim milk and two ounces of cod-liver oil. Fortunately the calves do not develop that aversion

to cod-liver oil which is natural to most human beings, but, on the contrary, readily become accustomed to it.

### Punished for Showing Mercy.

Lieutenant Perezel has been expelled from an Austrian hussar regiment because he did not use his sword on a laborer who struck him.