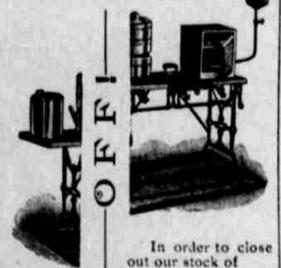


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The bank examiners have begun on Lincoln banks. The fee for examination is \$20.

The probability is that the grounds about the state house will not be improved this year.

AMONG the week's visitors have been Supt. Mallieus, Senator Hurd, Representative Christy of Clay, Senator Wetherald, Editor Rosewater and Congressman Connell.

It is a little singular that there has not been a much room crop of candidates for the regency of the State University. Representative O. A. Corbin is the only man "mentioned" thus far.

THE legislature appropriated \$7,500 for fixtures for the new state library, and \$6,600 have been spent on the first floor. Pending another allowance the second floor will be used as a sort of a lumber room.

THE soldiers' home at Grand Island has less than fifty inmates at present. Commandant Hammond says about thirty soldiers are away on summer furloughs. Some are visiting friends and others are working out.

HON. JIM CALDWELL has gone to Washington to take a place in the department of justice. He professes ignorance of his coming duties, but rumor has it that they have some connection with the organization of the new states.

FRED NYE, of the Omaha Republican, has been spending the week in Lincoln to give his shattered nerves a rest. He finds the famous mineral water a bracing tonic, and he is satisfied that there is enough climate to the square inch to be alone worth the price of admission.

ONE of the latest political yarns is a story of how President Harrison is to take care of ex-Senator Saunders. Senator Manderson is to be elevated to the supreme bench, and Editors Rosewater and Nye are to use their influence to have Governor Thayer appoint Mr. Saunders to the senatorial vacancy. And yet they accuse woman of monopolizing silly gossip.

It is seldom that a state or national appropriation is refused if the authorized parties have half a chance to use it, but such a case has occurred at Grand Island. An item of \$1,000 for an elevator slipped into the bill for the soldiers' home, but the commandant says it will not be used. The home is only three stories high, and disabled veterans will be kept below.

It has been known for some time that Congressman Dorsey was rich enough to have ple three times a day if he wanted to, but here he has gone and hired a whole Pullman car and is taking a party of eastern congressmen on a tour of the great northwest. It is to be hoped that our poor brother can afford this extravagance. Perhaps he has been raving up for it.

THE bank examiners have found 514 banks subject to the new state law. They are ready to make their tour of examination, and will have little time to waste for the first year at least. Mr. Saunders will take the first congressional district with 105 banks, Mr. McNaughton the second with 198 and Mr. Brink the third with 211. Mr. Saunders will help out the other gentlemen if necessary. It is believed that other banking institutions will be discovered, but if they have received no blanks the examiners will be lenient.

SEVERAL counties sent representatives to Lincoln the other day to induce the board of equalization to reduce the rate of their taxes. The system of levying the state tax in Nebraska offers a premium to every assessor who will violate his oath of office. It is for the interest of every county to escape state taxation by assessing its property as low as possible. The law says assessors must return full value, but in some localities the assessment is only one-tenth of the value. There is not an assessor in Nebraska who has not perjured himself, but he has the sentiment of his community to back him. The revenue law of Nebraska is woefully defective. Here is an opportunity for some newspaper seeking a mission to start a crusade of merit, and one that will win a considerable following.

The building boom has struck Hot Springs, Dak. A Methodist college, South Dakota's Soldiers' Home and numerous cozy residences are being erected. Now seems to be the time for a good investment in that town. Lincoln people should get to the front as usual.

Patronize the Elkhorn's new Chicago train. Fastest time on record. Through sleeper.]

HATS FOR THE CHILDREN.

SUNSHADES OF ALL SORTS TO KEEP AWAY FRECKLES.

Different Styles of Hats—The Sun Umbrella.
 Play Dresses for Children—Designs for a Costume—Useful Hints on Children's Styles.

[Special Correspondence.]
 NEW YORK, July 18.—To preserve little girls and big ones from freckles is one of the duties of motherhood, and a very difficult labor it would be if it could be done, but it can't, and so they have their labor for their pains. But that does not hinder them from trying, and hats as big as ordinary parasols are supplied.



TO KEEP OFF THE NAUGHTY SUNSHINE, mented by sun umbrellas, which are quite large enough for tents for the little tots who carry them.

Some of the prettiest little hats for midsummer sunshine are illustrated in this letter, and they are of straw of various colors, trimmed simply with ribbons, though often hats are seen with flowers and feathers. Such are for very full dress occasions. For ordinary use, ribbon trimmings are by far the most durable. The upper hat on the left side is of white Milan braid or fine Leghorn, and trimmed by a sash of rich satin or Armure ribbon tied in the back in flat loops. This hat can be worn by a very small boy or a girl from "small to middle."

The hat beneath is of fancy straw, brown and white striped, and has a full bow and loops of brown and drab and white striped ribbon on the left side and a smooth band around the crown. The upper one on the right side is of blue and white striped straw, faced with dark blue velvet, with a blue armure ribbon sash and upright bow with ends. This hat is suitable for children from 4 to 12 years old. The hat below is of brown straw, soft and flexible, and the front faced with velvet. A large Alsatian bow is made of brown and ecru ribbon with long ends.

The sun umbrella is made of cream colored pongee, with a border of three bands of brown ribbon sewn on over a piece of black lace, the whole a very effective pattern and a durable affair, which it needs to be for children's use.

Of course, there are times when it is necessary for a little girl to be dressed up, for instance, when she goes to church, when she goes to a party or is bridesmaid to her big sister, and on many other occasions, and for such an occasion a prettier, daintier little gown could not be invented than the Luta dress. This is equally pretty in many materials and even colors. The model, however, was in cream white nun's veiling with the panels to the skirt and the vest made of deep embroidery. The sash, cuffs and revers are all of bluish pink moire ribbon. The sash is tied loosely around the waist, partially over the hips and brought around to the back where it is formed in a large bow with long loops.

The design for this pretty costume can be altered in some ways, one being to omit the vest fronts of moire and veilings and let it all be of embroidery. The bands in the back is quite plain and hangs loose from the skirt and the sash is tied under it. The skirt is plaited all round. White lawn, challies, chambery, satine, and even woolen goods, are all adapted to this pretty dress.

The little bonnet is of white mull, shirred and trimmed with rosette of narrow, pink baby ribbon, inside the poke brim, and with bows of pink moire on top and strings of the same. If this



were made of blue and cream, or lilac or corn color, it would also be lovely and exactly adapted to a costume for a little bridesmaid.

Black stockings are almost the only ones worn by boys or girls, and Newport or Oxford shoes are worn for dress. For every day use canvas shoes or those of russet leather are very serviceable, though not at all pretty. Stockings of silk to match the dress trimming could be worn if for a wedding or party.
OLIVE HARPER.

SOME TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.

How to Decorate and Furnish a Home Tastefully.

The Art Amateur, which is considered pretty good authority in such matters by people of taste, is running an excellent series of articles on "Home Decoration and Furniture," from No. 10 of which the following is taken.

The great temptation now is to over decorate. Even in a house of many rooms of ample size one can easily produce the effect of over crowding, while in the small apartments so common in large cities it is very difficult to avoid it.

It seems as if the decorator suffered from an "embarrassed richness." The temptation to use all the devices at hand is often too strong to be withstood, and accordingly paneled wainscots, carved pilasters, wooden ceilings with heavy transverse rafters, tapestries, rugs, bric-a-brac, stained glass and all the rest of it play a prominent part in helping to disfigure and distort many a small room that by judicious treatment might have been cozy, artistic, and, above all, habitable. We may have too many rugs on the floor, too many portieres and scarfs, too much bric-a-brac. In other words, too much decorative art is not decorative.

The prime use of an apartment must always be remembered. If it is only for the display of a collection of objects, then the air of a museum is not objectionable. But if it is a room for dining, reading or sleeping in, then the comfort of the occupants should be the first consideration, and beauty need by no means be overlooked because utility is



FIREPLACE AND COZY CORNER.
 borne in mind. I have seen a dining room where the buffet and other pieces of furniture for the display of silver and glassware gave the effect of a shop, and I have seen others where a much greater amount seemed entirely appropriate and unobjectionable.

The same may be said of collections of curios, fancies or the like. If arranged merely for show, to impress the beholder, the intention is always evident; but the collector's own way of placing his treasures is the best from all points of view. The temptation to overcrowd a moderately large room is, perhaps, natural, but our small apartment houses bear abundant witness not only to the embarrassment of visitors at trying to crowd in between pieces of furniture, but to the thoughtless abuse of schemes and ideas that might have given beautiful results. Arm chairs entirely upholstered may be our ideal; but if we happen to have a tiny room and need several chairs, we had better overcome our yearning for luxurious cushions with good grace and content ourselves with simpler forms.

Nothing can be more luxurious than a spacious lounge covered with a Turkish rug, and possibly having another rug stretched on the wall as a background, with plenty of soft silken cushions. But it takes up room. Now we must consider if the space at our disposal is sufficient for our purpose before we fill our lounge, even if we are loaves of force and soft pillows of silk. If the space at our command is not enough to do this properly, we had much better give up the idea and have a simple settle with turned spindles and a flat cushion. This may be excellent in color, fine in line, and will be altogether better in place than the divan out of place. The same thing is true of our chairs. I believe the French know how to treat a small salon better than any other people. They rely strictly on precedent and take a style, say Louis XV or Louis XVI, but what could be better!

Let us give originality if it only means doing what has not been done before, for the obvious reason that it is undesirable. Criticism is easy and we are apt to say that these French styles are conventional and hackneyed and admit of no scope for the designer. I do not think this is so. Working under the strict limitations of a historical style is, perhaps, a hard task; but a designer of force and education will declare, to some extent, his individuality, but always subordinate to the general characteristics of the style in which he works.



SUGGESTIONS FOR BOOK SHELVES.
 Wood carving, that most delightful form of decoration, is rapidly becoming abused. Too much carving vulgarizes hopelessly a piece of furniture that half the amount of ornamentation would have enriched. A carved border or molding around the edge of a table gives a fine effect, but I have lately seen tables the entire tops of which have been carved. Now a table is meant to put things on, and the carving completely spoils its usefulness, besides defeating its own purpose of decoration; for the decorated edge would look richer by contrast with the plain center.

Care must be taken not to have the carving sandpapered down to a perfectly smooth finish, and the background should be irregular and not speckled all over with little holes. The beauty of carving is to feel the touch of the carver, to see a tool mark here and there. It is well to use carving rather sparingly. Rather have a little and have it good than much that is second rate. In some of the Italian work nearly every molding was enriched and panel carved. But in the best examples the sawing is judiciously disposed and some plain surface used as a foil.

The cuts accompanying this are from the same publication. The Art Amateur, and give excellent hints as to the treatment of bookshelves and a fireplace with cozy corner.

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