

## FANCIES OF FASHION

### LATEST IDEAS IN DRESS AND ACCESSORIES.

**Princess House Gown Has Won Approval of Parisian Modistes—Pretty Design for Blouse—Prevailing Spring Colors.**

#### Dainty Kimono.

No daintier or more useful gift could be devised for the little guest than the kimono, which has taken the place of the sack. It is one of the most necessary articles in baby's wardrobe. The shape is so practical, there is no binding of the tiny arms and shoulders, no trying sleeves to squeeze into, for if it shrinks a little, and that seems to be inevitable with all flannels, there will be ample space for that. The illustration gives the garment laid out flat and when a pattern cannot be purchased it can be easily cut without one. The scallops can be marked around half of a spool, with a blue pencil. Three pieces of wash ribbon are sewed on each side of the sleeve and under arms seams and these are tied in tiny bows to shape the garment. Any flower that is small can be used as a decoration, but the violet in white and the forgetmenot in pale blue or pink are given the preference. Cashmere and silk flannel shrink less than wool flannel and are favorite materials, and quite heavy enough for the little wraps.

#### Effective Negligee.

A simple but effective negligee of pink liberty satin falls in straight robe fashion from the shoulders, with a ruche of the same material running around the bottom of the skirt, around the neck and down the front, where it opens over a petticoat of white lace. The garment is slightly low and square in the neck, and a deep lace collar falls over the shoulders and back outside of the ruche. The sleeves, which end at the elbow, are finished with a ruche.

#### Charming House Gown.

That Parisian modistes have set the seal of their approval on the princess house gown this season is shown by the number of this style among the latest importations of French models. The chic little gown sketched here is a Parisian conception developed in a chaille of the palest blue. The gracefully curved shoulder straps are of



white edged with a plaiting of white satin ribbon, with the yoke and collar of a white all-over lace.

The material is gathered under the shoulder seams, and this fulness adjusted about the waist and hips by fourteen rows of shirring. The full sleeves of elbow length are caught in with double rows of shirring and finished with a fall of Valenciennes lace.

The graceful lines of this gown make it equally suited to slender or to stout figures, and any of the pretty summery materials, voile, organdy, lawn or mousseline can be used effect-

ively. Chaille is particularly good for this model. It is inexpensive but effective, and falls in soft, pretty folds from the shirring.

#### New French Blouse.

A fascinating creation which suggests apple blossom time is shown in the accompanying sketch. White crystal silk serves for the entire waist, as cavalier cuffs and stole collar are embroidered in pastel shades. Narrow black velvet in a Greek key pattern gives character to the bodice, and both of these decorations are novel as well as inexpensive. Applique, guipure or the popular spangle can be used in



place of the embroidery. A bodice suitable for formal occasions is effected by omitting plastron and cuffs.

#### Useful Hints.

You can make of odds and ends of accordion-pleated gauze or chiffon pretty 5 o'clock tea jackets, and here fashion is most elastic. You can wear the tea jacket short or long, as your fabric allows. A fichu-like collar or a V-shaped vest of lace at the neck is a charming finish, and the sleeves can be picturesque, long and hanging, or short and puffed to the elbow.

One of the prettiest jackets was made out of a length of pale blue zenana. There was not sufficient material for a full sleeve, so it was tight to the elbow, cut in scallops, finished with some accordion-plaited blue chiffon edged with a remnant of Valenciennes lace. The collar was made of white muslin, with insertion and edgings of Valenciennes, fastening to one side, with a big chou of palest pink and blue chiffon.

#### Ferns in Pots.

Many persons have given up growing ferns in pots on account of poor success with them. They get fine plants from the florist and in a few months they go to pieces. There are but a few things to know in order to keep ferns in good condition, and have them increase in beauty from year to year, says an authority. They must be grown in a moist atmosphere. If kept in a hot, dry room they will do no good. For this reason they do poorly in rooms heated by steam or hot water, unless provision is made for adding moisture to the air. A room heated by a hot-air heater which has an evaporating pan is the best for ferns. Also the soil must be kept moist at all times, yet be well drained. The soil should be made up of peaty loam, one part, and leaf mold one part, and a handful of bone-meal to a pot.

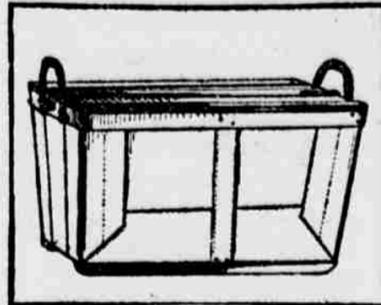
#### Making of Gowns.

The pointed girdle and corselet bodices need fully developed figures, therefore the very youthful evening frocks are still simple blouse waists gathered into close-fitted moderate girdles with the pretty 1830 berthas draping the shoulders and falling wide over the full elbow sleeves. The skirts of the frocks follow the prevailing mode—wide and round, gathered or plaited at the waist and trimmed with ruffles or flounces about the lower half. Decided favor is being shown velvet as a trimming on sheer fabrics just at present, though this may be varied by ribbon ruffles set on in rows, waves or scrolls.

## SCIENCE and INVENTION

### Moth-Proof Clothes Basket.

The moth-proof storage receptacle will soon be sought by every housewife, for with the advent of spring the winter woolen apparel and blankets, etc., have to be disposed of for another season. The difficulty with most of these devices is that they are not tight enough to prevent the entrance of moths and bugs. Boxes or chests with loose fitting lids are not satisfactory, as the objectionable insects man-



age to discover the smallest crevice, and the apparent security is a mask for their undisturbed destruction. A Western inventor proposes to overcome this difficulty by the use of a practically hermetically sealed receptacle, which he secures by the use of a packing of rubber gas tubing. This is placed inside the rim of the cover, and the tubing or packing being of such a size as to make a tight fit. Fastening is arranged through holes in one side of the tubing from which project nail points adapted to engage in openings in the cover. When made of canvas or other flexible material such a receptacle possesses the advantage, in addition to low cost, of not requiring much space for storage when out of use, and yet having all the merits of an expensive wooden chest.

### Disappearing Window Sashes.

The modern window sash with its large panes of glass does not obstruct the view very much when opened, as it did in the old days, when the glass manufacturers only knew how to make them in vogue, but nevertheless the open door, in summer, is always more inviting than the open window. Of course, the double sash window, as commonly designed, only admits of being half opened, that is, it may be put either up or down, but affords an opening but half the size of the frame. The illustration shows a new conception in window architecture, in which the sashes disappear entirely at will.



A casement or pocket is provided below the sash, into which they disappear, and a movable sill covers the sash in this position, giving a suitable finish to the opening. This sliding sill carries in its ends recesses for the retention of the sash cords, locking the sash securely in the concealed position. When the weather is warm the window is transformed into an unobstructed opening, and when the weather is cold or stormy the sill is adjusted and the sash raised and locked in position, when they resemble the ordinary window construction.

## GARDENING HINTS

There is always a right and a wrong in planting. It is a well known fact that half the trees and shrubs and plants do not grow because they are not planted firmly enough.

In transplanting trees they should be set two or three inches—not more—deeper than they originally stood. The bruised ends of the roots should be cut off and the rest spread out evenly. Fill the hole in with rich soil and be sure to make it firm by tramping or treading it down firmly.

The same rule applies to shrubs. For seeds the ground should be rather dry and crumbly and quite smooth. The smallest seeds should be barely covered. Seeds the size of those of the radish require half an inch of soil over them. Peas and beans and the like need from one to two inches, and this includes cucumbers and melons. The larger the seed, the deeper it should go.

#### Use Judgment in Watering.

The question of water is not well understood. No matter how plenty or how cheap it is, good judgment is required.

The nightly sprinkling which merely moistens the surface of the ground is likely to do more harm than good, as it coaxes the roots to the surface, where the hot sun can do them serious harm.

The proper way to water is to give the soil a thorough drenching not oftener than twice a week. This makes the roots follow the moisture deep into the ground where they can do the most good.

It is true of everything, whether trees, shrubs, lawns, flowers, fruits or vegetables.

Almost any seedling can be transplanted from time to time when small, especially beets, lettuce, cabbage, kale and cauliflower. The best hour is in the evening, setting the plants in firmly, and giving the ground a good watering.

It is well to throw a light covering of cut grass over them early the next morning and keep it there till the grass shrivels. No other protection is needed.

#### Asparagus Easily Cultivated.

Asparagus used to be thought the hardest vegetable to raise in the garden, but we know better now. By all means get a few roots and set them out in heavily manured soil.

In the fall sprinkle with salt, cover them deeply with manure and let it stay in the spring. In two years you will be having full crops. It is not necessary to make a great trench and fill with rubbish.

Whenever room can be spared from either the vegetable garden or the flower beds there is nothing more delightful than to make a grass plat of it. Big or little it will be restful to the eyes and a joy to the neighborhood. But it takes good soil to make a good grass plat, for the grass is a hearty feeder and requires plenty of nourishment.

It will be useless to try to grow grass unless you have at least a foot of soil that is really rich. It does not make much difference what kind of soil it is, provided it is given all the manure it needs and made a treasure house of plant food.

#### He Retracts.

She (fiercely)—Don't you ever dare to say again that I'm driving you crazy!

He (meekly)—I won't. I must have been that way when we were married.

#### In the Market.

Eva Richly—"Oh, I really don't think the count is marrying me for my money. There seems to be a bond of sympathy between us."

Edna Sinick—"Then it must be a gold bond."