

# FOR AND ABOUT THE WOMEN FOLKS

## Edicts of the Dressmakers.

**T**HE straight front corset has come to stay. It will never go. This is the text of what Miss Elizabeth A. C. White, president of the Dressmakers' Protective Association of America, tried to impress on the 600 delegates to the convention held in Masonic temple, Chicago. "It is hygienic, it is healthful, it is beautiful," explains Miss White. "These straight fronts," she continued, "are to be improved in certain ways, but it will be the same straight front. All this talk in the papers about their going out of style is wrong."

Miss White is not a little woman, and when she stamped her foot on the floor to emphasize her last word in this sentence some of the one-legged models nearby nearly toppled over.

"Why, it is ridiculous the way some women dress," she went on. "Notice that middle-aged woman in the corner who certainly had a shape like an old-fashioned churn."

"Now," said Miss White, seriously, "if she would only wear a straight front corset with the improvement we are recommending she could appear as charming as that beautiful young blonde by the table."

The new feature which is to be added to the straight front is to double line it with ruffles around the breast, thus making the ill-looking comely and the thin plump. It—the corset—can be laced as tightly as desired, according to Miss White, if only the belt line of the victim be below the floating ribs. Of course, a woman with a conspicuous circumference will have to put a military extension on the upper arm and shoulder of her gown, thus making the proportions right.

Miss White told the dressmakers what a transformation could be accomplished by means of innumerable little tucks taken in the lining of a woman's gown. She also warned her flock against the unpardonable but popular error of giving a woman too narrow a back.

"Formerly," said Miss White, "200 women out of 1,000 had no diaphragms at all, or if they did no one knew it. Now four inches' difference must be made in the lining of a gown because of the change of shape. Most dressmakers look at a woman's front, but they don't look at her back. Likely as not they'll cut out the back and make the sleeve fit, and then what happens? Why, a woman meanders along the street cringing, and you wonder what is the matter with her. You think she must be hunchbacked, stoop-shouldered or have tumors, dropsy or the like, when it's nothing but the cut of the armhole."

## Woman Adapted by Indians.

**T**HE unusual and picturesque ceremony of being adopted by an Indian tribe is the novel experience that came during the summer to one Rochester young woman.

Miss Mary Jameson, the pastor's assistant at the Third Presbyterian church, Rochester, N. Y., has just returned from her summer home at Lotus Point, Lake Erie, which is seven miles from the Cattaraugus reservation. There for the last few summers Miss Jameson has been accustomed to visit the Indians and conduct services for them on occasional Sundays. Because of her interest in them and her friendship, which they have observed for several summers, the Indians asked if they might not adopt her and give her an Indian name.

Accordingly, the day was set and the Indian rites were gone through with that initiated her into one of their clans. She was

adopted into the Deer clan of the Seneca tribe of the Iroquois nation and given the name of Ah-wae-agwas, a name meaning "Picking flowers out of the water." On her consenting to become their "sister" two tall Indians stood one each side of her and discoursed at length in the language of the Senecas to the assembled company of Indians. Then one of them took her by the hand and walked her up and down between the rows of Indians, singing an Indian song, after which he conducted her to her seat and announced that henceforth she was Ah-wae-agwas, their sister.

A few days after the ceremony she was visited at her cottage by a company of Indians, who presented her with an ancient Indian silver brooch. Each tribe of the Iroquois is divided into eight clans, known as Wolf, Bear, Beaver, Turtle, Deer, Snake, Heron and Hawk, and each tribe is a sort of secret fraternity, in which the members stand by each other in sorrow or joy.

A strange rule among the clans is that members of the same clan cannot marry. The children belong to the clan of the mother. They not only call her mother, but they call all her sisters mother, and they call her sisters' children brothers and sisters. This is the reason they do not marry in their own clan. If marriages are unhappy, the parties are at liberty to marry again, and the mother has the sole right to the disposal of the children.

## Susan B. Anthony's Heretic Cure.

**I**F there was ever any fad in therapeutics to which Miss Anthony gave attention it was the water cure. She has the highest regard for the virtues of cold water as a remedial measure. Many years ago, when she was lecturing in Plattsburg, N. Y., she happened to get her feet frosted. She put them under a faucet in the kitchen to thaw out, which was successfully accomplished, but the next morning she awoke with a frightful pain in her back. She could scarcely get out of bed, but she insisted on keeping her lecture engagement that night. The next day, although she had to be carried to the sleigh, she drove seventeen miles with her legs doubled up to her chin, and lectured that night. Rising at 4 the next morning, she rode ten miles by stage, and then went by train to Watertown. At that city she engaged a

## Frills of Fashion

Crownish bronze is the latest color. Plum and mahogany are new in shades. Beavers are a feature of the new costumes.

Shaded effects have been introduced in Velveteen. Japanese crepe makes the boldest of necklines.

In creasy hats the high crowned type is the favorite.

In novelty leathers is a calf tanned to resemble cork.

Crystals are still to be used for trimming cloth costumes.

Tailored neckwear is the correct style with tailored costumes.

Lincoln's coat ranks high on the season's list of fashionable colors.

Spangled robes in sombre effects have made their appearance in Paris.

Copper and leather shades, also burnt cotton, promise to be very popular.

A new shade of red is on the copper order—suggesting a blending of red and brown.

Large fronted beads are among the frills and millinery ornaments favored in Paris.

Drapery veils are made of pompadour gauze, bordered by triple bands of narrow black velvet ribbon.

A new pompadour comb is a combination of celluloid and wire, the latter material forming the "rat," while the comb is fashioned from celluloid.

room at a hotel and took her case in hand. She instituted measures that, to say the least, may be called strenuous. She called for several buckets of ice water, which she had a maid pour deliberately over her back. Then she wrapped up in hot blankets and went to bed. The next morning she awoke a well woman.—Woman's Home Companion.

## Devices for Dirty Housewives.

**A** GLANCE at the new offerings found in house furnishing stores shows that the manufacturer of novelties is doing all in his power to solve the great question of domestic service. He has provided the housewife, who has given up the struggle with incompetent servants, a number of new devices which will not only simplify her house work, but permit her to accomplish it without soiling her clothes. One of the trials of doing one's own work is the constant soiling of the dresses worn in the kitchen.

A really practical dishwasher is offered for attachment to the ordinary stationary sink. It consists of a rack for holding the dishes and a cylinder which must be attached to the hot water spigot. The soiled dishes are set in the racks, and the cylinder is supplied with washing powder. When the hot water is turned on the cylinder revolves, strong suds are formed and whirled over the dishes. When the compartment holding the washing powder is removed, clear water is sprayed over the dishes, and if it is very hot and the dishes are properly placed, they can be left to dry and will be just as clean and sweet as if wiped with a towel.

For wiping up the floor there comes a scrubbing mat of wicker with a frame or fender in front of it to keep water from running back and soiling the garments of the cleaner.

A new pineapple clip not only takes out the eyes, but throws them away.

An egg beater shaped like a large cigar cutter, with sharp teeth, cuts off the top of a soft-boiled egg, or a raw one, for that matter, and saves many a tubercle.

A woman who likes lamp light in her drawing room and dining room will appreciate a new oil can with a movable faucet which whirls around and runs into the opening of almost any style of lamp.

New kitchen cabinets and tables combined are offered almost every season. The latest has a marble top for pastry, below

which are two bins for flour, upon which rest two drawers big enough for sugar. Above the pastry board, like pigeonholes in a desk, are rows of compartments with drawers clearly marked for spices, salt, baking powder and housekeeping sundries, even to string and wrapping paper.

For the pastry work there now comes a rolling pin of heavy glass, which can be opened at one end, showing a hollow cylinder to be filled with ice.

A brush for cleaning out glass is made in three sections, using fine bristles at one end, coarse bristles at the other, and an ordinary bristle in the center. The shape is not unlike that of the side of the shoe.

A small potato masher, tufted and padded with charcoal, is excellent for polishing the bowls of silver spoons.

The iceless refrigerator for winter use is made of stout screwing or perforated metal, and can be hung in the cellar or in the extension where the air is cool. It has a lock and key, and will hold a goodly supply of provender.

A new butter mold for individual service comes in the form of a rolling pin with twelve depressions in its many shapes, including the four-eyes and disc. A slab of butter, one-half inch thick, is laid on the pastry table and the rolling pin run over it to cut out the shapes.

A mayonnaise mixer is in the form of a jar with a device like an egg beater inside and a funnel attached to the edge, through which the oil is dropped. The mixer turns with a crank and the oil falls, drop by drop, through the funnel.

Both patent bread makers and small butter makers are sold in goodly quantities in the city shops. This fact is due, no doubt, to the published accounts of dirty bake shops and adulterations of butter. With the convenience mentioned a woman who has a small family can make both her own bread and butter. The bread maker, which costs \$2.75, is of tin and looks like a tall bucket with a handle like an ice cream freezer. The yeast, water or milk are put in first, then the flour is turned in while the crank moves around, until it is thoroughly mixed. After the first raising the crank is turned three minutes, kneading the dough like the human arm, and leaving it in a big, tidy roll, ready to be cut into eight loaves.

The butter maker looks like a glass fruit jar, holding a pyramidal spring, over which is a perforated disk. The spring dashes the cream through holes in the disk, and a small quantity of butter can be made very quickly.

## Negging and Pussy Women.

**B**EAUTY, always, of the fussy or negging woman. You will know her among a thousand by her look of utter dejection, corners of the mouth drawn down, and fish eyes that look upon every living thing as dishonest, disloyal and untrustworthy. Woe and misery are ever at her heels, be she mistress or servant. If the latter, her work will always be lagging, her pastry will be heavy, and her bread as soggy as her disposition. She will make constant trouble with the other servants, and keep the entire household in turmoil until she is gotten rid of. If it is the mistress of the house who is inclined toward this unfortunate habit, affairs of the home will indeed be pitiable. She will whine at everything, and prove herself to be one of the most tiresome creatures on earth.

The fussy woman is generally idle and lazy, and one of the best cures in the world for fustiness is work. Let her be made to do for herself what others do so unsatisfactorily for her.—Frances Van Elten in Leslie's Weekly.

## Gossip About Women

Miss Flora Wilson, daughter of the secretary of agriculture, will spend the winter, or perhaps a longer time, in Paris in the study of vocal music.

Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney, the authoress, who lives at Milton, Mass., was 50 years old recently. She is just about to publish her twenty-seventh book. Her first book was written forty-one years ago.

Mrs. Lily L. Scribner, the first German woman holding the degree of doctor of philosophy granted in her native country, has come to America to teach. The living and dead languages she is able to use make a formidable list.

In Great Britain among women workers there are: Auctioneers, 82; architects, 6; bookbinders, 34; butchers, 450; chimney sweeps, 44; dock laborers, 1; goldsmiths, 510; printers, 9,000; railway porters, 74; tailors, 11,500; and veterinary surgeons, 8.

Mrs. Grover Cleveland has become an expert in photography and the fascinating occupation is her chief diversion. In her beautiful home, Westland, Princeton, she has a complete equipment and the finish of her pictures shows how painstaking she has been in studying the use of the camera.

Miss Caroline L. O. Ransome of Washington is the first woman from whom the United States government purchased a painting for the walls of the capitol. Miss Ransome, who has lived in the national capital for upward of a score of years, enjoys the distinction of having painted the portraits of more statesmen than any other woman artist.

