

WOMAN'S SECTION OF THE BEE

Conducted by Ella Fleishman

Women and Girls in Industry

CARE OF THE WORKING MOTHERS

By Winifred Stephens in the London Times.

The officials of the "Ministry of Munitions Welfare and Health department" have a wonderful way of converting into blessings and benefits even the dangers and evils of war-time. And especially is this talent displayed in the work they are doing for the women and girls in our munition factories.

At a time like the present, when it is imperative to husband and develop all our resources, infant life cries for protection more loudly than ever before. And, as every doctor will tell us, in order effectively to protect the child, one must start with the mother. But how, now that so many expectant mothers are hard at work in munition factories, is it possible to ensure the beginning of life under healthy conditions?

A Social Problem in Solution.

This is one of the countless social problems which the department is endeavoring to solve. And it is carefully organizing a scheme designed to obviate the injuries that might result to mothers and children from the double task, which so many valiant women are now called upon to perform. Plans are on foot to regulate the expectant mother's work from the fifth to sixth month, to provide her with sedentary tasks, and to place her under the surveillance of a trained supervisor who has a certain amount of medical knowledge, holding, if possible, a midwife's certificate, who sees that while in the factory the expectant mother is suitably nourished, who visits her dwelling, helping her to make arrangements for her confinement, and if necessary to go into a maternity home.

To the provision of these homes in munition areas, even if they consist of only a few beds, attached to a creche, the department attaches the highest importance. The mother should enter at least a fortnight before she expects her confinement, remain for some time after, certainly until her child is at least eight weeks old, and receive instruction all the while in various branches of mothercraft. On returning to her factory work, she may, if she please, leave her child in the creche.

Some Difficulties.

Some of the difficulties connected with our women workers are those which arise from the transport from one munition area to another. While aiming at preventing the expectant mother from being liable to such transport, the department, for those who are subject to it, seeks to remove or at least minimize the discomforts. Steps are taken to see that workers who are to be moved across country before leaving home are properly supplied with money and clothing. The local labor exchange or the department's welfare officer is required to see that they are met at the station of their destination and escorted to suitable lodgings or special hotels for workers.

Lodgings committees, the institution and development, of which is one of the departments most recent schemes, compile and keep up to date a lodging register and see that the lodgings are systematically inspected by voluntary or paid investigators. The latter are encouraged to help the workers in every possible way by removing causes of friction between the landlady and lodger, by rendering assistance in cases of illness or other difficulties, and by fostering throughout the district a friendly spirit toward the workers.

If there is serious overcrowding an appeal can be made to the civilian billeting board, which has power to insist on householders taking in munition workers, at the same time setting up a standard both of accommodation and payment.

Another matter of the highest im-

Gingham Gown Fashion's Favorite

By GERTRUDE BERESFORD

PERHAPS you are tired of reading "Odes to a Gingham Gown," but you must bear with them a while longer, for indeed this cool, delightful fabric is the prime favorite in Dame Fashion's summer wardrobe. This simple model depends for distinction on its unusual vest of white pique, which is cut in one with the narrow belt. While pearl buttons run down the center front and are found on cuffs and skirt border. The deep collar and cuffs of pique strike an interesting note in the narrow ruffles of argandy. As a variation the vest and skirt border may be made of plain ground gingham, keeping only collar and pique.

Importance to the workers' health and efficiency is the provision of adequate means of transit, by bus, tram or train, between the lodging and the factory to which in some cases coffee stalls and shelters are attached for those workers who have to wait for trains, etc. Here also the local welfare officer is often able to render valuable assistance.

Miss Marjorie Johnson, a native of Ohio and formerly assistant dean of women in a Washington university, has charge for the American Red Cross of rehabilitation work among the Milan refugees.

Chocolate Drop of Life Size Tolerable Security After All, Drexel Finds

"The thrill of my life was not one thrill, but a succession of thrills, agonizing and long drawn out," relates Frank Drexel.

"It was on a Saturday afternoon, and a negro dining car waiter with whom I had a slight business acquaintance, walked into the store, accompanied by his small son.

"He had a proposition in frenzied finance in which he wanted to interest me. He had borrowed from a loan shark and wanted to procure \$50 from the same source. If he could pay the original loan of \$30 he could get the \$50 and he asked me to be kind enough to loan the working capital of \$30 until he could negotiate the deal. He would leave his little chocolate drop in the store for security during the short time he would be absent and return at once and repay the loan.

"I fell for it, gave him the 30 bucks and he went out. His security sat on a bench and promptly dozed off. Fifteen minutes passed and he did not return. The minutes thereafter seemed like hours. Customers poured into the store, but I had no heart to give them service. I would try to fit a foot, but I was drawn to the door like a magnet every few seconds, looking for the colored man to redeem his security.

"A half hour passed. It seemed an

age. I got nervous and wondered how I could confront my wife with a chocolate-colored, ready-made addition to the family. I found no sympathy among my fellow workers. They predicted the man would never come back and I would have to daddy the kid until I could find an orphan asylum willing to substitute me on the job. I was desperate and I fear the recording angel was busy writing down my uttered and unuttered unpretty remarks and I called myself names that I would fight any other person who would upbraid me.

"At the end of three-quarters of an hour the man returned, slightly liquorered up. He seemed an angel of light to me. He paid the 30 plunks and took his security, and I was the happiest man in Omaha. Never again, though will I accept an unnegotiable security."

Miss Sylvia Coney, formerly manager of a well known candy kitchen on Fifth avenue, New York, is teaching Italian refugees how to make good soups from the limited amount of meat and grain at their disposal. Between whites, she superintends distributions of food from the American Red Cross as waitress in three Red Cross soup-kitchens. Mrs. Gilbert White, wife of the American mural painter, is helping Miss Coney.



Miss June today,
In colors gay
Slips in and out of shops
For frocks to wear o' summer nights
To military hops,
Crisp organdies of pink and blue
Or some delicious shade
Most truly were created
For this 1918 maid;
And lovely voiles and sheer
chiffons
And gingham and pongee,
In just the very sweetest styles
One ever hopes to see.

WOMEN Dear—I'm really very excited today as I sit down to write my weekly letter to you—and this is what it is all about—I've just been reading an article on "The Standardization of Women's Clothes." Yes, actually some folks are agitating it! They claim, as a war measure, it is of equal importance with the conservation of food.

Horror! Think of having our frocks cut out by the hundreds; all off the same pattern and of the same material! Why, the very thought of it is enough to make all feminine lovers of pretty clothes rise up in indignation and with one voice give an emphatic "NO!" to the whole proposition.

Just to get the masculine viewpoint on the subject, I've asked a few men if they'd like to see us in uniform dress. If you could have heard their decided "OF COURSE NOTS," there'd be no doubt in your mind as to what they thought about it.

It seems to me at this critical time that an atmosphere of brave sympathy can best be maintained by women remaining their lovely feminine selves. The women of France and England know this, and are wearing pretty clothes not only to keep their own courage up, but the courage of their men as well. A standard style of dress would not be universally becoming, and to wear clothes which are not is bound to have a depressing effect. It's a part of a woman's business in life to look as pretty and attractive as possible.

I'd be so glad to hear what my readers have to say on this subject. PLEASE WRITE!

Among the shades that give promise of being popular for Fall are brick, mahogany, Pekin blue and deep amethyst.

SUCH a find! Gingham dresses for only \$5! Think of it, with gingham in the height of fashion! Surprising, isn't it? When you see them you'll certainly want one to tuck in your vacation trunk, for these include plenty of the semi-dark colorings that don't have to go into the tub after every wearing—handsome navy blue and white, black and white and green and brown plaids, as well as dainty pinks and blues and cool lavenders and greens. The collars, flaring cuffs and novel belts are of white hemstitched linen. Pockets—Oh, of course! I discovered these in Thompson-Belden's basement, which is, by the way, a perfect treasure mine for the woman who is interested in economies.

Pastel shades in cotton dresses are always correct for children under 6.

MILITARY necessity takes precedence over civilian wants. You can readily appreciate the situation when you recall that the government is taking 60 per cent of the woolen output of America. It's therefore an opportunity very few of us can afford to miss when suits and coats of the "all wool" variety, with an unusual degree of style, are offered at such astonishingly low prices as are those on sale this week at F. W. Thorne's. Think of getting a beautifully tailored coat or suit worth \$50, or \$55 for \$20.75—a \$40 or \$45 garment at \$24.75—a \$30 or \$35 suit at \$17.75—or a \$22.50 coat at \$10.90. Makes you want to scoot right up to 1812 Farnam—doesn't it?

Millinery still clings to tailored shapes.

"PICTURES framed with loving care" is the slogan at The A. Hospe Art Shop, 1513 Douglas Street. This shop has always moved with the times. It has always kept abreast of new ideas, so you will find a complete stock of the latest style picture moldings in the city. Lovely framed or unframed copies of water colors, etchings, oils, etc., may be found in this shop. It's an excellent place to select your gift pictures—and the low prices will really surprise you.

Ostrich plumes will be seen on fall millinery.

YOU'D pleasantly await the leisure hours in which to wear it, if you were the possessor of one of those charming hand-embroidered Jap crepe kimonos, which are to be seen at the fascinating little shop of the Nippon Importing Company, 218 South 18th street. The colors are varied and delightful. Priced \$1.95 to \$3.25.

Colorado Woman Learns Iron and Steel Work

Mrs. S. A. Garth of Colorado Springs, Colo., has just completed a special course in drafting of iron and steel work in the engineering department of Colorado college.

"I took a six weeks' course of 30 hours a week and mastered it so well that, when I finished, the professor said he could recommend me to work

I WAS given the privilege of reading a sweet little "thank-you-mam" letter the other day to a friend of mine from a girl friend of hers to whom she had presented a box containing some of the summer toilet aids, from the Franco-American Toilet Requisite Shop, 772 Brandeis Bldg., when she went off on her summer vacation. "Everything is delightful," she wrote, "and I'm sure a convert to the Franco-American toilet goods." If you have a friend to whom you wish to make a present, let me suggest a gift box from this shop. The one I mentioned contained Complexion Powder and powder puff, Cucumbergene (a powder foundation), Lustergene (nail polish), Dentagene, and Bathagene. It was priced \$2.

Bathing suits are adorned with sashes.

FAIRY weavers must have had something to do with the new transparent organdie frocks which arrived at Lamond's this week—for they have that bit of mystery, that dash of charm, which makes them positively enchanting. In this collection is a perfect picture frock of rosy, coral organdie, which is distinguished by its ultra wide hem and scallops bound in white, which finish off the wide collar, flowing sleeves and skirt flounce. A large butterfly sash of white organdie adds a touch of airy daintiness. An exquisite flower-like combination is shown in a quaint, little frock of daffodil yellow trimmed with forget-me-not blue. Summer day dreams would surely come true in any of these bewitching dresses on display at this smart, exclusive shop, second floor, Securities Building.

Point d'esprit is being used extensively for sleeves and yokes of summer dresses.

"MAKING stout women have a more slender appearance is one of my particular hobbies," said Mrs. D. A. Hill when I visited her in her corset shop the other day. "See this corset," she continued, as she held up for my inspection a model designed for an unusually large woman. "It is so carefully and scientifically made that it will gently mold the figure and control all superfluous flesh, providing a slender silhouette with perfect comfort." Besides corsets Mrs. Hill has a line of brassieres specially made for stout ladies. Her shop is at 205 Neville Bldg., 16th and Harney streets.

From Paris comes the new style of sashes wound round the hips.

A SURPRISING amount of daintiness lurks in some summer dresses, which are arrivals of the week at F. W. Thorne's Uptown Shop, 1812 Farnam street. Maybe the weaver of the sheer, lovely voile of which these frocks are made, was fearful that those fascinating little pink, blue or black embroidered dots might escape, for he went to work and built little cross-barred fences about them of varicolored threads. A simplified version of Grandmama's fichu made of organdie and finished with fluted net, adds a cool and refreshing note. Three little bows flirt audaciously at you from the front of this fichu. A narrow open crochet insertion heads the three broad tucks in the skirt, the edge of fichu and cuffs. And all this beauty for only \$12.75.

Separate coats for fall are of green and blue plaid chevot.

"WHO comes with summer to this earth, And owes to June her date of birth, With ring of pearl upon her hand Can health, wealth and long life command."

Last week I told you about an exquisite pearl-set ring I saw at Albert Edholm's jewelry store on the corner of 16th and Harney streets. This week when I went into this store, I was shown the most wonderful pearl necklace my eyes have ever beheld—in fact it is very unusual to see such a priceless string of matched jewels anywhere excepting in ultra fashionable eastern jewelry shops. This lovely pearl necklace is fastened with a clasp set with 3 square and 50 small round diamonds. If you are a lover of rare and exquisite things, drop into this store and ask Mr. Edholm to show it to you.

Persian blue ribbon is a dainty note of contrast with pale pink.

Let's go Shopping with Polly



Oh! let us backward Turn the page From sixty-one to five. 'Tis costumes of our granddames Which Dame Fashion doth revive. The ruffled skirt, the hoop, the cape, The overdress and poke, Which grandmamas, if living now Must think are quite a joke. For, though Dame Fashion has Sought out the styles Of other days, I know she's camouflaged a lot, So clever are her ways.

If you want to know what's what in the shops, keep your eye on these columns. Remember, I'm always happy to help you out with ideas, and to do your shopping for you. In writing please state price, size and as many details as possible, and kindly enclose stamp for reply (not a stamped envelope). This service is absolutely free to any reader of The Bee. The stores will send purchases C. O. D. unless accompanied by bank draft or money order. Address POLLY THE SHOPPER, Omaha Bee.

THERE are trunks just begging for vacation frocks to fill them at Freeling & Steine's Luggage Shop at 1803 Farnam. Genuine Hartmanns remember! The best wardrobe trunks ever built. I was perfectly fascinated with the cushion top opening on these trunks, which is a special feature to keep lovely frocks and gowns in perfect condition. "A place for everything" and each garment where it can be reached instantly makes the Hartmann trunk a perfect joy to the traveler. The Gibraltarized construction makes this trunk stand the hard knocks of travel, and still retain its exceptionally good-looking appearance.

Sweaters are often of the bloused variety.

THE summer sun never met cooler or more attractive frocks than some pretty ones of Egyptian tissue and gingham, which had just been taken from their wrappings and put on hangers, when I arrived at Herzberg's Women's Toggery Thursday morning. A new feature of the tissue dresses is the alternate stripes of the fabric and net, which form the rounded yoke, and finish the edge of the double skirt and sleeves. This is one of the button-up-the-back styles which is so highly favored now. The belt closes at the side with a stunning large, round, white celluloid buckle. \$14.85 is the price, and the predominating colors are tan, green, pink or blue. Ric-rac brand is the effective trimming on the new gingham dresses, which sell for \$9.85.

The Philadelphia Record declares that just because a woman is fond of dress is no reason why her temper should be ruffled.

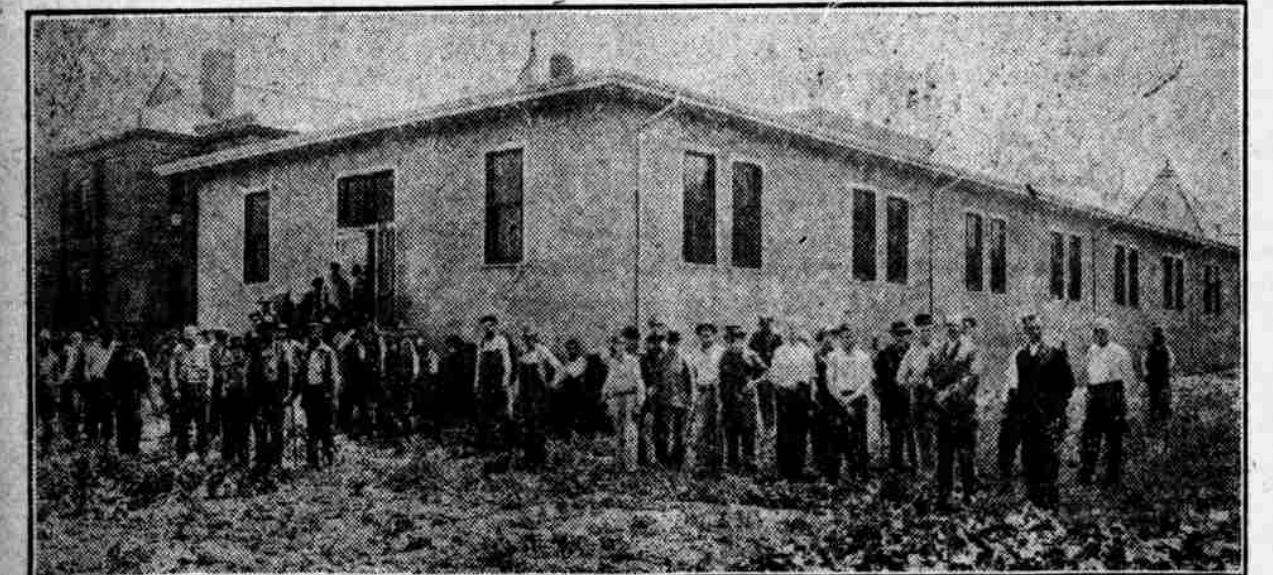
ANOTHER interesting discovery! White tub shirts of trig smartness for \$5 and \$5.50. They are made of a fine quality of gabardine, and really the tailoring is splendid. Many new ideas are carried out in the style and placing of pockets and belts. Certainly your summer wardrobe is incomplete without a skirt or two like these I found at Thompson, Belden's.

Oh! What shall we wear on the Fourth of July To picnic, club or gay parade. For bathing, bathing, drives or walks In sunshine or in shade. The sports costume with coatee smart, A hat to match, indeed! An all-white frock of fine pique Would answer any need. In gingham dressed, is surely best For picnic, or for boating. I think I'd wear a bathing suit If in the water frolicking. In dainty silk or crepe, I'd drive Around and all about To see what other women wore. And hear the children shout.

One can wear crepe, quite Oriental, Or khaki suit, most regimental. Pongee for morning, noon or night. Or any simple gown of white. Of mull or Swiss or organdie. (There are the loveliest ones to see) Hats are broad for summer wear, But one must choose broad hats with care. And small hats have their place as well. —And I have much more I could tell —But goodbye, friends, for today, Yours, Polly

—Advertisement.

Old Folks Now Have Greatly Improved Conditions at Douglas County Hospital



Final preparations are now being made to open the new wing of the county hospital for occupancy. This will provide airy rooms for 200 old men, who now live in heat and squallor, with comfort.

Conditions at the county hospital have undergone a wonderful change in the last few months. For twenty years the institution has been a shame to Douglas County, filled with disease and vermin, with incompetent employees and miserable inmates.

"When they made me chairman of the county hospital committee," says County Commissioner Leo A. Hoffman, "they thought they were playing a good joke on me. I thought so, too, when I looked the place over, for it was so dirty, so filled with disease and vermin, that I was almost afraid to touch the things or people within. I determined to change things."

How well Mr. Hoffman has succeeded in his determination is proven by talking to the inmates, now clean and smiling, and apparently perfectly contented with their quarters. When Mr. Hoffman and The Bee reporter were making the rounds of the wards last week, one old blind

man, with but one hand, heard his name spoken.

"Is that Mr. Hoffman?" he called. "Let me speak to him."

Mr. Hoffman went to his wheeled chair and the old man took his hand and said fervently:

"I want to thank you for what you have done, Mr. Hoffman. I have been here a good many years, and it used to be like living in hell. Now it is like a touch of heaven. I pray for you every night of my life."

Mr. Hoffman considers this the finest compliment he has ever received on his work.

For twenty consecutive years the grand jury and the board of charities and corrections have inspected this institution every year, and each year both have turned in reports severely criticizing the place. This year was the first time the grand jury has not condemned the institution, and the board of charities and corrections turned in a highly favorable report.

One needs to have seen the place under the old management to appreciate the change. New paint in soft shades of gray or clean white has replaced the old cracked and broken walls, painted in all the glaring shades of the rainbow. Pitted soft wood floors have been replaced with pol-

ished wood. Disinfectants and soap and water have abolished the suffocating odors and replaced them with the clean, fresh smell of the modern hospital. The kitchen is spotless. The beds are clean, and the attendants wear fresh uniforms. Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Patten, superintendent and matron, keep the place in perfect order.

The new wing is of stucco, 60x180 feet, and one story, with plenty of windows to let the air sweep across.

It will be the home of about 200 old men, who are now lodged, and have been lodged for 20 years, in a basement. Some slept in the corridors, directly under the steam and hot water pipes, which heat the air to suffocation in warm weather. Some had to creep through holes in the cement wall, like bears into their dens, and slept in damp, unwholesome underground lairs.

"It has cost the county some money to make these improvements," admitted Mr. Hoffman, "but even aside from humane considerations, it is worth it. There are about forty less patients there now than usual at this time of year, and we ascribe this largely to the fact that we turn out so many more cured of their troubles and able to take an active part in the world again."

Good War Tunes Offered In July Victor Records

Several good records of war tunes are in the July list of new Victor records. Harry Lauder and Geoffrey O'Hara are two favorites whose

voices may be heard on the new discs singing songs from "Over There." Martial music, however, does not comprise the entire month's offerings, for several new songs, seranades, lullabies, and dance tunes are numbered among a great variety of melodies calculated to soothe during the hot summer hours. Caruso, Farrar, Gluck, and McCormack have some of their best songs among the July collection.