The Unusual Bedroom

By LORETTO C. LYNCH.

An unusual bedroom is a delight, especially when one has a room to spare. An American girl artist, upon returning to her country home in America, duplicated a very artistic room she had lived in while studying abroad. For any other woman to copy this is not difficult.

Suppose you start with a room that has never really been finished.

Go over the woodwork and floors and use a good paste filler. Give the woodwork two coats of white paint and finish with a coat or two of enamel, allowing two days for drying before each new application of paint.

The floor should have a coat of "floor finish." If it is desirable to stain the floor, as it probably is if the floor is the type found in the average country house, select for this room a light oak. Put on two coats of shellac and when thoroughly dry apply floor wax. The paste wax of a reliable brand is best for this purpose. When it has dried, polish with a flatiron padded and covered with several thicknesses of cloth. So much for the floor.

Select flat paint for the walls in cream color. If you can, stencil large ovals of garlands of tiny pink rosebuds with light blue ribbon streamers, one or two on each wall, according to the space and size. A large oval rag rug of black, violet and blue, with a speck of red and green now and then goes well in this room.

You may be able to pick up a four-poster bed, say in the three-quarter size, depending on taste, purse and size of room. Sandpaper it a bit if it needs it. Two coats of light blue paint and a coat of enamel will work wonders. A smaller edition of the oval stencil used on the wall might be applied to the head and footboard of the bed.

You will want an unusually beautiful bedcover. The one I want to tell you about sells for $60. But any woman can copy it. The cover itself is of good quality unbleached muslin. The design desired should be stenciled on and executed in French knots in either orange or yellow embroidery silk. Some shops sell the unbleached muslin cover already stenciled. The bolster cover is similar in design.

The color only an artist would essay, was applied to a semi-windsor style chair. The color was brick red. To balance this, overcurtains were used in a horizontally striped brick red, yellow and black material. This material was also used to make a 14-inch (in height) oval scrap basket.

A small flour vase of brick red was set upon a small brown-finished tip table. This held a collection of well-made Japanese flowers in every color represented in the rug.

Since there was neither gas nor electric light, a kerosene oil lamp was chosen. It had a green pottery base. The shade was made of old-rose silk covered by old gold color shirred georgette.

The dresser scarf was of plain coarse net with a darned-in design. It was set over a pink lining.

The window curtains were of this plain coarse net also.

The effect was extremely artistic and delightfully unusual.

New Ideas in Giving for Brides.

Thanks to the economic tendency, the outgrowth of the war, an article of wearing apparel is considered a most appropriate token to present to a bride as a trousseau gift.

Just as in former days a piece of silver or jewelry was considered the most appropriate gift, now it is quite as proper to present the bride with lingerie, hosiery and gloves. Every bride requires a traveling suit, and if she is to be one of the summer brides of 1921, she will want sports costumes.

Dinner gowns, afternoon dresses, morning dresses and a wrap or two, will be included in her trousseau, and a wise giver may choose from such a list without fear of violating any of the dictates of good taste. Of course one must use discretion, and such a gift would not be advisable in every case. But a good friend may choose a garment from the above list without fear of violating any of the dictates of good taste. Of course one must use discretion, and such a gift would not be advisable in every case. But a good friend may choose a garment from the above list without giving offense.

What's What

By HELEN DECIE

At the closing exercises of a famous medical college the dean was pleased to be facetious with the newly-fledged young doctors—bachelors all. "Don't," he pleaded solemnly, "don't ever tell your wife's secrets to your patients!" Then, pausing impressively, he added the real message, "and don't—don't tell your patients' secrets to your wife!"

Usually, a professional man, especially a physicain, makes a wise choice of a life partner. But he may be fascinated by a pretty chatterbox, who, alas! remains a chatterbox long after her girlish prettiness has departed. Her husband may do his best to keep professional secrets out of her reach, but since curiosity usually accompanies garrulity, she finds out quite enough to create trouble through her talkativeness. Since gossip is harmless without willing hearers, the garrulous woman should be rebuked as courteously as possible by reminding her that the personalities of her husband's office belong there, and should not be promulgated abroad.

BRIDE LORE

by DORIS BLAKE

AMONG the accumulated superstitions about brides and grooms and wedding days, the following are found:

The couple will be separated, if by mistake they start from the altar in different directions.

The groom who has something in each pocket of his suit at the altar will never be wealthier than he is at the time of his marriage.

The one who speaks loudest at the altar will die first.

If the best man stumbles on his way to the altar, it means bad luck to the groom; and if one of the bridesmaids stumbles, it carries evil luck to the bride.

If the bridegroom comes down the aisle before the hymeneal knot is tied, misfortunes may be expected.

The fainting of a bride at the altar is the sign of a death in the family.

A baldheaded man at the altar, whether he be minister, groom, or bride's father, foretells the advent of marriage squalls.

Whoever first rises from the altar after the ceremony will die first.

If a pair stand so far apart at the altar that you can see between them, they will disagree.

If the bride steps on her own gown on the way to the altar, she will do something that will destroy her happiness in married life.

If the bride turns her head when standing at the altar, it is a bad omen, because she is looking for a second husband.

When the bride goes from her seat to the altar, the bridesmaids must close up quickly, lest the seat grow cold, which is a sign the bride and groom's love will quickly grow cold also.

The bride may look for trouble if the groom recognizes any lady on his way to the altar.

It is an ill omen to have at the altar a person of the same given name as either of the principals.

To hear a baby cry at a wedding is an omen that the love of the couple is one-sided.

The groom's love is fickle, if he drops anything in the room of the ceremony.

In some countries it is believed that for a bride to carry salt in her pocket during the ceremony insures good luck.

In some parts of Scotland it is said to be unlucky for the bride's mother to appear at the wedding.

Happiness in spite of all difficulties is in store for that couple whose relatives refuse to appear at the ceremony after being asked.

Disappointed love is foreshadowed by the fainting of a woman at the ceremony.

If the bride places her foot before that of the groom when being married she will rule the house.

Should Venus happen to be at the height of her splendor when a marriage ceremony is performed the life of the happy couple will be a continuous scene of happiness and all its paths strewed with the rosebuds of delight.

The bride or groom who looks at anything during the ceremony thus gives evidence that they will one time try to untie the knot that is being tied.

If a dog barks during the ceremony he tells of an enemy in the room.

If the bride coughs during the marriage ceremony her life will not last long.

Bridegrooms of Elba place one knee on the bride's dress when married, to ward off evil spirits.

Never marry in the middle of folding doors or under an archway.

If a bride stands under a floral bell on being married, and the petals of a white rose should fall on her, she will be happy and will never know a care.

To stand with the back to a mirror when being married denotes bad luck; people are sure to talk ill about you.

If a minister is marrying a couple and a clock strikes and a bell rings all at the same time, the groom will die before a year.

If, during the marriage ceremony, one of the couple tramps secretly upon the foot of the other, it will prevent sickness.

During the wedding whichever has his or her hand above the other's shall be master.

To Remove Grease.

Cover the grease spot thickly with powdered magnesia and let it remain for 24 hours or more. If there is much grease repeat with fresh magnesia. This can be relied on to "draw out" the grease and it will not leave a ring of different color.

Few Suggestions For Motor Picnics

Automobiles have revolutionized picnics. In the old days even if you went to your picnic in carriages there was little room for carrying picnic paraphernalia, and of course fewer people had carriages at their disposal than those who now have some sort of automobile to help out with the picnic.

A regular picnic lunch basket is a luxury that not every automobile owner can afford, but it is neither expensive nor difficult to get together a basket or substantial box that will answer the purpose for you. For a trifling amount you can get tin plates and cups, and old or discarded spoons, forks and knives may be kept for the picnic box. A substantial basket with a close-fitting cover is a good selection for this.

Vacuum bottles and various sorts of alcohol that can be carried in solid form have helped picnickers greatly to add cheer to their picnics. But the sport of gathering wood and building a fire in the open whereon to make coffee or boil water for tea sometimes impels the picnic devotee to leave such inventions of civilization behind. Perhaps in your picnic kit you will want to have a pot or saucepan in which to make your coffee. A large earthen teapot with a tea cozey, which need not be ornate so long as it is thick and close-fitting, is an excellent addition if you are fond of tea.

It is an English custom to have tea on picnics or to take the wherewithal for tea-making even when an actual meal is not to be eaten in the open. English motorists know how much it helps in an afternoon of motoring to stop just long enough to boil water on alcohol and infuse tea. A tea-making outfit is a very useful accessory of the English motor car and one we might well adopt.

"Dusters."

If you can't supply your guests with an auto coat, you might just as well not own an auto these days. Dame Fashion has issued the dictate that it is the smart thing now to have several "dusters" in the car for guests. Although the coats come in imported silk pongee, Holland linen, natural imported water-shrunk linen and navy, black and gray, mohair, it is quite proper to have the cheaper models for the guests. Since the guests will play turn-about when they are the host, no offense can be taken.