

THE WOMEN OF JAPAN

CHARM OF THE ARISTOCRATS OF THE MIKADO'S COUNTRY.

The Jap Lady Loves Fine Clothes Perhaps Even More Than the American Belle—Dresses Are Simply Made but Expense is Great.

The glamour of Japan lies in its little women and the diminutive bits of childhood that live in the picturesque doll-like houses of the Mikado's country, where even the Jap grandees have nowadays three and sometimes four-story brick mansions that would not look out of place in some bustling American city.

And these mansions are now coming to be fitted up with electric lights, fireplaces, telephones and artificial gas. But the strangest part of all this new Japanese life is that only the Jap nobleman lives in the new kind of house.

His dainty little wife, still inhabiting his old, original Japanese home, which has behind the big brick mansion and in which the Japanese nobility still live the old kind of Japanese existence. The home life of the Jap is the old style of house.

He entertains English or American visitors of importance in the new brick mansion, but his wife lives and his children are born just as their ancestors were—in a doll-like house in which the partitions are made of paper and one sits on the floor to eat or reclines on a hard mat when it is time to go to bed.

But the Jap lady loves fine clothes perhaps even more than the belle of Newport or New York.

While the dresses are simply made as to their cut and fashions change little still the expense is terrific, for the material is always woven after the design of some special artist, with her family crest woven on the shoulders, neck and sleeves.

She wears cloth of gold and cloth of silver liberally, does the little Japanese lady of noble birth, and her "tail" will cost from \$100 to \$200 in most cases.

There are also in Japan fixed standards of dress for the different ages. This standard is fixed mostly by the colors worn. A child from babyhood until it is ten or twelve years of age wears gray-colored kimono, having designs in flowers. The color used mostly for this period is bright red, used in big masses of coloring.

From 11 to 25 years the Japanese lady decks herself in pale gray or pale blue kimono, with pink or other colored flowers, and many use views taken from famous Japanese paintings, which form an embroidered border around the bottom of the kimono. The rest of the costume is in the plain blue or gray coloring.

When she gets past 25 years of age the Japanese woman lays aside bright colors and brilliant effects and wears a dark brown or dark blue kimono. This is always of the richest material, however, and always the family crest is embroidered on neck, shoulders and sleeves. Bright colors are absolutely forbidden to the Jap lady of quality after passing her 25th birthday. Since she is usually a grandmother about this time, or very shortly afterward, the deprivation is not as great as a westerner would think.

A Trim Costume.

Mohair and Panama cloth, both striped and plain are resuming their wonted favor and all-around usefulness in the development of ultra-smart tailor-mades. The model sketched is contrived of striped Panama cloth, having a circular skirt, distinguished with a rather unusual cut front panel in which the



A TRIM COSTUME.

skirt match. Around the bottom of the skirt is a fold of its own material, lined with mol silk in the color of the predominating tone of the dress.

The waistcoat is short, falling only a few inches below the hips and fastens with three buttons. It is adorned with revers moire, stitched with light silk soutache. There are pocket flaps of the moire, also.

A good with photo and signature, and the illustration is by...

A SMART COMBINATION.

Linen in Two Colors for Lingerie and Tailor Made Dresses.

Linen will assert itself in many ways, not only in lingerie frocks, when the sheer handkerchief and India linens will be employed, but in tailor made dresses when the heavier qualities of the materials can be fashioned into the trim switcheries and bandings that compose trig simplicity. Combinations of linens in two colors are to be the rage. White with pastel tints will be much worn, but in colors, only two shades of one tone are permissible.

White butcher's linen trimmed with blue is used for this neat design. The skirt has a plaited front edge.



A SMART COMBINATION.

panel and is trimmed with diamond-shaped medallions of blue linen and twistings of linen soutache braid.

The waist is truly original in design having a part of the front, the shoulder yoke and sleeves cut in one, with the white linen stitched over the blue in many points. This effect is carried out back and front on the sleeves. There is a very small lingerie yoke of white linen finished with jabot embroidery.

With the linen dress an item of importance is footgear. For street wear before noon, calf leather and patent leather pumps are the rage, but for afternoon occasions both shoes and hose match the color of the gown.

A Hint for the Bath.

The growing use of mustard in the bath tub is a modern adaptation of the principle that mustard is one of the most valuable external stimulants. To those who have not tried it, the result is really surprising. Take a tablespoonful of best mustard and add to the bath when filled. The water will be found to be of a slightly yellow-green color and absolutely free from any stinging or smarting sensation. In fact, it has a soft, velvety feeling almost like milk, but with a glowing warmth that is appreciated by the most delicate skin. Under its influence sore and stiff joints become limber and elastic, and the whole body experiences a sense of exhilaration that is scarcely credible. The mustard bath is already a favorite with those engaged in arduous sports, and equally so with society ladies, who find it a refreshing antidote to the fatigue of functions, and a charming way of keeping in that healthy condition so conducive to beauty.—Black and White.

To Clean Velvet Collars.

Now that Fashion again advocates strictly tailor made gowns to have velvet collars on the coats the question arises how to keep the dark outside collar from rubbing off on the neck of the blouse worn beneath it. No matter how good a quality is purchased velvet will always leave a soiled mark on any light fabric it comes in contact with, and many a woman is known to wring her hands in despair at the sight of a dainty waist immaculately fresh except for a dirty line across the neck.

To prevent this wipe off the velvet thoroughly with a soft cloth slightly moist, then rub with a rag saturated in pure alcohol. This done once a week regularly, will prevent the velvet from "croaking" and collars will not be soiled in the back.

Laundry Lines.

Yellow clothes can be whitened by boiling them in water to which a little of the following mixture has been added: A teaspoon of paraffin, lime-water, and turpentine; equal parts of each. Put into a bottle and shake well before using.

Medicine stains on sheets or white bed covers should be removed before washing. Make a paste with fuller's-earth and ammonia, and lay it on the stains. When dry, wash in cold water, and, if necessary, repeat the treatment.

Flannels and all woolen articles should not be put through a wringer, as they look better and do not shrink so much if they are well squeezed and shaken.

What It Really Is.

An American firm is selling in England what it calls "Finest Raspberry Jam." The label on each jar bears this statement: "This jam is made of glucose with artificial seeds and colored with harmless aniline dye."

HOW TO HAVE PRETTY NAILS.

Care Must Be Exercised but It's Easy if You'll Only Try.

It's easy to have pretty nails if you'll only half try yourself. And in an imaginary conversation with one who knew, a girl writer in the "Delineator" tells the secret: "First they must be washed and scrubbed—and I think one must learn how to wash the hands as well as learn how to do anything else. I never saw hands really washed before with the brush all over them, until they glowed.

"After that with scissors and a file she trimmed the nails into shape. She likes them rounded, not pointed, and just long enough in the middle to balance the half moon below. She warned me against cutting the cuticle as that makes the flesh grow thicker.

"Her plan is to take an orange stick and push the flesh back from the nail, getting under the edges so as to loosen the skin. But this must be done gently.

"When one is rough about it the young nail is injured and this brings those white spots on the nail which are so ugly.

"As mine were being done for the first time, she had to cut some of the hang-nails, but she said I would never have any more if I used the orange stick every day, and always rubbed the flesh back from my nails whenever I used a towel.

"Orange sticks are better than steel because they do not bruise. You can get a whole bunch for ten cents. She told me, too, that she always kept a piece of lemon on her washstand to take or stains. The lemon also whitens the hands when it is rubbed over them."

Hints on Making Cakes.

Flour must be dry and sifted. Good quality of granulated sugar must be used.

The fruit well cleaned and thoroughly dried or the cake will be heavy.

Break each egg into a cup before putting in bowl, as a bad one might spoil many.

This used for rich cakes must be lined with paper. Lay a double fold of paper over the bottom of the tin cut to the proper size, and let that which lines the sides come about two inches above the edge of the tin.

See that all ingredients are weighed out or measured and placed on the table. This saves time.

The heat of the oven for baking should be understood.

Small cakes, such as buns, etc., should be baked in a hot oven.

Large fruit cakes must be baked in a moderate oven.

Gingerbread must be baked in a slow oven, as it is liable to burn.

To test cakes when they are sufficiently baked, press the top of the cake with the fingers; if no impression is left, the cake is done.

Unique Trade for Women.

A clergyman's widow up in Maine has supported herself and three children, sending two boys to college, by converting feather beds into pillows. Hunger and pride drove her to doing something, her great need arising about the time the spring and mattress superseded the classic feather bed. Maine, it appears, is or was, full of feather beds, the possession of a number of them having once gauged a family's social standing. And every fluffy particle in those fat ticks was plucked by hand from the breast of a living goose, then washed in ammonia and soap-suds and dried in the sunshine in muslin bags fluttering in the wind.

This woman has bought as many as twelve of these fine pre-revolutionary beds in one house, paying \$1 per pound, having, of course, first tested them. The beds weigh from 10 to fifteen pounds. She sells the pillows for \$5 per pair, and has proved herself a live business woman by making from \$40 to \$50 a week at times.

HOME COOKING.

Eggless Gingerbread.

One cup of molasses or syrup. Flour sifted and added to the molasses until it is as stiff as can be stirred. Add two large tablespoonfuls of fresh, sweet lard, melted, and one cup boiling water, in which is dissolved three teaspoonfuls baking soda. Flavor with spice or ginger to suit taste and bake in a slow oven in any desired form or pan. The addition of seeded raisins—a cupful—with spices makes it almost as good as fruit cake.

Salad Dressing.

Break two eggs in a bowl and beat them well. Add one teaspoonful sugar, one half teaspoonful salt, half teaspoonful mustard, three tablespoonfuls vinegar, one tablespoonful cream, added last, and cook until thick in a double boiler.

To Keep Domestic.

Pay good wages and always be punctual in paying.

Be liberal in the matter of food, remembering that good work cannot be done on an empty stomach.

Never nag. When reproof is needed give it with firmness and without fear, but kindly.

Give praise wherever it is due. It is well to acknowledge good work and thus encourage good service.

Never allow yourself to get familiar nor in any way become involved in the family affairs of the domestics. When things go wrong take time to investigate before reproving, and never scold or rebuke when angry.

CARE OF THE HAIR

CLEANSERS SHOULD BE CHOSEN WITH REGARD TO COLOR.

The Necessity of Care in Selecting a Cleansing Agent—Amount of Natural Chemicals is not the Same in Any Two Heads.

While it is true that a few shampoo mixtures are efficacious for all conditions of scalp and hair, it is equally beyond doubt that the majority of cleansers, to be of real benefit, should be chosen with regard to the color of the tresses and the state of the scalp.

The necessity of selecting a cleansing agent that agrees with both hair follicles and the scalp will be readily understood when it is realized that the color of the locks is governed entirely by natural chemicals, and when hair begins to turn gray it is because these shades, either from age or illness, fade. If it were possible to know precisely to what degree the fading exists, then there might be made most perfect hair restorers, but unfortunately this information cannot be given.

Parentetically, it may be said that the amount of natural chemicals is not the same in any two heads and this accounts for the fact that a dye that is so-called "perfect" for one, may make practically no impression on the other.

For instance, the colors that would harmonize with blond hair should contain a large percentage of sulphur. Brown has much carbon, red contains iron and sulphur and black has oxygen and sulphur.

That shampoos containing these various elements for the different shades of tresses will help to maintain the color, if not to increase the natural shades, is therefore a logical conclusion.

For the average blonde the whites of raw eggs are best. They contain no coloring matter and are softening and cleansing.

In making the whites into a shampoo use a tablespoonful of warm water for each white, and the two should be beaten together before being rubbed into the scalp and over the hair. No soap is required.

A cleansing mixture for red or brown hair is made from the yolks of the whole egg. The yolks contain sulphur and become a natural coloring agent.

For black and dark brown hair a combination of claret is an excellent one. To half a pint of it a raw egg is added. The two are well beaten and rubbed thoroughly over the hair and head before rinsing in clean water. This is not a mixture to be used by pronounced blondes.

Any of these is simple to use and, if persistently applied, the hair, after years, will show the benefit derived. All are soap substitutes. No soap should ever be rubbed directly upon the hair, but must be dissolved first and applied in jelly or liquid form.

In Soft Silk Crepe.

None of the fashionable silk materials is shown in a greater variety of colorings than crepe de Chine. A semi-formal gown is this one in pale yellow, mounted over silk of the same shade and trimmed with bands of Venise insertion. The skirt has a tunic arrangement but fits without fullness over the hips. Nothing could be simpler than the girle of crepe de Chine laced at the back



IN SOFT SILK CREPE.

with silk cords at the ends of which are gold tassels.

The bodice has a round yoke of flit net embroidered with flowers in heavy silk and below this is a square yoke of crepe de Chine inset with Venise lace and trimmed with hand-embroidery.

Crepe de Chine and crepe de Luxe are exquisite in their softness and lustrous effect, lending themselves perfectly even to the delicate models usually reserved for the sheers of linens and silk frills.

Instead of a Brush.

A piece of velvet made into a pad with a strap across, in which to slip the hand, is an excellent thing for polishing a stove after blackleading instead of using a brush, and gives a brilliant gloss.

FROCKS FOR YOUNG WOMEN.

A Charming Lack of Pretension in Many of the New Styles.

Beauty unadorned is no longer a popular phrase, for young women of to-day are so well up with the times that they like their beauty enhanced in as many ways as possible, although it is done in simpler fashion. There is a charming lack of pretension in many of the new frocks, two of the most successful of which are illustrated. The first is a dotted voile in natural color with figure of deep cream color and dark brown, done with silk embroidery floss. The skirt is gouged slightly about the waistline and trimmed at the bottom with narrow bands of embroidered braid with killings in natural



TWO BECOMING FROCKS.

color silk on either side of the braid.

The blouse is slightly suggestive of the Mandarin lines so much worn and is laid in tucks at the shoulders, the fronts being draped in fleche fashion and bordered with braid and killings. There is a vest formed of bands of insertion put together with hand-stitcher. The puffed sleeves are trimmed with braid and killed silk.

Striped suting is used for the second costume, the skirt having a draped front panel trimmed at the side with buttons covered with silk. This is worn, a simple Eton jacket trimmed with silk passamenterie ornaments and garnished with revers and a detachable vest of eye-letter batiste. The cuffs match the revers and finish elbow sleeves finished with two little frills of Valenciennes lace.

Sealskin 'n the Making.

How many of the fair wearers of sealskin know how this fur is prepared?

In the skin of a dog or a cat it will be noticed that at the roots of the longer, coarser hair of the animal, there are fine short hairs called "under fur." In most animals these hairs are so few that they are usually overlooked. Not so with sealskin.

The operations which the pelt undergoes to bring out this under fur are really simple.

The skin, after going through various processes to cleanse it of grease, etc., is stretched out flat, with the flesh side uppermost. A flat knife is then passed over it, thinning the skin considerably. In doing this it loosens the roots of the longer hairs which are more deeply embedded than those of the under fur. The rough hairs are thus got rid of without injury to the softer fur.

Next the pelt passes through operations which soften and preserve it. Then comes the dyeing by which the uniform tint so generally admired is obtained. And now the fur is ready for making up into cosy wraps.—Montreal Standard.

Hints About Eggs.

Eggs when boiling, frequently burst. This is caused by their being too full of air and may be prevented by pricking one end with a needle before putting them into the water, which makes an outlet for the air.

Eggs become unwholesome if kept in refrigerators; a fungus forms in them which is easily found by the microscope, although it is not noticeable to the taste.

Stale eggs are glassy and smooth of shell. The shell of a fresh egg has a limelike surface. A spoiled egg which is dull and dries quickly on the shell when taken from the kettle is fresh.

Boiled eggs which adhere to the shell are fresh.

Explanations.

Nothing is more fatal to friendly relations than complaints and reproaches and demands for explanations. People must be judged in the wholeness of their conduct. A thousand subtle influences, unexpected and unforeseen events, have their action and reaction on life. A thousand things occur that can neither be analyzed nor defined. Many a temporary alienation is effectively overcome by silence. Reproaches, questionings, but widen the gulf. Leaving it alone, taking up other interests and ideas, bridges it over.—Lillian Whiting.

To Preserve Lemons.

Put a layer of dry, fine sand, an inch in depth at the bottom of an earthenware jar. Place a row of lemons on this, stalk downward, and be careful that they do not touch one another. Cover them with another layer of sand fully three inches in depth. Lay on it more lemons and repeat until the jar is full. Store in a cool, dry place. Lemons thus preserved will keep for months.

HOW WOMAN WAS MADE.

The Hindu Theory a Pretty Substitute for the Rib Theory.

The poor Hindu was sadly put to it to account for woman, but no more so than many wiser ones since his time. According to the legend, Twashtri, the Vulcan of Hindu mythology, created the world, but when he arrived at the final object which was to be his chef d'oeuvre he found to his annoyance that he had run out of materials. He had not a single chunk of solid matter left.

With a mental excretion upon his carelessness he fell into a profound meditation, the result of which was that he took the roundness of the serpent, the undulating curves of the creeping plant, the light shivering of the grass-blade and the slenderness of the willow, the velvety softness of the flowers, the lightness of the feather, the gentle gaze of the doe, the frolicsomeness of the sunbeam, the tears of the cloud, the inconstancy of the wind, the timidity of the hare the vanity of the peacock, the hardness of the diamond, the cruelty of the tiger, the heat of the fire, the chill of the snow, the cackling of the parrot and the cooling of the turtle dove.

He mixed these together in equal portions and the result was woman. After all, demands the Kansas City Journal, isn't this an advance upon the rib theory?

Tablets for the Auto.

It is for the woman who motors that most time and thought have been expended this season in getting up conveniences as well as luxuries. It seems as if there was scarcely a thing lacking in the equipment of the up to date auto which can contribute to the comfort of the motorist.

One of the new outfits for touring is a medicine case in which many common remedies are put up in tablet form and which altogether takes up no more space than the smallest mak up box.

In the way of drugs, there are quinine, bismuth, borax and other remedies, not to mention a first aid outfit consisting of bandages, boric lint, cotton wool, and plasters; pins, scissors and sponge, oils for burns, castor oil, &c.

More than this, there is a photographic outfit in tablet form, with all the necessary chemicals for developing, toning and fixing photographs.

About Smart Hats.

The fitting complement of the tailor made gown is the medium-sized hat following rather closely the lines of the head, yet glorified with the curves and graceful lines of the more pretentious models. Floral effects were never more in demand for hat decorations but there are lovely effects in wing and feathered



SMART HATS.

trimmings for millinery adornments. In the upper illustration a serviceable fine braid can be effectively trimmed with two American beauty roses in harmonious shades of red, the trimmings arranged at the back of the hat to lend height.

The crown of the second hat is not as high as some of the newest crowns, but it is a fashionable height. At the base is a bar of black velvet ribbon finished with a flamingo pink wing dashed with black.

Mexican Cook's Method.

A good Mexican cook relieves the mistress of the house of worry and responsibility in a manner that is almost unknown in the United States.

The cook is given as much everyday, and with this amount she will purchase each morning all the provisions for the day, including even the staples that are usually bought in large quantities in other countries. On \$1 a day a cook will provide a very good table for a family of three or four and get enough beans and tortillas and chile to set the servants table besides.

They can really do better than their mistresses, because they can usually drive sharper bargains with the marketmen of their own class, and they have more patience to haggle over the last penny.—San Antonio Express.

Paying Dog Rent.

"You may not believe it," said a young woman to her friend, "but we pay exactly five dollars a month rent for the privilege of keeping our dog in the apartment. He's a Great Dane and as we live on the top floor and take him down the stairs three times a day for fresh air, the agent contends that there is five dollars' worth of wear and tear extra on his hall carpets. It's expensive but we think it's worth it to have Dane in the flat. We are four sisters, you know, and he is no more expensive than a brother or father would be," she finished. "And he's just as much protection and more company than some brothers."—N. Y. World.