

A Woman's Solution

By JANE PINCKNEY BENNETT

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"Please consider our engagement broken," she snapped.

"Have you considered it broken?"

"What do you mean?"

"I mean have you thought over the consequences of a broken engagement between us? We have been engaged for a month; all our friends know that we are lovers."

"Were lovers?"

"Supposed to be lovers."

"That's more like it."

"Now suppose we announce that all is off between us. People will naturally be curious to know the reason."

"It is none of their business."

"But they will make it their business."

"I shall tell them that I have been very much disappointed in you."

"And what shall I say about it?"

"What you like."

"I shall say I discovered that I am unworthy of a girl with so much amiability."

There was no reply to this.

"What is to be considered in the matter is whether you contemplate renewing our engagement after it has once been broken."

"Never."

"Very well, so far so good. In that case I am free to engage myself to whomever I please."

"And it is my privilege to do the same."

"Certainly. Tomorrow evening we dine at the Spinglers. Naturally I shall be expected to take you in to dinner. This will be embarrassing for both of us. Had you not better send word to Mrs. Spingler that our engagement is off?"

She pondered a few moments, toying with her engagement ring which she had pulled off her finger, then said:

"Mrs. Spingler is a very prying woman and a frightful gossip. She'll wish to know all about how it happened and if she is not informed will give her own version of it to every one present and every one next present."

"That is one of the points to be considered, or, rather, was one of the points to be considered. It's too late now. You have dismissed me and said that you will never recall me. We are both free to marry some one else."

There was a pause here. She slipped the engagement ring over the point of her finger, as though afraid he was about to take it away. Then she said:

"The breaking of our engagement is one thing, its announcement to the world is another. It is necessary that we should announce it through Mrs. Spingler."

"We might give out today to some one else."

"It seems stupider that you, who have so many times sworn that you loved me, can't bear the idea of sitting beside me for an hour or two at a dinner party."

"What would we talk about?"

"The weather, I suppose."

"No, thank you. I don't go to dinners to talk about the weather. But let us leave this subject of the dinner and agree upon a reason to give our friends for our quarrel."

"We will give them the true one, of course."

"And that is?"

"Your horrible treatment of me."

"Please frame a statement of it."

"Oh, you are better at stating things than I am. I frame it yourself. A version you give of it will be satisfactory to me."

"Very well, I shall put it in this way. It started what started it? I've forgotten."

"Why, it was something about—wasn't it about funny I can't remember what started it? I only know that you acted horribly."

"Well, then, we will put it in that way. We'll say that we can't remember what the quarrel was about, but I acted horribly."

"That would be considered very silly of us."

"Silly of you, I fear."

"Not if they knew how horribly you have acted."

"What did I say or do?"

"Everything that was disagreeable." Name one."

"Oh, how bothersome you are! How can I tell you what you said when I can't remember what it was about?"

"I suppose there we are to announce to the world that not being able to remember the cause of our quarrel, it is impossible to give a cause for the breaking of our engagement."

"That would be too ridiculous for anything. People would laugh at us."

"Upon the whole, I think you were right when you said that it's none of people's business why we have agreed to part. We will give no reason."

"Do you think that would be possible?"

"No; I don't. But since I've not been able to suggest any feasible cause myself I've fallen back upon your own suggestion."

There was no reply to this, only a stolid stare at the door, while the fingering of the engagement ring continued.

"Come," he said presently. "I leave it all to you. Decide what course we shall take. Name a way out of the dilemma."

They were sitting side by side. She dropped her hand on his. She had slipped the engagement ring back on her finger. He pricked away about her waist drew her to him and kissed her. "A woman's solution," he said.

FRIABLES OF FASHION.

A New Luck Bringer From Paris.
Comet Ornaments.

The latest luck bringer from Paris is the bonheur bracelet. It is a kind of circle of gold, not very wide, but quite round with a hidden clasp and no ornamentation, with gleams on the wrist as a wedding ring on the finger.



AN ATTRACTIVE DRAPED WAIST.

It is most potent when worn on the left wrist and loses its charm when adorning the right.

The comet has passed, but in its trail there is a somewhat impressive comet ornament—a big sparkling star with a tail of little stones behind.

Such an attractive draped waist as this one can be utilized for a great many different occasions. As illustrated it is suited to evening wear and is exceedingly dainty in effect. If a yoke and long under sleeves are added it is more practical.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

This May Manton pattern is cut in sizes from 32 to 40 inches bust measure. Send 10 cents to this office giving number 6708, and it will be promptly forwarded to you by mail. If in haste send an additional two-cent stamp for letter postage, which insures more prompt delivery.

MODISTIC MATTERS.

Card Fastenings For Full Costly-Cotton Foulery.

Blush cards as fastenings are seen on many of the early fall coats, which are just being displayed. They are a welcome change after the various hook and button arrangements, even though they are so shaped as to suggest the drop handles of old furniture.

For the pocketless woman there is good news. This is the flat outside



SHIRT WAIST GOWN.

placed sewed on the front of the undershirt. It is large and of the same material as the petticoat, and it fastens securely by means of glove clasps. It is wonderful how much—four or five bands—can be put in one of these pockets without making an unseemly bulging appearance that can hardly be hid from the silk variety. These frocks are best trimmed with linen lace or with bias folds of linen in a plain color.

The simple gown that is made shirt waist style is always a necessary one. Here is a model that means very little labor, yet gives a smart effect.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

These May Manton patterns are cut in sizes from 32 to 44 inches bust measure for the waist and from 22 to 30 inches waist measure for the skirt. Send 10 cents for this to this office, giving number 6709, and it will be promptly forwarded to you by mail. If in haste send an additional two-cent stamp for letter postage, which insures more prompt delivery.

ATTRACTIVE TRIFLES.

Ribbon Slides and Buckles on Girdles and Belts.

A noticeable feature in ribbon accessories is the shining and splinted buckle or slides, all made in or of the ribbon, and also the use of dainty drop trimmings, rings, disks, etc., as decorations.

Yardage filling is shown in many new varieties, and each day or week some manufacturer puts out another new pattern. Interrupted plaits are the latest—that is, the plaits are in clusters with spaces between.

Muslins are so soft this season that they can be made full with perfect



A Dainty Summer Frock.

success. The "tied in" skirt effect is very modish and new. The upper portion of the skirt is good. The pretty blouse has a smart bib effect.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

This May Manton pattern is cut in sizes from 32 to 40 inches bust and sixteen years of age. Send 10 cents to this office, giving number 6710, and it will be promptly forwarded to you by mail. If in haste send an additional two-cent stamp for letter postage, which insures more prompt delivery.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

Smart Touches on Puffed Waists—A New Linen Collar.

Shirt waists of puffed waists are much in demand as accompaniments for the two-piece suits of shantung and linen. A charming note of color was imparted to one waist of this sort by a strip down the front of cherry tone and big wooden buttons that looked like fanciful red cherries.

For women who can wear gray there are new high linen collars of the tur-



THE NEW ROMPER SUIT.

down sort that are most attractive. Around the edge is a brier stitch in black and white. A gray bow tie or four-in-hand with ribbon ball pendants is worn with such a collar. A similar combination of collar and tie may be had in blue and white.

A child cannot have too many romper suits in the summer. The ones illustrated are quite new and pretty. They give the shapely form of a dress while being perfectly protective. The bloomers portions are circular, but draw up closely at the knees.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

This May Manton pattern is cut in sizes for children from two to eight years of age. Send 10 cents to this office, giving number 6711, and it will be promptly forwarded to you by mail. If in haste send an additional two-cent stamp for letter postage, which insures more prompt delivery.

VOQUE POINTS.

A Parisian Belt That is Sure to Be Becoming.

A novelty in belts and one that is most becoming is of very wide black velvet ribbon, made to fasten to the back. This may be worn with any kind of color of costume.

A shop that specializes in smart novelties for children is showing odd little short smocked frocks. These are in one tone or of striped linen with narrow lines of bright colored embroidery finishing neck and sleeves and are intended for wear with bloomers. Who says that the small girl is not emancipated?

Fresh linen is a favorite material for the making of little girls' dresses.



Linen Frock for Small Girl.

and the one illustrated is of blue with lines of white, while the collar is of white banded with embroidery. The combination is a very pretty one.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

This May Manton pattern is cut in sizes for children from six to twelve years of age. Send 10 cents to this office, giving number 6712, and it will be promptly forwarded to you by mail. If in haste send an additional two-cent stamp for letter postage, which insures more prompt delivery.

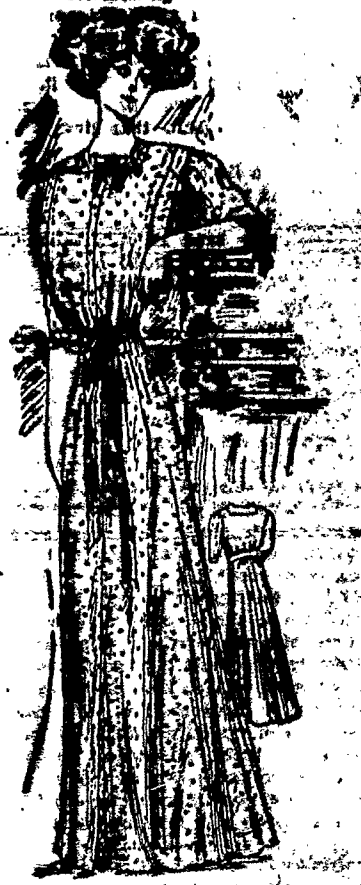
FADS AND FANCIES.

Puzzard Silk Separable Blouses Are in Vogue—Clerical Collars.

It is well to remember that it is perfectly permissible to use figured material for the separate blouse. This is a great boon to the woman with a limited income, for the material is inexpensive and serviceable and is cool and clean for summer wear.

The clerical collar, the ones buttoning in the back, with shaded turn-overs embroidered in white, are among the popular trifles. One of the trimmest things for a shirt waist is the Persian trimmed silk necker or bow.

The Persian is put on in any sort of novel way—a slanting piece



A Useful Morning Dress.

at the knot and another in one end, or the knot is all Persian, and the ends are trimmed with the same silk.

Here is a negligee that is comfortable and attractive and at the same time not difficult to make. In the model the material used is dotted swiss muslin trimmed simply with heading threaded with ribbon.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

This May Manton pattern is cut in sizes from 32 to 40 inches bust measure. Send 10 cents to this office, giving number 6713, and it will be promptly forwarded to you by mail. If in haste send an additional two-cent stamp for letter postage, which insures more prompt delivery.

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