



New Designs in Printed Cottons, at Left; Silk Fabric Patterns for the Coming Season at Right.

NEW FABRICS IN VARIED DESIGN

Spring and Summer Material Not to Be Hidden by Trimming and Decoration.

SILKS ARE MOST NUMEROUS

Goods Promise to Be in Very Great Demand During Coming Months for Daytime Wear—Serges Are Good.

That it is the fabric which inspire the finished gown is a saying which receives fresh emphasis by a glimpse at the new materials for spring...

Already the designers have begun to create new dresses out of the rich choice of material, and they will have more of trimming and decoration...

For a long time, while the war was on, we were forced to accept a more or less limited stock of materials...

The silks, perhaps, are the most fascinating of all the new fabrics...

The silks that can be used for suits or for tailored street costumes are most numerous...

The soft, light weight duvetyns are used largely for the more formal of the spring suits and dresses...

Home spun in wool is losing none of the favor which has been shown to it during the present season...

The Pussywillow fabrics have been printed with borders that are most interesting and these borders have the same happy way of running along one selvage...

There is a lovely silk fabric called "thistle-du." It comes in all the pastel shades, yellows and blues and pinks...

Among the cottons there is much of inspiration for the little summer frock, and this is the time of year when many people like to see that this particular section of the year's wardrobe is off their minds.

that same loose basket weave which gives a certain body to the material and enough weight to make it drape and hang interestingly.

Another fabric allied to the one just described is a weave called "fisher-maid." It is so loosely woven that there are veritable holes between the crossing threads.

Crepes, we hear from all sides, will be the fashionable silk materials for the coming season, and so we are presented with all sorts and varieties of silks in this particular weave.

Of course this vogue makes the crepe side the right side, though heretofore it has been considered just the opposite.

Some of the crepes show printed designs in the most fascinating figures and patterns. This is a new idea to print upon crepe, as usually this sort of silk was seen only in the surfaces that were more or less plain and smooth in finish.

Serges for spring wear are as good now as they always have been and many are the new weaves in this favorite of all materials.

The soft, light weight duvetyns are used largely for the more formal of the spring suits and dresses.

The H. C. of Living has been discussed and the family felt as though it behooved them to watch the corners.

A lady reader in Brookline sends us the following: "My little boy was naughty just before Christmas and said to him, 'Santa Claus only comes to good children.'"

"Yes, sir, we are proud of this election district. Why?" "Oh, sure, I know! You have the oldest voter in the country, who has never failed to cast his ballot at any election since 1824, and who—"

"Not at all! Our district is unique and notable as being the only one in the nation which does not contain a political veteran."

ADVOCATES SPIDER AS PET

Illinois Woman Tells of Her Experience With Insect Not Universally Popular.

Educating a spider is a task rarely undertaken. Mrs. Elizabeth Marriott Moffat, of Wheaton, Ill., one of the few students of spiders in the country, however, set herself to it and this is what she writes of her experience:

"By far the most common spider in this country is the one known as the 'black-and-brown' speckled spider, Agelena naevia," said Mrs. Moffat. "The species, although called the garden spider, is often found in our houses, where it builds a flat sheet web in some corner, always having a funnel at the rear, into which the spider can escape when disturbed."

"A fully grown specimen was captured and put into a wide-mouthed half-ounce bottle. This was laid on its side on the library table. Every day she was given a small drop of water and one or several house flies. The flies were fed to her by placing one in a bottle similar to that in which the spider was caged, placing a card over the mouth of the bottle that contained the fly, withdrawing the cork from the spider's bottle, placing the two bottles mouth to mouth, and then removing the card."

"At once the spider would rush into the second bottle, seize the fly and return with it to her own bottle. She soon learned to run to the mouth of her bottle whenever I approached her with water or a fly."

"After a few days the cork was taken out of her bottle so that she could come and go at will. She would wander about the table, crawling over and around books and papers, but always retreating to her bottle when frightened. She had built a small web in it, with a crude retreat at the further end and had adopted it as her home."

"She learned so readily to come for food and water that I am led to wonder whether Fabre's contention that every act that a spider performs is 'impelled by an instinct that has come down to it through untold generations, is not subject to some modification.'"

Shark Fishing New Industry. Shark fishing on the Pacific coast of Canada is reported as having developed into an established industry.

In some photoplay fire scenes the buildings are actually burned down, and sometimes small models are burned. Usually a convincing illusion is created by placing chemical preparations, known as "smoke pots," in concealed places in the building.

Movies make it easy for bricks to form themselves into walls. Here is how it is done: First a brick wall is photographed. A man hidden behind the wall pulls down a brick at a time and throws it into a pile in front of the wall.

Alfred was a boxer and his father was very anxious to learn the result of his son's first fight. He made the boy promise that a wire should reach him as soon as the contest was over.

A certain prominent movie star is a cautious person. She had to call a taxi cab one night last week to get to the theater in time for the show, and remembering the old saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," she said to the driver:

There are only two hotels in New York that have rooms numbered with 13. This in deference to superstition. Many of the tall hotels omit the thirteenth floor. A recent police court case in Harlem centered about the 13 superstition.

The teacher of a juvenile Sunday school class had been talking to her pupils about death and concluded by asking: "Now, who can tell me where all men are equal, and there is absolutely no distinction between the rich and the poor man?"

"I can," replied one little fellow. "Where is it, Sammy?" she asked. "When they go in swimming!" was the unexpected reply.

"I wouldn't marry the best man in the world." "You wouldn't?" "I would not."

"Thank you. I'll quit working, then. I've been afraid you might change your mind and take me after all."

"What do you suppose Mary can be signaling us for?" "I guess he wants an engagement or a moving-picture star."

"I don't believe in these spiritualistic seances. I went to some, and I tell you I've got the spirits bottled up."

"She has dyed her hair a raven hue." "I suppose that is to match her crow's feet."

"They say an hour early in the morning is worth two in the afternoon." "So it is, if you can have it in bed."

"There's a time for everything." "Of course. That's why we don't pay any attention to getting the most of the streets until it is warm enough for a good thaw."

HAD STRANGE NEWS TO TELL

Boy's Information Might Have Been Conveyed in More Intelligent Manner, However.

A boy, apparently very much agitated, rushed into a house and said to the lady: "I don't want to alarm you, but I've got big news to tell you. The man sent me up from the livery stables to tell you—"

"Yes, yes! What is it?" "Why, you know, your little boy, Aleck, what the man can't keep out of the livery stables round the corner?"

"I told Aleck just now not to go into the stables among the horses, but he wouldn't mind me."

"Oh, dear! What has happened?" "He said he wanted to see what a mule would do when you tickled its heels with a straw."

"Oh, dear, dear!" gasped the lady, and clung to the chair for support. "So Aleck got a straw," continued her informant, "crept up behind the mule, tickled him on the heels, and—"

The woman started for the door. "And the sleepy old mule never lifted a hoof," called the visitor. "Never as much as switched its tail." Pittsburgh-Chronicle-Telegraph.

GHOSTLY LOVERS ON WATCH

Legend of the City of Mexico That Makes Peculiar Appeal to Superstitious Residents.

One of the strange legends of the City of Mexico has to do with the Calle de los Parados (Street of the Two Idlers). According to the story there was a beautiful girl, Dona Maria Yacubel de Vallejo y Vexca, who lived on the street and was beloved by two men, one a young officer and the other a young merchant.

A plague fell upon the city about this time and the girl died without it becoming known to her lovers. She was taken out and buried by night, also unbeknown to the suitors.

Music Makes Life Brighter. Seeking to relieve the strain of long hours of labor and the discordant sounds of constantly passing trains, a ticket seller in a subway station in Brooklyn has installed a phonograph in his little booth.

Since its installation the machine has not only made the life of the agent happier and brighter but has sent hundreds of passengers away to their offices in the mornings with a smile upon their faces.

The Interurban Rapid Transit company, on whose property this innovation has been made, has voiced no protest. Indeed, it is hinted among regular users of the subway that the phonograph may prove an asset to the interborough in that it is likely to attract travelers who might otherwise take the Brooklyn Rapid Transit subway.

So Thoughtful of Him. "Oh, ma!" ventured Hercules, the youngster. "Don't you want the backyard swept out?" "No, that can wait until this evening."

"Hain't I better stay at home and do some work in the garden?" "No, it looks like rain today."

"No, you can do that on Saturday." "But, mother, isn't there anything that I can do today?" "Yes, you can go to school, and be quick about it, too."

One Just as Good. A Scottish woman had had much trouble with her gardeners. She could not find one who was capable of keeping sober.

She appealed to her brother, who promised to do his best to help her. At last he announced "that he had found just the man she needed."

"I'll only ask you one question, James," said his sister. "Is he a teetotaler?" "Well," said James, deliberately, "he's no just what ye'd ca' a teetotaler, but he's a mon ye canna fill." Edinburgh Scotsman.

Some time ago the Carnegie corporation of New York provided funds for erecting in Washington a building to serve as a home for the National Academy of Sciences and the National Research Council.

Subsequently a number of individual patrons of science contributed a fund of \$200,000 for the purchase of a site, which has now been secured. It comprises the entire block bounded by B and C streets and Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets, Northwest, facing the new Lincoln memorial in Potomac park.

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TO GET MASTERY OF GLOOM

Rainy Sunday Should Be Made Occasion for Improvement of the Mind by Reading.

"Sunday was a gloomy day, as far as the weather had to do with it, but where there's sunshine in your soul, never mind the weather," philosophized the Palmer Rustler in a recent issue.

"Over these wide-extending plains shines one eternal day, where God in light forever reigns and scatters night away," sang the old hymnist. And why should the hymnist alone feel that way about it? Clouds are thin walls just above the earth. Beyond them is everlasting light. Gloom, which has an uncomfortable way of settling down like a fog upon our minds, is even thinner than the clouds, for the clouds are real, whereupon gloom is but a dark fragment of the imagination.

Most people regard a rainy Sunday as the last word in temperamental depression, but as a matter of fact, if a rainy Sunday is properly handled, adequately treated, courageously attacked, it can be made a fine day. The thing to do with a rainy Sunday is to first conquer it, to let it know who is master, to cow and intimidate it. Then get a good book, or several books, curl up in a lighted nook, and read. There is a lot of good reading which even the best-read person in Texas hasn't yet got around to, therefore, the best read, as well as those of us who have read hardly anything, need never lack good reading matter. State Press doesn't believe in overdoing even as good a thing as reading. Some people read too much. They spend so much time burrowing into printed pages they never get a chance to see the world, and it is the world, after all, and not books, which is most interesting and valuable to mankind. Sleeping off a rainy Sunday is the worst way to use it. Too much sleep conduces to stupidity, just as too much reading conduces to addled brains. The way to get the best of a gloomy day or a gloomy mind is to forget it; and the way to forget it is to become interested in something else.

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"There's a time for everything." "Of course. That's why we don't pay any attention to getting the most of the streets until it is warm enough for a good thaw."

Rich. Hewitt—Did you ever dream that you had untold wealth? Jewett—Last night I dreamed that I was rich enough to sandblast a man with sugar.

Maybe Not. "Why don't we get any more fish rhapsodies?" "Well, they ain't got nothing in rhapsodies over, I take it."—Lester's Courier-Journal.

One Solution of the Current Problem. Mrs. Brown—The people who are very fortunate with their money. Mrs. Green—Have they any more long time? Mrs. Brown—No, but I don't and the matter is getting on and playing on getting an early start.

Foot.

WITTY

Howell—I am married to the most beautiful woman in the world. Powell—Who had the same idea? (The bride away)

It Sometimes Happens. "Well, he must be dead— And now he lies in it?" "No, he lies about it."

Valuable Gleanings. Howell—What was the most common vice you ever had? Powell—I once slept in a coal bin.

Quite So. "Did you see where points pointed in Chicago went to a day?" "What a skin game!"

Truthful Appearance. "Bill, I am dead broke." "Then no wonder you look all gone to pieces."

A Difference. "I hear you have been visiting friends?" "No. Relatives."

Behind the Scenes. "What horsepower have you in this establishment?" "Don't use any horses, mister. We've got motors."

No Wonder. "Jabba's business record is absolutely clean." "Yes, I understand he made it in soap."

Much More. "Why, you talk as if the man weren't human." "He isn't. He's a teosor."

Before and After. "Green Hill says he was first attracted by his wife's voice." "Yes, and now he is distracted by it."

Makes a Difference. Edith—Isn't it disgusting to hear men flatter women? Maud—Other women, yes!

Meeting Emergencies. "Dolson's wife is an awful talker. How does he get on so well with her?" "He's a good listener."—Life.

Pertinent Comparison. "How fast the winter days do fly?" "Mercy, yes! Time goes about as fast as a ton of coal."

No Leisure for Animalization. "You never mention the high cost of living any more." "Too busy to talk about it! Hustling for the price!"

Its Nature. "What do you think of that free coal business in congress?" "I think it is a plant."

Opened a Can. "That was really a first poem the man wrote about your baked beans." "Yes. The poor fellow was hungry."

So It Is. "What is the center of gravity?" "The letter 'v.'—Boys' Life for February.

The Locality. "Experts say it takes fully fifteen minutes to shear a sheep by hand." "Not if it is done in Wall street."

Naturally. "You look depressed that morning." "I have a good reason. When I went to look at my private stock I found I was out of spirits."

Very Likely. "What do you suppose Mary can be signaling us for?" "I guess he wants an engagement or a moving-picture star."

But the Other Kind. "I don't believe in these spiritualistic seances. I went to some, and I tell you I've got the spirits bottled up."

Well Matched. "She has dyed her hair a raven hue." "I suppose that is to match her crow's feet."

Much Appreciated. "They say an hour early in the morning is worth two in the afternoon." "So it is, if you can have it in bed."

The Time for Attention. "There's a time for everything." "Of course. That's why we don't pay any attention to getting the most of the streets until it is warm enough for a good thaw."

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