

PRACTICAL AID and VICTORIAL SUGGESTION

FRONT DOOR CURTAINS



Renaissance is as Popular as Ever

Nothing is much more satisfactory to curtain off that clear pane of glass which is set in so many front doors than Brussels net, decorated with a motif in the centre of some sort of lace.

For the woman who has nothing to consult but her own tastes, these curtains come already made, in varying degrees of beauty and of costliness. But for her sister, who must count cost above everything else, there is great comfort in the fact that very little work is necessary to make a very pretty curtain possible, and the cost, as every lace-maker knows, is minimal if you haven't the work to pay for.

Renaissance and Arabian lace are the two most popular laces for the purpose, made into big, effective motifs—longer than wide—which are spaced exactly in the centre of the net.

Sometimes the edges are finished with a narrow lace braid, laid on both upper and lower side, and sewed with invisible stitches to form a hem. And sometimes the edges are hemmed, but hemming is hard to do upon net without having the stitches show. An often as either way of finishing, the net is simply turned in and tacked with the finest of little tacks into place.

A curtain of this type must necessarily be stretched quite flat to show off the design at its prettiest.

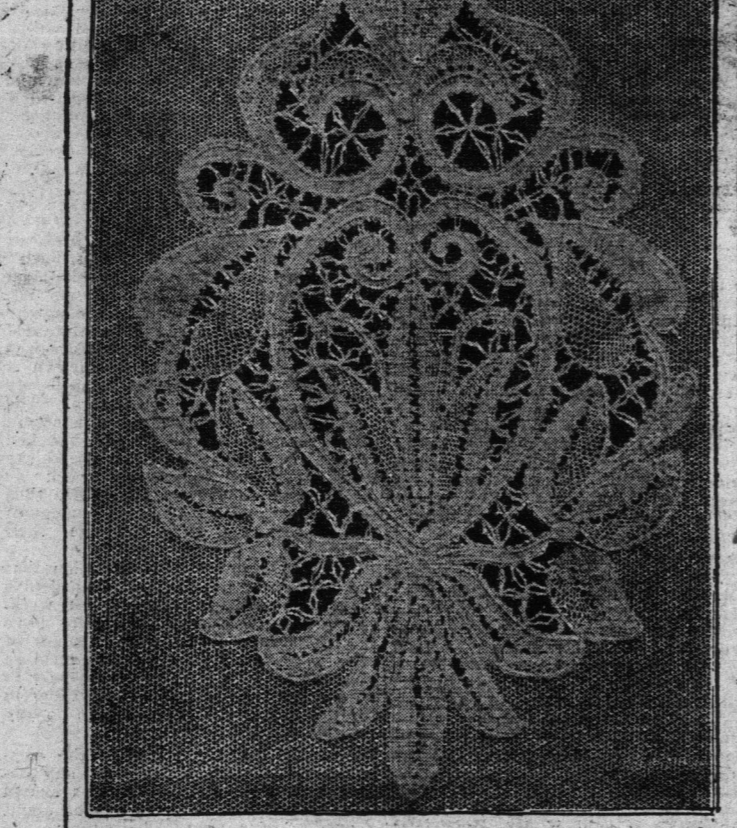
Where a curtain which is more of a screen is desired, the design may be broken up into five smaller motifs, one placed in the centre, the others in the four corners.

PROVIDE FOR FULLNESS

Of course, this sort of a curtain is cut much wider than the other (which must be just the width of your doorway), at least once and a half the width of the pane, or, if you want the folds to crush up into a great deal of fullness, double the width of the pane. Rub in narrow channels at top and bottom, with or without a heading, as you please, and slip them on small brass rods.

Let work makes some stunning curtains—the darned work done in imitation of the exquisite Italian work. The squares are prettiest when set in a material of rather a close weave, that is, in comparison with the net upon which the pattern is darned. And when, in that soft, creamy tone, is particularly good for this.

Don't use Arabian lace for a white curtain, but for an ecru net curtain, the curtain either white or ecru, never the combination. Arabian braids in white is very pretty, but somehow loses its effectiveness used in this sort of a curtain. But for an ecru net curtain, it is as effective and as easily handled as a braid as is made.

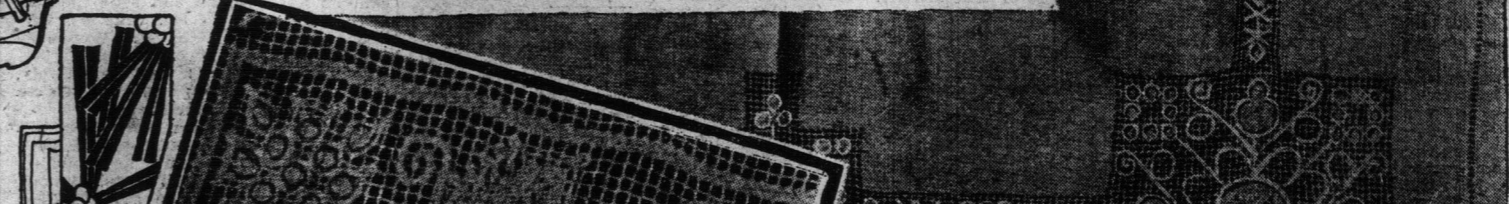


Arabian Lace Applied upon Ecru Net

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MAKING SUMMER SPREADS



Detail of Malay Work on Cape Net

The Commemoration of Wedding Anniversaries

By Eleanor B. Clapp

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IT is only right that some especial celebration should, whenever possible, set apart the wedding anniversary from any other day of the year. And so, we do not know exactly how or why, there have gradually grown up various quaint and pretty ways of commemorating the time that means so much in the life of any true man or woman.

First anniversary.....Cotton wedding
Second anniversary.....Paper wedding
Third anniversary.....Leather wedding
Fourth anniversary.....Woolen wedding
Fifth anniversary.....Tin wedding
Sixth anniversary.....Iron wedding
Seventh anniversary.....Copper wedding
Eighth anniversary.....Brass wedding
Ninth anniversary.....Crystal wedding
Tenth anniversary.....China wedding
Eleventh anniversary.....Silver wedding
Twelfth anniversary.....Linen wedding
Thirteenth anniversary.....Cotton wedding
Fourteenth anniversary.....Paper wedding
Fifteenth anniversary.....Leather wedding
Sixteenth anniversary.....Woolen wedding
Seventeenth anniversary.....Tin wedding
Eighteenth anniversary.....Iron wedding
Nineteenth anniversary.....Copper wedding
Twentieth anniversary.....Brass wedding

The origin of these special celebrations seems shrouded in mystery. Why the first anniversary is called the "cotton wedding," for instance, or the second and third consecutively the "paper" and "leather," has never been satisfactorily explained. The fourth is passed by unnoted by any special celebration, while after the fifth, the "woolen wedding," five years are allowed to elapse before the next anniversary of the sort, the "diamond wedding," which not one couple out of thousands ever live to see.

USES FOR BAGS

Don't throw away salt and flour bags when you have used or emptied them from their contents. Wash them out and tuck them in the drawer you consecrate to the thousand and one cloths needed for daily household tasks.

For dustcloths, or for polishing glass and silver—for all sorts of uses where a soft cloth is needed—they are as good as cloth, especially bright and made up for the work, and much less trouble to prepare.

An occasional thrift-housewife finds more important uses for them, one woman whose pennies are so scarce as to seem very few and far between, indeed, even using the larger sizes to make little rough-and-ready aprons for her two riotous boys. Being new stuff, it wears well.

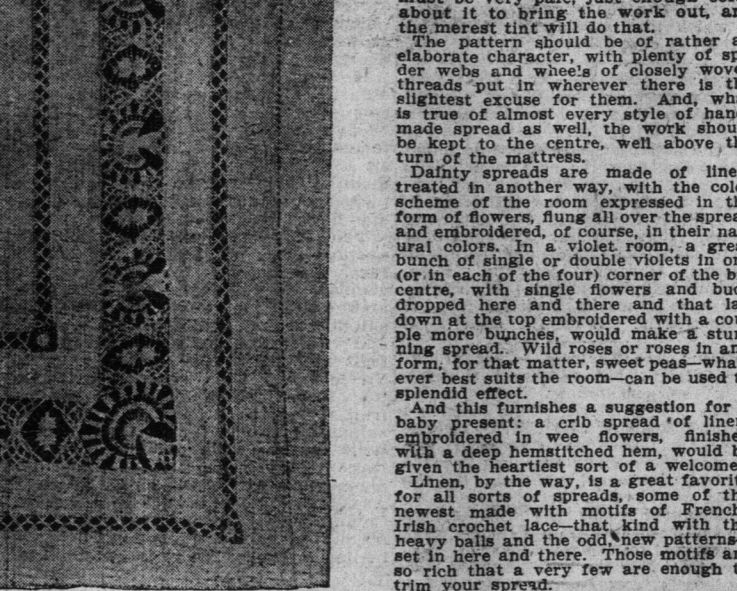
But the saving of them for cloths and rags appeals to most of us who have the housewife to manage, and who know the immense drain that little things make.

Those Troublesome Sleeves

SLEEVE-BOARDS are becoming a necessity for the proper ironing of new blouses.

Have your board made with one end a trifle smaller than the usual sleeve-board—it will prove invaluable when sleeves are ironed in quarters; and for sleeves trimmed with little frills-of-

Malay Work on Linen



Irish-Drawn Work

HEAVY Marseilles spreads seem as definitely out of place, as spring advances, as do the heavy dirty-peries which are about to be put away until fall. For the simpler sort of spreads, those which go by the name of aprons, although as unlike the sheer, pretty little corded material usually known by that name as anything can be, are pretty and easy to do up, which is the same time—one of the most successful imitations of anything which has been shown for a long while.

Handwork makes beautiful the more elaborate sort of spreads, and many a girl who loves a pretty room has made for herself a handsome spread, at almost no cost but her work, and that done as fancy work.

The newest work for spreads is Malay work, done on heavy linen, with a firm, even thread. Squares and strips—a whole pattern—are drawn, and caught into a netlike foundation, upon which are darned, with fine thread, figures of the most conventional types, each outlined with a heavier thread, the stem and scroll work done with the heavier thread as well. This use of the two weights of threads gives almost the effect of lace work, with a very pretty difference.

That work takes time and patience and a certain amount of skill, but like everything else under the sun, it is imitated in a form of work which is very easily done and very effective at the same time—one of the most successful imitations of anything which has been shown for a long while.

It is Malay work in character, but instead of the drawn background net is used and the figures darned in. This simplifies the work by more than half, and as each part of the work—each square and strip—is done by itself, the trouble of handling is lessened as well.

When the motifs are made, they are inserted in the linen. Drawn work upon sheeting linen makes the loveliest sort of spread, especially if a slip be made to go under the spread, of some pale tint. But it must be very pale, just enough color about it to bring the work out, and the nearest tint will do that.

The pattern should be of rather an elegant character, with plenty of slender webs and wheels of closely woven threads put in wherever there is the slightest excuse for them. And that is true of almost every style of hand-made spread as well; the work should be kept to the centre, well above the top of the mattress.

Daily spreads are made of linen, treated in another way, with the color scheme of the room expressed in the form of flowers, hung all over the spread and embroidered, of course, in their natural colors. In a violet room, a great bunch of single or double violets in one (or in each of the four) corner of the big centre, with single flowers and buds dropped here and there and that lay down at the top embroidered with a couple more bunches, would make a stunning spread. Wild roses or roses in any form, for that matter, sweet peas—whatever best suits the room—can be used to splendid effect.

And this furnishes a suggestion for a baby present: a crib spread of linen, embroidered in wee flowers, finished with a deep hemstitched hem, would be given the heartiest sort of a welcome. Linen, by the way, is a great favorite for all sorts of spreads, some of the newest made with motifs of French-Irish crocheted lace—this kind with the heavy balls and the odd new patterns—see in here and there. Those motifs are so rich that a very few are enough to trim your spread.

Child and violet embroidery are both used, but neither is so popular as lace, for almost every sort of lace is used in one way or another. Even German valenciennes lace is used for some rather simple ones. A couple of rows of insertion run down the whole length on each side, and crossed by others, which strip each end.

Women's Ways of Earning Money---Press Agents

By Cynthia Westover Alden

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THE press agent's calling is an ancient one for man, but of late woman has entered the field and in some cases is making a good comfortable living out of it.

One large corporation pays its man press representative a salary of \$3000 a year. His business is to see that the news of the affairs of the concern reaches the public in such form as to increase its business. I don't know of a woman getting anything like this amount, but I do not know why she should not.

The politician has his agent in order that his views may be given correctly to the eager ear of the public. He pays all kinds of prices for this service. The theatrical agent receives from his clients a salary for this use. He occasionally finds a woman doing the work.

One in Brooklyn I know personally, as a society press agent a woman is better than a man as a general thing. Her business is to see that her employer avoids or receives publicity as she may wish. Here we occasionally find at great functions, furnishing descriptions of gowns and all other details that so greatly interest the public is all attended to by the one person, and thus the man is relieved of a burden, and the news is at the same time correct and therefore satisfactory.

One of the first officers to be appointed nowadays at all important conventions and similar gatherings is a young woman so selected collects all news items in proper shape and sends or takes to the newspapers for publication. A few crumbs, when bird-marketing seems to fall upon Mrs. Sparrow—and you soon learn to know the signs—with perhaps, a bit of apple left conveniently near her home and out of reach of neighborhood cats, will do the work of

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The yearly incomes of women doctors in private practice, of course, widely differ. It is impossible to give even an average. Some women doctors connect themselves with the staff of local hospitals; others set up in business for themselves and do quite as well. There is some prejudice always to overcome. A woman should not attempt to put up her sign in a strange place unless she can afford to take a good house in a good neighborhood and dress well. The next thing to do is to go out just as much as possible and meet people. Few persons will send for a woman doctor to be called professionally, under any circumstances, then in time an opportunity will be afforded to professional work. Success comes much slower to a woman than to a man in the practice of medicine, merely because we are not so used to women doctors. Women should be in touch as much as possible with practitioners of their own sex, and they must not allow themselves to be looked upon as amateurs. Many women are earning a living by lecturing on first aid to the injured and acting as hospital surgeons. The one surgeon who has tried this in New

and proposes to attend to the giving out of the news. One man paid \$500 to the agent who handled the press notices for the wedding of his daughter to an English nobleman. All agents can't expect such luck often, but there are weddings every day, and some one gives the news for publication, and she generally gets paid for doing so. The summer hotel press agent is sometimes paid by the hotel manager. Often she is also a reporter paid by the paper that wants the news. I have known cases where the agent was paid by both. The salary ranges from board expenses only, to \$30 and \$50 a week.

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