



DESIGN BY MAY MANTON.
7713 Girl's Dress, 10 to 14 years.



DESIGN BY MAY MANTON.
7969 Tucked Blouse,
34 to 42 bust.

The Ingle Nook.

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Girls, - and Christmas Gifts.

Dear Ingle Nook Friends,—Just a word to the girls first,—to the girls, at least, who expect to leave home soon to go to the city to live. I know there is a great outcry these days about keeping the girls on the farm, and, indeed, when there is "plenty" for all, and the girl can find useful work and interests to occupy her mind, then I think there is no place quite so good or quite so

pleasant. There is no spot on earth where life may look more bright than on a farm, that is where the folk who live there are genuinely interested in country life, and when they make time to "live" instead of just putting in existence in a continual grind.

But we all know that there are times when the girl simply has to leave home,—to make her own living; There is not always enough for all, so what else can she do?—unless, indeed, someone whom

tection, and clean food, and companionship are to be found. In most of these the period during which any girl may stay is usually limited, perhaps, to two years or three, but ample time is given to look about, and form friendships, and find other abiding places that may be suitable.

I was glad to see, in a recent issue of the Mail and Empire, a comprehensive article on the girls' homes of Toronto, and so I have culled from it the



A Corner in a Flower Show.

she likes very much happens to come along and offer her a home.—And it isn't so very easy—this leaving home,—is it? There's the homesickness to be thought of, and the sort of fear and bewilderment that new surroundings always bring to the girl who is at all timid or shy, although, of course, there is usually the promise of some pleasant things, too.

Then there is the question of where to stay, and that always means so much;

addresses of these,—on the principle of "passing a good thing on." They may be useful to some of you some day.

First, there is the Elm St. Y. W. C. A., very convenient to the business' section of rushing, hurrying Yonge St., and much patronized by "transients," girls and women in the city for perhaps a few days. There are also many permanent boarders.

Others are:



Gladioli.

(The flowers open out beautifully in water.)

The Frances Willard Home for girls, under the auspices of the W. C. T. U., at the corner of Yonge and Gerrard Streets.

The Girls' Friendly Society's residential home at 109 Pembroke St.

The Barbara House, in connection with deaconess work in the Methodist Church, on Jarvis St.

Rosary Hall, established by the Roman Catholics on John St.

Georgina House, (Anglican) on Beverley St.

And the new Y. W. C. A. building now in course of construction on St. Patrick St.

Although several of these homes have been established by special religious denominations, creed, so far as we know, is made no barrier against admittance to any of them. The aim of each and all is to help and protect girls.

There are similar organizations in all other cities of Canada. Although we have not a list of these we can, at least, mention the Y. W. C. A. residences in Montreal and Quebec, at both of which we have stayed as "transients."

Another word: Before going into any large city try to make arrangements to accompany some friend who is used to city life and who will see you safely settled: or, if this cannot be done try to have someone whom you know meet you. If this, too, is impossible, then you may be glad to avail yourself of the help of the good women in uniform sent by Christian organizations to see to just such perplexed girls as you. There are one or two of these women at all large railway stations. Whatever you do, if you are nonplussed don't throw yourself wholly upon the mercy of anyone who may offer assistance. You don't know who such people may be nor where they will take you; and, you know, there are many places of danger in every great city. Better ask questions quietly in regard to streets and street-cars—as a rule such questions are courteously answered—then trust to your own ingenuity to take you to your destination. If there is one, get all information at the regular "Information Bureau" in the station.

And now to another topic: Have you begun making your Christmas gifts yet? On another page of this paper you will find a number of patterns for things very suitable for Christmas giving, but one was left out—because the pattern company had forgotten to send us the copperplate "cut," which would enable us to print the picture. However, I will tell you about it here, and give you all particulars so that if you wish to order the patterns (for there are two with the one number) you may do so.

The patterns are for hot water bottle covers and a pair of bed-slippers one size only; and now can you think of a better gift for an invalid or for anyone who suffers from cold feet in bed? The bags may be made of flannel or flannel-ette, or of silk lined with flannel, and may be buttoned in place with straps or drawn up with ribbon. The slippers may be made of elderdown cloth, or of any material equally warm and cosy, herring-boned about the edge and drawn together with ribbon. The pattern is high at the ankles, but the tops may be doubled over if the low effect is liked.

The number?—Oh, yes, 6,151, please do not forget it if you order the set from the pattern department.

Another good idea for Christmas gifts is to pot bulbs in good time, and send them to your friends either in bloom or with the buds forming, veritable bits of cheer amid the storms of December. Get the bulbs now—hyacinthus, tulips, daffodils, narcissi, grape hyacinths, jonquills, polyanthus narcissi, crocuses, scillas, Chinese sacred lilies, Cuban lilies, star-flowers, ixias, freesias, even lilies-of-the-valley,—what a variety there is! Plant them in pots varying in size to suit the size of the bulbs, then water them and set in the pots away in any rather cool place, or bury them in a trench in the garden, and leave them to throw out roots.

The paper-white and polyanthus narcissi, also the freesias require but about a week of this hibernation, then they may be brought gradually to the living-room, and permitted to grow slowly and steadily.

The Chinese sacred lily and the giant narcissus may be grown in shallow glass vessels of water in which enough pebbles have been placed to afford support for the bulbs; sand will do if preferred. Place at once in a moderately cool place by a window, add water as necessary, and in four or five weeks the flowers should appear. A succession of