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Come With the Crowds to Clifford's Furniture House!
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BLACK BEDROOM

Relieved by Gray, It Is the Fad in England.

NEW IDEA IN MOURNING.

This Notion Calls For the Ebony Hued Boudoir, Which, However, May Not Be Too Sombre, but Lightened by Silver Accessories.

The war has been on long enough for European people to become somewhat hardened to its horrors and its sorrows, and fashionable persons are even developing fads in mourning. One of these fads, writes a London woman, is the black bedroom.

An eccentric old dowager in Kent lost two of her relatives in the battle of the Marne, a third went down in



BLACK EBONY BED.

the naval encounter in South American waters, and her favorite nephew, a young officer, died after having been wounded in the fiercest of the fighting before Ypres. Her ladyship is given to light colors and Parisian creations, and after the many deaths in her family she still went about her charities almost as though nothing had happened. One of the heroes' mothers remonstrated with her.

"You might at least put a band upon your sleeve," she said. "You were always fond of Reggie."

Mourning in Her Sleep.
 "My dear," the old lady answered, shaking her mauve bonnet. "I mourn while I sleep. Come and see my bedroom."

She had effected a complete and startling change in her sleeping chamber. The floor had been recarpeted in dead black velvet, and the furniture had been replaced by ebony pieces. What upholstery there was had been done in silver gray. The walls had been covered with silver gray paper, topped by a frieze of black, a conventional pattern with gray shadings. The only ornaments left in the room were of silver; all pictures had been removed and photos of her soldiers in black frames substituted; there was an abundance of black velvet pillows on the divan and floor pillows of black.

The bed itself was the most striking piece. It was of ebony with silver trimmings. The whole looked like a magnificent bier, and the woman who could sleep in it must indeed be a courageous character. The coverlet was of black and white, and in the center the dowager's coat of arms done in thick silver. She sleeps in a black silk nightgown, and her sheets and pillow cases are black silk, her blankets black with silver striped borders and her quilts black satin.

Those who see the bedroom gasp at first; later they may take up the fad.

"What do you think of it?" the old lady asks grimly of those who are permitted to enter it. "It serves to remind me more forcibly that I shall soon join my own where battles are no more. Do you think this is less mourning than the black rags I might put upon my back?"

Certainly more. And in the opinion of some such mourning goes deeper. Black bedrooms are growing in favor, particularly in London, though with modifications. Few are brave enough to try the bed with the mirror above it.

The black bedroom in England is not entirely a new idea. At least ten years ago a rich old woman in Sussex had a black and mauve chamber with a black and mauve bed and a full length mirror raised on the four posts of the bed, not because she was in mourning, but because she chose to be eccentric.

Excellent Nut Bread.
 Two cupfuls of white flour (sifted), two cupfuls of Graham or entire wheat flour (sifted if one chooses), one-half cupful of New Orleans molasses, a little salt, two cupfuls of milk or water, one cupful of walnut meats (cut up fine), one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in milk, about two tablespoonfuls melted butter. Let raise twenty minutes. Bake about one hour in moderate oven.

Ribbon Bows.
 Bows of ribbon are effective used on some of the new wide skirted frocks of satin and silk. One that is pretty has little square bows of satin reaching from throat to hem. They are distinctly in keeping with the wide skirt.

Baltimore city is being surveyed for danger spots which breed mosquitoes.

GRANARY OF EMPIRE.

Canada's Claim Is Proving to Be No Empty Boast.

The present conflict in Europe has demonstrated beyond the possibility of doubt that the maintenance of Britain's superiority at sea, and the expansion of the wheat areas in British Dominions, have been linked together as basic factors in the consideration of plans for Imperial offence and defence.

The lawmakers in London, as a matter of policy, have allowed nothing to interfere with the building up of an all-powerful navy, and they have steadfastly ignored the protests of Englishmen who have contended that Great Britain would be in an impossible position if a war should develop with a powerful maritime power. There were numerous men in England who believed that in the event of an important European struggle involving Great Britain, "the hunger of London would dictate terms of peace." But the Admiralty were convinced that the sea power would keep all the routes open for foodstuffs. The lands in the British Isles which might have been devoted to the growth of more wheat were left as before, and the investors of Britain by placing their funds in the bonds of railways in Canada, in South Africa, in Australia, and in New Zealand, where vast stretches of fertile country remained to be opened up, encouraged the production of a steady supply of foodstuffs which might be called upon in case of emergency. The under-water craft of Germany have failed to throttle the shipping of Great Britain. Her ships come and go almost as they please. And the resources of wheat lands, in themselves many times the area of the British Isles are available for the need of the people of Britain.

In facilitating the expansion of the various railway companies in the Dominion during the last thirty years, the successive Governments, federal and provincial, have enabled Canada to take up the burden of a greater production in this year of the Empire's peril, Canada is measuring up to her advertised destiny as the "Granary of the Empire," or, more emphatic still, "Bread Basket of the World." The prophecies of leaders of thought for three decades are on the verge of fulfilment. The large exportable surplus of the wheat fields in Canada will go to feed a fair proportion of the dependent millions of England, and probably, the war-harassed Belgians as well. The railway lines which have been constructed east and west and north and south throughout the country have made her present position possible. Without these essential traffic arteries the Dominion would have been merely a helpless spectator while the greatest war in history rumbled through to a conclusion. Canada's most important contribution to the cause of Empire, is in wheat and flour and bread.

The bulk of the supplies of Canadian wheat for export are drawn each year from the wheat fields of the prairie provinces. The total supply may be computed by a study of the carryings of the railways. During the crop year 1913-14, the Canadian Northern alone handled from the territory served by its western lines, 47,295,000 bushels. Estimating the increase this year at 20 per cent, the C.N.R. should haul out approximately 56,750,000 bushels of wheat from the provinces lying between the Great Lakes and the Rocky Mountains. That quantity of wheat, converted successively into flour, and into standard loaves of bread, would feed Greater London, with its estimated population of 7,252,963, for more than four and a half years.

According to the millers, a barrel of flour, 196 pounds, is made from 4 1/2 bushels of wheat, and according to the bakers, 187 standard loaves of 24 ounces each, are made from one barrel of flour. The anticipated carryings on the Canadian Northern this season, then, represent 12,611,111 bushels and 2,358,277,757 loaves of bread. If this were divided in London each individual in the Imperial city would receive 325 loaves.

Doing Good Shooting.
 A letter from Col. John A. Currie, M.P., received in Ottawa recently, contains some thrilling references to the terrific fighting along the western front. He wrote on April 6, when the Canadians were resting a few miles back from the firing lines.

While they were in the trenches, says Col. Currie, the fighting was incessant, shells by day and rifle fire at night. The fight at Neuve Chapelle was very hot. The Canadians were not in the thick of it, "but the rifle and artillery fire sounded like Niagara." The Canadian artillery were doing good shooting, and he adds that the Canadian troops would soon trust their own artillery to shoot over their heads as the British batteries.

Even back from the trenches, as they went to sleep at night, they could hear the patter of German bullets against the walls of the building. At the time of writing Col. Currie was the only Canadian M.P. in the trenches.

Ferocious Fish.
 Drawing a 24-inch pike from above the dam here recently Miss Irene Plesky was so elated with her catch that she seized the finny monster with her hands and pressed it caressingly to her bosom, but the fish, which weighed 3 lbs. 4 ozs., didn't appreciate such kindness, as it nipped her in the hand, and put her paw temporarily out of commission. It, however, was despatched before it could escape again to the deep.—Bruce Times.

Couldn't Put Up the Bluff.
 "Congratulations. I'm going to be married."
 "I can't do it conscientiously, old pal. I'm married myself."

Frank M. Bollington is held at Dallas, Tex., for a murder at a dance 32 years ago.

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