

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WOMEN

AMERICAN BUYERS
ARE INDEPENDENTStyle Dictators From U. S.
View Paris Creations
With "Reservations."By Associated Press:
PARIS, Aug. 16.—Paris' first real display of styles since the war began is being attended by about 300 American buyers, who, however, are showing themselves to be more independent of the dictates of French dressmakers than ever before.

Brown, according to the new models, is again in marked favor. Soft materials are used generally, and bouffants, panniers, and the design of the new models tend toward the strictly feminine appearance. There is not the slightest suggestion of the masculine tailor-made effects of the past.

Skirts Too Long.

Paris is clinging to skirts hanging seven to eight inches from the ground. American buyers, the dressmakers say, are ridiculing the shortness of the gowns, although frankly admitting American skirts have been too long. One prominent American buyer said today that "no well formed woman looks well in a really long skirt and it cannot be graceful."

"American women have the prettiest ankles and feet in the world," the buyer replied, "and they also are the best shot, but they realize that the extremely short skirts are ridiculed and they believe in moderation."

"Although the Americans designed their own styles to a great extent during the war they apparently are finding much that is worth while in the Paris display rooms, although viewing things from a new independent point of view."

Passport difficulties, it was said, kept the number of American buyers from being much larger.

Abandon Corsets.

Scores of beautiful models who are displaying gowns for celebrated dressmakers do not wear corsets, make every effort to preserve the soft contour of their figures. The styles generally show a slight fullness on the hips in the form of soft panniers, with pleats and accordion pleats. Flounces are applied in such a way as to preserve the outline of the figure and the straight hem of the skirt.

Collars are high in many cases and if cut open are adjusted so they may be buttoned close to the throat.

All materials are soft, and where flounces are introduced they are set on linings of chiffon to insure suppleness. Velveteen, soft serge, velour, lame, chiffon and plush are used with great effectiveness in gowns and costumes.

Coats Reach Eyes.

Coats with afternoon costumes come just below the hips and follow Dick Turpin lines, by means of a girdle or gauging. Skirts are narrowed at the feet, giving a peg top suggestion. Fur collars reach to the eyes.

American buyers said they are having almost a battle with Parisian dressmakers over the backless evening gowns offered, which the Americans are insisting on having filled in with lace, to the amazement of the French designers, who protest that women should be allowed to display their well formed backs.

Black and gold, raven blue, mole and cinnamon are the prevailing tones for evening gowns.

Hats for fall and winter are both large and small, but in all cases will frame the face. Velvet is the most popular fabric for hats, and trimmings will be of ostrich feathers and monkey fur.

BRUSSELS TO HAVE
Y. W. HOSTESS HOUSE

A Y. W. C. A. Hostess house will be opened in Brussels next fall for American, English and Belgian women residents, according to a cable recently received from a Y. W. C. A. secretary.

Madame Dementort, president of French Foyers, according to the same cable, has given her own Normandy chateau near Rouen, as a general center for social conferences. The center will be similar to that at Asilomar, California, and the Y. W. C. A. will help to support the work. The chateau, which is surrounded by a beautiful park, will house twenty-five people.

A large library of French and English books, and the bedrooms are richly furnished in styles of different periods. Madame Bernard, who will direct the conference center, has arranged to have practice work done with the social organizations of five villages and two industrial towns nearby.

SERVICE CLUB HAS 300 BEDS.

Narragansett Pier, R. I., Aug. 9.—Any man in any branch of the service can get a bed and a bath for 25 cents a night at the Service club of the National League for Woman's Service here. This Service club, since the signing of the armistice, has housed over night 12,146 and, on account of its locations, will probably keep open for many months to come. The dormitories which have been added to from time to time accommodate 200 men. This is one of the largest Service clubs in the United States, and a recreational canteen is operated in connection with it. Mrs. E. H. I. Standard is chairman of Rhode Island state.

Admire Hemstitching? Want to
Learn? Here Are Directions

Hemstitching is such an old—perhaps one might almost say ancient—method of decorative stitching. (Not it seems almost as though every one must know how to do it, nevertheless, after all, it is not such an uncommon thing to hear some woman say that she "would like to hemstitch those curtains, or that towel or pillowcase—if only she knew how!" So, doubtless, there are some who will welcome specific directions.

Suppose one begins with a table runner or linen; that is about as simple as anything one could find. Each end, of course, must be hemstitched. The first thing to do is to be sure that the hem is cut evenly, that is, by a thread. Then the size of the hem must be decided upon and twice that distance, with about a quarter of an inch more for the first turning, allowed before beginning to pull the thread for the hemstitching. That distance measured off carefully at each end, the business of pulling threads begins.

Double Hemstitching.

If double hemstitching is liked, this is equally valuable in that it prevents threads from further raveling of themselves from the side of the space opposite the hem, from which other horizontal threads have been removed. The process is exceedingly simple. One simply turns the end of the runner around and hemstitches the opposite side of this open, or semi-open, space, following the same method as on the other side, except, of course, in this case the stitches must be taken directly through the scarf itself, there being no hem fold on this side. This is a very pretty finish for table runners, scarfs, sheets, pillowcases, towels, and such things, and is also being used much for lingerie and even for other clothes. Some of the new Georgette gowns and blouses are lavishly adorned with hemstitching, which is a most charming decoration.

Diagonal hemstitching is a simple variation of the same stitch; the first row, or side, is stitched in the usual way but, when the opposite side is reached, half the stitches in the first group are taken up over the needle at first and fastened down; then the other half, together with the first half of the next group, are combined and fastened with one stitch, thus giving what is known as a herring-bone effect.

Of course, what furniture there is in the playroom should be the simplest possible, and of a kind that may easily be kept clean. Curtains, hangings and such things should not only be washable, but should be washed often.

When the week-end journey ends at some freeze-swept beach, the bathing costume is an essential equipment. It may very smartly be of black satin, from top to toe, with emerald green stitching deftly applied.

The summer dance frock should be short, simple, and of not too rich material, shell-pink taffeta, touched with silver embroidery, edged with silver tissue, and lightly veiled with flesh colored silk net is ideal.

When you search any article in ironing dip a cloth in diluted peroxide and rub the scoured spot. Then iron over it and the stain will disappear.

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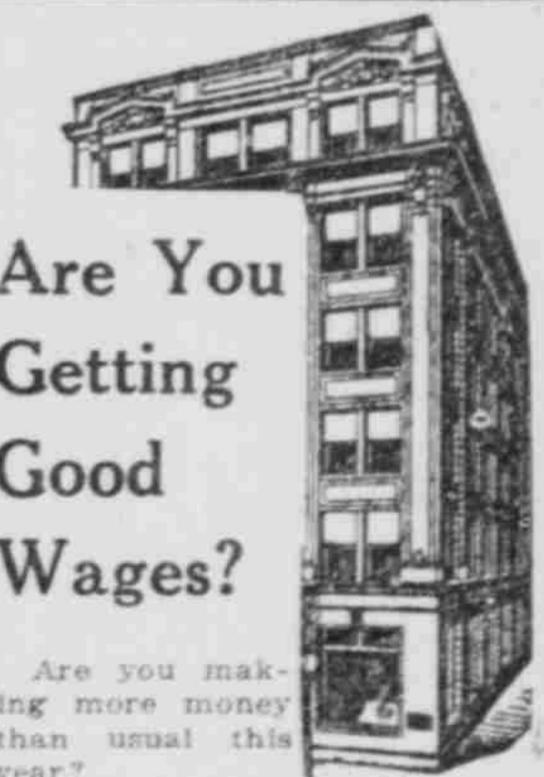
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How to Blanch
Corn on CobA NOVEL PLAYROOM FOR
THE LONG WINTER DAYSBY FLORENCE DRURY.
Home Economics Department,
Purdue University.

After removing shucks and all the silk in canning corn, blanch enough on the cob for one or two cans in boiling water from five to fifteen minutes, the age and tenderness of corn should determine the time.

Plunge it immediately in cold water, leaving it there but an instant. Cut off tops of kernels, then scrape out the milk and hearts with back of a knife. Then pack in hot, clean jars to within one inch of the top of the jar. (Do not pack tightly as corn swells and it is hard to thoroughly sterilize that in the center of the jar, if packed too tightly.)

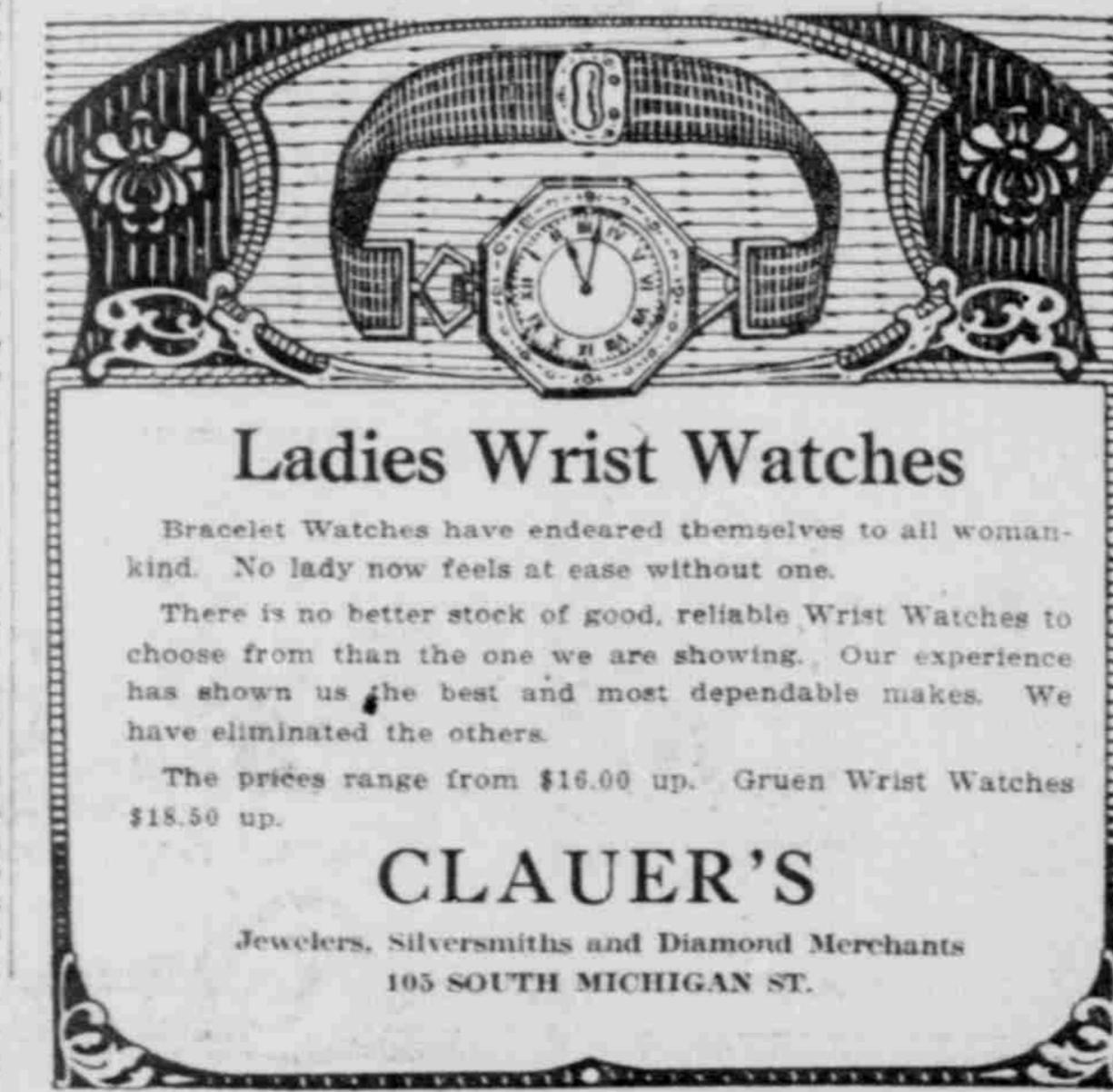
Add one-half teaspoon of salt to each quart; fill to one-half inch of the top with boiling water, and put on a good rubber and top, leaving the top slightly loose. Place a false bottom in a processing kettle of boiling water, being sure to have the water come at least one inch over the top of the cans. While filling the first can, blanch material for the second can, etc., but put the corn in boiling water as soon after blanching as possible.

One excellent scheme of furnishing such an apartment is to build a platform all the way around the room, making the corners into practically square places. Such a platform, raised eight or ten or twelve inches from the floor, will be much enjoyed and those square corners will be decidedly popular. They may be used as rooms, when the little girls want to play house, or for

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