

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WOMEN

Y. W. C. A. Boosts
Community Drama

Community wardrobes, stage settings and properties will be a lasting result of the movement which the Department of Pageantry and the Drama of the War Work council of the Young Women's Christian association is initiating.

Hazel MacKaye, sister of Percy MacKaye, the poet-dramatist, who heads this committee, has a theory that a big pageant should be held in each of the eleven geographical areas in which the United States is divided for the purpose of administering Y. W. C. A. work, to prove to each section the value of community drama. Miss MacKaye is putting this theory into practice during the summer and autumn.

Pageant directors are going out into all parts of the country to stage huge out-of-door productions. This means holding big mass meetings to explain the purpose of the pageant, how it can be made a valuable part of community life and how every member of the town is to have a part in it.

The second act of the pageant director on arriving in a town is to recruit the hundreds of people necessary for the production, train and drill school children, men and women for their parts.

Workshop Feature.

One of the features of the pageant will be the workshop. Each director will set up a shop where all of the costumes, properties, settings and posters will be made and then ask all the people of the community to come in and help. This means learning how to dye cloth stuffs, how to design and make costumes and the technical side of making simple stage properties. The production, when given, will represent the efforts of the entire community. The properties and costumes will remain as part of a permanent community wardrobe and so make the giving of pageants and dramas simpler in the future.

"The time is particularly propitious for such a movement," says Miss MacKaye, "as people have learned to work together during the war. This spirit of good fellowship and common interest in community projects should be cemented now that the reasons for it's being—Red Cross work, Liberty Loan drives and such things—no longer exist."

"No production will be a success unless the responsibility is shared equally by members of the community. The aim of the whole movement is to demonstrate that with trained leadership and organized cooperation a community pageant may be of lasting worth to the town in which it is produced."

Gretchen H. Stelner, field organizer for the department, says that much of the material for pageants is created within the department itself. Connections have been made with the dramatic departments of 700 colleges whereby the department reviews unpublished plays, masques and pageants with a view to producing them if they are suitable for the work.

Members of the staff at National Headquarters are Hazel MacKaye, director; Mrs. Donald Pratt, better known as Margaret Swain of the Washington Square Players who is assistant director; Marjorie Lacey-Baker, dramatic editor; Gretchen H. Stelner, field organizer; Sue Ann Wilson and Eda Heinemann, both producers.

Economy in Use
of Ice, Urged

The mild and open weather of last winter, and the army utilization of certain materials for production of artificial cold has caused an ice famine in many Indiana towns and cities. It is a public duty to learn to save ice. Learn to use the refrigerator properly. Here are some hints given by members of the Purdue university home economics department.

1. Keep the ice compartment full, the colder the refrigerator is kept, the more slowly the ice will melt.

2. Do not open the ice compartment except to remove or place the ice.

3. Every unlatching of the food box door raises the temperature one to three degrees. Plan your shelf space and remember your plan. Open and close the door quickly.

4. Store materials in small vessels, large vessels require much cooling.

Abandon the use of crushed ice at the table in view of the shortage. "More cracked ice" in lemonade and other cold drinks is a selfish demand this summer. Let us remember that the ice famine will affect young children everywhere, and especially the unfortunate in crowded cities. Housewives are urged to cooperate to relieve the ice situation.

When Women Shop

The woman who buys for the home should make buying a business matter, studying it as a man studies the buying problem in his business. Store ads should be read carefully, attention should be paid to articles offered at special sales, and the range of prices be constantly noted. Money can be saved by the woman who is a well informed buyer, while she will also have the satisfaction of getting full value for whatever she pays out. In these days of costly living, systematic shopping is positively the only way to keep down household expenses.

NEW CAPES MATCH NEW GOWNS

Evening, Afternoon
and Street Dresses
Follow Latest Fad

By Annette Bradshaw.

If your evening cape matches your evening gown you will be in the height of fashion for this is the latest whim for fall.

Gowns of charmeuse or wool-back satin have matching capes that are graceful and a sufficient weight for the first cool days. Many of the most stunning street and afternoon models are however developed from gabardine tricotine or serge, combined with satin, either charmeuse or wool-back.

For instance, this gown is made of midnight blue tricotine and black charmeuse. The blouse and panel tunic are blue tricotine, embroidered in black and gold. The lining of the blouse and the panel of the tunic are cut in one. The sides and back of the tunic are also cut in one, but are joined to the blouse beneath the embroidered belt, which is held by tarnished gold buttons.

Gold embroidery decorates the tunic and round neckline and appears on the sleeves above the cuffs.

With this gown is worn a cape of black charmeuse—shown on the second figure—which is interlined and faced with old blue crepe de chine. A collar of black fox trims the crepe.

ANOTHER USE FOR OILCLOTH. Although we are now quite accustomed to oilcloth bags and doilies and table runners, it is a trifle surprising to see smart, close-fitting motor caps made of this extremely practical stuff.

"Tag Day" Simplifies Moving

The family had decided to move, and already they were going over their possessions, in that process of elimination, which usually precedes every moving day. They had lived in that same house for many years, and the attic was stored with a wealth of belongings by the older members of the family, but not so highly prized by the younger ones; that is, except such things as proved useful for fancy-dress parties and other entertainments. Just after lunch one day, as the whole family was still gathered about the table, Tom, the son of the house, made a bold and astonishing suggestion: "I say," he cried, "why not scrap the attic? Let us take the chest of dress-up clothes and then sell the rest as it stands to the junkman." But Tom's proposal was promptly vetoed.

"Very well, then, if you must keep all those old things stored away, let us be sure that they are all put into the attic of the other house when we move; otherwise, we'll have an awful time sorting things out. I remember the last time we moved; it was dreadful! I couldn't find anything I wanted for weeks and weeks; I thought we never would get settled. I'm going to think up some more orderly way of working this moving."

The family adjourned and returned to its sorting and packing. Tom strolled off down town. Before long, he returned, and shouting for Mother as soon as he opened the front door, according to his usual custom, was off two steps at a time to the attic, where she was busily packing those ancient treasures.

Tom's Scheme. "I have thought out my scheme," he cried: "we will tag everything, then the moving men can put things in the right rooms, and we can get settled ever so much sooner," and he pulled from his pockets several bunches of tags, pencils, a package of small tacks, some strips of pasteboard, and a tack hammer.

"All the implements of my trade as 'family tagger,'" he remarked cheerfully. "Where shall I begin?"

"You might pack those books," Mother suggested, and Tom set to work. It was not long before he had them neatly tied up or packed in the boxes indicated.

"Now, these 'attic books,' as they will not get mixed up with those that belong in other rooms in the house, and, next, 'I'll tag all these bundles you have done up, these trunks and other things. We shall have a tag day all our own."

The tagging went on with enthusiasm, the whole family co-operating heartily. All the articles of furniture, except such obvious things as the dining table, fireless cooker, refrigerator and such, were definitely tagged with the name of the room that was to be their destination.

For instance, the boxes of books that belonged on the living room book shelves were so marked and thus were not confused with those that belonged in the rooms of various members of the family. Boxes and barrels of dining room and kitchen dishes and implements were neatly tagged; so were the pictures, which were packed and marked for the various rooms to which they belonged. The same system was applied to rolls of blankets, pillows, mattresses, sofa cushions, to almost everything separate article, bundle, box or barrel to be moved.

Then, to complete his system, he said, Tom went over to the new



This
Cape of
Black
Charmeuse
is Designed
to Wear
with Gown
of Blue
Tricotine
and Black
Charmeuse
Shown at
Left.

Heed These Don't's,
Avoid "Flat Sour"

The greatest loss of canned vegetables is apparently due to "flat sour," the name given to the product, when although it looks all right it has a peculiar flat, sourish taste and usually disagreeable odor.

To prevent this, blanch only enough material for one can at a time, and while dipping and filling the first can, be blanching material for a third can while filling the second, etc. In this way, time is not wasted and considerable will be done to avoid flat sour, members of the home economics extension staff of Purdue university say.

Some "don'ts" in cold pack canning are:

Don't allow vegetables to stand in a heap in a warm place very long before canning.

Don't blanch too large a quantity at one time so that there is too much to be put in the sterilizer shortly after blanching.

Don't allow material to stand in cold plunge and gradually cool down.

See that packed cans are filled immediately with boiling water and placed in processing kettle.

Don't pack cans in processing water.

Don't leave cans in processing kettle while the water cools.

Don't delay placing packed cans where they may cool quickly after taking them from the processing kettle.

lace scarf or lace of any other good variety will find it possible to construct a gown to set it off. One dinner dress of sand colored satin, was trimmed effectively with black Chantilly, as the lace was exquisitely relieved by the delicate background. A gown of white satin was trimmed with a lace drapery at one side, which reached to the end of the narrow panel train. Gowns made entirely of black lace are particularly in vogue this season, and for informal occasions they have long tight sleeves the cuffs of which fall in points over the hands. White silk or satin underskirts are sometimes trimmed with gold or silver lace.

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