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A Course for Homemakers

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Something Old for Which to Be Thankful

By MARIAN BIGELOW

"The Fashion wears out more apparel than the man."—Shakespeare.

'Tis true today, as it was in Shakespeare's time, but the art of making over old clothes was not known then, while today she who has old clothes which have been worn out only by Fashion has much for which to be thankful. Perhaps you think old clothes are a strange thing for which to be thankful. Well, what about that last year's suit with the full box jacket? The material is as "good as new", but the style is hopelessly out of date. Rip the skirt and jacket, clean and press them. There are any number of ways you can make it into a dress which your friends will think came straight from Fifth avenue. If you want a tailored dress for street wear, cut the jacket into a tight fitting waist, with a high choker collar and long, tight sleeves. Join it to the plain straight skirt of the suit and use a wide suede belt of a contrasting or harmonizing color to hide the seam. A smart finishing touch is a row of tiny buttons of the same color as the belt straight down the front from the tip of the high collar to the bottom of the hem. If you want a more elaborate frock make a plain, straight dress by cutting the jacket into a waist and joining it to the skirt. Then trim it. There are myriads of beautiful, bright colored bandings and braids on the market at reasonable prices and can be used on dresses in all kinds of ways. The skirt may be slit up the front and a piece of wide banding inserted, using narrower banding at the neck and on the sleeves. A four inch banding may be inserted on each side front, letting the banding slip thru straps of the material at the waistline, giving the effect of a

belt. You can put wide banding around the bottom of the skirt and narrower banding up the front and around the neck to form a little Chinese collar. You may use narrow braids in any number of odd ways to hide seams, thereby achieving some original effects, which, if cleverly worked out, are quite distinctive.

Then there is fur. You must have at least one fur-trimmed gown in your wardrobe this season. Perhaps you have an old fur coat which is too worn in some spots to be good looking any longer. Cut out the good pieces and use them to trim. Or if you do not possess any fur, you can get clever imitations, which are used in the big shops more than the real fur. And by the way, imitation leopard is being shown a great deal and is surely something different.

But suits are not the only thing to be made over. Black satin is as good as ever this season, and who hasn't a black satin dress which never will wear out? After all, Dame Fashion is extremely kind this year to the woman with a limited income, for she designed last year's afternoon dresses, with their long, full skirts, their pleated panels and full draperies, just to be made over into the clever little tunics so popular this year. And then last year's crepesatin, which was made with the crepe side out, can be ripped and made up with the satin side out for this year's wear. The style this year for a variety of materials combined in one costume, the heavy embroideries, bright bandings, and the fur trimmings, which cover seams and piecings so nicely, all unite to make it a joy to fashion new clothes from old ones.

A straight tunic gown can be made

from the skirt of a long, full satin or crepe dress. Use the length of the skirt for the length of the tunic, cutting it as long as the skirt will allow, which will probably make it come about to the knees. Since Fashion says to put all the trimming at the bottom of the costume, it is easy to finish the tunic into a dress. If there are wide enough pieces of the material left, you may make either one or two circular pieces and attach them directly to the bottom of the tunic, using a narrow braid or banding to cover the seam; or you may attach them to a slip and allow the tunic to remain loose. If you have plenty of material left, but it is in narrow pieces, use rows of little ruffles to add to the length; or make a circular piece as wide as is necessary to lengthen the tunic of lining material and apply alternately narrow bands of fur and narrow pieces of material. Also you might apply a circular piece made of strips of the material used for the dress with strips of a contrasting color in the same or a different material. If you do not have sufficient material left, use a wide band of fur around the bottom; a wide embroidered banding; or a band of fur, and a plain colored banding above it. Another plan would be to slit the tunic up the sides, bind or edge with a bright colored banding and wear with a plain skirt of a different material. As to the neck finish of your tunic, you may make it perfectly plain, or you may use trimming to match the bottom. Square necks cut rather high and bound are good this season and are something different. Sleeves may be either extremely short with no trimming, or long with large puffs of lace or con-

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A Course for Homemakers

By PEARL HARRIS

A class in Handicraft, under the supervision of Mrs. Henry Ness, is receiving special notice not only here in the college, but thruout the state. This class is for anyone in the state, no prerequisites being necessary. The only entrance requirement is that the enrollee be seventeen years of age.

In this class the people get the fundamental principles of design and a theory of color as a working basis. After they have acquired this basic knowledge, studio problems are taken up. The class may make anything they wish. Some of the things from which they may choose are: Designing and painting wooden boxes in tempera; serving trays in oil; enamelling on metal, wood and glass; tulle, embossed, cut or illuminated leather; basketry from spool baskets to large floor baskets; tying and dyeing; batik; parchment shades and shields; polychrome work, including renaissance plaques; sconces; candles; book ends, etc.

This class is a part of the Homemakers' Unit Courses, a new department of the college in which Iowa State College extends its services to people of the state

to reach women in their homes. Each unit is complete in itself, one or more units may be taken, just as they desire. Work is offered in costume design, garment construction, millinery, house design, food preservation and marketing, and meal planning and serving.

In previous courses young women have been enrolled who are soon to be married and enter their own homes, graduate students, faculty members, faculty wives, public school teachers and grandmothers. The distinguishing feature of several of the classes has been the number of gray-haired women included.

This course is starting in its third year of work and is proving to be very beneficial. There has been a considerable increase in the number taking these courses, as shown by the following data:

Year	No. courses Offered	No. persons Enrolled
1922-1923	5	52
1923-1924	15	109
Fall of 1924	15	60

There is now an expansion of the work being contemplated. Since so many homemakers are busy during the day and unable to get away from their homes to at-

tend classes the question of starting evening classes is now being considered. There are twenty-six people on the waiting list for these classes at present and if they are offered, these people will be given work in Clothing and Foods.

The large majority of the people taking the Handicraft course are not so much interested in the theory of the work as they are in the making of pretty things for themselves and their homes. For this reason their time is all spent in the laboratory and the lectures given along with the work. They have two three-hour laboratories each week, for which a fee of five dollars is charged.

The Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, of which Mrs. H. C. Taylor of Bloomfield is president, thru its American Home Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Clark Daniels of Des Moines, is sponsoring the building of a practice house in which the members of the Homemakers' Unit Courses may work out their "Science with Practice" in the same way as the senior college girls in the Home Management House established here. This house will, in all probability, be located here on the Ames campus.