

Fashion Notes and Notions.

By PENELOPE.

The Morals of Dress.

Fashions at this time of the year are chiefly in the nature of has-beens, because the sales are on in every big shop and in every modistes. Some time ago when an ardent reformer of the world's morals was preaching on the looseness and slackness of modern morals, he announced the fact that the root of all evil is in woman's love of adornment. When one goes a-shopping in Johannesburg one is tempted to believe that he is right, for in every main street, down every side street, in all sorts of odd corners, up stairs, down in the basements of the big buildings, dressmakers and dress sellers grow and apparently flourish. How do they all exist, one is tempted to ask and how can I resist, one goes on asking as long as there is a shot in the locker—that is a penny in the purse or a credit on the books?

And yet can it be wrong to buy pretty clothes? Civilisation demands that one shall be clothed, and why not well clothed and becomingly? We might, of course, standardise our clothes as men have done, but what havoc we should create in the ranks of those who make their living through our harmless vanities. One is thankful that the Epsteins in art have not yet invaded the women's sphere, for it would be terrible to have to be educated up to thinking all sorts of distortions beautiful, though for the matter of that there are many men and some old-

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IT HAS LASTED.

Johannesburg People must Believe this Convincing Testimony.

No one in Johannesburg who suffers from backache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, dropsical swellings or distressing urinary ills can afford to ignore this twice-told story of a Braamfontein resident. It is confirmed testimony, telling of lasting benefit from Doan's Backache Kidney Pills—the special kidney medicine which has helped so many of your neighbours. It is evidence that no man or woman in Johannesburg can doubt.

On 28th May, 1917, Mrs. M. G. McLean, 27, De Beer Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg, Transvaal said: "For two months I had a miserable time with severe, cutting pains across the small of my back. My sight also became affected, and I had violent headaches and dizziness.

I was recommended to try Doan's Backache Kidney Pills, and I felt benefit within a few days. By the time I had taken three boxes I was cured."

On 6th April, 1926, Mrs. McLean said: "I am quite cured still. Doan's Pills left me in first rate health. (Signed) M. G. McLean."

Insist on Doan's. Price 3/3, all dealers. Sole Proprietors: Foster-McClellan Co., Post Box 1297, Cape Town.

fashioned women who think the modern fashions with their boyish or rather nondescript outline sufficiently distorted, and unlike the figures and forms that Nature gave us to be classified with the new ideals of art, which many of us find so difficult to understand and to appreciate.

At Vera's.

Some of the loveliest dresses to be seen in Johannesburg to-day have just arrived from Paris and are already being eagerly sought in the salons of Vera's smart establishment in Bree Street. The evening gowns are exquisite and a smart innovation in day dresses among her new models is called the "All-in-one." It has an underdress of pale salmon georgette with a touch of pastel blue in the jabot front and the coat which is attached and as its name implies slips on with the dress is black satin, collar and cuffs of dyed grey beaver give a finish to the costume. Vera has some quite fascinating small hats, made of Bulgarian embroidery, pretty, smart and withal most comfortable. Soon we shall be well away with our advance spring shopping. Anstey's are going to surpass themselves this year with all their up-to-date methods of showing their goods and of getting the very latest from London and Paris.

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Every thing and every body is very quiet in Johannesburg just now, the school holidays are on and the seaside flitting is in full swing. I myself hope to send my next notes from Durban and to let you know which of our folk are there and what they are doing, that is presuming that their doings, if worthy of note, are such as may be recorded.

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Unkind Criticisms.

Some of our South African artists have been having a bad time at the hands of newspaper critics lately. First of all we had Irma Stern dissected and almost ridiculed, in spite of the fact that such famous critics as Fritz Stahl of the "Berliner Tageblatt" considered and wrote of her as an artist of outstanding merit and later we have a woman with a most lovely voice and whose art is not even difficult to understand simply torn limb from limb by a Cape Town musical critic. Criticism is all very well in its way and the person who does not accept when it is offered in a right spirit is deserving only of the faint praise which damns, but when it becomes vitriolic it should be entirely discounted and it dies in effect and defeats its own ends thereby.

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ENVY.

This rose-tree is not made to bear
The violet blue nor lily fair,
Nor the sweet mignonette.
And if this tree were discontent,
Or wished to change its natural bent,
It all in vain would fret.
And should it fret, you would suppose
It ne'er had seen its own red rose,
Nor after gentle shower
Had ever smelled its rose's scent,
Or it could ne'er be discontent
With its own pretty flower.
Like such a blind and senseless tree
As I've imagined this to be,

All envious persons are.
With care and culture all may find
Some pretty flower in their own mind,
Some talent that is rare.—C. Lamb.