

HOME ARTS NEEDLECRAFT

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CONTENTS

Cover Design—

By Mary Sherwood Wright Jones

NEWS FLASHES..... 4
From a Needle-Minded New Yorker

LINENS FOR
THE BRIDE'S HOUSE 5, 10
By C. A. Ferry and E. Marion Stevens

TABLECLOTH
IN FILET AND LACET STITCH 6
By Alda Magri

MORNING-GLORY LINENS.. 7, 10, 13
By Cecily Palmer and Eveline Johnson

FOOD INSURANCE
AGAINST MARCH WINDS .. 8, 11, 15
By Anne Pierce

WHAT TO LOOK FOR..... 9, 21
By Jane Wiswell

"PALE HANDS, PINK TIPPED—" 12, 13
By Diana Trent

PLAIDED NEEDLEPOINT..... 14, 16
By C. A. Ferry and Mildred Mowll

HOUSECOAT..... 16
By Eugenia Ostlund

NEW CLOTHES
FOR YOUR FURNITURE 17
By Marilyn Madison

FEATURING CUTWORK 18

SPRING IN
THE HOME GARDEN..... 19, 21
By F. F. Rockwell

PATTERN SERVICE..... 20

PARTY LINES..... 22
Edited by Constance V. Frazier

FASHIONS 23

GOOD NEIGHBOR is a phrase that appeals to every right-minded person. But as a mere phrase it has little value except the fleeting pleasure it gives one to roll high sounding phrases off the tongue. Translated into fact, however, it is a phrase vital with meaning.

How would you have liked to follow Secretary Hull to Peru to help him carry on the excellent diplomatic job which he and the representatives of all the South American and Central American states have completed at Lima?

This is not so foolish a question as it may sound. We were delighted the other day to receive a notice in our mail stating that the next thing to it is open to all everyday citizens who so desire. The opportunity we refer to is presented by The Hobby Guild of America. If you have a hobby or would like to become a hobbyist you can correspond with far-away writing friends in Latin American countries. If you like to write letters you will get real pleasure out of hearing from people so far away — people with such totally different backgrounds. You will be giving them equal pleasure, and best of all, you will be helping in a patriotic measure of building good will between all the countries of the Americas.

The Hobby Guild is interested because they have, ready-made, a point of contact — people with similar leisure-time activities. The International Correspondence Exchange of the Guild offers members the opportunity to correspond with individuals of other countries who have similar interests.

Correspondents in over twenty-five countries have joined the Foreign Department of the Guild. Through a mutual interest in their respective hobbies a meeting of minds on common ground is to be made the point of contact. This, of course, will lead to better understanding; and if we all understand one another, won't we be better able to reach an agreement on the broad underlying economic and social problems which plague us today?

We do not want other American countries to hate us and yet that is exactly what certain European countries are supposed to be trying to bring about at this moment. In an endeavor to capture the trade in Central and South America, the governments of those European countries based on an alien ideology are building up through invidious propaganda a hatred of the United States and all things made here. That is a despicable economic practice.

We all know how little we think of rival business men who adopt similar tactics against one another. In this case there is only one defense, and that is for us to get acquainted with the people of Central and South America and let them know that we are not the terrible race that our competitors would have them believe.

Only by mutual understanding can we avoid future trouble which very likely might lead to future wars. It is in the interests of peace, therefore, that this unique experiment of the Hobby Guild of America has been endorsed by many good people whom we all respect.

Among those who have endorsed this Exchange are Dr. Franz Boas of Columbia University; Cyril Clemens, president of the International Mark Twain Society; Dr. Mary E. Woolley, president emeritus of Mt. Holyoke College; Dr. Harry A. Overstreet of the College of the City of New York.

Dr. Mary E. Woolley comments: "I believe that an international correspondence exchange has great opportunities for the welding of good will among peoples and that a mutual interest in similar hobbies will lead to a keener understanding of economical and social conditions."

"Every effort to accomplish this (good will among nations) is part of the business of civilizing ourselves . . ." remarks Dr. Harry A. Overstreet.

If you would like to enroll, write to The Hobby Guild of America, 11 West 42d Street, New York City, for the International Correspondence Exchange. Unless you are ready to sign the following pledge your application will not be considered. Here is the pledge we all ought to be willing to sign:

"In the interest of International Friendship and Good Will among nations, I pledge to uphold the principles of the International Correspondence Exchange of The Hobby Guild of America in an endeavor to eliminate war and strife throughout the world."

If you are not a member of The Hobby Guild — a non-profit organization — now is a good time to join.

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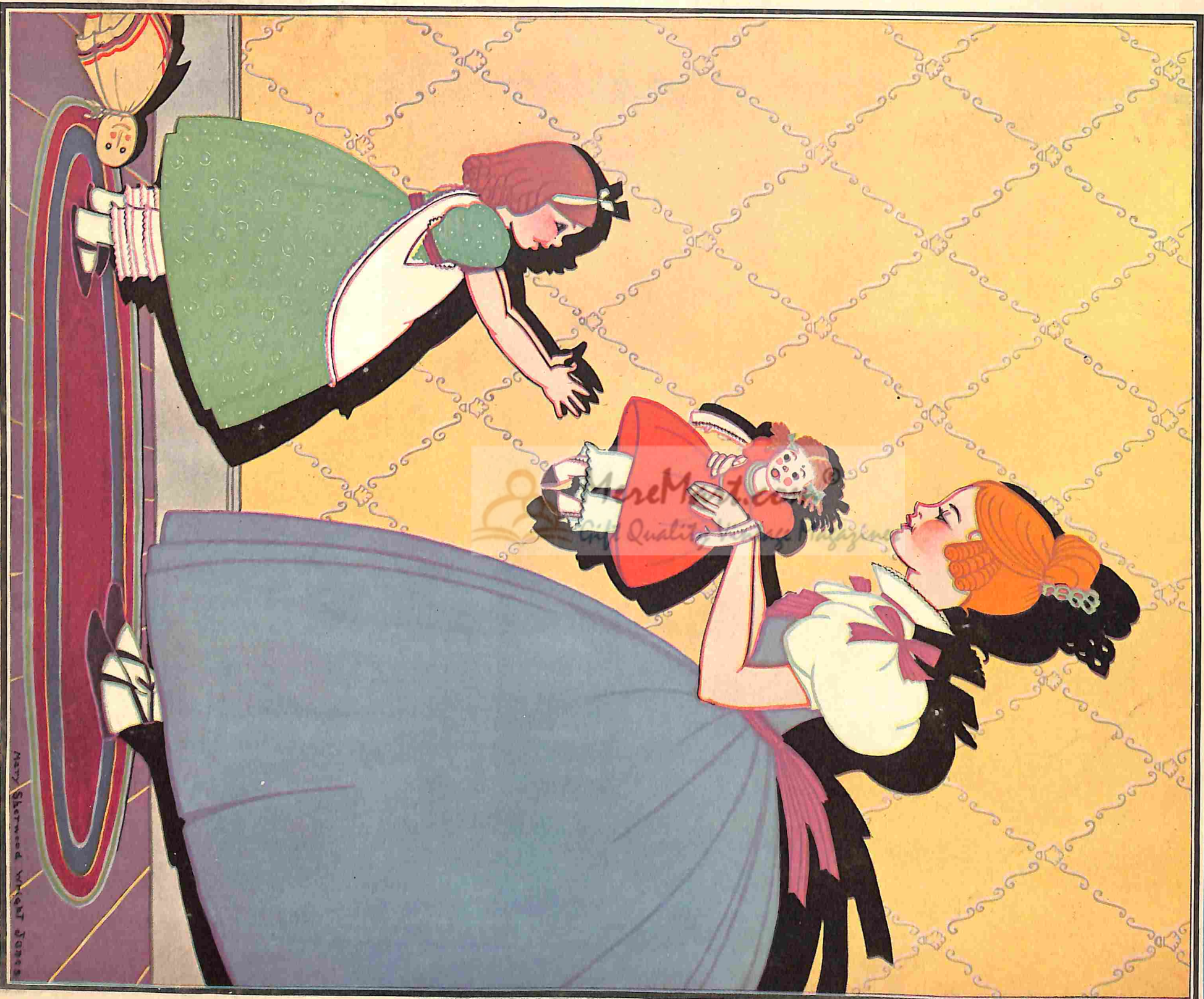
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MARY SHEPHERD WRIGHT JONES

Featuring Fashions . . . Linens in Floral Designs