Martha's
Work Basket
HOME AND NEEDLECRAFT
For PLEASURE and PROFIT
VOLUME 3 (C925) NO. 1

IDEAS for the Bazaar, the Home, Gifts and Sparetime Money-makers—with Many Inexpensive, Easily Made Articles that find a Ready Sale.
THE ALL-PURPOSE BLOUSE
(As shown on front cover)

MATERIALS: 5 balls Lily Mercerized Crochet Cotton, yellow, or Tru Tone Crochet Cotton, 1 pair No. 2 steel needles, Boye.

GAUGE: 9 sts—1 inch, 3 patterns—1 inch, 12 rows—1 inch. Measurements: Total length—22 inches, width at underarm, back—18 inches, width at underarm front—20 inches.

BLOUSE

FRONTS: (Both fronts are worked at same time). Working with 2 balls' yarn cast on 58 sts for each front. Work in garter st (knit every row) for 1 inch. Start pattern:
1st ROW: *K 1, yarn over, K 2 tog, and repeat from *, knitting 4 sts at center edge every row for garter st border. 2nd ROW: Knit.
3rd ROW: Purl. 4th ROW: Knit.
These 4 rows make up pattern and are continued throughout sweater. Continue in pattern decreasing 1 st each side every inch 5 times (48 sts on each front). When work measures 5 inches from start, increase 1 st each side every ½ inch until work measures 1½ inches from start. Bind off 5 sts each side for underarm 2 times. Now decrease 1 st each side every other row 8 times. Now decrease 1 st every 8th row at underarm side. At same time when work measures 5½ inches from underarm, at neck edge decrease 1 st every other row. When work measures 7½ inches up straight from underarm (30 sts on needle for each front) bind off 6 sts each shoulder 5 times.

BACK: Cast on 134 sts. Work in garter st for 1 inch. Start pattern and work as in front, at same time decreasing 1 st each side every inch until work measures 5 inches from start. (126 sts on needle). Now start to increase 1 st each side every ½ inch until work measures 14 inches (162 sts on needle) from start. At underarm bind off 5 sts each side 2 times. Now decrease 1 st each side every other row 8 times. Now decrease 1 st each side every 8th row until there are 108 sts on needle and work measures 7½ inches up straight from underarm. Bind off for shoulders as in front (48 sts on needle). Work remaining 48 sts for 1 inch and bind off.

SLEEVES: Cast on 100 sts. 1st ROW: Work 35 sts in garter st, K 2, P 2, for 30 sts and work remaining 35 sts in garter st. Continue in this manner working ribbing (K 2, P 2), and garter st for 1 inch. Now increase 1 st at each side every inch until work measures 5 inches from start and at same time (when work measures 1 inch from start) start pattern continuing to work 30 sts at center in ribbing. When work measures 5 inches from start bind off 6 sts each side for underarm. Now decrease 1 st each side every other row until 30 sts in ribbing remain. Work in ribbing for 4 inches. Bind off.

RUFFLE FOR FRONT: Cast on 374 sts and work in ribbing for 3 inches.

BELT: Cast on 10 sts and work in garter st for 34 inches.

Join pieces as in sewing a blouse, and whip seams; add edge of ruffle to both front edges and tack from bottom to slightly above belt line, lapping the two ruffles. May be left loose at top or fastened with clip.

Your NUMO Transfer

A set of pan holders, a pair of dolls and three stuffed toys—all on one sheet—these should see you well on the way to filling some Christmas stockings.

The Dutch pair might be made on unbleached muslin and the features embroidered; eyes are blue, of course, with black outlines and lashes—for this, use one or two strands of floss and small running
stitches. Hair might be made of yellow yarn. The boy’s cap should be done in Delft blue and the girl’s in white. The pot of tulips may be embroidered or pieces of color may be appliqued to leaves and flowers—yellow, red, rose, lavender. The pot might be brick, green or blue. Hang by loops at X or snap to pot of tulips.

The dolls are to be made of unbleached muslin. Stamp as directed and embroider features in tiny running stitches; hair might be done in yarn or floss and features with single strand of floss and tiny running stitches. For a decidedly novel effect, split a flesh-color powder puff, the 3-inch size, and use a half for the face. The hair in this case must be yarn. Features may be crayoned. Cut 4 arm pieces for each doll, stitch on inside line, snip between fingers, turn and stuff. Attach at X. The leg is made much the same and sewed on straight lower edge of body.

Garments for the two are much alike—the blouse and skirt are cut from the same pattern. The same material and trim are suggested for both, making a brother and sister set, a white shirt, with collar and cuffs the color of pants and skirt. Place buttons at X. Make the garments and then sew them on the dolls, or use buttonholes so clothes can be changed. Skirt is a straight piece 4 1/2 inches wide; belt 1 inch wide.

The stuffed animals are made much alike. Cut two pieces for each—seams are allowed. Cut a lining pair of legs for each from feet to line midway along body. Sew all pieces together, leaving opening under body from X to X. Turn right side out and stuff—wire and cotton may be used in the legs. Whip opening under body, finish features with black and add ears and tail. Print may be used for animals, although flannel or velvetene, as well as blanket cloth would be nice. Ribbon ties may be added.

How to Use

This transfer, as it comes to you, will seem wrong side out, but when directions are followed, the design you stamp will be like the picture.

1. Heat your iron very hot—almost to the scorching point. Use the small test design or a corner of the pattern to test the heat of your iron.

2. Cut out the design you plan to use, removing all unnecessary lettering. Lay PRINTED SIDE DOWN on the material in the position you wish it to be stamped.

3. Hold paper firmly in place and press, keeping the iron moving to prevent scorching in case it should be too hot. A piece of tissue or thin paper may be laid over the pattern to protect the cloth in case your iron is larger than the design to be transferred. After having transferred the NUMO pattern a number of times, you may find this unnecessary.

The design is stamped slowly and each succeeding time, it will take a little longer, but the IRON MUST BE HOT. For very best results, the stampings should be in fairly rapid succession, one after another from the same design. Good results have been obtained, however, when the pattern has been laid away for some time.
Both of these patterns are lovely—so colorful, yet take very small pieces for the design.

For the Corsage Bouquet, cut 7 circles of different colors, baste them on a harmonizing arrangement, with six soft green leaves as shown. Applique with invisible stitches, then outline the petals in black or color and use French knots in yellow or black for centers. The leaves may have black or green veins.

A 12-inch block is best and 30 blocks, set straight with strips and squares. These strips should be cut 1 1/2 inches wide and the length of the block—use 2 of color and 1 of white between the blocks, and a nine-patch of inch and a half squares at the corner. To make a quilt about 76x90 you will need 49 white and 98 green strips, 100 white squares and 80 green, as well as a 3-inch border. This will require about 1/6 yard of each of seven flower colors, orchid, rose, pink, blue, apricot, gold and yellow, 2 1/6 yards green, 4 1/2 yards white, 3/4 yard for border.

The petals for the Poinsettia, are all to be different prints and centers yellow. Use a 17-inch or 18-inch block of unbleached muslin. Twenty blocks with a 6-inch border will make a quilt 80x97. Stems are best made of bias fold. Sew them and the leaves first, and then the flowers in graceful position—they need not all be alike. The pattern for the petal is inside the one for the leaf and smaller.

One-third of a yard of green, 8 inches each, of 13 different prints, 1 1/2 inches of yellow and 5 yards of muslin are required.

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Looking Ahead

Have you been to any bazaars this year? When you go, you will wish to take something that is different, yet will appeal to the needlework lover. Insist on a film of the movie. It is the word.
Somewhere among your acquaintances there must be a youngster who would be thrilled with a new crib quilt depicting 12 different animals. The nice part of it all is with these designs they are dressed up in fanciful costumes that make them seem more personal and friendly to the young master.

While these 12 designs will be given on your hot iron transfer with number C926, you may obtain these now stamped on 8-inch soft muslin blocks as number C8494M for 35c. They may be worked in simple outline or running stitch, or if you have more time you can applique the various parts of their costumes in gay bits of print and plain materials.

The quilt in the next issue will be a pieced design. It is called the Whirligig. You will find this unusually attractive when made up of different colors surrounded with white. By alternating the pieced blocks with plain squares, it not only requires fewer blocks, but your design will stand out more prominently, giving it its well-earned name.

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**Crocheted Chrysanthemum**

Have you ever dreamed what a lovely thing you could make from thread or yarn? Two or three of these thread chrysanthemums in shades of yellow, orange or gold, gracefully placed in a tall vase would add color on the gloomiest fall and winter days.

A number 3 crochet hook is best to use and Frost-Tone or a heavy mercerized cotton is best, although Shetland or rather fine yarns may be used. The petals may be made on a continuous thread and wound around the stem as a single piece. The outer petals are worked over a looped strand of wire—take a single strand from picture wire or from copper wire used for aerials, etc., about 10-12 inches and double the ends together.

To make the center, ch (chain) 5 and join into a ring with a slip stitch; in this make 10 s c (single crochet), ch 12, d c (double crochet) into 3rd st from hook and in every ch back to ring. This forms first center petal; make 12 such petals; next row, ch 16, d c back and insert hook to catch petal behind first row; make 10 of these. Follow with a third row of petals worked on a ch of 20—make 8 of these. Slip a piece of picture wire, twice the length of stem desired, through the center and double back.

Now you are ready to begin the wired petals; using the strand that has been separated from the rest of the wire, s c over both wires, 7 times, then 7 d c, 5 d c catching only through loop end of wire, to turn, 7 d c back down on other
The center petals curl up quite naturally. With your string of wired petals, begin winding around center stem, catching petal wires into main stem as you wind. Bend and cup these wired petals around center as closely as you choose, making the flower as compact or as large as you like. With green, make 6 tiny leaves or sepals to be attached to stem, just below flower; ch 10, 1 dc in 3rd ch, 6 more dc to end of ch. Gathering all wires tightly in left hand, wrap stem by twirling wires and holding thread in right hand. Wrap as far down as desired.

Leaves may be made, wired and wrapped in with stem; ch 15, turn, sc, taking only back thread of st to make rib. Turn at end and sc around, adding 1 st for curve. To make point of leaf, turn with 2 ch at second last st of preceding row. Counting center (ch and sc row) as 2 rows, 6 to 8 rows complete a leaf. Last row may be worked over single strand of wire and sc worked over both ends of wire as last row reaches curve at center again. About 3 leaves are enough for each stem.

Weave Your Afghans By Hand

The hand weaving of various items has become unusually popular. A favorite method is to make small squares and then join these together into larger units by overcasting, whipping, or crocheting the edges. Afghans are especially pleasing when made in this way; if you have on hand odds and ends of various colored yarns, all the better.

Perhaps you had never thought of the possibility of making your own loom, but you really will be surprised how easily it may be accomplished. Once you have your loom it offers almost unlimited possibilities as to what you can do with it.

Get a piece of ¾-inch plywood about 5 inches square. On this draw a 4¾-inch square. Then with a rule and a sharp pencil, mark off on the sides of this every ½ inch. Take ¼ or 1-inch brads. These are straight little nails with small heads. Holding the nails straight, drive one in at every pencil dot around the four sides of the square. If you have an extra piece of plywood you might practice driving the nails perfectly straight a time or so in case you have any difficulty along this line. Of course, if the nails are approximately true, it will work all right as they may be straightened or bent slightly with the pliers to place them in line when you have completed your loom.

There will be no nails at the corners, for they will begin ½ inch from the corners at each side.

In driving the nails you may place the loom on the ground or on a piece of wall board so that the nails will all drive in flat; then when you turn your loom over it may be pulled from the ground, or the wall board easily removed.

Mark about ¼-inch around on the inside of the four rows of nails,
and also ¼-inch around the outside. With a keyhole or coping saw, cut out the inside of the square and trim it around the outside. With a piece of sandpaper, rub off the rough edges so it will be smooth to handle and the wool will not catch.

Number the sides of the loom 1 to 4 going clockwise. At the left end of the number 1 side, cut a V notch to hold your yarn—it may be similar to the notches on spools of thread. You are now ready to discover all the various things you can make with your weaving frame. Fastening the yarn in the notch swing it back and forth from side 1 to 3 between every tooth. Now give your loom a quarter turn clockwise, coming around the two outside corner nails. Thread a darning needle that is small enough to pass between the nails. Going from right to left, pass the needle over the first thread, under the second, etc., to the left side of the loom. Turn, passing the needle this time under and over. On each side of the loom be sure to start your yarn back opposite from the way you finished on the previous round. When you have completed the weaving back and forth, you may fasten off the end yarn and remove the work from the loom.

The weight of this will depend, of course, on how heavy a yarn you have used. If you feel the sample above is not heavy enough for your purpose, you may use the following pattern. Start your yarn from the notch on the number 1 side, swinging back and forth on every other nail. When you have completed one side, give your loom an eighth of a turn to the left and then thread back and forth on the diagonal every other row. When you have completed the two layers, thread your needle again. Bring the yarn around the two outside nails and then weave over and under, back and forth until you have completed the design. This will add a little weight and give a basket-weave effect.

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AUNT MARTHA
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