

AS SEEN THROUGH WOMAN'S EYES.

The Newest Society Pets.

The fancy guinea pig, as popularly called, is the coming pet. Already there have been several exhibitions which greatly interested those who are looking for queer animal pets, and the docility, the cuteness and a marvellous ability to eat anything and everything at any hour of the day or night, make them appeal strongly for household favour.

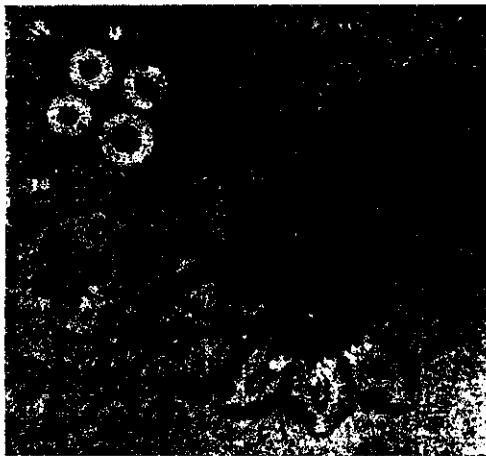
Cavies, or guinea pigs, are now brought to perfection in the matter of colour, length of hair and size, as well as intelligence. The guinea pigs are not pigs at all, and they did not come from Guinea. Sailors brought them from Peru, where they were found wild, and where to this day they are considered very fair eating. Another illusion is that they are stupid and incapable of training. Fanciers here and abroad have corrected that error and proved that the little pet has strong attachments, an intensely social nature and a susceptibility to kindness.

Years of in-breeding have done much to bring the wild South American guinea pig to perfection both as regards winsomeness and beauty. There are many short haired varieties of great interest, and the long haired have coats whose fur is sometimes eight and ten inches in length, making the little beast look like a rolling ball of white yarn. There are broken colours of the Peruvian variety — buff, slate, brown and red, suiting a variety of tastes. The Abyssinian pig has a coat in perfect rosettes of great brilliancy, and is highly intelligent.

The English short hair varieties become more valuable as the colour approaches a dead black, a few of the latter specimens bringing high prices. Of the Agouti stock there are also fine specimens in gold and silver, with most brilliant coatings. In France there has been a great interest in cavies, and several cavié clubs, on the English plan, have been started. There are three or four cavié clubs in America in flourishing condition, and these do much to bring the animal to perfection of breed and also to introduce the pet more generally among people



A DAINTY TEA COSY.



AN EMBROIDERED CUSHION COVER.

who can afford the rarer varieties. Decked out in ribbons the cavié makes a household pet unlike the dog and cat, yet no less interesting. Moreover, the cavié is not destructive, is a hater of solitude, and has a digestive process that enables him to accept any sort of edible favours, from sweetmeats to cold potatoes, at any hour, to the delight of the children.

The Art Work Table.

At this festive season of the year, when the thoughts and attention of even the most industrious art workers are called outwards in countless directions, a steady application to really important work is practically sometimes out of the question. At the same time, it is sometimes convenient to find a dainty piece of work that really repays one for the working, and is perfectly adapted to the purpose designed, and will serve to while away otherwise tedious hours placed already to one's hands. The Tea Cosy Cover on this page is a very good example.

It is composed of cream or coloured linen and worked entirely in flax threads, and possesses, besides, the merit of being easily detachable from the cosy beneath for the purpose of washing; to which ordeal it may be subjected without the least compunction, and with the certainty that it will emerge with undimmed lustre. The applique anemones and leaves are in pale fresh green linen, the former worked round the edges with shades of pink, with which black is mingled for the centres, etc. The leaves are, of course, marked with greens. The cosy itself is simply covered with lining or muslin, and lined in the ordinary way with coloured satin or silk. The puffing of coloured silk must be put neatly round the edge of the cosy itself. The embroidered cover is made in two pieces the exact sizes of the cosy, large corresponding eyelet holes being worked at equal distances round the edges of both sides. They are then tied together over the puffing, as in illustration.

Paris
Exhibition 1900
British Awards.

The ONLY
Grand
Prix
for
Toilet
Soap

The Highest Award for Toilet Soap at the Paris Exhibition, in 1889, was a Gold Medal, and the only one awarded *solely* for Toilet Soap was gained by

Pears

Again, at the 1900 Exhibition at Paris, The Highest Award obtainable for anything is the GRAND PRIX, and that also has been awarded to Messrs. Pears and is the *only one* allotted in Great Britain for Toilet Soap.