



Feminine wear at Phalanx

meat 2 cents, pie 2 cents, and everything else in proportion. "Table, laundry and room rent amounted to \$2 a week and sometimes less.

The work was divided into series: the agricultural series, the domestic series, the manufacturing series, etc., and these were subdivided into groups. Each series was headed by a chief. The leader, or series chiefs, as they were called, comprised the industrial council. Each evening the council met and planned the work for the following day. "Every able-bodied person had his or her appointed task. Because of careful planning and supervision there was no confusion, loss of time or idleness."

The rate of pay was from 6 to 10 cents an hour, with the series heads receiving 10¢ a day extra. The least agreeable and most exhaustive work paid the highest rate. Everything was furnished at wholesale price. Food was raised in the garden and on the farm. Clothing was made on the premises. There was little need for money and less need for saving. The Phalanx contract provided for old age pensions and insurance to cover any emergency.

Soon farmers and mechanics joined the colony, machine shops and mills were constructed and after a few years' hard work the colony was producing wheat, rye, buckwheat flour, corn meal and hominy. By 1852 the North American Phalanx farm was one of the most productive and profitable in the State. Its original value of \$14,000 was increased to \$80,000 and its population rose to 112. Phi-

Education at Phalanx was similar to what is, even today, called progressive. The students, for instance, drew from real models instead of from an art book and studied living plants instead of a textbook on botany. They frequently spent the entire day at school, keeping busy with a multitude of tasks and incidentally leaving their mothers free for their own work. The teachers attempted to give the pupils a true insight into the business of life by presenting to them the problems of production, distribution and administration. In addition, the Association maintained a day nursery and an evening school for workers. Members had the benefits of lectures, concerts, readings, plays, daily papers and a library. Every distinguished lecturer who appeared in New York was likely to be brought here.

The people ate in the main dining room and could order what they pleased from the menu, as if they were in a restaurant. Families could either sit at the long tables or enjoy the privacy of a small table. Coffee sold for  $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent a cup, bread for 1 cent a plate,