DRAPERIES for the dining room are attractive if both fresh-looking and dainty, so these designs were developed in delft blue on cream-colored fabrics. The window curtains as pictured were made of fine soft scrim, thirty-eight inches wide, of a deep cream color, just the shade of the heavy linen used for tablecloth and doilies. They were hemmed by hand on four sides;—a 4-inch hem at the bottom and 3/4-inch hem at top and sides; and the design was set 1 inch within the hem on all sides.

The four corner clusters are the first to be painted in, when stenciling,—then the border, extending on each side from the corners. Each time the stencil is laid in place, the exact distance from the edge of the curtain must be measured, so that the border will keep even. The design, beginning at each end, draws toward a meeting place near the middle of each side, and if the pattern at the last does not exactly fit suspended from the rod, give a charming finish.

The sideboard scarf, as pictured, was planned to fit into the space left on top a built-in sideboard, with shelves extending upward at each end. It can be made longer and narrower according to requirement. The narrower border was used at the sides and the broader across each end, the whole design set within a deep hem.

On this cover not only the centers of the flowers are worked with the
floss, but the leaf and blossom shapes. The outer side of the stems are outlined by a broken, running stitch of the silk.

The tablecloth was made of heavy hand-woven linen, two yards wide, of a mellow cream color. Strips 11 inches wide were cut off from one end and from one side,—so the cloth would remain square and from these strips the oval doilies were made. A 4-inch hem was then put all around the cloth, and the border stenciled one-half inch within this hem.

As with the curtains, the corner groups were the first to be put in;—the border extending away on each side from these corner clusters. Only the narrower of the two borders is used on this table cover. The centers of the blossoms are worked in delft-blue silk floss in satin stitch.

The doilies are oval in form, designed to hold both plate and cup, and measure (without the lace at edge) 9 by 13 inches. The centers of these blossoms also are worked in the silk. The edges are finished by being turned under flatly, with a narrow linen tape laid smoothly over the raw edge. Then linen lace 1 inch wide is whipped on. Artists' oil paint, mixed with benzine, was the medium used, as all of these draperies must be laundered. They should always be washed in the warm suds of some pure soap.

The value of these stencil designs is twofold. In the first place, the decoration of any fabric by stenciling is done so easily and quickly that it tempts the worker to use her fancy with the utmost freedom in obtaining decorative effects. Then again, there is a certain simplicity about the incorporation of the design with the background that makes stenciling specially attractive to those who like unpremeditated effects. It is an art which offers delightful possibilities which our designers have only begun to develop.