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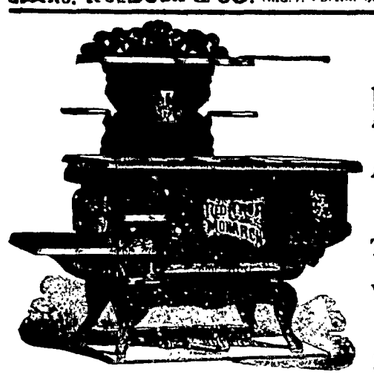

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# OUR FASHION LETTER

## HIGH HEELS THE RULE RATHER THAN EXCEPTION.

**French Cotton Waists—Beautiful Undergarments From France—Never Made With Yokes—A Charming Little Shirt—Simple Wrappers.**

That women have gone back to high, in some instances to bignest, heeled shoes is a fact evident to all who note the ways of fashion leaders. High heels in the house are the rule rather than the exception. High heels on the afternoon promenade are seen nearly as commonly as trains, while for evening use the elevated heel is an almost indispensable badge of fashion. Woman's morning and golfing boots, even, are made with military heels an eighth of an inch taller than those worn last season. Rubbers have to conform to the increased height of shoe heels. Thus the fancy for being higher up in the world has affected all the footwear of women. Elevated shoes and lengthened trains! Is it to these additions

that we owe the declaration that women are becoming taller? High heels appear even on certain flexible little afternoon ties of glazed tan kid with straight tips and narrow, rounding toes. It is anticipated that there will be a demand for these really dainty foot coverings that represent a medium in dress between heavy calfskin and black patent leather. The navy blue foulard silk gown, the almost staple summer afternoon gown, probably is responsible for the creation of just this class in shoes. Women wanted something correspondingly thin and pliable.

Navy or Yale blue lisle thread or silk stockings, woven so loosely that they are called "lace," are in choicer style with these pretty brown shoes with high heels and the Yale or navy blue foulard than tan stockings of any description. There is every indication that Russia calf low shoes will be worn during summer mornings, almost to the exclusion of black, which look warm in the sunl' ' t to us, now that we are accustomed to the appearance of the golden brown leather. Certainly, the calfskin shoes are more comfortable than any black ones when worn on the hot pavements. Our low shoes and golf boots for the season are done from a rich yellowish brown color, the ruddy hue of a new evening dress case. Soles are fairly thick and extended. Toes are inclined to round, being less extreme than those of last year without at all approaching the toothpick variety. Many women think them more sensible than the "commonsense" sort itself, because less extreme. They are cut lower at the back and sides than formerly; as much as a quarter of an inch on some styles. We made so much complaint last year about the sharp sides and backs of our tan and black ties that the manufacturers heard our cries and goodnaturedly cut all our shoes down this year.

A pretty way in which a barb is used is around a little yoke which is cut down square in front, like the old-fashioned square neck that was seen so much at one time. The barb is carried around the neck in the back, and outlines the yoke in the front, being caught with a little fold once or twice and is fastened at the left-hand corner of the square, where the ends are simply crossed. The lace is real, not particularly fine, but showy.ish.

A pretty little pale blue English separate waist has a pretty variety of the undersleeve. There is a flaring cuff slashed on either side, which comes down almost to the wrist, and inside this is the pretty little undersleeve of fine tucked muslin and lace insertion. There is a band made of three tucks on either side of a strip of the insertion. The undersleeve is short and droops well over the band. The cuff and a band which outlines the yoke of the waist is of corn-colored silk with white silk cord and black silk thread embroidery.

Linen and cotton are combined with many handsome silk gowns. A pretty little corn-colored silk bodice has collar and cuffs of white linen, with applications of black velvet. Embroidered cream batiste is charming for chemisettes and yokes with silk or cotton gowns of contrasting shades.

"Nid d'Abeilles," nest of bees, is the name of a pretty printed silk up town. It has a basket weave and comes chiefly in blue and white, stylish designs something on the order of foulards, and is thirty-five cents a yard. It is only twenty-one inches wide, but it will make up into charming gowns and is worth while.

A charming little skirt, which is really made for dancing, is of soft silk and insertions of blond. The whole skirt is made up of lengthwise tucks. In the upper part of the skirt they form a snug yoke of, say, pink silk. This is fastened to the body of the skirt by a beading of white. The skirt is made of alternate rows of the silk and inserted blond, the tucks being continued and stitched down tightly to below the first three rows of insertion, from where they fly. There is in the same garment a little divided skirt made of tucks and insertion in the same way, and fitted at the top underneath.

Beautiful undergarments from France have a union suit, skirt, and corset cover made entirely of inch and a half wide lace insertion, and the same width fine mull between running around the figure. There are no sleeves to the corset cover, and it finishes straight around under the arm.

A charming little corset cover is made of half-inch moire ribbon in pale blue and lace the same width. The ribbon and insertion are set in on the bias in the back, meeting in a centre seam. The front is also bias, and is gathered in at the waist with a narrow blue ribbon set under a band of insertion.

Many women will not use anything but genuine French underwear. It is made of a fine mull that is not imported to this country in the piece, and there is a satisfaction in wearing only hand-made garments. The plainer pieces are remarkably reasonable in price. A chemise, the fullness plaited in to the band in groups of tiny hand-made graduated tucks with a beading and finished with a hand-embroidered scallop, is $2. A night dress with a square of tiny hand-made tucks at the neck, a ruffle around the neck and down the front to below the waist line, edged with torchon lace, is $5.75. Another made with a similar little square of tucking at the front, though not quite so deep, has a deep embroidered ruffle at the neck and sleeves and is $5.50. That is the price of another, which has a pointed yoke outlined with lace insertion. Point d'esprit with a plain edge is one of the trimmings that is used with excellent effect on underclothes. It is as serviceable as pretty.

One feature of French underclothes is that they are never made with yokes. They are fitted with darts, and where fullness is necessary it is gathered in with a ribbon or tape. Some of the most elaborate chemises are made with revers, in which are insertions of lace in the familiar pattern of bow knots.

There is no fullness in underwear, and has not been for two or three years. One way to attain this, which seems new, is the circular flounce. Heretofore ruffles on underwear have been tucked at the upper edge, instead of gathered, to get this flat effect without even the slight bulk of the tucks. A circular ruffle will be cut in points, three or four in a ruffle, to give a ruffle-like swing to it. Then it is edged with a pretty, narrow lace.

Very simple little wrappers come in the French goods in pale colors striped with white, and simply made with a fichu effect in the front. Simple embroidered little dimity wrappers have wide collars and cuffs falling in handkerchief points. There is a white band at the edge of these, which in its turn is edged with a band of plain color to match the color of the dimity, and which has a little embroidered edge. These come in pink, blue, and lavender.

All the society belles who spent their Easter at the shore went to breakfast in flannel shirt waists of old rose, sage green or red, with a white tucked flannel shield in the front, either a V or a whole vest. So popular has the addition of

SURPLICE SHIRT WAIST.

this relieving little bit of white become that the very latest wash shirt waist, known as the "surplice," is made after this model. Our illustration shows the effect of this new waist very nicely.

All these features are to be found in a beautiful negligee gown of tucked white mousseline and lace insertions over white silk. The insertions which are separated with their own width of the mousseline are a deep cream, and run up and down. The gown is high in the neck, with a regular stock. An Empire waist is marked by a band of blue ribbon under insertion fastened with turquois buckles just below the bust. There is an open panel to the skirt in front, on either side of which falls the mousseline and insertion in long points. An elaborate pattern in lace over yellow gives the effect of corn color in the applications. At the head of the ruffle which finishes the lower skirt there is a band of blue ribbon under lace, with loops at either side. The sleeves are formed into a little puff at the top by a band of blue similar to that around the waist, below which there is a fall of lace in a deep point underneath and short on top. There is a blue bow at the back of the stock.

# NATIONAL CAPITAL.

## STILL HUNTING FOR VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

**Admiral Dewey's Admirers Have Hope—Senator Quay Unhorsed—Senator Clark Also in the Cosmos—Morgan's Sixth Term.**

One who begins an investigation among the Republicans who are supposed to lead the minds of the rank and file of that party in the way they should go to reach success, must have come to the conclusion after a search this week for the preferred and official candidate for Vice-President that he really cannot be named. He is not admitted to be Gov. Roosevelt; Mr. Woodruff does not seem to be the man; Secretary Long's name is apt to be mentioned with a shiver, and the "good Western man" is so multitudinous that if he has any following it

Senator Quay.

must be different in every State beyond Ohio. Apparently, the experiment has been permitted of testing, by mention, the popularity and availability of many favorite sons. An explanation has been offered for the suggestion of Secretary Long's name that has been construed by New York Republicans to indicate a disposition somewhere, perhaps at one end of the avenue and perhaps at the other, opposed to gratifying the ambition of a popular citizen of New York to be Vice-President. But it will be found that this suspicion is harbored only by men who can believe that the President has time and inclination to indulge in political byplay to divert Republican minds from their idols.

### Quay Falls at Last.

The Senate has refused to seat Senator Quay, upon the appointment of Governor Stone, upon a vote of 33 to 33. The struggle for this seat by Mr. Quay has been a long one and in spite of all that is said it developed a degree of bitterness which is likely to be heard from again. The opposition to Quay was really marshalled by John Wanamaker. Their quarrel is an old one and has been very intense in its bitterness. Four or five years ago, Wanamaker undertook to unhorse Quay and he has pursued his purpose with great energy ever since. He was behind the indictment and criminal prosecution of Mr. Quay, which was forced upon him just at the time he was a candidate for re-election to the Senate. It doubtless influenced some of the Republican votes against him and prevented his election by the Legislature. Then when Governor Stone made the appointment, the fight was transferred to this city. The opponents of Mr. Quay claim to have been moved thereto on constitutional grounds, but some people think that they see some political reasons for his overthrow. Senator Hanna was paired against Quay, with Senator Depew who would have voted for him. The result would therefore have been the same if both had voted. But it is believed that if the administration had desired it, another vote could have been secured for the seating of the Pennsylvania leader. The friends of the Senator now point to the results of the Republican State convention, which Mr. Quay had in his control as a home vindication. It is certain that Mr. Quay will not retire from politics at this time. He will again be a candidate for re-election and the old fight will continue with unabated vigor.

### Admirers of Dewey.

A warm admirer of Admiral Dewey has insisted upon holding on to the hope that the Admiral may be able to win at Kansas City if, with an access of courage, the Democrats in a few States can be prevailed upon to court success by organizing an opposition to Bryan that will compel the convention to turn to another candidate. His hope is based upon the possibility of getting a sufficient number of States to refuse to support Bryan's candidacy, to deprive him of the two-thirds necessary to get a nomination in a Democratic National Convention. In most States the unit rule is adhered to, thus giving to the majority in a delegation the power to throw the whole vote of a State. It has been figured out how Dewey's admirers, who believe that Dewey would draw out of the woods many Democrats who have concealed themselves, can prevent the nomination of Bryan. Bearing in mind the victory won in Alabama by Senator Morgan, who has publicly admitted that he does not consider Bryan's candidacy essential to Democratic success, this observer says that it might be counted upon to assist in forming a line to prevent the two-thirds vote for Bryan.

### Senator Morgan.

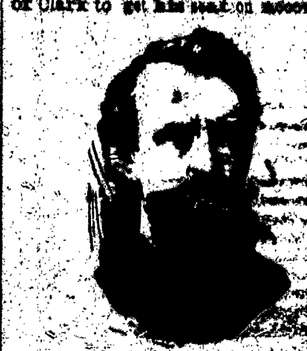
Senator Morgan, of Alabama, was right when he said some time ago, when asked about the significance of some primary elections in his State, reported as indicating a victory in the Senatorial race for his opponent: "Merely picket firing, in which a general takes small interest. The battle is to come." It was to come and has been fought, and Senator Morgan will be chosen for another six years. In spite of many characteristics which hinder the admirers of the Alabama Senator from indulging in unquestioning delight in him, his propensity in committee and in the Senate to prolonged speaking of the most mellifluous and monotonous sort, poured out of the fullest storehouse of information in the Senate, he is highly respected, and his triumph is appreciated by his [illegible] Morgan is a sweet man in [illegible] as straight as an Indian, [illegible] as a Spaniard, as a gentleman [illegible] and as staunch Democrat. [illegible] torial brethren believe that [illegible] Gov. Johnston in Alabama [illegible] first joint debate merely by the [illegible] bition of a sort of courtesy that Johnston lacked. It was at Athens, Alabama, I am told, that they both talked to an audience in which there were many negroes. When it came to Morgan's turn to talk, he spoke to these black men. He told them that he was in favor of depriving them of the suffrage. Johnston had signified his favor of an educational qualification for the negroes, possibly to catch their votes. But Morgan, declaring that the State was burdened with them, "the poorest race of people created by Almighty God," stood out for non-suffrage for them. The joint debates stopped soon after. Morgan has remained here to discharge his duties as a Senator, allowing the Governor of the State to enjoy such advantage as he fancied he would enjoy by occupying the field in person. Morgan will begin his fifth term of six years next March.

### Oratorical Contest.

Two of the most gifted speakers in the House of Representatives are Mr. Dolliver, of Iowa, and Mr. Clark, of Missouri. The first is a Republican, while Mr. Clark is a Democrat. Both have the gift of humor in considerable degree, but neither gives himself up to it unreservedly. They are both good talkers, Mr. Clark employing a large familiarity with Scripture to give a quaint turn to his arguments and illustrations. Mr. Dolliver has a fund of anecdotal illustrations that are very apt and catchy. Neither is ill-natured, even in partisan debate, although both are extreme partisans. Mr. Clark has a double in the House in Representative Sibley, who also employs the use of Scriptural language in his speeches. The physical resemblance is so great that one is frequently taken for the other, but Mr. Clark is not likely to turn Republican, as Mr. Sibley has recently done. Dolliver and Clark have fixed up a bi-partisan partnership that is proving comfortable to both. They lecture together, on the divided-time plan, taking the subject of "Imperialism" and debating it each from his own point of view and, of course, make it hot for each other to the satisfaction of everybody who has not heard the lecture before. Having tried the arrangement on the road a few times, they have entered into engagements along a line of towns reaching from Pittsburg to Kansas, and may prolong their performances indefinitely into the summer. They are not doing this talking "for their health." They demand and receive a good round sum per night for their joint appearance, and one of the gentlemen said a day or two ago that he had no doubt that with good management they would be able to "clear up" $10,000 between the adjournment of Congress and the election. There probably are not two other members of the House who could be so well matched for this sort of debate as Dolliver and Clark, for, besides having pretty well-balanced intellects, they are "good fellows," who can get along with each other and with their audiences without any effort.

### Clark Meets Its.

The unanimous report of the committee in opposition to Senator Clark, of Montana, was anticipated, and its influence upon Montana politics is now being discussed. Like Mr. Quay, Mr. Clark has an enemy who has money, and a vindictive disposition. The Clark-Daly feud has been on in Montana for many years, and the failure of Clark to get his seat on account of



Senator Clark.

alleged bribery will not cut the [illegible] Republicans expect to reap the fruits of victory in the coming Senatorial contest in that State on account of the bitterness of the feud, but the Democrats insist that they will institute criminal proceedings which will destroy the influence of the Clark-[illegible] and put some of them behind prison bars.

### A Pneumatic Tube.

The promoters of the pneumatic tube scheme for the rapid delivery of mail matter have met with a [illegible] The House has refused not only to increase the appropriation as [illegible] by the Department, from [illegible] over $700,000, but has stricken the item out of the bill entirely. The debate on the subject revealed the fact that the government is paying an enormous rental for the use of the tubes, [illegible] that the company never had any money invested, but paid the contractors for the construction in bonds and stocks which were only of value on account of the generous government contract. During the discussion Mr. Moody (Mass.) assailed the whole history of the service. It is so [illegible] from beginning to end, said [illegible] "that it should die the death of a dog." He declared that former Assistant Postmaster-General [illegible] son, under whom the first contract in the pneumatic tube service was made, when he retired [illegible] the company $1,000,000 in [illegible] 000 in stock for his services during the succeeding year. [illegible] say, continued Mr. Moody, [illegible] ately, that one of the principal owners of these stocks [illegible] member of this House and [illegible] of the committee on appropriations. The House voted [illegible] the entire appropriation [illegible] tube service.

The horse [illegible] Paris. They [illegible]