

OUR FASHION LETTER

Latest Hints About What to Wear.

LACE COATS FOR EVENING USE.

The difference between a Tea Jacket and a Coffee Coat—Changes in Evening Silks—Spring Wraps For the Street.

The lace coat is a delightful innovation for evening wear, as it may be worn over a soft blouse of ordinary make or with a sleeveless slip cut with a low neck. The bolero of lace with hanging frills is usually termed a coffee coat, and the longer garment, which is drawn into the waist in some fashion, is generally described as a tea jacket. During the sales lace is sold at a tempting price, and a clever cutter can make a little coffee coat from two yards of twenty inch lace, or two and a quarter yards is ample with ordinary care. If they are stole ends, these require extra lace, and a very heavy make of lace will often split down the middle to



LOUNGING ROBE. provide the ends; therefore eighteen or twenty-seven inches extra should be allowed for these.

A pretty sack coat costume seen recently was of sear brown cloth, with collar and cuffs of ivory cloth embroidered in blue and gold and revers of ermine. The skirt was finished with shaped frills which did not cross the front, and lines of trimming ran down each side and were continued on the flounces.

A dainty lounging robe is the subject of the illustration.

Newest Evening Skirts. Some of the newest evening skirts are set into a close yoke, which is powdered with lace motifs or covered entirely with lace.

One very handsome model of primrose satin orientate had a hip yoke of



USEFUL COAT. ly form and when copied in cheap materials will soon vanish from the world of fashion.

A rich emerald panne arranged on three shaped straps, one above the other, had a deep flounce and lappets, or tails, of drab lace, and another had a narrower border of mink on the shaped stole and a deep plaited frill of brown chiffon.

The short loose bolero which reveals the waist is quite the style in Paris and Vienna, and this style is infinitely more distinguished than the belted bolero in Russian style and looks more suitable for outdoor wear.

Gray is to be much worn this spring, and there is a fancy for costumes all of one color.

A gown of spangled net with raised embroidery in chenille and silver tissue is shown in the picture.

For Spring Wear. Bias strappings of panne are much used on fine cloth and narrow braid, gathered ribbon, silk cord or strappings outline panne bands.



GOWN OF POINT D'ESPRIT.

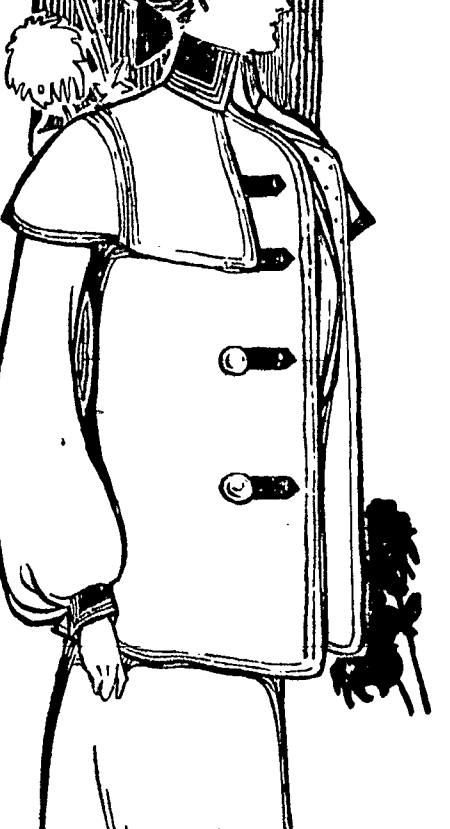
cape collar of bruges lace edged with fur and sometimes bordered with plisse chiffon which matches the gown.

Chiffon, lace and panne muffs and stoles are seen with touches of fur and marabou trimmings. In some muffs there is a little opening well protected by a silk lining for bouquets of real flowers.

The chataleine purse is quite a costly accessory. The most useful and economical are made of steel beads. The enamel mountings with gilt chain purses are very elegant, and so are those in gold or oxidized silver set in turquoise.

A dainty point d'esprit gown is shown in the illustration.

The Incoming Peterline. The peterline is now prepared for spring wear and is really a new form of cape ruffle. It will doubtless achieve popularity in its more elegant and cost



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Zibeline cloth is a decidedly welcome material, as it is smart in the lighter tones both for evening and carriage wear and in the darker tones makes a useful country or driving wrap. Fawn zibeline, with touches of brown panne and coarse Arab lace, gives a very smart effect, and ivory white trimmed with chiffon and soft fur makes the daintiest of evening wraps.

A useful coat is shown in the cut.

JUDITH CHELLER.

NEW YORK FASHIONS

NEW YORK ALIVE WITH PRETTY GOWNS.

Spring Comes With a Splendor of Shirt Waists—For the Little Misses There Are Dainty Frocks and Coats

After all, what girl doesn't almost live in a shirt waist during the summer. Always so cool and comfortable, and this season some of them are so elaborately trimmed that they can easily be worn for dressy occasions.

The designs in wash silk waists are



as dainty and pretty as can be, and are so inexpensive that we can all have at least one and the girl who is handy with her needle and has a fair idea of dressmaking can make herself one of these waists with very little trouble, as they are unlined and fit loosely.

A very pretty wash waist that is shown is made of wash China silk. It is much on the order of the plain shirt waist, with a wide box plait of curly insertion, with cuffs and collar to match. One or two rows of shirring at the shoulder seam. Throw plenty of fulness into the bust. The sleeves are bishop, with wide cuffs. Another of these thin, breezy waists is made of the same material, the entire waist being a creation of narrow tucks and insertion both back and front. The insertion is so arranged as to effect a rather pointed yoke. The sleeves are also trimmed with the lace insertion from shoulder to elbow, where the bishop's puff commences and ends in a wide ruff of the insertion and tucks.

This waist, worn with a pretty white broadcloth or stamine skirt and a large picture hat, would make a very stylish costume.

Silk and Velvet. For the quiet dinners at home during the sombre days of Lent, a charming gown of pastel blue will be worn. The material of which the gown is composed is soft voile, and its clinging lines are trimmed with ecru lace. This is heavy, and is used in broad bands and is applied on. The skirt is round and a full one, and is over silk of the same delicate hue.

About the bottom of the skirt is a band of the lace, while another is slightly below the knees, and a third about the hips. These are graduated in depth. The bodice is fastened in the back with small turquoise buttons and the voile is slightly full where it is draped on to the silk lining. A deep lace yoke is about the shoulders, and a slight puff of insertion finishes the puffed, tiny sleeves.

Alry Fashions. Fashion seems averse to anything cumbersome or heavy in the way of trimming. Small flowers arranged in airy sprays and garlands are popular. Hats this spring will be faced with silk or gauze flower petals. Fur bows, the thinnest of taffeta gauze, mousseline de soie and lace are most in request. In fact, Dame Fashion has decreed that this is to be an airy, gauzy, gossamer summer.

A very dainty frock for a small maiden is of cream white albatross cloth. The skirt is laid in fine pleats and has a double scroll of heavy lace running round it about half way between the waist line and hem. The waist has a yoke of the lace, below which appear three rows of shirring. The full sleeve is gathered into a cuff of lace. It also has a fitted shoulder cap of lace and is shirred to match the waist. A wide, soft sash of pale blue surah silk is a pretty finish to this charmingly dainty little get up.

Servicable and at the same time dressy, is a navy blue etamine school frock. The skirt has two deep accordion pleated ruffles, which falling from the waistband give the appearance of a double skirt. The waist is also accordion pleated. Deep yoke-shaped collar of cream-colored lace in shape by three diamond-shaped pieces of crimson taffeta, each piece being stitched in navy blue silk and finished by a small blue tassel. The bell sleeves which is lined with crimson silk and finished with the diamonds of silk to match the collar, opens over a light sleeve of lace and a sash of crimson surah is knotted about the dainty waist.

The parks and avenues are filled with little maids attired in all their spring finery. A very fetching outfit designed for one small girl is of fawn-colored broadcloth. The coat, which hangs below the knees, is rather full. Running zig-zag around it as a dis-

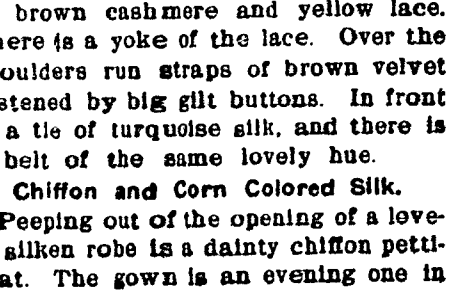
trance of about six inches apart are two narrow bands of golden brown velvet. A full shoulder cape has the same design running round it and is finished with a standing collar and stole-shaped tabs of brown velvet embroidered in pale blue and gold.

From the tabs hang big brown silk tassels. The hat to be worn with this exceedingly smart little coat is of yellow Tuscan braid and is trimmed with two brown quills and a big fly-away bow of pale blue liberty satin.

A dear little frock for a dear little maid is of pale blue voile. The short and fluffy skirt is composed of four shaped ruffles each one being lined with white taffeta. The waist, which blouses over the skirt has a yoke of Irish lace and three shaped folds of voile about the shoulders, finished on the left side with a huge white silk rosette. The big white chip hat is faced with blue and trimmed with a mother of pearl buckle and big blue bow.

Another dainty little house frock is of brown cashmere and yellow lace. There is a yoke of the lace. Over the shoulders run straps of brown velvet fastened by big gilt buttons. In front is a tie of turquoise silk, and there is a belt of the same lovely hue.

Chiffon and Corn Colored Silk. Peeping out of the opening of a lovely silken robe is a dainty chiffon petticoat. The gown is an evening one in corn-colored silk, and the accordion-pleated chiffon is of the new champagne tint. Though this is pleated from the waist line to the hem, a deep flounce, also pleated, is set upon the bottom of it. The gown has a long train, and this is finished, as is either line on the two sides of the opening, with floral embroidery. This is applied on, is about three inches wide, and is in many delicate pastel tints. Inside the silk embroidery, next to the chiffon, the gown is touched with deep



turquoise blue velvet. Straps of this appear at the shoulders, and are held in place by topaz buckles. The corsage is cut square, and is elaborate with the floral embroidery. The sleeves are demi in length, and end with a deep flounce of the chiffon and have bunches of long velvet ribbon upon them.

The following was heard in a hour's walk on Broadway and Fifth avenue: "He's made five thousand in the last four months."

"She would be ashamed to appear in such a play."

"I guess if she were old and ugly you wouldn't take such an interest in her."

"He has no more idea of Romeo than a cat. They wanted me, but when I told 'em my salary—"

"What does she care?" She's got money and what more—"

"Now, don't tell me anything like that, please. You must think I'm a fool. Why she saw you?"

"And a big, raw apple every night before you go to bed."

"That isn't his wife. His wife is short and fair. Well, did you ever see such—"

"Yes, they're rich, but I wouldn't change places with her with that—"

"They say he drinks dreadfully."

"And she charged me \$45 for the commonest kind of a cape."

"Good Lord! If I can't bow to a girl, it's a pity. You're the most jealous woman—"

Mrs. Merington's Philosophy. Of Irish birth and Scotch upbringing, Mrs. Merington had lived in London, Paris and Vienna, and had had in her day opportunities of studying men and manners, love and life, such as are afforded to few of her sex.

About life she had many characteristic sayings, of which these are a few: "The only rule for happiness here below is to limit your wants."

"Soft hearts are the world's pin-cushion."

"To succeed in life be selfish and good-tempered, confident and indifferent."

"If a man wants to make a name he must learn to take fate by the throat."

She Loved Him. "And are you sure you love him?" "Am I sure? Do you see this dress?"

"Of course I do. What of it?" "Will you kindly tell me if it bears the slightest resemblance to the present styles?"

"Well, really, it—er—it—" "It doesn't."

"No." "And I'm wearing it because he likes it."

Fat and Lean. Two friends met after an absence of some years, during which time the one had increased considerably in bulk and the other still resembled only the "effigy of a man."

Said the stout gentleman, "Why, Dick, you look as if you had not had a dinner since I saw you last."

"And you," replied the other, "look as if you had been at dinner ever since."

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