

OUR FASHION LETTER.

Many Pretty Costumes Designed For Schoolgirls.

LOOSE SACK COATS ARE SMART.

The Spanish Comb Will Be Much Worn—Taffeta in Pastel Shades For Evening Wear—Spring Skirts Will Be Fuller Than Formerly.

The young girl who is still at school has many pretty costumes designed for her.

The blouse costumes, either short or long, are eminently becoming to her, and when these are made of stout material of fancy weave the effect is very jaunty, especially when there is a wide belt fastening with a prettily jeweled buckle.

Collars and wide cuffs of embroidery add much to the simplest costumes, and navy blue and dull red are tones which lend themselves best to trimming with embroideries.

Loose sack coats and plaited skirts are among the smartest tailor made



A PARTY DRESS.

for the young person, and to be very smart the hat should match. This may either be of the tricorne or the sailor shape trimmed with a twist of velvet and a couple of good quills.

The wide hat of velvet or taffeta is very becoming to a youthful face, and particularly so when it is trimmed with a wreath of velvet shaded flowers.

Beaver hats adorned with coque feathers to match are worn with workmanlike cloth costumes. Some charming models in rough beaver, trimmed with ostrich feathers and faced with white cloth, have been designed to wear with elaborate toilets of cloth or velvet.

The prettiest material for a party dress is crepe de chine, next to white flimsy fabrics, and the latter are not always suitable. The illustration shows a very dainty little frock of crepe de chine trimmed with mitered insertions and lace.

THE REVIVAL OF JET.

The large Spanish comb is revived, and it will be much worn in the hair this spring. Jet will be worn in the hair also, but brilliant jet which sparkles like gems. It will be shaped into flowers and wide wings.

There is an entire revival of jet in blouses, boleros and entire costumes. Sometimes silver is introduced, but all black is more fashionable. All black, all white and judicious mixtures of



PALE YELLOW WAIST.

black, white and gray are seen on the leaders of fashion now staying in the Riviera.

The revival of flowered and pompadour designs in silk is apparent even in the linings of garments and furs. Petticoats, too, are made of these dainty fabrics and are trimmed with dyed lace and bands of plain silk of a contrasting shade.

Taffeta in pretty pastel shades is smart for evening gowns, but it must be softened by chiffon or soft lace.

All of the new silks come in soft lustrous weaves to allow of plenty of fullness in the making without any stiff, awkward effect.

Skirts for spring wear will be fuller

and wider than those that have been worn during the winter. Plaits of all sorts and sizes will insure a perfect fit over the hips, and many ingenious devices have been conceived to give the necessary flare.

The cut shows a waist of pale yellow crepe de chine, yellow lace and black velvet ribbon.

BERTHA AND HOOD EFFECTS.
Where a bertha effect is not desired a hood effect is often simulated by means of flat folds of lace lined with bright silk. Panels of oriental embroidery run perpendicularly on skirts and are finished at the ends with fringed trimmings.

A full shirred bolero effect of lace is often used over a tight fitting bodice belt.

Black chiffon velvet makes a delightful evening gown, for it allows of a full



VIOLET SILK HAT.

gathered skirt owing to its supple, clinging folds, and the waist can be prettily draped and finished off with a deep bertha of fine creamy lace.

Jet is being enthusiastically revived—not the coat of mail jet, but jet embroideries, jet leaves and jet flowers. Jet dog collars encircle the throat and are set off by fastenings of diamonds, and a wreath of jet leaves worn in the hair is excessively smart.

One of the latest novelties is a black chiffon veil with appliques of velvet leaves or in an exquisite French blue shade with a bright Dresden stripe and threads of gold on either side, while quite one of the newest styles is composed of plain black taffeta, unrelieved by lace or chiffon, the only adornment being rows of frilled ruchings about four inches apart. The inner side is lined with black.

The cut shows a hat of violet silk trimmed with pale violet ostrich tips.

ELABORATE EVENING GOWNS.

Evening gowns are becoming more and more elaborate, and many of them show marked Louis XVI. effects. This is shown in the long pointed girdles, the sleeves with wide ruffles and the wide skirts with their festooned ruching. A very up to date model recently seen in the workshop of a great dressmaker had a shirred and corded waist with a wide pointed girdle and elbow sleeves, plentifully ruffled and ruffled. The skirt was gathered in very full all around the waistband, and it was trimmed at the bottom with rows of ruching. The material was a beautiful pompadour silk in a blurred design.

Roses and their buds made of chiffon adorn many a pink chiffon dancing



GOWN OF WHITE TULLE.

frock, and these pretty trimmings can be bought by the yard and detached. Velvet ribbon threaded through coarse lace is another dainty trimming, and so are medallions of lace applied at intervals on flowered ribbon.

Embellishments, however, are far and away the most popular, and they are particularly handsome made of chiffon or brussels net.

The long, voluminous hanging sleeves are a feature of every evening gown. They are often accented plaited and edged with a tiny ruching.

The hair dressed low, with a big black velvet bow, is an evening style greatly in favor among red haired and blond women.

A most becoming white stock is adorned with violet composed of French knots, the neckband fastened with three tiny buttons, revealing a touch of pale blue, while the short stole ends are adorned with chiffon violets.

The picture shows an evening gown of white tulle over white silk, trimmed with a pink sash and tiny pink roses.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

An Animal Story For Little Folks

The Elephant and the Bee

The elephant and the bee had always been on the best of terms, and in all their acquaintanceship they never had a quarrel, and I guess they would have lived in peace and happiness with each other for all their lives if it had not been for an accident that happened.

And what do you suppose it was? Why, one day the elephant was going along the road, and he was tired, for



"OUCH!" HOWLED THE ELEPHANT

he had walked a long distance that day. So he thought he would sit down and rest for a little while. In the meantime the bee had thrown himself on the grass and gone to sleep, for it was a warm day, and he, too, was tired. Well, what should happen but that the elephant sat down on the bee's hind foot.

And the bee? He was hopping mad and said all sorts of nasty things.

So the bee crawled into the elephant's trunk just as far as he could, and then he gathered all his strength and gave poor Mr. Elephant the hardest sting that he possibly could.

"Ouch!" howled the elephant. "You naughty thing! I'll fix you for that!" And the next moment he sneezed a mighty sneeze.

Did you ever see an elephant sneeze? Well, he raises more disturbance for a few seconds than a March wind.

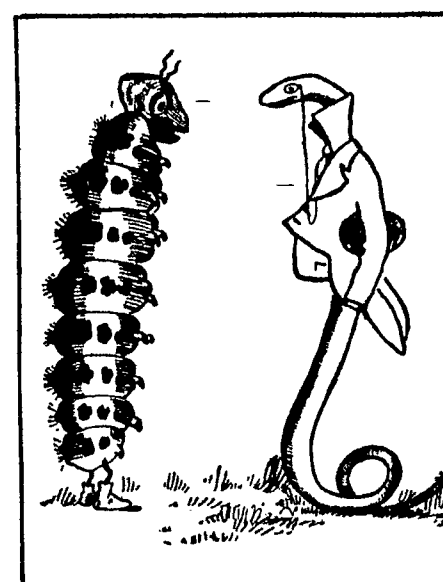
What became of Mr. Bee? I don't know, and nobody else does. He was borne out on the breath of that mighty sneeze, and he hasn't been seen since. —St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

An Animal Story For Little Folks

The Caterpillars' Ball

The caterpillars' dance was the biggest thing that the caterpillar family had given for many and many a long day, and you may rest assured that not one of the invitations that were sent out was thrown away.

When the fiddlers had just begun to fiddle and the dancers had lined up



"I'M A CATERPILLAR," ANSWERED MR. EARTHWORM.

on the floor for the first grand waltz, who should come along but Mr. Earthworm.

"Only caterpillars are admitted here," said the chief doorkeeper.

"Well, I'm a caterpillar," answered Mr. Earthworm, and he looked offended.

"What kind of a caterpillar?" asked the doorkeeper.

"I'm a balldworm caterpillar," answered the earthworm promptly.

So they decided to let him in anyway, and soon he was in the hall and dancing with the prettiest lady caterpillar there.

But one of the little caterpillars dropped a piece of chewing gum on the floor, and right in the midst of the whole affair Mr. Earthworm slipped on it, and down he went in a heap on the floor.

Everybody cried "Oh!" for they thought that he must have been hurt, but he sprang up quickly enough and was ready to keep on dancing. But, wonderful to relate, the earthworm got up wrong end foremost and began to dance around upside down, for you know that one end of an earthworm looks as much like his head as the other. But the caterpillars knew the difference, and they all thought that he must be a ghost. The lady caterpillars screamed, and the gentlemen caterpillars jumped out of the window and that ended the big ball, except that when Mr. Earthworm started to go home a crowd of caterpillar policemen caught him and sent him to jail for three summers — his badness.

Moral.—Don't go where you don't belong. —Chicago Tribune.

MISS TUCKED BLOUSE COAT.

To Be Made With or Without the Cape.

Tucked blouse coats are much worn by young girls as well as by mature women and are exceedingly becoming. This one allows a choice of cape and is made with the latest sleeves and the flat neck finish, that is desirable with the fur neck collar and fancy bows of the season. The model is made of royal blue broad

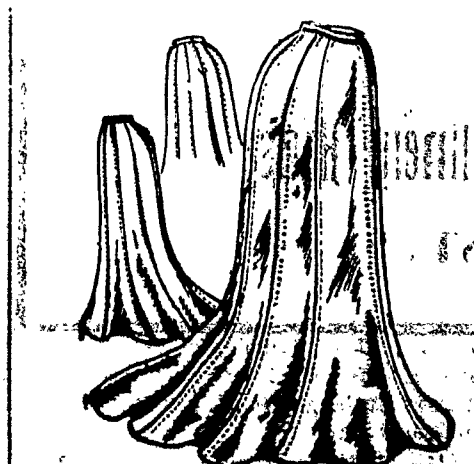


cloth with cuffs of velvet and trimming of Persian lamb braid and makes part of the costume, but the coat suits the bodice equally well. The coat consists of blouse and skirt portions which are tucked on continuous lines. The blouse is fitted by means of shoulder and under-arm seams. When the cape is used it is arranged over the shoulders with its edges beneath the outermost tucks. The sleeves are tucked above the elbows, from full puffs below and are finished with shaped cuffs. The skirt, or tunic, is tucked, fitted over the hips by means of darts and joined to the blouse beneath the belt.

NINE GORED SKIRT.

To Be Made With Inverted Plait or Habit Back.

Many-gored skirts mean much flare and are necessary to present graceful lines. This one is peculiarly graceful and allows either a habit back or inverted plaits, or, again, can be gathered at the back gores. The model is made of nut brown broadcloth with



corticell silk, but all gown and skirt materials of the heavier sort are appropriate and the finish can be piped seams, braid or applied trimming of any suitable sort.

The skirt is cut in nine gores all of which flare freely below the knees, but fits with perfect snugness over the hips. When habit back is used the centre back gores are cut off at indicated lines and the closing is made invisibly at the seam. Plaits can be stitched as illustrated or pressed only as preferred.

The Queen's Rebuke.

Some years ago, when the present Queen Alexandra of England was Princess of Wales, and her children were very small, they were staying at a quiet watering-place. The Montreal Star repeats this little story of the royal family, which shows that Queen Alexandra is much like other good mothers, and that her children are like children the world over.

Once, on returning from a short ball, one of the little princesses was walking up the plank.

An old sailor instinctively said: "Take care, little lady!"

The child drew herself up haughtily, and said: "I'm not a lady; I'm a princess!"

The Princess of Wales, who overheard the kindly injunction and the rather ill-bred reply, said quickly: "Tell the good sailor you are not a little lady yet, but you hope to be some day." —Selected.

What Experience Teaches.

Something that is far better than a brush to remove mud from shoes is a piece of carpet glued to a piece of wood.

To cork pickle bottles tightly it is a good plan to boil the corks and put them in when they are still hot.

Your thread will never knot if you thread your needle from the end of the cotton next the spool as you break it off.

Shaded Veilings.

Both in chiffon and in mousseline we have the new veiling for the face and hat, softly shaded for its entire length.

Veiling in shades of violet is very beautiful, because here the tints are all soft, delicate wistaria lavender shading to violet and then to darkest pansy purple.

Sebevaing young men are not at all slow. Taking the lead of "Nelly," "Mayme," "Lillian" and "Adah," they are signing their names "BYE," "FYM" and "Franque," and are cutting a wide swath in society. —Detroit Free Press.

A Chinese Supper.

The supper given by Mrs. George A. Kohn at the Hotel de Ville on Thursday evening last, for the benefit of the Chinese Relief Society, was a most successful one. There was a complete and delicious menu of the Oriental dishes, which were prepared by the Chinese Relief Society. The supper was given in the Chinese Relief Society's hall, which was beautifully decorated with lanterns, dragon flags, and other Chinese decorations. The Chinese Relief Society is a most interesting and useful organization, and it is a pleasure to see it so well supported. The supper was a most successful one, and it is a pleasure to see it so well supported.

Northwestern Women and Southern Men. The surprising feature of the northwestern woman's criticism of the southern man is the slight respect she has for his chivalry toward women. While she thinks that "he will never divert himself of the idea that he possesses the one true brand of chivalry," yet, at the same time she does not consider it of much actual value. The southerner, for instance, would not let her climb "a hill" unaided; but "his politeness" is a certain contempt for my weakness and in consequence, mentally and physically. In sectional feeling he differs only from his female relatives in "lack of acidity rather than of potency," and still has unshaken confidence in what he calls "his beautiful southernism," especially as it was "brought to the wash." His treatment of a woman of reputed college honors is peculiar. If she is not pretty, he does not approach her at all, but if she is comely and well dressed he entertains her with Latin quotations and reminiscences of his favorite professor, who was a graduate of the University of Virginia, and undoubtedly one of the finest Greek scholars in the entire north, south and west. —Chicago Tribune.

LOUNGING OR STEAMER GOWN.
The necessity for a lounging gown that means perfect rest and relaxation is apparent to every woman whether the travel or remains at home. This one is eminently simple and practical and serves its purpose well, being adapted both to home and steamer wear. As shown it is made of French flannel, blue and white, but Scotch flannel, flannellette and all



similar materials are equally appropriate for the warmer gowns, washable fabrics for those of warm weather wear.

The gown is made with fronts and backs all of which are tucked to yoke depth and stitched with corticell silk. At the neck is a turn-over collar and the sleeves are full and wide, gathered into straight cuffs. Below the tucks the gown is comfortably full. The fronts are finished with hems and lapped one over the other, the closing being made with buttons and buttonholes.

Woman's Happiest Age.

When a girl is eighteen she thinks the best time of a woman's life must certainly be from eighteen to twenty-two. When she has passed her twenty-second year, she is decidedly of opinion that from then until the age of twenty-eight really marks the limits of the best time, and when thirty comes on the scene she is ready to give way to all those who believe a woman to be then at the zenith of her life.

It is generally maintained that after twenty-five the average woman begins to attain her physical and mental perfection, and that for some eight or ten years after this she still retains her charms undiminished. After this time, of course, it depends entirely upon the woman whether she chooses to sweeten her years, or by her charming personality and clever dressing conceal all traces of time.

Novel Wedding Reception.

At wedding receptions there are being suggested many novel and interesting ideas. One of the most novel is the "happy hour" as the guests are invited to the reception. The guests are invited to the reception at a certain hour, and the bride and groom are present. The guests are invited to the reception at a certain hour, and the bride and groom are present.

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