

PARIS AGAIN GAY; CLOTHES CHANGE

Better Feeling in French Capital Having Its Effect on Women's Fashions.

AMERICAN AID RESPONSIBLE

Satin, Which Has Been Favorite Material All Winter for Outdoor Wear, Is Expected to Continue in Favor.

New York.—Among the accumulations in the war news there are little nuggets of cheer. One of these is the undoubted improvement of what might be called the general atmosphere of Paris. Every arrival from that city, every fashion letter, even the more serious chronicles, speak of the intangible change which has come over the municipal conscience. Apparently, nothing is changed; yet in the restaurants and hotels the meals are more appetizing, the diners are gay; the theaters are fuller and the pieces played there are more interesting and better mounted. At the opera at the conferences of fashionable lecturers, at the law courts, at the places where social life is held, there is a story of better dressing of increased interest in cloth, and all that pertains to them of the discreet reappearance of jewelry, is told by so many witnesses that we are forced by mere weight of numbers to believe them.

Paris itself wonders. But make inquiries as to the reason, and after more or less deliberation you will receive from all quarters the same answer. America is responsible.

The American troops are paid on a scale that would turn a French war ministry white with horror. Besides, many of the brand-new officers now wearing Uncle Sam's uniform are men with bank accounts which would be respected even in extravagant New York. Put any American with money in his pocket in Paris, and his impulse is to spend it and keep on spending it. Wearing brown clothes and a flannel shirt isn't going to alter that instinct. It's too deep-seated.

The visiting American officer goes to the theater, of course, though unfortunately he is apt to be a little deaf in his French ear. But his eyes are keen enough; and by all accounts, he gets his money's worth optically if not orally. Parisian plays are said to be better and to be more attractively costumed than they have been since 1914. There is no ban millaire on evening dress, on the stage, at least, though the prohibition still ex-



Gown with draped skirt. It is of pale-pink taffeta, with the bodice embroidered with white silk. Old rose velvet ribbon runs over the shoulder and around the waist. The skirt is caught up at one side, and the other side is veiled in white tulle.

tends to the audience. However, we are told that the Parisienne is feeling so much happier that she makes one thickness of tulle fulfill official requirements, and the demi-toilette grows more like formal evening dress every week.

The demi-toilette, however, is nothing new to France. There has always been a certain popularity for this type of gown in Paris, and worn with a hat, it was often seen at the theater or at restaurant or hotel dinners before the war.

Paris Again Gay.

Some of the recent first nights in Paris have been dignified by the wearing of exceedingly good clothes. This was particularly true of the

premieres of Jeanne d'Arc, a work new to Paris, though not to London. "Hal toilettes," which were only to be distinguished from the ante-bellum evening gowns by the aforementioned use of a film of tulle, were worn by all the women; and many of them appeared in interesting and unusual head dresses. Paris seems to feel the necessity of headgear with a semi-evening frock; hence the introduction of all sorts of amusing arrangements. Oriental turbans, jeweled effects, elaborate bands of jet with danglers over the ears, all of these and many more were seen, and they were creations of the best dressmakers of France.

In the street, the Parisienne still champions the frock and coat, or the dress and jacket, as that she should wear. All winter, satin has been a favorite material for outdoor things. Interlined, of course, for warmth and simply stathered with fur.

Satin will continue in favor and there is mention of a revival of the "wood back" variety, which had some



New hat for the spring. It is of dark red straw with a large flower worked out in worsted in the front.

success a good many years ago. For spring, the combination of materials which seems to please our own designers and manufacturers equally well, will be featured.

There really ought to be few women with "the face" to knit in colored wools for their own adornment, in these days of crying demands from the army and navy. But the slip-on garment without sleeves has taken such a hold upon our affections that it is difficult to think of abolishing it altogether. Nor need we do so, American designers, anxious to serve the soldiers and sailors in this vital matter, have had the cleverness to offer the same type of garment in materials of which there is, at present, no such pressing need.

Vests of flannels, of heavy shantung and other rough weaves of silk, even of satin, made almost exactly like the sweater vest of last summer have been made up and are being offered to women whose patriotic intention might weaken if these novelties were any less attractive than they are. Jersey, both in wool and silk, is another favorite material for them.

Jersey Weaves Taken Up.

In fact, jersey weaves have not in the least diminished in popularity. The first wool jersey worn in this country was rather too reminiscent of Uncle Josh's red underwear to have a success with fastidious women. But the weave has greatly improved.

As for the silk varieties, there is a heavy sort, of vegetable fiber, which is immensely satisfactory. It is heavy and lustrous and not too stretchable. It hangs in the rich, long folds that cling to the figure and lends itself particularly well to strictly one-piece frocks or coats which hang from the shoulders in an Oriental effect. Such material is never lined, but it is worn over a lining of some sort made especially for it.

Paris is using this heavy kind for outdoor coats, some of them of the sheep-wool head sort, which have failed to achieve success with us, but which she still fancies. Our hotels, restaurants and houses are still, in spite of threatened coal-famines, so well-heated, for the most part, that we have retained our habit of supplying our outdoor garments at the slightest provocation. The idea of wriggling out of a coat made all in one piece or pulling it over our heads like a sailor boy taking off his blouse does not appeal to the Parisienne.

The French woman's way of getting it on again, which is simply to make a circle of the garment on the floor and step into the middle of it, pulling it up around her. Here is another reason for the retention of the small hat. Such a feat would be impossible in a big one.

Most of the milliners say small hats for spring, for the beginning of spring at any rate. Lewis is reported to have said "toques" very distinctly and to be making them to suit individual faces, by building them on the head of a client, fold by fold. It must be an interesting operation to watch. Of course, as long as hats do such things, half-dressing is doomed to remain very much as at present. And no one has either time or inclination to indulge in the making of elaborate puffs and curls in these times of strenuous endeavor, war work and 24-hour waking days.

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Silk for Summer.

Silk and satin suits will no doubt come into their own again next summer. Even foulard is being made into suits. The scarcity and high prices of wool material no doubt are the cause, but women are glad of the opportunity to wear such thoroughly feminine material and feel fashionably dressed at the same time.

TRIM STOCK SMART

Chic When Rising From Severe Line of Tailored Coat.

High-Collared Chemisettes, Resembling Little Waistcoats, Seen in Many Variations.

A tailored gown or suit is often made or marred by the neck necessary worn with it. It is almost if not quite as important to this type of costume that its wearer should choose correct and suitable smartness is only equalled by its suitability.

The chic of a trim, dainty stock rising from the severe line of the tailored coat collar is unquestionable, and it is amazing how many women have become at least ten years younger since adopting this fashion.

There are, however, unfortunately many women who are incapable of giving the careful attention to the details of the toilet which is required by the high-collared neck accessory, for a stock collar of any sort must fit the neck perfectly and be adjusted with the utmost care at the opening either front or back. This applies equally to the high-collared blouse, the lace stock with the jabot attached and the high-collared chemisette.

The high-collared chemisettes which are to be seen in a charming little waistcoat, are shown in a variety of materials and many ingenious variations of shape and detail. There are a very few in color, but white is apparently much more modish, at least for the present. Ivory satin stocks and chemisettes, while not in the very front rank of novelties, are still new enough and pretty enough to be worth any woman's consideration.

There are some extremely smart white satin stocks either of the plain wrinkled variety or with a flaring top.



Neckwear of Great Variety.

From these depend rather voluminous jobs of chiffon, net or lace. The net or chiffon is edged by two or three rows of fine silk braid.

Again, clever little gingham waistcoat chemisettes are appearing, and very enticing they are with their fresh colors and trim tailored finish. In green and white, blue and white or rose and white checks they are open down the front and either fastened with pearl buttons or with pearl links.

The collar turns over a little at the top and a narrow flat black tie finishes it.

SOME HINTS FOR HOSTESSES

First of All, It Is Declared, Room Where Guests Are Received Must Be as Lovely as It Can Be Made.

One of the pleasantest things in the world is a friendly house where people love to come and linger. Some women, it is true, were born good hostesses, while others find the greatest difficulty in entertaining naturally and simply. Although hospitality, if not natural, is hard to cultivate, still it can be done.

First of all, says a popular hostess, the room where you receive your guests must be as lovely as you can afford to make it.

A pretty room with comfortable chairs, new books and a cheerful fireplace is a heart warmer in itself. Do not try to amuse your guests too much. People often have the best time when left to their own devices; but watch them carefully and see that they have everything that they want.

Get the young people together. If there are two young people who, you believe, would like to talk alone, make this possible and they will be eternally grateful.

See that the men have ash trays if they need them, and that everybody is comfortable.

Most important of all, be a good listener.

Shoe-Top Length.

Shoe-top length prevails in the new skirts, says the Dry Goods Economist. There is no indication that longer skirts will meet with success.

The dressy skirts are developed in satin, taffeta, foulard, tussah, a few (ficolines, serge and jersey. White skirts in satin, taffeta and in wash fabrics, such as cotton gaberdine, piques and other materials of this character, are also in evidence. Novelty pocket are the chief feature of cotton wash skirts.

ETON JACKET TO BE POPULAR

Sleeves on Spring Suits Are Tight and Cuffs, More Often Than Not, Are Exaggeratedly Flaring.

In one Fifth Avenue house, where strong stress is laid upon the creation of American-made suits and gowns, there is a decided movement toward the Eton jacket as a standard for spring suits, says the New York Times. The argument is that, if wool must be conserved, then this is the best manner in which to do it. An Eton jacket is a graceful thing and it has had a great with it. It is almost if not quite as feminine appeal through all the ages. In this, its latest adaptation, it has lost none of its former charms and gained new ones.

Three or four points are to be distinctly noted about the new spring things—Eton and otherwise. One is that the sleeves are tight and set into normal armholes. There is a little or echo of the sleeves that fall into the waistline. Cuffs are, more often than not, exaggeratedly flaring and are cut as parts of the sleeves themselves.

Often they are faced with a contrasting color of silk. Collars of white are being the careful attention to the details of the toilet which is required by the same material as the gown or of high-collared neck accessory, for a stock collar of any sort must fit the neck perfectly and be adjusted with the utmost care at the opening either front or back. This applies equally to the high-collared blouse, the lace stock with the jabot attached and the high-collared chemisette.

HINTS FOR THE BUSY WOMAN

New headdresses follow Russian lines. Little hats have big ears composed of straw.

Jersey in silk and wool is featured by Rodier.

Slipover jackets are still exploited by Lanvin.

Dahlias knitted of wool decorate chapeaux de crepe.

Sailors of duvet de laine are faced with punta straw or lincere.

Bangkok promise to be as good next summer as last for wear at the country club.

Patriotic Patricia will select a spring suit of silk and conserve the wool.

Semi-tailored blouses of satin or georgette are in the best of style.

Pockets no longer form ornamental designs, but are hidden away in seams.

A new domino check is attracting attention at the fabric counter.

Much jet is being used by the high priestesses of hatdom.

Athletic "undies" made of cotton batiste, are patterned after garments worn by men.

Lingerie frocks are composed of fine handkerchief linen in pastel shades.

Hercules braid comes again into the dress light and puts soutache in the shade.

Silk jerseys show motifs in high relief worked in flat and raised stitches.

Knee-length coats of black satin will be worn with white frocks this coming summer.

Festive frocks of net are trimmed with silk flit. Nets in all the pastel shades are fashionable. Palm Beach is in a regular rainbow glow of these delicate tints and colorings.

EVENING WRAP OF MOLESKIN



This beautiful evening wrap is of ermine and moleskin, the latter being used in the body of the garment, with the ermine as trimming. The convertible collar is a striking feature of this coat.

A Coat Dress.

When a coat dress has a waistline at all it is either high or low, never quite where the old-fashioned waistline is supposed to be.

The coat which has only a back waistline has it low, and both the upper and lower parts of the coat are tightly eased into the band which indicates it. The sash belt is more often placed a little high on one side, with a drop on the other, where it is knotted or looped.

Where there is a belt all round it is not unusual for the fastening to show one end buttoned about an inch higher than the other end, the buttons then being fixed to the coat.

ON TURKISH LINES

Bifurcated—Boudoir—Garment Found to Be Very Comfortable.

Two-in-One Negligee Has This Advantage But Can Be Worn Outside of One's Own Room.

Negligee or boudoir garments built on Turkish lines are general favorites with designers of this class of apparel, and a woman who has once possessed and worn a bifurcated boudoir garment of this type cannot but admit that it is extraordinarily comfortable. However, if it is to be the really beautiful garment that it should and may be, lovely rich fabrics must be used in its development. Every woman is not willing or able to spend a large sum on a garment in which she feels entirely comfortable only in her own room.

The sketch illustrates a two-in-one negligee that is well worth considering and developing. The underneath part



Unusual Two-in-One Negligee.

of the outfit consists of comfortable, loose Turkish trousers with an equally loose and equally comfortable blouse. The two garments are attached so they do not slip apart at the waistline.

A wide soft sash should be made to match or harmonize with the trouser and blouse garment.

A loose, flowing overall of chiffon, georgette or other sheer fabric transforms this simple negligee into a graceful hostess gown, quite elaborate and handsome enough to be worn at an afternoon tea in one's own home or for a strictly family dinner.

As will be noted, the overdrapery of this garment is cut quite long, so that only fleeting glimpses of the trousers are seen.

A good effect could be produced by using peacock green satin for the underneath section, with smoke gray or black for the overdrapery. If desired, the latter may be embroidered in silk floss in a color matching the satin of the trousers and blouse.

Many women lead such a strenuous lives now that thought must be given to comfortable and becoming garments for wear at home, in order that they may properly rest.

TIPS ON SHOE CONSERVATION

Drying Wet Footwear Too Quickly Takes the Life Out of Leather and Destroys Its Durability.

When the shoes get wet be careful. In drying them, not to place them too near the fire, as they will burn almost instantly; and if dried too quickly the life is taken out of the leather and its durability is destroyed. Also stuff wet shoes with paper or shoe trees to prevent cracking and to keep the shape of the shoes.

If your shoes are polished with proper dressing they will wear twice as long as shoes that are not properly cared for. To keep them soft and pliable there is nothing better than an oil which can be bought cheaply.

Frequent application of this oil which is used in the army—say once a week, will keep the leather soft; it will also add long life to the shoes. It should be applied to uppers and soles.

Heavy Satin.

Perhaps you have been a bit worried when you have read that before long we may be asked to refrain from buying woolen coats and frocks for winter use. Don't worry. One of the things promised for spring is a very heavy double-faced satin. It is to be used largely for coats and is made up in such combinations as dark-green and black, claret and black and blue and black. It makes one quite resigned to the fact that wool is scarce and that it is a patriotic thing as soon as the weather moderates to forego its use as much as possible.

FOR THE YOUNG GIRL'S ROOM

Attractive Substitutes May Be Found for Silver Toilet Sets That May Be Found Too Expensive.

The little girl's dressing table is often the cause of much perplexity. Sister wants toilet articles like the grown-ups of the family, but silver brushes, combs, and powder boxes are not for the extremely young. Mothers often find the price is beyond what can be spent on the younger members of the family's "extras," and more often these mothers feel that the care the silver articles would receive would not justify their purchase.

However, interest in her own room and possessions must be stimulated in the little girl, and a cheaper substitute for the silver toilet set can be found.

Possibly she already possesses an imitation ivory set. If so, use that as the foundation. If she does not possess one, they will be found at reasonable prices in the shops. If sister is nimble with her fingers she may paint on the back of the brush and on the top of the powder box, a design of flowers—possibly copied from the crocheted hangings. If the task is too much for little fingers, surely some older member of the family could accomplish it for her. Little sister's delight at her "lovely toilet set" would be plenty of recompense for the trouble.

Sometimes one will find that a medicine used in a house has been diverted in a bottle of good design. Do not throw these bottles away when you have used their contents. If the possessors glass stoppers, send them out, paint a design on their sides, stripe them with some gay colors, and lo and behold they are transformed into a toilet bottle. A set of such bottles decorated to match the design on the brush and comb would make a delightful addition to the young girl's dresser.

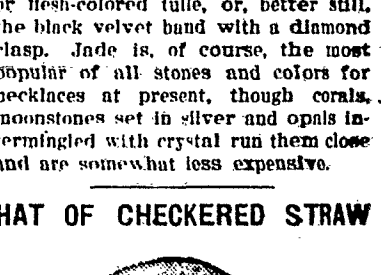
FINISHING TOUCH AT THROAT

Flat Head Necklace Made by Wounded Soldier Has Big Vogue—Paris Are Always Becoming.

The adornment of the neck is one of the fashionable phases of the moment. There is quite a vogue for the flat head necklace made by the wounded soldier. Probably a good deal of sentiment is connected with the wearing of them, but they have a distinctly decorative value, too, and make vivid splashes of color on our dark gowns.

We are beginning to realize the importance of neck adornments—their scope and their limitations—in the domain of dress; says a writer in the New York Herald. Smartness may be achieved or alienated by the little finishing touch at the throat. There is nothing, after all, more becoming than the time-honored string of pearls, which, hackneyed though it is, hardly ever seems to look amiss and seems suitable at practically any age. Only in the heyday of youth are brilliantly colored beads appropriate. After forty they should be absolutely inebriated by the soft fold of cream or flesh-colored tulle, or, better still, the black velvet band with a diamond clasp. Jade is, of course, the most popular of all stones and colors for necklaces at present, though corals and moonstones set in silver and opals intermingled with crystal run them close and are somewhat less expensive.

HAT OF CHECKERED STRAW



Checked designs always make an appeal to the fair sex, and when the design is on a bonnet which is so astonishingly simple that practically nothing else ornaments the headgear, they make an even more decided impression. This pretty model with the straw in green and maize aquares standing on a point and with the band and hat in olive green crepe makes a most youthful and dainty spring bonnet.

Smart Effects of Belts.

Belts are very wide and define the waistline without drawing it in. Many of the straight dresses have a band of very wide ribbon embroidered in heads of spangles; others show bolts of broad reversible satin ribbon, draped a little to allow a glimpse of the two colors. Much the same effect is produced by linen satin with stock-ings of a contrasting tint.

Velvetta Is New.

Velvetta is a new material scoring a success.

Taupe, fawn, slate, dark greens and plum are the winter shades of it used for novelty and street suits. Most of these models are trimmed with fur.