

LACE SEASON IS QUITE PROBABLE

Palm Beach Has Already Started to Wear Chantilly—Revived for Dinner Gowns.

SLIM SILHOUETTE DOMINANT

Half Decollete Is Considered Smart—New Egyptian Lustrous Cloth Replaces Tulle—Wooden Beads in Brilliant Colors.

New York—Paris and Palm Beach command the attention of those whose fortunes are tied up in women's apparel. Paris is more important in a large sense; Palm Beach in a smaller sense. It depends on the view point.

Paris is exhibiting to the American buyers the things that we will wear; Palm Beach is exhibiting to society and the fashion reporters those things that were devised for us to wear as long ago as the first of December.

Nearly all of the fashions that are worn at Palm Beach have been sketched and detailed, because they were turned out by American dressmakers through local inspiration or through adaptation of early French models before or just after the Christmas season.

Therefore, a fashion writer states, it is more important to dip into the future and recount what Paris has shown to the American buyers. What is now worn in Palm Beach we will undoubtedly wear through the spring, but so far, in a big season of that sort, there is nothing of extraordinary originality, and whatever is done has been foretold and outlined.

The unusual cold, the extraordinary delays in traveling and the impossibility of getting one's trunks on time, have contributed to a state of irritation at Palm Beach that one does not associate with that land of lotus eaters and pleasure seekers.

It has been the toss up with the pleasure seekers as to whether it was best to fight out the situation in the North or go to the evil they knew not of in the South, and the result has divided the great mass of moneyed people into two camps.

The same trouble that confronted the pleasure seekers in going to Palm Beach were added thereto to 100 per cent for those who went to Paris to represent our business firms and bring back the allotment of 2,000 gowns, which we consider a good showing in this country.

Last fall this allotment fell short by 500 gowns, and it is not easy to say whether the buyer will do better or worse this season. Cargo space is



France makes this pinafore frock of blue satin with panels of chiffon back and front and wide sash of blue satin tied at back.

exceptionally valuable going over, but there still seems to be much room coming back, and the buyers have learned to bring great quantities of clothes into the port as personal baggage, which helps matters.

Callot will not allow this, and, therefore, the clothes from that house do not arrive until after most of the seasonal fashions are settled in this country.

So, what Palm Beach is doing, we know. The gown there shows the slender silhouette, a prevalence of black and white worn separately or together, the second introduction of gingham and the experiment with the calico of the Southern mills.

There is no return to lingerie gowns, as was faintly promised, but there is an overwhelming vote cast for jersey in its artificial silk weave as well as the thin woolen weave that looks like men's underwear.

Overflows. The heavy pile blouses checks and touches of crimson are worn. None of these facts is new to those who have watched the progress of fashions since Christmas.

The Fashions in France. In Paris, the buyers have not found any astounding inspirations, but they have been faced with enough that is new to realize that they can make a persuasive appeal to women in the spring. They also know that the silhouette has been definitely changed.

Skirts are exceedingly narrow at the hem and tucked under, to resemble zouave trousers; panels of tulle and of a new metallic Egyptian stuff are used back and front to form this trousered effect on a narrow skirt.

Girdles are wrapped around the hips and waist. In Oriental form. The



France also shows this gown made of silvered tulle and lace dropped over a short gray satin petticoat and topped by a gray satin blouse, with short, tight sleeves.

hips are not fitted to the figure, unless by one of these Oriental girdles. While all the skirts are slender, they give no evidence of being tightly cut, that is, they do not outline the figure by the sheer result of scissors and seams.

They show the figure and attain attenuation by means of drapery that is as difficult as it is successful.

It is not an easy skirt for the amateur, for the bungler or for the tailor who is used to the hot iron, the straight seam and the large needle.

The Kinds of Material Used. Jersey cloth is invisibly shown by every house in Paris. It has large designs on it and sometimes it is beaded in circles and crescents.

The metal tissue with which we have become so familiar, has been replaced by a kind of Egyptian stuff that is very effective. The shimmer of it is obtained by some process similar to the one used on the ribbons of six years ago.

The Thread Lace Dinner Gown. The half decollete evening gown continues as the dominant fashion. We have not yet accepted it wholeheartedly in America, but a larger degree of enthusiasm may be shown for it when the informal social life of spring and summer begins.

Black tulle, thread lace and lace bouffants are constantly shown to the American buyers in the new evening gowns. The black tulle is embroidered with roses and large, conspicuous designs formed of silk thread and beads.

Thread lace is revived in such a fashion that one believes it was taken from the shelves of other years and from the trunks of other decades. Palm Beach has already started to wear Chantilly lace, and it is more than probable that America will go in for a lace season.

The dressmakers do not care for this fashion as much as one would expect, for they have to deal with the difficult problem of using their best customers' old laces. It is not a task for a civil engineer to make flounces into modern clothes, but such an expert seems to be necessary when one is asked to turn bertha, old lace frocks, scarfs and dolmans into a gown that is as modern as tomorrow.

The moment one suggests flounces, the average mind gets a quick vision of fullness, of skirts that flare, but this vision should be instantly eclipsed by another which shows that everything is scanty and nothing allowed to flare.

When lace flounces are used today they are put over slim foundations, and they may soften a harsh outline, but do not contribute much to its width.

Black tulle gowns have these thread lace flounces on them and they are draped over excessive, narrow folds of black satin, and if there is any tendency on the part of the lace to cling itself out in defiance of the new silhouette, it is promptly suppressed by a hand of jet or embroidery which tucks it under the hem of the lower skirt and keeps it in order.

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VARIETY OF WRAPS

Short Garments Are Made Like Attenuated Dolmans.

Use Chiffon of New Egyptian Tissue, Satin Lined or Trimmed With Fur and Embroidered Tulle.

Every letter from Paris lays stress upon the short wraps. They are made like attenuated dolmans. They are of chiffon, of the new glistening Egyptian tissue, of satin-lined or trimmed with fur and of embroidered tulle. They resemble elaborated scarfs. Some of them tuck in at the waistline in the back and drop long in the front; others go over the front of the figure in surplice fashion, wrap around the waist and tie with a huge bustle bow at the back.

They are worn in the afternoon over thick frocks; they are worn in the evening over half decollete frocks; they have taken the place of many short, separate jackets for street wear, and they are seen at all the performances in the theaters and at the opera, as well as in the restaurants. They are not removed. They are intended as a half-concealing, half-revealing and altogether subtle and attractive garment.

A woman will come into a restaurant with a dull lavender gown of satin, beaded and cut out half low at the neck with the arms bare from six inches below the shoulders, and the whole top of the figure and gown will be covered by a short, draped, shirred wrap with sleeves of cornflower blue tulle, the ends of which may be weighted with Chinese tassels in black, gold and yellow.

There are dolmans of black satin lined with fur, and others that have bands of kolinsky or ermine which form a collar and outline the long, pear-shaped armholes that often serve without sleeves. And—again—and again, the fur or the Egyptian beaded embroidery or metallic tissue is used to hold in these short wraps at the waistline and to form a bow or ends at the side or the back.

HIGH COLLARS AT THE BACK

Indications Are That Paris Has Given Up Effort to Indict Either High or Round-Neck-Line.

From the lovely lingerie blouses—and those of georgette crepe and chiffon as well—shown in the smart shops and worn in smart places, we may judge that Paris has almost given up her effort to indict on the American woman either the high collar or the rather unbecoming round neck-line, according to a fashion correspondent.

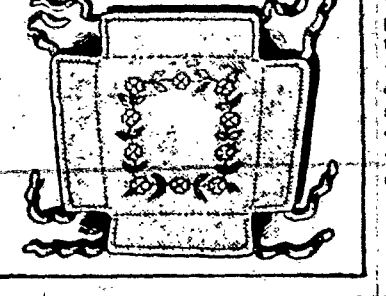
Be sure some of the very smartest new blouses have what is sometimes called the "line of decompilation," but many of the new blouses show a rather deep V-square, oval or round line in front with a little turnover collar at the back dotted harmonized with the front, a turnover that fits well up against the neck, almost touching the lower line of the hair. This line of collar, high at the back and low at the front, is, we all know, distinctly becoming to the American woman.

MAKES OLD CHAIR LOOK NEW

Pretty Covers Are Easy to Make by First Cutting Pattern From Newspaper and Fitting It Over Chair.

To well polish the wood and to provide a dainty cover for the seat of an old chair will make it look like a new one, and pretty covers are not difficult to make.

The one illustrated is of a very useful type and can be tied in position in a moment. It is carried out in dark



Embroidered Chair Cover.

brown corded silk, and bound at the edges with narrow ribbon of the same color. It is lined with satin, and tapes are sewn on at the corners where indicated.

The space enclosed in the dotted line should correspond in size with the surface of the seat of the chair, and the flaps should be large enough to entirely cover the sides. It is a good plan prior to cutting out the material to cut out a rough paper pattern from newspaper and fit it over the chair.

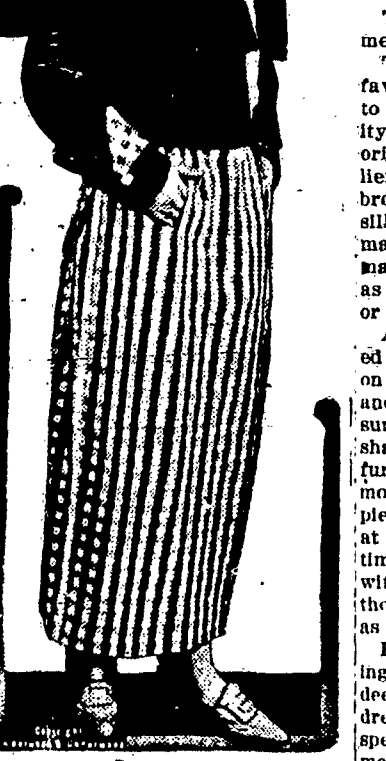
The design which appears upon the cover consists of blossoms worked in various shades of pale pink, separated with leaves worked in various shades of green.

Popular Sweaters. It is predicted that the coming summer will again be a season of sweaters. There is such a great variety now that one cannot be really well dressed and own only one or two. They range from the short hand-knit kind to the long silk and fiber silk ones, and in all colors. Sweaters may have sleeves or be sleeveless, and it is thought that they will eventually take the place of the slip-over sports blouse.

CHECKED GINGHAM SKIRT FOR EARLY SPRING

Attractive Gown Created for Favorite Parisian Actress.

Original Model Was of Beige Gaberdine and Embroidered Worked in Self-Colored Silks and Wools.



This pretty little skirt with its red and white checks on gingham makes the neat three-piece suit the hit of spring. The blouse is of the same kind of gingham, covered with red velvet, set off with a white flare collar. The blouse is straight in line and sleeveless, crossing in front and fastening under the arm.

The second sketch shows one of Premet's latest spring models. This little gown was created for a favorite Parisian actress, who is going to Monte Carlo to give some "war charity" performances. The material of the original model, writes Idalia de Villiers, was beige gaberdine and the embroideries were worked in self-colored silks and wools.

Both Premet and Doeulle are showing long straight lines this spring. Indeed this applies to most of our leading dressmakers, but chez Doeulle it is specially in evidence. Some of his best models measure a bare yard and a half at the hem of the skirt and the tunics are so long, and cut so straight, that the general effect is wonderfully youthful.

Doeulle remains faithful to the large and picturesque collar which he so successfully introduced two or three seasons ago. In some cases these col-

CAPES NEWEST FASHION NOTE

Wraps Are Made for Actual and Unremittent Service, as Far as the Outer Coverings Are Concerned.

The ultra smart clothes that are worn at the playgrounds of the South are the straws that tell which way the wind is blowing in the world of fashion.

The cape is, really, the newest note of the season as far as outer coverings are concerned. It is making its appearance more and more frequently, observes a Palm Beach fashion correspondent. The most recent of traveling capes has two or three distinctive features which are worthy of detailed notice.

The new capes are made for actual and unremittent service, and, therefore, have points of interest all their own. They are, as a rule, cut circular—many yards, even as many as five around the hem, and a top that is cut exactly to meet the closely fitting collar at the neckline. The collar then is cut so that it rolls and folds about as one's mood wishes it to do, falling carelessly, gracefully, and broadly over the shoulders when the cape is unfastened.

Others of these traveling capes, while they are still cut on circular lines, have gathered at the neck, so that they float away in more graduated folds. But more often, not, they are void of the yokes which were a striking feature of all the best winter capes.

One of these service capes was made of the most interesting variety of yellow cloth, woven in a plum-colored plaid, with citron-colored stripes making the blocks. The cape had places cut in the sides for the hands to come through, provided with extra straight pieces set on to simulate cuffs. Then, just underneath, on the cape, other straight pieces were set on to form pockets. This slight divergence was the only departure from undiluted straight lines. With this cape its owner wore a purple velvet hat, soft and crushable in shape, touching one shoulder, and flaring from the face with a soft flange over the opposite eye.

SNAPSHOTS OF FASHION

Lingerie blouses will be very important for spring. Silk poplin separate coats and suits are being developed for spring wear.

Jet bids fair to be popular for spring both for dress and millinery trimming. Unique straw knitting bags to match South-west hats are being used at the Florida resorts.

Very smart are satin-striped habutai skirts and blouses, which form the latest blouse suit for summer. The knitting activities of women and girls has revived an interest in aprons and many lovely models are to be seen.

Challis dresses are attracting the attention of dress buyers, so you may expect to see them in the shops very soon now. Smart worsted plaids, with new, less brilliant colors combined, promise to be popular in separate skirts for spring wear.

Heavy silk embroidery floss will play a strong part in hat garniture for spring and twine is also being used to make novelty flowers and other unique trimmings.

From Florida comes the report that stunning ostrich neckwear is seen. These new pieces are in the flat effect and add greatly to the effectiveness of South-west costumes.

FOR EARLY SPRING

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QUESTION OF THE BRASSIERE

Difficult to Determine Whether the Apparel Should Be Included Under Corset or Lingerie Head.

It is hard to know whether brassieres ought to be included under the general head of corsets or lingerie. It is true that they carry out and accentuate the best lines of the corset, and an intelligent corset saleswoman can always recommend a special brassiere to go with any style corset that you may choose.

Fillet lace is used lavishly in some of the new brassieres. They are made far different than those of heavy linen—rather bulky and clumsy in appearance, however satisfactory in effect—that were introduced into the market when brassieres first came into fashion. It is now possible to get brassieres for evening wear, no matter how low the decollete may be. Some are made with a deep V at the back, straps of lace over the shoulder and a round or V line at the front. Others are made without any shoulder straps, but are so cleverly cut that they give the necessary support to the figure.

Fine and Small Design Fabrics. Fine and small design mark the thin fabrics of the spring. The violets which seem to be even softer and sheerer than they were last year are almost invariably printed in exceedingly small patterns. In fabrics as transparent as voile the small patterns are perhaps an advantage as they break the surface very effectively, and so appear less transparent.

LARGE HAT FOR SPRING

Attractive Gown Created for Favorite Parisian Actress.

Original Model Was of Beige Gaberdine and Embroidered Worked in Self-Colored Silks and Wools.



If this model is a sample of the next season's trend in hats, it is pretty certain that conservation of materials is not going to apply to hats. The designers don't care how large they make their creations, and if all their results will turn out as pretty as this charming hat, few will wish to curtail them. Though designed for spring, this exquisite hat is just the thing for those who intend to spend the rest of the winter far below the Mason-Dixon line. It is of black and white voile, with a brim of black straw.

SURPLICE JACKET. A NEW ONE

Coat Is Already in America, but France Is Sending Over Various Applications of the One Idea.

Cheruit is showing short jackets with fronts cut into long ends that cross below the bust, slip through slashes in the underarm seams and come out again to tie at the back. This coat is already in America, according to a fashion writer, but France is sending over, later, a dozen or more applications of the one idea.

There are short zouave jackets with ends that do not go through any slashes in the underarm seams, but frankly form a girdle and tie in a flat bow at the back of the waist. If this jacket is of dark blue serge or gaberdine, as it frequently is, it has these ends tipped with bright scarlet broadcloth or Angora cloth, to match the short, military collar taken from the English uniform.

Angora cloth is used by France on the best coat suits. A piece of a time-worn sweater, for instance, would provide an attractive accessory on a new suit under the ruling of this law.

Girdles are made of this Angora cloth, as well as cuffs, and some short coats are edged with a band of it. In green, scarlet and blue, it is exceedingly popular.

Writing of sweaters, the newest one brought from France is made from baby ribbon in bright colors. It is the top notch conservation sweater. Not an inch of worsted is used. France has launched it as the successful novelty of the season, and it bids fair to catch the popular American taste. Just as did those knitted silk sweaters and caps that were launched by Chanel in Deauville the summer before the war.

WAISTCOATS SURE OF FAVOR

Garment Promises to Be Much Worn This Spring, Adding to the Wardrobe of Smart Women.

Waistcoats are surely to be much worn this spring and an important accessory in the smart woman's wardrobe, since the neckwear counters in most shops show them in most tempting cut and color.

The fact is, notes a fashion writer, owing to the wool shortage that makes necessary a curtailing of the amount of fabric in the woolen suit for spring, the Eton coat and other types of short coat are coming in with a vengeance. And the waistcoat that extends below the coat in front will help to piece out this stubby little coat.

Clever women will find an excellent way of remodeling last year's suit by shortening the coat—or having a tailor do so for them—and brightening it and rejuvenating it by adding a waistcoat.

FASHION FLASHLIGHTS

Chainette embroidery is a favored ornamentation for Palm Beach suits. Smart wraps are actually being made of jersey cloth.

Rather stiff ornaments are used on the new millinery. Dull and brilliant black are combined in smart frocks. Poinsettia scarlet is one of the shades used for children.

It is to be a season of sport clothes for young women. Pompadour silks for evening are made up with tight skirts. Drapery seems to be the order of the latest spring fashions.

There is an epidemic of waistcoats. Pique, broche, tussah or satin may be the fabric. Foulards and silk gingham are coming to the front of the spring dress ranks.

"Swat the brim!" appears to be the slogan of the designers of spring millinery. Twine is used to form some rather marvelous foretete decorations for sport hats.

Remember the dotted swiss you wore when a little girl? You can wear it again this year—the material, we mean.

Paris reports the sudden popularity of long chains of colored beads. The rule is twice around the neck and then a couple of yards.

Straw knitting bags to match hats are tagging along with the spring dress trams, but they are not likely to stimulate the circulation of feminae.

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