

FRILLS OF FASHION.

The details of dress are very important and nothing can furnish a much wider range in variety than the present display of neckwear. Every conceivable sort of collar band and necktie is shown in the shops, but here, as in everything else, one must consider the unbecoming differences. Lace scarfs nine inches wide and long enough to tie in a bow with ends falling to the waist are most generally becoming, perhaps, and they are made of needle-run-lace, of net with applique flowers of lace and chiffon, also decorated with applications of lace. Taffeta silk collar bands with tucks and cords and bows with hemstitched ends are very pretty and useful, but something quite novel is a stock of satin with a crossing scarf gathered into cords three-quarters of an inch apart. Bordered silks embroidered between the borders with polka dots are very effectively made up into neckties. Neck bows made of leaf shaped silk, edged with a tiny ruche of chiffon, are another novelty.

Many of the new silk shirts waists are made in true Garibaldi style with no yoke in the back a few plaits at the belt and tucks forming a partial yoke on either side of the box plait in the front.

Something gorgeous in the way of a silk petticoat is a petunia and white brocade silk with a deep flounce from the knee made of alternate rows of petunia satin ribbon and lace insertion, with a lace frill on the edge. This flounce may also be made of glaze silk of the color which predominates in the brocade, and finished top and bottom with a pinked ruche.

Feather boas will be worn again this spring. Grey ostrich feather boas, with white tipplings, and black with white will be very popular.

A novelty among the new coats has an Eton front, a postilion back, and wide revers and collar covered with embroidered cream satin.

There are many capes among the new wraps. They are deeply pointed in the back or round, as you fancy, and rather short in front, with sloping corners. One fancy seems to be the use of colored silk or velvet under beaded net and edged all around with fluffy ruche-edged chiffon frills. The palest gray moire is a good foundation, for one pretty model well covered with frills of chantilly and chiffon. All the capes fit the shoulders perfectly, but are moderate full on the lower edge.

A new canvas dress material of silk and wool mixed bids fair to become very popular.

Cream color and ecru bareges make lovely gowns with colored taffeta linings. Wide-striped silks covered with polka dots are made up in shirt waists, and so are large plaids.

Polka dots are everywhere, on our parasols, in the millinery and scattered over the new dress goods, in all colors and sizes woven in or embroidered, as the case may be.

In this uncertain season of fashion, when rumors and conjectures of coming modes are more in evidence than new fashions themselves, the problem of muslin gowns and how to make them up for consideration. To be sure, they are the last on the list for costumes for a summer outfit which will be needed, but the Canadian woman is nothing if not progressive, so she anticipates her needs and promptly makes herself ready for torrid weather long before it comes. This has become a settled feature of dress at this time of the year and whether new ideas are forthcoming or not the buying and making of thin cotton gowns goes on with a sublime trust in fame and good taste for a result which will turn out satisfactorily later on.

Dainty organdies and thin materials generally are so pretty in themselves that the chance of not making them up after the newest models does not weigh in the balance against the comfort and convenience

of having them ready for wear and well out of the way before the more important and expensive gowns come in sight. A few minor changes may be brought out among the latest importations of thin gowns, but there will be few if any radical differences to affect the pretty styles produced now. The outline of dress is established for the season, and all the thin gowns will have a slight train, or what is termed a dip at the back, with the same troublesome length all around which has characterized our winter gowns.

The clinging effect around the hips will be universally adopted in all kinds of materials, no matter how gauze-like they may be. Fashion's tendency in this direction is obvious, and the close-fitting sleeve carries out the harmony of outline. Fragile, rounded slenderness in the extreme certainly has an inning this season, and the woman with a tendency to embonpoint must look well to her laurels, with a wise adaptation of the modes to her needs, or she will be quite out of the race. The fashions reveal rather than conceal defects, so the well-poised figure with a straight back and hips in place will appreciate the advantage of simply standing correctly as never before. The balloon sleeves, voluminous skirts and very much pouched bodice disguised the posture somewhat, but there are no qualifying effects among the present fashions which can make women seem other than what they really are. The ability to fit the figure perfectly will be recognized as a fine art this season, and the dressmaker who has acquired a reputation by hiding defects with trimming will find a difference in her occupation.

Ruffles, plaited frills, and flounces of lace and chiffon will adorn our new thin gowns directly at the bottom, giving abundant trou-trou around the feet. Lace insertions, frills of ribbon, and tiny ruches also will be generously used for trimming, while tucks galore will fill in every available space. Groups of tucks, arranged up and down around the deep upper portion of the skirt, gored and closely fitted, are one fancy. Sometimes insertions of lace are set in between these groups, and again, when the tucks alone serve for decoration, the lower edge of this upper portion of the skirt is cut out in points or scallops, outlined with a wide insertion, which fall over a gathered flounce. This is an extremely pretty skirt model for organdie or dimity. Narrow, circular flounces with scalloped edges trim some of the muslin gowns around the hem, while others have narrow straight flounces beginning on either side of the front breadth, which is plain. Five is a pretty number arranged to round up at either side, so that the sixth flounce is needed to fill in the space for a short distance at the bottom where the curve begins.

A tunic overdress of slightly gored breadths tucked in groups up and down all around the hips and down below the knee, where the fullness falls over a wide gathered flounce, is one of the simple and effective models of making dimity dresses. A band of lace insertion set in above a hem or on the edge is the finish, and the flounce below may be plainly hemmed or finished with insertion like the overdress. Four or five narrow ruffles for the trimming at the bottom of one organdie gown, each edged with a tiny ruche, and the overdress, cut out in points which fall over these ruffles, is also edged with a ruche. Another more simple skirt model is tucked closely all around the hips in the form of a deep pointed yoke, and wide vertical bands of lace insertion are set in on either side of the front. Silk linings are most to be desired for all thin gowns, but some pretty organdies are made up over corded dimities of the same color. Trim this dimity underdress with one or two accordion-plaited frills to give more fluff at the feet and the extra stiffness of the silk will not be missed.

Boleros are one of the leading features of the new spring gowns in either thick or thin materials, but the prettiest effects are made with heavy lace and mirror velvet stitched all over in rows a quarter of an inch apart following the outlines of the jacket. A gray or mauve cloth with a velvet bolero of this sort, a shade darker than the cloth, is very chic. Stitching is a great point in dress trimming just at present, and especially effective and becoming, too, when applied to a velvet collar band. The very latest novelty in all the variegated stock of neckwear is a collar band of velvet in any of the light shades, cut in little squares instead of points, just back of the ears. This is covered with rows of stitching following the line of the upper edge.

Between tucking and stitching expert machine sewing is at a premium among the dress trimmings. While embroideries and beaded trimmings of all sorts are extravagantly used, the less expensive decoration is quite as good style. Crepe de chine gowns as well as simple muslins are lavishly tucked in vertical groups all around the tunic

and bodice. If this cannot be accomplished in any other way, the tucking is done in separate straight breath and applied so skilfully in the desired groups that it has the appearance of being tucked in the tunic itself. A pretty use for crepe de chine is in belts, bows and sash ends finished with a silk fringe. These are used on net evening gowns and for Swiss muslin and batiste afternoon gowns with great effect, as the colors in this material are very pretty and soft. A novelty for trimming thin dresses is a flat silk braid, which is very desirable when flat effects are needed. This is sewn on in rows on either side of lace insertion.

For trimming cashmere, and crepe de chine gowns as well, silk fringes are fast coming into favor, and the most novel of all the new dress materials is a kind of mousseline de soie in pretty pale colors with a Persian border of silk and wool mixed on one edge. Below this a silk fringe falls which is cream white or the tint of the mousseline, as the case may be. Pretty flower-bordered silks appear among the new taffetas, and more attractive still are the silks in the plain pale colors dotted over with applique lace butterflies on bow knots. These make charming waists. Very pretty, too, for a useful spring bodice is black panne made with an accordion-plaited vest of ecru net and revers covered with ecru lace traced with jet.

Foulard gowns as well as muslins are being made up rapidly now for the coming season, and one pretty model in red and white is trimmed with a new guipure insertion, outlined with gathered white satin ribbon. So far as the new fashions have developed it is evident that tunics will be very much worn, cut longer at the back than in the front; that all gowns except strictly tailor finish will be made with the silk lining separate from the skirt, and that the skirt, which fastens at one side of the front and is quite plain around the hips with no plaits at the back, will be the leading model.

Maggie Drawing Rooms, as the English call this function when it happens to be in half mourning, were the result of the death of Prince Albert of Coburg. The rules required black dresses with gray, violet or white ribbons and ornaments, or dresses of these colors with black ornaments. Besides and young ladies appeared in all white. The Drawing Rooms preceded the Queen's departure for Nice. When the Queen makes this trip a special deckhouse in constructed for her use during the few hours she passes on a Channel steamer. The gangway is also covered so that the eyes of the populace may not have a glimpse of the august monarch.

An American girl, Miss Burdlett by name, hopes to make a good thing out of the coming Paris Exposition. She has brought the Pompeian house built about forty years ago by Prince Jerome Napoleon. The house is on the Cours la Reine, and Miss Burdlett proposes to transform it into tea and refreshment rooms for weary sightseers. Meals will be served in the atrium, where musicians will play just as when 'Plon-Plon' gave Italian fetes there. The waitresses will wear Pompeian costumes, and, aside from the refreshment feature, the place will be well worth seeing simply as a curiosity. Miss Burdlett expects to make enough money to pay for the house.

'Miss Lucifer' is the nickname which some ingenious player on words gave to Mlle. Lucie Faure, daughter of the late President of France. Mlle. Faure had by no means the colorless personality of most unmarried French women. She actually earns enough as a journalist to pay for her own dress. She draws well and is said to be a good conversationalist. She is described as tall and dark, with heavy black hair, drawn down over her ears somewhat

in the Cleo de Merode fashion. She and her father were great comrades even after her recent marriage to M. Paul Deschanel.

Beton has a school for the training of nurse maids. Applicants must be between 18 and 30 years of age and must agree to wear a uniform after graduation and to be content with \$5.00 a week during their first year. The course is of one year's length, with lectures every day and practical teaching about diet, bathing and clothing. The pupils learn stories to be told to children and games to be played. They also learn something about laundry work, plain sewing and mending. The demand for these trained girls is so great that there are not enough graduates to fill the places. Thirty girls are now in the school.

Five ton of hair is required annually by London dealers in that commodity. Most of it comes from France and Italy, although there are consignments from all over the world. At Limoges there is an annual hair market and peasant girls from the country round dispose of their locks to the highest bidder. They do not wait for their hair to grow very long before selling it again. So the average price paid a pound is only about \$4.50. The girls are longing for the return of the Chignon as prices were doubled during the reign of that fashion. Convents do a pretty good trade in hair, for the tresses of a novice are always cut off when she takes the veil. A single convent is reported to have sold more than a ton of hair for about \$20 000. An English girl's hair brings a very high price—about \$20 being the average. Hair increases in price according to its length.

American women own some of the most splendid jewels in the world. Mrs. George Vanderbilt is said to have the finest rope of solitaire rubies in the country, if not in the world. The same thing is said of Mrs. Webb's rope of pearls, which she is fond of wearing looped elaborately over a velvet corsage. Mrs. John Jacob Aster has a famous diamond crown, and Mrs. Stanley Mortimer has a coronet of emeralds and diamonds. Mrs. Clarence Mackay possesses a curious trio of rings which belonged to a Hindoo rajah. The rings are attached to one another, and, though each one is for a separate finger, they must all be worn at once. The rings are of dull gold and contain a fine ruby, two emeralds and two diamonds. The setting imitates a dragon's head holding the stones between its open jaws.

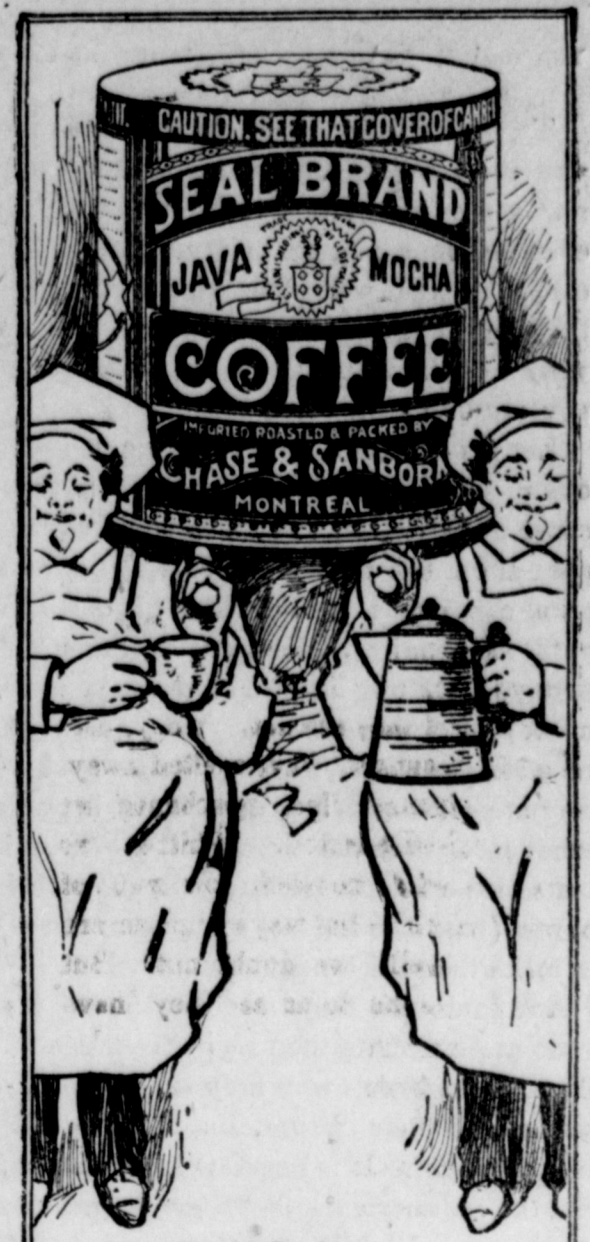
Earrings seem to be coming in on the return tide of fashion. An English woman says that the young Queen of Holland has only recently had her ears pierced. 'This,' writes the English woman, 'was attributed to the fact that her ears (as it said with bated breath) are neither small nor beautiful. In fact, their lobes are distressingly large and thick.' The new earrings are not of the elaborate pendant variety and many people think they relieve the monotony, as it were, of too expensive ears.

The late Empress Elizabeth of Austria did many things which appeal to the unconventionality of American women more than they did to the formalists by whom she was surrounded. At the first State dinner after her marriage she horrified the court ladies by taking off her gloves. One of them remonstrated because it was a deviation from the rules. But the Empress promptly settled that objection by saying that the deviation should henceforth be the rule. The court ladies had another blow when the Empress insisted on wearing a pair of boots a month or more. The rules had required an Empress to wear her shoes only once. 'Just think,' feelingly exclaimed an American girl, 'of being always in a state of breaking in a new pair of shoes! No wonder the poor lady rebelled.'

Mrs. Archibald Little, an English woman who lived in western China for eleven years, says that there is a growing sentiment against the practice of crippling women's feet. While she was there they held drawing room meetings to discuss the subject, and about 200 families in Chungking and 1,500 families in the adjoining district agreed to discourage the custom. Men are responsible for the practice, for the first question they ask in regard to a possible fiancée is about the size of her foot. The engaged young Chinaman when dining with his friends, often proudly produces from the recesses of his capacious sleeve a shoe to prove the smallness of his future wife's foot. Women with these crippled feet can walk and run, but according to Mrs. Little, it is almost impossible for them to stand still. When they try it, they hold on to whatever happens to be nearest to them and sway backward and forward with a rocking motion.

Curiosities in Stamps.

The rarest English stamp curiosity is the pair of Mulready wrappers on India paper issued in 1840, which will fetch £80. The V. R. black English penny stamp, which was only in circulation for a short time, is a great rarity



It is
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reason enough why it is
popular.

The New Brunswick 5 cent stamp, with the head of O'Connell, has fetched £30. The two Reunion stamps, the 15 and 30 cents, are valued at £100. The set of four Sandwich Island of 1852 is worth something like £300.

COMPLETELY PROSTRATED.

A Quebec Farmer Tells How He Was Restored From Almost Hopeless Suffering to Complete Health.

Mr. Wm Goodard, a well-known farmer living near Knowlton, Que., says:—"A few years ago my health gave way and I was completely prostrated. The least exertion would use me up and make it difficult for me to breathe. I suffered from headaches, had no appetite, and I fell off in weight until I was reduced to 130 pounds. Finally I grew so bad that I was forced to keep my bed, and remained there for several months. I was under the care of a good doctor, but he did not seem to help me. One day a friend urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and I procured two boxes. When I had finished them I could not see much improvement and would have stopped taking them but for the urging of my friend, who said that in my condition I could not expect to see immediate results. I continued taking the pills, and by the time I had taken a couple more boxes there was no doubt that they were helping me, and it needed no further persuasion to induce me to continue them. In the course of a few months I not only regained my health, but increased in weight fifty pounds. These results certainly justify the faith I have in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I strongly urge those who are weak and broken down to give them a fair trial."

More weak and ailing people have been made strong, active and energetic by using Dr. Williams' Pink Pills than by any other means. They fill the veins with new, vigorous blood, and strengthen every nerve in the body. Sold by all dealers at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, or sent by mail by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Cremation in Norway.

Norway has a law dealing with cremation. According to the Act, every person over fifteen years of age can be cremated after death if he or she has made a declaration in the presence of two witnesses. For those under fifteen a declaration on the part of the parents is necessary.

Lieutenant (to his Orderly): "John go to the restaurant and bring me a beefsteak with onions."

Orderly: "Lieutenant, I take the liberty of reminding you that you are invited out to dinner to-day."

"Where have I been invited out to dinner?"

"You have been invited to dine with Mr. Holdfast."

"So I have to dine with the old miser? I must not go there unprepared. John, go to the restaurant and bring me two beefsteaks with onions."

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