

Chat of the Boudoir.

The most distinguished feature of the latest fashions is the long-tailed bolero, as it is called. It is made of brocaded silk in soft colorings blended in such a way that the design has no very definite lines, or of colored taffeta with hair line stripes. The jacket is short and rounded in shape, except at the back, where it extends in two long narrow tails to the hem of the skirt. Its especial cachet is given by wearing it with muslin skirts, very elaborate, perhaps, made of alternate runs of tucks and valenciennes insertion, or simply gathered at the waist line and trimmed around the hem with lace ruffles. The coat tails vary a little in width, as they are the most becoming to the figure, and are lined with white silk since they fall over a white skirt. A striking effect is gained by using the medium wide black girdle with this coat. The blouse worn under the bolero matches the skirt, of course, and the whole effect is very picturesque. Long, close-fitting sleeves, with a lace frill falling over the hand, and elbow bell sleeves turning back in a cuff over a lingerie underleeves, are both in good style for this quaint little jacket.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Fluffy beruffled and over-trimmed parasols have become so common that the only possibility of distinctive elegance in this article of dress lies in its simplicity. Perfectly plain silk in any pretty color which harmonizes with the costume is in good style, but whatever decoration there is must be dainty and unusual in some way. The latest novelty is hand painted with one bunch of flowers, or one butterfly on one side done in either lighter or darker colors than the silk. The prettiest example of a hand-painted parasol is one of white crepe de chine decorated with delicate garlands of pompon roses and small incrustations of lace. Sunshades of spotted foulard or linen are very popular for morning use, while those of plaid silk with fringe on the edge are well up in the list of novelties. Other foulard parasols show vandykes of lace insertion with a band of black velvet ribbon around the edge. Rows of fine gold braid sewn on a band of pale blue silk form the border on another parasol, and some of the pretty new ones have gimps of tucks for their only trimming. Something decided and pronounced without being showy or fussy is the latest style.

Louise and taffeta silks under a new name, or rather series of names, are the popular silks of the moment. Faville, and diamantine, which shows the prettiest changeable effects, are both taffetas with new names, and then there is a pretty new silk canvas which reminds one of the sewing silk grenadine.

Sashes of China silk tied at the back with loops turning up in the old fashioned way are worn with muslin gowns.

Enamelled jewelry has come back to us again more beautiful than ever, and the special chic thing is shown in the belt buckles, either turquoise blue, emerald green or red, oval in shape and quite plain if you like. Some of them are ornamented in filigree designs or with flowers and birds.

Hats of all kinds, shapes and conditions are in fashion, but the latest thing from Paris is a modernized poke, trimmed with a large bow of ribbon, silk or velvet, and one, two or three small bunches of roses well forward on the brim. The crown is medium high, tapering a little toward the top, and the brim, drooping in the back, is manipulated in curves to suit the face and raised a little underneath at one side with a short band and small bow.

Reports of soft, full hat strings of tulle embroidered in colors on the ends come to us from Paris, but the American woman has not adopted them yet.

Unlined skirts of mohair, taffeta silk and

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lightweight cloths to wear with blouse waists are the thing for warm weather.

Very stylish gowns are made of the old-fashioned pongee silk, trimmed with handsome embroidery matching it in color.

Cameo buckles and buttons are revived again with great effect on some of the new gowns made by the smartest dressmakers.

A new edition of the polonaise, which in shape is much like a cape worn as an apron has appeared in Paris. The ends finish a little below the waist at the back and in some instance it is covered with tucks.

The latest thing in handkerchiefs is a very tiny square of cobweblike lawn edged with lace. The absence of a pocket in gowns is the incentive for this change in size, which makes it possible to wear the handkerchief inside of the glove.

Suede gloves is the rare tint of old lace are the novelty of the moment.

Fichus a la Marie Antoinette and a la Pompadour are very much in favor and quite the hall mark of smartness on the latest thin gowns. The draping can be arranged to suit the figure, and in any case it gives the broad effect across the shoulders so becoming to slender women. The finest cream tinted bastiste hand embroidered makes the very prettiest fichus.

Lingerie skirts and blouse waists made of fine white lawn with innumerable tucks and many rows of valenciennes insertions are one of the special features of thin gowns, and are extremely chic worn with a cloth of gold bolero covered with lace.

Serpentine insertions cut out of all over lace and finished on the edge with either black or white silk cord are used to trim crepe de chine and veiling gowns.

Trim your dainty gowns with hemmed frillings of white point d'esprit accordion plaited.

Crepe de chine is a popular material for wedding gowns.

The variety in sleeves is progressing in all the ways possible to the over and the under sleeve, and in some of the thin white gowns the upper sleeve, which fits quite closely above the elbows is cut long and full enough to drape up in a drooping puff at the elbow, is caught up on the inside of the arm with a bow, and falls over a close fitting undersleeve of lace.

Mohair is the favorite material for bathing suits in black, blue and gray trimmed with a band of white mohair striped with braid. The collars are wide, reverse shape in front, pointing down at either side of the braid trimmed ves and the bands in the skirt are cut in inverted scallops on the upper edge. There is the same full waist with belt, and the puffed sleeves of the last season.

AMULETS IN GREAT DEMAND.

A Fad That is Growing in Popularity, but Really Demands Careful Study.

Amulets and lucky stones of one sort and another are becoming more and more popular with women, and the bangle of detested memory is revived in a more romantic and interesting form. The modern girl is decidedly up in fetishism and though some frivolous fair ones wear jewelled cows and pigs and lizards and shamrocks and bells and boots indiscriminately and impartially, the really up-to-date young woman chooses her talismans fastidiously and is learned in talismanic lore.

To be really wise and occult one must go in for astrology and choose one's talismans in accordance with the symbols of the planet under whose influence one was born, but it is asking too much of the modern society girl to insist upon her adding astrology to her already depressing repertoire. Still it doesn't require much research to find out whether Capricorn or Cancer or some other Zodiacal sign is most appropriate for one's luck piece.

For general mascot purposes a white elephant is about as satisfactory as anything one could choose. There is nothing exclu-

sive about him. Like the rain, he patronizes both the just and the unjust, and he is a terror to evil spirits of sorts and varieties. In the Far East he is worn in all sizes and materials, and the more white elephants one can introduce into household decorations the surer one is of domestic felicity. The idea ought to be adopted by Western decorators. If a frieze of white elephants could foil the divorce courts it would be worth having.

The pig, too, is a fair success as under study to one's guardian angel, and serpents bring blessings; but a lizard is a hoodoo of the most fatal sort, and the amount of harm being done by jewelled lizards is beyond calculation. Boot and shoe ornaments, which have become so popular are also inimical to happiness, and as for tiny bells—well, only a brave and dauntless soul can wear them and come out with life and morals intact. Their tinkling, as is well understood by every student of the occult calls up all evil spirits within hearing, and the wearer of a bell bangle lives in a Walpurgis Nacht crowd.

The short life and violent death of the average love affair is intelligible when one realizes that by all the laws of fetishism the exchanging between lovers of hair or any ornament in shape of a heart is a sure token of disaster. Some philanthropist should have made a crusade in behalf of ignorant lovers, and have explained the evil occult influence of hair and hearts, in emotional matters; but men and maids have been allowed to rush on their fate unwarned.

The four-leaved clover loses all its efficacy as a good omen when it leaves the hand that gathered it; and indeed no charm green in color should be worn, as it is more than likely to bring a misfortune in its wake. The left hind foot of a graveyard rabbit that was caught in the light of the moon has its virtues, but no other rabbit's foot is worth pocket room; and even the powerful piece of a rope by which a man has hanged himself will bring nothing but ill-luck to the possessor if the suicide happened to be born under the influence of Saturn.

Altogether, the intricacies of the mascot question are many and devious, and no one should go in for charms recklessly. The twentieth century is, so say the prophets, to be especially noted for its fatal accidents; and that being the case, mascots should be in great demand; but unless one has time to study the hidden mysteries of occult lore it would perhaps be safer to stick to the benign and ever amiable white elephant.

IRISH POPLINS.

They Are Very Fashionable Owing to Events Growing Out of the War.

English women have this season gone in for Irish poplin with enthusiasm. Even Paris has felt the effect of the fad, and has turned out fetching costumes of 'Popline Irlandaise' which have been bought by English patrons and by the Continental set that affects English fashions.

Of course the bravery of the Irish troops in South Africa and the Queen's visit to Ireland are at the bottom of the fashion, but the Queen's love for Irish poplin is no new thing. One of the irrepressible London society journals has been describing the popline ordered for the Queen's wear at the time of her accession to the throne, and no recent purchases could sound more gorgeous in the telling. There was one in white with a design of gold roses, shamrocks and thistles, another where green and gold shamrocks figured on a white ground, crimson roses, purple thistles and green shamrocks were breathed upon a third.

No stage queen could have turned an effulgent fancy loose more thoroughly than did she in those old days; but her tastes are quieter now, and the poplins she recently selected for her own use and for gifts are less noisy, if not less beautiful, than the crimson, purple and green patterns. They were, however, designed especially for royal use. Royal fern and maidenhair figured in gold on white, a pink ground was brocaded in scattered shamrocks, a heliotrope was covered with purple thistles. Even in royal dress fabrics the Japanese order of flower arrangement has evidently made its way; and it must be admitted that, sore from the sentimentalist's point of view, the shamrock, the rose and the thistle have better decorative quality when used alone than when used in combination.

There is a great deal of talk about the Irish poplin with which the merchants are

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meeting the unprecedented demand of the season's mode. The fact is that about one hundred Dublin looms turn out all genuine Irish poplin that is made. The work is done by hand looms, and the workers require long training and are as stubborn as Gobel tapestry weavers in regard to admitting outsiders into their ranks. During the last twenty five years the quality of the material has improved wonderfully, owing to the use of Australian and New Zealand wool with the silk. It is much softer and more flexible than the English wool formerly used and consequently the genuine Dublin poplin has lost its stiffness and is as soft and unresistance as cashmere. The power loom material sold for the real article is a very different thing and has neither the quality nor the durability of the hand woven poplin of old fame.

The Ankle Length Skirt.

'The greatest boon in the outfit of the girl of 1900 is the ankle length skirt,' said she. 'This is a departure, for it is not the familiar golf or bicycle skirt of seasons past which was not long enough to please the more conservative women. There will be a perfect epidemic of the new skirts all over the country for day time wear. And the economical woman might as well know that she cannot cut down her regular skirts for this use. They must be cut to the ankle or about six inches over the ground, and they have a certain flare of their very own that gives them distinction.'

'The tailors have been making them up by the dozens and the summer girl this year can walk and row and drive with comfort, and can even climb over the side of a yacht without clasping a bunch of silk or or muslin in her hands. She will no longer be the one-handed creature she has been forced into since trained dresses came in for walking.'

'Will the ankle length skirt gradually displace the trailed skirt altogether?' asked the girl who was increasing her knowledge.

'Never for evening or dinner gowns or for indoor wear generally,' said the professional summer girl. 'We all know about the microbes that are collected by the long skirts, but they don't lurk in our homes and nothing is more becoming than a trained skirt to a woman when it is worn as intended, falling in a graceful line from the waist to the floor, but gathered in a bunch in one hand it is monstrously ugly. On a broad piazza it shows to advantage also, for the hotel piazzas is the most successful stage for the display of frocks that was ever built.'

The Rise of a Street Car Magnate.

Quite recently, Thomas Lowry, the millionaire street car man of Minneapolis, was in New York, and an old acquaintance discussing Lowry's remarkable rise from poverty to affluence, said: 'Little more than twenty years ago Lowry, who now reserves the finest suite of rooms at the Wal-

dorf-Astoria, was content in a little furnished room on a back street of Minneapolis. I remember him then as a tall, slender young man, struggling for a living as a lawyer. One day he went to Dr. Ames, who was then Mayor of the city, and asked for enough bills to collect to buy his dinner with the commission. He went into real estate, and developed considerable shrewdness and foresight, finally getting hold of considerable property. But when he got the property he was constantly struggling to pay the taxes, and I remember distinctly that not more than fifteen years ago, when he ordered a pair of trousers he couldn't raise the money on Saturday to pay for them, and had to go to church in his old ones. Finally his property advanced and he stepped into an income. He secured the street car franchises and stepped into millions. Now he is well known in Wall street and all the centres of capital.

The Boundary Line.

Between comfort and discomfort is often very slight. Have you rheumatism or neuralgia? Or are you a sufferer from obnoxious pains? Why suffer longer? You can purchase for 10 cents a bottle of that king of pain—Polson's Nerviline—or you can get a large bottle for 25 cents. It cures promptly. It is sure, pleasant to take, and never fails to cure all kinds of pain. Don't wait an hour but send to any drug store and get a trial bottle. Nerviline, the sure pain cure.

No Use for Reporters.

No favors are shown to the press in the Supreme court. A newspaper representative is no better there than a tramp. The court has no constituents, and as far as newspaper criticism is concerned, very properly goes on the principle of the public be damned.

While this is apt to be very trying for correspondents, it is very pleasant for attaches of the court. For instance, when the Kentucky case was decided the other day a large number of correspondents clamored for admittance to the court. Marshal J. M. Wright was arranging things, and he was doing it to suit himself.

He had a lot of men and women friends who were anxious to see the show, and Mr. Wright locked the outside door to his little side entrance, and to all correspondents who sent in their cards he sent word that he was too busy to see them; but the cards of his friends served as passes and they were given reserved seats.

There is one set of elevators, recently installed, reserved for the exclusive use of justices of the Supreme court. At the Senate end of the capitol there is another elevator, reserved for the exclusive use of Senators and justices.

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