

## Frills of Fashion.

In such mundane matters as the coming modes in dress, it may be wisest to prophesy after they have been finally settled and convincingly proclaimed on the house tops, but one feature which is distinctly manifest among the new materials already in sight is their soft fine texture, clinging qualities, and crepe finish. Stiff unyielding fabrics are entirely out of the line and while we may have tucks, plaits and gathers without end later on, these supple materials will admit of them all without producing any clumsy effects. Even the cotton dimities, lawns and piques have a softer finish.

Graceful outline is still the keynote of all things governed by the mode, and the figure is sure to have every advantage set off in the fashionable dress fabrics of the season. The most discouraging phrase of dress at the moment is the important question of expense, for even if you purchase inexpensive materials they are made up with so much fine hand sewing, machine stitching and dainty embroidery that the amount you saved in the first instance is lost again and again in the cost of making. Unfortunately, it is only the high-priced dressmakers who make great successes of the present fashions in gowns, as inferior needlewomen cannot manage the intricate details of the up-to-date gown. Certainly the fashions are original in the amount of expert labor represented in one gown is any measure of originality.

The new satin foulards are beautiful both in texture and coloring and so glossy and soft that they look like panne. Some of them are double width, an advantage which is very apparent with the present style of tucked skirts, and whether you choose the delicate pastel colors or the brighter tones, they are a desirable purchase and a leading fabric for both dressy and plain summer gowns.

If the variety in robe dresses already imported can insure a future for these specialties they will flourish as they never have flourished before, but they always seem to be an uncertain quantity somehow even though they are lovely to look upon. This, however, is probably due to the fact that they are so marked in style that it is only the woman with a long purse who can buy them. They are more varied and beautiful than ever this season, as many different fabrics have ventured into this field. One of the latest novelties is a robe dress of satin faced cloth hand painted in a conventional design of flowers and leaves in the ecru tints. One thread of heavy white embroidery silk is couched around the edges of the design and bits of applique lace are added as a finish for the centre of the flowers. The effect on pale pink and blue cloth is very attractive indeed. Something new in the lace robes is a fine black chantilly lace applique with bands of black taffeta silk finished with a very fine silk cord on the edge. These extend in the long lines an inch wide to a little below the knee, coil in a round loop for a finish and below this is a series of two inch frills of plain black net edged with a ruche of narrow black gauze ribbon. This costume with another in white point d'esprit with scalloped bands of white taffeta and a flounce of lace below.

Striped materials and trimmings which give the effect of a stripe, are in great favor, stripes showing up again among the new ribbons which have lengthwise stripes of white with a hemstitched finish on one or both sides. It is impossible to give any adequate description of the dainty novelties which are gradually unfolding their beauties in the ribbon department. Here the softest pastel colors are brought out and the fine thin quality suggests the most effective sashes and rosettes for thin summer gowns. With such ribbons in sight it is safe to predict that sashes and how to wear them will be one of the problems in dress for the season about to begin. Soft long sashes which fall gracefully at the side or directly at the back are almost equally becoming to slender and to plump short figures as the long lines add quite a little to the apparent height, and then if they are properly and appropriately ap-

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plied they have a picturesque effect which is always acceptable for summer gowns. Fringed ends, or rather ends finished with fringe, knotted into the sash itself, are a great improvement on any other finish, as the weight of the silk holds the sash down in place. The softest satin sash ribbons are figured with flowers, and shadowy butterflies in the prettiest colors on pale gray and ivory white satin, and many of the delicate shades as well.

That lace is generous proportions will be a continued feature of dress goes without saying, as it still has some part in almost every costume that is made. All the tendencies show that it will prevail to a greater extent than ever during the summer. Everything which has a lace effect, whether it is made of cloth, panne or silk cut out in guipure designs, is to be more in demand all the time, and anything decorated with applications of lace will be in order. Applique lace designs in panne form yokes and chemisettes in some of the new models, and panels, deep flounce trimmings, or insertions in the skirt.

Three wide insertions of lace encircle the skirts, one at the hem, one a little below the hips and one midway between. Another use of lace which is evident among the new gowns is for deep yokes, collars and various jacket effects. Lace gowns beautified with rosettes of Liberty ribbon, black velvet ribbon or taffeta silk are more elaborate than ever before, while the gowns of accordion plaited tulle and net are dreams of diaphanous elegance trimmed nearly half way up the skirt with applique designs of black Chantilly lace and white taffeta silk, either in bands or in conventional figures. Black velvet cut out in lace like patterns is sometimes applied to the taffeta with stunning effect, and the entire waist is made of tulle covered with the lace and taffeta bands.

A charming novelty in trimming shown in the department of lace effects is called pompadour renaissance. It is a combination of lace and a raised design which gives it the appearance of embroidery, so it is both thick and thin and is a handsome trimming for the light cloth gowns. It comes in insertions of two widths and a deep edging both of which are entirely new. Tucking bids fair to be in greater demand for trimming than ever before if the advance models in simple muslins and point d'esprit net tell any story of things to come. Some of the gowns are tucked from the waist down below the knee in half inch tucks running around and with only tiny spaces between. The bodice is tucked around to match and the sleeves, too, if you like.

### FRILLS OF FASHION.

Incongruity in millinery has long ceased to cause surprise and nothing that the spring season develops may be expected to excite any special astonishment, no matter what the mixtures, for certainly fur and tulle are as extreme as any two materials can be. Already there are toques made of chiffon, striped with fancy satin straw braids in different colors, and flowers are fast usurping the place of made up feathers. A large toque of snow white tulle trimmed with edelweiss blossoms and a large bow and band of black panne at one side, is one of the stunning novelties. Gardenias are one of the favorite flowers of the moment with the always favored violet. The latest hats, which, however, are not really the spring models, have rather a high small round crown encircled with cords or tucks, and perhaps covered with a net work, hand made. Plaitings of tulle on which chenille is sewn like a cord are one of the popular hat trimmings.

Belt buckles covered with suede in its natural color, and ornamented with steel, jet or turquoise are one of the novelties.

A freak of fancy or fashion as the case may be, is hand painted flowers on gauze silk and suede, all of which are used for trimming gowns and hats as well.

Nothing else in fashion is quite so effective for renovating an old bodice as the wide velvet corselet belt and a cravat which may be of velvet or lace. Fasten the belt at one side with handsome buttons or with a knot and fringed ends as you fancy. Panné is especially desirable

for the draped belt. The skirt bolero of velvet or lace is another useful means of renovation where the bodice is worn under the arms.

Empire gowns are becoming to very few women, but they are revived again as part of the scheme of soft clinging materials.

Long sleeves covering half the hand seem to have originated the fashion of wearing no gloves at teas and theatres, providing, of course, that you are handsomely dressed. At least this is the latest Parisian idea of the fitness of things, if you are well supplied with jewelled rings.

The latest style of coiffure shows less crimping. The hair is waved, of course, but not in such decided rolls as formerly, and is arranged very high on the head. The pompadour still remains but the front parting is very much in evidence and the hair is not puffed out quite so much at the side. English women are trying to copy Mrs. James Brown Potter's style of coiffure but it is too pronounced to suit the contour of every face. The hair has a loose wave all around, is parted slightly at one side and carried in a deep wave across the forehead, falling much lower on one side than the other.

Pretty combinations of silk braid and narrow laces are seen among the new trimmings.

The new pulley belt made of ribbon in all colors stiffened with feather bone, is one of the season's novelties. They shape into girdle form at the back, and narrow ends, carried through a ring at either side, tie in a small bow in front.

Lace effects in hosiery will be very popular for summer wear.

Chiffon toques combined with a fancy straw braid sewn on like ribbon with spaces between the rows are displayed in all colors.

Valenciennes lace is to be very popular this season for trimming the thin summer gowns.

### JAMIE AND THE WHITE RABBIT.

A Prayer Unanswered—Helen's Reasoning on Making Apologies.

Jamie sat listening with rapt attention to the conversation of the family, which turned upon the efficacy of prayer. The most ardent wish of Jamie's soul was to possess a white rabbit, and as he heard it stated with conviction that prayer offered in perfect faith would bring the desired answer, he rose quietly and went into the adjoining bedroom, drawing the portieres together behind him.

One of the family observed his action and signaling to the others to be quiet, approached the portieres and peeped through. On his knees beside the bed was Jamie, hands clasped, eyes shut tight, a most devout expression in his face.

"Oh, dear, dear Lord!" came from his lips in beseeching tones, "I want a white rabbit so bad. Please, dear Lord, send me a white rabbit!"

He paused, then he cautiously opened his eyes and looked all about the room. No rabbit. His face became graver. Resuming his former attitude he continued:

"Dear Lord! I said I wanted a white rabbit." Again after a brief pause, he looked about the room. Still no rabbit! He felt that it was time for positive expression.

"Lord did you hear me? I want a white rabbit!" And as the inspection following this categorical statement revealed nothing in semblance of the desired object Jamie exclaimed in utter disgust:

## Eczema Tortured A Child.

About three years ago I had to leave school with sore hands. My teacher said it was Salt Rheum or Eczema and told me to see the doctor.

Mother got some medicine, but it did me no good.

After I had suffered with the itching and burning about three months, mother thought she would try Burdock Blood Bitters.

I only took two bottles, when my hands got completely cured. —Emma Sheridan, Parry Sound, Ont.

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## Robinson & Cleaver

(Please mention this Paper.) BELFAST, IRELAND

"Well, Lord, keep your old rabbit! I knew you wouldn't give it to me anyhow!"

Miss Martin, visiting Helen's mamma, greatly enjoyed frolicking with the little girl. One day, however, Helen was naughty, so that Miss Martin finally declined to continue the game, and Helen was sent to the next room under a cloud. After a stay of some fifteen minutes she reappeared in the doorway.

"Miss Martin," she began.

"Well, Helen?"

"If I've done wrong, and I know it, I ought to apologize, oughtn't I?"

"Yes, indeed, dear," replied Miss Martin, greatly encouraged at this unexpected indication of repentance.

"And if you've done wrong, Miss Martin and you know it, you ought to apologize, oughtn't you?"

"Yes, certainly," admitted Miss Martin, a little taken aback.

Helen's steady gaze never moved.

"And Miss Martin," she proceeded, "if we've both done wrong, and we both know it, we ought both to apologize, oughtn't we?"

Miss Martin began to be uncomfortable. To what was her small inquisitor leading? But she could not deny the logic and the justice of Helen's reasoning, so she again replied:

"Yes, Helen; I think we ought."

"Very well, then," remarked Helen.

"Miss Martin, you begin!"

On a time when Helen was 4 years old Mrs. Browne was travelling with her from New York to Chicago, and was taken with a violent headache on the way. Pale with suffering she leaned back in her seat and Helen was left to her own devices. Seeing this, a compassionate gentleman, evidently the father of a family, undertook to amuse the little girl. Helen, however, remaining obdurate even when her kindly fellow traveller took out his watch to let her hear it tick.

"Come back here to my seat," he coaxed. "Poor mamma has such a headache. Come, and I'll let you see the works."

Mrs. Browne's attention was attracted through hearing herself mentioned, so that with horror she appreciated the crushing reply of her small daughter:

"No, thank you, I don't know people that I'm not acquainted with!"

### A Preserving Stowaway.

The domain of the tramp ends with the shore. Once on board ship, he ceases to be a tramp and becomes a stowaway. Then every man's hand is against him far more than it ever was on terra firma. The stowaway is usually a ragged loafer, who cannot even be forced to earn his salt. If he hides about a vessel bound for the United States, and makes his escape from the ship, the captain is fined one thousand dollars by the immigration authorities. Captains and stowaways, therefore, are seldom on friendly terms. The captain of a British tramp steamer, plying between the West Indies and this country, tells an amusing story of a negro stowaway.

We took a cargo of coal to St. Thomas, and soon after raising anchor a darky was discovered stowed away forward. He was set to work on the spot, and when we

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made Nombre de Dios, Central America, he was put ashore, greatly against his will.

"Captain," he whispered, "I like you berry much. I go wif you."

"Not this time," I replied, with a laugh; but were scarcely out of sight of land, bound for Santiago, before my unwelcome guest appeared on deck, came deliberately up to me and said, with a low salaam:

"Captain, I like you berry much. I go wif you."

This time I treated the fellow in more summary fashion. He was kept a close prisoner, and when we reached the Cuban port he was put ashore without ceremony. We spent several days shifting cargo and then sailed for Baltimore, our home port. When we were along the Bahamas I was dumfounded to see my colored admirer walk up solemn as usual and say:

"Captain, I like you berry much. I go wif you."

I will admit that I was provoked; "Changing the ship's course I directed her to a small island near Fortune Island, and anchored. I had a jug filled with water and a flour bag with ship's biscuit. Then I ordered a boat lowered and landed my friend and his provisions on the little coral reef, from which he was certain to be rescued within a few hours by some fishing boat. As I left him, the last words the ex-stowaway shouted were:

"Captain, I like you berry much! I go wif you nex' trip!"

THERE IS REALLY no room in four lines of print to set forth the danger of letting a cough, "get well of itself." Take no chances of that sort. Use Adamson's Botanic Cough Balsam. 25c. all Druggists.

### African Idioms.

When the Arabs of the Sudan first saw the fire horse of the railway they believed them to be alive, and to be harnessed by the magic of the infidel to the long train of cars. One of their sheiks, impressed by the seeming cruelty of the whole affair, uttered an impassioned remonstrance against making so small an engine draw so huge a train.

The Windsor Magazine records the strange impression made upon the mind of the simple Matabele when down at the other end of the Cape to Cairo line they were first confronted by a locomotive. They were certain that the strange machine was worked by the labor of an indefinite number of oxen, which, they assumed, were shut up inside.

When the engine stopped, they gathered in curious crowds, waiting to see the door open and the oxen come out, nor could they for many days be persuaded that the power of the locomotive came from any other source than the strength of the ox.

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