

Chat of the Boudoir.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

There are varied opinions about this new revival of the fashion of dressing the hair low on the neck. Their tone depends very much on whether or not the mode is becoming to the woman who is speaking. If she is young, with a fresh oval face and a small, shapely head, she glories in the now coiffure and adds a piquant charm by putting a rose just back of her left ear. But if she has lost the bloom of youth she experiments with it in the seclusion of her own room, and decides that it is not nearly so smart as the old way of perching the hair high on the crown of the head.

Another point against the low coiffure is its untidy appearance, unless great care is shown in its construction, and even then it very soon has a dishevelled look, as it must be arranged loosely to have any style.

For full evening dress it has decided advantages, however, provided of course, that it is becoming, as it sort of dresses the shoulders, but with high necked gowns nothing could be more undesirable. Women with long hair dress it in puffs or a low soft coil, while for shorter tresses there is the simple style of turning it up once and tying it with a bow of ribbon. Part the hair at one side in front and give it that fluffed out, soft appearance in the centre of the brow.

French camel-hair serge is one of the popular materials for the spring tailor made gown.

Silk embroidery of the most elaborate and elegant description is a very striking feature of the latest evening gowns, and is considered much more chic than the spangles which have been worn so long. Velvets and transparent fabrics alike show this decoration, which in many instances is hand work.

A pretty finish is given to a plain silk shirt waist by having a belt and stock to match. These are effectively made of Russian gold or silver ribbon combined with taffeta ribbon.

The new crepe de chine sashes are lovely in coloring texture and gloss. Some of them have an embroidered design in white around the edge and all of them have silk fringe on the ends. They are pretty to drape around the shoulders, with a knot and ends at one side.

One of the pretty new fancy waists is made of white chiffon over white silk and partially covered by a bolero and short upper sleeve of Irish lace. The belt and collar-band are formed of silver braid and black taffeta ribbon.

Black, and black and white effects are to be quite as dominant as ever in the spring fashions and certainly nothing can be much more useful or appropriate for a greater variety of purposes. Especially is this true of the extreme examples represented by a well-made tailor gown and a dressy evening costume. With these two gowns and some fancy waists a woman is fairly well equipped for the ordinary exigencies of dress.

Fashions and fads in words and expressions come and go like modes in dress except perhaps that the changes are more limited in number. The word charming for example has almost died a natural death and in its place we have attractive used in the same manner both with and without any regard to fitness. The phrase fin de siecle has also gone out of vogue and nouveau siecle is suggested as a substitute.

Women have become interested in flower cultivation in England and seem to find in this another most interesting way of earning a living. Small farms for the cultivation of flowers have blossomed out all about London, and the business is said to be a profitable one even under a woman's management.

The variety in embroidered silk hosiery is beyond detailed description, but one of the special novelties shows an eagle embroidered in yellow silk while another is dotted over the front with single violets.

Double veils are the best protection for the complexion in this wintry weather, and tulle is the lining in some of them.

Every once in a while ear-rings are said to be coming into vogue again, but as they are not becoming to the average woman they will doubtless meet with the same fate

they have suffered so many times before. With evening dress ear rings are perhaps an attractive addition, but at any other time they add some years to a woman's apparent age.

SHE MAKES HER OWN HATS.

The Up-to-date Girl Studies Millinery Before Marriage.

There have always been sensible mothers who have insisted that no girl should be allowed to marry until she had a thorough training in cooking and domestic science. The principle is a good one, but there is a more modern idea that outdoes it as a promoter of domestic bliss.

The up-to-date girl prepares for matrimony by learning the milliner's trade. One can buy good bread at five cents a loaf. One can help along a good cause and spare one's temper and digestion by eating woman's exchange salad; but a French hat! There's a necessity of life that comes high; and upon that reef has many a matrimonial bark foundered. Give a normal woman enough hats, and she will bear the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune with an equanimity that justifies all the complimentary things poets have said about her. But no moderate income will provide swell hats in sufficient quantity to oil a stormy matrimonial sea. Hence heart burning, despondency, temper, extravagance, shipwreck.

It is a tad for girls, even for the golden girls to whom wearing confections comes as a birthright, to go in for millinery. There are schools of millinery. In private schools, there are millinery classes conducted by experts. Groups of girls are taught in private classes by professional milliners. The women colleges haven't taken up the idea, but they may in time drop Greek and higher mathematics and come around to millinery.

One of the oldest and most successful millinery schools in New York is having a particularly prosperous winter. It has students from California, Montana, Canada, Alabama, Texas and even South America; but the majority of the girls are from small towns in New York or neighboring States, and from New York city. With few exceptions, they evidently have comfortable homes. Some of the pupils expect to find work with millinery firms in this city, but more are taking the course, as a preparation for opening millinery shops of their own in small towns; and, particularly from the South, hundreds of women well born and well educated, but financially embarrassed, come to the millinery schools to learn a trade that will support them.

Then there are the pupils who are studying for their own amusement and satisfaction.

'We have had many society girls this winter,' said the superintendent of the school to a Sun reporter. 'They want to learn how to make and renovate their own hats, and they are awfully enthusiastic, but likely to get tired before they finish the three months' course and to rebel against the prosaic side of the work. We've one New York girl, whose father is quite rich, and who is one of the most successful pupils. She is going to be married next June and she said that her husband would not be able to buy the sort of hats she is used to wearing, and that, anyway, she thought every woman ought to have some profession by which she could support herself and her children if necessary. She has a perfect knack for the work and we can sell her models as fast as she makes them. In April she is to come back here and make all her trousseau hats and her bridesmaids' hats.'

'We turn out a tremendous number of bridesmaids' hats here. Many girls come here for lessons because they expect to be married soon, and almost always wind up their study by making trousseau and bridesmaids' hats.'

'We have included hair ornaments, fancy muffs and fancy collarettes in our course for the past two years. You know, those things are sold in almost all swell millinery shops now, so we had to take them up. There is any amount of work on the things and very little value in material, so it pays any girl to know how to make them for herself, and we've had lots of pupils who wanted to study only that branch of millinery.'

When a pupil enters the school for a serious course in millinery she is started in upon the most rudimentary features of the trade. In fully five cases out of ten, so the teachers say, the young American girl doesn't know the first thing about plain sewing, and that defect in her education must be remedied before she can make progress rapidly in millinery. The German girls who enter the school are decidedly the best sewers and turn out the neatest work, though they are usually behind the American and French girls in the knack of securing that indefinable thing known as style.

After the first lessons have been mastered in the millinery school, the pupil passes

on to work more entertaining. Simple models are given to her and she copies them in cheap materials, usually in paper muslin. As fast as she shows herself capable of doing one model well, she gets another, a trifle more difficult. In course of time the pupil reaches a point where she may be trusted with valuable materials. She is watched at first, for the price of tuition will not cover much waste of material, and the school expect to get its money back by the sale of the hat.

The next step gives individual taste and talent a showing, and here many pupils run up against their limitations and prove that they will never be competent, all-around milliners. It is one thing to copy a hat and quite another thing to design one, to obtain new effects, to study hats in their relation to faces. Yet all this is a part of millinery. A good milliner should know, at a glance, what sort of a hat would suit a patron, should know where to give the twist and the touch that will convert an unbecoming hat into a becoming one. A proficient millinery pupil must have such practice. She is allowed to try original designing, in materials of no special value. If she achieves a success, her new hat is used as a model for less advanced pupils and she herself copies it in fine materials for sale. Then she studies the problems of lins and becomingness, by making shapes for fellow workers and later she is entrusted with filling orders for patrons.

After that her education is practically completed and she is ready for employment. What that employment may be depends upon the talent and ability of the individual. The best millinery houses in the city employ, as a rule, French designers and head trimmers. Yet, if an American has decided ability, she will have little trouble in finding employment and working her way to the top in New York, while in western and southern cities her chances of success are still greater. Five thousand dollars a year is no unusual salary for a successful designer in a New York shop, and a fairly good trimmer gets from \$15 to \$25 a week.

The milliners who, after receiving New York training, go into business for themselves in other towns, usually come to New York twice a year to obtain models. They visit the wholesale houses and frequently go back to the school for a few lessons in order to make copies of the new models.

Best Litter Invented A Woman's.

The most practical litter yet constructed for carrying the wounded is the invention of Mrs. Chadwick, the wife of the captain who was in command of the cruiser New York at the battle of Santiago. It is designed especially for use in war, but it is equally convenient for hospital or family use and its cost is slight.

It is a kind of hammock chair, and while its weight is only 3½ pounds, it will support the heaviest person. The bearers wear a harness of two leather straps, one of which goes over the shoulder and the other around the waist. The shoulder strap is passed through a broad piece of webbing to prevent it from cutting the shoulder of the bearer. To the belt strap two strong rings are attached to which the carrier is fastened. A canvas strip forms the chair.

The bearers hands are left free and any inequality of height in the bearers is overcome by adjusting the length of the shoulder straps, so that the waist belts shall be at the same distance from the ground. The Hospital Corps of the United States Army has pronounced the device the best and simplest yet used. A woman invented it and women manufacture it.

Mushrooms as Food.

None of the edible fungi is worth much in a nutritive sense, according to Dr. Andrew Wilson, an English dietary authority however useful they may be as luxurious for varying ordinary diet. A British society for the better understanding of fungi has been formed and Dr. Wilson has given the society his opinion on the subject.

Mushrooms, he says, contain 93 per cent of water to begin with. Of tissue building material they contain only 2 per cent, of fat and of starch practically none; but they contain two kinds of sugar making elements, together about 1½ per cent of cellulose, which is found in all plants, a little less than 1 percent of minerals and a little less than 2 percent of other material valueless to the human system.

Truffles contain a little more nitrogenous matter and starchy and sugary elements, but they are of little more account than mushrooms as food. Moreover, neither is easy of digestion.

They Voted Against Bloomers.

The fear of Englishmen that their women folks may be induced to wear bloomers instead of skirts for bicycling has brought about the defeat of a viscountess who ran for a place on the executive committee of the Cyclists Touring club, which in Eng-

land is the representative cycling organization as the League of American Wheelmen is here. Women and men are equally eligible for membership in the club and this year the women wanted to be represented in its management.

As the most prominent woman in England they nominated Viscountess Harburton for a place on the executive committee at the club's election recently. Now Lady Harburton rides her wheel in trousers and advises other women to do the same. If the women who nominated her forgot this the men didn't.

The notion got around that the election of the viscountess would be a victory for bloomers and that settled her candidacy. The male members of the club largely outnumber the women and when the ballots were counted the women's candidate was buried under a mountain of anti-bloomer votes.

BAD BARGAINS IN TABLE LINEN.
Sold at Good Prices by a Fakir who Pretends to Have Cheated Uncle Sam.

A new trick to sell cheap table linen at good prices was discovered the other day by a woman who lives in Jersey suburban town. The man who practises it seems to find it profitable, for when last heard of he had been working it industriously for six months.

He turned up in a buggy at the Jersey woman's house and displayed to her half a dozen table covers. They were of German woven linen, heavily starched and glazed to conceal their flimsiness and coarseness of texture.

'I've just landed from the steamer Britannic,' explained the man in a very fair imitation of an Irish brogue, 'and I managed to bring over from the old country a few tablecloths of the best Irish linen that ever saw the light here. They're me only capital and I'm selling them off meself to get enough coin to start me in a little business. I'm able to sell them cheap, because bringing them as me own property, I got them into the country without paying duty. If you know good linen, here's a great chance for a bargain.'

It happened that the Jersey woman did know something about linen and when the man named for his inferior wares a price at which the best Irish linen would not be cheap, she told him what she thought about his stock in trade and declared that she didn't believe his tale.

He went away without making a sale, but the woman he didn't succeed in fooling wasn't surprised when a few days later her neighbors began to show to her bargains in table linen purchased from a clever Irishman who had managed to cheat Uncle Sam's customs.

A week ago the Jersey woman was visiting in a small town in Pennsylvania. One afternoon her hostess called her in consultation on a linen bargain offered by a man who had 'just landed from the Britannic.' It was the same man and he had the same goods.

'You've been telling that tale a long time,' said the Jersey woman. 'It must pay well.'

'I don't know what you mean,' blustered the pseudo-Irishman.

When the Jersey woman explained he admitted that the trick did pay very well. 'It isn't many women who knew good linen when it's new,' said he, not in the least embarrassed, 'though most of them think they do.'

Experienced Corns and Warts

Your unsatisfactory experience with other preparations should not influence you against Putnam's. It was the first, the best, the only painless corn cure. Give it a trial. A corn treated with other remedies wouldn't do so again if it could help it. Give your corn a chance. Druggists who sell only the best always sell Putnam's Painless Corn Extract.

A Chance For a Fortune.

A name and a date would settle a fortune of \$20,000,000 upon Bradford H. Blinn, of East Boston, Mass., or forever deprive him of it. The name is that of the executor of the J. T. Hilton will, the date that of the paper in which the advertisement for the heirs appeared.

Six years ago John Thomas Hilton died in Virginia City, Nev., leaving \$20,000,000 to his heirs. None has been found yet, but it could be proved that John Thompson Hilton who ran away from his father's home in Wisconsin, Me., sixty-five years ago, a host of relatives are prepared to show their claims.

In 1833 the family consisted of farmer Hilton, his wife and nine children. These children were contented. John Thompson Hilton was only fifteen when he tied up his clothes, took the savings out of his little tin bank on his mantel piece and ran away.

In 1890 Bradford Blinn was in Valejo,

TO THE DEAF.—A rich lady, cured of her Deafness and Noises in the Head, by Dr. Nicholson Artificial Ear Drums, has sent \$1,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Apply to The Institute, 786 Eight Avenue, New York.



Rouse the torpid liver, and cure biliousness, sick headache, jaundice, nausea, indigestion, etc. They are invaluable to prevent a cold or break up a fever. Mild, gentle, certain, they are worthy your confidence. Purely vegetable, they can be taken by children or delicate women. Price, 25c. at all medicine dealers or by mail of C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Cal., for his health, and met a man who said that Mr. Blinn was the second Easterner he had met in a long trip, and the other was a man from Wisconsin.

One evening as Blinn was reading he saw an advertisement asking for the heirs of J. T. Hilton, of Nevada. This advertisement had been sent from San Francisco, but Mr. Blinn does not remember the name of the executor of the estate, and he has also forgotten the month and year.

Catarrrhal Headaches.—That dull, wretched pain in the head just over the eyes is one of the surest signs that the seeds of catarrrh have been sown, and it's your warning to administer the quickest and surest treatment to prevent the seeding of this dreaded malady. Dr. Agnew's Catarrrhal Powder will stop all pain in ten minutes, and cure, 50 cents.—121.

Mrs. Linguist—I want to get a divorce. My husband talks in his sleep.

Lawyer Soczem—But, my dear madam, that is no ground for divorce. There is no cruelty in—

Mrs. Linguist—But he talks in Latin and I don't understand that language at all!

Common Sense and Modern Medical Science have reversed the almost universal belief that Rheumatism cannot be cured. The great South American Rheumatic Cure has turned the tables and has given to sufferers a tried, safe, simple and permanent cure. Thousands have testified that it has cured them in three days.—122

'Holden is a practical member of the peace society.'

'In what way?'

'He knocked down Thompson last night for sneering at his theories.'

Bad Heart—Could not Lie Down for Eighteen Months.

'I was unable to lie down in my bed for eighteen months, owing to smothering spells caused by Heart Disease. One bottle of Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart removed the trouble, and to-day I am as well as ever I was.'—L. W. Law, Toronto Junction.—123

Mrs. Fijit—You think you know what I am thinking about.

Mr. Fijit—Eh?

Mrs. Fijit—Yes, you're thinking that I'm thinking that you don't know.

Thomas Hoskins' Nerves.—Mr. Hoskins, a resident of Durham, Ont., for a score of years, was a martyr to stomach and nerve disorders. Schooled to prejudice against 'patent medicines,' he started using South American Nerveine, he says, 'as a last resort,' but six bottles of this great remedy proved to be his salvation physically. It can be yours.—124

Charley—Is she one of the girls you can kiss if you want to?

Jack—She's more than that. She's one of the girls you don't have to kiss if you don't want to.

Pill-Age.—Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills, 10 cents a vial, are planned after the most modern in medical science. They are as great an improvement over the 50 years old strong dose pill formulas as a bicycle is over an ox-cart in travel. They never gripe and they never fail. 40 doses, 10 cents.—125

Suttor—Yes, sir, I assure you. I would be glad to marry your daughter even if she were poor as a church mouse.

Mr. Moneybags—That settles you. I don't want a fool in the family.

The Happiness of Health.—Excitation is the ripple and laughter of pure blood as it courses through the veins. South American Kidney Cure drives out all impurities and insures the richness and purity that is essential to perfect health—successful because it merits it—popular because it fulfills every promise—a Kidney medicine solely and purely. It never fails.—126

Temperance—If I thought I should ever be as beastly as you are now I'd shoot myself.

Soakley—If you wash drunk'h I am, my friend, you wouldn't be able to shoot straight 'nough to hit yershelf.'

Get Instant Relief from Piles.

This most irritating disease relieved in ten minutes by using Dr. Agnew's Ointment, and a cure in from three to six nights. Thousands testify of its goodness. Good for Eczema, Salt Rheum, and all skin diseases. If you are without faith, one application will convince. 35 cents.—127

'Edith, this last china plate you painted is a wful—awful.'

'Now, never mind about that, Edger, I'll give a whist party one of these days.'

One Tablet after Eating and what a world of distress would be saved. Dr. Stan's Pineapple Tablets cure sour stomach, distress after eating, weight in the stomach, wind on the stomach, loss of appetite, dizziness, nausea, and a dozen other troubles traceable to bad digestion. One Tablet gives instant relief. A positive and pleasant cure that nature has provided. 35 cents.—128