

### Fashions for Spring

New York, March 16.—Variety is the most striking feature of all departments of dress, and is especially noticeable among the tailor gowns, which formerly were distinguished for simplicity and undeviating limitations as to styles.

All that is reversed, however, and the problem of choosing a model for your tailor gown is almost as perplexing as the neckwear variations. It is impossible to set forth any one characteristic as a leader, since there are so many styles; but the little position back, variously shaped, is distinctly one of the features, while the Eton coat, minus both collar and revers, is another one.

Rows of stitching, rows of braid and narrow bands of embroidery, are the modes of finishing the edges of the very desirable little coats, which will be shown to the best advantage in light-colored cloths worn over a dainty lawn blouse. Various modifications of the straight Aiglon collar appear on other new Eton jackets with the double-breasted front which turns back in revers effect when the jacket is open. A turnover collar which extends into straight tabs down either side of the front is one variety. This sort of tab front is seen, again on some of the short bodices where the tab extends below the jacket.

The position is attached to the back of some of the Etons which meet the waist line. Again, the coat has a belt, or a semblance of a belt, from which this little appendage falls, and it takes the form of a narrow side-plaited full, or two narrow tabs, possibly fulfilled by shorter overlapping ones. One tab three inches wide, directly in the center of the back, is another form decorated with braid.

An idea which gives variety to your costume is a detached belt and position combined, which can be worn or not, as you fancy. It is simply one form of belt to wear with a shirt waist, and with stock to match it is very pretty, made of embroidered velvet.

#### ETON JACKETS.

Some of the Eton jackets have a detached belt of the same material half an inch directly in the center of the back, is pointed slightly on both edges in front and fastens to the jacket with one hook only underneath the back. It adds a becoming length to the Eton jacket, which, by the way, reaches almost to the waist line and curves up a little at the center seam in the back.

One very novel jacket is quite short at the sides, pointing down a little deeper at either side of the front, and has what is called a shield back cut in one piece of the width of the shoulders at the top and shaping down to a narrow rounded point two inches below the waist line. It laps over the sides of the jacket, of course, and is edged on the edge with stitching, and is attached with a buckle to a wide shaped belt of silk, which slopes down to ordinary belt width in front.

Revers and collars are plain or fancy, as you wish, covered with either cloth brocade or stitching, and one pretty dark blue serge suit shows revers and collar faced back with taffeta silk of the same color, and finished on the edge with an inch wide fancy blue inside dotted with white pin stripes.

Some of the fancy jackets have the elbow sleeves with undersleeves of the same material, but the popular sleeve for the more simple form of tailor dress is the cone sleeve, which flares a little in bell shape at the hand. In the advance models for spring costumes the undersleeves are quite small, but all the predictions for sleeves in the thinner gowns, to come later, indicate a larger, more puff undersleeve, or one quite plain and fitting the arm closely. A gamlet cuff falling partly over the hand is substituted for the straight round cuff, while for the thin gowns a frill of lace is added to the narrow straight band with a dainty and most becoming effect.

#### MODEL SKIRTS.

Skirts for tailor gowns are fashioned in various ways, but the model which is said to prevail in Paris is the circular skirt with the circular flounce. It fits the hips closely and the fullness in the back is confined with inverted plaits, two small box plaits, or one box plait lapping toward the center on either side.

For thin, as well as cloth gowns, the circular flounce is very popular, especially in the one deep width rounding down a little narrower in front. The pretty flare around the feet is demanded and every attempt so far to do away with this has failed utterly. There is a skirt, made by the tailors, which has the appearance of being less full than any we have seen for some time, but it is due more to the careful cutting of the circular flounce than to any very perceptible difference in the extent around. The flounce is shaped so that it comes a part of the entire skirt rather than a separate piece, and two very narrow box plaits confine the fullness at the waist line.

The seven soiled skirt is also used in cloth, each seam covered with rows of stitching. A skirt which has a pretty flare shows five half-inch tucks from waist to hem stitched in down the back, so that they have the appearance of plaits. Yoke tops, extending into a front breadth, are also seen among the tailor models, but the skirt below is set into the yoke plain, not plaited or gathered as in the thin sheer materials.

#### IN TRIMMINGS.

Every imaginable variation of trimming is applied to the flounce of the tail gown whether it is circular or straight. It is tucked, cut in scallops, or tab-like divisions with numerous frills peeping out underneath; it is trimmed elaborately with applique designs of lace, and whatever treatment it receives, the one object in view seems to be the pronounced flare around the hem.

Sashes of all kinds and descriptions will be a feature of summer dress. A novel combination worthy of mention is one sash end composed of a breadth of mousseline de sole knotted at the end and twice at intervals above with a companion end formed of several strands of narrow black velvet ribbon, either knotted together a little way from the end to form a tassel, finished with tiny gold tags.

French knots are quite as popular as ever as a means of trimming, with the difference of using heavy instead of fine silk. On gauze materials they are very effective.

As Easter is almost upon us it may be well to consider some of the new hats of the season. There is a turban in black tulle laced all over with narrow strips of yellow straw. The straw strips are bent fantastically with a very graceful effect. The model consists apparently of two big puffs, one of which forms the crown, the other the brim. At one side is an upstanding bow of tulle edged with straw. Two black quills rise from this bow.

A toque in bright straw of fancy weave has loops of black satin ribbon bristling all over it. The loops are inserted in the straw something like scales and are most in evidence at the sides, where they supply the needed weight. This turban fits very snugly to the head—almost like a cap, in fact. The employment of the loops is a decided novelty. In front, a rosette and high-twisted loop of the ribbon vary the outlines, with three long curving quills to keep them company. The quills follow the shape of the crown in their backward sweep.

#### THE POKE.

Our old friend, the poke, in a modified and more modern shape, appears this spring in colored straw of a very rough weave, with three extra folds as a finish to the edge. The whole is a successful compromise between the old-time round hat and last year's attempt at a poke. There is such a hat very much tip-titled to one side and with a crown not unlike a tam-o'-shanter in effect. Round this crown is twisted a fold of black velvet, the straw being a warm maroon. At one side of the velvet fastens with a buckle a very graceful like a cap, in fact, of paste. In front, a large clout in silk, the same maroon as the straw, rises high and full. Against the hair beneath the upturned brim at the left side is more silk massed picturesquely. This hat has a particularly youthful air about it, but it is intended for adults.

The round hat of the coming season might better be called the broad hat. Breadth is its distinguishing trait. Every device that trimming can suggest is called into play to achieve this. We noticed a straw hat with low crown that a few months ago would have been high and a broad curving brim. The straw is black; the drapery of white, black-spotted, well wired and corded. Great rolls of the drapery at either side enhance the broad effect and, proportionately, diminish the height. A single black quill curves round one side in a way to add to the breadth both in fact and in effect.

The Vicksburg national park will soon be complete as far as the acquisition of land is concerned. It will embrace in all 1,531 acres. It is proposed to restore all military features that marked it in the struggle of 1862.

### HER POINT OF VIEW

IF WE ever think about Mormon women at all it is likely to be with a sigh of pity. "Poor things!" we say. "What a time they must have even if the law says they may have a husband apiece when there are enough to go round." Naturally they must be happier when their husbands are restricted from marrying any more girls, each one younger than the last; for oddly enough, the revelation does not seem to come that a man must have a middle aged and faded woman sealed into himself when there are young and blooming ones in the vicinity.

For to the women at least Mormonism is surely a religion and what is a woman without some religion, however feeble her hold upon it may be? If she believes hard enough in the revelation of Mormon that a plurality of wives is important in the scheme of salvation, the mere fact of having an undivided husband is not as unmixing a blessing as perhaps it seems to us, whose religion takes a different course.

So the Mormon woman probably has her troubles even if polygamous Mr. Roberts was frowned upon and told to go and stand in the corner, otherwise Utah.

That they are looking for more trouble is evident from an item in a Salt Lake Mormon paper, which is a unique and daily visitor to this office.

These women yearn for more bother, apparently thus far having been freed from some that afflicts their so-called more enlightened sisters of the east, their yearning taking the form of a desire for parliamentary dexterity. They have suddenly decided that it would be well in their philanthropic sessions and club meetings if they had some knowledge of parliamentary rules.

Now in this end of the world there is a growing suspicion that some of our women know entirely too much about parliamentary rules. For instance there was that convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The more particular usage they wielded in the recent sessions at Washington the worse they scrapped, the more tearful were the eyes, the more complete was the nerve collapse.

Finally they fell to scratching and almost hissing and spitting like so many ill bred cats, and yet they forefought "fit" and bled and died in the Revolution. Possibly the forefathers of some of the scratchiest ones were common farm hands, or wood choppers, when that alarm from Lexington rang out. There surely could have been officers enough to give title to all these spluttering pin-wheely women who continue the "fitting" today. Perhaps if these daughters knew or used a little less parliamentary effect they might be more civil and less envious, arrogant and assertive.

But to return to our nuttuns, or rather to our Mormons; these good intentioned women have suddenly developed a longing to be able to say "Madame President" at the correct time and to abuse each according to the polite rules laid down by Cushing or some other well meaning but tiresome person. Perhaps they have been reading about the D. A. R. and can see certain advantages in a similar proficiency. The funniest part of the whole procedure is that they need need to quote Joseph Smith, who is said to have declared in favor of observing parliamentary rules when he formed his first series of seragios at Nauvoo. So the dear Mormon women have voted in a certain society meeting to appropriate a certain number toward taking ten lessons in parliamentary usage, naively warding off any problematical adverse criticism by the explanation that their religion teaches the belief that "all knowledge gained on earth makes each more fitted to enjoy the blessings of heaven."

Now, just how a knowledge of parliamentary rules is going to give any peculiar fitness to a Mormon lady to participate in the joys of the better land needs a diagram to explain.

To judge by the way some women use their parliamentary knowledge on earth, there will be no urgent demand for its privileges in heavenly spheres.

There are some organizations of women that make about as much use of parliamentary rules as they would of the resilient cushion in the state senate. Not that these two are to be compared, only to illustrate the utter absence of even the most formal regulations. I know of one organization which probably has done more good in the course of its history than half the women's clubs in the land considered together, and in strenuous moments the members are apt to all talk at once more or less vociferously. They do not address the chair in particular, but everybody and each other in general. Instead of saying "Madame President" they are prone to preface their remarks with "I think thus or so," and "Don't you believe it would be a good plan?" etc., and they vote hit or miss and make and unmake amendments in the frankest, most unconventional fashion, and the president beams mildly and placidly on them all, and deftly leads them back to the point and finally and lastly they are sure to agree like so many cuddling kittens, and to go trotting off blithely and amiably to their several homes.

Not that this is an argument against the use of parliamentary rules; quite the contrary. I have no sort of doubt that if the organization in question had all these years conducted its deliberations according to Cushing or something equally didactic in ideas, much valuable time might have been saved and more than one mistake, the result of careless methods, might have been avoided, but I do question whether the beautiful relations, the amicable, broad-minded consideration each for the other in these many careworn years, the gentleness, the unaffected heart interest in the work would have been always placed first.

## Who Can Write the Best Short Story?

The Tribune Offers Cash Prizes to Local Writers of Local Fiction

\$25.00 FOR THE BEST STORY.

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A LITERARY COMPETITION WHERE EXPERIENCE IS NOT NECESSARY IN ORDER TO WIN.

In view of the fact that considerable time has elapsed since there has been any public competition through the local press for the purpose of stimulating the literary ability latent among the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania, The Tribune has decided to offer a series of prizes as a stimulus in this direction. It is desirous of securing for use in its columns a number of short stories treating of local themes. In order to furnish an incentive it proposes to pay:

\$25 for the best story of not to exceed 3,000 words in length; \$10 for the second best story, and \$5 for the third best story.

Manuscripts not successful in securing one of these prizes will be published and duly credited if the authors so desire.

Stories tending to bring out the romance and legendary lore of the anthracite mining industry will have preference. In connection with every mine in the valley there is a mass of tradition, including hair-breadth escapes, narratives of spooky happenings and other details bordering on the weird or supernatural which has never been gathered together in literary form. This opens a field which is practically inexhaustible and which should supply the material for some exceedingly interesting fiction.

The task of passing upon the merits of the manuscripts submitted will be assigned to a disinterested judge, whose name will soon be announced, and who will read the manuscripts but have no knowledge of the identity of the authors. The envelopes containing the real names of the authors will be preserved unopened until after the awards have been made.

Should this initial competition prove encouraging, it may be followed by other prize offers of similar tenor.

#### CONDITIONS OF THE CONTEST.

All manuscripts must be submitted not later than March 30. All manuscripts must be signed by a fictitious name and accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the fictitious name and also the writer's real name and post office address.

The scene of each story must be laid in Northeastern Pennsylvania, but the names of real persons must not be used.

One further condition must be understood. Contributions intended for this contest will be accepted only from present subscribers to The Tribune or from those who may, during the contest, become subscribers by payment of at least one month's subscription in advance.

Address,

STORY CONTEST,  
Scranton Tribune,  
Scranton, Pa.

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Box calf, vici kid and satin calf. The best of their kind in the various leathers. A well made and thoroughly guaranteed shoe for all kinds of hard wear

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25c

Colored Shirts for the coming season will be more popular than ever. Plaited bosom, attached cuffs will be worn some; detached cuffs, however, will receive the best support.

Have just opened a handsome assortment of Negligee Shirts in Madras. Black and white stripes are the most prominent and will probably be the best sellers, although plain blue and ox-blood will be close seconds. The price is each.....

\$1.00

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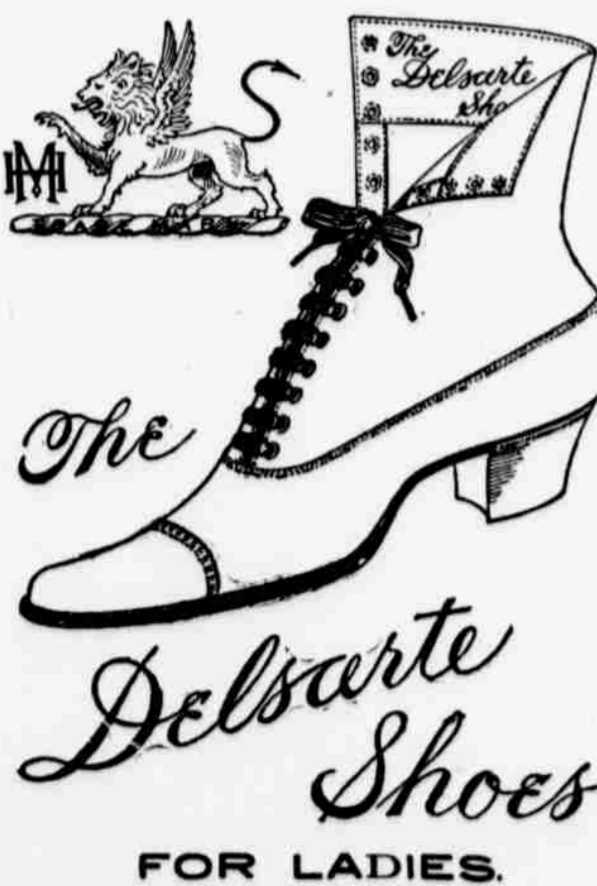
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