

## WOMAN'S WEAR.

What Fashion and Fancy Say It Should Contain.

Costumes for Day Wear—Styles for the Rising Generation.

(Special New York Fashion Letter.)

It's distracting in one sense at least, that early spring always brings with it the fashions for the summer. While lawns and laces may give us a shiver now they suggest the coming months when a chill would be an agreeable change. The spring of '97 will not be an epoch-making period in the genealogy of costumes; departures from the previous year being neither pronounced nor material. And yet, certain modifications are observed that are sure to distinguish the '97

of purple velvet, faced with black tulle finely shirred, and the trimmings consisted of large black plumes and artistically arranged bunches of velvet pannes.

For this season of the year there is no material so suitable as cloth for the well-dressed woman when she passes the portals of her own door before six o'clock in the evening. She may wear silk or velvet, but it will be at the expense of her taste. Her tailor-made gown may be of the most delicious shades of blue, red, purple, tan or brown; in fact, just such a dress as can be worn during the latter part of April and in May. Because it is tailor-made, it need not necessarily look severe, for all the newest styles have short open jackets with which can be worn dainty filmy fronts of lace or chiffon. A becoming fall of the hour is the long scarves of chiffon which are wrapped about the throat

to stand out well from the neck, have become a settled fashion; but a novelty is the use of violets to cover the tabs, and other small artificial flowers arranged in a wreath around the edge.

Black handkerchiefs are announced as the latest craze. An acceptable modification of this fancy, however, is a white handkerchief with a black border embroidered with a wreath of tiny flowers. Handkerchiefs of pale pink, mauve, yellow, blue and even purple are among the season's novelties, and they are embroidered with white initials and trimmed around with lace; but the daintiest of all is a pure white handkerchief sheer and fine, with a flight of butterflies embroidered in one corner and reaching well into the centre.

The costumes illustrated herewith were made by the National Cloak Company of New York.

### Etiquette of the White House.

When the president and his wife drive out, the president sits on the right-hand seat and his wife on the left.

If there are others in the carriage, whether ladies or gentlemen, they must sit with their backs to the horses. When Mrs. Cleveland was first married she tried the experiment of placing her mother opposite the president and herself in the presidential landau, but the people laughed at it so immoderately, and professed to think Mrs. Folsom (as she was then) to be the maid, that it was speedily dropped. When the president's wife drives alone she sits in the right-hand corner—the place of honor.

The lady of the White House cannot set foot within those splendid houses in Washington whose flagstaffs mark the foreign embassy or legation. She could not go without the president, and as an embassy or legation is technically a part of the country it represents, the president could not go, so that she never sees the inside of a diplomatic house as long as she presides at the executive mansion. The president dines only at cabinet houses, and his wife cannot dine anywhere without him. President Arthur dined with the judges of the supreme court and with senators, but as he had no wife, the whole system was very much simplified for him. The president's wife may, if she chooses, go to luncheon where there are no gentlemen, or to teas, both being regarded as strictly informal; but the danger of giving offense by accepting one invitation and declining another is so great, that it is seldom or never risked.

### One on the Cyclist.

A young American who was bicycling in Southern France was pushing his wheel up a steep hill, when he overtook a peasant with a donkey cart who was rapidly becoming stalled, though the little donkey was doing his best. The benevolent wheelman, putting his left hand against the back of the cart and guiding his wheel with



### VEILS TIED UNDER THE CHIN.

The veil is an important adjunct to the theatre toilet, as hats are not correct for such wear, and the elaborately arranged coiffure is touched only by this filmy affair, which must be composed of very finely woven silk or embroidered chiffon.

An inch wide edge of real lace adds greatly to its becomingness, and the veil should be long enough to fall loosely over the face and tie beneath the chin. It should be removed before entering the stall.

### LATE PARISIAN CONFECTION.

One of the latest Parisian confections is a bolero of black chiffon that can be slipped on over any bodice, to lend an air of festivity to a toilet. At the back the chiffon is put on full, with six rows of shirring that draws it down tight to the linings. The shirring at the front is pushed together to make six puffs. The two full bouillons of black chiffon are placed at the armhole and fall nearly to the elbow. Black velvet ribbon and brass buttons trim the bolero. When worn with a white canvas cloth gown that had a black velvet belt the effect was decidedly new and charming. These are the little things that make house dresses elegant to look upon, yet cost almost nothing.—Chicago Times-Herald.

### SHE MENDS SHOES.

Mrs. Pollock of Pittston, Penn., mends shoes. Her husband was a cobbler, and she frequently assisted him through a rush. When she was left dependent upon her own resources she bravely picked up the last and awl, and continued her husband's business. This new departure—a woman cobbler—created much consternation in the neighborhood. This dismay resulted in a decided decrease in patronage. But Mrs. Pollock knew the way to a woman's heart, and offered to mend shoes at bargain rates. When she cut down the rates fixed by her husband, the women ventured to try her. She turned out such good work and the orders were so promptly filled at low prices, that she soon had a large trade. She now employs a man to assist her, and earns from \$20 to \$25 a week.—New York Journal.

### A STREET GOWN.

A stylish gown seen on the street the other day was of fine black ladies' cloth. The skirt was perfectly plain and made with overlapping seams. The black, tight fitting coat bodice, which also showed the seams overlapped, opened in front over a little white vest. This vest was trimmed on each side of the opening with a narrow scroll of black braid, and set closely down the front were two rows of tiny black cloth buttons. The collar was a black stock, and a black satin tie was bowed in front. On each side, at the top of the stock, were two overlapping points of the white, with the scrollwork of the black braid. The neck was finished with a frill of creamy lace, which half stood and half fell over points and stock with a softening effect which was becoming.

The coat had a turn over collar of black velvet in the back, and the bottom ended in a regular narrow coat tail, upon which were the small buttons. The sleeves were long, with a square tailor finish at the wrist, and were also trimmed with the buttons.—New York Press.

### MUST CONSIDER THE LININGS.

Whatever else we neglect now, we must, perforce, consider the linings, and nowhere are they better seen in the skirts of day gowns than at the fashionable skating rinks, where everybody elects to dress well. The white satin bodices, either covered with jet or embroidered or veiled with jitted net, seem to be considered a suitable accompaniment to all sorts of skirts. The hats to accompany these are either large and picturesque, or sailors in velvet, with wreaths of flowers, or replaced by the most fascinating toques, in which fur always plays a part. Very notable indeed are the cigarettes and quills; and jewels that are real and others that are not, accompany the feathers. A few courageous women wear white shoes, but they can hardly

## FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

### FINE LAWN PLANT.

The hydrangea is one of the finest of plants for lawn decoration. A large specimen is a beautiful object, and will last two or three months in bloom. It is to be kept over winter in a cool, light cellar, where the temperature is about at freezing, or not far above. Very little water is needed, but the wood must not be allowed to shrivel. When the plant is intended for outside decoration it should remain in the cellar until about the middle of April and then placed out of doors in some sheltered corner, and allowed to make progress with the season like other flowering shrubs. It will then stay in blossom all summer.

### LET THE HORSE DRINK.

It used to be the rule to keep horses from drinking at noon or night after they had been working through the forenoon or afternoon until they had eaten their feed and cooled down. This was considered necessary in order to prevent injury from taking cold water while the system was heated. But this is cruel to horses, as they cannot eat what they should if they are parched with thirst. The better way is to give each horse in the middle of the forenoon a pail of water into which a small quantity of oatmeal has been stirred. This will refresh and invigorate the horse without doing any injury, and will prevent him from being injured by drinking freely at noontime. The drink, being nourishing, rallies the strength and enables the animal to do a greater amount of work without failure.—The Silver Knight.

### TO MAKE THE FARM PAY.

At the Bloomingburg (Ohio) Farmers' Institute, Mr. John Larimer, in the course of an address said:

One of the greatest hindrances to profitable farming is a desire to go too fast at first and to purchase things we could get along without.

The obliging agents tell you that you need not trouble about the money, your note will do just as well, but you will find that you must pay big interest for the privilege of going in debt, and you are always at a disadvantage to your creditor.

Have the money ready to pay, and you can then make your half of the bargain. Take good care of your farm and your stock, and they will furnish the money for necessary outlays.

I will just say to young men who expect to make farming their occupation that they may expect hard work and plenty of it, and will not need to join any baseball nine for exercise; but if they take care of their health and habits it will not hurt them, for I have tried it for over sixty years, and am today a well-preserved man. I can truly say that with the blessing of our heavenly Father upon the labors of myself and family I have made farming pay, and what I have done others can do.

### FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Currants and gooseberries require lots of well-rotted manure worked down in the soil around them with good cultivation.

Salt is necessary for keeping the cows in health. It assists digestion, is good for the milk supply, and is said to prevent worms.

Keep close watch that the mice and rabbits do not injure the trees. Keep the snow tramped around the tree and protected with lath or wire screen up as high as a rabbit can reach.

See that the hens have water at least twice a day this cold weather. They will not take it in the form of ice, so it must be renewed in their pan or trough as often as it freezes.

A scant yield of milk when high prices prevail is something that should set ambitious dairymen thinking. He who has to buy all his feed for the months of winter can not possibly make as much money as he who, with forethought, has provided a large supply of ensilage.

Added to all the other worth of a crop of rye is the assurance that an early sown crop will help the pigs through the fall and winter and give them a wholesome green bite in the early spring. It will repay much more than the cost of seeding, and leaves the ground in good shape.

Gardeners now say that fumigation, unless very light, is an injury to plants. It is not the nicotine of the smoke, but its heat, that does the damage. Even those that do not show the effects at once are apt to be stunted in growth for a short time. Smoke lightly and often, if smoke must be resorted to. Heliotrope especially is very easily injured by smoke.



STUNNING COSTUME IN PURPLE LADIES' ONE OF MRS. JOHN JACOB ASTOR'S CLOTH WITH A TRIMMING OF NARROW SILK BRAID. NEWEST TAILOR-MADE GOWNS—A STUDY IN STEM GREEN.

Model." However, in these slight changes there is no cause for regret for, if there ever was a time in the history of dress when women might be content with what they have it is now, when fashion has reached perfection in all that goes to constitute graceful outline, harmonious coloring, becoming effect and pretty contrast.

The principal modifications are in the narrowed skirts, the widely flaring skirt being a thing of the past, and in the small sleeves, which are both comfortable and becoming, since there is no limit to the variety in design, and therefore can be made to suit each and every figure.

Three distinct styles of skirt are prophesied for the coming season.

These are the plain skirt, just full enough to insure a pretty curve, the skirt flounced to the waist, and the skirt which is slightly draped and moderately trimmed.

Gowns for street wear are most in demand just at this moment and variety is the one thing needful since luncheons, musicals, teas and shopping expeditions are the proper order of the day. Tailor-made gowns prevail, dark unassuming ones being chosen for shopping and the more fanciful model in delicate tints doing service for social occasions.

One of Mrs. John Jacob Astor's newest tailor-made gowns is an entire study in stem green. The material is a soft broadcloth and the "suit" consists of a plain skirt, cut very full in the back, but with no suggestion of a flare, and a single-breasted cotton trimmed with black silk braid. A small green velvet toque completes the costume and carries out the color scheme of this most harmonious toilette.

Another stunning costume that would prove a worthy rival to Mrs. Astor's is developed in purple ladies' cloth. The skirt is perfectly plain and the jacket which is quite short is left open at the front to display a soft full vest of white satin. A trimming of narrow silk braid on the front and back of the jacket makes an exceedingly handsome garniture.

The collar and slashed revers of this jacket give it a peculiarly graceful finish, and there is nothing to confine it to the figure, yet every curved line of the waist and back is shown to advantage.

The gown just described was seen at the last musical given at the Waldorf, and as the wearer was young and pretty, her poke bonnet made a most fitting crown. The "poke" was made

and tied in a great spreading bow under the chin. This is usually worn with an open jacket on the style of the one depicted on this page.

Many of the fastidious "wee" ladies between the ages of eight and sixteen years, wear velvet and silk frocks or coats, but very pleasing little dresses in much less expensive materials are also worn.

Serge suits made in sailor fashion and trimmed with brightly colored braids make smart frocks for the smaller girls, while coat and skirt costumes seem to be preferred by young ladies of fourteen to sixteen years.

The latest decree from Paris says that pearl gray gloves are newer than



SERGE SUITS IN SAILOR FASHION MAKE SMART FROCKS FOR THE SMALLER GIRLS. COAT AND SKIRT COSTUMES FOR YOUNG LADIES OF FOURTEEN TO SIXTEEN YEARS.

the white which have been worn for the past season. This certainly is welcome news, for white gloves besides being extravagant make the hands look large, while the gray tint has a tendency to reduce the apparent size.

White satin stock collars are worn by French women with cloth, silk or velvet shirt waists in place of the linen ones so common here. Satin of any color may be substituted for the white.

The coat which outlines the figure at the sides, fits it closely at the back and is loose in front, is the favorite style.

Collar bands with high standing ruffs and battlement-shaped pieces, wired

the other pushed so hard that the donkey, taking fresh courage, pulled his lead up to the top successfully. The summit reached the peasant burst into thanks to his benefactor. "It was very good of you, monsieur," he said "I should never in the world have got up the hill with only one donkey."

### Oh, the Dear Girls.

Dora (sweetly)—Fred didn't blow his brains out because you jilted him the other night; he came right over and proposed to me.

Maud (super-sweetly)—Didn't he? Then he must have got rid of his brains some other way.—Tit-Bits.