

NEW YORK FASHIONS.

HANDSOME DESIGNS FOR DRESS AND SKIRT.

New York City (Special).—Colored costumes may be selected with a view to becomingness and the fashion of the moment, but a street toilet of fine black cheviot or broadcloth is un-



LADIES' WALKING TOILET.

rivalled for elegance and refinement of style. Black cheviot is here shown united with velvet (both of good quality), the closing being made in centre front with tailor-covered buttons and buttonholes. Simplicity and smartness are equally combined in the basque, the tailor-made style being greatly relieved by lapels, collar and cuffs of velvet, that makes the finishing of such a garment easy of accomplishment. The waist portion is rendered glove-fitting by double bust darts, under-arm and side-back gores, the back portions being of full length and ending in coat laps below the waist-line. The cutaway basque portions, fitted over the hips by short single darts, are joined to the pointed

the lower portion is lined throughout with good crinoline and joined to the lower edge of the upper portion of the proper skirt with a cord or folds of silk, the flounce being finished at the foot with velvet facing exactly in the manner of a dress skirt. Tiny frills of satin ribbon, velvet, braid or any preferred decoration may be used in place of that here shown. While specially designed for silk this skirt may be made of moreen alpaca, mohair, brilliantine, sateen, percaline, nensilk, cambrie or any preferred material. To make this skirt in the medium size will require eleven and one-fourth yards of twenty-two-inch material.

Fabrics For the Sheath Skirt.

It is very evident that the sheath skirt has come to stay with us during the spring and the summer at all events, even though having a few rivals in somewhat less severe skirt models for tall, slim figures. The fabrics composing the sheath skirt may be slightly draped or decorated without adding bulk, because the materials thus treated are almost invariably soft and pliable. But these effects are not for broadcloth, satin and velvet stripes and similar tissues.

The Spring Skirts.

The spring will see nearly all skirts made with side closings, either real or simulated by buttons and lacing cords. The lengthened skirt with its close sheath effects will remain in vogue; open-fronted coats and basques will continue in great favor, and everything designed to impart a look of slenderness and grace will be followed by the modiste and tailor in the making of gowns for the new season.

An Ornament For the Hat.

A new hat ornament consists of an enameled ball studded with mock gems, and fastened spiral fashion on a long gilt hairpin. The ball sticks straight out of the knot.

A Child's Coat.

No outer garment worn by little girls is more generally becoming or more completely protective than the



LADIES' SEVEN GORED PETTICOAT.

lower outline of waist, meeting the backs in deep coat laps that are marked at the top by single buttons. Above the closing the fronts are reversed to form lapels that meet the rolling collar in notches. The fashionable two-seamed sleeves are fitted at the top by four short darts which may be omitted in favor of plaits or gathers, if so preferred. The wrists are finished with flaring pointed cuffs of velvet. The sleeves are striped with bands of ribbon velvet. The skirt comprises seven gores, the novel feature being the shaping that gives a distinct spring at the foot of each gore, suggesting the flare of a circular flounce. A close adjustment is presented at the top and the fulness in back is laid in single backward-turning plaits that meet over the pleated finished in the centre back seam. Basques in this style may match or contrast with the skirt in broadcloth, velvet, poplin or satin. Braid may be used as decoration or a simple tailor finish of stitching may be adopted.

The skirt may form part of a costume or be made separately to wear with odd waists, which are still fashionable. To make the skirt in the medium size will require five yards of forty-four-inch material. To make the waist will require two and one-half yards of material forty-four inches wide.

A Stylish Petticoat.

The very handsome petticoat shown in the large illustration is made of violet taffeta, the foot decoration consisting of two narrow frills with heading of black silk applique embroidery. Silk skirts are the rage and it does not require great wealth to make it possible to indulge in this luxury of refinement.

The design is economical in the extreme, as the front gore can be cut of one width of silk and all the others on the double fold of silk twenty-two inches wide. The yoke that extends to the back gores can be of fine cambrie or nensilk in the same color and a double casing is made at the top of the back gores through which tapes are inserted to shirk the fulness to position.

The circular flounce which forms

long coat that is snug about the shoulders, but allows perfect freedom for the limbs. The model shown is exceedingly smart at the same time that it is simple, and is suited to both smooth and rough-faced cloth, as well as to velvet, when that material is preferred. As illustrated, however, it is made of heavy cheviot in national blue and is trimmed with a ribbon frill of the same color headed with fancy black braid. With the coat worn a quaint picture hat of blue felt, faced with ribbon frills, and comfortable suede gloves, fleece lined.

The yoke fits the shoulders perfectly, and the pleated skirt portion falls snugly enough for warmth without in the least incumbering the wearer. The sleeves are small, but not tight, there being just sufficient fulness at the shoulders to support the epaulets. Ribbon frills at both neck and wrist make a tasteful finish that is eminently childish at the same



A LITTLE GIRL'S COAT.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

House.
FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY.
The House Monday put in a hard day's work on the army bill, when it adjourned 13 of the 20 pages had been completed. The committee amendments, giving the President discretionary power to increase the number of the infantry company and cavalry troops to 60 each were adopted, as were also a series of amendments to reduce the number of officers of the staff. A fight to reduce the age limit for officers to 30 years was defeated. The bill was reported from 50 to 29 years failed. An amendment was adopted to require a mental and moral as well as a physical examination for such appointments.

FIFTY-EIGHTH DAY.
The bill to reorganize and increase the standing army to about 100,000 men, but giving the President authority to reduce the size of infantry companies and cavalry troops to 60 men each, thus fixing a minimum of about 20,000 enlisted men, passed the House Tuesday by a vote of 148 to 125.

FIFTY-NINTH DAY.
The House entered upon the consideration of the river and harbor bill and made rapid progress. Fifty of the pages of the bill had been completed when the House adjourned. The bill appropriates directly about \$12,500,000 and authorizes contracts to the extent of \$18,000,000 additional.

The general debate was unusually brief. Its features was a speech in opposition to the bill by Representative Iowa, who has fought every river and harbor bill for the last six years. He said he knew his opposition would avail nothing, as the votes for its passage had been arranged for by the appropriations committee, and he particularly the Mississippi river improvement, which was ably defended by Catchings, Mississippi.

SIXTIETH DAY.
The river and harbor bill, carrying slightly more than \$30,000,000, passed the House Thursday by a vote of 150 to 7. This is the largest majority any river and harbor bill has ever obtained in the House. The bill attracted little opposition, and every effort to amend it in important particulars failed.

SIXTY-FIRST DAY.
The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce directed a favorable report on the Hepburn Nicaragua Canal bill, with amendments, and the bill for the Morgan bill passed by the Senate.

The essential features of the bill as reported are that it authorizes the President to acquire by purchase from Nicaragua and Costa Rica the territory necessary to build the canal, and then to proceed with the construction of the canal. One hundred and fifteen million dollars are appropriated for the completion of the work authorized. The changes made in the original Hepburn bill, in reducing the original appropriation from \$140,000,000 to \$115,000,000, striking out the provision for the acquisition of full ownership, jurisdiction and sovereignty over the route, and in adding civil engineers from the navy and civil life to those of the army.

Senate.

FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY.
The president Monday sent to the senate the correspondence on file in the state department bearing upon the peace treaty, and it was read in executive session. The correspondence was sent in response to the resolution introduced by Senator Hoar and includes most of the letters and cablegrams from the commissioners to the president and from the president to the commissioners in Paris. The document is numerous, as there were telegrams, letters and reports for almost every day the commissioners were in Paris. After a brief debate the senate refused to print the correspondence.

FIFTY-EIGHTH DAY.
Senators Gray and Money occupied the entire executive session of the Senate Tuesday in speeches on the peace treaty. Senator Gray favoring ratification and Senator Money opposing it.

Senator Gray was the third of the Paris Commissioners to speak, and while he gave some attention to the published matter bearing on the treaty, he did not go into this in such detail as did Senators Frye and Davis. He admitted that in the beginning of the negotiations he had been opposed to the acquisition of the Philippine archipelago, and said that he had freely and frankly advised the President and his fellow Commissioners of his belief that it would be unwise to attempt to shape its destiny. He had used his best endeavors to bring them to accept his views, but had utterly failed.

FIFTY-NINTH DAY.
In the executive session of the senate Mr. Teller made a set speech in support of the treaty, and Mr. Hoar replied. Mr. Teller said the Philippines are not a self-government. Aguinaldo's dictatorial proclamations demonstrated that he was ignorant of the first principles of popular government. The vast coal deposits in the Philippines, Mr. Teller said, were invaluable to any nation.

Mr. Hoar compared Aguinaldo to Simon Bolivar, the South American patriot. It would be remembered, he said, that Bolivar also had upon occasion taken upon himself the title of dictator. Aguinaldo had so far shown himself to be a shrewd and able leader. The arguments had been advanced, he said, that the United States should be near at hand to participate in the predicted partition of China. Such a policy, he thought, should be nipped in the bud, as he was confident that the United States would not profit by joining the European powers in distributing among themselves this ancient empire.

SIXTIETH DAY.
In the senate Mr. Spooner of Wisconsin took for his text the anti-expansion resolution offered by Mr. Vest, but did not confine himself closely to that proposed declaration of policy. He discussed the question of expansion in all of its phases, and urged the ratification of the peace treaty as the best means of bringing the burning question home to the people themselves, who, he said, could well be trusted on their sober second thought to do that which would be fair, just and generous towards the inhabitants of the Philippine archipelago.

Mr. Spooner said the Philippine problem was one of the bitter fruits of the war. If the ratification of the treaty involved permanent dominion, he said, he would not vote for it. The president, kind and generous as he is, would not have to make a treaty leaving the Philippine archipelago to the lust, the savagery and the brutality of the United States. He had attempted this course would have been to inaugurate a rule of anarchy with all its horrors, and "while war was cruel and bitter, anarchy was hell let loose on earth."

SIXTY-FIRST DAY.
A brilliant speech against expansion and the ratification of the treaty was made in the Senate by Mr. Daniel (Dem. Va.). "To-day we are in the United States of America," he began. "To-morrow, if the treaty be ratified,

we will be the United States of America and Asia. We are asked to go 7,000 miles from our shores to grasp and hold as subjects 8,000,000 people by force of arms, and to hold the land until the American people shall decide what disposition is to be made of them.

"I do not believe the body of the American people understand the significance of this treaty. I do not believe that some senators who are crying to us to ratify the treaty understand it. The treaty fixes the policy of the Government. What may be done forward is merely clerical detail. The treaty is a thoroughfare over which 8,000,000 of American citizens will march into this Union.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Egyptian Government Purchases Steel Cars in Pittsburg.

Pressed steel cars from Pittsburg are to be introduced into the Dark Continent. Two hundred are wanted for service on the Soudan Railroad. The pressed steel car company of Pittsburg, a subsidiary of the Schenck & Fox interests, has been called upon by Thomas Reynolds, a representative of the Egyptian Government. The cars wanted are to be of steel construction entirely. They are to be made on the most improved plan, with the latest pattern of bolsters and trucks. Each car has to have a carrying capacity of 100,000 pounds. They are to be used exclusively for heavy freight and are expected to demonstrate the superiority of steel cars to those of wooden construction. The cars will have wear built with regard to the varying climate through which they will travel.

An order for 1,000 tons of patent steel rail has been given by the Carnegie Steel Company by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. The patented rail was invented by T. Manning, chief engineer of the Baltimore and Ohio Company. Experts say it has many points of interest to railroad owners, the principal one being its economical feature. The Pittsburg and Western Railroad has also ordered 500 tons of the same rail. The cars will have wear rapidly on curves and will be used on short and traffic heavy lines. The cost of renewal is very large. Manning has evolved a section which, he asserts, will reduce the cost of renewal 37 per cent per ton each year. His invention consists in the use of a special steel by placing additional metal in the head and on the side upon which the great wear comes. The rail is to be given a thorough test by the Baltimore and Ohio and its leased lines.

Consul Halstead, of Birmingham, England, reports to the State Department that there is a great awakening going on among English manufacturers over the disastrous possibilities of American trade competition. A new trade paper there has met with a most cordial reception, he says, and the news columns of both daily and trade papers are filled with facts about American trade, while the matter is given serious editorial discussion, which in English daily papers means much more serious consideration than the same editorial space devoted to like subject in the average American newspaper. In this week's issue of the particular trade paper referred to, Mr. Halstead says that fully twelve 500-word columns are devoted to American trade matters, about one-half taken from the American consular reports.

The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, of Pittsburg, closed negotiations last week for the furnishing of 14 car equipments of the ordinary trolley type, for use in the city of Cairo. This is the first step toward involving the principal points of tourist interest in a perfect mesh of electric lines. It will be operated in Cairo proper until the natives have become accustomed to the cars, and then extended to the pyramids.

H. M. Buck, a watchmaker of Thompsonville, Conn., has invented a rotary cylinder by which he expects to increase the speed of steamships 50 per cent and do away with all vibration. It is said an agent of the British admiralty tested Mr. Buck's model and by which an official test will be held in England. If it is a success he is to get \$28,000,000.

The men of the night turn of the McCool Tube Works, at Beaver Falls, Pa., were told last week that their contract would not be required until further orders. The suspension was unexpected, as it has been reported that plenty of orders were on hand. The works have lately been taken into the tube works trust.

A great record of freight movement was set in January 15 on the Pennsylvania Railroad, when 87 trains passed eastward through Altoona, Pa., was broken Saturday, when 91 trains passed eastward. At the same time there were 50 to 70 west-bound trains being booked after, besides clearing for 25 passenger trains.

Bills have been introduced in the Arkansas legislature exempting from taxation for a term of years investments in mining and manufacturing industries in the state, and to encourage the building of railroads by granting 500 acres of State lands for each mile of railway built.

The Pittsburg Reduction Co., of Pittsburg, Pa., has secured an order for 70 tons of aluminum, which will be sent to Belgium. It is calculated that the contract involves over \$900,000. This is the largest export order for this metal ever secured by an American concern.

Another big trust deal is about to be consummated in New York City. It means the absorption of all bathtub factories in the city, with a total capital of over \$40,000,000.

The two large corporations organized last week with an aggregate capital of \$50,000,000 for the purpose of making enamel ware in competition with each other are about to be amalgamated.

The Wolverine Sugar Co., recently organized in Michigan, will have its headquarters at Benton Harbor. It has \$200,000 capital stock.

Another trust is in the incubator. It will be known as the American Tube Company, and will have a capital stock of at least \$50,000,000.

The Canonsburg Iron & Steel Co., will have eight mills in operation when the three mills recently contracted for are completed.

The Richmond Company has been formed to manufacture medicines at Tuscola, Ill., with \$30,000 capital stock. A plan is under way to erect a silk mill at West York, Pa.

Quite a profitable business is done in some large towns in England, by lending turtles to restaurants. They are permitted to remain in the windows for a few days, and are then taken to different parts of the city as advertisements for other eating houses.

That plants when injured suffer from fever is a new discovery by a British botanist. Plants suffer in a similar manner to animals under like conditions. The rate of respiration increases and the temperature rises, reaching a maximum within 24 hours.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

House.
In the House Tuesday George M. Hosack introduced a judge's retiring bill, on which subject there has been much talk. It recites that "whereas, the judiciary shall be independent of party strife and animosities; that judges should not become politicians; to retain their positions on the bench, and that, as a judge's salary cannot be increased during his term of office; therefore it should be enacted that any judge of any court of record, who has attained the age of 70 years and served 20 years consecutively, or has served 30 years altogether on the bench, may resign before the expiration of his term on two-thirds salary, which shall continue while he lives.

Mr. Hanson of Venango introduced a bill appropriating \$2,000,000 to complete the new capitol building. The act abolishes the commission as now constituted and creates a new commission composed of the governor, ex-Auditor General Graeg of Reading, ex-Lieutenant Gov. Watres of Scranton, Benjamin F. Jones of Pittsburg, A. J. Cassatt and ex-Gov. Pattison of Philadelphia. The commission shall serve without pay.

Representative Clinton Rogers Woodruff, of Philadelphia, introduced a joint resolution in the house Wednesday amending the constitution so as to permit the passage of bills requiring the registration of voters. It proposes to amend section 1 of article 3 to make it read: "Every male citizen 21 years of age possessing the following qualifications shall be entitled to vote at all elections," shall be added: "Subject, however, to such laws requiring and regulating the registration of electors as the general Assembly may enact."

In the House Thursday morning the committee on rules reported a resolution providing for afternoon sessions Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. It was agreed to.

Mr. McWhinney of Allegheny—Providing that wagons, drays, carts and other vehicles carrying weight of one ton or more using the roadway of any improved country road shall have tires not less than four inches wide, and prescribing a penalty of \$100 or three months' imprisonment.

By Mr. Fow, Philadelphia—Prohibiting the publication of articles reflecting upon the private life of public officials, excepting when the same is a matter under judicial investigation, and prescribing a penalty of \$1,000 or one year's imprisonment.

By Mr. Tighe, Luzerne—Defining the relationship between nine bosses, superintendents and foremen of coal mines and their employees, and providing that in all actions for damages between bosses, superintendents and foremen shall be considered as representatives of the mine owners and operators, and not co-employees of the persons injured.

A lively debate was precipitated in the house Friday by the calling up of the resolution of Mr. Seal of Dauphin, endorsing President McKinley's attitude in the matter of expansion and the treaty of peace with Spain and inviting him to visit Harrisburg as the guest of the state.

Mr. Creasy of Columbia and other Democratic members objected to the clause in the resolution relating to the expansion question, and moved to postpone further consideration. The motion failed by a strict party vote of 71 nays to 49 yeas.

Mr. Baldwin of Delaware spoke for the resolution, and in favor of the president's policy on the expansion question. Mr. McClain of Lancaster says he has an abiding faith in the president, and urged the passage of the resolution.

Mr. Creasy demanded a division of the question on the clause affirming the right of sovereignty over the Philippine islands. The expansionists were by vote of 66 to 44. The resolution was then adopted without division. The vote was on strict party lines. The Democrats approved the clause to invite the president to Harrisburg.

Senate.
Mr. Boyd introduced in the senate an anti-trust bill, which declares unlawful and void all arrangements, contracts, agreements, trusts or combinations made with a view to lessen or tend to lessen free competition in the importation or sale of articles imported into this State in the manufacture or sale of articles of domestic growth or of domestic raw material; to declare unlawful and void all arrangements, contracts, agreements, trusts or combinations between persons or corporations designed to reduce or control the price of such product or article to producer or consumer. The bill provides for the forfeiture of the charter and franchise of any corporation organized under the laws of this State violating any of the provisions of the act from doing business in the State.

The fourteenth joint ballot for United States senator taken Wednesday with 13 absentees and Senator Quay 13 votes short of the number to elect.

After a protracted, earnest and somewhat acrimonious debate, the McCarrell bill to prevent district attorney from sitting aside jurors, passed the senate Wednesday afternoon by a vote of 28 yeas and 17 nays. The bill came up on a special order on third reading and its author spoke for it.

Mr. McCarrell began with the statement that the measure is intended to place the commonwealth and the defense on the same plane, as far as the selection of a jury was concerned. "The jurors' names," he added, are at the outset selected by the commonwealth's officers, and this bill is for the purpose of taking away the further advantage of setting aside jurors."

The senatorial deadlock continued Thursday with Senator Quay 13 votes short of the number necessary to elect. In the Senate Thursday Senator Magee introduced the following bill to correct the inequalities of the McCarrell bill:

"Section 1—Be it enacted, etc., that in all trials in the criminal courts for felony or for misdemeanor the Commonwealth and the defense shall have precisely the same right to challenge or otherwise reject jurors. In all trials for misdemeanor, in addition to the existing right to challenge for cause, the Commonwealth and the defendant shall each in the trial for felonies other than those exclusively triable in the courts of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, in addition to the existing right to challenge for cause, be entitled to 20 peremptory challenges; and in the trial for all felonies exclusively triable in the courts of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, the Commonwealth and the defendant shall each, in addition to the existing right to challenge for cause, be entitled to 20 peremptory challenges; and in the trial for all felonies exclusively triable in the courts of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, the Commonwealth and the defendant shall each, in addition to the existing right to challenge for cause, be entitled to 13 peremptory challenges; and in the trial for all felonies exclusively triable in the courts of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, the Commonwealth and the defendant shall each, in addition to the existing right to challenge for cause, be entitled to 13 peremptory challenges; 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