

Women as They Come and Go

Fashion's Decrees on What to Wear; Gossip on Subject of Pretty Gowns



Preferred to Severe Tailoring

HILE there is nothing new in the idea of making the shoulder seem to slope away from neck to elbow, the trick having been one of the more marked characteristics of the winter styles, there is much of newness in the many ways in which this slope is attained in spring dresses. The winter's devices to this end did not by any means exhaust the possibilities. So slope is again in vogue and, in the more striking models, intensified degree. Take coats and jackets for spring under consideration. One feature will be found in a great many of them, appearing both in the bobbed off tops that terminate above the belt, and in the coats that reach some little way below the waist line. It consists in having the upper portion of the sleeve in one with the body of the garment, the seam coming just over the shoulder's round, or anywhere between there and half way to the elbow. A very stylish slope is got in this way, and when the seam between the two parts of the sleeve is put well down toward the elbow, it becomes pronounced, which also is stylish. In all of these garments there is a oneness of line in this section which has stylish value, and this is suggested now and then by a line of trimming from collar to where the sleeve proper begins. Such trimming is simple. At top and bottom it may consist of a black, black and white, or light-colored ribbon, and in the middle course of the sleeve, it may be a narrow band of contrasting material. A great deal of braid is being employed in trimming tailor suits, very often in the chief garbure, but this is not so significant of plainness as it might be, for by a shopper who has looked about her of late knows the stores are full of very showy braid.

Just at this time it is difficult to tell what is to be the favorite dress goods of all those that manufacturers have provided and that the shops now have in stock. Such indication has been given as to the prime favorite of goods that has been well to the fore all winter. But later developments corroborate this first disclosure, and it looks more than ever as if voile was to be the goods. It might almost be the only available material without causing trouble, so many and so diverse are its weaves. Some are close woven and firm, but more are open and filmy. It is an easy guess that the latter will be the better liked. In another sense, for weaves looking much alike will be found held at widely different prices. That means that there will be volles for every one. It means also that care should be used in selection, for in such circumstances the processes of cheapening always are carried so far that almost worthless qualities are obtained.

Walking suits, while simply made, are marked by a little individuality. This does not mean upon fanciful trimming, which happily is tabooed, but upon the devices of simple tailoring and in the choice of the material. In some instances, for her who likes the fanciful to indulge her taste, because the choice of fabric is among mixtures which are seen in the choice for her who is jaunty and sensible, but with now and then an assertive one. In this way an occasional walking suit in coarse, high colored plaid, or in a mixture of strikingly oddity is seen, but for the most part these costumes are admirably in taste, serious and homespun are made up simply, also with skirts of full length. In some of these simple gowns is seen a best fulfillment so far of the winter's prophecy of forthcoming severity. Two of these dresses appear here in the concluding picture: a tweed, styled and trimmed with brown and blue passementerie, and a light gray homespun trimmed with narrow gray cord and finished with corded neck piece. Braid is much used on such get-ups, too, but once a fancy braid is chosen, the gown begins to take on dressy character. It is employed freely. Old-fashioned notions are to be at a premium during the coming summer. They will undergo more or less of up-to-date treatment before being submitted to stylish folk, of course. The liking for old-timers is already noticeable in sleeves, which run to puffs in series and to ruffles fashioned after those of bygone days. Ruchings are used as standard as dress trimmings, will be used very freely and will be made in great variety, some sorts calling for a deal of work. In the stores the stocks of tulle are making more of an impression than they have done of late. Checked sorts are numerous and stylish articles to trim one dress fabric with another when self-trimming does not suit the fancy. This hints strongly of great elaboration, for besides these fancies there is the usual host of garnitures. Laces are to be used without stint either as to the amount or as to the number of varieties of sorts put on one costume. Light dress stuffs are almost overweighed with heavy laces, and the laces of feather-weight are reserved for heavier dress materials. This rule is one proven amply by many exceptions in shirtwaists, for the showings of soft silks and cotton mixtures that seem worthy of the fabrics of the past. There is no end, and shoppers who want a little money to go a good way are quite content to have it so.

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Simple Designs for Spring Weaves

Matters of Feminine Interest

Household Lore, Beauty Philosophy, and Other Subjects in Which Women Are Especially Concerned

OFTEN a woman of limited business experience comes into possession of property, says Katherine Louise Smith in *The Housekeeper*. She has money that she feels ought to be safely invested and in such a manner that profits may accrue. She knows that all around her are people clamoring for money, and even her friends may have "axes to grind." Others may lack judgment, for in lending money peculiar sagacity is required. In this dilemma it is well to leave the money in the bank until a first-class opportunity arrives. When this does, she must investigate thoroughly, for it is better to leave her money in the bank at a small rate of interest than to run the risk of losing it.

The following are some of the rules suggested by a careful business man regarding the loaning of money:

—Ascertain how much property the applicant has and if in his own or his wife's name.

—See if the property is in any way encumbered, either by mortgage, judgments, taxes, dowers or other liens, and if under mortgage, whether he keeps his payments up or behind.

—Inquire if he has many loose or floating debts.

—See if he is engaged in hazardous speculations or furnishing money to others who are.

—Find out if he is signing with others to any great extent.

—What are his habits morally and financially? Is he going up hill or down? Even if these are satisfactory the necessary magnitude of the margin of safety depending on the character of securities will have to be considered.

The safest fundamental principle with regard to the management of property is to abstain entirely from speculation and to confine all financial operations to regular and well-known forms of investment. Persons whose income at the rate of 5 or 6 per cent, is ample for reasonable desires should be content.

For the purpose of discussing the general principles of investment they can be divided into two classes: First, the class in which investors become absolute owners. This would include real estate and government bonds. Second, the class in which investors advance money upon the promise that the money will be returned with interest, and the borrower gives security, as a mortgage.

In regard to the first method of investment the general rule is that United States bonds are safe investments, as are the bonds of most of the States, but one should hesitate in investing in the bonds of counties, towns and villages, from the standpoint of the greatest caution, for while such places may have records showing fulfilled financial obligations, there have been cases where the reverse has been true. In considering investments in bonds the past financial history of the particular State or city, the amount of indebtedness and the character of the bonds, are the points to which that place is liable, and the people who make up the community and make the laws upon which they rest.

Investments depend, should all be taken into account. As a rule bonds which return low rates of interest can be safely handled and can be classed among such conveniences as savings banks for the safe keeping and obtaining of interest on money in more permanent form of investment presents itself.

If the question of interest is of no immediate moment and the woman wants a fixed investment, something sure and stable, she may find real estate preferable. A woman contemplating an investment of this order should have the title carefully examined by a competent abstractor or attorney. She must not take it for granted that the title is perfect simply because people have lived in one house for years or may be personally known to her. The number of irregular titles is astounding, and examination of records show that many honest people have lived in a house for years totally unconscious that there was any question as to validity of title.

During recent years there have come into existence corporations whose business is to examine real estate and to guarantee the titles of the purchasers and mortgagees. These companies furnish written guarantees to the effect that if the title shall prove defective they will make good the losses. The difference in expense between these companies and the services of a lawyer is trivial.

Properly speaking, a deed is any contract which shall be sealed and delivered by the parties, but in our country the word has come to signify the instrument by which real property is conveyed. The legal requisites for its validity are: Persons of proper age and sufficient understanding; writings upon paper or parchment; legal sufficient consideration; thorough knowledge of the contents by both parties; proper attestation and delivery.

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There comes a time to every woman who grows tired of people and feel ill. Her physician may give her a tonic and tell her to rest, but she may not rest. Perhaps she takes one of the many treatments for nerves, which entice women more than they entice men, and they rest for the reason they keep the mind fixed on whatever ailment, real or imaginary, she imagines.

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"In nine cases out of ten the cultivation of a fad, a hobby, a game, or a pursuit away from the trouble and make a new and interesting woman of the sufferer, and cheer her up. This is the best remedy for her sanity if she prefers to vault over the footboard of the bed when she arises in the morning and broods the mid-air, and old-fashioned way, but her mind is tending in the right direction, even though she cannot see it.

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The tally cards should be decorated with shamrocks. Other designs which can be sketched on the tally cards are: Irish harps, tiny hats, clay pipes, Irish scenes, pigs, cows, and sheep, and other Irish and Irishmen. The tally cards can be covered alternately with green and with white cheesecloth, and score kept by dropping tiny green candies in green satin bags or by putting shamrocks on white cards.

For a contest other than cards try drawing pigs with the eyes shut. The cards with the same design drawn on each. This is the pig's tail, head or body, and the rest of the pig to be drawn by the artist. A new variation of the scent party can be tried for a St. Patrick's day party. Arrange a number of tin cans in a row, containing an article of strong and peculiar odor. Hang the bags on a line across the room, and each contestant is to draw a card quickly, writing down the name of each article in the bag. Only allow a very short time for this contest.

A programme of Irish songs and melodies (none sweeter) is appropriate for such an occasion. If the contest is to be a serious one, the subjects justice there are some delightful legends and fairy stories in Irish literature. Some of the best of these are "Kathleen Mavourneen," "The Wearing of the Green," "The Last Rose of Summer," "The Lass of Shiloh," "The Endearing Young Charms," etc.

A Lesson in Love.
Life.

"I am all at sea."

As Mr. Plunkett Robinson uttered these words he looked despairingly at his fair companion sitting at no great distance away from him, and whose face showed the most intense sympathy.

"Yes," he continued, "my dear Miss Forsythe, in matters of love I am all at sea. The fact is, I have been too busy making money to attend to the softer side of life. Having amassed a comfortable income, I may say, a very comfortable fortune, I begin to feel that I must make some love to some one.

Something glistened in the appreciative eyes of Miss Forsythe.

"All the sentiment in my ardent nature arises," continued Robinson, "for to rise, to rise, to the surface. But I don't know how."

His companion was intensely interested.

"Might I ask," she said, with a trace of timidity in her own maiden voice, "if you have not determined upon the object of your love?"

"Their eyes met, and Mr. Robinson's were cast down immediately. He was painfully embarrassed.

"Yes," he said, hesitatingly, "I think I have. But why should I hesitate? I know I have."

As for Miss Forsythe, her manner became more confident.

"Have no fear!" she exclaimed. "I appreciate it all. Immersed in business as you are, you have had no time to learn the art of expressing yourself. What you want is a lesson in love. I will teach you."

Mr. Robinson's eyes expressed his intense pleasure.

"How good of you!" he cried. "You know I do not like to feel that anything is quite beyond me."

"Do not worry. I will make an adept of you. Now, look straight into my eyes."

Their eyes met again, this time in a long, intense gaze. Miss Forsythe even outdid herself in intensity.

"How do you feel now?" she said.

"Don't ask me," said her companion. "It is lovely, isn't it?"

"Now," observed his companion, herself somewhat agitated, "now let your arm steal around my waist. Ah! how is that? Now, you must kiss me."

Her bashful lover, after some nervous hesitation, did the deed.

"And again."

"And now," said Miss Forsythe, "you must talk to me. Ask me to be your wife. Tell me just how much you love me."

Mr. Robinson suddenly sprang to his feet. "But I don't love you!" he exclaimed. "I love a girl in Williamsburg!"

A St. Patrick's Day Party.

A St. Patrick's day (March 17) euchre must conform to the popular idea of Irish appetites, for St. Patrick is the patron saint of the Emerald Isle. Green, therefore, will be the leading color in the decorative scheme—ferns, vines, palms, green ribbons for score cards and green shades for lights. It will be necessary, however, to have a part of the lights white to do away with the gloomy effect of the green. The shamrock or trefoil is the popular shape. The shamrocks cut out of green paper should be largely used in the decoration of the rooms. Strings of large shamrocks can outline the lace curtains and festoon the walls.

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Even if she has reason to suppose these things are carried out, it is well for a woman carefully to examine the description of the property and to see that the premises to be conveyed are accurately described, for law suits have grown out of careless descriptions especially where the property mentioned is miles distant. It is the possible contingencies that must be guarded against, for it is better to be too cautious than not cautious enough.

Onions and the Voice.
Good Housekeeping.

For years my profession led to an almost daily meeting with theatrical people, and singers and I came to regard as a curious fact that the multitude of them seemed to possess an "onion breath," sometimes a half-strangled breath, but strong in spite of cloves, parsley, cardamom seeds or any

perfumed capsule. The other day I was told by a singer that the onion diet—raw onions at that—is not indulged in because of preference by the people of the stage. The onions are used to enhance the clearness of a speaking or singing voice, and sometimes the prima donna for whose appearance a great audience impatiently waits, has dined on little but onions and bread, that her voice may be surprisingly clear. The onion diet originated in Italy, where it is prescribed to pupils by a great Italian maestro. "And in addition," said this singer, who was educated by a famous teacher, "I began to notice only a few days of onion diet not only that I was in better voice, but a remarkable improvement in my health. I detested raw onions still when found not only my voice becoming clearer, but also my skin grew gray. I stifled likes and dislikes and fairly ate up a diet of onions, and in a few weeks I was in splendid health and perfect condition. I came back to America to rehearse for and American ways of living. Straightway I told on the both physically and vocally. Always during a tour I return to a liberal use of raw onions."

The Value of Fads.
New York Globe.

There is nothing like a fad to make life interesting," said the girl with a collection of art posters, a writer in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. "There was a time when people thought it silly to be faddy, but show me the woman without a fad and I will show you the one who is the least interesting of her sex. Of course, I mean the girl with leisure. The girl who works in an office or the girl in a profession has no time or money for fads, as a rule, but the woman who has nothing to do but dress and see her friends, to go here and there more to kill time than anything else, needs a fad.

There comes a time to every woman who grows tired of people and feel ill. Her physician may give her a tonic and tell her to rest, but she may not rest. Perhaps she takes one of the many treatments for nerves, which entice women more than they entice men, and they rest for the reason they keep the mind fixed on whatever ailment, real or imaginary, she imagines.

"Then the woman becomes the greatest of all bodes, the woman whose health is the subject of thought, the woman whose conversation even at a dinner table. If her health is not discussed, the thought of it and the fear of it, she mutely expresses the invalid at every turn.

"In nine cases out of ten the cultivation of a fad, a hobby, a game, or a pursuit away from the trouble and make a new and interesting woman of the sufferer, and cheer her up. This is the best remedy for her sanity if she prefers to vault over the footboard of the bed when she arises in the morning and broods the mid-air, and old-fashioned way, but her mind is tending in the right direction, even though she cannot see it.

"I know a girl who disliked classical music; had grown tired of society, her friends, her husband, her life, her interests and interest in things. Some one told her to brace up, take hold of a subject, find out about it, and run it to the ground if necessary. So she began to go to the opera, concerts and recitals, all of which she had never attended before. She found the lives of musicians, began a collection of their pictures and little marble and bronze busts of the great ones.

"She became engrossed in the study of music, and in a year, through her development by a competent abstractor or attorney. She must not take it for granted that the title is perfect simply because people have lived in one house for years or may be personally known to her. The number of irregular titles is astounding, and examination of records show that many honest people have lived in a house for years totally unconscious that there was any question as to validity of title.

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What Women Want to Know

Household Lore, Beauty Philosophy, and Other Subjects in Which Women Are Especially Concerned

Eruptions of the Skin.
MARY: When the skin is very oily and always more or less disfigured by blackheads and pimples, it clearly indicates an oversecretion of the sebaceous glands, and impaired circulation, which must be relieved before a better condition will prevail. Skin foods, under these circumstances, should be strictly tabooed, except in a very small quantity, and when absolutely necessary to prevent the skin from actually becoming rough from exposure to the wind. Additional oil for the skin is absolutely useless, for it aggravates the condition and thus creates more eruptions. Frequent bathing, to cleanse the congested pores, is of paramount importance, and when followed by massage to encourage more perfect circulation, a cure can be begun speedily. Turkish wash cloths and towels are too harsh to use when the skin is sensitive from eruptions; use instead soft towels and cloths of