

The Coming Season's Modish Fabrics

By Emilie Hoffman.

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In shopping parlance, it may be said that interest is now being centred on fabrics. Women are preparing for the approaching Lenten season, during which it is customary to make up the summer frocks.

Every woman wants at least one or two practical gingham dresses in her wardrobe. It hardly seems possible that gingham could be more popular than they were last summer, but good authority tells us there are now 75,000 American looms turning out gingham, which is an increase of one-third over those of last year, and then there are all the gingham coming over from England, so it looks decidedly promising for the gingham frock.

Sponge cloth is a revised term for ratines. This fabric is also known as homespun. As is evidenced by the demand of Southern tourists, this is going to be extremely popular, and all merchants are displaying it prominently.

Linens are coming back, too, and not only in the white, but all the fashionable shades such as heliotrope, fawn, reseda, terra-cotta, fire-red, Copenhagen, brown and so on.

Cretonnes are no longer a novelty, although they are advertised as such. We used them as trimmings last year and liked them so well that this year they form the major frock in combination with plain fabric or as an entire costume for country wear. The chintz effects are favored, but very likely women who are partial to striking effects will wear the large floral or conventional patterns that are primarily designed for drapery purposes.

The organdies which have attained a high position in fashiondom must now share favor with the sheer batistes and fine lawns. But the organdies are very beautiful this season whether they be plain, printed or embroidered.

And then there are the beautiful crepes and voiles that are dressy and so nice for a cool summer day, the challis that make up so beautifully for negligees and children's dresses, besides the numerous attractive novelty weaves. The printed sheer satens are an old favorite in a new form and appear in attractive designs—a cotton fabric for every occasion, from the organdy party dress to the crepe or challis negligee and the gingham house dress.

In white fabrics there is a wide choice because the coming season is emphatically a white one. White dresses in all materials will be extremely modish. In most of the new fabrics white forms the background

for stripes, plaids, checks and floral designs. All white dresses in linen and homespun are being seen in great profusion at the Southern resorts.

White in combination with black is considered very fashionable. In gingham the black and white effects

predominate. In the sponge cloths the smartest results are obtained from the white fabrics with stripes, checks or the widely separated crossbars in black.

Flannels in the white and black stripes or checks are largely used for

sports wear. There is no doubt whatever that next to the all white, the white and black will make up the smartest frocks of the season.

In gingham the checks are again favored and this year there is a preference for the larger checks. Among these the black and white has first choice, brown is much favored, then comes the red which was so popular last year. Green, which always looks so cool, promises to be much worn, and yellow is forging ahead to the front in fashionable colors—all in combination with white. Of course, the blue and white check as well as the heliotrope and navy are staple shades and always in demand.

In voiles and the sheer fabrics much light gray is seen. Wedgewood blue is also prominent. Jade green and the violet shades appear in many cotton fabrics for those who prefer color. Temple orange and periwinkle purple are new shades of these two popular colors.

Grass linen is a material that was considered "elegant" by fashionables half a century ago. It is being shown in natural color with embroidered dots in all the prevailing colors. This is a delightfully cool fabric, so will probably become popular as the season advances. White swiss with colored dots is another offering that will be much seen when the warm days arrive.

Beaded Dresses

BEADED frocks have had such an extended vogue that it seemed they must be replaced by something new this year; but not so. The shops are still resplendent with lavishly beaded evening dresses, and afternoon frocks have beaded decorations. The fashionable three-piece street suit has a beaded blouse and even the sports suit often has a lingerie blouse with the bright touch in beads. Several buyers, just back from Paris, confirm the reports that beads are the leading trimming effects in French fashion circles, so it looks as though the beaded garments are still a safe investment for the girl who must consider service in planning her wardrobe.

One Fifth Avenue shop is showing crepe de Chine dresses with handsome designs in steel beads which, by the way, are very popular. These charming dresses are the latest word in every detail and just the thing for informal evening occasions. Prices start at \$39.50. Handsome beaded voiles are prominent. One shop is showing a yellow voile dress with a novel embroidered effect in beads of linen thread. An orchid crepe with a design in black and white beads is another attractive offering. A simple dance frock in canary color has an elaborate design embroidered in tiny white glass beads.

PARTY FROCKS FOR THE TWINS



Here are two delightfully dainty party frocks for the "twins," made of pink crepe chenette, pleated edged ruffles with silk and velvet flowers.

Cire Braid in Rosettes

ONE of the last cables from Paris says that cire braid or ribbon will be more popular than ever this season. Only, instead of being sewed on flat for edgings and rows of trimming, it is now looped into rosettes or bows, making a fluffier, airier sort of trimming.

It will still be narrow as it has been in the past, but it is kicking up its heels as it were.

On your new hat try a pom-pom of cire ribbon. A large rosette at the waistline of an afternoon gown would

be good. Loops of cire ribbon running down the side of a skirt of silk crepe would be fascinating. I have seen it looped around the edge of a hat's brim and allowed to bob interestingly about the face. Even on the edges of skirts they are using it in short loops to make a finish there.

But the smartest dictates of fashion say that it must not be in any way confined by stitching—that it must be a free ribbon this season, allowed more or less to have the privilege of choosing its own way in life.

Helps for the Home Dressmaker

DEAR Miss Lodewick:

Will you advise me of a way that I might make wearable a perfectly good dark blue velvet dress which is too narrow across the bust? The dress is a simple one-piece model, with hand embroidery decorating the short sleeves and the ends of the broad girdle. Am thirty years of age.

MRS. J. T.

Insert dark blue crepe de Chine on the sides as suggested, outlining the sections with velvet bands, hand embroidered, or with some sort of bead banding. Long silk tassels will add dignity.

Dear Miss Lodewick:

I am invited on a visit out in the Middle West and expect to remain a month. What clothes do you think I would need? The friend I shall visit is in moderate circumstances, interested in church affairs and local clubs, so I shall accompany her, no doubt, to some of them. Am thirty-seven years of age.

MRS. V. R.

You will need a couple of practical one-piece frocks of serge or velour or jersey, and perhaps a sport skirt of black and white plaid or stripe with tailored satin blouse and black sweater. A couple of afternoon frocks of silk and a dressier one of velvet or silk suitable for semi-formal

occasions, and a semi-formal evening gown of black or brown lace, or perhaps of brick red dyed silk lace having wide but short sleeves and jagged skirt edge, with perhaps a flower cluster at side of girdle. If black or brown lace is chosen a colored chiffon girdle such as jade or henna would be pretty.

Dear Miss Lodewick:

Will you please advise me whether it will be proper to wear brown pumps and stockings with a dark brown canton crepe dress for "dress-up" affairs, or would it be too much brown, as the hat is of brown satin? ALICE B. Brown pumps and stockings would complete your costume in the best possible way. They could be of satin or kid.

Dear Miss Lodewick:

I have some silver metal lace flouncing taken from an old evening gown which I would like to use for a dress for my daughter, who is 22 years old. I have enough for a 1 3/4 yard wide skirt and a piece for the bodice. What would you advise putting with it? Would appreciate a style, as I have copied many of your models.

MRS. G.

Dull blue silk net hung over the lace and lifted on one side to reveal it with a rose fable ribbon bow. Flat shaded ribbon roses around the low waistline.

Dear Miss Lodewick:

Will you suggest a simple way to make up some brown kasha cloth for business? Am twenty-six years of age and will make the dress myself. Am 5 ft. 4 in. tall.

MISS E.

This model is simple, with wool fringe tied about the edges. You might have a tailor do the pockets. The collar may be of linen in green, henna or blue or violet.

Dear Miss Lodewick:

Being short and somewhat stout, it is not easy for me to select becoming styles. I bought a dark blue crepe frock which has an elongated waistline girdled with a narrow belt that clasps on each hip with silver buckles. Sleeves and neck are bound with green georgette. Can you suggest some way of adding some lengthening lines, as I appear shorter than ever?

MARY F.

There are innumerable ways of accomplishing the desired result. Panels of dark blue ribbon from four to six inches wide attached under belt could drop below skirt edge in points. Two on each hip, close together, or two only in front.

Dear Miss Lodewick:

I am writing to ask you what sort of arrangement for my hair you would deem becoming. I am not anxious to have it bobbed, but

do not know whether to or not. My face is oval shaped, the lower portion quite heavy and cheeks fatter at the lower part than under the eyes. Large dark-brown eyes, rather high forehead.

Thanking you, M. C. B.

There are so many varied types of bobs that most every face can be suited. A short cut which is brushed up high on the top and in front offers bangs to the forehead would prove becoming to you.

Dear Miss Lodewick:

I would greatly appreciate a design from you for an afternoon dress of becoming lines. I have very narrow shoulders, which appear quite a deficiency because of my large face. Am quite fat in the face, also hips, but upper portion of body is slender, including my arms. Am twenty-five years of age, 5 feet 3 inches tall, weigh 122 pounds. Almost any color becomes me, but what would you suggest as smart for spring?



This design will broaden the effect of your shoulders. Fancy braid applied on a brown Canton crepe or crepe-knit silk would be pretty. The circular-shaped side panels will give your hips a slender appearance. Corded motifs of dress silk.