

THE MODES ON SHOW

Holiday Display in Street and Restaurant.

PALE BLUE AND MOLESKIN.

That Is a Combination That Has Caught Woman's Fancy.

Christmas Week Gowns for Old and Young—Irrespressible Popularity of the Short Coat—Two Well-Dressed Women—Yellow One of the Dominant Color Notes—Evening Costumes—Rose Trimmings on the Frocks of Debutantes—Uses of Brocade—The Flieu More and More in Evidence—Extensive Use of Surplice.

The holiday time is traditionally a home season, but never was the increasing tendency toward restaurant dining and dining and restaurant entertaining more in evidence than it is now. Of course the days are filled, for every one from school girl to dowager, with formal and informal functions given in private homes, and

fitting or bloused jacket with comparatively short basque.

There were also many two-piece suits, that is, skirt and bodice suits, in heavy material, making up for the absence of a coat by some supplementary little wrap.



such as a pelerine, Empire scarf in fur, or enveloping stole.

In furs, too, the short coat seemed to have been the choice of those women who

Christmas at the lunch hour in one of the most popular Fifth Avenue restaurants. Three women entered and took a table reserved for them. All three were elaborately and conspicuously dressed, and each costume struck the extreme note.

One gown was of very shaggy red zibeline. Two were of handsome velvet. All of the skirts were full, all of the sleeves had flowing mousseline frills, all of the hats had sweeping plumes and gold ornaments; but the furs were the feature of the costumes.

One woman wore a broad stole, reaching to the hem of her gown in the front, made of velvet with inset bands of seal, and she carried a huge muff to match. A second had a broad scarf and muff of mole skin and ermine sewn together in an intricate design and in very small pieces, and the third woman had a stole and muff of baby lamb over whose whole surface were inset narrow pointed lines of miniver.

Upon the heels of the two came two young matrons, who are sisters-in-law and in the front rank of fashion, and the contrast between the two expensively dressed groups pointed a moral for any rational onlooker. The later arrivals were nothing conspicuous, yet even the casual observer would have recognized that they were perfectly dressed.

One was all in brown—a walking skirt and bolero of dark, yet warm, brown cloth with touches of white cloth embroidered in shaded browns and gold at throat and wrists, a glimpse of a brown pame blouse ornamented with small gold buttons and having a collar of heavy lace run through with gold thread. A pelerine

of the same quality, with collars or berthes of heavy Venetian lace, are shown, and, if becoming, are most effective.

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mousseline, and the yoke and collar are of lace. A high folded grille of rose satin line runs a very narrow line of dark brown fur. A similar flounce trims the blouse bodice, crossing armpitwise in front below a deep-pointed yoke of lace.

Pure in, by the way, a revival from the days of Louis XVI, when Marie Antoinette favored it and so made it the rage, and is a very soft, subdued mauve. The color is achieving much success, as is another comparatively new shade called jade.

In this jade green is a frock among the pastiles of black velvet and graduated ruffles of the tulle, the three lowest being wide enough to allow a line of ermine running through the middle.

The full girled bodice is riched and has a stole of heavy lace falling in tabs in the front and over the sleeves. A little gump and mitten undersleeves are of fine valencienne, but the heavy lace appears again in the high collar.

Tulle in many shades of yellow or of pink, one thickness over another, is selected for many evening frocks, and the shaded tulle and chiffons are greatly liked.

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The full skirt and bodice are cut away to show a flounce under petticoat and a vest of white mousseline, and the edges of the outer robe are finished in tiny ruffles of silk matching the pink of the brocade.

The costume is piquant and dainty, yet extremely simple and a pretty house gown could be built upon this model by any clever home dressmaker. Chiffon velvet bordered by a line of dull gold or silver makes up well on these lines, though without the daintiness of the flowered

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often the only trimming of the skirt. They look more like shaped flat frills than tucks and, in fact, are often cut separately and set on.

Occasionally one sees them edged with very narrow silk fringe of the Tom Thumb variety in the color of the material. Fringe of all kinds finds a place upon the new gowns and chenille fringe plays a prominent part in the making of the new fur pieces.

One of the late ideas is the use of deep silk fringe with a broad knotted heading as dress trimming, in combination with a band trimming of knotted silk matching the heading of the fringe. This combination is usually made to order, and fringe and band should match perfectly in color the material upon which they are to be used.

The prevailing taste for costumes all in one tone or in shading of one color gives decided elegance and refinement to the modes of the moment; and when gorgeous color schemes are essayed they are very properly reserved for full evening toilet or the picturesque and informal tea gown.

The paillette robes are exceptions to the rule, but even here one usually finds the one color idea carried out, if with somewhat startling brilliancy.

The leaning toward deep tones and rich dark hues is very noticeable in Paris, and where last winter the light pastel hues were the predominating colors at every daytime function, one now finds worn rich browns, greens, blues, reds, dahlias and deep mauve shades and subdued grays.

MEASLES IN THE PALACE.

The Evil That Foreign Machinery Inflicted Upon the Imperial Family of China.

China has just degraded Chang Yi, one of its officials, for transferring the Kaiping coal mines to British control. The unfortunate man has also been informed that he will be further punished unless he brings the Kaiping mines under Chinese control again within two months.

This calls to mind the time when the Pekin Government was in a state of panic over the Kaiping mines, fearing that the empire in terrible evil.

It was in the '80s, and China was very suspicious of everything foreign. The Government had become convinced that some kind of machinery used in European coal mining was worth importing for the Kaiping mines. The machinery was introduced, Europeans were hired to run it, and the coal output was greatly increased. Five thousand tons had been raised for shipment when suddenly an order came from the Pekin authorities to close the mines at once.

The precipitate action was taken to nip an evil influence which had developed in the Emperor's palace, whose inmates were in great dismay. The Public Censor had brought about the unpleasant situation by a memorial which he had presented to the Throne.

He said it was his melancholy duty to report that the galleries which had been opened in the Kaiping mines by the foreigners, and the smoke and noise of the foreign machinery, had disturbed the repose of the earth dragon. In venting his displeasure the dragon, in turn, had vexed the spirit of the Empress, who had died some months earlier and had been buried about 100 miles away from the mines.

The spirit of the departed princess was justifiably angry and had taken prompt vengeance by afflicting several members of the imperial household with the measles. There was no doubt that this calamity was directly connected with the wicked proceedings at the coal mines.

Coal mining was therefore suspended and it was not until the measles had disappeared from the imperial household that calmness again prevailed and the reopening of the mines was authorized. But years elapsed before the machinery was again introduced.

Only half a generation has passed, but things have been moving, though slowly, in China. The Government that once closed the mines is now anxious to keep them, machinery and all, under its control.

A Kansas Society Item. From the Belleville Telescope. Miss Cecile Lawrence, a former Belleville girl, has been recently married to a steam car conductor in Topeka, and she writes to her name. The Telescope extends congratulations to the happy couple.

More Canvas Shoes Will Be Worn. From the Shoe and Leather Reporter. Canvas shoes for both men and women will be more popular the coming season, according to the returns of the salesmen, and they will be more pretentious than ever before. Several of the Lyon factories are now at work on the new orders, and some very natty shoes are going to be made in this line. There are to be some very pretty combinations in white duck, with trimmings or stars of black, shiny leather, perforated, and also of tan and colors. There will be many pure white canvas shoes made for men, women and children, some of the ladies' shoes being of a basket weave material. While ox-fords are in the majority, there are some boots which are cut very high, in Polish style, the demand for these coming from the Pacific Coast.

The Fond Parent's Pride. From the Ohio Observer. A reporter is endeavoring to find out the particulars of an accident that had befallen a boy, and was asking the questions necessary in such cases of the father of the injured boy.

"Did the little fellow stand the operation well?" asked the reporter. "Like a major—came through it all right." "Did he have to take anything?" continued the reporter. "Not a god darn thing but chloroform," was the proud reply of the admiring parent.

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A large contingent of society is going in for country house parties; but by day and by night the fashionable restaurants are crowded and afford a fashion show well worth observing by any one with an interest in chiffons.

Up to Christmas Day the shops, too, and the streets in the shopping districts were excellent places for the study of the modes, but a discriminating and observant eye was needed to separate the really well gowned women from the general horde of shoppers and to analyze the details that gave distinction to the costumes.

In the large shops the task was practically impossible, and one's attention was of necessity concentrated upon an effort to escape from the madstrom with one's own garments intact, but in the smaller and more exclusive establishments there was opportunity of observing the street and carriage toilet at its best, and one could not pass these places without having glimpses of exquisitely gowned women sweeping from carriage to doors.

On the whole, the exhibition has afforded no striking novelty, but has merely illustrated facts and fancies already heralded in the world of fashion and added a wealth of artistic detail to the generalization. One point, a trifle surprising, in view of the prophecies which were affear at the beginning of the season, is the irrespressible popularity of the short coat.

One sees the long, close fitting coat, the Russian cut with long skirt, the semi-fitting long skirt coat upon the smart tailor frock, and the loose three-quarter coat upon elaborate visiting and carriage toilets; but there is no denying that a majority of the modish costumes worn for shopping by the women who are supposed to set the seal upon New York fashions showed some form of the bolero or included a close

affected a fur coat at all—dainty little boleros of Persian lamb, seal, moleskin, caracul, chinchilla and other short haired furs, ornamented by touches of embroidered velvet, gold galon and heavy lace, were numerous and were distinctly the most effective of the fur coats.

A hint of ermine was introduced upon a large percentage of these little coats, and in some cases the coat was made quite plain and collarless and an elaborate little cravat and the sleeve trimmings were adjustable. Embroidered waistcoats have been accepted as correct accessories for these fur coats, and belts of suede, embroidered and jewel studded, appear upon many of the boleros.

Often the waistcoat and high embroidered girde are adjusted upon an inner lining or separate satin waistcoat, over which the fur bolero falls loosely, not reaching to the waist line.

Against the bizarre and extreme fads in fur women apparently need to be cautioned. Possibly the woman of unlimited means, who can afford many sets of furs, may with safety indulge in these conspicuous effects, but even when the freak fur is to be worn only occasionally it is in questionable taste.

Parisians may, as fashion journals state,

stole and large, flat muff of sable and a toque of white beaver with a cockade of brown and gold completed the outfit.

The sister-in-law wore a mole color cloth skirt trimmed in narrow volaux of moleskin, a chic blouse of light blue heavy silk severely tailored, and a trim bolero of mole skin with the richest line of light blue velvet and gold at the collarless neck finish and the cuffs, and with a soft girde of mole color suede, whose buckle was studded

with turquoise. A toque of mole skin was trimmed with a knot of forget-me-nots and gardenias.

Both costumes were quiet, but perfect of their kind and both worn with apparent unconsciousness of their beauty.

And, by the way, pale blue is preeminently the color for use with the omnipresent moleskin, although some shades of yellow and orange furnish an excellent relief to the soft darkness of the fur, and a moleskin toque trimmed in marigolds shading through the yellows and orange is a thing to conjure with.

Yellow is one of the dominant color notes this winter, especially in the realm of evening and house attire, and some of the shades are remarkably beautiful. Banana is a favorite shade, particularly in the soft velvets, and is not so trying as many of the yellows.

Pecapalle is another popular yellow, and there is a new golden yellow which, while not universally becoming, has an exquisite warmth and softness, especially when used in many thicknesses of chiffon. This golden yellow is charming, too, in the lustrous satins, and some of the ultra-fashionable milliners are using soft gold yellow felts or leavers, or shapes covered with many folds of gold yellow chiffon and almost invariably trimmed in dark fur or velvet.

Evening gowns in orange color are having a vogue in Paris and are most successful

and which would make an ideal dinner frock for a debutante.

The material is white mousseline, and the full skirt has three deep folds of Alencon set on at slight intervals. The top flounce has a beading.

Between the bottom of this flounce and the top of the middle one are four deep horizontal frocks. Between the middle and bottom flounce are five similar trims.

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ing frocks, count artificial roses among their trimming. Other flowers are sometimes used, but the tiny rose runs riot.

It is of the French artificial flower class, or perhaps is made of chiffon or of ribbon, and the dressmakers have puzzled their brains to find new ways of disposing of the little flowers. There are festoons, garlands, Empire rosettes, market bunches, fringes and wreaths.

Single roses are set upon lace or applique, accenting each repetition of some certain note in the design. Roses are used as pendent tassels for combs or ribbons, are set on skirts in bayadere stripes, and are set at the intersections of ribbon, silk or lace lattice work.

No more youthful and attractive trimming could be devised for the dainty evening frocks which abound in frills and rouchings and lace. The finer laces are selected for girlish wear and, for that matter, are much liked even by the older women, who by no means allow tulle and roses and fine lace to be monopolized by the debutantes.

Real Valenciennes is finding favor unprecedented within recent years, and no lace is more coveted than genuine old Valenciennes creamy with age. Alencon, too, is a favorite and is, of course, used in deeper widths. It forms whole frills and flounces.

Hijane, who is regarded in Paris as a queen of fashion and who has much to do with the launching of modes, has been working in a new play a frock which is a striking example of modish and costly simplicity

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over a chiffon veiling and a satin foundation.

The bodice, defying the waist and bust curves and running down in a sharp point at the bottom of the front, is of creamy pink liberty satin, draped upon a fitted lining and opening in the back. A lace fichu, lace sleeves and huge brilliant buttons trim this bodice.

The sharp bodice point is newer than the rounded line and is seen upon the latest imported models for evening wear, but the ordinary dressmaker has not yet learned the trick of it, and it must be cleverly cut and boned if it is to stay in place.

The fichu is more and more in evidence, and nothing makes a prettier fichu than white mousseline and creamy valenciennes several inches in depth. Ready-made fichus are for sale in the shops, and some of them are dainty and fine, but they are seldom cut exactly according to one's requirements, and any fichu needs very skillful and artistic adjustment by means of folds and plaits and gathers.

Flat surplus pieces of real lace in the heavier varieties appear upon many of the new evening bodices, bordering a V-shaped décolletage and crossing surplus fashion in front. The lace is broad upon the shoulders and tapers toward the points, and this shape is newer and more desirable than the cape collar.

The surplus idea is carried out in many ways and on everything from street gowns to evening toilets. One expression of it developed in many materials is illustrated in the gray chiffon velvet frock sketched here, whose bodice is almost entirely covered by a surplus pellicle of heavy lace bordered by bands of chinchilla fur.

Another surplus idea may be noted in the puce taffeta frock, which has its skirt

trimmed in a flounce on which are set several narrow rouchings and along whose shirr line runs a very narrow line of dark brown fur. A similar flounce trims the blouse bodice, crossing armpitwise in front below a deep-pointed yoke of lace.

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BAY STATE FOLKS DYING OUT.

MORE MARRIAGES, BIRTH RATE LOWER THAN SINCE '79.

Sweden and France Only Have Fewer Children Per Thousand of the Population—Foreign Born Women Have Most of the Young Americans Born in Massachusetts

Boston, Mass., Dec. 26.—Massachusetts is facing the alarming fact that while there was a big increase in the number of marriages in 1902, the birth rate has fallen off so noticeably that Sweden and France are now the only countries where fewer children are born per thousand of the inhabitants than in the Bay State. The news is found in the sixty-first annual report of "Births, Marriages and Deaths in Massachusetts," published by the Secretary of State and edited by Dr. Francis A. Harris, one of the medical examiners in Suffolk county.

It is also brought out that the children of foreign born mothers largely exceed those of native Massachusetts women, there being an increase yearly in the little ones of the former and a decrease in the births among the American born women. Dr. Harris says:

"The birth rate for 1902 is the lowest since 1879 and a decrease of 49 per cent. from the previous year. Doubtless economic conditions of the population have an influential effect on the number of births by increasing or decreasing the number of marriages, but to what extent it is difficult to determine. In the number of births the children of the foreign born mother are largely in excess over the native."

"The average birth rate for 1849-58 was 57.70 per cent for native born living births and 40.04 for foreign; the average of 1859-69, the native 48.06 and 45.89 foreign; the average of 1870-78 was 40.54 for the native and 45.48 for foreign; 1874-78, average 40.52 for native and 45.30 for foreign; average 1879-82, the native 38.42 and 45.33 foreign; in 1900, and greater than in any year since the beginning of registration. The number of persons married for each 1,000 of the estimated population was 6.11 less than the average rate for the decade 1860-69, but the number of persons married was greater than in any year since 1820."

Some singular facts are brought out in the report. In the town of North Ashford there was neither a marriage, birth nor death. Gosnold, a Martha's Vineyard town, nearly equaled this record, having neither a marriage nor a death, but it did have one birth. In Gay Head there was one marriage, one birth and no deaths. Seven sets of triplets were born, aggregating fourteen live boys and seven girls. Four bridegrooms out of the 25,665 married were over 80 years of age. Three women became ladies at between 75 and 80. Seven girls married at the age of 14, and twenty-nine at the age of 15. The youngest boy married was 16 years old.

More Canvas Shoes Will Be Worn. From the Shoe and Leather Reporter. Canvas shoes for both men and women will be more popular the coming season, according to the returns of the salesmen, and they will be more pretentious than ever before. Several of the Lyon factories are now at work on the new orders, and some very natty shoes are going to be made in this line. There are to be some very pretty combinations in white duck, with trimmings or stars of black, shiny leather, perforated, and also of tan and colors. There will be many pure white canvas shoes made for men, women and children, some of the ladies' shoes being of a basket weave material. While ox-fords are in the majority, there are some boots which are cut very high, in Polish style, the demand for these coming from the Pacific Coast.

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