

**A SEASON IN BROWN**

**Modish Gowns in One Color but Many Shades**

**COLOR SCHEMES FROM PARIS**

**Linen Frocks to be More Popular Than Ever.**

The scarf idea introduced upon bodices and boleros—New and Piquant Models of the Little Coats Which Are Fashionable—The Trimmings of the Season Especially Notable—An Unprecedented Vogue for Bordered Materials—The Drooping Shoulder and the Draped Sleeve Cap Features of the Bodice and Fancy Coat Modes—Few Changes in the Modish Skirt for Dressy Wear.

Brown, and yet again brown! The shades are full of the color in all its new shades, and already women are beginning to shrug their shoulders and say: "But every one will be wearing brown." There is just the trouble. The browns



OF MOUSSELINE DE SOIE.

are now chic. They are sure to be popular—and the fastidious look askance upon popular colors.

However, even a much abused color takes on distinction when handled consummately well, and brown frocks, hats and accessories are a safe investment provided they are smart enough to stand out from the



VOILE AND VELVET.

homogeneous background of browns. One of the most fashionable New York dress-makers has in hand a number of frocks which subscribe to the brown mania without being commonplace, and the ideas embodied in them seemed worthy of note.

One was a chiffon cloth in white with a deep printed border composed of large single roses in shades running from yellow to Havana brown. The chiffon was made over a clear bright brown with a golden light in it, which is one of the most popular



MOUSSELINE AND LACE.

tones of the popular color, and the effect was indescribably soft and harmonious. Another frock was in a sheer stuff which seemed to be silk mousseline or chiffon with a wide satin stripe. The ground of both

the chiffon and the satin was white, but all over the surface ran an irregular check in heavy lines of black. This material was made up over the same light bright brown already mentioned. The black design on the sheer chiffon laid over the brown took on a brown tone, while the opaque satin stripe retained its clear white and black, and the combination was remarkably chic and attractive.

It is in such color schemes as this, rather than in the all brown effects, we venture to predict, that the season's vogue of brown will be emphasized among the ultra modish, but there are beautiful things in brown among the silks, voiles, &c., and the browns are fairly rampant in the early season millinery. Here, however, brown is usually relieved by some harmonizing line which will tone into it rather than contrast

so triumphantly together. The buttons are of tortoise shell and gold and the frock promises to appear as French as though it had been made on the Place Vendôme rather than on a New York side street. Brown chiffon voile over self color or white is the material for many pretty street frocks, made with vague little boleros or Empire coatees and with skirts long or of walking length, according as they are intended chiefly for walking or for carriage wear. Some of the slightly grayish wood-browns are especially good for this purpose, looking cooler than the yellower browns and yet not too dark.

The brown voile street frock pictured in one of the small cuts was of this type, and its trimming of big passementerie rings in the color of the voile through which were run velvet ribbons of a much deeper

The scarf idea is introduced upon boleros and bodices not only in the shape of cravats or narrow loops and ends, but in more pronounced form suggesting the separate wide shoulder scarf. Wide soft scarfs plaited on the shoulders, and falling low over the sleeve top to give the correct low shoulder line, are caught in some way at the line of the bust and fall loosely from there on each side of the front. The mousseline house gown included among the sketches will give some idea of such drapery and of its graceful possibilities. In this case the gown was of picturesque Greek lines and was fashioned of white mousseline de soie, decorated at hem and girdle with heavy Greek key embroidery in gold.

Over the shoulders of this classically simple robe was draped a wide scarf of rose

be worn over airy summer frocks. These summer frocks are evidently to be more than ever things of beauty, and the lingerie models, both elaborate and comparatively simple, are remarkably lovely. Long panel lines worked out in the inset lace and hand embroidery are much in evidence, and the princess lines, on the wane elsewhere, seem as popular in the realm of the lingerie gown. The swiss and batiste embroideries and the combinations of lace and embroidery furnish exquisite trimmings for lingerie stuffs, and many of these trimmings are of hand work. These are, of course, expensive luxuries, but they sell rapidly, so the supply is evidently in answer to a demand. Never has color been so charmingly introduced into the embroidery insertions, motifs and flourishes as it is this season,



A COAT OF BRAIDED BROWN SILK OVER A FAWN CLOTH SKIRT. A GOWN OF ROSE MOUSSELINE WITH TRIMMING OF VALENCIENNES, SILVER PAILLETES AND IRISH LACE, AND A GOWN OF CLOTH AND MOUSSELINE DE SOIE.

brown was, as will be understood from an examination of the sketch, extremely successful. The fine plaited collar of lingerie and lace held flat by the ring and ribbon trimming was a charming note, and the skirt trimming was excellent. The waistcoat was of white with tiny pearl buttons.

The long loops and ends of velvet, finished



TAFFETA AND FLOWERED SILK.

by big silk tassels which appeared upon this little Empire coat illustrated a tendency, already marked, toward such scarf effects and toward the use of tassels, fringes or other fancy trimmings.

color mousseline de soie inset with vertical lines of Valenciennes insertion and finished at the ends by deep knotted fringe. The scarf was confined by the girle at the short waistline.

In more serviceable materials this model would be almost as charming and more practical in soft veiling, with a scarf or cape for example, and lovely color schemes lurk in this use of the scarf drapery and the loose square lines which straight falling scarfs impart to the boleros repeated in many of the bolero models, and even in certain bodices which have no scarf drapery. Square, bib-like trimming arrangement falling loosely over a girle has been seen during the winter and is echoed in summer models, and loose drapery falling from a long shoulder line in soft folds is a feature of some of the newest little coats.

These little coats, by the way, promise to be bewitching little affairs. We have spoken of some of them and have given sketches of several, but each day brings forth new and piquant models. A pretty little black coat, which would be as serviceable as it is chic, is a loose straight falling hip length model of beautifully fine handmade lace. Fitting smoothly over the shoulders it flares to rippling fullness lower, and the short full sleeve is made in one with the body so that no armhole nor shoulder seam shows.

The beauty of the lace and the clever lines of the coat are its only trimmings, aside from the finely plaited and pinked frills of soft black taffeta, which border the fronts and bottom and finish the sleeves and neck. The fronts of the coat are cut away, beginning to round just below the throat line and curving back sharply at the hips. On each side of the front at the throat are choux of plaited and pinked silk. Quaint little souchated coats of taffeta or other firm silks in plain light color will

and some of the earliest lingerie materials offered are in delicate tinted sheer stuff embroidered in white or in white batiste, null or swiss, with delicate touches of color in its embroidery. The dotted swisses are particularly favored, and with plain dotted swiss for frock material are offered flouncing



BLACK AND WHITE FOULARD.

and insertions of similar dotted swiss with edges scalloped and brottobroiled in white or in delicate color and with dainty garland and spray designs embroidered in light pinks or blues or lavenders.

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C. C. WARREN, 88 Virginia Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

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is introduced. The coarse filets in cream net sometimes have darned in designs in dull color rather than in white, and cluny laces in which a part of the design is executed in color are also shown. One Fifth avenue house is displaying particularly smart guimpes of cluny in cream and dull blue, cream and rose, cream and brown, and in many of these guimpes threads of black and white outline the colored part of the lace design. These laces suggest linen frocks in the color used in the lace, and there are many embroideries on linen which also belong to the province of the linen frock.

That linen is to be more popular than ever

in white. Purposes of colored trimmings, there are some very effective laces into which color

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