

FURS AND MUSLINS

Contrasts Made by the Modes This Season.

SELECTABLE SUMMER GOWNS

Pretty New Lingerie Stuffs Appearing in Shops.

Bargains in Fur Coats, Muffs and Neck Pieces Offered Alongside the Warm Weather Materials—The Embroidered Swisses Particularly Attractive This Year—Yellow and Brown Shades Predominate—Cretone Patterns in Everything From Organdy to Figue—Novel Trimmings for Summer Frocks—Color Added to the Open Eyelet Embroidery—Pink Frocks for Girlish Wearers.

Furs and muslins! The season of incongruous combinations is here, and fortunate folk starting toward summerland pack their trunks with muslins and linens and lace, and tuck in besides all of their furs they do not happen to be wearing.

For that matter the vogue of abser materials for all year round wear has familiarized us with such contradictions in attire even during our Northern winters; but lingerie stuffs and furs consort even more oddly than furs and chiffon or silk mousseline.

Not only in the trunks but in the shops



CHIFFON AND HYACINTHS.

as well muslin and fur rub elbows. Now is the season of fur sales, and tempting bargains are offered on every side. An unusually mild December has united with the general financial stringency to persuade merchants into liberal fur offerings, and many women are taking advantage of the bargains offered.

Extravagantly bizarre or fancy furs are of course a poor investment so late in the season, for they will doubtless be out of fashion before another winter, and the fur of such models is often too much cut up even to provide good material for making



PINK GAUZE.

over. There have been this year a host of original and attractive novelties in small furs, which are lovely enough to insure their being desirable for another season.

Of the fur coats we have spoken again and again. Never were so many superbly handsome coats in ermine, chinchilla, mink, seal, baby lamb and caracul shown in New York shops; and though numbers of these handsome coats have been sold others are still on the dealers' hands. These are marked at figures much lower than those of the early season, but even so, they are beyond the reach of the average woman.

Too much valuable fur has gone into the models to admit of their ever being cheap, and the dealers will not part with them at too great a sacrifice.

Pony skin coats are the general wear, and, thanks to the improvements which



PINK MOUSSELINE.

the furriers have wrought in this fur, a multitude of women have warm and fairly modish fur coats this winter who have never before been able to aspire to a fur coat of any sort. But these shiny black coats are a far cry from the regal garments of chinchilla and ermine and other fine furs from whose prices hundreds of dollars are dropping away without bringing the figures down to a level below the extravagance line.

Some of the new fichu or pelrine shaped small furs are especially chic and becoming and have the advantage of supplying considerable warmth as well. Both in ermine and in chinchilla these have been favored, and some very smart lynx scarfs are cut on much the same lines, flat, deep and rounding in the back, broad over the shoulders and narrowing in front toward the waist line or just above, where the points are finished by heads.

Other charming models offered among the furs included in the January sales are more or less like the chinchilla model of

We have seen one altogether delightful fur lined coat in a very soft, rough, warm looking cheviot of a beautiful deep red, a red rich and vivid without being at all loud or conspicuous. This coat was admirably cut and tailored. The collar, instead of being in fur, was a high, snug turnover of leather matching the cheviot, and there were cuffs and buttons of the same leather.

And now to the muslins! Perhaps they are not so pretty as they seem. The first lingerie stuffs and flowered muslins always have a beauty heightened by their incongruous winter setting and by the promise of summer which they hold; but the early showing of summer stuffs this season certainly has considerable intrinsic beauty to recommend it.

Of course the full lines are not yet on view, but enough is here to whet our appetites, and from now on new things will dribble out, little by little, until we get the full force of the spring flood.

The embroidered swisses are always among the first to appear, and these swisses

off into stripes instead of checks by a heavier white line, and along this stripe between the lines are embroidered little sprigs of delicately tinted blossom leaf and stem, or, as in one instance, the most minute of single blossoms without leaf or stem are scattered carelessly all about the surface of the stripe.

Another swiss shows a fine embroidered vine design in white, giving a striped effect to the material and here and there between the vines the tiniest imaginable embroidered blossoms in two shades of violet or in two shades of pink. White swiss with embroidered dots of shaded color are pretty too, and there are dotted swisses in stripe effect which have inch wide stripes of thickly set tiny white dots alternating with much narrower stripes of dots, corresponding to the white ones, but in color.

All of these swisses will make delectable summer frocks and so will the silk, mulle and silk warp mousselines with exquisite flower designs in delicate colorings. Some of these show a broad satin finish stripe

darker than the ground. On a ground like rich yellow cream, for example, are lilacs which, disregarding all nature's laws, take on shades of rich yellow deepening to soft brown.

The yellow and brown shades are, by the way, much seen, as they have been in winter materials, all the maise, burnt bread, white wine and similar soft odd yellows predominating. There are some very attractive things, too, in brown and white or brown and ecru among the embroidered swisses, embroidered batistes, etc.

Another floral design repeated often among the printed mulls, etc., shows two loose graceful sprays of little button roses, one in white, one in pale pink. These sprays are not mingled but are thrown on the surface, side by side with soft grayish shadows to make them melt into the white or delicately tinted ground. Bordered mulls, silk warp mousselines, swisses, gingham, etc., are, as we remarked last week, taking a prominent place among

these dainty Pekin stripes with floral borders or borders of stripes running parallel with the selvaige and very much wider than the stripes in the body of the material.

Cretone patterns appear on everything from organdy to piqué, and the French piqués printed in cretone designs will be much used, as they were last season, for waistcoats and trimmings. There are some very handsome all white embroidered piqués, very soft and light of weight so that they may be used more easily than the what stiff and heavy, and the all white effects in fancy swisses, lawns, linens, dimities, etc., are extraordinarily pretty.

Many women are buying up these delightfully fine and novel designs in sheer white stuffs and making them into morning blouses which need practically no trimming save a frill of lace at throat and wrists, and yet are, because of the fineness of the materials and the charming designs, more attractive than any of the cheaper grades of trimmed lingerie blouses.

It is a good idea to pick up the materials for this purpose now while the stock is fresh and complete, for the choice things go with surprising rapidity.

Among the new trimmings for summer frocks, embroidery bands, soundings and allovers, laces, etc., there are wonderfully lovely things making an advance even upon the similar trimmings of last summer, when high water mark seemed to have been reached. Many kinds of work and material are combined in some of these new trimmings, embroidery on batiste, embroidery on net, inset lace, soutache braiding, all blending into one harmonious whole.

One superb embroidery founcing on finest batiste had set into its very irregular

little idea. The chief charm of a pink frock is in its delicate coloring, and that one loses in a black and white drawing; but imagine a frock of pink chiffon in the most delicate, the most charming of rose petal pinks, made with a simplicity of which the sketch gives an idea, and utterly devoid of trimming save for pink hystichs exactly matching the chiffon in color.

These are sprayed loosely around the semi décolletage and the bottom of the elbow sleeve; but on the bottom of the skirt the separate balls of the hystichs are scattered loosely over the chiffon with an effect of having been rifled from the stalk and carelessly thrown upon the pink surface. Anything daintier and more girlish than this little frock we have yet to see, but it was cut with skill and made up over veilings of chiffon and a foundation of soft India silk, so it was not quite so inexpensive a creation as its appearance would suggest to the uninitiated.

A second frock in pink striped gauze was rather more ornate, though still very youthful, and had a pretty detail in the tiny satin straps crossing the inset lines of lace and finished by tiny satin covered buttons at each end. A little tucker of fine cream net finished by a narrow lace banding, through which ran a line of black velvet baby ribbon, was set inside the square cut Dutch neck, and there were underleaves matching the tucker.

Of pink mull and lace were two other frocks in the group, one made with a fichu effect, which, while charming in itself, was hardly so girlish as the blouse of plainer lines, which owed its cachet to the little bows, tucks and inset valenciennes with which it was trimmed.

All of these frocks were made, at least in part, by hand, and in that lay much of the secret of their charm. All, too, were of the one piece variety, which promises to have another season of popularity.

THE LADY LOST HER HAT.

But Quickly Recovered It, Pinned It on Again, and Went Ahead, Smiling.

Women's hats are bigger than men's, and so they make a bigger target for the winds to work upon; and yet women's hats are rarely blown off, for the simple reason that they are pinned on, while all a man can do with his hat in a gale is to jam it down over his ears.

But despite this manner in which it is secured a woman's hat does occasionally blow off, as, to the great surprise of the male passers by, and as well to that of its wearer, did the hat of a lady who was walking down Broadway below Canal street yesterday. But she rose to the situation gallantly.

Among men it is the unwritten law that when a man's hat blows off he must regard it as a fine joke. If he is grouchy over it, and peevish, men will laugh at him; whereas if he laughs himself as his hat flies away and rolls in the gutter and under horses' feet, why then men will laugh with him, which is a very different thing from having men laugh at him.

The lady who lost her hat proved herself eligible for membership in the Society of Men Who Are Game When They Lose Their Hats. When her hat went she certainly was surprised, but the wind was kind to her.

It didn't carry her hat off over the house-tops or sailing around in the street or anything like that, it just lifted it off her head and then dropped it on the sidewalk not more than six feet behind her, where she found it when she looked around. And she didn't get flushed or agitated, she nailed it gracefully, and picking it up she set the hat on her head once more and this time pinned it on securely; and then she resumed her walk down Broadway, far from disturbed, indeed smiling.

SKRIMLEY'S PECULIARITY.

The Pink of Neatness in Every Other Way, He Never Brushes His Hat.

"I suppose," said Mr. MacBlink, "that we all have our little peculiarities, but some of them do seem queer. You take, for instance, the one odd thing about my friend Skrimley."

"Now, Skrimley is a man very scrupulous in all the ways of personal cleanliness, daily bath, constant fresh linen, clothes always in perfect order and always brushed, and his shoes always cared for in like manner; but he never brushes his hat, and that I have never been able to account for."

"Anybody that didn't know Skrimley that saw him going around with that hat of his all covered with dust, would think he was, so to speak, dusty all over and all through, a man in every way careless about his person; but the facts are as I have stated them, he is actually the very opposite of personal dustiness, in everything but his hat."

"Somehow he doesn't seem to care how that looks, and when he comes to that he just lets it go. Just why he does this I don't know; I suppose it's just Skrimley's little peculiarity."



LAWN AND LACE.

pointed scallop edge a deep band of fine net embroidered almost solidly in finest linen soutache, and though the description sounds erratic the reality was altogether handsome and effective. Imported robes show this same idea, and one of the most beautiful embroidery founcings and band trimmings we have seen has in its design inset motifs of net exquisitely embroidered in harmony with the other embroidery on the batiste.

Openwork eyelet embroidery, while not used to a very great extent alone as it was two seasons ago, is introduced into a majority of the robe and embroidery trimming designs, and this year openwork eyelet embroidery often introduces a touch of color into the design.

There was a decided movement last summer toward such notes of delicate color in the lingerie trimmings and frocks; and evidently the manufacturers have faith in the future of this idea, for they have this year brought out such exquisite things of this type. Delicious robes in whose founcings and trimmings openwork embroidery in pale pink or other light tones mingle with white embroidery in bold relief and motifs of inset valenciennes embroidered in colored dots are on view, and some of these robes patterns offer novel colorings of leather brown, dull apricot, watercolor green, fraise or mulberry on the white ground.

The sheer materials in plain one tone colorings are of all the lighter modish hues, but there is, as always at the beginning of the summer season, a preponderance of pink. No color is prettier for youthful wearers, and for the small cuts to-day we have selected a group of simple pink frocks, all intended for girlish wearers and all as charming as they are simple.

Of one of these frocks a sketch can give but



FUR PIECES OF CHINCHILLA, WHITE FOX, BLACK LYNX AND ERMINE.

the sketch, cut wide and flat over the shoulders, falling straight in front of the arms and behind them to the depth of a bolero, and finishing in the middle front with two stole ends which fall well below the hip line. A collar of Nattier blue velvet and rosettes of blue velvet relieved the gray of the chinchilla model in this class.

Fox furs in all their colorings have been extremely modish and are always a safe investment. They are perhaps at their best in their plainer forms, but the designers have this winter produced some very good fancy effects in these furs. The white fur and chenille set pictured here and offered in one of the sales is a case in point, very heavy netted white chenille being combined with the fur in the manner indicated in the sketch.

Black lynx has been worn more than usual this winter and good sets of this fur are to be had at very reasonable prices. There are, of course, lynx furs at extremely low figures, but these are not the high class Lelpaic dye lynx, and are unprofitable because they fail to wear and keep their color as the high grade lynx will.

Muffs apparently grow larger with each succeeding winter, but surely the limit has been reached this winter, and some of the flat, soft, oblong muffs are of enormous size. Some very modish sets in fine glossy black caracul are made with these huge muffs and with becoming neck scarfs; and are quite as effective as some of the fur sets at prices much higher.

Fur lined coats are included in many of the fur sales, and the motor coat of tweed, smartly tailored, fur lined and adorned by a fur collar, is a much more knowing and up to date garment than the time honored fur lined coat of smooth broadcloth, which was always, save in certain of the brighter colors, an old lady's coat.

are this year particularly worthy of welcome. The best of them are dainty and charming beyond description.

One line, for example, at \$2 a yard, has its ground of finest white swisses, barred off into two inch checks by two heavier white threads. In these squares are embroidered alternately a tiny flower sprig of delicate color, and a single dot of the same color.

One piece has a minute pink floweret with delicate green leaves and stem in one square and a small pink dot in the next square. Another piece of the goods has violet in place of the pink; another blue.

In the same general class is a swiss worked

in the same color as the foundation of the material, the printed design running over the stripes as well as the plain surface.

An especially good design in these silky printed stuffs has graceful sprays of lilac thrown carelessly over the surface, the flowers always repeating the color of the ground, but in two shades considerably

the new summer stuffs, and each day brings out new materials of this class.

Organdies and silk warp muslins in pekin stripes are, of course, not new; but they are always charming, and in the new pinks, yellows and blues with white, they are delightfully fresh and chic. There are some excellent brocade materials, too, in

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