

**BEAUTY IN BLOUSES**

**Of Lingerie and All Lace and Handwork.**

**EFFECTIVE COLOR TOUCHES**

**And Costumes Which Will Be Harmonies of Color.**

Very Fine Soutache Embroidery on Some Models—Ornaments of White Silk for Elaborate Lingerie Blouses From France—The Problem of Cleansing—Models the Home Seamstress Can Imitate—Features of Decoration Which Give Beauty to the Season's Fashion.

The end of the lingerie blouse is not yet within sight, and if beauty can promote popularity such blouses should be even dearer than ever to the feminine heart during the coming season.

Many of the new models, while original in the details of their designs, offer little novelty in general character. Their beauty depends upon the design and workmanship of the intricate hand embroideries, the



ECRU AND BROWN.

charm of the inset laces and tiny hand run tucks.

When one has said that their sleeves are a little smaller than those of last year, their collars higher and shaped more skillfully, and that a larger percentage of long sleeves is in evidence, one has given these beautiful models almost all of the description which would be lucid.

Real dainty lace is used more than ever in connection with hand embroidery and valenciennes and openwork embroidery, is cleverly mingled with blind embroidery. Among the blouses as among the robe patterns and the handsome by the yard embroideries one notes the liking for heavy embroidery outlines filled in with valenciennes or fine drawn work, and Irish crochet



PALE BLUE EMBROIDERY.

beading as well as baby Irish narrow insertions are much used in connection with valenciennes and embroidery.

Another feature of some of the smartest lingerie blouses is the very fine soutache embroidery which appeared on certain imported lingerie frocks last summer and finds a place in some of the expensive embroidery bands and flouncings this season. A model which owed its cachet to such hand work is included in the blouses of the central cut, and for it the importer asked \$40—a price prohibitive for the average woman, although it is surprising to see what extravagant sums a host of women now seem willing to pay for fine lingerie blouses.

It may be said in passing that soutache



WHITE AND BLUE.

embroidery, while demanding patience, time, and a certain deftness of needlework, can be successfully accomplished by women for whom the other embroideries would be an impossibility, and the woman with more time and industry than money can have a blouse of fine batiste stamped, embroidered in the finest possible white linen soutache, and have a summer blouse of extreme elegance and modishness at comparatively little money outlay.

The French makers, too, give us elaborate lingerie blouses into which little folds,

buttons, etc., of white silk are introduced, an idea which seems an offence against the fitness of things yet is carried out very successfully in many instances. These blouses are intended chiefly for wear with white wool coats and skirts, and, of course, go to the cleaner instead of the laundress, a thing which, for that matter, is true of most very fine lingerie blouses in Paris.

Cleansing there is so cheap and so well done that the Parisian does not think of exposing her filmy blouse of sheer batiste and embroidery and lace to the vicissitudes of the laundry, and the starchings which seem inevitable even when one gives one's blouses to an expert laundress hastens the destruction of the fragile garments and injure their appearance where they last. Incidentally, the compromise which one woman has effected with her laundress in this matter of starching soft lingerie blouses may be of interest to other strugglers.

"I gave up the effort to persuade her not to use starch," she says. "Orders were simply a waste of breath. Starch them she would in spite of all I could say."

"Finally I hit upon the plan of asking her to rinse the blouses well again after

looms before the anxious mind, but as a rule the colored embroideries are in good fast colors and with careful laundering need not lose their beauty.

Almost all of the models sketched for this page showed the new note of color, and it would have been easy to select five times as many blouses of the same class equally pretty. As a rule the material of the blouse is white batiste or mul or linen, and the color enters into the design in the form of hand embroidery, or on the less expensive blouses in ready made embroidery bands or motifs.

On this last order are some charming models of moderate price, similar to one which is illustrated in the large group. The design is very simple, but the blouses are very carefully made and the sleeve is particularly good, one of the best designs we have seen among the new long sleeves.

A cuff not more than four or five inches in width has the upper part of the sleeve so set into it with tiny tucks that the general shape or outline of the sleeve is more like that of a small mutton leg than a bishop sleeve. Some of the tiny tucks run all the way from cuff to shoulder, others reach to the elbow, others are still shorter, and the

flatly under a tuck running from shoulder point to waist.

The high shaped collar, curving up in the approved fashion at sides and back, is made with a piece of the edging at the bottom, the scalloped points turned upward and appliquéd by hand to a band of valenciennes lace. Above this lace is a narrow hem of linen, the finish found on many of the new blouses, because it provides an opportunity for easily curving and shaping the top of the collar. The firm little hem also offers a better foundation to which to attach the top of a collar support than does this lace.

The line of embroidery running from shoulder to waist has its edge appliquéd to an inset band of valenciennes, and the cuff is made on the same general plan as the collar. A double frill of the embroidery, joined by a little line of beading on which are set minute pearl buttons, finishes the blouse front. The sleeve in this model is merely a small bishop sleeve, cut so there is little fullness where the upper part joins the cuff.

Among the hand embroidered models there are some blouses so simple that the embroidery need not appall even a very

design, though no more effective, are little embroidered shamrocks or blossoms set in line between the groups of small tucks which form a yoke, and introduced into collar and cuffs in similar fashion; and more troublesome to embroider than the large dots are stripes formed of the tiniest dots set thickly together. These stripes run between groups of tucks or bands of inset lace, and in some cases the dots are also sprinkled closely on jabot frills which are edged with little embroidered scallops of the color.

Where a more pretentious form of hand embroidery is desired, chic blouses, severely simple of line and put forward by the French as tailored—by which is meant, not that the filmy batiste things are tailored, but that they are peculiarly suitable for wear with tailored frocks—are made in sheer batiste or linen, and a conventional design in heavy line embroidery covers the whole width of collar, cuffs and front plait. The blouse is otherwise untrimméd save for the hand tucked yoke.

More pretentious and less smart are blouses whose band trimming is similar to that just described, but which instead of running down the middle front runs along the shoulder and down to the bust line in a V front and back. The open Vs are filled in by a little guimpe and collar of valenciennes.

For \$18 or \$20 one may have a delectable hand-made blouse of white batiste, whose whole yoke, collar and cuffs are embroidered in graceful garlands and sprays, the embroidery done in two or three shades of one color. This model is particularly good in the Copenhagen blues and the light browns. There is a wealth of fine tucking to supplement the embroidery, and the lines of the blouse are exceptionally good.

At higher prices are creations of the very elaborate sort such as have become familiar in all white, and some of these in which the note of color is not too pronounced and finds its expression in the delicate buttonhole tracery of openwork embroidery are wonderfully pretty; but as a general thing color is reserved for the simpler blouses, and the extremely costly and elegant models are in white.

One of the daintiest and most delightful types of the blouse in white and color has not yet been mentioned, and here again we find models not too difficult for the home seamstress if she sews well. Just what the material is deponent sayeth not.

It may be batiste, mul or mercerized linen, but whatever the exact name it looks like any one of those three and is very fine, sheer and soft. The ground is white and it is striped in narrow lines of color set rather closely together.

The material itself is so dainty that it would be hard to make a blouse of it unattractive, and made up as skillfully as it is in the best models this striped material gives charming results. Even in its simplest form such a blouse is desirable.

One model is untrimméd save for the fine tucking of the yoke, collar and cuffs, and the hand embroidered white turndown collar and cuffs which are applied to the blouse collar and cuffs flatly instead of being adjusted separately. The fine tucking brings the colored stripes closer together so that the yoke and tucked portions of the collar and cuffs look darker than the body of the blouse.

This same thing is true of the tucking in the model illustrated in the large picture, and in this model too we find the dainty hand embroidered white turndown collars and cuffs, the white cuffs forming the top of the striped cuff instead of being applied at the bottom.

A note of added smartness is given this blouse by the hem of plain color matching the stripes which border the cuffs, the front plait and the little bow of baby Irish lace. Lines of narrow baby Irish insertion alternate with tucking in cuffs and collar.

In heavier tailor shirt waists some good models are shown of linen, striped in white and color and made with turndown lines collars and bows of the same striped linen hand embroidered either in white or in the color of the stripe.

GOOD FROM WOMEN'S VOICES.

Twenty-nine States Testify as to Feminine Influence at School Elections.

In twenty-nine States in the Union women have some form of school suffrage. Not long ago a circular letter was sent from the National Woman Suffrage headquarters to the State superintendents of public instruction in all the twenty-nine States giving women the school ballot, asking how it worked. A large majority of the superintendents reply that the effects have been good, and all of them declare emphatically that none of the predicted evils has resulted.

Answering the question "Has it had an, good result? If so, what?" the North Dakota superintendent answers: "Yes, no politics in our school affairs. These mothers who are interested in good schools and good government are active at elections. Most women have the interest of their children at heart, regardless of everything else. It has had many good effects."

The superintendent from Kansas writes: "Yes. We are able to interest both parents in school boards and school administration. Board member candidates who were unworried have been defeated by the women's vote."

From Wyoming the reply is: "It makes the women take more interest in the questions of the day. Better men are made candidates, as women generally will not vote for an immoral man. Elections are conducted in a much more orderly manner in States where equal suffrage does not exist. There is very seldom any disturbance and the polls are kept free from the rough element. These are only a few of the many good results."

To the question: "Do you find that the bad and ignorant women vote at school elections in larger numbers than good and intelligent?" the superintendent for Michigan writes: "I do not know of any cases where bad women have influenced school elections. It is my opinion that it is perfectly proper for women to have a right to vote in school meetings. Our experience in Michigan makes this clear. Who is more interested in the welfare of the children than the mothers, and who has a better right to have something to say as to how schools shall be conducted?"

The answer of the New Jersey superintendent is: "The women who vote at our district school meetings are usually the mothers of pupils and are intelligent. It does not oblige them to neglect their home duties and makes them better wives and mothers. Women suffrage in school matters has been attended with good results."

The New York superintendent writes: "Women do not avail themselves of the exercise of this privilege. Occasionally, where an important contest arises in a school district, the women do vote, and on such occasions the majority of the women who vote are the intelligent and the best women in the community."

Charles D. Hine, secretary of the State Board of Education of Connecticut, answers: "In my opinion, the reason for the smallness of the women's vote is that they cannot vote on all questions. If men could only vote on school questions they would not go to the polls in any larger numbers. On the whole the law in this State has been useful. While all women have not voted, some excellent women have been elected to school boards and their influence has always been good."

The superintendent for New Hampshire answers "I don't know," to most of the questions on the list. He admits, however, that in cases where the interests of the children are involved the women often vote in considerable numbers, "and usually carry the issue, to the advantage of the schools."

**MME. TINAYRE TALKED.**

Feminine Indiscretion That Lost the Cross of the Legion of Honor.

PARIS, Feb. 1.—The list of decorations in the Legion of Honor made on the recommendation of M. Briand as Minister of Public Instruction, Fine Arts and Religious Affairs did not contain the name of Mme. Marcelle Tinayre, the author, M. Briand had recommended her as worthy of honor, but the council of the order marked the papers "cannot be accepted at present," this hanging the question up till the next promotion.

For this disappointment the author of the "Maison du Pêche" has only herself to blame. When it became known that her name was on M. Briand's list the interviewers set upon her and she talked. She seemed to think it a good opportunity to show her wit and fairly let herself go.

A very few words were wasted on her appreciation of the honor paid to her and many devoted to making fun of the order. Of course, she couldn't think of wearing a decoration, she didn't want to be noticed in the street or on the underground railway, where she would probably be put down as an ex-canteen keeper or a plague nurse. Not content with talking she wrote a long letter to the Temps in the same strain.

Then the storm burst. Every newspaper took her to task. She was told that the women who had been decorated as army canteen keepers had often risked their lives in battle, as the Sisters of Mercy had done beside the bedside of the plague stricken. All the women who are members of the legion were interviewed, and said how proud they were to wear their decoration.

Every caustic writer exercised his wit at poor Mme. Tinayre's expense. Mme. Tinayre grew alarmed and tried to explain things. But it was too late. The council, taking advantage of the to do, and feeling it would have public opinion behind it, exercised its right of veto and refused the cross to the overtalkative lady, at any rate for a time.



TWO WHITE BLOUSES EMBROIDERED WITH COLORS, ONE WITH AN ELABORATE DESIGN IN WHITE, SOUTACHE AND EMBROIDERY, ANOTHER OF BLACK AND WHITE STRIPED LAWN, AND A FIFTH OF BLUE LAWN AND LACE.

the starching and before ironing. She was willing to make that concession. "She does make it. I don't pretend to figure out the psychology of the thing, but my blouses look better than they ever have before.

The very handsomest of the lingerie blouses are all white; but the most noticeable thing in the showing of the new blouses is the number of models in which a touch of color is mingled with white. Evidently among blouses, as among lingerie frock and embroidery trimmings, a note of color is to be one of the new seasons novelties; and certainly the idea as developed in the blouses is worthy of praise.

Here again the thought of laundering

result is a delightfully clever and graceful shaping of the sleeve, which is of very moderate size even at the top.

Tiny pin tucks like those of the sleeve form the yoke of the blouse and the front plait, the collar and the cuffs are of tucks on each side of a band of batiste embroidery whose design is worked in color on a white ground. Inset lines of valenciennes alternate with the groups of tucks.

This same model is made in charming shades of pale blue, lilac and pink, with the design of the embroidery matching in color the material of the blouse. So many beautiful embroidery bands in color are among the new things that this blouse might be made up in color to match any frock, and especially smart effects might be obtained in the white and on or leather browns which appear in many of the colored embroideries.

A coat and skirt of one of these browns in pongee, serge or linen, brown leather belt, bag and shoes, a white hat or Panama trimmed in brown and one of the smart little blouses embroidered in brown—the picture in pleasing, and it is in costume effects like this that the color trimmed lingerie blouses will have their maximum charm.

Another model, comparatively inexpensive because embroidery edging is used instead of hand embroidery, can be readily made up at home, and the home made article will probably be superior to the ready made blouse, because this latter is not made with such care as is the last blouse described, and the edges of the colored embroidery are in some instances so carelessly cut that they will fray out lamentably at the first washing.

An embroidery edging with a fine scallop and dainty design on sheer linen should be chosen, and these are legion. The blouse is tucked in small tucks on the shoulders, and a line of the colored edging is set on

ordinary seamstress, and very chic because of their daintiness and their piquant notes of color. An example of this may be studied in the blouse trimmed in lines of dots which appears in the central sketch.

Here one finds again the cleverly shaped sleeve with tiny tucks of various lengths—the blouse, in fact, comes from the same maker who turned out the model whose sleeve has been already described and praised.

The cuff in this case is formed of fine tucking, bordered on each side by lines of valenciennes and narrow bands of the white batiste, which is the blouse material, embroidered in light blue wafer dots. The shaped collar is designed in the same way.



BLUE EMBROIDERY.

in construction than those already described. The dots this time are quite large, about the size of a nickel, and a band embroidered in them runs along the centres of a finely tucked collar, of cuffs and of a front plait.

Slightly more elaborate than the dot

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