

Winn's Viewpoint

WHAT ANNE RITTENHOUSE SAYS

Mme. Paquin's White Jacket Vindicated.

Special Correspondence of The Star.

PARIS, April 27.—It is a fascinating subject, this one of how fashions are exploited, and when they are unsuccessful, how they are withdrawn, and later put back into the styles, and finally succeed.

For instance, the combination suit made up of a dark-colored skirt and a white jacket. Mme. Paquin introduced this feature of fashion at the races two years ago, and, while it received all the attention deserved by a model from this house, it had few followers.

One does not always adopt what one takes about it is in fashion as it is in politics; it was Henry Clay's servant who voiced this truth when he said to his master that if every one had voted for him that he would have been elected President. We often talk more about the styles we do not wear than those we wear.

All of which leads up to the fact that

there is also the narrow hem which rules the day.

The coat has a good deal of distinction with its sharply bias seam at each side, its sleeves on the bias, and its flaring collar and tight cuffs of the white cloth.

The black goes without saying today. It accompanies every kind of frock and its only rival, so far, is the plateau of the dark blue straw sailor shape as it supplies a vast variety of needs.

The fantastic shaping of the black turban is the feature of the day. The one shown in the sketch is modest compared with some. The milliners seem to have tried to invent angles and curves unknown to geometry.

TODAY'S HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS

There is being issued in New York city a unique little sheet which contains the market prices, both wholesale and retail, of all foodstuffs.

The efficient housewife, in her endeavor to run her home upon a business basis, has wished again and again for some such bulletin as this, so that she may have accurate and reliable information to quote from one of the early numbers.

Lack of knowledge of the market on the part of the consumer has been one condition which has contributed in no small measure to the present high cost of living.

The average housewife does not know when food products are in season or why they are out of season, nor does she know the wholesale price of any of the commodities she buys at retail. This lack of knowledge has not only made the family bills higher than they need to be, but has produced an unstable and chaotic condition in the market.

By demanding the price of the marketmen to know what to buy, so there has been a demand for this bulletin, not only by the housewife, but also by the retailer, who complains bitterly of the fact that unskillful marketing on the part of the housewife makes it difficult to know what to buy or what price to ask.

The quotations in the bulletin include the wholesale and retail prices, which maintain for any given week, of butter, eggs, poultry, meats, game, fruits and vegetables. It is bound to be of the greatest educational benefit, for there is no truer, though trite, saying than that "knowledge is power."

Knowledge of what is in market, and the wholesale prices, should help every housewife determine what she should have for her meals and how much she should pay for it.

The day is passing when artificial inflation in the price of foodstuffs can be put over on the housewife. She is learning to ask why with increasing regularity, and the story of the woman who accepted the statement that a volcano in Japan or a flood in India was the reason for the rise in the price of butter and eggs is getting to be quite out of date.

The efficient housewife is learning not only individual responsibility and the necessity of being well informed on every subject bearing on her particular job, but her power as a consumer. She realizes that if her particular dealer does not meet the price which she has proved to be just and fair, it is her business to ask and what she can obtain what she wants at the price she will pay. And just as soon as the tradesmen realize that ignorant and careless customers, they have knowledge and efficiency to deal with in their customers they will respond with gratifying alacrity and conditions will be improved.

Furnishing the Boy's Room.

An interesting inquiry is received from Mrs. S. E. W., in which she asks for suggestions for furnishing a boy's room. The opinion seems to prevail that it is only the girl who is interested in the furnishings of her room, and that the boy simply needs a place to sleep in. A boy is often just as much interested as his sister—in his own way. He has his favorite books and pictures, and the idea of having a room of his own where he can entertain his friends occasionally and throw down his tennis racket and his ball bats will appeal to him. Or if he is not interested at first, why not try to cultivate an interest? Let the boy help as much as possible, both in the work and selection of the furnishings for his room. This will arouse the interest.

One of the first things to be considered is the treatment of the floors and walls. Sidewalls finished in brown make a most attractive background, and the ceiling attractive in light buff. For this use a flat paint of the shade mentioned, as it is very serviceable and can be easily cleaned by washing with soap and water. A plain brown oil-paint paper may be used and the ceiling painted. This also looks well. If the floor is not of hardwood give it two coats of inside floor paint of a light tan color. Between coats fill all cracks with creosote and seal with water putty. This will make a little extra work, but it will well repay you for labor and time.

For floor covering select a large rug of plain brown or with a row of the predominance color, or two or three smaller rugs of the same color. The rugs can be easily taken up and cleaned.

Mississ is the best wood for a boy's room. If the boy is to occupy the same room two beds, the open head and foot boards are preferable, and if not a three-quarter size will do. A cushion will actually supply accommodation for his clothes and a clothes tree will be of great convenience. A mission table with flat top and racks beneath at each end for books will serve as a desk and study table. One arm and one or two straight back chairs will complete the furniture.

Twenty and inexpensive curtains of soft scrim material, reaching to the sill, will look well with such a room. On the walls the boy himself may hang the remains of his favorite pictures with a big one of the school he attends over the headboard of his bed, and he will have other pictures of his heroes and favorite animals, which will help to make his room look cozy.

It will be seen that this room is the boy's study, sitting and bed room combined, and the pleasure he will take in showing it to his friends will be rewarded enough for the time spent in the appearance of a study day-report and book could be used. This, when opened, will make a most comfortable bed, and by day is a very attractive piece of furniture.

A Labor Saver.

Brass silver, or Sheffield plate that has been lacquered should never be cleaned with metal polish, or anything else of the kind, but merely rubbed with a soft cloth and finished with a silk duster. If they are very dirty a little sweet oil may be used. It saves a lot of trouble if silver and brass candlesticks, etc., are lacquered. The lacquer can be bought and applied with a soft brush. The article lacquered should be perfectly clean.

FOREIGN FASHIONS FOR AMERICANS

Special Correspondence of The Star.

VIENNA, April 27.—At present there is a movement on foot to use a fresh novelty into the manufacture of silk by creating odd and original designs in audacious colorings to give an entirely new appearance. Most of the concepts are altogether charming, showing a clever combination of the warm tones and the colors arranged in daring yet studied contrasts which all add their quota to the general effect.

Nowadays we are all too anxious for novelty and originality for such a pretty invention to be allowed to pass unrecruited, and the general approval which has been accorded these new designs is sure to give a fresh impulse to the manufacture of silks—so plain stiffed in the old traditions.

A great deal of plain material is used with these fancy silks, usually of the same shade as the ground color. Sometimes the main part of a corsage is made of it and sometimes an entire tunic and skirt. But since the vogue for short military capes has swept the world of fashion we find entire capes of figured silk lined with a plain color of the same shade. A great deal of plain material is used for a smart cape. It has a double ruff collar and lining plain silk in solid color—a shade that figures largely in the design.

Like most of the new capes, this one is held on by a cord strapped over the bust and tied about the waist in back. In this case it is the cord that finally reaches the center of the ruff, which is extended in long enough ends to serve the purpose. The wrap curves down a bit longer in back than in front, and is made with slashes at the sides for the arm openings.

As a rule smart, close-fitting tunics are designed as an accompanying feature to the capes, and made either of the figured material or in the plain background color. One particularly fetching one is fashioned from the plain royal blue silk and trimmed with two very "swagger" gold-colored wings. By gold color do not mean gilded (they forbid any such tawdriness) but the soft, rich yellow shade of wheat, which really resembles gold. It is a shade that will hold its own throughout the season.

TEMPTING SPRING SALADS.

Salad Astoria.

This is the successor of the Waldorf salad, and like the long-popular relish, is the invention of "Oscar" of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. It is at once a decoration for the luncheon table and a delicious morsel. Split a head of romaine salad lengthwise—after discarding the tough outer leaves. Lay a half of the romaine heart on a plate—the cut surface up. Have ready quarters or sections, pared and cored or seeded, of oranges, grape fruit and Bartlett pears. Lay these close together, almost overlapping on the romaine and finish off at each end with half a pickled walnut. Decorate the top of the fruit with thin strips of green and red peppers arranged to imitate baby ribbon. Pour over this French dressing and serve ice cold. Firm canned pears may be substituted for fresh ones.

Romaine Salad With Cheese.

An excellent accompaniment for cold meat or an aspic dish. Select the crisp leaves only from a head of romaine lettuce. Dip these into a French dressing, then cover with thin slices of skinned tomatoes, which have been dipped in the French dressing. On top of the tomato lay thin slices of Swiss or Port du Salut cheese, which have been spread lightly with French mustard. At the side of each plate lay two tiny bread and butter sandwiches, made of rye bread cut very thin.

Cucumber Jelly Salad.

Peel and slice cucumbers that are not too ripe, immerse until they are tender; drain, season with salt and cayenne

pepper, and stiffen with gelatin. Allow a teaspoonful of gelatin to each cupful of cucumber, dissolving the gelatin thoroughly before mixing the two. Mold in a square dish and when it is formed cut into blocks and serve on lettuce leaves with mayonnaise dressing.

Green and Cold Salad.

Select the heart of a crisp head of lettuce, and put two small pieces on each plate. Over this lay several very thin slices of oranges and a few cubes of pineapples. Serve with French dressing.

Crab Salad.

This is a nutritious dish for summer luncheons and serves as a substitute for a meat course in families where the appetite for meat in summer is small. In both city and beach fish shops picked crab meat may be secured if ordered in advance. To one-half pound of the picked crab meat allow two tablespoonsful of lemon juice and one-half saltspoonful of paprika. Mix these three ingredients and stand away on the ice to mellow. Serve on individual lettuce leaves with a dash of salt and mayonnaise dressing. Sprinkle the top of each portion with finely chopped parsley. This will take about half a cup of mayonnaise dressing. The fish and dressing should not be permitted to stand for any length of time, but should be served as soon as mixed. Crab shells are sent with the picked meat, they can be washed, filled with the salad and laid on the lettuce leaves.

A Taffeta Novelty.

Satin taffeta in the popular tete de tete is the favorite wear. Here is an extract idea of the style in which this new taffeta is made: The draperies are endless, but the material is so soft that they fall in graceful lines about the figure, defining only the back of the knee as one walks. There is a ruffling around the jacket, that fastens in two places with large silk ball buttons.

This ruffling is in a creamy white bordering on the banana shades and gives a very novel touch to the costume.

The kimono shape in blouses and jackets has so much success that it is difficult to imagine that the tight armhole can ever replace it. But some of the new models show a tight-fitting sleeve about an inch below the shoulder. At the present moment it is difficult to say whether the dressmaker will be able to induce the women who love comfort to return to the unpleasantness of the seam beneath the arm.

We may expect to see each woman exercise her fancy in the adaptation and details of the little capes which we are certain to see everywhere, thrown lightly back from the shoulders. These capes will resemble the Henri II mantles, the

capes of the abbes of the court in the sixteenth century, the Venetian capes, or those of the Papal Guard. In a word, choice and variety. The long court mantle, fastened on the shoulder, will be used to cover our evening frocks. For afternoons the short pique mantle, fastening on the shoulder also, will form a charmingly chic little garment. Later, in full summer, these capes will be made of lace or mousseline de soie.

Taffeta and Figured Chiffon.

No matter how good the garter, the little knob-shaped catch to which the stocking is attached is liable to break off when the child is engaged in strenuous activities. When this happens, sew on a big white shoe button in its place. Use a big button, and it will prove entirely satisfactory.

The Parisian method of cleaning black silk is not generally known, and yet it is very simple. Brush the silk thoroughly and wipe it with a cloth, then lay it on a board or table and sponge with coffee which has been strained. When the silk is partly dry, iron it on the wrong side. The defacement is removed by the coffee, and the brilliancy of the silk is restored without any of it becoming either shiny or stiff.



There is nothing better for cleaning velvet and plush than dry salt. The salt should be sprinkled over the material and brushed back and forth until all just and lint are removed. This leaves the velvet or plush as bright and clean as when new.

Saving at the Butcher's.

When ordering sausage it will be found more economical if you buy a certain number of links, instead of by the pound. For example, for the family of six twelve links will be sufficient, and when it is weighed you will be surprised how small the amount will be.

To Clean a Carpet.

Instead of sweeping your stair carpet try wiping it over with a damp cloth. Use a teaspoonful of ammonia in two quart of warm water. Your carpet will look clean and bright and there will be no dust.

TRIED AND TESTED WAYS FOR HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Every housewife has experienced the annoyance of unfolding a clean big sheet when she wished to use a small one, or getting a bolster case for a pillow case, and vice versa. To prevent this, mark each piece of bed linen in an inconspicuous place on the hem with a chain-stitch capital letter done in the white embroidery cotton. First draw the letter with a soft lead pencil. The letter S could be used for single sheets, D for double ones and M for mairds; while P for pillow cases and B for bolsters would save confusion also, for all hems can be inspected without unfolding the article.

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Fads and Fancies.

Chamois suede gloves have been adopted far and near.

Fancy cut hems continue to be seen in handkerchiefs.

Steel shoe buckles are in small sizes and novel designs.

Brassieres can now be had with shields already sewn in.

Tunics now reach to within a few inches of the skirt edge.

Little boys five years old are now wearing Norfolk jackets.

The new semi-fitted dresses are straight at the waist line.

Wash taffeta in soft tints appears in summer lingerie.

Little or no metal is seen nowadays on umbrella handles.

The present fashions fairly compel the use of rich fabrics.

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A SMART STREET GOWN OF SERGE AND TAFFETA.

Cherit has again launched the suit with the dark skirt and the white coat, and one of the well-dressed women in Paris wore it to the races the other day, where it received a favorable reception. The skirt of this particular suit was of black taffeta with a long tulle hanging over a narrow petticoat, and a jacket of white-velvet well headed with soutache.

Possibly the shape of the taffeta skirt assisted this custom in presenting a new aspect, or possibly we had forgotten the original model and were ripe for this one. Whatever the important reason, the fact remains that both the French and the Americans liked it.

Again the Separate Skirt.

The introduction of this suit into the mind of fashion again has brought out various ideas of many couturiers on the subject, expressed in different fabrics. The spring lends itself to this kind of thing and women are content to wear gay costumes and make them of cheaper fabrics than the winter calls for, because the time for wearing them is shorter.

There is a linen skirt in raspberry with these flowers, each scalloped, and each wider than the other. It is short, very short, for that is the fashion and it shows a pair of white pumps and raspberry red stockings. The short coat, with its spatulate back width, is of white linen showing a raspberry lined waistcoat which is neatly buttoned in to the sides of the jacket, and can be lifted at will.

You who live in a hot climate may like the idea of a separate jacket that can be worn with any kind of white skirt or frock, and for vacation days at the summer resorts the idea is exceptionally good. I think, as dark blue is a fashionable color this spring, one might substitute the use of it in a short jacket either in linen with the soutache or in taffeta with an eighteenth century design done in self-colored satin ribbon.

Coat of Roman Stripping.

The sketch shows the same idea developed in a short coat of Roman striped silk. The skirt is of white tulle and for which taffeta is easily substituted, or linen, if one prefers its coolness. The universal double tunic are added. It is a wonder there are not three of them.

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SILKS IN CRAFTSMAN DESIGN MAKE HANDSOME CAPES.

They are immensely popular, these smart, enveloping capes, having been worn quite generally at the winter resorts. In fact, they are one of the novelties out of the limitless numbers that have been set forth this spring that have been accepted without question, and there is no doubt but that they will assume the same position among summer models, developed in light silks and even chiffons.

Swift & Company's Sales of Beef in Washington for the week ending Sat., May 2, averaged as follows: Domestic beef, 119c. Imported beef, 96c per lb.—Advertisement.

SOME NEW THINGS FROM HERE AND THERE

A tiny silver rack that fastens over the side of the finger-bowl is fitted with holders for single flowers. The stems, of course, go down into the water. This novelty will please the dainty hostess.

It is rumored among haberdashers that the silk vestette, created especially for masculine tango enthusiasts, will be worn by gentlemen during the summer. Those worn during the winter were made from downed silk, braided on the pockets and edges. They are decidedly artistic, and inasmuch as they were mere girdles without any warming shoulder pieces, they would be both dressy and comfortable for summer wear.

One of the alcohol lamp novelties is a hot milk pitcher of nickel plate in the shape of a Guernsey jug with a spirit lamp beneath. Earlier in the season this was displayed in other metals, the nickel plate being a recent acquisition. A wicker weaving on the handle protects the hands from heat.

Hair ornaments made to set loosely over the hair around the head just above the eyebrows give a rather unusual oriental expression to the eyes. This affair consists of a single band of brilliants with a cluster to the right of the middle in the front, and a single band to match the centering one to reach across the top of the head and thus prevent the forehead band from falling lower than fashion intended. It is far more becoming to dark-haired than to fair-haired women.

A Parisian novelty comes to us in the form of an atomizer that has a miniature auto-horn top. This horn, fashioned like a glass cone, directs the spray of scent, which is ejected by pressing a button. The tip of the horn emits but a drop (this is for touching the eyebrows, lips or in back of the ear), while the large end distributes a liberal spray. The bottle is of crystal and gilt.

It is said the Paris shops are showing new handbags, purses and card cases

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