

PARIS CLINGS TO MODE THAT SUITS

Lines of Gowns Straight Instead of Puffed Out, According to Edict.

TAFFETA GROWING IN FAVOR

Popularity of Fabric Indicates That It Will Be Favorite for Spring Wear; Guaranteed to Give Reasonable Service.

The latest fashion in Paris—to which the eyes of persons interested in dress persist in turning in spite of what America now has to offer of its own—include many useful hints to the woman who has still to think of winter clothes, states a leading fashion correspondent. In the first place, Paris fashions are apt to indicate what our fashions will be a season or two hence, and, in these days of the high cost of everything, if one must buy a frock now, it is only good sense to see that it is the sort of thing that is to be instead of what has been or is ceasing to be.

One important assertion from a Paris fashion authority is that the lines of the gowns that the Parisians have accepted for the winter are straight instead of being puffed out in places. The further the season advances, she states, the more evident it becomes that the panner silhouette is not so popular, at least in Paris, as it was expected it might be. For an astonishing number of seasons that have trailed into years the straight silhouette has been the thing in Paris, and it looks as though the French woman is determined to hang on to a mode which so well becomes her.

Keeping Clear of Extremes.
The Parisian, too, in her dressing is keeping clear of any extremes in fashion. She has always done this more or less, and she is still holding to the rule that her style once discovered must be clung to rather than changed merely for change's sake. The straight silhouette seems to suit the majority of them. They all love it and keep on wearing it. We in this country are taking up the style more and more as time goes on. Within its limitations there are many variations possible. An infinite variety of the gowns can be designed without depending upon the idea of straightness.

Sleeves in Paris are still short—very short, in fact—there being no disposition to halfway measures. If they are not very short, they are long and tight and reach over the hands, fitting snugly all the way down. Skirts, too, are as short as they were at the fall openings, which means not almost knee length, as they were in the summer, but a good 11 or 12 inches from the ground to hem.

Coats are medium length and are trimmed sparingly with fur. Some-

guaranteed, too, to wear reasonably well, so that the purchase of them does not mean the taking of any very desperate chances.

One of the very latest of taffeta models is from Madeleine et Madeleine, a house which is the recent rage of Paris. The color is black and the stripes across the front are little tucks run in by fine hand stitches. Then there is a plaited frill of the taffeta about the neck, tied with a ribbon woven in bright green and gold threads. The overskirt, low in front and high at back, is edged with a deep fringe of monkey fur. The sleeves in this model are short and puffed.

The Parisian Waist Line.
The basque on this frock is one of the new decrees of Paris. It does not reach as low a line as basques of the past few months have done.



Street Frock of Black Velours. Skirt and Bodice Piped in Faille.

It drops just an inch or two below the normal waist line and fits rather snugly into the waist where it wrinkles slightly at the sides. All the Paris reports received in the last few weeks state that this is growing to be the waist line more and more accepted by Parisians themselves.

Another new French taffeta gown is made in shades of taupe, dark and light. The foundation skirt, a little bit fuller at the sides than it is at the back and front, is made of the darker shades and so are the little, tight, short sleeves. Then there is one of those basque waists that have just been described. This is made of the lighter shade, as are also the straight panels which fall over the skirt at back and front. There is an embroidered medallion on the front of the bodice at the waistline and one on each of the lower ends of the panels, this being done in threads of the darker shade of taupe with some gold threads intermingled. Plaited taffetas and satins and serges continue to be created and worn to a large extent in Paris. There are plaited skirts with plain basques, and there are whole plaited dresses in taffeta with only a fold of the dress's material at the neck to finish the thing off.

Modest Evening Dresses.
Evening dresses in Paris are, according to reports, taming their ways very materially. Recently at a huge reception where all of the smart people in Paris were gathered the evening gowns were of the simplest and most unradical type. In spite of all that has been heard of the low back or nothing at all in the back mode, the necks were only moderately low. The skirts were only moderately short.

Sashes of all sorts and descriptions are important parts of the later season evening gowns. They are used by the French literally to make a gown, for on the lines of the sash, the color and the manner of arrangement depends the effect of the finished creation. On a black charmeuse evening gown, interestingly draped to follow the line of the figure, a wide sash made of cloth of gold is wound about the low waist line, tied in a huge knot at the left side back and its ends lined with golden chiffon and tipped by weighty gold tassels hanging almost to the hem of the garment. Indeed, one end hangs below the hem.

Charming French Hats.
French hats for the mid-season are as plain as ever and so charming that it is hard to tell just why. For one reason they manage to fit the wearer most astonishingly. They are shaped as an adjunct to her features and as an accent to the other parts of her attire. The little, draped turbans that turn away from the face and slouch over the ears are the popular favorites. One of the draped velvet hats carries out the lines of the face in dark blue and has for its trimming two bunches of a few coque feathers each, and they stream out over each ear in the most unstudied and careless fashion. Draped oriental turbans made of the most gorgeous of old and new brocades are much in demand.



Dress of Black Taffeta and Monkey Fur From Madeleine et Madeleine.

times the fur is used to give a slightly exaggerated hip line as it finishes the lower edge of a coat. Then again it is employed only for a tiny collar fitting the neck snugly.

Trimming in Moderation.
The trimmings on the Parisian mid-winter frocks are gorgeous and beautiful, but rather sparingly used. Little strips of gilded trimming edge necks and sleeves in clever fashion, and sometimes these edges are repeated on pocket flaps or on the edges of long slit pockets. Fringe is almost extinct, but there are bits of it seen on the ends of flapping panels or to trim the abbreviated evening skirt of an otherwise tightly fitting gown. Embroidery is more fashionable than ever, though when the French do it they lean, especially just now, to rather inconspicuous strips rather than to large and heavy banding.

Taffeta is fast growing in favor, and every day from the couturiers come new models made of this material. This would seem to indicate the popularity of taffeta for spring wear in our own country. Taffetas now are soft and pliable, and they are

NEWS and GOSSIP OF WASHINGTON



U. S. Damages More Than Offset German Claims

WASHINGTON.—America's claims against Germany growing out of the sinking of the Lusitania and other vessels by submarines, and on account of other war damages, will more than offset the amount which will be due from the United States on account of the 100 German steamers seized in American ports when the United States entered the war, shipping board officials declared.

Under the peace treaty, the value of the vessels, estimated by board officials at from \$130,000,000 to \$140,000,000, will be credited to Germany on indemnities awarded by the allied reparations commission, but as the American claims before the commission will more than offset the value of the ships, officials asserted there was little likelihood that the United States would be called upon to make any payment to the commission.

Three vessels were war vessels—German commerce raiders—which took refuge in American ports before the United States entered the war and were interned, and their value will not be included with that of the vessels which were purely peaceful merchant craft.

Gridiron Club Unscrambles Scrambled Railroads

AT THE Gridiron club dinner the other night the railroad skit dealt with "unscrambling the railroads." The actors represented former Director General McAdoo, Director General Hines and an investor in the railroads.

McAdoo—The late Mr. Morgan said that you cannot unscramble scrambled eggs. He was wrong. By the exercise of a little magic, to which we modestly lay claim, we shall illustrate how the railroads of the United States may be scrambled and then unscrambled again. Can anyone lend me a silk hat? I shall return it promptly and entirely undamaged.

(Mr. Investor steps forward with silk hat. Exceedingly realistic business by McAdoo of filling the hat with an awful mess, accompanied by a more than vigorous stirring process.)

McAdoo—Now we have the roads scrambled. This completes my part of the trick. I shall now pass the hat—I mean the hat—to my friend, Mr. Hines, who will, in his magic way, with a few passes produce the beautiful rabbit known as Government Operation and Control, and return the hat undamaged to my friend, Mr. Investor. (Investor groans.)

Hines (looks at the hat and glares at McAdoo)—I am deeply indebted to Mr. McAdoo for his trust and confidence. I wish he had finished the trick. He hates the limelight and likes to retire while the retiring is good. But to the trick, gentlemen. Let me first cover the hat for aesthetic and olfactory reasons. It is a little messy. (Covers hat with handkerchief, seizes wand.) I now make these mysterious passes—so—saying the cabalistic words—hocus—pocus—1920—brotherhoods—as taught me by Mr. McAdoo. Then I quickly raise the cloth and here we have—(starts back, looking nervous.) Ah, I see, Mr. McAdoo forgot something. Let me add the Plumb plan. (Drops three plums and breaks another egg. Investor groans and tears his hair.)

Hines—Now we have it. Hocus—pocus—1920—presto. (Takes up handkerchief, looks—starts back, rushes to McAdoo, saying: "My God, Mac, I can't do the trick.")

McAdoo—That's your affair—not mine.
Investor—My hat—my hat!
McAdoo and Hines—Take it up to congress. They'll fix it for you. (Both link arms and go off.)

Imagine Congress With No Congressional Record

CONOCLASTIC Senator Thomas of Colorado! Incredible as it may seem he actually talked the other day of the possibility of stopping the publication of the Congressional Record. Senator Jones, being prodded by New Mexican newspapers short of print paper, introduced a bill providing for an increase of postal rates by five times the present rate on daily papers exceeding 24 pages in size.

Senator Smoot of Utah then said he thought the time had arrived to stop publishing in the Congressional Record articles, telegrams and addresses sent to senators. Every page of the Record costs the government nearly \$90. It had men now scouring the country daily in order to pick up paper wherever they can at almost any price that is asked for it, in order to secure enough paper to publish the Congressional Record daily.

Then the vice president said: "The vice president will be very glad to ask the senate, if the senator desires him to do so, whether the publication of the Congressional Record shall not be suspended during the famine in print paper."

Then Senator Thomas capped the climax by saying: "Mr. President, I was going to suggest that the senator from Utah does not go far enough. I think it would be a very good idea to quit printing the Record altogether. My impression is that that would be one way in which we could curtail the output of senatorial oratory; in fact, I do not know of any other way in which it can be done."

Congress without the Congressional Record! The congressman without a chance to revise and extend and print and circulate his little speech for home consumption! Perish the thought!

Chicago Waterway Projects Not Entirely Satisfactory

THE rest of the country may love Chicago to distraction, but apparently it does not care much for its commercial waterway projects. Objection to the issuing of a permit to the state of Illinois for the construction of what is known as the "Illinois waterway" to connect the great lakes with the Mississippi river has been filed with Secretary Baker and the chief of the army engineers by Edward T. Cahill. He acts for Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York, charging that Chicago now takes water through the drainage canal to such an extent that Lakes Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario have been lowered so much that extra harbor facilities had to be built by other

American and by Canadian cities. The protest also declared that treaty relations with Great Britain are at issue and "it is questionable if we are not bound to submit these matters to the international joint commission created under the treaty between Great Britain and the United States concerning boundary waters, proclaimed May 13, 1910."

Chicago and its commercial projects came in for harsh criticism during a discussion of the proposed improvement of the St. Lawrence river for ocean traffic before the national rivers and harbors congress.

Development of the St. Lawrence project as urged by the western speakers would make Chicago an ocean port, opening the way for the loading of deep-sea vessels at Chicago and their passage through the lakes and out into the Atlantic through the Welland canal and the St. Lawrence river.

DO BUSINESS IN THE OPEN

Itinerant "Merchants" in City of Mexico Flourish Exceedingly, Especially on Sundays.

Conditions in the republic which have crowded a million persons in Mexico City, or more than 300,000 above its normal population, have increased greatly the number of itinerant merchants who set up shop where their whim wills. It is impossible to find a street in the city where some vendor has not set up a stall.

A person desiring to outfit a house can buy almost everything needed without placing a foot within a regular shop. Let a prospective buyer merely hint that he is in the market for something and he is besieged immediately by a crowd of energetic salesmen, who dilate in machine-gun Spanish on the worth of their wares.

Sunday is the busiest day for these merchants. They foregather principally in the plazas, spread their goods about them and patiently wait for customers. Their numbers are augmented by men and women, boys and girls, all of them selling candies, fruits, shoe-strings, pottery, tobacco, drinks, bright-colored ribbons, shoes, hats, dogs, cats, gophers and the dozens of varieties of food of which chili is the most important component.

The plazas present an animated appearance. Bands are playing, whistles are blowing, newsboys call their editions, a man with a wheel of chance beseeches the credulous to try their luck; a boy with a huge basket balanced atop his head offers sweetmeats at 5 centavos each, and following him comes a seller of ice cream with his frozen dainties tucked away in a container which he juggles perilously on his head but never loses a spoonful, and above all shines a glorious sun which gives no hint of brooding problems of existence.

It is a happy life the native leads on Sunday, when with a few centavos he may fill his stomach with sweets, bask in the warm sunshine and listen to music furnished by a Mexican band.

A man from the United States, who on a recent Sunday morning took his seat in a plaza, within a few minutes had his shoes shined, his nails manicured, his breakfast served, his morning newspapers delivered, his measure taken for a suit of clothes and was offered an assortment of diamonds and opals at a bargain. He concluded that there may be more modern methods of conducting business, but none more picturesque than that employed by the outdoor merchant.

Believes in Physical Training.

Marguerite L. Smith, elected to the New York state assembly from the Nineteenth New York district, is twenty-five years old and a specialist in physical training and her election is, she believes, the natural outgrowth of the work she has been doing in her community all through the war. She will not give up her work as physical director in the Horace Mann Elementary school, where she is also supervisor of girls' clubs.

In the summer for several years Miss Smith has been director of the physical training and dancing at Camp Hanoum, a girls' camp in Vermont, and has also superintended the girls' hikes through the White mountains.

When she was in a teachers' college Miss Smith was president of the athletic association for two years and received the highest individual score for athletics in her senior year.

"I never had any legislative or political plans for myself," she says. "I haven't now. But I want to keep on working for the people of my own community in whatever way I can."

No Wonder.

My, how her feet did hurt! It was now two o'clock in the afternoon and she had been tramping about all day in search of Christmas bargains. It was a balmy fall day and she couldn't lay the hurting to the weather. Her shoes were two or three months old and had never caused her distress before.

But there was no denying the aching appeal for relief from the lower extremities and she hid herself to a restroom in one of the downtown stores.

She stooped to unlace the shoes and horror of horrors! She had been walking all day with each shoe on the wrong foot.

London's Fine Fig Trees.

If the average Londoner were asked where the best show of fig trees was to be seen in central London he would probably think you were pulling his leg. Yet here it is, and in such a conspicuous place as Trafalgar square.

The fig trees against the lower walls of the National gallery, inclosing the little shaven lawn, flourish exceedingly, and give a note of desirable freshness to that much criticised piece of architecture.

A thoughtful observer suggested the other day that the leaves of the National gallery fig trees might be intended for use inside.—London Chronicle.

Hardly a Model Husband.

A young woman told the Willesden (England) magistrate that she had six points to complain of about her husband. He would not allow her to speak to any one. He would not allow anyone to visit the house. He would not allow her to take her little boy out. He would not let her have her own clothes to wear. After all that the court missionary was asked to act as arbitrator.

WHEN THE DAY IS OVER



When the household cares and the worries of every-day life have dragged you down, made you unhappy, and there is nothing in life but headache, backache and worry, turn to the right prescription, one gottena up by

Dr. Pierce fifty years ago.

Nervous—Run-Down, Pain Here or There?

Kokomo, Ind.—"I can say something for Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. For some time I suffered from nervousness and general run-down condition. I lost my appetite and the doctors did not seem to help me. I had one of Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Advisers in the house and I started to read it. I found 'Favorite Prescription' was what I needed. It helped me in many ways and built up my system. I regained my appetite and felt better. It gave me strength to do some work that I had not been able to do for some time previous."—Mrs. J. A. McGee, 821 E. Taylor St.

Lafayette, Ind.—"Several years ago I took Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and it did wonders for me. It is the best medicine I ever found. I was troubled with weakness from which many women suffer. I was down sick. Would have such terrible smothering spells I did not know what to do, and I would have dizzy spells, too. The doctor could not help me. I tried 'Favorite Prescription' and it proved wonderful with me. It built me up and cured me and made me stout. I was in awful condition at the time."—Mrs. Elizabeth Kahl, 224 S. Fifth St.

Kokomo, Ind.—"Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has helped me. I took it when in a delicate condition. I had been in bed most of the time, and whenever I tried to stand I would feel so sick; my stomach failed me. I knew my mother had taken the 'Prescription,' so I took three or four bottles and I was then able to be up and around."—Mrs. Roy Morris, 922 E. Arnett St.

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The Way He Felt.

"Where are you going?" the dentist asked as a man started to leave the waiting room.

"I've been waiting here forty-five minutes for you to pull a tooth for me."

"Well, I'm ready for you now. Step into the operating room."

"I'm not ready for you now, doc. When I first came in here I was chock-full of doughboy courage, but each second some of it oozed away, and now I guess I must feel about the same way a German in a dugout felt just after he had shouted 'Kamerad!' and wasn't certain whether the answer would be a hand grenade or an order to march to the rear."

Children's handkerchiefs often look hopeless when they come to the laundry.

Wash with good soap, rinse in water blued with Red Cross Ball Blue.

Chinese More Than Match for Locusts

A swarm of small green locusts appeared at the village of Pailtai, two and one-half miles south of Tientsin, the afternoon of September 9, settling on the grain fields between there and the race course. The peasants made great efforts to beat them off and save their crops, at the same time gathering basketfuls and sending them into the native city for sale. By evening they were being hawked all over the Chinese districts.—North China Herald.

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