HOME, ITS PROBLEMS AND INTERESTS

CHARMING DINNER GOWN.

The sheer silken stuffs are lovelier than ever, and though there is nothing radically new among these materials there are many modifications of the crepes and mousselines and gauzes. A crepe mousseline, somewhat crepe of the sheerest sort with a satin or mousseline luster, is a beautiful fabric and is particularly charming in this case, where the ground is shot in pale buff and white with a most delicate stripe and little white vines running over its surface.

Tiny tucks take away the fullness over the hips, and three big tucks finish the bottom of skirt. Broderie Anglaise is used for the yoke and ruffle edging same, and also for the pointed vest. The material is drawn from sides to front in small gathers, giving a bolero effect, and the bottom of bodice is trimmed with a fold of shaded blue velvet. Velvet bows in same color ornament the front, and the elbow sleeves have delightful cuffs formed of shirred strips and finished with two tiny ruffles of the mousseline.

SPRING LINGERIE IS DAINTIER THAN EVER BEFORE THIS SEASON

The Kimono in Cool China Silks Is Still Popular. Sheer Materials Make Up One-Piece Negliges.

The spring always brings with it an especially attractive showing of thin negligee wear, and the first importations and the first domestic showing of such goods are in evidence.

Of the kimono in its various forms there is nothing new to be said. As generally worn, it is an untidy garment, but it is cool and comfortable, and, for those reasons, sure to keep its popularity with the crowd.

One may buy it in any material, from a 6-cent cotton to a gorgeous flowered silk or embroidered crepe; and the china silks devoted to the kimono purposes this season are undeniably beautiful in coloring and design, the best having a Japanese suggestion in their bold, free, simple lines, though few of the silks hail from the Orient. Wistaria, chrysanthemums, lotus, and cherry blossoms are favorite themes with the designers and the bird designs, familiar in the Japanese embroidered robes, are now copied in printed silks.

Sheer Materials Also Popular.

The flowered lawns, dimities, crystallines and other sheer summer fabrics, not too fragile for service, are made up into one-piece negligees.

The sheer lawns barred with heavy white lines into large squares or irregular plaids and figured in flower patterns, are popular with the makers of the summer negligees, and excellent effects are obtained in these inexpensive materials by the addition of lace and ribbon trimmings.

One gown in this barred lawn, with a large rose design, lovely in color and drawing is made with a yoke and bertha of valenciennes in one of the fine imitation that so closely resemble real lace. The double puff sleeve, with a band of shirring between the puffs, is finished at the elbows with frills of lace and double lace frills jaboted down the straight fronts.

On the bottom of the gown is a double flounce headed by many lines of shirring, the lower flounce being shirred to the hem of the upper flounce, so that there is ample fullness around the feet. This flounce idea is a good one for any simple negligee, for such unlined robes in wash materials are prone to lose their stiffening and grow limp around the bottom, unless there is much fullness there.

Hand Embroidery on the Matinee.

In the matinee, as in all the lingerie realm this season, hand embroidery plays an important role, and Valenciennes lace is usually combined with this embroidery, while little hand tucks, shirrings, cordings, etc., run riot.

In many models an entire yoke is embroidered in delicate spray or garland designs or in broderie Anglaise. For example one imported model has a yoke falling low on the shoulders covered with scattered sprays in hand embroidery.

A line of lace insertion joins yoke and body and inset lines of lace run down the body of the sacque. The borders of the matinee are scalloped and embroidered. Lace frills soften the throat line and border the three overlapping tabs falling down the middle front, and two knots of liberty satin with long ends are set on the sides of the front just above the bust line. The fine lightweight wools and silk and wool mixtures make excellent matinees or tea jackets for the cooler days which are sure to come every summer; and the new challies, which like all the printed materials, are exceptionally lovely this year, and are very desirable for modest negligee sacques.

Challies Are Especially Dainty.

The challies with tiny sprig flower design set in little medallions of white are especially dainty, and such a material with a light blue ground and minute rose sprigs set in the white circles was the material of an extremely pretty matinee trimmed in knots and loops of narrow pink Liberty satin drawn through applied circles of guipure.

A white challie dotted in light blue, was the material for a loose matinee which had a turndown collar of batiste embroidered in heavy design. Under the scalloped edges of the collar was a fine narrow plaiting of light blue silk, and two inch plaitings finished the border of the sacque.

PUZZLERS ENTHUSIASTIC

Answers in Better Form and More Correct This Week.

Ever so many women who never thought they could be induced to enter a prize contest before are sending in their answers among the very first this week.

"Some of the family laugh when they see me working over my puzzles," said one of the most enthusiastic women, "but I don't care a bit. I'm going to win this time if I don't read any other paper than The Times all summer." There is no reason in the world why a woman who is interested in this fascinating work should not win a good prize. Some one has to win. Why not you?

Be careful to use the same name in all your separate answers. If you gave your married name on your first coupon of answers a week ago, continue to use that name. Do not send in this week's coupon with your own name attached. And when you have worked out a puzzle correctly be careful to put down that answer on the coupon. Read your coupon over the last thing before you mail it, and be sure you have done this. Several of the contestants' answers were not correct because they put down a word or number which the puzzle editor felt sure they did not mean, judging from the remainder of their answers. For instance, in answering the number of pigs in the third puzzle, printed April 30, several contestants wrote the answer thirty-two instead of ten.

Answers are coming in by the hundreds.

Don't you want yours among them?

SARCASTIC SHOPPERS

A Few Rules Well Worth Observing on a Shopping Tour.

Never go on a quiet day, as the more customers there are the more bargains there will be, and then the excitement reaches far greater heights in a crush. Besides, timid women are less likely to be lonesome on busy days.

Be sure to dress elaborately enough for the occasion. A diamond tiara will go far toward securing better prices from the shop girls and will impress them with the propriety of giving you credit. This will be especially advantageous if you are short of money and have no good references to give.

A low-necked gown with a moderately long train will stamp you at once as a woman of the world and the salesmen will never attempt to overcharge you.

Never go to the store in a carriage, as the customers who arrive on foot are known to be tired and will receive the most courtesy and quickest attention. Hold your train well up when you walk and do not stop to gaze into the shop windows. They are meant for the people who cannot afford to go in and buy.

Upon entering a store walk directly up to one of the shop girls, selecting preferably one who is very busy in order to receive quicker attention, and demand at once, in a clear, distinct tone, the price of whatever article you wish to purchase. Speak with the manner of one accustomed to being obeyed.

When possible carry a large roll of bills in the left hand and flourish it from time to time to show that you are ready to pay for whatever you get.

In making a selection see that all the goods of the sort you are in search of are shown you, regardless of quality or price. This will stamp you as a connoisseur and make exercise for the girls, who so often have no chance to get exercise at home by the jiu jitsu method or with chest weights.

If your package and change are slow in coming ask the name of the cash girl and shout at her to hurry up; that you have an important engagement for dinner and can't wait forever.

If you get too much change say nothing. What's a dollar or so to a cash girl anyway?

In going away do not stop to shake hands with the floorwalker and tell him what a delightful time you've had. He will doubtless be too busy to talk to you and any time lost in that way would be taken out of his wages.

SMART SIMPLICITY IN SEPARATE WAISTS.

Almost any variety of material will develop well in this design. The original is a chiffon faille of strawberry red, with a fancy white silk braid and much yellowish lace for color relief. The neck is cut out a trifle, and a deep feather-boned stock of the lace, unlined, covers the throat, extending well up under the ears. The blouse is pleated to the shoulder seams, and under the fanciful applique of braid a broad triple box pleat passes down the front and conceals the fastening. The braiding covers the shoulder seam and passes in a military-looking loop over the top of the sleeve, this being puffy and big, and held out with a father-boned crinolette. The same design in braid appears on the cuff, and the severity of outline is mitigated in the frilly ruffles of lace that cover the elbow. The ceinture of chiffon faille is dipped in front, and a single row of braid trims the top.

New Shoes and Stockings.

Matching shoes to costumes is more general this year than in many years, and it is a very pretty fad. Whole color suits are indeed charming, and enhance woman's beauty to a great extent.

In hosiery there are many new novelties. Open work designs, perhaps hold first place, but many sheer lisle and plain silk stockings will be worn.

Hose of black with colored tops are a new feature. They are rather more than a fad, as something of this style has been in favor before.

Spangled stockings are among the more fastidious fashions. They are quite stagy, but nevertheless many women will affect them to a great extent.

A handsome patent leather shoe has gold heels and a black bow held by a knot of gilded leather. Also white slippers come with gold heels.

A woman can match almost any frock in her slippers, and if she does not care to match a frock in leather she may have her slipper or tie of white on black, and let the trimming echo the color note of the frock.

In fancy slippers and ties there are many new effects. Leather in all colorings is represented in this class, and in both suede and glace finish.

New Hatpin Holder.

A pretty novelty in the shape of a hatpin holder recently has been introduced from abroad. It has for a foundation a druggist's test tube, which can be bought at any drug store for a small sum. The tube has a cover crocheted of mercerized thread, which fits it snugly from the bottom to the top and ends in a full ruffle, with a shell crocheted edge. The work can be done in any of the pretty tints of thread to match the bureau furnishings, or in shaded thread, with white and colors. The bottom of the holder is finished with a chenille ball, and there is space in the full ruffle at the top to run a narrow ribbon through, which first ties in a bow and then forms a loop to hang the holder at the side of the mirror on the dressing table. The crocheting of the holder is very simple and is done in chain stitch, the cover being just long enough to cover the tube. The ruffle at the top is made by working the required depth in chain stitch, leaving an open row for the ribbon. The ruffle is finished with a pretty shell or picot edge. The holders are sometimes made in pairs, one for each side of the mirror, and are specially effective made in pink mercerized thread.

Best Sort of Man.

The average girl does not look for an ideal man in these days, and for this reason: She knows that he does not exist; moreover, she is aware that, even did he exist, and she had the chance of capturing him, he would make a poor husband. He would not be practical; he would be a cut above this very prosaic age. She pays no heed either to the good looks, except she be very young and inexperienced, for she knows that the most perfect face will not compensate for a poor table, and she is cute enough to understand that the good-looking man is a poor hand at keeping the larder full.

What your girl of today wants is a man who can keep her in comfort, in the first place; comfort in married life, she believes, is really the most important of all factors in making marriage a success. Naturally, then, a girl looks out for a capable man; either of business or profession; a brainy type of man; one who shows promise of being able to better himself in the world.—Brown Book.

Collapsible Parasol.

The folding parasol is an invention which will be welcome by women who travel a great deal. Collapsible is a better word to describe them, for the handles do not fold in the usual sense. When ready to be put in a trunk the handle of the parasol is unscrewed and then pulled down, sliding on a slender bar. This bar has a hinge. Not only parasols but umbrellas for men as well as women are made to fold. All parasol sticks are made unusually long this spring, to suit the new hats. One would have to hold a parasol at an uncomfortable height to elevate it over the tops of some of the season's creations in millinery.

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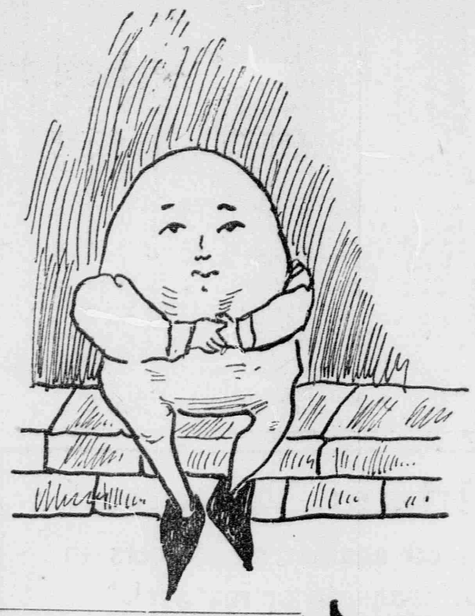

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Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
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