

THE HOME, ITS PROBLEMS AND ITS INTERESTS

RED THIS SEASON

The Latest Parisian Fancy Is a Pronounced Fad for Red.

All Paris has gone wild upon the subject of red. Red is worn in the most unexpected ways.

It is important at all times to get one's colors right. Therefore, it is only just to say that all shades of red are not fashionable. The woman who comes out in brick red makes a mistake—though you see her very often—and the woman who wears a red that does not go well with her hair makes a double mistake.

The reds most in vogue just now are the tomato and geranium colors. The red of the gardenia is also worn and the matchless red of the camellia. These shades are seen everywhere and in everything, but particularly in the red of the geranium worn a great deal. The most popular red for gowns is cerise.

While buying red do not forget that this color includes the whole rose family, and that there are very pale flesh colored pinks as light as one could desire—if one is hunting an evening gown—figured in pink roses, or in red roses, and which make up very brilliantly with pipings of geranium colored tulle.

It is a pity to let the summer season go by without having one or two bright colored gowns, for they seem in keeping with the warm weather. Soon the cool days will come when the brilliant colors must be put away, until the sun calls them out again, so now is the time to dress in red.

The woman who is going in for red, and to whom red is becoming, can buy one red gown for the piazza. It should be made in walking length and without trimming. The hips should be flat and laid in plaits, or shirred, and the foot should be very full. There should be a red tulle petticoat to mesh and the shoes should either have red tops or, if one prefers a quiet shoe, there are the patent leathers which are always dressy and which can be trimmed with steel. A hat trimmed with red lace goes with this and a red parasol for the sunny spots of the piazza. This gown, which is called a piazza gown, is also a lawn party dress for lawn teas.

Then there comes the consideration of the small things of dress and here one can come out strong on the red note. There are the neatest of red leather belts, wide and soft, with gold buckles which are designed to go with red linen stocks embroidered in white. The prettiest of red stocks are those that are made of white linen hand embroidered, through which wide red satin ribbon is run. And there are the gowns with patterns of red embroidery upon them. The linen belts and stocks are lovely and have the great advantage of being such that any woman can make them for herself.

PAPER HATS

Directions for Making Some Very Attractive Ones.

The paper hat—that is, the crepe paper hat—made its appearance this spring on the streets in a variety of fascinating colors and shapes, and the adaptability of this style of headgear for certain occasions, such as garden parties, is being considered more or less seriously in this country.

Made well, crepe paper hats are decidedly pretty, though most folks will be inclined to take issue with one enthusiast, who declares that it is impossible to distinguish a well-made paper hat from a straw one. Paper hats are easy to make and are inexpensive, and in most of the millinery schools or classes crepe paper is utilized for practice work.

The shade is a matter for personal taste, though the delicate tints and black, trimmed with violet, produce the best results and the ordinary crepe paper is required. Two rolls are sufficient for most hats, but if a large shape is wanted two and a half rolls are required. The plaiting, in three, six, or eight strands, must be carefully done.

The paper is unrolled and cut into strips in the direction in which the crinkling paper is required. The strips should be the width of the paper and the breadth of it should be about one inch. It will save time and trouble to cut the paper folded double or in four. Cutting the paper the length of the roll makes a very rough edge, and entirely takes out the crinkle, thus altogether losing the straw effect. The number of strands used should be tied together, and the end, firmly pinned down first. Six is, perhaps, the most effective, but eight looks very well also. For plaiting in three only the paper should be cut a little wider.

The first strands of paper should be cut different lengths, so that the joints of the strands do not all come together. Made one at a time in separate places, they are hardly visible. The new strand should be folded round the end of the old one, with the edges turned inward, and the two pinned together. As soon as the new strand is firmly plaited the pin should be removed. As far as possible, avoid having joints at the edge of the plait.

About eight yards of plaited paper are required for an ordinary hat, but more may be needed.

The paper is now ready to be adjusted to the wire shape, which may be done at the millinery, or the millinery procured in the shop. In making the hat the process is the same as in covering a frame with straw braid.

A black edging is effective, or, if the hat is white, a black and white one. This is made by mixing one or more black strands with the white ones. Of course, the whole hat may be plaited in two colors, if wished. The trimming may consist of roses, maline, etc.

There are several special points to be remembered in making paper hats, viz: Cut the paper carefully, to avoid a jagged edge. Run each strand right through from one edge to the other, taking in all the other strands each time. It is a little difficult at first to plait in the last strand on the right correctly.

Plait evenly, pulling the strands downward rather than across. This makes a smoother and a firmer plait.

Avoid, if possible, joining at the edges of the plait.

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THE MODE FOR MISSES.

Simplicity is the keynote of the modes for misses and children; and this smart little frock in a mercerized chambray has much to commend it. The bodice is a clever combination of yoke and suspender styles, the yoke of gulfure embroidery, pointed front and back, and the bretelles coming up from the satin ribbon girdle that is mounted upon a featherbone frame. The sleeve is pulled to above the elbow, where it is strapped with embroidery, and two fluffy tufts of this same hang halfway to the elbow and finish the sleeve. The skirt is full, shirred to the band, and has two founces of embroidery applied with much shirring from knee to hem. The length is the correct one, the skirt hem coming barely to the top of the shiny black shoe, but not displaying the smart hosiery.

It will be handled like the most precious of household treasures—the baby.

Purple Linen Frock.

Purple linen is really very effective and is quite as useful as any dark shade, provided, of course, it suits the wearer. It is fashionable, too, especially when mixed with vieux-rose. A very abrupt contrast, it is true, but a most effective one. I have seen a delightfully smart purple linen, the skirt short and circular, simply trimmed with lapped seams and strappings, and a little cutaway coat, unlined and showing a vieux-rose velvet collar, with a suspicion of the same under the purple linen cuff, says the Ladies' Field.

This was worn with a lawn blouse of the same shade, with white Valenciennes transparencies and a rose leather belt. Last, but not least, a purple ermine that was caught up with a cluster of shaded pink roses. I liked that purple costume, for it showed me what glorious colors can be produced in linen.

How to Care for Hot Water Bottle

The devotee of the hot water bottle, usually a fussy mortal, is always concerned about the heat promoters, whether it is going to leak, or the stopper is going to unscrew, or something else may happen. Being of India rubber it is liable to cracks and breaks at inopportune moments, and mending hot water bottles has not yet become a fine art. Women who seek solutions for their troubles in matters of the heart, dress, etiquette, etc., by appeals through the columns of daily, weekly, and monthly journals, occasionally have a hot water bottle grievance. One such correspondent is advised in a "Ladies' Paper" to "carry the hot water bottle when full in the arms almost like a baby. The trouble complained of usually comes either from the carrying or the unscrewing of the stopper." No more swinging of the rubber bag by

the handle after this for the devotee. It will be handled like the most precious of household treasures—the baby.



SUMMER DANCE FROCK.

A dance frock of some sort is a very necessary article in the wardrobe of every girl who intends spending any time at a large hotel and the silk and cotton flowered grenadines are among the most attractive thin stuffs.

This one has a design of large pink roses and foliage scattered over the open white ground. On the two deep founces which trim bottom of skirt are set five rows of narrow satin ribbon, all pink, but shading from the darkest pink in the rose design to the lightest. The low cut bodice is filled in at bust line with tiny ruffles of white lace; wider founces of same, headed by pink ribbon, forming the elbow sleeves. A deep lace point is set in front over the gathered material.

THE IDLE WOMAN.

Where is the idle woman? One inquires with enthusiasm because so many people are anxious to prescribe for her. Within the compass of one short week we find the "idle and aimless woman" advised to (a) take an interest in "social work," (b) study elevating literature, (c) put her shoulder to the wheel of woman's suffrage, (d) bathe her own children. This is all very noble and inspiring, but there seems to be some confusion of ideas. Who and what like is the "idle and aimless" woman? One has known many aimless women, but not one idle. As a matter of fact, the most aimless are generally the busiest.

Satan does not confine his mischief-making energy to the idle hand alone. It is not a cardinal virtue to bustle. It is not mortal sin to sit quite still. As a matter of fact, in these days it is wholesome and antiseptic to behold a woman who does not think it her duty to be in a whirl. But people with no good will toward men wish to abolish peace upon earth. Here is a good lady declaring that "a good dusting every now and then" will secure "health and real satisfaction" to the "aimless woman." "A good dusting" sounds very awful. We know too well the vigor of the youthful serving maid, which shatters our most cherished china, and devastates white cabinets. "An aimless woman" going full speed ahead with "a good dusting" would surpass any bull in any china shop.

The same authority cries earnestly, "If all women of leisure would do ten minutes of good housework daily, how much brighter our homes would be." It all depends on the "woman of leisure." There are those who in ten minutes of good housework would be capable of disorganizing the most comfortable home, and reducing efficient housemaids to tearful despair. The delicate organism of home should not be treated as material for "aimless women" in need of exercise. Women suffering from a mania to bustle should play about with women's suffrage or something that beautifully and wisely does not draw-room.—London Telegraph.

Summer Blouses.

The girl who goes out to dance a bit summer evenings wants the thinnest of thin blouses to wear with her white trotter suit, or whatever her outing costume may be. It is an exercise that, while particularly delightful, is sufficiently heating. There is no place where one wants to be more suitably and comfortably dressed than in any of the various pier ballrooms. A short skirt is of all things essential. It should be smart and an even inch and a half from the floor all around, and above all things it should have its flounces drop exactly correct in length. Too many girls are careless with the petticoats to be worn with washable skirts. Every short skirt should have a petticoat to go with it exactly right in length. A blouse that is about as near nothing as the summer girl can wear is of sheerest all-over Valenciennes lace. Such a blouse is practical, for it is washable, is inexpensive and easily made. One design has a short round yoke of coarse lace, with the Valenciennes body gathered into it. The body of the blouse is tucked. Short elbow puffs are finished with a flounce. A practical blouse that I made recently: "I made a discovery in the Valenciennes blouse to be worn with my white serge outing dress. I made by lining in the yoke and back. It is almost sheer enough to pull through a ring; it washes beautifully and always looks extremely dressy when worn as a pretty corset cover slip. It is quite the coolest thing to dance in I ever knew."

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HINTS OF THE TOILET

Powder is bad for enlarged pores. Twelve drops of tincture of benzoin in a basin of water used after washing the face will tend to contract them. You should eat as little meat as possible.

Wide gold and silver ribbons are being extensively utilized for belts, some of the prettiest have interwoven or embossed designs in a different color. A gold ribbon sparingly embossed with black is one of the most effective, while pastel blue and mauve figure charmingly on others. A silver ribbon patterned in gold has a very soft effect, the ground of it appearing almost gray except in certain lights.

The hours that even the busy woman gives her children must not be the "fag end" of the day. One cannot hope to gain a place in their lives unless one gives them the best of oneself. The chief point is never to be "ribboned" when you are with your children. It is a difficult task, but you will live to regret it in their merciless criticism if you grudge the time you give. And so one should never let anything interfere with certain hours of companionship, rides or walks, or evening talks. However busy one has to be, one can fit these in somehow if one makes up one's mind to do so.

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