

OUTDOOR COSTUMES

By Mrs. Osborn, Creator of Fashions for Fashionable Women of America.

Modish Street Gowns Are Almost Limited to Cloth, Velveteen and Chiffon Velvet.

Gowns for the Street Are Made to Escape the Ground.

The Short Skirt Losing Popularity.

FASHION decrees that the woman of a mode shall wear street gowns of cloth, which comes in various weights and prices for the purpose; chiffon cloth, a smart material of the season; velvets and velveteens. Modish cloths are practically all plain, but velveteens are striped and checked, and so are velvets. Stripes are much newer than checks and look particularly well upon a stout woman.

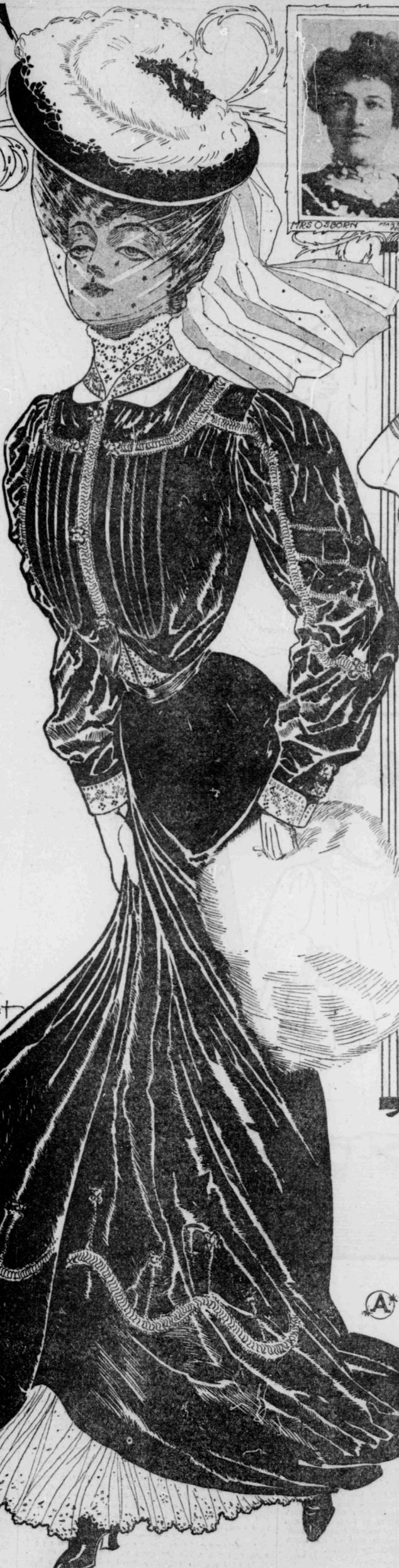


Figure B illustrates a very good gown of velvet, which is quite practical and suitable for other and cheaper materials. The short coat has three narrow panel effects in the back, the center one tucked nearly all the way down, the tucks ending in a scallop, and the whole, as well as the shorter side panels, being framed in braid. The same braid edges the shallow yoke in front, below which the coat is tucked in groups on each side, with a scallop at the bottom of each group. These tucked panels are framed in narrow stitched folds. Braid ornaments trim the fastenings and are set on each side the back near the bottom. The collar is an effective arrangement of white kid and green Oriental embroidery. Two tabs of the same materials hang below the slashed bottom of the coat fronts. Moderately full sleeves are trimmed with braid and finished with a loose cuff over a tight one of kid and embroidery. The coat belt, which is hardly perceptible under the slightly



Figure C is an interesting model in black cloth—although color is merely a matter of taste. I might add, however, that black is the very best color in which to make practical gowns. The coat is made in three-quarter length. It is semi-fitting in the front and loose in the back, where two straps, beginning on the underarm seam, stretch across the fullness and almost meet in the middle of the back, on each side of which the rounded ends of the straps fasten to the back. Two long rows of black braid buttonholes, with large buttonholes on each side of the front edges, but they are not used as fastenings. Moderately full coat sleeves are gathered at the top and have turned-up cuffs trimmed with buttons on the outer side. The skirt is plain circular, and is finished with a hem.

A Modish Creation in Velvet. An equally attractive costume of dark green striped velveteen is shown in Figure B. The short coat is made with a loose effect and a square panel in the center of the back, outlined with stitched folds of velveteen and an outer one of satin. The same square effect, tapering toward the waist, as in the back, is carried out in the front. Both front and back are slightly bloused over a wide, gathered girde, and both coat and



and, together with the entire front edge, finished with a band of stitched velveteen. The neck and cuffs are trimmed on the inner edges with a fold of satin above one of leather-colored cloth. Loose coat sleeves are shirred two or three times at the armhole and again

above the simple cuff. This is stitched under a fold at the top and under two folds at the bottom. The circular skirt which accompanies this costume has a stitched fold above the hem, to carry out the scheme of decoration in the jacket, and it has a



Figure D illustrates a gown made of dark blue cloth. It is made with a circular skirt trimmed with rows of braid in groups, above the hem. If the braid is trimmed with folds of cloth, velvet or satin, the skirt could be trimmed in the same fashion, with water, cords. Sometimes folds and braid are combined in skirt trimming, and these are put on in parallel rows, in wavy lines or designs.

What Is Most Correct for the Street. A smart little coat has a sort of separate front and back effect carried out by means of wide folds that taper toward the waist line. These folds extend out from the garment. The fronts end in squares at the bottom, hanging loose from a black satin vest, which is buttoned up the front with brass ball buttons, that continue all the way along the neck edges of the vest to the shoulders. A big, fat, brass button trims each side of the vest at the bottom. These really keep the satin from wrinkling upward and help the vest to keep in place. A narrow round satin coat collar is whirled upon small revers of blue cloth to front.

The collar is edged with narrow black silk braid, and the same braid edges one side of wide black satin folds that are run in and out of slits across the cloth fronts of the jacket. The satin is looped slightly over each slit. The back is made with a shaped extension fold, narrowing to a square bottom. The coat is stitched down each side the center seam. Across the bottom of the back is a strap of satin with a braid edge, shaped to conform to the outline of the back. From under the folds of the back, along each side, a little above the bottom of the coat, a wide satin band extends like a belt piece nearly to the front. A gaitered coat sleeve has a pleat at the back above the cuff, holding the fullness there.

The street costume is one that is so much worn and serves so many purposes, such as shopping, walking, visiting picture and other exhibitions. In the morning hours that a woman wants something in which she will never appear conspicuous and always look well dressed. To achieve these ends the costume must necessarily be simple in make, correct in cut and fit, and as handsome in material as the purse can buy.

The circular skirt which accompanies this costume has a stitched fold above the hem, to carry out the scheme of decoration in the jacket, and it has a

Visiting Card Etiquette for Teas

Visiting cards may be pitfalls for the unwary, for a woman with a case full of cards may find herself committing all sorts of solecisms unless she knows precisely what etiquette requires and under what conditions rules are modified. The very matter of cards for an "at home" may have its complications. To begin with, if a woman wishes to let her friends know that she is going to be at home on certain days of a month she announces it differently than she would did she intend having only one. In the event of her always being at home on a regular day, as Monday, for example, "Monday" is engraved on the lower left hand corner of the card. Owing to the fact that she would have time enough to give so much each month of the season the custom is growing of having one day a week for a month. Even more common is to have two days a month taking one each week, or one every other week. It is permissible to give two consecutive days, but it is infrequent, it seeming to be too much in the way of saving trouble. Whatever days are decided upon, if there are to be but two or four during the season, are put on special cards. Such days then take on more formality, and the card is the size of those sent for receptions. It is large and the hostess's name is in the middle near the top. Underneath is the information that she will be at home on such and such days from certain hours mentioned. It is the custom to send such cards to men, as well as women, and the hours are usually from 4 to 7. It is, however, quite permissible to have the days put on one's regular visiting card, in which case they go in the lower left-hand corner. No hours are then given, and the cards are sent out either ten days or two weeks before the first day. If desired, a woman may write the day with a pen and put the words "At home" first. No hours are specified. If there is to be only one at home it resolves itself into a tea, and the cards are a little differently arranged. They should be specially engraved and are about five inches long and three wide, reading: MRS. JOHN SMITH, AT HOME. Then follow the date, week, month, and hours of receiving. If there is a daughter in society her name is put under that of her mother. Comparatively few women care to go to this expense for engraving, and for their written cards are best. It should be done with a pen, taking three lines. That is to say, near the top of the card is "Tuesday." On the next line is the date, January the twenty-fourth (it is always written in full), and on the third coming just over the engraved name, the hours, from four to seven. The words, "At home," are not necessary and are rarely used. If there is no engraved address one day on the lower part of the card the hour may be written below the name, but it is better above. At a pinch it may be put in the lower left hand corner. No attempt is made to put anything more upon the card. If there is going to be music, nothing is indicated unless the invitation is specially engraved, or the music is to be so good as to be a special feature of the afternoon. Visiting cards are very small this season, and it requires careful writing not to crowd them. Cards for unmarried women are preferably smaller than those for matrons, although the same size may be used. The receipt of these cards is never acknowledged unless it be verbally to an intimate friend. If the recipient is unable to be present on the day or on one, if there are two or more, she does not write any regret, but simply posts her visiting card, and that of her husband, so that they shall be received on the day of the at home. As an at home is not a party or a function, but merely an opportunity to call on a stated day, knowing that the hostess will be at home, it requires no visit afterward. In leaving an at home if a hostess is very busy receiving it is not necessary to say good-by, although it is always a courteous thing. To omit it, however, in a large crowd, is a kindness, but not to be thought of if only a few guests are present. Cards are left in a bowl or dish made ready for them in the hall, though the English custom of merely having a bare table is gaining here. In that case the table is near the drawing room door or else is just within the room. Another English custom that an effort is being made to introduce here is the custom of leaving a husband's card for a husband when both are known to be at business. As it is now, a married woman always leaves two of her husband's cards, one for the hostess and another for the latter's husband, when both men may be meeting downtown at the moment. The custom is absurd, and in London is falling into disuse. This is less sensible than something the wife of a ranking army officer did in Washington last winter. Her husband was in the Philippines, but at every call she made in Washington she left his cards with hers. It seemed ridiculous, when he was known to be thousands of miles away, but there was much sense in it. If she made formal calls without leaving his card with hers the impression that she was not living with him might easily have been conveyed. As it was, the cards demonstrated that though he was away the separation was not permanent.

Color Definitions.

Colors have each an individual meaning. White, for instance, which is a reunion of the seven primitive colors, is the symbol of power, divine wisdom, purity, candor, innocence, and chastity. Red represents fire. It is, therefore, a symbol of passion, power, and riches; hence kings and the powerful rulers of the earth wear red mantles. It is also emblematic of hardness and cruelty, being the color worn by executioners of old and by the members of the Inquisition. Blue denotes fidelity, sweetness, tenderness and loyalty. With the ancients, yellow denotes glory and fortune. Now it is called the color of infidelity and shame. How is it that yellow has become the emblem of infidelity, perjury, and misfortune? Because Jews were forced to wear yellow during the middle ages, and the house doors of traitors were smeared with the yolk of eggs. Green is the color of hope and joy and the emblem of youth. Black denotes sadness. Pink denotes health, youth, pleasure, love. Violet is the color allowed to fallen angels because of divine inspiration and poetry. The muses are all represented and in orange-colored robes. Orange was also the color of Hymen. Bridegrooms wore orange-colored veils called flammeum, and the could not pronounce their vows unless covered with the flammeum.