

A PAGE

FOR MISSES

ATTRACTIVE GOWNS FOR THE GIRL GRADUATES



VALENCIENNES AND IRISH LACE TRIM THIS FROCK



GOWN OF EYELET EMBROIDERY AND VALENCIENNES

Fine Frocks of Net, Linen and Batiste, Trimmed with Lace and Embroidery.



SIMPLE DOTTED NET FROCK

EMBROIDERED NET TRIMMED WITH SATIN RIBBON

Once again there is at hand the sign of the sweet girl graduate, and beside her in importance even the June bride sinks into insignificance. For a time that has been eagerly expected for so many months it is no wonder that so much thought must be expended upon every detail of commencement time and that the gown that is designed for the all absorbing occasion should call for unusual care and consideration of ways, means and final effect. All effort must be given to make the dress perfect of its kind—appropriate to the occasion and becoming to the happy wearer. Fortunately a rather simple style of dress has for long been acknowledged the best taste for the graduate, or otherwise in the peculiar zeal of the modiste and the girl herself to make this gown an exceptional success there would be danger of a most elaborate and expensive frock resulting, which each dress will take away from the charm of the other. While the richer dress will undoubtedly make the plain muslin look somewhat poor, just so will the simple dress show up the inappropriateness of frills and furbelows at such a time and place, and perhaps it was this very reason that made the style of a simply made white frock suit become an established convention.

Skirts are Very Full
In the majority of schools and in some colleges the graduating classes are so small enough for the girls to get

together and decide a number of minor points about their gowns, which is carried out by an entire class, may be extremely attractive, while if adopted by only a few members are more conspicuous than pretty. The most important question for the united class to agree upon concerns the length of the train, with the skirt all grouped together and walking into the room where the exercises are to be held the effect is exceedingly ugly if all these skirts are of a totally different length. A long train is always more graceful and becoming than a short skirt, and it is especially important on a raised platform to have a fairly long sweep of train. A graceful length of skirt lies upon the ground about 12 inches in the back, stretched gradually toward the sides and in front is the correct length to just rest upon the floor. There must be no question of the skirt being long enough to trip one up, for upon this day, of all others, it is desirable to have to think as little as possible about what one is wearing. All skirts are decidedly full this year, and while the barrel shaped effect is still in vogue, the fashion is gradually changing to a more simple and carefully fitted about the waist and hips, still a full skirt underneath and plenty of material in the skirt itself make it stand out nicely at the feet. All light textures—mull, lawn and organdy—require a full underslip of silk if possible, or if not, one of well starched lawn to prevent any clinging in of the material. Nothing is less attractive than a thin, slinky material. The next question that is sure to arouse considerable discussion this year is in regard to the sleeves, and here it is very important for the different members of a graduating class to come to a definite agreement that each member will promise to abide by. Long sleeves are generally acknowledged to look the best on the platform, for the style of dress after which a graduating gown is modeled cannot have anything shorter than elbow sleeves, and the part of the arm that is thus left bare

is seldom pretty. At the same time all afternoon gowns, unless they are of unusually simple design, are still being made with half or three-quarter length sleeves. An exceedingly pretty effect can be given, however, by adding a deep lace cuff below the elbow; and there are few sleeve models that cannot be finished in this way. When long gloves are worn a short sleeve always looks smart, but gloves have never been really approved for the commencement dress. Now that one is becoming accustomed to the long drooping shoulder line and loose kimono sleeve, with their little under puffs of lace, the fashion is growing in favor rapidly, and for all young girls, with their straight, slender lines, the model is peculiarly becoming. As their material is organdie or French mousseline, the surplus is generally bordered with lace or embroidery instead of the plain dress of silk or velvet that is seen on dresses of heavier texture. Although with a bridal gown and a coming out dress white slippers and stockings are always worn, it has, nevertheless, been the custom for a great many years to wear black slippers and hose with the commencement frock. Here again the question should be decided by the majority and followed out by all the class, for the effect will be infinitely better if all the graduates are dressed the same in this respect. It is, of course, the fashion at present to have slippers and stockings for each gown in the trousseau, and especially with all light dresses, but a black patent leather or French kid slipper, with a fine lisle thread or silk hose, is found to be intensely becoming to the foot and looks especially well with a dainty gown of all white.

Naturally in selecting the commencement dress it is necessary to keep in mind the sort of gown that will be of most service afterward and try to build the costume with this double end in view. Fortunately this is a style of dress that cannot fail to be useful throughout the summer, and it is infinitely better to have the gown fashioned for an attractive summer frock than make it so handsome as to be only suitable for an elaborate style of wear. Silk mousseline and all grades of French mill are perhaps the best popular materials for the graduation dress, but organdie and fine lawn and batiste are all sure to make extremely pretty and useful gowns. Dotted Swiss is also attractive, and there are many figured lawns and bottles that are charmingly pretty, but perhaps not so peculiarly appropriate for a graduation dress as plain white. All white the graduation dress must be, and there should not even be a colored sash on this dress. A hand embroidered batiste or handkerchief linen dress—the well known liggerle gown—is always seen among the handsomest summer models, and if there is not too much embroidery this makes an extremely pretty dress for the purpose. There are many lingerie

dresses that are trimmed only with insertions and ruchings of valenciennes laces and just a few narrow bands of embroidery upon the waist, and these are, of course, the most suitable. A handsome lingerie gown is an excellent investment for wear over colored silk slips. These dresses are very smart just now and are used for all sorts of wear, even being seen in the city as reception and theater costumes. The empire still remains, but princess dresses are not much in evidence this spring, even those gowns that are joined together at the waist having a pleated girde or narrow stitched belt. It has been proven that light gowns keep in place and fit better if waist and skirt are joined together at the belt by a band of lace or beading. This idea was carried out last year, but it was not considered necessary to add a girde, while this season there is a ribbon, satin or taffeta belt on nearly every gown. The belt may be quite separate from the dress, again may be tacked lightly to the material here and there to insure its keeping always in place and prevent the skirt and bodice from slipping. Soft messaline ribbon is the most fashionable at the moment, while liberty satin is also in vogue. On the empire gowns the belt is generally finished off in a stiff bow or rosette in back, with short ends falling down just below the waistline. Some girdles are made with long sash ends looped up and knotted here and there, and of

course, this helps to trim the skirt. There are, however, just as many draped girdles finished off over the four inches in width, whatever style is the most becoming. A slight blouse is allowed in front, but in the back and on the sides the bodice must be pulled down well under the girde. **Dutch Yokes Fashionable**
If a Dutch or round yoke is becoming, it is an extremely pretty way of joining with a band of ruching, formed of the ribbon. The girde should be boned and be anywhere from two to four inches in width, whatever style is the most becoming. A slight blouse is allowed in front, but in the back and on the sides the bodice must be pulled down well under the girde.

must not only look cool and dainty, but it must also feel light and comfortable, no matter to what heights the mercury may chance to soar. A guimpe dress serves so nicely the two purposes of afternoon and evening gowns that it remains in favor year after year. The white dress is never remembered, so that it can be worn time and again, first high neck, then décolleté, until the season is over. But it would be best in the all important graduation day to baste the guimpe in all around so that the yoke cannot possibly wrinkle or look as though it did not really belong to the dress. Lace yokes are now worn so much that there is little danger of the guimpe looking different from the dress itself, provided, of course, that it is made of the same material and trimmed with the same lace.

At the graduation exercises all the schools and colleges are naturally in gala attire, and if the younger girls take any part in the entertainment they, too, are generally dressed in white, though their gowns are even more simple and more youthful than those of the graduates. If there is a question of graduating from one class to a higher one or from one school to a more advanced academy, and there are any exercises attendant, then a pretty dress of white organdie or mull, made with deep lace yokes and insertions of lace on both waist and skirt, with just enough hand tucking as is necessary to give a pretty finish, is sure to be attractive and becoming. The skirt, of course, has no train, but its length depends solely upon the height and age of the child. A girl tall for her age naturally requires a skirt longer in proportion than the child who will do most of her gowning later on. The waist should blouse softly over a ribbon girde, finished with long sash ends falling about half way to the hem of the dress. For a young girl just in her teens a real sash is generally more becoming than a plain round belt.

It is, if anything, more important that a short dress should hang perfectly and drape well than when there is a long train to hide some of the defects. It is also a mistake to keep a child in too short dresses, for they are neither becoming nor graceful, and only make the girl feel conspicuous. This spring trimmings go both down and around the skirts, so that whatever lines are best suited to the wearer may be carried out.

THE BIG THINGS THE ITALIANS HAVE DONE IN CALIFORNIA

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the creation of this industrial people. Wineries and canneries have sprung up where the Italian has done his work and every town is a mart where the buyer from the metropolis comes to secure the product of vineyard and garden. It is true that not all the fruit and grape and vegetable growers are Italians, and in fact, they do not produce a large part of the fruit; but they set an example that, followed by the observant, has brought results far beyond those of ordinary effort or skill. By his example in thrift and agricultural skill, the Italian has done much for the state.

The Juice of the Grape
Hills and valleys of Sonoma and Napa that were cheap ranges worth about six dollars an acre have been set to vines and made to produce a wealth in grapes and wine that has sent these acres up among those classed as high priced in California. The availability of all such lands for grape growing has been shown not only in these, but in many other counties of the state, and they will be set to the vine as the consumption of wine grows by education of the people to its use and the market is enlarged. There cannot be a market without consumption, and the latter will come only as the American casts aside harmful liquor and acquires a greater taste for the healthful wine.

In the grape growing and wine producing history of Italian accomplishment in California, the plants and vineyards of the great Asti Swiss colony, of course, stands out as the leading example. This colony, founded and fostered by A. Sbarboro and P. C. Rossi, has become famous all over the state, and from which the madrone and oak had to be grubbed, this cooperative organization grew until today it has seven properties in the counties of Sonoma, Fresno, Kings and

Madera and produces one-fifth of the wine made in California, and still retains two-thirds of all that is made in America. Grapes on more than 10,000 acres of land are consumed by the colony. It owns, itself, 5,000 acres of vineyard. The total coöperative crop of the plants is 13,350,000 gallons. The largest wine tank in the world, 500,000-gallon capacity, is at Asti. Not only have the Italian gentlemen who founded this colony, and carried it to success sent throughout the world from this place, but they have taken the front rank with the famous wine districts of Europe, but they have shown that perseverance and grit will bring profits from the grape in California. They struggled long to bring this great concern to its present status and they faced many hardships, but they had the faith that wins the prize in the end and they have shown that that and industry are all that are necessary to bring reward from California's fruitful soil.

The Asti colony in Sonoma is one of the great, unfading advertisements of California. There are vineyards and wineries in almost every county of the state, but at this place there is a collective view that gives the editor full knowledge of California's capabilities in wine producing. There is none that does not go away full of marvel at what can be accomplished in bodies and the members visit it individually. So into Europe and throughout the United States the wonders of grape growing and wine producing in California are carried. The wines produced by this colony are sold in Central and South America, many countries of Europe, China, Japan, Mexico, Canada and, of course, the eastern states. Mr. Sbarboro says that on the great Water-look bridge in London there blazes forth the name of an Asti wine at night, and that that electric sign is not only there as an advertisement for the wine, but it advertises California as well. The Asti colony's original purchase

consisted of 1,500 acres from the Hutchinson brothers, sleep men. It paid \$25,000 for it. Today this land is worth \$500,000. Italian vine growing and wine making has worked its magic.

Some Italian Capitalists
Wherever one goes among the Italians to gain information concerning the state of California, the advice "You go and see Mr. Sbarboro; he knows all about it." "There is one thing," said Sbarboro in speaking of what benefits have accrued to California from the presence of the Italians, "that we must not overlook in this connection, and that is the labor of the men from Italy. They have given much as agriculturists—more than can be estimated in figures—also as business men and have done much to inspire art and music here; but their labor has been one of the principal things. They have helped in the building of railroads and in other work that has added to the state's advancement. The Italian is a good workman. California owes him much for what he has done with his muscle and endurance.

"Most of the Italians who arrived in the early days came intending to make fortunes in five years and return. Most of them never did return. They had nothing better to go back to than they found here, and the opportunity to establish homes and gather the comforts of life about them was alluring enough to offset, in nearly all instances, the lure of the mother country. They loved California and they stayed and helped in its development. "Nearly all of them were agriculturists, skilled with the example of generations in the knowledge of soil and the working of them, and they were soon supplying all the cities with vegetables. Floriculture was also taken up by them. They went to Italy for seeds of all the products they knew there and for cuttings of all the valuable varieties of grapes. Today there is nothing grown in Italy that is not grown here. The Italians have brought it all, and everything that made Italy a land of beauty and plenty as far as the soil went thrives in this similar climate by

the Pacific. The Italians blended the Mediterranean with the western ocean. They brought the health and the spirit of Laocæ and of Sicily.

"I will relate an instance showing how completely the products of Italy have been duplicated here. Thirty-one years ago Dr. Macary, well known in this city at that time and who accumulated enough to make him comfortable in his native land, returned here. He made a beautiful home at San Remo, one of the features of which was the gardens. He had gathered about everything while in them. Six years ago I was in Italy and paid him a visit. He showed me his splendid garden and insisted that I find something not grown in California to take back there and transplant. He didn't doubt that he could soon light on something that would be new here. But he couldn't. He searched every part of his estate, but everything he showed me I found was something that we grew as well or better here. He was somewhat vexed at all this, but gave up the search, and I thought he had forgotten the matter.

"The day of my departure Dr. Macary came to me with his face beaming. He seemed like one who had been relieved of a worry. I have found something at last," he said, "that will be new to you out there; let me show you." He led me down to a remote corner of his garden, where there was a little pomegranate tree—little, though it had attained full growth. I told him that we had plenty of them here, but I did not tell him how much larger were the ones we grew. "Their agricultural achievements have been of incalculable benefit to California," said Mr. Fontana, president of the California canneries association, speaking of his fellow countrymen, "but the example set by their thrift, industry and frugality is one of the greatest benefits a community could have. You see all those buildings on North beach. They are the result of hard work and saving. It's work that counts, you know, work and frugality. They are all sober, too, these Italians. They drink their wine at their meals, but it is pure wine and all they drink does no harm. Whisky is the liquor

that ruins men. If the Italians here can teach wine drinking to all who now drink whisky they will bring safety to many a home that is threatened.

"When the Italian workman draws his money Saturday night he puts it in the bank. Families work together and save and soon have a home and property of their own. Their industry is rewarded by comfort after awhile. "I am not saying that the Italians are all industrious and saving. As in every other race, there are some mighty bad ones, but the great number of them set examples that others may well follow. Here in the cannery there are many at work, whole families in some instances, that have accumulated homes and some property to rent. Mr. Fontana's modesty prevented him from telling what he, an Italian, had done for the fruit canning industry here. He may be called the father of that industry in the state. Years ago he began it on a small scale. Today he is at the head of what is perhaps the biggest cannery business in the world.

"The wonders worked in the production of wine by the Italians in California stand out as a great achievement for them in this new land," said Ettore Patria, editor of L'Italia, the daily newspaper. "They brought all sorts of European wines, introducing the German, French and Spanish varieties besides their own, and the wines made here now cover the entire range of vintage, sweet and dry. It is certainly marvelous. Europe itself is taking to these wines of ours, and it will not be many years, with the constant improvement being made, until there will be no old world variety of finer flavor.

In this city now and 200 chefs of that nationality. They have spread the gospel of good living like the French and a gastronomic gospel has its virtues. Many an American housewife has copied the Italian methods of creating appetizing viands and utilizing various foodstuffs to the added happiness of her family. "Perhaps we should mention art and music before gastronomy, but we certainly could not overlook those two subjects in speaking of what the Italians have done for California, and especially this city. The humblest Italian loves his music, and their enthusiasm for it has helped foster that spirit which makes San Francisco one of the most appreciative of that form of music of all the cities. "Floriculture as pursued by the Italians has aided largely in the development of rare varieties that make our florists' stores famous. Their street corners markets give a touch of Milan and Naples to San Francisco and other cities.

"The fisheries of California have been developed almost entirely by the Italians. They are daring men with their small craft, and they bring up every foot treasure of the sea that we can consume. It is remarkable how these men can stand rigorous climate. Even those from Sicily go north as waiters and to work in the fish canneries, and seem to suffer none from the hardships. Fully 1,000 go each year to the canneries. "Many American ladies of this city find are learning the Italian language because of the prevalence of that race here, and you frequently hear them carrying on conversations with their marketman or fish dealers. The learning of the language tends to instill the romance, poetry and art of the southern kingdom into the people here. It is a happy influence. "And so from music to fish, from wine to spaghetti, from roses to cabbages, the Italian hand and the Italian skill are traced in the growth of California, in the increase of her material wealth, in the enhancing of her beauty and attractiveness. The old Greek church up in the Latin quarter is being turned into a theater,

and there is a plan afoot among the Italians to give grand opera here in their language all the year. If it is carried out musical San Francisco will owe a deep obligation to these people.

The Italians in California own about 3,000 farms. In these and their business interests is invested about \$125,000,000. Around Los Angeles there are 4,000 Italian truck gardeners, and there are 3,500 in Santa Clara county. In Los Angeles the Italians raise most of the beautiful white celery that the east gobbles with such avidity. They are shipping many loads of cabbages and cabbages east from this city, that being a growing industry. They have cultivated the once barren bluffs between Tolma and the ocean and raise large crops of cabbages, cauliflower and other vegetables, depending only on the ocean moisture for irrigation. In their intensive style of farming the Italians utilize every inch of ground, fence corners and all. They grow all they need to consume, and they sell, setting an example that some American ranchers who buy their own bacon, eggs and vegetables might well follow in part.

The Italian population of California was officially given in 1900 as 23,777. It is now estimated variously at from 65,000 to 100,000. Just how many there are none knows. Many have come since the earthquake. Some labor in the city, some go out to make vineyards and gardens, some dip into the sea for fish. Each sends home, as he makes the money, for another, relative or friend, and these come and add their industry and the savings grow and so, maybe, the ranch is added to, maybe rent crops of cabbages, cauliflower and other vegetables are created. They do not take to borrowing or mortgaging. It cannot be said that for the American farmer to perform the slavish work of the Italian gardener, who is up at 3 in the morning and after nearly a full day's work drives his wagon load of produce to the city, returning asleep on a load of fertilizer after sunset, would be either advisable or desirable, but there is a lesson of industry and utilization of land and material on the truck garden that may well be followed by all.