

Late Paris Fashions.

Paris, April 22.—Just as all the world loves a lover—or says it does—so the affairs of a bride are matters of general interest, particularly if the bride be young and pretty and have a fashionable wedding, supplemented by an ornamental trousseau.

Just at present every dressmaking establishment in Paris is in the excitement of packing off to scores of fashionable brides to be the finery that is later to dazzle the eyes of beholders at the wedding or upon the honeymoon. As I have no doubt there are many weddings in prospect on the other side of the Atlantic, there may be some women readers who will enjoy following the details of a recent wedding in the circle that makes brilliant the Faubourg St. Germain.

To begin, the bride's gown was of ivory white satin, almost entirely covered with chiffon. The bodice itself was also almost entirely covered with tucked chiffon, while the skirt was softened with a long tunic of the material edged with a double row of chiffon ruching. The sleeves, too, were of gathered chiffon, while the long, glistening train was heavily draped with Brussels lace. The sleeves were outlined on the shoulders by shaped ruffles of chiffon, ruching edged and stiffened to stand out—how only the secrets of the cutters and fitters' room could tell. Over the heart was worn a soft knot of chiffon, caught up with a fragile cluster of real orange blossoms. Her hair was studded with knots of the same fragrant flowers, fleeting and elusive as the sentiment they are supposed to typify. From the back of the head the veil, a priceless piece of old lace, fell in long, loose folds to the ground.

The gorgeous train was carried by a picturesque little figure wearing a light blue satin coat and tight fitting trousers to the knee. A touch of lace ruffles glistened above the white satin embroidered waistcoat. White satin low shoes and silk stockings completed his costume.

There were nine bridesmaids, three of them little girls. They were, of course, very simply attired, their frocks being white silk muslin much trimmed with Valenciennes lace. On her curls each little maiden wore a charming wreath of forget-me-nots. The six grown up bridesmaids were attired in mousseline de soie, the pectinate being of oriental satin, finished with a frill of accordion plaited chiffon. The bodices were made with transparent yokes and collar bands of lace. These were draped with pale blue chiffon. The sleeves were rather full elbow affairs. Hats of fine pale blue straw were caught up under one rim with flowers of the same shade. Above they were trimmed with pale blue feathers and a quantity of fanciful chiffon.

The bride's going away gown was of gray cloth, embroidered in white. The short, plumed looking jacket, opening to a point over the hips, opened over an embroidered waistcoat of satin. Over the bust fell two fanlike revers of cloth, heavily embroidered. The skirt was cut within overskirt falling in double points at the side and showing handsome lines of embroidery in Greek pattern all

around. A large box of white silk muslin was made to tie under the chin, the costume being completed with a very smart toque of straw trimmed with wire knots of gauze and flowers.

Very simple but handsome bridal gowns are possible with the use of white woolen fabrics, now allowable in the fashion. However, is a mere whim of the hour, the probability is that those brides who can afford it will prefer the heavy, old fashioned, yet rich satin in which brides have been lovely since the times of our great-grandmothers.

A second wedding garment that impressed one with its beauty was of white satin and brocade, trimmed with honiton lace, which veiled the skirt and trimmed the bodice. The court train was of brocade in designs of true lovers' knots and was knotted with lace and ostrich feathers. The collar and round yoke of the bodice was of gathered chiffon, festoons of lace and ribbon bows trimming the décolletage and also the edges of the plaited panel on the front of the lower half of the bodice. The sleeves were gathered by means of drawn threads that were finished by deep frills of lace at the wrists. Six bridesmaids assisted at this wedding, the young ladies being attired in gowns of white silk and lace. The fuchsia about their necks were particularly charming and looked well against the neckbands of pale green velvet. The picture hats of white straw were lined with pale green velvet and the valleys with their green and lilacs of the valley with their foliage. Their bouquets were also of lilacs of the valley loosely put together and tied with green satin ribbon.

Looking over the wedding finery, I was impressed by the gorgeousness of the trousseaux of the hour. The brilliancy in coloring and the uniqueness of many of the shades make it, to my mind, very doubtful if any but the most fashionable brides will get the worth of their money. There are so many odd and startling shades that have merely one season's vogue that those young ladies who have provided themselves with ample wardrobe will in a few months either have to turn them over to a servant or wear gowns that strike their inconsistency with fashion. Even if made over, the color scheme will announce them to be passé.

One of the handsomest costumes seen this week in the salons des modes, as the fashionable couturiers love to call their exhibition rooms, was of the new soft popeline cloth of a sort of neutral dead green shade. The gown was cut in a quaint adaptation of the princess fashion, with a long apronlike panel outlined down the front, edged with green panne and embroidered along the center in Japanese looking sprays by means of an applique of pale green satin. The tunic, which was cut from the panel on each side in three large, round, descending scallops, was also edged with panne and a narrow line of the embroidery. The yoke, or emplacement, was trimmed with insertions of white silk embroidery alternating with rows of white satin. The underskirt showed three narrow rows of silk fringe in front, trimming it below the line of the tunic, which in the back sloped so that only one row was seen.

A very smart affair was the reunion of the Societe de l'Éclair. Nearly all

the elegantes of Paris were present and some that were not of Paris, as in the case of the Grand Duchesse Paul de Mecklenburg, who was one of the guests of honor. Some very handsome equestrian costumes were worn by the ladies, as the reunion was one of those super-exclusive affairs at which the grand dames of society unbent from their digni-



FASHIONABLE WEDDING GARMENTS.

ty for a time to display their horse-ship. One of the most picturesque costumes worn by a social leader was cut with a fetching riding coat and skirt of the Louis XV period. She wore also a tricorne hat. Gold gaiters served to make sumptuous the cloth garment.

Nun's veiling seems about to come into popularity. It is soft, pretty and easily adapted to the present fashion of wearing garments. Lined with silk it drapes gracefully and is a much more serviceable fabric than one would imagine. For evening wear it makes up to advantage when trimmed with applique of lace and supplied with a dainty

bolero jacket opening over a vest of chiffon or some other soft fabric. For evening skirts are cut with demitrain. For less formal costumes, such as those designed for dinner or theater wear, they are cut with skirts just touching the ground. Some of the dinner gowns formed of very thin nun's veiling have only the tunic of this cloth, the underskirt showing several flounces of a daintily harmonizing color.

One thing for which we must be prepared this season is a curious mixture of colors. The demand for laces and chiffons is unprecedented. The pretty, thin materials to be used for summer wear will be trimmed with them as well as with tiny paillettes. Wreaths and sprays of lace are being applied upon evening gowns, while quilted net and crape or chiffon alternate with

ness, are among the show effects in the shops. Satin is likely to be worn a great deal, and to give to it that softness demanded by the clinging garments of the day the duchess and Roman satins are so treated as to have a very delightful luster and pliability.

Mousseline de soie and mousseline chiffon are used for evening gowns and combine with other materials in trimming bodice fronts. Taffetas are taking the place of brocades. Those taffetas having a white ground strewn with flowers are extremely pretty.

CATHERINE TALBOT.

Dress Materials For Frenchwomen.

The following figures are rather interesting. It has been estimated that the value of the material consumed yearly in France for women's dress (gowns

FOR AFTERNOON WEAR.

White cloth gowns for afternoon teas and receptions are the smartest costumes of the season. Made with a tiny tunic, finished with stitching and a guilpo neck of lace over satin, with an ermine bertha, the effect is stunning. Cloth gowns have the lead in fashion this season beyond anything in silk except for full evening dress, and here the gauzy materials over silk and satin prevail. Fine soft voile, embroidered lisse and satin finished crepe de chine are very popular for dressy costumes and may be accepted as prophetic of the kind of materials most used for summer dress.

One pretty imported model in pale gray voile is made over orange yellow silk and trimmed with cream lace insertion in lattice-work design, put on in the form of a tunic and cut out underneath to show the yellow through. The bodice is a round waist of gray guttural outlined with gray chenille and lined with yellow silk. Mousseline de soie is used for both high necked and décolleté

New Things In Millinery.

There is something singularly delicate and attractive about all the new millinery. In the first place it is made of the lightest, airiest and most fairy-like fabrics imaginable, and in the second the shapes, whether of hats, toques or bonnets, are of such wide diversity and such exceptional gracefulness that it seems as though every kind of face will have a chance this season of being seen for once in its life beneath a becoming specimen of headgear. The colors, too, are for the most part quite lovely, none but the softest and most delicate shades being in favor.

There are many new shades of pale green and pale blue, as well as a very peculiar pink which is known as "Cyrano," and in all these colors as well as in the most delicate tones of gray, beige and biscuit all the novel shapes in straw and in various rustic plaits can be obtained. But the majority of the hats so far have been made in tulle, gauze and chiffon rather than in straw. Hats are being made entirely of tulle or very fine mechin net, close gathered into a thousand fine little ruches and rufflings and then bent about into various picturesque shapes.

Sometimes these tulle hats are made with low crowns and wide, shady brims, almost in the directoire or incroyable shape, but they are more often arranged as toques of fairly large size, turned well off the face in front and trimmed under the brim, but slightly on one side, with either a bunch of flowers or a chou bou of panne, having a tiny diamond buckle in the center. Some of the other tulle hats—and these are among the newest and smartest of all—take the form of a boat shaped toque, with a brim of gathered tulle, which is very deep and high at the back, but which comes to quite a sharp point in front, and which is worn well over the forehead. These hats are very frequently trimmed with folded draperies of tulle, arranged to simulate ostrich feathers and placed somewhat a la Trelawny, one on either side of a center chow of tulle. These platings are very smart.

Sometimes fine platings of tulle in a contrasting color are inserted between each plait of straw, and this has a very smart effect when the arrangement is carried out in contrasting colors. A black picture hat, for instance, looks pretty with platings of turquoise tulle between each strand of straw and a lining underneath the brim made entirely of the turquoise tulle and relieved only on one side by a black ostrich feather allowed to rest carelessly upon the hair. A hat of this description would of course be trimmed upon the crown, with large clusters of black ostrich feathers drooping this way and that.

Another idea, which is new this season, but which has already found many admirers, is to stripe the tulle toques with strappings or plaits of straw. This is a curious reversing of the ordinary condition of things, for of course we have been accustomed for long enough to see straw hats and toques trimmed with tulle. For the future or, at all events, for the next few weeks or so we shall certainly see tulle hats and toques trimmed with straw. The result is really wonderfully smart and pretty, and the fashion is a sensible one into the bargain, as the strands or plaits of straw help to stiffen the tulle folds and draperies and keep them from getting dragged and out of condition.

Furnishings For The Summer Home.

Spring cleaning time, now at hand, suggests many changes in the appearance of the interior of the house. Matings are put down in place of heavy carpets, thin curtains are substituted for heavy brocades or damask ones, while light airy pieces of furniture are wherever possible substituted for massive upholstered ones. For during the warm weather the housekeeper well knows that an appearance of coolness in a house will often to the mind cheat the thermometer of several degrees of torrid temperature. The furnishing of the veranda, which in these days has come to be a matter of great importance, at least in suburban houses, gains greatly from the use of much wicker furniture. One may buy almost anything in wicker, and so satisfactory has it proved that many families use it in sitting rooms the year round.

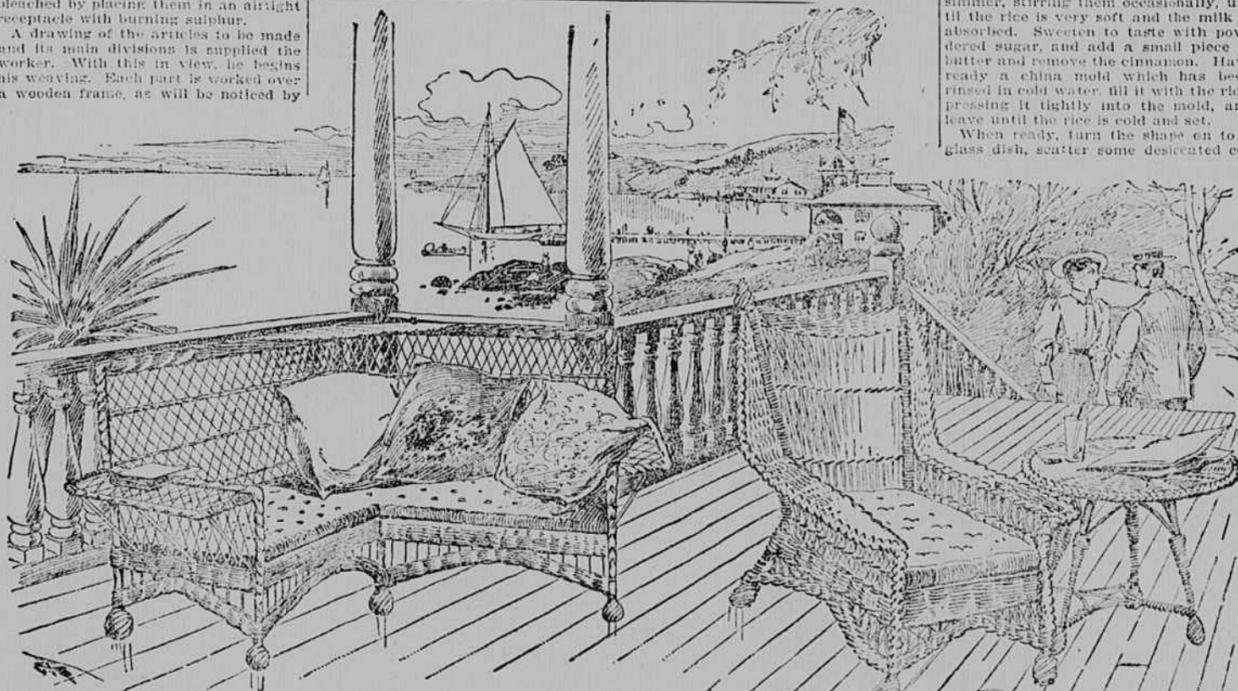
The summer girl, too, ever on the alert for an effective background for her charms, has found in the use of rattan furnishing an invaluable auxiliary. The lightness and daintiness of this style of furniture make it especially suitable for summer homes. The enameled wickerwork is not only bright and picturesque, but it is serviceable—first, because the rattan thus treated is more durable than its generally fragile appearance would lead one to believe, and, second, from the fact that when it is a little soiled it can be made to look as good as new by the use of a little warm water and soap and a sponge.

Wicker, bamboo, rattan or cane furniture is now made in so many styles that it can be purchased to harmonize with any other furniture where only a part of a set is bought. It is undeniable that wicker furniture is not cheap. Handmade articles never are, but it is seldom that in real comfort and adaptability anything so well repays the outlay as wicker chairs and couches. Their lightness recommends them to families living in self furnished lodgings or in apartments, as the moving man can so easily pick them up and drop them into his big van when the family makes up its mind that it needs change of scene and a new janitor.

For the furnishing of studios there is nothing so desirable as wicker, because it is so easily moved about. Much of the charm of a studio is that the owner of it is able to change the general appearance of his surroundings very often, for the artistic temperament abhors sameness. As the making of wicker articles is

an industry in which women could make a success, it may be interesting to know just how the furniture is made. The long willow sticks are first placed in water, that they may be soaked to make more flexible and thus easy to manipulate. While still damp they are bleached by placing them in an airtight receptacle with burning sulphur.

A drawing of the articles to be made and its main divisions is supplied the worker. With this in view, he begins his weaving. Each part is worked over a wooden frame, as will be noticed by



NEW STYLES IN WICKER FURNITURE.

examining any piece of wickerwork. When a chair is made, the seat is woven first; after that the wooden foundations for the legs are placed at each corner, and the braiding is put on from the floor upward. Back and arm sticks are put in next and covered, then the braided work above and below the seat.

grounds of the dark colored furniture. Wicker may now be purchased in entire sets, just like any other material.

Those people who have picturesque verandas, where in summer much of their time is spent, will find the low willow couches, the broad, luxurious arm-chairs and the dainty tables just the

things to turn the outdoor nooks into habitable apartments. The veranda should be as much shaded by vines as possible and then hung with bamboo porch blinds.

The floor of the veranda is best stained and polished and ornamented with one of the bright Jute rugs that exposure to the weather does not spoil. A table in the center of the veranda for afternoon tea or magazines and books may be had in several shapes. Some of them are provided with little undershelves and are made entirely of the wickerwork. The couches are of various shapes. Some of them are straight backed affairs covered with an upholstered fitted mattress. Over this

some of the more ornamental enclosures. The backs and seats are covered with the flat cretonne cushions, so that the chairs are practically upholstered ones. The bright cretonnes are now most fashionable, while one is frequently made of the turkey red linen or blue or green plain art fabrics.

Rice Shape.

Wash two ounces of rice in boiling water, drain it and put it into a stewpan with 1½ pints of milk and the grated peel of half a lemon and a small stick of cinnamon. Stir the rice frequently until the milk boils; then draw the pan to the side of the stove and let the contents simmer, stirring them occasionally, until the rice is very soft and the milk is absorbed. Sweeten to taste with powdered sugar, and add a small piece of butter and remove the cinnamon. Have ready a china mold which has been rinsed in cold water, fill it with the rice, pressing it tightly into the mold, and leave until the rice is cold and set.

When ready, turn the shape on to a glass dish, scatter some desiccated co-

MAY MENUS.

BREAKFAST.
Oatmeal and Milk.
Liver and Bacon.
Biscuit.
Fruit.
Coffee.

LUNCHEON OR TEA.
Cheese Omelets.
French Rolls.
Fruit.
Chocolate or Tea.

APRICOT TARTS.—Take an egg, with its weight in stale cake crumbs and fresh butter; a tablespoonful of sugar, a small piece of citron and a little flavoring. Beat up the butter to a cream with the sugar, add the cake crumbs and eggs, then the flavoring, mixing all well together. Line some patty pans with puff paste, put a small piece of apricot jam in the center of each and then a thick layer of the mixture. Lay a piece of citron across each patty pan and scatter chopped almonds on either side. Bake for about a quarter of an hour in a sharp oven.

DINNER.
Brussels Sprouts.
Spinach.
Lettuce with French Dressing.
Rice Custard Pudding.
Coffee.
Fruit and Nuts.

ROAST HAM.—Served in this way, the ham must be boiled longer than if it were meant to remain in its liquor to cool. When tender, take off the rind and trim the ham neatly. Place it in a baking tin with sufficient liquor to come half way up the ham. Cover it with a piece of greased paper and let it get very hot in the oven for about half an hour, then send it to a table nicely glazed or crumbed with a garnish of vegetables.

Three Ways of Cooking Parsnips.
Take three parsnips and wash them well. Put them in boiling salted water, and let them boil for half an hour or three-quarters of an hour, according to size. Then take them out and rub the skin off. They may be cut in slices about three-quarters of an inch thick and fried in hot dripping on both sides. Dust with a little pepper, and serve very hot. Instead, they may be served mixed with a large teaspoonful of butter, a tablespoonful of good milk or cream, a little pepper and salt and stirred over the fire till very hot, then piled high on a dish and served hot.

Another way is to mix them after being washed with a tablespoonful of flour, one teaspoonful of butter, the same of milk, pepper and salt. Take up a small portion in floured hands, roll it into a round cake and fry in hot dripping in a pan.

TRAINING A HOUSEMAID.

In these days, when the difficulty of getting domestic servants for small establishments has to be faced, the house mistress who keeps two maids and gives only moderate wages has, as a rule, to be content with young servants who are only partially trained, and therefore if their work is to be well done she must undertake the task of teaching them herself. This task is by no means an easy one, and especially if the housewife is young and unaccustomed to directing even a small household.

The comfort of a family, where there are only two servants, depends very nearly as much on the parlor maid as upon the cook, for, however dainty the dishes prepared by the latter may be, they will lose much of their attractiveness if the table is carelessly laid and the service indifferent. A few hints may serve as a guide in training an inexperienced parlor maid. Provided a girl is intelligent and anxious to learn, there is no reason why she should not in a short time be proficient in her work, but patience is necessary on the part of the mistress and a certain amount of strength of mind, and some shortcoming, such as dull looking silver and glass, must not be overlooked if the girl is to make a good parlor maid. On the other hand, a few words of encouragement occasionally are essential.

With a view to avoiding complaints on the subject of the glass or silver, it is advisable to give directions for the latter to be washed in very hot water to which either a little soap or extract of soap has been added and then rinsed before it is wiped and replaced in the plate basket. Cold water softened with borax should be used for the glass, and it should be carefully dried and then polished with a soft cloth, so that it will shiver for the purpose, so that it will not require to be "rubbed up" before being put on the table.

While on the subject of "washing up" to avoid delicate china being cracked and chipped during the process each article should be washed separately and put aside to drain. It may appear to the inexperienced maid that so doing will prolong the work, but as a matter of fact it will enable her to get through it more quickly, for a cup or a jug can necessarily be washed with greater rapidity than would be the case if the washing up bowl were full of things. Try to impress your maid with the necessity of doing things neatly and make her feel her share of responsibility in the matter. If meals are always served daintily and on orderly and methodical lines, there need be no fear of muddle and confusion when guests are expected.