

Many Cool Conceits on First Spring Hats

Polo Toques for Wear With Tailored Gowns Are Chic—Quills and Fancy Braids Appear on Hats for General Wear—The Smartest Shapes Are Tilted at the Back and Drop Over the Face—Violet and Blue a Popular Combination—Dainty Headgear Is Offered for the Last Theatre Parties of the Season



BY MARY DEAN

It is curious how short is the season of the winter hat nowadays. By the first of February springlike headgear makes its appearance, bringing the little thrill of astonishment that always comes with the first flowers. In fact, after the solid and more somber head coverings of winter, the spring hat really meets the eye like some wonderful early blossom. It is the hepatica, the snowdrop, the daffodil, of Dame Fashion's garden, and however much it is laughed at it always seems worth the sweetest song.

Individual points and worn with the right gowns, seems often as desirable as the hat of twice its price. The ready to wear shapes of the new season lean largely toward turban effects. Polo toques express the last cry of the man hatter, to whose somewhat stiff fingers many smart women choose always to trust their first spring headgear. One of these, shown at a well known shop, is a pointed toque of fancy blue and green braid, with rosettes of the same around the brim, inclosing a blue braid flower. At the left front three long green leaves give the lift usually accomplished by quills. Such quill shaped leaves are much employed upon these stiff hats, especially if real flowers are used. With the genuine quills many novel effects are remarked, odd spots and unique trimmings of all sorts appearing upon the pointed and padded shapes. Fancy braids, too, with bristling flower edges, are effective points with other toques; and especially with mourning millinery are these stunning, as the black ones show all sorts of crepe-like suggestions. In fact everything is done to make mourning millinery handsome, and extended for the somber and relieved black, many a mourning hat seems daintily gay.

The new toques are rather smaller than those recently worn, and such flowers in straw, horsehair braid, or flowers and tulle are chosen most often for wear with plain, tailored gowns. The majority lift high at the back and point over the face, for a high back or front lift are the newest touches in millinery. Still there are side-tilted brim hats, and low, round turbans which sit the head as flatly as the old pork-pie shapes. One of the last named illustrates a distinctive trimming in the way the two long quills meet at the left front, and almost completely encircle the edge. The quills are in glittering shades of bronze-brown and green, and they are employed upon a brown straw hat. At the back of the turban loops of bronze velvet are placed against the hair.

The rear rise of brims may be regarded as most valuable, as, through this, the back undertrimmings are again used. No more becoming touch was ever found in millinery than this massing of pretty materials against the hair. The charming device also calls for the crown band, which tilts the hat at a fetching angle over the face, and as this suits brim shapes admirably, some very effective leghorn and panama models are seen. Compared to the compact and flatly trimmed toques, these hats seem very coquettish. Evidently the shaping of many of the models is entirely the milliner's affair, for in most cases the big flat used is pleated and tucked into whatever form wished by the trimmer. Soft ribbon in several shades of violet and blue may be used on one white shape, while another, in a rich yellow, will show velvet and feathers in a flaming scarlet. A hat of this last description is displayed in a group of three very dressy Easter headpieces. A toque showing the radium violets, which are so much employed with pale blue, displays these colors in a wreath of chrysanthemum around a blue tulle shape. An osprey aigrette placed at the left is in the palest violet tint.

The third hat, which is in lingerie form, demonstrates the wonderful possibilities of horsehair braid, for what seems founness of lace is only this wiry medium marvelously woven. With the horsehair lace, however, and many of the horsehair braids, genuine lace is often employed, in frilly edges and rosettes, which give a soft and becoming touch to the metallic background. A first-class hat in horsehair braid is made with an indescribable art, and the result is generally one of blithe imitations. It is another thing. These go under the rather slangy name of "pyroxyline," and their startling reds and blues shine from many a cheap counter.

Price tags on hats, like those on corsets, have lowered appreciably, though perhaps this is because a season's wardrobe includes so many these days. One or two good headpieces are by no means enough to get through a three months' wear and tear. A distinctive gown calls for a distinctive chapeau, so that morning, afternoon, dinner and the theater must all be represented. Here the subject reaches a very interesting point, for, in the face of the taboo placed upon them in America, it seems strange to find theater hats among the importations. Anybody who is anybody in Paris sits in a box or in the dress circle at the theater, so that the covered head has no chance to make itself obnoxious, and the eye rests with delight upon the dainty little headresses the Parisienne wears to the play. Some of the evening connections are no more than coiffure ornaments, for a wreath of delicate flowers or a twist of bullion braid with a knot of roses at the left front, or gilt butterfly or an osprey may compose the whole thing, but others are the refined hats in jaunty turban and tricorn shapes, which are kept within bounds only as to width, for some upstanding trimming well mount them to vast heights. Upon these the dearest milliners have lavished the daintiest fancies of spring, so doubtless what is known as the small hat is to have, for

all purposes, a renewed vogue. Upon skeleton frames made of tiny flowers and twigs of tulle, which are mainly meant to show off the loveliness of undulated coiffures, are placed delicately tall sorts of coiffures. The gilt flowers of the winter take the spring form of tiny apples or cherries, the fruit gleaming along brown boughs with green leaves. Another floral arrangement shows a crown of half-blown pink buds set in nests of forget-me-nots, a blue nest alternating with a white one. The side lift of this is a white, blue and pink osprey. The introduction of these characteristic evening hats seems to complete a sort of evolution in hat styles. At the end of the Empire period a headress was always worn to give the final touch to an evening toilette, the coiffures adopted springing, as now, from headgear too large. Today, as then, so important is a coiffure decoration of some sort that an ungraceful head with a smart gown seems as if the toilette were only half made. There is no doubt but that this modification in the size and quality of evening hats will be soon adopted here, for nobody could deny the becoming charm of these dainty French headresses. A girl who wishes to have her dancing frock and supper to enjoy the most gain their interest by some means vital to their comfort, and she will find her coiffure generously filled. Money which is made by some special effort is appreciated that which is taken from a gift from a well filled pocketbook. A Boston woman, and a devout church worker, whose son wanted to contribute to her Lenten fund from his bank account, insisted that he should earn the money by some sacrifice. As he came from business had a market value, and for the following six weeks her son never came home at night without one or more old rubbers wrapped in paper or stuck on the end of his cane. The rubbers thus casually picked up brought 75 cents, a large amount of money, but it was earned with very little effort. A surprising number of worn and leaky overshoes are left kicking around office buildings, and if a girl has her young brothers and cousins bring home all they find, besides telling her girl friends to save these at their homes, she will be repaid by a nice little sum for her Easter offering. Sisters who do the family mending can have the male members of the family pay a few cents for every article of clothing she repairs for them. Boys of ten or twelve can blacken their father's boots and make quite a bit of money for their boxes, while smaller children will think it great fun to clean their father's pennies from his pockets every evening. One girl whose sweetheart had called her every morning on the telephone prevailed upon him to forego the custom during the forty days of Lent and give the price of the calls to her. It will be not only a lucrative but most generous plan if a girl will coax her sweetheart to do this. The girl's airtetres for the fasting tide and let her have the 10 or 20 cents they would spend on a package each day. There are large sums of money on Shrove Tuesday evening by giving a pancake supper. Some member of the parish who is especially adept in making cakes is put in charge of the cooking, and the pretty girls don their white aprons and bring cakes steaming hot to the hungry men who have foregone their usual dinner or supper to enjoy this annual treat. The cakes are made nearly all size of griddle, and if the assembly is large six or eight of these huge cakes are laid on top of each other and slices are cut out for each diner. Old fashioned buckwheat cakes, which have been set to rise the night before, are also a feature of the pancake supper. In the spring of the year, when sap is flowing and maple syrup is plentiful in the country, many cans of this delicious sweet are bought by the Dorcas society and kept in cold storage until Shrove Tuesday and pancake supper comes around the next year.

Table Ornaments Made of Candy

Newest Decorations Show Draw Sugar Bows and Ribbons—Candy Roses and Baskets Are Favorite Designs—Children's Favors in Many Shapes

WHAT shall we have for novel table decorations and souvenirs?" was the query of the hostess at the beginning of this fast expiring social season. It was the confectioner who solved her difficulty, and candy was his solution. There are very few women who have not learned the value of buttercups, those satiny little pillow candies, with their delicate pinks and lavenders and greens, as a means of giving a luncheon or dinner table a festive appearance. From this the caterer took his suggestion, and by a process known as drawn sugar, evolved candy ornaments of such a satiny sheen and exquisite delicacy of coloring as to rival the most fascinating of liberty satin ribbons. Present good form in serving the colation for a reception or afternoon tea demands that no eatables shall be offered from the dining room table with the exception of the bonbons and small tea cakes. As a consequence, the decoration of the dining table is an especially important feature. At a recent fashionable reception the heavy lace cloth covering the circular dining room table was caught up in four places. A bowknot of pink drawn sugar about ten inches long concealed the fastening of the lace folds, the loops and ends of the candy being drawn so gracefully formed as in a festoon of the most supple of satin ribbon. The centerpiece was a high fruit dish having three sugar women in strands to simulate basket work. Oranges, pears, peaches, etc., made of this same satiny sugar in the natural color of the fruits, were arranged on the shelves. In making drawn sugar decorations, the sugar is heated to such a tempera-

ture as to give it an extremely high glaze when it is pulled out. The much who molds it into shape is as much of an artist as the man who fashions choice designs in gold or silver, and he does nothing else. When finished an ornament is a masterpiece of workmanship as well as a very expensive one, a table decoration costing from \$20 to \$30. Baskets of drawn sugar make an exceedingly dainty ornament, with flaring edges and a long handle. They are woven from strands of variegated color, or they are entirely of satiny white strands, with perhaps a ribbon of pink or blue sugar fastened at the top. These baskets are employed to hold bonbons or petit fours, no other receptacles appearing on the table. A hostess tells the caterer the color scheme for her dining room and he furnishes the sugar decorations in accordance. The table at a large formal dinner last month had pink bride roses scattered all over it. These were made in natural sizes from drawn sugar. The petals were perfectly shaped with curling edges in the softest pink tint and a high glaze which caused them to glisten like jewels beneath the gaslight. The stem of pale green held two leaves in exact imitation of a freshly plucked rose. With the drawn sugar ornaments the ices and cream are not infrequently served in nests of spun sugar, the half fibers of the sugar being spun round and round to look like a bird's nest. Bow knots of drawn sugar in yellow or pink or blue decorate either side of these nests. For souvenirs at children's parties, fruits or flowers of drawn sugar are attractive. The sugar is flavored with wintergreen or peppermint, and may be eaten as candy when it has served its purpose as a favor.

New York Her Winter Resort

"The longer I live in New York," said the Southern woman, "the more I think it's the only place to live in, particularly in the winter time. They may say what they please about the steam heat cracking the complexion, but I had rather have my complexion cracked than freeze to death. Besides, it doesn't crack the complexion. There are no more beautiful complexions to be seen in the world—except, perhaps, in Omaha—than you see in Fifth avenue on a bright winter day. I shall never forget the tortures of cold I suffered in my old Kentucky home. The remembrance has gone a long way toward bringing me to the conclusion that it was the loveliest place in the world to stay away from. A colonial mansion, Corinthian columns, big, spacious windows, great carved doors. But those windows in the time of the bitter blasts! Those doors! Cracks you could throw small dogs through.

"Early in the season, before the leaves have dropped on the lawn, they begin to chink up those doors and windows, rattling ready for winter. Big, splendid rooms—four times as big as any room in a Harlem flat, beautiful, shadowy, cool dim rooms in the summer, but heated in the winter by a small grate. You sit in front of the grate heavily clad, your face on a shawl about your shoulders, and bask your face while your back freezes. In Paris, in a thick-walled pension, also ineffectually heated by tiny grates which burned briquettes, those expensive cakes of condensed coal punctured by holes, I wore woolen underwear for the first time in my life, for even in my Southern home of the small fires and the chibbains, I had disdained woolen underwear. In Paris at Christmas time, with roses blooming serenely in the garden of the Tuilleries, you suffer from the cold in a house. "New York for me every time, summer and winter, but particularly in winter."

Lenten Dishes Now in Order

Dainty Timbales Which Do Not Suggest the Penitential Season—Rice and Lobster Form a Toothsome Combination—Eggs a la Newburg May Be Served From the Chafing Dish—Rice a la Italienne Has Nourishing Possibilities

SPECIAL receipts for the Lenten season are of interest not only to families where the penitential period is strictly observed, but in a large number of households where the appetite for meat is on the gradual decline. While vegetarianism pure and simple has not been adopted to any amazing extent in America, there has been a decided tendency within the last few years to use less hearty meat dishes. Mushroom Timbales. Mushrooms make a wholesome, nitrogenous food for Lenten menus. These timbales are available either for the main dish of the dinner or luncheon, or as an entree and will be found so very satisfying as to do away with the desire for meat. Choose small, fresh mushrooms, and for each half pint, allow one cup of stale bread crumbs, one gill of milk and the whites of five eggs. Cook the milk and bread crumbs together until quite smooth, then stir in the mushrooms, which have been peeled and chopped fine. Add salt and pepper to taste, then whip in the whites of a stiff froth. Butter timbale molds and fill with the mixture. Stand in a pan of hot water, cover with paper and cook from twenty to twenty-five minutes in a moderate oven. Turn out on a hot platter and serve with a cream sauce. Garnish with watercress. Rice Timbales With Lobster. Wash one good cupful of rice and place in a double boiler with two cupfuls of milk and let cook until dry and tender. Then stir in one tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of onion juice and pepper to taste. Lastly, add the whites of three eggs beaten stiff. Press into timbale molds and cook as directed for mushroom timbales. Turn out on a platter to form a border and fill the center with a fricasse of lobster. Select fresh hen lobster of about three pounds and boil in salted water for one-half hour. When cold remove the meat from the shell and cut into dice. Put one tablespoonful of butter in a saucepan and cook with one tablespoonful of flour until it bubbles. Add half cup each of cream and of milk, stirring constantly until the mixture boils. Add the lobster with salt and pepper to taste, and heat thoroughly. Remove from the fire, add the beaten yolks of two eggs and one tablespoonful of chopped parsley. Devilled Spaghetti. Early in the day on which the dish is to be served place an ordinary can of tomatoes in a saucepan over the fire and let stew until reduced to one half. Then strain and add until needed. Wash one-half pound of spaghetti and cook in boiling water,

well salted for one-half hour. Drain the water into cold water for a moment or two and drain again. Melt four tablespoonfuls of butter in a saucepan, add two tablespoonfuls of oil and cook until brown. Then add the tomatoes, which have been strained, two tablespoonfuls of finely chopped green pepper and the spaghetti. Season to taste, cover the whole with grated Parmesan cheese and serve. Delicious Baked Fish. The following recipe is applicable either to cod or haddock: Select a fish weighing three pounds, and remove the skin and central bone. Break two eggs into a bowl and beat well with one pint of milk. Then add three snowflake crackers broken into tiny pieces, also one teaspoonful of sugar, one-quarter teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepper and a grating of nutmeg. Butter a baking dish and break the fish, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and mix the cracker and egg mixture over the fish. Cover with the second piece of fish. Season and add the remaining salt, pepper and nutmeg. When the custard forms in the pan, lift it carefully from the sides of the dish and place on top of the fish. Repeat the process every ten minutes. When the fish is nearly cooked, cover the top with small bits of butter and allow it to brown. Arrange on a hot platter, garnish with parsley and slice lemon and serve with Hollandaise sauce. Filet of Flounder With Rhine Wine. Flounder can be rendered a most acceptable dinner or luncheon dish when cooked in the following manner: Select thick fish and cut into filets. Lay them into an earthen baking dish which has been well buttered. Cover with salt and pepper, place bits of butter here and there and pour just a little Rhine wine into the dish. Bake in a moderate oven for twenty minutes, basting three or four times during the process. Serve on a platter garnished with green parsley. Make a sauce by stirring sufficient chopped parsley into the liquor in the pan to render it quite thick. Lobster With Mushrooms. Both lobster and mushrooms are counted among table luxuries, but cost is not excessive. For one medium sized lobster the proportion required is one dozen mushrooms. The lobster should be purchased alive and cooked several hours before it will be required, allowed to become quite cold and then removed from the shell. For a dozen mushrooms the quantity yielded should be two cupfuls, measured after being cut into dice. Peel the mushrooms and cut into very thin slices, then place in a saucepan with one tablespoonful of butter, which has been cut into bits and rolled in a bed

of lettuce leaves. Flour. Cover tightly and let stew in their own juice until tender. Stir in one tablespoonful of oil and let cook until brown and add half cup of boiling water, two or three drops of tabasco sauce, a few drops of lemon juice and one tablespoonful of chopped eggs until thick. Season to taste with salt, cayenne pepper and sherry. Then add six eggs which have been boiled for twenty minutes, peeled and cut into quarters. Let stand until thoroughly heated and serve either from the chafing dish or individual molds. Eggs a la Newburg. Lent is apt to mean eggs in overabundance, and for that reason a new method for cooking them may be well considered. Prepare the Newburg mixture in a granite saucepan or a chafing dish by cooking together a half pint of cream and the beaten yolks of three eggs until thick. Season to taste with salt, cayenne pepper and sherry. Then add six eggs which have been boiled for twenty minutes, peeled and cut into quarters. Let stand until thoroughly heated and serve either from the chafing dish or individual molds. Rice a la Italienne. For five persons one pound of rice will be required. Wash thoroughly in several cold waters, then dry and cook in a large kettle two-thirds full of boiling water until it is soft enough to mash. Drain thoroughly and cool. Put one-quarter pound of butter in a saucepan with one medium-sized onion, shredded. Cook slowly until well browned, then add the rice and one-quarter pound of grated cheese. Mix with two forks until well blended (never stir rice with a spoon). Cover the pan tightly and cook in a moderate oven for twenty minutes.

A Novel Potato Salad. This salad combines potatoes with nuts, and is hearty enough to make the main dish for the family luncheon. For four persons, one cupful of English walnut meats, a slice of onion, a bay leaf and a blade of mace. Add seasoning to boiling water with a little salt and cook the nuts for ten minutes. Drain and throw into ice water until thoroughly cold, then dry in a soft towel. Add to the potatoes, which should be boiled until tender, sliced and kept hot until blended with the dressing. For this place one-quarter teaspoonful of salt and half that quantity of black pepper in a bowl with three cupfuls of vinegar measured in a tablespoonful of vinegar measured in a spoon which has been rubbed with a clove of garlic. Cut the onion into bits, mix it with the hot potatoes and cold nuts and blend with the dressing, which has been stirred until thoroughly mixed. Stand on ice and serve on a bed of lettuce leaves.

A Paris Conference Chiffon Velvet Gowns

"Anastasia" at one of these conferences the other day; the great old creature was packed from the orchestra to the ceiling, women rather predominating. Seated at one side upon the stage at a small table was the confederator, a man so lacking in physical attractions as to be almost hideous in appearance—oxlike in countenance, with a large, fat face and puffy eyes, and a displayed by the light burning on the table before him. "Quelle grosse bete!" one exclaimed, holding him. Then he commenced talking about the confederator, a man so lacking in physical attractions as to be almost hideous in appearance—oxlike in countenance, with a large, fat face and puffy eyes, and a displayed by the light burning on the table before him. "Quelle grosse bete!" one exclaimed, holding him. 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