

Fashions at the Capital

The Well Dressed Woman of Smart Society, What She Wears; The Time and Place.

By MARGARET WADE.

With the coming together of every fashionable company, the careful observer may note just what has been taken and what has been left, in the matter of spring modes for 1914.

Not every fashion pictured in the most exclusive of trade magazines or described by cable from Paris, becomes a fact in good dressing, until it is tried out by the real leaders of the smart world. These latter recognized, if unnamed, wield an enormous influence in every large city, giving to each community its reputation for good taste or bad taste, extravagance, or modesty, in matters of dress.

Washington society at its best is always conservative to the great despair of importers and modists who have been heard to declare that the women of the Capital never accepted a fashion less than a year old. Consequently, the few-and-far-between freak costumes, such as unlined skirts of gold tissue, bodices without backs, real Grecian-bend overdresses, which have appeared from time to time, have been worn by visitors from less conservative circles than those which dominate Washington society.

The new silhouette accepted by such well-gowned women as Baroness Zweidiner, Mrs. Riano, Mrs. Hagan, Mrs. Woodbury Blair, Mrs. William Crozier, Mrs. Thomas Laughlin, Mrs. Frank Mitchell, and a dozen others, both American and foreign, shows a distinct return to the normal waist line for one thing. There is also a decided disposition to retain the skirt narrow at the ankles with high drapery at the back. Jackets are shorter than ever in the history of jackets, and by many women are discarded entirely for the loose half-length sport coat.

There are absolutely no plain skirts to be met anywhere, which may account for the disfavor with which the new and smart Cheruit overdress is being received in Washington, although featured as one of the most successful innovations in New York.

In Washington, as in every other city from Paris to San Francisco, we are indulging in a season of color. The all-white gown is almost as rare in any fashionable company as the all-black hat.

Even the most youthful belles are indulging in deep toned ball gowns. Miss Margaret Perin and Miss Eleanor Morgan both appeared at recent dances in purple tulle.

Even the blouses topping cloth and silk skirts, which for years have been white lace or white silk, are now maize, apricot, flesh, rose, abnashin, tango, and occasionally one of the old blue shades. All new jackets are lined in gay silk, usually of the futurist design, while every hat from a certain smart milliner has its crown lined with a material entirely of the heretofore decorous white or black.

"Pierre" is a new gray shade that is taking the place of white in millinery, as well as in gloves, parasols, and other summer accessories. Peanut parchment are also choice tints ranged with the faded varieties of the primary hues, and the sweet pea colorings. All of which are signs of the times as regards smart and good dressing.

The one place which the craze for color has not as yet invaded is the bridal toilet, which if possible is whiter than ever.

At least this description applies to the marvelously beautiful gown to be worn by Miss Belle Wyatt Willard, daughter of the American Ambassador to Spain, when she becomes Mrs. Kermit Roosevelt two weeks hence. Although to take place in Madrid, society in Washington, Richmond, and all Virginia, with quite a portion of New York is taking deep interest in this forthcoming wedding, the principals of which have practically gown up in the shadow of the Capitol.

The bride-elect, like the first White House bride, is a modern young woman without superstition. She has been photographed in her bridal gown weeks in advance of the wedding, and despite the hazardous adventures of her fiancé in Brazil spent the waiting weeks in completing one of the most perfectly designed trousseaux even Paris can afford to the daughter of an American millionaire, and the bride of a Roosevelt.

The wedding gown is of pure white satin, veiled in point d'Angleterre, with a court train of four yards as a separate adjunct. Miss Willard's wedding gown has in fact two trains. The first being some eighteen inches long, and of course a part of the gown. The lace covers every part of the gown except the left half the bodice and the half-length kimono sleeves. Here is where the pure



MRS. R. E. HOYT. —Photo by Harris-Ewing.
Daughter of Col. and Mrs. Lincoln Karmany, who made many friends here while the guest of her parents at the Marine Barracks.

white tone of the satin is noticed. The gown is a princess foundation with the corsage cut in a deep V, and the lace skirt draped panther fashion into a high bouffant back. The waist line is marked by a strand of orange blossoms, with a cluster of the same fastened on the left side where the lace forming the right side of the bodice is folded sharply across the satin folds of the left side.

The court train suspended from the shoulders is narrow with square end and is lined throughout with lace held by small clusters of orange blossoms.

The tulle veil designed especially for the occasion is very long and very full and without the lace cap of present popularity. It has, however, a two-inch fill of lace that is full over the head and plain around the long edge of the veil. This will be arranged to literally veil the eyes of the bride, while the orange blossom garland instead of forming a coronet will be placed at the back in the fashion of a much elongated barrette.

Miss Willard has selected the gowns of her attendants from the same modiste furnishing her trousseau. These fair companions of the bride, two of whom are already in Madrid will wear all white frocks. The underskirts which are very narrow are of satin, with the

tunics which are very long and full are of white tulle. The latter are given still greater width by a double quilting of tulle placed on the hem. These gowns have no drapery except folds of tulle across the shoulders of the close fitting satin bodices which are made with square necks and elbow sleeves.

The return to town of Mrs. Thysses S. Grant, the former Miss Edith Root, is naturally a matter of congratulation to the parents and friends of this young maid, as well as an illustration of the adage that "tis an ill wind that blows no good."

Mrs. Grant has changed little in the years she has been away from the Capital, where her marriage took place six years ago. In the smartest of white and black crepe suits of the new and approved tulle plan, with small hat of black straw, trimmed in flat, uncurled ostrich feathers of gray and white, Mrs. Grant conveying her two children and their nurse along Sixteenth street, where they take a daily promenade, is like the maid sung of in the "Mikado," a charming sight to see.

It is the call of her soldier husband to Mexico that has sent Mrs. Grant to Washington, pending the time she will go to her parents' summer home, until she can rejoin Capt. . . .

The blue and mauve combination finds an excellent example in the smart visiting toilet worn by Mrs. Charles W. Richardson, who is noted for her taste in color.

Mrs. Richardson is one of Washington's resident matrons who always dresses to the occasion and her own style and taste are the guide and by radical changes of line or arbitrary commands of designers even when selecting her gowns in Paris.

The toilet in which she lunched at the Capital on Tuesday, as one of Senator Hoke Smith's large party, was mauve crepe de chine with chiffon blouse, all on very smart lines. The skirt was just off the ground, with the highest lace drapery across the front, with high new back of the mauve. The jacket was the same in the smartest possible lines. A basque coat, enough of the latter to slip off easily, leaving revealed a dainty chiffon blouse in white with interlinings of a girlish of pale blue. When on this particular garment appeared to be so completely united with the skirt as to give the impression of the one-piece gown, which is always first choice for court-mouson visiting. The jacket has a short peplum and opens with broad revers, this is distinctly a costume hat—a turban of mauve crin or highly polished split straw, with its brim a soft roll of turquoise blue velvet and its trimming one white ostrich plume.

The placing of that plume just shows the strength of Mrs. Richardson's convictions as well as her natural good taste, for it is placed at the front of her hat slightly to one side, and allowed to fall backward and downward in the graceful manner of the Gainsborough portraits a century ago, rather than in the fantastic fashion of today and the futurists.

The passing of the black hat, is one of those significant features in the season's fashions that it should certainly have a chapter all to itself, if any ambitious writer could undertake to record the fashions of 1914.

In passing, it may be said, the black hat and the brown shoe, even when found in an occasional smart wardrobe, are discredited members thereof, acquired from habit and likely to be abandoned entirely before the end of the season.

There are some smart hats in black, because many women still insist upon having this one time necessity, and right here is where the woman who cannot afford at least a dozen hats needs to exercise her greatest care. The all-black hat to hold its own this season, must be very small, high crowned, and very shiny. All of which puts it in a class of its own and adaptable only to certain costumes, thus removing it entirely from the utility ranks in which the

black hat has so long held first place. The one color that seems able to resist the blighting of the "lete d'negre," a new-found taupe, which is being sold to wear with anything, and really making good the milliner's claim. The "lete d'negre" is suited to matron or maid, the substitute or her grandmother, for it comes in all shapes and in every variety of straw.

Mrs. Francis Ruggles wears one of the smartest, and at the same time one of the most conventional hats of the new color in a round shape particularly suited to the semi-tailored afternoon frocks, now an important part of every wardrobe. This is one of the new bowl shaped crowns with upturned brim in uniform width, trimmed in a wreath of small old-fashioned garden flowers.

One of the prettiest of afternoon gowns in the new flowered surah is worn by Miss Eugenie Pichon, Mrs. Henry T. Oxnard's attractive young sister. This is a one-piece gown on princess lines, with only a slight bustle drape in the back. The bodice is a cream white with the flowers pink roses of the smallest kind, with just a suggestion of natural green foliage. Each little figure stands alone, covering probably one-third of the rather broad brim, with an upstanding feather in ostrich showing several tones, ranging from cream to pink, and the tete d'negre.

Mrs. Davinport Brown, of Boston, who passed a few days last week with her parents, Mr. Justice and Mrs. McKenna, wore one of the smartly tailored suits peculiar to her adopted city. Here the "tailor-made," and the "tailleure" each hold away, but at different hours of the day. Young Mrs. Brown's suit of fine blue serge, judged by Washington standards, was surely right for the morning church service where it appeared, or for the informal visiting, which made it a welcome guest in several prominent homes. The skirt was narrow at the hem, untrimmed, but hung in a double peplum, the edges of which were bound in narrow black silk braid. This is real Bostonese. The jacket was extremely short, with raglan sleeves. A facing of Roman-striped taffeta turned back to form a narrow collar.

The back of the jacket was cut in a sharp point, split for five inches, and then marked with a butterfly bow of black moire. The hat worn with this was a round walking shape of dark blue Milan, trimmed completely around the crown in clusters of small red cherries. This trimming was another evidence of whence it came. The cherries were not sparsely placed as we see them in Washington millinery, but formed into close clusters and set side by side with no foliage to speak of or help them out.

Miss Gladys Ingalls is wearing a blue gown of the new crepe that is a happy medium between the old green and the velour d'laine, and just the thing for Washington at this time. The skirt is narrow and of the plain blue. The overdress, on the order of a Russian blouse with deep frills, is a matching material in matching tones and along smart new lines. Topping this Miss Ingalls wears a straw hat of peanut color, in a modified form, which she shows with a pair of wheat heads, very large and fully ripe to judge of their coloring. The wheat was laid about the top of the brim interspersed with small bunches of cherries, the latter dark red and also fully ripe. Miss Ingalls carried out the color effect with long tan gloves and a parasol to match.

Miss Virginia Mackey-Smith is looking very smart as well as charming these spring afternoons in a gown of dark blue in some silk or silk and wool fabric, with which she wears a vivid green hat in the present day sailor shape, and on occasion the very smartest thing in sports coats, the latter showing two tones of green. This is an ideal country club toilet which is matching the tennis tournament at Chevy Chase or drinking tea at the country club on several miles to the west. The skirt of this becoming costume is several inches off the ground and is matching the tennis tournament at Chevy Chase or drinking tea at the country club on several miles to the west. The skirt of this becoming costume is several inches off the ground and is matching the tennis tournament at Chevy Chase or drinking tea at the country club on several miles to the west.

Miss Mackey-Smith's coat is long enough for warmth, even when motoring, but short enough to show just how well made is the skirt beneath. It also has the wide flare at the hem which is a characteristic all coats of the present season. The kind that fit below the waist being entirely out of style. In fact the only place a real up-to-date sport's coat is expected to fit these days is across the shoulders and in the collar. To show no hard feeling, ten days of the tailoring fraternity, coat for dress occasions are fitted closer than ever.

SOCIETY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Goodwin, the Misses Mackey-Smith, Miss Calhoun, and Miss Lucia Hull will be at the tea table, and the Misses Whiting, Miss Hinkley, and Miss Adelaide Heath will have lemonade, ice cream, and cake for tea. To show no hard feeling, ten days of the fortune telling booth and of the flowers, and assisting her are Mrs. Hamilton Lewis, the Misses Helena Walcott, Hope Benson, Kitty McClintock, Ethel Noyes, Rebekah Wilmer, Caroline Gorden Jones, and Helene Elliott. Mrs. Cary Langborne, Miss Margery Colton, and Mrs. Murray Cobb will have ponies for the children to ride and we pets for sale, while Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Victor Cushman, and Mrs. Perry Johnson will have charge of the candy and grab bags. The fête will be from 3 to 7 and the picnic supper, Mrs. Ruggles has in charge, will immediately follow the fête.

Mr. Sidney Bevesdorfer, of Philadelphia, spent a few days here last week the guest of friends.

Mr. R. Harimunn, of Yokohama, Japan, is at the Hotel Powhatan for a short stay.

Mrs. Charles W. Richardson, chairman of the building committee of the Y. W. C. A.; Mr. Edward J. Donn, Jr., architect of the new building, and Miss Florence M. Brown, general secretary of the Y. W. C. A., have gone to New York to confer with Miss Blanche Geary, economic secretary of the national board of the Y. W. C. A., in regard to the new building for the local association.

Mrs. Eleanor Loeb will return to her home on Monday after spending two days with friends in Braddock Heights.

Mr. and Mrs. George F. Marcey, of Ballston, Va., announce the engagement of their second daughter, Miss Ruth McClellan, to Mr. Grover Edwin Payne, of this city. The wedding will take place the later part of June, at the home of the bride-to-be.

Mrs. A. Farley and family, of Philadelphia, arrived in the city on Thursday night last, at the Hotel Powhatan for several days longer.

Mrs. M. M. Stern left during the week for Atlantic City to spend some time.

Mrs. McGowan Entertains

Mrs. John McGowan entertained a number of guests at luncheon yesterday in honor of Miss McGowan, the sister of Rear Admiral McGowan, of Santa Barbara, Cal., who is here for a visit of several weeks.

Miss Alwarda Casselman, of this city, a graduate of this year at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, in Baltimore, appeared in exhibition concert, on Friday night last, as a piano soloist.

Miss Casselman's brilliant technique showed to admiral advantage, and her pure musical tones show her artist spirit.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Levy, of Preston, Iowa, who are making an extended stay in Washington at the Willard, left yesterday for a week-end trip to Frederick, Maryland, and through the battlefield, as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Strasburger, by whom they have been extensively entertained during their stay

In Washington, Miss Clara Sax, of Ottumwa, Iowa, guest of Mr. and Mrs. Strasburger last afternoon. Her guests included Mrs. Delos Blodgett, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. William Wheatley, Mrs. J. J. Knapp, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Crosey, Mrs. Kauffmann, Mrs. Britten, Miss Flora Wilson, Mrs. T. De Witt Talmage, Mrs. J. W. Falls, Miss Hemp-hill, Mrs. Tate, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Wells, and Mrs. Blount.

Mrs. Leonard Weil has returned to her home in New York after a short visit to her mother, Mrs. Herman.

Mrs. William Haywood entertained four tables for bridge at the Chevy Chase Club yesterday afternoon. Her guests included Mrs. Delos Blodgett, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. William Wheatley, Mrs. J. J. Knapp, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Crosey, Mrs. Kauffmann, Mrs. Britten, Miss Flora Wilson, Mrs. T. De Witt Talmage, Mrs. J. W. Falls, Miss Hemp-hill, Mrs. Tate, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Wells, and Mrs. Blount.

Mr. Sylvan Oppenheimer spent a few days in Baltimore during the past week.

Mrs. John Walker Holcombe also entertained at bridge, followed by a party yesterday afternoon under the trees at the Chevy Chase Club. Mrs. Holcombe's guests were Mrs. Heistand, Mrs. Calvin de Witt, Mrs. Wyeth, Mrs. Chester Harding, Mrs. Alnavorth, Mrs. Willard Warner, Mrs. William L. Marshall, Mrs. Baird, Miss Beattie Johnson, Miss Ruth Bliss, Miss Dorothy Brooks, Miss Hannah Taylor, and Mrs. Henry F. Moore.

Mrs. Joe King is spending a few weeks in New York with relatives.

The board of the Home for Foundlings will give a lawn party and bridge on Friday, May 22, at 2:30 o'clock, at the home, 195 Fifteenth street.

The ladies in charge are Mrs. Simon Wolf, Mrs. Abram Lerner, Mrs. A. B. Brown, Mrs. Richard Sylvester, M. A. Carl Caser, Mrs. George C. Johnson, Mrs. A. E. Lacey, Mrs. T. L. Ames, Mrs. J. E. Barnes, Mrs. C. H. Bates, Mrs. Isidor Berman, Mrs. Shirley Bowles, Mrs. John L. Cassen, Mrs. Frances

Dickens, Mrs. Giles F. Hellprin, Mrs. Herman Howenstein, Miss Kate MacCarthy, Mrs. Albert M. Read, Mrs. S. H. Smith, Mrs. Charles J. Williamson, Mrs. William M. Weaver.

Mrs. Henry Strauss has returned to her home in Massachusetts after a short visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Baer.

Mrs. Stilson Hutchins has closed her home in Massachusetts avenue and gone to New York. She and her brother, will spend the summer abroad.

Mrs. Douglas Marcon will play a group of piano numbers and Mrs. Margaret McKinney McAllister will sing several songs, accompanied by Mrs. Douglas Marcon, on the occasion of Dolly Madison's birthday, when Dr. and Mrs. Washington, of Chevy Chase, are entertaining

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