

FASHIONS FROM PARIS.

PARIS, July 14.—La belle Americaine reigns in Paris. It seems as if the town had been entirely repopulated from the other side of the Atlantic. The French are endeavoring to convey the idea that nothing could please them better than this invasion of the Yankees, for the Americans spend more money than any other class of tourists and are less skillful in the evasion of impositions. Besides, in this crisis France feels that she needs the friendship of America or anybody else in the struggle that will follow the attempt to partition China among the powers.

English people are not very numerous in Paris, for the Prince of Wales and every member of the English royal family has very properly shown resentment at the French slights to the queen both in the great American social individuals. None of the crowned heads, with the exception of the king of Sweden and the shah of Persia, has attended the exposition, and this, added to the delay in finishing the exhibits, has made the great fair fall decidedly flat.

Were it not for the Americans matters social would be at a standstill, for the old nobles, which constitutes the aristocratic circle, takes little interest in the entertainment of even very rich nobodies. Many rich Americans have taken houses in the city for the exposition months and are endeavoring to dazzle Paris with the same lavish hospitality that they have extended to American social circles. Very few of these rich American women have had even the slightest approach to counter civilities from the Faubourg St. Germain, and their abject efforts have been coldly received in the great American social leaders in Paris are Mrs. Potter Palmer, Mrs. Ferdinand W. Peck, wife of the commissioner; Mrs. Thomas Walsh of Colorado and Mrs. Horace Porter, wife of the ambassador. Considerable rivalry is said to exist between Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Peck, although it is evident that the former has a good deal the better of the battle for social supremacy.

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bertha outlined the neck and was trimmed with a narrow organdie ruffling edged with baby ribbon of yellow. The sleeves were elbow length and were finished with a two inch ruffle. The waist was encircled by a girde of white taffeta, falling in pendants to the bottom of the skirt.

One cannot but notice the elegance of effect which couturiers are striving to give to the new bodices. This is attained by means of both trimming and cut.



Of the trimmings lace put on in flat bands is one frequently adopted. So cleverly are the bands applied to the fabric that in many cases they seem to be part of the cloth. Black velvet ribbons have also a large importance in the hands of the skilled bodice maker. Many fashionable bodices are fashioned entirely of pieces of lace and narrow ribbons pieced together in wonderful style over a model in such a way as to seem to be molded on the human figure when worn.

The artistic value of the new sleeves is very great; it permits the dressmaker to shape them to satisfy the requirements of the figure and permits of very rich trimmings and elaboration. I noticed a very skillful use of the sleeves the other afternoon in one of the shops. The bodice was made of fitted guipure over silk. Over this was a draped bolero falling from a heading of several rows of close shirring, of which the mantua maker's art succeeded in making the wide sleeves puffed at the elbow to meet an armet of lace appear mere continuations. Two straps of black velvet ribbon clasped by jeweled buttons held together the fronts of the bolero.

Crepé de chine is very much used for blouses and lends itself admirably to that use. For house blouses it is especially effective. Parisian women do not wear blouses upon the street except with skirt and tailor made jacket. Of course, this is strange to Americans, who are used to donning them for all occasions. The Frenchwoman always wears her little coat over her shirt waist, and would as soon think of ap-

pearing without it as would a man of fashion of walking abroad in his shirt sleeves.

One sees a good many indications that point to the revival of modified overskirt effects. A handsome gown of white lawn, trimmed with narrow tucks

and lace, was cut with a pointed overskirt to fall over an underskirt of ruffles. The points were some half dozen in number and edged with narrow lace, above which rose row after row of the tucks. A deep point of tucks and lace was applied to the front of the bodice, with a point carried out on the back in smaller size. Underneath the lower part of the points and beginning at the waist was a rather novel arrangement consisting of encircling rows of deep tucks, which, as the wearer of the gown was slim, looked very well, but would be a dangerous experiment for one inclined to embonpoint.

Very cool and charming are the gowns of printed muslin having skirts laid in horizontal tucks and with vests



A GIRLISH EVENING GOWN.

The "KEEP COOL" Problem.

THE most difficult problem with which housekeepers have to deal during the months of July, August and September is not how to keep the house cool, but how to believe that they are cool. Self-deception is ninety-tenths of the battle, no matter what we may be striving to achieve. If we lived in ice palaces or snow houses during the summer, the imagination would have less chance of development, but we might be more comfortable.

Screens for the windows, bamboo shades for the porch, lawn sprinklers, porch chairs, electric fans, hammocks and tents upon the lawn are but devices to cheat the eyes and soothe the mind, always anxious to believe that things, even temperature, are not what they are, but what he wishes them to be.

The American fashion of furnishing the house in summer with diaphanous curtains and substituting bamboo or wicker chairs and couches for the heavy wood furniture used during the winter is a good one. The wicker furniture is ventilated and therefore cooler than anything of upholstered piece. The wicker furniture of today, unlike that of a few years ago, is extremely picturesque and affords great variety in kind and quality.

Of armchairs there are patterns galore. Some of them have the long wicker or valance below, others are made with mere suggestions of legs, while still others have ornamental supports, all of wood. The chairs are always deep and wide-comfy. They are cushioned and afford plenty of space for silver cushions. Some of the chairs are supplied with wide rests at the sides for arms, books, magazines, a cooling glass of lemonade or a comforting box of bonbons. Foot rests that cast a shade under when not in use are attached to some easy chairs.

The settees are merely enlarged chairs and are capable of accommodating from two to four persons. A flat cushion, as a rule, ornaments the seat of the chair, and the side cushions are fluffy, soft looking affairs, covered with some light and airy fabric. Corner settees are very effective in furnishing either the summer parlor or the veranda. One of the most picturesque of the settees is modeled on the little Trianon style, with high back and sides.

Bamboo or wicker couches are a comparatively recent innovation. They are made in many different styles and when draped with gayly colored draperies and cushions are very effective in the decorative scheme. One of the

odd designs is a low, flat foundation section, with a high headpiece and sloping sides. The low couches with unprotected sides and those with the low rail are very much liked for porch use. It is a strange fact that the couches, although larger, are less expensive than the settees, the fancy backs of the latter requiring much extra labor and time on the part of the workman.

Wicker screens, though little adapted for keeping off the sun, are a present fad in summer furnishing; so also are wicker tea tables. The tables are round or square and are made with shelves



A SUMMER PARLOR.

designed to accommodate plates, cups and saucers too numerous to find a place on the tray.

Of course, in furnishing the summer parlor, sitting room or bedroom a hard wood or painted floor is one of the important requirements in the achieving of coolness. Matting on the floor is a sometime substitute, but most matting soils or wrinkles when much used. The

penditure in furnishing than discomfort from the heat. Electric fans are so cheap now that almost any family can afford them.

Light curtains should protect the windows, and all dark and heavy portieres should be removed and thin ones substituted for them. Flowers should be used with a good deal of generosity, for

of thin white stuff rounded out as if put in to fill a low cut bodice. The neck may be draped by a chiffon scarf falling in long ends in front. The girde is usually of ribbon, from which fall long sash ends. For use with such gowns it is very convenient to have a collection of chemisettes of the daintily lace or ribbon trimmed sort, wear of which would vary the effect of a limited wardrobe very nicely. Plenty of pretty ribbons, too, are indispensable this season, for a handsome girde is a part of every modish summer frock.

A great deal of handsome jewelry is being worn this summer. The fad of the hour for small pin and belt clasps is the enameled Egyptian beetle, which is made with a horrid semblance of life-

likeness. For purses and chateaux bags there is a revival of the old fashioned beaded effects, such as were known to the days of our great-grandmothers.

The wide rimmed Romney shapes in millinery are as popular as they deserve to be. One cannot but notice appreciatively the use of chiffon scarfs instead of strings. These are brought loosely around the neck and knotted instead of tied or else held in place with a jeweled clasp. White hats are most fashionable. A charming hat on this order consisted of narrow white frills and fine tulle straw, the upturned and flaring front being seemingly upheld by a sparkling buckle that was thrust straight through the brim of the hat. Underneath the clasp covered a fluffy facing of white chiffon, with a white ostrich plume stretching around one side. On the crown a cluster of handsome black plumes were the sole trimming. The frilled brim gave to the face of the wearer the appearance of emerging from a huge white flower.

CATHERINE TALBOT.

Chemises and Corset Covers. Some of the prettiest new chemises have shoulder straps of ribbon instead of sleeves, and this design, you may be sure, is vastly admired and appreciated by the girl who possesses a well molded arm and a pretty, white, dimpled shoulder. The garment is gored, flounced and frilled with lace, the upper part being a mass of insertion and lace. The top is cut square and is gathered and drawn up to fit the figure just under the arms, the pretty silk shoulder straps keeping it in its place.

Corset covers are also provided with ribbons. Something new is the bolero corset cover. It is also to be noted that many of the new corset covers end at the waist, thus doing away with all unnecessary fullness about the hips.

Nightgowns, with low neck and elbow sleeves, are the fancy for the moment for these garments. It is certainly a very comfortable fashion for summer. Some of the newest designs are positively décolleté. Cambric nightgowns are relegated to the place occupied by



muslin nightgowns a few years ago, but the nainsook nightgowns are favored most of all by fashionable women. They are very dainty, elegant and comfortable.

SEEN AT THE SUMMER SALES.

This year the models for day and evening gowns seem prettier than ever. The cloth gowns are in the most delicate pastel shades, strapped and stitched in self or contrasting colors, with facings of satin or embroidered silk and vests of lace and chiffon.

A pretty evening gown of black net is embroidered lightly on the skirt with jet in horizontal lines, which terminate in many boucées, flowing out well at the feet, the bodice of the same, softly trimmed with tulle, of which the small sleeves are composed.

The coats and skirts at the summer sales are always a special item, as well as the single coats, silk lined. The shops have many of their new models in furs to be sold at summer prices. One long fur coat, after the empire style, is made of such fine mink that it is almost impossible to tell it from sable. The small broadtail jackets, sometimes faced with contrasting furs, are essentially smart.

The opera coats and cloaks are very beautiful. One after the sack order in Persian lamb is trimmed with lace and pale blue velvet round the shoulders, the lace falling in long stole ends in front. There is a great variety of shirts and blouses, as well as some unique and pretty French models in hats and toques, and, last, but not least, a charming array of neck ruffles.

Gowns For the Seaside.

For seaside wear the black and navy blue serge coats and skirts are most suitable. Cloth costumes are made either with Eton jackets or boleros. Muslin gowns in white or colored fancy muslin trimmed with black and white lace are most summery and just what are wanted for warm days and garden parties. The same designs in china silk are a little higher price.

There are foulards in a variety of designs sold as robes or by the yard at nearly half the original price. The black dresses include vicinians, alpaca, poplins and repps. Home workers will appreciate the prices of blouse materials, whether in silk or cotton, colored or black.

The millinery departments include a delightful array of hats and toques, as well as made up millinery, bows in silk or lace and the most natural looking artificial flowers. The lingerie departments have pretty dressing jackets and morning wraps trimmed with lace and enameled lace in white, with different colored designs thrown on them, and the nightdresses and other underclothing display some excellent stitching.

Shirt Waists.

For the popular shirt waists the variety of materials used is large, embracing almost every kind of cotton dress fabric. They are of gingham, plique in white and colored grounds, with flowers or geometrical designs; linens, madras, mercerized sea island cotton and percales. Then there are batistes. Persian linens very fine and sheer, organdie and thin silks. Embroidered mull in delicate tints is one of the most favored materials for the aesthetic waist. All over embroideries are used for white waists, and the wash silk waists are among the most fashionable this season. China silk plaited in narrow box plaits, all over with very narrow embroidered insertion filling in the space between, is used for stylish waists, and still another style of waist is made entirely of narrow rows of wash ribbon and lace insertion.

ITALIAN CREAM.

Put a pint of cold milk into a saucepan with the thinly pared rind of a small lemon and sufficient white sugar to sweeten it and let it simmer for ten minutes. Add one ounce of gelatin which has been previously soaked in cold milk, and as soon as it is melted remove the pan from the stove and strain the contents into a basin; stand the latter in a deep pan and surround it with cold water, which should be changed frequently.

Whisk the whites of two eggs to a stiff froth, and as soon as the milk jelly shows signs of setting add a tablespoonful of sherry to it and beat it with an egg beater for a few minutes; then stir in the whites of the eggs and sufficient carmine to make it a pretty rose pink and whisk the mixture until it is light and spongy.

Rinse a mold with cold water and fill it with the "cream," and put it aside until it is sufficiently firm to turn out, and serve it surrounded by canned apricots.

Vocal Exercise.

The value of vocal exercise upon the general health is not sufficiently recognized by the majority; but those who have studied the matter tell us that even the practice of reading aloud has a great and beneficial influence upon the health. To quote the words of an authority: "Persons who have a tendency to pulmonary disease should methodically practice those actions of the body through which the chest is in part filled or emptied of air," and further advice is given to the effect that those whose chests are weak should read aloud at stated intervals and even recite or sing, using due caution as to posture and articulation.

These regular exercises of the voice may be rendered as salutary to the organs of respiration as they are agreeable in their influence on the voice. Moreover, vocal exercise often improves the contour of a thin throat, and is thereby a beautifier.

Outstanding Ears.

The disfigurement of outstanding ears should be checked in early childhood, otherwise it is apt to be an obstinate matter to overcome. Various simple little expedients may be resorted to in order to accomplish the end aimed at. For instance, a broad elastic strap or webbing band passed from the lower part of the back of the head obliquely across the ears to the top of the brow will help to conquer the disfigurement. This band can be worn at night or for an hour or two during the day, or as an alternative there is the special ear cap which has been invented with the object of encouraging the ears to lie close against the head. The muslin caps which, years ago, babies used to wear acted in a great measure as preventives against protruding ears.

TIMELY MENUS

BREAKFAST.
Fruit.
Oatmeal and Milk.
Fried Potatoes.
Fried Tomatoes.
Pine Jam.
Coffee.

FRIED POTATOES.—Wash and peel the potatoes; cut them into eighth and slice again into halves or quarters, according to size. Wipe the slices as dry as possible in a clean cloth. Have ready a saucepan three-quarters full of hot frying fat. When a thin layer of steam rises from the fat put in some of the potatoes—not too many at a time. Fry a nice brown, lift out, drain well, sprinkle with pepper and salt and serve at once.

DINNER.
Fruit.
Tomato Soup.
Roast Beef, Baked Potatoes.
Nasturtium Salad, Creamed Onions.
Apparagus, Rolls and Butter.
Batter Pudding, Lemon Sauce.
Coffee.

BATTER PUDDING WITH LEMON SAUCE.—Put two heaped tablespoonfuls of flour in a bowl, add a teaspoonful of baking powder and half a teaspoonful of salt. Break two eggs (one at a time) into a cup; then turn them into the flour and blend well. Now add a pint of milk, mixing it in slowly and stirring well to avoid lumps. Butter a deep pie dish of suitable size, pour in the batter and bake for three-quarters of an hour or perhaps a little longer. For the sauce put two tablespoonfuls of sugar in a small enameled saucepan, grate in the rind of a lemon and add the strained juice. Mix half a teaspoonful of cornmeal with a gill of cold water and mix with other ingredients and allow to boil. Serve the sauce and also powdered sugar with the pudding.

LUNCHEON OR TEA.
Fruit.
Creamed Potatoes, Fish Pudding.
Rice Croquettes, Currant Tart.
Bread and Butter, Fresh Berries.
Chocolate Cake.
Tea or Chocolate.

FISH PUDDING.—Flake any cold fish, having first removed all skin and bones. Mix with it an equal quantity of mashed potatoes, a lump of butter, pepper, salt, chopped parsley, a little anchovy sauce and an egg. Grease a pudding basin, line it with browned crumbs, put in the fish mixture and bake for half an hour in a moderate oven. Turn out on a hot dish, pour mustard, hollandaise or anchovy sauce round the base and serve.

Potato Cutlets.
Boil some potatoes until they are thoroughly cooked, drain them well and mash them until they are free from lumps; then add a little milk, season with salt and pepper and beat them until they are light and creamy, but they must not be too moist; stir in a small quantity of beaten egg and turn the potato on to a floured board. Take about a dessertspoonful of it at a time and form it into the shape of a small cutlet; when all are ready dip them into beaten egg and then into bread crumbs, and put them aside for half an hour before frying them.