

PARIS FASHION LETTER.

PARIS, July 21.—Parisian women do not take to the new Lady Smith hat. A few English women who are here appear in them, but for the French type of face they are utterly impossible. A fresh faced young girl or a handsome woman of the most undeniably chic may dare one without disadvantage her appearance, but then these types could wear anything. The utility of the hat is not to be gainsaid; no hat put upon the market in recent years is so serviceable for outdoor wear, for it may be turned down in the front to shade the face and in the back to shade the neck, if so desired. The hats are made of coarse straw, which allows the air to circulate freely over the head. They are so inexpensive, with their simple trimming, consisting of a scarf of silk or muslin, that the Lady Smith hats, if they were more ornamental, might hope to supplant the sailor hats, which have seen such long and hard service that most women are a little tired of them.

The draped neckbands worn so much this season are often lightened by a foundation of wire, which makes them cooler to the wearer than they appear to the uninitiated looker on. The lined neckbands trimmed with lace or net and having a sailor tie in front are very much worn, but on warm days they are far from comfortable. The accepted cut for high stocks is with points under the ears. They may be worn with a bow in front, in the back or at the sides.

Never have summer gowns of washable materials been daintier and prettier than this season. Gowns of dimity made with lace trimmed frills are creations considered worthy the closest attention of the kings of the dressmaking craft. Little sprays of flowers are sprinkled over the surfaces of corded or dotted dimities, some of the cords being of the delicate shades of the flowers and charmingly decorative. Many new woven white materials are being prepared, and there is a quite apparent effort on the part of manufacturers to hit upon something which will succeed to the popularity of duck. Butcher's linen in various colors and degrees of fineness is being made into gowns, while piques, satens, Bengal silks and surah poplins afford admirable effects.

It is so difficult to obtain anything really new and picturesque for the little folks that I cannot refrain from mentioning a little white pique pelisse now being sent home from one of the shops on the Rue de la Paix, for one of the little continental royalties. The garment is made with box plaits on a loose sack shaped foundation of the pique, which is divided by bands of muslin embroidered insertion. With this is to be worn a vest of fine fabric of pique and insertion. Older children wear very pretty frocks of book muslin, with a deep frill of valenciennes lace at the hem, insertions above and a yoke of muslin and insertion to match.

A white muslin overall for a little girl, with front and back yokes decorated with rows of narrow frilled ribbon, makes a useful garment to wear over a tinted muslin slip or a woolen or silk frock on cold days when muslin robes are out of the question. About the round yokes a frill of soft lace should be sewed, and the sleeves gathered in by cuffs trimmed with ribbon and lace. The bottom of the overall may be finished with a simple hem or with a narrow flounce of lace.

The popularity of foulard remains unabated even into the middle of the season. It is not only light and graceful, but it combines with other fabrics and trappings to achieve notably fine effects. One very handsome model of foulard was made with a circular instead of a box plaited skirt, a somewhat newer and more graceful effect. Three narrow flounces trimmed the lower part of the skirt. The bloused waist was furnished with a yoke composed of narrow tucks and bands of insertion, a collar of white cloth and lace framing the yoke. A silk bertha and a broad belt of foulard gave the finishing touches to the bodice.

A very handsome summer dress for a young girl can be made of white silk batiste, one of the softest and prettiest of the summer fabrics. One of this sort I noticed the other afternoon at the entrance to the Palais de Luxembourg on a very smart damsel who while garbed in the accepted mode, did not strike me as Parisian and who, I afterward learned, was a famous American heiress. Her costume was of white silk batiste, made very simply, yet elegantly, with lace and ribbon insertions.

The use of striped fabrics continues unabated. At the races one notices many of the most striking gowns made of barred goods. Red and white striped silk, with a rich trimming of cluny lace,

was one of the smartest of such effects recently worn by the Comtesse de Tredern, the great arbiter of fashion. The effect of the stripes was heightened by the novel use of black ribbons drawn through the lace. The high belt was of red silk and the white silk skirt was thickly trimmed with fine gold braid trimming.

The latest fashion is to have collar and belt to match. Even the tailor made gowns are showing the double sleeve. The jacket is made with a loose short sleeve of the cloth, through which the full puffed sleeve of the blouse beneath shows with striking effect.

Simplicity and beauty were combined in the dainty red and white foulard frock lately displayed on the shapely form of one of Redfern's models. The skirt was laid in narrow tucks, descending on each side of the skirt from the hips, the bottom of the skirt being bordered with bands of lace, with narrow rows of black velvet ribbon above and below. The yoke and sleeves were entirely of tucks, the former partially hidden by a deep lace collar of a quality similar to that upon the skirt. A shaped girdle at the waist was made of silk and bands of narrow ribbon velvet.

No more do the modish dressmaking houses revel in striking contrasts; everything is restfully harmonized. Even

the coming winter evening and afternoon reception frocks. One of the beauties in silk was a handsome embroidered piece in mauve and green on a ground of white satin. The design was a curved spray that encircled a single five petaled flower. A second, suitable for evening cloaks, was of black satin brocaded with tiny flowers, asters and marguerites alternating. A foulard silk exhibited quite a novel pattern in the shape of squares carelessly scattered all over the silk. This silk would be excellent in effect on the tucked skirts now worn. A superb brocade was of oyster white, with clusters of roses in mauve and green scattered loosely over the material. A very magnificent fabric was the one of white panne satin, with embossed velvet and hand painted sprays upon its surface. An exquisite material for a matronly evening gown was the silk of black background with small white embroidered spots and slender, graceful sprays of spreading roses, with plenty of foliage. Outline

NOVELTIES IN SHIRT WAISTS.

Never before have there been so many and such attractive styles in shirt waists as are evolved this season to please and clothe the feminine world. The old monotony in shirt waists has entirely disappeared, and there is simply no limit to the variations in design and decoration. There is every conceivable kind and condition, from a simple cotton shirt to the most elegant model in real lace. The list includes tailor made styles for golf, yachting, beach or mountain wear en suite with simply made skirts of shepherd's check, squadron serge chevrot, Scotch tweed, etc.

Smarter models for afternoon uses are of dimity, india silk, peau de sole, tucked india mull with wide revers and sailor collar formed by finer lingerie tucks and insertions of swiss embroidery. Headless waists to wear with skirts of white costume cloth, veling, gray and beige mohair, colienne or drap de chine are made variously of plaited taffeta, peau de sole, liberty sat-in and foulard silk.

Lastly are the lovely creations for dress uses which are called shirt waists, but which are the most charming things that appear among the imported accessories of summer. Some of them cost as much as complete costumes. Lustrous satins and silks are used in their composition, with lace, boro fronts, silk embroideries, lace and ribbon insertions, crepe de chine or india silk scarfs and draperies, to say nothing of expensive buckles and buttons which complete some of the smartest French models.

Pretty Summer Collars.

The popularity of the silk waists as well as the regular shirt waists has brought out a vast array of neckwear. There were never so many pretty oddities and bewitching novelties for neck adornment as this summer. There are shaped collars of thin ermine, over which lace ties can be worn and which keep their shape for quite a time. Then there are the net and lace collars that are held in position by invisible wires. These are shaped to be lower in front than at the back, where they are generally finished in round or sharp points. Stock collars with a bow to match are useful articles of neckwear, for they are so easily adjusted.

The chiffon, crepe de chine or lace stock collars that have the necktie in the shape of a sailor knot collar are bought ready to wear and finished so there is no need of tying a knot every time the collar is put on. The lace jabots are also very pretty, and there is a wide selection of lace bars. The latter come in both cream and white lace and are long enough to go around the neck twice, with the ends crossing at the back and tied in front in a bowknot.

Ties of All Sorts.

Crepe de chine and chiffon scarfs with fringed ends are worn as "twice around ties." They may be used without a separate stock by having a wired collar of firm white net, unlined. This supports the tie and prevents it from wrinkling. Handsome fastenings are used for these long scarfs in many cases, and really good lacepins of the old fashioned kind have emerged triumphantly from their long seclusion in the jewel box. In simpler ties the butterfly bow of tulle or mousseline, edged with narrow lace or velvet ribbon, is popular. The bat wing bow of silk is also liked. There are, too, stocks of tucks silk, the ends finished with tassels, which are one of the newest offerings in the department of fashionable neckwear.



STUNNING FROCKS FOR SUMMER AFTERNOON WEAR.

blouses and skirts are no longer correctly combined to form striking contrasts. String colored skirts are worn a great deal with blouses trimmed with lace harmonizing with this shade. Some of the new silks intended for winter gowns are being shown in a few exclusive shops. A peep at these gives excellent ideas of the charms of

flowers in foulards and adaptations of geometrical designs seem to be most favored patterns for silks. Foulard is now one of the most popular materials in Paris, blue and red being the favored colors. The gowns are usually very simply made, generally princess style, with gulfure trimmings and applications. CATHERINE TALBOT.

SUMMER FLOWER SHOWS.

FLOWERS have never been so popular in this country as now. Almost every owner of a small suburban residence has a predilection for the raising of some particular plant, in the cultivation of which he fancies he excels. Every housewife has her favorite window or porch plants, to the promotion of whose growth she is devoted in hours of leisure. One cannot take a summer population anywhere and not find a majority of people devoted to amateur flower raising.

It is our English cousins that have shown us how much pleasure may be derived from this pursuit. The English have a pleasant way of stimulating interest in floriculture in rural neighborhoods by a plan which at the same time yields a great deal of social amusement, and is often a means of raising money for some charitable object. This is done by means of the flower show, and in America, where almost every method likely to lure the reluctant dollar from the public pocket has been tried, the flower show is well worth an experiment.

In England the flower show is generally held in a public hall or in the schoolhouse, not far from the grounds of some country gentleman who is, as a rule, one of the officers of the local floriculture society, to which all the gentry of the neighborhood belong. The grounds of the aforementioned officer are, between the hours of 3 and 7 o'clock, thrown open to the public. The host and hostess and several of the great ladies of the county are stationed near the house to receive their guests, and about 4 o'clock refreshments are served in the house to a select and invited few. For the villagers more simple viands are provided under the trees. A band of music plays, and about 6 o'clock the prizes are distributed to those who have won the awards at the flower show.

upon the beauty of the display of flowers, all the leading florists and flower growers of the neighborhood should be asked to send specimens in competition for prizes. The enterprising florist who is always on the lookout for a means of advertising the excellence of his goods will be glad to send plants and specimens under the care of one of his employees, who will be responsible for their condition while they are absent from the shop or greenhouse. The assistance of the florists and nurserymen in advising how the prize list ought to be arranged should be sought. Separate prizes should be given to professionals and amateurs. Prizes should be offered for the best home grown flowers of different kinds, and an ex-

hibit grown especially by children would be interesting. Many of those who have sent flowers will donate them to the charitable object for which the show is given, and they may be then sold to visitors. Music should be furnished by a band or a string orchestra, and in the evening the grounds and tent where the flowers are exhibited are lighted by Japanese lanterns. Lemonade and refreshments may be served for a nominal sum, and the merry go

round man, if the grounds are large, might have a portion of the lawn for his machine. Flower sellers, with small buttonholes, will be able to profitably sell their wares at such an affair.

As many people will be modest about competing for a prize, they should be urged to send their flowers in order to

the trees. Part songs, serenades and mandolin and guitar music sound well on such occasions. If the flower show has been planned some time in advance, the chances of its success are always better. The conditions under which the prizes are given should be that the flower has been

In some localities, where many persons are interested in the growth of a particular flower, a chrysanthemum, orchid, rose or peony show may be held at the season when these flowers are at their best. Of course, other flowers may also be exhibited. In the summer it is so hard to find



PRETTY ARRANGEMENT AT A FLOWER FETE.

add to the beauty of the exhibit. If the show is given for a good cause, not many will refuse this plea. In the evening a programme of vocal and instrumental music may be presented under

planted by the exhibitor or has been in his or her possession a long enough time to show the effect of good care. The show may be given indoors, but it is thus scarcely ever so attractive.

any way of raising money for charitable enterprises, save by the old fashioned lawn or garden party, that the flower show presents itself as a novel and interesting form of entertainment for this season. AMY SCHUYLER.

When a skirt is old and limp, a simple expedient will give it a new lease of life. Brush the material well and remove any spots. Sponge the lining with hot water, starch and iron it. The result will prove most satisfactory.

HINTS FOR THE TOILET.

Try the effect of adding sea salt to your warm bath at night. It will refresh you wonderfully and help you to sleep well.

Let the hair be loose at night, for pinning or plaiting it up tends, by retarding the circulation of the blood, is apt to injuriously affect the growth of the hair.

Perfumed gloves are liked by some women. Mix together four drops of extract of ambergris and two ounces of spirits of wine. Apply to the inside of the gloves with a linen rag or piece of sponge.

A harmless rouge is found in the juice of the beet root. The practice of extracting of ambergris and two ounces of spirits of wine. Apply to the inside of the gloves with a linen rag or piece of sponge.

After taking medicines brush the teeth. After taking quinine or iron in any form it is well to use a little carbonate of soda as a dentifrice. This precaution will prevent the teeth being stained or their enamel injured by the acid used to dissolve the drug.

A useful lotion for the complexion when the face flushes uncomfortably is made of simple tincture of benzoin, one dram; tincture of hamamelis, four drams; rosewater, one and a half ounces. Apply to the face at night and morning and before going out.

Wind and sun burned faces are often very painful. Ease is best secured by protecting the skin from the air. This may be done by an application of white of egg, lard or of Carron oil. The last remedy should be found in every house, it being invaluable for burns and scalds. It is made of equal parts of linseed oil and lime-water, shaken together so as to form a cream.

Braised Leg of Lamb.

Put a small leg of lamb into a saucpan containing two ounces of melted dripping and let it cook over a quick fire for eight minutes; turn the meat and brown it evenly on the other side. Then pour in sufficient weak stock or water to partly cover it and add two onions, sliced, a turnip and a carrot cut up, a sprig of fresh mint, a bunch of parsley and a little muslin bag containing a dozen peppercorns, a blade of mace and two cloves. Cover the pan and let the meat simmer for three hours, if possible, in a moderately hot oven. It should be basted frequently and turned after the first hour and a half. When done, remove the meat from the pan and keep it hot; pour off as much of the fat as possible from the liquor in which it was cooked, then thicken it with corn flour which has been smoothly mixed with a small quantity of cold water, and, after coloring the sauce a rich brown and seasoning it with salt, strain it over the meat and garnish the dish with green peas which have been cooked separately.



BREAKFAST.
Fruit.
Egg Toast. Curried Kidney.
Saratoga Potatoes.
Parker House Rolls.
Preserves. Coffee.

CURRIED KIDNEYS.—Make a good curry sauce. Cut the kidneys into dice and stew them in the sauce for two hours. Serve with nice rice boiled in fast boiling water for 14 minutes.

LUNCHEON OR TEA.
Fruit.
Creamed Potatoes. Egg and Lettuce Salad.
Whipped Syllabub.
Tea or Cocoa.

WHIPPED SYLLABUB.—Take half a pint of thick cream, juice and rind of quarter of a lemon, three whites of eggs, powdered sugar to taste and, if liked, one tablespoonful of brandy. Mix the brandy, lemon juice and rind together with the cream. Sweeten to taste. Whisk the whites of the eggs and lightly to the cream. Whisk well (probably half an hour), taking off the froth as it rises and laying it on a hair sieve to drain. When all the froth has risen, have ready some custard glasses or cups filled about quarter full with any wine or well flavored custard. Fill up the glass with froth and serve.

DINNER.
Fruit.
Lobster Soup.
Escaloped Tomatoes. Celery.
Stewed Corn. Crab Salad.
Roast Mutton. Baked Potatoes.
Lemon Pudding and Sauce.
Coffee.

LEMON PUDDING AND SAUCE.—Take a lemon, six ounces of bread crumbs, two ounces of flour, four of beef suet, a teaspoonful of baking powder, two of citron peel, three eggs, two tablespoonfuls of castor sugar. Chop the suet finely; mix it with the flour, bread crumbs, baking powder and sugar; add the chopped citron peel, the grated rind and the juice of a lemon. Beat up the eggs with a little milk and mix with the pudding with them. Boil for three hours in a well buttered pudding mold. For the sauce grate the rind of a lemon, put it with the juice and two tablespoonfuls of fine sugar in a small enameled saucpan. Mix half a teaspoonful of corn flour with a gill of water, add to the lemon, boil up and serve with the pudding.

Washing Decanters.

To prevent wine stains from marking the inside of decanters fill the bottles directly they are drained of wine with warm water and shake them briskly. If the decanters are allowed to remain any length of time, it will be more difficult to clear the glass. Obsolete stains in glass bottles, whether due to wine or anything else, need something more than water to remove them. Shot is sometimes used, but this is too heavy for very fine glass, which is better treated with crushed eggshell or pellets of brown paper. Whatever is used must be shaken up and down inside the bottle of water, and the friction will remove the stains.