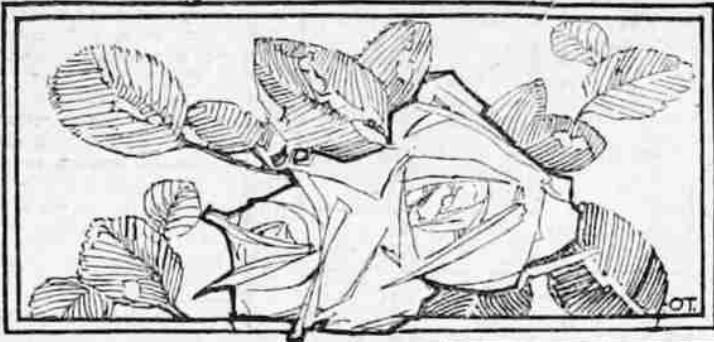


# LATEST PARIS FASHIONS



BY MRS. A. T. ASHMORE.

THE winter outfit has scarcely been completed—in fact, is often not completed—when every department store, every establishment where are sold gowns, hats and all the minor details of dress, blossoms forth with summer fashions, materials and models intended for the Southern holiday, now a most important part of fashionable life.

Fashions for the Riviera furnish models for Palm Beach and all the American Southern resorts, and with snow falling and the thermometer away below freezing point, women are busy selecting the thinnest of fabrics and the finest of laces, not to speak of silk, tulle, lingerie and straw hats.

In olden days the prudent housewife had her spring and summer dressmaking attended to in the winter, so that there should be no unseemly haste and consequent waste in making up the summer wardrobe at the last moment, when the services of the best dressmakers, more often the visiting seamstresses, were at a premium. This forehandness was not in consequence of a winter holiday trip, however, and consequently there were not the same facilities offered to secure designs and fabrics such as are now within reach of every one.

The fashionable woman who to-day is selecting or has selected her wardrobe for the South has been able to choose from a great variety of gowns and materials, but the woman who plans far in advance knows by experience that she also can now secure and have made her spring and summer gowns to far better advantage than when it was not obligatorily fashionable to seek a warmer clime during the cold weather.

**Craze for Taffeta Silk.**  
And what are the advance styles? Will there be any distinct innovations? As yet there is nothing especially distinctive. There is a craze for taffeta silk and lace, but these points have already been noted. The newest evening gowns for the winter resorts are of Pompadour design in silk, and the Pompadour model of gown is naturally to be looked for. The waistline, in consequence, is lower and the waist measure smaller.

Pleated and gathered skirts and all the different picturesque effects of the Pompadour gowns are marked. Also, the changeable taffetas are in great demand, with the fascinating sheen that is a marked characteristic in the odd shaded greens and grays and ashes of roses. For evening gowns the figured designs are the newest, but as yet the afternoon and street gowns are smartest in the plain silks.

The foulard and India silk gowns are positively essential to comfort wherever

satisfactory that their popularity cannot be questioned.

Flowered silks and flowered muslins are fashionable. In many instances the designs seem even better suited to wall paper than to dress materials, but when smartly made up the results are most satisfactory and there is a charming old-fashioned picturesqueness that is irresistibly attractive.

The skirts are trimmed with ruffles edged with lace, and the fichus are also finished with lace edged ruffles. Flowered chiffons and nets are also made up on the same lines, and all the materials for the summer are of the same designs and patterns.

White gowns of all sorts and descriptions are now to be seen. The white serge and white linen coat and skirt costumes are first and foremost in the new outfit. While the conventional tailor-made costume, or coat and skirt, in serge, homespun, Scotch tweed, heavy and light weight linen, is most useful, there are this year many coat and skirt costumes of a more fanciful description. Both short and long coats are in style, plain and trimmed with heavy lace and embroideries. These can be so simple and severe that they are only suitable for the morning, or so elaborate that they are suitable for wear for luncheon or afternoon reception.

### Spring and Summer Hats.

Most charmingly incongruous does a straw hat appear at this time of year, but every woman who intends going South realizes that a becoming straw hat is most essential to her peace of mind and incidentally to her comfort.

The newest models are quite novel. There are wide brims, but so flexible that they can be bent into the most becoming lines, caught up at one side, bent down at the other, bent back from the face or bent forward—whichever is the most becoming. There are small hats in toque and turban shape, but the larger shapes are the most popular. The crowns are smaller, consequently more becoming, and the head size is far more carefully selected.



Embroidered Blue Liberty Satin Gown.



White Tulle Gown, with Gold Embroidery.

of figured design, preferably the Pompadour, with taffeta silk is one of the new fashions. This gives good results and is delightfully novel. For general utility wear the plain voile de mignous, both in dark and light shades and made up over India or foulard silk, have been proved so desirable that they will continue to be fashionable. For travelling gowns and for the occasional cool days they are so

Trimnings of flowers, feathers, and smartest of all at the moment, bows of taffeta ribbon decorate the different straps.



Cloth and Velvet Gown.

and whenever the weather is warm, and a well dressed woman attempts life without at least one or two of them. Figured foulards this year are to be had in quite novel designs, with many of the old stand-bys, such as the different size polka dots and the shepherd plaid effect also in different sized checks.

A most curiously involved model has apparently met with approval for the new foulard, but as it will not be generally becoming it is safe to assert that it will be considerably modified before the summer (according to the almanac) is here. This model has quite a lot of material in the skirt, but the material is gathered into flounces or ruffles around the foot to give the effect of it being quite scant. The waist is in surplus folds draped across back and front, and there is a high belt, young girl this gown may be smart and becoming; it is not to be carelessly selected for an older woman inclined to be large.

Voile de sole and all transparent materials will again be fashionable, but for the moment the silks of all kinds are the smartest. Combining the thin materials



Embroidered Muslin Gown.



Foulard and Satin Gown.

Italian straw and the black fine straws are the smartest, but there are also colored straw braids that are adorable in shade and shape and, worn with the flowered muslins and silks, they will be most attractive.

The influence of the successful plays



Black and White Mousseline de Soie Gown.

Pink and White Pompadour Silk Gown.

upon dress is to be noted more than ever in the newest fashions in millinery, and every effort is being made to bring into fa-

not smart, there was never a time when shoe buckles were in such demand. But they must be of fine workmanship and not exaggeratedly large. Brown shoes and stockings and black shoes and stockings are always smart if well cut, and this season the cut is most becoming to the foot, for the heel, while high, is not exaggeratedly so and is well placed, but not so far forward as to throw the shoe and wearer both out of balance.

The finest of silk stockings, plain rather than the more conspicuously embroidered, are the smartest, and the more expensive the shoe or slipper the plainer it is—simply following out the rule that it is more fashionable now to have everything of the

thought in addition to the necessary financial expenditure on securing precisely the right sort of fan to set off each costume. More picturesque perhaps than any of

resent the work of superior artists both in design and execution. Jewels of value may be used in the setting, and the lace itself may be of the most precious quality, for not even in a cabinet may a rare example of the lacemaker's art be shown to better advantage than in one of these fans.

The French painted fans are also extremely fashionable, and here also the person of extravagant taste who has also a love for the beautiful may expend what ever sum she cares to upon these accessories of the toilette, which often are at the same time works of art of a high order.

The designs of these French fans, whether painted on heavy dull silk or vellum, are much like those used by the great French painter who first elevated the decoration of the fan to a position among the fine arts. Gold and spangles are worked into the design, or rather are used to frame the various motifs of the design, and the sticks or embellished with enamel or encrusted with jewels.

There are also black gauze fans trimmed with gold spangles or embroidery or with rather heavy trimming of braid, and these are most effective with certain costumes.



Embroidered Chiton Gown.



Taffeta and Satin Costume.

simplest and most expensive rather than conspicuous and less costly.

### THE FASHIONABLE FAN

THAT favorite implement of coquetry the fan is now restored to its former place of importance as a necessary and picturesque adjunct of the evening costume. In the opera box or at the fashionable dance the fan is most in order, and women who know the value of all such accessories are now spending much



Pale Green Satin Gown.

the other fans which are now in favor is the large ostrich fan, in black or white, which is so striking an addition to the evening costume. A tall brunette wearing a long, slippy white gown of satin and spangles and carrying a huge black ostrich fan is as effective a figure as one might desire to see, and, be it noted, the fan, like everything else which the fashionable woman selects for her personal use, is chosen with a very distinct idea of what is becoming to her as well as what is suited to her costume.

The black ostrich fans have sticks of ebony and tortoise shell, and the white ones are mounted on sticks of ivory, mother of pearl and amber. Some of the sticks are set with jewels or embellished with gold and colored enamel, but many of the fans considered most desirable have the plain sticks, with the monogram of the owner wrought in diamonds running down one of the frames.

More expensive than the ostrich fans, although not so effective, are those of exquisite and most valuable lace mounted on gold and ivory sticks, the latter being embellished with gold and jewels. These fans may be as valuable as one likes, for the gold sticks carved by hand may rep-



Spangled Dancing Frock.

A feather fan which has also met with much favor is made of eagles' feathers, supposedly, although it is barely possible that the plumage of less regal birds enters into its composition. This fan is mounted on an amber or tortoise shell and is extremely effective.