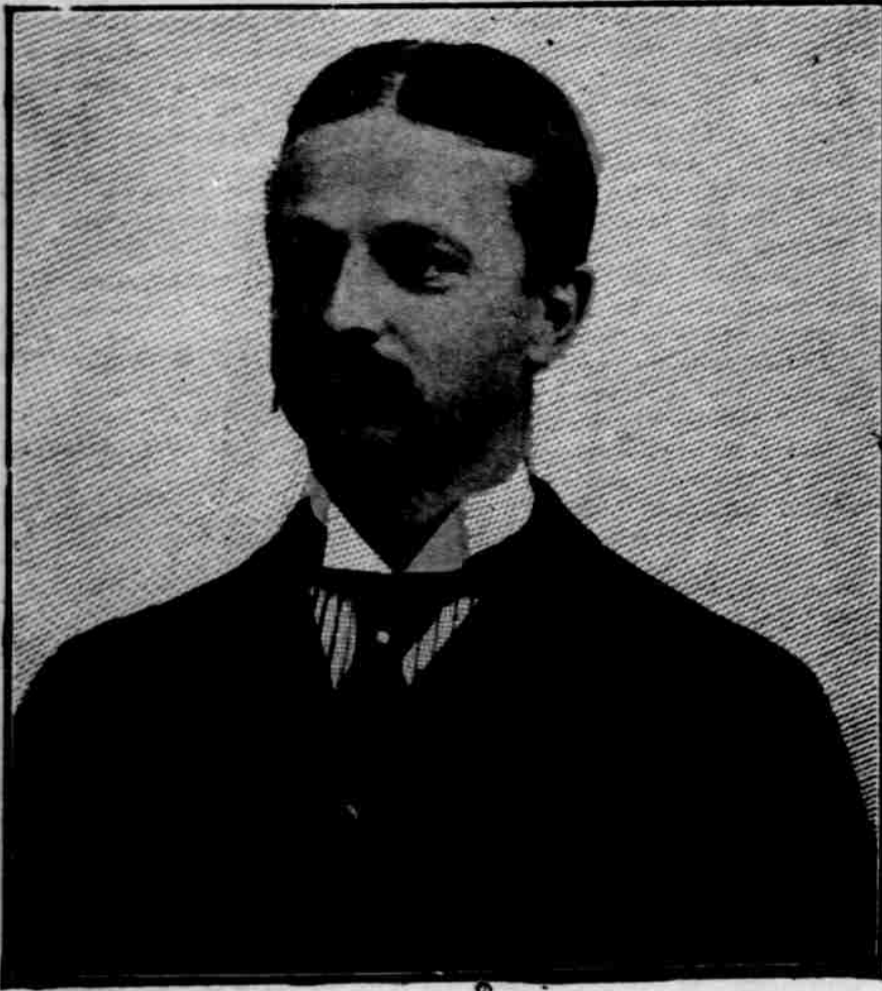


PRAISE FOR AN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR



HON. GEORGE V. L. MEYER, U. S. AMBASSADOR TO ITALY.

The Italian government has unofficially expressed to Washington its appreciation of the diplomacy and tact displayed by the Hon. George Von L. Meyer, United States ambassador to Italy, in the matter of the imprisonment of the cruiser Chicago's officers.

THE COURIER

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FASHION

NEW YORK, May 17.—Among the oddest conceits of the season are the pointed felt or straw automobile hats with isinglass visor attached. The object of the visor is, of course, to protect the face of the wearer, be it fair or otherwise, from the dust and sun, the hats being brimless. You encounter ponderous electric touring cars careening down the Avenue, on the way to country homes or clubs, every hour of the day, and the singular get up of the women occupants is the source of open-mouthed wonderment to the street gamin. The costumes are truly funny looking, especially when the wind fills out the voluminous pongee or silk dust coats with which the gowns are protected.

Pongee grows more and more popular as a Spring and Summer fabric. It comes embroidered and non-embroidered in various dyed shades, and in its own lovely natural color, a soft ecru. Sometimes it is embroidered in pink coral or in tiny turquoise-blue stones. A charming model has "pinch tucks"—by which name the finest possible tucks are known—over the whole skirt; coral being used only in the trimming about the foot. But the bodice, particularly the front, is one mass of the pink gems, worked in elaborate design, on a foundation of ecru filet lace.

Then there are pongee shirtwaist suits in abundance, and a few stunning tailor mades. One of these has an

enormously wide-sleeved coat, very short, and with a full bloused waist beneath. The skirt is sheath-like in fit, with a deep fullness at the bottom.

The white gowns, with their diaphanous elbow sleeves and blouses, have given a new idea to a clever manufacturer of jewelry who has a little Frenchy shop on Broadway near Twentieth street. The idea is to have jeweled collars and bracelets to match. They are to be worn with low-necked or collarless wash gowns that have short sleeves. A debutante at Sherry's diner de luxe on Sunday evening wore the first set I have seen, and it was simply beautiful. She was a blonde, and very plump. Her gown was of pure white crepe-de-chine and white, heavy lace. The lace finished in its own irregular design at the base of the throat, about which was the necklace or collar—I don't know its real name. It was made of Etruscan gold chains, with four large ovals of turquoise matrix at intervals. There was a very large, oval in front, one on each side and one in the back, where the necklace or collar fastened. The bracelet, worn on the left arm, midway between elbow and wrist, was a facsimile of the collar.

It is the period of extremes of fashion, it seems to me. For instance, we either cover up the hair entirely with wide Chantilly laces and scarfs draped about our hats, or else dress the hair elaborately and don a tiny capote of flowers. Two becoming new styles in hairdressing are the low, loose knot and the Du Barry perpendicular braid. With the low knot the front hair is parted exactly in the middle, and is very loose and fluffy at the sides, held by a long and heavy new side-comb. The knot itself is worn very low, and is round and symmetrical. It is an excellent style for regular features. The Du Barry is very much in evidence everywhere. It is newer, and we do like to try new things. Besides, for a heavy head of hair it is most effective and so easy to arrange. All the hair is merely braided in school-girl fashion, then turned up over the entire back of the head, spread out and pinned snugly. The sides and front must be fluffed becomingly about the face, and a small shaded silk chou tucked in toward the left side.

The bodice is primarily of wavy tucks, with the loveliest of fine Irish crochet by way of yokes and cuffs. The

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skirt is a combination of lace and tucks, beautifully finished at the foot. The most artistic handiwork is shown in the method of applying the lace to the material, and vice versa. A Broadway actress-manager, one of the showiest women on the stage, is appearing nightly in a gown that is the envy of every feminine theatregoer. It is made of some clinging soft white material, Princesse in cut, and shows some delicate green hand-embroidery in curious little designs at odd places on skirt and bodice, and in tiny ruffles in front from the bust to a little below the waist line. It is a most unusual and impressive design.—Lady Modish in Town Topics.

COMICAL ANTI-SUFFRAGISTS.

A funny fatality seems to inspire the opponents of equal rights for women to use the most incongruous arguments possible. A United States senator of notoriously profligate life, objects to woman suffrage on the ground that it would injure "the purity and delicacy of womanhood." The representatives of the liquor interest object for fear it might impair the happiness of the home. Rev. Edward Everett Hale, who has just celebrated his eightieth birthday, objects to women's voting because they cannot fight; and Mrs. A. J. George of Massachusetts, who spends much time traveling about lecturing, objects on the ground that "a woman's place is at home."

It suggests a story of the old days before imprisonment for debt was abolished in England. The rumor of a French invasion had thrown the whole country into excitement. An imprisoned debtor was talking through the bars of his window with a street beggar and a soldier who was considerably more than "half seas over."

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