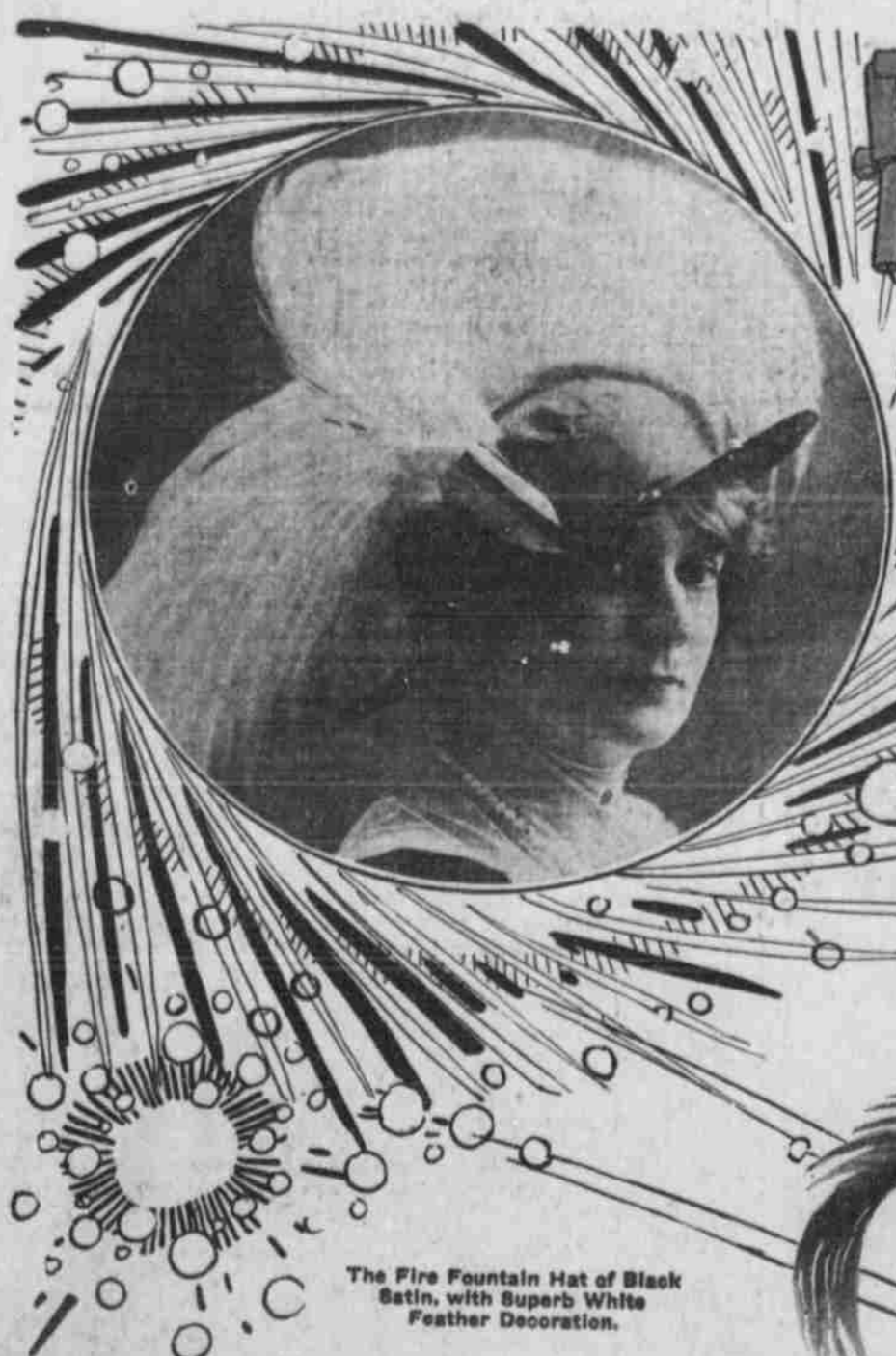


FIREWORKS HATS and Nightgown Dresses



The Fire Fountain Hat of Black Satin, with Superb White Feather Decoration.



The Startling Pinwheel Hat of White Satin, with Orpreys of White.

LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women. Lady Duff-Gordon's Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.

THE tendency of the early Autumn hats is toward the bizarre, particularly in their decoration. The simple and ever so lovely flower effects which mark the mid-summer hats is to give way to eccentric effects. I am sending you photographs this week of some hats whose trimming make one think of the fireworks with which you celebrate our Independence Day.

These hats are in all instances black, with either white or black decorations. The Pinwheel Hat and the Skyrocket Hat are indeed most novel. Their names explain them, I think; and so does the name of the "Fire Fountain" Hat explain itself.

The wide-brimmed sailor, especially the one whose brim is wider in front than in back, will be very chic this year. The Watteau shapes, however, have had their day. I am not sorry to see them go, for they were suited to only the most piquant and youthful faces.

There are so many things of which I want to write! It is difficult to limit myself to stated things. My pencil wants to follow my fancy, and if I permitted very far ahead it would wander.

Has the night gown dress reached the United States, I wonder? It is not so outrageous as its name would imply! It is just a dainty, exquisite affair, made of white mull. I am sending you a picture of it.

I am reminded just here to tell you of some lovely new tea gowns and tea trousers which I have just seen. Oh, how true it is that fashion permits you to be either fascinating or freakish just now! It all depends on your own mood.

In the case you can don a tea gown which is just a clinging softness of white, flatly pleated chiffon, the cross-over corsage held in beneath the bust by a golden girdle formed of a trail of little laurel leaves. There is no other vestige of trimming, and, for once, the white purity of the robe is untouched by the faintest suspicion of pink, the under slips being of white instead of flesh-colored crepe de chine and chiffon. But, then, to make up for this, the loose, graceful coat which is worn with the little gown, is a glory of color. Its outer lining being of vivid Mediterranean blue and the lining of the same filmy fabric in an equally brilliant fuchsia pink, which,

after giving a new and elusive beauty of shading to the veiling blue, reveals itself more clearly through the broadly bordering insertion of gold lace, which is further enriched by raised broderies of gold. A piping of pink satin gives a finish to the graceful garment, and so here you have the tea gown, entirely and alluringly feminine.

But if you aspire to the wear of trousers, then you can have a "smoking suit" of soft, black satin, patterned with a weird "futurist" fruit design in vivid yellow and dead chalk-white, the foliage being of crudest green. The trousers are gathered into an elastic banding at the waist in front, their fulness being held in about the ankles by the same means, but at the back the quaint garment is cut in one with the coat, which is finished off with black satin lapels and pocket flaps.

So the wearer will secure a sufficiently startling appearance to satisfy her love of sensation. But, all the same, I would not advise any woman to let a man see her arranged in this eccentric garb until she was safely and securely his wife! Else he might back out of a mere engagement as a result of his disillusionment!

Of course, however, if the "trousers" be of Oriental fashioning and fulness, that is an entirely different matter. For their fabric will then be the most delicately flesh-pink chiffon, and a fringe of gold bullion will finish them off at the ankles. A transparent slip of equally pale pink nylon will then be worn over them, and, finally, a loose coat, richly brodered in gold and possibly further adorned with the gold fringe.

Or else just one over garment of gold-brodered nylon will be held in about the waist by a deeply swathed and loosely knotted sash, weighted into still more closely clinging positions between the filmy draperies by a heavy fringe of gold.

Rather less markedly Eastern in effect, though their inspiration is the same, are the tea gowns whose skirt fulness is arranged with two openings for the feet to be passed through, quite a number of Paul Poiret's models being thus made this season. One is of soft satin of real rose-pink shading, made in the simplest way, and just held in at the



The Undress Gown of White Mull and All-Over Lace, Showing the New Large Armhole.—By Paquin.

wast by a deeply swathed sash of sapphire blue chiffon fastened on one side with a cluster of silver roses and leaves of gold, the long ends which hang far down the left side being fringed with gold. It is a veritable garment of grace and as comfortable as it is charming.

Another Poiret creation and triumph, which is of that same Turkish trouser fashioning, is of broche crepe de chine in the wonderful blue of Delphinium blossoms, its draperies cleverly arranged to show an under robe of pure white satin, while festooned across the corsage in front are endless chains of shining crystal beads, from which hangs pendant from a shining, swaying chain of diamonds a great heart-shaped ornament of massed crystals and paste, dividing the blue draperies and finally blazing out against the background of white satin.

Another new tea gown model by a very famous Paris house is somewhat too elaborate for comfort and is really almost more suggestive of fancy-dress attire.

For you cannot imagine anyone taking their ease in a closely clinging, shining sheath of ivory net covered completely with myriads of opalescent and Indian silver paillettes, with here and there a definite glint of gold. Just in front the skirt certainly does open over a foam of frills in leaf green chiffon, but, for the rest, its slightly trained scantiness is all bordered with water

lilies and leaves. And these same decorative blossoms are faithfully imitated in sliken and silver broderie and pen painting. As a deep bordering between tall bulrushes, with dragon flies fitting overhead, for the transparent loosely hanging coat of green chiffon, which can further coat of a finish of fringe in soft green silk and shimmering silver. Finally, you must shimmering silver.

Finally, you must know that filmy yellow tulle is folded at the decollete and drawn into the swathed satin sash of the same yellow, into whose bow ends just one more water lily is carelessly fastened.

All of which is undoubtedly very decorative and beautiful, but inasmuch as it is entirely lacking in the comfort and the "allure" which should be the chief characteristics of the tea gown it is by no means an ideal model for choice or copying.

The Skyrocket Hat of Black Velvet, with High White Aigrette.

Patching Up Our Bodies With Rubber—Just Like Broken Tires.

A NUMBER of recent experiments by American and foreign surgeons have demonstrated that rubber may be used very effectively as a substitute for human tissues. There are not many substances which can safely be introduced into the human system, and the discovery that rubber can be thus utilized is therefore regarded as a very important one, particularly as this substance is better adapted to surgical work than any other which has so far been used for this purpose.

Hitherto, for instance, silver, platinum, gold, copper and aluminum have been relied upon almost exclusively to repair broken bones and unite severed vessels, but these metals are not only expensive, but difficult to work with. Rubber, on the other hand, is inexpensive and lends itself admirably to manipulation at the hands of the surgeon.

To what extent rubber piping may be used in the future to replace worn-out arteries or other defective blood vessels can only be conjectured, but several experiments along these lines

have resulted most satisfactorily. A few years ago Dr. Edward Sullivan, an American surgeon, introduced a rubber tube into a dog's body to replace the biliary ducts between the hepatic canal and the duodenum, and the substitution was entirely successful. Somewhat later a similar achievement was accomplished on a human patient in a case in which the bile duct had been destroyed, the rubber tube which was inserted serving the purpose of a bile duct very satisfactorily.

The danger of inserting a foreign body into the human system lies in the fact that the blood is very susceptible to such interference. If it comes in contact with any substance other than those which nature provides it almost invariably coagulates, and death necessarily follows unless the normal flow of the blood stream is soon restored. It has now been discovered, however, that no coagulation follows the contact of human blood with rubber, and hence the use of this substance is deemed entirely safe.

The reason rubber proves so satisfactory is believed to be

because of its colloidal nature, and it possesses many other characteristics of human tissue.

Another very interesting demonstration of the value of rubber for surgical work was given by Dr. Alexis Carrel a few years ago when he removed a piece of the wall of the abdominal aorta of a dog and replaced it by a piece of rubber about an inch by an inch and a half in area. The rubber sheet was carefully sutured to the aorta and the union which followed was perfect. Fifteen months later the animal was examined, and it was found that both sides of the rubber patch were covered with tissue.

Sterilized pieces of rubber sponge have been used successfully by Dr. Fieschi, the well-known Italian surgeon, to close the aperture in inguinal ruptures, and no harmful effects have followed, and Dr. Delbet was similarly successful in the use of a sheet of rubber to repair the abdominal wall of another patient afflicted with hernia.

From the history of the various subjects who have been

thus treated with rubber it seems to be scientifically established that this substance may be used to an almost unlimited extent to repair human tissues, to piece together several vessels and eventually perhaps to replace entire organs.

In the repairing of broken bones which fail to reunite naturally it has long been the custom to use plates of silver or platinum, which are riveted to the bone and become a permanent part of the skeleton without any untoward results. Pieces of healthy bone have similarly been used to take the place of bone that has become diseased. Hard rubber may perhaps be found of value for this class of mechanical work, but its greatest sphere will be in the replacing and eking out of soft tissues.

Rubber lungs, rubber stomachs, even rubber hearts, are not deemed to be beyond the reach of the synthetic surgeons of the future, but for the present perhaps we shall have to be satisfied with the use of this valuable substance for reparative work, in which limited sphere it will undoubtedly prove of incalculable benefit to the human race.