

IN THE DOMAIN OF WOMAN.

STYLES FOR AUTUMN.

Tailor-Made Dresses, Haughty Hats and Fashionable Novelties.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—It was not reasonable to expect that the opening of the fall season would bring us many novelties in the cut and trimming of our gowns, but there is nothing very new, under this September sun at least. True it is, the tailors are very active and look very wise, but what is it all about? When you come to inquire the details alone prove of interest. For instance, a great deal of velvet is going to adorn the handsomest suits, exceedingly fanciful braiding will distinguish others, tucks after running in horizontal lines have fallen into the perpendicular, and so many tailor-made princess gowns will be seen.

Just suit yourself as to color is the law prevailing with regard to these stuff dresses, though if it's blue you want royal blue is some hat more in vogue than the former colors, a necessarily soft and becoming tone called peacock green is bound to enjoy a long season of activity, and a curious cedar brown, appropriately named autumn foliage, makes up in truly admirable suits.

To get yet more deeply into this question of color we must talk a while of some of the midseason stuff suits. These the tailors are making up in handsomely checked half weight serges and strapping and barring them with narrow folds of plain goods, held down at the point of every small strap with a button. A brown cloth covered over with quarter inch wide stripes of green, crossing each other at right angles, thus leaving squares two to three inches broad, will be checked inside these stripes in a peculiar tone of rusty red. The brown, green and red so commingled creates a display of color that equals the Scotch plaid, of which this material is a direct offshoot.

This style of goods must be made for perfectly simple autumn walking skirts, and with such a checkerboard petticoat a smart little coat, of solid brown or green cloth, is adopted; its revers faced with checked silk and a checked silk skirt front peeping out between the lapels.

Braiding as an ornamentation for cloth suits was never in more vigorous use than at present. There are pretty shot green and brown and blue and yellow wool braids, flat satin-faced braids, silk and mohair braids, black wool and linen braids and braids that are as rough as the surface of Brussels carpet and as smooth as pea de sole. In place of braid proper, as we know it, cords of various sizes are largely applied, in floriated patterns, to smooth cloth surfaces, and most especially on princess dresses is the decoration by braiding required. About the hips it is massed to run down the front with a tablier effect, spread upon pointed vests and covers, with a fine scroll work, nearly the entire sleeve. Most interesting, in the new styles of braid weaves, is that which, whether either wide or narrow, possesses a surface so rough that it looks at a little distance, like some strange sort of fur. Another exceedingly molish make is called busser brand.

Remembering last year's clothes. But because of all these slight deviations from the styles of last year, let no woman lay the flattering unction to her soul that there will be any great opportunities to economize on the fall sewing. A last year's skirt, for example, can pass muster here, and now that the Spanish flounce effect has given place to the Princess and Louis XV. forms, and small as the autumn hats are, they require great brilliancy of velvet, feathers and jeweled ornament in their make up. It used to

black and white is the smartest combination the head can show. Another approved and extensively trying arrangement in hat colors for the autumn is dove gray and turquoise blue. Only the very brave or very fair can venture to adopt it.

Gastring Toggles. A word just here as to the pretty gaiter goods that the dry goods dealers are just about spreading on their counters. They call them robes for dancing and dinners, and they are lovely, beyond the reach of admiring admirers. Also, they come in just two pieces, a shaped-out seamless piece for the skirt, and a smaller breadth for the waist. Their weaves first demand attention, for they are woven to be as opalescent as a drop of rain through which the sun is shining, or they are watered like moire, or open of mesh as a basket.

One particularly taking pattern is a black silk muslin, that in the folds gives off high white lights, as satin does. All over this falls a shower of burningly scarlet poppy petals. The petals, of course, are, by some



BRAIDED PRINCESS GOWN.

artistic device, dyed in the muslin, though just as many of the gauzes have their decorations brought out in a velvet relief on their surfaces, and some beauties show satin stripes, fine as a hair, woven athwart the fall of the goods.

Dowager Gowns. Quite regal are the fashion properties now on exhibition for the dowagers. Their robes of state are to be satin this winter, chiefly black satin, but gloriously embellished in the new styles of braid weaves, is that which, whether either wide or narrow, possesses a surface so rough that it looks at a little distance, like some strange sort of fur. Another exceedingly molish make is called busser brand.

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Hotel Waists. Every day shows growth in the fanciful waist that is called a theater or hotel waist. Nowadays so many women live in hotels during the winter or go frequently to the excellent hotel restaurants with their husbands that without a rather complete set of fancy waists the wardrobe is sadly lacking. Last winter very much tucked silk and satin shirt waists appeared about the city. These semi-functions, but they have been swept out of existence and greater formality and elaboration is sanctioned. A few very pretty waists are made flat about the neck, but the majority rise sternly tight and close at the throat, though some sleeves are considered in extreme fine taste. Most attractive specimens are made wholly of white or black lace, and sometimes the seams down the shoulders and outside of the sleeves are outlined in small bright imitation stones.

Cloth and Checked Velvet Toleet. A pet plan with women to wear out their old black skirts with bright theater waists, but now the authorities say that such a scheme is very demote unless the skirt is a black and white striped silk, a skirt of black lace, or a watered silk in dove gray. Out of the hat is taken your eye when it enters the ball room displays an adjustment of lace and jeweled trimming about the hips that is almost a fully developed milkmaid's panner.

Early Millinery Developments. Now we are called to render judgment upon the first flock of hats in the market. They are wonders to the eye. Long sweeping by the gracious slope of wide straw veils so becomingly shading eyes and brow, the sweet shepherdess back and the soft fall of plumes. It will take some time for us to accept the new order of things of all the wide brims, turning up straight from the face, slit down the middle and fastened by a big glittering brooch. From either side these haughty crest wings flare out, and the back of the hat is very insignificant indeed. According to the milliners the rear of your chapeau does not count. The facade is the thing, and the only comfort to be found in this revolution is the fact that

for these dazzling, deceiving foot masques carry the trade before them.

Illustrations of Fashions.

From three points of view the theater or hotel waist can be studied this week, for the sketch gives a group of the most advanced of the new styles in composing these admirable little bodies. Though so showy, they are simple enough, for one is made of accordion-pleated chiffon with a sultana jacket, of thick gray Russian lace, drawn over it. By a series of bright scarlet satin bows the jacket is fastened at the side. Of chiffon the high collar is made and tied in the rear in a bow so large and airy that it forms a sort of delicate background for the face. A fellow illustration shows turquoise chiffon, over which fits an oddly-shaped waist or sapphire blue velvet, edged with an applique of deep cream lace. A velvet collar button to one side with Rhinestone balls, and the strip of velvet that follows the seam of the sleeve is caught at the wrist in a buckle of the same bright stones.

Two species of figured silk are employed in the third and last bodice. The vest is really rose-colored satin, with a white lace pattern laid on below the yoke of rucked chiffon, and on the sleeves of satin, similar lace treatment is shown. The real body of the waist is of green taffeta, figured in rows of rosettes, with ruffles of lace outlining the edges of the vest.

For morning wear and shopping in royal blue face cloth the first of the set of tailors suits is made up. Black leather cloth, as the tailors call it, in broad and narrow bands, appears on the skirt and coat. All the narrow bands are fastened down by polished silver buttons and the top of the coat opens over a collar and vest of the thick, felt-like goods. What a true new princess gown, when it is braided, ought to look like, is shown by the second costume in Russia leather red Venetian cloth. The braiding is done in black and the two diamond shaped openings on the bust display an under vest of embroidered white liberty satin. Attention is called to the braided sleeves and the high braided collar, than which there is nothing newer.

A tailor dress that is good enough to wear anywhere is the subject of the third sketch. This is the finest green French melon made up with checked brown and green velvet and ornaments of steel. Rucked velvet edges the skirt and runs up the hip, and where the skirt flares open at the side is seen a panel of velvet in green and brown. A green felt hat, showing a huge brown bird on the brim, its body pierced by a steel arrow, completes the smart toilet.

MARY DEAN.

SERMON-HOUR KINDERGARTENS.

A Feature of Sunday Morning Service in New England.

Through the Connecticut valley, especially in the larger towns, a custom of sermon-hour kindergartens is being established, which proves a delight to pastors, mothers, children, and church-goers in general. Whether the New England mother, born of a church-going ancestry, is responsible for this new feature in home missionary work, or whether the discussion at some pastors' convention of the pros and cons of urging mothers with children to attend service, brought out this adaptation of the kindergarten from theory to practice, no one seems to know. Whoever is responsible the blessing is widespread. The most entertaining children's sermon, never so simply told, pales into insignificance before the kaleidoscopic action of the kindergarten, where the small boy is not hurt

by trying to "sit still" or the little girl baby told she "must not talk out loud, or whisper."

Indeed so recognized a feature of church life has the babies' play hour become that before singing the hymn preceding the sermon, the pastor invariably announces: "All children in the audience are most cordially invited to adjourn to the Sunday school rooms, where Mrs. Smith and Miss Annie Brown will conduct the sermon-hour kindergarten."

With the singing of the hymn, Mrs. Smith and her assistant take up the collection of these wee bits of the kingdom of heaven, with an occasional mother perhaps leading a shy newcomer who has not the courage of his convictions. And the baby Christians flock down the aisles like so many happy little butterflies, en route for a garden of roses. They trudge along past the deacons with a pleased grin, or sometimes a giggle of anticipated delight. And even the fondest parent gives over her prim little heart's delight or chubby, restless baby boy with a sigh of content and with a mind now free to take in the words of comfort or advice.

Occasionally a door opens somewhere and "Precious Jewels, precious Jewels, His loved and His own," gives over her prim little heart's delight or chubby, restless baby boy with a sigh of content and with a mind now free to take in the words of comfort or advice. An important feature of the Progressive Women of America, and indeed one of its principal reasons for being, is that club life is expected to prepare and forward to the director through its secretary a brief statement of the conclusions arrived at by the majority on the topic assigned by the director. Once a month each circle is expected to write a friendly letter to at least one other circle, and in this way keep in touch with the organization throughout the country.

One of the prettiest little adaptations of the regular kindergarten is the song game of the chickadees. The children form a circle with joined hands. Mrs. Smith tells Baby North he can be papa-bird. He takes his place in the center of the ring, and in turn chooses his little mate. Together they choose alternately seven or more of the little folk to make their nest. These seven join hands, making a smaller circle within the first and large one, which is kept intact by dint of much stretching of the little arms, which the babies take to most kindly. When the nest is complete, the choosing continues until a flock of, say five, birdlings is gathered. Then Mrs. Brown plays softly the simple little melody, and the children sing verse after verse in high glee, while the chickadees ebb in their nest. The song words, which the little ones soon memorize, tell of the goodness and love of our heavenly Father, and give for every the smallest bird. At certain verses the papa bird flies out to find food for his small family, and by and by, when the chickadee babies are grown, the mamma bird takes them out to try their wings. Whenever the birds have the nest they hatch out, waving their arms wing fashion. Meanwhile the outer circle, which forms the limit of the world to the chickadees, has not been kept quiet, but has marched round slowly, to the piano accompaniment, sometimes in the original position facing the nest, or in a circle, with hands on the shoulders of the baby in front.

And with a variety of the kindergarten games in Sunday dress the little ones are made busy and happy during the sermon hour.

NEW CLUB FOR WOMEN. How It Started and What It Plans to Do. The Progressive Women of America is the name of a new club and the founder is Mrs. Effie W. Merriman of Minneapolis.

This club is organized on different, perhaps more practical, lines than anything yet attempted in women's clubs. It is intended to extend over a continent and to embrace all classes of people. Growth is always more rapid where many minds come in contact, and the founder believes that the Progressive Women of America will have greater power and more interest than a local club. To be progressive we must hold communication with many people of many ideas, is the principal plank in the club's platform. Although its first birthday was but a few weeks ago, six circles have already been formed, and September 8 fixed as the date of the first meeting.

Seven or more women may form a circle

HOTEL WAISTS. Every day shows growth in the fanciful waist that is called a theater or hotel waist. Nowadays so many women live in hotels during the winter or go frequently to the excellent hotel restaurants with their husbands that without a rather complete set of fancy waists the wardrobe is sadly lacking.

Last winter very much tucked silk and satin shirt waists appeared about the city. These semi-functions, but they have been swept out of existence and greater formality and elaboration is sanctioned. A few very pretty waists are made flat about the neck, but the majority rise sternly tight and close at the throat, though some sleeves are considered in extreme fine taste. Most attractive specimens are made wholly of white or black lace, and sometimes the seams down the shoulders and outside of the sleeves are outlined in small bright imitation stones.

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by sending to the founder and director of the Progressive Women of America a written request for a charter of membership. On being assigned a number—circles are designated by numbers, from one upward, according to priority of their formation—the circle adopts a constitution and by-laws in harmony with the original one and elects a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

The object of the club is "the discussion of the topics of the day, and questions of interest to women; and the bringing of its members into communication for acquaintance and mutual helpfulness."

Mrs. Merriman, as the director for the first year, outlines and announces the topics for the consideration of the circles, and each circle is expected to prepare and forward to the director through its secretary a brief statement of the conclusions arrived at by the majority on the topic assigned by the director. Once a month each circle is expected to write a friendly letter to at least one other circle, and in this way keep in touch with the organization throughout the country.

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ONE FREE TRIAL BOTTLE FREE

THIS OFFER ALMOST SURPASSES BELIEF.

An External Tonic Applied to the Skin Beautifies It As by Magic.

The Discovery of the Age

A WOMAN WAS THE INVENTOR.



Thousands have tried from time immemorial to discover some efficacious remedy for wrinkles and other imperfections of the complexion, but none had yet succeeded until the Misses Bell, the now famous Complexion Specialists, of 75 Fifth Avenue, New York City, offered the public their wonderful Complexion Tonic. The reason so many failed to make this discovery before is plain, because they have not followed the right principle. Balm, Creams, Lotions, etc., never have a tonic effect upon the skin, hence the failures.

The Misses Bell's Complexion Tonic has a most exhilarating effect upon the cuticle, absorbing and carrying off all impurities which the blood by its natural action is constantly forcing to the surface of the skin. It is to the skin what a vitalizing tonic is to the blood and nerves, a kind of new life that immediately exhilarates and strengthens wherever applied. Its tonic effect is felt almost immediately, and it speedily banishes forever from the skin, freckles, pimples, blackheads, mite patches, wrinkles, liver spots, roughness, oiliness, eruptions and discolorations of any kind.

In order that all may be benefited by this Great Discovery, the Misses Bell will, during the present month, give away all THE MISSES BELL'S Complexion Tonic, at par.

FREE Trial Bottles of Wonderful Complexion Tonic free at parlors, or 25 cents (cost of packing and mailing) to those who request.

Correspondence cordially solicited. 75 Fifth Ave., New York City. Complexion Soap, Skin Food and Pills are for sale by all druggists.

know how to say that they were only following the need of nature—girl nature as well as boy nature—in finding out personally the pleasures of galloping on bareback horses or diving into woodland "swimming holes" or resting over a game of "mummy" with whom some boys' jack wife twirled from eager fingers to make those soft, delightful, unforgettable thuds of success into the good green ground.

The young girls of today have the freedom of their muscles unconstrained, and enter by right into an inheritance of bicycles and golf clubs, boats and bathing suits, saddles that are not side saddles, basket balls and base balls, too, that their elder sisters acquired by a sort of slow encroachment. The zest of the moment is the spirit of the time is embodied in the girl who is to be the woman ruler of the coming century. She will step over its threshold into her kingdom with the sure-footed grace gained in climbing mountain heights. She will accept its possibilities and responsibilities with less strouousness than nineteenth century women have always shown, because action is her birthright, not her conviction, and health is to her a necessity like a religion.

The passing of the tomboy is complete. The girl of today at her American best is a hearty, healthy, happy, graceful child. She is not expected to be a young woman, although she is training for it, and she is a part of the onward-moving life of her times, as she seems to be a part of her wheel when flying along city avenues or through woodland roads. She cannot remember when she learned to ride her baby's bicycle, but she has superseded the baby jumper wherein her elder sister was wont to go through violent infantile exertions without arriving anywhere.

The progress of the modern young girl-on-wheels has nothing so conspicuous in it. She moves joyously, gracefully, fair to see, along the pathway "blazed" for her through the jungles of conservatism by the pioneer tomboy of the past. There were always tomboys in all generations, except that which is now femininely rising. They were not confined to the time when a girl who rode a sixty-pound tricycle to a college door was sure to be asked if she considered her mode of locomotion ladylike.

Once in a while you meet women of 50 or 70 or 90, gracious and silver-haired, young-hearted and with a lively interest in the thoughts and pursuits of all girl kind, who will tell you in sweet voices that they were called "great tomboys" when they were little girls. And they recount to you their maddest, merriest pranks, their wildest and most daring adventures, you will find that these were commonplace beside their granddaughters' thirty-mile bicycle ride of yesterday, cup-winning yacht races of the day before, or heretofore great championship of last week or this morning's swim of a mile seaward out toward Spain.

It must be owned, too, that the girl of the period far surpasses her predecessors in strength and staying power. All this outdoor life means vigor, grace and buoyancy. It is a fine thing to watch a girl athlete. She is bewitching.

USEFULNESS OF WOMEN'S CLUBS. Conditions Under Which They Are Entitled to Commendation.

"That many of the women's clubs in America are doing valuable work is a matter of no doubt," writes Edward Bok in the September Ladies' Home Journal. "And so long as a woman's club keeps within its sphere—that of the social, mental and educational improvement of the children, the club does not extend and take up political questions and go into a maelstrom of purely municipal matters, the conduct of which is not given women to rightly understand and in which they can do harm or good, but, on the contrary, effect much strength and staying power. All this outdoor life means vigor, grace and buoyancy. It is a fine thing to watch a girl athlete. She is bewitching."

Chains of all sorts and sizes are the order of the day. The more small jingling ornaments that can be crowded on the lorgnette chain, the more fashionable it becomes. Paris sends us a brand new chain, showing a sort of Grecian border formed in steel and black enamel united. The whole thing is not less than an inch in width. Regarding the matter of assisting, gratis, the street-cleaning departments of our cities, it rests entirely with the women leaders who served in a degree at least, the fashions in this free country of ours, whether we shall again choose this most disgusting style of cut-of-floor attire. It is true that to be exactly to the latest Parisian style there must be street skirts logger than have been worn.

Some of the handsome weaves in light-weight ladies' cloth and Vicuna are in princess style, the skirt portion very sheath-like and clinging about the top on the front and sides until half way down, then flaring into exuberant waves and folds. The material on the waist is drawn very softly over a heavily boned silk lining that more than half an inch on the shoulders, with gumples above of some rich contrasting material.

evil which should be corrected, a woman to make her club the all element in her life is wrong. But, well-directed means toward her improvement, her own exhilaration, to companionship of the sexes and not the separation, the woman's club is a cable."

Pills of Fashion. Among the new fashionable gaiter netties is a combination purse and safe.

The newest shade of red is begonia. It is rich and deep and not so harsh as cherry red or cardinal.

Overskirts and draperies are becoming general on the light, fluffy type of evening gown, and they will no doubt be generally adopted for evening wear before winter sets in.

The most fashionable patriotic breast pin



FOR EARLY AUTUMN.

consists of an American flag with an eagle perched on the staff. The bird is covered with brilliants and has emerald eyes. English whipcord suitings in Russian, stem and laurel green, dark Cuban red, army, navy and Russian blue, gray, brown and black, will be highly favored for fall and winter tailor costumes.

A new design for a watch strongly appeals to card players. One o'clock is represented by the ace of clubs, while 10 o'clock is the ten of the same color. Eleven and 12 are the knave and queen of clubs.

A novel finger ring is made to send forth a spray of scent whenever the wearer pleases, or, to speak more accurately, when she is wise enough to keep the receptacle well filled. Other rings are set with a tiny watch.

The most fashionable handkerchiefs of the moment are bordered with narrow colored Valenciennes lace. They may be fashionable, but the women who really refine taste avoid everything but pure white in her linen from her handkerchief to her night-dress.

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