IN THE DOMAIN OF WOMAN.

CHARMING SUMMER SILKS.

Pompadour Colors in Active Demand by Women Who Dress Well.

NEW YORK, March 7.—It would really require a woman of ingenuity, possessing also a distinct gift for the inartistic, to buy just at this juncture a truly ugly gown. All the important fabrics from wools to lawns are in active competition for purchasers, and not one piece yet seen but suggests blouses, skirts or complete suits of unusual charm. There has begun already a well defined fashion in crisp silks. This does not interfere with the demand for foulards, but merely augments the growth of silky manufactures. Very light taffetas, gros grains and what is called ribbon silk are among the enticing novelties.

A MACHINE EMBROIDERED LOUNGING ROBE OF UNUSUAL BEAUTY.

The majority of these rustling fabrics are finely figured in pin stripes, tiny dots or rings, and at least three well contrasted colors are reflected from their sheeny surfaces. Numbers of the pretty strangers come with ribbon borders that suggest their own decoration, and while in some cases these light silks are not so expensive as foulards, they are just as full dress and durable as the softer weave.

Pure Pompadour Combinations.

As to the foulards themselves, those in pompadour colors and pompadour figures are in the most active demand. This term pompadour implies a silk of some rich Sevres shade, ultramarine blue, poinsetta red, Swiss green, etc., broken at intervals in circles or ovals to display a wreath or

PERCALE SHIRT WAIST WITH HALF SLEEVES.

bouquet of flowers in pure pompadour combination. Sometimes the floral effect takes the shape of a double line of descending garlands, in close woven tiny pink buds caught here and there with shepherdess hats or baskets filled with variegated posies.

The proper makeup for these demands ribbon worked up, with frilled imitation antique Valenciennes, in big gay rosettes with dangling streamers. Ribbons continue to usurp an ever increasing importance in dress decoration. Many of the smart light wool and veiling gowns are garnished wholly with beautiful embroidered or less expensive silk damasked ribbons.

A Ribbon-Trimmed Frock.

A very clear impression of one of the important missions of ribbons is gained from a clever sketch of a mignonette green etamine. The skirt of this suit is dropped upon a turquoise blue under slip and the annexation flounce is trimmed with five bands of ribbon. Three of the ribbon lines are green, two are turquoise blue, and they are all brilliantly figured in white, green, black and a warm Du Barry rose. The same ribbon effect forms the yoke for the waist, the color on the sleeves and outlines the bottom of the waist.

Among the most interesting ribbon novelties are those of black and white moire edged with a colored baby ribbon, on which minute rosebuds or forget-me-not blossoms are stamped. Ribbons with lace edges are to be recommended for use with muslins, and nearly all the hat ribbons show their bow ends deeply fringed.

Elbow-Sleeved Blouses.

Elbow sleeves have been no uncommon feature of all but street gowns during the past winter. They promise to become universally popular this spring. The pretty ready-made silk waists that are on sale at the shops are, with few exceptions, only elbow long, and the sleeve ends in a full bag at this joint or fits smoothly down the arm and ends at the elbow in a deep lace frill. Dozens upon dozens of charming wash silk and embroidered muslin waists are now on sale, and these, though given the studied shirtwaist finish, tucks, collar, etc., end their sleeves just below the curve of one's crazybone. Even the gingham and percale and chambray shirts are leaning toward the elbow length, for you can buy them in what are called hot weather shapes.

The short-sleeved percale blouse is made on the pattern given in the accompanying sketch. It is what all the percale waists promise to be, daring in color and bold in figure. This cotton shirt is blue of the shade known as robin's egg, big gray rings are scattered over this cheerful field of color, and the broad tucks are stitched down in white. When on some bright and humid June or July day such a shirt is put on its wearer will protect her hands and forearms with long white or tan mousquetaire lisle gloves.

Last year the millionairess and the mill hands "took to" lisle gloves, so to speak, just as this winter we have all thankfully worn white wash wool ones, and next summer, say these cotton and silk glove manufacturers, a trade is expected that will fully warrant the packing away of the kid glove stock until autumn.

The Business Suit Mixture.

Where will the whims of sovereign American femininity turn next? At this moment the truly fashionable woman buys or orders the material for her smart morning suit from her husband's or her brother's tailor. The fabrics woven for men have been suddenly pronounced of greater artistic and intrinsic value than those offered to women, and the ladies' tailors who have ordered bolts of spring materials are uselessly tearing their already thin, gray hair and protesting in loud but futile terms. If you see a truly captivating black cloth suit on the street just now you may shrewdly guess that it is absolutely off the same piece from which the wearer's husband's new evening suit was cut. An enchanting gray, short skirt costume is sure to match some downtown business suit, and there really is nothing that the fashionable woman likes better than to boast that her new shopping and traveling dress is made of a business suit mixture and a striped trouser goods.

How ably these masculine goods can be put together is shown in a typical sketch of a dress made for the southern tour. This is a study in grays. A light gray and white striped trouser goods forms the front and sleeves of the waist, the front panel and foot trimming of the skirt. A solid gray cloth, used in the makeup of smart afternoon spring frock coat suits, contributes the body of the skirt and waist, and straps of this last, stitched with heavy gray rope silk, forms the entirely adequate trimming. Black satin, such as is used in the facing of men's coats, adorns the cuffs and flat rever collar.

An Embroidered Negligee.

Until deep into the spring and until hot weather renders the habit impossible, we shall wear a great deal of flannel in shirt waists and in other garments. It is irresistible to touch and exclaim over the charming heaps of soft stuff at the flannel counter, from the imported wash flannel to the very exquisitely embroidered robes that are folded in boxes and suggested for negligees. The finest and lightest French flannel is used for some of these and the most costly handwork is lavished on their decoration; their cost is naturally in proportion with their high order of artistic merit.

Hardly less attractive are the domestic and machine embroidered robes that can be had at one-third the price of the imported article and which make up delightfully as lounging gowns, such as one of the sketches suggests. The model for this drawing was a charming, cheerful robe of pure sky-blue flannel worked in royal red and yellow tulips and sashed and bound with red ribbon. To wear with tailor-made skirts and coats the shirtmakers have brought out handsome white flannel blouses, enriched with white silk embroidery down the bosom, in heart-shaped yoke effect or in three broad bands. For the warmer season very thin white flannel, picked out in pink, blue or black silk dots and worn with dotted stocks and ties of the same, will be considered the top of the mode.

MARY DEAN.

A STUDY IN GRAYS OF A BUSINESS SUIT MIXTURE.

GIRLS TO BE SEEN IN MANILA.

Local Etching of Maids and Matrons of the Philippine Metropolis.

"Almost any morning," says the Manila Critic, "before or soon after sunrise, in the residence districts of Manila the mestiza maiden may be seen promenading leisurely. Often she has been to church, but as frequently she is enjoying the morning air. No one realizes better than she that the early morning is the most delightful time in Manila, and she avails herself of the cool, fresh air by early rising. The warm hours are spent indoors, but the late afternoon or early evening will find her driving on the Luneta or along one of the many bamboo-fringed drives with which Manila abounds. In the evening she either attends the theater, of which she is very fond, entertains company, or is a participant at a baile, or ball. She speaks Spanish and sometimes Tagalog; now she is commencing to lisp a little English. She is generally wealthy and often very beautiful. She embroiders beautifully, plays the piano, harp and other musical instruments and possesses many light accomplishments, but she has never attended Vassar. Her favorite costume is usually made of costly fabrics, such as pina, jusi, silk, etc., always decollete, but very modest. In the course of time she usually marries one of her own class, that is a descendant of a Spanish father and a Filipino mother, but often a Spaniard or other Occidental becomes her husband. Taken altogether, her lines are laid in easy places.

"The Filipino market girl is also out early in the morning, but for a different purpose to that of the mestiza maid. With her flat basket of wares upon her head she proceeds swiftly to the market or some other public place; arrived there, she will sit all day, on her heels, selling cigarettes, fish, vegetables, cakes, betel-nut or whatever her specialty may be. She is usually fond of betel-nut, which dyes her lips and teeth red. She also delights in the theater, balls and other amusements. Her costume is always decollete and consists of a shirtwaist with large, flowing sleeves (this is made of sinamay, a loose fabric made from fiber of the cocoanut palm), a short skirt of

A MIGNONETTE GREEN ETAMINE, TRIMMED WITH BRILLIANTLY FIGURED LIGHT AND DARK RIBBONS.

some thin, bright-colored cloth, about which from waist to knee is closely wrapped a piece of black cloth called the tapis; if she is prosperous this latter is silk, otherwise it is of cheaper material. If she dispensed with the tapis her costume would be extremely diaphanous. She eventually acquires a small cantina, or store, and a husband, this latter frequently without the formality of a marriage ceremony; she is always the business member of the firm, for while the man of the house is at work (?) or taking part in a revolution or attending a cock fight, she stays at home and attends to the cantina and the numerous progeny of whom she soon becomes possessed. She is very fond of her children and controls them in some mysterious way, for, though she was never known to strike one of them, they obey her and are well behaved. She is one of the lower class, yet in this easy-going land her lines are also laid in easy places."

GRAND DUCHESS OLGA.

She Is Only Six and Has Very Brilliant Prospects.

The Salic law does not prevail in Russia. The czar's feeble younger brother was carried off by consumption two years ago, and, though women only come to the Russian throne when all nearer male heirs are lacking, there is an excellent chance of succession for the 6-year-old eldest daughter of the present ruler.

The picture taken of this little girl bending over her youngest sister has proved throughout Russia one of the most popular of the royal photographs. It is admired because it shows that in spite of the fact that all the czar's children are girls they are wonderfully pretty girls and that the charm and character of the eldest is clearly written in her countenance. Six years ago when she was born loyal Russia was deeply disappointed. The czar, however, gallantly assured his people that he was delighted with his little girl and in spite of the fact that three more tiny women have come to bless his nursery he has greeted them affectionately and given to the first the most unstinted devotion. It is whispered in Russia that when the news of the sex of the first baby was given the emperor he smilingly said she would some day rule Russia. To the infinite satisfaction of her nurses and parents she proved not only to possess a wonderful physique, but all the beauty of her mother and the sound sense of her Danish grandmother.

In the royal Russian household there seemed to be from the hour of her birth a belief that she would never have a brother and on her training the most extraordinary amount of care and attention has been lavished. This little girl with a wonderful future has hardly known a day's illness. She talked and walked sooner than is the rule even with robust and forward children and she possesses a wisdom and gravity far beyond her years. Where she has appeared in public her beauty and grace have enchanted the people, among whom she is frequently referred to as "the little empress," and, though her sisters are pretty, sweet creatures, Grand Duchess Olga easily eclipses them.

Though but 6 years of age, the grand duchess' tact and intuition are unerring, as is proven by a drive she made recently with her baby sister, Grand Duchess Anastasie, through the streets of St. Petersburg. The two children were in a big, closed carriage with their nurses and were following their parents to the railway station. There was a moment's halt along the route and when the duchess' lovely face was seen at the carriage window a cheer arose from the people behind the guards. With right royal grace the child calmly took her baby sister from the nurse's arms and held her up, saying at the top of her voice: "Isn't she sweet?" The cheers rang out again and again. The duchess nodded gally and held the baby for everybody to see until the carriage rolled on.

THE BACHELOR GIRL.

She Provides Discussion, Favorable and Otherwise.

At a recent meeting of the Eclectic club, New York's organization of more or less brainy women, some new facts were brought to light concerning the bachelor girl. They came from one of the fraternity who claims to be proud of her bachelorhood, a pride that is plainly evident in the definition with which she began her address. "An old maid," said this Miss Smith, who means to hold fast to her name for an indefinite time to come, "is a woman who has missed matrimony and has no other resources. A bachelor maid is an unmarried woman, earning her living in an independent way, and who feels that she never will be left, whether she is married or not." And then there was a brisk discussion over the question: "Why should not the bachelor girl come in contact with the various experiences of life and learn from them as men do?" But the decision of the ladies on this point doesn't appear to be clear. Possibly it wasn't known just what was intended by the question. It doesn't even appear that anybody suggested that the police might have something to do with it. And then the subject was switched to another track by Miss Smith, who seemed to intimate that matrimonial hope was never quite dead in a bachelor girl's heart, and that when she was ready to choose a mate the mate would be forthcoming. "Men grow old so much faster than women that it is quite the fad in all classes, in accepting a husband, to marry a man at least ten years younger or half your age, like Lady Randolph Churchill." A declaration which may make the eligible youngsters of the metropolis a little cautious when they feel the eyes of seasoned bachelor maidenhood upon them.

Mrs. Richard Henry Savage summed up the whole discussion in a nutshell when she declared that the true emancipation of the bachelor girl is to marry. And then she philosophically added: "I look upon the bachelor girl as a necessary evil."

For and About Women.

Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker, the last surviving child of Rev. Lyman Beecher, has just celebrated her 80th birthday in Hartford, Conn.

The new marchioness of Dufferin, a daughter of Mr. Davis of New York, is not only an accomplished pianist, but a thorough connoisseur on china.

Though more than 80 years old, Florence Nightingale is still keenly interested in benevolent works and has just issued an appeal for the nurses' home for poor gentlewomen in London.

Mrs. Bolton, the Indiana composer of the once popular song, "Paddle Your Own Canoe," received the inspiration to write while sewing and fitting the first carpets for the old state house of Indiana.

Miss Edith F. Ogden of St. Paul, Minn., has designed the tablet of bronze made from a Spanish cannon which will be placed on the steamship St. Paul, to record its services during the Spanish-American war.

A New Haven woman who built a "spite fence" to keep workmen in a factory next door from making goo-goo eyes at her windows must put ground-glass windows in the fence to afford light to the factory. So says the court.

Mrs. Mary A. Snody, aged 74, of 1933 Burd avenue, St. Louis, has just graduated from the Bay View Reading circle after a four-year course in history, literature, astronomy, geometry, political economy, art and languages, and has now begun to take piano lessons. Mrs. Snody has raised a family and is a grandmother.

Mrs. C. S. Allen is mail carrier on the Miss Ella Sheppard Moore is the last survivor of the famous jubilee singers of Fisk university, Nashville, and is still connected with that institution. As a member of the company she traveled five years in Europe and six years in America, and has sung before Queen Victoria and many of the crowned heads of Europe.

The dowager duchess of Abercorn is the most marvelous of all the peeresses of the United Kingdom. She now has 140 descendants living, namely, ten children (five sons and five daughters), fifty-nine grandchildren and seventy-one great-grandchildren. The fifty-ninth grandchild—the child of Lady Evelyn Cavendish—was born recently.

Miss Mary Emma Woolley of South Norwalk, Conn., president of Mount Holyoke college, Massachusetts, is the youngest woman on record to occupy such a position. Miss Woolley is just 35 years old, comes of revolutionary stock and is the daughter of a Congregational minister. Previous to her presidential appointment she was for five years a member of the faculty of Wellesley college.

Frills of Fashion.

Tiny rosettes of narrow ribbon with centers of rhinestones are used for garniture on skirts of fluffy material.

For the newest marquise rings single stones, preferably opal or turquoise, of appropriate shape are now used.

Flowered delaine is an old favorite now receiving fashionable recognition. It is intended especially for young girls' gowns.

Lingerie ribbon in delicate shades is employed for a new style of corset cover. Insertions of lace alternate with the stripes of ribbon.

Mohair and brilliantine will be used for general wear and favor will be equally divided between the colors, black, blue, gray and brown.

Ties of white or black satin finished with lace ends are tied at the front in a bow or four-in-hand and worn with black or colored silk shirtwaists.

For youthful and slender wearers bodices fastened at the back continue in favor and are conspicuous among the designs for spring and summer now on view.

With few exceptions the handsomest of the spring wraps and bodices are adorned with collarettes, fichus and berthas of lace or Mexican drawn work in white or ecru.

Chrysanthemum straw is the season's novelty in the millinery line and is aptly named. The colors are those of the natural blossomed toned pastel colorings and the toques require but little trimming.

Some of the spring hats show soft silk scarfs of a contrasting color to the straw threaded through interstices cut in the shape, the flat designs especially admitting of this sort of trimmings.

Applique decorations in lace, jet, cut velvet or cloth and bits of otter, sable or mink, in leaf designs, scrolls and various conventional patterns, are increasingly in evidence on every sort of elegant gown, redingote, wrap and elaborate dress skirt.

An expert declares that cut flowers, even of the hothouse variety, may be kept over night with complete success if the stems are clipped a little and the flowers then put in a basin or pail of water deep enough to allow the blossoms to float on the top.

Hand-painted silk gowns are steadily increasing in favor. A famous dressmaker has just completed for the bride of an approaching wedding a gown of white crepe de soie, on which garlands of orange blossoms are painted in natural colors. From the same designer comes a robe of soft cream silk with decorations of wisteria and foliage exactly reproducing the delicate purple and green tintings.

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