

Linen Dresses That Can Brave the Washtub

WITH the idea of encouraging the wearing of linen a linen dress ball was held in Belfast, Ireland, late last month. No such incentive is needed in this country. Linen's capabilities for elegance as well as durability were recognized several seasons ago and this summer frocks for every occasion are fashioned in linen or mercerized fabrics.

Although many of them are too elaborate to be entrusted to any one but a French cleaner, the simpler varieties may be sent to the washtub. Nor will their ironing be a difficult task.

Since the heaviness of the fabric precludes ruffles or ruchings, the general effects are tight-fitting in the extreme. The woman with a good figure is in her element. Never has she appeared more sweet and charming. But her less fortunate sister need not despair. By a skilful manipulation of the yoke effects and flaring flounces now in vogue, she may conceal some of her deficiencies.

The waists of these linen suits have considerable variety, though the general lines are similar. The yoke may be long or short, round, pointed or bizarre in shape, but it is almost uniformly finished with a piping of a contrasting color. A white is piped with black, or vice versa. A pale blue or green has a piping of white and black stripes. Plaid pipings are extremely fashionable. A heavy white linen is piped in a plaid or commingled scarlet, blue and vivid green. Red pipings and cordings will be much worn, to match the red hats and

parasols. Slot seams are also inlaid with color or with plaids.

Blouse waists, whether with a yoke or without, are diversified by pleated or box-pleated fronts, slot seams or stitched pleats. Small buttons are almost invariably used in connection with the slot seams. Stitched straps and bands are also used in tailor-made effects. The bands or tabs are garnished by groups of small buttons.

Inserted vests do not promise to be widely popular, and, therefore, will be used by those who wish to escape the commonplace. They may be white or of a contrasting color to match the pipings. The overlapping blouse looks well with the simpler cording for an edge, though heavy lace and insertions will be used for this purpose in the more elaborate gowns.

It seems strange, but embroideries of nainsook or lawn are seldom seen in connection with the season's linen dresses. The lace and insertion used is of the heaviest. This is necessary, if the material is to be cut away beneath them. A flimsy lace would appear ridiculous. Imitation torchon or Irish laces are practicable in these cheaper gowns.

Though the majority of the sleeves are tucked in clusters, they may follow the general scheme of the blouse, being pleated or box pleated with slot seams or cordings. They are invariably tight fitting a point below the elbow, and thence they widen gradually to a small puff at the hand. Nothing extreme is permitted in these linens, so that the huge puches at the hand are entirely wanting. The cuffs are simple, from two to four inches in length, and trimmed

to match the rest of the waist. A few are irregular in shape, running up on the outside to the depth of six inches and in the inside to only three. In these cases the puff is entirely lacking and the effect extremely tight-fitting.

The salient feature in most of the linen skirts is the yoke effect. In many cases it is produced by the application of stitched bands or folds, either running horizontally or tapering to a slight point in the front. More often the yoke is an actuality and is continued down the front in a narrow panel. This combines the appearance of well-rounded hips with slenderness. The yoke and panel are edged with cording in a contrasting shade. The panel effect may be repeated at intervals entirely around the skirt, but it must be skilfully fashioned or the result after washing is deplorable. Below the plain yoke the skirt generally falls away in clusters of tucks. These are continued to within six inches of the hem, whence the goods, released, flows in a natural flounce.

A costume in white butcher's linen has the blouse tucked down for three inches from the shoulder seams, giving a yoke effect. The tucks are in clusters, each group finished off by a stitched strap placed horizontally. There is a box seam down the front, ornamented with small black buttons in groups of threes. The same trimming is used on the yoke straps and cuffs. The skirt has the yoke and panel effect down the front. The edges of the panel are ornamented with groups of the buttons.

Another white linen frock has a yoke

which gives an irregular tab or panel effect. Three of these rounded tabs are on the front of the waist, and one extends down over each sleeve. All are edged by a black and white cording.

In the skirt the panel effect is secured by extending the yoke in panels so narrow as to have the appearance of tabs. These cover the seams to within six inches of the hem, where they end in a point. The skirt beneath is box-pleated under each tab, thus giving a flare at the bottom.

A third costume in blue linen has a triple row of blue and white striped cording for trimming. The narrow cape collar extending from the shoulder seam is continued down the front in a broad box pleat, and is edged with the triple cording. The skirt yoke is continued in a front panel, edged by the triple cording. The skirt has triple flouncing, with so little flare as almost to give the effect of folds.

These simpler gowns are none of them collarless, as the high severe collar compares better with their general simplicity. A lighter touch is given by the fancy turn-overs, corded or garnished with buttons, with which they are invariably supplied. Those with a single tab extending several inches below the collar find favor.

The more elaborate, lace-trimmed frocks have wide lace insertion, outlining the front panel and giving the skirt yoke effect. Yak lace is suitable for such use. When banded on the sleeves, with the goods cut away beneath, the effect is surprisingly pretty.

HARRIETT HAWLEY.

Bachelor Girl's Reflections

YOU can't blame a woman for doing anything for clothes when they lead so often to the subsequent privilege of doing nothing for the rest of her life. Many a man has proposed merely to a new dress.

The three fates from which no man escapes are his mother's hand, his wife's thumb and his daughter's little finger. Men would be believed more by women if women believed less in other women.

Man never loves but one—while he's telling you about it.

Women who spend all their time humoring a man seldom appreciate their own jokes.

When a man can't explain a thing he says: "You wouldn't understand if I told you."

Lots of editors who write little paragraphs about birds on women's hats give columns of space to war news and prize fights.

Many a man who is fond of women laughs at women who are fond of cats.

If men didn't call themselves superior, nobody would.

Many a man who has sowed only wild

oats goes to a nice woman and pretends that the crop will be all right.

Some men cultivate their mustaches much more than their characters.

The men who like solid qualities in a woman don't go out of their way to carry a fat old mother-in-law upstairs.

All the world, except one girl sometimes, loves a lover.

Romance is very pretty until it's worn out.

Some husbands are enough to make anyone sorry for their wives.

Straw hats show which way the wind blows.

If a woman would learn the real nature of a man she must put him through the three tests of eating, laughing and kissing. To make his power over woman absolute the devil created New York shops.

Women know more about men than other men do.

Men stand by men in such a way that women are often forced to go back on other women.

Half the men make love to a girl for the sake of talking about it to some other man.

Why Girls Do Not Marry

WHY do I not marry?" said the bachelor girl, quoted by the Chicago Chronicle. "Because—Oh, because I haven't been asked,"

was the unexpected reply, and all the fine theories of deliberate cruelty to the future race were dashed to the ground. "It's a mistake," she went on, "to suppose that we unmarried women sit down and calmly consider the pros and cons of matrimonial relations; that we deliberately discuss and decide what attitude we will take in regard to the appalling problem of the future of the human race. It sounds wise and all that to hear that we bachelor girls have solved the perplexing problem of the age, but we can't even take credit to ourselves for that. Force of circumstances is responsible for the number of our kind in existence.

"It's my opinion that no girl is too busy to think of men. The society girl who is bent on having a good time wants to prolong her period of enjoyment just as long as she can before she deliberately curtals her freedom by marrying, but she looks forward to matrimony some day, and the

girl who works—say, a girl of the upper classes, who finds she must earn her own living—if she makes a success of it, finds that she has opened up for herself a delightful life of independence and happiness, but it isn't this fact that lies at the bottom of her bachelorhood.

"Her work as a general thing brings her in contact with men of business, usually married men, and from them she gets an insight into matrimony which makes her skeptical as to its general desirability. Little remarks let fall now and then reveal the truth that all is not a path of roses. The result is that the bachelor maid finds discouragement on every side, and, all things considered, the scales certainly turn in the favor of the unmarried state, or at least of procrastination.

"She decides to look well before she leaps, and the process of investigation begins to thin the ranks of the eligibles, while day by day she grows more difficult to please. As a consequence she is so taken up with this inquisition that the final plunge is long deferred. Sometimes it is indefinitely postponed."

Bachelor Club Laughed At

THE young woman friends of members of the Bachelor club of Jersey City, which recently voted to impose a penalty of \$100 on any member found guilty of the offense of matrimony within a year, were excited when the news was broken to them by the newspapers.

"And to think that they'd do such a thing after that beautiful letter from President Roosevelt," was one girl's comment.

"Their action was un-American and unpatriotic," declared another. "I think some one ought to have 'em injunctioned."

Other girls of the same way of thinking said they would form a Theodore Roosevelt Anti-Race Suicide Campaign Marching club to emphasize their protest. The campaign club will attend the Bachelor club's annual ball and the club's yearly trolley ride to Fort Lee, and they assert that before fall either a number of fines

will have to be paid or that the new rule will be a dead letter.

Members of the Bachelor club, which meets over a saloon in the "Horseshoe" section of Jersey City, said that the club had been in existence ten years, with no marriages to date. Recently some members had shown alarming symptoms of the matrimonial malady, and Friday's drastic action was the result.

"We believe in treating the ladies right," said a bachelor, "but, according to our constitution and by-laws, no member is allowed to become a girl's 'steady.'"

All the money collected from fines will be blown in by the surviving bachelors on outings in summer and balls and other functions in winter. As twelve young men vigorously opposed the anti-marriage resolutions, some of the members are looking forward to \$1,200 worth of social gaiety during the coming twelve months.

Frills of Fashion

Flowers are now made of feathers. The high Directoire belt continues to be a favorite.

The newest ribbons are sprinkled with embroidered flowers.

Cordings and gauzings have replaced tuckings at the top of skirts.

An exceedingly picturesque hat is formed of the twigs of the blossoming palm.

Tassels are a great feature on gowns this season and silk fringes are much worn.

A squirrel holding in its mouth an apple of coral is the latest in umbrella handles.

One of the prettiest types of caps coat has the box pleats terminating in handkerchief points.

Coffee jackets are becoming more and more ornamental and are covered with lace and embroidery.

Among the new designs in jewelry are the neck chains, with baroque pearls and oddly fashioned pendants.

A pretty frock was of china silk, the skirt flounced, the bodice draped Directoire fashion and trimmed with silk lace.

A fetching hat is of white straw, trimmed with tulle, the touch of color being given by a spray of magenta banksia roses.

An all-white chiffon hat has around the fluffy edge big black cherries almost hidden in the white, and in the back big clusters of them hang down over the hair.

A large light green hat of coarse straw is covered with a network of maiden hair fern and on either side on top is a knot of white daisies and red cherries.

A valuable adjunct to the finish of a dress is the sash. Where long ends are not used the back of a belt is finished with a but-

terfly bow, crochet cords or a cluster of silk bobbles.

A beautiful lamp shade is of glass of a pale green tone, almost covered with bands or ornamental work in silver, these set lengthwise, growing narrower from the edge to the top. Around the lower edge is a flexible fringe with small silver balls pendant.

The upper part of pretty fancy silk waists in pale pinks and blues are inset with rings of inch-wide lace, each of these rings having a little puffed, flower-like center of the silk. Between the rings and a little below, encircling the bodice, are big French knots in white.

The prettiest as well as one of the most pliable corsets is that made of moire ribbons, the bones encased in silk running lengthwise, and the corset between formed of the ribbons, cross bands about an inch wide. These corsets have something the appearance of the ribbon girdles.

Pale green and white rugs are pretty for summer homes. They come in different patterns and in different sizes, from the small mat to the large rug which will cover a whole room. There are matting in which there is a small pale pattern in pale green, which are sometimes used with these rugs, and are pretty in any way.

For and About Women

Miss Love Seymour, a girl of Rochester, N. Y., will erect a soldiers' monument in Marion, N. Y., to her grandfather's memory.

Mme. Katerina Telika, the native missionary of Albania, who was captured by brigands in company with Miss Ellen M. Stone, will shortly come to this country on a lecturing tour.

Mrs. Lionel Ross Anthony, a graceful

writer on economic subjects for the Denver Post, has been appointed a world's fair commissioner for Colorado by Governor Peabody.

Sister Donatella, superior of the hospital of Nancy, France, has been decorated with the Legion of Honor for her constant service of thirty-two years in caring for the sick.

Only five out of twenty-one jails in New Jersey have a matron or other woman official, and in three out of the five so many other duties are imposed upon the matron she has not time to attend to the women prisoners.

Dr. Rachel J. Davidson has been appointed by Governor Bliss of Michigan to be delegate-at-large to the national and international good roads convention held in St. Louis April 27-29. Dr. Davidson has made a special study of rural road making.

Mrs. Lydia Dyer Briggs, who is the seventh lineal descendant of Mary Dyer, the Quaker, who was hanged on Boston Commons in 1659 for returning after she had been banished from the colony, has just celebrated her ninety-seventh birthday in Rutland, Vt.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, widow of the late president, proposes to sell to Mr. Ingersoll, the millionaire bachelor, her beautiful home in the Adirondacks, Berkeley lodge. The place has tender associations for Mrs. Harrison, as she and the late general planned it together soon after their marriage and spent every summer there, but she has, it is said, received a tempting offer and is considering it.

Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan was "the cynosure of all eyes" at the recent election of the Colonial Dames at New York. Contrary to the expectations of those who did not know her it was found that she dressed simply and her cloth gown looked rusty. Her black hat was small and she wore a thick veil covered her face. The decision of the women who saw her was embraced in the word "frumpy." Mrs. Morgan's disposition is exceedingly retiring and whenever she appears in public she seems ill at ease.

Mrs. Lorillard Ronalds, who has been entertaining the king and queen of England at her London residence, is a leading member of the American colony there and a patron of every struggling, deserving musician who is brought to her attention. Great artists from the Royal opera house who charge other folk large sums to appear at private entertainments sing for friendship at Mrs. Ronalds'. Therefore, struggling geniuses who need only a social lift to make a name for themselves feel that they have as good as arrived when they can get Mrs. Ronalds to let them sing for her guests.

"Off Ears" at Box Office

"We have all sorts of difficulties with men and women who are deaf in either the right or the left ear," said a man who has been for years in the box office of a popular theater. "Persons who are totally deaf do not bother us at all. They are satisfied to get where they can see well. But men and women deaf only in the right ear, or vice

versa, want to get their good ear toward the person who comes to the theater with them. Very often a man who is deaf in his left ear comes with a woman who cannot hear a thing in her right ear. Then we are 'up against it,' so to speak. But when we can we take great pains to seat persons with off ears so that they can talk without disturbing everybody around them. There is no greater nuisance in the playhouse than to have a partially deaf man saying to his wife, 'What's that? I m'rsed that,' and to hear her repeat the lines to him in a loud voice. Outside of the medical profession, I doubt if anybody knows as well as the man in the box office how many persons with 'off ears' there are in New York."—New York Times.

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