

Extreme simplicity of Winter Costumes

NEW YORK, Aug. 21.—A fashionable woman was heard complaining the other day that she did not live in the tropics. "Then," she exclaimed, "we would only have two seasons—the wet and the dry. In the former we would wear mackintoshes, and in the latter next to nothing. And the anxieties of the seasons between would be done away with."

The seasons spring and fall are always periods of uncertainty, tentative periods in which society decides between the variety of new styles offered for its inspection by anxious modistes and milliners. Fall is, perhaps, the more trying of the two, for the change from summer fluffiness to the more rigid rulings of winter fashions is always a wrench. Therefore, the first fall hats are always extremely simple in shape and trimming.

This fall is no exception to the rule. There is considerable harking back to the summer styles, shorn, however, of much of their flamboyancy. The new tailored suits are so decidedly plain that tailored hats are a necessity.

Until the advent of the fall rains veils of every description will add lightness to the fall hats. Hair nets will be worn with them. They are useful for keeping stray locks in their proper places. Indeed, they will be found to be invaluable for mildady if she wears her hair low on her neck. They come in every conceivable shade to suit every coiffure, and so melt into the hair as to be barely perceptible, except under the closest scrutiny.

The summer fad for the wearing of many veils has created some unusual shades and color combinations. They either match a costume or give a contrasting touch of vivid color. Wash veils are a recent importation. "Wash veils of crepe and chiffon" sounds alluring. The veils so advertised are certainly pretty, whatever their condition after washing may be.

Chenille plays an important part in fall millinery, as well as in veilings. The latest things in the line of veils are those dotted with chenille tufts. The chenille is soft and fluffy, giving a softer effect to the face than the velvet dots which were the rule in fashionable veils last spring. The tufts are in every shade on white, black or gray net of a very open mesh variety.

A fall hat which is more dressy than the average is a combination of black chenille braid, pale-blue taffeta, and a lustrous black coq feather. The hat sets back a trifle from the face and has a low, broad crown and a moderately wide brim which curves and flares gracefully. The crown is of the chenille braid, and the brim is covered with soft folds and flutings of the blue taffeta, edged with an interlacing of chenille braid. The coq plume starts on the left side of the brim, under the folds of taffeta, and falls over the hair in the back. The hat is raised slightly on the left side by a bandeau covered with black velvet. A smaller coq feather sets on this in front and rests against the fluffy pompadour of hair.

Coq feathers and wings are the favorite fall millinery trimmings. These feathers are used with remarkable differentiation. There seems to be no form of feather ornamentation which they are incapable of producing. Stuffy wired, they make military aigrettes. Fluffy feather pompons are found to be of coq, while longer coq feathers make crests, feather plastrons and graceful curling plumes.

A pretty fall hat, which sets back from the face, is of white felt. The brim is bent into Napoleonic curves and bound with inch-wide black velvet ribbon. Binding of a contrasting shade of silk or velvet is to be seen on many of the fall hat brims. The soft conical crown is encircled by folds of black velvet, and a soft choux or pompon of curling coq feathers trims the left side. A number of short, curling coq feathers covers the bandeau which lifts the brim from the hair.

Another fall hat is of blue felt. The stiff, rolling brim is bound with inch-wide folds of dull green velvet. Folds of the same velvet encircle the crown, while a cockade of mingled green and blue coq feather is set under the brim on the left side.

Black and white chenille, intermingled in braid effect, makes a smart roll brim sailor. The chenille gives such richness that the hat is absolutely untrimmed, except for two paste buckles. A huge curved one accentuates the low crown in the front, and a smaller one decorates the bandeau under the brim on the left side.

Buckles of every sort are features of the fall millinery, although those of more striking size appear most frequently. They are of paste, of jet, either dull or sparkling, or in oxidized or gun metal effects.

One of the new picture shapes in beaver is in a tan, with the brim bound in silk of the same shade. A shallow bandeau covered with silk fits the head and lifts the shape sufficiently to keep it from looking too heavy. The wide brim is bent down over the hair in the back. Its only trimming is an Alsatian bow of three-inch wide velvet in a golden brown shade, set off with a huge paste buckle. The contrast of the golden gleam of the buckle and the warm brown of the velvet against the soft tan beaver is a pretty one.

Alsatian bows of silk or velvet make a very acceptable trimming for the French

sailors in various shades of felt. A French sailor of fluffy white beaver has for its only trimming a huge Alsatian bow of royal blue velvet, set off with a gun-metal buckle. A tan felt is trimmed with an Alsatian bow of cream silk. Indeed, the possible combinations of colors and materials are innumerable.

A favorite way of trimming the French sailor is to lay a long stiff feather or quill flatly across the low crown. It gives a distinctive touch to the hat.

A stylish French sailor with a rolling brim is of tan felt. The flat crown is encircled by folds of brown velvet. Folds

of soft Louisine silk in a cream, dotted with brown, start under the brim on the right side and are drawn up over the crown. On this is laid a long brown quill, starting on the left side of the crown under a rosette of the silk. The end of the quill extends a good two inches beyond the brim on the right side.

The new sombrero hats are being displayed in all the shop windows, and will undoubtedly make one of the season's successes. Although rather extreme, they are becoming to a youthful face. The brim is wide, raised from the head by a shallow bandeau, and bent down a trifle in the

front and more in the back.

A pretty sombrero hat is of brown felt. The edge of the brim is strapped on both sides by four-inch long pointed tabs of tan-colored silk. The tabs are stitched in the same shade. An underfacing of pleated silk mull in the tan shade starts three inches from the edge of the brim and furnishes a soft background for the face. A deep folded band of tan-colored liberty sating ribbon is drawn around the conical crown and caught by a silver buckle. A pair of fluffy white wings, set against the ribbon on the left side, furnish the only other trimming. HARRIET HAWLEY.

If You Would Be a Belle at Forty

DON'T think you are too old to do this, too old to do that. You are always as young as you feel. People grow old by thinking themselves old.

Don't think you are too old to be young. Live a young life, which has a tendency to keep up youthful looks. Woman, while not being kittenish or a "bud," need never be old in her ways.

Don't think that you are forbidden to think of your looks, or to attend to your appearance, because you happen to be 30. Balzac has said that a woman of 30 is at her most fascinating and dangerous age—that is, dangerous to the hearts of men.

Don't make a mistake about it—to be young, to be in the first faint flush of youth, is no longer the fashion. The fashionable age for a successful society woman is between 30 and 40.

Don't, however, go on the housetop and proclaim to the world that you are 40 and glad of it.

Don't attempt repair and preservation

of beauty with paints, powders and veils. Take plenty of exercise, stand erect, sit erect. When you speak, let your voice possess volume and energy. When you think, think freshly.

Don't say you haven't time for the afternoon's "forty winks." Take it, and your renewed strength will show in a freshened complexion. A half hour's nap after luncheon will do more to eradicate wrinkles than all the beautifiers in the world.

Don't think that a life of ease and luxury is essential to preserving youthful, delicate looks. A certain amount of work and exercise is necessary to keep the muscles firm and elastic and the flesh hard.

Don't let go of love or love of romance. They are amulets against wrinkles. Not all of the world's homage is poured at the feet of girlhood.

Don't fancy that the dew of youth, with its complexion of roses, is alone able to inspire passion. A woman's best and richest years are from 35 to 40. The old saw

about "sweet sixteen" is exploded.

Don't be glum if you want to be young. Dance and sing, and, above all, laugh. Ride, drive, row, swim and walk a mile—or make it three—daily. Keep your heart young, and thus defy Father Time.

Don't belong to the "old folks" and nod through the evening hours because your boy is at college.

Don't be afraid that some one will say, "Why, she goes about like a young girl!" If you feel light and easy in motion, why be staid, moping, artificial, because you are supposed to be so, being no longer young?

Don't be envious or disheartened or impatient. Those evil habits make ugly lines in the face. Do gentle, kind, generous things without thought of return.

Don't think there is intense respectability in being rather ugly because you are old. No old person has a right to be ugly. She has had all her life in which to grow beautiful.

Woman Directs a Detective Bureau

WOMEN detectives there have been for a good many years, successful ones, too, despite the old fiction of women and their secrets being soon parted, but in Miss Cora M. Strayer Chicago has the first to take the direction of an agency and employ others. She tells the story of her work forcibly and earnestly, and it carries conviction of her enthusiasm.

"I drifted into the work without deliberate choice," she said to a Chicago Tribune interviewer. "An attorney asked me to do a little investigation on a case for him. I had studied and practiced law for several years, but had been forced to give it up on account of ill health. The lawyer thought I had some ability in the investigating line, and I found quickly what a demand there was for this kind of work."

"A woman with her quicker sympathies and intuition has a great advantage in winning confidence. Although I am usually fortunate in this respect, still I often have people come to me and tell me a story which I can perceive immediately is but half truth. I ask them to wait until they have thought the matter over and then come and tell me everything. Sometimes an hour will elapse, again several days or weeks."

"Mine is a difficult business, wearing to

the nerves and depressing. At times I have gone to pieces completely and had to get away from the town, but in a few days letters and telegrams arrive and the old eagerness to be up and at it returns. Suddenly I feel entirely recovered and come back to begin again. The work is terribly confining. I can scarcely get out for sufficient exercise. I am like the switchboard of a telephone, constantly in touch with all my subordinates.

"My observation led me to believe that most people get into difficulty from a failure to distinguish between right and wrong. In most cases it is a lack of training in youth. Many times I am able to make the person see this, and that is one reason why I can recommend this profession to other women who have any adaptation for it."

Despite the general depression of having to deal so constantly with wrongdoing and foolishness, the comedy side will turn up now and then. For instance, an elderly couple living in the country received information concerning a young man engaged to their daughter stating that he was a married man with three children. The poor parents were almost frantic. It took the young man's solemn oath and Miss Strayer's subsequent investigations to convince them that their future son-in-law was as

straight a young bachelor as the city afforded.

In comparing men and women operatives, Miss Strayer said: "I have about an equal number of men and women under me. The women are better in some things, but, of course, men are absolutely necessary in others. Some of them have been in my employ for years, and to them I often confide all the details of a case. To others I merely give their instructions for the day. What I demand of my people is the truth. Failure I am willing to pardon and assist, but if a man or woman will lie to me he will lie under any conditions, and is liable to betray my client. For the faithful and skillful there is always good pay and confidence."

"It's wonderful what ever renewing interest one can get out of work if she only puts enthusiasm into it. I am constantly drawn to mine by the opportunities I find for helping people. Even above pecuniary reward I place some of the grateful hearts which I know thank me for what I have been able to do for them."

"I certainly have a big opportunity to study human nature, but if I were to write some of the strange things that come under my eyes they would not be believed."

Household Suggestions

The most beautiful things in lamp shades are of white taffeta made over book cloth and trimmed with lace and gold spangles.

As a finish for the very necessary sofa cushion fancy guimp or braid in coloring to match the top, beaded with gilt or silver, is taking the place of the plain colored heavy cord formerly in vogue.

Blue Japanese linen, which resembles soft silk, is being utilized for some exquisite tea-table cloths, centerpieces, buffet and bureau scarfs. The decoration consists of embroidery with white mercerized cotton in Chinese and Japanese designs.

In candle shades there are the most delightful and dainty things imaginable—one in white book cloth, for instance, with a delft design in the delft blues painted upon it. These shades are finished with a tiny ruching of white chiffon at top and bottom.

Men nowadays come as nearly as possible to wearing the chateaux which delights the feminine heart by its numberless trinkets. To his key chain the man hangs anything he might lose—a knife, very likely, and certainly a matchbox of silver. Knives and handles of silver and gold have a ring at the end for the key chain.

Pretty cushions are square and tufted, covered with pretty plain silk in blue or pink or black or yellow, or other college colors, perhaps. These are set solidly with white pins or may be filled with pins to match. On the corners are gay little rosettes of ribbons. The cushions are six or eight inches square and a couple of inches thick.

Nothing is more attractive for either match or cigarette cases for men than those of gun metal with the monogram set on in silver. In some of these it is put on in comparatively large letters in the center of the body of the case, but prettier than this is a cigarette case which has on one side of the cover a small monogram in silver. It stands out distinctly on the gun metal, but is free from that aggressiveness monograms in metal sometimes have.

Some of the most beautiful new lamp shades are made of an exquisite satin straw in colors. These are in odd shapes, and at first glance they suggest an old-time poke bonnet. They are made in many panels, broad at the lower edge, narrowing in at the neck, and then broadening out to form a flare top. The edges of the shades are finished with a lace-like edge of the straw, and around the neck is tied a big broad ribbon fastened in an elaborate bow at one side.

For and About Women

Hetty Green a few days ago dropped a remark which hints at a romance of days gone by. Some one asked her if she knew Mr. Choate, the American ambassador at London. "Know Joe Choate?" she exclaimed. "I should say so. Why, he was one of my beaux when I was a girl."

Miss Alice Dunlap has managed the Western Union Telegraph business in Peru, Ind., for thirty years. In appreciation of her long and efficient service the company some time ago assisted Miss Dunlap in the way of transportation on a trip around the world.

Miss Wilhelmina Jackson, who at 25 years of age is professor at the Scottish college of Darlington, has been offered the chair of English at the University of Grenoble, which has 500 foreign pupils. She will be the first woman to teach in a French university.

After a prolonged effort, Miss Minnie Eloise Kehoe, a practical stenographer of Pensacola, secured the enactment by the legislature of Florida at its session just closed of a law providing for the appointment of official stenographers in the circuit courts of the state. She is the first appointee under the new law, being appointed for the first judicial circuit of the state.

The most gifted of all women composers was Clara Schumann, yet shortly before her marriage she frankly wrote in her diary: "I used to think I had talent for creating, but I have changed my mind. Women should not wish to compose; not one has ever succeeded. To suppose that I was destined to be an exception would be an arrogant assumption, which I made formerly, but only because my father prompted me."

A woman of Washington, D. C., who applied for a license as an engineer, was examined in accordance with the law, and, having been found qualified to act as manager of a stationary engine, a license has been issued to her. This is the first license of the kind ever issued to a woman in the capital city. Her husband is a baker and does a large business, requiring the use of a steam engine in the running of his establishment. Two years ago his wife was made his assistant in the boiler and engine room, and by this daily contact with the machinery, aided by instruction from the husband, the wife became quite expert in the management of the engine. Having a license, the woman can now be placed in charge of the engine without violation of law. The examination was conducted by the regular Board of Examiners, and the woman is said to have passed very creditably.

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