

GLAD CLOTHES FOR SUMMER

Garments that are Luxurious, Some Within the Average Reach.

FROCK COATS OF LIGHT WEIGHT

Evening Clothes Brightened with Ruffled Shirts—Colors of the Rainbow in Men's Hat Bands.

The number of men able to change the weight of their clothes to suit the summer season is not large. To have a frock coat, for instance, which shall be so light in texture as to be suited to summer wear is a luxury pure and simple.

The spring and summer uses of the frock coat are few, writes a fashion critic in the New York Sun. It may be worn possibly at a few town weddings, and after the middle of June the number of them will be limited. Guests at a country wedding, at whatever season it may be, are not required to wear a frock coat and only the urbanites are condemned to this penalty for their importance.

There are three buttons to the new frock coat and only one of them in the roll. That should never be buttoned, even if habit does inspire the wearer to button close the other two. Occasionally these coats have the edges braided, but there has already been some sort of a rebellion against the braiding, which, in spite of its great popularity, was never considered the best style for the frock coat. Blind stitching, as it is called, which shows no sewing at all, is really the smartest finish for these coats.

The materials for the summer frock are, of course, in black and very dark gray, unless the coat is meant for driving, when very light gray or even brown is the smart color this year. For the dress frock the typical soft gray worsted show a herringbone or other pattern, almost invisible, and in blacks, whether they be woolsens or castmores, the soft, dull finish will be used. There is, indeed, little demand for the hard, shiny finish for dress garments of any kind. In the evening dress suits, whether the coat be full evening dress or merely a dinner coat, the materials are the soft, rough finish goods.

Smooth Finish Appropriate. For the rough frock coat to be worn on the top of a coach—few other places are suited to such striking dress—the smooth finish gray or brown is appropriate, although one often sees these sportsy coats so rough, as far as the material goes, that they look like homespun. In the brown frock coats the smoother finish is invariably used. Brown is always a less dressy color than gray, just as it is so much further removed from black. Alfred Vanderbilt, who wears these sportsy frock coats on top of his coach, with his white high hat and the black band about the bottom, always prefers the light, rough grays.

The half dress coat, or cutaway morning or walking coat, as it is variously called in the country, is made in the same light textures that are used for the summer frock. It, like the frock, is either half lined or is lined with the thinnest silk only about the front bodies. It is now braided, if the material is dark gray or black, of the kind used in the frock, and this one detail adds a note of dressiness to the garment that it gets in no other way. If there be an invisible diagonal, check or herringbone in the black fabric the braid makes it more modish still. Extremely conventional designers, on the other hand, hold to the old theory that braid is suited only to goods of a hard, smooth finish and take the blind stitching as the most appropriate finish for a half dress suit.

There should be breast pocket, braided if that finish is used, a chest pocket with a flap and tails that are well cut away from the front. They are of moderate length. The skirts are cut in at the waist to give the necessary look of trimness and either two or three buttons are used. The lapels are peaked and the coat is cut low enough at the neck to show the waistcoat, which, if a waist coat of the same material be worn, should be finished with a white diekey inserted in the collar. Sometimes the change pocket is omitted, which adds an element of dressiness to the cutaways.

Half Dress and Cutaway. The half dress or cutaway coat may be made in a variety of materials which are not possible to the frock, since almost any material suitable for a sack coat may be used for a cutaway; but such a garment will not be any more dress than a sack. Only flannels seem to be excluded from the list of materials available for the cutaway. This is in the real sense of the word, however, a walking rather than a half dress coat, and certain peculiarities of the cut emphasize that difference. The tails of these coats, when made up in mixtures or checks for instance, are somewhat wider than in the dress cutaways and they have broad flaps over the imaginary pockets at these points. The pocket or change pocket in front also has a flap and often the seams are strapped throughout. Then the handkerchief pocket is likely to have a flap, which in some cases buttons down. There is indeed no end to the sporty details that a tailor may add to the cutaway when it is made of rough goods. But it is a mistake to think that such a coat can be regarded as dress. At the utmost it might be possible at a country wedding.

There are few changes in the summer dress suit, which is usually made of a cloth so thin that it needs a lining to give it the necessary body. The collar is provided with the peaks which in the smartest coats are covered with satin down to the edges. The trousers, which are also of such thin material that the prudent man buys two pairs to begin with, are usually edged with braid, although it is somewhat of a fashion to have them made in these summer suits without braid or with such a thin line of cord as to be almost invisible.

The summer dinner coat is perhaps the most necessary of all these dress garments for hot weather wear. Men who stop in town for the summer are likely to put on a dinner coat every evening. Thus it happens that a summer dinner coat is in the wardrobe of many New Yorkers who would not think of spending the money necessary for summer dress coats.

Coats for Evening Functions. The dinner jacket as usual varies in no important particular from the sack coat, being the same in length and in the closeness of its fit. In order to have the greatest benefit of the thin cloth, the tailors leave the coat without any lining other than that to be found in the collar, which has peaked lapels as a rule, although there is a tendency just now to return to the roll collar, which was always more suited to an informal garment like a dinner coat. These shawl rolls, as they are called, are not in the least appropriate to full evening dress. They are much better for the short dinner coat, however, as they are more in keeping with a sack coat and usually make the fit of the dinner coat better. The soft tropical worsteds in gray and black are used for these suits, which are a delight to men in the habit of dressing every night for dinner.

Spring Hats Are Very Attractive

AN EARLY spring and a late Easter have combined to make the Easter hat a matter of fact as well as a matter of tradition this year. Straw hats bloomed early, and while there are exaggerations and morbidities, as there always are, the percentage of attractive hats is large.

For a time it was rather difficult to get used to the fashion in which the hats nestle down upon the head, and even now some of the heavy shapes set very low with bandeau are amazing, but the late winter French hats, prepared as to some extent for this freak, and American women as a class are not carrying the mode quite so far as do the Parisians.



A FEW OF THE EASTER HATS.

lamentably it there is the slightest dissonant chord in the odd mélange of lavender and rose and blue and purple, etc. Orchids and striking, pale lilies, with curling petals spotted lightly in darker color are among the larger flowers effectively used.

The Tuscan braids are enjoying a new lease of life, but, indeed, it seems as though all the braids known to millinery were in evidence this spring. Horseshair, chip, milan, Yedda, Tuscan, panama and a host of which we do not even know the names are offered for choice, and charming things are made up in corded net, in lace and in lingerie.

Among the most picturesque of the French models are the Louis XVI calottes, already mentioned, with their soft draped crowns of net or lace or lingerie or even straw and their falling platings or frills of lace. Some of these rise to great height through the airy drapery of net in the crown or great bows of net or lace in front. Others are fairly high, but have no soaring trimming.

A fold and knot of soft ribbon with a single large rose thrust carelessly through this scarf, an angling wreath of little roses or rosbuds, a scarf of ribbon knotted and falling in long ends down the back—these are some of the trimming devices employed for the delectable little or big draped models, and for the woman to whom such a hat is becoming nothing could be more attractive for wear with lingerie frocks and other sheer summer toilettes.

These latest models are a far cry from the frilled "bebe" hats worn to such excess in earlier seasons and are successful only when turned out by an artist's hands. If one cannot afford to patronize such a wise choice.

All of the burnt straw and yellowish braid colorings are modish in millinery and there is an immense amount of blue used in combination with apparently any and every color, although the combinations are carefully studied. The peacock blue tones are well to the fore, and straws in the lighter greenish blue, trimming in many shades, are particularly chic.

Rose, coral, cerise, all the new pinkish reds, are considerably used and there are lovely things in the light browns and the smoky gray hues.

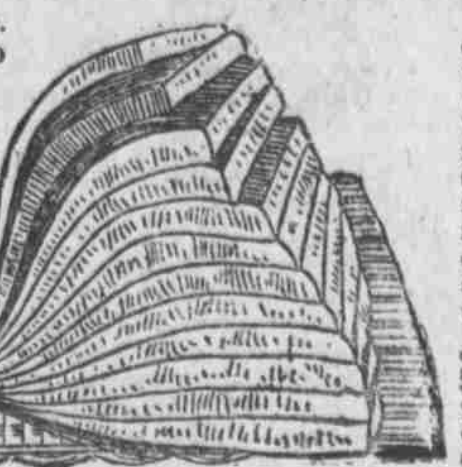
Hats of cream point d'esprit with shirred and corded brim and high crowns, softened by ribbon, lace and flowers, will be much worn with summer frocks, and the designers are producing some very original and delightful effects in these models. The hat of the sketch, for example, had great charm and quaintness.

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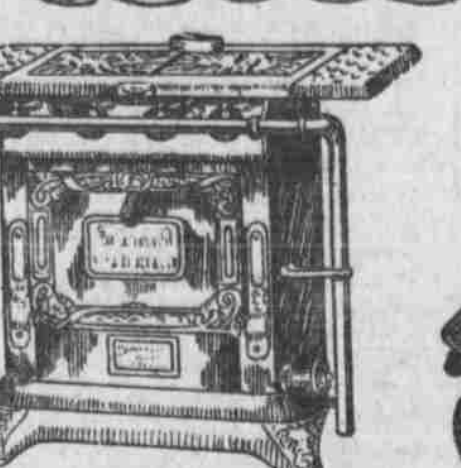


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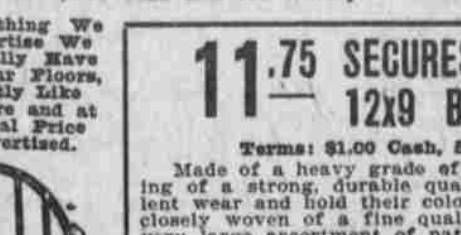
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Steadily at that long-winged Panama, for example, the one with the modest streamer on its tazy band, a foot long and six inches wide, smeared promiscuously with all the colors of the rainbow, and some other respectable rainbow. Actually dreamed of. That sort of things made to pay election bets with. And there are those solid pea-green derbies with the broad red, white and blue bands. Oh, it's a shame they can't circulate some of those through the country districts! What a joy they'd be to the best critters!

"And ain't this the sweet young thing, the dainty, pure white derby, with the halloprope band, beautifully pleated! Oh, I could go to church with that thing! There's something so suggestive of innocence about it—that is, the innocence of the full-grown man who would appear in the street with one on. They've got the same thing with polka-dot bands, and I saw one cream-colored dream belted with a cheap imitation of a dew-laden rainbow.

"And what a bunch of awe-inspiring Scotch plaid caps they are showing! Ought to be great things to keep away from eating the golf balls. Then there are the round, brown plash affairs. I'd want to pet a man who wore one of those; makes him look like a dear little Teddy bear. And there's the slouch, with frizzly bands, like turbans, made of strips of old lace certain attractive dyes. The cowboy felt is in the running again this year, too, only it couldn't help decorating itself a little more than usual.

"A brand new one on me is the stiff felt, made in the exact shape of the low, narrow-brimmed stiff straw hat.

"Do men really pay good money for those trunks? Not often. A man's mental make-up is revealed by the style of hat he wears. Not many of us will admit we have cerebral wheels that emit that kind of sparks. A fellow will see one of those gay topknots in a show window a mile away. He'll hasten over for a closer view. Perhaps he'll admire its architecture, and in front will the watchful clerk inside thinks he's got a sucker. Then the prospective customer will walk in and say: 'I want a hat, plain black derby, please.'

"Yes, gent's hatmakers are sure crowding the milliners hard this year, in the way of the fearful and wonderful.

IN PRAISE OF PYJAMAS

Superiority of One Slumber Garment Over Another Pathetically Pictured.

Eddie Foy, the eminent comedian, at a theatrical supper in New York, made a funny speech in praise of pyjamas.

"Always wear pyjamas," he began.

"Never wear a nightshirt. I have never worn a nightshirt since I heard the horrible experience of Fritz Sausage, a German waiter of Chicago had with the pesky things."

"Fritz Sausage used to come home every evening from the cafe with his pockets full of dimes and quarters—his day's tips, you know. His wife, after he had fallen asleep, would get up and raid the silver mine. Fritz said nothing, though he thought it was an unkind thing for her to do.

"At last he decided he wouldn't stand those nocturnal raids any longer. So the next night he came home he waited till his wife was asleep and then got out of

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