

### Waists for Spring

Tailored and Semi-Tailored Models of Various Materials—Long, Close-Fitting Sleeves, Shaped Collar and Narrow Shoulders the Future in Waists Styles.

THE offerings for spring in the waist line include a large number of novelties that are at present considered too high class for general popularity. The popular styles in waists consist of the strictly tailored model in mannish shirt-like style, the semitailored, which is at once very dainty and practical, and a few fancy numbers, which are made of lingerie material, net and silk.

With the two-piece tailored suit nothing looks as natty as the tailored shirtwaist and the question of taste is left to the consumer, for there seems to be an endless variety to choose from. **Stiff Collars, Soft Finished Sleeves.** The general tendency for severe outlines effect has done much to popularize the plain tailored waist, but these little blouses have been so modified that they no longer resemble the stiffly starched shirtwaists of some seasons ago. The tailored waists are made of soft materials and the dainty touches given to them by way of trimming and other matters of detail make the new tailored model a practical as well as a comfortable garment. The plain shirt-like waists, with stiff cuffs and collars, are still to be seen, but there is a general tendency for softly finished cuffs and a number of the newer models show the stiff collar, but the sleeves are finished like the lingerie and fancy models.

**Simple Styles Prevail.** Simplicity in cut is one of the principal features of the new waists. Shoulders are narrow, sleeves are long and closely fitted to follow the outlines of the arm and every suggestion of blouse is precluded by the smoothly fitting and well drawn down models. Collars are still high, but not so decidedly pointed and not boned too much. The round and square Dutch necks are to be seen among the advanced summer models.

The trimming arrangement offers much variety. A number of models show the simple straight up and down treatment; other models are trimmed to form the bolero effect, and others again show the banding in simple effect.

**Novelties in Waist Fastenings.** Many of the new tailored models are made to fasten at the side in Russian blouse effect, while straight front fastenings, without the slightest suggestion of a pleat are one of the smartest ideas in waist fastenings. A number of the new lingerie models show the departure from the regulation back-buttoned models. Many models that are not fastened in front and sides show blind buttons and other fastenings and are invisibly closed in the back. Buttons are still employed largely for ornamental purposes, particularly the heavy croquet variety.

**Colored Lingerie Season's Novelty.** Among the numerous novelties of the season are the lingers which are dyed in colors to match or harmonize with the tailored suit. These are shown in all the

new spring shades and are otherwise exactly like the white lingerie models. The marquisette waist is another novelty of the season, which is, at present, only to be seen among the high-class, expensive models. These are daintily embroidered and lace trimmed. Crepe has ceased to be a novelty and seems to have taken its place among the better waist materials. Crepes are seen in all white as well as in color.

**Waist Materials Offer Wide Range.** The tailored waist is made of various grades of linen, plain and daintily hand-embroidered, madras of various weaves, dimities, crepes, pongees, various other silks and net, while the lingerie waist is made of batiste, handkerchief linen, mull, lawn, swiss, plain and embroidered and all-over embroideries. Net tucking, net embroidered in flares and soutaches, Irish, Renaissance, Chiny and Venice laces and softly finished mesallines are used for the dressy models. Marquisette of high class selling and a new cotton printed imitation silk in foulard effect for popular use are the novelty materials of the season.

**Heavy Laces of Trimming Ideas.** One of the most striking ideas in new trimming is the wide employment of heavy laces. The new cluny, real and in imitation, is used very extensively. Hardly a waist but that shows some touches of this new trimming. Irish and Venice laces are also used to a wide extent in conjunction with the plain clunies. The net top laces are used very effectively in combination with the heavy trimmings. Vals are still to be seen among the popular numbers, but less laces are, at present, much to the fore. Crochet buttons, drop ornaments and pendants of all kinds are popular trimmings. Hand embroidery is one of the most favored trimmings for the high priced models, and there is a tendency for the heavy embroidering in braided effect. Much is done with soutache braiding.

**Color Quite Pronounced.** There is quite a tendency for color which manifests itself not only in the solid colored lingerie and other waists to match the suit, but many of the white and ecru waists show touches of color in the trimming. Colored embroideries, embroidering and laces are the means to give these color touches to the waists. It is no longer essential that the waist should match the suit, exactly. Colors are shown for blending and harmonizing effects. For instance, a waist of pale mauve may be worn with a suit of deep wistaria. A pearl gray waist is chosen for a smoke gray suit. Contrasting colors in waists not too glaring are also well thought of. Among the new colors in waists are the new Empire blue, several rose shades, myrtle and olive greens, banana, ochreous, wistaria and the soft pastel shades. Black is much in evidence among the fancy lace and net models as well as the plain tailored effects.

### NEW TACTICS IN BRIDGE

Discussion of Echo Plays for Third Hand at No Trumps.

#### USE OF DOWN AND OUT ECHO

Conventions that Help to Remove Old Difficulties, and Thoughts on the Change the Suit Signal.

The present season has seen several new developments in bridge tactics which are not yet in the text books. Some of them are still in the experimental stage, but all look as if they had come to stay, not with every bridge player perhaps, but each of them with some coterie of players who like to take up new things.

Among the many difficulties of the game which are recognized by the experts probably none has given more trouble than the matter of understanding between the partners who are opposed to the dealer, especially in no trumps. Almost every text book gives a different set of rules for the play of the third hand at no trumps, although they agree upon the lead and upon the third hand plays when opposed to a trump declaration.

The authorities all admit the necessity of third hand's unblocking, but they advise the player to go about it in different ways. Bridge teachers all tell the third hand to show what he holds in his partner's suit, but they differ in the manner of doing it. Now they are trying to combine unblocking and echoing at no trumps with a convention which is intended as an invitation to shift to another suit and to lead through dummy.

It is obvious that any such system as this will be impossible until the authorities agree upon the foundation upon which this new convention shall be built. You cannot tack one idea of an invitation to lead through dummy upon three different ideas of unblocking and unblocking. In order to make the system of any value it will be necessary first to agree upon the elementary principles of the echo at no trump, so that the variations from this standard form may convey the invitation intended.

#### Three Methods Followed.

There are three principal methods of third hand playing at no trump which are now followed, each being applied to cases in which third hand makes no attempt to win the trick; that is, when either the leader or the dummy plays such a card that third hand does not need to go over it. The first method adopted by the great mass of players is to play your smallest card always, regardless of number. The second method, used by those who have had a few lessons, but not from a good teacher, is to play the next to the smallest only when you have four cards of the suit led. The third method, used by the experts, is to play the second best always, regardless of number or value.

In the first method the card first played is followed by the next higher in following suit, but if the suit is not returned to the original third hand he may return the higher of two remaining or the lowest of three, or he may lead any card that will beat dummy, regardless of the number he holds himself.

In the second method the lowest but one is followed by the lowest of all in following suit, but if the suit is not returned to the original third hand he may return the higher of two remaining or the lowest of three, or he may lead any card that will beat dummy, regardless of the number he holds himself.

#### Must Avoid Confusion.

In the third method the lowest card is

always held until the last so that there shall be no confusion or ambiguity either in the echo itself or in the return leads, if such are made. Holding two cards only of the suit led, the second best, to be played on the first round, will be the lower of the two held and it must be followed by a higher card under all circumstances in following suit, in return leads or in discarding.

Suppose that third hand hold the J 8 2. He plays the 8 to the first round and the J to the second whether in following suit, returning the lead or discarding. If he holds four cards, such as J 10 8 2, he plays the 10 to the first round, the 8 to the next in following suit or in discarding, but he would play the jack in returning the suit. In every case the lowest card, the deuce, would be held until the last.

This system of unblocking and echoing makes a clear distinction between the various numbers of cards held by the third hand in each case. With three in suit the second card played is higher than the first one, showing only one lower than either remaining. With four of the suit the second card played is lower than the first, showing one higher as well as one lower remaining. This method has the great advantage of holding up a card which the leader can easily miss on account of its small size and also of exposing the dealer's false cards.

It is upon this last form of the echo that it is now proposed to build the convention which shall indicate to the leader that third hand thinks it would be desirable to come through dummy instead of making third hand lead up to dummy.

#### Idea of the New Echo.

Every bridge player must acknowledge that there are countless hands in which the third hand would like very much to get a lead through dummy, and that there are probably just as many in which he would prefer to lead up to dummy's weak suit instead. The idea of this new echo is to distinguish between these cases in such a manner that the partner shall understand which is the better plan to follow. Many a good card in third hand is killed by an untoward lead through dummy.

This convention is chiefly useful when the third hand holds so many cards of his partner's suit that he can manipulate it in different ways. If he has four, for instance, he can show that he is keeping a card which would win one round of the leader's suit if it got the chance. This is as much as to say that he wants the lead in order to play up to dummy's weak suit. Therefore the leader may argue that third hand thinks such a course is better than having dummy's strong suit led through.

As a practical illustration suppose the leader against a no trump holds such a suit as five to the A K Q, and third hand holds J 10 8 2. Let us first suppose that third hand has nothing that would lead to the original lead for a lead through any of dummy's suits.

The original lead is the king, on which third hand plays his second best, the ten. On the second round, when the queen is led, third hand plays the deuce.

Now third hand cannot possibly have held only the ten and deuce, or his play ten, deuce, or his play would have been the ten and then the jack. The leader, therefore, is under no misapprehension as to the true holding of third hand, because third hand must hold a card higher than the ten, and also a card between the ten and the deuce.

#### Reading the Situation.

If the original leader would like a lead up to dummy's weakness he can read the situation as inviting him to put third hand in the lead. If he does not want it, either because there is nothing to be gained by it, or because he does not care to risk it, he goes right along with the ace of his own suit and makes third hand give up his jack and get out of the way.

The invitation was there, but was declined, that is all. Now, let us take the same situation and suppose that third hand held something like a tenace over dummy in another suit. Of course he would very much like his partner to come through that suit, especially if it is a guarded king in dummy, which third hand could kill, or a trick which is essential to saving or winning the game. Unless there is some conventional way of showing that desire the partner is extremely unlikely to hit upon the lead, and certainly not until he has run off all his own suit. In such a position, third hand holding the same cards as before, J 10 8 2, plays the ten on his partner's king, but gives up the jack on the next lead of the queen, thus making it practically impossible for his partner to put him in. Of course, the leader goes right on with his queen, only to discover that third hand must have held four of the suit, but departed from the regular system of echoing with that number. As a rule the leader would miss the two small cards at once and would certainly place the deuce on the third round.

If it looks to the leader as if two leads through dummy might be useful he can stop his own suit while his partner still has a small card of it, and can lead through dummy, letting third hand put him in again for another lead through dummy after the first suit opened is finished.

#### An Instance of Play.

The writer saw a hand of this kind the other day in which dummy had made it no trumps with four spades to the A K Q, four diamonds to the A K, four clubs to the K J and one small heart. The opening lead was the king of hearts and third hand held four to the J 9 and four clubs to the A Q. Third hand echoed with the 9 and J. The leader went on and the dealer refused. The leader shifted to clubs, third hand made his queen and returned the heart. After the leader had made the sixth heart trick he led another club, one of which suit dummy had discarded on the second heart lead, and third hand made three more club tricks. The getting two leads through was what won the game. One point which has been pretty well settled recently is that it does not pay for the third hand to echo in a trump declaration for any other purpose than to invite a ruff. The echo to show the command for the third round has been proved a fallacy, although many players have adopted it. Careful analysis shows that it is false in principle and at times very confusing.

The fundamental idea of the two players who are opposed to a trump declaration is to get in their crop of tricks before it rains. With that end in view the leader shows what winning cards he holds in the suit he opens and his partner shows him how the suit is distributed. This is accomplished by means of what is called the down and out echo.

Some authorities insist that this echo should not be used unless a king is led originally, showing the ability to win the second round of the suit, upon which the echo will be completed. But this limitation is quite unnecessary, especially with players who sometimes lead away from an ace when playing against a declared trump. One can never tell who will win the

second round of a suit, so much depending on the way the lead comes and the dealer's idea of how to play the hand. The echo is always useful to the leader, if only in placing the suit.

#### Down and Out Echo.

This down and out echo consists in playing the higher of only two cards, neither of them as high as the jack, when no attempt is made to win the trick third hand. If one of the two cards is as high as the jack the echo is unnecessary, because when the jack falls the third hand must have the queen or more. If third hand plays the jack to the first trick, it must mean queen or no more.

The great advantage of this echo is that it enables the leader to place the dress of the trump, especially when dummy is the strong trump hand and the dealer is looking for opportunities to make his losing trumps separately. As a rule players regard the echo as an invitation to a ruff, and nothing more. It simply says, "Partner, if you lead a third round I can trump it."

But this is a limitation. The great use of the convention is as a suit placet. When the down and out echo is used to show command of the third round it becomes useless for the purpose of locating the remainder of the suit because of the uncertainty. For this reason the best players do not approve of those who teach the down and out echo to show command.

Suppose that dummy declares hearts and the original leader opens a suit of five clubs to the ace-king. Dummy plays down with the six and deuce. What does this echo mean? If third hand uses it to show command

for the third round the leader should shift the suit at once in order to prevent the weak trump hand from getting in a ruff. If the echo means no more the leader should continue the suit so as to let his partner get in a ruff before his trumps are drawn. Any misunderstanding in such a situation may cost tricks.

#### Change in Suit Signal.

Another convention is the change of the suit signal, but it has not gained in favor this season, has rather lost, chiefly because it is necessary to have a previous understanding with the partner and a tedious explanation to the adversaries before it can be used without laying the users open to a suspicion of unfair play. There is something in it that smacks too much of the private signal business to suit honest card players. Nevertheless it is probably just as well that bridge players should know that there is such a thing in order that they may protect themselves if they meet with it at the card table.

The convention consists of making an echo by playing a higher card before a trump is led in the suit which is first led by the dealer, not in the suit led by the partner. This echo is a command to the original leader to abandon the suit he first opened and to try something else.

This command applies, of course, to unestablished suits only and should be given only when the third hand, who makes the echo, has a suit which is either already established, or good for three or four tricks or which can be established more surely and quickly than the original leader's.

Of course, there will be more or less guessing on the original leader's part when he gets in as to which of the two unplayed

#### Why the Old Cow Chased Her Tune.

"Why are all those people flocking down to Hiram Hardtop's barn?" asked the old farmer on the hay wagon. "He's got a curiosity down there," chuckled the village constable. "That so? What kind of a curiosity is it?" "Why, it's old red-and-white Jersey cow. The other night the old critter had the colic and I'll bet down with his lantern to give her a dose of cow medicine. He'll be blamed if he didn't make a mistake and give her a pin of snuff." "No, but, by Heck, it had a funny effect. Now, instead of going 'Moo, moo' like any other sensible cow, she goes 'Honk, honk' like one of them new-fangled automobiles."—Chicago News.

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