

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE MAGAZINE PAGE

Thin Dresses and Fat Dresses

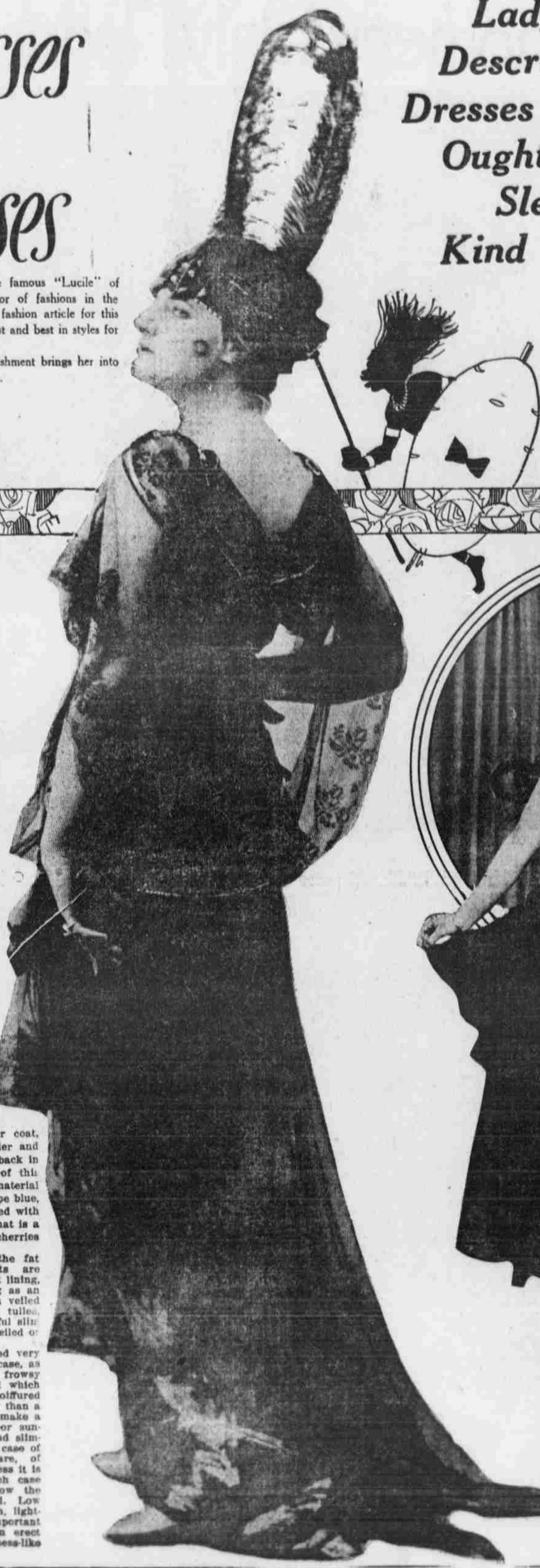
**Lady Duff-Gordon
Describes the Kind of
Dresses the Stout Woman
Ought to Wear to Be
Slender and the
Kind the Slender One
Ought to Wear
Not to Look
Too Thin**



LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women.
Lady Duff-Gordon's Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.



Another Walking Dress of Tussore.



Street Dress of Covert Cloth, Designed to Encourage Walking. ("Lucile" Model.)

THE old cry, "Why don't you design dresses for fat women like myself," is the voice of six out of every twelve women. Almost the last thing I should care to be is the "fat frump's friend." She always reminds me of the ostrich that buries its head in the sand—by putting a silly little hat on or wearing a tight gown that looks as though it were "spread" on her like butter. My experience of the fat woman is that she loves to sit at home, eat the best of everything, and then rely on an expensive quack medicine and her dressmaker to make her thin. My advice to her is very old—exercise, dancing, for instance—and I should like to see large electric signs outside of all dancing palaces, "Fat-Reducing a Pleasure," and let the medicine, and, most of all, the dressmaker, be the last resort.

Anyway, as the last resort, let me expound—and this is where the ostrich comes in: Dear lady, you are fat anyhow, so the best way to disguise it is not to wear a tightly swathed gown that marks every "curve," or else high collars that heap out chin after chin. My advice is go easy, and, if your hips are large, wear one of the new wired-out skirts and make them twice as large; for, whereas is a tight skirt you show just exactly how big you are, in a full, sticky-out one, your friends have just to guess how much is you and how much is dress, while with the new long-pointed, light bodice, the fattest of women can generally produce a possible waist, and there you are.

Now there is a type of big women who would look ridiculous in these dresses—that is, the amazon—and her only hope is the thin dress. Long, clinging, hanging drapery are hers, even if she is fat; all drapery beginning as high up as possible to emphasize her height and size, much in the same way that a short lady exaggerates her width by the full skirt. Her height can also be exaggerated by a headdress that stands straight up.

To the tall, big woman I advise

the centre picture, a "thin dress" of clinging cloth of steel draped with fine black lace and having two girdles of large emeralds and small diamonds. Her headdress is composed of bands to match with two upstanding black feathers. Note how all the draperies fall from the shoulders and above the waistline and think how ridiculous she would look in the same dress if she were short and fat instead of tall and stout.

Now for Mrs. Short and Plump," in the lower right-hand corner: She has a "fat dress." Her dress is of black tulle with jet embroidery, and her greatest enemy could never say that she filled the entire width of that skirt, while her tight waist only helps the illusion. Look at the model; little black lace tucker, contradicted immediately by the diamond shoulder straps. It is really to my mind a cunning gown, and think how ridiculous she would look in the same frock if she were really tall and stout. So, stout ladies, design your own gowns, or, rather, let me design them, but you choose the right ones for yourself. As a last resort, don't rely on me to "make" you thin. I'm not fat, and I didn't "make" myself thin. I kept myself slim, but I always work hard and play hard, too, for that matter.

Now, I will give you a couple of dresses for walking. I mean good walking, for exercise. The top left-hand covert coating is tight and practical. It is light in weight, has a full, short, easy skirt and nicely fitting coat with large pockets. The stripe leather belt is rather high and the close-fitting sleeves match the collar with their black and white stripe facing. Shoes, hat and stick are of black and white to match. A little stripe tussore answers the purpose better for the afternoon wear. The lower part of the skirt having the appearance of being slightly closed, but in reality is sufficiently large, by reason of the box pleats

in front which spring from below the waist, where the little double button vest finishes. The overdress is of the same material, but made on a different grain, the stripes running crosswise instead of down. It appears like the turn-back skirts of the French soldier coat, but is, of course, much fuller and folds from the waist in the back in box pleats, an exact copy of this from the vest in front. The material is in natural colored silk stripe blue, which colors we have repeated with black in the waistcoat. Her hat is a green straw with a bunch of cherries and leaves at the side.

A few more words for the fat ladies. Transparent effects are good, but always from a dark lining, as nothing is so unbecoming as an ugly, apparently naked, form veiled in black or other colored tulle, while on the other a beautiful slim form is the thing of joy if veiled or slightly veiled.

The hair should be dressed very close to the head in either case, as nothing to my mind is more frowzy than a loosely dressed head which looks as though it had been coiffured with a knife and fork rather than a comb. Long earrings often make a good line, while umbrellas or sunshades should be as long and slim-looking as possible. In the case of double chins, necklaces are, of course, entirely tabooed, unless it is a string of pearls, in which case they must reach well below the waist and be loosely knotted. Low shoes are preferable to high, light-top boots, and the most important of all is, however stout, an erect carriage and a good business-like step when walking.

A "Fat Dress" for "Mrs. Short and Plump," and, Beside It, in the Centre, one of the "Thin Woman" Looks Best In. ("Lucile" Models.)

What the Stars Promise of Good Fortune and Bad for April

THE full moon figure ruling the first half of April has Saturn and Neptune unfortunately in the western angle, which relates to diplomacy, equality and foreign trade. A near rupture in governmental relations is apparent, and we will be fortunate indeed if something in the nature of a cause of war be not literally forced upon us, with the 15th and 19th as discussion centres, with diplomatic matters all a-tangle up to that date.

Building and agricultural industries are most favorably conditioned in the Middle States, but somewhat delayed west of the 10th parallel. Venus in the third house solicits the Pacific States, and the influx in the Exposition will surpass expectations. This is verified in the map for the spring quarter.

Attempted assassination of a public official probable around the middle of April, with some notable accidents at the same time.

A lower barometer marks the opening days of April, but the angular position of Saturn will beget some Winter aftermaths in northeastern and mountain sections. A caloric tone follows on the 14-15th with Mars aspecting Sun and Mercury. Clear winds around the 14th, then a genial Jupiter reigns in the second week, but much higher temperature near the 17th, with moon in equator. Electrical storms may be expected at this time, developing into increased atmospheric disturbance and excessive precipitation by the 19th.

The 15th-16th brings a clearing sky, but there is a prevalence to east winds follow-

ing the new moon under a Saturnine ray, which will be more in evidence near the 18th, between which and the 20th high coast winds may be looked for. These veer into some very treacherous storm conditions, extending up to the 24th; then a subsidence of the elements to the 27th. Venus in aphelion and Moon at perigee at close of month will cause falling barometer and a recurrence of weather potentials.

Specific incidents may be expected on or near the following dates:

April 6.—A notable death in artistic circles, with suicides by Swains. A high official in disgrace. The foreign problem worries the National Government.

April 8, 9.—Announcement of a valuable discovery by the scientific world, as im-

provement in air planes and something along the line of anaesthetics. Share markets somewhat depressed.

April 13.—A critical diplomatic situation which clears up by the 15th, with a reassuring piece of news from Cabinet circles. More confidence on the exchanges.

April 18.—Invidious comment attaches to hospital and prison managements. A startling increase in crime.

April 20-24.—Wharfage and shipping interests endangered through strife of the elements; loss of coastwise vessels and destruction of property in the South. These dangers obtain in the eastern rather than the western zones.

April 27.—Social scandals rife at close of month, but a definite improvement in industrial affairs. Scientific periods around

the middle and end of April.

The depressive Saturn will be strongly in evidence this month for those born between the 17th and 20th of March or June, or 19th to 22d of September or December of any year; or if in the Winter of 1849, Summer of 1855, Spring of 1856, Winter or Summer of 1862, Spring of 1864, Spring or Fall of 1870, Summer of 1874, Spring or Fall of 1878, Springs of 1885-86, or Summer of 1892; and particularly if the birthday be near the 9th, 13th or 25th of this month.

Jupiter will afford a pleasant contrast for those born in 1852 or Winter of 1853, Summer of 1855, Spring or Summer of 1861, Fall of 1863 or 1865, Summer of 1866, first nine months of 1867, Summer or Fall of 1871, Summer of 1876, Fall of 1879 or

1885, or Winter or Fall of 1892; or if around the close of February, April, June, October or December of any year.

Uranus is a portending factor if born within 4th-7th of February or May or 7th-9th of August or November of any year; home and business interests jeopardized, with loss of position for those in employment; guard against accident and nervous troubles.

The 3d-4th as anniversaries, incline to troubles by law or writings in coming year of life; unfavorable birthdays for doctors and the legal fraternity; similarly the 12th and 24th-25th. The 14th-16th excellent anniversaries, improvement in finances; and social position and favors those in artistic spheres, the 20th-21st and 25th of pleasant augury.