



Yellow Silk and Lace Tea Gown, with One of the Odd New Caps. "Lucile" Model.

By Lady Duff-Gordon.

HERE are two very odd and interesting little new fashion touches. One is the crownless hat, which has the hair for its crown, and the other is an adaptation of the apron to the dress.

Hats have more of novelty in them this season than almost ever before. They are, indeed, coming to their own as a decorative adjunct of dress—a destiny that I have been trying to help along for a long time. This charming little hat is nothing more than a band with little roses sewed to it and a brim of tulle. A pinwheel feather completes it. It is not a headdress at all. It is distinctly a hat, with the natural shape forming its crown.

The charming little dress that goes with it I have called "Why Do You Hesitate?" It is a young girl's dress of a wonderful turquoise blue tulle.

The apron dress is all white hopsack. The hat is one of the always delightful broad brim "somewhat floppy" type. The apron dress is very little more than the adaptation to fashion of a janitor's or a carpenter's apron. Even the little belt comes from the same source—and yet how effective it all is! I have always tried to teach that beauty is a thing that can be developed from almost anything.

A little tea gown is of yellow lace, and here, too, we have a novelty in the cap, which is also of lace, with a modification of the Dutch wings.

At a Ritz luncheon party the other day it was generally admitted that the winner of the Smartness Stakes was a certain almost boyishly slender little lady whose coat and skirt costume of black and white checked tweed was almost as severely simple in style as a man's suit.

Also, it was just as immaculately tailored, hence its own and the wearer's success.

The skirt was of the shortest, its fullness flaring out at the sides only, and the back and front hanging straightly and just touching the tops of the high black Russian boots, whose putting on, let me warn you, means the use of a "jack," and whose taking off demands the help of either a very muscular maid or a husband sufficiently new to be devoted and delighted to "assist" at his wife's toilette!

The coat buttoned right up to the neck, with a series of little rounded silver buttons, and just showed a line of an inner collar of white lawn beyond its bordering piping of black satin. Then the toques, too, was of black satin and of distinctly military outline, with just a cockade of satin ribbon, edged with silver galon for its trimming. It was set on the head at the acute angle of a forage cap, nor was there much more hair shown than if its wearer had been a soldier man, the soft dark locks being brushed right back from the forehead and the ears, and just showing a sleek and smooth sweep at the left side, never a stray curl being permitted to relieve the hard



PHOTOS BY JOEL FEDER.



"Crownless Hats and Apron Dresses"



Two of the Newest Notes of the Summer Fashions Described by Lady Duff-Gordon



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.



Walking Dress of Blue, with Blue and White Striped Collar and Cuffs. "Lucile" Model.

The New Crownless Hat and a Turquoise Tulle Restaurant Gown That Lady Duff-Gordon Calls "Why Do You Hesitate?" "Lucile" Model.

line of satin against the forehead. So nothing could well have been simpler than this "set-up," and yet the resulting effect was eye-arresting and even startling to a degree rarely attained even by costly elaboration.

Though, to be sure, as regards cost, this simple little suit would, I am sure, be calculated to give a severe shock to the husband who was suddenly called upon to pay the bill!

It almost goes without say that navy blue serge suiting is responsible for a goodly number of the new full-skirted models, whether these be of the coat and skirt or the all-in-one "coat-dress" variety, a trimming of black military braid being almost as inevitable as it is, certainly, and always, effective.

Sometimes the costumes will have a short and quite straightly cut coat with a centre fastening of braid-edged buttonholes and braid-covered buttons, which can be used right up to the edge of the military collar, or left undone for an inch or two at the top, to show an underlining of white moire. Then, just over the hips, the trim little garment ends its career in a series of braid-edged scallops, the skirt following this decorative example at the hem, where, by the way, its measurements are exactly four and a half yards. This is a style which can, indeed, be depended on to suit almost any woman blessed with the slim figure which helps to give an appearance of youthfulness even when the woman's Calvary—middle age—is already in sight!



The Interesting New Apron Dress of White Hopsack "Lucile" Model.