

Fashions of the Day.

My Dearest Adelaide: I imagine I see you, with that little wrinkle between your eyes, thinking out your dainty *lingerie*, or more explicitly speaking, your underclothing which you always attend to in January. Well, my dear, from the skin out you must be in harmony. Don't be found even dead with a pink-topped hose, a red silk petticoat and lavender in your gown. If you have lavender in your gown be sure that the lining of the skirt, the petticoat, the underskirt, or the combination garment, underskirt and chemise, the drawers and the stockings are lavender. Then if you should chance to be numbered accidentally among the "dead" and found among strangers, even the guardian of the law, the bluecoat, will without hesitation pronounce you "a lady."

These dainty things that tell so quickly the refinement of a woman can be made of China silk, of India mulle or of organdie. The silk and mulle are preferable, as most organdies lose their color by trips to or through the laundry. The silks and muslins come in all the standard shades, and to be well fitted out the January repertory should have a suit of lavender or violet, one of pink, of blue, of red, of pale green, of white and one of black, all of them trimmed with tucks and lace. If in addition, girlie, you have some tea gowns or lounging robes made of the same material and fluffy with lace, and satin slippers which correspond in color, you can see what a dream and joy you would be to yourself and your friends in your dainty boudoir.

With these colors carried out in full suits you will always have in readiness a tint that will harmonize with any dress that fits the whim of the hour. It seems a good deal of a task to change "to the skin" every time you change your dress, but, my dear, it will not hurt you, and besides the elegance of it, there is the hygienic side of it. But it is not necessary to condemn and sentence to the laundry these dainties because they have been worn, particularly if they are of the silk—that is one of the beauties of Chinese silk. The muslin, too, can be folded nicely with laces nicely picked out and worn again, and several times, and then once a month be consigned to a special or "dry cleaner" or French laundry.

Plaid stockings have had their day. They were never especially favored by the best dressed women, and were so soon imitated in the cheapest hosiery that they never gained foothold, as it were. Black with lace stripes and lace over the instep, and plain black are always in good taste, and black with "boot-tops" in colors enables you to carry out the enchanting scheme of color.

Theatre waists are in full bloom. A late fancy is the thin transparent stuffs over the neck and arms without linings. A beautiful waist that I saw on a handsome blonde the other night was of black Brussels net over an extremely low-necked lining of black taffeta. It was full or gathered into a jettied girdle and shirred around the neck into a jettied band. The sleeves were shirred over the dazzling white arms, and came down well over the hand. It was worn with a black and white satin striped skirt. The stripes, about two and a half inches wide, met biasly in a seam in the front of the skirt, and were matched beautifully on the bias in the other seam, but the breadths were cut off at the sides and back, and the fashionable flounce set in. This flounce is always much wider at the back than at the sides.

These skirts are extremely graceful when well made, giving the flare without the fullness and the weight we have carried so long.

I digressed from the pretty theatre costume with the black and white and jet was worn a tiny jet bonnet that was

only a coronet around the hair which was dressed very high; on one side was a black and white aigrette. The gloves were white stitched with black. An ermine opera cape completed the costume.

Gloves are no longer strictly necessary for evening wear, but diamonds and precious gems are if you lay aside the conventional glove.

Hat pins make and mar a hat. Sterling silver filagree work in the shape of a ball make a serviceable pin, and look well in any kind and color of a hat. The turquoise surrounded by rhinestones is worn a great deal, but is too conspicuous to be in strictly good taste. The common black hat pin is standard, but

out of place unless on a black hat.

Feather boas are worn more than ever. They are too becoming to be lightly thrown aside. Ostrich feathers and coque's plume in black, white and gray, matching hats and costumes we see everywhere.

Roman scarfs tied around the throat—inside of the high Medici collars, on fur coats and blouses—with the ends hanging to the waist outside of the coat are chic.

Lace ruching inside of fur collars standing up over the edge of the collar and tied with satin ribbon in front, are a fancy of the month—of course the satin ribbon in color suggests the ever-present vest, put on the outside of the close-

ly-buttoned coat these cold days.

Muffs are large, muffs are little, but muffs you must have with suits, and with furs—sometimes of fur, other times of the material of which the suit is made, when the furs are not worn.

Silver chains, gold chains and jeweled chains are worn to hold the muff, to hold the purse, or to hold the smelling bottle, or anything—so that the chain is worn

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