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FASHION LETTER.

Lady Modish in Town Topics.

The vogue for black and white still continues, white having perhaps the preference. A white cloth tailor suit worn at one of the recent fashionable weddings had a coat built along the Eton lines, with a wide rounding collar finished with two large embroidered holes, through which long scarfs of white taffeta were passed and tied in front in a sailor knot. The vest was a work of art. It was of hand embroidered fine silk mull, fine squares of which were joined by strips of gold studded narrow velvet ribbon. There was also a suggestion of gold in the belt, which was of taffeta, and wide, showing the metal studding from the bottom to the depth of about an inch. The skirt was not much trimmed. It had the plain flounce effect at the foot, each flounce being elaborately stitched in gold thread, a novel and very pretty idea. This three shaped flounce model is shown just now at all the best houses. The formed pieces do not reach quite to the knee. There is very little fullness in the back at the opening.

A word about gowns of nun's veiling. A new white model is attracting much attention. The skirt is made of side pleats from top to bottom, each pleat trimmed with black velvet ribbon an inch and a half wide. A superb Russian lace collar garnishes the waist, and the yoke and throat collar are trimmed with small gold buttons and very narrow black velvet ribbon. The sleeves are elbow length, close fitting, and finished with two wide bands of velvet ribbon tied in short end bows. The hat which completes this toilet is a white Panama sailor, with folds of black and white velvet about the brim and a large buckle of exquisite workmanship in front, with black velvet folds threaded through it. White camelias nestle against the hair at the back beneath the brim. The hat is worn slightly tilted toward the right side. The same idea for a costume is worked out in silky grass linen over a slip of taffeta. Black velvet ribbon is also very effective with the linen, and the lace collar shows to even better advantage than upon the white veiling. With the linen costume was a beautiful Tuscan hat, with a wreath of pink roses and foliage about it and a large bow knot of black velvet on the side. One still sees the more substantial and more practical fabrics. The black silk, etamines, pongees and brilliantines hold their own, partly on account of the peculiar spring weather, but mostly because they are vastly becomingly.

Light gray hopsacking, unlined, is the favorite material for shirt waist skirts. These cling and fit superbly about the hips. They are worn over a silk slip with deep accordeon pleated flounce. It is best to have the slip of exactly the same shade as the skirt. Marked contrasts in linings have gone out of fashion to a great extent. The finer silk petticoats are soft in material and delicate in shade. Vivid colors are now of the past. The black and white plaids and checks are still worn, but they became entirely too popular at the outset to hold their own long with the Modishes. Petticoats in exquisite lilac foulards, measuring yards and yards and yards about the bottom, with elaborate flouncings, are favored among smart women. There is absolutely no swish nor rustle to these dainty articles, but they are beautiful and far too costly to grow common. One in white foulard has three very full accordeon pleated flounces vandyked about the bottom and reaching well to the knee. Each flounce is trimmed with fine real Valenciennes insertion in two rows, with an edging perhaps half an inch wide.

All the underskirts are made to fit

closely at the top and to the knees, from which point they flare more than ever. The fine white nainsooks, with four voluminous foot ruffles of three inch lace, are exceedingly pretty this season, and are to be considerably worn with the simple lawns and white point d'esprits so favored by young women. A particularly handsome nainsook petticoat has a hand embroidered flounce reaching to the middle and topped by the most lovely beading, which accommodates two-inch ribbon. This is threaded into the beading so as not to hide much of it, and bows of the same color are scattered over the flounce at intervals. Squares, diamonds and disks seem to be spread out on all sorts of lingerie. They are of lace or embroidery, and occasionally silk, on the most elegant undergarments. One very showy model of nainsook, a petticoat, has the entire body made up of the delicately embroidered squares, hemstitched together. A deep umbrella flounce, also embroidered to half its depth and edged with another smaller flounce of the same, completes it. These skirts are very pretty under the dotted Swisses and mulls so much in evidence for summer wear.

Edward Quits All His Clubs.

King Edward has resigned active membership in all his English clubs, remaining as patron, however, on the roster of the Jockey club, the Royal Yacht Squadron and the Marlborough club.

When he ascended the throne he contented himself with giving up his place on the committee of the Marlborough, believing it would be possible to retain his ordinary membership. But experience has shown that this was impossible.

Club life implies equality among all members, who have equal rights and are on an equal footing. This was to such a degree recognized that the Prince of Wales was treated by his fellow-members of the Marlborough, the Royal Yacht Squadron and the Jockey as if he were a private citizen instead of heir to the throne.

No one rose or doffed his hat when he appeared in the smoking rooms, card rooms, reading rooms, etc., and he would stroll about and take his ease without anybody paying more attention to him than if he had been an ordinary member. This attitude was all very well when he was still Prince of Wales. But the etiquette that surrounds the monarch of the British empire is much more strict and elaborate. There are certain forms of respect which are indispensable, and which he could not allow his subjects to forego without impairing the dignity of the crown, and, realizing that all the charm of club life would be at an end, not only for himself, but likewise for all the members of the club, if whenever he appeared they were obliged to bare their heads, to rise from their seats, and to refrain from conversation until he addressed them, he determined to resign, which he has now done.—The Mirror.

LITERARY NOTES.

One of the most attractive publications which has come to our notice is the July number of the Delineator. Not alone in the reading matter, which is of exceptional interest, but in the illustrations, both in color and in black and white, this magazine has reached a high point of excellence. The views of the Buffalo exposition, done in three-color printing, are very beautiful, and were taken directly from the water-color sketches of C. Y. Turner, director of color to the Pan-American exposition.