

No Regard for Cost of Gowns

There is every evidence in the present season's models that the Paris designer is in no way influenced by the temperature of the season for which he designs, says a prominent fashion correspondent.

Paris has just passed through a coalless winter, with short sleeves and no collars. Now a hot summer threatens, with long sleeves and muffling collars. Is it genius or contrariness that has brought about this utter disregard of reasonable effects?

In fact, there are many other questions about present-day dress which one might think of asking, among which is, "Why should multiple eras diamonds be the fashion when half the world is starving? And why, at a time when there is not sufficient material to cover the bodies of the peoples of the earth, should the mills be engaged on costly fabrics of the slowest possible construction?" A close and minute analysis might explain the seeming contradiction, but there is no time for this if we are to talk of the new models.

Taffeta and Lace Combined.

Among the clothes for spring and summer are many suits and dresses developed in taffeta. Taffeta and lace, as well as taffeta and tulle, are frequently combined to produce the more dressy effects.

Laces of the finest and rarest quality are used—another extravagance of this season. These are all of a fine tulle variety, hand run or hand embroidered, and are mostly in black, cream or tea color, the two latter shades being used on black taffeta models, while the black lace appears in conjunction with high colors and white. Black on black is never seen, nor is white on white. The principal novelty is taffeta crepe, and while the most exclusive designers are using this in their original creations, many copies are of the ordinary taffeta.

In the plain taffetas, tete de negre and navy blue are the favorite colors, while woven novelties are in changeable and shot effects. One that is unusual has a chain or warp in multi-colors with an occasional thread of black. This is woven with a solid color or filling thread, thereby giving almost the effect of a dark "hit-or-miss" rag carpet, but with the pattern infinitely fine; in fact, almost invisible.

Costliest of the Taffeta Family.

This vari-colored chain or filling-in is so elusive that the fabric must be studied before one can really know how the color tone is achieved. Of course, this silk is the most costly of all the taffeta family. Imagine the art and the difficulty of setting up the chain in a thousand colors and then blotting it out with a black or brown filling. Nor are these marvelous taffetas confined to all-over patterns;



This model proves that no color combination is too startling to find favor in these days. It is of navy blue cotton sponge combined with French blue voile in black and white plaided design, with roses embroidered in bright colors.

they are also shown with woven stripes. The plain and the striped patterns are much combined in the new spring models.

Other novelties are black taffeta dresses worked in English embroidery patterns with steel threads and cut steel beads. The embroidery is very deep on the skirt, like the patterns of old-fashioned muslin skirts, and the designs are almost identical. The same embroidery appears on the bell sleeves, which are a little longer than elbow length.

A beautiful dress treated in this way has the skirt mounted to a low waistline bodice cut in a rounding line at the front and slightly pointed over the hips, all the fullness being massed at the sides in thick gathers. This skirt is suspended over a foundation of silver cloth which has a black tulle hem showing between the scallops of the embroidered edge. The bodice, which is of the taffeta, opens low in a point at the front, showing the silver

foundation. There is a ruff of tulle across the back of the neck and shirred pieces of the tulle fall from the elbows of the sleeves like short scarf ends.

To picture this dress one need only hark back to old-fashioned dresses made of white muslin and trimmed with footings and to replace these cotton effects with black silk, adding steel beads and steel threads.

The most vivid colors are being used in street clothes as well as in those for indoor wear. One is developed



The most vivid colors appear in street clothes as well as those for indoor wear. The dress sketched shows green and blue striped taffeta combined with plain navy blue, the latter being used for the plaited underskirt and slightly fitted bodice.

from navy blue taffeta used in connection with green and black striped taffeta. The striped silk forms a tulle which is hung over a very finely plaited blue underskirt.

The color combinations in cotton frocks are even more striking than those in the silks. It is interesting to study some of these because cotton dresses will play a very important part in the fashionable summer wardrobe. Their use will not be confined to the country; we will wear them in town as well; in fact, almost any place where a simple silk or cloth frock has been worn in other years.

Bold Patterns and High Colorings.

Some of the latest novelties in cottons show a combination of the eponge and voile weaves. These are in bold patterns as well as in high colorings. One well-known house is showing a charming dress developed in copper color, beige and black, printed and woven in a conventional design.

Another instance in which startling colors are used in a cotton frock appears in a model of cotton eponge in navy blue combined with French blue voile in black and white plaided design with roses embroidered in high colors. The fact that this model has proved itself a popular one goes to show that no color combination is too startling to find favor these days.

The care which a great designer—Cherult—gives to children's clothes shows us how important little folks' fashions are becoming. She makes one charming dress with a skirt of ecru handkerchief linen, over which falls a straight, short bodice of robin's egg blue. There is a watch pocket containing a cunning toy watch and fob, both made of blue taffeta. The watch has a porcelain face but no works. The neck of the dress is round and the arms are bare to half way above the elbow.

USE OF COLOR IN THE HOME

Tints Attractive in Clothes Are Not to Be Spurned for Interior Decoration.

The average woman fails to realize how color alters the appearance of her home. Indeed, she is almost afraid to use it except in a few set schemes of the crudest sort. Though in her dress, in her embroidery, in the hat she is trimming, she may use it freely and often with originality, yet in her house decoration she is too timid to attempt any but the most commonplace arrangements.

The high cost of labor and the discomfort of the necessary domestic upheavals may be partly accountable, but perhaps now that she has learned how to paper a room and is not afraid of a paint brush she will not be discouraged from experimenting.

Long Gloves Prominent.

The supremacy of short and flowing sleeves is gradually encouraging the wide-spread revival of longer glove styles. The sixteen-button mousquetaires in white promise to be particularly favored both in silk and in fine leather. In colors, soft, mode, bisque and ivory shades are to be prominent.

MRS. LAURENCE TRIES HER HAND.

By KATE TUCKER.

The bugbear of Doctor Laurence's life as general practitioner in the small town of Crawford was cases that are generally known as "nervous." He was courageous and versatile, as most small-town doctors have to be. He would go his rounds fourteen hours out of the twenty-four during epidemics; would go with steady nerve through operations that would have tried a more celebrated surgeon; he would listen patiently to the queries of young mothers over their infants' teething difficulties—all that sort of thing. But when a patient said "nerves" Doctor Laurence wished to give up.

Mrs. Laurence, however, had been reading up on modern methods of treating nervous disorders in the doctor's medical journals and in the popular magazines. Psychopathy was her latest hobby, and somehow, in spite of the five little Laurences, Mrs. Laurence always had time for some hobby.

"I really feel," she told the doctor one evening while the mother's helper, Vera, was patiently putting the younger two Laurences to bed and the older two were dancing an Indian war dance as a preliminary to putting themselves to bed, "I really think that I would have a positive talent for psychic healing. You know reputable doctors are taking it up now. There is a wonderful future for it. I don't see why you don't go in for that sort of thing. All the best doctors are doing it. Take Robert Ludwell, for instance. His case is purely psychopathic—perfectly absurd for you to look at the case in any other way. What you want to do is to get down deep at the root of the matter. He doesn't sleep and he's losing weight, not because he has overworked on that book of his, as you tell him, but because of some fear image that lurks in his mind. It is your duty to probe down till you find it, and then, through the force of your mentality over his, to dispel that fear image."

"So you said," commented Doctor Laurence, and then—"perfect bosh, perfect bosh." He paced back and forth before the living room open fire, "I wish I could do something for Robert, however."

There was suddenly an unusual note of pleading in Mrs. Laurence's voice. "Will you let me try?" she said, and apparently Doctor Laurence agreed, although if he did agree it was surely not because he had any interest in his wife's theory of psychic healing.

The first step in Mrs. Laurence's campaign to cure Robert Ludwell took place the next evening, when the doctor asked him to spend the evening at his house, without, of course, suggesting to him that Mrs. Laurence was going to administer her first treatment in psychic healing.

There was considerable confusion. Vera, the mother's helper, had been away on her very rare afternoon off. The twins refused to be put to bed by anyone else and their rebellion gave the cue to the older child to fall downstairs, with considerable injury to his tired feelings, but no great bruising. So dinner was late and the confusion still was discernible when Robert arrived.

There were intermittent wails from the nursery, a slamming of dishes in the kitchen and glimpses of the rather flush-faced, distracted Vera as she pursued the older children through the living room in her effort to pack them off to bed. But Mrs. Laurence was not one to be much ruffled by such mild domestic confusion, and eventually she managed to sit beside Mr. Ludwell alone before the fireplace and make the first probing.

She discovered one thing. He had a horror of boarding houses. He disliked boarding house coffee. He likewise had a horror of any sort of confusion. He intimated when Mrs. Laurence asked him point-blank why he had never married that possibly it was because he was a recluse by nature. He had to have quiet for his writing.

So Mrs. Laurence decided to invite Mr. Ludwell to leave his boarding house and spend a month at the Laurence establishment. There he would have no more boarding house coffee, there would be no more confusion, she was sure.

She was surprised when he accepted her and the doctor's invitation. She hadn't expected he would come so willingly. And the doctor was even more surprised.

"He says he wants to be away from confusion?" gasped the doctor.

"I am sure you don't think there is ever any confusion here," said Mrs. Laurence, "and the coffee is certainly better than the kind one gets in a boarding house." Mrs. Laurence was planning now for her system of psychopathic treatment on Mr. Ludwell. If she succeeded with him, she might take the work up as a career—she might become quite a specialist.

Meantime Doctor Laurence had been making observations, and he had observed a pair of pretty blue eyes which he had come to regard with something akin to fatherly affection. He noticed that at times those eyes turned a very soft limpid blue and then dropped in confusion. And then he would glance across the room, only to find a pair

of supposedly melancholy dark eyes suddenly delve deep in a book or newspaper.

At times Mrs. Laurence was profuse in her apologies to Mr. Ludwell. At breakfast she would ask him how he slept. "I hope you didn't hear the twins," she would say. "They were up earlier than usual, and Richard fell out of bed. You may have heard him screaming in the night; not hurt, merely frightened." And you might have discerned her confusion which was deep-seated because it had been part of her plan to have the Laurence household breathe that calm and quiet which would be the proper antidote for the boarding house fear image.

Then one evening you might, had you been hidden somewhere beside the side veranda of the Laurence homestead, have heard the following conversation. It was an evening when Doctor and Mrs. Laurence were attending some board meeting or other and Vera was at home to look after things, as usual. Mr. Ludwell, in spite of a previous engagement, had remained home also:

"Did you get any sleep last night at all?" asked Vera wearily.

"Some," commented Ludwell; "what was the row in the nursery?"

"Well, Richard woke up at eleven and decided it was a good time to bite his sister Bell's big toe. He has been waiting for a chance to get even. That woke the twins, and so it went on, and, of course, some one is always sure to wake at five, and then they begin again."

"Hard on you," said Ludwell sympathetically. "But there's this about it. When I do get a chance to sleep, I sleep hard. I never saw such confusion—the boarding house was Eden compared to this bedlam."

"Then why do you stay?" came a rather shy question that seemed to trail off weakly toward the end.

"You don't suppose I'd leave you here, do you? And I'll tell you, Vera, that what has set me on my feet again after the exhaustion that followed getting out my last book in such a frightfully short time was because I felt that I wanted to know you. After I knew you and saw how hard you worked here, I felt I had to pull myself together so I could take care of you. I wanted to be able to offer you a home where you could get away from this confusion."

Then there was a silence, during which, if you had listened, you would have heard nothing. Then from Robert Ludwell: "How wonderful you are, Vera." And from Vera: "You—you are wonderful, too."

Robert and Vera left the Laurence household in more confusion than they found it. Confusion, of course, because the mainstay and prop in the guise of Vera was going. But then there was the satisfaction to Mrs. Laurence that she had succeeded amazingly well in this, her first effort in psychopathics.

NEVER FREE FROM TROUBLE

Border Between United States and Mexico Has Always Been Lawless Strip of Country.

The border between the United States and Mexico has been for a long time one of the most troubled, romantic and lawless in the western hemisphere. Not only do the Mexican revolutionists periodically start something by shooting or raiding across the line, but this border also affords one of the finest opportunities in the world for smuggling. A large part of the opium which is consumed by addicts in this country comes by way of the Mexican border, and an illicit business in arms and ammunition goes the other way.

In the old days stealing horses in Mexico, driving them across the river and selling them in the United States was a thriving industry and it is probably still carried on to some extent. In the old days it was known politely as the "wet horse trade," because the horses were often sold when they were still wet.

The border country is admirably endowed by nature for these lawless doings. It is flat, near-desert country, too dry for farming, but not too dry to support heavy thickets of chaparral and mesquite, which makes one of the densest and most impenetrable covers in the world. That part of the country which lies within the big bend of the Rio Grande is an especially dense jungle of this kind. It swarms with game. The desert white tail deer, the peccary, the wild turkey and the Mexican quail are abundant. This supply of wild meat makes it easy for a Mexican outlaw who knows where the water holes are to hide out for long periods.

Superfluous.

"How do you do, sir?" suavely saluted the gent at the door. "I am offering, to the few persons in each community who are of sufficient culture to appreciate it, a valuable literary work. This book—"

"Book, ha?" interrupted Gap Johnson of Rumpus Ridge, Ark. "I had a book—forget now what 'twas about, though—for a good while, but about six months ago the baby took and gnawed it till it fell to pieces and wasn't no good on earth. No use to buy another 'till he gets old enough to understand what a book is fur."—Kansas City Star.

His Principal Objection.

The house agent had sounded his praises of the new property to the prospective buyer and at the end he said: "The death rate in this suburb is lower than in any other part of the country."

"I believe you," said the prospective buyer. "I wouldn't be found dead here myself."—London Tit-Bits.

Horticultural Points

TREES MAY NEED FERTILIZER

Recent Investigations Indicate That Nitrogen is the Element Most Likely to Be Needed.

Orchard trees, like other crops, often are greatly helped by the judicious use of fertilizer. The grower, however, is often at a loss to know whether or not his trees need fertilizing and he is at an equal loss to know what to use to best advantage if any fertilizer is to be applied. The appearance and the previous behavior of the tree is the best index to the tree's needs, according to V. R. Gardner of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture. If the bearing tree has been making a strong, vigorous growth the new shoots each year being eight to twelve inches long; if it has been producing large crops of good-sized fruit, and if the foliage has been abundant and of a healthy dark green color, there is little need of fertilizer. On the other hand if growth has been poor, crops poor and foliage sparse and light colored, fertilizer is probably needed.

Orchard fertilizer investigations during recent years conducted in different parts of the United States indicate that nitrogen is the element most likely to be needed by fruit trees. Apparently this can best be supplied to fruit trees in the form of some quickly available commercial fertilizer, such as nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia. An application of five or six pounds of the nitrate or four or five pounds of the sulphate to the tree is generally enough for good results in the case of average-sized 12 to 25-year-old trees. The application should be made in early spring just as growth is starting and the material should be spread upon the land so as to cover an area around the trees at least equal



Each Individual Tree Should Be Carefully and Continuously Watched to Detect Any Symptoms of Trouble Either of Insects or Disease—The Working of the Ground With Spading Fork is No Small Contract.

to the spread of the branches. Many orchards which show signs of declining would be greatly benefited by such fertilizer treatment.

The point should be emphasized, however, that application of fertilizer will not take the place of orchard care in other respects. It must be accompanied by good pruning and spraying, and if possible good cultivation, to give best results.

SPRAYS NEEDED IN ORCHARD

In Neighborhoods Where Disease and Insects Are Controlled Few Are Required.

The number of sprayings required in your orchard is governed by local conditions. In neighborhoods where all the farmers keep dense and insects under control, fewer applications are needed than where haphazard spraying methods are practiced. Each year's spraying makes the work of the following year doubly effective.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES

Empire is larger and more productive than any other red raspberry.

It is logical that the time to spray, and the number of sprayings, should be governed partly by the extent the trees are infested.

Don't allow grass and weeds to remain under and around fruit trees this winter, as they serve as a hiding place for rats and mice.

Don't put off spraying when the proper time is at hand if you are desirous of ridding your orchard of insect pests and disease at minimum cost.

Building in California. The California state highway commission will spend \$800,000 a month, or a total of nearly \$10,000,000, for good roads during this year.

Are Connecting Links. Good roads are the connecting link between the city business man, the manufacturer, and the farmer, dairyman, and producer of food.

Highways in Georgia. Highways to cost \$5,000,000 are now under construction in Georgia.

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

OBJECTS OF THE SCOUT PLAN

The purpose of the Boy Scout movement is to develop character, initiative and resourcefulness in boys by cultivating their interest in activities of practical everyday value through their interest in the fascinating outdoor activities of the scout program, under carefully-selected leadership. The ideals of the movement are efficient citizenship, service and character building.

The Boy Scouts of America form part of the world brotherhood of scouts several million strong.

"The Boy Scouts of America," the name under which the movement in the United States was incorporated on February 8, 1910, has as its honorary president Woodrow Wilson, and as honorary vice president, William H. Taft. The active president is Colin H. Livingstone; national scout commissioner, Daniel Carter Beard; chief scout executive, James E. West; treasurer, George D. Pratt.

Associated with these in approval and promotion of the movement are the eminent citizens from all walks of public life who are members of the national council and of the local councils in the cities and towns of the whole country, and a host of others who earnestly co-operate in the work. The office is at 200 Fifth avenue, New York city.

SCOUT STUNTS IN THE OPEN.



Scout Carl Zolov, Troop 9, Portland, Me., Giving Cooking Demonstrations.

THE EVIDENT SCOUT DUTY.

"It is your duty as a true and loyal scout to be ever at the service of your country, always doing everything you possibly can, without being asked, to strengthen the hand of the government," says Lieut. Delvin W. Maynard, the "flying parson."

"You should not allow shallow-brained, weak-minded, thoughtless, unpatriotic people to say ugly things about our government and our country without expressing your contempt. Let us not be so unthoughtful ourselves as to say mean things about our country, but let us realize that our country is not some inconceivable idea, some visionary object, or some incomprehensible state of existence, but is a simple and plain reality, easy to conceive, made up of such homes as you represent, and never to bring disgrace upon these homes so dear to all of us. No scout can be loyal to his family without being loyal to his country, and in turn, loyalty to country is loyalty to home."

MEN TEST THE SCOUTS' PACE.

Seventy business and professional men of Springfield, Ill., who are in training to be scoutmasters, took a test of their ability to maintain the marching pace of the Boy Scouts. The men were required to take fifty running paces and then fifty walking paces for a mile, and by the time they reached the end some of them were glad.

Arriving at their destination, the men found a big log fire built and settled themselves down to listen to an address giving instruction in knife and axe work, cooking and fire building.

Weight of Herefords.

Hereford cattle are ample in size. Mature bulls weigh up to 3,000 pounds, averaging 2,100 to 2,500 pounds, and mature females average 1,500 to 1,700 pounds.

Better-Sires Slogan.

As the better-sires slogan indicates, all males must be purebred and of good quality.

Cause Unthrifty Pigs.

Intestinal worms cause unthrifty pigs.