

FASHIONS.



BECOMINGNESS THE THING

Ethiotic Droop of Sheer Skirts and Other Picturesque Effects in Late Parisian Frocks.

PARIS, July 29.—There has crept into all Midsummer toilettes a remarkable element of the picturesque. Not that a whit of chic has been sacrificed to the end that hats and gowns might be, above all, becoming, but certainly becomingness is the virtue most courted just now. There is a sort of ethiotic droop to the sheer skirts, a sort of languor in the clinging that is quite in harmony with one's spirit during sultry "dog-day." Only very young girls and misses affect the crisp Summer muslin frock now. Skirts are still full, very full and much befrilled instead of flaring. To insure this pronounced clinging the sheerer silk tissues are substituted for taffeta.

Parisian, the unquestioned authority on skirts, is producing his Midsummer models with side box plaits at the back that lap toward a narrow central box plait. Only the tall, slender woman carries this skirt off well, and yet it is affected generally by smart women, irrespective of height or breadth.

Graceful Batiste Gown.
A graceful gown of deep cream batiste worn recently at the races had a skirt that was tucked in perpendicular lines for quite a distance below the knees. The tucks were pressed flat like box plaits and the tops were faced with narrow black velvet ribbons that terminated in loops where the tucks merged into a frill. Over the top of each loop there was a tiny cut steel buckle. Two insets of entre-deux ornamented the frill. The corsage was a simple, draped affair of chalk-white mull. Over it was worn a short bolero of the batiste, with a lining of figured white china crepe. This was striped with narrow black velvet ribbons, those at the back describing Vs, while the lines at the front of the jacket slanted up. The revers and lower part of the bolero were of plaid and embroidered batiste, and had a finish of black velvet along the edges. The rather short sleeves were laid in pressed tucks as far as the elbow, where the batiste was allowed to flare into a frill. Narrow black velvet ribbons faced the upper part of each tuck and ended in loops over the frill.

High, Jeweled Collars.
This sort of colorless gown does not necessarily call for a contrasting note of color, yet it lends itself well as a background for a favored shade. The high, jeweled collars made of coral strands give a charming touch of color to these monochromatic, pale-hued batiste gowns. Greens, too, look well with these gowns—greens that range along through the soft shades of almond, the duller shades of sagegreen, and the clear lettuce greens. One of the pretty cream Midsummer gowns boasted an elaborate trimming of green begonia leaves in crotone applique that was extremely effective. The corsage was a blouse, rather close-fitting and seamless, that fastened at the left shoulder and under-arm seam. It had four rows of button-holes at the front and back, through which were run narrow black velvet ribbons. Across the front there were applied two festoons of the

begonia leaves in variegated shades of green that trailed off into delicate tones of old rose. A similar trimming was repeated on the tall collar and at the lower part of the close-fitting sleeves, just at the head of the frill. At the left side of the corsage there was a cascade of narrow velvet ribbons, knotted at intervals into short looped bows.

Shaped Flounced Skirt.
The skirt was made in a shaped flounce that extended in a point to the waistband at the front, and at the sides it sloped away gradually until it was only a few inches wide at the back. This flounce was headed by a broad border of the applique crotone, and a third strip of the border extended down the middle of the flounce just over a bunch of tucks. At intervals the flounce was tucked into groups of tiny tucks that had more the effect of cordings.

The long silk driving coats that one sees at the Midsummer races have quite a distinctive little air of their own. They are less elaborate than the flowing carriage coats and more pretentious than the trim taffeta "dust-shedders" that every automobile enthusiast includes in her Summer wardrobe.

One attractive representative of this class was built of chalk-white silk poplin and was lined with a sulphur yellow broad silk. It was laid in flowing box plaits back and front. Each plait's edge was piped with black panne velvet and stitched closely in white silk. The front of the coat for its entire length was faced back with black panne velvet. Under the coat, the bishop sleeves were finished with a broad, flaring cuff of the poplin, ornamented with loops of the velvet ribbon. The neck was cut square at the front and was finished with a small, turn-back collar of the black panne velvet.

Midsummer Hats.
Midsummer hats, too, lean much more to picturesqueness than to the chic now. They have positively a pastoral sort of air about them, in their newly acquired simplicity. The low-crowned, broad-brimmed leghorn that we associate always with Maude Miller is very much in evidence now at all the afternoon functions. Of course, with this style of hat the hair is invariably worn low. One of these pronounced "bergere hats" I noticed the other afternoon at the races was a leghorn, with an unusually floppy brim. The brim was faced with shirred red tulle flecked with black panne dots. Around the crown there was a knotted a scarlet velvet ribbon with long loops and ends hanging off the back.

Another afternoon hat is a broad-brimmed, low-crowned affair woven of plaited grasses. Around the crown there is twisted a garland of morning glories, in varying shades of blue. These fall in trailing tendrils off the back of the hat and reach nearly to the waistline. Curants, blue, white and scarlet, are used lavishly in trimming Midsummer hats.

A pretty picture hat is built of two discs of closely woven white horsehair braid laid upon the other. At the front of the hat, between the discs, there is a full bunch of scarlet curants. At the back of the hat there trails off a long looped bow of scarlet velvet ribbon. Trailing bows are quite a feature on Summer confections. Hats, wraps, gowns and parasols all boast them.

Detachable Bolero.
A soft pastel pink mull gown owed a great deal of its charm to a quaint, detachable bolero of embroidered cream batiste. This was made décolleté and was drawn down into a narrow black velvet belt. It fastened at the back, and from the point where it fastened, there trailed long ends of white taffeta, outlined with black velvet.

Both skirt and corsage of this gown were tucked. Two broad bands of batiste entredeux, bordered with black velvet ribbon, gave a finish to the skirt. The narrow velvet ribbons were laced around the tall, straight collar.

NINA GOODWIN.

PROPER OUTING WEAR.

Still an Important Feature of the Summer Wardrobe.

Outing clothes are not as much talked about nowadays as in the times of the bicycle fever, but they are still important features of the Summer wardrobe. When one goes junketing for pleasure a neat skirt that escapes the ground adds materially to peace and happiness. Of course, remarks the Chicago Record-Herald, to properly fulfill its destiny the outing costume must be in a texture that admits adventuring without damage. To rough it in "any old thing" may seem proper enough to the average mind, but the girl who looks to all her toilettes wants to appear as trim and pretty on the country road as anywhere. Then, when the sun of Summer have departed, a serviceable suit with jacket, stout boots and trim hat, will be found an invaluable starter toward Autumn needs.

Maidens who go in for any sort of tramp have their shoes made of heavy calfskin, after the easy, low-heeled model of masculine footwear. Girls with small

feet—for these mannish Oxfords give a look of hugeness to the pedal extremities—even buy boys' shoes, but they sugar the sacrifice with the gayest stockings the market affords.

Tennis shoes of dark blue canvas, with black leather strappings, make the feet look small, and when accompanying blue hose, with white spots, they seem quite dashing. The heelless rubber soles are also a great aid toward climbing hills and covering dunes.

Among the outing rigs shown by a smart Chicago costumer, and which consisted chiefly of short golf skirts and Etton or box jackets in dark, pliable wools, there was a very pretty sketching dress that had been designed for one of society's daughters. The material of this was a red, white and blue mottled linen. The figured decoration was white linen with alternating balls of red and blue, and the rough straw of the hat also mingled these colors effectively.

Little maidens who have gone to the

ais. Then patch pockets and collars in plain colors look well in striped and mottled stuffs, and a wool Tam in red or blue is as stylish and easy a head covering as a schoolboy can wear. All of these styles can be followed in linen, canvas, duck or any Summer goods.

FROM HEAD TO FOOT.

As to "Corset Men," the Race for "Panamas," and Other Things.

Chicago has the name, if she hasn't the game, of having corset men—that is, the "shirt-waist corset man." Corsets are not uncommon among the Army officers of Europe. They are known to be worn by snappily dressed officers in England, France and Germany, and is not an unusual thing to see advertisements for men's corsets in the papers and magazines of these countries.

The masculine corsets of Europe are very different articles, however, from

lation with vaccine; she shudders at the thought of the touch of a finger nail that will relieve a painful pimple. Yet with a light heart she will take her child to the first jeweler or watchmaker to get him to place the ears of the little one whose every cry fills her with anguish. In order to carry out this barbarous practice she stifles the cry of a mother's heart; she sets reason aside and allows herself to be influenced by human stupidity. The fact is that fashion takes precedence of everything.

A few years ago, in certain sensible quarters, there was an attempt to oppose this barbarous custom. It was to be good style not to wear ornaments in the ears, and women of fashion, sacrificing rather to the custom of the moment than to judicious ideas of hygiene and good sense, put their sparkling earrings and pendants into their caskets, but the whole thing ended in smoke.

In the name of hygiene, even traditional mistakes have been revived. To cure inveterate strangles, to stop the running caused by irritation of the auditory ducts, to cure chronic suppuration of the eye-lashes or rhino-pharyngitis, the ears have been laden with ridiculous pendants; the lobe has become the chosen place for these barbarous cauteries. In short, the practice of mutilating these little organs under cover of hygiene, as grotesque as it is irrational, is continuing.

In the present day, in towns as well as in villages; among the wealthy as well as among the poor, one may see numbers of children, young girls, young women and old women, with the lobes of their ears split in several places, and no longer capable of supporting the gold, silver or brass ring consecrated by custom. It is not common sense that has deprived them of their habitual jewels. Their flesh alone is the cause of their degradation from custom. Rendered too tender by acrofolia and lymphatism, it could no longer bear the weight inflicted on it, and gave way.

These victims of coquetry should consider themselves very lucky when they get off so cheaply and when they escape diseases of the skin, making them pay dearly for their inordinate love of practices held in honor among those whom we regard as savages.

Mutilation of the ears is no longer any more justifiable than mutilation of the nose, tattooing or scarification of the face. It is unworthy of a civilized people, of a people aware of the fact that every effraction of the skin and every wound is a door by which death may enter.

FOLIAGE USED FOR TRIMMING.

Two Recent Parisian Gowns That Forgive an Example.

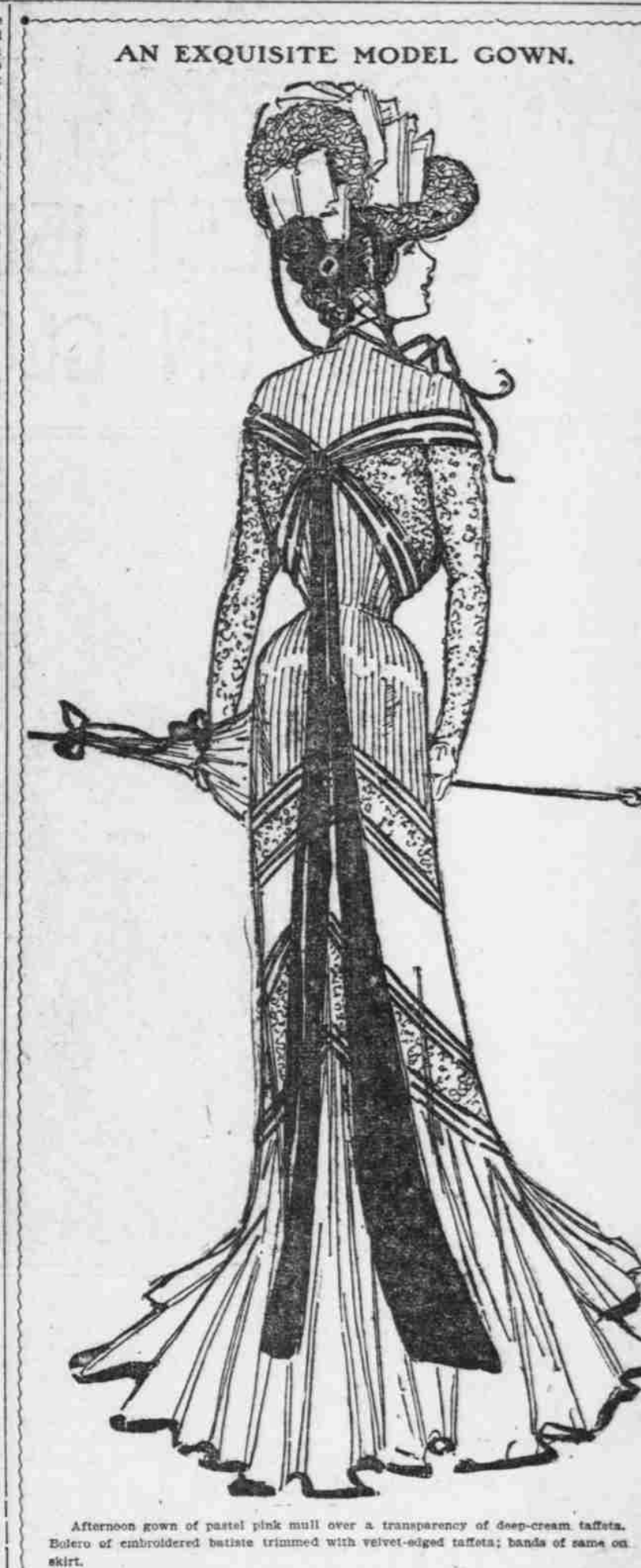
Foliage is used as trimming for smart Summer gowns by some of the Parisian designers, and two handsome blouses recently exemplify this form of decoration.

One was a combination of the palest pink mousseline and foliage merging from the deepest shade of green to a ruddy bronze. The mousseline, plaited and drawn under a waist belt of black velvet ribbon, was visible through the foliage, which, in the form of a skeleton bolero, was unlined, diminutive puffings of the mousseline filling up the intervening spaces, the sleeves and yoke being entirely composed of the transparent foliage. Another blouse was of the finest white mousseline gathered full into a transparent lace yoke, and caught down the left side by three clusters of red berries. These showed up prettily on the delicate softness of the blouse, a distinct novelty; they seemed a pleasant change from either choux or fancy buttons.

Some of the French day gowns are very much trimmed with berries, flowers or foliage, which are, in fact, employed in all manner of forms, fashioning in many cases the yoke, the bolero already described, and in the entire corsage is covered by a trellis work of petals and foliage intertwined.

A Useful Toilet Device.

A clever American woman in Paris has invented a novelty in the way of a portable bag, made of silk and trimmed with Valenciennes lace. This little accessory to the toilet is worn attached to the garter, having a tiny hook for that purpose on the handle, made of ribbons. In the bag is a place for the powder puff and hairpins, armed with which the aver-



Afternoon gown of pastel pink mull over a transparency of deep-cream taffeta. Bolero of embroidered batiste trimmed with velvet-edged taffeta; bands of same on skirt.

age woman is ready to face any emergency, the inventor declared that when a woman is an ever adjustable tool, for an infinite number of feminine uses. To the objections made by some prudish women as to the difficulties of getting at

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

Health and Beauty.

"The decorative painter," remarks Kenyon Cox, "especially when trying to typify the abstract ideas, is apt to embody them in large and generous types of femininity. There seems at present to be some tendency in the American woman to catch up to these physically noble types. Fortunately for the painters, the American woman seems to be growing greater in stature, fuller in development and freer in movement, so that there is a possibility that in the course of the 20th century, or even in the earlier part of the 20th century, the decorative ideal figure painter may find types ready to his hand comparable physically to those that served as models for the great Venetians, but with more spirituality of type and greater subtlety of expression."

"The reasons for this direction of development are hardly within the province of the artist to determine. Whether it be the greater freedom which the liberty of the modern woman enjoys, the modern interest in physical exercise, or the increased well-being of our life today, must be left to physicians and sociologists to decide."

"But for whatever reason, the fact is certain that the modern American woman is approximating more closely every day the ideal type of physical perfection."

Nightshade for the Hair.
A man of 50 or thereabouts who had passed most of his time in semi-barbaric prodigality in the woods, and whose beard reached far below his knees, declared that he owed his luxuriance to constantly treating it to a wash wherein the berries of the deadly nightshade formed a principal part. People laughed at him at first, but found afterwards that he was not entirely without sense.

The nightshade is a great hairgrower. In cases where the roots are not destroyed, the man referred to had a peculiar method. He boiled the berries and some of the twigs of this dangerous plant in a large, discarded pepper box. No other ingredients were added.

An actress, whose hair is a perfect wonder in its wild, undressed beauty, does not care to give away her recipe, but she says that 20 cents will furnish her with hair-dressing solution for a year. It may be of interest to learn that this rum is the expensive line in this programme. The spirit is first boiled, and a little pulverized sage is added thereto. From this the wonderful recipe is chiefly obtained.

Care of the Teeth.

By brushing the teeth daily after each meal—with a brush that is not too hard, unremittent care and frequent use of the dental floss (which, by the way, is not common floss), every one can preserve his teeth and keep them in healthy condition. Brushes should be kept clean and antiseptic and renewed frequently—long before the bristles begin to come out. Brush the teeth up and down, never across.

Bath for the Hands.

Put a pinch or two of powdered alum and a teaspoonful of powdered sal-ammonia in about a pint and a half of warm water, and leave it to stand a little while. Vinegar, if the hands are soaked in water, to which a little of the above lotion has been added, night and morning, it will help to keep them nice and white and free from roughness.

Cooking Recipes.

Meals for a Day.

BREAKFAST.

Current Mush, Sugar and Cream.

Fried Halibut. Potato Puffs.

Butter Rolls. Coffee.

LUNCHEON.

Genoa Ramekins. Nut Bread Sandwiches.

Soft Gingerbread. Fruit Salad.

Iced Tea.

DINNER.

Stuffed Pigeon, with Hominy Balls.

New Potatoes. Butter Beans.

Stuffed Tomato Salad. French Dressing.

Wafers. Cheese.

Canaloupe Sherbet.

Coffee.

To make the current mush embraced in the menu, beat the fruit until scalded, then press out the juice. Put into a double boiler, sweetening slightly, and to each pint add one tablespoonful of farina. Cook, stirring frequently for 45 minutes, and pour into a dish and set away for use next morning. Raspberries or blackberries can be used in same manner.

Sensational Strawberry Desserts.

The strawberry season is nearing its close, but some good fruit is yet to be had and it may be utilized for very palatable Summer desserts. Cream strawberry pie is one of the ways in which to serve this favorite fruit. It is prepared in this way:

After picking the berries carefully, arrange them in layers in a deep pie tin, lined with puff paste, sprinkling sugar thickly between each layer. Fill the pie tin pretty full, pouring in a quantity of the juice. Cover with a thick crust, with a slit in the top, and bake. When the pie is baked, pour into the slit in the top a cream mixture made as follows:

Take a cupful of cream from the top of the morning's milk and heat it to a boil; stir into it the white of two eggs beaten light, also a tablespoonful of white sugar and a teaspoonful of cornstarch wet in cold milk. Boil together a few moments, until quite smooth, set aside and when cool, pour into the pie. Serve cold, with powdered sugar sifted over it, then rival the strawberry pie as an acceptable dainty also. Hull and wash one quart of ripe berries. Mash with a wooden spoon; add one pound granulated sugar and juice of two lemons; mix and stand aside one hour. Then add one quart of water and freeze. See that the sugar is thoroughly dissolved before turning into the freezing can. Serve, as soon as frozen, with whipped cream.

Pleasant Summer Drinks.

Current shrub makes a most refreshing drink for a warm day. Mash currants sufficient to give a quart of liquor, first through a coarse sieve and then through a muslin bag, and to this add one quart of water and sugar to taste. Strain after the sugar is dissolved and ice well before drinking.

Frozen strawberries are another pleasant Summer beverage. Pour a quart of good elder vinegar over two quarts of raspberries, and after covering closely set aside for 48 hours. At the end of this time drain the liquid and pour it over one-third quart of berries and set aside for another 48 hours. Strain through a muslin bag and to every pint of liquor add one pound of sugar; mix and stand aside one hour, remove the scum, let cool for 15 minutes and bottle. A tablespoonful of this added to a glass of iced water makes a delicious drink. Blackberry and strawberry vinegars are made in the same manner.

Household Hints.

To clean matting, sweep it twice—first with a stiff broom, working along the grain of the straw; then crosswise with a soft broom dipped in warm water, rinsing with clean water. This brightens all sorts of colored matting, and also saves it, in a measure, from fading.

Very light matting is best washed, after sweeping with weak borax water; or rather wipe the matting with cloths wrung out of the water. Anything whatever slopped upon a matted floor makes the last estate of it much worse than the first. Dust invariably collects underneath and, once wet, shows through in ugly dark spots. For grease spots a grain of prevention beats a ton of cure, but if they exist, cover them quickly with prepared chalk, wet with turpentine; let the mixture remain for two days, then brush off with a stiff brush. If the spots are very big and very greasy, use one-eighth as much washing soda as chalk and mix with water to the thickness of putty.

Little used matting, as in spare chambers or upper Summer rooms, should be swept very clean, then wiped with a cloth wrung of sweet milk. Do this once a year. It keeps the straw live and to a degree pliant. If the milk-wash is used in a living-room or on a piazza, follow it by a wiping with a very hot, clean water to keep the door from drawing lines.

The Useful Lemon.
The lemon is almost unequalled as a remedy for numerous ailments—from headache to rheumatism. A good household remedy for coughs and colds is made by mixing lemon juice and sugar very thick. Her lemonade is very good. Better still is a thick syrup which is made by baking a lemon in a hot oven until thoroughly softened. This should be kept warm, and a teaspoonful taken every half-hour will relieve a cough. A little glycerine added to hot lemonade, instead of sugar, is also good.

A cupful of strong black coffee with the juice of half a lemon squeezed in will cure a sick headache. For headache from biliousness take the juice of half a lemon in a cupful of hot water.

A lemon softened by rolling on a hard surface, to which sugar has been added, is good for feverishness and unnatural thirst. This should be done by cutting the lemon a little at the top and sucking the juice very slowly.

Lemon taken in almost any form will relieve rheumatism and is prescribed by physicians.

Stray Suggestions.
A little ginger or a small portion of chopped pineapple, added to rubarb jam, imparts a delicious flavor to that preserve.

Ordinary glass fruit jars are an improvement on tin cans as receptacles for tea and coffee.

To remove rust, cover the metal with sweet oil and leave it on for two or three days; then dust it thickly with finely powdered lime and rub till the rust disappears.

Autographic ink is made by melting together ten parts of white grain soap, 20 parts wax, three parts tallow, five parts shellac, five parts mastic, and three parts of lampblack.

It should not be forgotten that even in the coldest days fresh air and sunlight are invaluable as purifying agents. Windows should be opened, beds stripped and sleeping-room aired thoroughly every morning.

CHIC RACE GOWN AND CARRIAGE COAT.

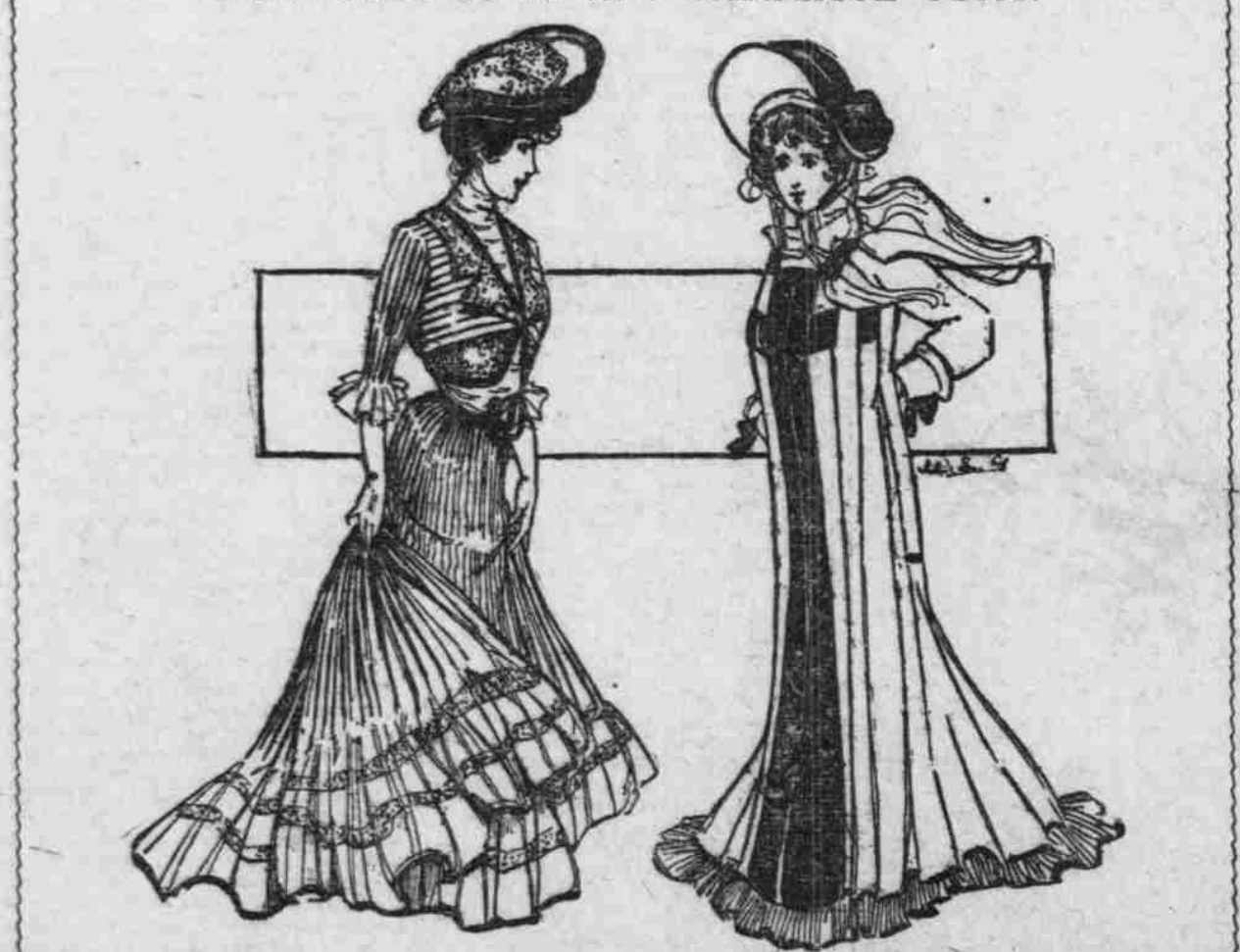


Fig. 1. Afternoon toilette of cream batiste over cream taffeta. Trimming of narrow black velvet ribbon. Batiste embroidery and batiste entre-deux.

Fig. 2. Long carriage coat of plaited chalk-white poplin, lined with brocade, sulphur-hued silk. Trimming of black panne velvet stitched.