

CORRESPONDENCE PAGE OF FASHION & BEAUTY

GRADUATION GOWN



GOVNS FOR THE SWEET GIRL GRADUATE

Thousands of family circles, the country over, Commencement Day now looms up importantly. Next to a wedding in the family, there is no event so important as the graduation of the household at least. The college girl's Commencement Day now involves the selection of a small trousseau, so numerous are the incidental functions. Every high school has its social events in addition to the graduation exercises proper, and even the grade schools "graduate" highest class pupils with more or less ceremony, except the larger number of girls who go direct from the grade schools to business college, make the grade school commencement quite an event in public school circles.

All these conditions mean more work for the home dressmaker and more loosening of the parental purse. The high school graduate, like her college sister, feels the need of at least three new frocks, a pretty Spring suit for wear to church, when the baccalaureate sermon is preached, a delicately tinted evening frock for the class reception and whatever private functions may be given during the week, and last but not most important, the graduation dress itself. In every class there are two or more girls who insist upon wearing colored frocks at the graduation exercises, thereby annoying their more conventional classmates and destroying the alignment on the stage. And so, despite pleading letters to the contrary, a rule for all-white in the graduation dress must be laid down. Furthermore the girl who imagines that white is not becoming should wake up to the realization that this is an error. White is becoming to every girl—if properly developed in a well-chosen fabric. The girl who looks homely in a stiff linen will be fairly transformed by chiffon and lace or even a soft, pliable net softened by supple ribbons. On the other hand the selection of a tint makes the unattractive girl all the more conspicuous.

Therefore let us start with white and end with white, so far as the graduation frock is concerned, leaving the dainty pink, blue or lavender mul for which the girlish heart yearns to be used in the gown worn at the reception given the graduation class by the juniors. The white material to be chosen then becomes merely a question of the amount to be spent. While chiffons, gauzes and silks are offered in graduation gowns, some of the daintiest models come in wash fabrics, batiste, mull, fine lawn, nainsook, all-over embroidery in inexpensive patterns, cross bar dimities, etc. Voles are also among the most popular fabrics this season varying from silk and wool, to an all-silk veiling, while the better grades of cotton voiles which are double width and cost from a dollar a yard up will also work into very effective models.

One of the prettiest materials for these frocks is organdy trimmed with fine lace, but it must be classed with silks and chiffons, because it does not show to advantage unless made on a silk foundation. The voile frocks as a rule show jumper designs, trimmed with many little pleatings or frills of soft silk or ribbon, over guimpes of lace, which may vary in weight from the finest of French Val to Irish crochet, though a good medium weight with voile is baby Irish which can be bought in excellent quality as low as \$1 a yard in all-over, with matching insertion. The child who has never known what it was to come to table or go to bed with dirty finger nails will not have to be broken of this dirty habit in later years, if the skin is kept back with an orange stick, the little white crocnet will always show in his finger nail and he will never suffer from rashes, which often torture small hands. If the fingers are flat and shapeless, they must be massaged twice a day from the very day of baby's birth.

puffed sleeves should also be made with flounces instead of plain. A very pretty model is here shown in mercerized batiste with insertion and ruffles of lace. The chemisette is of baby Irish. The pattern can also be developed in chiffon or net over silk, in voile or in smooth pongee or China silk.

The waist is made in one piece and can be arranged over the fitted lining or left unlined and a chemisette joined to it as material renders desirable. It is shirred at its lower edge while the skirt is shirred at the upper and the two are joined to give the princess effect. For a girl of moderate size will be required, for the waist 3 1/2 yards of material 2 1/2 inches or 2 3/4 yards 3 1/2 inches wide with 3/4 yard of all-over lace for the chemisette, 1 yard of insertion and 2 yards of lace for the skirt 5 1/2 yards 2 1/2 inches or 2 3/4 yards 4 1/2 inches wide with 16 yards of insertion.

Some of the models in voile will prove most useful for wear other than Commencement Day, and this is particularly true of the gowns softly shirred in princess or jumper effects, with strappings of silk or embroidered pieces, and yokes or guimpes of lace. The voile gown for general use should not be made in a pleated design, but should be soft, clinging and straight in its lines.

White satin shoes plain, beaded, with buckles, or rosettes of lace are used with silk, chiffon or gauze frocks, but kid, either glasse or suede, plain or beaded, can be worn with wash fabrics. The popular canvas shoe, however light in weight, is not sufficiently dressy for Commencement Day. Silk stockings add greatly to the general effect, for even the finest of white silk look "cottony" beneath a dainty frock. Glasse kid gloves, the preferred variety, are not used this year at all. All ribbons used for trimming graduation gowns, for the hair or for girlish arcs of the softest weaves, liberty taffeta leading, white velvet ribbon is used on some of the silk and chiffon cloth gowns, but soft silk is more effective for Summer wear.

White satin shoes plain, beaded, with buckles, or rosettes of lace are used with silk, chiffon or gauze frocks, but kid, either glasse or suede, plain or beaded, can be worn with wash fabrics. The popular canvas shoe, however light in weight, is not sufficiently dressy for Commencement Day. Silk stockings add greatly to the general effect, for even the finest of white silk look "cottony" beneath a dainty frock. Glasse kid gloves, the preferred variety, are not used this year at all. All ribbons used for trimming graduation gowns, for the hair or for girlish arcs of the softest weaves, liberty taffeta leading, white velvet ribbon is used on some of the silk and chiffon cloth gowns, but soft silk is more effective for Summer wear.

White satin shoes plain, beaded, with buckles, or rosettes of lace are used with silk, chiffon or gauze frocks, but kid, either glasse or suede, plain or beaded, can be worn with wash fabrics. The popular canvas shoe, however light in weight, is not sufficiently dressy for Commencement Day. Silk stockings add greatly to the general effect, for even the finest of white silk look "cottony" beneath a dainty frock. Glasse kid gloves, the preferred variety, are not used this year at all. All ribbons used for trimming graduation gowns, for the hair or for girlish arcs of the softest weaves, liberty taffeta leading, white velvet ribbon is used on some of the silk and chiffon cloth gowns, but soft silk is more effective for Summer wear.

White satin shoes plain, beaded, with buckles, or rosettes of lace are used with silk, chiffon or gauze frocks, but kid, either glasse or suede, plain or beaded, can be worn with wash fabrics. The popular canvas shoe, however light in weight, is not sufficiently dressy for Commencement Day. Silk stockings add greatly to the general effect, for even the finest of white silk look "cottony" beneath a dainty frock. Glasse kid gloves, the preferred variety, are not used this year at all. All ribbons used for trimming graduation gowns, for the hair or for girlish arcs of the softest weaves, liberty taffeta leading, white velvet ribbon is used on some of the silk and chiffon cloth gowns, but soft silk is more effective for Summer wear.

THE VOGUE OF THE NET BLOUSE

UNQUESTIONABLY the Summer girl of 1907 is pinning her faith on the net blouse. "Peter Pan" have almost run their course, embroidered linen is out—but little passé, silk, set off by lace, and allusions suggests factory work, but the hand-made net waist, to quote an enthusiast, is "the real thing." All the energy which the up-to-date girl spent last Fall on embroidered bands, collars, cuffs, etc., or panels, and last Summer on embroidered robes and waists, is expending this season on her net blouse and the more odd the combination of nets and laces and embroidery and tiny buttons and bits of ribbon, which she can work out artistically, the more smart will her handiwork seem to her less deft neighbor.

Net blouses can be bought, factory made, from \$4.50 up, but no matter how high the price of the waist soars, if machine stitching and conventional design betray that it is one waist of many in similar style, its owner feels that something is lacking, something which can be supplied only by handwork and exclusive design.

Nets are fascinating in their pattern and weave. From simple point d'esprit at 40 cents a yard to cobweb meshes almost as delicate as real lace, at \$5 or more per yard, there is opportunity for every taste to be satisfied. Nearly all the simpler patterns come in white, cream, deep ecru and black, with a fair sprinkling of delicate colors like pink, blue and lavender. Most of the high-priced, ready-made waists and all hand-made-to-order blouses show a lining of silk generally white under either white, cream or ecru net, and even under black, and this silk in turn is veiled in chiffon before the net is draped over the form.

The dot or ring is the commonplace of all patterns. A long, narrow dash, sometimes a tiny lozenge or caraway candy, is newer and more effective than the dot or ring. Tiny figures like conventional flowers, fleur de lis, interlacing curves or circles, etc., are powdered over both fine and coarse meshes and show up to best advantage over silk, veiled by chiffon. In the more ornate patterns very little of the real net mesh shows, the fabric being worked out with a silk thread that suggests Chantilly lace. Greening striped effects are reproduced in these nets, and one of the prettiest designs shows a fine mesh of finely dotted net with a more solid stripe of silk thread, carrying out the old Greek pattern or Wall of Troy.

All the new necks are very wide, some of them nearly two yards, and if a waist is to be greatly elaborated with lace and ribbon trimming, a yard and a half or two yards at the most will make the waist and leave some sizeable pieces over to make up later in vests, yokes, stocks, etc. for silk or all-over lace waists. Every scrap of trimming, lace or net should be saved religiously this season, for the smartest waists look like mere cuttings from piece bags, so varied are the ornate fabrics which make up its artistic whole.

Ribbons, when applied to net waists as trimming, is of the softest weaves, like liberty taffeta, silk, and is twisted into very French devices. For instance, an inch-wide ribbon is caught down at close intervals with fine stitching until it becomes a succession of shell-shaped convolutions. Again, it is twisted on either side at intervals until it looks like a succession of lily-petal calla lilies. It is applied under lace insets as flat pleating and it appears as rosettes, etc.

The most important phase of making up a net waist is to combine with the net some material so heavy as to afford support. For instance, if your net shows a fine weave and a Chantilly silk thread in its small pattern, select coarse flat or Irish lace or even medallions used in insets. Never use a Chantilly net with Chantilly net, nor French Val, with point d'esprit. Cluny is good on either of the nets described, but even then a heavier fabric, when introduced as medallions with the Cluny or a transparent yoke of finest Val, or Chantilly will be outlined by the Cluny.

Sometimes the coarse or fine lace employed by contrast appears only in small medallions or rouchings, but this contrast must exist. Also cream or ecru nets are inset with pure white laces, while the clear white net is often set off by trimmings of deeper net and lace. Rouchings of the plain net are used to outline medallions of lace or embroideries, and odd little jabot, fichu and soft tie effects in liberty silk or similar weaves, and in most delicate colorings like baby blue, pale lavender, apricot pink, coral pink, finish the ecru waists most beautifully. Sometimes these soft silk ties are woven in and out of a wide lace pattern very much as wash ribbon is worked through heading on Hagerle. Tiny enameled or jeweled buttons finish some waists. They are set on the yoke or vest and cuffs in two rows at a distance of an inch or more apart, and then laced with blined velvet ribbon in baby width, or, if a color is preferred, some very delicate, harmonious tint is employed.



NET BLOUSES

or Chantilly. These fine rouchings of net are very effective and one of the fads of the moment. Moreover, if you have a bit of softly tinted St. Gall or fine French silk embroidery, either as a narrow, galloon or medallion, do not hesitate to work it into your blouse for the touch of color. These delicately colored appliques or medallions are much more effective if outlined by narrow frills or pleatings of Val, or Chantilly lace.

Good Form in Public Places

YOUNG people frequently become most embarrassed when they suddenly realize that on the street, in a public conveyance, at the theater, the restaurant or church they have done some trifling thing to make themselves conspicuous. Here are a few simple rules which the uninitiated will do well to memorize:

When a young man meets one or more girls on the street by accident he does not offer to pay their fares. That is his privilege only when he is their escort for the trip.

Girls in business are often joined at lunch by young men employed in the same offices. Under these circumstances there need be no embarrassment over the check. The girl pays her own bill precisely as if the man had not appeared on the scene.

When escorting a girl to the theater, church or restaurant, the man must first ascertain whether there is an usher or head waiter at the door. If there is, he permits the girl to enter first, holding the door open for her. The usher or waiter leads the way down the aisle, the girl following and the man coming last. If no usher or waiter is in attendance, then the man goes first to find a seat or table.

On the street or in a public auditorium, if a man accompanies two girls he does not sit between them, but on the end seat.

When a man has danced with a girl, he thanks her for the pleasure, but he merely compliments his dancing after he has expressed his appreciation. Neither does she thank the young man who has escorted her home from the residence of a mutual acquaintance. The pleasure is supposed to be his.

When two persons are walking together and one meets an acquaintance with whom she wishes to speak just a few words, introductions are not necessary. The disinterested party can stand apart, apparently looking into a shop window or at the stream of vehicles or pedestrians, until the conversation, which should be very brief, is completed.

BEAUTY HINTS FOR THE BABIES

ANY an easy-going mother has lived to dread the oft-repeated question from her child: "Why did you let me do that?" This is particularly true in the matter of personal disfigurement. A trifling habit, easily broken in mere babyhood, is indulged until some feature of an otherwise pleasant face is sadly contorted. It is so much easier to let baby-boy suck his thumb and stare at the ceiling in silent contentment than to fight the habit with members of never only the other day I met a boy who never, never smiled while I was at his house. When I had gained his confidence, I learned that by sucking his thumb as a baby, he had spoiled the shape of his mouth. Now, whenever he smiles, the upper lip is lifted hideously, displaying not only his upper teeth but prominent upper gums as well. As soon as this boy has earned the money, he says he is going to an eminent surgeon to have that lip operated upon. That is why he is so sad.

helped by long lashes and well-formed brows, quite a little darker than the hair. Children object so strenuously to shampooing that easy-going mothers are apt to neglect this important feature of the care of the hair. As a rule, shampooing should be done when the child is in the dirt-scattering age, and later, when more tidy, the head should be shampooed at least once a fortnight, with a raw egg beaten up in warm, not hot, water.

Unless the hair is extremely oily, the scalp may be massaged once a week with pure olive oil. This is a dandy preventive, which is absolutely safe. An excellent tonic for a child's scalp, if dandruff or itching is present, is this: Sulphate of quinine, 1 drachm; rose-

Hints for the Spring Cleaning

WHEN Spring sunlight and air rush into the house with the ardor of housecleaning days, spots and stains galore come to notice. Marks, softened by the hangings and shoddy lights of winter, stand out conspicuously when curtains come down and uncompromising daylight enters. Here are some excellent suggestions for removing unsightly spots and stains and giving the furnishings a clean, Spring-like look:

stain on the wall, for instance, above a couch where members of the family have rested their heads, can best be removed by the use of blotting paper and a hot iron. The heat draws the grease through the blotting paper. To remove grease stains from floors, mix a quarter pound each of Fuller's earth and pearl ash with a quart of boiling water. Soak the floor with this for 24 hours and scrub with sand.

If a quantity of silver is to be cleaned, try this method: Mix sweet oil and whitening to a smooth, creamy paste. Apply with a flannel cloth. Allow it to stand until dry. Polish first with cotton flannel, then with cambric. This method will not eat or injure the silver plating.

The burners of lamps should be boiled in water containing vinegar and ammonia. When new wicks are to be inserted, allow 24 hours for soaking them in vinegar, and then dry them thoroughly before using. This will prevent the unpleasant odor peculiar to a new wick.

For removing spots from wallpaper and window shades, fill small cheese-cloth bags with cornmeal and rub the soiled surface as you would with a plain cloth. Sometimes a large grease

IF PERPLEXED IN MATTERS OF DRESS, beauty, or etiquette, write to Miss Dean, Miss Morton or Miss Standish, enclosing a self-addressed and stamped envelope for reply. This is a quicker method than having your question answered in the columns of this paper. Please, you be careful to address your return envelope accurately. Letters come back to us every day, stamped "insufficient address" or "party cannot be found."