

CORRESPONDENCE PAGE OF FASHIONS & BEAUTY

Sounding the Note of Fashion

AS NEW goods pour in upon the shop counters, the woman of limited means becomes bewildered and wanders how to purchase intelligently. Here she sees plaids, checks, and at another point stripes. What shall she choose?

And again I say to the woman of moderate means, "Avoid extremes." Truth to tell, plain goods, plaids, checks and stripes, all will be worn, and the point is to choose that fabric which will best suit the figure. The new plaids are not the Scotch tartans or close imitations thereof, but startling creations in black, white and gray, with borders. They are so extreme that no woman who must content herself with two street suits, one for every day and one for every best, can afford to consider these daring novelties for one instant. The very stout woman should stick to stripes and make sure that they are made up on correct, straight lines. Only the slender, chic girl can dip into checks of any size. For Spring wear the smartest plain fabric is the new surah serge, which has a very soft, silky finish, and is most pliable. It looks best when severely tailored, with touches of braiding and buttons for the sole trimming.

For dressy house wear, reception toilets and dinner frocks, the new voile is a queen name and most useful. They are shown in the most exquisite colorings, half a dozen blues, burnt rose, emerald, color, brownish and grayish greens, and an indescribable gray which harmonizes with yellow. Sometimes these voiles are plain, sometimes they show a fine, strip or shadow check, and again they are stamped with tiny figures. Chiffon, panamas and wool batistes with a silk taffeta finish are among the house dress novelties. Printed mousselines are charming for dinner and evening gowns, and everything is bordered. But the woman of moderate purse must be careful in choosing bordered materials. She will be much wiser to choose a border that is self-toned or inconspicuous in its coloring, rather than forming a striking contrast, as the latter marks her as a woman of few frocks, while the inconspicuous border attracts no attention, invites no comment.

For instance, on one counter the other day were shown two styles of goods which illustrate the idea. Both were possessible silk with a border design, the conspicuous fabric was of natural toned pongee with a border 12 inches wide, alternating wide and narrow stripes of brown in three shades. The less conspicuous piece was in gray blue, with a border in gray blue of three shades, alternating in wide and narrow stripes. Not all borders are striped. Some show polka dots in varying sizes, some show Vaudeville points upturned, or flowers stamped in garlands or even lattice designs.

Two of the illustrations today show excellent border designs. Figure A is a house gown of sage green voile, trimmed with bands of contrasting side and narrow stripes of brown in three shades. The plain voile with silky finish without a border costs \$1.50 a yard. With a stamped border it costs twice as much. On the other hand, messaline can be bought at sales in a good quality for 50 cents a yard, and four yards will be sufficient for a dress. The skirt model, either for Empire waist line or straight round waist line, requires six yards of double-width voile, while the waist will take only a meter and a half. The messaline folds are cut on the bias and the wide and narrow folds at the bottom of the skirt are separated by



Fllet Net With Lace Insets.

bars of soutache braid in a slightly deeper shade of green. The square bolero is trimmed with bias folds and ball trimming, with a guimpe and narrow cuffs of imitation Irish lace.

Only the very slender woman can use the bolero effect in the back and the stout woman should substitute a plain or finely tucked back without the bolero.

Figure B displays the possibilities of net over silk. This evening gown can be made by any deft-fingered girl who has patience to inset the lace medallions. Fllet net can be bought in a wide or narrow mesh and lace for inseting should be in a close pattern of all-over lace. The figures are then cut out and applied upon the net in graduated sizes, the large figures at the bottom, the smaller ones higher up and if a girl can embroider ever so little, she can work little tendrils of silk above the lace border.

The same robe bought ready-made would cost three or four times the price of the fllet net and the lace for inseting. The bretelles are inset with lace to match the border, the skirt fitted over the hips in fine hand-run tucks and the sleeves for evening wear are made of finest material. Clifton or mousseline de soie is much used, but it is very perishable, so a point d'esprit can be substituted. A very good combination would be a white silk slip, covered with soft point d'esprit in blue, and then over net. The blue should not be the staring china blue of forget-me-nots, but a delicate pastel shade. Then the girdle and tie sash ribbons at neck and sleeve may be of the blue of the same shade. Another treat. With a stamped border coming it with chenille, a typical net pattern.

Figure C shows a stunning morning costume of rough silk with vest and cuffs of heavy lace. These rough silks are immensely popular this season and to complete a smart three-piece suit, make a hip length jacket of the same silk heavy braided with two Irish souvairs, such as crepe de chine, but whatever she or the fluff girl selects for Spring neck protection must be kept immaculately clean. Crepe de chine washes, cashmere, broche and silver can be cleaned with naphtha, but lace scarfs should be sent to a professional cleaner.



SAGE GREEN VOILE WITH MESSALINE AND SOUTACHE BRAID.



MORNING COSTUME OF ROUGH SILK.

Etiquette of Subscription Dance

WILL you please settle a question of etiquette for me? There is a very nice dancing teacher in our neighborhood, and once a week he gives a public dance, where any one may go for 25 cents. I love to dance, but I cannot afford to join his regular class. I can pay 25 cents once a week, or there are plenty of boys who will pay 50 cents for me, but my mother is so opposed to my going, I think she is old-fashioned and tussy, and she thinks I am bold and forward. Please decide for me.

This is not a question of etiquette, but of morals. It is so common a problem that I don't wish to write to me that it is worth a whole article to itself.

Both the mother and the girl are in the wrong. What they need is a compromise. I do not believe in the promiscuous public dance for any girl unattended by her mother, and this means both the girl who works for her living and the girl who is comfortably supported by her parents. But I do believe in dancing under the proper chaperonage, and in the proper environment. It is a very healthful, invigorating, joy-giving exercise, and every mother ought to encourage her daughter in dancing, even if mother has to make self-sacrifice to see that the girl has the right sort of partners in the right sort of dance room.

The trouble with the mother is that she says "You must not do this," and she does not add "But you may do that."

She says "You must not go to the public dance hall," and she does not add "But you may go to a dancing club." How often have you girls who just love to dance, but who have no big parlors and willing parents to give you this pleasure, read of "subscription dances" given by wealthy society people? It never occurred to you, did it, that these subscription dances were your public dances in modified form? Just as you pay 25 cents to attend a public dance in a public hall, so the heiress of thousands buys a ticket for the subscription dance in her set. Her ticket is her own, paid for by her parents. The man who dances with her pays for his own ticket. The difference is that the list of persons who may buy tickets is carefully scanned by the organizers of the club and its patronesses. The latter are married women who know who's who in society.

The money paid for these tickets is used to defray all expenses, music, hall, refreshments, favors, etc.

You know ten girls, and every one of the ten girls knows a nice young man. Sometimes you go to the same public dance and sometimes you do not. But in a way you all know each other. Very well. Decide to start dancing club that shall meet once a week or once in two weeks. Perhaps the "nice dancing teacher" around the corner will help you out. He may make one evening a week when his hall is not engaged. Tell him your plan and ask how many people at 50 cents a head you will need to pay for the hall, the music, and perhaps lemonade and cake or coffee. He may know some nice girls and boys who would join the club.

Then you want a few married couples to help you out. Perhaps some of the young married people who work in the same store or office or factory with you will be ready for just this pleasure. That will give your club dignity and keep away very undesirable young men who believe not in pleasure and fun, but in license. Appoint the married women, at least six of them, patronesses. Each patroness is supposed to take five tickets to sell to agreeable and desirable young men. This saves the girls a lot of embarrassment.

Next form your business committee. This may be made up of boys and girls whose duty it is to get the most for your money, to close the bargain for the hall, music, etc. Of course the larger your number, the less it costs per capita. If your hall, music and refreshments together cost \$25 and in smaller cities you can make such a bargain, and you have 20 persons in the club, it will cost you 50 cents each.

You must not admit any members to the club without consulting your patronesses or supervisors. On the night of the dance the patronesses stand near the door to receive arriving guests, and also

to any good-night after the dance is over. Between these hours they dance like other members of the club. If still young enough to enjoy a two-step or waltz.

This may sound a trifle stiff and formal to the girl who has dropped into promiscuous dances and who has danced with men without the formality of an introduction, but it is the one safe method for the girl in a big city, particularly if no relatives are near to guard her. And I do not believe that any bright, up-to-date set of girls will fail to make these simple subscription dances a success, or to convert young men into believing in them. And if a young man prefers the public to the subscription dance, then you don't wish to know him.

Suggest this plan to mother, and if she is the sort of mother I think she is, she will not only say "yes," but will help out a little financially to put the club on its feet. It is a small price to pay for her daughter's safety.

Next week we will take up the etiquette of the dance, the obligations of partners, escorts, etc. KATHERINE MORTON.

Meals and Morals.

San Antonio Express. That the way to a man's heart lies through his stomach has long been an accepted truism. The relation between a man's provender and his morals, however, is a matter of more recent discussion. Addressing a technical school for girls in New York, a Justice of the Supreme Court declared that most women cook so badly that they drive their husbands to drink.

"I have no doubt," he said, "that many men go to saloons at night just because they are so poorly nourished at home."

Perhaps it might have been added that the way in which some married men linger around the saloon lunch counters during the day is another substantial evidence of the unsatisfactory provision made for the gratification of their appetites at home. But this is not a fair test. Men sometimes get hungry between meals, even when their home table affords the best that the skillful cuisine could provide.

It is a fact, however, not to be denied, that comparatively few housewives really know how to cook. Most of them are capable of providing a meal out of such materials as may be at hand. Perhaps any of these could boil water or fry eggs or serve prepared breakfast foods. Some of them do very well, some do better and some do worse. Cooking is an art which some can learn, and which seems to come naturally to some others. It is sometimes an acquired and sometimes an inherited talent which has been improved. It is always an art and for the non-professional it is a most desirable accomplishment.

Making Lamp Shades.

In making candle shades, lamp shades and hats at home the first work to be done is to wrap the whole frame with one-inch bias bands of silk or cotton. This keeps the wire from showing through in such ugly lines, and it forms a foundation to which the outer covering may be sewn.

To this rule there is one exception when the covering is to be pleated. While these shades are made with ribbed braid, then the material may be brought around the frame, leaving the raw edge on the right side, and after the cover is sewn tight into place the edges may be trimmed close and the braid sewn on.

In choosing a cretonne for a lamp shade these with a design including a basket of flowers are very satisfactory, for each one may be used for a panel of the shade. Bouquets of flowers, too, are most suitable for the purpose, but a cretonne with a small design does not look so well.

Lace Collars.

The handsome and most expensive of the stiff collars have Irish lace insertion used in a sort of conventional design. While these collars may be very beautiful, they are less satisfactory than are the hand-embroidered collars, for the lace will not hold the starch, and constant washing with a small design does not look so well.

Simple Aids for Attractive Eyes

THE girl who has read just enough novels to believe firmly in the potency of mysterious violet, melting brown or glowing black eyes, is firmly convinced that her own placid gray, or pale blue eyes or small hazel orbs doom her to perpetual homeliness. "You cannot change the color of your eyes," she wails. And in a way, she is right. The shape, the size and the color of the eye itself cannot be altered, but the setting or frame can be wonderfully improved, changing the entire aspect and expression of the face.

If you feel dissatisfied with your eyes, study first their actual physical condition and then their frame, which consists of the lids, the lashes and the brows. The appearance of the eye will be materially injured if you are abusing or straining it. In the effort to see, you squint, or draw the two lids together until the eye becomes a mere slit. This habit of "squinting" does not help your vision at all. All oculists will tell you that you secure a better view with the eyes wide open, but if your vision is failing for the sake of your nerves, your brain and your personal appearance, have your eyes properly fitted with glasses. This will not only cure you of the habit of "squinting," but it will stop the progress of crows' feet and lines around your eyes.

You cannot change the coloring or size of the iris, but you can change and improve the white portion of the eye. If this has an ugly yellow look instead of a clear, pearly, or bluish white, nine cases out of ten you are suffering from inflammation. Clear out your system thoroughly, the heavy look will be reduced and your eyes will be better.

If the white portion of the eye is bloodshot, and the tiny little veins are red and inflamed, this is practically a feverish condition, which you can reduce by both internal and external treatment. Internally the blood may need thinning. You may be eating too rich food and not taking sufficient exercise. To treat it externally, twice a day go into a darkened room and lay clothes dipped into very hot

water across your closed eyes. Bathe the eyes once a day with salt water, made with distilled water and common table salt thoroughly dissolved, or you can use a boracic acid wash. Mix ten grains of boracic acid with an ounce of distilled water. The best way to drop this into the eye, or to bathe the eyeball, is to use the eye cup, a tiny glass receptacle with curved edges that fit right around the eyeball. It can be purchased at any drug store for a few cents. Fill the cup almost full with the solution and hold it down the head so that the eye fits right into the cup. Now slowly fling back your head, holding the cup in position so that it is inverted and the eyeball is literally bathed and cleansed.

If the lower lid is baggy or puffed, one or two difficulties exist—either you have some latent kidney trouble manifested in the eyes, or the eyelid is inflamed. To ascertain whether this inflammation exists, stand before your mirror and gently turn lower lid over so that you can see the lower lining. If this is scarlet, or inflamed, or covered with tiny little granules, then you may be sure that you are suffering from inflammation strong enough to cause a swelling. If there is no sign of inflammation, then the cause is one for your physician to investigate. Should it prove to be a symptom of kidney trouble, while your physician treats you internally, the baggy, flabby flesh under the eye can be gently massaged.

If it is a case of inflammation, a very simple remedy is this: Mix ten grains of borax with an ounce of camphor water. Understand, this is camphor water, and not spirits of camphor. Bathe the inflamed eyes with this and use hot water falls, or compresses of camphor water. It has existed for some months and becomes most chronic, you will need a slightly stronger lotion. I will be glad to send the formula for this to any chronic sufferer from inflamed eyelids, but generally the lotion given above is sufficient.

Next week we will discuss the eyebrows and lashes, their care and color, but before you give thought to this new problem I beg of you to look to the health of the eye itself, as suggested in this article. No unhealthy eye can be beautiful. PRUDENCE SPANISH.

Some Substitutes for the Fur Neckpieces

THIS is tricky weather for the throat, and the girl who lays aside her fur neck-piece at the first suggestion of Spring is apt to pay the price in colds.

If you feel that the fur piece is now too heavy, and that by over heating the throat you invite bronchitis, tonsillitis and similar afflictions, then substitute for the fur a practical but lighter protection.

One of the safest substitutes for fur is a scarf, long, narrow and graceful. These come in lace, silk, wool and crepe de chine. Quite stylish now is the old-fashioned broche or cashmere neck scarf from eight to twelve inches wide and not less than a yard and a half long. The center of the strip is generally a plain color, white, black, or even soft gray, but the border and ends show complicated conventional patterns in oriental colors.

Another, or permitted to hang one end loosely, and the other in a scarf. Next in popularity is the heavy silk scarf, in size about the same as the broche or cashmere scarf, preferably in crepe de chine, with a guimpe or thread lace border. The crepe de chine scarfs this season are simply fascinating. They show plain and similar oriental designs, or the entire scarf may be in oriental colorings. This, too, is wrapped twice around the throat.

Very smart this Spring are the Roman scarfs of very soft silk ribbon in Roman stripes. These have black, white, dark blue and brown for predominating shades, with more brilliant tints in the stripes. The thin girl twists this scarf twice around her throat and finishes it with a broad bow

In front. The stout girl must let the ends hang long.

The tailor-made girl is afraid of a scarf of any sort. She prefers a square or three-cornered piece of silk or crepe de chine, which she fits firmly around her linen collar and fastens in the front with a stickpin, tucking the ends smoothly under her coat. The tailored girl avoids all "ends" of any sort, even scarf-ends. She can pick up stunning scarves of silk, plain, striped or figured, in Persian designs and remnants of crepe de chine, but whatever she or the fluff girl selects for Spring neck protection must be kept immaculately clean. Crepe de chine washes, cashmere, broche and silver can be cleaned with naphtha, but lace scarfs should be sent to a professional cleaner.

Delectable Sinking Room. Philadelphia Bulletin. A Persian diplomat, seated on the white beach at Ormond, fanned his moist brow with a Panama.

"The February sun is hot," he said. "It recalls faintly to me the heat of Persia. But you have no need of sinking rooms here."

"Sinking rooms" said the girl in white. "I've heard of sinking funds, but—"

"You use them in Persia—if you're rich enough—in the great heats," he interposed. "They're rooms of glass that sink down into the vitreous blue depths of Lake Niris. Niris, the most beautiful of Persian lakes, is almost crowded with sinking rooms during the hot weather."

"They're very pleasant. You furnish them sumptuously—rugs and pale silk hangings, ivory carvings and mother-of-pearl—and you take down with you singing girls and dancing girls, and girls to serve the sherbet and to fill the hookahs."

"All this," he said, "is very pleasant, but I would gladly exchange the glare of this hot sun, the smell and dust and roar of these high-powered motor cars, for Lake Niris' cool depths, the vitreous blue light, and the clear laughter of the Circassian serving girls."

Let. What! lost your temper, did you say? Well, dear, I wouldn't mind it. It isn't such a dreadful loss—

"Twas not the gentlest, sweetest one. As all can well remember, I have had my share of such. Who have endured it, every one. From New Year's till December. It drove the dimples all away. And wrinkled up your forehead, and changed a pretty smiling face To one—well, simply horrid. It put to flight the cheery words. The laughter and the singing. And clouds upon a shining sky. It would persist in hazing. And it is gone! Then do, my dear. Make it your best endeavor To quickly hit a better one. And lose it—never, never!

Suggestions for St. Patrick's Day

The St. Patrick's day dinner is by no means limited to families who can trace their history back to the Emerald Isle. It holds such pleasant prospects for decorations and color schemes that hostesses of all nationalities have begun to feature St. Patrick's day.

For a centerpiece, white flowers, particularly tulips, narcissus and hyacinths, may be used with quantities of feathery ferns. All candy and stationery stores carry Irish souvenirs, such as candy boxes in the shape of shamrock leaves, small pipes tied with green ribbons, small pasteboard harps in gilt and "Patty" hats and shillalaha.

Entrées and legs may be served in paper cases, covered with green crepe paper. All meat and vegetable dishes may be thickly garnished with parsley or green, and the green that can be carried into many dishes.

Purée of Split Peas: An excellent "green" soup. Soak a cup of green split peas overnight. In the morning pour off any water that has not been absorbed and add to the peas four times their quantity in cold water. That is, if the soaked peas measure two cups, then you must add eight cups of water. Add also half an onion, sliced, to each quart of water. Stand over a slow fire and simmer very gently till the peas are soft. Rub through a sieve, season with salt and pepper and a very little kitchen bouquet and return to the fire. If the soup has simmered slowly, no thickening will be required. If you are obliged to hurry the process, you may have to use a little flour, allowing one teaspoon each of flour and butter to each quart of soup.

Stuffed Green Peppers: A tasty "green" center. Allow one large, firm green pepper for each guest. Cut a slice from the stem end, remove the seeds carefully, parboil 15 minutes and drain. While these cool, prepare the following mixture: To every six peppers allow one sweetbread, parboiled and chilled the sweetbread and cut up with a silver knife. Add two tablespoons of butter and rub into it smoothly two tablespoons of flour. Add gradually half a cup of white stock (chicken preferred), and when creamy add one-third of a cup of minced mushrooms (canned will do) and two tablespoons of sweet cream. Season with pepper, salt and Worcestershire sauce. Fill the pepper shells with this mixture, cover with buttered bread crumbs and bake until the crumbs are brown.

While they are baking, prepare the following sauce: Break the stems of the mushrooms, cover with cold water and cook for 20 minutes. In another

saucepan melt two tablespoons of butter, rub into two tablespoons of flour and add a few drops of onion juice. Stir this mixture and pour over it gradually the water from the mushroom stock to make one cupful in all. Add two tablespoons of cream, salt and season with salt and paprika. Arrange the peppers on platter and pour the sauce around them.

Mixed Green Salad: Make a bed of crisp light green lettuce leaves. In a separate bowl mix onions sliced very thin, cucumber, canned string beans and peas, and some fresh asparagus tips, using a French dressing, plentifully seasoned with salt and pepper, as all these vegetables need high seasoning. When you have mixed the salad thoroughly, arrange it in a mound on the lettuce leaves.

Irish Bisque: Bring one quart of new milk to a boil, dissolving it in one pint of granulated sugar. When this mixture is cool, add a quart of whipped cream, a teaspoonful of vanilla and freeze until it is the consistency of mush. Remove the dasher, add wine glass of sherry, and a coffee cup full of macaroons ground very fine. Color to the right shade of green with vegetable coloring matter, pack and set away to harden. This is an excellent substitute for pistachio, the green ice cream offered by caterers.

The Wedding Veil.

A new method of arranging the wedding veil, particularly on the little bride who needs her height added to, is the coronet fashion. Tulle, which is softer than lace, is used, and so puffed up on top of the head that several inches are added to the wearer's dignity. The veil is first put over the head in the usual way, then the front ends are caught in a series of upstanding puffs that encircle the front of the head. These are confined to the hair by a small wreath of orange blossoms worn like a coronet. The traditional flowers do not dominate the headpiece, but form a delicate finish as they lie half-trouped in the puffs of tulle.

This arrangement, which has the effect of a high puffed cap in front, is becoming from every point of view and is becoming so popular that brides, little and big, are adopting it.

In the selection of the neck scarf there is wide variety. There is the crepe de chine scarf, with its misty rose-hued border. There is the scarf of chiffon taffeta, with its embroidered edge, and there are the veillings, which are cut up into scarf lengths and trimmed with fringe. Any and all of these make becoming throw shawls for the neck.