

CORRESPONDENCE PAGE OF FASHIONS & BEAUTY

Plain and Fancy Winter Blouses

THE blouse plays a most prominent role in mid-Winter fashion; for as plain-finished fabrics grow in favor, so do plain skirts, which fact throws the responsibility of trimming entirely on the bodice.

The secret of successful blouse-building this season is to secure by the adjustment of skirt and trimming the effect of a one-piece costume, even though the skirt and blouse be separate. So let us here emphasize the importance of having the skirt match or harmonize perfectly with bodice and skirt, thereby forming a connecting link. Earlier in the season, when the Directorate sash came in, we saw many black sarries on broadcloth and silk gowns of other colors, such as gray, tobacco-brown, deep red, blue, etc. For a time this picturesque style appealed, but now it has been abandoned in favor of matching sarries, and truly this is a blessed economy for women of slender means.

Any one-piece costume, whether cut on princess, Empire or Directorate lines, is an appalling task for the home dress-maker, but it is a comparatively simple trick to simulate these effects in a two-piece costume, when the material of the skirt is employed in the blouse and a high giraffe is added.

In planning this season's blouse to match any skirt, it must be borne in mind that the lining must fit snugly and that there must be no fullness, not "pouch" at the waist line. The fullness is over the bust and shoulders, never lower. Another feature of the up-to-date blouse is the guimpe, yoke or tucker effect, and the woman of slender proportions will find that she can freshen her wardrobe wonderfully by introducing novel guimpes.

For instance, if you have a princess or Empire effect in satin-finished broadcloth, cashmere or any supple cloth or in messaline, you can transform it from afternoon to dinner gown by introducing a different guimpe. If your afternoon guimpe is of tuck net, dyed to match the fabric, with high pointed collar and long mousquetaire sleeves, you can substitute for dinner a guimpe of cream, white or ecru net, lined with mousquetaire lace or colored embroidery picked out with gold or silver beads. The neck should be slightly rounded or cut in "Dutch" fashion, and the mousquetaire sleeves may be long or short. Even with very décolleté frocks, long sleeves are worn this season, though sticklers for the conventions insist that elbow sleeves or shorter should accompany the very low neck.

If odd guimpes are to be used they should be fitted perfectly on a lining which runs to the waist line and then fastened to the blouse proper by innumerable small hooks and silk eyes to prevent even the slightest gaps.

We are showing this week a splendidly fitted guimpe pattern, in which the lace or net can be used for the sleeves and for a yoke of any depth and shape. It is especially suited to developing the popular keystone yokes which run half way down the fronts of blouses.

Here, in figure A, the sleeves are smooth, plain and tight-fitting, with the highly favored pointed finish at the wrist, but in figure B there is shown a different treatment, with the keystone yoke and mousquetaire sleeves to elbow or hand. The original of this model was a wistaria-colored messaline trimmed with embroidered banding of silver on wistaria silk and an edge of deeper wistaria braid. The keystone yoke was of creamy figured net, showing a fine daisy pattern, and in the heart of each daisy was sewed a silver bead.

The same model would develop charmingly catwinkle-colored silk or broadcloth with a plain net, spangled with fine gold beads over gold gauze. The introduction of an interlacing of metallic gauze is one of the features of the mid-Winter fashion season. Especially is it effective under artificial light, therefore popular for dinner, dancing and afternoon reception gowns. But it must be borne in mind that the metallic touch is to be introduced lightly, deftly and in moderation. A blouse of this kind, smartly-made gown does not display bullion gauze or cloth or banding under net or lace or embroidered chiffon cloth, etc.

Figure C shows a very odd model for a messaline or satin skirtwaist to match a tailored suit. The scalloped edges are bound in flat silk braid of just a trifle deeper hue, matching in the binding of the left hand skirt seam, which is opened and scalloped, the only trimming on the skirt. And just here a word about buttons. If you cannot buy handsomely jeweled or chased buttons, and you are tired of satin-covered buttons, try covering the models first with

cloth or silk or satin and then with interlaced soutache braid. These are very popular and the smallest buttons are simply knots of interlaced braid, bullet-shaped.

Figure D suggests a stunning idea for the girl who can braid and embroider quickly. As will be seen by reference to the plain model of the bolero sections in the upper corner, the foundation of this frock is very simple, but a girl who can braid evenly and work solid discs of heavy embroidery silk in between the braid pattern will soon have a very ornate and effective afternoon blouse.

The model from which this was

of the braid and embroidery was also introduced around the high collar.

Pieces of embroidered crepe de chine, jetted net, braided net and lace in which fine braid or colored embroidery is introduced can be used to build this bolero.

In figure E you find the reverse of the treatment shown in figure D, for here the over-drapery is of satin or some other supple fabric, while the braid embroidery of lace appears in the undergarment or low-cut yoke.

The blouse is made in two sections, a plain foundation and an over-drapery. The under-garment may be of percaline



FIG. D—AFTERNOON BLOUSE IN LONDON-SMOKE BROADCLOTH WITH BRAIDED BOLERO.

sketched was a London-smoke broadcloth, combined with net dyed to match, a matching sash of messaline and a touch of flame color in the embroidery. The guimpe, for which the pattern in figure A could be used, was made of the coarse net, laid in broad tucks, and fitted snugly into the waist line. The broadcloth used in the skirt formed the foundation of the bolero and was almost hidden by soutache braid in London smoke and embroidered discs in flame color. The sleeves were held in place by straps of the satin, finished with rosettes of net, set off by gold and pearl ornaments.

With blouses such as these a plain gored skirt, either regulation length or mounted to give the short-waisted effect, can be used.

gloves several sizes too large. Do not expect a cure in one night. Repeat the process every night for a week or two.

In your quest for pretty arms and hands do not forget that lacing will give you red arms and swollen fingers. Tight gloves will also make the arms red and swollen. Believe me, it is far better to have the waist line one inch larger and pretty white arms, rather than red arms and a small waist line.

For a woman who has a thin hand with large veins showing and whose flesh hangs loosely over the bones of the fingers, I recommend that she massage every day with the following mixture:

Tannin, one-half gramme; lanoline, 20 grammes; oil of sweet almonds, 20 grammes.

Melt the lanoline and oil in a double boiler with as little heat as possible. Remove from the fire and beat in the tannin as the mixture cools.

KATHERINE MORTON.

Seen in and Out of the Shops

COTTON prints in imitation of the real East Indian fabrics are now found in all department stores. These make very effective hangings. They are not expensive, they wash well, and they give to an otherwise plain bedroom a warm and cheerful effect at very little cost.

Russian crash is now used for making very effective and very inexpensive pillow covers. This crash can be embroidered in large, conventional designs for the living-room or for the nursery. It can be embroidered with nursery rhymes and Mother Goose melodies. These pillow covers are laced together at one end so that they can be removed and washed at frequent intervals.

All the new long coats are slashed up at both sides. This is necessary to give ease and comfort in walking. Old-fashioned coral brooches are the latest fad for fastening the frills of lace worn at the throat. The rose pattern is the leader, but the other flower designs and pendants are seen frequently.

The shoe departments of the smart shops are exhibiting rubber-soled and heeled shoes for the girls who live out of doors and walk a great deal. This addition of rubber is said to save the spine a great deal of irritation and to make walking easier in every way.

What is known as the "Week-End Bag" has made its appearance. This is a miniature traveling bag just large enough to hold a night dress and a few toilet articles.

There is a strong revival of colored embroidery on linen toweling. Dull blue, soft brown, pink and faded green initials are now seen on handsome towels. These letters are worked in the middle of the end of the towel and can easily be done at home by even the beginner in embroidery.

The newest engagement bracelets are studded with stones which spell "dearest." Most of these bracelets are set with a diamond, emerald, aquamarine, ruby, emerald, sapphire and topaz. Now that the imitation stones are made so cleverly, the bracelet can be purchased at little cost set with what is known as the semi-precious stones.

Suitcases especially made for women to carry are extremely light in weight and are lined with silk and fitted with silk pockets. These weigh little more than an ordinary shopping bag, but will not stand any rough handling and should never be checked when traveling.

Women with short necks who do not like to wear high fur collars, are investing in the new shawl collar made of lynx.

The Possibilities of Chocolate

THE store-room of every good house-keeper should contain a good supply of chocolate. It is full of nutritive, fattening in quality and can be developed into all sorts of dishes tempting to the eye and the palate. Nervous children should be allowed to drink all the chocolate they want. In making chocolate to drink, about four ounces of the unsweetened chocolate should be allowed for each quart of milk, and it should be sweetened with brown sugar rather than white. Boil down until it has the consistency of cream, and before removing from the fire flavor with vanilla. For afternoon

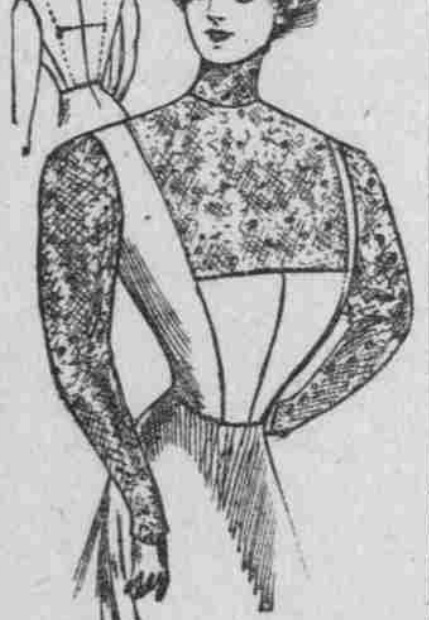


Fig. B—Keystone Yoke Effect in Figured Net.

tea for grownups it is well to add a liberal dash of port wine as a flavoring. The chocolate should not boil after flavoring has been added, as the heat will kill it.

Chocolate Pancakes—This makes a delicious dessert for luncheon and one that is quickly prepared. Mix together two eggs, yolks and whites, with two heaping tablespoons of sweetened chocolate that has been melted, brown sugar, brandy or rum, then the mixture must be sweetened to taste half cup of milk, half cup of flour. Beat all together well. Fry like ordinary pancakes, brown on both sides, then lay on a hot platter, sprinkle with powdered sugar and serve immediately.

Hot Chocolate Sauce for Vanilla Ice Cream—In a porcelain saucepan boil together one cup of water and half a cup of granulated sugar. Let it boil for five minutes, and then stir in five five-tablespoons of grated chocolate that has been dissolved in a gill of rich milk or thin cream.

Hospitality Should Be Fine Art

WITH the woman, hospitality should be and generally is a fine art. No matter what her estate, how large or small her income, the matron honestly aspires to succeed as a hostess. Whether she pours tea at a deal table covered with a red and white checked

friends in the right way. Will you give me some suggestions for good form as a hostess?

This appeal, though rather sweeping in character, suggested today's article on etiquette. How should the young matron entertain?

In her husband's estimation, perhaps,



FIG. E—CREAM COLORED MESSALINE WITH BRAIDED AND BEADED NET.

cloth or at a polished mahogany checked with lace and roses, she does her level best to impress her guest with her ability to entertain gracefully and graciously. "I have just married and moved to a new home, where my husband has provided a very attractive home. I want to help him in business by entertaining his

her most important gift as a hostess lies in her ability to give a good dinner. At this function she will shine before his men friends. He takes little interest in her tea or luncheon, and is frankly bored with the idea of a reception. But the dinner party is by far the most important and the most delicate of all entertainments. Here she must ex-

ercise exquisite care in selecting guests, so that the atmosphere around their table will be congenial. Brown and Jones may be friends down town when their wives are social rivals and at sword's point. Wherefore she will not have Mr. and Mrs. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Brown at her initial dinner.

It is never safe to give a dinner party, dear bride, until you know your new town, its social idiosyncrasies, its cliques, its affiliations, etc. Your husband may be very proud of his bride, his newly furnished home and his wedding gifts, but he is not led from the straight and narrow path by social direction by his immediate request for a dinner party. When the bride receives intimate friends to dinner informally, a couple at a time, until you know your town, then give the formal dinner. And incidentally remember that dinner invitations go out in the joint names of your husband and yourself; also that your husband leads the way to the dining-room with the woman guest of honor, highest social standing or age on his arm, while you bring up the rear of the procession with the leading man guest.

As a rule, the bride is kept quite busy at first repaying calls and accepting the hospitalities of her husband's old friends. In addition to this, she generally sends out her own cards for four apartments at home, a fortnight apart, or if her husband is fond of society, they are both at home on four evenings at the same interval. In the latter case, the joint cards are sent out. When the bride receives in the afternoon, either the announcement of her days at home accompanying the wedding announcement cards or she sends them out separately, directly she returns from the honeymoon.

In giving these afternoon teas at home, she invites members of her wedding party to receive her or her husband moves from her old home to her husband's town, she selects some of his old friends to assist her, provided, of course, that they have been prompt to call upon her and show her social attentions.

For these afternoon affairs, light refreshments are provided, tea, chocolate, dainty sandwiches, cakes and bon-bons, at night, coffee or punch may be substituted for tea and chocolate. For a large reception at night the bride dons her wedding gown, but for the afternoon affairs she wears a dainty house frock. If her husband assists in receiving during the afternoon, he wears jacket trousers, black frock coat, fancy waistcoat and silk tie, but at night he puts on evening clothes.

These general afternoon teas are always the safest way of entertaining for the newcomer or bride who has not yet learned where to draw her social lines. Later, she can give a series of smaller affairs, luncheons, musicales, dinners, card parties, etc., but at first she should not pick and choose her guests too freely.

In giving a dinner, the average dining-room will not accommodate more than ten, and a larger number of guests take from the general air which men like around the dinner table. A luncheon of more than 12 covers is also apt to be cumbersome, but a card party is limited only by the size of room and the number of tables which can be arranged.

The young matron's social privileges are many. If her husband desires to entertain a number of his bachelor friends, she may be the one woman at the table or she may arrange for their entertainment and then turn the house over to them. She may give, with her husband a charming dish party of the most informal character and entertain all young people. She may entertain any number of girls and women friends at a matinee, followed by tea at a smart room, but if she gives a theater party at night, with men guests as well as women, the invitations are issued in her husband's name and he is host.

While she is above all things the mistress of her home, she will not entertain guests of whom her husband, for good and sufficient reasons, does not approve. Before inviting out-of-town guests to visit her, she will consult her husband, as a matter of courtesy and consideration, upon which married happiness is built.

PRUDENCE STANDISH.

Amenities for the Young School Girl

GIrls have a good deal of license these days in going about together, but they subject themselves to unpleasant criticism if they do not remember to be as well-mannered in public as they are at home.

At matinees, for instance, where groups of young girls are frequently seen, and sometimes without a chaperon, there is great need of careful conduct, for persons, whether young or old, who are heedless of their manners in such a place make themselves not only disagreeable to those about them but conspicuous in a way not to be desired.

Jolly girls out for a good time sometimes forget that there are other persons in the world, and that these other persons, in a theater, for example, are very near neighbors, with rights and privileges of their own, as well as their own way of taking their enjoyment. It is extremely trying to such people to be seated near girls who are heedless of every one but themselves.

These heedless girls laugh and talk in loud, un ladylike tones between the acts and munch candy with avidity. During the play they often carry on conversation in whispers which can be plainly heard to the great annoyance of their neighbors, while many girls further disturb by being "travellers"—moving restlessly in their chairs, first an arm or a leg, or nervously fidgeting their programmes or their hats.

There is also the girl who, having seen the play before, cannot keep quiet through a second performance, but insists on whispering the development of the plot, as it goes along, to her companions. When the hero comes in, she will tell what he is going to do and what the heroine will do, and whenever there is suspense in the plot she will explain exactly how it is all coming out. Not only her companions here these things, but those sitting near are her victims, and as it spoils the play for them they do not feel very kindly toward the offender, who all the time is really quite unconscious of being objectionable.

Pray do not be this kind of girl. If you happen to know the play, keep it to yourself and let others have the enjoyment of the play. Do not chatter all day long on-keep your tongue still and your body still. Refrain from the acts which all the time are really quite unconscious of being objectionable.

Pray do not be late to the play, for it is discourteous to disturb those who have taken the trouble to get there on time by your tardy arrival. The simplest way

of disposing of your wraps is to check them, but should you not wish to do so remove them as soon as you get into your seat. In spite of good intentions you are late, slip off your wrap and hat before you go down the aisle, which will enable you to get seated with less disturbance to others. If you are sitting in a box it is not necessary to remove your hat, though you will wish to do so if you find it is obstructing the view of any one of your companions.

The American Working Girl.
(Harper's Bazaar.)
A consensus of opinion, appearing from conferences with two high-grade employers, agrees that four large commercial houses (not department stores), three large professional offices, and a large number of miscellaneous men of

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best"—of the wages of "the best" women employed in this class of clerks, bookkeepers, stenographers, typewriters, filing clerks, saleswomen, etc.—the following seems to be true:

They (generally) begin at \$7 to \$8 per week.
(Generally) takes about three years to advance to \$10 or \$12 per week.

Not more than 10 per cent ever go beyond \$12 per week.
Advance in wages is very rare after 10 years' service, except with the 10 per cent who develop peculiarly strong characteristics and are advanced to administrative positions.

It must be remembered that this covers only employees who can properly be called "the best." Others begin at \$3, \$4, and \$5 a week, and rarely rise above \$7 or \$8 a week.

It seems also true that the younger women and the better-equipped women crowd out the older women, as appears from the fact that except among "the best" few remain after 30 or 35 years, and even among "the best" few remain after 40 or 45 years.

He's a Proud Parent.
Chicago News.
I know some things I never knew before. My thoughts are running in a quite new channel. It always puzzled me why infants were those hands of fannies. I know the properties of acids, too—Lactic, as well as acetic, for instance. I've also learned just what to do with paragonic.

The Return Trip.
Louisville Courier-Journal.
Coming back from Turkeytown is the thing. On the old Overland line. Those who overwell did line. Jolt along.

Of good eating Turkeytown.
But too much is sure to cloy. And there is no real joy. Coming back.

Rounding Out the Arms and Hands

DESPITE the fact that long sleeves have come into vogue, there are many times when a long, bony arm and this hand are a great embarrassment to the owner. Perfectly molded arms are seldom seen, and particularly is it unusual to see a perfect forearm. However, there are simple home treatments which will often eradicate a great many blemishes. One of the greatest whiteners is pure lemon juice, which should be used freely by the girl who has a yellow tint to the skin of the arm.

Very thin and scrawny arms should be massaged with a flesh food, and physical culture exercises should be practiced. Massage of the arms is accomplished by grasping an arm with the hand of the opposite arm and beginning at the wrist, working upward with a twisting and winding motion. Then begin from the shoulder and work down in the same manner, all the time working into the flesh some good food. If the arm is apt to be bony, and the circulation is poor, the mass of flesh should be gripped between the fingers and thumb in a firm grasp, and moved up and down upon the underlying bones.

Many women write to me that the flesh upon the upper arm is very rough, and this is very unbecoming with evening dress. It is often caused by carelessness in properly drying the arms and from the insufficient use of the scrubbing brush. A very stiff brush should be used on the upper part of the arm, but even such applications will not always relieve that rough condition. Go to any reliable drug-kist and ask for a cake of pumice stone—not powdered pumice, but in one solid cake. Apply to the rough parts of the arm every day, then wash off in warm water and soap.

Pumice stone will also remove superfluous hairs on the arms unless they are very stubborn. If the frequent use of pumice stone irritates the flesh, apply a cake of zinc ointment and it will quickly relieve that itching sensation. Formula for this ointment has been given so often in these columns that I will not repeat

it, but I will gladly send it to any reader upon receipt of stamped and self-addressed envelope.

Hair on the arms is an affliction common to many women. In using depilatories, remember that no depilatory has

three ounces of sulphuret of barium in 12 ounces of water and bottle. When desired for use wet enough cornstarch with this liquid to make a paste sufficient to cover the growth of hair it is desired to remove. When dry the hair will come away with the paste.

The girl who feels that her arm is ugly beyond redemption should adopt the style of long sleeves which reach to the wrist. These sleeves are worn even with décolleté gowns.

Only constant care will keep the hands in good condition during the winter months, and the girl who wants soft, white hands should never let them get chilled. Remember that kid gloves are cold, particularly if they are tight, and a scheme that many girls of the smart set have adopted is wearing a loose kid glove with woolen gloves over them. The leather seems to hold the natural warmth in the hand and the wool tends to keep out the cold.

The wine girl will rub cold cream into the flesh of her hands every time she goes out in the air—be it ten times a day. And she rubs it into the flesh—does not dab it on—always rubbing it down towards the cuticle of the nails. If the grease is well worked into the flesh it will not soil the leather of the gloves. If the hands do get chilled despite muffs and gloves, do not hold them over the fire when coming in. Wash in tepid water and throw just a little glycerine into the basin to soften the water—about a teaspoonful to every pint of water—and then rub the hands vigorously until the natural heat has returned to them.

When it is desired to whiten and soften the hands with the least possible delay the following cosmetic paste is very beneficial:

Myrrh, one ounce; honey, four ounces; yellow wax, two ounces; rosewater, six ounces.

Melt the yellow wax in a double boiler and then add the myrrh, which should be powdered, with the wax is still hot. Beat these two ingredients thoroughly together, then stir in the honey, which should be strained, then the rosewater. If you find it too thick, add enough glycerine to make a spreadable paste.

Apply at night and wear a pair of old

yet been discovered that will remove the hair and prevent its coming back. The following formula is a simple one and can be used with a degree of safety. It will remove the hair temporarily, but further than that I promise nothing. Dissolve

Fig. A—The Popular Guimpe Introduced in Many Blouses.

Fig. B—Keystone Yoke Effect in Figured Net.

Fig. C—Tailored Blouse of Messaline with Scalloped Bound in Braid.