CORRESPONDENCE PAGE OF FASHIONS & BEAUTY

Bordered Fabrics Rule for Spring

WELL, they are with us—the Spring styles! And moreover they are not so far removed from last year's modes, at least in colorings, patterns, weaves and trimmings. There are really hopes for the rejuvenation of your last Summer's silk or voile.

Tub fabrics go to extremes. Either they are very sheer and semi-transparent, or almost as heavy as novelty wools. The sheer weaves resemble veilings, in fact cotton voile which is a wonderously clever imitation of marquisette, is one of the novelties. On the other hand, linens and crashes are extremely heavy and rough looking, suited admirably to tailored effects.

In silks, the influence of a satin Winter remains evident. The newest silks are all of the most highly finished foulard or chiffon-taffeta varieties. The shimmer is pronounced. Of course, you will see the rough, so-called oriental silks, first cousins, or further removed, of the reliable pongee, but these will be used only for two-piece suits, skirts and coats. For one-piece costumes and all dressy wear, the satin finished silk still rules supreme.

Voiles (call them by whatever fancy name you will, they are veilings of one sort or another)—and the silks all show the border. And of the variety of borders there is practically no end. In fact the bordered fabric is the one you must take into consideration in planning your Spring and Summer wardrobe, for without at least one frock made from bordered material you will feel decidedly out of the fashion running.

The most effective bordered fabrics for women of quiet, conservative tastes are the silks and voiles with plain body and fine conventional borders in deeper two-tone coloring or oriental shades. Never since looms were made have such exquisite neutral colorings been shown, not alone in silk and wool but in wash materials. For instance, take a pure white voile of fine mesh, almost like a marquisette, with a triple border, composed of satin stripes in soft, silvery grey, or mode or mauve or ashes of roses. The lower border, near the hem of the gown is composed of three satin stripes, about an inch and a half in width. The second border, a trifle higher up has two stripes, just a little narrower; and the third border is a single stripe, narrowest of all.

Another charming design is of pale mode and white stripe in the body of the material, while the same stripe running in deep "V's" or Vandyke points forms the border. White with rose-pink or bluette, deep cream with golden brown or brownish-green, oyster white with sage green borders—these are some of the most promising combinations.

The general run of colors may be described as faded and in tub fabrics particularly the greys are exquisite, giving great scope for the girl who desires to be smart rather than striking in dress. These greys come plain, mottled, striped with white, powdered with small white figures and in stunning plaids of several tones of grey and white.

Silks in small, fine checks or powdered with fine patterns have borders of wide stripes, Grecian and link patterns done in a deeper tone.

Among the tub novelties are the sheer batistes and lawns in delicate colorings like palest blue, pink, lavender, mauve and yellow, with a border composed of interlaced hand embroidered medallions, edged or outlined with the tiniest, finest of lace. On the colored frocks, the embroidered borders are done in white, while on white goods the delicate colors are employed.

Enormous latitude is allowed in the matter of Spring wraps. There are long coats and short coats, loose coats and tight coats, silk coats and cloth coats, but a safe rule is to select a coat which shows the normal waist line quite clearly and does not hide hips or curves. There is a distinct tendency to emphasize the waist line which has been hidden by loose flowing raiment all Winter. Coat sleeves are long and little braiding is seen.

The new hats show surprisingly little change from last season's. The tailored hats are very small and made of fine supple straws like Milan. The white hat or rather the natural yellowish Milan straw, trimmed with velvet ribbon, black, brown or blue to match the tailored suit, stiff wings and round, flat cabuchins is again in vogue and these are oblong, not round, turbans.

The flower trimmed hats are of medium size in white and delicately tinted flowers, with flat, regular brims, low crowns, much built up with flowers. Lilacs, wistaria, sweet peas, hyacinths and the finer flowers seem more smart than roses. The Charlotte Corday hat holds its own wonderfully for very dressy wear, and is made with a drapery of net, edged with lace, over a brim that looks for all the world like a lattice work of wire covered with white ribbon. Huge crushed pink roses are employed to trim this hat, or soft ribbon with tassel ends.

Crinoline will be much used for between-season hats. Some call it horsehair, and it appears in plain and lace weaves. Whole hats are built of it, including the most marvelous rosettes in two and three tones of one color.

Today's illustrations suggest various ways for employing bordered fabrics. The inexperienced home dressmaker is very apt to think that bordered fabrics must be made up with the border running straight round the hem of the skirt, down the front of the blouse, shirtwaist fashion, and around collar and cuffs. This is a grave mistake. With the economical woman, the bordered pieces of the fabric furnish the trimming of the gown, replacing banding, braiding, etc., and can be employed in various ways. They are simply cut off the edge of the fabric, and used precisely like any other trimming, sometimes applied plain with stitching, again outlined with fine lace edging, pipings of plain material, braid or feather stitching.

The simplest design shown is for a morning dress of bordered challie, Fig. A. Here the border has been touched up by the addition of fine silk braid, and is used for edging the sleeves, making the belt and setting off the front of the jacket. By making this jacket on a plain lining, finishing off the bottom with a snug fitting belt, you can develop a very neat jumper to wear over a guimpe. But it will give best results if employed to make up bordered wash material like lawn or gingham for morning wear on warm days. The low neck is now in vogue for all house dresses.

Fig. B shows how the border may be applied precisely as you would use braid or velvet ribbon, with a finish of buttons either covered with the border, or showing some slight contrast. This model would do admirably for working up the striped materials described at the beginning of this article.

Figure C shows how a narrow border may be used to outline a panel and decorate the long sleeves of a house frock, while in D you will see how it can be employed on cloth in a way that suggests an outdoor wrap. This, by the way, is one of the smartest Spring models, for you will note that the long waist line is clearly defined. MARY DEAN.

FIG. C—NARROW BORDER USED TO FORM PANELS.

Awkward Movements

IT WAS a rainy January afternoon and the house party, gathered around the big open fireplace in the hall, turned confidential, also reminiscent.

Billy Bradford started it. You can depend upon a man's starting any of this "open-confession-that-is-good-for-the-soul" business. We had been talking about the new rector's wife, and how sadly flustered she had been during dinner the night before.

"By Jove, I know just how she felt when hubby told her going home that you ask after the health of the family not your folks." The little breaks that possibly no one notices are the ones that some kind relative drives into your soul. I remember one moment of awful agony when the girl I had taken to a dance, having been obliged to sit out a number against the wall told me what she thought of me. It was done in about four cutting words, but when I carried my injured feelings to my mother, she said a great deal more and for weeks I imagined that all our little world knew that Billy Bradford let a girl, to whom he was playing cavalier, sit out a dance. It was a frightful lesson—and to this day I either dance till I'm ready to drop—or I stay away from dances altogether. Those first breaks make an awful impression on a chap."

"My moment of agony," mused the man who had done things in oil, was one day at a tea when I was so engrossed with a pretty girl that I did not notice I was the only man sitting down until my hostess, with a most unpleasant intonation, mentioned my name as a prelude to an introduction. I bet I don't sit down now if there's only a scrub woman standing in my presence."

The married daughter of the host laughed reminiscently.

"I certainly received one splendid jolt from Dr. B——, the most punctilious man who ever cut out an appendix. Somehow his name was overlooked when I was acknowledging wedding invitations. You know how such things will happen in the last dreadful few days. Six months later he wrote to mother that he had received his semi-annual bill from T——'s, and it included a cut glass bowl sent as a wedding gift to me. Of course he did not care to pay the bill unless he knew the bowl had been delivered. Wasn't that neat? You girls take it from me that it is best to hire someone to make a list of gifts as fast as they arrive.

Round the circle rippled the very personal admission of faults committed and duties omitted. And as we talked and listened we all came to a better understanding of what good form or etiquette is really founded upon—consideration for the feelings of others.

A woman who finds herself standing and looking down upon a man who is too lazy and too discourteous to rise in her presence sees something more than his awkwardness. She feels contempt for the man who shows so little courtesy towards her sex. No well-bred man ever remains seated when women are standing in the same room.

The girl who is escorted to a dance by a man and then allowed to get partners as best she can, while the man flirts through a few dances and smokes through more, realizes that the man is something more than rude. His lack of consideration shows him to be selfish and an undesirable companion.

No matter how much money or how little you may have to spend for a gift, you like to feel that your offering is appreciated. On that feeling and nothing else, is founded the custom of promptly acknowledging wedding gifts, Christmas and birthday remembrances.

The hostess who has spent time, money and ingenuity to entertain her friends feel when one or two depart without stopping to say they have enjoyed the evening, that not only are they lacking in courtesy but perhaps in some way she has failed to give them pleasure.

The young man who at first call upon a girl remains for several hours until the family one by one disappear and father lets his shoes fall loudly overhead, and the girl is plainly uncomfortable, not only shows ignorance of good form, but he is thoughtless of those who are accustomed to retiring early and arising promptly to return to work.

The man or woman who announces loudly at table as a dish is served, "I never eat that," is not only breaking a rule of etiquette but he is actually hurting the feelings of the hostess whose wish is to serve an altogether pleasing meal. He could just as easily have the dish served and then toy with it, covering the awkward moment by eating a little bread.

When you are puzzled as to the right thing to do, just stop and say: "I wonder if this would make me feel uncomfortable if I were in the other person's place?" PRUDENCE STANDISH.

Fig. A—Morning Jacket and Straight Skirt in Bordered Challie or Gingham.

Mid-Season Hair Ornaments

THE mid-season coiffure is a truly wonderful thing, and there is no limit to the size and variety of ornaments used to make it more striking and effective.

What is known as the Mary Garden coiffure is largely responsible for the revival of the Grecian band which has almost entirely replaced combs, both side and back. A Grecian band for the front of the knot and a Mary Garden barette for the under side—and there you are, with a coiffure complete and altogether charming.

The Mary Garden knot is simply the Psyche knot modernized. It has completely killed the custom of marceling the hair. Instead, the hair is divided off in a thick circle around the head, and what is left is knotted, right at the crown. Then the circle, or halo or pompadour, whatever you choose to call the outside rim of hair, is divided into 12 strands and put up on patent curlers or braided tightly, after being wet with alcohol, or cologne. This makes a deep wave.

When ready to arrange the coiffure, part the hair slightly on the side and dress the pompadour low and soft, in rather a loose fashion entirely distinct from the set look given by the marcel. The pompadour arranged, the back hair is drawn up to the middle of the back of the head and tied securely; then the Psyche knot is made by deft twists, with the broad, large barette supporting it directly above the nape of the neck.

The Grecian bands are set above the knot, the lower band quite close to it and the ornament behind the ear.

The Grecian band proper is just what its name implies, a flat band or rather a series of bands, two or three, as the coiffure will permit. For the woman of classic features these come in fine strands of silver and gold, plain or studded with gems, but the average woman prefers soft ribbon, tulle, gauze or something that will soften lines, not make them stand out in bold relief.

A pretty home-made band seen at a recent dance was fashioned of gold gauze, twisted around two bands of milliner's wire and finished on the left side with two small gold roses, just coming into bloom, and half a dozen very fine trailing leaves. The heavy gold roses are very trying in the hair. Another ornament was finished with gauze and white tulle rosettes, and a third glittering effect was secured by weaving a half-wreath of artificial wheat, such as you see mixed with poppies and cornflowers on Summer hats. Then the wreath was gilded.

A stunning little band is made from white satin ribbon wound round the milliner's wire and finished with a small gardenia and its glossy leaves. Exquisite are the bands of pink or blue tulle, finished with wee rosebuds or forgetmenots. For a debutante a lovely band shows silver leaves and a few very delicate silver rosebuds on the left side. For an older girl a dainty hair ornament is of pinkish mauve gauge, lightly powdered with rhinestone beads over silver gauze and finished with a small artificial orchid.

The broad band of ribbon effected by many young girls last Fall has quite disappeared, and the more airy effects are in demand. MARY DEAN.

Tips for Busy Housewives

IF YOU cannot afford the regulation flat-handled brush for cleaning behind the radiator, try a child's broom, which you can buy for a dime at any 5 and 10-cent store. And in this connection remember that a stiff plain brush is much better for cleaning down stairs than a whisk broom.

When you have an especially clean and stiff piece of white wrapping paper come your way, do not throw it away nor give it to the children to play with. Save it for kitchen funnels. Cut it into large squares and shape it precisely like your vinegar funnel of tin, only without the long, narrow end. Use it when you are turning tea, coffee, beans, rice and other small groceries from their bags into their proper receptacles. It is insurance against waste.

If you have no dark closet for keeping preserves, make one by partitioning off one end of the light pantry shelving, and covering the front with a dark green window shade, the roller attached close to the ceiling or edge of shelf above your preserves.

Keep patent mustard leaves where you can reach them immediately in the night. Many a case of pneumonia has started from "mother making a mustard plaster in a cold kitchen."

Do not turn irritable when the cakes or biscuits burn. Wait until they turn cold, then gently grate away the burnt part, with an ordinary cheese grater. This is more economical than slashing away the hot burnt parts with a knife, and less apt to flavor the cakes.

To make candles last through a long dinner or afternoon tea, keep them on ice 24 hours before using.

Why Are You Losing Your Hair

"I AM sending you a sample of my hair. Can you tell me why it is falling out? I have very little dandruff, and I keep it cleaned off with a fine-tooth comb."

"What is wrong with my hair? My scalp is free from dandruff, but very oily, and I have been washing it once in a week or 10 days with cream of tartar in the water. Lately it has begun to fall out. Please send me formula for good tonic as per your article in Sunday's paper."

"I am dreadfully discouraged about my hair. It was such a lovely golden-brown shade, but lately it has turned dark and muddy looking. Then I used peroxide, but instead of turning it the old color, it made it look streaked. It is not nearly so long and thick as it was, and though I am only a little past 30, I feel that I am losing my greatest charm, for my hair used to be much complimented."

These extracts from one day's correspondence tell why many women lose their hair. It also emphasizes a specialist's remark, made one day in a moment of unusual frankness: "The mystery is not that women's hair is less beautiful than it used to be, but that women have any hair at all."

In a day of unusual educational advantages, when women are supposed to possess considerably more intelligence and reasoning faculty than their grandmothers had before them, the utter ignorance, the criminal carelessness which they show in caring for their hair, and their actual abuse of what should be a most attractive feature, are simply amazing, yes, and distressing.

In order to be in style the woman burns, pulls, ties and puilds up her coiffure with utter disregard for consequences to hair and scalp. For a cold or worse they consult a doctor. For toothache, they employ a dentist. They pay large sums to manicurists and chiropodists. But when it comes to the hair, they experiment with it freely, relentlessly.

The woman who would not attempt to dye a bit of net or silk will tackle the dangerous task of dyeing her hair without hesitation. The woman who could not bind a bad cut, will recklessly attack the problem of bleaching her own hair.

The first sample of hair submitted for examination was dry, brittle, lifeless, and the ends were badly split. To all appearances, the scalp was dry and cleaving to the skull when it should be loose and pliable to massage. The use of a fine tooth-comb was the worst thing the woman could possibly do.

No amount of combing will cure dandruff, and it is very apt to encourage its growth. It is generally agreed by specialists that dandruff represents a germ or bacillus which eats the root of the hair or absorbs its vitality. For many years tonics containing cantharides were used to treat dandruff, but the new school of specialists has decided that the tendency of cantharides to blister the scalp is almost as inimical to the growth of the hair as the dandruff germ.

When the scalp is dry and dandruff appears in any quantity whatever, the former should be massaged nightly with olive oil and twice a week with either rosemary unguent or oxide of zinc ointment, both of which remedies can be made at home. Formulas for these ointments have been published before, but readers can secure printed copies of the same by sending a stamped and addressed envelope.

For the dry scalp, shampooing once in a fortnight or three weeks will be sufficient. For this, use the egg shampoo of which I have so often written. Never add either ammonia or borax to the egg shampoo when the hair is dry and brittle.

The writer of the first letter apparently does not singe or clip her hair. The ends are split for a distance of half an inch. And I imagine from the strain which ran through her entire epistle that she is aenemic and needs building up. A tablespoon of olive oil taken daily or a good emulsion of cod liver oil will help her general health and her hair.

The second writer is jeopardizing her hair by using cream of tartar as a shampoo powder. It dries the hair, splits it and makes it abnormally brittle. Moreover, unless the hair is very oily, it should not be shampooed oftener than once in two weeks. For this the writer should use the egg shampoo, to which she may add just a pinch of washing soda in the first water. If the oil becomes troublesome almost directly after shampooing with egg, then let her try the following cleansing lotion, rinsing the hair thoroughly after using this, and drying it in the sunlight and air:

Bicarbonate of soda, ¼ ounce; borax, ¼ ounce; cologne water, 2 ounces; rectified spirits, 1 ounce; tincture of cochineal, ½ ounce; distilled water, 16 ounces. Mix and shake thoroughly.

If the oil persists and becomes annoying before the fortnight runs out, then she should use the dry shampoo powder, leaving it in the hair overnight and brushing it out in the morning. Formula for this powder will be furnished on receipt of stamped and addressed envelope.

In this day of toilet conveniences, the average head of hair suffers more from over-shampooing than from too much dust and grime, and especially from injudicious shampooing with strong alkalis.

The third writer who admits the use of peroxide and the many other women who either dye or bleach their hair complete the list of those who abuse what should be their crowning glory. There is no dye for the hair, however skillfully applied, that cannot be detected. It gives the hair a hard, metallic look, and is trying to even fine features. Once the hair is either dyed or bleached, the mischief is done. Then, either the process must be continued for life or the hair be permitted to resume its natural coloring, and its owner be made conspicuous by her own folly.

The woman with a dry scalp whose hair is turning dark has absolutely no recourse. She must yield to the change in coloring. But the woman with an oily scalp and moist hair may improve conditions by adding washing soda, or borax or toilet ammonia in reasonable quantity to her egg shampoo mixture, and then in the second rinsing water, she may pour a little peroxide, a small tablespoon to a basin of tepid water.

A word to the woman who has bleached her hair and must keep up the practice: Peroxide incorrectly used will turn the hair streaked and even green. If you must bleach your hear, let me help you do it correctly. The method of a successful English hairdresser is at your command for a stamped and addressed envelope, but I beg of you, do not use peroxide indiscriminately and ignorantly. There is a right way and there is a wrong way to apply it—and 99 women out of every 100 who undertake the use of this powerful bleach pay a high price for their temerity. KATHERINE MORTON.

FIG. B—PLAIN BORDER EMPLOYED LIKE HERCULES OR NOVELTY BRAID

Fig. D—Bordered Fabric in Spring Street Costume, the Border Giving Coat Effect.

Cooling Drinks for Winter

THE character of the beverage to be served at any social affair, afternoon or evening, will depend upon the position of the hostess on the liquor question. If she does not use alcohol at all, let her try some of the following beverages:

To serve between games at a card party, try iced coffee or chocolate.

For the coffee, make enough of what is known as clear black after dinner coffee to fill at least two wine or sherbert glasses for each guest. Sweeten this while it is hot, and set aside to cool. Then pour it into a large bottle or pitcher and set in a pail or deep kettle, packing ice around it. When ready to serve, pour into glasses three-quarter full and heap on top either sweetened and whipped cream or a tablespoon of ice cream.

Iced chocolate is made thus: Melt two squares of Baker's chocolate in a double boiler and add a cupful of granulated sugar and a cupful of water. Let this mixture cook until it forms a thick syrup. Remove from the fire, add a teaspoonful of vanilla and set away to chill in a pitcher. When ready to serve, half fill a large mixing glass with chopped ice, add two tablespoons of the chocolate syrup, fill up the glass with good sweet milk, cover with a shaker, and shake thoroughly, strain into glasses and put whipped cream on top of each. Do not mix more than a large glass of this at a time. It will make three small glasses. This method is much better than boiling the chocolate and milk and then chilling, which usually forms a sediment.

Fruit Punch.—Delightful for large affairs. Bear in mind that neither ginger ale nor apollinaris water will fracture the temperance pledge, even though they do sizzle. Steep four teaspoonsful of good tea (orange Pekoe and English breakfast are said to be best) in a quart of boiling water. The water must be bubbling when poured over the tea, which is then set back on the stove to steep not more than four minutes. Strain into an earthen bowl containing four cups of cut sugar. Block sugar will dissolve without stirring. When quite cold pour into a punch bowl with three cups of orange juice and two cups of lemon juice, both strained, and four pint bottles each of ginger ale and apollinaris water. A large block of ice in the center of the bowl, decorated with slices of orange quartered, candied cherries and slivers of pineapple, is better than cracked ice which weakens the punch.

Adding unfermented grape juice to ordinary lemonade in the proportion of a large glassful of the juice to each quart of lemonade makes a delicious drink.

The Cowboy Serenader.

(Chicago Record-Herald.)

There ain't no encores when I sing,
And there ain't no ladies fair;
There ain't no light guitare to ring,
And no one's nigh to care;
I've got one song—'twould make you creep—
It's all I ever knowed;
But the cattle allus goes to sleep
When they've been Old Black Joed.

These here Eyetallians, so they say,
Has voices made of gold;
I'll meet 'em, even, night or day,
A-makin' cattle hold;
'Cause opery music don't fit steers—
Caruso's voice be blowed!
There's nothin' quiets cattle's fears
Like bein' Old Black Joed.

One night our foreman he gits gay
And takes me off the herd
And lets a new hand try my lay—
He sung just like a bird.
At 12 o'clock a steer grunts "Woof!"
And how that stampede growed!
I'll bet they wouldn't stirred a hoof
If they'd been Old Black Joed.