

SIGNS POINT MORE AND MORE TO A FULLER SKIRT.

The Newest Author- itative Words on What Is Going on in This Constant Revo- lution of the Modes.

It is at this season that all womanhood is absorbed in the question of gowns of ceremony. What with receptions, debutante teas, dinners, the opera and many lesser and more intimate affairs, the woman who has not an unlimited income and yet must be well dressed, is forced to do some serious planning in order to have the necessary changes without seriously impairing the family exchequer.

The gowns most in evidence are a riot of gold and silver, sequins of all colors, jewels, bangles, in fact everything that glitters. Fortunately for those whose means are restricted, there is always beauty in simplicity, and with this idea in mind there are many pleasing effects to be achieved.

The clinging, scanty skirt is still so popular as to be almost universal, and waists are cut so low that a wisp of tulle about the neck and a wee scarf or bit of embroidery over the shoulders will serve, if one's weak points are considerably draped, and one's best lines carefully brought out. It is all very well to be up to date and all that, but, oh, if women would only listen to the doctrine of becomingness and suitability rather than the latest edict of fashion, they would make fewer mistakes.

Theoretically, the petticoat has vanished, and in some respects it is a comfortable fashion. With a heavy cloth skirt, an underskirt can be dispensed with, but surely everyone will sympathize with a certain observing man at a recent debutante ball, who was watching with amazed eyes the young girls dancing, their skimpy satin skirts held closely around their forms. Every line of hip and leg, including the edge of the corset and the attached stocking supporters being plainly in evidence. Said he: "Do they realize, do they know how it looks; can they leave nothing to the imagination?"

However, signs point more and more to a fuller skirt, for which the woman who walks will return devout thanks, since walking has become one of the most trying things to contend with this winter, and the appearance of one's feet is a thing to lose sleep over, for there are no deceptions possible. They must be absolutely irrefragable, both as to stockings and shoes.

Any one who is fortunate enough to possess one of those lace shawls, either black or white, so dear to our grandmothers, can make a most beautiful and unusual gown without a very serious outlay. Both chintilly and Spanish lace are much in use, and one clever woman appeared

recently in a dream of a gown fashioned from her grandmother's three-cornered black shawl. The underdress was of gleaming white satin, over which the shawl was plainly draped with the widest point in front. The skirt was finished where the shawl failed to reach with an applied flounce of plain net on which were applications of black velvet cut in rounded waves at the top. The only trimming was a flat belt at the high waist line, rising somewhat toward the bust and heavily embroidered in gold. This sort of a band around the waist has almost entirely superseded the folded satin girdle so prevalent last season.

It was to be expected with the present fashion of simulated looseness around the waist, the periodically renewed war on corsets would once more be to the fore, and sure enough it is here, or at least one hears rumors of its attempted launching.

The old war cry, the menace to the health of future generations, is the first

note, then the attention is, of course, called to the beauty of the torso of the ancient Greek statues. If all women were blessed with Mary Garden lines—for no one can deny the beauty of her unconfined figure with that lovely rounded line from bust to abdomen—they might be more easily persuaded to give up the support of corsets.

After all, it is a question whether our comfort would be increased, for what would become of our bosoms. Down it would come. Very likely some ingenious person has this in mind when he launched a substitute for the corset in the shape of a wide-strapped belt without stays to confine hips and abdomen, and a flexible bandage which is wrapped around the

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circumstances goes in for undue coddling. It is Miss Sit-by-the-Fire, who prefers a novel to a good healthy walk in cold weather, who contracts colds and sore throats, influenza or bronchitis at every opportunity. The hot-house-plant type of girl can never depend upon good health, harden oneself, to get accustomed to going out in all weathers all the year round. It is not rain or cold weather that is directly harmful and liable to cause illness. Even wet clothes and wet feet are of very little importance if you are walking all the time to keep warm and are careful to change whenever you come indoors.

Of course, it is fatal to sit about in wet things, and the business girl who gets home "wet through" should change at once into dry things, if she wishes to escape a chill.

It is the girl who lives in lodgings who is so terribly careless about such matters. "She can't be bothered" changing, she kicks off wet shoes, and never troubles to find out if her stockings are damp, if her shoes are letting in water, or her skirts too damp for safety. Indeed, wet or dry, every girl should change her dress when she gets home in the evening. It is a good habit—a hygienic necessity, if we think of the microbes which adhere in thousands to one's outdoor, mud-exposed garments.

SOME TIMELY WINTER HEALTH HINTS.

By a Woman Doctor.

COMMON sense, combined with ordinary care, should suffice to keep anybody healthy all through the winter. Half the illnesses at this season are due to ignorance, and most of the remainder to carelessness, or to the opposite condition—overcoddling. Most business girls neglect their health shamefully. In winter, especially, they take no precautions against chill and damp; they wear thin-soled shoes and flimsy underclothing, and then grumble at their ill-luck when they are laid up for a couple of weeks with influenza.

In most cases they have entirely themselves to blame. The most important purchase the business girl who goes out to work every day of the week has to make at the beginning of winter is a good, thick-soled pair of boots. Damp feet are responsible for a great deal of illness in winter. Few girls realize that their health and looks depend very much upon their footgear. Thin stockings and paper soles mean pallor of the face and red noses; cold feet make many a woman cross and irritable and out of sorts, although she does not know the reason why.

In the second place, woolen underclothing next the skin is essential to good health in winter, and it may sound a little contradictory to assert that many people get a chill in winter by overcoddling.

Heavy overcoats are a potent source of illness at this season. Why? Because we wear them at the wrong time, and although men are worse offenders than women in respect of overcoats, we, one and all, are inclined to think that the more coats and wraps and furs we can wear the better we can guard against cold. What is the result? We hurry along to church or office or theatre in heavy outdoor things; we get overheated, and arrive at our destination and then we immediately begin to disrobe, to take off our coats because we are indoors. We cool at express speed and develop a chill when the body temperature gets down to a certain point. The right time to wrap up is when we are sitting still, in "bus or train, in a chilly office or insufficiently heated church, not when we are walking briskly and generating heat by bodily exercise.

A heavy coat under these conditions simply overheats and overheats, causing perspiration, and after-chill. The careful girl, who wishes to escape illness during the dark days of the year, attends to her clothes, does her best to avoid unnecessary exposure to damp, and under no cir-

BY "JANE" THE FASHIONABLE NEW YORK DRESSMAKER

With an Accurate Description of the Evening Gowns That Are Just Now Most Attracting Women's Atten- tion--and, Yes, the Men's.



the brown hair parted and drawn over the ears in soft waves. The up-to-date note was in two large ornaments worn directly back of the ears and connected across the top of the head with a narrow slit. No woman feels entirely correct without something in her hair. Aligrettes were gaily into the men's faces, imperilling their eyesight and tickling their noses as they bent devotedly near. It takes a truly beautiful face to carry off the trying effect of a plain band of gold just above the eyebrows. Perhaps the little straight bang, escaping from underneath was necessary to soften the effect. This little bang, by the way, is growing in popularity. May we be preserved from an entire return of that old horror. The gloveless hand one is glad to see, for there is something very harsh in the edge of the short glove showing under the transparent sleeve. Lace mitts would be far prettier, giving one's rings an opportunity to shine.

The sketches shown here are some very attractive and not too elaborate evening gowns, with two hair accessories.

(A)—Bandeau and bunch of grapes for the opera.

(B)—This has very simple lines. Gold colored crepe is draped all in one over one shoulder into the skirt; the other shoulder is covered with a network of gold bugles on tulle.

(C)—A beautiful satin charmeuse in one of the newest pale greens. The upper part is composed entirely of silver gauze embroidered in shades of green. The skirt rounds up on to the waist front and back and is laced together at the sides.

(D)—Soft messaline in tomato red. The draped sleeves, caught up with little ornaments, and the interior of the waist, are of self-toned tulle, dotted with brown sequins.

(E)—One of the latest Paris evening wraps of beige cloth, which buttons in envelope fashion, back to the front over braiding and embroidery of deeper tones. The same braiding trims the neck and sleeves, and heavy knotted fringe falls down the front.

JANE.

What Women Endure to Be Fashionable.

"WE owe the big hat a debt of gratitude," said a fashionable hairdresser. "For never before have we had so much to do in treating heads. Despite the amount of false hair worn with the big 'Merry Widow' hat, the foundation is always built on the owner's real hair, and these enormous structures, surmounted by heavy artificial flowers and lined with a heavy bandeau, have literally torn our customers' hair out by the roots. Now we are treating the wearers of the 'Merry Widow' hat for alopecia, sometimes for absolute baldness."

"Those big Summer hats, pulling on the hair, have at length severed the connection, either partially or entirely, of the hair bulb from its living papilla at the bottom of the hair follicle, and when the hair has not been absolutely yanked out by the weight of the hat pulling on it, the hair shaft has died by degrees and dropped or been brushed out. To be healthy, hair must not only be freely ventilated, but it should not be subjected to excessive, constant pulling."

"It will take six months or more to get the scalp into healthy condition after its trials under bushelfuls of false hair, topped by a millinery monstrosity. When the hair

has been worn over a frame, this must be discarded. If a pad is absolutely necessary, one of the new ventilated pads, made of real hair over a fine net and laced in a net, gives the scalp more ventilation than the other contrivances.

"The hair must be washed twice a month at least. The yolk of an egg is the best cleansing substance, and this should be rubbed into the roots with cold water and washed out with tepid water and castile soap. This done, it should be thoroughly dried by a brisk rubbing with towels.

"When the hair is left too dry after shampooing, a little coconut oil should be rubbed over it, just a few drops on the bristles of a brush or in the palm of the hand. This is absolutely necessary when hair has been scorched or rendered brittle by the use of peroxide or other bleaching agents."

"Besides that, the hair and scalp should be brushed daily. The hair should be brushed rather than combed, but the tangles should first be unravelled with a wide-toothed comb, and in brushing the scalp should be brushed a good deal and the hair very little. The scalp must receive enough friction to induce a rosy glow."

How People Are Fooled By "Soft Drinks."

A RECENT issue of the London Lancet points out that the cause of abstemiousness from alcohol would be materially served if good, palatable, non-alcoholic drinks were forthcoming, and those who are interested in the sale of alcoholic drinks would possibly view with dismay the discovery of a really attractive temperance beverage. As it is, very few, if any, so-called temperance beverages can compare favorably from the point of view of palatability or of acceptableness in general with malt or grape liquors. And it is curious that several of the temperance beverages which enjoy favor with teetotalers contain an appreciable amount of alcohol.

One of the best so-called temperance drinks, and one which is quite popular with the non-alcoholic adherent, is brewed ginger-beer, and this contains, of course, a relatively large amount of alcohol, since it is obtained (and its palatable qualities depend upon the fact) by the fermentation of sugar.

Some samples of brewed ginger-beer are proved to contain more alcohol than light beer and very nearly as much as is contained in cider. A light or a diluted claret would be less objectionable on the score of alcohol.

Some teetotalers in their innocence, while agnostic at the idea of drinking a light beer or claret, do not object to ginger-wine which, relatively speaking, is highly alcoholic. It would seem to be a question of nomenclature with such people. If a beverage is called ginger-wine or ginger-beer it appeals to them apparently as a preparation of ginger, which is in no way related to things alcoholic. As soon, however, as such classic names as claret, beer, and moselle are mentioned, then at once they feel that they are confronted with something that is overwhelmingly alcoholic.

This is a great mistake, and a mistake based upon an inexcusable indifference to actual facts. Nothing would score more for the temperance cause than the spreading wide the fact that really light wines, indulged in moderately, may be regarded for all purposes as inoffensive from the point of view of alcohol. Still, an antagonistic feeling to even these beverages of trifling alcoholic strength would be readily excused if something that harmonized better with the good food of a dinner than do a "seed and milk," a "lemon squash," and so forth, could be suggested.

An Illinois Optimist.

Don't kick because you have to button your wife's waist. Be glad your wife has a waist and doubly glad you have a wife to button a waist for. Some men's wives have no waists to button. Some men's wives' waists have no buttons on to button. Some men's wives who have waists with buttons on to button don't care a continental whether they are buttoned or not. Some men don't have any wives with waists with buttons on to button any more than a rabbit. —Lacon Journal.