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GINGHAM IN STYLE

Fabric Popular for Dresses, Parasols and Millinery. Neckwear and Vestees and Blouses Trimmed With the Material Among the Showings.

Gingham still persists, as anyone who wintered South, or who kept posted on what smart women wore under the palms, can attest. It was the material out of which the great percentage of morning gowns were made. Although it may appear inconsistent, gingham was not simple in general effect. They were frequently combined with organdie, sometimes veiled with it, as in the case of strong red-and-white checked gingham with apron panels of organdie, and they were bound with everything from black cre to net—all of which leads one naturally to suppose that gingham gowns are to be in style for another summer.

The gown sketched is on rather simple lines, the yoke cut in one with the abbreviated sleeves being one of its most interesting features. Yokes are appearing quite frequently this year, and when a plaid or striped material is used it is, of course, advisable to have the lines of the material at a different angle to those appearing in the rest of the dress.

Gingham parasols and gingham millinery, gingham neckwear and gingham vestees are all among the spring showings, and one finds gingham introduced as trimming on many smart tricotine gowns just now. Blouses



The Simple Gingham Gown.

of plain material, frilled or banded with gingham, are among the offerings which are impressive. There is rather a prejudice against the gingham hat unless it is made of the identical fabric of the dress, for naturally one would hesitate at appearing in two different plaids at one and the same time.

SUITS, SKIRTS AND BLOUSES

Modes of the Moment in the Line of Apparel in Which Milady is Most Interested.

Jersey suits are in favor, and are not expensive. They have, chiefly, belted box coats and a plain two piece skirt shirred at the waist-line or accordion pleated.

Another suit has a white jersey skirt and a blue cheviot coat stitched in blue.

Entire suits are made up in hairline striped flannel.

Two materials in one suit are used in checked and plain worsted goods, the check being in the skirt and the coat.

Lingerie blouses have many frills. Dressy waists are chiefly over-the-skirt.

The V-shaped neck is in evidence as a change from the square and oval neck.

Some tailored waists are made of fine checked gingham.

Some of the new skirts have a side-front opening under a deep tuck. Many of the skirts have insets of plaids at the sides to give the extra width.

More fulness than formerly and swathing girdles are outstanding features of the spring skirts.

Separate skirts of plaid and striped woollens are the most popular models of the hour.

Smart Contrast. The coat dress, the favorite of this season's mode, gains originality by the addition of a novel stolelike collar of vivid and contrasting color. A blue poret twill gown thus trimmed in Arabian red silk duvetyn will win the approval of the woman who fully understands the meaning of the French word chic.

Poppies. Poppies are selling well for hat trimming. They are used almost exclusively, however, on the red braid and straws.

BUILT THE FIRST SKYSCRAPER

Whitelaw Reid's Structure That Housed the Tribune Was the Wonder of Its Day.

The skyscraper was undreamed-of until Whitelaw Reid laid the corner stone of the Tribune building in 1874. The Florentine campaigner that he then lifted into the air gave his contemporaries what was, for them, a greater sensation than their descendants have received from Manhattan's tallest towers. Voyagers coming up the bay hailed it with astonishment, little imagining the formidable structures it foreshadowed.

The skyline it broke was that of an essentially flat, low-lying city. In Reid's eyes New York was not then precisely beautiful. So we may judge from the instructions he sent to Clarence Cook in 1870, with a request for a series of architectural articles. "What I want," he wrote, "is first a crisp editorial on the prevailing lack of architectural taste in New York, the dreary miles of brownstone fronts, the worthlessness of brownstone as a material for building, the mostrosities given us by our wealthiest men."

Then article after article was to be written, discussing the question of architecture in our cities generally, but particularly in New York. The "frightful example" was to be fearlessly pilloried, and suggestions were to be made.—From "The Life of Whitelaw Reid," by Royal Cortissoz.

HONOR CLAIMED FOR BOSTON

First Public School in United States is Said to Have Been in That City.

It is probable that the beginning of the American public school was in Massachusetts. In 1835 the people of Boston assembled in town meeting, requested Philemon Purnot to become schoolmaster and voted him 30 acres of land in part pay for his services. The school begun by Purnot later became the Boston Latin school and has had continuous existence to the present time. Other settlements followed Boston's example and within the next ten years common schools were established in all the New England settlements. In 1847 the general court of Massachusetts ordered every town having 50 families to appoint a teacher, whose wages were to be paid by the parents of the children he taught or by the inhabitants in general. At the same time townships having 100 families were required to establish a grammar school to fit youth for college. The law establishing these two grades of schools laid the foundation of the public school system in the United States. Three years later a similar law was passed in Connecticut, but Rhode Island made no attempt to form a school system until 1790.

Only Outdoor Inauguration.

The United States, although its capital is in a more rigorous climate than those of many republics, is alone in having an "al fresco" inauguration. The first four Presidents were inaugurated indoors, and beginning with the third President, Jefferson, the inaugurations took place in Washington. Monroe, the first President to be sworn in out of doors, chose the east portico of the capitol because of a dispute as to whether he should be inaugurated in the house of representatives or the senate chamber. After a return to the indoor inauguration by Jackson, the outdoor ceremonies were resumed. Because they seemed to fit in so well with American ideas of democracy, permitting the general public to see the procedure, they have been retained.—National Geographic Society Magazine.

Length of Hair Marked Caste.

For a long time the length of hair was considered a mark of caste in France. Only members of the royal family and princes of the blood could wear their hair long. Polled hair was a sign of obedience and inferiority. To cut the hair of a prince was to deprive him of his right of succession to the throne. Notwithstanding these facts, Charlemagne liked to wear his hair short. The name of his son, Charles the Bald, indicates the style of coiffure he affected. The Emperor Theophilus was also afflicted with a bare crown and he, to shun the notoriety of it, strongly urged his subjects to cut the hair on their heads, advancing numerous reasons, sanitary and otherwise, for its accomplishment.

Playthings for Baby.

Many playthings can be made for small children from pasteboard. To make a wagon use a four-cornered box to which pasteboard wheels should be attached by wooden axles, these latter put through the sides of the box close to the bottom. Use common pins or small nails to hold the wheels on the axles. A small box inside the wagon does for a seat. Cut out a horse from pasteboard, stand him in front of the wagon, then cut the dasher down a little way. Put Dublin's tail into this and if his feet touch level the rig is complete.

Unfair Advantage.

"That's an alert office boy you have." "This is his first day on the job," said Mr. Duhrwalte. "Tomorrow I'll put him to the acid test." "How?" "I'll leave a 'dime novel' lying around where he can find it."—Birmingham Age-Herald.



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