

THE WORLD OF FASHION.

(By MARGUERITE.)

DRESSMAKING AT HOME.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR THE AMATEUR.

We are told that trifles make up life, and it is certainly the accessories in dress that go to the completion of a good or indifferent toilette. Nowadays the subject of dress is worthy of great consideration on the part of the amateur. The whole tendency is towards artistic dressing and the use of soft fabrics, and the fashionable girl of the period has a very good notion of making these trifles in dress appear to the best advantage.

In view of approaching warmer weather, and of afternoon parties, I have chosen as the subject of this article the uses of net or point d'esprit, simply because there never was such an effective fabric at so low a price.

Figure I. shows a long cloak of net, which can be used either as an evening or carriage wrap, and last, but not least, as a peignoir or the overdress of a tea-gown. This would only take 3½ yards of the 45-inch net; the frills are of a light guipure lace, which is very effective; 14 yards would be required.

You could substitute frills of the net for the lace if you prefer the former, or you might have frills of the net with a length of lace down the front.

How pretty is the river or garden hat shown in Figure II! Quite an inexpensive net would do to make this hat, but it should be fairly soft. Two yards of net will be sufficient. There is a bandeau with a bow of vieux rose velvet (½ yards of velvet), which can be replaced by a bow of satin ribbon, a wreath of foliage, or almost any other simple decoration you please. The possibilities of this hat for summer wear are many. Lace, of course, would be

even more effective, but my aim is economy.

In Figure III. you see a pretty little cravat and bow of white or cream net inserted and trimmed with fine black lace. This would be a becoming finish to any simple blouse or can be worn inside a coat. It would take about 1½ yards of net, 5yds of narrow lace, and 1½yds of lace insertion.

In Figure IV. we have a quaint design for a blouse with the new pelerine or shawl-like ends. For this I would suggest a ring-spotted net, in white or cream. In piece lace this blouse would look equally well. It would require 3½ yds of net or lace, 45in wide, and you may put as many lace insertions as you like, or even dispense with them altogether. Three-quarters of a yard of very thin, panne or soft Oriental satin would make the wide belt.

Figure V. shows what is termed a tea or coffee coat in inexpensive net, trimmed with frills of soft lace. Two and a-half yards of net and 14yds of lace would suffice to make that very attractive little coatee.

Figure VI. gives a simpler blouse in net, inserted with motifs of embroidery or lace. The quantities required would be 2½yds of net, 2½yds of insertion, and about 9 motifs.

In Figure VII. I am giving you a rather more elaborate coatee of tea jacket. This again could be in string-coloured or white net trimmed with white satin ribbon and lace insertions and edging, and any satin chou you like. This satin ruched ribbon you can buy by the dozen yards and draw up according to the length required. Three yards of double width net would suffice, and about a dozen yards of lace.

I trust this little selection may be of service to you in using up odds and ends of net, lace and chiffon or other ethereal fabrics. We have all gone mad the last season or two over this point d'esprit, and it seems to me the smartest fabric at the price for the manipulation of the various accessories which are part and parcel of modern dressing. Always remember that chiffon under net or lace has a very soft and becoming effect.



THE LATEST HAT.

The charming hat illustrated is quite the latest thing in the world of millinery and sets off a pretty face and a well-dressed coiffure to advantage. It is made in very light, almost lacy, straw, edged with a ruffling of tulle to match the straw. Clusters of small pink bank-

sia roses with their buds and leaves rest under the brim in the hair, while some folds of pink tulle are swathed round the crown, which is flat, and brought over the brim, where, after twining through the roses, is brought round from the back in a long end to the throat, where it finishes in a chou. This style of hat is very popular and eminently becoming. Sometimes a fringe of pink or white banksia roses or other small flowers is arranged round the brim in place of the ruche with excellent results. Daisies tipped with pink, or butterflys, look well used in this way. The hat to be well worn must be placed well back on the head to show the wavy hair in front of the face.

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The smartest short skirts are now made in pleats, which open just below the knees, and from thence a very pretty fullness is allowed to flow. Such skirts are made of thin serge, linen, holland, pique, drill, or duck, and are sometimes hemmed with braid when in serge, or of a contrasting coloured liner when of a washing material. The bodice to such a costume is a novel "Russian" style. Rather loose, always belted, and



THE VARIOUS USES OF THE POPULAR NET.



A VISITING TOILETTE.