

# The World of Fashion.

By MARGUERITE.

**T**HE fichu has become a very important adjunct to the modern woman's dress. This fashion is revived from time to time, as the soft folds lend an air of old-time simplicity that is extremely becoming to both old and young. However, in the case of a stout figure keep the folds very flat or else the size will be accentuated.

To the majority of faces the plain lines of the collarless waist are rather trying, but the ever useful fichu covers a multitude of sins. A frock of last year's cut can be brought up-to-date with the addition of a short length of mill edged narrow Cluny or Valenciennes lace. Embroidered batiste is in excellent taste for the modern fichu, and those made of white marquisette, hand-embroidered, in a skilful combination of colours and edged with ball fringe, are particularly smart. Of course, all hand work is infinitely to be preferred to that done on the machine, but the deep fine flouncings that look almost like hand-embroidery, may be readily fashioned into the most charming deep collars that actually come under the head of the fichu. A drapery formed of fine mull, edged with a narrow ruffling of footing, might be used by an older woman, who wears mourning and would brighten up an otherwise sombre toilette. To a slender form the fichu waist and fastening in the back is particularly becoming and graceful.

A simple morning frock may be quickly transformed by the fichu to a really quite dressy costume.

## Silk in Serges and Taffetas.

For tailored suits that will be used for a slightly dressy occasion nothing could be better than a silk serge. It is more difficult to handle in making up, but then the result is worth any extra trouble.

Striped and changeable effects also come in this line of goods.

Besides something new in serge, the new taffeta deserves mention. With the craze for soft, sweeping lines, taffeta proved too harsh a material. Now the chiffon taffeta has taken its place, possessing all the lustre of the old material without its brittleness, and allowing itself to be draped into soft folds like chiffon.

We have the opportunity now of being picturesque, as for example if we adopt the mediæval cap, after the fifteenth century headgear. Then the Eastern turban may be seen. They are formed of one long scarf wound tightly round the head, perfectly simple with no aigrette, nor flaring feather standing almost

Attention must be drawn to the vest of tuckled net, which in order to be thoroughly practical should be provided with strings to hold it in position. This model is quite unrivalled for girls (or wearing with their blue-serge and other frocks). The majority of school authorities commend this style, as they contend, and justly, that lace or net sleeves for children in the schoolroom are quite out of place, as after they have been worn a few hours they lose their first freshness. Another advantage of this vest is that it can easily be removed.

## Fashions from London.

LONDON, July 14.

The English summer is, indeed, doing itself proud this year and the feminine world goes in light silks and linens and all the delightful trilles that sunshine permits.

Men London men, at least—seem to dislike making any radical change in their clothing, and the poor creatures go about in lumpy-looking tweeds not much lighter in appearance than when there is frost on the ground. Why they do not do as New Zealanders in summer, and clothe themselves rationally, it is hard to say. Probably because no one



A SMART SPRING COSTUME.

The very smart gown shown at this affair was of scarlet serge, trimmed with white band. With it were worn white stockings, scarlet satin shoes, and a delightful little scarf cap of white spotted scarlet silk. Another very smart French model on a pretty fair girl was of black silk stockette. Black silk stockings and black satin boots accompanied this gown.

## THE SINGLE REVER.

is still in fashion, and gives a very effective note to a dress. This week, on a brilliantly sunshiny morning, one of the coolest looking women I met had on a coat and skirt of pale pink and white striped linen, faced with pink linen. The side of the coat had a rever of the plain material, and at one side of the skirt, proceeding from a band of pink, round the white hem, was an captured single pink rever, held with three pearl buttons to match those on the coat.

## CHEAP SACHETS.

Does meadowsweet grow in New Zealand? I forget. If it does, here is a use for it that may not be generally known. The flower, it should be noted first, retains its odour when dried. The simplest way to make wardrobe sachets is to tie the flowers in bunches and hang them to dry, then to tie squares of mus-



A BECOMING TOQUE.

at right angles to the head, and those which a year or two ago would have been considered mad, are now worn as generally almost as a pair of earrings. Many leading dressmakers send home a hairband with most evening gowns. There is another pretty picturesque headgear borrowed from quite a different period in the form of soft lace falling towards the face, a wreath of roses for trimming surrounding a metal crown, and the lace may be gold or silver or other metal thread. One thing we may be very sure of, gold and silver lace will appear on our headgear as on our low bodies veiled on our skirts, and plays a scintillating part in the toilettes of to-day.

## Fashionable Accessories.

Now that we are standing on the threshold of the summer season the minor details of dress including neckwear are of topical importance. Illustrated on this page are many fascinating ideas, which the woman who is clever with her needle can make for herself from those many oddments picked up at the sales.

The three phases of the Shelley collar are extremely attractive, two with and one without a jabot. Now that there are signs on the horizon that the carefully boned bodice with the material up to the throat will make its debut in the near future, it is safe to predict that these collars will be requisitioned to break the severity of line. The collar bands with turnover Puritan collars look extremely smart with corages of this persuasion, and are certainly more appropriate for those who have passed the summer of life.


is sturdy enough to brave public opinion, and wear what he'd like to.

One large dressmaking firm this week has had groups of mannequins, for women's eyes only, parading their showrooms (got up to represent the seashore) in bathing creations, and just how much would be left of these delectable dainties after an hour's battling with the waves I leave my readers to guess.



SPRING COAT.

of Ferns-mauve faced cloth, with deep revers of pansy-purple velvet and soutache.



Habitmaker and Ride-aside Costumes  
Plain and Fancy Tailor Suits, Coats,  
etc.  
Unexcelled Fit. Perfect Workmanship

## W. A. BUNKER

GENUINE  
LADIES' TAILOR

THIRD FLOOR,  
PREMIER BUILDINGS,  
QUEEN AND DURHAM STREETS  
PLEASE TAKE LIFT