

The World of Fashion.

By MARGUERITE.

A Woman's Crown.

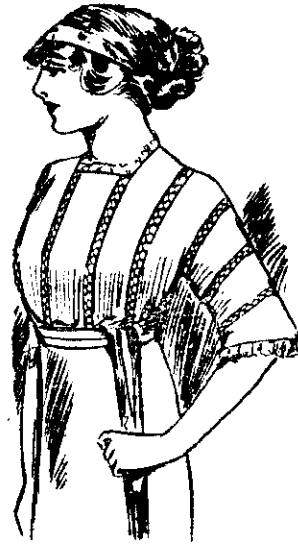
A MAN is judged by his friends, and a woman by her hats," said one cynic. There is a germ of truth in even so superficial a remark.

If a woman never puts on the wrong hat with the right gown, she may generally be trusted to exercise sound judgment in more weighty matters than the adornment of her person. She has in all probability an appreciation of the fitness of things generally.

The choice of a suitable hat, however,

becomes daily more and more difficult. How, for instance, is a woman to attire herself when one and the same hat has to serve in quick succession for a drive in an open car, a railway journey, and a smart town function?

The winter millinery is truly a feast of rich and varied colour and wonderful texture. Oriental embroideries, laces, satins, furs, feathers, gold tissue, silver and precious stones are all pressed into service. Some are large, some are covered with immense willow plumes, others are pyramids of feathers. There are enormous bows of ribbon, and such ribbon, so delicate in design, and so rich in texture and colour.



Blouse made with satin ribbon, worked together with cross stitch, cut square in the neck, and finished with a narrow pleating of chiffon.

We also see the tiny hat of velvet, colour, or the finest beaver and felt, scarcely trimmed at all, perhaps only an ornament of braid or the head of a bird placed in front or at the side. Wings are used lavishly, large ones at the side remind one of the Valkyrie, and one would not be greatly surprised if the wearer should suddenly spread them and fly away.

The auto hats, or rather fascinating little caps, are most varied and coquetish. Lace and satin and tiny roses are used. Of course, there are practical little head shapes of fur and beaver. For everyday wear there could be nothing better than the flexible beaver, which can be put into any becoming shape. They are easy to carry, and if untrimmed they could be "rolled up" without injury, so supple is their texture.

Long straight coats will be worn in Zibeline, cloth, velveteen, and in a hundred and one useful fabrics. Many of the new stuffs, with their reversible lining, are so thick that a fur boa makes all the outdoor raiment required. As long as big hats obtain, big muffs must, and with all these narrow coats and skirts, large hats and large muffs seem de rigueur. The changes in fashion this year point to a much larger size in muffs.

New Hosiery.

Two toned hosiery is being offered to the woman who likes novelties in foot-wear, and those who are supposed to know in advance which styles are to succeed predict a coloured hosiery fad beginning with the autumn and winter. For women who are reluctant to abandon the plain black stocking, a subdued mixed gray and black effect has been provided.

Cerise and black are combined in a new silk stocking, which looks attractive on a well turned ankle. The cerise is introduced in front of the stocking and the design has evidently been planned to emphasise the slenderness of the ankle. The same pattern is offered in other combinations, such as black and white, black and blue, black and pink, and white with an inset in any of the effective bright shades.

Embroidered hosiery is worn with evening slippers, and often the handwork is embellished by the addition of lace insets. Real Valenciennes make a dainty stocking trimming. If the colour of the stocking is unusual it is sometimes more pleasing to have the lace strips dyed to match the silk.

Return of the Sash.

Sashes are almost a sine qua non in this respect. When skillfully manipulated, they make a very graceful addition to the gown. The sash is wound round the waist, and is knotted either at the left side, at the back, or in the centre, and in many cases finished off with a large flat bow.

Some of the little sash girdles are edged with a fringe of silk or bead fringe, while a charming touch is that of the addition of a little ribbon embroidery. A posy of rosebuds is worked in the ribbon in several tones of pink and green, and affords an excellent method of turning to account talent for this kind of needlework. The sash is simply knotted at the side, one end being shorter than the other.

Fashion Notes from London.

LONDON, April 4.

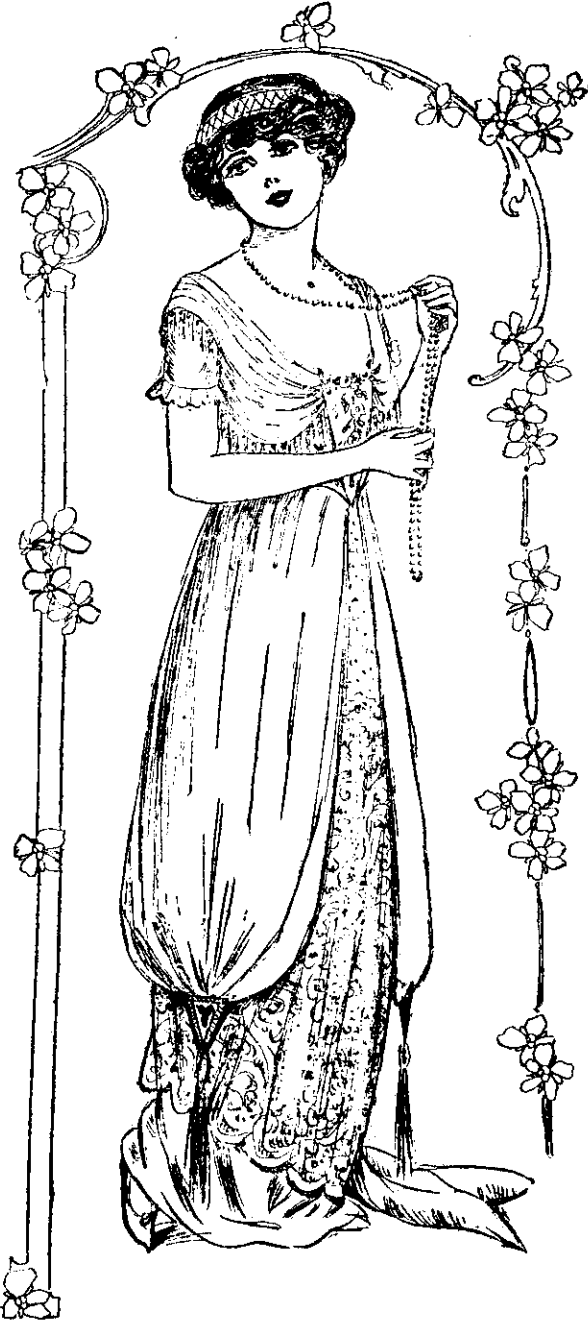
Holy Week is hardly a time one would count on for new fashions, but spring, apparent now in its myriad fascinating ways, is no churchwoman, and it must be confessed that to the year's rather than the church's season are couturiers and milliners paying heed.

NEW COATS AND SKIRTS.

A novelty, only such because it failed to become popular last year, is the two-material tailor-made coat and skirt. This has one grievous drawback to all but the woman of wealth, in that, being out of the ordinary, it dates itself uncomfortably. Nevertheless it is exceedingly smart and becoming.

The new long collar, or shawl point draping, or any of the variations of revers, lend themselves well to this idea, and at present the mustard colour that pervades everything is the most popular for these details.

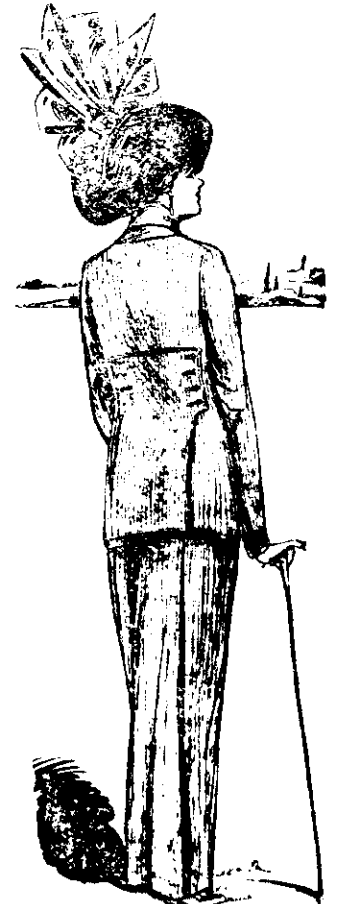
One tan model from France was trimmed with Paris coloured ratine, the main body of the coat and an uneven skirt hem, really an underskirt, being of tan, while a deep Paris collar, reaching below the waist at the back, was cut into two curious uneven points, to which were attached at each side outspreading points brought down on the front of the collar by means of three narrow straps fastened with buttons of tan ratine outlined with the Paris cloth. The sleeves were of Paris ratine with deep cuffs of tan, and the skirt was cut so as to show a good half-yard of the tan underskirt at the left side, and merely a few inches at the right side.



This charming evening dress is embellished with the pannier, finished with bell-ropes ends, and shows the Court corsage and draped berthe.

The pointed bodice, honoured always by the little Court corsage in second Empire days, is being restored for evening wear. A picture on this page shows it, a distinctive item of a full-dress toilette of shot lavender and blue chiffon, draped in the pannier manner, with tasselled

bell-ropes ends, over blue satin, with a rich point de Venise drapery on the skirt. The corsage is draped with chiffon in the ever-graceful berthe device, drawn in the centre beneath a flower-decked shield beneath which the point is discernible.



SMART STREET SUIT.

In new striped Corduroy Trousers.