

The Woman's Point of View

Fashions for Summer

IN frocks for the coming summer greater variety than ever is shown at Home, and the monotonous matchstick silhouette of a few seasons ago is quite dead. The reaction to uniformity is beginning to be felt, and everywhere fashions are becoming more feminine and more elaborate, especially those designed for afternoon and evening wear.

THE tendency towards longer skirts is more noticeable. This is, of course, particularly marked for evening wear, where length is gained by all sorts of devices, such as floating panels and side draperies of all kinds. The "dipping-at-the-back" silhouette has had its full share of popularity, and although many frocks are still seen with this effect, they are not shown in such numbers.

FOR sports and day wear there is no decided change, though the exaggeratedly short skirt is no longer seen. Simple practical designs are shown, which are necessary for the active life of the modern woman.

BLUE is perhaps the most fashionable colour at Home this season. It is shown in all shades, from palest eggshell to navy, a particularly popular one being a little lighter than navy and tending towards sapphire. This shade is being worn both for day and evening wear. Many models in black and white are also shown, and beige, lime green, absinthe, cherry red and grey are all very popular. A new shade is just appearing in Paris for afternoon and evening frocks. This is prune, and is very effective in georgette, chiffon and satin frocks.

EVENING frocks become more and more elaborate. Flounces are seen everywhere, as are puffs on the hips, side and back draperies, bows, uneven hems and flowing panels. Lace, chiffon, georgette, tulle, satin and lame are the materials most used. Taffetas is occasionally used for picture frocks. Chiffon and lace in combination form particularly charming and effective evening frocks.

FOR afternoon frocks there is an immense and charming variety in crepe-de-chine, foulard, and chiffon. Flounces, bows, draperies and pleats are all evident. Brilliant patterned materials are in evidence, and these are worn in conjunction with plain straight little coats in cloth, in dark shades of navy or black, or in a shade to tone with the frock. So that a vivid cherry red and royal blue chiffon frock has a royal blue coat to match, and so on. Smart afternoon coats in black silk are shown with ermine collars and cuffs. A great many of these have the wrapover line, and show fine pleatings. Heavy Ottoman silk is used very successfully for some of these smarter models.

FOR day and morning wear simple suits in navy, black, and neutral colours are worn, and all the coats

show plain lines, mostly in tweed in a small pattern, and in plain cloth. The three-piece suit for morning and sports wear is usually made in light colours, such as linen blue, tomato, beige, clear grey, bisque and lime green. Horizontal stripes are seen on most of the sports models. A new feature of the skirt is that in many instances it is slightly circular, and also longer. Fine wool, knitted in an openwork stitch, is a special favourite for sports clothes, as its effect is extremely light and dainty. This finely knitted wool is often combined with silk in three-piece models.

FEATHER flowers appear not only in the daintiest most effective corsage shoulder bouquets imaginable, but in millinery trimmings of remarkable beauty. Long sprays of poppy buds, of anemones, marguerites and tulips, all made of plumage in brilliant realistic colours, complete with shaggy pompoms suggesting giant chrysanthemums, etc. Cactus blossoms, silky camellias, jasmine, and cornflowers are also included in the tremendous variety of feather flowers to be seen. Felt millinery is becoming rare, and when felt does appear, it is usually in combination with straw, or as an accessory to straw. Bows and ribbons are being much used as a trimming.

TRANSPARENCY and lightness are qualities of this season's millinery, and much lace is stiffened for large as well as medium-sized hats. Straw is plaited for brims into lace effects, or looped to look like a braid or a fine lace, and metal is often interwoven into some hair models. Embroidery is used to decorate some hats, and some of the most original models illustrate afresh the perennial charm of black and white. There is more than a suggestion of good cheer and good taste in the leading colours chosen by the milliners for the summer straws. They include currant, raspberry, morella, cherry, port wine and Burgundy reds. The cherry shades are a pronounced vogue for all types of millinery, to tone with afternoon frocks, or two-piece or jacket suits. Red is also fashionable for country or golf clothes, and for race meeting suits and small hats.

RIBBONS are important, including velvet ribbon, and black satin ribbon is used in quantities, often making whole hats. Metal ornaments are shown in many interesting new types, some modern, and others antique or mediaeval in design. One of the models this year is a striking winged helmet, another a quaint little Flemish cap with ear extensions, the whole made of tiny downy curled feathers looking like rose petals.—Miss Bueclough from 4YA.

"Quick is the succession of human events. The cares of to-day are seldom the cares of to-morrow; and when we lie down at night, we may safely say to most of our troubles: 'Ye have done your worst, and we shall meet no more.'"—Cowper.

The Lonely Meal

EATING alone can be a very dull business, and there are many of us, alas! who must eat alone. Nine out of ten of us make no effort towards happy meals, but just set the table with whatever comes first, open a tin of some preserved viand, and proceed to eat it as quickly as possible with a book propped up in front of it.

This is a bad habit—bad for mind as well as body. It is surprising how much slackness of this kind influences one mentally, and we all know that food is better digested when eaten in a happy frame of mind.

So make the best of a bad business, and take as much care in laying a table for one as you would for six.

Buy or make yourself sets of table mats in gay colours—linen is cheap and the threads draw easily for hem-stitching. Always have a bowl of flowers before you, you'd be surprised to know how companionable flowers can be.

Do not serve up your meal in dishes that hold three times as much as you need. The china stores cater a good deal for those who eat alone, and you can buy attractive little "one-man" flat and vegetable dishes. Arrange your fruit salad in a sundae glass, put your salad on a little dish that is made exactly like lettuce leaf. Be a party unto yourself.

Unique Foot Rests.

ALTHOUGH a foot rest adds to the comfort of the motorist, it is often left behind as it takes up a large amount of space. When the rest opens to reveal a case fitted with all the toilet requisites and a mirror, still leaving room for luggage for a night or so, the luxury becomes almost a necessity.

Polishing Pewter

OLD pewter, once the despised and rejected of metals, is now enjoying a wonderful popularity among collectors of antiques. Because of the lead in its composition and the consequent risk of lead poisoning, its use for food and drinking vessels was forbidden early in the last century. Our grandmothers and great-grandmothers banished their pewter in disgrace; now we find it among their relics, black with neglect, and it seems hopeless to try to bring it to its proper state of blue-back shininess.

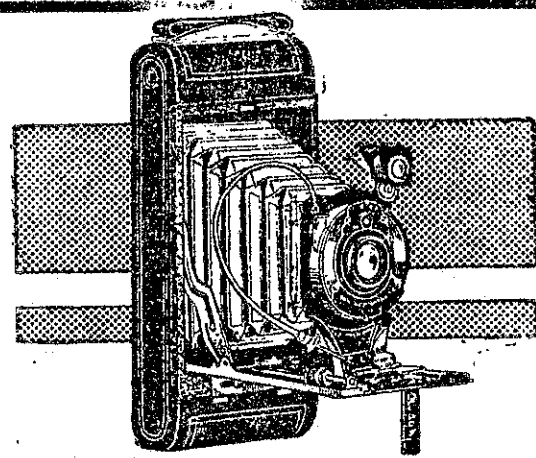
There is nothing more beautiful than dully gleaming pewter.

First of all try the effect of scrubbing in soapy water to which caustic soda has been added. Wear rubber gloves while doing this. This is bound to have some effect but if the pewter is still too dull to polish with ordinary metal polish, rub it with a cloth dipped in oxalic acid. This is a strong poison, so use care in its use.

Then burnish by rubbing with fine silver sand. Pewter that is in a very bad condition may need several treatments in this way, but it is worth while to persevere, using patience and elbow grease at the same time.

Spanish Chops.

TAKE six very thick cutlets. Make a cut on the outer edge extending nearly through the lean meat. Stuff, dip in breadcrumbs, and fry in deep fat for five minutes. Drain on brown paper. For the stuffing mix six tablespoons of salt breadcrumbs, three tablespoons cooked ham, two tablespoons chopped mushrooms, two tablespoons melted butter, salt, and pepper. Fasten slit in chop with a small skewer. Serve with mushroom sauce.



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