

BLOUSES AND LINGERIE.

FLOWERED muslins are made up into blouse waists for summer wear, with odd skirts, and the shirred sleeve, with frills over the top and a lace collar. White muslin, dotted with blue, pink or yellow, and trimmed with cream lace, is very effectively made up into this sort of waist.



A novelty in blouses is the bandana handkerchief blouse. They are new to Toronto, but several society women have seized upon the few yet shown. They are startling, yet rather picturesque, for the tall and slender brunette who can afford bizarre effects.

They are made of the large bandana kerchief, with large spots and flaring Oriental border.

In No. 1 we sketch one shown: six kerchiefs make the blouse. These are of lawn, yellow ground, with black spots and deep scarlet border in plain and Oriental stripes.

Four kerchiefs compose the bodice. The borders are brought to centre of front and back, and also around the lower edge.

The sleeves are made of one kerchief each. The border comes on inner side of sleeve, forming a trimming at under part of shoulder and wrist.

These bandana blouses are a fashionable fad in the States.

No. 2 illustrates a pretty blouse of electric blue striped summer silk. It shows a very pretty recent fashion of finishing with deep velvet cuffs and collar. In this instance they are of electric blue.

These velvet cuffs and collar are adjustable, and may be worn with any blouse. They are, however, especially effective with muslins and summer silks.

I saw a pink daintily-figured muslin blouse simply made with bishop sleeves. Deep cuffs and collar of black velvet formed effective finish.

The belt or waistband may also be of the velvet, if preferred.

These velvet finishings are easily made; any woman may have two or three sets, and in conjunction with the white linen, give pleasant variety to her blouse outfit. It should always be remembered though that the linen finish is best suited to print and linen blouses, the velvet to muslins and light silks.

The up-to-date American girl now wears the blouse over the skirt, instead of tucking it beneath. This will banish deep belts and permit the narrow jewelled affair to become popular.

It is not as graceful a fashion, since it detracts from a pretty figure; but it is certainly more comfortable and does away with that ungainly skirt-sagging, and open placket.

Lace and insertion is the fashionable trimming for midsummer gowns. The Valenciennes lace is in especial favour.

Insertions of lace, set in crosswise, up and down, in squares, points or diagonally, are one of the distinctive features of trimming thin dresses this season, and any variation of design is in order.

Bows of ribbon harmonizing with the foundation skirt in color, are much used to finish the organdie gowns. Wide sashes reaching to the hem of skirt are also a feature.

Pretty wide ruffles for the skirt are made by tucking the lawn up and down in groups to within a few inches of the edge, which is trimmed with insertion and lace.

Yoke effects in thin gowns are as popular as ever, and stripes of lace insertion set in the fulness below make a very pretty waist, with a frill of lace around the yoke.

White buckskin shoes are the popular thing with white gowns, and pipeclay used as a polish will keep them in their pristine freshness.

Knife plaiting has come around again. Narrow ruffles of this sort appear on skirts, up and down the edges of the box plaits on the waists, and the batiste blouse has a basque made of a double frill of knife plaiting.

Some of the leading dressmakers are directing their efforts for change in fashion toward the dreaded bustle, and some of the newest gowns are padded on the hips and at the back.

White and turquoise is a fashionable combination for the bridesmaid gowns, white muslin over white silk, with a turquoise blue silk sash and collar, and a lace trimmed fichu makes a lovely gown.

BATHING SUITS.

Of course very little bathing is indulged in before August, by women at least. The Canadian waters, either of the lakes or seaside, are too cold to make bathing in July advisable, unless a woman be unusually robust.

The sea that washes the shores of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, only reaches safe temperature for a delicate woman in August. Nevertheless, though the Canadian bathing season be brief, so invigorating is the pastime, that every woman who can should indulge in it; and a bathing costume should be an essential of the summer travelling wardrobe.

We are apt to scoff at the elaborate and befrilled costume, yet after all the bathing suit is a conspicuous costume, since one of the amusements in summer is to watch the bathers and comment on their appearance, and of course it should have style, individuality, and some evidence of taste.

Mohair is one of the popular materials this

season, with the ever useful serge and the plain and spotted flannels; but cravanette, a fine waterproof material, Persian lainage, surah, and China silk in various colours are all in use for this purpose.

Bloomers of black surah are worn with white flannel costumes, and with black stockings and a black surah necktie. This is a very desirable suit. The prevailing style of waist is the blouse made with belt, and either a yoke or a broad collar.

Yokes of embroidery are very pretty for the white flannel bathing dress, with a band of the same trimming around the skirt. Sleeves are made with the short puff, and any little detail of fashion in dress gowns which can be utilised in these simple dresses is employed with good effect.

Bathing skirts are cut circular, straight, or slightly gored and gathered or plaited in box plaits around the waist. Pale green cravanette trimmed with white was one of the prettiest bathing suits at Orchard Beach last season, and pale blue with embroidered yoke of white and a band of embroidery on the edge of the skirt



was also a dainty costume. Dark blue serge trimmed with ecru lace is very effective with a white serge vest and sash. Leather belts are worn sometimes, but they do not seem very practical and add nothing to the beauty of a costume.

The bloomers, which are always a part of every well-made suit, are usually of the same material as the skirt.

Broad collars are the usual supplement to the blouse waist, and these are often made of some contrasting colour and material.

Bath robes of Turkish towelling trimmed with braid are very useful additions to the bathing outfit, especially with the bloomer costume which has no skirt, and is occasionally, but not generally worn.

Navy blue surah makes a pretty suit, with white trimmings, but mohair is perhaps the most desirable of all, as it sheds the water and does not cling and seem so heavy as the wool materials. Sandals strapped across the instep with braid or ribbon are a pretty protection for the feet, and bright silk handkerchiefs tied around the head, with two ends spreading out in front, are much more becoming than the conventional bathing cap.

MADAM.