

EASTER BRIDE'S FROCKS & FURBELOWS

BEFORE the wedding day comes all the busy, happy days of preparation, when the prospective bride immerses herself daily in mists of filmy lace, sheen of silk and soft draperies of wool. The choosing of a trousseau is a weighty task, for no other gowns in the years to come will mean as much to the wearer as these.

The train of the wedding gown must be seventy-five inches long and the lace gown must fall over the under one of liberty satin in clinging lines at the top and in soft swirls of white about the bottom. The lace and chiffon of

over pale pink taffeta. It has a looped long coat of red, brown or blue cheviot, with dainty silk or chiffon braid the exact color of the skirt, and made in fine accordion pleats, the only trimming a deep lace collar and cuffs, and the gown itself either quite plain or with binding.

The mohair gown is trimmed with stitched bands of plain bias bands of cloth or taffeta. Both plain and figured mohairs are considered fashionable, but in the darker colors the fancy ones are thought the smarter, while in the tan or gray, the plain are the better. Bands of white or pipings of white are in style as trimming, but the smartest of these gowns are quite plain, with only the facings and revers, and ends, and tassels or loop of passementerie for fastening to relieve the severe effect.

Above all must be remembered the smart white frock of cloth or voile, with smart white trimmings of lace and medallions of lace as well. The gown is made always with long skirt, and is most elaborately trimmed, the only exception being when it is made in princess design and worn with deep shoulder cape of lace; then the trimming consists of the tucks and the pleats, with occasional medallions of lace on the front and side breasted and three pairs of corsets, a white, a black and a light flowered collar to the hem of the gown in front.

An Easter Tree

Since Easter has become in the minds of many-makers as great an occasion for celebration as Christmas, there have sprung up sundry forms of diversion for the day in keeping with its significance, yet by no means of a strictly religious character. In a millionaire's household, where little folks rule supreme, though grown-ups will also enter into the pleasure, there will be an Easter tree. It can be of any kind and need not be any taller than a shrub. On its branches are hung a number of dark green balls, formed of several leaf-shaped sections. These are run together at the top by a bright bit of baby ribbon, the ends of which hang down loosely. There should be as many balls and floating streamers as there are persons to receive gifts.

The balls can be made of any soft, green material the softer the better, as it lends itself more readily to the purpose of protection, which is the main object of the affair. When all is gathered about the tree each person is given an end of ribbon. At a signal they give a sharp tug and find the ribbon in their hands unattached to the green bulb, which has by this means been separated, disclosing a white paper fly, in the heart of which will be found some little Easter trinket. This tree can be so easily managed that many will undoubtedly add it to their Easter entertainments.

The transformation from the sombre all-purifying green of the tree to the lily laden beauty is in touch with the meaning of Easter. One precaution only must be taken, and that is that the ribbon run through the green petals of the bulbs is so lightly held that the pull will act promptly as the magician's wand in showing what a wealth of loveliness is hidden beneath the unprepossessing exterior. Paper can be used for the petals, but it is likely to tear, and the shape of the sections is destroyed when the ribbons are withdrawn.



Nest Hunting.

This is another novelty that will furnish much fun for an Easter Monday



holy wounds, from which ooze drops of blood. The surrounding inscriptions are: "The well of everlasting life," "The well of pity," "The well of mercy," "The well of comfort," and "The well of grace."

Among the Anglo-Saxons the ring was worn only by the bride or wife, on whose right hand it was placed at betrothal, being transferred to the left hand at the marriage ceremony. The ring adorned with death's heads is a masterpiece of the Italian goldsmith's art in the sixteenth century.

Items of Interest.

Prunes are greatly improved by adding a little cider to the water in which they are cooked.

Bathing the eyes frequently with salt and water will be found very beneficial if they are weak and tired.

Putty can be softened, in order to remove a glass, by spreading over it a layer of soft soap and letting it remain for a few hours.

Children's stockings can be reinforced by tacking on a thin piece of black net or veiling on the inside of the heels and knees before wearing them.

If oil or grease has been spilled on a carpet sprinkle liberally with dry-dung. Let this stand for several hours and it will absorb much of the grease.

White gloves or white silk should never be wrapped in white tissue paper. If wrapped in blue or yellow paper they will not become yellowed when laid away.

An excellent tonic and stimulant is made by breaking a fresh egg into a small cup of clear, strong coffee. Taken before rising or immediately after it has a very bracing effect.

To whip cream satisfactorily it must be first thoroughly chilled. Set it away an hour or so in the ice box before whipping, and also have the bowl in which it is to be whipped well chilled.

When making down pillows iron the wrong side of the tick with an iron rubbed over with beeswax, rubbing the iron well with the wax each time before it is put on the cloth. This will keep the down from working through the tick.

Ingrowing toe-nails can be cured by cutting a tiny V-shaped piece out of the nail. The nail has then the tendency to grow together at the centre, thus drawing away from the flesh at the sides.

The long, drooping shoulder effect is still seen on many of the new shirt waists, blouses and jackets, and in some instances the sleeve is cut to extend over the shoulder, meeting the collar. Cape collars are also used to secure this drooping effect.



the sleeves must fall from the elbow worn under it. To wear with the dinner in a graceful point, or perhaps from the wrist, if the puff below the elbow is gracefully upon her head with orange tulle under the turned-up front brim, from her young face and sweeps down a bouquet of white orchids and lilies-of-the-valley.

A VOILE GOWN TO GO AWAY IN.
The going-away gown of the new hat French voile, in its prettiest tones of gray, with the little shot-effect of color mode-colored street suit which she has in it, and it has a house waist, trimmed with white silk braid, and stole fronts, with pendants dangling from the upper and lower portions, just as they dangle from the right-trimmed sleeves. The bodice is made of narrow panels, that flare out at the bottom, and each panel is outlined with braid and trimmed with a pendant. A coat of light gray cloth, lined with white, is to be worn with tulle hand embroidery, and its large hat is of straw, wound about with soft, blended and shaded pompadour silk, white French knots, and a white linen hat with black net, in which is woven an embroidery design of white squares, yoke.

This has the effect of a light gray parasol, the edge has a black and white border. With this gown Louise is to wear sets of dainty undergarments, a dozen pair of blue-gray stockings, worked embroidery and lace frills on the edges; life-Miss Lizzie, or "Yu Yu," as they called her—to some enthusiastic Americans who have just returned from Paris. Lady Yu, whose father was an American naval officer, and who has one fourth less of Chinese blood than her daughters, has traveled extensively with them. While on a visit to France, when they were quite little girls, before the fourth less of Chinese blood than her daughters, she hired a beautiful little villa in a village some hundred miles away from the capital.

Yu Yu, a shiny black-eyed witch of a little girl, was one day playing in the garden at the back of the villa. She was growing a little restless, being tired



of the monotony and quietude of country life. She peeped through a hole in the high board fence which separated their garden from the one belonging to the next-door neighbor. Immediately she espied something that awakened her curiosity, for within a foot of the fence in the next garden was a bench covered with canvas sacks, and out of one end, half concealed and half revealed, was a hard, round, dark brown hairy object.

"A coconut!" she inwardly exclaimed, and almost jumped out of her skin for fear of the divine right of possession. It was there. And all children believe that what's tawny and toothsome, like apples on trees, etc., belongs to those who long for them. But a very gay, of colored tinsel, such as was a broomstick lying at hand, and by inserting it through the hole, using all the force at the command of her muscular little body, she might at least yield, and would thus display its contents, which would be a satisfactory result. Suiting the action to the thought, bang! went the point of the broomstick against the coveted hairy round object. And behold up sprang a fierce, dark young man, catching hold of her by the shoulder, he dragged her into the room opening out on the garden, where Sung Sung, the old family nurse, squatted on a stool.

"Your little girl," he gasped, "she

Miss Yu-Keng's Mistake.
LADY YU-KENG, the mother of the new Chinese minister, Sir Liang Cheng, told a peculiarly entertaining little incident in her youngest daughter's life—Miss Lizzie, or "Yu Yu," as they called her—to some enthusiastic Americans who have just returned from Paris. Lady Yu, whose father was an American naval officer, and who has one fourth less of Chinese blood than her daughters, has traveled extensively with them. While on a visit to France, when they were quite little girls, before the fourth less of Chinese blood than her daughters, she hired a beautiful little villa in a village some hundred miles away from the capital.

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STRANGE CUSTOMS.

When young Russian girls are anxious to know if they will be married, they wear a ring. A large basket of corn is brought in, and each girl drops her ring carefully, stirring up the corn which. Then a hungry hen is introduced, and whichever maid's ring is first discovered will be the first one married.

In the marshes of the North Sea coast it was formerly customary in Germany for the bridegroom to give the bride on the day of the betrothal, instead of a ring, a valuable coin called "echle," or gennine, as a pledge that the compact between them was binding.

This is also a remnant of the time when wives were acquired by right of purchase, and the custom is still prevalent in some isolated places.

Among un-Christianized nations betrothal rings are unknown. For example, a Mohammedan, instead of giving his bride a ring, bestows on her a "Maschass," or square amulet of pure gold, which the girl hangs around her neck. In India a small amulet is worn by a woman as a badge of marriage. It generally consists of many colored beads, and is about as large around as a bracelet, but there must be some gold in it, however little.

An ancient ring of the fifteenth century, discovered some eight years ago in England, was supposed to guarantee rather than for the finder. The baskets and eggs are retained as souvenirs.

Skirts with a hip rope are among the newest designs for spring wear. This affords opportunity for many pretty combinations of new materials and is also a useful device for making over an old skirt, by putting in a yoke of new material.

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beat me. She nuzzed my head—almost broke it open! What will you do to her for punishment?"

"I thought your head was a coconut," said poor Yu Yu, not only disappointed at the rude awakening of her dream, but also dreadfully frightened. The old nurse laughed until the tears ran down her cheeks, and then told the young man to go back to his bed and sleep away the pain—he would not look that the mistake would not occur again.

The air in steam-heated apartments is always very dry. This makes it very difficult to keep house plants fresh, and it is also very bad for the complexion. A dish of water kept standing on each radiator will help to keep the air moist.



her of real eggs is given a prize. China eggs and the wooden eggs which can be opened, revealing a small toy chicken inside, count each as two real eggs for the others. The candy eggs count for their possessors only as sweets. As the method of scoring is not announced until the hunt is over, there is no likelihood that china and wooden eggs will be passed over, though they count against rather than for the finder. The baskets and eggs are retained as souvenirs.

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