



PAGE FOR WOMEN



GOWNS FOR THE NEW YEAR—SOME OF THE PRETTY MODES TO BE WORN UNTIL CHRISTMAS—VELVET AND BROADCLOTH ARE TO HAVE A GREAT VOGUE

The women will be out this week making calls, for it is ladies' day. Following closely upon the New Year comes the day when all pretty women go out to call upon their neighbors, expecting to be called upon in return. Calls are left in most cases; in others real calls are made, for there are always some who remain at home to be seen on this, the great call day of the year.

Ladies' day may be said to last a whole week, for calls are made as late as the second week in January and later. It is etiquette to get out and say "Happy New Year" to one's women friends any time before the New Year moon shall have grown old. No matter how bitter the weather, one must be out and be appropriately greeted.

And one must wear one's best on these calling occasions, and she who has no best gown must go forth anyway, brave in her bravest, ready to make her call of ceremony, even though she has nothing especially startling to put on. Her taste must supply the deficiency.

For this is a season of startling things. It is not a season of mad revelry in color, nor a season of incongruities. But for genuine extravagance it is a season par excellence. Yet if one can afford to money it is not so extravagant either—to dress well. Dressing is a thing that depends upon the point of view.

On ladies' day it is very smart to wear a little fur coat, often a New Year's gift. And this coat should be of the fashionable sort, short, prettily made and just as prettily trimmed. It may be of sable, ermine, chinchilla or mink. Or if one has not cared to spend much on this, one can wear a smart little coat of astrachan, caracul, Persian lamb or pony skin. Mink often costs so much as to be out of the running when one goes to buy a coat. Its price amounts to the "beyond rubies" figure, depending upon the softness of the fur and the depth of the color; also the stripes.

The feature of the little New Year coat is that it is short and the favorite pattern is that of the pony coat. This is hip length and is rather loose. It buttons down the front with big cut steel buttons or with buttons of smoked pearl and the back is semi-fitting. The seal coats of this description are exquisite and those who like a little brown fur coat, say to slip off and on, can not do better than invest in one of these little garments, the price of which ranges around \$100.

Fur Coats of Smart Folks.
Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt has a pony coat of mink, very dark and showing some lovely stripes. It is buttoned with silver filigree buttons and it is hip length; it is worn with a little mink toque with a rose in the front and the gown which goes with the coat is a dull black. This is a very French combination, namely black with brown, and one that is most popular.

French women delight in wearing the lighter shades of mink with a black dress. One very handsome French woman visiting in Washington wore a light brown mink coat with a gown of black satin and a picture hat of black with spreading plumes. There was a tiny bit of pink embroidery upon the collar and cuffs of the coat, and her muff was lined with pink.

Old mink collarettes can be brought out and worn as new, now, and if badly out of repair they can be taken to a furrier who will manage to make one of the little new short fur Eton coats. A tiny fur Eton can be worn all winter with a heavy cloth suit and it is a good idea to have something of this kind to wear when one makes one's fashionable calls.

Though it is getting late to talk of furs one can not but speak of the opportunities now occurring for the purchase of fur sets. They are much reduced in price and, if purchased now, are good both for the balance of the winter and for another season. In the springtime one can store them with a furrier certain that they will come out next year as good as new.

The countess of Suffolk, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Leiter and looking prettier than ever in her mourning, made an expedition the other day dressed all in dull black silk with a coat of Persian lamb trimmed with ermine. All furs are considered deep mourning, and in this case there was a decidedly mourning touch to the costume, which was finished by a dark hat trimmed with bands of silk and an earring.

Miss Gerry dresses in a short coat of chinchilla to match a costume of gray. And this has become quite the fashion in society. Handsome suits of gray made of broadcloth are worn with gray fur of one variety or another, and the gray suit with its gray fur and its hat of gray is certainly becoming to nearly every woman, no matter what her style or her age. The best winter tone, if one wears gray fur, is cloth or velvet of precisely the same tone.

Skirts of Calling Gowns.
Skirts are growing longer for all save trotting occasions and most of the new gowns show trailing skirts, with their little short coats or their Eton jackets. The short coat holds its style well with the long skirt and is very pretty with either style.

Many of the well-dressed women now order two skirts with each suit and they do not feel that they are extravagant in doing so. The coat may be a three-quarter, tight fitting and buttoned with handsome buttons, but as for the skirt it can be either long or short. And the woman of fashion elects to have both in nearly every case.

A fashionable woman has recently ordered a gown of garnet broadcloth trimmed with black braid. There are two skirts; one of it is of shopping length, with black plaited skirt and no trimming at all upon the skirt save for a small design in black braid put on like a Greek key pattern; the other skirt is a sweep length and is trimmed with hand embroidery. The coat is a pony coat and there is a handsome garnet taffeta waist.

For making one's calls the first of the year one should be as dressy as possible, for these calls seem to map out the fashion for the coming months. One is supposed to wear one's smartest winter calling dress and the style should be as becoming as the material is smart.

For women of limited purse it is not necessary to buy a costly gown, for the fashions of the year are merciful ones. One can wear a broadcloth coat with stunning effect if one has a bit of fur to put around the neck and a nice flat



muff of recent date to carry. Then, too, one can add a little fur toque, which is the easiest thing in the world to make. And this, if trimmed with a tiny group of plumes at the side, makes the costume complete.

It is to be believed that every woman no matter how moderate her means, purchases a gown, and a handsome one, at one time or another. And now, the first of the year, is the time of times for the getting of such a costume. Not only are the prices lower than in the fall but the vogues are more clearly defined and one is more certain of getting something that will hold its own for several seasons.

Heavy Suits for Winter.
Beautiful broadcloth costumes of old rose are now seen, and there are lovely coat suits in smoke brown. There are also charming tints in bronze green, and when it comes to the blues there is a positive bewilderment of tones. In the grays there is less choice, for fancy seems to point either to the very pale silver grey or to the deep gun metal grey. And the two tones rather rule matters in the color world of grey. This is exclusive of London smoke, for which there is a rage.

In buying a suit now it is well worth also to look at the velvetens, which are dressy and which wear practically forever. A good golden brown velvet, if one has brown furs, is a fine investment and can be worn two or three seasons without a change. It is one of the best things one can buy, for it holds its style so long and wears so admirably.

Most styles are built for the woman of average means, for it is not often one finds a woman who can afford to waste her clothing. She could make it do for many a day beyond this year. And in buying she must plan everything with this in mind—namely, it wearing qualities. She must on that account shun extreme styles and pin her fashionable faith to the things that are orthodox. Nor should she buy anything that will impress itself upon the memory of the beholders.

The new broadcloths are beautiful, but they are apt to be tiresome if one must wear them for a long time, and it is the same with the printed silks and the satins with flowers running through them. If one can have only one nice gown it is far better to buy a broadcloth, a silk or a chiffon velvet with a flat background. The wearing quality will be much better.

It is a charming season for trimmings and often the cheaper suits are trimmed in a very superior manner. The lower priced suits have trimmings that are positively fascinating in the sincerity of their design. And this is owing largely to the vogue of braid which comes with the most beautiful finish.

A handsome gown of brown chiffon velvet was made with a little Russian blouse which hooked in the front under a satin rose. The belt was a wide fold of satin and there was a white Irish lace vest. The buttons were in a lovely shade of green, quite the prettiest color one could fancy for a suit, of this kind, and the back was trimmed with glossy brown satin braid.

The skirt was of the round variety,

with just a couple of narrow tucks running up to the belt line. Around the foot of the skirt there was a great double row of braid, wide as one's hand almost and put on in a classic design, severe yet beautiful. Velvet skirts should never be skimpy around the foot, as their weight gives them a natural tendency to fall in.

The simplicity of these skirts is their beauty. One makes a skirt upon any good circular model and one trims it very simply with hands of velvet of graduated widths. These rows of velvet are sewed along the upper edge only. And they are very easy for the home dressmaker to handle.

The prettiest of the chiffon velvets come in claret color, in smoke brown and in smoke grey, and they are also seen in electric blue, navy blue, new or medium blue and a lovely shade of green. The buttons in every case are handsome, and it frequently occurs that the buttons cost more than the gown.

Costly buttons are sold in sets of three or of six, and the woman who is looking into the future will purchase these as an investment, feeling sure that she can use them again and again upon her winter suit.

There was once a man dressmaker, a famous artist in his line, who declared that he could stand on the corner of Fifth Avenue and pick out all the styles for the coming year.

Gowns of Fifth Avenue.

"Fifth Avenue," he used to say, "is cosmopolitan and its gowns are representative. One sees here the costumes brought to this country by the Russian women of the diplomatic set who visit New York annually, the first week of the New Year. And one sees all the new French gowns and a great many from Vienna and Berlin. It is nothing but gowns, gowns."

Standing upon the corner for a few minutes the other afternoon the artist sketched a veritable galaxy of colors and a variety of gowns to dazzle the eye of the beholder. The lover of dress, say, indeed, be gratified this year by the new gowns that are offered. And she who seeks an inspiration need not go far before she finds it, such lovely dresses and so many of them are seen.

"Where do all the new dresses come from?" asked a woman in bewilderment as she watched the gowns trail by, and a minute after, as if in answer to her own query, she said: "There are thousands of new dresses made up in the tailoring establishments to-day."

The first of the year has brought out a supply more goodly than ever before and not only are the gowns numerous and beautiful but all of the dress accessories partake of the great beauty of the costume.

It is certainly a season of pretty dress belongings and a season when one must have pretty articles or give up the attempt to be well-gowned.

The French teach us very nice ideas in this respect, for they have a way of purchasing beautiful little additions to

the wardrobe to be preserved and used year after year.

For one thing, every French woman has this season a handsome metal purse which hangs from the wrist by a metal chain. Metal bags come large and flat and lined with white kid. They are in gilt, silver and gun metal, and they are fastened with a gold clasp which is set with a turquoise matrix or with some other pretty stone of the semi-precious variety. This little gold chain bag is carried all winter with all kinds of fur and can be used for one's small belongings where one could not possibly carry one's purse.

With the brown velvet suit of the season, which is, by the way, usually a suit of chiffon velvet, there is a gold chain purse and there are mink or pony furs. The petticoat is a brighter shade of brown than the gown and the boots are patent leathers with brown tops.

The color scheme is an important one this season and one must consider it if one is going to be well-gowned.

OBLONG FASHIONS.

They are an evidence. They look well in long seats. They furnish extraordinarily well. Tapestry panels are much used for them.

A panel of tapestry is pretty with a velvet border.

Gafon is used to set together four attractive panels.

One big velvet cushion shows a small tapestry panel in the upper right hand corner.

CAPE EVENING WRAP.

Graceful Affairs in White and Lovely Pastel Hues.

Among popular evening wraps there is a new shawl-shaped cape of full three-quarter length—it comes well below the knees—made of broadcloth in pale tones.

There are pointers at the front and the back. As a rule, there is a yoke-shaped piece of the cloth which points at the back and over each shoulder and extends in a narrow tab to the hem on each side of the front. This is finished with stitching. When this yoke effect is used the neck has a collar of velvet.

In place of the yoke a big, wide hood is sometimes used. The front of the cape, in any case, fastens with wide cloth straps which come from under the cape and cross in suspender fashion. Buttons and passementerie ornaments are the only finish of the front, and these are placed well above the waist-line. Silks of a contrasting tone, such as pale green, rose color, lavender or light blue, with biscuit, champagne, pale grey, oyster white, etc., serve as linings.

CARE OF ONE'S CLOTHES.

Quite as Important as the Buying of Them.

It is quite as important to attend to clothes as to choose them properly, and most necessary where money is a consideration, but it is not only that the garments last longer when well taken care of, but they look better all the time. Many a lady's maid saves her wages by looking carefully after her mistress' wardrobe.

There is no reason, however, why the owner should not take care of her own garments properly. There is a vast deal of comfort in finding everything ready when you have to dress, and someone at hand to help; but if at any time you have to trust to a maid to pack who does not accompany you, the chances are that something important will be left at home.

Of course, clothes want constant renewal, stitches in time, fresh ruffles, clear lace, and a hundred and one odds and ends, without which no one looks well. Most of the freshness and attractiveness of gowns depends on their being properly kept. It is what is done after the gown is finished, and in wear, which good dressing depends.

Care of the Coat.

Coats hung up by the collar, many skirts on one hook; not well covered up—all this works ruin. Coats should always be set on coat hangers; over a center bar any number can be thus stored away in a wardrobe. Skirts should be hung by two straps sewn on either side of the skirt, on a skirt hanger. There should be skirt bags for every fine dress and now these can be attached to a hook, so that dust is excluded. Big bags are so much better than sheets, so much less likely to spoil and crease them.

The walls of the wardrobe should be covered with linen or chintz, and often renewed. Some skirts should be hung upside down, in order to keep the frills fresh.

Do Not Hang Chiffons.

Chiffons, muslins and the like, if they have no silk lining, should never be hung up; they become more wisps. These should be carefully laid by in long ottomans. Every bodice should have tissue paper in the sleeves and the front of the bodice. There is a capital wooden frame now brought out which contains a dozen boxes for storing one blouse in each, and there are millinery cases too, most convenient, for how cardboard boxes have a trick of accumulating! The headgear wants the protection of plenty of silver paper. The modern hat, with its tulle underpadding, is ruined if put by on a shelf. A deep drawer with many supports answers for a small quantity, but a woman of fashion needs many.

Cleanliness and Order.

When light-colored felts get dirty French chalk has a wonderful renovating effect. Boracic acid and a brush will clean most straws, even chip. Feathers can be re-cured over a knife, in front of the fire, and the petals of flowers should be glued when loose. Veils will last twice as long if carefully kept; they should never be folded, but rolled over a roll of wood or paper. More elaborate ones can be made of cardboard with wadding, with silk over it. Those that photographs are sent home on will answer admirably. When these are not handy, roll up the veil, pull it well out, give it a twist right in the centre, and it will not set into creases. It can be steamed and dampened with gum water, often with marked success.

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Gloves last twice as long if put on stretchers each time they are worn; and every shoe and boot should be put away on trees. Shoes should be cleaned when taken off, not when they are just going to be put on.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A NURSERY.
It is an easy matter to give baby his medicine if a "medicine dropper" is used. Drop the medicine under the back part of the tongue.

For toothache or earache a bag of salt made hot in the oven and laid against the afflicted side of the face, is a most excellent remedy. If covered with a soft piece of flannel it will retain its heat for a long time.

Teach the small children unselfishness by letting them know their little attentions and gifts are essential to your happiness. If begun early, the habit of sharing their pleasures will be formed and will prove the first step toward planning a pleasure for some one else.

In an artist's country home the picture frames are unique. They are set into the walls and the glass opens like a little door, so that the pictures may be changed as often as desired. Several sizes and shapes of frames are provided, and, by a judicious use of mats, almost any picture may be made to fit—Babyhood.

When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, count a hundred.

Childhood's Imagination.
What becomes of the imagination of childhood when the child grows up and becomes a man? I ask myself this question, writes a Manchester Guardian correspondent, constantly when I see youngsters of 4 or 5 with flamboyant thoughts and brightly-colored convictions, developing into stolid young men and women, with not a single idea within them to boast themselves. My own boy, for instance, is just 3 years old, and he will pass hours together hammering imaginary nails into the wall with an imaginary hammer and carefully hanging imaginary pictures on them. Yesterday evening he spent a considerable time "letting off" head fireworks, with matches that had only a suggestive resemblance. For our midday meal on Saturday we had a rabbit. He entered the kitchen to pursue his maternal inquiries, saw the animal, recognized it for what it was and promptly burst into tears. "Peter Yabbits Peter Yabbits," he wailed, incoherently, and refused comfort, until his little Peter Yabbit book was taken from his shelf, opened at the right place, and the picture of his friend Peter shown in his normal state. His tears were transformed into smiles, and an hour or two later he ate more than his share of Mr. Rabbit, but he had to be assured once more that the animal was in no way connected with Peter, dear Peter, who was safely tucked in between the pages of his book.