

News and Gossip of the Fashion World

Elegance of Summer Wraps Entices Fashion's Fairest

Sumptuous Evening and Daytime Mantoux, Created of Rich Silks
and Chiffon Brocades for Summer-Time Enthusiasts

Even Dame Fashion has her humorous side, and every little while, if carefully watched, she will be seen to stoop and survey some particularly pleasing creation with just the faintest of smiles lurking perilously close to the corners of her rosy-red mouth. That subtle sense of humor is by no means lacking this season, and just one glimpse into the precincts of an exclusive and reliable maison such as that of Promet, Lanvin, Donnet, or Worth would tell "the reason why." The exacting Dame has given vent to her feelings—in coats. Laughter ripples out beneath three-tiered capes of natural shantung, it tinkles away down in the crannies of deep soft cuffs, and gurgles in the corners of queer-shaped pockets, smiles spread all over the shimmering silks themselves, and linings fairly shriek at their own crazy designs. Fun reigns supreme in the departments labelled "Mantoux pour Madame." But there is another reason for these sunny smiles—perfect assurance on the part of the models themselves. They cannot help but recognize the tremendous impression they are making; their success is obvious and compliments shower upon them from every angle. Never before have such lovely, confections been placed at the disposal of mankind just to "throw on" over some other glorious creation, wrought for her alone by the far-famed, French designer. Their sumptuousness is almost startling, and their apparently fragile properties most shocking. But one is forced to forget all such harrowing details in the laugh that is bound to come so long as you open up the folds and take one fleeting glance at the lining!

"Gay linings are the rule at several of the couturiers," says one correspondent. This is putting it mildly, for the same correspondent continues: "A new mantoux, modest in color and sober in line, has a Futurist lining which would rejoice the heart of Matisse or Cezanne. Considered pictorially, the lining might be christened, 'A country garden adding down stairs.' The top of the coat is lined with sky blue silk. Just below the shoulders, the fun—and the colors—begin. Splashes of vivid red, green, and yellow, like the shapeless flowers, are shot through with great cross-bars of black and white. The lower part of the lining, which they say has been dyed especially for this particular coat, is a giant check of black and white, for the color burns itself out about the knee. One very dainty all-over wrap of beige shantung proclaims itself of Lanvin origin in its lining of cobalt blue, and Cheruit evening wraps, one and all, show a distinct preference for gaily hued linings of chiffon. The evening wrap pictured is a reliable model in cyclamen-lined taffeta, with an effective looped cape treatment of the sides and back. Brilliant brocaded chiffon lines the mantle throughout, and shot gold and cyclamen taffeta is effectively used as foot band and collar facing. The plain taffeta is again used for the finishing ruche, and loops, and buttons of taffeta fasten the model which exploits one of the newest conceptions of the vestee design.

Very smart is the light tan gabardine model shown and outside the important features of shoulder capes and unusual cross-revers, the lining is

again the subject paramount. A gaudy stripe with round of wistaria, and bands of green and rose is further augmented by a shat effect of gold-brocade throughout. The coat itself is an exclusive model, the cross over effect is particularly chic, and the satin sleeves and attached skirt section at the back are leading models for the moment. Ivory white disk buttons are used for fasteners.

Another very pretty cape model suitable for day or evening wear is of pure white broadcloth, gathered very full at the back and hanging free in front. A belt passes about the sides and back, while the front is ornamented with very long slash pockets arranged straight up and down. The high stock collar turns over with a flap and is made loose about the neck to stand out in the approved silhouette. The cape swings well over the shoulder and is edged with broad white braid.

The formal summer evening wrap is a "thing of beauty and a joy forever, just so long as it remains le dernier cri in the fashion world. One filmy model is the very essence of mid-summer loveliness. It is fashioned of fine green satin ribbon and chiffon in alternating bands, and the whole wrap is gathered cape-like to a shallow yoke beneath a high fence-like collar of fur! Slashes bound in satin take the place of sleeves and a silken cord and tassel is the only means of fastening.

Recalling days of long ago is a sumptuous wrap of lavender. The upper part of the coat and sleeves are of taffeta. The rest is chiffon, except the rows and rows of quilted taffeta used for trimming to give a quaintly picturesque effect.

Marabout is claiming a great deal of attention this season, so one cannot gather together a number of stunning wraps without including one trimmed with marabout. It is very artistically used in a brown shade on a coat of gold faille. The soft feathery trimming forms a comfortable cape collar, and in hand effect gives a billowy finish to the bottom of the garment.

A splendid coat and a serviceable one is that which appears dressy on all occasions when day mingles with night—at the lawn fete, garden party, regatta or hotel carnival. The tripping cape model shown for such a use is of dove-gray faille, with revers and pocket trimming of blue and rose brocade. The sleeves are set-in, and gathered under wide turn-back cuffs, and the wrap is lined throughout with hand-painted chiffon in rose, blue and silver.

Also typical of summer are a number of small shoulder coverings which answer to the name of "little wraps." They may be of almost any material, from the ruffled cape of net or arandale to be worn over a taffeta frock to the long stole of ermine, mink or seal, which is draped more or less intricately about the arms and shoulders. These "little wraps" promise great popularity for fall and winter, also. They will be made of plush and velvet and fur for wear over the one-piece frocks of silk and cloth. They are really a nineteen-century version of the pelerines which graced eighteen-century and seventy frocks.

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