

Conceits of the Moment

This, That and the other Smart Thing that Women Will Wear

THE TRAIN—NOT LOST TO SIGHT

THE shortness of skirts now in vogue, not only for day costumes but also for evening dress, has not precluded the wearing of trains. They are being worn just as effectively with the abbreviated frock as they were with the trailing gown that marked the yester-year. There is necessarily, however, a difference in their treatment.

Cut as slender panels of the gown material, they often hang entirely separate from it. Attached to the waist at the back or falling from the shoulders like a court train, they detach themselves gracefully from the short evening frocks, to which they are now a novel addition.



A simple evening cloak of black satin made with a full skirt and loose blouse. A wide belt of silk braid combined with inserts of gold lace is a feature. A big collar of ermine gives a rich touch.

There are two distinct styles of evening gowns with these trains. Both are extremely short—they are not long enough even to cover slender ankles. In one of the styles the short skirt is shaped so that it flares in bell-like contour; in the other the gown clings to the figure in the lovely, long line draperies of a Tanagra statuette, revealing every curve.

Thus the debutante of 1916 may combine the dignity lent by a train with the coquetry of the short frock, and find the balance struck an altogether charming one.

LACE EVEN HERE

ONE of the prettiest fads which the short skirt style has brought in is the evening stocking with a lace inset. One thinks of lace decorated stockings generally as the old fashioned kind with the conventional oblong lace inset over the instep from the toes to above the ankle. The latest style is quite different. Black lace motifs of attractive shapes are inset in the stocking so that

a flight of black lace butterflies or swallows, a flower cluster, or odd geometric motifs are inset with the same artistic care that one would pose an ornament on a hat.

One of the prettiest pairs of stockings seen was of black silk with a diagonal inset of vine leaves of lace, with the tendrils of embroidery.

To make these inset stockings the lace motifs are pinned on the stocking while on the foot. Then the lace is basted to the stocking and is sewn on with an over and over embroidered stitch along the lace edge done with silk sewing twist. The part under the inset is then cut away.

A SIMPLE METHOD

TO clean kid gloves when slightly soiled.—Take a teaspoonful of powdered French chalk. Put the gloves on the hands and the chalk into the palm of one glove and rub the hands and fingers together as if washing your hands. Take off the gloves without shaking them and lay them aside for a night. Put them on and clap the hands or wipe the gloves with a clean cloth. Fuller's earth will do nearly as well.

DAME FASHION'S DECREE

THE high coiffure is included in the season's silhouette. While the French twist has not altogether disappeared and is still found by many to be the most becoming arrangement of the hair, it is rapidly being replaced by the "psyche knot," or soft cluster of curls placed high upon the head. The outline thus gained is very graceful and adds both youth and height to the wearer.

Skating, it would seem, is likely to become a revived art this winter. In anticipation the shops are showing a great variety of attractive sport costumes. One comes in velveteen, the skirt and cap of wide stripes on a background of contrasting colour, while the coat, of a length half way between hip and knee, matches either the stripe or the background. Fur trimming on collar and cuffs adds to the attractiveness of this smart costume.

The fur coat is always capable of filling a variety of purposes. Hudson Seal with skunk banding makes an excellent combination. Such a coat serves for both day and evening wear and is practical as well as vastly becoming.

"Joffre blue" is one of the season's soft and becoming shades. This apparently is a contradictory term, as General Joffre, we understand, is of a decidedly optimistic temperament.

Floor cushions are milady's latest whim. Square, oblong, round—they may be any shape to match the character of the room, so long as they serve as an effective rest for dainty feet.

To be quite smart, one must wear something that no one else is wearing. The only real novelty in shirtwaists is one of georgette crepe, buttoned in the back. It is quite different—therefore it is to be considered.

The unfolded Christmas card, delicately coloured, for personal use, is the season's choice.

Quite the most luxurious boudoir pillow shown among the new designs, is of dark soft sealskin, bordered with lace and decorated with silver flowers.

REMEMBER THIS

Few women know how to sew dress snaps on so they will stand the strain of being pulled apart with a certain amount of force, as they must be to separate them. If, instead of sewing through the holes over and over, a buttonhole stitch is used the snap will stay firmly placed and much less thread be used.

ANGELIC WOMAN

"I don't like my new gown very well," said the young lady in Bond Street. "The material is awfully pretty, and the style is all right, but it needs something to improve the shape of it."

"Why," suggested her dearest friend, "don't you let some other girl wear it?"

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