



Garden Party Frock of White Tulle, Trimmed with Narrow Satin Ribbon and Roses.

By SUZANNE LATOUR

MIDSUMMER is holding high carnival in the gardens, woods and fields. She dipped her brush into rainbow hues and touched with brilliant colors the flowers, birds and butterflies. She scented the air with the spicy odor of old-fashioned blooms and draped the woods and shrubs by the roadside with lacey, dew-gemmed spider-webs. This is the setting which she has provided for the presentation of the summer fashions, and the feminine world looks on and wonders at the marvelous beauty of the tout ensemble.

In marked contrast to this vivid, festive garb of nature, the modish frocks of the midsummer season are of the palest tints. The wisecracks, who earlier in the season predicted that the note of strong color was sure to be heard during July and August, are nursing their disappointment, for the few designers who tried to force the use of vivid splashes of blue, red or green on costumes met with utter defeat. The observer cannot help but be impressed with the fact that the "eternally feminine" woman clings with faithful devotion to black and white, and therein lies the secret of her smartness.

**Attractive Patterns.**  
This magic combination predominates in every phase of dress. Millinery which is distinctive enough to attract "the woman who knows" is invariably black and white; tailored suits, afternoon frocks and elaborate gowns, suitable for evening wear, are developed in this striking combination, and the shops will show you an endless array of neckwear, footgear, sunshades, sports-wear, handbags and accessories of every description, all in black and white.

This must not give you the impression that only black and white is ultra fashionable, for I find costumes of the delicate blues, greens, roses and mauves almost as fascinating, and they are much more appropriate for the younger generation. A great deal of pea and grasshopper green is being worn. This color creates the impression of coolness upon the hottest of August days, and the dainty woman never fails to supply her outfit with a frock or two of green.

The very prettiest models are of organdy, batiste or handkerchief linen, hand-tucked or embroidered in a manner that wagers had been to think that fairy-fingers had done the work. They are simply made, the most elaborate ones only boasting

of trimming such as narrow ruffles, of the same material, bands of cording or shirring or soutache braiding. The latter trimming, I notice, is gradually increasing its popularity, and this is especially true where white net frocks are concerned. Wide braided bands trim the faring or pleated skirts; braided jackets of the suave or Eton types ornament the bodice, skirt yokes or high girdles are elaborately braided and one handsome frock of net is almost solidly covered with soutache braiding.

**Airy, Billowy, Effervescent!**  
Other lingerie frocks are airy, delicate and full of the joy of youth, for they are frothy concoctions of lace, and transparent materials of the finest weaves. Some of them appear to be so fragile that a rolicking summer breeze could blow them away. An original French model is a dancing frock of white net made with a bodice which tapers, decidedly, toward the waist line. The figure is swathed with a high girdle of palest blue satin above which extends a shirred tucker of the net.

The square décolletage is bordered with a crisp frothy frill of net, garlanded at the base with tiny blue, pink and mauve French flowers. Short ruffled sleeves, trimmed with frills of net, are joined to the dropped shoulder seams. The skirt is yards and yards in width, and is gathered about the waist. The hem is an effervescent, billowy mass of tulle ruffles, each one having a narrow heading.

Sprays of flowers, to correspond with those used on the corsage, add the spirit of summer to this exquisite frock, making it a fit garment for a nymph.

Scarcely less lovely than the dance-frocks are the garden party gowns which fashionable women are wearing to lawn fetes and all fresco teas. They are dainty and winsome, each one having "something different" to distinguish it from its neighbor. One will have a row of flat, little bows, poised like a flight of swallows, across the front of the ample skirt, while another has a fringe made of loops of ribbon outlining the bottom of the skirt, the sleeves and the lower edge of the girle.

**Midsummer Crinoline.**  
One exquisite frock of white Georgette crepe, made over a foundation of palest-pink satin, has a fringe of pink roses hung from stems of green silk soutache braids, dangling from the hem. This charming trimming also borders the lower edge of

# Midsummer Modes

Pale Tints Vying with Black and White for the Season's Honors. The Continued Lure of Lingerie.



Smart Afternoon Dress of Black and White Harlequin Taffeta, with Ruches Ornamenting Skirt and Bodice.

the tulle tucker and ornaments the girle and sleeves.

The "eternally feminine" is breathed from every line of the midsummer frock, and I personally believe that the crinoline has come to stay. Our petticoats are taking on alarming proportions, and it stands to reason that, if the manufacturers of lingerie are assuming the trouble and expense of entirely changing the character of their wares, they must be confident that voluminous skirts promise to rule fashion for many moons.

This being true, there will no longer be any excuse for looking askance at freak costumes, for the dainties of the war of 1915 appear as prototypes of their modest, dainty ancestors of the civil war. We cannot help but be proud of the midsummer modes and bless the designer who dared to brave femi-

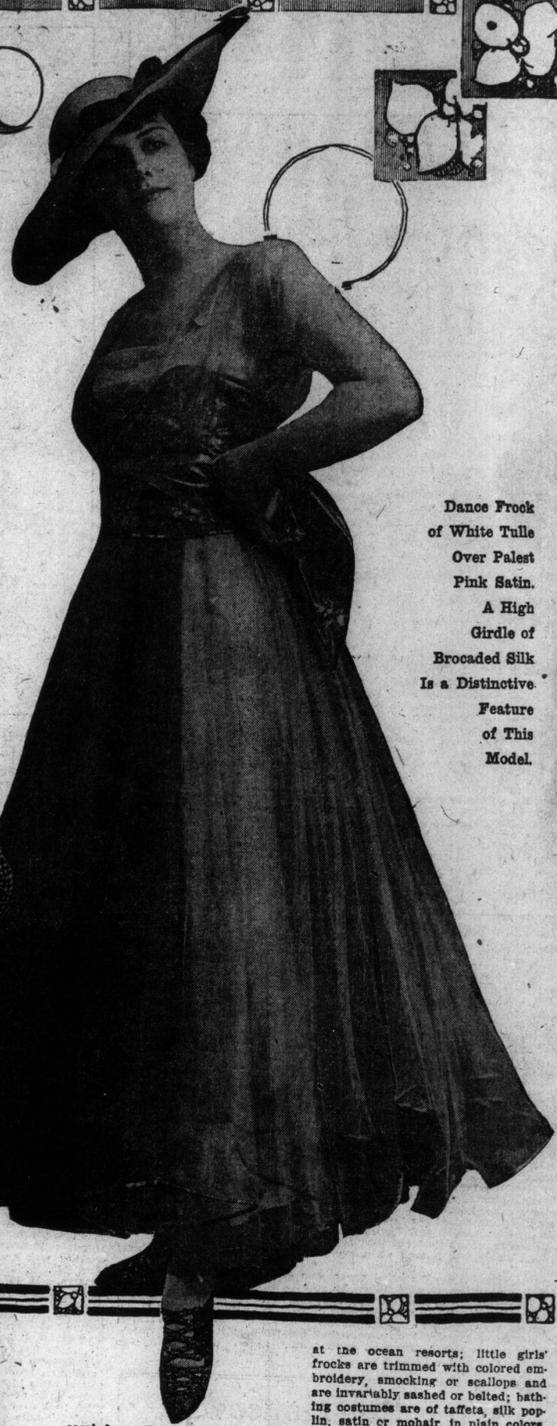
nine displeasure and revive the crinoline. The present silhouette is, by far, the most fascinating; that has appeared for years, and it is impossible to deny its beauty. Even if you are a man you must admire the clinging, swirling charm of the crinoline skirt which measures six yards around the hem. Long may it swirl!

The extremely wide skirt, however, was not intended for the tailor-made costume. I dislike to see anything but the side pleated, circular or mermaid skirt with a yoke worn with the smart jackets of the present.

No more should the sailor hat of severe lines be worn with the dainty, befrilled and flower-trimmed frocks. Reserve tails type of headgear for the tailored costume and provide a girl with garden-hat of Leghorn or Neapolitan straw, ribbon or flower-trimmed for the Dolly Varden gown.

The plateau or Niche hat is firmly instilled in favor, and the most attractive models are charming duplicates of those worn by the pastel beauties of Watteau. These crownlets—or almost crownlets—confections are ornamented with multi-colored flowers and ribbons equally varied in hue. The straws chosen are of that soft, pliable quality which allows them to be faced with tulle, chiffon or taffeta, repeating a color used in the trimming.

**Smart Silk Wrap.**  
Just as necessary as the garden-hat to the midsummer wardrobe is the wrap of silk or satin lined with chiffon. This is slipped on over the lingerie frock for afternoon or evening wear. A favorite combination of color is rich Parma violet lined with pale lavender chiffon. The sunshade



Dance Frock of White Tulle Over Palest Pink Satin. A High Girdle of Brocaded Silk Is a Distinctive Feature of This Model.

carried usually repeats the color of the wrap or hat.

Other interesting notes concerning midsummer modes include the fact that wide striped linens are being used for morning frocks; separate blouses of white kerseymere linen have vest effects of colored lines or organza; hats and wraps of flowered crepe tulle are considered smart to wear

at the ocean resorts; little girls' frocks are trimmed with colored embroidery, smocking or scallops and are invariably washed or boiled; bathing costumes are of taffeta, silk poplin, satin or mohair, in plain colors, trimmed with plaid, striped or checked silk in black and white or striking color combinations. One rather extreme model has the wide skirt distended by means of a reed run through the hem. If you are interested in fashions—west effects of colored lines or organza and who is not?—watch carefully the trend of the midsummer modes, for they are the harbingers of the fall.

## Some Simple Summer Table Fittings

By Jeannette Young Norton

CAREFUL housewives who fear the effects of fruit stains on their best table linen are, with the arrival of berry season, laying them aside and using in their place the round table coverings, with the round doilies to match. These are chosen of fine linen or patterned damask, preferably with the scalloped edges or the simple hemstitched hems.

Under them are used the asbestos mats, which perfectly protect the polished table top. Many are using the Japanese sets, made of the cotton toweling. These are herring-bone together to make the square cover the desired size, some even having the blue linen knotted to form a fringe. They are pretty and cool looking with the blue Dresden china.

For porch table use there is a fancy for the solid colored linen art squares, simply hemstitched and weighted at the corners to keep them from being blown away. Not only pastel shades are used, but the faded hour seems to be purple. The flowers used match the linen.

The sensible housekeeper is also retiring all of the silver except the flat ware, using in its place china receptacles and glass or china candlesticks and in any favorite story-fancy that may be chosen.

The use of the smaller table linens, apparently, increases the size of the laundry, but in reality it is less work to do up a number of the small pieces than it is to wash and iron the large, heavy tablecloths.

Almost all stains are removed quite readily with plain boiling water, which must be applied before any soap is used. Soap always sets a stain. But if the stain is stubborn and refuses to come out for the hot water, then salts of lemon may be applied, and the article should be allowed to stand in the sun while it dries. Then rinse in cold water and apply the salts a second time if there are any traces of the stain still on the cloth. One may also use spirits of wine, ammonia or javel water, which latter must be rinsed out almost immediately for fear it may damage the material.

For grease or gravy spots, plain yellow soap rubbed well into them, then the boiling water turned through, will remove them at once. One must be careful with the laundry list while using the small table ware, for the loss of a few doilies spoils the set. Plain linen nursery cloths, with fairy tale borders, are new, and the etching is done to order in any color and in any favorite story-fancy that may be chosen.

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